



The Patriot Reader Newsletter

P.O. Box 2117

St. Augustine, FL 32085

Bill Dudley, Publisher

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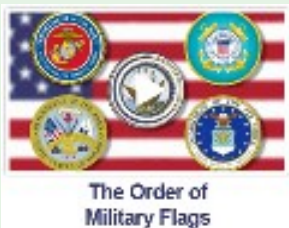
Volume 9, Issue 3

Message from the Chairman

March 2020

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Fellow Veterans:

We are nearing a very important time in our country when our Federal Government will perform the task of counting all its citizens. The Census Bureau has been at work in the County for several months preparing for the census count for our area. The County government has organized a committee entitled Complete Count Committee was organized several months ago and has been meeting bimonthly. The committee consists of all the many organizations in the county that represents the greatest percentage of the population. Joseph McDermott from the Veterans Service Office and myself serve on the committee to represent the veteran’s community of St. Johns County. A Public Service Announcement (PSA) appears in this month’s newsletter that was produced by the County to reach out to the community that stresses the importance of the census. A mailing will be coming to your home in March. It is very important that you fill out the questionnaire and return it as requested. The

census determines the number of elected representatives your state will have in Congress, the amount of funding from the Federal government for roads and bridges, health care, environmental needs, veteran’s needs, just to name a few. Our census count in 2000 was 71%, in 2010 it was 79%. That means that 21% of the County population was not accounted for and deprived us of that portion of the \$695 Billion budget that our county was entitled to receive did not come back to our County. That equates to \$1445 for every person not counted times 10 years. That’s a tremendous amount of revenue that could be used for schools, libraries, roads, veteran’s health care, homelessness, mental health, and other needs of our county. Please support the census count this year by returning your census questionnaire in a timely fashion. Our first meeting in the County for the Fire Watch program was held Wednesday evening at the HHS Building. It was well attended. The committee leadership presented the Fire Watch Strategic Plan. The Fire Watch Program for those who are unfamiliar with it purpose



is a multicounty program consisting of Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns County to address veteran suicide prevention in North-east Florida. The alarming rate of 22 suicides a day for veterans says that we must do everything within our means to address this problem. The program has the full support of our County government and a very capable leadership team has been appointed to make an impact on the critical needs of this program. MOAA, Ancient City Chapter and the Veterans Council Memorial Day Committee met this week to plan for this years’ service which will be held at the St. Augustine National Cemetery on 25 May 2020. Bill Dudley, Chairman Veterans Council of St. Johns County

Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home



Valentine's Day Treats

Girl Scout Cookie Time!



RECREATION TOURS FOR VETERANS

Therapy Aide Supervisor



NAS Sailors Visiting



**The Jacksonville National Cemetery
Greetings from the Support
Committee at the Jacksonville
National Cemetery**



The Support Committee invites everyone to attend its **next scheduled meeting**. The meeting will be at **7:00pm**. The meeting will take place at Community Hospice, **4266 Sunbeam Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32257 in Conference Room A.**

**Jacksonville National Cemetery Support Committee Meetings for 2018
At Community Hospice of NE FL.
4266 Sunbeam Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32257
Hadlow Bldg – Conference Room A 7:00pm**

**DATES OF 2020 SC at JNC MEETINGS, All on Mondays
March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th
Oct 5th, Nov 2nd, Dec 7th**

**MEMORIAL DAY EVENT - Saturday, May 23rd
WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 2020 - Saturday, December 19th.**

+++++2018/19,20 Officers of the SCJNC+++++

**Chairman: Steve Spickelmier
Vice Chairman: Bill Dudley, Treasurer: John Mountcastle
Assistant Treasurer: Michael Rothfeld, Secretary: Kathy Church
Master-At-Arms: Joe McDermott, Historian: Kathy Cayton
Chaplain: Rev. Patrick A. Archuleta, Sr.**

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County meets on the following dates, all are invited to attend. We meet at the county Health & Human Services building, 200 San Sebastian View, at 7 pm

Future meeting Speakers:

- Mar. 26 Sharon Unger, President Veterans Village of NE FL
Shiva Thompson, Yoga 4 Change**
- Apr. 30 Carl “Jeff” Lay, 1SG US Veterans Reserve Corps. FL
Kathy Fleming, Exec. Dir., St Augustine Lighthouse, WW II Coast Guard Project**
- May 28 Dr. Roger Smith, Military History of Colonial St. Augustine**
- June 25 SJC Homeless Veterans Initiative panel**

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc.

This is Who We Are

The objective of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. is to be of assistance to all Veterans who have been honorably discharged from any of the military branches of the United States of America and have a residence in St. Johns County.



Its formation date was July 4, 2001 in a proclamation issued by the St. Johns County Commissioners. It is comprised of representatives of the various veterans' organizations within St. Johns County such as Posts 194 and 233 of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars Bryan Tutton Post 2391, The Vietnam Veterans of America Leo C. Chase Chapter 1084, The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Post 20-2, AMVETS and The Purple Heart Society. The Veterans Council works with city and county governments and local organizations to achieve the mutual goal of providing a central agency which assists in the coordination and dissemination of matters concerning Veterans and Veterans' activities in St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council informs and assists various organizations as they develop patriotic events. It organizes and hosts many annual events such as celebrations of Veterans Day, The Veterans Day Event this year will be on Monday, November 11, at Anastasia Baptist Church, starting at 9:00 am. This year we are celebrating Memorial Day, Wreaths Across America and Homeless Veterans Stand Down. The Council actively supports The St. Augustine National Cemetery, The Jacksonville National Cemetery, Missing In America Project, Disabled American Veterans, The USMC Oldest City Detachment, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers of America Oldest City Chapter, The Navy League of the United States-St. Augustine/Palm Coast Chapter and the Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial.



The Veterans Council organizes, supports and hosts many annual Veterans and patriotic events, i.e., Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Wreaths Across America,

Homeless Veterans Stand Down, and actively supports: The St. Augustine National Cemetery, The Jacksonville National Cemetery, Missing In America Project, Disabled American Veterans, The USMC Oldest City Detachment, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America Oldest City Chapter, The Navy League of the United States- St. Augustine/Palm Coast Council, and the recently established Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial. The Council actively supports the Clyde Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home with donations and program support.

One of the major activities of the Veterans Council is the promotion of national patriotism through education by working closely with students and teachers to foster this. To achieve this goal the Council works with the St. John's County School System. The Council provides Veteran speakers, conducts essay contests, supports the JROTC programs and donates the five documentaries it produced, featuring local Veterans. The documentaries have been provided to all Public High Schools in St. Johns County as well as local libraries, colleges, museums and veterans groups.



According to the 2017 VA Veteran Population demographic information there are 1,525,400 veterans living in the state of Florida with 19,623 veterans living in St. Johns County and the 2018 estimate is over 23,000, with the largest group being Vietnam era veterans at over 6,711. Florida is the third largest state after California and Texas in veteran population.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is an amalgam of over 28 veterans' groups who send their representatives to the Council's monthly meeting. The Veterans Council meets the last Thursday of every month in the County Health and Human Services building, 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Muscovy Room at 7:00 P.M. All Veteran groups and individuals who are Veterans are invited to attend. The Council provides each County Veterans group with monthly meeting Minutes and Agenda.

Each month the Council meeting has speakers addressing current veterans re

lated issues. The Council has a well received monthly newsletter, The Patriot Reader, (all issues are posted at: www.veteranscouncilsjc.org/newsletter.htm) that is emailed to thousands of veterans and veterans' groups. The newsletter contains monthly events, educational articles, service stories of local veterans and meeting dates. All are encouraged to submit articles and pictures. The Council also maintains a website (www.veteranscouncilsjc.org) that can accessed for daily Council information and links to VA resources, VA Health releases and newspaper articles that discuss veterans' issues. The Council has a very large Facebook presence (Veterans Council of St. Johns County, FL) and posts information daily.

The Council proudly supports the Veterans Treatment Court. The Council financially assists veterans that are enrolled in the program with temporary loans for rent, food, car payments, utilities and clothing. The Veterans Treatment Court is dedicated to helping veterans address the underlying problems which led to their involvement in the criminal justice system. The Veterans Council provides mentors to each participant, "Battle Buddies", who are available 24/7 to assist with any issues that arise. Veterans' Courts make the community safer and the Council assists by providing room, board, transportation and may pay bills for the veteran until he/she are able to become a contributing member of society.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County welcomes all new county veterans and encourages them to attend one of its meetings.

The St. Johns County Veterans Service Officers are: Joseph McDermott, Rick Rees, and Travis Neidig. They are located in the St. Johns County Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL. 32084. Their phone number is 904-209-6160.

The St. Augustine Community Based Outpatient Clinic, named after Leo C. Chase Jr. , the first soldier from the county Killed in Action in Vietnam, is located at 100 Deerfield Preserve Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32086.

The Veterans Council's Summary of 2019 Activities



This past year has been an active one for the Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc., as it continues its Mission "To Help and Assist All Veterans".

The Council's help and assistance in 2019 has taken many forms.



Honoring and Remembering Veterans

The Council's annual **Memorial Day** Ceremony, a day on which those who died in active military service are remembered, was commemorated at the historic, serene, St. Augustine National Cemetery in a solemn ceremony attended by over 300 spectators.



Prior to the Council's **Veterans Day Program**, Chairman Bill Dudley and Vice Chairman Ray Quinn were presented with a **Veterans Day Proclamation** from the St. Johns County Board of Commissioners.

Veterans Day in St. Augustine is the Veterans Council's signature event and attended by over 1000 people.



The doors of Anastasia Baptist Church were opened at 9:00 am to allow the public to view over 50 display tables showcasing local non-profits and veterans organizations. Returning was the Traveling Vietnam Wall and for the first time the Wall on Terror Wall. The Veterans Day ceremony commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the D Day Invasion with 3 WW II veterans in attendance and recognized from the podium. The Council recognized, with a formal march in,

JROTC units from five county High Schools and in its continuing support program had the St. Augustine/Palm Coast Sea Cadet Battalion present the colors. Returning for the 3rd year was the St. Johns Center for the Arts Chamber Singers led by Director Jeff Dodd.

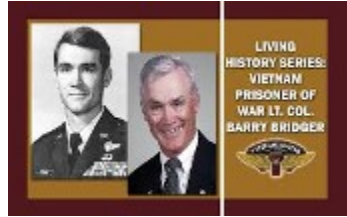




Wreaths Across America, a National Ceremony, was successful again this year as every headstone in the St. Augustine National Cemetery was covered with a holiday wreath.



Helping and Informing Veterans



The Council invites speakers to its monthly meetings that are both educational and informative. In 2019 we had speakers from the VA, Zaharias Women's Veteran Network, Vets4Vets, Military Museum of N. FL., Community Hospice, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the St. Johns County Property Appraiser speaking about Veterans Tax Exemptions. Additionally, Capt. Bob Buehn, USN ret. spoke about his years commanding Guantanamo Bay Base in Cuba and **LTC Barry Bridger** spoke about his time as a **POW in Vietnam**.

