



THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FL

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. is
a Not-For-Profit Florida Corporation.

Our formation date was July 4, 2001 in a
proclamation issued by the St. Johns
County Commissioners.

THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, INC



Chairman William Dudley, LTC USAF, (ret)

Vice Chairman, Ronald Birchall, LCOL USA, (ret)

Treasurer John Mountcastle, LCDR USCGR, (ret)

Secretary Michael Rothfeld, BA, MA

Director Jerry Dedge, CW5, USA (ret)

Chaplain, Bill Jefferson, MSGT USAF, (ret)

*The Veterans Council hosts and supports many
Patriotic events during the year*

MISSION STATEMENT:



**THE OBJECTIVE OF THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS
COUNTY, FLORIDA IS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE
TO ALL VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED IN ANY OF THE
MILITARY BRANCHES OF SERVICE OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.**

**THE COUNCIL IS PROUD OF OUR PAST SUCCESSES AND WE
LOOK FORWARD TO MANY
MORE IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS TO COME.**



EACH DECEMBER ON NATIONAL **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY**, THE VETERAN COUNCIL'S MISSION IS TO REMEMBER, HONOR AND TEACH IS CARRIED OUT BY COORDINATING WREATH-LAYING CEREMONIES AT **ST. AUGUSTINE NATIONAL CEMETERY**

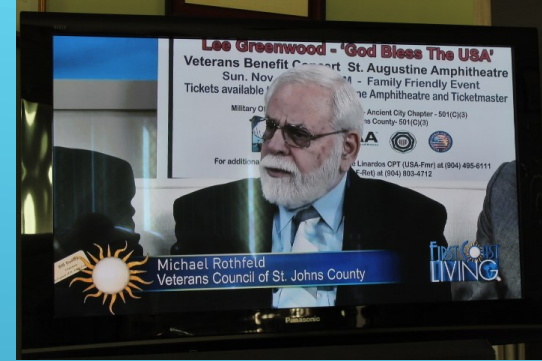
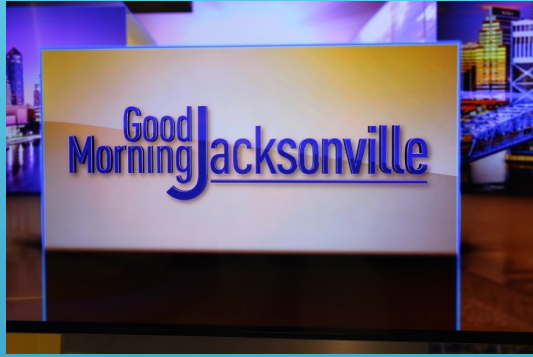


The Veterans Council of St. Johns County and Home Again St. Johns joined forces to buy St. Augustine's Old Town Inn to serve as an affordable housing venue for veterans.





**THE VETERANS COUNCIL ANNUALLY HOSTS A
VETERANS DAY EVENT AT ANASTASIA BAPTIST CHURCH
ATTENDED BY OVER 1000 VETERANS, RESIDENTS, JROTC,
SEA CADETS AND YOUTH GROUPS**



In years past, the Veterans Council has hosted the **St. Augustine Veterans Day Parade** and **Veterans Film Festival**

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the “War to End All Wars” at Anastasia Baptist Church

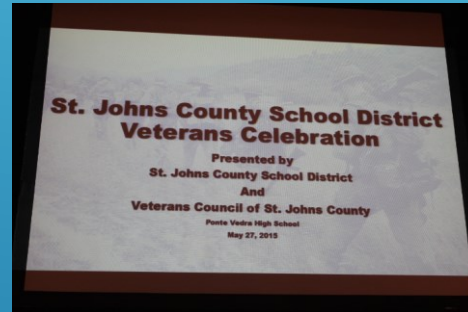




Valley Ridge Academy
meeting Vietnam Veterans



Fostering Patriotism through
song and essay contests



11th graders from 5 St Johns County High Schools interact with local Vietnam Veterans



THE **VETERANS COUNCIL** WORKS WITH STUDENTS TO
FOSTER PATRIOTISM AND TO HONOR THE SACRIFICES
VETERANS HAVE MADE FOR THEIR FREEDOMS



The Veterans Council visits local senior centers like the **St Augustine Council on Aging** and honors its **Korean War Veterans**



THE VETERANS COUNCIL HAS CONTINUALLY
SUPPORTED THE **CLYDE LASSEN STATE VETERANS
NURSING HOME** SINCE ITS INCEPTION AND HAS
HOSTED COUNCIL MEMBERS GREETING THE
RESIDENTS



ON **MEMORIAL DAY** EACH YEAR THE VETERANS COUNCIL HONORS FALLEN VETERANS IN A CEREMONY AT ST. AUGUSTINE NATIONAL CEMETERY.

Chairman Dudley moderated a panel of Korean War Veterans at the First Korean War Conference at the University of North Florida.

