



Newsletter

Man-of-Honor Society

Editor: Rosie Carr Volume: 7 Issue: 6 Date: December 2015 - January 2016

Special Salute from the President



Joe and Barb Buska were strong supporters of the MOH Society long before they became Associate members. Although they are business owners and have a great deal of daily responsibility they always manage time for the Man of Honor. Next time you have a beverage at our bar at the clubhouse you'll be happy to know the bar was donated to the MOH by Joe and Barb. Their concern for veterans is obvious to all. They have been more than generous when supporting our events and recently made a generous contribution which will be distributed to the homeless of King. These are two of the nicest people you would ever want to meet.

The newsletter will be published approximately every two months.

*Submit any articles in writing to:
Rosie Carr 715-571-9620 or
email: ricrosiecarr@charter.net*

They always have a smile for you and it is a pleasure to have them at our meetings and functions. Joe and Barb we are honored to have you in the Man of Honor Society and you are both TRUE MAN OF HONOR, and for that we proudly salute you.

Written by Bernie Knippel

2015 Ham Giveaway



Saturday morning in December, weather unusually warm and people lined up for about 2 blocks. Then it begins. The 2015 Ham giveaway is under way. There is one line until the last 15 feet



where it divides into 3 lines headed by Lumpy, John Jr. and Al who are wasting no time checking I.D. cards and sending the troops on to the shelter to receive their ham. I put Donna Gosse and

“Mouse” Kucil in charge of checking the line for handicap folks, pulling them from the line and having someone get their ham for them to avoid having them standing in a long line. They did great and those people were well taken care of. There



were plenty of MOH people handing out the hams and things went quickly and smoothly. The



first 600 hams were given out in about 12 minutes. We started at 9 a.m. sharp and around 9:30 a.m. with the hams all gone almost all of our equipment used in the raffle was back in the trucks. There were some vets who could not make it to the VFW so we made some home deliveries. The lines were filled with young and old
(Cont'd page 2, column 2)

**Letter
from the
Prez**



**Jeff Morgan
SFC E7, ARNG, Retired**

Hello everyone! Holy cow how time flies, it seems like I just sat down to write November newsletter. It probably has a lot to do with this unusual stretch of warm weather. (It just jinxed us) Any who, after the November meeting and the elections the only other thing happening was getting ready to pick up the hams for our December 5th Give Away. Mark Lyon got us a refrigerated (refer) trailer. Ric & Rosie Carr, Tom Fust, Bernie Knippel, Bill Fenhaus, myself and Mark Lyon barely worked up a sweat watching the experts from Aldi's dolly those pallets of hams onto the truck. THANK YOU Frank Kowalski of Blue Eagle Trucking for letting MOH use your refer trailer again this year. Secretary Bernie is writing about this so I'll stop right here.

The 12th of December, Man of Honor held the Annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet at the VFW on River Drive. Vice President Ric Carr has written something on the event and you'll find that piece elsewhere in our newsletter.

On the morning of the 12th of December nine members went to King to take part in laying

wreaths at the graves of veterans. I'll have a article in this newsletter as well.

See you at the membership meeting. At this time, I hope all of you and your families have a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank you for all you do!

God Bless You and the United States!

Integrity - Honor - Concern

(Ham Giveaway from page 1, column 3)

and "grins and smiles" seemed to be the order of the day. There was some hand shaking, some hugs and the whole affair brought a tear to some of us. Lyle Bricko and Jack Pettit who are in charge of the VFW kindly had the lounge open and all were invited to come in and warm up where they had the beverage of their choice and passed out a little B.S. Thanks to all who helped with this great project. As with any other project we take on, it takes a great deal of time and effort by many to be sure all goes well. Our goal to assist fellow veterans and promote harmony among all the members is our objective. I hope we "delivered" when we successfully gave out 650 hams to our fellow veterans on that Saturday morning in December 2015.

Written by Bernie Knippel Secretary, & Co-Chair of this Committee

Wreaths Across America



On the morning of 12 December 2015 nine members met at the clubhouse, hopped in the van to go to Waupaca County to be part of the District 8 American Legion Riders 4th year of Wreaths Across



America at the Veterans Cemetery at King. In addition to us, there were approximately 200 other people, mostly veterans. One by one, 5,400 wreaths were placed on the headstones of veterans. Across the nation, thousands of people laid wreaths on the headstones of veter-

(See: Wreaths Across America on page 3, column 1)

President:

Jeff Morgan Cell: 715-203-3211

Vice-President:

Dan Rigney Cell: 715-212-1348

Secretary:

Bernie Knippel Cell: 715-803-8039

Treasury:

Bill Fenhaus Cell: 715-551-1856

Sergeant-at-Arms:

John Fust Sr. Cell: 715-370-5007

(Wreaths Across America from Page 3, column 3)



ns. It starts on the east coast at Arlington National Cemetery, and goes across America through each time zone. It also includes Alaska and Hawaii. In your travels, if you find yourself in that area, stop at King Veterans Cemetery, cause it truly is a site to be seen. Members who went to



King include Bernie Knippel, John Fust Sr., Bob Paul, Rick Sisterman, Bill Fenhaus, Dan Rigney, Vicki Harness, Cathie Morgan and the Prez.