As part of the Council's continuing Education program, Council Chairman Dudley & members attended an the Agent Orange Town Hall at the Univ. of N. FL. The Council continued donating its 5 local veterans history series to Museums and veteran's groups in FL.

Every September, the Council organizes and staffs the **Homeless Veterans Stand Down** at the Elks Lodge 829. Provided to all homeless are food, haircuts, showers, counseling, dental, clothes, boots and VA assistance.

Now in its third year, the Council continues to support financially and with mentors the very successful Veterans Treatment Court with more and more veterans graduating each year.



DAV 6, with the financial support of the Veterans Council has a new **DAV van** now in service to take veterans daily from St. Augustine to the Gainesville VA at no charge.

Chairman Dudley and Vice Chairman Quinn presented the new **Fire Station 5** with a **MIA/POW flag** as well as an American flag to proudly fly over the new Fire Station.



The SJC Veterans Council is an original member of Fire Watch. This is a new program that will soon be set up in five Northeast Florida counties to combat the rising tide of military

veteran suicides with one-on-one counseling, emphasizing the local touch.



Supporting Special Veterans Events

FL Governor DeSantis, Congressmen Rutherford and Waltz broke ground on new



St. Augustine VA Clinic. Existing services will remain to include primary care, mental health, phlebotomy, podiatry, physical therapy and virtual care.

Chairman Dudley, working with the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners assisted in having reserved parking spots designated

“Veterans Only” at the county VSO building. More signs and locations are being considered.



The Veterans Council continues its support of the Clyde Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home, the National Cemeteries in St. Augustine and Jacksonville as well as the County JROTCs.

Plans are already under way to continue and expand the Council’s supporting and assisting veterans in 2020 and your help and support is always welcome.

To assist in our many programs please contact Veterans Council Chairman William Dudley: anuday00@aol.com

The Veterans Council’s website is available at:
www.veteranscouncilsjc.org

On Facebook: LIKE – Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. to find up to date daily veteran’s articles, VA Updates, Upcoming events and Meeting information

To subscribe and receive the highly acclaimed Veterans Council monthly newsletter, The Patriot Reader, please contact Editor Michael Rothfeld, rothfeldm@gmail.com now in its 10th year of providing veterans with information they can use.

Past issues of the Patriot Reader can be viewed at:

<http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org/newsletter.htm>

Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of January 30, 2020

Officers present: Chairman Bill Dudley, Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Treasurer John Mountcastle

Chairman Dudley called the meeting to order at 1900 hours

Chairman Dudley led the Pledge to the Flag Vice Chairman Ray Quinn gave the Invocation

The **St. Augustine US Navy Sea Cadets** presented the Colors



Minutes were approved as presented
as presented, report available

The **Treasurer's Report** was approved

Introduction of Guests:

Don Roberts, USA Lt. Colonel, retired with 33 years of service.

Kevin Souza – US Army, retired with Wounded Warrior Project

Selena Hernandez Haines –President, Honor Flight Committee

Larry Mull, US Navy, Commanding Officer with St. Augustine US Navy Sea Cadets

Sheryl Mull – Training Officer St. Augustine US Navy Sea Cadets

Jeff Lay – US Army, retired with Sea Cadets

Wendy Lay with Sea Cadets

Nick Howard – Firewatch, hired by Rory Diamond and General Fleming

Judge Howard McGillin – Veterans Treatment Court

Award Presented: Ray Quinn read about the **Colonel Ed Taylor Award**. This year this award was presented to Pastor Bobby Crum and Bill Blalock from Anastasia Baptist Church. Chairman Dudley presented this along with a check for \$500.00 for their continued support to the veterans and communities of St. Johns County.



Speaker #1 - Joe Giammanco, US Coast Guard, LCDR, retired, gave a presentation on the youth programs from the Navy League point of view. Programs include: St. Augustine Army ROTC, Matanzas High School Army ROTC, Nease High School Navy Jr ROTC, Flagler Palm Coast , Air Force ROTC and Naval Sea Cadets Corp.

Today's program for our youth include: Develop an interest and ability in seamanship and seagoing skills, Instill virtues of good citizenship and strong moral principles in each cadet, Demonstrate the value of an alcohol-free, drug-free and gang-free lifestyle, Expose cadets to the prestige of public service and a variety of career paths through hands-on training with our nation's armed services. Cadets do drills, War Games, lots of physical fitness activities, educational training, culinary, scuba diving, aviation, swimming survival techniques and so much more.



Speaker #2 – Ryman Shoaf, USN, ret. He is the National Spokesperson for “We Can Be Heroes” foundation.

We Can Be Heroes Foundation is an all-volunteer nonprofit 501(c)3 public foundation.

Our name reflects the spirit and honor surrounding Americans that make sacrifices by



serving in our neighborhoods, our country, and abroad. Unsung heroes walk among us. This Foundation is dedicated to all our heroes.

OUR MISSION: We Can Be Heroes Foundation recognizes courageous and admired acts performed by Americans, host events to honor heroes, and help Veterans, Senior Citizens, Low-income Families, and Students affected by government changes and other nonprofit organization's budget cuts.

OUR WORK :Remember and Honor American heroes, Honor courageous and admired acts in communities across the country

Share Hero's Stories: Continuous Homeless Veterans Food Drives, Quarterly Breakfast with Our Heroes, Frequent Luncheons for Homeless Veterans in Re-employment Programs

Ryman stated they hold quarterly breakfast and you can go to the website to see all the dates. The next one is on March 7th.

Speaker #3 – Beth Heath – Beth spoke about a Jr student from Ponte Vedra High School that started a club at the school titled Sharks for Veterans. The assist veterans and have worked several events in the areas.



Committee Reports – Joe McDermott, The VA has started processing in January claims for Blue Water for Navy veterans. They are gathering as much info as possible. There is a new appeal system that started in Feb 2019. A veteran can take the route of the lowest level lane supplemental adding additional evidence to support their claim. They should receive an answer withing 120 days. The veteran can also choose to take the higher-Level Lane asking the VA to look at the original claim with another claims officer. The Board of Veterans Appeal present the case in writing and ask for a personal hearing which can possibly take up to a year.

Joe also thanked everyone that was able to attend the service at the JNC for A US Army Veteran, John Meade, Jr., that possibly spent his last years on the street of St. Augustine. Ray Quinn spoke at the service and gave as much info that was known about this veteran. The PGR was there doing Flag Detail and over 300 people from the communities attended to honor this Mr. Meade.

John Leslie, VTC Coordinator for Mentors and President VVA Chapter 1084 – spoke about the Veterans Treatment Court. They had 2 graduates at the Jan. 16th graduation and the next graduation is on Feb. 20th. Council members are invited to attend these graduations. The VTC currently has 20 mentors compared to Duval County which only has 4 mentors.

Ray Quinn gave an AAR about the St. Augustine WAA service. All went very smoothly. Ray noted that the wreaths seemed to be smaller this year and that they came in somewhat dried with the needles falling off. He will be addressing this with WAA national.

Chairman Bill Dudley spoke about the long-term plans for the CBOC. He met with the County Commissioner and the next meeting will be on Feb. 5th with the VA Director in Gainesville. Bill is pleased with elected officials involved with the CBOC.

Currently there is no place to house homeless veterans in St. Johns County so there are plans on the table to possibly turn the old clinic location into quarters for these veterans. There will be staff to get veterans help with getting in the VA Health Care System. Bill will continue to work on this with the elected officials.

Bill encouraged all members to be sure and fill out the census currently. Both Bill and Joe are on the Committee. We need

to assure that all persons are counted for whether homeless or not. In 2010 they had 79% reporting and 71% in 2000. For every person that is not accounted for the counties loose \$1,450/person over a 10-year period which can surely add up.

Selena Hernandez Haines – Honor Flight, along with Bill Dudley and many other volunteers to get a new HF hub in northeast Fla. She was elected President for this committee and nominations were taken for other officers. Currently there are 9 hubs in Florida. It was voted to name this new hub First Coast Honor Flight. The goal is to have the first flight out of Jacksonville by the end of the year but there are many steps to process before this can take place. Selena stated she is very methodical and likes to do things the correct way. Currently no donations can be taken at this time nor can veterans names be submitted. There will be a Facebook page and a website established.

Kathy Church – MIAP – Kathy stated that they have a new volunteer coming on board and this person will be able to assist Kathy at the Craig Funeral Home in St. Augustine so that this location can be completed. MIAP would like to be able to have a service at the JNC before the heat of the summer. Plans are in the works for a CTH #23 at the Cape Canaveral

National Cemetery at the end of March. MIAP is having a meeting on Feb 18th in Orlando with volunteers to meet each other and do some volunteer training.

There being no further business to come before the members, Chairman Dudley adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View.

Future speakers:

- Mar. 26 Sharon Unger, President Veterans Village of NE FL
Shiva Thompson, Yoga 4 Change
- Apr. 30 Kathy Fleming, Exec Dir, Lighthouse WW II Coast Guard Project
Carl “Jeff” Lay, 1SG US Veterans Reserve Corps. FL
- May 28 Dr. Roger Smith, Military History of Colonial St. Augustine
- June 25 SJC Homeless Veterans Initiative panel



You are Invited!

Saturday April 25, 2020

1800 hours: Social Hour
1900 hours: Dinner Dance

Military Ball for All

HONORING FIVE STAR VETERANS CENTER

Omni Hotel
(Downtown Jacksonville)

\$150 couple, \$80 single
Tables from \$1000*

Tax Deductible

Sponsorships Available
Dinner Banquet

Dancing with military stars
& Heroes

Black Tie, Optional, Full
Dress Uniform Optional

(904) 723-5950
5starveteranscenter.org

Welcome Our Keynote:
Congressman Michael Waltz



The first Green Beret to serve in Congress, Michael Waltz is a Florida native, a combat-decorated veteran, former White House and Pentagon advisor, small business owner, and proud father.

Welcome Colonel Michael J. Livingston and the Blount Island Marines, The Michael Murphy Band, Dignitaries, Veterans, Citizen Supporters and Sponsors

*Buy Tax Deductible Tickets at
www.5starveteranscenter.org

All proceeds benefit recovering, homeless veterans

From Kathy Beaudoin Church

MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT - FLORIDA, UPDATE – JANUARY 23, 2020

The purpose of the MIA Project is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations. To provide honor and respect to those who have served this country by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes. We are a nationwide 501 (c) 3 nonprofit that relies solely on donations to work our project.



MIAP – FL held its latest CALL TO HONOR #22 at the South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth, FL. This service was on Thursday, November 6, 2019 @ 10:00am. This was a full military with honors service. The veterans interred at the service served in the US Army, Marine Corps. and Navy, during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The longest that any of these interred had been unclaimed is since 1968. We interred 19 veterans and 5 spouses of veterans.

