

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

1999-00

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Veterans and
Military Affairs
(AC-VMA)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01a
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01b
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

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➤ Hearing Records ... HR

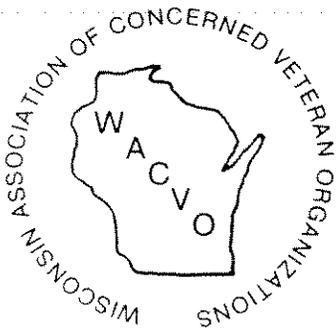
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➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

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P.O. Box 1523
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

WACVO Inc.

Wisconsin Association Concerned Veteran Organizations Inc.

Together Then - Together Now

WACVO Activities and Membership Report

(October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1999)

Since the last reporting period ending September 30, 1997, WACVO has held two Annual Membership Conventions and a Fall Symposium as well as a number of Executive Board Meetings. Many WACVO members and officers have attended both the 1998 and 1999 Salutes to the Legislature and have played a role in numerous other veterans activities and functions throughout the State.

Other activities include, a WACVO sponsored book signing at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in April 1998, WACVO members working with BVNEW members to help raise money for the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, and WACVO members being involved with Homeless Veterans Issues and Veterans' Stand Downs around the state.

WACVO members were also involved with the dedication of the Clear Lake all Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day 1999. In addition to in kind donations, WACVO also made a substantial cash donation to this memorial project. Flag donations were made to the Chippewa Valley Veterans' Tribute in Cadott and other smaller cash donations were made to other organizations and projects over the last two years.

This biggest project over the last two years, and one of the highlights of WACVO's 32nd Annual Convention that was held in Madison, Wisconsin, April 24-26, 1998, was WACVO sponsoring and paying the expenses to bring Memories of Maggie author Noonie Fortin to Madison for a book signing at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Memories of Maggie is a book about Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Martha Raye's dedication to the GI's of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Ms. Raye made many trips overseas to entertain the troops from all three of these wars, which included more trips to Vietnam than any other performer. Most of these trips were at her own expense.

WACVO also flew Martha's daughter, Melodye Condos Raye, and Maggie's close friend and veterans' journalist, Susan Christianson, into Madison for the book signing. Melodye and Susan both wrote a section in the book Memories of Maggie. This was the first time Noonie, Melodye and Susan were all at the same book signing. The book signing was held at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in conjunction with one of the museum's present special exhibits, They also Served, which honors the Entertainers, Red Cross workers, Donut Dollies, etc. who were overseas in combat zones during war time.

WACVO, an organization with many "in country" combat veterans in our ranks, has had a long standing admiration for Martha Raye and was one of the original petitioners for the Presidential Medal of Freedom Ms. Raye was awarded shortly before her death. Furthermore, because of WACVO's relationship with Ms. Rayes' daughter, Meloyde, some of Ms. Raye's photographs were donated to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

After the book signing, Meloyde Condos Raye, picking up where her mother left off, went with WACVO members to visit patients in the Middleton VA Hospital. Also, as part of the convention, WACVO sponsored a public forum on Veterans Issues with Representatives of WDVA and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs present. We also had representatives of the VAMC-Middleton present to take blood pressure and assist veterans in filling out VA Hospital Enrollment Applications.

WACVO's 33rd Annual Convention held April 1999 in Green Bay also included a public forum on veteran's issues with both State and Federal Veterans' Officials present as speakers. One of the highlights of the 1999 convention was a slide presentation by Mr. Pat Carney, a Vietnam Veteran, who recently was part of the American and North Vietnamese Veterans' bicycle trip through South Vietnam. Other highlights included a trip to the Packer Hall of Fame and watching the Packers in Spring practice. WACVO's next annual convention will be held in Barron County in April 2000.

WACVO also held a Fall Symposium for the membership in Plover, Wisconsin during October 1998. It was a good chance to bring the membership up to date on many state and federal veterans issues and it was decided at the 1998 Symposium that this should become an annual event.

This years Fall Symposium is scheduled for October 9, 1999 and again will be held in Plover. Our topics of discussion will include VA Hospital Funding and Enrollment, and State and Federal Veterans' Legislation. We also will discuss fund raising and what we, as veterans' organizations, should offer to recently separated and younger veterans, and how we might attract them into organizations such as ours.

WACVO continues to put out a quarterly newsletter to the membership and recently changed it's headquarters mailing address to Green Bay where the newsletter is published. WACVO's current paid 1999 membership is around 100 members, including 39 life members. Our membership data base consisting of present and past members is over 700 and WACVO like most organizations today has to work harder to get those renewals and membership reinstatements in.

Since the last reporting period, WACVO has established our own web site on the internet and we are looking forward to the new millennium and our 35th year as a Veteran's Organization. Most of WACVO's membership also belong to other veterans' organizations and we will continue to work with and through those organizations to hopefully enhance the quality of life of our Wisconsin Veterans and their dependants.

★★ **THE BUGLE** ★★

Museum Launches Building Expansion

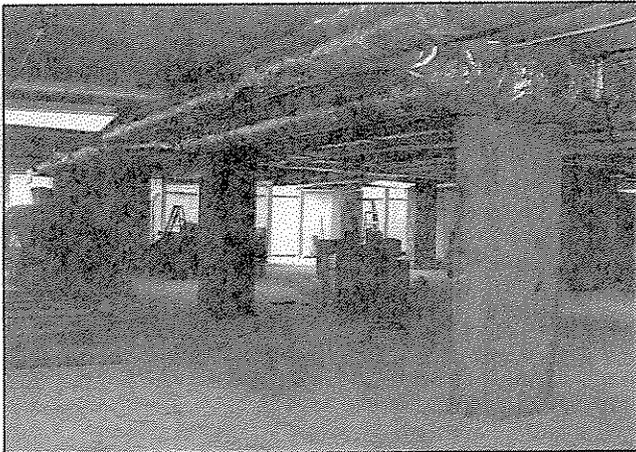
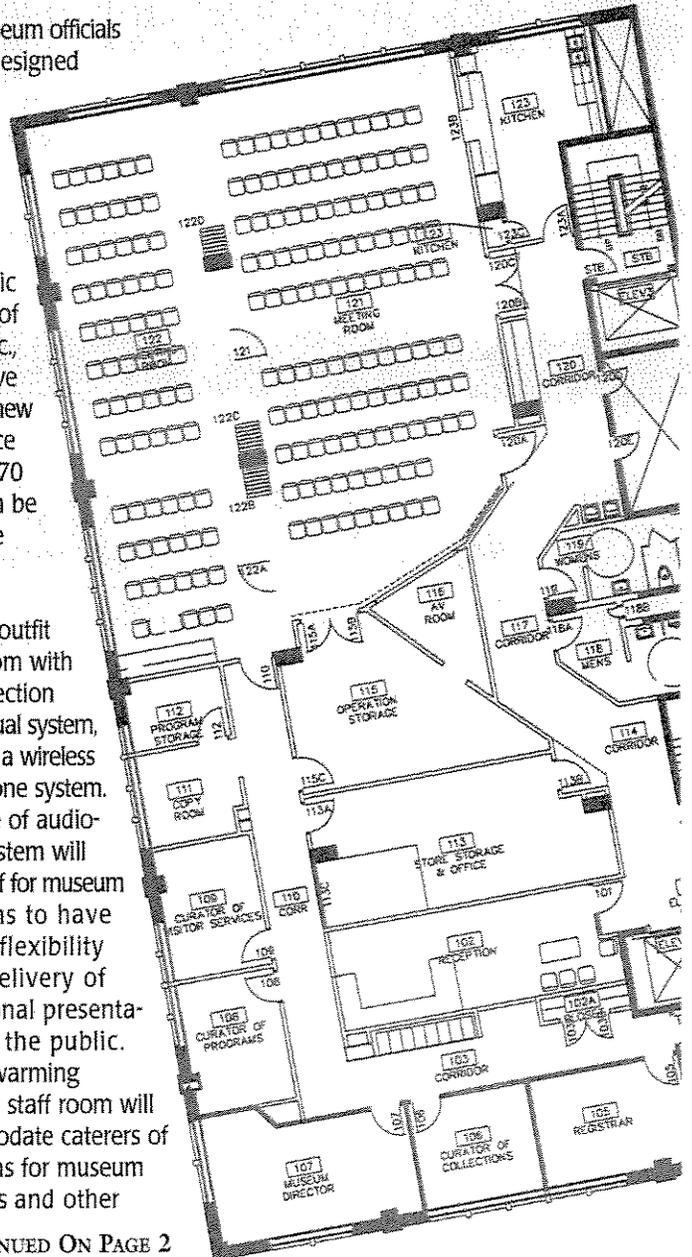
by Lynnette Wolfe

Cautions! Hard hats and wrecking balls have arrived!! Construction crews began in mid-January to convert the second floor of 30 West Mifflin Street into a state-of-the-art, 3,100 sq. ft. museum public programs space.

Greg Rice, of Executive Management, Inc., the building's owner, is in charge of the museum's second floor expansion project. TJK Design and Construction of Madison, WI has been hired as the general contractor. TJK Design reports that this phase of the expansion program is on schedule. If this trend holds, the building construction should be completed by June of 1999. Museum and state administrators anticipate that the fully equipped, multi-purpose space will become available to the public in late summer for educational programs. This expansion will increase the museum's total space to approximately 25,000 sq. ft.

During 1998-1999, museum officials toured several well-designed lecture halls and presentation rooms in Wisconsin. Museum staff worked with Gerald T. Olson of Durrant Architects; Museum Designer James H. Kelly from the Milwaukee Public Museum; and Greg Rice, of Executive Management, Inc., to develop a comprehensive public use floor plan. The new public multi-purpose space will seat approximately 170 to 200 people, which can be divided into two separate meeting areas.

The museum plans to outfit the multi-purpose room with a modern rear-view projection audio-visual system, including a wireless microphone system. This type of audio-visual system will allow staff for museum programs to have greater flexibility in the delivery of educational presentations to the public. A new warming kitchen / staff room will accommodate caterers of receptions for museum programs and other



Construction begins on the 2nd Floor of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum

THE BUGLE

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

The purpose of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum is to commemorate, acknowledge, and affirm the role of Wisconsin veterans in America's military past by means of instructive exhibits and other educational programs.

The Bugle is a publication of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation which serves to further the museum's mission by providing funds for the acquisition of artifacts, exhibit production, and development of educational programs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

WVMF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Director: Richard H. Zeitlin
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Richard H. Zeitlin, Executive Director - 266-1009
 Lisa M. Black, Curator of Visitor Services - 264-6086
 William Brewster, Curator of Collections - 264-6099
 Jason Ryan Jaszai, Registrar - 261-8802
 Richard W. Harrison, Archivist - 267-1799
 Erin Landa, Museum Store Manager - 267-1799
 Lynnette Wolfe, Operations Manager - 266-1860
 Bridgitt Zielke, Curator of Programs - 266-1854

BUGLE EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor: Bridgitt Zielke
 Contributing Writers & Support Staff: Lisa Black, William
 Brewster, Jason R. Jaszai, Steve Olson, Christine Ulrich,
 Lynnette Wolfe, Richard Zeitlin, Bridgitt Zielke

WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM

30 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703 - (On the Capitol Square)

HOURS:

Mon. - Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday (Apr. - Sept.) Noon - 4 p.m.

FOR INFORMATION

Call (608) 267-1799

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Museum Names New Archivist

by Richard H. Zeitlin

In March, Richard W. Harrison was selected as the museum's new archivist. Harrison's responsibilities include the day-to-day management of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center, which includes an historical library, archives and manuscripts collections, audio-visual items, and iconographic materials. He also contributes to the historical programs of the museum by participating on the exhibit development team, collections committee and in the management of the veterans oral history program.

Harrison has been working at the museum since January 1997 as an assistant to the archivist. He was promoted to the position of acting archives manager in January 1998. He is a Marine Corps veteran, has a keen interest in the Civil War and has spent countless hours working on genealogy research and attending Wisconsin genealogy conferences.

He attended the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and after his military experience attended University of Wisconsin-Whitewater,

majoring in business education. He retired from General Motors as an industrial engineer.

Harrison worked for six years at Wisconsin's State Historical Museum garnering experience as a docent and exhibit construction crew member. In addition, Harrison worked for the Capitol Police doing museum security at both the State Historical Museum and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. We welcome Richard Harrison as a member of the museum's permanent staff.



Richard W. Harrison

EXPANSION - CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE

departmental activities. Two existing restrooms are undergoing reconfiguration to bring them up to current ADA standards.

Erin Landa, store manager, will transfer her basement office and merchandise storage area to the second floor in early June. This move will free up space in the basement necessary for the proper storage of the museum's collection of Civil War battle flags, which have not yet been conserved. New offices will be built to house Bridgitt Zielke, curator of programs and Lisa Black, curator of visitor services. In addition, William Brewster, curator of collections, will be transferred to an adjacent office. All other museum staff will remain in their current office suites.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is looking forward to further expansion between 2000-2001. There is a proposal before the State Legislature to acquire the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Camp Douglas and transfer their library collections to a new research center located on the third floor of 30 West Mifflin Street.



Reviewing plans: (L.-R.) Greg Rice, Lynnette Wolfe, Gerald Olson, Richard Zeitlin, & Tim Kritter

COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO SERVED



SUPPORT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION

HELP KEEP THE HISTORY OF WISCONSIN'S VETERANS ALIVE BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITS OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM.

DONATIONS CAN COMMEMORATE EVENTS, PROVIDE A MEMORIAL, OR ACKNOWLEDGE SUPPORT OF AN ORGANIZATION

PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER(S), AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM FOUNDATION
 30 W. MIFFLIN ST., STE. 200, MADISON, WI 53703

ENLIST NOW ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ OTHER

FEATURED EVENTS

Museum to Host Steichen Talks

by Bridgitt A. Zielke

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum will host two programs by Catherine Tuggle, Washington D.C.-based writer, during the month of April in conjunction with the display of "Steichen and His Men: A Portrait of World War II," a traveling exhibit which will be on display through May 31. Tuggle will present "Edward Steichen and the Art of the Practical"



Kathryn Hepburn - 1934

on Friday, April 16 and "Waging War with His Camera: Edward Steichen and Navy Photography During World War II" on Saturday, April 17. Both programs will be held from 5-7 p.m. in the museum's main gallery.

The traveling exhibit developed by The Navy Museum in Washington D.C., consists of photographs produced by military photographer Edward Steichen and his staff.



Carl Sandberg - 1934

The photographs highlight Navy aviation during World War II.

With "Edward Steichen and the Art of the Practical", the first of two lectures by Tuggle describing the life and work of Edward Steichen begins. In the lecture, Tuggle will provide the background to Steichen's work

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

HAPPENINGS

"It's My War, Too!" Women in the Military

by Christine Ullrich

You have a date with destiny.

With this statement in 1942 Oveta Culp Hobby opened the first Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs) training camp in Des Moines, Iowa. As the first director of the WAAC, Oveta Culp Hobby faced many challenges, but she was not alone. By the end of 1942, 12,767 officers and enlisted women joined her in forming the first WAACs. Almost two years later they would become the first women in history to join the U.S. Army and receive real rank.

Are you a girl with a Star-Spangled heart?

