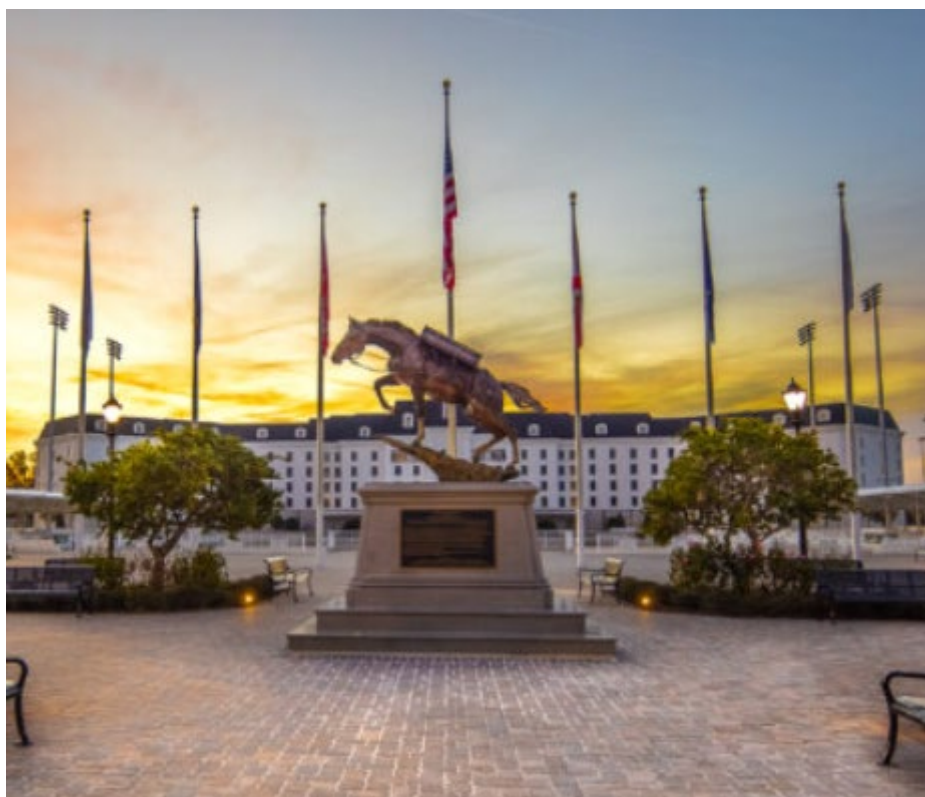


SGT RECKLESS - AMERICA'S GREATEST WAR HORSE



SHE WASN'T A HORSE - SHE WAS A MARINE!

From the racetrack to the battlefield—dauntless, fearless, and exemplar of Semper Fi—*SHE* was Reckless, "pride of the Marines."

Bred to be a racehorse, Ah-Chim-Hai, or Flame-of-the-Morning, belonged to a boy named Kim-Huk-Moon. In order to pay for a prosthetic leg for his sister, Kim made the difficult decision to sell his beloved horse. Lt. Eric Pedersen purchased the mare and renamed her Reckless, for the Recoilless Rifles Platoon, Anti-Tank Division, of the 5th Marines she'd be joining.

The four-legged hero braved minefields and hailing shrapnel to deliver ammunition to the gunsites. In one day alone, Reckless made **51 trips** from the Ammunition Supply Point to the firing sites, *most of the time on her own*. She carried **386 rounds** of ammunition on her back (over 9,000 lbs) and **walked over 35 miles** through open rice paddies and up steep mountains with enemy fire exploding at the rate of **500 rounds per**

minute. Wounded twice, she never stopped. She even shielded Marines going up to the line, and helped carry the wounded to safety. There's no telling how many lives she helped save.

Despite only measuring about 13 hands high, this pint-sized equine became an American hero. Reckless was awarded two Purple Hearts for her valor and was officially promoted to staff sergeant, a distinction never bestowed upon an animal before or since.

In 2016, she was awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal, the "Victoria Cross for Animals," the greatest honor an animal can achieve for gallantry and bravery. In 2019, SSgt Reckless became the very first recipient of America's version of the Dickin Medal: [The Animals in War & Peace Medal of Bravery](https://animalsinwarandpeace.org/sgt-reckless).

Her story is absolutely amazing.

<https://animalsinwarandpeace.org/sgt-reckless>

AWARDS/ACCOLADES FOR THE BOOK

- * 2014 *New York Times* Bestseller- Categorical September/October
- * 2015 American Horse Publications Equine Book of the Year
- * 2015 Silver Medalist - Independent Publisher Book Award (IPPY)
- * 2016 Gold Medalist - Military Writers Society of America
- * 2016 EQUUS Film and Arts Festival WINNIE Award, Best Equine Book
- * 2020 EQUUS Film and Arts Festival WINNIE Award, Best Screenplay
- * **2020 Selection - Commandant of the Marine Corps' Professional Reading List** - Required reading selection for enlisted Marines

SIX NATIONAL MONUMENTS TO SSGT RECKLESS

New York Times bestselling author **Robin Hutton** reignited excitement about this nearly forgotten legend when she teamed up with artist Jocelyn Russell to create national monuments to this hero. **Six monuments** now stand in her honor around the country: 1) in 2013 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps; 2) in October 2016 at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, where Reckless lived out the rest of her days and is buried; 3) in May 2018 at the beautiful Kentucky Horse Park, where Reckless now resides alongside the greatest horses in American history; 4) in 2019 at a horse farm in Barrington Hills, IL; 5) in November 2019 at the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Ft Worth, TX; and 6) **in December 2020 at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, FL**. After those, hopefully South Korea where Reckless will finally be going home to be with her South Korean friends!

To learn more about these monuments, go to www.SgtReckless.com!