Written by Jeff Morgan, President

Christmas Road Trip to King

Monday the 21st of December, 8 of us packed the MOH van with donated gifts for the Homeless Veterans of King. We then packed ourselves in for the trip to King. Upon our arrival the gifts were loaded onto two carts to be distributed later. Our group, and the resident veterans met in their day room. To break the ice we introduced ourselves, told them



who we are and what we do. One by one we asked them what branch they served. That's when the conversation got lively and the good natured jokes started flying. With everybody more relaxed we started handing out the money gift cards. Those guys really enjoyed getting gift cards. We all wished each other Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Back in the van for the ride home. I thank everyone who made a donation so the Veterans of King might have a brighter



Christmas this year. Thanks to the fine folks who rode along to King, John Fust Sr., Rick Sisterman, Duke Treu, "The Vixter" Vicker Harness, Dan Rigney, Bill Fenhaus, and "JB" Jim Bittner.

Hope you all had a nice Christmas with your family and best wishes for the New Year.

Written by the Prez

P.S. A special thank you to all who donated personal items and cash at the Christmas Party for the homeless vets at King. Special thanks for the "extra" cash from Joe & Barb Buska, Dan &

Bonnie Kasten, Bob & Diane Fitzke, Henry Dehnel, Duke & Gail Treu, Don & Connie Master-son and Elgart & Eunice Bauman. This made it possible to buy gift cards for all 27 veterans.

Gerri Knippel, Committee

Flags Stoles at Gates of Heaven Cemetery



A group from the MOH got in the van and took off to the Gates of Heaven Cemetery. Earlier this year the American flag, along with the POW and services flags were stolen. The MOH offered to help pay for the replacement. On December 31st we went to put up the flags. Jeff Morgan, Dan Rigney, Bernie Knippel, John Fust Sr., Jim Bittner, Rosie Carr and myself stood out in the bitter cold to raise the flags. Channel 9 was there, they interviewed Jeff Morgan and taped the whole ceremony for the news. After the flags were raised and taps were played, we were able to get back into the warm van and head back to the clubhouse.

Ric Carr, last day as Vice President



Annual Christmas Party



As you all know, the Man of Honor Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 12th, at the VFW. I would like to start out by thanking the committee members, Rosie Carr, Connie Masterson, Peggy Wold, Vicki Harness, Gerri Knippel and Ted Williams. They all did a great job!

The party started at 4 p.m. with cocktails and dinner at 5 p.m.



The prayer was given by Elgart Baumann, our new Chaplain, and Whiskey River, Peggy Wold, catered the dinner.

President, Jeff Morgan started the program with a few comments then on to the awards.



The Excellence Ward was given to Treasurer, Julie Mahr because of her excellent work skills in our accounting field.



The Service and Dedication Award went to Vice President, Ric Carr because of the many years of dedication in his position.



The Annual Special Award went to Mark Lyon who supported the MOH in an exceptional manner.



The President's Award went to Dan Rigney who outstandingly contributed to the mission of the society during the year.

Everyone gave a thank you speech after receiving their awards.

Twelve months ago, the MOH Officers and photographer Gerri Knippel went to Mt View Nursing Home and made Wally Sloan a MOH member. Bonnie Sloan (Wally's wife) told Bernie Knippel that being a member of the

MOH was high on his list of priorities. Bad health had kept him from joining. When Bonnie heard of the party she spoke with him and he made the decision to attend. Bernie briefed everyone



on Wally's history and asked the couple to please stand. It was a great moment for all of us and the members gave them a standing ovation.

It was time to give away the centerpieces which were made by Rosie Carr and the committee. Even Teddy and I wrapped the pine cones with wire. Rosie had the numbers, 1 through 8, placed under the saucers at each table. I took the mic and Rosie went to each table to draw the winning number.

At 6:45 p.m. the music started and the dancing began. The music was by the Archives and everyone enjoyed them.

At 9:00 p.m. the hors d'oeuvre's were put out, everyone had a snack and continued dancing throughout the evening.

