



Roscommon County Veterans Affairs
Monthly Newsletter
Website: www.roscommoncounty.net/Veterans
"Serving those who Served"

Month: May 2016 7th Edition

Deadline for June's Newsletter: May 22, 2016

Greetings, the office of the Roscommon County Veterans Affairs has decided to publish a monthly newsletter which will be shared with all of our Service Organizations within the county on a regular basis. The last three newsletters will also be placed on our Roscommon County Veterans Affairs website (www.roscommoncounty.net/Veterans).

It is our hope that this information will be of value to your members and displayed within your organization in a location that your members are aware of and have access to. We have **enlarged the font** for the newsletter based on feedback, hopefully, it will be easier to read. We would like to also announce any future events and/or activities your post is sponsoring that we can help spread the news under the Service Organizations section. If your post has an email address that this can be sent that would be helpful as occasionally this may be publish to advertise a special event involving Veterans in your area.

Electronic copies of the newsletter will allow the reader to have access to the various links found in this newsletter. If individual Veteran wishes to receive these newsletters electronically have the Veteran send a email to veterans@roscommoncounty.net with a Subject Line: Request for RCVA monthly newsletter. Our office will also provide our minutes of our Board meeting monthly as well as the Accumulative Total spreadsheet showing our office service to Veterans in our measurable categories.

The format for this newsletter will be by War Periods, but is not limited to only war time Veterans; **Peacetime Veterans have benefits**, too. For VA benefits available for Veterans during a certain War Periods, see the November 2015 1st Edition for specific information.

World War II (December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946);

[World War II Veterans](#)

World War II (WWII) was the most widespread war in history with more than 100 million people serving in military units. About 16 million Americans served during WWII, and many of those Veterans are now receiving VA benefits including Pension and Health Care. WWII



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Veterans who were a part of the Occupation Forces assigned to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan soon after the detonation of Atomic-Bombs over those respective cities, and those American prisoners of war (POW's) who were housed in close proximity to those cities are sometimes called "Atomic Veterans."

Mid Michigan Honor Flight Information: The spring flight date has been announced for June 8, 2016 with a Lansing departure. A second flight is still being organized for September/October time frame. They are constantly fundraising to assist in the cost of these flights for WW II Veterans. If interested call, 231-803-4255. If you are a WWII Veteran and would like to participate with this Honor Flight call the Mid Michigan Honor Flight number listed.

Korea Conflict (June 27, 1950-January 31, 1955)

Approximately 5.7 million Veterans served in the Korean War. Korean War Veterans are more prone to suffer from disabilities related to cold injuries as a result of exposure to severe cold climates. Cold weather accounted for 16% of Army non-battle injuries and over 5,000 U.S. casualties of cold injury required evacuation from Korea during the winter of 1950-1951. In many instances, Servicemembers could not seek or were unable to obtain medical care for cold injuries because of battlefield conditions.

Mid Michigan Honor Flight Information: Discussed opening up the Honor Flights to Korean Veterans. Call the number above for more information.

Korea War Veterans Association (KMVA) – The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA). It is published six times a year for members and private distribution. Subscriptions available for \$30.00/year (see address below). MAILING ADDRESS FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Administrative Assistant, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920- 0407. MAILING ADDRESS TO SUBMIT MATERIAL / CONTACT EDITOR: Graybeards Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141. MAILING ADDRESS OF THE KWVA: P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407. WEBSITE: <http://www.kwva.org>



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Mission Statement:

THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA is
DEFEND our Nation
CARE for our Veterans
PERPETUATE our Legacy
REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen
MAINTAIN our Memorial
SUPPORT a free Korea

