

VETERANS VOICE

Wisconsin Veterans Cemeteries – FREE for Veterans

Wisconsin veteran cemeteries are FREE for veterans, and a nominal cost for spouses and/or dependent children. The cemeteries provide chapels for services, and military funeral honors for the veterans.

Eligibility for Veteran

Eligibility is based on a veteran meeting military service and Wisconsin residency.

Military service requirement for burial in Wisconsin State Veterans Cemeteries must be in accordance with the eligibility standards set by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – National Cemetery Administration; and as a minimum, must meet one of the following: Veteran was discharged from "active duty" under other than dishonorable conditions, or Veteran died while on "active duty", or Veteran served at least 20 years in the National Guard or Reserves and qualified for military retirement pay (or would have qualified except death occurred before age 60).

Wisconsin state residency requirement for burial in Wisconsin State Veteran Cemeteries must meet one of the following: Veteran was a Wisconsin resident at the time of entry or re-entry into military service, or Veteran was a Wisconsin resident at the time of death, or Veteran was a Wisconsin resident for at least 12 consecutive months after entering or reentering service on "active duty". Note: There is no residency requirement for a veteran who dies while on "active duty".

Eligibility for Veteran's Family

Spouses, surviving spouse, and dependent children are eligible for interment even if the veteran is not buried or memorialized in a state veteran's cemetery and the veteran would have met both military service and Wisconsin residency requirements. This includes, lost or buried at sea, missing or missing in action, or whose remains have been donated to science or cremated and the ashes scattered.

Eligibility includes:

- Surviving spouse of an eligible veteran that has been interred, who remarries, retains his or her eligibility for burial.
- Any natural or adoptive child of an eligible veteran who are under 18 years of age or under 26 years of age and pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution.
- An adult child of an eligible veteran of any age if the child is physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical disability.

PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-registration allows a veteran, spouse, and/or dependent child to establish eligibility for interment at one of the three State Veteran's Cemeteries. There is no cost for pre-registration and it does not obligate the veteran to be interred at the cemetery selected. Pre-registration is intended to establish eligibility and simplify the process for the veteran's next-of-kin at the time of death. A separate pre-registration is not necessary for dependents. **Grave spaces are assigned at the time of need**, specific gravesites are not reserved. To pre-register at one of our three cemeteries located at Spooner, King, or Union Grove, complete the pre-registration application at the Kewaunee County Veterans Office. Once all documents have been received, and/or eligibility has been established, a notice of confirmation regarding pre-registration will be sent to you.

The following fees apply at each cemetery:

- Fees include the grave site, concrete grave liner (at Northern and Southern cemeteries), engraving of spouse or dependent information on the marker, opening and closing of the gravesite, and perpetual care.
- A grave liner is not provided at the Central Cemetery for veterans, spouses, or dependent children. The family is responsible for the cost and installation of the grave liner. Your funeral director can provide specific information.
- Fees are only collected at time of burial and are subject to periodic increases when necessary and based on operational expenses incurred at each cemetery.
- Interment/Burial Fee:** \$550.00 (spouse/dependent children). The burial fee does not apply to the burial of an eligible veteran.
- Disinterment Fee – Casket:** \$900.00 (veteran/spouse/dependent children).
- Disinterment Fee – Cremation:** \$550.00 (veteran/spouse/dependent children).
- Outside Burial Vault Fee:** \$650.00 (veteran/spouse/dependent children). This fee is required when a family decides to have their own vault placed at the cemetery versus using the liner already provided. This fee option applies to the cemeteries at Spooner and Union Grove.

LOCATIONS

The **Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery** near Spooner provides a final resting place for veterans and creates a lasting memorial to their achievement and sacrifices. The cemetery has an attractive administrative building, which includes a committal chapel and outdoor committal shelter for interment services (The outdoor committal shelter is used when weather permits). The cemetery also hosts veterans' events and commemorations in its ceremonial area

and flag plaza.

The cemetery interments caskets and cremation urns year-round. Eligible veterans and spouses/dependents are entitled for burial at this cemetery. Cremated remains may be interred either in ground, in an above ground columbarium, or in the scattering area. The government marker will include the veteran's name, rank, branch of service, war period, birth date, death date and spousal information. Families also have the option of adding an additional inscription/term of endearment to their loved ones' marker.