The members who were unable to attend missed a good party!

*Ric Carr, Chairman Xmas Party,
Vice-President*

Never Forgotten Honor Flight's 2016 Missions

NFHF will fly four missions again in 2016, during the months of April, May, September and October. The spring dates have been booked for April 17-18 and May 15-16.

There has been some concern regarding the recent announcement about Howard Johnsons being torn down and being replaced with a new hotel. Not to worry! The Ghidorzi Hospitality Group has been working with us for some time to ensure that there would be no disruption in the 2016 Missions. As in the past 22 missions they will continue to provide free rooms for veterans, guardians and their guests coming from outside the Wausau area. The Fairfield Inn is being made available to us for our 2016 Missions.

In addition, the Highland Community Church on 28th avenue (north of Aspirus Hospital), is offering their facility for our pre-flight dinners and guardian training. Transportation will be available between the hotel & church.

I would also like to thank the Man of Honor Society for their continued support! You have supported us from day one and were the first organization to donate to the NFHF in December of 2010.

In addition, many MOHS members have gone as guardians, donating \$500 for the privilege of caring for an Honored Veteran. Many MOHS members have also gone on our flights as an Hon-

ored Veteran, and we look forward to many more signing up in the future!

FYI the waitlist for Vietnam Era veterans is now about 700 (about two years), so I encourage any member that served between 2/28/1961 to 5/7/1975 to apply on-line: (<http://www.neverforgottenhonorflight.org/application.htm>) or call 715.573.8519 and request an application be mailed to you. Remember **the ONLY qualification** for a veteran to fly on an Honor Flight is to have served between those dates!

Semper Fi

*James K. Campbell Jr.
MLTC USMC Retired*

*Co-Founder & VP of Marketing
Never Forgotten Honor Flight,
Inc.*

Change

A subject that myself and the other officers hear all too often. We are starting a new year and would like to address the issue: Change.

The officers run the day to day operation and make the decisions that they feel are the correct ones for the good of the MOH. Unless members step-up and suggest changes we have to believe we are doing the right thing. The time to address issues and grievances is at our meetings where the membership is present. It seems many of the complaints and grievances are brought up and talked about after a few cocktails at other establishments, either after a meeting or at other

social functions, and that of course solves nothing. If you forget to bring up these complaints or grievances at the next meeting you attend we may ask you specifically about the problem you presented and ask if you have it resolved or would like to discuss it further. Not all ideas and suggestions will be implemented but that doesn't mean it's a bad idea, it just may not be the right fit at the time because of other variables. When you make suggestions or ask for changes please give us a way to solve that problem and not just tell us there is a problem. There is never a reason to get personal over any issue. One subject continues to be brought up and that is Associate members being allowed to vote. The Man of Honor Society is a veteran's organization and only those who have served in the military are allowed to vote. This will never change. Associate members are people who did not serve in the military but believe in our cause and want to be part of it. Their suggestions and ideas are always welcome. They also understand that when they became an Associate member they would not be able to vote. Our Associate membership has helped us tremendously in the past. Once again, please bring your ideas forward and let's talk about them. Nothing will get solved unless it is brought up at a meeting. From what we have been told by the membership, at a meeting, is the MOH is running great and in the best shape it has ever been.

Jeff Morgan, President

Spotlight On One Of Our Own!

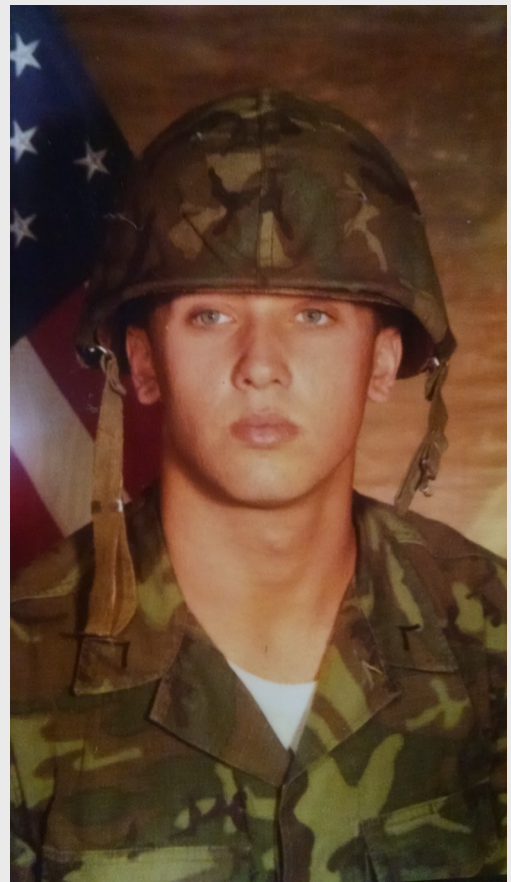
It is a pleasure to introduce our Spotlight for December 2015 and January 2016. Bryan Thacker was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and graduated from Hamilton High School in 1980. He is very proud to be the father of his son Gregory and is married to his very charming wife, Sharon. He has been employed at Permar Security for the past 12 years and he currently performs the duty as the Operations Officer. He is in charge of Fund Raisers for Everest Metro and Marathon County Canines and the Lincoln County Humane Society.