The Republic of Korea (ROK) subsidized "Revisit Korea Tours" will be expanded in 2016. In addition, "Korea Defense Veterans" will be eligible to submit applications. "War" veterans will still have the first priority. However, as the war veterans age, "Defense Veterans," those classified as having served in Korea from Oct 16, 1954 to the present, will be eligible to participate. In view of this major change, we are lowering the required tour deposit from \$450.00 to a non-refundable sum of \$50.00 per person. This will permit us to build up a larger inventory of veterans desiring to "Return." When the monthly quotas are received from the ROK Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), usually in February, we will notify "those registered" of the options, by month. If the "War" veterans' slots cannot be filled, we will then offer them to the "Defense" veterans who have pre-registered. This will be done on a "First come" basis. At that time, the balance of \$400.00 per person for administration, logistics, and insurance will be due, and the veteran(s) will be billed. Important, please read carefully: all other eligibility requirements regarding health insurance, service "In, over, or around" Korea, etc., will remain applicable and can be read on the NEW Revisit Korea registration form in The Graybeards magazine, or at www.KWVA.org or www.miltours.com. NOTE: Veterans who have previously registered with a \$450.00 deposit will have the first priority.

Korean War Memorials
State of Michigan

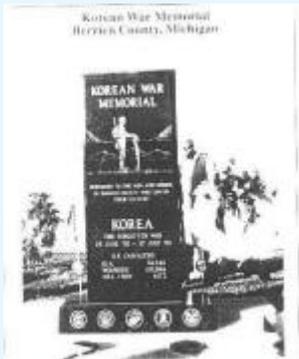


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Berrien County



(Click picture for larger view)

Sterling Heights



(Click picture for larger view)

The memorial in Sterling Heights, MI, was dedicated on May 25, 1998.

Traverse City



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(Click picture for larger view)

This memorial was dedicated June 25, 2000. This beautiful memorial monument has been placed in the park along Grand Traverse West Bay off Grand Traverse Bay Blvd. in Traverse City, Michigan.



Chapter 38 Traverse City, Michigan
 (Click picture for larger view)



Left View
 (Click picture for larger view)



Top View
 (Click picture for larger view)



Right View
 (Click picture for larger view)

Vietnam Era (August 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975)

Vietnam Veterans

United States military involvement in the Vietnam War officially began on August 5, 1964; however, the first U.S. casualty in Vietnam occurred on July 8, 1959. Approximately 2.7 million American men and women served in Vietnam. During the war, over 58,000 U.S. military members lost their lives and 153,000 were wounded. There were 766 prisoners of war of



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which 114 died in captivity. The war was officially ended by Presidential Proclamation on May 7, 1975.

Short notice/Response is required. Congressman John Moolenaar Vietnam Veteran Commemorative Lapel Pin Ceremony on May 4, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at Finch Fieldhouse at Central Michigan University. To claim your pin, please RSVP to Congressman Moolenaar's office at: <https://moolenaar.house.gov/vietnamveterans> or call (989) 631-2552 and provide the following information. Full Name, Address, Phone Number, Email, Branch/Unit, Rank, and Years of Service.

Operation LZ Michigan, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans – is scheduled for 8-10 July 2016 at Oscoda Wurtsmith Airport in Oscoda. Contact our office for a list of events.

List of Agent Orange-related diseases may expand.

The Veterans Affairs Department is weighing whether to add several diseases to the list of health conditions presumed in Vietnam veterans to be caused by exposure to Agent Orange. VA began recognizing diseases associated with herbicide exposure in Vietnam beginning in 1991, naming 15 diseases as presumed to be related, including Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, early-onset peripheral neuropathy, porphyria cutanea tarda, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers, soft-tissue sarcoma, chloracne, type-2 diabetes mellitus, light chain amyloidosis, ischemic heart disease, chronic B-cell leukemias, Parkinson's disease, and spina bifida in offspring of veterans. VA recommends that veterans who have an illness they believe is related to Agent Orange exposure file a claim; they are considered on a case-by-case basis if the illness is not on the presumptive condition list.

Vietnam Wall "In Memory" Program: More than 58,000 names meet the Defense Department's criteria to be etched into the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, but those who survived the war — but later died as a result of their service — are not. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund acknowledges their service and sacrifice through an online "In Memory" Honor Roll. Causes of death that fit the criteria for inclusion in the program include exposure to Agent Orange, PTSD-



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related illnesses/events, cancer, diabetes, heart attacks, etc. The program is free and the application process is simple. To honor a loved one, you only need to submit the veteran's DD214 to show their proof of service in the Vietnam War, a copy of their death certificate, and a photograph. The application deadline for inclusion in the 2016 ceremony is March 4. For information or to submit applications, go to: <http://www.vvmf.org/InMemoryProgram>.

