



JEFFERSON COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICES OFFICE



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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEFFERSON, WI – VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS: IMPORTANT LINK FOR LOCAL VETERANS

It doesn't matter which branch of service a person served in—or when—there is a common thread of comradery and pride that comes with putting on a military uniform and rising to the call of duty. For many—one of the most difficult parts of serving--is being discharged and leaving behind the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen or Marines that you could count on to have your back. Even if the duty was difficult and the discharge date couldn't come soon enough as the days on the "short-timer's calendar" were crossed out one by one—it is often bittersweet to leave your military family behind. Entering back into civilian life can be tough. No longer are you cocooned by a community of people who understand the shared culture and live by a common set of standards and rules.

Not so long ago—belonging to one or more Veterans Service Organizations was the obvious answer to this dilemma. In recent years though—societal and demographic changes have caused the membership of some organizations to fall off. But in Jefferson County--there are still sixteen vibrant Veterans Service Organizations, many with auxiliaries, which meet monthly across nine communities. There are eight American Legion Posts, of which Watertown, with 430 members is the largest. You will also find five Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, two chapters of Disabled American Veterans, an AmVets post – and one Marine Corps League detachment within the county.

As we celebrate Veterans Day 2016—consider joining—or perhaps becoming a leader in a Veterans service organization in your area. The opportunity to foster comradery and lift up other Veterans and their families is a worthwhile endeavor which can be deeply rewarding. If you already belong to a Veterans Service Organization—keep an eye out for fellow Veterans that seems isolated or Depressed and take them along to a post meeting or activity. A hand extended in friendship to make sure a person feels valued as part of the Veteran community can literally save a life.

Veterans Service Organizations play a key role nationally by keeping an eye on the Veterans Administration to ensure proper care for Veterans and an ear to the ground for issues of concern to Veterans including potential legislative changes which may signal the need to reach out to legislators.

Locally, individual posts may have fundraising events to raise comradery and money simultaneously. Many of the service organizations support the local Veterans Service Commission—which is a board-supervised fund held by the County to provide immediate and direct assistance to individual Veterans in the form of food or gas cards, help with utilities or housing, or other sudden crises.

Occasionally—a Veterans Service Organization will learn about a need and rally to meet it. A recent example is the iPad and audio equipment donated by the Endl-Gruennert C.M.H VFW Post 3589 of Jefferson to aid the County Veterans Service Officer in her outreach efforts

If you have questions about how to get connected with a Veterans Service Organization in your area – or about Veterans benefits in general, call the Jefferson County Veterans Service Office at (920) 674-7240 or find the Veterans Service Officer in your area by logging on to www.WICVSO.org.



Representatives of Endl-Gruennert C.M.H VFW Post 3589 of Jefferson present an iPad and audio equipment to the County Veterans Service Office to aid in outreach efforts by Yvonne Duesterhoeft, the Jefferson County Veterans Service Officer (far left). Members present included (L-R): Harvery Dooge, Ken Heitz, Jim Koehler, Jim Martin and Roger DeMoe. VFW Post 3589 meets monthly on he fourth Monday and encourages Veterans of all ages to join them for commraderie and community service opportunités.

Veteran Service Org.	Street	City	Date & Time	Phone	Commander
American Legion - Clarence Beam Warren Goerge - Post #67	129 S. Main St.	Lake Mills, WI 53551	Second Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-648-5115	Dave Behling
American Legion - Humphrey- Wilsey - Post #233	Highway 89	Waterloo, WI 53594	Fourth Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-478-4300	
American Legion - Paul Frank Florine - Post #166	201 S. Water St.	Fort Atkinson, WI 53538	First Wednesday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-563-2102	William Imsland
American Legion - Pitterle- Beaudoin - Post #189	206 S. 1St.	Watertown, WI 53094	First Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-262-9189	Dennis Johnson
American Legion - Reinhardt-Windl - Post #164	321 N. Main St.	Jefferson, WI 53549	Third Wednesday of the Month @ 7:30 PM	920-674-3772	Eugene Robinson
American Legion- Schlesner-Burri Post #305	223 First St.	Johnson Creek, WI 53038	Third Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM		Marlene Schultz
American Legion - Thomas- Holcomb - Post #304	115 N. Third St.	Palmyra, WI 53156	Second Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM	262-495-2638	Dale Mitchell
American Legion - Bob Reed Memorial - Post #513	W1749 Bente Rd	Helenville, WI 53137	Second Thursday of the Month @ 7:30 PM		J.D. Peck
Amvet - Post #35	207 S. 2nd St.	Watertown, WI 53094	Second Thursday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-262-0067	
Disabled American Veterans - Chapter #63	206 S. 1St.	Watertown, WI 53094	Fourth Thursday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-674-5719	Troy Messer
Disabled American Veterans - Blackhawk Chapter #39	201 S. Water St.	Fort Atkinson, WI 53538	Fourth Thursday of even Months except December @ 7:30 PM	920-723-6011	Ron Engren
Marine Corp League - Bartelme- Schwefel #349	117 N. First St	Watertown, WI 53094	Second Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 PM	608-839-5387	Gary Stueber
VFW - Beaudoin-Koehler-Draeger - Post #3709	N8775 High Road	Watertown, WI 53094	Second Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 PM	920-206-1732	
VFW - Edwin Frohmader - Post #1879	N2074 Veterans Road	Fort Atkinson, WI 53538	Second Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM	920-563-5256	
VFW - Endl-Gruennert CMH - Post #3589	1420 S. Main St	Jefferson, WI 53549	Fourth Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM	920-674-2869	
VFW - Krause-Langer - Post #6614	115 S. Monroe St.	Waterloo, WI 53594	First Monday of the Month @ 7:00 PM	920-478-9506	
VFW - Sullivan Memorial - Post #10604	804 Grove St.	Sullivan, WI 5353178	Second Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM	262-593-8389	