

Estill Woman Was One of First Women in Marines

This year is the "100th Year of Women in Military" and an Estill County woman, Josephine Roberts, will be featured by the Richmond Marine Corps League in its newsletter and on its Facebook page as one of the first women to become a Marine in the modern era.

Opha May Johnson is celebrated as the first ever female Marine enlistment on August 13, 1918 as she and a group of 305 women enlisted over the course of World War I to "free a man to fight." She would pave the way for thousands of proud women like Josephine Roberts of Irvine who would follow in her footsteps to serve all branches of the armed services.

Groups of women soldiers were mostly disbanded following the end of World War I, but later, in World War II, over 20,000 women Marines would serve in over 225 different specialties.

Among the first group of women enlistees at the beginning of the Korean Conflict was a young Estill County woman known then as Josephine McIntosh from Ravenna.

She is the daughter of Reuben McIntosh and Nettie Lanald McIntosh (later Ballard). In Josephine's early life she lived on Ticky Fork Road near Pitts where many of the Estill County McIn-

toshes originated. Reuben was a farm laborer. He was not in the military but several of the McIntosh family served in various branches of the service including Josephine's great grandfather, Pleasant Bush McIntosh who fought for the Union in the Civil War.

Her grandfather, Benedict M. Lanald was from Canada and was also in the military during the time of the Spanish-American War. Nettie says he came to Estill County because he was friends to some of the McIntoshes. Lanald worked as a clerk for the Indian Oil Company and was the Pitts postmaster.

The Marine reputation of being "the first to fight" attracted thousands of recruits at the onset of the Korean Conflict in 1950 and Josephine decided she wanted to join the Marines. But her mother didn't want her to join and wouldn't sign for her.

However, her mother's sister, Mary Catherine Barnes, worked in Ohio and took her there where they visited all branches of the services. When they came back, "Aunt Mary talked Mom into letting me go," says Josephine.

They were living on Pine Street in Ravenna when she joined in November of 1950. "I barely weighed a hundred pounds," said Roberts who added, "You had to weigh a 100 pounds to get in."

Starting in the spring of 1950, there were 2,000 recruits on Parris Island, the Marines training base, divided between two male and one female training battalions.

Josephine said she was in the first group of about 50 women and they all made it through except "one woman flunked out."

An encounter in the mess hall got Josephine in some trouble. A female Navy medic was going through when she called one of the Marine servers a pig. Josephine corrected her saying, "he's not a pig, he's a Marine." The higher-ranked medic turned her in and she was called into the office for it but she believes that the act of standing up for the Marines led to her getting a good assignment later. She was given the job in Washington, D.C. of caring for the office of the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr. Among her memories of her three years in the Marines was being personally congratulated by the four-star general. "I believed in the Marine Corps," says Josephine. "I really loved it!"

Following her three years in the Marines, she spent 18 years in the Army Reserve in the Lexington Unit. She fondly remembers General Benjamin J. Butler who was commander twice. "He

helped me in my civilian career," she said. Josephine retired with a GS7 or 8.

Two of her brothers, Armster and Elmer McIntosh, were in the Navy and one of her sons, Bob, was in the Army. Josephine has four children, Harold, Bob, Judy Kendall and Mike, by her first husband, Harold Collins. Mike is the captain of a Mississippi River barge.

She later married Samuel Roberts who had gone to high school with her. He was on active duty during the Korean Conflict and retired with 34 total years of service.

After Samuel's death a few years ago, Roberts was urged to move back to Estill County by her children to be close to them. Josephine said she had a nice home in Mount Washington (near Shelbyville) but moved back when she found her house on Sandhill which she said had to be spacious enough for all her stuff.

Visiting with Mrs. Roberts last week were Craig Pyles, commandant of Marine Corps League detachment 1012 in Richmond, and Patti Wahley who is assistant manager and does the group newsletter plus monthly posts on their Facebook page. Their motto is "Here to serve our fellow veterans of all services, their families and the community. Semper Fi." (See photo on Page 15)



Post Troop, Women Marine Corp. H&S Battalion, Marine Bks., Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, May 1951 - Josephine, below, is 4th from right in third row.

Estill County Lady Engineers 2018 Girls Volleyball

Aug. 23	Owsley County	A	6:00
Berea Lady Pirates Invitational			
Aug. 25	Perry Central at Berea	H	11:00
Aug. 25	Sayre at Berea	H	2:00
Aug. 25	Madison Sou. at Berea	H	12:00
Aug. 28	Red Bird	A	7:00
Aug. 30	Powell County	A	7:00
Sep. 4	Knott County Central	H	6:00
Sep. 5	Lee County	A	6:00
Sep. 10	Jackson City	H	6:00
Sep. 11	Menifee County	H	6:00
Sep. 13	Owsley County	H	
Sep. 18	Breathitt County	A	6:00
Sep. 19	Morgan County	A	7:30
Sep. 20	Lee County	H	6:00
Sep. 24	Wolfe County	H	6:00
Sep. 25	Morgan County	H	7:30
Sep. 27	Powell County	H	7:00
Oct. 1	Red Bird	H	7:00
Oct. 4	Menifee County	A	6:00
Coach: Shayla R. Carroll			

Estill County Lady Engineers 2018 Girls Soccer

Aug. 25	Oneida Baptist Inst.	H	2:00
Aug. 27	Garrard County	A	6:00
Aug. 28	Paintsville	A	6:30
Sep. 1	Hazard	H	6:00
Sep. 4	Powell County	H	8:00
Sep. 6	Menifee County	H	6:00
Sep. 8	Perry County Central	H	7:00
Sep. 10	TBA	H	8:00
Sep. 13	Menifee County	A	6:00
Sep. 15	Letcher Co. Central	A	12:00
Sep. 18	Buckhorn	H	6:30
Sep. 20	Fleming County	A	6:00
Sep. 24	Powell County	A	6:00
Oct. 2	Fleming County	H	8:00
Oct. 4	Buckhorn	A	7:30
Coach: Matthew W. Hall			



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Estill County Engineers 2018 Boys Soccer

Aug. 23	Jackson City	A	6:00
Aug. 25	Oneida Baptist Inst.	H	12:00
Aug. 27	Garrard County	A	8:00
Aug. 28	Paintsville	A	8:30
Sep. 1	Hazard	H	8:00
Sep. 4	Powell County	H	6:00
Sep. 8	Perry County Central	H	5:00
Sep. 10	Riverside Christian	H	6:00
Sep. 11	Jackson City	H	6:00
Sep. 13	Menifee County	A	8:00
Sep. 15	Letcher Co. Central	A	2:00
Sep. 17	Breathitt County	A	6:00
Sep. 20	Fleming County	A	8:00
Sep. 24	Powell County	A	8:00
Sep. 25	Wolfe County	A	6:00
Sep. 29	Paris	H	
Oct. 1	Riverside Christian	H	6:00
Oct. 2	Wolfe County	H	6:00
Oct. 6	Marion County	A	2:30
Coach: James Ryan Sutter			

Estill Middle Lady Engineers 2018 Girls Basketball

Aug. 21	Clark-Moores	H	5:30
Aug. 23	at Model	A	5:30
Aug. 25	at Morgan County (6th)	A	
Aug. 28	Madison Middle	H	5:30
Aug. 30	Farristown	H	5:30
Sep. 04	Owsley County	H	5:30
Sep. 05	Foley	H	5:30
Sep. 06	at Caudill	A	5:30
Sep. 11	at Foley	A	5:30
Sep. 13	at Garrard	A	5:30
Sep. 18	Rockcastle County	H	5:30
Sep. 20	at Clark-Moores	A	5:30
Sep. 24	Powell County	H	5:30
Sep. 25	Model	H	5:30
Sep. 27	at Madison Middle	A	5:30
Oct. 01	at Farristown	A	5:30
Oct. 04	Caudill	H	5:30
Oct. 15	at Owsley County	A	5:30
Oct. 19	at Lee County	A	5:30
Coaches: Cassidy Flynn 8th Lori Collins 7th Larry Tiller - 6th			

Estill Middle Engineers 2018 Patriots Football

Aug. 23	Garrard County	H	7:30
Aug. 30	Farristown	A	7:30
Sep. 04	Clark-Moores	A	7:30
Sep. 11	Madison Middle	A	7:30
Sep. 13	Powell County	H	7:30
Sep. 20	Foley	H	7:30
Sep. 27	Caudill	H	7:30
Oct. 04	Rockcastle	A	7:30
Coach: Cade Berryman			

Estill County Engineers 2018 Boys Football

Aug. 24	Western Hills	H	7:30
Sept. 07	Boyd County	A	7:30
Sept. 14	Bath County	A	7:30
Sept. 21	*Morgan County	H	7:30
Sept. 28	*Breathitt County	H	7:30
Oct. 05	*Powell County	A	7:30
Oct. 12	*Magoffin County	A	7:30
Oct. 19	*Knott County Central	H	7:30
Oct. 26	Lexington Christian	H	7:30
*Denotes district games Coach: Mike Jones			



ESTILL COUNTY COMMUNITY CHORUS:

It's hard to believe that Summer is ending, and Fall is around the corner! So, that could only mean one thing, and that is, it is time for the Estill County Community Chorus, to meet again for our rehearsals, to sing and learn some new music, and maybe some music that has been put on the back burner. No matter which, we are inspired, challenged, and led by our Director to master our talents and skills, to become better singers and artists, to prepare for another upcoming Public Annual Christmas Concert. MUSIC is being selected, BUT Something is **MISSING**, and that would be **YOU!!!!**

WELCOMING MEMBERS who
 New, Past, Present, Additional Voices
COME GIVE US A TRY AND JOIN US!!!!
NO AUDITIONS ARE REQUIRED.



Our first rehearsal starts back for our Fall Semester, **On Thursday, September 06, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** We practice every Thursday night, except Thanksgiving, One night a week, for approximately an hour, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at Irvine United Methodist Church - 243 Main St., Irvine, KY.
 Rose D. Daniels, Ph. D - Chorus Director

We will be performing our Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 02, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

For More Info Call, or check our Facebook page:
 Robin Reed, ECCC President - (606)-723-4678,
 Debbie Carlyle, ECCC Public Relations - (606)-531-0465