Persian Gulf War/OIF/OEF... (August 2, 1990 through a date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation)

Gulf War Veterans

More than 650,000 Service members served in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm from August 2, 1990 to July 31, 1991. For VA benefits eligibility purposes, the Gulf War period is still in effect. This means that anyone who served on active duty from August 2, 1990, to present is considered a Gulf War Veteran. For example, the Veterans Pension benefit requires service during a wartime period. Therefore, any Veteran who served on active military service for any period from August 2, 1990, to the present meets the wartime service requirement.

Gulf War II Veterans

There were 3,802,000 Gulf War II veterans in January. 3,155,000 (83.0%) were in the workforce. Of those, 2,975,000 (78.3%) were employed and 179,000 (5.7%) were unemployed. 647,000 Gulf War II veterans were not in the labor force.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpUFebVc2EM>

VA offers eligible Veterans a free Gulf War Registry health exam to find possible long-term health problems related to Gulf War service. - See more at:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/#sthash.Ys2j4Jd9.dpuf>

Health Care for Gulf War Veterans



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VA offers a variety of health care benefits to Gulf War Veterans, including a Gulf War Registry health exam and clinical treatment at VA's War Related Illness and Injury Study Center.
 - See more at: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/benefits/health-care.asp#sthash.QJ7MWYmH.dpuf>

Services/Benefits for All Service Members

Veteran designation on Michigan Driver's licenses and state IDs: More than 57,000 Michigan Veterans have taken advantage of this program to have their licenses and/or IDs identified with a Veteran status. Veterans may receive this designation **free during renewal** or pay a small fee before or after renewal dates to have it placed on your license. Proof of service, such as a discharge document (DD-214) is required at the Secretary of State office. Any questions, please call our County office at (989) 275-6047. This Veteran designation **does not** meet several of the chain stores (i.e., Home Depot, Lowes) requirements for a Veteran discount. It never hurts to ask any business/restaurant if they offer a discount to Veterans. Do us a favor and let us know if it is in Roscommon County and we will add it to our list.

Certified Veteran –Friendly Employer program: Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency (MVAA) has recognized 34 organizations for their efforts to hire and support Veteran talent in the workforce.

57 schools earn veteran-friendly status: Student veterans and their dependents can choose from more than 50 veteran-friendly schools committed to providing on-campus, veteran-centric services to better support their academic and transitional needs.



MVAA's Veteran-Friendly School program recognizes institutions of higher learning for their dedication to student veterans and dependents utilizing their G.I. Bill and other educational benefits. Michigan 43 colleges and universities are 100 % compliant with the Choice Act, offering in-state tuition to all recently released Veterans and their families.



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Michigan Veterans Trust Fund: In FY 2014, \$2,482,845 dollars distributed to 2,157 Veterans and their families in need of emergency assistance. These funds are only available to war time Veterans.

Helpful Veterans Information

Michigan is home to the 11th largest Veterans population in the country with 658,469 Veterans; here in Roscommon County we have 2,821 Veterans.

Michigan Veterans receive capita federal spending ranked at 48th out of 53 states and territories, which is an improvement as several years ago Michigan was dead last or 53rd of 53 states and territories.

Michigan is projecting 30,000 plus Michigan Veterans returning to Michigan due to the recent drawdown. A lot of the younger Veterans are having a hard time transferring their skills to civilian workplaces. Unemployment rate for Michigan Veterans was 7.3% in 2013.

More than half of Michigan's 658,469 Veterans are not officially counted in the labor force. Only about 44% of our Veterans are in the workforce.

Michigan Veteran Community Action Teams (VCAT) - The concept behind these VCAT is to implement the no wrong door concept among service providers to Veterans **and their families**. A "warm hand off" is the operational concept of making sure the Veteran is not only given the service provider information but for the agency to call the service provider while the Veteran is still in the office and provide the Veteran a Point of Contact within the service agency. Please call the Roscommon County Veterans Affairs office for more information.

In Michigan, nearly three quarters (72%) of Veterans are aged 55 and older.

Michigan's Veteran population is older than that of the U.S. Veteran population as a whole, with a significantly higher proportion Vietnam Veterans residing in the state.