Our volunteers continue to dedicate their time to locate the unclaimed cremains of veterans in the State of Florida. I myself continue to travel the State doing presentations to get more supporters and volunteers to join us for this honorable project. Florida now have teams working in Brevard County, Volusia County, Broward County, Miami-Dade, Polk County, Marion and Duval County. We have a new team that will be starting in Marion County. We are still in need of volunteers to work across the state of FL. The Vietnam Veterans Association in Florida is coming on strong with MIAP, putting together teams in several counties.

Please go to our NEWLY DESIGNED website at www.miap.us to read more about our project and find out how you can become involved with MIAP in your area. You may contact me at anytime at my information listed below. We also have Facebook pages for Florida and other states.

MIAP NATION WIDE PROGRESS TO DATE, As of 01/23/2020

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Total Funeral Homes Visited - 2,380 | Cremains Found – 20,099 |
| Veterans Cremains Identified - 4,599 | Veterans Interred - 4,262 |

MIAP FLORIDA PROGRESS TO DATE-As of 01/23/2020

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Total Funeral Homes Visited – 186 | |
| Cremains Found – 1,933 | Number to be interred – 95 |
| Missions Scheduled – 0 | Veterans Interred – 343 |
| Spouses Interred – 124 | Dependents Interred -1 |

Kathy Church, MIAP – FL State Coordinator

(904)219-3035, 1205 2nd St. S., Jacksonville, FL 32250

miapjax@yahoo.com



THU
APR 9
 2020



St. Johns Golf & Country Club
 219 St. Johns Golf Drive
 St. Augustine, FL 32092

Thursday April 9, 2020
 "National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day"

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Registration/Warm-up/Pre-Event | 11:45am - 12:45pm |
| Shot Gun Start | 1:00 pm |
| BBQ Dinner/Awards Ceremony/Raffle | 5:00 - 6:30 pm |

Raffle tickets available throughout the day. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the award ceremony.

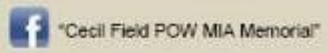
All proceeds benefit *Cecil Field POW/MIA Memorial, Inc.*

CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION - REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04E1566. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 800 435 7352, WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. CECIL FIELD POW/MIA MEMORIAL IS AN IRS 501(C)(3), PUBLIC CHARITY. ID# 14954. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE.

Deadline to Register*:
April 6, 2020

Sponsorship Packages and Player Registration Forms attached, or register online at:
www.powmiamemorial.org

Follow the 2020 Golf Tournament Event from our Facebook page:



St. Augustine Chapter 6, Disabled American Veterans

Ride in comfort to your appointment at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville.

The van leaves no later than 6AM from the VA Clinic located at 195 Southpark Blvd on the corner of Old Moultrie

To schedule your seat, please contact the VA Clinic at 904-823-2954, and ask for Veteran Van Scheduling

Round trip Van Service for Veterans is [HERE](#)

From St. Augustine, FL to the VA Medical Center in Gainesville.

The van will depart Gainesville approximately 2pm to arrive back in St. Augustine about 4pm.

The van IS NOT equipped to transport wheelchair patients.

We are asking that reservations be made 1 (one) week in advance.

All reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. When the seats are full, the seats are full.

To schedule a seat on the van,

please call the VA Clinic at 904-823-2954 and ask for Veteran Van Scheduling.

If you have MORE THAN ONE APPOINTMENT on the same date, please inform the scheduler.

Please have the following information available: Date and time of appointment(s), and which department(s).

Inform the scheduler of where you live. We have pick-up points in Palatka and other places.

As with all things VA, there are certain rules and regulations:

NO ALCOHOL, NO FIREARMS or OTHER WEAPONS and NO SMOKING.

(We don't make the rules, we just have to follow them.)



The Colors of a Navy and Nation

**Flags, standards,
and banners**
have been used for thousands
of years as visual symbols of
those who bear them.



www.history.navy.mil

The "broad stripes and bright stars"
of the American flag represent an indivisible nation "with liberty and justice
for all" and symbolize sacrifices made by many for the sake of the nation
and freedom they stand for.
Read how the U.S. Navy has flown the various flags of our growing
country and carried on the customs of honoring those flags.

The Navy Jack

'Rattlesnake' Jack



It is widely believed that when the Navy was established on Oct. 13, 1775, ships of the Continental Navy flew a "jack" as seen above, also referred to as the "rattlesnake" jack. While there is no firm historical evidence that this was the first actual Navy jack, it is well documented that the rattlesnake and motto were used on several flags during the War of Independence.

'Union' Jack



The Navy jack eventually evolved into the flag seen here, also referred to as the "union" jack. This flag remained the Navy jack until 1976 when the rattlesnake jack made a one-year return to celebrate our nation's bicentennial. Then in 2002, the SECNAV directed the use of the rattlesnake jack as the Navy jack for the duration of the Global War on Terrorism.

Other Notable Flags in History



Grand Union Flag &
Lt. John Paul Jones



On Dec. 3, 1775, Lt. John Paul Jones hoisted the Grand Union flag, also known as the First Navy Ensign, aboard the warship *Albatross*. This marked the first time the American flag was raised over an American naval vessel.

When Francis Scott Key saw the American flag (known as the Star-Spangled Banner at that time) flying over Ft. Mifflin the night after the British bombardment Sept. 14, 1814, he wrote the lyrics to what later became our national anthem.



Star-Spangled Banner &
Francis Scott Key

Today's Navy

In today's Navy, only a few select flags are authorized to be displayed from a ship or craft of the Navy or naval station.



National Ensign

The most honored flag in the Navy is the U.S. national ensign. For ships in port, the national ensign is displayed from 0800 until sunset from the flagstaff aft. For ships underway, the national ensign is displayed during daylight from the gaff. For shore commands, it is displayed from 0800 to sunset.



President of the U.S.



Secretary of the Navy

Personal Flags

Personal flags represent senior officials all the way from the President of the United States down to an officer of the Navy commanding a ship. When a senior official visits a Navy ship afloat, his or her personal flag is flown from the ship. Otherwise, the unit commander afloat displays his or her flag.

Commissioning Pennant

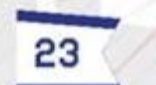
The commissioning pennant is the mark of a commissioned Navy ship. It is flown at all times as long as a ship is in commissioned status, except when a senior official is embarked and flies his personal flag in its place.



Commissioning Pennant

Command Pennants

There are two types of command pennants: broad or burgee. Broad indicates commands of a force, group, or squadron of ships, aircraft wing, or carrier air wing. Burgee indicates command of a division of ships or crafts, or a major subdivision of an aircraft wing.



Broad command pennant of Destroyer Squadron 23, commanded by then-Captain Mough Suter during World War II in the Pacific.



Broad command pennant of Destroyer Division 95, from World War II in the Pacific.



April 9, 2020

**St. Johns Golf &
Country Club**



Semper Fidelis Society/Vets4Vets of Northeast FL

You're invited to the big breakfast of waffles, scrambled eggs, gravy and biscuits, bacon, sausage, hash browns, grits, fruit, and beverages.

Join the Big Breakfast with Our Heroes on Saturday, March 7th to celebrate the March Birthday of Navy Reserve, Navy Seabees, Vietnam Veterans Day and K9s Veterans Day - 4 special US Military birthdays.

Contact Mo or Alicia Bijani at 904 472-7448 with Veterans for Christ or Beth Heath with We Can Be

BIG BREAKFAST WITH OUR HEROES

Military Birthdays Celebration – March 7, 2020

Celebrating the March birthdays of the Navy Reserve, Navy Seabees, K9 Veterans and Vietnam Veterans of America

Enjoy the company of Veterans, Atlantic Coast Young Marines and the Community.



March 3, 1915



March 5, 1942



March 13



March 29

Vietnam Veterans Day

Waffles – scrambled eggs – gravy and biscuits – bacon – sausage – hash browns – grits – fruit – beverage

When you donate tickets for veterans or those in-need, your name and logo will be publicized in social media in the Circular of Gratitude Honoring the US Military & Veterans.

EXHIBITORS: Free Exhibitor Table for Veteran Organizations when reserved in advance at 904 705-6439. Businesses & others: Go to www.WeCanBeHeroesFoundation.org -click on Events Sponsor or call 904 705-6439.

Guest Speakers: CAPT Ryman Shoaf, USN, Ret. and Dr. James Wersal

Where: Family Life Center, Evangel Temple, 5755 Ramona Blvd, Jacksonville FL 32205

What: Breakfast, Music, Exhibits, Raffles, Silent Auction and Gift for Oldest and Youngest Veteran

When: Saturday, March 7, 2020, from 8 to 11 a.m.

Tickets: \$7 each or table for 8 for \$50. Go to Events at www.WeCanBeHeroesFoundation.org or make reservations with Mo or Alicia Bijani at 904 472-7448 or Debbie at 904 402-2172

Mail checks to We Can Be Heroes Foundation, 14286-19 Beach Blvd. #120, Jacksonville FL 32250

Info: wcbfoundation@gmail.com

HOSTED BY ETAG VETS FOR CHRIST

AND

WE CAN BE HEROES FOUNDATION



FLORIDA REGISTRATION #CH 48313. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY STATE.

From Veterans Council Treasurer John Mountcastle

Jacksonville Area Legal Aid launches Veterans Legal Services Unit and helpline

JALA recently opened a Veterans Legal Services unit, which is connected to a new, statewide Florida Veterans Legal Helpline funded through the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.



The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline provides a convenient point of access for Florida veterans for legal issues relating to housing, family law and child support, driver's license suspensions, disability and veterans' benefits, expungement, and more.

Veterans can reach the Florida Veterans Legal Helpline at 1-866-486-6161

Declan Duffy, an Army veteran who served in Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division from February 2002 to December 2006, leads JALA's new veterans unit.

"I was thrilled when JALA offered me the position, and I look forward to helping the veterans in our community and being a resource for other organizations with the goal of helping veterans," Duffy said.

JALA CEO Jim Kowalski said Duffy is ideally suited to address the civil legal needs of veterans.

"As a veteran himself, he well understands the various services available to veterans, how they are designed to work and how to troubleshoot when they don't work as intended, and as an experienced attorney, he can advise veterans as to a wide range of common civil legal issues they may encounter," Kowalski said.

In addition to staffing the helpline, Duffy will assist the United Way of Northeast Florida's Mission United project. Through Mission United, the United Way and its partners help military veterans and their families successfully acclimate back to civilian life by affording them the services and support they need.

Come out and support, and let's make this a success so that we can grow in the future and provide easier access to resources and networking to our St. Johns County military families.



Partnering with

First Coast Technical College Job Fair
Character Counts Conference Center
2980 Collins Avenue St. Augustine

Thursday, March 26, 2020
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Networking event for St Johns County area
Patriots and Patriot families

~ Veteran, Military & Family Resources all under one roof ~

Education & Training
Banking
Healthcare/VA Resources
Transition & Business

Information Technology
Logistics
Mental Health Resources
Home & Family Services

Job Fair – Career & Employment Services
Legal, Financial & Insurance Information



FCTC.EDU  

2980 Collins Ave • St Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 547-3282

The NF/SG Healthcare System

St. Augustine VA/Community Council

Invites you to join them!

When: Tuesday March 10th 11:00am-12:30pm

Where: St. Augustine Outpatient Clinic

195 Southpark Blvd.

St. Augustine, FL. 32086

Why: Collaboration among the VA and local organizations for improved experiences

Come to a meeting and learn more!

If you would like more information on the council,

Email or Call:

Jessica Bradstreet, L.C.S.W.- Local Recovery Coordinator

Jessica.Bradstreet@va.gov

904-239-8812

From John Mountcastle

On January 1, 2020, Veterans with service-connected disabilities (and some others) will have physical access to military exchanges, commissaries and other morale, welfare and recreation facilities.

Veterans need VHIC for in-person Commissary, Military Exchange, MWR access - VAntage Point

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/68479/veterans-need-vhic-for-in-person-commissary-military-exchange-and-mwr-access/?sfns=mo>



From the Dept. of Defense

"Starting Jan. 1, 2020, the Department of Defense is expanding access to military commissaries, exchanges, and morale, welfare and recreation facilities for certain Veterans and caregivers. Those eligible for access include all service-connected Veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former Prisoners of War (POW), and those approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible Veterans. To acquire the in-person privileged access, all eligible Veterans must obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)."

Why are the younger Veterans avoiding the Veteran Service Organizations?



Why are the younger Veterans avoiding the Veteran Service Organizations?

Before I researched why the post-Vietnam generation of Veterans were not joining Veteran Service Organizations (VSO), I asked myself, “Why wouldn’t veterans want to be around other veterans?” Truly, participating in a VSO provides a unique opportunity to serve our commu-

nity with people from all walks of life, and also offers the opportunity to share the bond and comradery that melds us together as proud United States Veterans.

After months of research, most of which involved visiting many VSOs in several states, the answer became obvious: In all of the VSOs that I had the pleasure of visiting, I found that VSOs are standing by and waiting for this younger generation of veterans to just walk in and join like their fathers and grandfathers before them. And this appeared to be the “marketing strategy” to bolster membership in many, if not all, of the VSOs. Many VSOs rely solely on their names to entice these young veterans to show up and join, and most have a marketing campaign that hasn’t quite made it into the 21st Century. And quite frankly, some of the messaging is a little misleading. For example, I remember getting a package from a VSO that looked like an official government envelope until I opened it and discovered much to my dismay that this official-looking correspondence was in fact a membership package. I thought the **BOLD RED** ink demanding some type of action was a little over the top. When I read “send money along with application and you will receive a multi-tool with your new membership”, I decided to throw the whole envelope away.

The current VSO image and what the younger veteran generation think about local VSOs is real; they see a building with a couple windows, a dimly lit smoke-filled room with a pool table or darts with “Bingo Night” being boldly advertised as the biggest event happening at that particular location. How do we get the younger veterans to be part of that? The answer is we don’t. **WE MUST CHANGE.** The thought that eventually the younger veterans will join because they are missing the comradery is a false notion. There are too many newer and younger VSOs that have popped-up in the recent years for them to join leaving a vast number of VSOs competing for membership from a much smaller pool of veterans.

The one positive aspect from the VSOs, one that no one can take away, is that they have held firm in the support of the various veteran issues in Washington, D.C. for decades, and have dedicated much of their efforts in resolving very troubling veteran issues involving the Veterans Administration that have surfaced in recent years. The more established veteran service organizations have a voice with the Congress and President regardless of the dominant political party. Senators, Representatives, and Presidents have made speeches at VSO national conventions because politicians know that they need the support of these Veteran Service Organizations. Politicians listen to them because of the membership numbers which unfortunately are declining.

What positive actions can the VSOs take to build membership? After talking to Desert Storm, OEF and OIF veterans over the past 9 years, I suggest the following 12 common sense steps to appeal to that younger generation of veterans who are the very life-blood of the existing VSOs:

Be honest and transparent when sending out material to attract new members. Educate the younger veteran generation by conveying to them what you have accomplished locally and nationally to ensure that veteran issues stay at the forefront of the discussion. Show them that you are making a difference. Let them know about your whole organization, not just a narrow scope of membership and money.

Treat all veterans equally. Both men and women have served honorable in the Armed Forces. To assume only men deployed or served is backwards thinking, and has no room in today's VSO.

Update posts with free WIFI, offer video gaming like an XBOX or PlayStation 4, and install flat screen TVs, and select programming, such as sports programming, that would appeal to all veterans

I know the more seasoned veterans have life experience and perhaps a different frame of reference. But we should never think that the younger generation is any different. As a leader, I've always welcomed new ideas from everyone, and the younger veterans are full of ideas-just as we were at that age. You should embrace their energy and let them share their ideas about improving your post; you will be pleasantly surprised with the innovative ideas that they come up with. Be open to these new ideas.

Welcome all veterans into your post. When you see someone new walk in, welcome them with open arms, make them feel like they are part of your post and have found a new family and friends. And don't criticize the way they look now or

their time in service. If you're welcoming, we may overlook the stale beer smell and nicotine stained walls and windows and stay for a while.

Keep your meetings short and to the point. If you have younger veterans at your post, assign them a task during the meeting and ask them to work with the membership and complete it. Get them involved in the administration of your VSO and encourage their involvement. The younger generation, especially the millennials like to solve problems by working and teaming with a group. This is a prime opportunity for the VSO leadership to mentor those younger veterans. Be patient. Some of these young veterans suffer from a malady of challenges, such as Traumatic Brain Injury.

Turn your post or part of your post into a community type of center. Our younger veterans want a place to network, drop their child off for daycare, or do homework.

Turn your post into a place where veterans can network with the community. Invite local business owners, company executives, your local college Veteran's Representatives, or members of the local Chamber of Commerce to speak at your meetings.

Don't be afraid to work with other veteran organizations within your community. Build a strong support network for all veterans.

If you have a post close to a military base, begin working with the base transition office or AW2/AF2/USMC Wound Warrior Regiment or the Navy's Safe Harbor Program. These once flourishing programs have had their share of budget cuts, but the mission remains the same. This is where VSOs could make a positive impact with the base leadership as well as the surrounding veteran population.

Introduce yourself and your post to your local Guard and Reserve centers. Most of the members live, work, and shop in your community.

Sign up for and attend every veteran event that you can. Make sure the people in your community know that you are the person and post to contact when it comes to supporting veterans. Talk the talk and walk the walk.

Please join us on Thursday, December 19th as St Johns County Property Appraiser Eddie Creamer speaks to our Council.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY
PROPERTY APPRAISER
Eddie Creamer

Disabled Veteran, Military & First Responder Exemptions

| | |
|---|---|
| Disabled Veteran Exemption | Totally & Permanently Disabled Veterans Exemption |
| Seniors Combat - Related Disabled Veterans Exemption | Surviving Spouses of Veterans Who Died While on Active Duty Exemption |
| Totally & Permanently Disabled First Responders Exemption | Deployed Servicemembers Exemption |
| Surviving Spouses of First Responders | If not claiming a homestead elsewhere, deployed or active duty military may rent their home & maintain their homestead without any restrictions |

4030 Lewis Speedway, Suite 203
Saint Augustine, FL 32084
904-827-5500
WWW.SJCPAUS



Together We • Are Stronger

Vets 4 Vets
Gathering of Veterans
TRIBUTE to VIETNAM VETERANS
Feb 29th, 1030-1300
Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena
Free Lunch & Parking

Speakers: Col William Byrns USAF Ret. POW & Updates from VA
Medical Care, Vet Court, Blue Water Claim Info, Veteran Organizations
V4V Info Link: <http://cepurl.com/gG5TO1>

INFORM CONNECT **Florida V4V Network** **UNITE ORGANIZE**
Bringing Veterans Together

5 County Veteran Councils

Veterans' Diseases Associated with Agent Orange

The VA recognizes and assumes certain cancers and other health problems to be related to a Veterans' qualifying military service and associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides. Veterans and their survivors may be eligible for disability compensation or survivors' benefits for these diseases. Here is a current list:

1. AL Amyloidosis
2. Chronic B-cell Leukemias
3. Chloracne (or similar acneform disease)
4. Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
5. Hodgkin's Disease
6. Ischemic Heart Disease
7. Multiple Myeloma
8. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
9. Parkinson's Disease
10. Peripheral Neuropathy, Acute and Subacute
11. Porphyrria Cutanea Tarda
12. Prostate Cancer
13. Respiratory Cancers (including lung cancer)
14. Soft Tissue Sarcomas
(other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma)

Children with Birth Defects:

VA presumes certain birth defects in children of Vietnam and Korean Veterans associated with Veteran's qualifying military service.

A Marine's Secret

Donnie Dunagan went into the Marine Corps in 1952 at the age of 18 with a secret. Officers were so impressed with Donnie's performance that as soon as he graduated from recruit training, the teenage private first class was selected for drill instructor school, becoming the youngest DI in Marine Corps history.. but none of them ever knew his secret.



During his distinguished 25-year career in the Marines, Donnie went on serve in South America as a Counter Intelligence Officer before serving three tours in Vietnam as a Reconnaissance Platoon commander, where he was wounded several times in the Tet offensive, and awarded a Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts. He retired in 1977 at the rank of Major and in all those years no one, not even his wife, ever found out the secret that he kept.

But you can go through life trying to keep a secret, and sometimes blind, dumb luck can trip you up. While Donnie was away at a boxing demonstration, Mrs. Dunagan stumbled onto a box that had been hidden away in the house, and what she found couldn't have surprised her more.

It was a box of fan letters and photographs.

Flabbergasted, she confronted Donnie when he returned, and when he saw the jig was up he had no choice but to come clean. What he had kept from her during their 13 year marriage - what he had kept from everyone his entire military career - was that as a child, he'd been an actor, starring with the likes of Carole Lombard, Basil Rathbone and Boris Karloff in films like "The Bride of Frankenstein" and "Tower of London". But it was his final film role that made Donnie guard the secret of his former career so zealously. Because for most of his adult life, Donnie Dunagan, tough-guy Marine Corps drill instructor, battle-hardened combat vet, thought he'd absolutely die from embarrassment if anyone had tumbled to the fact that he had provided the voice of the title character in Walt Disney's classic animated film "Bambi."

Hal Moore

He fought in Korea and Vietnam, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions at the Battle of Ia Drang, and became one of the most legendary combat commanders in US Army history. "Never a day goes by that I don't think about those great Americans who never backed off, many of them who had only 7 to 10 days left in the service. And they went home in coffins." - Hal Moore, Vietnam veteran



On November 14, 1965, one of the bloodiest engagements of the Vietnam war, the Battle of Ia Drang, began in what would forever be known as the "Valley of Death." For five terrifying days, approximately 450 men of 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), led by Lt. Col. Hal Moore, a hard-charging Airborne officer who had served in Korea, fought off thousands of North Vietnamese.

