

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 2

VETERANS NEWS



OZAUKEE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

# Veterans News And Views

# HAPPY VETERANS DAY !



## LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL VETERAN PROGRAMS

Grafton H.S. Veterans Day Assembly 8:20 a.m.  
Cedar-Grove Belgium H.S. Veterans Day Program 10:00 a.m.

## OZAUKEE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

121 W. Main Street  
Port Washington, WI 53074

County Administration Center  
Room 327

*We're on the Web*  
<http://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/140/Veterans-Services-Office>

***Serving Those Who Served America***

Other links:

<http://www.va.gov>

<http://www.dvs.state.wi.us>

# Need a Veteran's ID to prove your Veteran Status?

## You can get “**VETERAN**” on your Wisconsin Driver's License

2013 Wisconsin Act 17 allows veterans to request through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), a veteran identifier on their Wisconsin driver's license or state issued identification card.



### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the Veteran Identifier on your Wisconsin drivers license or ID Card you must meet certain requirements related to your term and characterization of military service.

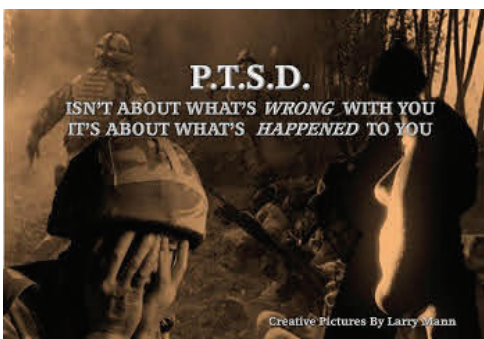
**Character of Service:** The Character of Service Field on your DD214/DD215 must show, Honorable, General under honorable conditions, or Honorable under General. (Other than Honorable conditions will not allow you to certify through this process.)

**Length of Service:** You must have at least one period of service that encompassed at least two continuous years of “active duty” or 90 days of “active duty” during a Statutorily-Designated Wartime Period, where the character of service meets the requirements above.\* *For this purpose, “active duty” means active duty (other than active duty for training) military service in the armed forces of the United States or in forces incorporated as part of the armed forces of the United States. (Full-time National Guard duty does not qualify as “active duty” under federal law. Active federal military service performed by the National Guard members under Title 10 of the U.S. Code may qualify as “active duty.”*

## TO APPLY: Bring your DD214 to your local CVSO

### *DISCHARGE REVIEWS and UPGRADES*

Veterans who received less-than-honorable discharges



from the military because of PTSD can have their discharges reviewed for upgrade, based on a recent Pentagon announcement.

An estimated 250,000 Vietnam-era veterans received less-than-honorable discharges. As many as 80,000 may have been suffering from PTSD. A veteran who receives such a discharge is typically denied VA benefits such as eligibility for GI Bill payments.

The Pentagon announcement was prompted by a lawsuit filed by several Vietnam veterans represented by the Yale Law School Veterans Legal Services Clinic.

Veterans seeking to upgrade their discharges will be required to show:

- Evidence of PTSD stressor and symptoms caused by military service; and
- Character of discharge resulted from misconduct with underlying issues related to untreated PTSD.

Upgrades are more likely to be granted for veterans with less-than-honorable discharges than for those with bad conduct or dishonorable discharges.

# Wisconsin Property Tax Credit Expanded to DIC recipients

Wisconsin's Veteran and Surviving Spouse Property Tax credit was expanded by Governor Walker's 2013 WI ACT 20 to include widows in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

What this means is if you are the widow of a Wisconsin veteran who died as a result of a service-connected disability or after being rated for 10 years as 100% service-connected disabled, then, in addition to DIC benefits as defined in 38 USC 101 (14), you are entitled to receive the Wisconsin Veteran and Surviving Spouse Property Tax credit.

If you think this benefit applies to you then please contact your local County Veteran Service Office to apply for a certificate of eligibility.

**DO NOT STOP PAYING YOUR PROPERTY TAXES!**

If the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs reviews your application and determines that you are eligible then WDVA will issue you a Certificate of Eligibility.

This certificate is then filed with your Wisconsin Income Tax Return. Your property taxes will then be credited to you along with your income tax refund.



Please contact your local CVSO if you have any questions about this or other veteran benefits issues.

## Are You Dedicated and Reliable?



Then **I WANT YOU** to drive. Ozaukee County provides an extremely valuable service by transporting veterans to the VAMC or CBOC for medical appointments.

The County reimburses our drivers for mileage and pays a small per-veteran stipend. However, I know that none of our drivers do it for the money.

Ask any of these guys why they do it and you will learn that they know what it means to be able to rely

on someone else, to know that someone else is there for you and has your back –no matter what.

