



Newsletter

Man-Of-Honor Society

Editor: Rosie Carr

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Harley Raffle

Our 2012 Harley Raffle was on June 9th at the Eagle's Club. By shortly after our 12 noon kickoff, a nice crowd had gathered which helped make this another successful fundraiser.



The Harley and Camper were on display and we were fortunate to be able to show off the newly painted Man-of-Honor Van. The work was done by BRB Auto Body, the design was completely their idea. They donated the time and material, although they had a short lead time but worked tire-

lessly to complete the task. Jim Fust presented them with an award at the raffle and everyone showed their appreciation for a job well done. Thank you again, BRB Auto Body.

BRB Auto Body were not the only ones to donate to the MOH Harley Raffle. There were many, many donations, too many to mention but each and everyone will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the MOH.

The food was great, especially the pig roast. Thanks again for a job well done, Cliff.



The 50/50 raffle did very well as did all the side raffles and paddles.

We were lucky to have Amy Pflugshaupt draw the Harley Raffle tickets. The winners were:

Harley: Bryan Landwehr
Camper: Laurie Goretski

\$1,500.00: Gary Mayek
\$1,000.00: Rich Olson
\$500.00: Chris Rothenberger
\$300.00: Robert Gavin
\$75.00: Russ Kelnhofer
\$75.00: Jack Treu
\$75.00: Mike Aschbrenner
\$75.00: Dennis Curtis
\$75.00: Kari Cota
\$50.00: Tim Markstrum
\$50.00: Terry Witter
\$50.00: Connie Masterson
\$50.00: Kenny Klatt
\$50.00: Kim Hutchenson
\$50.00: Ray Urmanski
\$50.00: Bill Bloom
\$50.00: Cheri Biersack
\$50.00: Courtney Omerneck
\$50.00: Beth Alexander



The music was provided by Blindsight and they did a great job and fun was had by all.

(Cont'd on page 3, column 3)

The newsletter will be published approximately every two months.

Submit any articles in writing to: Rosie Carr 715-571-9620 or e-mail info@manofhonor.org

Flag retirement drop off box at Whiskey River and at The Jim.

Message from the

President



Jim W. Fust, SMSGT USAF (Retired)

We have just went through the busiest period that the Man-of-Honor Society has ever gone through. I say without hesitation that the our members did an outstanding job. I am very, very proud of everything that we as a whole did. First of all we had our first meeting at our "home". Thanks to the 4th of July Celebration Committee, (formerly the Jaycees) for inviting us to share their home with us. We will be sharing operational costs with them. We will be paying our rent with services that we do at the "clubhouse". Such as cutting the grass, snowplowing, remodeling the building etc. So when work needs to be done, please help. We finally have a place to call home. We will also be getting a new phone number at the clubhouse with voice mail. This way the MOH won't have to rely on a cell phone and one person getting all the calls. More on the phone number will be forthcoming.

Memorial Day saw the Man-of-Honor shine. Not only did we get our van redone, it is a show

piece!! Thanks to BRB Auto Body we really have something to be proud of. They really went all out on this project. The BRB Team worked hundreds and hundreds of man hours to get this van looking the way it does. The MOH presented a plaque to them at the Harley Raffle to say, in a very small way, how much we appreciate their hard work. Thanks again BRB Auto Body!! If your vehicles need any body work done, well, you know where to take it.

The Man-of-Honor led the Wausau Area Memorial Day parade on May 26th. Stepping out first, from Marathon Park were our members carrying the flag of our nation, followed by the POW and our MOH flag. Then the flags of all our Armed services were seen. The banner of the MOH was next, just ahead of the MOH van with it's flashing lights on top letting all who were watching, that the best non-profit organization who support our military in the state of Wisconsin was here!! Our members, walking behind the van and trailer, (which was decorated by John and Char Fust)) passed out over 2000 miniature U.S. flags to the parade watchers on the parade route. The parade ended at the VFW. The MOH stood in formation while the ceremonies were being held. Jeff Morgan and Roger Cook stood on either side of the flag pole and memorial and assisted with the flag raising. I ended the ceremonies

by thanking everyone, including the bands, and inviting all to the American Legion for lunch. It was a day of remembrance. A day that the MOH proudly showed the community that we are an organization that cares. Thank you to everyone that was a part of this day.