During the epic battle the 43-year-old Moore never wavered, his extraordinary courage, calm under fire, and devotion to his men becoming the stuff of legend. "Repeatedly exposing himself to intense hostile fire," he "moved from position to position, directed accurate fire, and gave moral support" to his troops throughout the non-stop fighting. As the hours turned into days, Moore and his men, outnumbered sometimes 12 to 1 and suffering from heavy casualties, held on despite overwhelming odds.

"Every one of us thought at least once we were going to die there," UPI war correspondent Joseph L. Galloway told the NY Times in 2017. "There was only one man who thought for certain we were going to prevail, and that was Hal Moore."

At one point in the horrific, sometimes hand-to-hand fighting, the surrounded Americans were hit by a three-pronged Communist attack. Moore, seemingly unfazed, immediately went into action. "Directing barrages of small arms, mortar, and artillery fire in conjunction with devastating air strikes," he rallied his men and repelled the enemy assault.

On the fifth and final day of the battle, the 7th Cavalry, the same unit that had fought at the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876, declared victory. They had held their ground and "decimated a well-trained and numerically superior" enemy force of more than 2,000 troops.

For his "courageous display of leadership" at Ia Drang Valley, Moore was awarded the nation's second highest award for valor, the Distinguished Service Cross.

Years later in a NPR interview about the battle, Moore said, "I looked around on the ground and saw some of my - many of my precious men in their ponchos, lying dead, men whom I had trained for 18 months - knew their wives, children, many of them - knew them very closely. And that got to me."

Postscript:

Moore retired from the US Army in 1977 as a Lieutenant General with 32 years of service.

In 1992 Moore and Galloway, the UPI correspondent who had been with him during the battle, wrote the bestseller, "We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young," a detailed and moving account of 7th Cavalry at "Death Valley." Moore died on February 10, 2017, just two days shy of his 95th birthday. He was buried next to his wife of 55 years, Julia B. Compton, who had passed away 13 years earlier. He was survived by his five children, 12 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Mel Gibson, who played Moore in the 2002 movie "We Were Soldiers," said of the legendary colonel, "He was a phenomenal man of great strength and character . . . and was like a father to his troops."

Today we pay tribute to Lt. Gen. Hal Moore, his family, and all the brave men who served, sacrificed, and died during the Vietnam War. We will never forget you!

Dear folks, I have updated the attached with the last paragraphs (reproduced below)

After the below was written, the IRS issued a press release^[1] announcing an agreement with the Free File Alliance (Intuit Turbo Tax, H&R Block, et alii) aimed at removing barriers to taxpayers getting free software from the Alliance (which provides federal persona income tax return filing software online). One provision might offer some future benefits to exempt organizations. This agreement included the removal of the provision contained in the original Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Article 2 which pledged that the IRS would not enter the software and e-filing marketplace.

Our Treasurer will monitor this subject, providing updates when significant changes are announced.

New Free File agreement signed to strengthen program, help taxpayers | Internal Revenue Service

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/new-free-file-agreement-signed-to-strengthen-program-help-taxpayers>

With the start of a new year, we have the opportunity to be better prepared for new responsibilities.

Annual filing obligations

As you may remember, to retain your organization's exempt status, the IRS requires each recognized exempt organization (i.e., those with Federal Employer Identification Numbers) to file annually. Failure to file for three consecutive years will result in revocation of your organization's exempt status.

Anyone may verify the exempt status and view an exempt organization's IRS filings, by using the [IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search Engine](#).

Filing requirements depend upon an exempt organization's gross receipts and total assets. Total assets are reduced by net depreciation or amortization.¹ Gross receipts (not as simple as they sound), are the total amounts the organization received from all sources during the reporting year, without subtracting any costs or expenses. In the table below, gross receipts are the sum of green Lines 5b, 6c, 7b and 9.

| Excerpts from IRS Form 990-EZ Page 1 Part 1 Revenues | Your organization |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Contributions, gifts, grants and similar amounts received (aka donations) | |
| 2. Program service revenues including government fees and contracts | |
| 3. Membership dues and assessments | |
| 4. Investment income | |
| 5. Sales of assets | |
| a. Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory | |
| b. Less cost or other basis in the assets sold, plus selling expenses | |
| 6. Gaming and Fundraising Events | |
| a. Gross income from gaming (e.g., Bingo, 50/50, etc.) | |
| b. Gross income from fundraising events (not including any contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) | |
| c. Less direct expenses from gaming (i.e., amounts paid to winners plus costs of operating) and from fundraising events (e.g., food and beverages) | |
| 7. Sales of inventory | |
| a. Gross receipts (excluding any sales tax collected, and less returns and allowances) | |
| b. Less costs of goods sold | |
| 8. Other revenues (e.g., interest on loans not reported on line 4) | |
| 9. Total Revenues | |

| Financial Activity which determines which IRS form you should file | |
|---|--------|
| Gross Receipts normally less than \$50,000 | 990-N |
| Gross Receipts \$50,000 or more, but < \$200,000 AND Total Assets < \$500,000 | 990-EZ |
| Gross Receipts of \$200,000 or more, OR Total Assets of \$500,000 or more | 990 |
| Private Foundation, regardless of Financial Activity | 990-PF |

¹ See [990 Instructions](#) for Part X Line 16 (page 49) for specific details

Other Reminders:

- Form [1099-MISC](#) due to vendors by Jan. 31, 2020
 - Use IRS Form [W-9](#) to obtain vendor federal employer identification numbers
 - Generally, payments to corporations are not reportable, unless:
 - Backup federal income tax is withheld by your organization
 - Corporation provides legal services
 - For all others (independent contractors, sole proprietors or partnerships)
 - Report total gross payments made during 2019 if \$600.00 or more
- File Form 1099-MISC reporting Non-Employment Compensation in Box 7 to the IRS by Jan. 31, 2020 (either on paper or electronically). Starting with the 2020 tax year, a new form must be used to report Non-Employment Compensation.
- File other forms 1099-MISC with Form 1096 to IRS by Feb. 28, 2020 (March 31, if filing electronically)
 - Original (red) copies must be filed with IRS; forms can be [ordered from the IRS](#) at no charge, or purchased from office supply stores at the expense of the organization.
- If your organization pays wages, [Forms W-2 and W-3](#) are due to employees January 31, 2020 and to Social Security Administration January 31, 2020, whether filing on paper or electronically.
 - Original (red) copies must be filed with IRS; forms can be [ordered from the IRS](#) at no charge, or purchased from office supply stores at the expense of the organization.

Florida requirements:

- Veterans' organizations federally recognized under IRC [501\(c\)\(3\)](#) as public charities must register under the [Florida Solicitation of Contributions Act](#), filing [Form 10100](#) on-line.
- While Veterans' organizations federally recognized under IRC [501\(c\)\(19\)](#) are normally exempt from registering under the [Florida Solicitation of Contributions Act \(F.S. Chapter 496, §496.406\)](#), provided they are granted a federal charter in [Part B, Subtitle II, 36 U.S. Code](#).
- Organizations meeting the requirements of [F.S. Chapter 496, §496.406\(d\)](#) are not required to register, provided they meet the following requirements:
 - Gross receipts of less than \$25,000, and
 - Fundraising activities of such organization are carried on by volunteers, members or officers who are not compensated, and
 - No part of the assets or income of such organization inures to the benefit of, or is paid to, any officer or member of such organization,
 - No part of the assets or income of such organization inures to the benefit of, or is paid to, any professional fundraising consultant, professional solicitor, or commercial co-venturer.
- If your Veterans' organization solicits funds or participation (e.g., players for a golf outing) from NON-MEMBERS, annual registration with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs is highly recommended

New Electronic Filing Requirements

Starting with an exempt organization's first tax (fiscal) year which begins on or after July 1, 2020, organizations recognized as exempt from taxation by the IRS must file most required returns electronically. Paper returns will no longer be accepted. These include:

- Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax.

- Form 990-PF, Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation.
- Form 8872, Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures.

You may expect to receive formal notice in an IRS' letter if your organization has previously filed these returns on paper.

A recent survey (November, 2019) of 3,500 tax preparers reported that these professionals' average fee for preparation of IRS Form 990 and related schedules was \$855; fees for Form 990-EZ and related schedules ranged from \$336 to \$671; electronic filing, state filings and other required information reporting (e.g., Forms 1099) were additional costs.

If your exempt organization is required to file IRS Form 990 electronically, but the organization has technology constraints, you may seek relief as described in IRS Notice 2010-4. It is unlikely that an organization with gross receipts of \$200,000 or more would be granted relief for economic reasons.

Smaller exempt organizations may continue to file either Form 990-EZ and related schedules on paper, or file Form 990-N electronically.

What should a tax-exempt organization do to ensure it is ready for filing its return electronically for tax year 2020?

- That depends on whether the tax-exempt organization will use a tax professional to prepare its electronic return or the tax-exempt organization plans to prepare its own return.
- A tax-exempt organization that plans to use a tax professional to prepare its electronic return should check whether the professional is an IRS Authorized e-File Provider.
- A tax-exempt organization that plans to prepare its own return should discuss electronic filing options with its software vendor as soon as possible and take steps to register and apply for electronic filing.
- If the tax-exempt organization is required to file returns electronically, the organization should arrange for adequate formal training for the officers (Treasurer, Compliance Officer or President) at no cost to these officers. The organization should also begin the application process to obtain an eFIN account from the IRS.

There may be significant budgetary costs to this training, or to use the services of a tax professional or third party software vendor. A Current Listing of [Approved IRS Exempt Organizations Modernized e-File \(MeF\) Providers](#) is available online.

Those fulfilling compliance duties (e.g., Treasurer, President, etc.) should familiarize themselves with these additional obligations in advance of filing any 2020 information return.

SAVE the Date

Feb 29, 2020

Veterans Gathering
&
Welcome Home Tribute
to

1961 VIETNAM VETERANS 1975

VAV

Inform, Connect, Organize, Unite

VYSTAR VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA

1030 to 1300

Free Parking Lot Z and Free Buffet Lunch

ACTIVE DUTY ★ RETIRED ★ NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE ★ ALL SERVICE BRANCHES

MILITARY SUPPORT RETREATS

RETREATS FOR FLORIDA AND GEORGIA POST 9-11 COMBAT VETERANS
AND THEIR PRIMARY SUPPORT PERSON



Amelia Island
Fernandina Beach, Florida

★ FEBRUARY 6-9



Marineland
Florida

★ MARCH 12-15



Lake Chatuge
Hiawassee, Georgia

★ APRIL 2-5

From Thursday at 5:30pm – Sunday at 2:00pm



★ RESTORATION ★ RECREATION ★ RELAXATION ★

*Strengthen and restore connections, enjoy the natural beauty of each location,
be inspired by fun outdoor activities, learn about available support resources,
and relax while discovering post-deployment strategies.*

★ Small, friendly group setting ★

★ All accommodations, food, and activities are provided free of charge ★

★ Facilitated by Vets, VA/DoD experts, and Community Nonprofit Support Organizations ★

Please note: Must be 18 to attend and no childcare is provided.

