

Susan Sohler, 101, an Evansville resident, served in the Navy's WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service) for two years during World War II.

She said she got a Bachelor's of Art in Education degree in 1931 from Wayne State College in Nebraska but wanted to help with war effort. So, she worked for the Weather Bureau in Seattle, Wash., where the weather forecasts were secret, before joining WAVES.

"They didn't want enemies to know what the weather was like," she said.

In WAVES, she worked as an aerographer and took hourly weather observations, decoded weather information and plotted maps at Ottumwa (Iowa) Naval Air Station.

"It was fun and also hard work," she said.

She also said the nation "wasn't as hectic as it is now," but there weren't as many opportunities for women in the military.

Still, she said she took advantage of her G.I. Bill and worked as an accountant in San Francisco after the war.

*Submitted by AGCS John Shay USN RET*