The following Monday, which was the official day set aside for Memorial Day, a ceremony was held at Restlawn Cemetery to honor those that paid the ultimate sacrifice. The MOH again proudly displayed what we are about. We were asked to speak, demonstrate and explain the 13 steps in folding the U.S. flag. As I read what each fold stood for, Bill Hommerding held the flag while Greg Davis performed the folding. Mark Lyon and Rachelle Hulderman held and creased each side of the flag. About 25 MOH members stood in formation behind the flag folding during the entire ceremony. I was and am very proud of the professionalism of the members of the MOH Society. We are a great group!

After Memorial Day was put to rest, we had to gear up for our biggest fundraising event of the year. The Man-of-Honor Harley Raffle (as it has been know to be called) on June 9th. You will read about it more in another section of the newsletter, but, WOW, another suc-

cessful fundraiser!! A big thanks to all the committee members and the volunteers who helped at the event itself. Thanks also to The Eagles Club for allowing us to hold the event at their place. It wouldn't be right if I did not thank all of you that sold tickets for this raffle. I know a lot of other groups were selling tickets for their events and it was difficult at times to sell ours. You however, came through. Thank you very much!!

About 1 1/2 weeks later our biggest event ever. The Man-of-Honor escorted the American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) into Wausau. Again, you will read more about this in another section, but I want to thank, just a few, of the many MOH members who were instrumental in accomplishing this magnificent feat. The AVTT committee worked on bringing this display for over a year. The committee consisted of Chairman Jeff Morgan; Co-chairman Bill Hommerding, Dee Dennis, Deb Zahurones, Sissa Hommerding, Cathie Morgan, Tom Fust, Mark Lyon, Gerad Winchell (Lumpy), Ray McSherry, Bob Hood, Carrie Stotler (Nelly), Julie Mahr, Theodore (Teddy) Williams, Dennis Bell, and Kevin Zahurones, If I forgot anybody, I sincerely apologize. These people were absolutely outstanding. Many hours of sleepless nights were had.

They took this huge undertaking with sincerity, conviction and resolve. In the end magnificence was achieved! Thank you very, very much. I will be thanking all the other volunteers at a later date. Remember however, this feat could not have been accomplished without your help.

Next up are three more items: one for fun, one for fundraising, one parade. The golf outing on July 7th for fun. The Fall Raffle for fundraising in October. The third is the Labor Day parade where once again the Man-of-Honor Society will be in the lime light. There will be more conversation at the meeting on this. Until the meeting: Thank you for all that you have done for the Man-of-Honor. I am proud to be your President. Thank each and everyone of you for being active members of the BEST organization in the state of Wisconsin that helps our military members and families!

May God Bless you and the United States of America.

Jim Fust, President



(Harley Raffle , from pg 1)



One thing that has never happened at our raffles was an engagement, Mike Durkee proposed to Sue Gartmann on our stage. I worked with the firework people to start the fireworks after Sue said "Yes".



All those things combined helped make this a great success!!!

Ric Carr, Vice-President

President::

Jim Fust Cell: 715- 212-3743

Vice-President:

Ric Carr Cell: 715-212-1348

Secretary:

Bernie Knippel 715-359-6178

Treasury:

Keith Cota Cell: 715-212-1303

Sergeant Of Arms:

John Fust Sr. 715-842-7185

Man-of-Honor Brought The Wall To Wausau

Who said it wasn't going to be FUN!!!

A sincere heart felt THANK-YOU to all committee members and all the great people who helped with everything.

Thank-you to the officers of the Man-of-Honor.

To single out any one or two people would be a discredit to all who gave so much to make this the biggest event the Man-of-Honor has ever undertaken. Did I happen to say "Thank-You:"?? Because without the great people we have in this society none of these wonderful things or the help given would have never been brought to light.

Again Thank-You.

Honor, Respect to celebrate our Freedom this 4th of July.

Jeff Morgan, Chairman

The Preparation



The Apex of the wall was assembled and quickly the momentum of the panels that we were anticipating started to come together. The number of volunteers that showed up for the assembly exceeded what is normally requested by the AVTT, so everything moved along nicely.