TO LEARN MORE AND TO APPLY VISIT: GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG/RETREATS



JACK GAFFORD, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS
678-315-9028
JACK@GRATITUDEAMERICA.ORG





Navy Band at the Amphitheater

The United States Navy Band, featuring the Concert Band, Sea Chanters chorus and Cruisers popular music group, will perform at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre Sunday, March 1, 2020. The stop will be one of 20 cities in six states during its 2020 tour -- one of the signature free outreach programs of the U.S. Navy. As the original ensemble of the Navy Band, the Concert Band has been performing public concerts and participating in high-profile events for more than 95 years. Joined by the Sea Chanters, the official chorus of America's Navy and the Cruisers popular music group, the versatility of the ensemble expands to include music ranging from traditional wind band repertoire to pop and patriotic favorites.

Amphitheatre gates open at 1:30 pm with the performance at 3 pm.

From Lynn Geiser, VSO at DAV

HOW DISABILITY RATINGS WORK

BENEFITS CHART - Each increased level includes all benefits of the previous levels.

| SERVICE CONNECTED PERCENTAGE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|--|
| 0% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-point Veteran preference in federal hiring • No cost health care and prescription drugs for service-connected disabilities • Small copays for all other healthcare and mental healthcare and prescription drugs • Use of commissaries, exchanges, and morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) retail facilities, in-person and online. • Non-VA Urgent Care visits at \$30/visit including 14-day prescription (in network) • Non-VA Emergency Room for service-connected conditions or non-service-connected condition if you have no OHI (Other Health Insurance) – Must contact your VAMC within 72 hours • VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) |
| 10%-20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiver of VA funding fee for home loan • Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (10% with a serious employment handicap) • Burial and plot allowance |
| 30%-40% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel allowance for scheduled appointments for care at a VA medical facility or VA authorized health care facility • 10-point Veteran preference in federal hiring (Direct hire authority) • Additional compensation for eligible dependents (may include aid and attendance for eligible spouse) |
| 50%-90% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost health care and prescription medications – no copays • Concurrent receipt of military retired pay • 3 no cost Non-VA Urgent Care visits including 14-day prescription (in network) (\$30/visit after use of 3 visits) |
| 100% No restriction to income | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cost dental care • Uniformed Services ID card • S-DVI waiver of \$10,000 life insurance at 100% if unemployed for at least 6 months • Federal student loan forgiveness • Space-A Flights (Cat VI) - Veteran only • Non-VA ER – Must contact your VAMC within 72 hours • --With Permanent & Total Status-- • Dependents Educational Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special restorative training • Dependent's CHAMPVA–Civilian Health and Medical Program (not Tricare eligible) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) for dependents |

Individual Unemployability – 60%-90%

Same as 100% except must be unemployable due to service-connected disabilities with part time income restriction \$13,064/year (2019)

VA Derivative Benefits Eligibility Service-Connected Matrix

https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/derivative_sc.asp

<http://vcag.info> Veterans Claims Assistance Group



Blue Water Navy Veterans' disability claims to be decided beginning Jan.1, 2020

Did you serve in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975? If so, then you're considered a Blue Water Navy (BWN) Veteran.

On Jan. 1, 2020, the Blue Water Navy Act of 2019 goes into effect. This Act was signed into law on Jun. 25, and extends the presumption of herbicide exposure, such as Agent Orange, to BWN Veterans who served as far as 12 nautical miles from the shore of Vietnam and have since developed one of 14 conditions related to exposure. Some of these conditions include Type 2 diabetes, Parkinson's disease, many forms of cancer and others. You may now be eligible for disability compensation and other benefits. In addition, if you're a Veteran who served in the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between Sept. 1, 1967, and Aug. 31, 1971, you may also qualify for compensation and benefits for yourself and your family members.

How do I know if I'm eligible?

The best way to find out if you're eligible is to work with an accredited claims representative or Veterans Affairs (VA) regional office to understand eligibility requirements before filing a claim. You don't need to prove contact with herbicides to be eligible.

How do I file a claim for compensation benefits?

You can file an initial claim (that has not been previously decided by VA), by submitting Form 21-526EZ, Application for Disability Compensation and Related Compensation Benefits. You can also contact an accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO) to assist you with your application. To access a list of VA-approved VSOs, [CLICK HERE](#). You may also contact your state's Veterans agency should you need additional assistance with the application process.

What if I've previously filed a claim that was denied?

VA will be using the new law to automatically review claims that are currently with the VA review process or under appeal. However, if you had an herbicide exposure claim with one or more presumptive conditions denied in the past, you are urged to file a new claim. When you begin the claims process, be sure to provide or identify any new and relevant information regarding your claim, such as the dates the vessel you were serving on traveled through the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam or updated medical information.

Submit a VA Form 20-0995, Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim. How should survivors and dependents apply for initial Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) Claim for a Veteran who died of presumptive condition?

Eligible survivors and dependents must meet certain conditions to receive DIC. To learn more about this process, [CLICK HERE](#). If found to be eligible, there are several ways to file a claim, including:

By mail, using VA Form 21P-534EZ., In person at a VA regional office. An accredited claims representative or VSO.

What benefits will I receive if my claim is approved?

If you are deemed eligible, you may receive a monthly disability compensation payment and free healthcare related to your disability. The amount of compensation you may receive is determined by your diagnosed condition and level of disability.

Another important component of the Blue Water Navy Act includes changes to the VA Home Loan program. VA now allows the no-down payment option on guaranteed home loans, regardless of mortgage amount for ALL Veterans. In addition, there is a reduction in the funding fee required for Reservists and National Guard borrowers and other changes.

More information and resources on the Blue Water Navy Act, eligibility, how to file a claim, and changes to the VA Home Loan Program can be found online

Renee Johnson is a public affairs specialist for the Veterans Benefits Administration.

The 7th of the 1st

The 7th Cavalry Regiment is a United States Army cavalry regiment formed in 1866. Its official nickname is "Garryowen", [1] after the Irish air "Garryowen" that was adopted as its march tune.

The Regiment is famous for its participation in some of the largest battles of the Indian Wars, including the infamous Battle of Little Bighorn, where its enigmatic commander, Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer made his last stand. The 7th Cavalry became part of the 1st Cavalry Division in the 1920s and went on to fight in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and several key battles of the Korean War and the Vietnam War. It also distinguished itself in the Gulf War and in the Global War on Terror where its Squadrons and Battalions now serve as Combined Arms Battalions (involving tanks and mechanized infantry) or as reconnaissance squadrons for Brigade Combat Teams.





VFW VETERANS VILLAGE



13005 NE 135th Street
Fort McCoy, FL 32134

20th Annual Country BBQ Picnic

Saturday, March 21, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**BBQ Meal served from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
on Saturday!!!**

Entertainment • Beverages Available

DONATION \$10.00 ~ Covers Meal

For information call 352-236-0823
or visit www.vfwveteransvillage.org



**11th Annual Golf Tournament
Friday, 3/20/2020**

Stone Creek Country Club

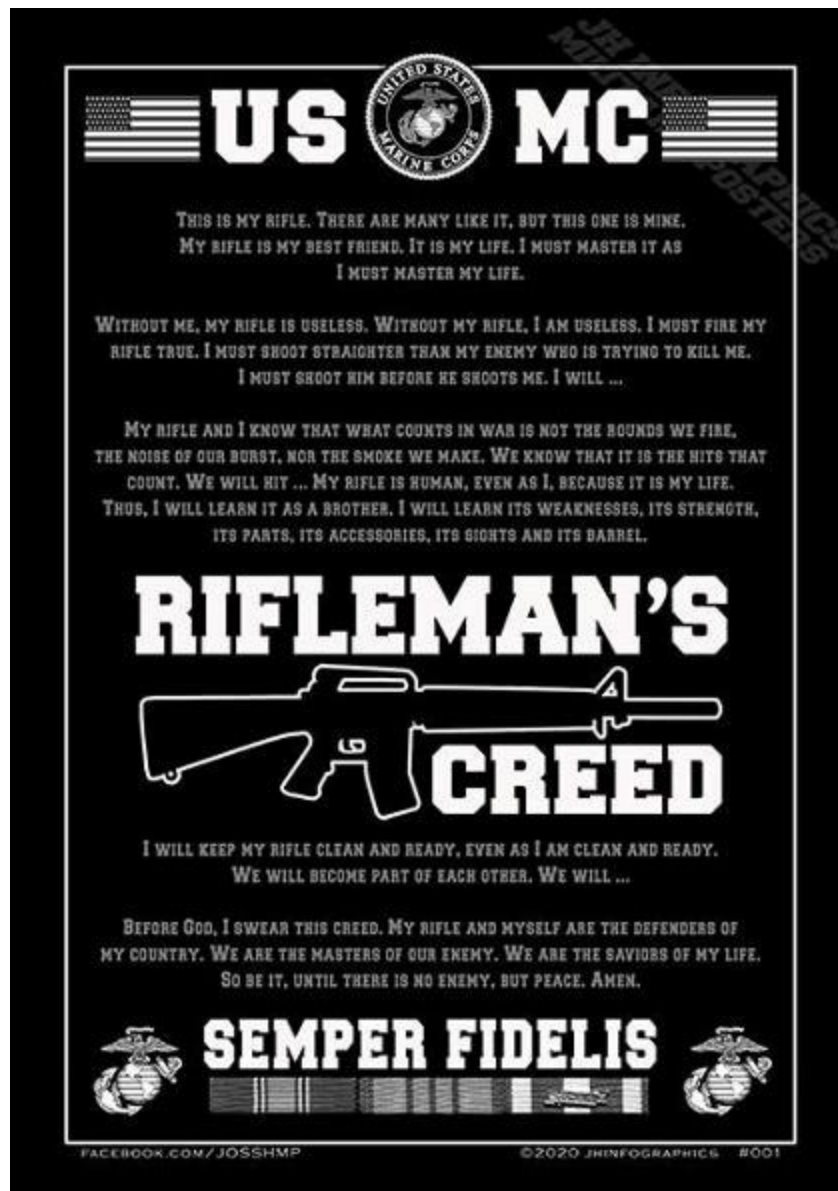
8676 SW 52nd Loop • Ocala, FL 34401

(352) 854-1272



Registration forms available at vfwveteransvillage.org ~ Cost: \$55.00

Thank you for supporting "Your Home" - The VFW Veterans Village
"Scouts out"



The Rifleman's Creed (also known as My Rifle and The Creed of the United States Marine) is a part of basic United States Marine Corps doctrine. Major General William H. Rupertus wrote it during World War II, probably in late 1941 or early 1942. In the past, all enlisted Marines would learn the creed at recruit training. However, in recent years the creed has been relegated to the back pages of the standard recruit training guide book and its memorization is no longer considered doctrine for recruits. Different, more concise versions of the creed have developed since its early days, but those closest to the original version remain the most widely accepted.



Blue Angels' Florida 2020, 2021 schedule

The Blue Angels, U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron, are scheduled to perform 55 demonstrations at 29 locations in 2020 and 56 demonstrations at 29 locations in 2021, the squadron's 75th Anniversary.

