



STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843

Council on Veterans Programs

2005-2007 Biennial Report to the Wisconsin Legislature **Membership and Activities of the Council on Veterans Programs** **July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007**

September 28, 2007

The Wisconsin Council on Veterans Programs is composed of twenty-four veterans' organizations.

Council officers from 10/05 through 10/06 were: Russ Alsteen, Navy Club USA, Chairman; Clifton Sorenson, WACVO, Vice Chairman; and Paul Fine, Army Navy Union, Secretary.

Council officers from 10/06 through 10/07: Clifton Sorenson, WACVO, Chairman; Paul Fine, Army Navy Union, Vice Chairman; and Russ Alsteen, Navy Club USA Secretary.

Attachment A of this report is a list of the members of the Council and the organizations that they represented during the 2005-07 reporting period.

Organizations with no representation this reporting period are: Veterans of World War I and Federation for Minority Veterans (also know as the Federation for Culturally Diverse Veterans).

During this past biennium, the Council on Veterans Programs has continued to advise the Board of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs on matters of concern to Wisconsin Veterans and to make recommendations on a wide range of veterans issues. The Council will continue to act proactively on behalf of Wisconsin veterans.

Minutes of the Council on Veterans Programs meetings are on file at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 30 West Mifflin Street, Madison and on the Department's web site at www.dva.state.wi.us

Respectfully submitted,
COUNCIL ON VETERANS PROGRAMS


Cliff Sorenson, Chairman

enclosures

COUNCIL ON VETERANS PROGRAMS—2005-06

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AMVETS

AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN



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SUITE 306

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Phone: (414) 273-5240

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web-site: <http://www.amvets-wi.org>

September 12, 2007

To: Chief Clerk, State of Wisconsin
Senate/Assembly

From: AMVETS Department of Wisconsin

Re: Activities and Membership report for AMVETS, A member of the Council on Veterans Programs.

In compliance with the 1989 Wisconsin Act 36, the following report is submitted outlining the current AMVET membership and activities.

As of the end of our membership year, August 31, 2005 our membership was 3,721
As of the end of our membership year, August 31, 2006 our membership was 3,815
As of the end of our membership year, August 31, 2007 our membership was 3,785.

We had one full-time National Service Officer located in the Regional Office at The Zablocki Medical Center in Milwaukee until September of 2006. At that time the National AMVETS decided to close our National Service Office and as of this date have not reopened it. We are petitioning them to reconsider that decision.

We have V.A.V.S. personnel at the Zablocki, Middleton, Tomah, Minneapolis and Iron Mountain V.A. Hospitals and representatives at the State Veterans Homes at King, WI and Union Grove, WI

At the V.A. Hospitals, we provide weekly bingo/card parties, picnics, bowling parties, casino nights and numerous other seasonal activities. At the King Veterans Homes, beside the above activities, we furnish and maintain the "Lincoln Lodge" building and volunteer in the wheelchair and woodworking facilities. At the Union Grove Veterans Home we provide regular bingo/card parties, picnics and numerous other seasonal activities. Personal care kits are given out to new admissions, as well as greeting, Christmas and calling cards at appropriate times of the year.

Our organization has contributed approximately \$140,000 in cash and equipment and over 30,000 hours of volunteer time to all of the above mentioned VAMC's, including contributions of \$10,000 to the National Wheelchair Games held in Milwaukee last June.

AMVETS is the fourth largest National Veterans Service Organization in the Country, Chartered by Congress in 1946. AMVETS and its subsidiary organizations, the Ladies Auxiliary, Sons of AMVETS, Junior AMVETS, Sad Sacks and AMVETS Riders provide much in the way of service to veterans and their communities.

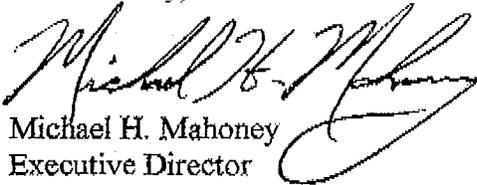
AMVETS in Wisconsin, as well as throughout the Nation, sponsors such projects as: Blood/Organ Donor drives, Boy and Girl Scout programs, Special Olympics, Drug and Alcohol abuse awareness programs and ROTC awards at ten colleges and JROTC awards at six high schools, college scholarship programs at both State and National levels and Americanism programs from K - 12 Grades that includes Essay, Flag Drawing and Poster contests.

There are also various projects taken on by members of the organization to support special activities such as the WW II Memorial in Washington DC, the Korean War Memorial in Plover, WI, the High Ground in Neillsville, WI, the Bell Carillons at the State Veterans Cemeteries in Union Grove and Spooner. All Posts within the organization also participate in the Funeral Honors Program and Flag presentation programs for individuals as well as businesses within their communities.

The National AMVETS has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Guard to provide support to all mobilized and deployed units of the National Guard and their families and has mandated that all Departments throughout the Country get involved in this program. Although many Posts throughout Wisconsin are already supporting their local Guard and Reserve units, we will be encouraging more of our Posts to get involved.

This report is a true, though abbreviated, statement of our organization's activities and aims.

Submitted by,



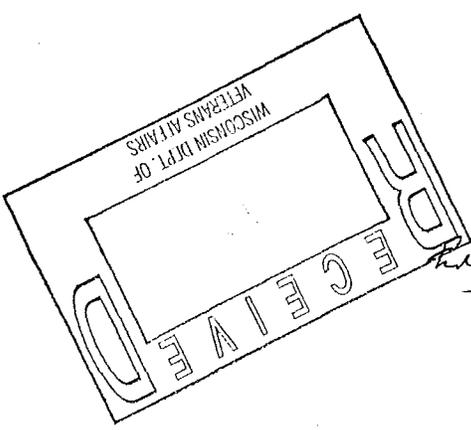
Michael H. Mahoney
Executive Director

Sept 10, 2007

Council of Veterans Programs

Dept. of Veterans Affairs

To: William G. Kessler, Acting Secretary



Dear Sir,

The Ex-POW membership as of July 1, 2007 was 340. This figure is from the National Office.

The active membership is 258 Ex POW's.

I have spoken before:

EAA chapter 93 in 2005, American Legion,

Deport 2005, Optimum Club 2007. I will

appear in Toronto at the POW Recognition Day

in 2007.

My wife and I have been invited to

Washington D.C. to attend the midyear

conference. Also to visit Representative's

office for more promotional activities.

at our POW chapter meetings, being

officer in a national affair, is made

through.

I still write claims to the VA, mainly for widows.

Respectfully,

Walter H. Peterson

Wisconsin American Legion



STATE HEADQUARTERS
 2930 American Legion Dr. P.O. BOX 388
 PORTAGE, WI 53901 608-745-1090
 FAX: 608-745-0179 E-mail: info@wilegion.org

General Summary of Activities and Membership

Membership for the Wisconsin American Legion at the conclusion of the 2006 membership year was 71,183; and for the membership year 2007 it was 70,679.

Activities of The American Legion for this report are predicated on functional programs promoted through the Department of Wisconsin American Legion Headquarters office in Portage. The programs themselves are carried out on the Post level by volunteers and Post Funds. The activities and expenditures herein listed are solely those of the Department and do not reflect data on Post activity.

Programs

Camp American Legion- The mission of Camp American Legion is, simply stated, the rehabilitation of ill and injured service members and veterans. The Camp is unique, as it is the only rehabilitation camp in the United States open to service members and veterans completely free of charge. The goal of Camp American Legion is to get veterans out of hospitals sooner and to keep them out longer. With the help of volunteer therapist from Wisconsin's VA hospitals, veterans learn to adjust to their new and changing physical abilities. The Camp also allows veterans who have been out of society for long periods of time, due to hospital stays, an opportunity to socialize. This contact with others in a recreational setting helps the veterans to bridge the gap from hospital to home. Rehabilitation services are offered to all attendants for a stay of ten days.

Service Office- The American Legion maintains a full time Service Officer and staff in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to assist Wisconsin Veterans. Current Active Records are now at 7883 where as just five years ago we were at 5500 active cases.

Veterans Hospitals- The Department of Wisconsin has a Hospital Standing Committee, consisting of a Chairman and Vice Chairman, and hospital representatives from each location, Zablocki, King Veterans Home, Tomah VA, Middleton VA, Minneapolis VA, Iron Mountain and Union Grove Medical Centers. The Department maintains records on volunteer hours and donations to the aforementioned facilities.

King Day- An annual event, scheduled for August 10, 2008, whereas The American Legion sponsors a picnic to be held on Father's Day at the veterans home for the residences of King. Legionnaires are encouraged to sponsor a veteran.