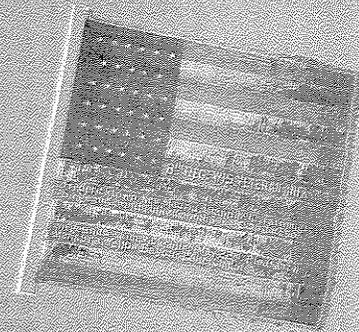


A new cyber exhibit on the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's website tells a brief history of America's Army women. Illustrated with photographs and uniforms from the collection of the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum, the exhibit provides a brief overview of the challenges and changes that occurred in the Women's Army Corps over its 35 year history.

The exhibit series "This is My War, Too! Women in the Military" looks at each branch of the military in which women served. Beginning with the Women's Army Corps and continuing through the Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Navy. The series looks at the life military women led and showcases some pieces from the collection not

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

1999 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE



8th Wisconsin Infantry National Battle Color

TEMPORARY

BATTLE FLAG EXHIBIT Civil War: Vicksburg

APRIL	1ST	WISCONSIN BATTERY
APRIL	6TH	WISCONSIN BATTERY
MAY	2ND	WISCONSIN CAVALRY
MAY	8TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
JUNE	11TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
JUNE	12TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
JULY	14TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
JULY	15TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
AUGUST	16TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
AUGUST	17TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
SEPTEMBER	18TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
SEPTEMBER	20TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
OCTOBER	23RD	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
OCTOBER	25TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
NOVEMBER	27TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
NOVEMBER	29TH	WISCONSIN INFANTRY
DECEMBER	33RD	WISCONSIN INFANTRY

STEICHEN AND HIS MEN

January 15 - May 31 Reception Area

This traveling exhibit developed by The Navy Museum in Washington D.C., consists of photographs produced by military photographer Edward Steichen and his staff. The photographs highlight Navy aviation during WW II.

THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION

May 25 - August 1 Reception Area

An exhibit commemorating America's first Asian conflict, The Philippine War, which began in 1899.

HONG IN AMERICA: REFUGEES FROM A SECRET WAR

September 3 - October 29 Reception Area

An exhibit portraying the life of Hmong villagers in Laos before the war in Southeast Asia and during their alliance with the United States against the communist forces. It shows the Hmong's migration to refugee camps in Thailand after the war as well as their resettlement in Wisconsin and other areas of the United States.

ONGOING

A TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is dedicated to the citizen-soldiers of our state. Employing exhibits, displays, and presentations, the museum's main galleries tell the story of Wisconsin men and women who served in America's conflicts from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

THEY ALSO SERVED

An exhibit portraying the role of civilians who performed vital services for the military and the nation during wartime.

The Philippine Insurrection

by William Brewster

Welcome to another addition of the curator's chronicles. In 1998 we marked the 100th anniversary of the Spanish American War. The war with Spain lasted only seven months, but it signaled the beginning of a century in which military and foreign policy decisions would establish the United States as an international power.

What few Americans realize is that the "Splendid Little War" would also serve as the catalyst for a prolonged and lesser-known conflict in the Philippines that kept U.S. troops fighting until 1902.

In August 1898, following Admiral Dewey's victory at Manila Bay, the besieged Spanish garrison in Manila capitulated. The negotiated peace included provisions to contain Filipino Nationals who were loosely allied with U. S. forces. The insurgents, under the command of Emilio Aguinaldo, had been fighting the Spanish for two years to obtain political recognition and freedom for the Philippine Islands. Commodore Dewey gave tacit support to the Nationals believing that an alliance against the Spanish would be a militarily expedient measure. The U. S. State Department had no desire to bolster Aguinaldo's hopes for independence, as the ultimate American goal was to establish a colonial government in the Philippines. Accordingly, political and military contacts with insurgent leaders were reduced to the minimum necessary.

After the fall of Manila, there was an uneasy truce between U. S. and insurgent forces. When the Filipino

Nationals realized that the Americans had no intention of ceding control of the government, fighting broke out. The following struggle would involve approximately 60,000 U.S. regulars and volunteers and require the occupation of the primary islands in the archipelago.

Aguinaldo's troops, who were easily defeated in conventional battle, were able to wage an effective guerrilla war under regional commanders. The U.S. garrisons also had to contend with local Moro tribesmen, who fought independently of the insurgents. While fighting continued in the field, an American backed government was established in Manila and worked to gain the support of the Philippine people.

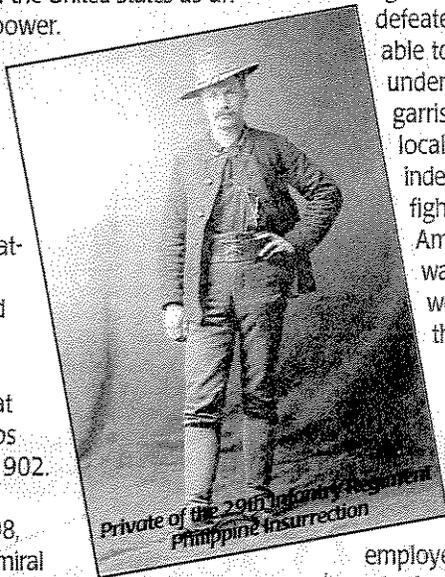
Although the American forces consisted of well-trained veteran troops and officers, the hit and run tactics employed by the Nationalists

made them hard to defeat. In addition to dealing with an elusive adversary, the Americans also had to combat rampant disease and the oppressive tropical climate. The war became particularly brutal as both sides tried to control the local populace using tactics of intimidation.

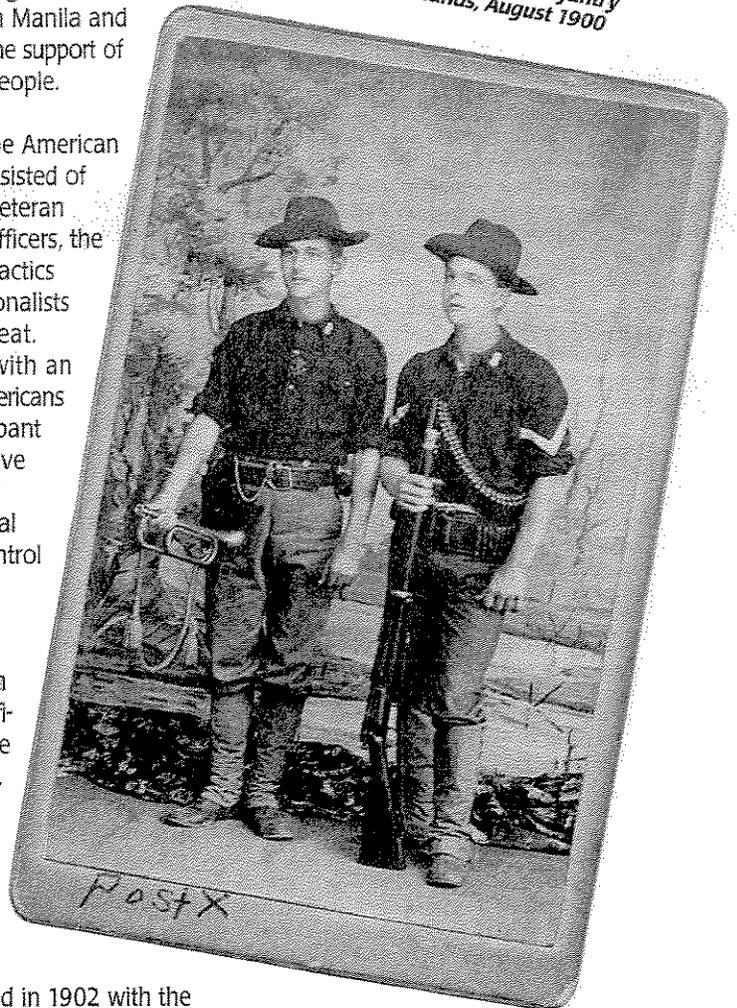
Eventually the strength of U. S. forces combined with an aggressive civilian pacification effort did undermine the insurgent movement. In 1901 loyalist Filipinos commanded by American officers captured Aguinaldo and several other regional commanders.

The Philippine War ended in 1902 with the surrender of the last insurgent fighters and the recognition of U. S. sovereignty.

The Veterans Museum will be commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Philippine War in a special exhibit that opens May 25, 1999. The exhibit will feature an interesting selection of photographs showing U. S. and Filipino troops in the field and objects from the museum collection including the uniform of a soldier from the Spanish garrison and the raincoat worn by Aguinaldo at the time of his capture. The exhibit will be in the museum lobby display area until August 1, 1999.



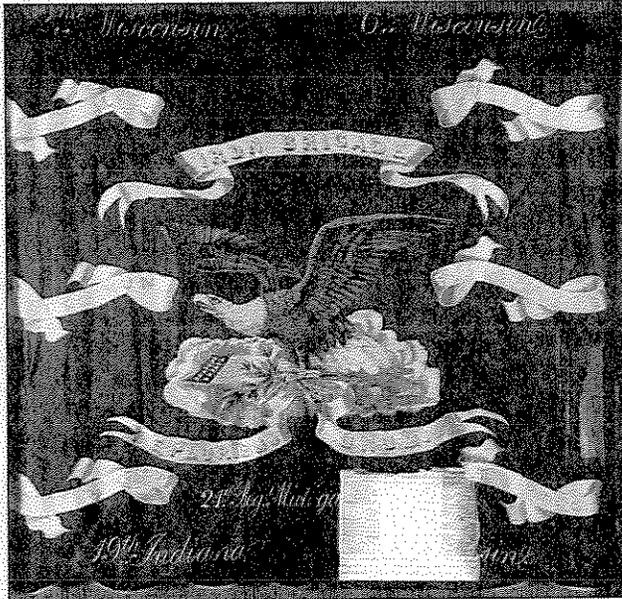
Members of the 13th U.S. Infantry
Philippine Islands, August 1900



PRESERVING THE PAST

Conservation at the Museum

by Jason R. Josvai



Iron Brigade presentation flag by Tiffany & Co.

During the past year, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum has been continuing its selective conservation efforts for its historically significant collections. In addition to the ongoing flag conservation program, six other pieces have been treated or are currently undergoing stabilization. All six of the works are from the Civil War: a vest worn by Colonel Lucius Fairchild, a 2nd Wisconsin Infantry Hardee hat, an Iron Brigade presentation flag manufactured by Tiffany & Co., and two chalk drawings along with one of the gilded frames from the drawing.

Conservation is a long and tedious occupation involving a background in chemistry because of the compounds used in the preservation process. Simple treatments such as dry vacuuming, a step used in the process of conserving Fairchild's vest, are among the most basic techniques. To conserve the drawings, hat and flag, much painstaking treatment was required. For example, each drawing was removed from its deteriorating canvas background, repaired, and remounted on a new acid free mount.

The hat was re-hydrated and cleaned. It was then placed on a hand-made form intended to help maintain its shape. The flag, which had undergone a previous attempt at conservation before modern techniques had been codified, was cleaned, humidified and placed between sections of crepeline for stabilization after the effects of the previous conservation efforts were reversed.

Treatment of the various pieces depends on the nature of each individual object as well as the abilities of the conservator. The Upper

Midwest Conservation Association in Minneapolis, MN is equipped to handle only certain items such as small objects, sculpture and works on paper. This was the nearest qualified facility capable of stabilizing the hat and the two damaged chalk drawings. The frame conservator is a private individual who contracts independently with

the association. This conservator hand gilds the frames as well as recreates missing sections of the ornate plaster edges. Larger textiles such as the flag and vest were sent to the Minnesota Historical Society, which retains a permanent conservation staff on site.

Funding comes from a variety of sources such as private individuals, insurance claims for damaged works, and grants for specific projects. The museum is always searching for additional funding and wishes to thank those who contribute to this area of the collections department. For more information on conservation, or to pledge a contribution towards the preservation of the museum's artifacts, please contact Jason Josvai, registrar at (608) 261-6802



FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Book Questions “Inevitability” of Allied Victory in World War II

by Richard H. Zeitlin

Allied victory over the Axis during World War II is sometimes viewed as being inevitable. After all, the military forces of the Allies—England, the United States, and the Soviet Union outnumbered the forces of Germany, Italy, and Japan while Allied industries produced more tanks, planes, and ships. According to this view, Allied victory rested principally on numerical superiority.

Not so says British historian Richard Overy in his recent book *Why the Allies Won*, now available in paperback at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum store. Allied victory rested on more than numbers, and had little to do with predetermination. A specialist on Germany and the air war, Overy has published nine books since he began teaching history at King’s College in London. Overy’s *War and Economy in the Third Reich* and *The Nazi Economic Recovery* provide him with a solid background for a general understanding of World War II. Overy reminds the reader again and again that no victory is inevitable. History is replete with examples of victories achieved by numerically inferior forces over larger and more numerous foes. The Allies made tremendous efforts in order to combat the Germans and the Japanese on the scale necessary to secure global victory. There was no guarantee of success. The tide of war fluctuated greatly.

Overy’s book reviews the four major zones of conflict and the decisive campaigns within each. The war at sea, the Eastern Front, the strategic bombing offensive, and the reconquest of Western Europe following D-Day receive a chapter apiece. Overy gives equal attention to key factors and themes that contributed to military successes, including the critical role of organization and balance of resources, combat effectiveness, leadership and strategic judgement, mobilization of the home front, and the moral contrasts between the Allies and the Axis. In this manner, Overy explains how, as well as why, the Allies won.

The thematic section is the most significant and interpretive part of the book.

In terms of military resources, Germany and Japan held an early lead. By 1942, Germany dominated all of Europe and much of Russia. Japan controlled the rice, rubber, tin, and oil resources of Southeast Asia. Neither power made effective use of their industrial potential, however. Neither modernized during the war. Both Axis powers carried out the war in the air, for instance, with essentially the same aircraft they had developed in the 1930s. Germany’s technological sophistication notwithstanding, the Third Reich did not supply adequate numbers of prosaic trucks and jeeps to motorize its largely horse drawn army despite its cutting edge leadership in the production of rockets and jets. The Axis states failed to use their economic advantages when they had the opportunity to do so.

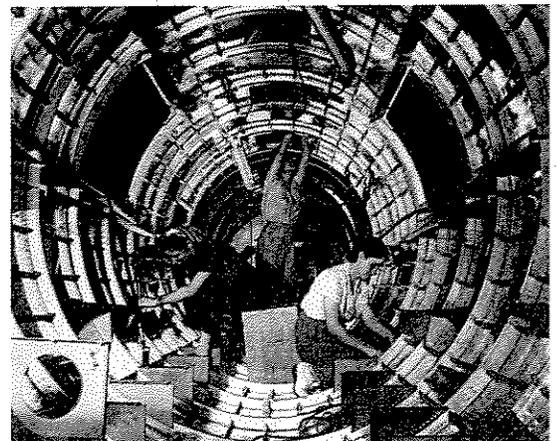
By contrast, the remarkable speed and scale of American rearmament dwarfed anything that anybody dreamed possible. Not only did the United States produce more armaments than the rest of the world combined, but also the quality of American equipment rivaled the best German products in most cases. The swift revival of the Soviet economy, after the 1941 Nazi onslaught brought fantastic human and material losses, surprised many. The Soviet Union out produced Germany despite having 75% less steel available. The transportation of Soviet factories and labor forces from the war zone to Siberia and the extraordinary sacrifices made by average Russians gradually contributed to victory. Even qualitatively, Soviet equipment improved to the point where it surpassed the performance of German materials, particularly in such key areas as aircraft and tanks.

