



Volume X Issue II

February 24, 2010

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY

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Our sympathies go out to our friend Legionnaire Ray Manring on the loss of his wife of 57 years Arlene. Ray, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

FROM THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

WE ARE AT 97.99% IN MEMBERSHIP FOR THIS MONTH,
THATS GREAT. WE NEED 3 MORE MEMBERS FOR A
100% IN MEMBERSHIP - YOUR DUES ARE NEEDED ASAP.
NOTE, COFFEE HOUR ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS AT
THE POST - 0945 TO 1215 HOURS, SEE YOU.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Orland Park Veterans lost a great friend as Father Leo (Lyons) was called home. Father was a fixture at Village patriotic events. In addition to offering both the invocation and benediction he usually would read the names of the veterans that were being inscribed on the wall. I understand that often as part of his sending forth message at the end of mass Father would suggest parishioners visit the Civic Center or the Orland Township Center to support a veteran pancake breakfast or other fundraiser. Even when we knew his health seemed to be failing him he insisted on performing what I am sure he considered his Memorial Day or Veteran's Day duties. We shall miss seeing him standing tall in his U.S. Air Force Uniform. God Speed Good and faithful friend Requiescat in pace.

ADJUTANT'S CALL

PLEASE PAY ANY UNPAID DUES ASAP.

Department has sent out renewal forms on July 1, They will be sending them out on October 1, 2009, January 10, March 15, and May 1 2010. Some times even if you have paid your dues you will get one. Please make sure that any notice you get is addressed back to the Post at P.O. Box 413, Orland Park, Il.

PRAYER CORNER

John O'Rourke	Richard Parker
Gene Sinclair	Ray Manring
Ralph Bechtold	Joe Pletzke
Ralph McCurdy	Jerry Ashley

All our brothers and sisters far from home and in harm's way and their loved ones

R.I.P

John Hennessy	Bob Galgan
Arlene Manring	(wife of Ray)
Father Leo Lyons	

FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

Legionnaires,

One of the things that sets us apart from other American Legion Posts and military organizations is the first rate memorial squad we possess. To those unfamiliar we perform the full and final military farewell as performed in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia and ALNC in Elwood. We escort the casket of the honored Veteran from the hearse to the graveside, our Post Chaplain will recite a prayer, our firing squad will fire 3 volleys from 7 WW11 M1 rifles, taps is played from a bugle, while the flag is being folded (either by our flag officers or by active duty military) a tribute to the individual Veteran is read, the flag is presented to the next of kin, and in conclusion we will present 3 polished shell casings in memory of the volleys fired to the same.

I would like to commend Honor Guard Officer Dave Kemp for his dedication to duty and for using his spacious window van as our troop carrier and Matt Piwowarski our armourer who secures, transports, and maintains the rifles in an A1 state of readiness. As you can imagine it is a very moving ceremony. One by the comments I receive that means a lot to the families of these deceased Veterans. Two of the funeral homes in the vicinity that go the extra distance to make sure that every Veteran can receive this final honor are Colonial Chapel under Ed Damstra and Thornridge Funeral Home under Lynn Janusz.

Where our members and other Veterans and their families decide upon a place of remembrance is a personal and private decision. However I hope you will give consideration to those funeral homes that support Veterans and their families during their time of need. Ed, Lynn and their personnel go the extra distance in making these families aware that we have a memorial squad that performs this final and sacred obligation. Let us pray that none of us will have use for our own service in the immediate future.

I want to quash those rumors that for funding purposes legionnaires Warren Koerner, Joseph Raftery, and myself are entering the Nathan's Hot Dog eating contest this year. Bluntly speaking that dog won't hunt for me. As much as some of you marvel at our ability to pack away the chow there is not one iota of truth to the vicious innuendo being spread that each of us has been banned from the "Old Country Buffet" for excess food intake. Bluntly speaking there ain't no "Buffet Bandits" within our ranks. Although I have been told by confidential sources the Krispy Creme Donuts in order to raise their declining business share is giving strong consideration of locating a facility in close proximity to legionnaire Koerners house.

Finally be careful driving in the snow and no the Post Commander does not have a free snow clearing service provided for it's members. Be cautious with a shovel in your hand. Chaplains Bechtold and Rafferty get enough practice already in honing their skills. Take Care.

Dean Morrell

Post Commander

HONOR FLIGHT CHICAGO

Greetings everyone,

This is to let you know that on Friday May 14, 2010 from 5 P.M. - 9 P.M. at 115 Bourbon St in Merrionette Park we will be having a benefit for Honor Flight Chicago. Our goal is to try and raise enough money to pay for one flight to Washington D.C.