Youth Programs

American Legion Baseball	Children & Youth Activities	Shooting Sports Programs and Scholarships
Boy Scouts	Badger Boys State	Oratorical Contest Scholarship Opportunity
Scholarships	County Youth and Government Day	Sons of the American Legion
American Legion Government & Test Program		

Yearly Events Hosted or Supported by the Department

Department Convention	Spring/Fall Conferences	Delegation to Washington
Midwinter Conference	Annual Bowling Tournament	National Workshops
Spring Budget Meetings	Annual Golf Outing	National Convention
Annual Bowling Tournament		

The American Legion has four main priorities- Rehabilitation, Americanism, Children and Youth, and National Security. Numerous programs are used to achieve each goal. The above reflects the Department of Wisconsin's, The American Legion's participation in the promotion of said goals.

Respectfully submitted by,

David A Kurtz
 Department Commander

Terry G. Troutman
 Department Adjutant



**American
Red Cross**

Office of the Chapter Executive
2600 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-345-8640

September 25, 2007

Julie Van Metre
Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
30 W. Mifflin Street
Madison, WI

Re: American Red Cross Bi-annual Report

Dear Julie:

The American Red Cross in the state of Wisconsin is proud of its ongoing work on behalf of active duty military and veterans in the state. Veterans and their families are entitled to all of the services that the Red Cross provides across our state to all of our citizens. For the past two years these include:

- 2,044 locally funded disaster relief operations that assisted 2, 944 families.
- 161,220 participants in Community Disaster Education.
- 491,926 participants in Red Cross Certified Instruction programs such as first aid and CPR.

The American Red Cross also provided 8,709 emergency communications services for members of the Armed Forces and their families. This program is especially valuable to reserve units and Wisconsin National Guard units that have deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan over the past two years. All Guard and reserve units are briefed on Red Cross services as part of their pre-deployment training. During the past two years 7, 213 National Guards/Reservists and family members were briefed on how to access Red Cross services during their deployment. Several Red Cross chapters in the state continue to support volunteer programs at our state's Veteran's Administration Medical Centers. The American Red Cross is the sole source provider of blood and blood products for the VAMC's in Wisconsin and last year the following blood products were provided:

- 3,792 Red Cells
- 577 Single donor platelets (apheresis)
- 1,397 units of Plasma

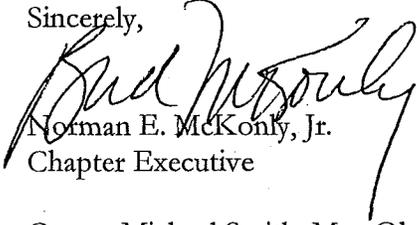
Additionally, several of our chapters (Green Bay, West Bend, and Racine) provide transportation services to veterans who need to access medical services at the VA Regional Medical Centers in the state.

*American Red Cross in Southeastern Wisconsin serving
Dodge, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha Counties*

A Partner in Community Service with the United Way

We are proud of our veterans and their service to our state and nation and pleased that we are able to assist them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bud McKonly". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Norman E. McKonly, Jr.
Chapter Executive

Cc: Michael Smith, Max Oleson; current and former Council Member
Sandy Lampman, State Relations Officer; All Wisconsin Red Cross Chapters

ARMY & NAVY UNION
Wm. McKinley Garrison Nr 114
Milwaukee Wisconsin

August 13th 2007

TO: Wisconsin Department Of Veterans Affairs
Acting Secretary: William J. Kloster
30 West Miffin Street, PO Box 7843
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7843

Dear Sir,

As in-coming Commander of the Army/Navy/Union, I am submitting the following information for 2007-2009. The mission of our organization is to help all Veterans within the State of Wisconsin and the County of Milwaukee. We have a delegate in Madison, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. We take part in the State Fair, with our County representative. Members volunteer their time in the community and at Zablocki VAMC, and at King Veterans home and also Union Grove.

ARMY/NAVY UNION is represented on the Volunteer Executive committee and also represented on the Milwaukee County Allied Veterans Board.

Our finances are raised by donations, Poppy sales and special programs in which we help our fellow Veterans.

Sincerely,

Howard R. Cole....Commander

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Howard R. Cole". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

**|DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS|**

REPORT ON VETERANS PROGRAMS

August 5, 2007|

Cliff Sorenson Chairman|
Council On Veterans Programs
30 West Mifflin Street|
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Chairman Sorenson:|

|The Catholic War Veterans organization was chartered by an Act of Congress on August 17, 1984. At the time of it's initial charter, the organization totaled nearly 20,000 members but over|
|the years has been reduced by illness, the passing away of members and by others losing interest|
|and dropping out. Today, there are approximately 4,000 Auxiliary members.|

|The Wisconsin Department of the Catholic War Veterans averaged for the fiscal year 2004 –|
|2005, 155 members. For the fiscal year 2006 – 2007, which will end on September 30th, the|
|number has dropped to a total of 154 members.

|In the fiscal year 2003 the Wisconsin Department of the Catholic War Veterans had a total of|
|five Posts. For the fiscal year 2005 – 2006 the Department lost one post by a disband but|
|several of its members joined other existing posts. There are only 4 Posts for fiscal year 2006–|
|2007.

|The Wisconsin Department of the Catholic War Veterans holds quarterly meetings of its|
|Board of Officers in Milwaukee or in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. The last meeting was held in|
|Fond du Lac in 2006, which was where the last State Convention was held as well.

|Volunteer Representatives working at the Veterans Hospitals throughout the U. S. are picked|
|by the National Department of the Catholic War Veterans and usually put in thousands of hours|
|in helping hospitalized Veterans in bingo games, social and Christmas parties with gifts given to|
|those hospitalized. They also assisted those who were able to leave for short periods of time on a|
|number of bus tours to various locations.

|The Wisconsin Department of the Catholic War Veterans holds an annual Bingo Party at|
|King, Wisconsin where there is a Veterans Home. This is one of the highlights of the year.|
|Bingo and other fundraiser events are held by several posts to aid delegates attending our annual|
|State and National conventions.

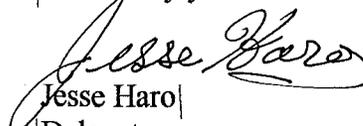
|Through the years one of the outstanding fundraisers has been the sale of Shamrocks. |
|Volunteers stand at church entrances, shopping centers and at the two VA hospitals prior to St. |
|Patrick's Day in March. |

|Funds generated from sales of Shamrocks are earmarked for hospitalized veterans. Another |
|fundraiser is the Cross of Peace Sale held during the month of December. This fundraiser is held |
|for contributions to Veterans Administration hospitals and also helps volunteers purchase needed |
|items for hospitalized veterans. |

|The most important goal for our organization is the continuation of our efforts to enroll as |
|many Catholic War Veterans from the various conflicts they were engaged in. Our hope is to |
|help them however possible and let them know that our organization genuinely cares about their |
|place in life. |

|A very special program of the Catholic War Veterans is the annual "Spiritual Bouquet" to the |
|Holy Father, Pope **Benedict XVI**. A dedicated mass to the Pope is celebrated where we take |
|time to say a special prayer for peace. It's a nation wide program of the Catholic War Veterans. |

|Fraternally yours



|Jesse Haro |

|Delegate

|Catholic War Veterans |



**WAUPACA COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

COURTHOUSE
811 HARDING STREET
WAUPACA, WI 54981

Jon E. LiDonne
Phone: 715-258-6475
Fax: 715-258-6266

September 12, 2007

**WILLIAM J KLOSTER, ACTING SECRETARY
WI DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
30 WEST MIFFLIN STREET, P.O. BOX 7843
MADISON, WI 53707-7843**

Dear Acting Secretary:

I submit for your review the Biennial Report to the Legislature as the CVSO representative to the Council on Veterans Programs. This report covers the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 and July 1, 2006 through June 20, 2007.

The County Veteran Service Officers Association of WI has 71 participating County Veteran Service Officers and 2 Tribal Veteran Service Officers. The CVSO Assoc. of WI has two conferences per year for the purposes of formal business and training in the area of federal and state veteran benefits and programs. June of this year in lieu of a Spring Association Conference we hosted the National Association of County Veteran Service Officer (NACVSO) in Milwaukee. It was probably one of the best attended conferences National has ever had.

CVSO's work directly with WI veterans and their eligible dependents, providing assistance with benefits and acting as liaison when needed. CVSO's have a strong working knowledge of veteran's benefits and application process. We continually strive to improve and enhance veteran programs.

The CVSO Association participated in 31 WDVA sponsored Rapid Response Team briefings from July 2005 to June 2007.