In 1942 no reasonable individual could have predicted an Allied victory.

The United States had not rearmed. American military forces were untrained. Britain had barely survived the air “blitz” and had been driven out of Europe with great losses. The victorious Germans occupied more than half of the Soviet Union’s steel and coal producing region, the entire “breadbasket” agricultural area of the Ukraine, destroyed four million Red Army soldiers, 8,000 aircraft, 17,000 tanks, and stood at the gates of Moscow. Japan had sunk major portions of the American battle fleet, conquered the Philippines, Indonesia, Indochina, Singapore, Hong Kong, and was poised to attack Australia.

Yet the military balance turned in favor of the Allies by 1944. At Stalingrad, Kursk, El Alemain, Midway, and by controlling the U-boat menace in the Atlantic the Allies displayed the improvements they had initiated in their military operations. The Allies learned to fight effectively, and they achieved unity of purpose in the struggle against Germany, the most dangerous Axis state. England and the United States developed particularly close ties, and the Soviet Union cooperated too, although more contentiously. The Axis powers never developed a structured alliance system or a combined strategy for winning the war.

The Allies prevailed in World War II, Overy concludes, because they transformed their economic strength into “fighting power,” and turned the moral energies of their people into an effective “will to win.” Allied cooperation enabled them to take advantage of enemy shortcomings. Although from the perspective of 50 years Allied victory might seem inevitable, it was not—especially during the middle years of the war when the outcome rested on a knife-edge.



U. S. women constructing bomber during World War II

FEATURED EVENTS - CONT. FROM PAGE 4

for the U.S. Navy during World War II. She will focus on his early career including his experiences as a teenager making advertisements for a Milwaukee firm, his time in New York and Paris with Alfred Stieglitz working to establish photography as an art form, his service as a photographer for General Billy Mitchell during World War I, and his return to commercial work with magazine publishers photographing the rich and famous. Tuggle will conclude by accenting Steichen's experience with Socialism under the influence of his sister, Lillian, and her husband, Carl Sandburg, which matured into an abiding passion for the common man and an abhorrence of war. She will describe how he expressed these political beliefs by photographing the down trodden and forgotten even while taking some of his most celebrated pictures of the rich and famous.



Fighter Formation - Steichen Collection

In the second lecture "Waging War with His Camera: Edward Steichen and Navy Photography During World War II," Tuggle will explain how Steichen was commissioned by the Navy at age 62 to tell the story of naval aviation. She will discuss how the work of the Farm Security Administration photographers influenced Steichen to add

his respect for the common man to an historical record. In addition, Tuggle will focus on his creation of a photographic team for the Navy, which covered all theaters of the war as well as the armaments factories and shipyards in this country. Of special interest is the work Steichen did himself in the submarine shipyard of Groton, Conn., which reveals his methodology, and the special problems that he and his crew faced due to wartime shortages of film and cameras.

The lecture will conclude with a look at Steichen's great hymn to the common man, "The Family of Man". This exhibition which opened at the Museum of Modern Art and then traveled the world can be viewed as the conclusion of his war work - the documentation of the restoration of peace on earth.

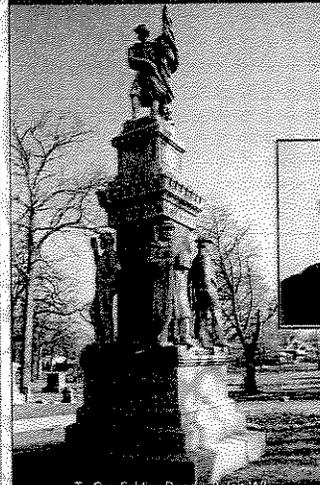
Tuggle has written three articles on the work of Steichen. Until recently, she served as the executive director at the Tudor Place

Foundation. Prior to her position at the Tudor Place Foundation, she was the deputy director at The National Museum of Women in the Arts.

For more information, call the museum at (608)267-1799 or meet us online:

<http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva/museum/wvmmain.html>

Public Sculpture in Wisconsin, 1848 to 1998



To Our Soldier Dead - Beloit, WI



Anton Rajer

An atlas of outdoor sculpture in the Badger state including veterans' monuments and memorials.

Book Signing and Reception
Authors Anton Rajer and Christine Style
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 27th

Wisconsin Veterans Museum

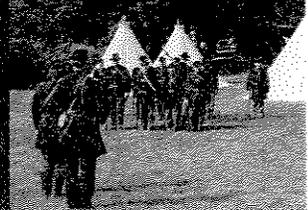
Sponsored in part by the Sesquicentennial Commission

**Echoes from the Battlefield
Civil War Encampment & Drill
at Camp Randall**

**Friday, May 21 &
Saturday, May 22**

**8:30 a.m.
to
10 p.m.**

**Camp Randall,
G.A.R. Park,
Madison**



Two day encampment featuring Civil War military and civilian re-enactors. Visitors will be able to tour the camp and interact with the soldiers. Activities will include camp life demonstrations, company drill and band concerts.

School and tour groups are welcome!
Advance reservations required for groups of 15 or more.

Call (608) 264-6086

Sponsored in part by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

HAPPENINGS - CONT. FROM PAGE 3



usually on display. Comparisons among the different eras are illustrated with uniforms and excerpts from oral interviews. Brief histories and interpretations lead the viewer through the changing

atmosphere of the United States military and the ways these changes affected women.

As women's history is acknowledged and celebrated, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum joins the nation in honoring past, present, and future achievements of America's women. To view the cyber exhibit, visit our website at:

<http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva/museum/wvmmain.html>

Spring Tour Season Begins

by Lisa M. Black

Since opening in 1993, the museum has provided tours and educational activities to hundreds of tour groups of all ages. As a matter of fact, in 1998 over 805 tour groups visited the museum's galleries compared to 379 in 1997. Currently, the tours program is again off to a soaring start.

Historically, spring has been the busiest time of the year and this year the forecast is no different. Museum staff is anticipating another record breaking year of school tours, adult tours, and special programming. Moreover, many veterans' and civic groups as well as state university history

classes and educators will use the exhibit galleries as an educational resource.

The museum staff is highly motivated to fulfill its mission of honoring the men and women of Wisconsin who served in our nation's conflicts and is looking forward to another successful year of tourism. If you would like to schedule a group tour, please contact Lisa Black at (608) 264-6086, or online lisa.black@dva.state.wi.us at least two weeks in advance for a reservation.

Echoes from the Battlefield

Civil War Encampment & Drill at Camp Randall

**Friday, May 21 &
Saturday, May 22**

See ad for event on Page 7

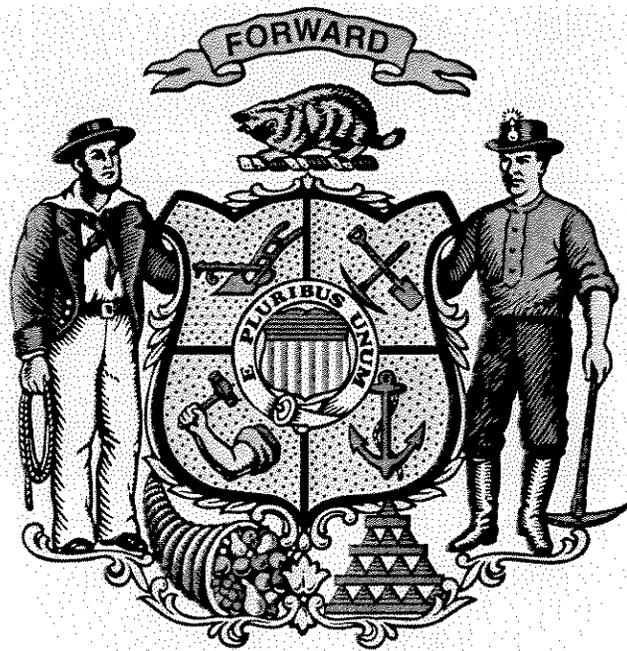


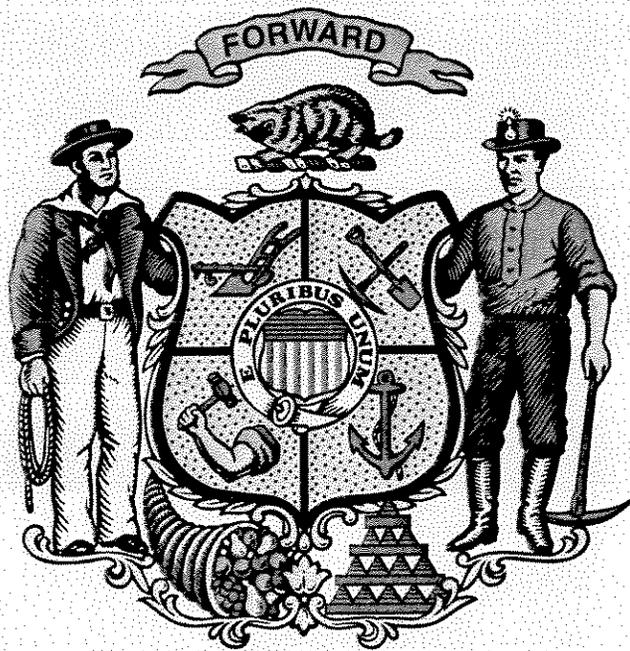
As drawn by John Gaddis - Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin - In November, 1861

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Madison, WI 53703
30 W. Mifflin St., Ste. 200
Wisconsin Veterans Museum

BUGLE
CRS.E.





Veterans service outreach opens in Stoughton

By Chuck Goranson

Veteran service is now available in Stoughton. On October 1, Assistant Veterans Service Office Maria Kluever began staffing an office at the Stoughton Area Senior Center every Friday afternoon. The outreach project is an experiment to see if veterans in outlying areas of the county can be better served outside of the downtown Madison office where driving and finding parking can be difficult.

Kluever will be available to help veterans and their families with the entire range of state and federal benefits available to them. Veterans should call 266-4158 for an appointment.

A kick-off ceremony on October 1 was well attended by veterans and local officials. Special guests included Mayor Bob Barnett, former mayors Helen Johnson and Lineal Cooper, along with County Supervisor Don Heiliger.

Dane County Executive Assistant Kevin G. Bonds extended greetings from Kathleen Falk.

American Legion Post 59 in Stoughton, lead by Commander Al Phelps and Second Vice Commander Bob Burull, complemented Maria Kluever's work to make the project a reality.



Front: Service Officer Maria Kluever, Dane County Veterans Service Commissioner Connie Allord.

Rear: Commissioners Lewis Arms, Dave Deane, John Bird, John Scocos along with Supervisor Don Heiliger.

On the inside:

New budget improves Home Improvement Loans and Education Grants

Don Heiliger nominated for state vet board

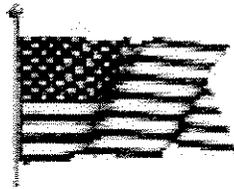
VA pension restored for surviving spouses

Hospital care for "group 7" veterans

Disability for some hearing problems

Editorial on benefit reductions

Veterans Day Activities



New state budget improves veteran programs

Madison

Nov. 10 Veterans Day Reception

University Club, 803 State Street, Madison
Sponsored by AL, VFW, DAV, AMVETS, TROA, AHEPA, etc.

The Madison Veterans Council will hold its annual **Veterans/Armistice Day ceremony** at the Dane County Expo Center on the morning of November 11.

- 9:15 Wisconsin National Guard Band and the Capitol City Band
- 9:55 Lapham Children's Choir
- 10:00 Program with guest speaker Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Raymond G Boland
- 11:00 Air National Guard flyover

The Army, Naval and Air Force ROTC units will be holding a **retreat ceremony** at 4:00 outside the State Historical Library on the UW Library Mall.

Waunakee

American Legion Post 360

Members will present Pledge of Allegiance programs at local schools

Joint Post/Auxiliary Dinner and meeting

Guests: 1999 Badger Boys and Girls State Representatives

- 5:30 Cocktails
- 6:30 Dinner
- 7:30 Meeting

VFW Post 11244

Nov. 10 Veterans Day **family style dinner** at Rex's Innkeeper

- 6:00 Cocktails
- 7:00 Roast beef or chicken

Speaker will be Greg Falk on the "Iron Brigade" of the Civil War

On October 27, Governor Thompson signed the 1999-2001 state budget, effectively ending the uncertainty over the status of state veteran programs for the next two years. Theoretically the budget was to have been passed and gone into effect on July 1. While the governor made many major and minor vetoes in the budget passed by the Legislature, he made no changes in those portions relating to the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

The new law makes improvements in education grants and the home improvement loan. It also increases funding for the Health Care Aid Grant, the Veterans Assistance Program, cemeteries, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and other WDVA operations.

"The 1999-2001 state budget continues to improve the best state veterans' benefit programs in the nation," says WDVA Secretary Raymond G. Boland. "With the support of the governor and the legislature, we have increased the reimbursement rate for our education grants and increased the maximum loan amount for our Home Improvement Loan Program. We also have the ability to expand our museum and cemetery operations. Overall, the budget treats veterans very well and recognizes their contributions to our nation and state."



Boland

Questions about your federal veterans benefits?

**Call the federal VA toll free at:
1-800-827-1000**

**For GI Bill Questions call toll free at:
1-888-GI-BILL1
(1-888-442-4551)**

Highlights of WDVA's 1999-2001 biennial budget

The budget contains the following provisions affecting the WDVA and its programs:

Increase reimbursement for education grant programs

The reimbursement rate for the Part-Time Study Grant and Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant programs was increased to 65 percent. The previous reimbursement rate was 50 percent. The reimbursement increase can be absorbed within the existing budgets for both grant programs.

Provide Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants to veterans attending private schools

Under previous state statutes, veterans attending qualified private schools in Wisconsin were eligible for Part-Time Study Grants but not Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants. Now private schools in Wisconsin that meet the requirements for Part Time Study Grants also meet the requirements for Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants.

Modify state residency requirement

Those veterans who were not Wisconsin residents at the time they entered active-duty military service must have lived in Wisconsin for five consecutive years any time after discharge from active duty in order to be eligible for state veterans' benefits. The budget modifies the state residency requirement so that active-duty service in Wisconsin may count toward the five consecutive years of residency.

Increase maximum amount for Home Improvement Loan Program (HILP)

The maximum amount a veteran may borrow with a WDVA Home Improvement Loan (HILP) was increased to \$25,000 with 15 years to repay. The previous maximum was \$15,000.

Increase funding for Health Care Aid Grant

WDVA's spending authority for the Health Care Aid Grant (HCAG) program was increased by \$284,300 in each fiscal year. Combined with previous funding levels, the increase will allow HCAG total expenditures of up to \$1.2 million per fiscal year. Recent changes in Administrative Rules permit WDVA to use up to 25 percent of the total HCAG annual budget to fund grants for dentures. With \$1.2 million in funding per fiscal year, WDVA may now provide a total of \$300,000 in grants for dentures.

Increase funding for Veterans Assistance Program (VAP)

To help homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless, the Veterans Assistance Program's budget was increased to \$686,500 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$765,200 in 2000-2001. The funding will provide on-going support for the new assistance center at Southern Wisconsin Center, near Union Grove, as well as the existing centers at Tomah/Fort McCoy,

King and Milwaukee. Of the total budget amount, the federal government will provide \$304,900 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$295,000 in fiscal year 2000-2001. In addition, it is estimated that program revenue will generate \$80,000 annually.