I observed the wall and its presence and thought about the planning that went into bringing it here, and the worries of the planning committee if everything was thought of and most of all, were we going to get the number of visitors we were hoping for to make this a true success.

In looking over the wall I could see its travels by the rain marks, dust, residue from tape and birds that have perched on areas of the wall, at this moment I was given a young volunteer, Renae Andraski, and was told to give her some work by her dad, (that I could tell looked proud to have her there helping).

I told her to grab a bucket of water and some rags because we were going to wipe down the wall. She looked at the wall which was still having its east panels assembled and without hesitation said okay, I on the other hand was hoping her young energy was going to keep me motivated.

We started wiping the wall down and it really started to sink in, the size of the surface we decided to clean and reason it had to be that big, all of these selfless souls waiting for their visitors. The wiping down of the residue became an honor to show my respect to those soldiers whose names became brighter as Renae and I kept wiping down, what seemed like a huge job. I came full circle when a vet who was volunteering that day came up to us when we were on the west panels; 1968, and he touched the wall and said tearfully thank you for taking care of my guys, those are my guys right there, and than touched by shoulder and said thank you with tears in his eyes. I thought Renae's young energy was going to keep me going, but that moment made me want to do more.

Volunteering is all about the smallest details that mean the greatest to others.

Thank you Veterans, it was an honor and volunteers, you were great.

Debbie Zahurones, PRO

AVTT-June 20-24, 2012

The excitement in the air was evident on Wednesday, June 21st, when AVTT rolled into the parking lot at the VFW grounds on River Dr. in Wausau. The procession of vehicles and motorcycles was quite impressive and I know I was

not the only one with tears in my eyes. All I could think was, it's here, it really is here after all this time and all the work, it's here.

Thursday morning, at 7 a.m. our volunteers showed up in force and started assembly on not just The Vietnam Wall Memorial but all the other memorials, including WWII, Korean War, Global War on Terror and 9/11 firefighters and police officers. There was also a tribute to the victims of the murders of Ft. Hood and so much more. I'll tell you that I honestly could not figure how they were going to get all of this together in 4 hours. All I could do was keep the coffee coming, have the donuts and cookies in order and have faith. And together it came, just in time for our Native American Tribes to come in and bless this event.

Friday was a beautiful day. We were there at 8 a.m. and we had visitors right away in the morning. I should mention that we had DC Everest High School students from Paul Alexejun's history class there all 4 days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. They were working the database computers helping our visitors locate their friends and loved ones on The Wall. Those wonderful kids were so helpful and we are so grateful to them for their presence and all the help they gave to us.

Saturday was our BIG day. Again we had people right away in the morning and the

weather started out just sunny and bright. We had the good fortune of having Vietnam Veterans from Janesville come up and perform some very touching patriotic ceremonies for us. Shortly before they were supposed to begin, it started raining. I know that nobody asks for rain at an outdoor event, but there it was almost appropriate. And just before they were done the rain stopped. Our deepest gratitude to them and their associates, it was wonderful. At 8 p.m. we held a candlelight vigil at The Wall and it was one of the more touching moments we shared while we were there. Many thanks to Bob and Megan Cankar of "Ultimate Sacrifice" who made that so memorable for all of us.

Sunday was the last day and I know even though we were all tired and had little left to give, we were all sad that this was coming to an end. What an experience for all of us who were lucky enough to be involved. It was also very emotional to see something so close to people's heart. I guess all we can hope for is that we succeeded in bringing to people a place of healing and reflection for all who needed it. Although it is impossible to count, but I know we had thousands of people show up.

In closing there are some people I feel we need to say special thanks to. VFW Post 388 for allowing us to use all their facilities to our hearts content while we were there. Bob and

Megan Cankar from Ultimate Sacrifice were so helpful every day. Ray McSherry from American Legion Riders Dist. 8, and his band of merry men who took care of overnight security the whole time. The young men from the Army reserves and National Guard who were there every day with their vehicles and were always ready and willing to lend a hand. And those vehicles were a sure hit with the younger generation. Our musical talents, Wausau Concert Band, Center Stage Band and Show Choir, Nathan Reedy for playing Taps and very talented Bagpiper Dr. Phil Smith. Also everyone else whose name I do not know who were there with their displays and artwork. It took all of you to make this such a special event. And more than anything I want to thank all the volunteers that were there, morning, noon and night. Members and non-members alike you were the glue that held this whole thing together. And in case you didn't notice, my hat was off to all of you all weekend.