July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 the CVSO Assoc. of WI participated in:
2 Supermarkets of Veterans Benefits and 1 Veterans Benefits Information Fairs.

July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007 the CVSO Assoc. of WI participated in:
3 Supermarkets of Veterans Benefits and 2 Veterans Benefits Information Fairs.

Sincerely,

**Jon LiDonne, Waupaca County
Veteran Service Officer**

August 20, 2007

Clifford Sorenson, Chairman
Council on Veterans Programs
Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
PO Box 7843
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7843

Dear Chairman:

In compliance with the provisions of s. 45.35 (3d)(b) WI Stats., the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Wisconsin submits the following report (general summary) of activities and membership of our organization for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007.

Background Information on the Disabled American Veterans

Treaties are signed and the battles of nations end, but the personal battles of those disabled in war only begin when the guns fall silent. These men and women must struggle to regain health, reshape lives shattered by disability, learn new trades or professions and rejoin the civilian world. At each step, they need help to help themselves.

For three quarters of a century, that aid has come from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), a nonprofit organization of more than one million veterans disabled during tile of war or armed conflict.

Formed in 1920 and chartered by Congress in 1932, the million-member DAV is the official voice of America's service-connected disabled veterans – a strong, insistent voice that represents all of America's 2.1 million disabled veterans, their families and survivors. Its nationwide network of services –free of charge to all veterans and members of their families – totally supported by membership dues and contributions from the American public. Not a government agency, the DAV's national organization received no government funds.

Membership

The DAV has 56 chapters throughout the State of Wisconsin. Each chapter has a Commander, who along with their elected and appointed members determines the programs of their respective unit in compliance with the National and Department constitution and bylaws, and guidelines. Each chapter has a service officer, who works with our National Service Office in Milwaukee, and the local County Veterans Service Officer to assist veterans and their dependents in establishing both Federal and State claims.

The membership of the DAV in Wisconsin maintains a level of approximately 20,500.

Disabled American Veterans Mission Statement

Made up exclusively of men and women disabled in our nation's defense, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is dedicated to one single purpose – building better lives for America's disabled veterans and their dependents. This mission is carried forward by:

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their dependents in obtaining entitlements and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and other agencies of government;
- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their dependents specially;
- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their dependents, their spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial branch, as well as State and Local government;
- Extending DAV's mission of hope into the Community where these veterans and their dependents live through a network of state-level Departments and local Chapters; and
- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

“Building Better Lives for America's Disabled Veterans”

DAV Service Program

A DAV National Service office is staffed and maintained at its current location in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Regional Office (RO), 5400 West National Avenue, Room 162, Milwaukee, WI. The office currently has three National Service Officers assigned including the NSO Supervisor Stephen Garrett, NSO John Kleindienst and NSO John Hansen. In addition, we have two full time secretaries and one part-time receptionist/filing clerk.

DAV Transportation Program

The DAV Transportation Program is under the supervision of Timothy Schneider, who is the Department Service Director. The program is operated by five Hospital Service Coordinators (HSC's) of which one is a full time employee in a dual capacity as Department Service Officer and is located at the VA Medical Center, Madison VAMC. He provides claim counseling/assistance to veterans and their dependents. The HSC offices are located at the VA Medical Centers in Madison, Milwaukee and Tomah and the VA Outpatient Clinics in Appleton and Superior.

The HSC's function are in-house coordinators at the VA Medical Centers and Outpatient Clinics. They coordinate travel for veterans, who can not get to their scheduled appointments on their own, variety of reasons. DAV Volunteer drivers who use donated vehicles assigned to the program to transport veterans to their hospital and clinic appointments, Currently, the program utilizes a total of 54 vans and approximately 275 drivers, five of which have 15 passenger capacity, 12 which have 12 passenger capacity and 27 that have eight passenger capacity.

Veterans Administration Voluntary Service Program

The Disabled American Veterans and their Auxiliary maintain offices at the VA Medical Centers in Madison, Milwaukee and Tomah, as well as the Satellite Outpatient Clinics at Appleton and Superior. The combined number of volunteers at these offices total approximately 250. The number of hours volunteered by these members is approximately 30,000 on an annual basis, and we expend approximately \$57,000.00 per year to fund the programs they carry out. These volunteers visit the members who are admitted to the hospital, and follow their progress while hospitalized. They are offered both financial and moral assistance, and there are any number of programs put on for them to participate in for rehabilitation and recreation. Assistance is also provide for the family members, particularly those from out of town and find themselves making unexpected stays in these cities.

The DA and DAV Auxiliary operate a Christmas Store for the patients of the VAMC, Tomah. In this program, we supply gifts, wrapping and shipping for each patient in the Medical Center. This allows all patients the opportunity to send Christmas presents to their loved ones at home. The annual cost to the Department is about 5,000.00 per year.

Wisconsin Veterans Homes

The DAV has an active volunteer program in place at the Wisconsin Veterans Homes at King and Union Grove. Once a year, we have a DAV Day at King in which we have live music, food and other functions for the residents. Our representatives and volunteers are deeply involved in recreation and resident care. The DAV's commitment to the Homes is clearly shown by the amount of time and money given to these facilities. We annually provide about 5,000 hours of volunteer time, and our budget stays at about \$20,500.00 for our many projects at the Homes. We have a Wheelchair Repair Shop at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, which has grown considerably, and there is no way to tell how much the savings in to the Home, our approximate contribution is \$11,000.00.

OTHER PROGRAMS

The Department of Wisconsin, Disabled American Veterans holds an annual Department Convention each year in June, a Fall Conference and Service Officer School in October, and each District holds a District Conference in the spring. Our Chapters hold monthly meetings. We also participate in the DAV's National Convention, a Mid-winter conference and a 12th National Executive Committee meeting in March.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence Stoel

Clarence Stoel

Council on Veterans Programs

Department of Wisconsin

Disabled American Veterans



**JEWISH WAR VETERANS of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

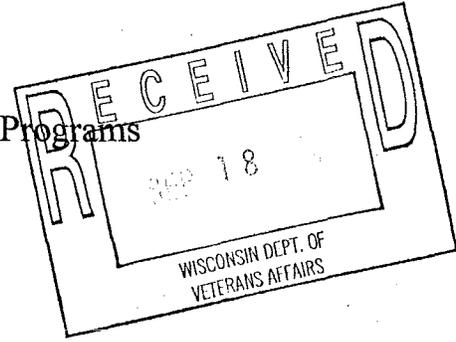


The Oldest Active War Veterans Organization in the United States

September 15, 2007

To: Paul Weprinsky, PDC
JWV Representative to the Council on Veterans Programs

From: Leonard C. Brody, PDC
Department Adjutant



Dear Paul,

This letter is in accordance with the provisions of S.4535(3D0(A)). Stats with the following information being submitted to the Council on Veterans Programs.

The Department of Wisconsin, Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., Inc. is made up of approximately 300 members. The Department has 3 posts all located in the City of Milwaukee.

The following is a list of activities of the Department and all Posts.

Sponsoring bingo, patient visits weekly Jewish Religious Services, special events and activities at the Zablocki VA Medical Center.

Participating with programs to the State Veterans Homes at King and Union Grove.

Active participation on the Milwaukee Jewish Council. Members of the Zablocki VAVS Executive Committee and the Memorial Day Planning Committee.

Active participation in the Milwaukee County Allied Veterans Council and the Veterans Board of Directors of the Milwaukee county War Memorial Center.

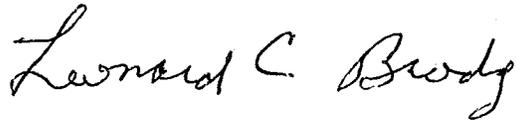
JWV Scholarship Program.

Page 2

Donations have been made to the Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Israel, Ronald McDonald House, Temple Menorah Ezra Fund, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Zablocki VA Medical Center, Jewish Home and Care Center, Jewish National Fund, Jewish Fund, American Heart Association, National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington DC and too many other programs.

Funds are raised through ,membership dues, pancake breakfasts, poppy sales, donations etc.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leonard C. Brody".

Leonard C. Brody, .PDC
Department Adjutant

Cc: Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs



DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Marine Corps League

Incorporated by Act of Congress

5350 So. 110th St.

Hales Corners, WI

August 7, 2007

To: Chief Clerk, Wis. State Assembly/Senate and Wis. Sec. of State Office
From: Marine Corps League, Dept. of Wisconsin
In Ref. Sect 2 of 45.35 (3D) (b) of Wis. Stats.

- I. The Marine Corps League has been active for over 90 years, being chartered by congress as a Veterans Organization in 1937 and also incorporated by the State of Wisconsin. The National Headquarters is in Merifield, VA, outside of Washington D.C. Membership is restricted to honorably discharged Marines with over 90 days of honorable service. Active Marines with 90 days service may also join.
- II. The League is classified as a veterans/military service organization and was formed for the purposes of promoting the interests of U.S. Marine Corps, to provide camaraderie and assistance to Marines, as well as to their widows and orphans, and to preserve the traditions of the U.S. Marine Corps. It is a not-for-profit organization within the provisions of Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c)(4). with a special group exemption letter which allows for contributions to the Marine Corps League, its Auxiliary and subsidiary units, to be tax-deductible by donor. Over 1000 burial honors for Wisconsin veterans were observed in the last three years by local state detachments.
- III. The Marine Corps League does Veterans Service work for veterans and also does volunteer work at VA hospitals and VA domiciliaries. We also assist homeless veterans in the several temporary homes all over the state and across the nation. As a patriotic organization the MCL marches in parades, holds memorial services and assists with the burial of veterans. Local programs are held to preserve the memory of the United States Marine Corps. Americanism programs such as patriotic essays are offered to school children and scholarships are made available to graduating high school students.
- IV. The local detachments (posts) sponsor Boy Scout/Girl Scout programs for the youth. Some detachments have Young Marine Programs in conjunction with the Marine Reserve Units, instilling discipline, love of country, and respect to the citizenry. Athletics and scholarships are fostered in Junior "Boot Camp". The MCL has a Ladies Auxiliary and also an Honor Society of Devil Dogs. They champion volunteer work and raise funds for the other programs, such as assisting active Marine units, reserves, and regulars.
- V. In summation, the Marine Corps League prides itself in being among our Veterans Organizations in supporting issues for our veterans and those in the military.

As presented by

Paul A. Bialk

WDVA Council Delegate



Military Order of the Purple Heart

Department of Wisconsin



Dept of Wisconsin, Military Order of the Purple Heart 2 year report starting on July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart is the only congressionally chartered veterans' organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal by the government of the United States.

There is one important intangible benefit that members enjoy when they belong to the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Their membership helps keep alive the ideals for which a member was awarded the Purple Heart medal.

The Department of Wisconsin, Military Order of the Purple Heart was chartered in 1943; our first Commander was Raymond C. Coulson and since then 69 men have been Commander.

The membership of the Department for the year 2005-2006 was 784 and for the year 2006-2007 are 817. The Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart has 230 members for 2005-2006 and 255 for 2006-2007.

The Department has an office located in the VA Regional office located at 2223 west National Ave, West Allis. There are 2 National Service Officer's available to assist all veterans.

In 2005-2006 we gave 35 students each a \$750 scholarship and 2006-2007 35 students each received an \$800 scholarship. This program has been in existence since 1993.

We have many volunteers at our VA Medical Centers in Milwaukee, Madison, Tomah, Iron Mountain, Minneapolis and at the Wisconsin Veterans' Homes in King and Union Grove. Our cash disbursement to the VA Milwaukee Medical Center in 2005-2006 was \$10,199 and in 2006-2007 was \$7,897. The cash disbursement to King in 2005-2006 was \$23,969 and 2006-2007 it was \$23,295. The cash disbursement to Union Grove for 2005-2006 was \$4,591 and for 2006-2007 it was \$2,379. The cash disbursement to Tomah for 2005-2006 was \$4,819 and for 2006-2007 it was \$6,923. The cash disbursement to Madison for 2005-2006 was \$3,065 and for 2006-2007 it was \$505. The cash disbursement to Iron Mountain for 2005-2006 was \$1,262 and for 2006-2007 it was \$2017. The cash disbursement to Iron Minnesota for 2005-2006 was \$2,783 and for 2006-2007 it was \$2,896.



Military Order of the Purple Heart

Department of Wisconsin



On Friday June 29, 2007 was honored to host the 2007 Olympic softball Wheelchair games and kids day at the Milwaukee Zoo. What a humbling experience.

We continue to deliver plaques to our fallen heroes' family, to date we have given out over 80 plaques.

Cosponsored the Operation Freedom party at the Milwaukee county zoo which was held on Sunday July 1, 2007 to honor all of the men and women who served and are currently serving in the armed forces, over 14,000 servicemen and women along with their families attended the days activities.

Continue to participate in all parade and cemetery activities on Memorial Day, July 4th, Veterans Day, and Veterans Day at the State Fair and any where we are needed.

Over the past years as our WISCONSIN troops returned home from Iraq and Afghanistan we continue to meet with them and brief them on their benefits and schedule them for medical exams at the VA complex in Milwaukee.

We have ROTC leadership awards programs with 2 universities and 5 high schools and a Peace Officer award for Police Officers and Fireman, who are injured in the line of duty.

We currently have Chartered 13 chapters and 9 Ladies Auxiliary units.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Cherone".

Rick Cherone
MOPH Representative
Council on Veterans Programs



ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT

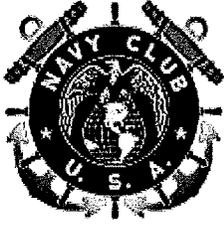
July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2007

Submitted September 25, 2007

- The State Command Council of the National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. consists of one chapter located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The chapter averaged between 200 and 300 members during this reporting period.
- Chapter meetings are being held monthly in Milwaukee and are well attended.
- The Chapter provided on-going volunteer services at Zablocki Medical Center for Iraqi and Afghanistan Veterans returning to civilian life.
- Member and non-member veterans received claims service assistance from the VA certified NABVETS service officer.
- Chapter leadership provided advocacy regarding veteran's issues with various units of government, agencies and organizations.
- Chapter leadership provided representation at both Department of Defense and Department of the Army conferences to make known the issues confronting the Black veteran's population.
- Advocating for women veterans.
- Broke ground on the Zablocki Medical Center campus to dedicate a monument to African American service personnel of all wars.
- Provided over 1,500 hours of community service.
- Chapter leadership in HIV and AIDS counseling in 37 chapters nationwide

Respectfully submitted by:

William L. Sims



NAVY CLUB of the United States of America

WI Squadron Commander Harry Alvey
400 River Drive Apt 385 - Wausau, WI 54403-5469
Phone: (715) 848-0384 – Email: hea264@juno.com

8 August 2007

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Secretary
30 West Mifflin Street
Madison, WI 53707-7843

To: WI Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary John A. Scocos

Subject: Activities and Membership report for the 2005-2007 Biennial period

The WI Squadron meets during the months of March – July – October. Elections of Officers are for a two (2) year term and elections are held in March. Each Ship is required to meet a minimum of nine (9) times a year on a monthly basis.

We are happy to report that there are now five (5) Ships in the Wisconsin Squadron with the addition of the South Lakes Ship 240 based in Burlington and a total membership of 239. We are always promoting the State of Wisconsin and the Navy Club. Our legislative officer faithfully serves on the Council on Veterans Programs and he now serves as its Secretary.

At the National level, we continue to fully sponsor the *'Military Excellence Award'* given to the overall top recruit of each training cycle at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center and attend a number of the weekly graduations. A Navy Club watch is awarded to the each MEA recipient and over \$2,800 has been spent to maintain the program over the last two years. This year, in April and October, we have sponsored a training division by providing athletic equipment and a Navy Club flag to be displayed deck of the most outstanding division. Over \$1,200 has been spent to start this program. We are active in the Secretary of the Navy's Navy-Marine Corps Council in Washington DC and help sponsor the annual Recruiters of the Year program of the Naval Recruiting Command. As part of this program, we completely fund an appreciation dinner for the Recruiters and their spouses, where we award them a Navy Club watch. Over \$3,000 has spent over the last two years to continue this program. The NCUSA is also a \$2,500 pledge contributor to the Naval Order's project to construct a D-Day Navy memorial in Normandy, France. The Navy Memorial and Historical Foundation in Washington DC also received \$2,500 from the NCUSA to help fund their *'Wall of Honor'* project.

At the Squadron and Ship level each year, we participate in the Pearl Harbor Observance at the War Memorial in Milwaukee and Navy Park at Kenosha. Memorial Day and Fourth of July ceremonies and parades are observed in all the Wisconsin cities where Navy Clubs are based. In Racine, we have sponsored the Great Lakes Band and Flag detail to attend the Fourth of July parade

in the last two years for a total cost of over \$2,900. Our members have staffed tables at the Department's 'Supermarts on Veterans Benefits' and attended the various dedications, from the Boland Center in Union Grove to the recent Spinal Cord Unit in Milwaukee. Each Ship continues to give awards to their local Navy and Marine Corps recruiters and outstanding Coast Guardsman or sponsors a Navy Birthday Ball. As a Squadron, we donate one dollar of our membership dues to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum for a total of over \$800 over the last two years. A Christmas party to support the reserve unit in Wausau was held and over \$500 was donated in food and gifts. We participate with other groups at functions at the V.A. hospitals. We have membership on the recreation committees at the Veteran's home at King and Union Grove where over \$600 in bingos and phone cards have been donated. We also join in community events and do what we can do to help the Veterans of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.



Harry Alvey
WI Squadron Commander
Central WI Ship 64 Trustee
National Great Lakes Day Chairman
Navy Club of the United State of America



Russ Alsteen, PNC
WI Squadron Legislative Officer
Green Bay Ship 18 Paymaster
National Judge Advocate
Navy Club of the United State of America



Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America

2311 South 108th Street, West Allis, WI 53227-1901
 (414) 328-8910 • Fax (414) 328-8948 • (800) 875-WPVA
 info@wisconsinpva.org

DATE: September 26, 2007

TO: William J. Kloster, Acting Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

FROM: Jack Stone, Council on Veterans Programs Representative,
 Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America

TOPIC: Activities and Membership Report, 2005-2007
 Pursuant to the provisions of s. 45.35(3d)(b) WI Stats.

The Paralyzed Veterans of America [PVA] was founded in 1947 and chartered nationally as a Veterans Service Organization [VSO] in 1971. The PVA National Office is located at 801 Eighteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 with a telephone number of 800-424-8299. One of 34 Chapters around the Country, the Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America [WPVA] became a member of PVA in 1981 with the standing rules and responsibilities that it provide services for the aid and betterment of its members, and improve the solutions to the problems of all those with physical disabilities.

The membership of WPVA is approximately 540, including Associate Members.

The WPVA Office is located at 2311 South 108th Street, West Allis, Wisconsin 53227-1901, 414-328-8910, with 4 salaried personnel including an Executive Director, Government Relations Director, an Office Secretary, and a part time bookkeeper.

PVA has a National Service Officer located at the VA Regional Office in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The mailing address is 5400 West National Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53214, with a telephone number of 414-902-5655.

WPVA is active in current and proposed legislation advocating in the best interest of the veteran, especially those with catastrophic disabilities. WPVA also advocated for accessibility issues on all levels, including home adaptations, parking areas, as well as public structures such as Miller Park and the Milwaukee River Walkway. We are active participants with the ADA Partnership which is a coalition of people with disabilities, service providers, and businesses. WPVA networks and builds coalitions with other disability advocacy groups.

With the assistance of many of Wisconsin's VSO's, we secured the necessary funding for the building of a brand new Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Unit at the Department of Veterans Affairs Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center.



Member of: Allied Veterans Council of Milwaukee County, Inc., West Allis Chamber of Commerce, WACVO

WDVA Council on Veterans Programs

The Paralyzed Veterans of America is a non profit organization dedicated to furthering the needs of the veteran, their dependents and all catastrophically disabled, through service, education, medical research and the elimination of architectural and attitudinal barriers.

WPVA is also active in volunteer service in the Milwaukee VAMC, especially with the Spinal Cord Injury [SCI] Unit at that location. WPVA offers peer support, and special events, recreational activities, patient visits, and pizza parties are regularly scheduled. We also have a number of laptop computers and internet access available on a limited basis to patients whose sitting time is limited.

WPVA provides annual scholarships for students in the fields of Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and PVA has scholarships available for members [and their families]. WPVA sponsors several attendees to the annual meetings of the American Paraplegic Society [APS], American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Nurses [AASCIN], American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Psychologists and Social Workers [AASCIPSW].

WPVA makes annual contributions to PVA's Education and Training Foundation [ETF] and Spinal Cord Injury Foundation [SCRF]. These entities review hundreds of applications each year and choose several to sponsor.

WPVA is always available to speak to students, clubs, and organizations to describe and discuss what it means to be a veteran and what it's like to live with a disability. We've spoken to 1st and 2nd grade students at Jackson Elementary School in Manitowoc and Physical therapy seniors at Marquette University and Carroll College.

WPVA supports sports and recreational activities for the disabled including, but not limited to; basketball, softball, quad rugby, trapshooting, and fishing tournaments. WPVA also coordinates and sponsors a team to attend the Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic in Colorado and the annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games. WPVA co-hosted this event in 2007 with the Zablocki Medical Center and with over 4000 registered volunteers, and the overwhelming support of VSO's, the community and our corporate sponsors, put on the best Games ever!.

WPVA members also participate in the Allied Veterans Council of Milwaukee County, the West Allis Chamber of Commerce, and the WDVA Council on Veterans Programs.



Polish Legion of American Veterans
State Department of Wisconsin
 Chartered By Act of Congress 1984
 Headquarters
 James J. Smelcer Post # 34
 4902 7th Ave.
 Kenosha, WI. 53140



TO; Chairman Sorenson Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

RE; Biennial Activities & Membership Report of Polish Legion of American Veterans August 2005 – 2007.

In compliance with the provisions of S. 45.35(3d)(b) WI. Statutes, following is requested information about our organization's activities as a member of the department's Council on Veterans Programs.

There are 12 PLAV posts in Wisconsin with a total of 784 members plus 6 Ladies Auxiliary chapters with a total of 200 members for a total combined membership of 984.

Our organization serves and has designated representatives at the three VA Medical Centers in Wisconsin and one in Upper Michigan plus the two state veterans homes.

FOR YEAR JULY 1, 2005 TO JUNE 30, 2007

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Total Hours:</u>	<u>Total Miles:</u>	<u>Cash Donations:</u>	<u>Total Cash/Material Donations:</u>
Madison	125	2,052	\$1,720.00	\$2,550.00
Milwaukee	1,769	3,228	\$3,965.00	\$4,890.00
Tomah	630	1,117	\$1,365.00	\$1,765.00
Iron Mountain	149	1,200	\$1,935.00	\$1,995.00
King	250	666	\$1,460.00	\$1,690.00
Union Grove	150	382	\$1,160.00	\$1,795.00
TOTALS:	3,073	8,645	\$12,585.00	\$14,685.00

At Union Grove in April and King in May we have a PLAV Day at which we play bingo with the residents for quarters and conclude by serving homemade treats and strawberry shortcake.

William Crivillo and Geraldine Crivillo received the Presidential Award for their service to veterans at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center. Their faithful and continued dedicated service is an inspiration to all of us.

Marge Wojcehowicz
 Marge Wojcehowicz,
 State Commander

DATE: 25 September 2007

FROM: United Women Veterans
Vera Roddy, President

SUBJECT: 2005 – 2007 Biennial Report to the Wisconsin Legislature on Membership and Activities

TO: Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

In compliance with Section 45.35(3d)(b), Wisconsin Statutes, as created by the Wisconsin Act 36, the following report is submitted:

United Women Veterans is a non-profit organization for America's women veterans founded in 1986. Our goal is to promote growth and unity through awareness, advocacy and friendship. We provide outreach and education to women veterans, along with benefit information and referral. We also work towards public recognition and support of the contributions made by women in the military. Our organizational strength lies in the comradeship among its members and ongoing working relationships with other veteran's organizations. Many of our members are also affiliated with other veteran groups.

Our organization has held a State Charter since 1986. We are not affiliated with any national group. Women veterans with war or peacetime service; from any branch of the military; active duty, guard or reserves are eligible for membership.

United Women Veterans holds 11 meetings annually; nine meetings are held in Madison, with one meeting each year at the State Veterans Home at King and one at the State Veterans Home at Union Grove. We encourage women veterans to join together for increased public visibility and the sharing of service experiences. We keep a historical record of what members did in the service as well as our motivations, strengths and dedication to the service of our country. Current membership is 69. Dues are \$10.00 per year. Our calendar year runs from July 1st to June 31st. Our newsletter is published quarterly and is sent to women veterans and active duty members across the nation and overseas.

Volunteerism is a key word for our members.

- At the request of the Women Veterans Program Manager and VA Voluntary Services Director, United Women Veterans began providing oversight of the Women Veterans Clothing Room at the Zablocki VA Medical Center, Milwaukee in 2007. To date UWV has updated the items available to serve women veterans seeking assistance through the USDVA/WDVA/VAP with appropriate clothing to reduce the stigma associated with homelessness, hospice, long term, medical, or rehabilitative care.
- UWV provided vouchers to the clothing room for the September 2007 Milwaukee Stand Down for homeless Veterans.

- Individual members have donated time and money to the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans in Milwaukee and the Women Veterans Clothing Room at the Zablocki VA Medical Center.
- Members of United Women Veterans sent care packages to women serving in various theaters of operations around the world.
- UWV has made monetary donations of \$550 to veterans' causes such as the WASP Memorial at High Ground Veterans Memorial Park, Michelle Wittmer Memorial in the WI National Guard Headquarters, Wood National Cemetery Memorial Day Program, Chaplain's Service at Landstuhl Army Hospital, State Veterans Home at King Birthday Fund.
- United Women Veterans is represented on the Madison Veterans Council, Dane County Veterans Service Commission, and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs – Council for Veterans Programs.
- During this reporting period, we have members who served in an advisory capacity on the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs legislative and program review committee and finance committee.
- A luncheon is provided annually for the women veterans at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. This tradition has continued during the past two years at the Wisconsin Veterans Home in Union Grove. Plans are being formulated to support women veterans when the Wisconsin Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls opens.
- Members have participated in the Madison Veterans Council observances of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.
- Members have participated in the Monona Memorial Day parade and the Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade.
- Members have attended Women Veterans seminars in Madison, Milwaukee, and Branson, MO.
- Members have testified before state legislative sub committees regarding how proposed legislative bills would affect women veterans and their families.
- Members have served on local, state and federal legislative veterans advisory committees.
- We have expanded our outreach to Women Veterans in central Wisconsin and formulation of a new chapter is being considered.

United Women Veterans is proud to have a voice on the Council for Veterans Programs and remain active participants in the local, state and national veterans' community.

Wm. J. Kloster, Acting Secretary
Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs
P. O. Box 7843
Madison, WI. 53707 7843

Dear Sir,

As with many Veterans Organizations dating back to World War Two, our group of Submarine Veterans is diminishing in number for many different reasons, age and the inability to perform all for different reasons, whether lack of interest or illness or other contributing factors. We are Somewhat fortunate in that we have associate members that step-up and help fill the gaps; such as volunteering at Southern colony or at King. Our current State chapters Manitowoc and South-East try to work closely together, we contribute to the Manitowoc Museum and offer our services and time. We also act as tour guides on the Submarine "Cobia" as required. We also memorialize the U.S.S. Lagarto, (SS371 a Manitowoc built boat). The Lagarto was lost due to heavy damage inflicted by enemy action in the Gulf of Siam, May 3rd, 1945. The Lagarto has recently been found because of the diligent pursuit of one of our members finding a dive team to locate its position. That team has dove on the boat many times and has surveyed the damage. Also Jamie Macleod has taken a few family members to the Lagarto final location where they have laid wreaths of remembrance. This filming will be made into a documentary and shown on TV at a later date. Currently there is a Bronze Plaque located in the "Best Western Hotel" just east of the Manitowoc Museum depicting the names of the Officers and Crew Members lost aboard the "USS Lagarto".

Our Chapter meets each month and we also have Two State Meetings annually; one at our Christmas Party and another in the spring at Manitowoc observing "Lagarto Day" May 3rd.

I would consider it an honor and privilege to continue to serve on the "State of Wisconsin Veterans Council" as a member on Veterans Programs.

Respectfully,

Cleon P. Brown



DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



Office of Steve Lawrence, Adjutant/Quartermaster

P.O. Box 1623 • 214 North Hamilton Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53701-1623

Phone: 608-255-6655 • Cell: 608-770-0590 • Fax: 608-255-0652

E-mail: wivfw@tds.net • Website: vfwofwi.com

September 7, 2007

Clifton Sorenson, Chairman
Wisconsin Council on Veterans Programs
909 Morningside Dr
Eau Claire, WI 54703

RE: Council on Veterans Programs 7/1/2005 to 6/30/2007
S.45.35 (3d)(b) Wisconsin Statutes – Activities and
Membership Report

NAME: Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Department of Wisconsin
214 North Hamilton Street
PO Box 1623
Madison, WI 53701-1623

PURPOSE AND
OBJECTIVES

The objects of this association are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism, to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever.

POSTS AND
MEMBERSHIP

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, was instituted on the 6th day of June 1921. In the State of Wisconsin, the VFW was comprised of 11 Districts, 4 County Councils and 319 Posts with a total membership of 43,552 as of June 30, 2007. The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars has a membership of 15,364 with 201 units. The Men's Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars has a membership of 135 in three units.

PROGRAMS FOR
COMMUNITIES

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin is very active in Community Services throughout the State. This past year our Department had 470,305 hours of time donated.

Additionally our monetary donations totaled \$1,751,549.80 to our programs. The following is a list of programs.

Beautification, renovation, health care and environmental concerns. Cooperation includes projects with schools, churches and other community organizations. Aid to others extends the helping hands of Post and Auxiliary members to local hospitals, the needy, the handicapped and the senior citizens. In addition to these there are programs devised by Posts and Auxiliaries to meet the needs of their particular communities.

The VFW promotes Safety programs which provides education and assistance in the areas of driver education, bicycle safety, fire prevention and home security, and hunter safety. It also recognizes outstanding contributions of firefighters, law enforcement personnel and emergency medical technicians through the Recognition and Public Commending Programs.

Americanism and Loyalty Day projects stress the understanding and appreciation of the American way of life, and celebrate its history and honor its heroes who have gone forth to defend the country. Under this program honor guards are provided for military funerals and for patriotic celebrations. Flags are presented to community organizations, and a flag appreciation program teaches people how to present and care for the American flag.

VFW, through all the echelons of the organization, promotes youth activities. Scouting, baseball, soccer, bowling and junior rifle teams are the areas served by this program. Realizing that the youth of the nation are the future of the nation, the VFW stresses programs, which develop an appreciation of the American way of life, a sense of individual accomplishment and fulfillment, team effort and patriotism.

We also have programs to honor America's teachers and other community officials who make worthwhile contributions to their communities.

SERVICE TO
VETERANS

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, continues to answer the clarion call "To Honor the Dead by Helping the Living" through its commitment of service to Wisconsin Veterans, their dependents, and survivors.

This mission is accomplished through the selfless dedication of the men and women who serve as Post Service Officers in more than 319 VFW Posts statewide. As such, these individuals comprise the most important link in our service network, which includes the District, County Council, Department Service Officer, and the Support Staff at National Veterans Service in Washington, DC.

In addition, we have an excellent working relationship with all 72 County Veterans Service Officers throughout the State of Wisconsin.

VETERANS
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM

Program to help the homeless and needy veterans get services they need to obtain steady employment and affordable housing. Veterans who are not able to work because of physical or mental disabilities will get help in obtaining long-term housing and other services they need to re-enter the mainstream of society.

BUDDY POPPY
PROGRAM

The Buddy Poppy Program is specifically designed to "assist worthy Comrades; to perpetuate the memory and History of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans..."

In the last year, 397,000 Buddy Poppies were ordered by Post and Auxiliaries to use for favors to hospital patients, nursing home residents and to distribute for monetary donations to help our Veterans.

LEGISLATION

Every year the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, researches and supports many worthy resolutions put on the State VFW Convention floor in June of every year. This legislative action is to support the Veterans and their families. Much time is devoted to attending public hearings on Veterans bills and resolutions.

VOICE OF
DEMOCRACY

The Voice of Democracy program is conducted during the fall terms of each year. This allows high school students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 the opportunity to win valuable scholarships and awards while expressing their ideas, thoughts and opinions. A total of \$146,000 in National scholarships are available plus many on the local and state levels. Thomas R. Neeck of Beloit, WI placed 3rd in the national and received a check for \$10,000.

PATRIOT'S PEN
PROGRAM

A scholarship program available to 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The VFW has made a longstanding commitment to foster patriotism, promote Americanism and support our national youth within our local communities. A total of \$90,000.00 in savings bonds is awarded.

WISCONSIN
VETERANS
HOMES

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, is very excited about its relationship with the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King and Union Grove. We plan a yearly picnic for the residents of the Homes plus many other visitations and monetary donations.

MILITARY
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM (MAP)

From adopting military units to providing emergency financial assistance, the Veterans of Foreign Wars is continuing in its benevolence to others by providing moral and financial support to military service members worldwide.

VA MEDICAL
CENTERS

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has representation at all VA Medical Centers in Wisconsin. These representatives are responsible for volunteer work and planned activities.

OPERATION
UPLINK

VFW makes connections that count by providing thousands of free phone time available to hospitalized veterans and active duty veterans overseas as well as in the states.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin, is extremely proud to have a voice on the council of Veterans Programs. We thank the Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of Wisconsin for providing this opportunity to serve on the Council of Veterans Affairs.

Respectfully Submitted,


Steven D. Lawrence
State Adj./Quartermaster


Chris Kanios, Sr.
VFW Representative

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

July 11, 2007

RECEIVED JUL 17 2007

William F. Hustad, Commander
Department of Wisconsin, VFW
W4489 Exeter Crossing Rd
Monticello, WI 53570

Dear William:

The VFW and our Ladies Auxiliary have completed the 2006 – 2007 National Programs year. I would like to provide you with information about our community service programs compiled by the VFW Programs Department. The information was obtained from Department reports, which indicated Post and Ladies Auxiliary activities completed from May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007.

	Nationally	Department of Wisconsin
No. of volunteer hours donated	13,812,199 *(\$259,254,968)	470,305 (\$8,827,625)
Amount of money spent/donated to complete activities	*\$68,105,226	\$1,751,549.80

Please use this information when you communicate with your elected officials at the federal, state and local level to illustrate the impact of the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary on America's communities.

Also, remind your Post Commanders to recognize individual members through the VFW Community Service, VFW VAWS and Community Hospital Volunteer recognition awards.

As always, I compliment you and the comrades and sisters of your Department for the outstanding community service work during this "Veterans First" year.

Yours in comradeship,



Commander in Chief

GK/SVB:njc

cc: Department Adjutant
Department President

* \$327,360,194 is the dollar value of our community service. This information is based on the total volunteer hours valued at \$18.77 per hour (dollar value of a volunteer hour determined by Independent Sector, Washington, D.C.) and the amount of money spent/donated to complete activities.

★ NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ★

406 WEST 34TH STREET ● KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111 ● AREA CODE (816)-756-3390 ● FAX NUMBER (816)-968-1157 ● EMAIL - info@vfw.org

Buddy Poppy Department Sales

Tuesday, June 05, 2007

	Veterans Day	Memorial Day	Total	Previous
Alabama	86,000	15,500	101,500	80,000
Alaska	12,000	43,500	55,500	58,000
Arizona	135,000	35,000	170,000	182,000
Arkansas	50,000	66,000	116,000	115,000
California	403,000	264,000	667,000	517,500
Colorado	76,000	49,500	125,500	169,000
Connecticut	59,500	98,000	157,500	179,500
Delaware	24,500	36,000	60,500	56,000
Dist. of Col.	0	8,000	8,000	6,000
Europe	21,500	6,500	28,000	56,500
Florida	488,000	291,000	779,000	771,500
Georgia	107,000	93,500	200,500	200,000
Hawaii	8,500	21,000	29,500	43,000
Idaho	12,500	34,000	46,500	78,000
Illinois	265,500	428,500	694,000	695,000
Indiana	66,000	166,500	232,500	193,500
Iowa	80,000	49,000	129,000	152,000
Kansas	145,500	42,500	188,000	195,000
Kentucky	145,500	43,500	189,000	189,000
Latin Amer/Carib	0	0	0	1,000
Louisiana	66,000	39,500	105,500	91,500
Maine	50,000	30,000	80,000	75,500
Maryland	67,000	24,500	91,500	101,000
Massachusetts	61,500	172,000	233,500	224,000
Michigan	86,500	396,000	482,500	507,500
Minnesota	425,500	465,500	891,000	478,500
Mississippi	58,500	30,000	88,500	94,500
Missouri	198,000	182,500	380,500	310,000
Montana	47,000	27,000	74,000	70,500
Nebraska	60,000	51,000	111,000	111,000
Nevada	13,500	49,500	63,000	58,500
New Hampshire	60,000	40,000	100,000	108,000
New Jersey	9,000	574,500	583,500	577,000
New Mexico	42,000	15,000	57,000	78,500
New York	165,000	378,000	543,000	516,000
North Carolina	160,000	115,000	275,000	235,000
North Dakota	7,000	55,000	62,000	66,500
Ohio	258,500	359,500	618,000	577,000
Oklahoma	51,000	20,000	71,000	85,000
Oregon	77,500	98,000	175,500	183,500
Pacific Areas	15,500	500	16,000	25,500
Pennsylvania	300,000	250,000	550,000	600,000
Rhode Island	13,500	41,500	55,000	63,500
South Carolina	107,500	29,000	136,500	130,000
South Dakota	31,000	50,000	81,000	75,000
Tennessee	92,000	63,000	155,000	132,000
Texas	581,000	268,000	849,000	845,500
Utah	24,000	13,000	37,000	22,500
Vermont	11,000	9,500	20,500	20,500
Virginia	248,500	114,000	362,500	362,000
Washington	156,000	151,500	307,500	306,000
West Virginia	53,500	21,500	75,000	119,500
Wisconsin	138,500	258,500	397,000	378,000
Wyoming	21,500	8,500	30,000	33,500
Sum Total:	5,943,000	6,192,500	12,135,500	11,600,000

Buddy Poppy Conference Sales

Tuesday, June 05, 2007

Page: 1

<u>Conferences</u>	<u>Departments</u>	<u>Previous Year</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Percent Based on Previous Year</u>
Big Ten Conference				
	Minnesota	478,500	891,000	186.21%
	Missouri	310,000	380,500	122.74%
	Indiana	193,500	232,500	120.16%
	South Dakota	75,000	81,000	108.00%
	Ohio	577,000	618,000	107.11%
	Wisconsin	378,000	397,000	105.03%
	Nebraska	111,000	111,000	100.00%
	Illinois	695,000	694,000	99.86%
	Michigan	507,500	482,500	95.07%
	Iowa	152,000	129,000	84.87%
		3,477,500	4,016,500	115.50%
Southern Conference				
	Alabama	80,000	101,500	126.88%
	Tennessee	132,000	155,000	117.42%
	North Carolina	235,000	275,000	117.02%
	Louisiana	91,500	105,500	115.30%
	South Carolina	130,000	136,500	105.00%
	Florida	771,500	779,000	100.97%
	Arkansas	115,000	116,000	100.87%
	Texas	845,500	849,000	100.41%
	Georgia	200,000	200,500	100.25%
	Virginia	362,000	362,500	100.14%
	Kentucky	189,000	189,000	100.00%
	Mississippi	94,500	88,500	93.65%
	Oklahoma	85,000	71,000	83.53%
	West Virginia	119,500	75,000	62.76%
		3,450,500	3,504,000	101.55%



Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc.

Milwaukee Chapter - 3433 N. Fratney St. Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 963-0398

William Kloster, Acting Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
PO Box 7843
Madison, WI 53707-7843

Dear Secretary Kloster,

I submit this report on the activities and membership of VVAW over the past two years, as required by the Council on Veterans Programs.

Wisconsin has about 150 members of VVAW scattered across the state, with the majority living in the South East corner of the state. Many of those members and other friends of VVAW are proud to volunteer at VA hospitals in Milwaukee, Madison, and Iron Mountain, and many of us helped with the recent wheelchair games in Milwaukee.

VVAW participates in forming and supporting solutions to veterans issues at the state level, including the Council on Veterans Programs. VVAW has a member on The Highground board of directors, and supports many actions there.

VVAW maintains a counseling program to assist veterans suffering from Agent Orange, PTSD. You may be aware that VVAW was working with veterans on these issues as early as 1970. We are also talking to more recent vets about Depleted Uranium.

VVAW employs a full-time military counselor to help active duty GIs, providing information about GI rights, military discharges, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, VA claims, and more.

Members of VVAW's speakers bureau frequently visit classrooms and churches.

Over the past two years VVAW has donated over \$12,000 to support the My Lai Peace Park and the Library of Vietnam project – both headed by Wisconsin veterans.

VVAW has been involved (with other veterans groups) in a struggle to save the Milwaukee VA grounds, and keeping them a tranquil, park-like setting.

VVAW sponsors parties and retreats where veterans can socialize with other veterans and discuss common problems and goals. Our annual vet's wives retreat is particularly popular.

VVAW has participated in numerous activities aimed at stopping the war in Iraq.

VVAW does NOT participate in Memorial Day or Veterans Day parades – the parade organizers won't allow us in.

Sincerely,
John Zutz





Vietnam Veterans of America

Wisconsin State Council

Mike Demske • President • 928 North 16th St. • Manitowoc, WI 54220-3106
Telephone: H-(920) 684-1624 • W-(920)683-4191 • Fax: (920) 683-4190
e-mail mikedemske@co.manitowoc.wi.us

2006-2007 Biennial Report to The Wisconsin Legislature

The Vietnam Veterans of America Continues to be the largest Vietnam War veteran's organization comprised solely of veterans of that war, in both Wisconsin and the United States. During the biennium, VVA's membership was approximately 1,922 with 33 chapters throughout Wisconsin. VVA is Wisconsin's fifth largest veteran's organization and has been represented on the Council of Veterans Programs since 1984.