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No Wrong Door for Michigan Veterans: The Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center (MVRSC) and MichiganVeterans.com provide one-stop access for Veterans and their families seeking information, resources and support as they transition through each chapter of their lives. Callers to 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838) are provided Veteran-specific programs as well as a warm hand-off to programs available to all Michigan citizens.

Veteran Homes in Michigan – Michigan is home to two (2) superb state owned Veteran homes in Michigan, one in Grand Rapids and one in Marquette.

National Cemeteries in Michigan - one in Battle Creek known as Fort Custer Cemetery and one in Holly, Mi known as Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Roscommon County Helpful Information

Roscommon County Veterans Affairs (RCVA) office is open five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the County Building in Roscommon and has started offering office hours every Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Houghton Lake Community Center (aka Houghton Lake Senior Center) starting Thursday, December 3, 2015.

The RCVA office recently requested local businesses to identify if they provide any type of Veterans discounts here in Roscommon County. Sadly, only one business responded to this attempt though our office is aware that there are more service providers and/or businesses in Roscommon County who do offer Veterans discount. Our office is asking for your help in developing this list for Roscommon County. Our office is also aware certain "chains" may offer Veterans discount but this varies from one business to another.

The one business who did reply was:

Family Eye Care, P.C., Dr. Jay C. Jenkins in Houghton Lake and Roscommon

- 40% off materials from usual and customary on any spectacle orders



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- 30% off services, to include specialty testing such as Visual fields, Ocular coherence and Visual Evoked Potentials for disease management

Minutes of our April 7, 2016 Roscommon County Veterans Affairs monthly meeting are as follows:

Meeting called to order at 12:00 noon by Chairman Don Mraz.

Pledge of Allegiance was given to the National Flag.

Members present: Don Mraz; Ken Melvin, Tom Sheppard and Ron Schrieber; **Staff:** Director of Veterans Affairs: Kevin C. Sherman. **Excused:** Heath Nemeth, County Veteran Service Officer in Houghton Lake office; **Guests:** Mike Allumi

Public Comments – None.

Minutes of last meeting, 7 April 2016, and Office Report Accumulative Totals for March 2016 were presented, accepted and filed. Motion by Ron Schrieber and seconded by Ken Melvin to approved minutes and Office Report. Motion Carried.

Correspondence – None

Burial and Graver Markers:

Roscommon County had expenses for 11 burials at \$ 3,300 and 0 grave markers for a total of \$ 3,300.00.

Medical Transportation

We had 12 trips for medical transportation for \$1,133.58. Collections from the office throughout the month were \$ 72.00, leaving a total of \$1,061.58 for the month (Note: One transporter amount was for two months as he was unavailable last month to provide his monthly voucher).



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Monthly Office Expenses:

Claims and Accounts for monthly office expenses submitted for \$ 347.46. Motion by Tom Sheppard, seconded by Ken Melvin to pay Burial and Grave Marker, Medical Transportation and Monthly office expenses. Carried

Veteran's Relief Fund Application:

3 Veterans Relief Fund applications received during month. Two relief applications were reviewed by the Board and approved, one for \$238.74 for a natural gas shutoff and a second Veteran for \$1,664.75 for four vouchers for a Vietnam Veteran who is struggling with dementia and is behind on his bills. The Veteran's son has taken over his father's financial affairs. A third application was not approved pending Veteran receiving a valid Michigan Driver's License and more information from Veteran's Parole officer. Motion by Ron Schrieber, seconded by Tom Sheppard to approve the Veterans Relief Fund applications presented. Carried.

Director's Report

Director's Report was presented. Motion by Ron Schrieber, seconded by Ken Melvin to recommend a Step Increase for Director in May, anniversary date. Motion Carried.

Old Business:

Green Light Campaign is active and there was a nice article in the Houghton Lake Resorter. Some interesting stories as to why some of the families are participating. Enough money has been collected to order a second batch of green lights.



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Jail Liaison Position – Our Jail Liaison individual is working out quite well, we have two new inmates which will be seen this Friday. Minor correction to the Inmate Questionnaire have been made and will be used in the future.