Sissa Hommerding, Committee Member



American Veterans Traveling Tribute Pics



Spotlight On One of Our Own!

It is always a pleasure to write in our Newsletter about our nominated “Spotlight On One Of Our Own” people.

Joseph J. McGrath was born on December 19, 1920 in Chicago, IL and grew up in an old Irish neighborhood in the stock yards. Joe has 3 daughters, 1 son , a grandfather of 7 and also a great grandfather. During the depression his father was wounded in France during WWI. A very poor family had to grow up without a father due to extensive injuries and many, many years of recovery. Joe is also from important Irish descendents that owned the famous McGrath Castle in Pettingo, Ireland.

He received an engineering degree and became a senior Industrial Engineer in manufacturing hydraulics at Anchor Coupling Company in Liberty, IL. Joe was superintendant of 850 employee's. The company then sold out to Caterpillar and then he moved to Wausau to become a contractor. He built his home at Greenwood Hills and many others. He is now happily retired at the age of 91.

Joe was a MSGT in the Air Corp. He joined the Air Corp. in 1941 at the age of 21, 1 week after Pearl Harbor. Became an Air Corp. Commissioned Officer for four years, till 1946, Joe spent most of his time at an air base in Texas transition training B24 engine boomers.

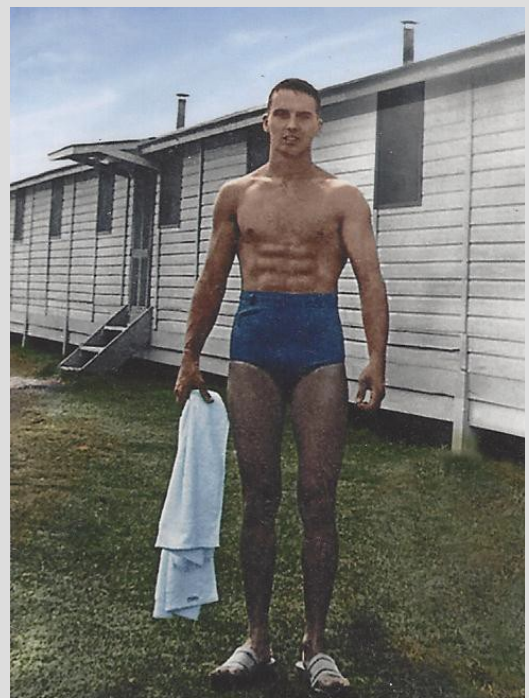
Joe received Army Air Force Certificate of Appreciation for War Services signed by Hap Arnold, Commanding General Army Air Forces. Other important accomplishments were: Administrative Specialist, Post Sergeant Major at Forth Worth Army Air Field, Personnel and Administrative duties (30 people), Honorably discharged, Man-of-Honor Society, and Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

Important part of Joe's life was fundraising for March of Dimes. Personal friend and inventor of the polio vaccine, Dr. Salk. The vaccine was invented 1 week after Joe's child was diagnosed with polio at 18 months of age. She lived to be 16 years old.

I am honored to “Spotlight” Joe McGrath. He has brought honor, not only to himself, but to his family and the US Army Air Corp. Thank you Joe for all you do and thank you for your dedicated service to our Country.

*Jim Fust, President
SMSGT USAF (Retired)*

Written by: Todd Wold



Rest In
Peace



*Dennis L.
"Goot"
Gutknecht*, 64,
of Wausau,
passed away on
Saturday, May 5,

2012, at Mount View Care Center under the care of Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services.

Goot served his country in the US Army during Vietnam. He worked on the communication systems that the military used in the country during the war. He was a member of the Man-of-Honor Society.

The funeral service was held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at Helke Funeral Home in Wausau. Visitation was held at 9:00 am until the time of service at the funeral home. Burial was at Restlawn Memorial Park, Wausau, with military honors by VFW Burns Post #388.

Our prayers and thoughts are with his family.