If you are interested, consider riding along with one of our current drivers and find out firsthand why they do it. Contact the Veterans Service Office for more information.

**A HUGE THANK YOU!** to all of the individuals who have been willing to drive so that we can continue to provide this service for the veterans of Ozaukee County. Most notably, I would like to thank: Ron Kuta, Dave Shanahan, Steve Shock, Charley Watry and Joe Schneider.

## Health Care Reimbursement for Camp LeJeune Families

VA is reimbursing family members for eligible out-of-pocket medical expenses related to the 15 conditions associated with exposure to contaminated drinking water. You'll need to submit documents showing:

- Your relationship to a veteran who served at Camp Lejeune (marriage license or birth certificate)
- You lived on the base for 30 days or more between Jan. 1, 1957 and Dec. 31, 1987 (orders or base housing records)
- You paid health care expenses for a covered condition on or after March 26, 2013. This is the date when Congress began to fund this program.

This is a reimbursement program. VA won't be providing you direct health care. VA pays after all your other health plans. So, don't cancel your health insurance. This program only covers the 15 health conditions recognized as associated with water contamination at Camp LeJeune. It doesn't meet the minimum standard for health coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

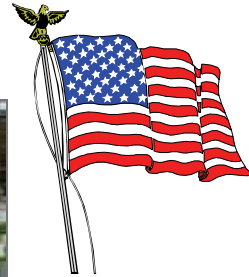
Contact your CVSO with questions or read more at: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/>



Ozaukee County  
Veterans Service Office

# VETERANS NEWS AND VIEWS

## In Memory Of Our Comrades



**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

The following comrades have passed away since our last newsletter :

Frederick Schmidt  
 Alvin Mueller  
 Roger Wach  
 Robert Williams  
 William Joseph  
 Jeffrey Hueppchen  
 Gerald Wagner  
 Bruce A Cartwright  
 Allie Eischen  
 Gary Sharbuno  
 Delvin Koopmann  
 Tom Mohr  
 Todd Hilton  
 James Gresch  
 Scott Nichols  
 Blockel  
 Schowalter  
 Rbt. Larson  
 Schuett  
 Wheiland  
 John Klas  
 Ron Hutt  
 James Joyce  
 Peter Becker  
 Richard Ringle  
 Garth Hoffmann  
 Ruben Baumann  
 John Windis  
 Eugene Pierron  
 Corwin Miser  
 John Mondloch  
 Georgia Eernisse  
 Vernon Schinker  
 Walter Weidman  
 Ralph Horner  
 Robert Frank  
 Ralph Turcotte  
 Francis Cawley  
 Melvin Wade  
 George Marquardt  
 Donald Buerosse

Fred Buechler  
 Sam Trammel  
 Warren Rehfeldt  
 Ed DePreter  
 Wayne Bittner  
 Richard Laue  
 Pat Kearns  
 Russell Cantrall  
 Frank Vrublely  
 Eldred Eichers  
 Joe Murphy  
 Leo Kolar  
 William Grisbach  
 David Morgan  
 Clarence Guddeck  
 Menroy Miller  
 James Hintz  
 George Shultis  
 Ervin Worzalla  
 Andrew Larson  
 James Ramage  
 Wilmer Depies  
 Hoke Maisells  
 William Hannert  
 Norb Stern  
 Joe Matous  
 Thomas Pautsch  
 Joe Pohl  
 Mathew Linden  
 Richard Briggs  
 Ed Lanser  
 Thomas Haugstad  
 William Dennison  
 Allen Babicky  
 John DeMontmollin  
 Walter Streff  
 Donald Bilder  
 Alfred Lund  
 Gilbert Reiter  
 Melvin Buford  
 Richard Haberle  
 Walter Meyer  
 Melvin Olds

Henry Klingelhoets  
 Erv Moninger  
 Glen Laubenstein  
 Francis Messa  
 Arthur Kleman  
 Kenneth Goetz  
 Donald Rosenbauer  
 Raymond Schwinn  
 Wilfred Couture  
 Joe Herkert  
 Jon Sprader  
 Kenneth Smith  
 Henry Thill  
 Richard Schantz  
 Thompson, MJ  
 Allen Moase  
 Leif Larson  
 Mary Novshek  
 Ken Campbell  
 Richard Waters  
 Alfred Lubner  
 Clement Helminiak  
 Raymond Learned  
 Ken Ritter  
 John Widstrand  
 Joseph Voeller  
 Delbert Meloy  
 Dennis Baer  
 Frank Chovanec  
 Marvin Stevens  
 Roman Schraith  
 Jeffrie Wichman  
 Eugene Hadler  
 Carl Dana  
 Gilbert Henke  
 George Helm  
 William Sekas  
 Harvey Krueger