Ground breaking occurred October 16, 1998 with construction beginning April of 2000. The cemetery began interments on November 10, 2000, and was officially dedicated on June 10, 2001. The initial phase of construction included burial for casket and cremation urns. Phase 2 of construction was completed January 2008. Phase 2 included additions to the columbarium, a new cremation garden, a cremation scattering area, an outside dealer vault garden and an addition for maintenance storage. Additional development will occur to accommodate needs of veterans and their families. The cemetery is conveniently located along Highway 53 between Eau Claire and Superior.

The **Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery** is located on the grounds of the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King. Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery has provided a final resting place for eligible veterans and their dependents since June of 1888. Services are conducted seasonally at graveside or at the outdoor committal shelter, weather permitting. The Main Chapel at the Wisconsin Veterans Home is available for services throughout the year. The cemetery can inter caskets and cremation urns. Memorial markers may be placed for veterans and eligible dependents whose remains are not recoverable, or for those whose ashes have been scattered.

Wisconsin's first state veteran's cemetery opened in June of 1888 with the burial of a Civil War veteran. In addition to veterans from the Civil War, Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery is the final resting place for veterans of the Indian Wars, Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Persian Gulf War, as well as Peace Time veterans. More than 5,200 veterans and their dependents have been buried in the cemetery since its inception.

The **Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery** near Union Grove provides a final resting place for veterans and creates a lasting memorial to their achievement and sacrifices. Situated on state-owned farmland at the Southern Wisconsin Center, the 105-acre cemetery site encompasses gently rolling hills with serene, natural beauty. As a lasting tribute to those who served in the armed forces, the cemetery will remind future generations that veterans were instrumental in preserving our nation's freedom.

Ground breaking occurred on Memorial Day, May 24, 1996. The cemetery and the administrative building were officially dedicated on May 31, 1998. The first phase of construction included burial for casket and cremation urns. Additional development will occur to accommodate needs of veterans and their families. The cemetery administrative building, includes a committal chapel for interment services. An outdoor committal shelter is used for services when weather permits. The cemetery also hosts veterans' events and commemorations in its ceremonial area and flag plaza.

The cemetery interments caskets and cremation urns year-round. Cremated remains may be interred either in ground or in an above ground columbarium. The government provided marker will include the veteran's name, rank, branch of service, war period, birth date, death date and spousal information. Families also have the option of adding an additional inscription/term of endearment to their loved ones' marker. The cemetery is conveniently located and easily accessible from metropolitan Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha.

For more information, contact Joe Aulik at the County Veterans Service Office at 388-7198 or

E-mail at aulikj@kewauneeeco.org to sign up for the veteran benefit e-mail list. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KewauneeCVSO

2015 LUXEMBURG AMERICAN LEGION POST 262 GUNLESS POULTRY SHOOT

Luxemburg American Legion Post 262 is sponsoring the 2015 Gunless Poultry Shoot. Proceeds will go to the Luxemburg American Veterans Activities Fund which includes American Legion Youth program, community programs, and Kewaunee County veterans who are in need. Come out and support the American Legion and your community. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. During each raffle there are three or four items that can be won. There are 20 raffles in the afternoon. In addition, there are 50/50 raffles in the afternoon.

Dec 6th, Saturday at Liebeck's Bar, 5893 Humboldt Rd, Luxemburg, WI, 54217

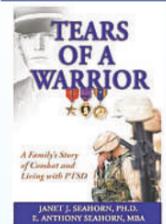
920-845-5498 (Corner N and P), 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Items to be raffled are: Various prime selections of frozen meats, blankets, jerseys, and much more!! If you have any questions call Len Yanda, Post 262 Commander, at 920-365-6155.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 262 LUXEMBURG CHRISTMAS PARTY

American Legion Ralph Klein Post 262 will hold their annual Christmas Party on December 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Luxemburg Village Hall. Please bring at least one non-perishable item for donation. Contact Len Yanda, Post 262 Commander, at 920-365-6155 if you have any questions.

TEARS OF A WARRIOR: A FAMILY'S STORY OF COMBAT AND LIVING WITH PTSD



Author Tony Seahorn is a Vietnam Veteran who was wounded while serving with the Black Lions of the 1st Infantry Division. This patriotic book was written about soldiers who are called to duty in service of their country. It is a story of courage, valor, and life-long sacrifices. Long after the cries of battle have ended, many warriors return home to face a multitude of physical and mental challenges. The war may be over for them, but the fight for rediscovering who they are is just beginning. