



NCR Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Cultural Observances, Awareness Events and Information

DEI News #29
August 2022

Celebrating Women First's In 2021 and 2022

CAP Women First's in 2022

Regions

Four women currently hold region commander positions.

Col Martha Morris SWR

Col Rose Hunt GLR

Col Virginia Nelson PCR

Andrea Van Buren SER

Wings

Thirty-four wings have had a woman commander.

Latest Women Wing Commanders.

Col Elizabeth Sydow, VA Wing

Col Chantal Lonergan, HI Wing

Col Annette Peters, NM Wing

More Women's Firsts

Rachel Balkovec – first woman to manage a minor league affiliated with Major League Baseball (MLB)

Laurie Leshin – first woman director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and first woman vice president of the California Institute of Technology.

The first time four women are serving together on the US Supreme Court.

Janet Yellen – first woman Treasury Secretary of the United States

Do You Know of a First For Women in 2021 and 2022?

Lt Col Bonnie Braun
NCR Diversity Officer

Women Making Modern Military Firsts

Navy Lt. j.g. Suzelle Thomas, first woman in that service to go directly from flight school to flying F-35C Lightning II aircraft after earning her Wings of Gold in October. Thomas is the first to have her initial assignment be an F-35C squadron.

For the first time in its 84-year history, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, Va., was guarded by an all-woman team of three sentinels in September. Sgt. 1st Class Chelsea Porterfield also became the first woman to hold the position of sergeant of the guard.

Army 1st Lt. Maria Eggers, completed a five-day rigorous test in April, she became the first woman and Latina to earn the Expert Infantryman's Badge at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas.

Navy Cmdr. Billie J. Farrell, first woman to be commanding officer of the USS Constitution, also known as Old Ironsides, the world's oldest commissioned warship still afloat.

Coast Guard Admiral Linda Lee Fagan became not only the first woman to lead the Coast Guard but the first woman to lead any branch of the U.S. armed forces.

Army Maj. Gen. Jami Shawley, first woman to take command of forces at the only permanent American military base in Africa.

Army Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson, first woman to head SouthCom and only the second female four-star U.S. military general to head a U.S. geographic combatant command.

15 Navy enlisted women serving aboard ballistic-missile class submarine became the first all-female crew to complete a 77-day "boomer" deterrent patrol.

Navy Captain Amy Bauernschmidt assumed command of the Abraham Lincoln as the first-ever U.S. aircraft carrier skippered by a woman.

Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron selected Lt. Amanda Lee to be the first women to serve as a F/A-18E/F demonstration pilot, joining the Blue Angels for the 2023 air show season.