The mission of the Blue Angels is to showcase the precision and professionalism of the United States Navy and Marine Corps by inspiring a culture of excellence and service to country through flight demonstrations and community outreach. Since 1946, the Blue Angels have performed for more than 500 million fans.

Naval Air Station Jacksonville was the original home base of the Blue Angels. The team's current home is Pensacola.

They have seven Florida performances in 2020:

March 28-29: MacDill AFB, MacDill Air Fest.

April 25-26: Vero Beach, Vero Beach Air Show.

July 11: Pensacola Beach, Pensacola Beach Air Show.

October 16-17: NAS Pensacola, Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show.

The 2021 performances in Florida:

April 10-11: NAS Jacksonville

April 17-18: Lakeland

July 10: Pensacola Beach

November 10: NAS Pensacola

For information about individual air shows, please go to each air show's official website. For more information about the Blue Angels, including the 2020 and 2021 air show schedules, visit <http://www.blueangels.navy.mil>.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

For more news from Navy Blue Angels, visit www.navy.mil/local/blueangels/, or contact Blue Angels Public Affairs at blueangelspublicaffairs@gmail.com.

Submitted by David Treffinger



ALL GAVE SOME - SOME GAVE ALL

GOLD STAR FAMILY



VIETNAM WAR



ALWAYS REMEMBERED
NEVER FORGOTTEN



FACEBOOK.COM/JOSSHMP

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Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony

Date: Saturday, March 28, 2020

Time: 10:00 AM

(Lunch to immediately follow)

Location: TAPS Monument

915 Walnut Street

Green Cove Springs, FL



Join us as we recognize the sacrifices made by the Vietnam Era Veterans and their families.



In Partnership





Save the Date

26 Sept 2020

Alton Green
Memorial
Post 194
2nd Annual
Anniversary Golf
Tournament

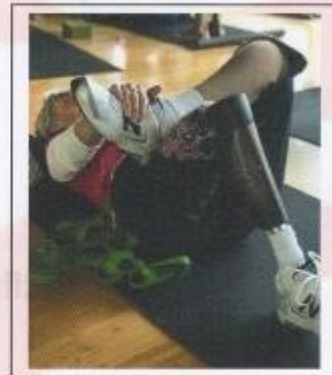
More info to follow
derrygreen1@hotmail.com

Cimarrone Golf Club
2800 Cimarrone Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32259

ACTIVITIES FOR VETERANS

Brooks Adaptive Sports and Recreation invites all veterans living with a physical or visual impairment to participate in our NEW veteran exclusive activities!

You are welcome to participate in these veteran exclusive activities as well as our regular programming. For details or to get on our email list, please contact 904-345-7314 or Michelle.Walker2@Brooksrehab.org.



Brooks Adaptive Sports and Recreation - Jacksonville



BrooksAdaptiveSports



Brooks_ASR



904.345.7314 | adaptivesports@brooksrehab.org

BrooksRehab.org



1st Annual Patriot's Expo

Partnering with
First Coast Technical College Job Fair
Character Counts Conference Center
2980 Collins Avenue
St. Augustine

Thursday, March 26, 2020
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Networking event for St Johns County area Patriots and Patriots families

- Static Displays
- Education & Training
- Banking
- Logistics
- Healthcare/VA Resources
- Mental Health Resources
- Job Fair – Career & Employment Services
- Transition & Business opportunities
- Home & Family Services
- Information Technology
- Legal, Financial & Insurance Information
- Veteran, Military & Family Resources all under one roof

 **First Coast
Technical College**
Your Future Comes First

FCTC.EDU  
2980 Collins Ave • St Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 547-3282



FCTC Spring 2020 Job Fair and St John's Patriot Expo Registration Form

It is important our students have the ability to complete their training/education in full prior to accepting employment that might conflict with this goal. FCTC asks that our employment and business partners refrain from actively recruiting and hiring students that are currently taking classes into a role that will interfere with their ability to complete their education in the designated timeframe.

In addition, we require the participating businesses to be ready no later than 2:15PM and stay for the entire event, packing up to start after 4:30PM. We encourage trinkets and table giveaways.

PLEASE COMPLETE **ALL** THE QUESTIONS BELOW:

Company Name: _____

Contact Name/Title: _____

Contact email: _____

Number at table: _____ Patriots Expo Table: YES NO

Program(s) of interest: _____

Please check if your company sponsors, employs and supports our military.

Yes, I would like to participate in the FCTC Spring 2020 Job Fair on **March 26, 2020** and agree to adhere to the guidelines as stated above.

Unfortunately, a representative from my company will not be able to attend this time, but keep me on your list for next year.

Display Requests:

We will supply table and 2 chairs, let us know if you need electrical or any other specifications **PRIOR** to arrive (we cannot guarantee availability day of)

Please bring Table Cover, Displays, Business Cards, and Table Giveaways

Please submit this registration **No Later than March 5, 2020**

SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

Email completed form to Beth.Abstein@stjohns.k12.fl.us

FCTC Job Fair Questions, call Beth Abstein (904)547-3389 Military Event Questions, call Wendy Lay (904)547-3512

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County Website has been updated to include:

<http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org/>

Main page: Veterans Day flyer, with a link to the press release document, Navigation bars now include:

Upcoming events (for 2019)

<https://veteranscouncilsjc.org/events.htm>

SJVC Highlights for 2018 <https://veteranscouncilsjc.org/index.htm/files/VC%202018%20Summary.pdf>

Past event for 2018 <https://veteranscouncilsjc.org/events2018.htm>

Veterans Resource Spreadsheet <https://veteranscouncilsjc.org/index.htm/files/VeteranResourceSpreadsheetUpdated2017.10.12.pdf>



Jose' Concha, DPM * Richard Johnson, DPM
Board Certified by
the American Board of Foot & Ankle Surgery

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These captions are then sent to your phone. There is a cost for each minute of captions generated, paid from a federally administered fund.

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98.4%
of original list price

N2N

N2N Sells Houses for **MORE MONEY**



95.5%

Others



Over 6,000

Potential Buyers In N2N Database



29

average days on market

N2N

N2N Sells Houses **FASTER**



72

Others



2%

percentage of listings that expire

N2N

More Likely to Sell with **N2N**



29.9%

Others

GREAT TIME TO SELL!

Ask us for a **FREE HOME VALUATION**



Marianne Bach
(904) 349-0456



Kathy Jordan
(904) 401-0476

*** As a **VETERAN**,
SAVE **25%** when buying or selling with us! ***



Navy to Navy Homes Llc
10605 Theresa Drive, Suite 5
Jacksonville, FL 32246
Office: 904-900-4776

The logo consists of the letters 'V4V' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The number '4' is smaller and positioned between the two 'V's. The letters are filled with a pattern of white stars on a dark blue background, reminiscent of the American flag.

Together We are Stronger

**Keeping our Veterans
Informed, Connected, United, and Organized**

V4VFlorida.org

Vets4VetsNJax@gmail.com

Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: @Vets4VetsNJax

#vets4vetsjax #Jointhevetsmovement #Togetherwearestronger



Mission Statement:

**The Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc.
is a 501 C3 Not-For-Profit Florida Corporation.**



The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is comprised of representatives from various veterans' organizations that work with city and county governments and organizations to assist with matters concerning veterans and veterans' activities.

What the Council has done:

- The Veterans Treatment Court
 - Wreaths Across America
 - Homeless Veterans Standdown
 - Veterans Day Parade
 - Vets 4 Vets
- And so much more...

SA-0003147064-01

A question we all may have to ask some day. What should I do if a Veteran passes away?

SECTION 8 Partial list of action to be undertaken upon the death of veteran or retiree.

1. Contact Funeral Director to set-up funeral arrangements and Military Honors (PAFB Mortuary Affairs)
2. Notify Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) (<https://cust-support.dfas.mil/rapiti/nod/>) or call 1-888-332-741
3. Notify Veterans Administration 1-800-827-1000
4. Notify Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213
5. Notify Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) 1-800-538-9552
6. Notify VA Life Insurance, if applicable 1-800-669-8477
7. Notify SGLI and VGLI Insurance, if applicable 1-800-419-1473
8. Notify Civil Service Retirement System, if applicable 1-888-767-6738
9. Obtain at least 10 certified copies of long form death certificate and 10 copies of short form death certificate from Funerary Directors
10. Notify Life Insurance companies, and file appropriate claims
11. Notify Medical, health, disability, travel and accident insurance companies, and file appropriate claims
12. Notify Home owners insurance company
13. Notify Vehicle insurance company
14. Go to the County Property Appraiser's Office and transfer all real estate properties to surviving spouse.
15. Apply for widowed person's Homestead Exemption
16. Apply for appropriate (VA, Civil Service and other) benefits, if applicable
17. Apply for Veterans Burial Benefits and Survivor Benefits, if applicable
18. Check for non-government pension benefits, if applicable
19. Apply for Workmen's Compensation Benefits if applicable.
20. Notify your Accountant or Tax Preparer (unless Estate Lawyer is preparing the final tax returns) provide certified death certificate, previously filed tax return forms, and current earnings and dividend statements.
21. Notify your investment broker or company.
22. Change ownership of joint or solely owned stocks, mutual funds, etc.
23. Cancel any unfulfilled orders arranged by the deceased
24. Notify IRAs and other retirement and investment account administrators
25. Transfer the ownership of bonds
26. Notify your bank(s) and credit union(s)
27. Change all jointly held accounts and correct tax identification numbers (usually Social Security Numbers) (Leave joint accounts intact for 6 months)
28. Cancel direct deposit retirement benefit payments (for SBP, Civil Service and others, if applicable)
29. Re-establish the Title of your safe deposit box
30. Re-establish all outstanding mortgages, personal notes, etc.
31. Apply for any credit life insurance that may exist on loans, credit cards, and mortgages
32. Change Certificates of Deposit
33. Go to Department Of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to transfer titles of all registered vehicles, mobile homes and boats.
34. Notify all credit card companies and cancel all individually held cards of the deceased
35. Review trusts for required actions, if required.
36. If a Will must be probated, contact your attorney. Your name may also need to be revised.
37. Cancel the deceased's Voter Registration and Drivers License.
38. Obtain new military identification cards. Make appointment at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/default.asp> or contact Patrick AFB ID Card Section at 321-494-6144/6147
39. Send "Thank You" cards for flowers, memorial donations, food, etc.

