



NOW BOARDING TO  
FRIENDSHIPS, FUN AND CONNECTIONS!!!  
Fostering Friendships at the Crossroads of the Corps


# President's Travel Brief



"Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love." - Sitting Bull. What a beautiful time of the year for QSSC to share together. My hope is that you all are feeling refreshed and ready as we enter this new season which brings all things life with it. March finished and April began with many of us having spring break with our families. Whether you were traveling, enjoying a stay-cation, or venturing into DC to see the Cherry Blossoms; my wish was for you all to enjoy and cherish every moment.

April brings new events for us all to connect. Please make sure to visit our website and check your emails for our events. We will be enjoying a self-guided tour of the Library of Congress, Live Laugh Lunch at Aroma Latin Fusion, and we have two books to discuss this month at Book Worms Book Club. Also, please keep your eyes open for our Sipping w/ Friends event at Effingham Winery, which will include an outdoor picnic. (Coming Soon!)

I cannot believe how quickly our club year is going, now is the time for us to be making those lifelong connections. I encourage all of you to take a few moments to reach out to your fellow spouses and make sure to update your contact information to stay connected through PCS and retirement season. We all can use a message, a phone call, an ear to listen during these seasons. Your military spouse friends become your family, hold them close even when there are miles between you because we have created unbreakable bonds.

**April is also the Month of the Military Child.** Our children have more resiliency and bravery than we could ever know. Remember, hold them near and dear because they serve too and they do it with more strength and grace than most could ever imagine. #purpleup 

I hope to see many of you during the month of April, our time together is always cherished.

Be blessed,  
Sonserae



MARK IT UP  
*Here is your  
Travel Itinerary!*

**NEW**

**Advertising! p.10!**  
**Freebie Printable! p.7**

**Library of Congress Tour**

April 2nd Pg. 2

**Lunch with Friends**

April 11th Pg.3

**Blanket Workshop**

April 2nd, Pg. 4

Bookclub Pg. 5

Birthdays! Pg. 6

March Recap Pg. 8

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**Call for 2024-25 Board  
Members Pg 11**

What's Cookin' Pg. 12

Around town Pg. 13

**Shop with us!**

**2024 Logo available! Pg 14**

2023-2024 YOUR NEXT CONNECTION IS HERE AT



# The Crossroads of the Corps

You are invited to join the QSSC for the much anticipated tour of the...

## Library of Congress

Tuesday April 9, 2024  
10:15 AM

Thomas Jefferson Building 10 First St. SE  
Washington DC

*\*\*Please arrive no later than 10 AM outside the  
Thomas Jefferson Building*

Max attendees: 25  
Members only event

Registration fee \$3.00  
Closes April 7th



**Save the Date!**

*YOUR Next Stop:  
Library of Congress  
Tour!*

*April 9th @  
10:15 am*



**New Member?  
Returning Member?  
Join with a friend!  
Click here to register for  
your  
membership today!**





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# The Crossroads of the Corps

## LIVE LAUGH Lunch

Join us for friendship and fun with the QSSC lunch club!

Thursday 11 April

12:00 PM

Aroma Latin Fusion

15200 Potomac Town Place Unit 120 Woodbridge (Stonebridge Town Ctr)

Registration closes April 9

Limit 10 members  
No outside food or beverages.  
Pay on your own event.



# JOIN

JOIN US FOR FRIENDSHIP & FUN!

Thursday, April 11th  
Lunch bunch!

Register today!



[www.quanticossc.org](http://www.quanticossc.org)



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# The Crossroads of the Corps

## Chunky Knit Blanket Workshop!!

Chunky Knit Blanket Workshop



Use your phone for online registration



**April 2, 2024**  
**10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**  
 Instructor: Viviana Scrivner

Join us for a cozy and creative experience where you'll learn the art of creating a beautiful 40" x 50" Chenille Throw Blanket in our three-hour class.

USO Warrior & Family Center  
 5940 Ninth Street  
 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

This is a member only, non-transferable, non-refundable class.