Bryan joined the USMC in 1980 and was discharged in 1992 as a Sgt. E5. He worked as an anti-tank and assault demolition member and also was a Marksmanship Instructor. He went to Boot Camp in San Diego and was at many overseas locations, the latest Kuwait in 1991-92 where he was in the 3rd Marine Division. His favorite state-side assignment was Norfolk, Virginia as a weapons instructor. His decorations include the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 3 stars, the Good Conduct Medal with 3 stars, the National Defense Service Medal and the Meritorious Unit Citation.

He joined the MOH in 2009 and has been very active ever since. He works many hours at our annual fund raiser and can always be counted on when there is something to be accomplished within the Society. He is dedicated to our goal which is to help veterans and their families in need. It is always a great pleasure to work with Bryan on projects. He is very level headed and does his best to keep all the chores at hand as simple as possible - a sign of good leadership. He is a highly intelligent individual with a lot of great ideas. He is very dependable and that is a great asset to this type of organization.

The Man of Honor Society is honored to have this combat decorated Marine in our organization. Words alone cannot describe the honor he has brought to his family and the USMC. Bryan you are a proud USMC Veteran and deserve all the respect that has been given to you. For your service to our great country, we thank you. Semper Fi.

*Written by Bernie Knippel
SMSgt, First Sergeant, USAF Retired*

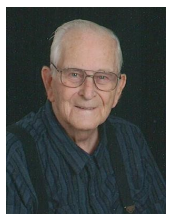


Rest In Peace



Obituaries published will include military and Associate members and their family. Their family is defined as parents, in-laws, spouse, children (adopted and step-children) and siblings. Contact: Rosie Carr ricosiecarr@charter.net or 715-571-9620.

Wesley Radtke, 91, of Roth-



schild, passed away at Aspirus Wausau Hospital with his loving family at his bedside on November 20, 2015.

Wesley married the love of his life Ruth Mischock in Clintonville, WI 1947, she passed away August 4, 1981. Together they have had seven children, Wesley (Janet) Radtke, Baraboo; Terry (Betty) Radtke, Mosinee; Wayne and Robert Radtke, Merrill; Alan Radtke, Ringle; Julie, MOH Member (Harry) Myer, Schofield; and Diane (Sheldon Jr.) Hoff, Ringle. His son Dale Radtke also proceeded him in death.

Wesley served his country proudly in the US Navy on the USS LCS (Landing Craft Support) L367 Pacific Theater during WWII. Notable his ship was in Japan for the signing of the surrender. On October 17, 2011

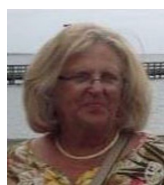
Wesley participated on the Never Forgotten Honor Flight, visiting Washington, D.C. and the WWII Memorial. In addition to serving in the US Navy, Wesley worked at Marathon Electric for several years before retiring.

Wesley was an active church member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Weston, WI. He was also active in the community by serving on the church council, participating in the Widows & Widowers (N.A.I.M) organization and a Hospice volunteer for many years. He enjoyed hobbies of carpentry and fishing.

Wesley's greatest love was his family and he will be deeply missed by all.

Our condolences and prayers are with you.

Connie Vinson, 71, Wausau



died Thursday, December 17, 2015 at the Aspirus Hospice House in Wausau under the care of

Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services.

Connie was born January 16, 1944 in Chillicothe, OH to the late Carl and Marie Drake. Prior to marriage, she worked as an office manager at Kroger's in Chillicothe for many years, developing many friendships with her Kroger's family.

Connie was a very proud mother and adored being a grandmother.

She enjoyed spending time with her friends at the Eagles Club in Wausau.

Connie is survived by her loving husband, Larry (Man of Honor member); children, Mark (Donna) Hirsch of Chillicothe, OH and Toni (Tom) Bagby of Wausau and many grandchildren.

Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you are very close in every thought and prayer.