The event was co-hosted by Bob Buehn, Capt. US Navy (Ret) and UNF Coordinator of the Military & Veterans Resource Center and Char Miller of the Community Hospice Veterans Partnership





**THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS
COUNTY HAS SUPPORTED THE
JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY
SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2008.**



Veterans Treatment
Court presiding Judge
Howard McGillin



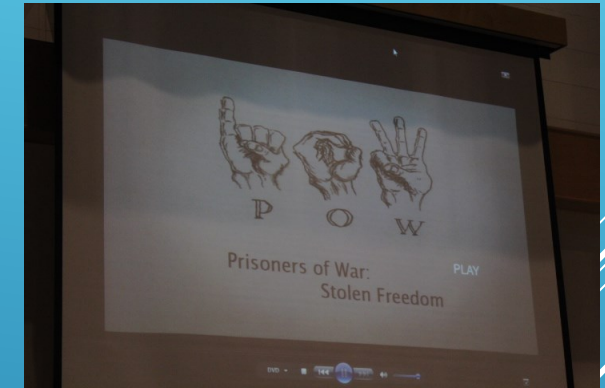
Veterans Council of St
Johns County
Chairman Bill Dudley

JUDGE HOWARD MCGILLIN, JR. COL USA (RET) CREDITED THE EFFORT OF VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY **CHAIRMAN BILL DUDLEY, AND THE VISION OF SENIOR JUDGE DAVID B. BECK, WHO STARTED THE 7TH CIRCUIT'S FIRST VETERANS COURT IN VOLUSIA COUNTY FOR STARTING THE **ST JOHNS COUNTY VETERANS TREATMENT COURT WHICH CONTINUES SUCCESSFULLY TO THIS DAY.****

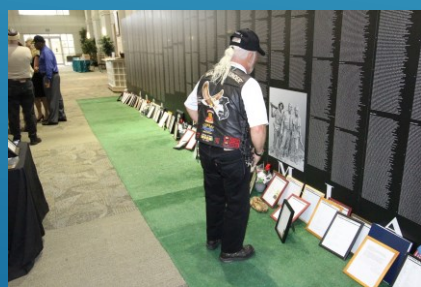


THE **VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST JOHNS COUNTY**
CONTINUALLY HONORS VETERANS FROM ALL WARS BY
RECORDING, PRESERVING AND EDUCATING THE
PUBLIC AND YOUTH THROUGH ITS DOCUMENTARIES
AND PRESENTATIONS.

The Veterans Council has premiered its Veterans documentaries at the Amelia Island Museum of History, the Museum of Science & History in Jacksonville and at the Orange County Regional History Center in Orlando.



The Veterans Council's Vietnam War documentary premiered in the Flagler College Auditorium and its POW documentary, "Stolen Freedom" premiered to over 1200 at Anastasia Baptist Church.



"Stolen Freedom" was streamed to military bases around the world on the Pentagon Channel



THE VETERANS
COUNCIL DONATES
ITS SERIES OF
DOCUMENTARIES TO
LOCAL SCHOOLS,
PICTURED THE
PALATKA SCHOOL
BOARD.

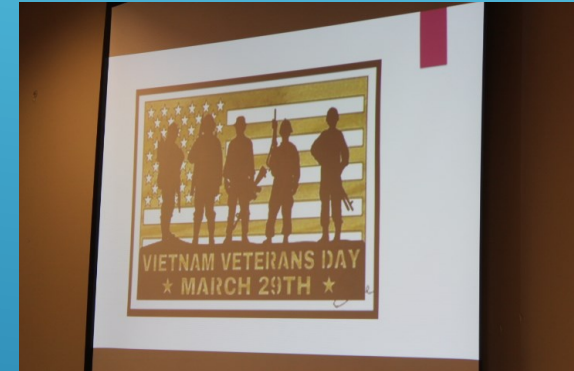
**THE VETERANS COUNCIL DONATES ITS DOCUMENTARY
SERIES TO ALL NE FL PUBLIC LIBRARIES, HIGH SCHOOLS,
COLLEGES, MUSEUMS, UNIVERSITIES AND VETERANS
GROUPS.**

**THE DOCUMENTARIES ARE IN THE PENTAGON, THE WORLD
WAR 2 MUSEUM IN NOLA, THE TRUMAN LIBRARY, THE
RONALD REAGAN LIBRARY, THE VIETNAM MUSEUM IN TX
AND NJ, THE NATIONAL POW MUSEUM IN
ANDERSONVILLE, THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & HISTORY,
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER AND
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.**

OVER 200,000 DOCUMENTARY VIEWS ON YOUTUBE

WJCT TV, THE PBS AFFILIATE IN JACKSONVILLE, & THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF ST JOHNS COUNTY HOSTED THE KEN BURNS "THE VIETNAM WAR". THE HIGHLIGHT WAS THE VIETNAM VETERANS PANEL DISCUSSION AFTER THE PREVIEW.





THE VETERANS COUNCIL HOSTED LAURA WYNN, CURRICULUM SPECIALIST, SECONDARY SCHOOLS SOCIAL STUDIES, TO SPEAK ON NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY TO SPEAK TO THE COUNCIL ABOUT HOW THE VIETNAM WAR IS TAUGHT IN OUR HIGH SCHOOLS.