For those of you who don't know, Honor Flight Chicago is a organization of volunteers who take the World War II Vets to Washington to see the memorials honoring them for the service they gave to their country and were never acknowledged for.

This endeavor is going to take a lot of work and that is what I am asking for, Help. Whether it be working that night, selling tickets, soliciting donations and/or prizes, the list goes on. I just ask that anyone interested in helping, contact me so we can set up a meeting to get the ball rolling.

I am also asking that if you know anyone who might be interested, please send this on.

We will have different committees set up to do various jobs and will try to fit everyone into the thing that they want to do or do the best.

I'm expecting to set up the first meeting in the next week to ten days, so please get back to me as soon as you can.

Remember, without you , this can't be done.

Thanking all of you in advance
Jimmy Hunter

THE FOLLOWING WAS SHARED BY JOE RAFTERY SCHOOL AWARDS CHAIRMAN MUSIC AWARD

In May of 2005, Orland Memorial Post #111 approved the creation for an annual awarding of a music award to honor a student for his/her time, effort and achievement in persuing their individual passion for this Art. Many Post members may not be aware of this award so the description is listed for perusal and for submission of any qualified candidates.

Commander's Music Award

Eligibility Requirements

- a) The recipient of this award must be related to a Legionnaire in good standing of Orland Memorial Post #111
- b) Must be a seventh or eighth grader. Open to any School.
- c) Must have above average grades in Music throughout the school year.
- d) Must submit to the Post Commander a Music Essay for his review.
- e) Deadline for submission is in early May of each year to coincide with the end of the school year.
- e) This Award will be presented to the recipient in a ceremony.

Joseph Raftery

Post Finance Officer

Urgent! Write a letter to a WWII Vet - We need your help!

Hello!

We are participating in a special flight that will take place in early March. Because of the short tice, we won't have time to do the usual mail call.

If you could write a letter, card, or short note to a veteran and send it to us at the following addi we would be most appreciative!

Honor Flight Chicago**ATTN: Suzanne Stanits****770 Lee Street, Suite 103
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016**

In case you're new to Honor Flight Chicago or are unaware of what mail call is:

Mail call is a very important part of the honor flight experience. Before each flight, we contact f members and friends of each veteran asking them to send cards and letters for their veteran. (the return flight, we surprise the veterans with this special mail call, announcing each vet's narr over the loudspeaker and handing them envelopes stuffed full of greetings from their friends ar family as well as from local school children and volunteers. It is a very meaningful part of the d and we generally have an overwhelming response from families and the community.

We want the veterans who fly on this upcoming flight to have the same wonderful experience. Please help us make it a memorable and meaningful one by writing a short note o gratitude. It will mean a lot to the veteran who receives it.

Thanks, as always, for your continued support of our mission! We are looking forward to a gre flight season!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,**Amy Malinosky****Honor Flight Chicago****Volunteer Coordinator****(773)420 6966**

The information below was shared by our friend Gail Blummer

Below are web-sites that provide information on Veterans benefits and how to file/ask for them. Accordingly, there are many sites that explain how to obtain books, military/medical records, information and how to appeal a denied claim with the VA. Please pass this information on to every Veteran you know. Nearly 100% of this information is free and available for all veterans, the only catch is: you have to ask for it, because they won't tell you about a specific benefit unless you ask for it. You need to know what questions to ask so the right doors open for you -- and then be ready to have an advocate who is willing to work with and for you, stay in the process, and press for your rights and your best interests.

Appeals http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch05.doc

Board of Veteran's Appeals <http://www.va.gov/vbs/bva/>

CARES Commission <http://www.va.gov/vbs/bva/>

CARES Draft National Plan <http://www1.va.gov/cares/page.cfm?pg=105>

Center for Minority Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/>

Center for Veterans Enterprise <http://www.vetbiz.gov/default2.htm>

Center for Women Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/>

Clarification on the changes in VA healthcare for Gulf War Veterans <http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum1/HTML/000016.html>

www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum1/HTML/000016.html

Classified Records - American Gulf War Veterans Assoc <http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum18/HTML/000011.html>

Compensation for Disabilities Associated with the Gulf War Service http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/part6%20ch07.doc

Compensation Rate Tables, 12-1-03 <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Rates/comp01.htm>

Department of Veterans Affairs Home Page <http://www.va.gov/>

Directory of Veterans Service Organizations <http://www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm?template=view>

Disability Examination Worksheets Index, Comp <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Benefits/exams/index.htm>

Due Process http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch02.doc

Duty to Assist http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch01.doc

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr/>

Emergency, Non-emergency, and Fee Basis Care <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf>