From Nila Thompson

Veterans
Crisis Line



Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Veterans
Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1



Veterans
Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

STAND BY THEM

Confidential help for
Veterans and their families

Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to 838255

NATIONAL
**SUICIDE
PREVENTION
LIFELINE**
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Military/Veterans
Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255



Veterans
Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Confidential chat at MilitaryCrisisLine.net or text 838255

Veterans Councils of Northeast Florida



BAKER COUNTY

President: Larry Porterfield

Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month

Location:

**MacClenny Primitive Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall on North Boulevard**

Time: 1800 (6pm)

CLAY COUNTY

President: Harry Silvers

Meetings:

First Wednesday of each month

Location:

**American Legion Post 250
3939 County Rd 218
Middleburg, FL 32068**

Time: 1400 (2pm)

NASSAU COUNTY

President: Doc Monaghan

Meetings:

First Thursday of each month

Location:

**American Legion Post 54
626 South 3rd St
Fernandina Beach FL 32034**

Time: 1900 (7pm)

DUVAL COUNTY

President: Steve Spickelmier

Meetings:

Third Tuesday of each month

Location:

**American Legion Post 137
Moon Building
5443 San Juan Avenue**

Time: 1900 (7pm)

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

President: Bill Dudley

Meetings:

Last Thursday of each month

Location:

**Health and Human Services Bldg
Muscovy Room, 1st Floor
200 San Sebastian View
St. Augustine, FL 3208**

Time: 1900 (7pm)

Contact Nila Thompson with updates
Nila.ThompsonV4V@gmail.com

National Museum of the Marine Corps

Throughout February and March 2020, the Museum will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the battle of Iwo Jima with special displays and events.

Tomorrow, 19 February, will mark the anniversary of D-Day on Iwo Jima. In commemoration of the battle, the Museum will display both flags raised on Mount Suribachi on 23 February 1945 in our WWII Gallery.


Stop by and see these iconic flags on display until 30 March 2020.


THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA 1945-2020

FLAG RAISINGS ON IWO JIMA

"The raising of the flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years"
- James Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, to General Holland M. Smith, USMC

4.9 mi
2.5 mi
IWO JIMA
554 ft
MOUNT SURIBACHI

1  **28 1/2" x 55 1/2"**

2  **58" x 88 3/4"**

6 FLAG RAISERS*
*The 2nd flag raising

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| FEBRUARY 19 | D-DAY ON IWO JIMA |
| FEBRUARY 23 | 1ST AND 2ND FLAG RAISED |
| MARCH 14 | 2ND FLAG TAKEN DOWN |
| MARCH 26 | THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA ENDS |
| APRIL 26 | BOTH FLAGS RETURN TO THE U.S. |

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

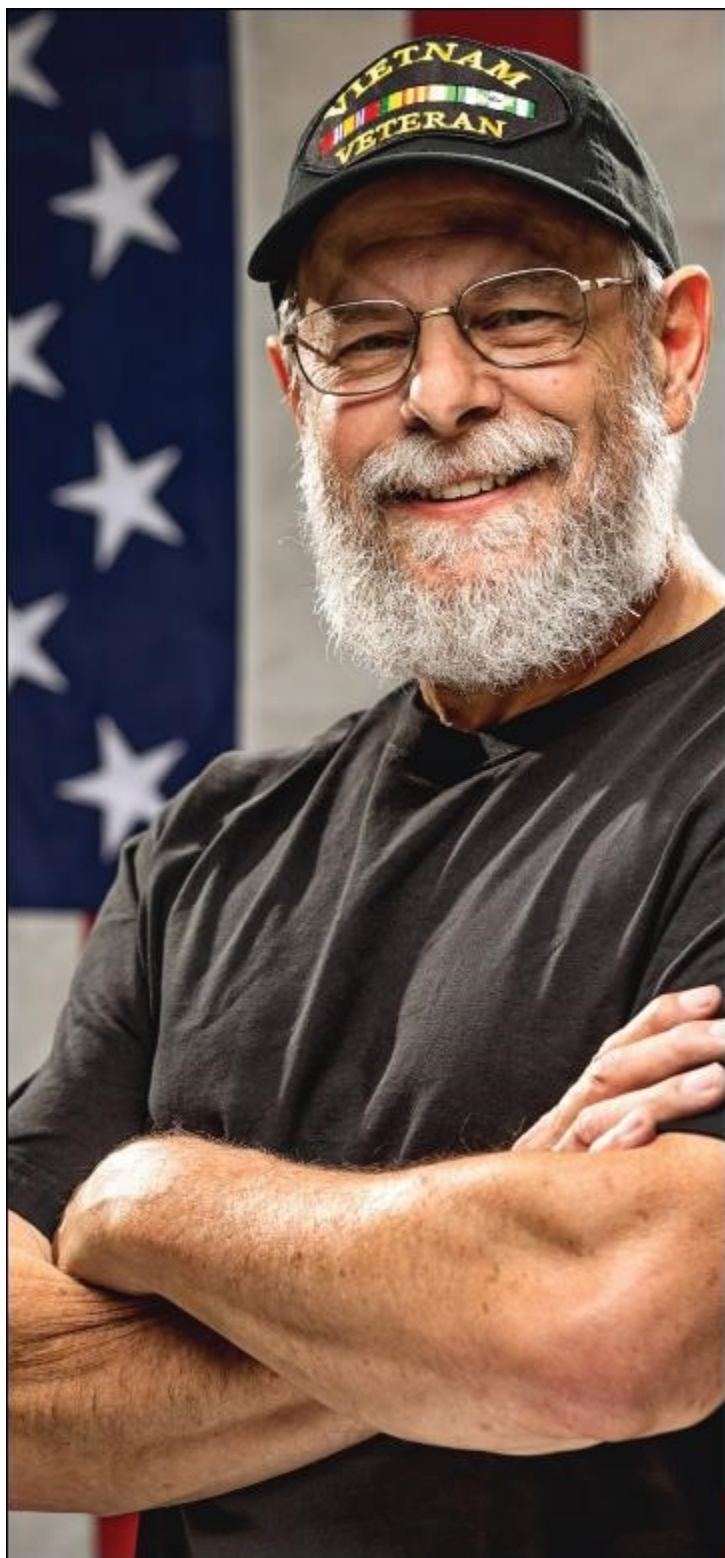
36 Granada Street, St. Augustine FL 32084

(904) 679-5736

Corazoncinemaandcafe.com



Stop by the Corazon Cinema and Café located in the heart of St. Augustine to catch a great film or a bite to eat (free parking). **Tell us you are a veteran and receive 10% off any food or drinks.** Beer and wine available.



SERVING VETERANS SINCE 1979

At Community Hospice & Palliative Care, we are honored to serve veterans and their caregivers by providing specialized programs to meet their unique needs now and at the end of life.

- ★ Advance Care Planning
- ★ Bereavement & Grief Support
- ★ Caregiver Education
- ★ Hospice Care
- ★ Palliative Care
- ★ We Honor Veterans Program

For more information about our We Honor Veterans program, any of our services or to become a veteran volunteer, call toll-free **866.253.6681** or go to **Veterans.CommunityHospice.com**.



"I've proudly served as Chairman of the Community Hospice Veterans Partnership (CHVP) since 2011. CHVP partners with veterans service groups throughout the community to listen and learn how Community Hospice & Palliative Care can best serve our unique needs."

**Bob Buehn, Captain, United States Navy (Ret.)
Chairman, Community Hospice Veterans Partnership
(2011 - present)**





COMMUNITY HOSPICE
VETERANS PARTNERSHIP

Salute Our Heroes in Their Final Days: Support Flags & Pins for Veterans in Hospice Care

Honor our local veterans in hospice care with a dignified tradition when you support funding for flags and pins through Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Since 2008, the Jacksonville-based organization has presented all veterans admitted to its hospice program with a commemorative pin to honor their service, as well as a certificate of appreciation. For veterans who get care at one of our eight inpatient centers, staff and volunteers erect the flag of the service branch in which they served outside their rooms. Flags are then presented to veterans' families following the death.



The need for funding is great as up to 25 percent of patients who receive hospice care at Community Hospice & Palliative Care are veterans. The nonprofit organization, which provides hospice care to nearly 1,300 patients each day, raises funds through individual support and community organizations who believe in serving those who have served our country so honorably.

If you or your organization would like to support our Flags & Pins Initiative and honor our warriors one last time, please contact

Toula Wootan, director of community programs at Community Hospice & Palliative Care, at 904.407.6211 or twootan@communityhospice.com.

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County is proud to announce that it has modernized its website and created a Facebook page.



We are inviting all veterans to visit our website at:

NEW <http://www.veteranscouncilsjc.org>

The Veterans Council will post items of interest to all veterans, post pictures, articles, flyers, events, etc. We will post our meetings dates and keep you informed about events at the Jacksonville and St. Augustine National Cemeteries.

Please join our group on Facebook at:

<http://veteranscouncilsjc.org>

Please select **Join the Group** to become a member

Once you have joined the Veterans Council Facebook group you will be able to post your meetings, pictures, articles, fund raisers, etc. It will be your common site to go to and see what's happening.

The website and Facebook page were updated and created so that there would be a central place to list all veterans activities in NE FL.

You may have noticed the Veterans Council's new logo, it was created by Roy Havekost and his web design company PageAuthors. The VC strongly recommends that you contact Roy, 727-487-6252, if you or your vet group wants to create a website or Facebook page.

NEW INFO: Ride in comfort to your appointments at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville.



The van is provided by the Disabled Veterans Chapter 6, and leaves no later than 6AM from the new VA Clinic location at 195 Southpark Blvd. The corner of Southpark and Old Moultrie Road.

To schedule your seat please contact the VA Clinic at 904-823-2954 and ask for Veteran Van Scheduling.



**SURVIVOR
OUTREACH SERVICES**

Survivor Outreach Offers Free Services to
Surviving Spouses and Family Members of Military Retirees

Contact Keith Ham

Survivor Outreach Services Support Coordinator, HRCI Contractor
310 Charlotte Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084
Office: 904-823-0157 Cell: 904-472-7689
Email: keith.e.ham.ctr@mail.mil

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*Veterans Council of St. Johns County,
"Helping All Veterans"*

The Veterans Council of St. Johns County welcomes article submissions from all County Veterans & organizations. Articles should be of interest to all and veterans related. Submissions may be edited &/or shortened and used if space permits.

Send to: rothfeldm@gmail.com



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. It is composed of representatives of the various veterans' organizations within St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will work with city and county governments and other local organizations to achieve the mutual goal to provide a central agency to assist in the coordination and presentation of matters concerning veterans and veterans activities in St. Johns County.

The Veteran's Council will endeavor to precipitate, stimulate and assist various organizations as they perform patriotic events. One of the major purposes is the promotion and education of national patriotic matters.

The St. Johns County Veterans Council meets the last Thursday of the month at 7 pm.

The Veterans Council will meet at the St. Johns County Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View Muscovy Room, 1st floor

**Veterans Service Office
200 San Sebastian View, Suite 1400
St. Augustine, FL 32084**

*(physical location)
The VSO Office is located in the St. Johns County Health and Human Services Building.*

The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday excluding holidays.

*Service is by appointment.
Phone: 904-209-6160 Fax: 904-209-6161
Joseph McDermott, SR VSO
Rick Rees, Assistant VSO
Travis Neidig, Assistant VSO*

The views expressed in The Patriot Reader Newsletter articles, submissions and spotlights are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Veterans Council of St. Johns County or the editors of The Patriot Reader. It is the purpose of this periodical to share a variety of information that pertain to local veterans and their organizations.