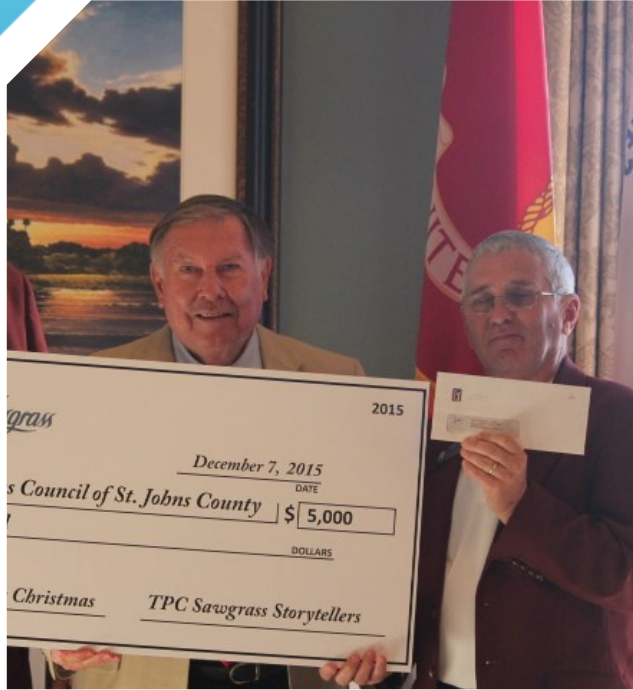
- ▶ The Veterans Council of St. Johns County was proud to initiate and support the POW/MIA flag raising ceremony over the St. Johns County Administration building.
- ▶ This was followed by the Board of County Commissioners proclaiming St. Johns County a Purple Heart County. The Commissioners presented county Purple Heart recipients with a pin commemorating their sacrifice for our country.

**ST JOHNS COUNTY IS
NOW A PURPLE HEART
COUNTY**





**THE VETERANS COUNCIL HONORS VIETNAM VETERANS
ON NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS DAY WITH A
COMMEMORATION CEREMONY AT ST. AUGUSTINE
NATIONAL CEMETERY.**



THE VETERANS COUNCIL APPLIED FOR AND WAS AWARDED A
\$ 6,500 GRANT FROM THE TPC STORY TELLERS WHICH IT USED TO
SUPPORT THE ***VETERANS TREATMENT COURT AND VETERANS IN NEED***



The Veterans Council works with Patriotic minded local businesses like Chapman's All American Air to help all veterans, both living and deceased.

Veterans Council Chairman Bill Dudley and St. Augustine National Cemetery Director Alpheus Richburg accept a \$ 5,000 check from Steve and Christine Chapman of the Chapman Charitable Trust.

The money was used to install 20 telescoping flagpoles that line the walkways of the St. Augustine National Cemetery.





PICTURES RECEIVED
FROM CAPT. CAMPBELL,
COMMANDING
OFFICER, HITRON
JACKSONVILLE FOR OUR
VETERANS COUNCILS
EFFORTS IN COLLECTING
FOOD GOODS AND
MONEY TO HELP OUR
COASTIES IN PUERTO
RICO AFTER HURRICANE
MARIA DEVASTATED THE
ISLAND



► Navy Veteran, Tracy Sefcik arrives in St Augustine Beach and Council Chairman Dudley presents Tracy with a \$ 500 check for the Gary Sinise Foundation

PICTURES BY TED PAPPAS



DINNER FOR VETERANS APPRECIATION NIGHT FOR HOMELESS VETERANS



- ▶ • The Veterans Council led a 10 year effort to bring the VA Clinic to St. Augustine
- ▶ • Many locations reviewed by VA
- ▶ • The Site was selected in early 2019, Construction began soon afterward
- ▶ • The Veterans Council is proud to announce that The VA CBOC Clinic is NOW open,
Mission Accomplished

**THE LEO C CHASE
COMMUNITY BASED
OUTPATIENT CLINIC**



FIRE WATCH PROGRAM

- ▶ • An inter-local agreement between Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns County to develop a plan to end veteran suicide
- ▶ • Veteran suicide is a growing crisis and currently 20 veterans per day take their lives in America.
- ▶ • The Fire Watch program is a coordinated effort between the 5 counties partnered with K-9's For Warriors to develop a plan to put an end to veteran suicide in northeast Florida.
- ▶ • Northeast Florida has over 125000 veterans. The need, the challenge, and the opportunity is evident.
- ▶ • All 5 counties Board of County Commissioners have approved the concept of the program.
- ▶ • The program will utilize volunteers which will be the heart of the program

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is a 501 C3 Not for Profit corporation that relies on donations to continue its Mission of Helping Veterans.

Tax Deductible Donations may be mailed to:

Veterans Council of St Johns County

PO Box 2117

St. Augustine, FL 32085



Please visit our Website: <http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org>

Our monthly newsletter, the Patriot Reader can be found at:

<http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org/newsletter.htm>
(Read by over 8,000 monthly)

Please Like Us and join us on Facebook

VeteransCouncilofStJohnsCounty, FL
(Over 400 active members)