Environmental Agents <http://www1.va.gov/environagents/>

Environmental Agents M10 http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1002

Establishing Combat Veteran Eligibility http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=315

EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR GULF WAR AND IRAQI FREEDOM VETERANS WITH POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO (DU) <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHANDBOOKNONGW130340304.DOC>

Fee Basis, PRIORITY FOR OUTPATIENT MEDICAL SERVICES AND INPATIENT HOSPITAL CARE http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=206

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Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents 2005 <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf> OR, http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm
Forms and Records Request <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/>
General Compensation Provisions http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter11_subchaptervi.html
Geriatrics and Extended Care <http://www1.va.gov/geriatricsshq/>
Guideline for Chronic Pain and Fatigue MUS-CPG http://www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/cpgn/mus/mus_base.htm
Guide to Gulf War Veteran's Health <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/VHlgulfwar.pdf>
Gulf War Subject Index <http://www1.va.gov/GulfWar/page.cfm?pg=7&template=main&letter=A>
Gulf War Veteran's Illnesses Q&As <http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/GWIllnessesQandAsIB1041.pdf>
Hearings
http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch04.doc
Homeless Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/homeless/>
HSR&D Home <http://www.hsr.d.research.va.gov/>
Index to Disability Examination Worksheets C&P exams <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/exams/index.htm>
Ionizing Radiation <http://www1.va.gov/irad/>
Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Veterans VBA <http://www.vba.va.gov/EFIF/>
M 10 for spouses and children < http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1007
M10 Part III Change 1 http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1008
M21-1 Table of Contents http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/M21_1.html
Mental Disorders, Schedule of Ratings http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38CFR/BOOKC/PART4/S4_130.DOC
Mental Health Program Guidelines http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1094
Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers <http://www.mirecc.med.va.gov/>
MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Centers of Excellence <http://www.va.gov/ms/about.asp>
My Health e Vet <http://www.myhealth.va.gov/NASDVA.COM> <http://nasdva.com/>
National Association of State Directors <http://www.nasdva.com/>
National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention <http://www.nchpdp.med.va.gov/postdeploymentlinks.asp>
Neurological Conditions and Convulsive Disorders, Schedule of Ratings <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38cfr/bookc/part4/s4%5F124a.doc>
OMI (Office of Medical Inspector) <http://www.omi.cio.med.va.gov/>
Online VA Form 10-10EZ <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>
Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders <http://www1.va.gov/resdev/funding/solicitations/docs/parkinsons.pdf>
and, <http://www1.va.gov/padrecc/>
Peacetime Disability Compensation http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1131

Continued From Page 6

Persian Gulf Registry Referral Cen-

ters http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1006

Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Research 1999, Annual Report To Congress [http://www1.va.gov/resdev/1999 Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Appendices.doc](http://www1.va.gov/resdev/1999_Gulf_War_Veterans'_Illnesses_Appendices.doc)

Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Research 2002, Annual Report To Congress http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/gulf_war_2002/GulfWarRpt02.pdf

Phase I PGR http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1004

Phase II PGR http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1005

Policy Manual Index <http://www.va.gov/publ/direc/eds/edsmps.htm>

Power of Attorney http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch03.doc

Project 112 (Including Project SHAD) <http://www1.va.gov/shad/>

Prosthetics Eligibility http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=337

Public Health and Environmental Hazards Home Page <http://www.vethealth.cio.med.va.gov/>

Public Health/SARS <http://www..publichealth.va.gov/SARS/>

Publications Manuals <http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?Pub=4>

Publications and Re-

ports http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/pubs_individual.cfm?webpage=gulf_war.htm

Records Center and Vault Homepage <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/default.html>

Records Center and Vault Site Map <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/sitemap.html>

REQUEST FOR AND CONSENT TO RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM CLAIMANT'S RECORDS <http://www.forms.va.gov/va/Internet/VARF/getformharness.asp?formName=3288-form.xft>

Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses April 11, 2002 http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/Minutes_April112002.doc

Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses

EDITOR: Note that each item is connected to a web address. I know that not many of you have Internet access. If there is anything you would like to explore, let me know and I will download the material and print it.

THIS IS EXCELLENT...SUITABLE FOR SHARING WITH THOSE WHOSE 'SHINING STAR' AND 'FUTURE HOPE' NOW RESIDES IN THE WHITE HOUSE. THIS IS GRANDPA'S RESPONSE TO HIS GRANDDAUGHTER'S REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

YOU WILL QUICKLY DISCOVER THAT THE GRANDDAUGHTER CAMPAIGNED HARD AND VOTED FOR OBAMA. GOOD FOR GRANDPA!!!