Volunteer Driver's Recognition Banquet. Heath has been assigned this project and we are looking at a Friday in September at the Streamside. More information to follow.

Director's Annual Evaluation. Evaluations were just received and will be available for discussion at May's meeting.

New Business:

Request by Director to purchase a new chair for County Veteran Service Officer not to exceed \$300. Motion by Ken Melvin, seconded by Ron Schrieber. Carried.

Good of the Order: Ron Schrieber made a comment on the outstanding job our office is doing under Kevin's leadership and Heath's work. Our office is getting a lot of notice.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Ron Schrieber, seconded by Ken Melvin to adjourn, Meeting adjourned at 1:01 PM.

Minutes taken by: Ron Schrieber, Secretary

Questions and Answers/ Requests Driven

Q&A/ None this month

March Roscommon County Veterans Affairs Office Totals

March Veterans or Dependents Office Visits 86 Coordination of volunteer medical transport 14
 Personal Interviews 59 Telephone calls made 103 Telephone calls received 140
 Claims submitted/reviewed 19 Home or Nursing Home/Assisted visits 0 Records Request; DD 214 or other: 3
 County Veteran Relief Fund Requests/Application 3 Medical Transportation: Number of Trips 12 Burials 11



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General Information

VA Provides New Care to Migraine Sufferers: VA is now offering a new form of preventative care to patients suffering from migraine headaches. Cefaly is a new technology that uses electrodes to stimulate nerve cells which stop pain receptors from causing migraines. The device was approved by the FDA in 2014 and is suggested to be worn daily for a minimum of 20 minutes. Most patients report their migraines either completely end or at least drastically improve after consistent use of Cefaly. "It's reduced the amount of meds I'm taking," one patient said. "When you've had a headache for 14 days, you're willing to try anything to get relief, and this thing works. If you're having issues with headaches, it's worth a try. It's a comfort, having it here, knowing I can use it whenever I need it." To read more, click here:

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/26884/va-helping-migraine-sufferers-new-treatment/>.

Helping Veterans, one hug at a time

Three people, two Veterans, one goal – "Bring awareness to PTSD by giving love back to humanity one hug at a time." With approximately 132 facilities still to visit, the Human Hug Project may soon be [coming to a VA medical center near you](#).

LinkedIn offering free access to Lynda.com

LinkedIn has expanded its partnership with the VA and is now offering service members and veterans one year of access to its professional development site, Lynda.com, at no cost.



This online learning company offers thousands of on-demand courses for users to build their business, software, technology, creative and other skills for achieving personal and professional goals. Service members and veterans can take courses in web development, photography, 3-D animation, music production and more, covering all skill levels.

In partnership with the VA, LinkedIn also offers service members and veterans job-search resources and a one-year premium job seeker account at no cost. The account gives veterans greater visibility and insight into the LinkedIn network, free InMails and the benefit of becoming a "featured applicant" when applying for a job.



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It also allows job seekers to import their profiles to create a public Veterans Employment Center™ profile. The VEC hosts LinkedIn training materials that provide transitioning service members and veterans with tips and tricks to help them fully leverage LinkedIn's job-seeking tools.

For more information, visit [LinkedIn's website](#).

VA call center will help with Choice Program billing issues

Veterans can now work directly with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to resolve debt collection issues resulting from inappropriate or delayed Choice Program billing.

The VA has set up a Community Care Call Center for veterans experiencing adverse credit reporting or debt collection resulting from inappropriately billed Choice Program claims.

Veterans experiencing these problems can call 877-881-7618 for assistance.

The new call center will work to resolve instances of improper veteran billing and assist community care medical providers with delayed payments. VA staff are also trained and ready to work with the medical providers to expunge adverse credit reporting on veterans resulting from delayed payments to providers.

Applications being accepted for 2016 National Veterans Golden Age Games

Event takes place in Detroit, July 10-14

The 2016 National Veterans Golden Age Games take place in Detroit, Michigan, July 10-14. Nearly 800 athletes are expected to compete in the national rehabilitative multi-sport and recreation competition for senior Veterans. The event encourages participants to make physical activity a central part of their lives, and supports VA's comprehensive recreation



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and rehabilitation therapy programs. Competitive events include air rifle, badminton, boccia, bowling, cycling, field, golf, horseshoes, nine ball, power walk, shuffleboard, swimming, table tennis and track.

Wreaths Across America

On Wreaths Across America Day (December 12, 2015), 70,000 volunteers placed 240,185 remembrance wreaths on headstones in Arlington, and with over 1,100 participating locations nationwide 901,000 remembrance wreaths were placed overall. The remembrance wreaths were gifts of respect and appreciation donated by private citizens or organizations.

Visiting Field Service Officer from American Legion at Roscommon County Building.

On the **Second and Fourth Wednesdays of every month**, Elizabeth Cuddington from the Michigan American Legion, will be in the Roscommon County Building, Veteran Affairs office from 12:30- 3:30 p.m. to assist Veterans with claims related issues. Walk ins are welcome, appointments are not needed. During winter months, please call our office in the morning to ensure she is able to get in that afternoon.

American Legion District Service Officer Tom Sheppard also provides office hours at the Prudenville American Legion Post on Tuesday evenings from 4pm-6pm and at St. Helen American Legion on Wednesdays from 5pm – last Veteran is seen.

Resource Guide for Roscommon County Veterans – Our office has completed a local Roscommon County Resource Guide to assist Veterans in finding services available to Veterans. These services cover a wide range of service areas and may be beneficial to new Veterans to your post and/or community. Copies are available in our Roscommon and Houghton Lake offices.

Green Light Campaign- The Roscommon County Veterans Affairs office is encouraging all Veterans and friends of Veterans to honor a Veteran by displaying a "Green Light" on their home year round. These "Green Lights" are now available in our Roscommon and Houghton Lake office. These are also available at our local Walmart store in Houghton Lake who provided our office these lights at their cost. The Roscommon County Veterans Affairs office would like to thank our local Walmart and their management team for this generosity. Any donation toward these "Green Lights" will allow us to maintain an adequate supply of these lights as the demand dictates.



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Service Organizations in our County

VFW Post 4159 (Dues \$50)

Post 4159 Charles M. Engel Post (11th
 District)
 PO Box 774

Roscommon, MI 48653
 United States
 Phone: (989) 275-4136

*Meeting Location &
 Time*

219 Terrace Dr
 Roscommon, MI 48653
 United States
 7:00 PM 2nd Wednesday
 Commander: David A. Luck
 Service Officer: Ronald R. Schrieber
 Quartermaster: Gerald McCormick

VFW Post 4034

Post 4034 Fred & Paul Kalis Post

PO Box 591
 Houghton Lake Heights, MI 486300591
 United States
 Phone: (989) 422-6404
Meeting Location & Time
 935 Loxley Rd
 Houghton Lake Heights, MI 48630-5051
 United States
 7:00 pm 2nd Wednesday

Commander: Steven Bidstrup
 Quartermaster:

VFW Post 5680 St. Helen Post

PO Box 376
 Saint Helen, MI 48656
 United States
 Phone: (989) 389-7492

Meeting Location & Time

1914 Lake St
 Saint Helen, MI 486569756
 United States
 7:00 PM 1st Wednesday

Quartermaster: Bruce Bridson
 Commander: Robert Hurd

Service Organizations in our County

AMERICAN LEGION POSTS

Roscommon Post #96 (Dues \$45)

PO Box 744
 Roscommon, MI 48653
 United States
 Phone: (989) 275-0099 (Adjutant Home)

Meeting Location & Time

219 Terrace Dr
 Roscommon, MI 48653
 United States
 7:00 PM 3rd Thursday
 Adjutant: Don Croff
 Commander: George Ferguson



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Service Officer: Kevin C. Sherman

St. Helen Post #416

10062 Ford Drive, St. Helen, MI 48656
 Phone: (989) 389-4630

Meeting Location & Time

10062 Ford Drive, St. Helen, MI 48656

7:00 PM 1st Thursday

Adjutant: Don Mraz

Commander: Phil Maylum

Service Officer: Vacant

Prudenville Post #245 (Houghton Lake-
 Higgins Lake) Dues \$45 3564 S. Reserve Rd