Funds Committee Update

The Funds Committee report for November and December is:

Ambulance	\$750
Auto Repair	\$158
Funeral	\$200
Funeral	\$200
Funeral	\$200
Funeral	\$200
Funeral	\$200
Rent/Auto	\$158
Replacement of stolen flags	\$205
Utilities	\$500

Total this period \$3,363

In 2015 we paid 45 requests for a total of \$17,577!!!! In addition, we gave away 650 hams and countless donations to the Veteran's Home at King to help out the homeless vets there. All in all, we gave away in excess of \$20,000 to help our fellow vets here in Marathon County. WELL DONE my fellow members of the MOH!!!

I am very proud to be a part of

the best veteran's organization anywhere! Thanks to my committee members: Mark Lyon, Andy Schoeder, Keith Cota and Don Masterson.

Written by Ron Jones

Coming Events:

January 9, 2016 - Meeting at the Clubhouse at 1425 Townline Road, Wausau, WI 54403 at 2:00 p.m.

March 3-6, 2016 - Kings Camper Palooza III in Wausau, on Thursday-Saturday 9 am to 7 pm and Sunday 10 am to 5 pm. Will have a sign up sheet at the meeting. Raffle tickets will be available soon. Chairman: Ric Carr 715-571-9226

March 12, 2016 - Meeting at the Clubhouse at 1425 Townline Road, Wausau, WI 54403 at 2:00 p.m.

March 19, 2016 - Pool Tournament at the Eagles Club in Wausau at 12:00 noon kick off. Cost: \$20 each or \$40 per team Chairman: Jim Fust 715-212-3743

Happy

Birthday



January

- 3 - Michael Horsman, US Army
- 4 - Theodore Bronson, US Army

Flag Retirement box in at the "Clubhouse" and "The Jim".

- 6 - James Gauerke Jr., US Army
- 6 - Joe Don Prejean, USAF
- 10 - Jim Gilge, US Army
- 11 - Mark Lambert, US Navy
- 12 - Casey Conner, Army NG
- 12 - Nick Kuehn, US Army
- 12 - Roger Priebe, US Army
- 14 - Erika Koch, US Army
- 15 - John H. Fust Sr., US Army
- 15 - Wayne Krueger, USAF
- 16 - Wes Hoffman, US Navy
- 17 - Don Dorgan, US Army
- 17 - Rachelle Hulderman, US Army
- 17 - Steve Williams, US Navy
- 19 - Jerry Leder, US Army
- 19 - Tim Miller, US Navy
- 20 - Dale Cherney, US Army
- 23 - Steven Nelson, USMC
- 25 - Mike O'Rourke, US Army
- 26 - Mark Lyon, USMC
- 27 - Donna Bonin, Associate
- 28 - Barry Diehl, US Army
- 29 - Keith Strey, US Navy
- 30 - Jake Edwards, USMC
- 30 - Tammy Behnke, Associate
- 30 - Alan Krueger, US Army
- 31 - Bill Wolfe, US Army

February

- 1 - Greg Crisman, US Army
- 1 - Archie Drake, US Army
- 1 - Sheila Stafford, USAF
- 2 - Carrie Stotler, US Navy
- 4 - Charles Smith, US Army
- 5 - Mary Mulder, Associate
- 7 - Dan Rigney, Army NG
- 8 - Dennis Hardt, US Army
- 8 - Bob Peterson, US Army
- 9 - Benjamin Brandt, US Navy
- 12 - Scott Hafner, USMC
- 12 - Bob Genrich, US Navy
- 13 - David Bain, US Navy Reserve

- 13 - Craig Chapman, US Army
- 14 - Tim Wood, USMC
- 17 - Lyle Beck, USAF
- 18 - Richard Knoeck, USMC
- 20 - Joey Vanouse, US Navy
- 23 - John Chase, US Army
- 23 - Dick Schoultz, US Army
- 25 - Jack Sliwicki, US Army
- 26 - Eddie Dehnel, US Army
- 26 - George Lemmer, US Army

The winners of \$25.00 for the birthday drawing for November was Clarence Treu, US Air Force and for December was Don Masterson, US Army.

New Members

We have three new members in our society which brings it to a total of 382. Let's welcome the following:

Gary L. Berzill, US Army
Barry E. Diehl, US Army
Les Norton, US Army

We are always looking for members to help on our many functions, such as: MOH Raffle, parades, committees, building maintenance, and much more.

Checking In

When you come to the meeting, Gerri Knippel will sign you in. At that time, make any changes on the roster, new phone numbers, new e-mails, or maybe you moved to a different address. Thank you and get'er done!

Check in with Gerri Knippel at the front desk prior to the meeting.