John G. Is 63 years old and owns a small business. He's a life-long Republican and sees his dream of retiring next year has all but evaporated. With the stock market crashing and new taxes coming his way, John assumes now that he will work to his dying day.

John has a granddaughter. Ashley is a recent college grad. She drives a flashy hybrid car, wears all the latest fashions, and loves to go out to nightclubs and restaurants. Ashley campaigned hard for Barack Obama. After the election she made sure her grandfather (and all other Republican family members) received a big I told-you-so earful on how the world is going to be a much better place now that her party is taking over.

Having lost both roommates, Ashley recently ran short of cash and cannot pay the rent (again) on her 3 bedroom townhouse.. Like she has done many times in the past, she e-mailed her grandfather asking for some financial help.

Here is his reply:

Sweetheart, I received your request for assistance. Ashley, you know I love you dearly and I 'm sympathetic to your financial plight. Unfortunately, times have changed. With the election of President Obama, your grandmother and I have had to set forth a bold new economic plan of our own..."The Ashley Economic Empowerment Plan." Let me explain. Your grandmother and I are life-long, wage-earning tax payers. We have lived a comfortable life, as you know, but we have never had the fancier things like European vacations, luxury cars, etc.. We have worked hard and were looking forward to retiring soon. But the plan has changed. Your president is raising our personal and business taxes significantly. He says it is so he can give our hard earned money to other people. Do you know what this means, Ashley? It means less for us, and we must cut back on many business and personal expenses.

You know the wonderful receptionist who worked in my office for more than 23 years? The one who always gave you candy when you came over to visit? I had to let her go last week.

I can't afford to pay her salary and all of the government mandated taxes that go with having employees. Your grandmother will now work 4 days a week to answer phones, take orders and handle the books. We will be closed on Fridays and will lose even more income to the Wal-Mart.

I'm also very sorry to report that your cousin Frank will no longer be working summers in

I'm also very sorry to report that your cousin Frank will no longer be working summers in the warehouse. I called him at school this morning. He already knows about it and he's upset because he will have to give up skydiving and his yearly trip to Greenland to survey the polar bears.

That's just the business side of things. Some personal economic effects of Obama's new taxation policies include none other than you. You know very well that over the years your grandmother and I have given you thousands of dollars in cash, tuition assistance, food, housing, clothing, gifts, etc., etc. But by your vote, you have chosen to help others not at your expense -- but at our expense. If you need money now sweetheart, I recommend you call 202-456-1111. That is the direct phone number for the White House.. You can also contact the White House here: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/CONTACT/> .

You yourself told me how foolish it is to vote Republican. You said Mr Obama is going to be the People's President, and is going to help every American live a better life. Based on everything you've told me, along with all the promises we heard during the campaign, I'm sure Mr. Obama will be happy to transfer some stimulus money into your bank account. Have him call me for the account number which I memorized years ago...Perhaps you can now understand what I've been saying all my life: those who vote for a president should consider the impact on the nation as a whole, and not be just concerned with what they can get for themselves. What Obama supporters don't seem to realize is all of the money he is redistributing to illegal aliens and non-taxpaying Americans (the so-called "less fortunate") comes from tax-paying families.

Remember how you told me, "Only the richest of the rich will be affected"? Well guess what, honey? Because we own a business, your grandmother and I are now considered to be the richest of the rich. On paper, it might look that way, but in the real world, we are far from it.

As you said while campaigning for Obama, some people will have to carry more of the burden so all of America can prosper... You understand what that means, right? It means that raising taxes on productive people results in them having less money; less money for everything, including granddaughters.

I'm sorry, Ashley, but the well has run dry... The free lunches are over... I have no money to give you now. So, congratulations on your choice for "change." For future reference, I encourage you to try and add up the total value of the gifts and cash you have received from us, just since you went off to college, and compare it to what you expect to get from Mr. Obama over the next 4 (or 8) years. I have not kept track of it, Ashley. It has all truly been the gift of our hearts.

Remember, we love you dearly...but from now on you'll need to call the number mentioned above. Your "Savior" has the money we would have given to you. Just try and get it from him.

Good luck, sweetheart.

Love,

Inksmart, Inc.
 Ink & Toner Cartridges
 Sales & Refilling

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 (151st & West Avenue)
 Orland Park, IL 60462

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Available Call Matt 708-308-5369

Available Call Matt 708-308-5369

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

- **Mar 22 Officers Meeting**
8PM Veterans Center
- **Mar 31 General Membership Meeting 8 PM**
Veterans Center

Federal Benefits Booklet (2008) for Veterans and Spouses is currently on line at: www.va.gov



Orland Memorial Post 111
P.O. Box 413
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