*Delores M.
Czechowicz*, age 82, of Wausau, died Sunday, May 27,

2012 in Wausau.

She was the mother of Rosie Carr, Associate Member.

Delores was excellent at knitting, crocheting, and playing bingo. She was a devoted Green Bay Packer fan and never missed a game. She loved to spend time "up north" pontooning and on Lake Wausau.

Funeral Service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2012 at St. Therese Parish in Rothschild. Visitation was held from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 30, 2012 at Brainerd Funeral Home in Weston and again from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at the church on Thursday. Burial was at Restlawn Memorial Park.

She will be missed by her family.

Wausau Elk's Lodge Held Their Annual Flag Day Ceremony

The Wausau Elk's Lodge held their annual flag day ceremony June 14, 2012. The ceremony kicked off with the presentation of the Colors by VFW 388, and Jeremy Steinke sang the National Anthem.

The boy scouts presented the history of all of our nation's flags that flew over our country since the Revolutionary War until present.

The local American Legion rifle squad did the rifle salute and taps was played. Man-of-

Honor was represented by Ron Jones who gave the keynote speech about patriotism and the meaning of the Flag to veterans.

It truly was a terrific ceremony that the local Elk's Lodge does on an annual basis. Channel 9 was on hand to record the event and aired it on the local news. Well over 100 people were on hand, despite the rain and the necessity to move the ceremony indoors due to the weather.

Ron Jones, MOH US Army

Goodbye, My Friend

Though we never know
Where life will take us,
I know it's just a ride
On the wheel.
And we never know
When death will shake us
And we wonder how
It will feel.
So Goodbye my friend.
I know I'll never see you again.
But the time together
Through all the years,
Will take away these tears.
It's OK now - Goodbye my friend.
I see a lot of things
That make me crazy,
And I guess I held on to you,
You could have run away
And left - well maybe,
But it wasn't time
And we both knew.
So Goodbye My friend.
I know I'll never see you again.
But the love you gave me
Through all the years
Will take away these tears.
I'm OK now - Goodbye my friend.

-Anonymous

**Happy
Birthday**



July

- 3 - Ed Gunderson, US Army
Greg Hoffman, US Army
Charles Lamon, USMC
Larry Seidl, US Navy
- 8 - Mike Bruess, USAF
- 9 - Kurt Gray, USM
- 11 - Amy Babl, US Army
- 13 - DuWayne Balk, US Army
Gerald Winchell, US Army
- 16 - Randy S. Hoppe, US Army
- 17 - Richard Kloppenburg, US Navy
Joseph Redkettle, US Army
Nathaniel L. Stepp, US Navy
- 18 - Butch Russ, USMC
- 20 - Deana Jankowsky, Army Reserve
Jerome Zdanovec, USAF
- 23 - Richard Pocock, US Navy
- 24 - Jonathon Hounsell, US Navy
Andrew Narlock, Army National Guard
- 25 - Anastasia Sebourn, Army National Guard
- 26 - Joe Nikolai, Army National Guard
Patrick F. Rice, USAF/ARNG
- 27 - Duck Mallard, US Army
Mike O'Shaughnessy, USAF
George Webb, USMC
- 28 - Shirley A. Bickford,

USAF

- Shirley Gesick, USAF
- 29 - Robert James Burton, Air National Guard
Kevin Krueger, US Army
Michal P. Strom, USAF
- 30 - Gerald Baehman, US Army
Eric Brown, US Army
- 31 - Frank Guemmer, USAF

August

- 1 - Rick Beck, USMC
- 4 - Tyra L. Chlebowsky, USAF
Gary Olson, USAF
Bill Homnmerding, USAF
- 7 - Thomas R. Buhs, US Navy
James Landowsky, US Navy
- 10 - Scott M. Bolles, USAF
- 11 - Jeff Morgan, Army National Guard
Roger Zynda, US Army
- 12 - Tom Fust, USMC
- 14 - William Fenhaus, National Guard
- 15 - Todd Zunker, US Army
- 16 - Chad Jirovec, USAF
Richard Vaughm, US Army
- 20 - Jeff Dehnel, US Army
Ginny Edwards, Associate Member
Kevin Zahurones, Army National Guard
- 21 - Gregory Brose, US Navy
- 22 - Charlie Sapp, US Army
- 24 - Bernie Knippel, USAF
- 25 - Cathie Morgan, Associate Member
- 26 - Edward Benzing, US Navy
Jay Wunsch, USAF