---

**OPTION 1: DIY Enthusiast**  
 \$28

**YARN NOT INCLUDED**  
 (Members bring 6 skeins of OWN YARN)  
 Yarn can be purchased at Michaels or Hobby Lobby  
**RSVP by 18 March 2024**

---

**OPTION 2: All-inclusive Package**  
 \$118

**INCLUDES ALL MATERIAL**  
 (6 skeins of yarn + Bag)  
 Various colors available; color sheet attached and available to choose colors during registration.  
**RSVP by 18 March 2024**

Register and pay: [www.quanticosc.org](http://www.quanticosc.org)

JOIN US FOR FRIENDSHIP & FUN!

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024

Register today!



MAKE SURE TO CATCH THIS CONNECTION

[www.quanticosc.org](http://www.quanticosc.org)



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## BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB

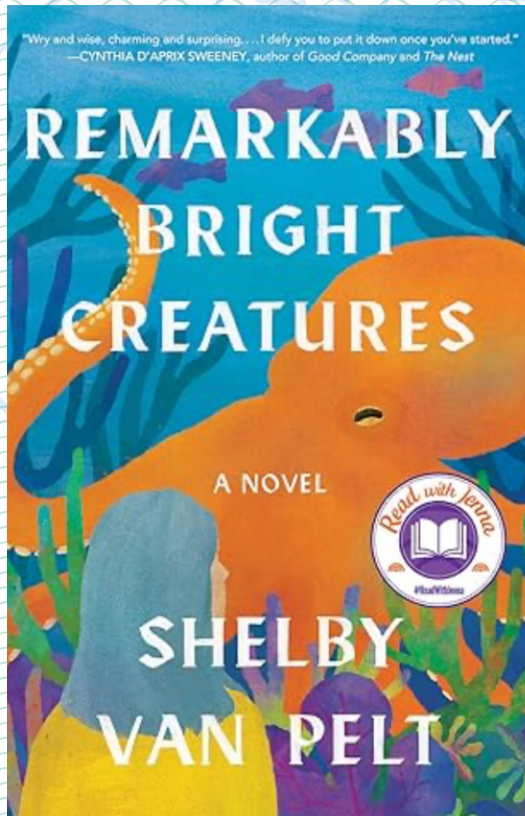
HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB YET NOT A PROBLEM... MAKE THIS YOUR FIRST STOP ON THIS YEARS JOURNEY OF TRYING NEW THINGS!

Please join us for another page turning event!! Our next book club will be on Wednesday, April 24th! Look for the email for more details!

To register for this QSSC Bookworm event please go to our Events Page [HERE](#)

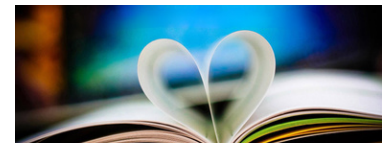
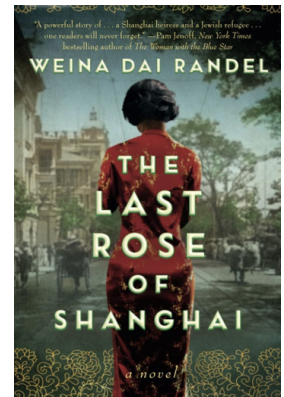
THERE ARE LIMITED SPOTS FOR THIS EVENT, SO REGISTER EARLY!

**(Address is given upon registration)**



**YOUR  
Next Stop is Book Club!**

### May's Read:



**New Member?  
Returning Member?  
Join with a friend!  
Click here to register for  
your  
membership today!**



FIND US:



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## MEMBERSHIP'S MESSAGE

Friends!

If you are a member reading this and you haven't made it out to an activity yet, consider making it a goal to come out and join us! AND if you are up for a fun challenge and new opportunities, contact us to volunteer as a board member!

YOU are the reason for this club! Thank you for being here!

