

The Torch



American Red Cross
Tiffany Circle

SPRING EDITION

Dear Tiffany Circle members,

Since 1943, beginning with President Franklin D. Roosevelt, all Presidents of the United States have proclaimed March as “Red Cross Month,” offering a unique opportunity to honor and celebrate the everyday heroes who help us fulfill our mission. This March, we are honored to recognize everyone who continues to answer the call to help others under the Red Cross emblem.

A timely example of such dedication includes those in the global Red Cross movement who are working together to support people affected by the devastating humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. For the latest updates on how the Red Cross is helping, please visit redcross.org.

We are profoundly grateful for our incredible community of women leaders who generously support the Red Cross mission. Specifically, we extend our deep thanks to all Tiffany Circle members who rolled up their sleeves to donate blood or encourage others to do so during the national blood crisis earlier this year. Your dedication ensures that we can continue to alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.

Please enjoy this issue of The Torch, which highlights our members’ passion for the Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces.

With gratitude,
Jan and Sara



Jan Tratnik

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Sara Horein

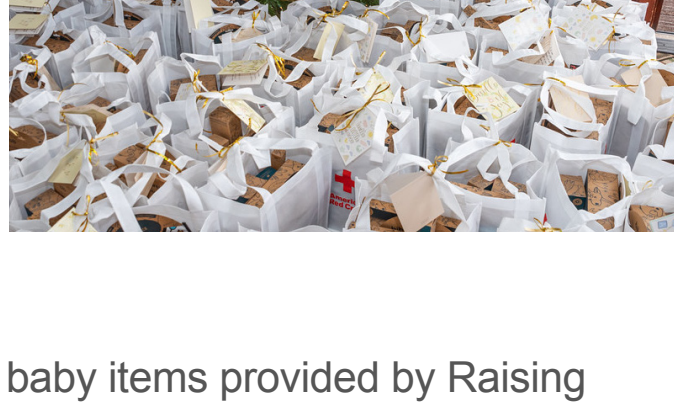
Sara Horein
Co-Chair, Tiffany Circle
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REGION SPOTLIGHTS

Northern California Coastal Region

In December, members of the **Northern California Coastal Region** Tiffany Circle came together for a fun-filled and heartwarming holiday event to support military families. Members prepared nearly 80 gift bags filled with baby items provided by Raising Ace, which are being distributed to military families that use our Red Cross emergency communication service to announce the birth of a child to a deployed service member. Tiffany Circle members also received their charms and enjoyed a holiday lunch at the beautiful Los Altos Country Club. Everyone was grateful to reconnect in person and to engage in our important mission.



National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region

This year marks the 10th anniversary of **National Capital & Greater Chesapeake Region** Tiffany Circle members’ participation in Operation Covert Santa, a program that ensures sick and injured service members at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center receive some holiday joy.

Operation Covert Santa founder and retired service member “Husky Elf” asks service members and their families to provide a list of items on their wish lists. These lists, along with brief descriptions of the service members and their families, are shared with Tiffany Circle “Elf Teams” who collectively ensure that these wishes—beautifully wrapped—come true. Covert Santa offers Tiffany Circle members a heartwarming opportunity to engage in the Red Cross mission by supporting some of our nation’s greatest heroes.

Georgia Region

During their holiday event, members of the Tiffany Circle of Georgia shared their time and treasure in support of U.S. military heroes. Tiffany Circle members contributed \$25 grocery store gift cards—packaged with personal holiday and thank you notes—that were given to patients of the Metro Atlanta VA Medical Center. This meaningful project brought holiday joy to all involved.

Tennessee Region

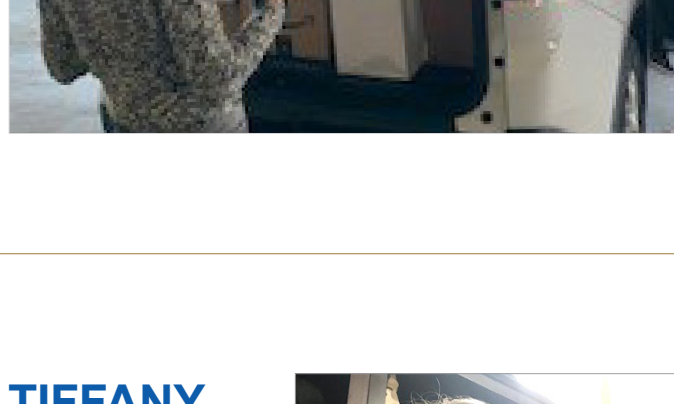
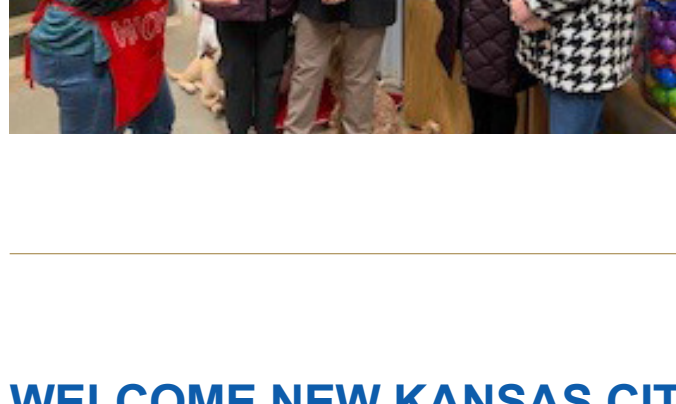
The **Tennessee Region** Tiffany Circle always keeps Service to the Armed Forces close to their hearts. In November, they gathered to assemble 620 nutritional “snack packs” for the Nashville Veterans Hospital. Generously donated by the ladies, these nutrition-packed items are distributed year-round to veterans and their families from throughout the region who come to the hospital for medical tests and procedures. In addition, they wrote over 400 holiday cards for veterans and active military members at their two “Holiday for Heroes” events and ran a teddy bear drive, which collected close to 50 teddy bears that were given to children at Fort Campbell’s Blanchfield Community Army Hospital.