- 27 - Vicki Harness, Associate Member
Kraut Kersemeier, USAF
- 29 - Robert Hood, USMC
Travis Petterson, US Army
- 30 - Cory Heckendorf, US Army
- 31 - Jerome Metz, US Army

The lucky winners of the \$25.00 drawings for May and June was over looked at the last meeting. We will be drawing those names from the sign up sheet from May's meeting.

Wife's Golf Shot

Bill stood over his tee shot for what seemed an eternity.

He waggled, looked up, looked down, waggled again, but didn't start his backswing.

Finally his exasperated partner, Bernie, asked, "What the heck is taking so long?"

"My wife is up there watching me from the clubhouse," Bill explained. "I want to make a perfect shot."

"Good lord!" his companion exclaimed. "You don't have a snowball's chance in hell of hitting her from here!"

Coming Events:

July 14, 2012 - Meeting at Man-of-Honor 1425 Townline Road Wausau, WI 54403 at 2:00 p.m.

September 8, 2012 - Meeting at Man-of-Honor 1425 Townline Road Wausau, WI 54403 at 2:00 p.m.

October 6, 2012 - Fall Rifle. Details at the next meeting.

November 10, 2012 - Meeting at Man-of-Honor 1425 Townline Road Wausau, WI 54403 at 2:00 p.m.

New Members

We now have 455 members in the Man-of-Honor Society. The newest members are:

Larry Andreski, Associate Member

Jeremy Argiro, US Army
Brad Bartha, Army National Guard

Louis Bebout, USAF

Mathew Beil, US Army

Gary L. Berzill, US Army

Scott M. Bolles, USAF

Eddie Brittain, US Army

Nancy Brown, Navy Reserve

Aaron Brushy, US Army

Robert J. Burton, Air National Guard

Casey Conner, Army National Guard

Hank Dehnel, USAF

David Derby, US Navy

Landon D. Franck, Army National Guard

Teresa R. Fristed, US Army
Susan Gartmann, Associate Member

Michael Gesick, USAF

Shirley Gesick, USAF

Joe Grall, US Coast Guard

Frank Guemmer, USAF

Joanne T. Guemmer, USAF

Jerold Gutknecht, US Army

Jack Horak, US Army

Gary Jay, US Navy

Tim Jolliffe, US Air Force

Terry Kiefer, US Army

Gerri Knippel, Associate Member

Joe Kretschmer, National Guard

Kevin Krueger, US Army

Wayne Krueger, USAF

John S. Krukowski, US Army

Chuck Kuhnmuensch, US Army

Brent Leach, Army National Guard

Jerome Metz, US Army

Jesse Milanowski, US Army

Dale Millard, USMC

William Muelling, Army Reserve

Steve Nolan, USAF

James Palmer, USMC

Zachery Petri, USAF

Latrice Porter, US Army

Rodney Rothmeyer, US Army

Charlie Sapp, US Army

David L. Schmidt, USAF

Roger M. Schmidt, USMC

Brian Sell, US Army

Mike O'Shaughnessy, USAF

Michael Skains, USMC/USCG

Randy Slagoski, US Army

Gus Strehlo, US Army

Michael P. Strom, USAF

Jamie Lynn Swift, US Army

Brian A. Thompson, US Army

Richard Vaughn, US Army

Thomas Westermeyer, Associate Member

Karl Witkowski, US Navy

Don F. Woolum, US Army

Michael Worzalla, US Army

* *

My father, an Army major, was conducting a field test when communications went dead. Immediately, he jumped into a jeep and ordered a sergeant to speed to the command station.

When my father and the sergeant ran in, the group cheered their arrival. The commanding officer then stepped forward and shook my father's hand. "Don't congratulate me, sir," my father said modestly as he pointed to his driver. "It was all the sergeant's doing."

The commanding officer nodded and turned to the sergeant. "Congratulations," he said. "The major's wife just had a baby girl."

Please sign in with Sissa Hommerding prior to the meeting.