

Meeting Minutes April 2024

VFW REPORT Apr 24, 2024

1. Blue Star By Pass Memorial for Omaha Memorial Park.
Plaque has been ordered and will take several months to get due to a back-log of orders at the company.

Awaiting to hear if we will get the \$950.00 Mayor's Grant which grants will be selected sometime in May.

The stone was donated by Pyramid Contractors in honor of the owners grandfather who served in WWII

The stone needs some smoothing of one surface to accommodate the plaque- estimated cost- less than \$500

The stone needs moved from Center ST to Memorial Park estimated cost \$600

2. Gold Star Memorial for Fort McPherson national Cemetery- Monies have been raised by organizations in Central and Western Nebraska

Location in Cemetery has been identified.

Issue- Application was denied at District VA level since the wording did not specify the memorial was by Gold Star Families of those buried in this specific cemetery.

A resubmit with correction has been sent- awaiting decision.

3. To be clear- these memorials are from the National Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
And in conjunction with other groups. Space is limited to so many letters and the main statement is required by the National Federated Garden Club. This makes the wording very difficult.

Maty Carlson

Nebraska Blue Star/ Gold Star Memorials representative

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Frank's Chaplain/CDC Report:

April 2024

CDCE/Voluntary Services Newsletter



"Haunted and haunting, human and inhuman, war remains with us and within us, impossible to forget but difficult to remember."

National Vietnam War Veterans Day

March 29th is designated as National Vietnam War Veterans Day in the United States. This is a time to pay special Tribute to the 9 million Americans who served during the Vietnam War era, to the 58,000 names memorialized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., and to those who never received the recognition they Deserved whye they returned to America from war.

March 29, 1973, is the day U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam was disestablished, and the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. In addition, on and around this same day, the U.S. Vietnam War Commemoration stated that Hanoi released the last of its acknowledged prisoners of war. (American Legion, www.legion.org)



On Friday, March 29th, Dr. Kingston recognized our volunteers who served during the Vietnam War by giving them a Vietnam War Veteran Pin. A thank you to all our volunteers who served during the Vietnam War to help protect our country. You will never be forgotten!

Some of our VAVS groups and a new volunteer, Jackson Servant, volunteered between 11am and 1pm by handing out snacks, treats, popcorn, and other freebies for our veterans. Thank you to the DAR ladies (Karen Fitzgibbons, Ann Cox, Marta Dempsey, and others) Paula Pillen from the American Legion Auxiliary, Janice

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **VAVS Quarterly Meetings:** April 24th @ Omaha, April 25th @ Lincoln
- **April 22nd-26th:** Volunteer Appreciation Week
- **April 26th:** Ribbon cutting for new PT/OT/Prosthetics building
- **April 30th:** Volunteer Banquet (Theme is Casino Night)
- **May 11th-18th:** Festival Week in Denver, CO. 5 veterans from NWI have been invited to show their creative arts pieces (1 artist, 3 writers, and 1 performer). NWI was #6 out of 6 VA facilities that had chosen representatives.
- **May 15th:** Police week – VA Coffee with a Cop
- **May 15th:** VA 2K Walk and Roll

DID YOU KNOW?

- The new PT/OT and Prosthetics building opened on Monday, April 15th. All outpatient PT/OT and 7th floor prosthetics has moved to the new building.
- More construction will be happening at the Omaha VA in the future. Most of these projects will affect our parking situation for both veterans and staff. We may be asking some volunteers to be flexible and possibly help with driving golf carts or shuttles to accommodate the needs of our veterans and staff. More info to come once we know when and where these changes will be happening.

MOBILE MED UNIT



Purpose


MMUs provide staff with the necessary infrastructure to provide care in community-based settings, all in a safe and confidential space with medical supplies and equipment readily available.


Homeless Veterans who access care through an MMU will not need to visit VA hospitals for many health and supportive services.

- Health Assessments
- Preventative Care
- Immunizations
- Laboratory

-MMU Sharing would allow subspecialties, special initiatives and other departments to use based on needs of patient population (e.g. rural veterans, spinal cord injury, volunteer services)

COMMUNITY PICNIC

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**HONORING ALL WHO HAVE SERVED
AND
THOSE THAT SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY**


05/04/2024
Lake Manawa State Park
Shelter 6
12-3 Pm

Free to the Public
Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips,
cookies and water provided.
Games for the whole family!


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