Greater Carolinas Region

The **Greater Carolinas Region** hosted a virtual Tiffany Inspiration Hour featuring Sandra Robinson, a combat veteran and current Service to the Armed Forces volunteer. Sandra discussed her experiences in the military, the support she has received from the Red Cross, as well as her current role helping women veterans. Members also had a VA Pajama Party, where they donated at least 75 pairs of pajamas to support the VA Hospitals in Salisbury and Asheville. In addition, members participated in Adopt-a-Family, adopting 36 military families for the holidays.

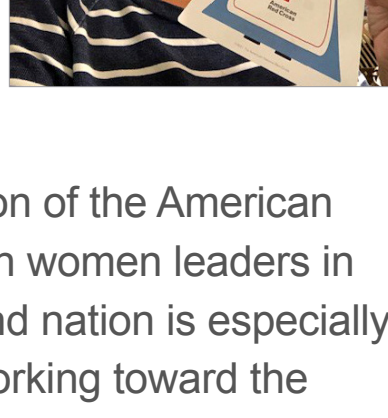
Kentucky Region

For the fourth year, the **Kentucky Region** Tiffany Circle purchased children’s/young adult books for Santa’s Workshop at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Santa’s Workshop is a department-type store where families can shop for their children’s holiday gifts in early December. Due to COVID-19, the Red Cross ensured social distancing and limited the number of families allowed in to shop at one time. Tiffany Circle members provided books for Santa’s Workshop as suggested by the Red Cross Fort Knox staff and volunteers.



WELCOME NEW KANSAS CITY TIFFANY CIRCLE MEMBERS!

Melody (Mel) Smith, pictured here with a cut-out of Clara Barton, joined the Tiffany Circle after attending the 2021 Tiffany Circle Virtual Summit in October.



“Joining the Red Cross Tiffany Circle enabled me to link arms with other women committed to the mission of the American Red Cross. Specifically, the privilege to participate with women leaders in learning and leading throughout my chapter, region and nation is especially appealing, as the impact is amplified through many working toward the mission to alleviate human suffering in the face of crisis. I’m honored to be part of the Tiffany Circle, continuing the mission Clara Barton set forth more than 100 years ago.”

The Kansas City Tiffany Circle held a small holiday gathering on December 9, 2021, to celebrate new members **Kathleen Johansen** and **Mel Smith**. Pictured from left to right: Tiffany Circle members **Jennifer McGrath**, **Jill Hall**, **Mel Smith**, **Sherri Odell**, **Susan Spaulding**, **Corliss Miller**, Executive Director **Randee Krumwiede**, Special Events Manager **Jennifer Gamble**, and Tiffany Circle members **Ellen Cray**, **JoAnn Woody**, **Kathleen Johansen** and **Jill Myers**.



Tiffany Circle members play a vital role in helping fulfill our mission—alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies—by serving as Red Cross ambassadors, strategic advisors and influential connectors for philanthropic support. Through our Service to the Armed Forces, the Red Cross serves the military community at every step—from the time a service member takes the oath to navigating life as a veteran.

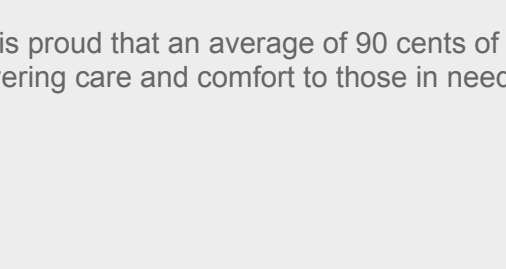
You can help celebrate and support this work in your role as an ambassador in your networks. To learn more about our work supporting America’s Military & Veteran families, [click here](#).

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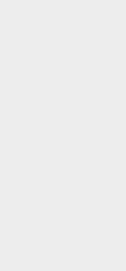
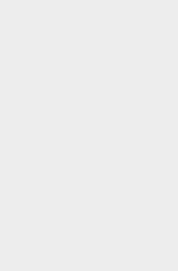
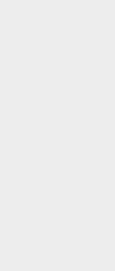
Staying in touch via the American Red Cross email list is the best way we have of keeping in regular contact with supporters like you, letting you know about how you can protect yourself and your loved ones from disasters and other emergencies, and how you can support our life-saving work.

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe from our list, but please know that if you leave, it will be harder for you to stay involved with the Red Cross and continue the work of which you’ve been such a critical part. It is only because of supporters like you that the Red Cross is able to respond when a disaster strikes or a home is impacted by fire, when someone needs CPR or a lifesaving blood transfusion, or when a family needs to contact a deployed service member in an emergency. And we don’t want to lose you! Thanks for your support!

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[Help people](#) affected by disasters big and small.



The Red Cross is proud that an average of 90 cents of every dollar we spend is invested in delivering care and comfort to those in need.