PO Box 318, Prudenville, MI 48651

United States

Phone: (810) 751-9983

Meeting Location & Time

3564 S. Reserve Rd

Prudenville, MI 48651

United States

7:00 PM 3rd Wed

Adjutant: Elizabeth Cuddington

Commander: Bill Jammer

Service Officer: Tom Sheppard

Service Organizations in our County

AMVETS

Amvet Post #13 (Dues \$37)

8009 N Ausable Rd

PO Box 335

Higgins Lake, MI 48627

United States

Phone: (989) 821-9838

Meeting Location & Time

2nd Tuesday at 6 pm

8009 N Ausable Rd

Roscommon, MI 48653

United States

Commander: Ron Watson

Service Officer: Vacant

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Marine Corps League #684 CPL Jack A.

Davenport

3564 S. Reserve Rd.

Prudenville, MI, 48651

United States

Phone: (989)

Meeting Location & Time

3564 S. Reserve Rd

Prudenville, MI 48651

United States



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7:00 PM 2nd Wed
 Commander: Jim Bowman
 Service Officer: Mel Ward (989) 422-7415
[Vietnam Veterans of America \(VVA\)](#)
 VVA Chapter #264
 PO Box 773
 Roscommon, MI 48653
Meeting Location & Time
 VFW Post #4159
 Roscommon, MI 48653
 United States
 7pm, 4th Wednesday
 Commander: Ed Nolff
 Service Officer: Ronald R. Schrieber

Continuing to Serve

Think today's veterans are mostly suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and barely making ends meet? According to a recent report by [Got Your Six](#), just the opposite is true. Got Your Six notes that today's veterans tend to be engaged citizens, more likely to volunteer and vote than the general population. As a group, they earn more than non-veterans with comparable qualifications, complete educational programs at the same rate as

non-veterans, and comprise only 8.6 of the homeless population.

Veterans are among our most community-oriented citizens. The study shows that they volunteer an average of 160 hours annually, 25 percent more than non-veterans. **They belong to civic groups and attend neighborhood meetings, often assuming leadership roles. Furthermore, 48 percent of them vote in elections regularly, 16 percent more than non-veterans.**

These findings should surprise no one. Those who serve in today's all-volunteer military usually do so out of a sense of commitment. Although the government offers educational, health, and other assistance to service members, of the scores of veterans I have interviewed, every single one has named duty to country, not benefits, as his or her primary reason for serving. Furthermore, nearly all -- including severely wounded soldiers -- say they would do it again.

Once soldiers transition to civilian life, many want to continue serving.



Roscommon County Veterans Affairs
 Monthly Newsletter
 Website: www.roscommoncounty.net/Veterans
 "Serving those who Served"

Month: May 2016 7th Edition

Deadline for June's Newsletter: May 22, 2016

Service Organizations Page

Service Organizations: The Roscommon County Department of Veterans Affairs is asking all of our county service organizations in our county to provide our office with their annual dues and a contact list of their officers. Our office would like to refer returning Veterans to your organization and it would be nice if we can give them a good contact person. I've asked in previous correspondence for applications with your dues amount completed, if your organization have not done so, please consider helping us help you in your recruiting.

The Roscommon County Veterans Affairs Committee members and staff say to all of our Veterans and their families, "God bless our Veterans and God bless America."



RED FRIDAY:

We wish to let our servicemen and servicewomen know we support their sacrifice and that we will not forget them; we will do this by wearing Red every Friday.

What is R.E.D. Friday?

RED is an acronym that stands for Remember Everyone Deployed. R.E.D. Friday was created to remind people of our heroes overseas and show that we are thinking of them. People across the country wear red every Friday to serve as a reminder and spread the message of how important it is that we keep our troops in our thoughts.

How did R.E.D. Friday Get Started?

Remember those email chains you used to get asking you to forward to 10 friends – or all of your friends? There were all kinds: some claiming ridiculous things, some trying to raise awareness for campaigns or diseases, and some that were just plain silly. This is how R.E.D. Friday originated: an email chain back in 2005.

Editor Note: This is our office fifth newsletter and we are open for articles for future newsletters and/or events you would like us to publicize with this monthly newsletter. Next month deadline is identified above, if you have any questions please call Kevin C. Sherman, Director, at (989)275-6047.