Fully implement the Veterans Employment and Training Program

The WDVA has spending authority of \$158,200 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$60,000 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to implement fully the employment and training program approved in the last biennial budget. This includes a one-time expenditure of approximately \$156,000 for the research, design and development of an Internet-based service that will help veterans interested in teaching jobs get academic credit for military experience.

Fund operating expenses for the new cemetery in northern Wisconsin

The WDVA's spending authority is \$389,800 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$275,000 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to operate a new state veterans cemetery, which will be built near Spooner. All of the expenditure authority in the first fiscal year will be used to purchase equipment for the cemetery. Subsequent funding will provide four full-time equivalent positions to operate the cemetery when it opens in 2000.

Improve the provision of benefits to Native American veterans

The WDVA's spending authority is \$85,500 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$79,400 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to improve the provision of benefits to Native American veterans living on tribal lands in Wisconsin. The funding will finance a new full-time position for coordinating the policy and planning development of programs for Native American veterans. The WDVA also will fund grants that will be used by Wisconsin tribes to improve the provision of veterans' benefits. Funding for the grants and tribal coordinator position is part of the Governor's Native American Gaming Initiative.

Assume operation of the Wisconsin National Guard Museum

To assume the operation of the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Volk Field, the WDVA has received general purpose revenue funding (state tax dollars) of \$382,000 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$287,300 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to pay for 3.5 full-time positions and to create and operate a new library that includes the archives, manuscripts and photographic collections of the Wisconsin National Guard. The new library will be located on the third floor of 30 West Mifflin Street and operated by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The new library will also contain the veterans museum's book collection currently located in the basement of the building.

Go to your windows and yell...

By Michael Jackson, Dane County Veterans Service Officer

"Go to your windows and yell, 'I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore!'" That line, or one much like it, was in the movie *Network*. I think of those words every time I hear about some new federal VA "efficiency" – in other words cutback, in programs.

Each year the federal VA budget has had an adverse impact on the quality and timeliness of services provided to veterans. For example a quiet "reduction in force" has taken place at the William S. Middleton Veterans Memorial Hospital in Madison. I would be surprised if the number of employees on Veterans Day is the same as last year.

The VA Regional Office in Milwaukee has lost its Veteran Service Division through consolidation. The processing time for a new disability pension claim is over two months and it takes about five months to process a service-connected disability claim. Now the VA is considering consolidating regional offices.

Beginning January 2000, Vietnam "era" veterans, those who did not serve in Vietnam, will no longer be eligible for Vet Center services if they

have never been there before. Meanwhile, Congress and the Administration debate over how to spend surpluses.

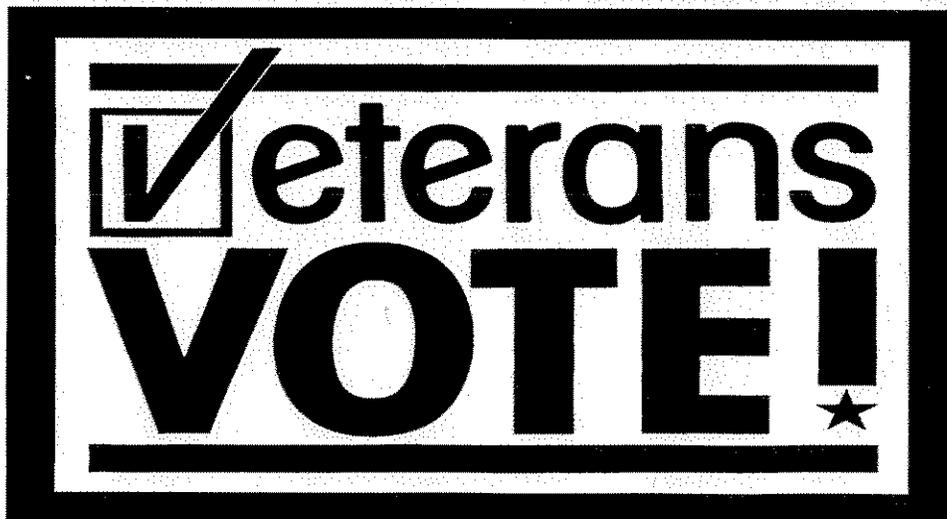
In my nearly 20 years of service to veterans I have seen a gradual decline in political and financial support for veteran programs at the federal level. I suppose there are many reasons for this. A brief list might include: fewer elected officials are veterans; veterans are either not voting or not voting for candidates who support veterans; veteran service organizations are losing their political clout; the American public believes that veteran's needs are being met; and of course, since no war is taking place right now, veteran issues are not a priority.

Maybe it's time to open our windows wide enough to be heard all the way to Washington.

November 11, 1999, will be the last Veterans Day of this century. In regard to the state of veterans benefits in the 21st century, are you mad as hell? Are you going to take it anymore?



Jackson



Don Heiliger nominated to serve on state vets board

Governor Tommy Thompson has nominated Dane County Supervisor Don Heiliger to serve a seven-year term on the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs. The board provides oversight to the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. According to Sen. Rod Moen's office, confirmation hearings will probably be held in November and the Senate will likely vote on confirmation shortly thereafter.

Heiliger retired as a colonel from the United States Air Force in 1985, after a 30-year career. He was both a fighter pilot and a navigator. In 1967, while piloting an F-105 in the Vietnam War, he was shot down on his 44th combat mission and spent nearly six years as a Prisoner-of-War in North Vietnam. After his return to freedom in 1973, he continued in the USAF until his retirement in 1985, his last assignment being the senior U.S. military representative to Israel as the defense and air attaché in Tel Aviv (1982-85).

Heiliger is a senior pilot with over 1,000 flying hours as a pilot and more than 2,000 hours as a navigator. His military decorations and awards include: the Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster; the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster; the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters; the Air Force Commendation Medal; the Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster; the Prisoner-of-War Medal; and the Vietnam Service Medal with eight service stars. He was a Distinguished Graduate of both pilot and navigator training.

Heiliger belongs to the local chapters of the Ameri-

can Ex-Prisoners of War, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion and is a member of NAM-POWs, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS and Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans. He is currently serving his fourth term as county board supervisor from the 35th district in the southeast portion of the county.



Heiliger

The Dane County Veteran is published quarterly by the Dane County Veterans Service Office
217 S. Hamilton, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 266-4158

Michael R. Jackson, Service Officer
Chuck Goranson, Editor

Contributors:
Maria Kluever, Jim Robarts, Barb Paar, Shirley Shaw, Vicki Wangerin

Announcements and news contributions welcome

Now hear this...

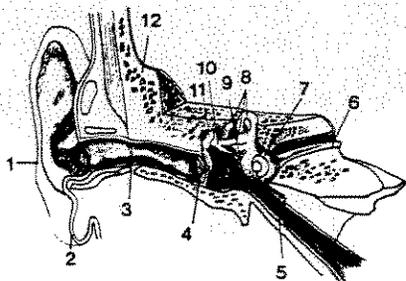
By Assistant CVSO Jim Roberts

The VA has recently made changes in its rating schedule for diseases of the ear. In most cases the changes have little impact on currently service-connected veterans since few have condition such as malignant neoplasm of the ear, or peripheral vestibular disorder. However, there is one change to a condition that has a more widespread impact. This is in the area of tinnitus.

Tinnitus is a condition in which sufferers experience

noise (constant or intermittent) in the ears. The noise can be a ringing, buzzing, roaring, or clicking. Veterans who are service connected for this disability know just how difficult it can be to live with. The major change in the VA's rating schedule for tinnitus is that there is no longer a zero percent level of disability which used to be awarded to veterans with "recurrent" problems. The percentage of disability now begins at ten percent.

Any veteran who currently has a zero percent disability for tinnitus should contact his or her veterans service office to learn if the service connection can be upgraded to ten percent. The higher level of disability carries with it compensation and an opportunity to apply for vocational rehabilitation education benefits. The veteran has to ask the VA for this upgrade—the VA is not going out looking for the veterans in question.



ear 1a: 1 pinna, 2 lobe, 3 auditory meatus, 4 tympanic membrane, 5 eustachian tube, 6 auditory nerve, 7 cochlea, 8 semicircular canals, 9 stapes, 10 incus, 11 malleus, 12 bones of skull

VA Restores Benefits for Surviving Spouses

From the VA

The spouses of deceased veterans, who lost Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) survivor benefits when they remarried, may be eligible for restored Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) benefits if they are no longer married.

Legislation recently signed by the President repeals a 1990 law that permanently terminated eligibility for DIC for a veteran's surviving spouse who remarried after the death of the veteran. The pre-1990 policy, which was renewed effective October 1, allows benefits to be restored if the marriage is terminated.

DIC is a benefit paid to surviving spouses of veterans who died because of service-connected causes. In certain cases, entitlement can be established if the veteran's death is non-service connected.

"We are mounting a concerted outreach campaign, by direct mail and through various public notification

processes, to inform eligible spouses of this restored benefit," said VA Under Secretary Joseph Thompson.

The basic monthly rate for DIC is currently \$850 with other allowances added under certain circumstances (e.g., for additional dependents or if a surviving spouse is so severely disabled as to be housebound or in the need of the regular aid and attendance of another individual).

Income does not affect DIC payments for surviving spouses. DIC can also be paid to unmarried children under age 18 or under 23 and in school, certain helpless children, and parents of service personnel or veterans who died because of service-connected causes.

Veterans' survivors, including those surviving spouses potentially eligible for reinstatement of DIC under the new law, should contact their local VA Regional Office or call toll-free 1-800-827-1000 for further details on DIC or any other benefits offered by VA.

VA Secretary Ensures Treatment For “Group 7” Veterans

Washington, D.C. — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Togo D. West Jr. announced today that VA medical facilities will enroll all honorably-discharged veterans who seek VA health care during the fiscal year that began Oct. 1.

The VA Secretary’s announcement ensures continued treatment this year for “Priority Group 7” veterans, the lowest in a seven-group listing of veterans that began in 1998 under a nationwide VA enrollment system. “Priority Group 7” veterans do not have service-connected disabilities or they are rated as “non-compensable and zero-percent” for service-connected disabilities.

“It is my intention to serve as many veterans as possible under the law and give them access to the full range of services they need,” West said.

West’s decision assures veterans in all priority groups that they are eligible to enroll during fiscal year 2000. VA officials still recommend that veterans retain private health insurance, since it may cover services, such as emergency care, that VA does not usually provide.

The VA’s enrollment program was established by the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996. It requires most veterans to enroll to receive health care at VA medical facilities. Veterans can apply at any time. Veterans who fall into the following groups are not required to enroll:

- Veterans with a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more;
- Veterans seeking care for a service-connected disability; and

- Veterans discharged from military service for less than one year for a disability determined to have been incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, but that VA has not yet rated.



West

While not required, these exempted veterans are still encouraged to enroll so VA can plan more effectively to meet their health-care needs.

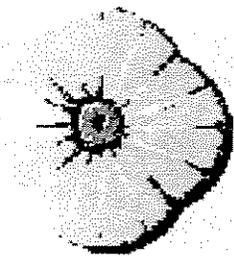
Under the enrollment program, VA offers an expanded array of health-care services, such as preventive care; primary care; inpatient and outpatient services; rehabilitation; mental health and substance abuse treatment; home health, respite and hospice care; and drugs and pharmaceuticals in conjunction with VA treatment.

Veterans can use these VA services even if they have Medicare, Medicaid, Department of Defense, or private health insurance coverage.

To apply for enrollment, veterans can call, write or visit their nearest VA health-care facility. Most facilities have designated special enrollment coordinators to assist veterans and their families, and to answer any questions they may have. Information is also available by calling 1-877-222-VETS (1-877-222-8387) or by calling the VA Hospital in Madison at 280-7038.

Dane County Veterans Service Office
217 S. Hamilton, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 266-4158

TERRY MUSSER
MIL. & VETS AFF. COMM
STATE CAPITOL
MADISON INTER-D



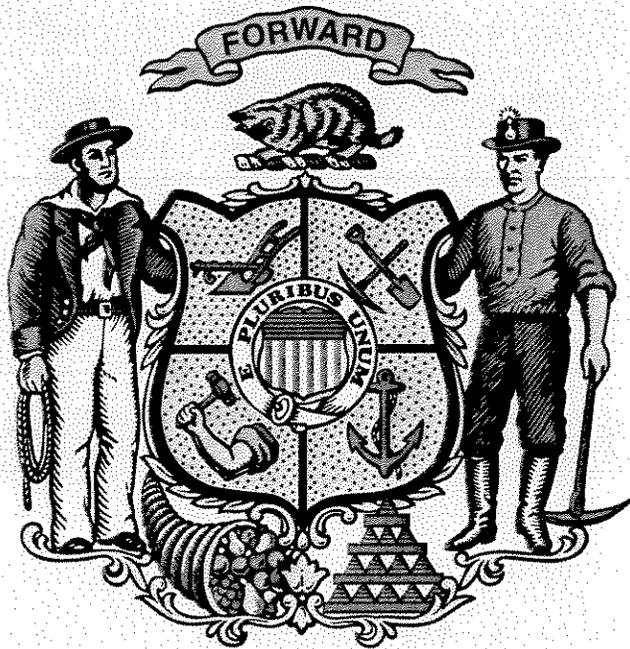
Lest We Forget

In Flanders fields



By Dr. John McCrae
May 3, 1915, Ypres, Belgium

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead, Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up your quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



Becoming a Partner

Wednesday, March 24 Estate Tax Reduction through Charitable Gifting

How to contribute to your financial security while enriching society.

Thursday, March 25 Estate Tax Reduction through Charitable Gifting

How to contribute to your financial security while enriching society.

For your convenience, please attend either Wednesday or Thursday.

Programs are conducted by:

James E. Schmidt,

Equitable Financial / AXA Group

Dan L. Dooge,

Lathrop & Clark LLP

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation.

Museum & Galleries

Free Admission for Museum and Programs

Hours

Monday - Saturday (Year-round)
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday (April - September)
Noon - 4:00 p.m.

For Additional Information

Call 608-267-1799 or visit us online at:

<http://badge.state.wisconsin.gov/museum/veteran.html>



James E. Schmidt,



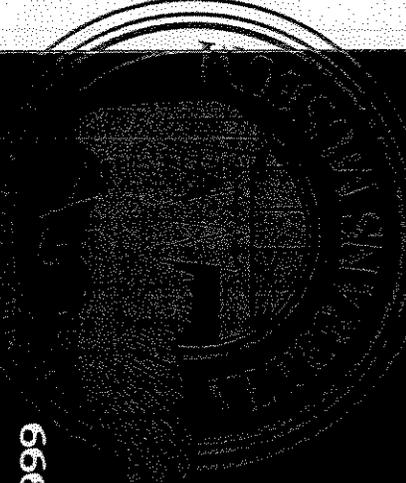
Dan L. Dooge

Calendar of Events



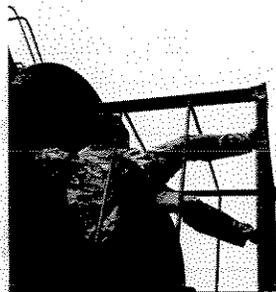
A Douglas A-1B Thunderbolt fighter over White Island - Oahu, HI
Douglas Kirby

March-June 1999



Wisconsin Veterans Museum

30 West Kilbuck Street • Across from the Capitol • Madison, WI 53703



Traveling Exhibit

January 15 - May 31, 1999

Steichen and His Men: A Portrait of World War II

This traveling exhibit developed by The Navy Museum in Washington, D.C., consists of photographs produced by military photographer Edward Steichen and his staff. The photographs highlight Navy aviation during World War II.