The Wisconsin activities of Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2007 have included:

- Legislative, Administrative and Executive branch advocacy at the local, state and federal levels. In Wisconsin, we were especially active in:
 - Implementing our advocacy program in a manner consistent with our organization's founding principle, "**Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another,**" by working for the betterment of the lives of all veterans regardless of when they served.
 - Advancing a wide range of veterans issues affecting Wisconsin veterans in general, and Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans in particular, including such areas as health care, education, employment, delivery of services, housing, disabled veterans, loan and grant programs and minority veterans, posttraumatic stress disorders, Agent Orange/dioxin, Persian Gulf War Illnesses, POW/MIA concerns, incarcerated veterans and substance abuse.
 - Addressing some of the needs of incarcerated veterans, including continued support of the state's first incarcerated veterans' chapter. VVA established a chapter at Fox Lake with the approval of the Department of Corrections.
- Working to maintain the stability of the Veterans Trust Fund.

- Fighting to re-establish the policy of funding the Wisconsin Veterans Museum administrative and operational cost as a non-Veteran Trust Fund expense.
- Working to maintain an effective and efficient service delivery system through the full support of Wisconsin's 72 County Veteran Service Officer system and coordinated and cooperative assistance of WDVA with the state's CSV's.
- Continue to support the further development and maintenance of the Wisconsin Veterans Homes at King and Union Grove.
- Supporting the veteran's cemeteries at King and Union Grove as well as in northern Wisconsin.
- Working to expand the VVA accredited service representative assistance throughout Wisconsin.
- Sponsoring state and local scholarship programs aimed at assisting with the education of children and grandchildren of Vietnam War veterans.
- Publishing ***The Badger Veteran***, our news – magazine, which has received two national awards as one of the best veteran's publications in the country. In addition to our membership, the Badger Veteran is distributed to all Wisconsin veterans organizations, all Wisconsin public libraries, to members of the Wisconsin Legislature and Wisconsin Congressional Delegation and to a wide spectrum of others in Wisconsin and throughout the United States.
- Recognizing veterans and non-veterans who have made a significant contribution to Wisconsin veterans and to their communities, state and nation.
- Active community-level involvement to help improve the quality of life of all members of the community through:
 - Providing VAVS volunteer services at VA hospitals in Milwaukee, Madison and Tomah under the leadership of one of our members.
 - Volunteering services at the Wisconsin Veterans Homes at King and special projects to benefit the residents of King and developing plans for providing similar support for the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove.

- Providing volunteer, financial and in-kind support to the Wisconsin Veteran Memorial Park at The HighGround, including donating funds for the improvements and new memorials.
 - Participating on advisory committees to various VA hospitals, CSV's, Vet Centers, the Board of Veterans Affairs and members of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation.
 - Supporting the Moving Wall traveling exhibit to enable people from Wisconsin to experience the Vietnam Veterans Memorial without having to leave our state.
 - Supporting Being There Reaching Out which is an organization of families that have lost a loved one in Iraq and Afghanistan.
 - Presenting educational programs concerning the Vietnam War experience to students in Wisconsin schools and colleges, as well as local organizations.
 - Conducts seminars at our state convention on Medical research, Membership, Homeless veterans, Women veterans and Legislative issues.
 - Participating in various Veterans Day, Memorial Day, POW/MIA Recognition Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and other celebrations, programs and parades.
 - Serving the Vietnam Veterans of America National Organization. The Wisconsin members serve on various committees such as Agent Orange, Veterans Affairs etc.
- Signed WDVA's MOU supporting WDVA's various activities such as the IOU Program, Stand Downs, Veterans Supermarkets, Veterans Benefit Fairs, Mission Welcome Home and the Mentoring Program with the Mission Welcome Home Program.

Vietnam Veterans of America also has aggressively continued its efforts to improve the image of Vietnam War veterans by focusing public attention on a wide array of positive contributions Vietnam Veterans make to our families, our communities, our state and our nation.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of August, 2007



Mike Demske, President
For the Wisconsin State Council,
Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.



WACVO Inc.

Wisconsin Association Concerned Veteran Organizations Inc.

Together Then - Together Now

WACVO Activities and Membership Report

(July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 and July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007)

July 12, 2007

Since the last reporting period ending June 30, 2005, the Wisconsin Association of Concerned Veterans Organizations (WACVO) has continued to be active in the lives of Wisconsin veterans. Many WACVO members and officers have attended both the 2006 and 2007 Salutes to the Legislature and have played roles in numerous other veterans' activities and functions throughout the State. We continue to work with our legislators to improve benefits for veterans, dependents and survivors.

The officers and members continue to have in-person and phone meetings at various venues.

Activities the officers and members of WACVO help organize and/or attend include, but are not limited to: events at the HighGround, e.g., the group attended a very moving Legacy Stone Placement Ceremony at HighGround, Neillsville; WACVO's stone was placed during this ceremony; WDVA Committees, Councils and Board meetings (WACVO's Representative on the Council serves as Chair of the Council on Veterans Programs beginning 2006); many County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) events; annual Salutes to the Legislators; Veterans Benefits Information Fairs (VBIF's);

WACVO officers were involved with the WDVA Stakeholders' meetings throughout the year.

WACVO's web page continues to draw interest and is updated as needed. The newsletter is distributed on a quarterly basis and supports the information needs of the over 100 current WACVO members.

WACVO members and officers have made speeches and appearances at various veterans' events over the past two-year period. Its members participated in fund raising rallies for veterans and veterans' causes and StandDowns for homeless veterans.

Though small, WACVO continues to be a leader in providing information to veterans and advocacy for the many issues that affect the lives of veterans and their families.

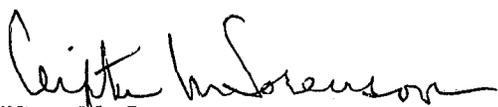
During 2006 and 2007, many of WACVO's officers and members were involved with events for Wisconsin veterans including honors to the Korean War veterans, StandDowns for homeless veterans, outreach to incarcerated veterans and outreach to other Wisconsin veterans. Various future fundraising activities have been discussed.

WACVO members have been involved in the Chippewa Valley VAP site and will support the homeless veterans program there. Also, WACVO is very encouraged with the progress of the Veterans Nursing Home facilities at King, Union Grove and the expansion at the Chippewa Valley site.

Most of WACVO's membership also belong to other veterans' organizations and will continue to work with and through those organizations to enhance the quality of life of our Wisconsin veterans, dependents and survivors.

We welcome the opportunities to assist in any way to assure the strength of the Veterans Trust Fund, the IOU Outreach Campaign and Mission: Welcome Home. We look forward to the challenges of working with our newer veterans from Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Enduring Freedom (OEF) as well as monitoring the benefits and services available to those who have served their country during war and peacetime.

Respectfully submitted,



Clifton M. Sorenson
WACVO Representative
WDVA Council on Veterans Programs

Date: July 11, 2007
To: Council on Veterans Programs
From: William F. Hustad
Council Rep. of Wis. Vietnam Veterans Inc
Subject: Activities and Membership Report

Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Inc was formed by several Vietnam veterans in Milwaukee in 1984. The organization was formed to address the needs of the Vietnam veteran that were not being met by existing veteran groups. A veteran must have earned a Vietnam Service ribbon to be eligible to join, most members are combat veterans.

Currently there are five chapters throughout the State of Wisconsin. Chapter One is in Milwaukee; Chapter Three is in Green, Rock, and Southern Dane County; Chapter Four is in Western Dane and Iowa County; Chapter Five is in the Madison Area; and Chapter Seven is in the Richland County area. A number of government officials and legislators are members. Our total membership is approximately 500.

Our mission is to keep the POW - MIA issue alive in the general community, explain the Vietnam experience to school age children and to the general population, assist fellow veterans, participate in community activities, and provide a social outlet for Vietnam veterans to gather.

Events that we support, and / or participate in are:

- support homeless veterans and their families through standdowns
- volunteer in VA Hospitals
- support various veteran memorials/projects such as
 - Washington DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial
 - Washington DC Womens Vietnam Veterans Memorial
 - Wisconsin Veterans Park in Neillsville
 - Green County Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Monticello
 - Milwaukee's War Memorial Museum and Park
 - Wisconsin Veterans Homes at King and Union Grove
 - Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison
- offer speakers to elementary and high school classes on patriotism, proper care of the flag, and our Vietnam experience
- participate in many local parades with Color Guards and Marching Units
- give support to families and servicemen during their military service by doing things such as: Support Our Troops rallies during Operation Iraqi Freedom and sending 'We Care' packages overseas to military personnel
- sponsor Veterans Rallys such as Winterfest in New Glarus