# HAPPY *Birthday* APRIL!

Amy Schiaffino	4/02
Lauren Ziemba	4/03
Olivia Layne	4/12
Mary Alice Jakso	4/13
Stephanie Days	4/18
Star-Maria Brooks	4/19
Brandy Jones	4/23
Marison Jimenez	4/27
Jen VanBuren	4/27
Jennifer Brown	4/29

BOARDING PASSES



## **The Military Child's Creed**

**I am an American Military Child.  
I am a Warrior in my own right and a member of a  
Military Family.  
I serve with my Military Parent(s), who serves the  
people of the United States.  
I will always place the mission first: To stand beside,  
behind and with my Family.  
I will never accept defeat.  
I will never quit.  
I will not leave a fellow military-brat hurting.  
I will stand beside them.  
I am disciplined, but young; physically and mentally  
tough, but vulnerable.  
I will ask for  
help when I need it!  
I am adaptable and I am resilient.  
I stand ready to say "Good-bye", whisper "I miss You"  
and shout "Welcome Home".  
I am a representative of the American Military Family  
and the American way of life.  
I am an American Military Child.**





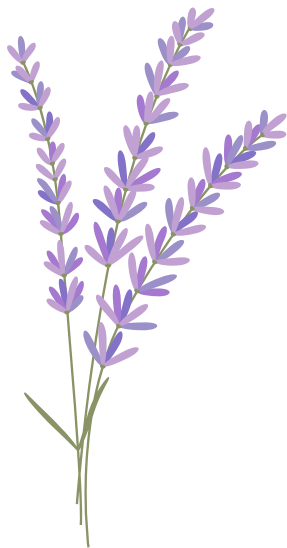
# March Activities Recap



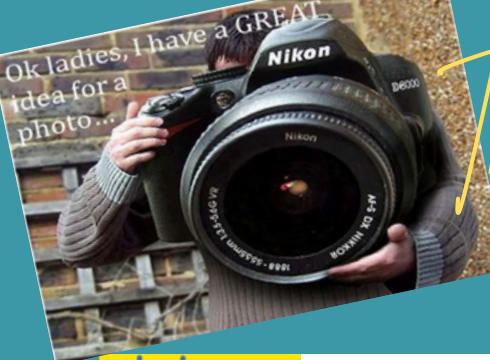
There were many wonderful displays at the International Showcase!



Sipping with Friends at Vita Novae Creations!





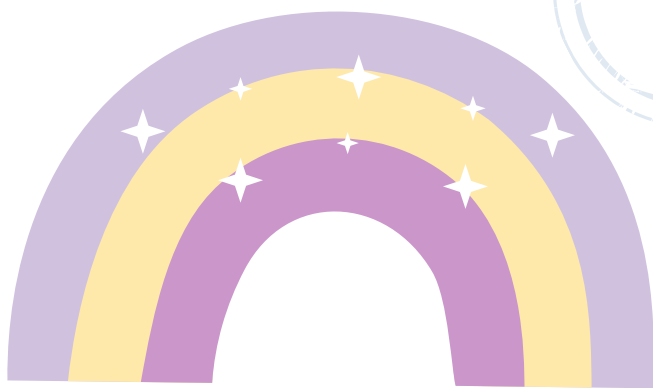


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**BOARDING PASSES**

## What's New - Historian



Dearest Friends,

Not only are we making connections; we really are making history together! We can all start looking back over the past months at all the fun we have had together, amazing experiences and the friends that are becoming family. We are all here at the same time for a reason. Let's embrace that and each other.

Please help us create a "time capsule" of photographs of all the events you attend with QSSC. Help me document our time together. To think that some day Spouses will look back at the fun we had, just like I like to look back at all the Spouses that came before us to see what they did 'way back when' is a warm and delightful feeling! As you attend events and take pictures, please send a few to me at: [HISTORIAN@QuanticoSSC.org](mailto:HISTORIAN@QuanticoSSC.org)

Please include your name and who is in the picture. Each year, we produce a scrap book, and we submit that to the archives. Like I said, we are making history together!!

Ruthie Ruppert  
QSSC Historian 2023-24



**FIND US:**



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# Advertising Opportunity!

Greetings from the Quantico Spouses' Social Club (QSSC)!