Programs

Friday, March 19

Shooting the Carrier War in the Pacific

Lecture and Reception

John Lundstrom, Milwaukee Public Museum

Friday, April 16

Edward Steichen and the Art of the Practical

Lecture and Reception

Catherine Tugge, Washington, D.C.-based writer

Saturday, April 17

Waging War with His Camera: Edward Steichen and Navy Photography during World War II

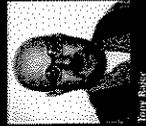
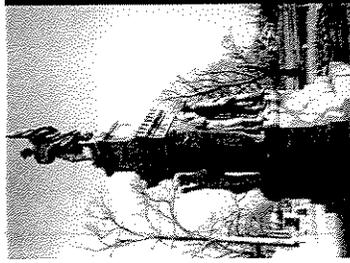
Lecture and Reception

Catherine Tugge, Washington, D.C.-based writer

Programs are scheduled from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Wisconsin Veterans Museum
30 W. Kilbuck St., Suite 200
Madison, WI 53703
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



To Our Soldier's Oval,
Civil War G.A.R. Museum
Bausch, WI

Special Events

Tuesday, April 27

Public Sculpture in Wisconsin, 1840-1998

An atlas of outdoor sculpture in the Badger state including veterans' monuments and memorials. This beautifully illustrated book contains over 500 photographs in black and white and 25 in color.

Sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Commission

Book Signing and Reception
Authors Anton Rajer and Christine Style
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.



Wednesday, May 19

All for the Union: Wisconsin and the Civil War

Well-illustrated popularly oriented history of Wisconsin's role in the Civil War aimed at teachers and students in the fourth through eighth grade, as well as general readers.

Sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Commission

Book Signing
Author Richard Zeitlin,
Wisconsin Veterans Museum Director
7 p.m.

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
7433 Mineral Point Road,
Madison, WI



Friday, May 21 &

Saturday, May 22

Civil War Encampment at Camp Randall

Two day encampment featuring Civil War military and civilian re-enactors. Visitors will be able to tour the camp and interact with the soldiers. Activities will include camp life demonstrations, company drill, and band concerts.

8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Camp Randall, G.A.R. Park, Madison
School and tour groups are welcome!
Advance reservations required for groups of 15 or more.
Call (608) 264-6086

Sponsored in part by the
Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

Monday, June 14 - Flag Day

Rallying 'Round the Flag

View the Civil War battle flag of the 11th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Learn about flag etiquette.

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special tour of the museum's galleries conducted by a veteran from 12 Noon - 1 p.m.

Special Events Note

All programs will be held at the museum unless otherwise specified

8th Wisconsin Infantry
National Battle Club

Temporary Exhibits

March - June

Battle Flag Exhibit Schedule

Spanish-American War

March 4th Wisconsin Volunteers

Civil War: Vicksburg

April 1st Wisconsin Battery

April 6th Wisconsin Battery

May 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry

June 11th Wisconsin Infantry

June 12th Wisconsin Infantry

March 25 - August 1

The Philippine Insurrection

An exhibit commemorating America's first Asian conflict, the Philippine War, which began in 1899.

Private of the 26th Infantry Regiment,
Philippine Insurrection.

Ongoing

Wisconsin War
display Reprints



A Tribute to Freedom

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is dedicated to the citizen-soldiers of our state. Employing exhibits, displays, and presentations, the museum's main galleries tell the story of Wisconsin men and women who served in America's conflicts from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

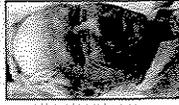
They Also Served

An exhibit, which portrays the role of civilians who performed vital services for the military and the nation during wartime.

Red Cross Worker, France,
World War I
Courtesy of Cecil Galt



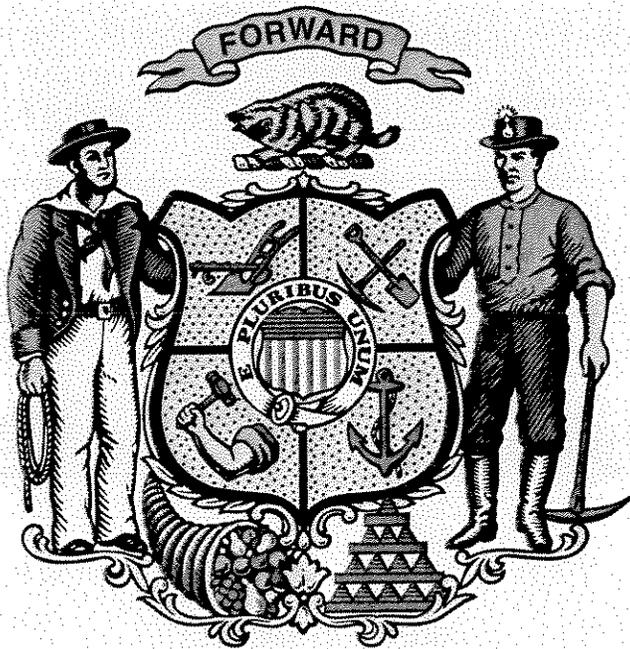
FREE
ONE AUDIO TOUR WITH COUPON
Tour with a Celebrity
VISIT THE WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM AND TAKE A GUIDED TOUR WITH A CELEBRITY!



Hosted by
GREGORY PECK
&
STEPHEN AMBROSE

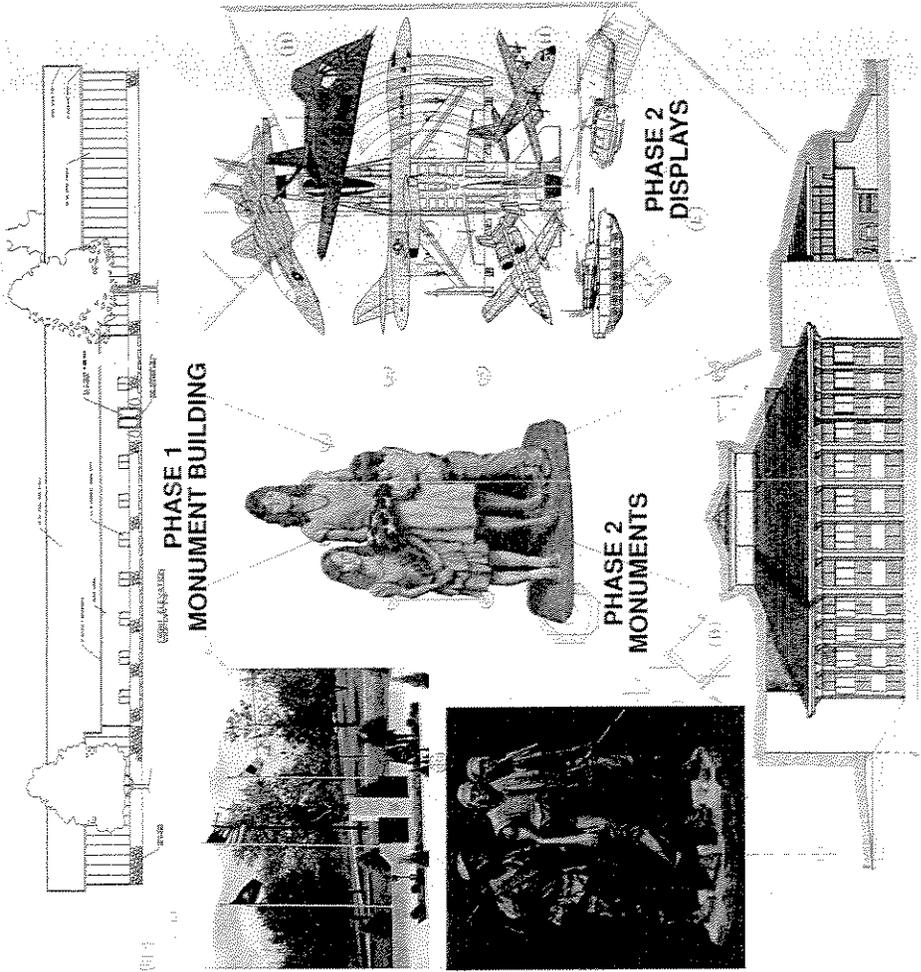
WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM
30 WEST PENNA STREET
MADISON, WI 53703
CALL 608-267-1799 FOR INFO.





UNITED PROUD PATRIOTS VETERANS ORGANIZATION IN ACTION!!

PHASE 1 BUY AN ACRE FOR THE VETS

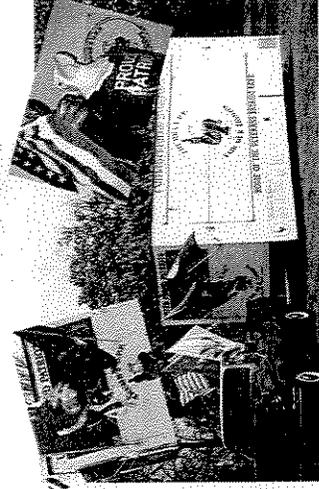


Our Programs

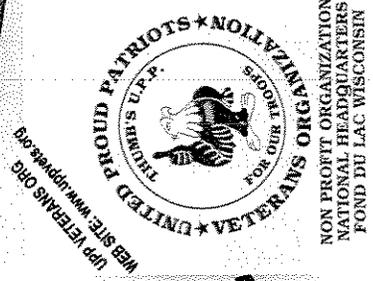
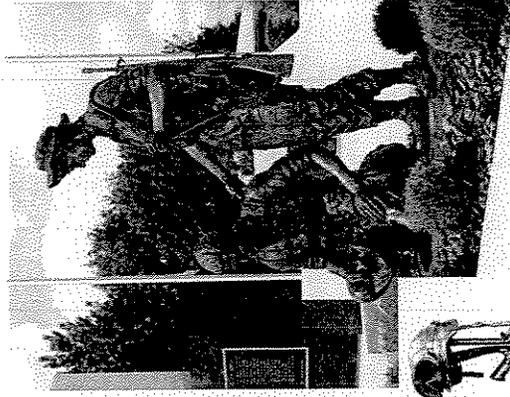
For Our Youth:

1. A Veterans Patriot Park
2. Production of THE PATRIOT SHOW (on the community network cable station.)
3. Having educational material on Patriotism.
4. Promote the social welfare of the community.
5. To provide entertainment, care and assistance to hospitalized veterans or members of the Armed Forces of the United States.
6. To assist the disabled and needy war veterans and members of the United States Armed Forces, and their dependents, widows, and orphans of deceased veterans.
7. To carry on programs to perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and to comfort their survivors.
8. To sponsor and participate in activities of a patriotic nature.
9. To provide social and recreational activities for our members such as dances and picnics.
10. Having an information center to call anytime 24 hours a day for updates and information. 414-253-1009 Ext. 778

A LITTLE MAGIC FOR OUR KIDS



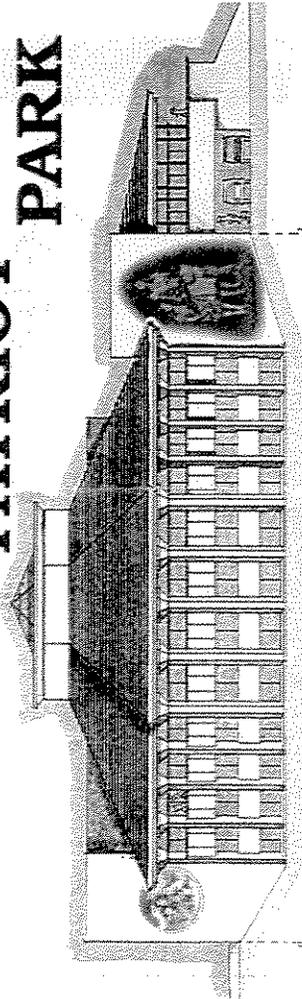
A Rolling Tribute to Our Vets
This veterans stage/float is 50 ft. long, with Stereo and PA System, 7 ft. tall eagle, and 10 military flags.



VETERANS

PATRIOT

PARK



HOME OF THE VETERANS PATRIOT PARK

Our Veterans organization United Proud Patriots is proposing a Veterans Patriot Park, where we can promote patriotism, education and recreation for the public with our programs for higher learning.

It's not intended to glorify war, but rather to remember the price of freedom. Around our monuments there will be picnic areas to enjoy the park. Over looking the park from our Veterans Patriot Park Center you'll be able to see all our monuments and sculptures.

A place for all veteran organizations to come together like VFW, American Legion, Marine Corp League plus our VA hospital veterans.

A place of honor for all our veterans and patriots to enjoy.

HERE ARE JUST SOME OF OUR MONUMENTS AND SCULPTURES

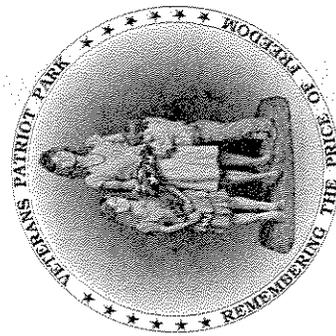
Halfway around the Amphitheater, The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, POW-MIA Wall; and The Veterans Patriot Wall of Honor in front of the Veterans Patriot Park Center

WAR/CONFLICT	DURATION	WAR/CONFLICT	DURATION
Persian Gulf	Aug. 2 1990-Apr. 6 1991	Spanish American	1898
Vietnam	1959-1975	Civil War	1861-1865
Korea	1950-1953	War of 1812	1812-1815
World War II	1939-1945	American Revolution	1775-1783
World War I	1914-1918		

Make your tax deductible donation check payable to and mail to:
U.P.P. Veterans Org., P.O. Box 82 Menomonee Falls, WI 53052

U.P.P. Veterans Org. Information Center:

414-253-1009 Ext. 778



BUY AN ACRE FOR THE VETS

Secure your family's name for all posterity to be seen on the Veterans Patriot Wall of Honor.

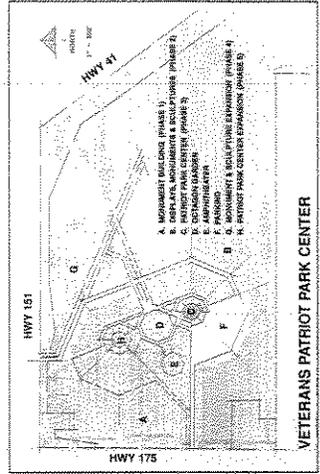
A tax deductible donation
For more information call:
253-1009 Ext. 772

DEDICATION

As United Proud Patriots we dedicate this to the men and women who served their country. God Bless and keep Patriotism in America alive. It is not intended to glorify war but rather to remember the PRICE of FREEDOM!