We are thrilled to announce we will now offer advertisement spots in our monthly newsletter!

These spots are open to the local businesses and nonprofit organizations. With distribution to over 100 emails, advertising with QSSC is an excellent way for your organization to reach Military Spouses and Families, letting them know your service is available nearby.

## QSSC Newsletter Advertising

Our monthly newsletter is distributed to all our members and to the representatives from local sister clubs. If you are interested in advertising in the Newsletter, please submit your ad, signed contract, and payment by the 5th of the month.

## Coupon or Discount

Would you like to offer a discount on your product or service for our QSSC members when they have your advertisement in hand during a visit to your business?

We appreciate your support of the Service Member Spouse community and thank you for the role you take in helping military families to thrive.

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter, please contact our Marketing Chair, Amy Webb. Amy will be happy to provide you with the package which needs to be completed. Any further questions regarding QSSC or advertising please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Sonserae Martinez,

QSSC President [president@quanticossc.org](mailto:president@quanticossc.org)

Becca Carver,

QSSC Newsletter Chair [newsletter@quanticossc.org](mailto:newsletter@quanticossc.org)

Amy Webb,

QSSC Marketing Chair [marketing@quanticossc.org](mailto:marketing@quanticossc.org)

THE APPEARANCE OF ADVERTISING IN THIS PUBLICATION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE ENDORSEMENT BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, OR MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION-MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO Quantico Spouses' Social Club Advertising Contract/Rate Card for Monthly Newsletter 2023-2024



**FIND US:**







# NEW YEAR - NEW BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE VOLUNTEER AND CONNECT

QSSC relies on our membership to grow, connect, and create community for all military spouses in the area.

Are you ready for your next adventure?!

Do you have the gift of organization? Throw the best parties? The one with the best local finds? Just want to hang out with great people?

The Quantico Spouses' Social Club is looking for NEW Board Members for next year!  
Without our volunteers we can't thrive.

## Available positions include:

PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARY  
TREASURER PARLIAMENTARIAN SOCIAL MEDIA  
HISTORIAN PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER  
MARKETING RESERVATIONS HOSPITALITY  
WEB ADMIN MEMBERSHIP INTERNATIONAL REP

Feel free to reach out to any boardmember for more information about positions that may be a great fit for YOU!

If you're interested in being a part of our fantastic team, send an email to QSSC President:

[president@quanticossc.org](mailto:president@quanticossc.org) for more information about the positions available.

Take a look at our Facebook page and website:

[2023-2024 Your Next Connection Is Here](#)

SOCIAL - FUN - CONNECT-TOGETHER

Membership is open to spouses of active-duty, reserve, and retired servicemembers of all ranks in the U.S. Armed Forces who reside in the National Capital Region to include Spouses of International Service Members attached to U.S. Marine Corps Units/Schools.



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BOARDING PASSES

## WHAT'S COOKIN' Slow Cooker Latin Chicken!



This recipe is an easy flavorful family dinner for any night of the week! Spicy cumin, chicken, salsa, black beans, and sweet potatoes combine into a flavorful Latin-inspired chicken stew. The chicken thigh meat has unbelievable flavor and tenderness.

Cook Time: 4 hrs 10 mins

Total Time: 4 hrs 35 mins

Servings: 6 Yield: 12 cups Ingredients

1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 pounds skinless chicken thighs  
salt and ground black pepper to taste  
½ cup fresh cilantro, coarsely chopped, divided  
2 (15.5 ounce) cans black beans, rinsed and drained  
2 large sweet potatoes, cut into chunks  
1 red bell pepper, cut into strips  
1 cup hot salsa  
½ cup chicken broth  
3 large cloves garlic, chopped  
2 teaspoons ground cumin  
½ teaspoon ground allspice lime wedges, for garnish

### Directions

Heat olive oil in a large skillet. Season chicken with salt and pepper; sprinkle 1/4 cup cilantro over chicken thighs. Cook chicken in hot oil until browned, 3 to 5 minutes per side. Arrange chicken in the bottom of a slow cooker.