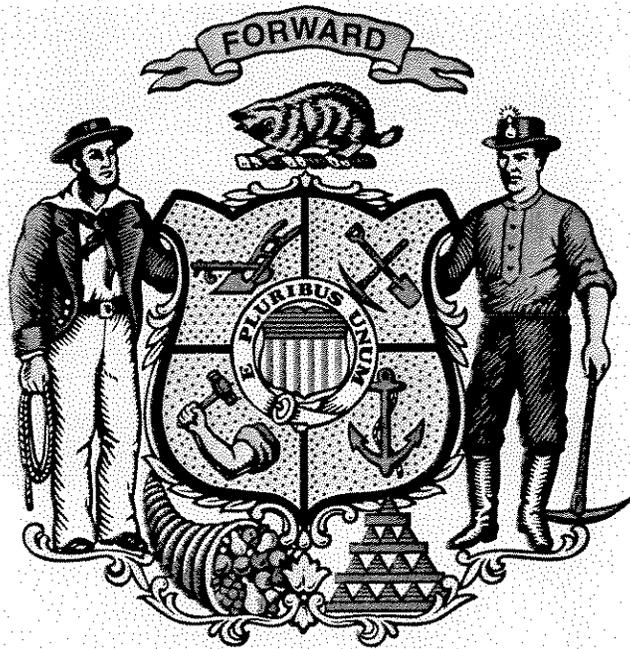


Governor's Award



VETERANS PATRIOT PARK CENTER

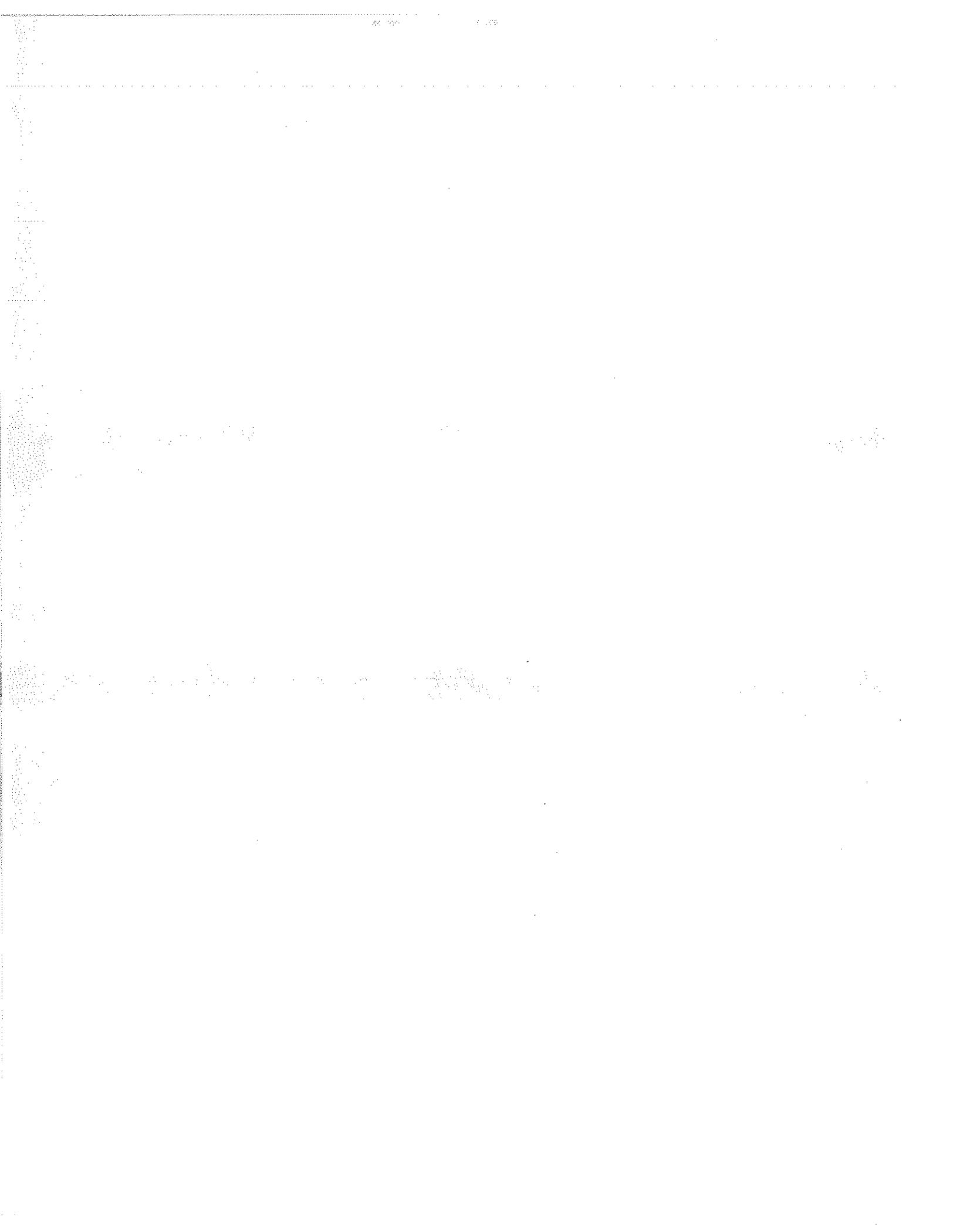
Fond du Lac Location





Veterans' benefits in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
30 W. Mifflin St., PO Box 7843
Madison, WI 53707-7843
(608) 266-1311
Web site: <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva>



History of Wisconsin veterans' benefits

Wisconsin has earned a distinguished reputation nationally for instituting programs and services that meet the needs of its residents who served in the U.S. armed forces and their families. *[see page 6 for comparison with other states]*

The state's proud tradition of providing assistance to veterans and their families began soon after the Civil War. Most of this early assistance was intended to alleviate the suffering of destitute veterans and their families.

In 1887, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a prominent organization representing Civil War veterans, founded the Grand Army Home at King. This facility near Waupaca was eventually turned over to the State of Wisconsin and became the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King.

In 1901, the state honored Civil War veterans by establishing a GAR headquarters and museum in the State Capitol. In 1989, the Legislature authorized the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to build a new museum, honoring veterans from all wars, across the street from the Capitol. The award-winning Wisconsin Veterans Museum opened in 1993.

In 1919, the state issued its only wartime bonus to Wisconsin veterans of World War I. In 1945, rather than issue a wartime bonus with little lasting value, the Legislature created programs that offered long-term benefits for state veterans and their families.

To administer state veterans programs, the Legislature created the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs in 1945. The department was given the administrative responsibility for the Grand Army Home at King, the GAR Memorial Hall in the Capitol, the state's economic and education assistance benefits for veterans, and other programs. It also assumed responsibility for segregated funds for veterans that were combined in 1961 to form the Veterans Trust Fund.

Today, WDVA provides an array of benefits and services to eligible state veterans, and in some instances, veterans' family members. To deliver these benefits and services, WDVA works closely with county veterans service officers (CVSOs). Each county has a veterans service officer who offers outreach, counseling and processing of benefit applications for both state and federal programs.

Loans, grants and other direct services to veterans and their families

WDVA's loan and grant programs are financed through two separate sources --- the **Veterans Trust Fund** (see history of the Trust Fund on page 7) and the **Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund**. The **Veterans Trust Fund** currently finances the following programs:

- **Personal Loan Program** provides loans of up to \$10,000 with 10 years to repay at interest rates starting as low as 6%. The Personal Loan Program may be used to pay for education expenses (of the veteran, veteran's spouse, veteran's children), debt consolidation, medical expenses, business purchases, purchase of a mobile home, medical expenses or funeral expenses.
- **Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants** reimburse the cost of tuition and fees (up to a maximum of 50%) for recently discharged veterans who are enrolled in undergraduate courses at schools in the UW System or the state's technical college system. To qualify, the veteran's plus spouse's annual income may not exceed \$47,500 plus \$500 for each dependent in excess of two. Qualified veterans can obtain grants for up to 10 years after separating from military service.
- **Part-Time Study Grants** reimburse the tuition and fees (up to a maximum of 50%) for successfully completed courses when veterans are enrolled part-time or in summer sessions at accredited schools in Wisconsin. The combined veteran plus spouse income limit is the same as the Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant.
- **Retraining Grants** provide up to \$3,000 to recently unemployed or under-employed veterans who demonstrate financial need while enrolled in a training program that is expected to lead to employment. To qualify, the veteran's plus spouse's annual income may not exceed \$36,600 plus \$500 for each dependent in excess of two.
- **Subsistence Aid Grants** provide temporary, emergency financial aid to veterans and their dependents in the event of an illness, disability or death that causes a loss in income.
- **Health Care Aid Grants** provide assistance for medical treatment or hospitalization when the veteran is unable to pay these expenses.
- **Veterans Assistance Program** helps homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless get the services they need to obtain steady employment and affordable housing.
- **CVSO Grants** help support the operations of county veterans service officers.
- **Grants to veterans' organizations** provide financial assistance to veterans' organizations that represent veterans who are filing for federal VA benefits.

The **Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund**, formed in 1975, is the funding authority for the Home Loan Program. It derives funding from the sale of general obligation bonds, repayment of existing loans and interest on investments. The Home Loan Program is completely self-supporting and requires no general purpose revenue support.

The **Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund** financed the following programs during the 1995-1997 biennium.

- **Primary Mortgage Home Loans** provide 30-year, fixed rate mortgages for the purchase or construction of a veteran's principal residence. The interest rates are consistently lower than prevailing market rates.
- **Home Improvement Loan Program** provides low-interest rate loans for repairs, alterations, construction, and renovation of a veteran's principal residence. Qualified veterans may borrow up to \$15,000 with up to 15 years to repay.

Other services for veterans and their families

WDVA Claims Bureau assists state veterans and their dependents with claims for federal VA compensation, pension, education, medical care and death benefits. The bureau is located at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office in Milwaukee.

State Veterans Cemeteries provide interments for veterans and their family members at the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Cemetery near Union Grove and at the Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery at King. In addition, WDVA plans to open in 2000 a state veterans cemetery near Spooner to serve northern Wisconsin.

WDVA submits its biennial budget for 1999-2001

The following items are highlights of WDVA's budget proposals contained in the state biennial budget bill for 1999-2001.

- **Increase reimbursement for education grant programs**

For the Part-Time Study Grant and Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant programs, WDVA requests an increase in the maximum reimbursement rate from the current 50 percent to 65 percent beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000. The reimbursement increase can be absorbed within the existing budgets for both grant programs, which are financed by the Veterans Trust Fund.

- **Provide Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants to veterans attending private schools**

Veterans attending qualified private schools in Wisconsin are currently eligible for Part-Time Study Grants but not Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants. WDVA proposes that private schools in Wisconsin which meet the requirements for Part-Time Study Grants also qualify for Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants.

- **Modify state residency requirement**

Those veterans who were not Wisconsin residents at the time they entered active-duty military service must live in Wisconsin for five consecutive years anytime after discharge from active duty in order to be eligible for state veterans' benefits. WDVA proposes that the state residency requirement be modified so that members of the armed forces who were residents of Wisconsin while on active duty may apply this time toward fulfilling the five consecutive years of residency requirement.

- **Increase maximum amount for Home Improvement Loan Program (HILP)**

With a WDVA Home Improvement Loan (HILP), veterans now may borrow up to \$15,000 with 15 years to repay. WDVA proposes that the maximum HILP amount be increased to \$25,000. HILP loans are funded through bond sales, so an increase in the maximum loan amount will have no impact on the Veterans Trust Fund.

- **Increase funding for Health Care Aid Grant**

To meet the anticipated demand for the Health Care Aid Grant (HCAG) program, WDVA requests an increase of \$284,300 of authorized spending in each fiscal year from the Veterans Trust Fund. Combined with current funding levels, the increase will allow HCAG total expenditures of up to \$1.2 million per fiscal year. Recent changes in Administrative Rules permit WDVA to use up to 25 percent of the total HCAG annual budget to fund grants for dentures. With \$1.2 million in funding per fiscal year, WDVA could provide a total of \$300,000 in grants for dentures.

- **Increase funding for Veterans Assistance Program (VAP)**

WDVA requests additional funding from the Veterans Trust Fund for the Veterans Assistance Program, which helps homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless obtain steady jobs and affordable housing. The request is for \$1.25 million in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$1.17 million in fiscal year 2000-2001.

- **Create program for promoting single-room occupancy (SRO) housing for veterans**

WDVA requests Veterans Trust Fund expenditures of \$54,000 in each fiscal year to create a program to increase affordable housing for low-income and homeless veterans. Of that amount, \$50,000 will be used for grants to community-based organizations that will cover part of the expenses of operating single-room occupancy housing for homeless veterans. The remaining \$4,000 will cover travel costs of WDVA property managers who will inspect SRO facilities that receive grants.

- **Fully implement the Veterans Employment and Training Program**

WDVA requests funding from the Veterans Trust Fund of \$181,800 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$91,100 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to implement fully the employment and training program approved in the last biennial budget. The request includes a one-time expenditure of approximately \$156,000 for the research, design and development of an Internet-based service that will help veterans get academic credit for military experience.

- **Fund operating expenses for the new cemetery in northern Wisconsin**

WDVA requests Veterans Trust Fund expenditures of \$389,800 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$275,000 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to operate a new state veterans cemetery near Spooner. All of the expenditure authority in the first fiscal year will be used to purchase equipment for the cemetery. Subsequent funding will provide four full-time equivalent positions to operate the cemetery, which is expected to open in 2000.

- **Improve the provision of benefits to Native American veterans**

WDVA requests Veterans Trust Fund expenditures of \$66,900 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$68,000 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to improve the provision of benefits to Native American veterans living on tribal lands in Wisconsin. The funding will finance a new full-time position for coordinating the policy and planning development of programs for Native American veterans. WDVA also will fund grants that will be used by Wisconsin tribes to improve the provision of veterans' benefits.

- **Create positions for federal liaison and research**

To monitor and assess the impact of federal initiatives affecting Wisconsin veterans, WDVA requests Veterans Trust Fund expenditures of \$90,300 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$100,900 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to create two full-time equivalent positions. One position will serve as WDVA's liaison with the federal government on issues affecting Wisconsin veterans. The other will research trends in federal funding of veterans' benefits and services in the state.

- **Operate the Wisconsin National Guard Museum**

To assume the operation of the Wisconsin National Guard Museum at Volk Field (near Camp Douglas), WDVA requests general purpose revenue funding (state tax dollars) of \$347,500 in fiscal year 1999-2000 and \$259,900 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to fund 3.5 full-time positions and to create and operate a new library that includes the archives, manuscripts and photographic collections of the Wisconsin National Guard. The new library will be located on the third floor of 30 W. Mifflin St., and operated by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. The new library will also contain the veterans museum's library, currently located in the basement of the building. The Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs will provide \$50,000 in funding for maintaining the artifacts at the Volk Field museum.

History of the Veterans Trust Fund

The Veterans Trust Fund (VTF) provides a variety of benefits to Wisconsin veterans and their families. To finance these benefits, the VTF relies on repayment of veterans' loans and interest on investments. Currently, the VTF provides the following benefits and services, including a significant portion of each program's administrative expenses. **Since 1943, these programs have provided more than \$460 million in assistance to Wisconsin veterans and their families:**

- Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grants.
- Part-Time Study Grants.
- Retraining Grants.
- Subsistence Aid Grants.
- Health Care Aid Grants.
- Grants to counties for the operation of its county veterans service offices.
- Grants to veterans' organizations that offer specialized services, such as assistance in filing claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Personal Loan Program Economic Assistance Loans.
- Veterans Assistance Program.
- Operating expenses for state veterans cemeteries.

Chronology

Soldiers Rehabilitation Fund --- created in 1919 to provide World War I veterans with either:

- A one-time cash bonus of \$10 per month of service (minimum bonus of \$50), **OR**
- An education bonus of \$30 per month of service (maximum bonus of \$1,080)

Post-War Rehabilitation Fund --- created in 1943 to meet the medical, education, and economic needs of World War II veterans. This fund derived its revenue from a 60 percent surtax on personal income taxes in 1942. Administration of the fund became the responsibility of the Veterans Recognition Board formed in 1943 (renamed the Board of Veterans Affairs in 1945) and the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (created in 1945).