Place black beans, sweet potatoes, and red bell pepper on top of chicken. Mix together salsa, chicken broth, 1/4 cup cilantro, garlic, cumin, and allspice in a bowl; pour into the slow cooker.

Cook on Low for 4 hours. Garnish with lime wedges to serve. Serve with rice, tortillas or chips!

### Recipe Source:

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/177078/slow-cooker-latin-chicken/>







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## THE HAPPENINGS - AROUND TOWN

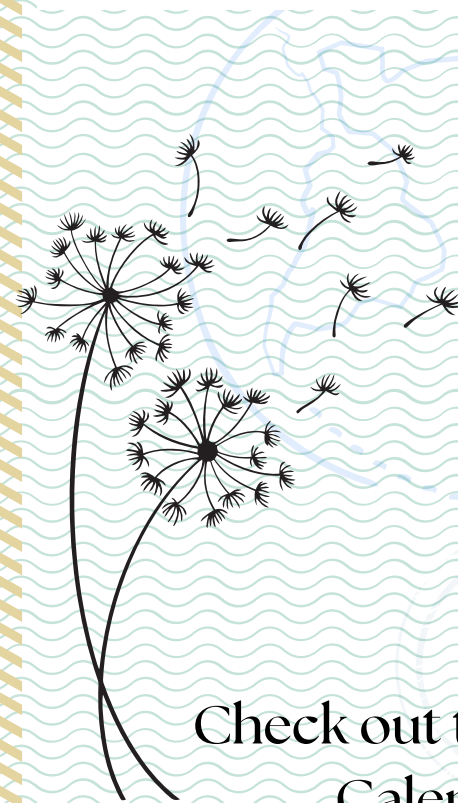


Month of Military Child (MOMC) Theater Special

[Click Here for USO Registrations and Calendar!](#)



BOARDING PASSES



Month of Military Child Bowling Special  
April 7, 14, 21, 28 | 1-5 PM

Check out the MCCS Quantico Calendar of Events

to see more activities happening on base!

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# The Crossroads



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## The QSSC Apparel Store - A.K.A - GRAB SOME GEAR!

**24 HRS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK!**

Remembering your time here with the Quantico Spouses' Social Club is great, but you can make it last a lifetime! Make QSSC gear your favorite most comfy "Go-To" weekend wear! All profits from all orders come back to help the club. Items are fully customizable!

Grab some Gear today by clicking below to purchase:  
[Official QSSC Apparel Store](#)

Looking forward to seeing everyone in their QSSC Gear!  
(We would love for you to send a pic of yourself in your gear. You can post them on our private FB site yourself or send the images right to our [Historian!](#))

## GET YOUR GEAR

BE COOL LIKE THE COOL KIDS,  
GRAB YOUR GEAR FOR THE  
NEW YEAR!

### Share your wear

Take a pic of you or someone you know in your new QSSC gear and post it to one of our SM accounts! We want to see what you are creating! We would also love to see how far and wide our gear travels! Sort of like where's Waldo!



**New Member?**  
**Returning Member?**  
**Join with a friend!**  
**[Click here to register for your membership today!](#)**





# The Crossroads

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## QSSC BOARD MEMBERS

**Honorary President** Mrs. Susan Iiams  
**Senior Enlisted Advisor** Mrs. Kate Griffin

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President**  
Sonserae Martinez

**Vice President**  
Rachel Barry

**Treasurer**  
Amanda Kilfoil

**Secretary**  
Ryan Mangrum

**Parliamentarian**  
Musu Tyler

### APPOINTED MEMBERS

**Historian**  
Ruthie Ruppert

**Hospitality Chair**  
Lara Eastman

**Marketing Chair**  
Amy Webb

**Membership**  
Heather Garcia

**Newsletter Chair**  
Becca Carver

**International Rep**  
Claudy Morris

**Programs**  
Board Team

**Reservations**  
Lara Eastman

**Ways & Means**  
Board Member

**Social Media**  
Christina Carter

**WebAdmin**  
MJ Hall

**Quantico Spouses' Garden Club Rep**  
Adi Peter

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