Veterans Housing Trust Fund --- created in 1949 to make second mortgage loans to qualified veterans for home purchases, construction and improvements. Initially, the revenue source for the fund was a tax on liquor. Subsequently, all repayments of principal and interest on these second mortgage loans were deposited in this fund.

Veterans Trust Fund --- created in 1961 by consolidating the three funds outlined above. From 1961 until the creation of the Veterans Mortgage Loan Repayment Fund in 1975, the VTF was the only segregated fund for receipt of loan repayments and the disbursement of grants, loans and administrative expenses.

Past sources of revenue

Over the years, the asset base of the VTF was built through a combination of special taxes and general purpose revenue (GPR) from the state's general fund.

<i>Source & Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Pre-World War II balance	\$32,900
Surtaxes on income in 1943	\$7,636,400
Liquor tax from 1947-1951	\$18,190,100
General Fund Appropriation 1947	\$5,000,000
General Fund Appropriation 1951	\$4,000,000
General Fund Appropriation 1971	\$6,000,000
General Fund Appropriation 1972	\$5,900,000
General Fund Appropriation 1973	\$667,000
General Fund Appropriation 1974	\$1,033,000
General Fund Appropriation 1985	\$1,000,000
General Fund Appropriation 1986	\$400,000
General Fund Appropriation 1987	\$942,000
General Fund Appropriation 1988	\$261,900
General Fund Appropriation 1989 to the present	0*
Total	\$51,064,100

In the past, the State of Wisconsin also has provided loans to the VTF from either the State Investment Board or the general fund. Each of these loans has been repaid in full.

<i>Source of Loan & Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Investment Board Loan 1969	\$6,500,000
General Fund Loan 1973	\$13,500,000
Investment Board Loan 1974	\$6,000,000
General Fund Loan 1974	\$5,300,000
Investment Board Loan 1975	\$6,000,000
Total	\$37,300,000

Stabilization

By 1993, VTF annual expenditures were exceeding revenues by about \$3 million, which drastically eroded the asset base and long-term viability of the VTF. An increase in demand for benefits by Persian Gulf War veterans and other factors caused this "drain" on the VTF.

To stabilize the VTF, WDVA in 1993 transferred \$20 million of surplus reserves from its Home Loan Program to the VTF in order to establish the Consumer Loan Program. The initial allotment was disbursed within a few months. In May 1994, WDVA sold a portfolio of its home loan mortgages for approximately \$15 million to restart the Consumer Loan Program.

The repayment of principal and interest on \$35 million of consumer loans has stabilized the asset base of the VTF.

The VTF has also been strengthened by having GPR fund the operating expenses of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. This switch from VTF to GPR funding was effective January 1, 1997.

Generating revenue

In October 1997, WDVA implemented the new Personal Loan Program, which generates revenue for the VTF. WDVA will make about \$15 million in personal loans to veterans each fiscal year. Like the Consumer Loan Program, the repayment of personal loans will strengthen the VTF.

Furthermore, WDVA will continue to seek appropriations from the state's general fund for the VTF when appropriate and ensure that all VTF programs are managed efficiently and cost-effectively.

Recent legislative accomplishments

In the past few years, significant improvements were implemented in benefits and services for Wisconsin veterans. These improvements include the following provisions:

- **Peacetime veterans eligibility for WDVA benefits** Approximately 100,000 additional Wisconsin veterans who served two or more years on active duty during peacetime have become eligible for benefits. Wartime veterans who meet the statutory requirements are still eligible for benefits.
- **WDVA Personal Loan Program** This new loan program allows veterans (and in some instances members of their families) to borrow up to \$10,000 with 10 years to repay at interest rates as low as 6%.
- **WDVA Tuition and Fee Reimbursement Grant (TFRG)** Veterans now have up to 10 years after separation from active-duty service to qualify for 50% reimbursement of tuition and fees at eligible schools. Previously, they had only six years after active-duty service to use the TFRG. Veterans with disabilities rated 30% or higher by the VA may now receive 100% reimbursement of tuition and fees.
- **Increased WDVA support for veterans' education and job training** WDVA's budget for education and job training grants for the 1997-1999 biennium is \$6.2 million, which is \$2.75 million more than WDVA disbursed in the 1995-1997 biennium.
- **Increased funding for home loans** For the first time in many years, WDVA has sufficient funds to provide Primary Mortgage Home Loans to eligible veterans who have been out of service more than 30 years or who entered service after 1976. All maximum income limits have been removed from both the Primary Mortgage Home Loan and Home Improvement Loan Program.
- **Increased WDVA support for County Veterans Service Offices** To help County Veterans Service Officers provide benefits counseling and assist in the application process, WDVA provides an annual grant to counties. Those counties with a full-time CVSO now may receive an annual grant ranging from \$8,500 (for counties with a population of less than 20,000) up to \$13,000 (for counties with a population of 75,000 or more). Previously, the grant amount was \$5,000 for counties with a full-time CVSO regardless of size. Counties with a part-time CVSO continue to receive \$500.

The recent improvements in WDVA benefits and services continue a trend of increased support for veterans. Here are some more examples of progress during the past 10 years:

The **Home Improvement Loan Program** was created in 1989 to provide low-interest loans of up to \$15,000 with 10 years to repay.

The **Retraining Grant Program** was started in 1989 to assist recently unemployed veterans who have a financial need while being retrained for employment.

Ainsworth Hall, at the Wisconsin Veterans Home, opened in 1993. This state-of-the-art, 205-bed, skilled nursing care facility includes special features to accommodate members with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia. Also in 1993, the **Wisconsin Veterans Museum** opened on the Capitol Square.

The **Veterans Assistance Program** for homeless veterans and those at-risk of becoming homeless began operating in 1994. The program expanded with the opening of a fourth veterans assistance center this year at Southern Wisconsin Center, near Union Grove.

The **Persian Gulf War** was designated a wartime period in 1994, making all Gulf War veterans who served on active duty for at least 90 days eligible for WDVA benefits.

Most **income limits on the Home Loan Program** were canceled in 1994. And in 1997, a new funding source for the Home Loan Program allowed WDVA to remove all income limits on its Primary Mortgage Home Loan Program.

In 1996, the **state residency requirement** for receiving WDVA benefits was reduced from 10 years to five years for those veterans who were not state residents when they joined the military.

The **Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery** began burials in 1996 on the same day that the Wood National VA Cemetery in Milwaukee reached its capacity. **Another state veterans cemetery** will be built near Spooner to serve veterans and their families in northern Wisconsin. The cemetery is expected to open in the fall of 2000.

To serve a part of the state that contains approximately 200,000 veterans, WDVA in 1998 received authorization to begin planning for a **second state veterans home** to be located in southeastern Wisconsin.

Comparison with other states

Wisconsin is a national leader in offering comprehensive benefits and services to veterans and their families. Thirteen states provided a World War II bonus, but most of these states do not have long-term benefits for veterans.

Wisconsin is one of only five states that provide home mortgage loans, according to the directory of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. The others are Alaska, California, Texas and Oregon. Mississippi's program is no longer active. Only Wisconsin and Texas offer home improvement loans to veterans. Wisconsin is one of only four states offering personal loans. The others are Maine, South Dakota and North Dakota.

Fifteen states offer education benefits to veterans. Many others provide education benefits for the children of veterans killed or disabled in wartime action. Wisconsin provides education benefits that directly assist veterans, such as grants that pay up to 50 percent of full-time and part-time students' tuition and fees.

Wisconsin has two state veterans cemeteries in addition to the federally operated Wood National VA Cemetery in Milwaukee. The new Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery near Union Grove was officially dedicated on May 31, 1998. WDVA also is building a state veterans cemetery near Spooner to serve northern Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King offers high-quality skilled nursing care and retirement options for veterans and their spouses. A second veterans home is being planned for southeast Wisconsin.

STATE VETERANS' BENEFITS COMPARISON

STATE	BONUS	HOME LOANS	PERSONAL LOANS	GRANTS	VETERAN EDUCATION BENEFITS	FAMILY* EDUCATION BENEFITS	NURSING CARE
ALABAMA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
ALASKA	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
ARIZONA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NO	NONE	NONE	YES
ARKANSAS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
CALIFORNIA	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
COLORADO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
CONNECTICUT	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
DELAWARE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
FLORIDA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
GEORGIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
HAWAII	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE
IDAHO	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
ILLINOIS	2,K,VN,D.S	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
INDIANA	2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
IOWA	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
KANSAS	1	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
KENTUCKY	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
LOUISIANA	2	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MAINE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES
MARYLAND	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MASSACHUSETTS	2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES
MICHIGAN	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
MINNESOTA	D.S	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
MISSISSIPPI	NONE	YES**	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
MISSOURI	1	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
MONTANA	1,2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES
NEBRASKA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NEVADA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,2,K,VN,DS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
NEW JERSEY	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NEW MEXICO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE
NEW YORK	2	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	YES	YES
NORTH CAROLINA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
NORTH DAKOTA	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
OHIO	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
OKLAHOMA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES
OREGON	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
PENNSYLVANIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES
RHODE ISLAND	2,K,VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
SOUTH CAROLINA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	YES	YES
TENNESSEE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE
TEXAS	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE
UTAH	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES
VERMONT	VN	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES
VIRGINIA	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
WASHINGTON	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES
WEST VIRGINIA	1,2,K,VN,D.S.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	YES
WISCONSIN	1	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
WYOMING	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES

1 = WW1
 2 = WW11
 K = KOREA
 VN = VIET NAM
 D.S = DESERT STORM

* BENEFITS PRIMARILY FOR DEPENDENTS OF DECEASED OR DISABLED VETERANS
 ** HOME LOAN PROGRAM CURRENTLY IS INACTIVE

Source: National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, 1997 Directory

Demographic information

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) estimates that there are approximately 488,700 veterans living in Wisconsin as of July 1, 1998. Of that total approximately 39,000 are disabled veterans.

Contact Lana Carter, WDVA Office of Budget & Planning, at 267-0783, for a breakdown by county of Wisconsin veterans' population.

Approximate number of Wisconsinites participating in military conflicts [Published in Wisconsin Blue Book]

Conflict	Number served	Died
Civil War	91,379	12,216
Spanish-American War	5,469	134
Mexican Border Service	4,168	0
World War I	122,215	3,932
World War II	332,200	8,390
Korean War	132,000	729
Vietnam War	165,400	1,239
Lebanon & Grenada	400	1
Panama	520	1
Desert Shield/Storm	10,400	11
Somalia	426	2

For more information

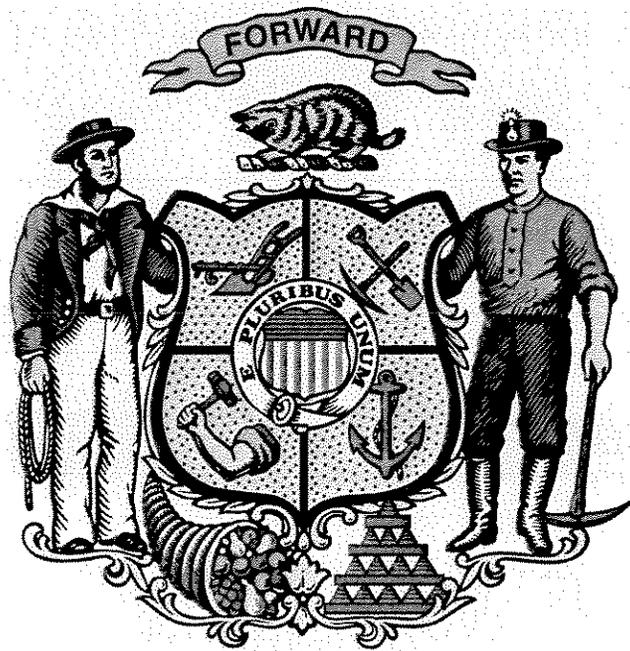
County veterans service officers can help veterans apply for state and federal benefits. The CVSOs are listed in the phone book under "County Government."

The WDVA web site has information about eligibility for benefits, loan and grant programs, state veterans cemeteries, the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison. The WDVA web site address is <http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva>

For legislative questions, contact: John Scocos, WDVA Executive Assistant, at 266-3081. Other sources of information are:

- WDVA receptionist and general information 266-1311
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center 267-1799
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum programs and hours of operation (recorded) 264-6086
- Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery 414-878-5660
- Wisconsin Veterans Home at King 715-258-5586
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Milwaukee Regional Office 1-800-827-1000
- Fort McCoy operator 608-388-2222

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
30 West Mifflin Street
PO Box 7843
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7843
608-266-1311
web site [Http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva](http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/dva)



A Guide to the Year 2000 for Wisconsin Families

What Is Y2K All About?

On the surface, Y2K is relatively simple. Decades ago, shortcuts were taken to conserve costs by using two digits to designate years in computer programs with calendar functions (e.g., "99" instead of "1999"). In effect, computer programs that are not updated to become "Year 2000 compliant" may read "00" as 1900 instead of 2000 and would be unable to calculate that "99" comes one year before "00". This can affect both computers and microchips built into everything from pocket calculators to airplanes. If left uncorrected, non-compliant computers and microchips could cause automated systems either to stop working or to generate inaccurate information.

How Big Is the Problem?

There's no shortage of "experts" with strong opinions about what will happen in January 2000. But the truth is that the actual impact of Y2K will depend to a large extent on how much progress we make during 1999. While rigid predictions are obviously difficult, it is possible to make some overall projections based on reliable data from a variety of sources.

Gartner Group, a leading technology research firm, for example, compares the scale of probable Y2K impacts in the United States to a major storm. They anticipate scattered power outages and other business disruptions, but they discount the likelihood of a national blackout or other cataclysmic disruptions of the economy.

What is Being Done to Fix the Problem?

People are working around the clock to find and fix Y2K problems. But while the tools for fixing Y2K are readily available, the repair and replacement work takes time. That's why fixing the most critically important systems in government and industry has become a top priority.

What Is the State Doing About Y2K?

Governor Thompson has made Year 2000 preparedness state government's top business priority. The state has launched a Year 2000 Project, which monitors the progress of all departments, including on-site visits to those with critical services. For example, inspections of some state-owned facilities have turned up non-compliant chips in heating systems, communication devices and medical lab equipment. Because failures of these systems could disrupt critical services, state agencies are carefully checking all affected equipment and making adjustments where needed. The Governor has also appointed a 15-member Blue Ribbon Commission to assess public and private sector preparedness and to recommend ways to improve readiness.

How Will Y2K Affect Me and My Family?

Everyone in the country (and around the world) could be impacted because we all rely on computer systems and microchips in our daily lives. This brochure will briefly describe what you can do to protect yourself, your home and your financial interests.

Making Your Home Y2K Ready

Most preparations are simple, common sense planning.

Financial Records: Make backup paper copies of important financial documents, including payment records and investments. Have enough cash on hand to get you through a long weekend.

Prescriptions: Refill prescriptions you may need before January 2000.

Personal Computers: Diagnostic programs are available at computer stores or can be downloaded on the Internet from several sources (visit the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection web site listed in this brochure). Apple reports that its computers made since 1984 are fully Y2K compliant.

Software: Check with the manufacturer (most have Internet sites). Windows 98 is generally compliant, but Windows 3.1 is not and Windows 95 and 98 may have some Year 2000 compliance issues (patches are available from Microsoft's web site).

Systems with Embedded Chips: A wide range of household devices, including thermostats and security systems, could be vulnerable. Check with the manufacturers or suppliers for information. Older (analog) thermostats have no Y2K problems, however newer (digital) systems might. Ask a qualified heating system technician if you have questions about your thermostat and other heating equipment. Information about motor vehicles is expected to be publicly available soon.

Once aware of the locations of your Y2K problems there are a number of possible solutions:

Ignore it: Older products may not make the switch to the year 2000, but these items may still serve your needs.

Fix it yourself: Some appliances may accept the year 2000 and continue to work properly, once the date is set manually.

Update and upgrade: Computers that don't switch to 2000 automatically will likely need hardware upgrades or operating system and application updates. Check with the manufacturers for details as they develop. Many software companies are developing Y2K updates to their old programs and software to "patch" problems: is also available. Remember, avoid scams by sticking only to the solutions offered by the manufacturer. Unless you are told otherwise, this should ensure compatibility and compliance with your warranty. If you find out you need a Year 2000 update, get it installed before January 1, 2000 rolls around. Some updates, if conducted after the year 2000 deadline, may cause even more problems to your software and data than you might have had before.

Replace it: If you've been considering replacing your old equipment it might be wise to purchase new items now and avoid date glitches that an older system is more likely to encounter. If you decide to purchase new hardware or software before the year 2000, make sure it is compliant and that you understand the manufacturer's compliance standards. Be certain it is warranted against any Y2K failures.

Dependents: Schools and daycare centers are working to find and fix their own Y2K problems. But some schools may not open if they can't ensure a safe, warm environment -- similar to what schools do now when severe winter weather strikes. You

may want to make alternative child care plans and remember the needs of elderly and disabled relatives, friends and neighbors.

Utilities: Learn how to manually turn off water, gas and electricity at main switches.

Heat: Fill propane and oil tanks prior to January 2000. Keep chimneys cleaned and, if feasible, keep a week's supply of alternative fuel (e.g., wood) supplies on hand. Use alternative heating systems only if installed and operated properly. Some heating devices can pose a fire or poisonous gas hazard if used improperly. Check with local government building inspectors and/or fire officials for guidelines. If a safe alternative heat source is not available to you, check with local government officials, friends, neighbors and others to prepare a contingency site that you and your family can go to if necessary.

Food: Keep a reasonable quantity of nutritious and convenient food on hand, including bottled water, food for special diets, powdered milk, ready-to-eat canned goods, fruits and vegetables, soup, juices, cereals, crackers, potatoes (fresh or dried flakes), sugar, peanut butter, jelly, raisins, granola bars, trail mix, cooking oil, spices (salt & pepper), beans, white rice, dry pasta, non-carbonated soft drinks, or anything else your family eats regularly that stores well. You may also want to have a reasonable supply of "comfort foods" on hand, such as cookies, hard candy, instant coffee, tea bags, cocoa, chocolate bars, canned nuts, or other special treats.

Automobile Fuel: Keep your automobile gas tanks full but note that storing extra gas can be extremely hazardous.

Other Supplies: Here are some other suggested supplies to have on hand (remember that most experts anticipate only a few days to about one week of potential supply disruptions):

- Flashlights, oil lamps, candles, matches;
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries;
- Standard (non-cordless) phone and/or CB Radio;
- Blankets, sleeping bags;
- Fuel for approved alternative heating systems (the State of Wisconsin has codes governing the type, installation and use of heating devices; call local building inspection or fire personnel for more details);
- Water: approximately one gallon of water per person per day (half for drinking, and half for food preparation/sanitization);
- NOAA Weather Radio and Batteries;
- Non-food products: toilet paper, tissue, plates, cups, plastic utensils, aluminum foil (to avoid dish washing by lining pots and pans), plastic garbage bags with ties, soap, liquid detergent, and disinfectants;
- Plastic buckets with tight lids (to serve as temporary sanitation facilities);
- First aid kit and manual;
- Special items for infants (diapers, wipes, formula), elderly or disabled family members;
- Personal hygiene products;
- Pet needs: food, chew toys, bedding, pet carrying case or crate, and litter;
- Fire extinguisher (5 lb. A-B-C type);
- Extra set of car keys.

(This list is not inclusive. You may want to consider other items which you may need)

World Wide Web Sources for More Information

State of Wisconsin Year 2000 Project Web Page
<http://yzk.state.wisconsin.gov>
 Home page for the State's "Countdown 2000" project. Download the "Countdown 2000 Handbook," links to other government and private sector Y2K resources and research.

Wisconsin Emergency Management
<http://badger.state.wisconsin.gov/em/index.htm>
 Home page for Wisconsin Emergency Management and links to other state and federal emergency management agencies and organizations.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
<http://badger.state.wisconsin.gov/datc/cb/yzk/index.html>
 DATCPS Consumer Information about the Year 2000 Problem

American Red Cross
<http://www.redcross.org/slsasler/safety/yzk.html>
 The American Red Cross has published information about "Y2K"--its potential effects and what you can do to be prepared.

This brochure was produced in cooperation by
 Wisconsin Emergency Management,
 Wisconsin Department of Administration, and
 Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

Wisconsin Department of Administration
 (608) 266-5667 or (608) 267-4625

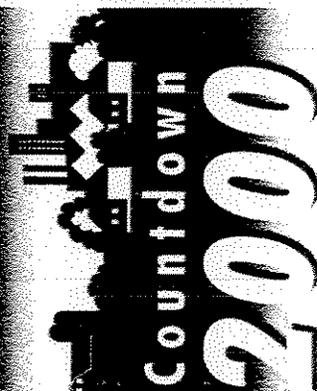
Wisconsin Emergency Management
 (608) 242-3232

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
 1-800-422-7128

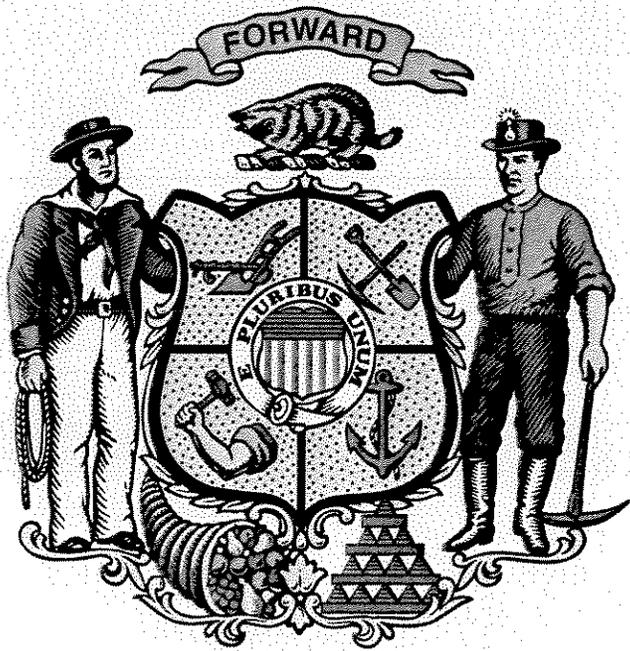
YEAR 2000 READINESS DISCLOSURE
 A Guide to the Year 2000 for Wisconsin Families constitutes a "Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure" as that term is defined in the "Year 2000 Information and Readiness Disclosure Act" (S. 2392, 105th Congress, 2nd Session)

For further information contact:

A Guide to the Year 2000 for Wisconsin Families



Produced By:
 Wisconsin Department of Administration
 Wisconsin Emergency Management
 Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection



2. BASE LEVEL FUNDING REDUCTION

GPR	- \$216,800
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Governor/Joint Finance: Reduce base level funding in three of the agency's GPR appropriations by a total of \$108,400 annually to make permanent a 2% annual lapse requirement imposed by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27. Reductions would be made in the agency's: (a) general program operations appropriation (-\$79,100 annually); (b) energy costs appropriation (-\$18,700 annually); and (c) emergency response training appropriation (-\$10,600 annually).

3. NON-RECURRING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COSTS

FED	- \$77,400
PR	- 68,600
Total	- \$146,000

Governor/Joint Finance: Decrease funding by \$38,700 FED and \$34,300 PR annually related to removing one-time funding for information technology initiatives that was used to bring the Department's computer systems up to a common statewide standard. Of the annual total, -\$36,600 (-\$23,800 FED and -\$12,800 PR) is related to lower usage of DOA for support and technical assistance and -\$36,400 (-\$14,900 FED and -\$21,500 PR) is related to the end of master lease funding used to purchase new hardware and software to meet the standards.

4. SAFETY OFFICER POSITION

	Funding	Positions
GPR	\$36,800	0.40

Governor/Joint Finance: Provide \$15,800 GPR in 1999-00 and \$21,000 GPR in 2000-01 and a 0.4 GPR position authorization for a safety officer position (administrative officer 1). This position would develop a written health and safety program for agency employees. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) plans to locate the individual in Madison and share the safety officer with DATCP (which would fund the other 60% of a full-time position). The safety program is designed to bring DMA into compliance with Executive Order 194, comprehensive written health and safety programs to promote health and safety awareness and safe work practices and reduce worker compensation claims.

5. YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

	Funding	Positions
GPR	\$420,000	4.30
FED	- 420,000	- 4.30
Total	\$0	0.00

Governor/Joint Finance: Provide \$140,000 GPR and - \$140,000 FED in 1999-00 and \$280,000 GPR and -\$280,000 FED in 2000-01 for the youth challenge program. The increased GPR funding is required because the current federal match of 70% decreases to 65% in FY 1999-00 and to 60% in FY 2000-01. This will then be the ongoing federal match rate. Also, shift a total of 4.30 existing positions from FED to GPR funding (2.15 positions in 1999-00 and an additional 2.15 positions in 2000-01).

The youth challenge program is a 22-week residential program for youth aged 16 to 18 who are high school dropouts or habitual truants who will not graduate from high school. The goal of the youth challenge program is to aid these youth in learning life skills, increasing employment potential, and preparing for the high school equivalency degree exam. The program was originally authorized in 1997 Act 237. DMA was appropriated \$700,000 GPR and \$2,100,000 FED and authorized 43 positions for the program in 1998-99. [Under the Governor's recommendation, total funding for the program would be \$843,700 GPR and \$1,971,000 FED in 1999-01 and \$983,700 GPR and \$1,831,000 FED in 2000-01.]

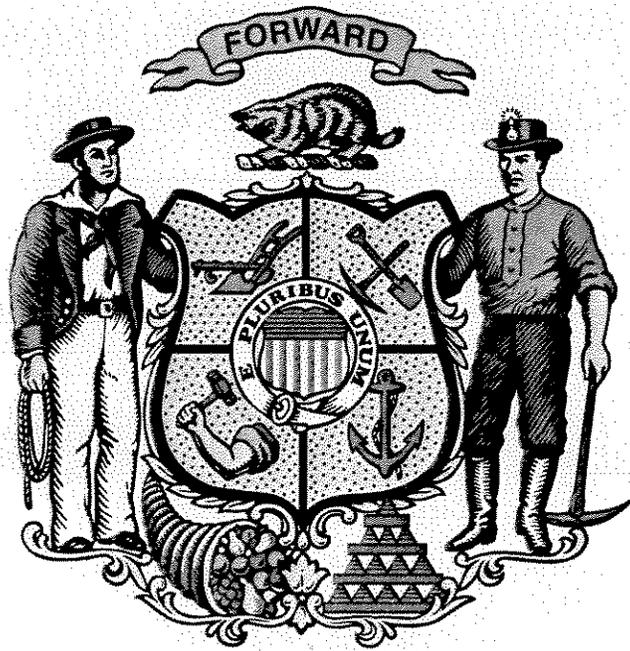
6. BADGER CHALLENGE PROGRAM [LFB Paper 1114]

	Governor (Chg. To Base)	Jt. Finance (Chg. to Gov)	Net Change
GPR	- \$665,400	\$548,900	- \$116,500
PR	665,400	- 548,900	116,500
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0

Governor: Shift funds for the Badger Challenge program from GPR to PR funding. A new program revenue appropriation would be created and the source of the program revenue funding would be the federal temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program. Further, restrict eligibility for the Badger Challenge program to disadvantaged youth that are members of families who would be eligible to receive TANF funding. Federal law and proposed regulations describe who may be eligible for TANF funded benefits and services, and under what conditions. In general, in Wisconsin, TANF funds may be spend on families whose income is below 200% of the federal poverty level. In addition, TANF-eligible families generally must include a minor child or pregnant individual.

Under current law, the Badger Challenge program, located at Fort McCoy, is a two-phase program for "at risk" 14-16 year-olds. Eligibility is open to any youth who is at risk of dropping out of school regardless of income. Phase I consists of a six week residential stay where cadets participate in activities to improve anger management, teamwork, leadership, following and personal growth. Phase II consists of post-residential mentoring with community volunteers. In 1998-99, \$330,000 GPR was provided for the program.

Joint Finance: Modify the Governor's recommendation by increasing funding by \$299,400 GPR in 1999-00 and by \$249,500 GPR in 2000-01 and deleting \$299,400 PR in 1999-00 and \$249,500 PR in 2000-01 to reflect a partial shift to TANF funding for the Badger Challenge program. This shift is equivalent to a cadet class of 10% TANF eligible participants in the first year and 25% in the second year. Amend the Governor's language regarding eligibility for the Badger Challenge project to direct DMA to recruit at least this percentage of TANF eligible participants in each year.





STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



30 West Mifflin Street, P.O. Box 7843, Madison, WI 53707-7843
(608) 266-1311 FAX (608) 267-0403
1-800-947-8387 (WIS VETS)
Tommy G. Thompson, Governor
Raymond G. Boland, Secretary

VA to enroll all veterans under new health plan

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that, in fiscal year 1999, it will enroll all veterans who apply for VA health care.

Veterans must be enrolled to receive VA health care.

While the program gets underway October 1, there is no deadline for applying for enrollment. For enrollment applications, contact the VA health benefits advisor at the Medical Center (414 384-2000, ext. 2038 or toll-free at 888 469-6614, ext. 2038).

"It is our desire to serve as many veterans as possible under this new law, and we've made it easier than ever before for veterans to obtain healthcare benefits," said Dr. Kenneth W. Kizer, VA Under Secretary for Health. "For the first time, enrolled veterans will have access to the full range of services they need, not just those medical needs resulting from military service."

Under the Act's reforms, VA offers an expanded array of healthcare services, such as preventive care and outpatient services, in addition to eliminating many prior restrictions and confusion.

Veterans can apply for enrollment in the program using a quick and easy application form that is available at any VA medical or benefits facility.

All veterans, except those who fall into certain categories, need to apply for enrollment to receive VA healthcare benefits. Those who are not required to be enrolled include:

- veterans with a service connected disability of 50 percent or more;
- veterans seeking care for a service-connected disability; and
- veterans discharged from military service for less than one year for a disability that was determined to have been incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, but that VA has not yet rated.

While not required to apply for enrollment, these exempted veterans are still encouraged to apply so VA can plan more effectively to meet veterans' health care needs.

Veterans who have received VA health care since January 1, 1996, will have an application for enrollment automatically processed on their behalf.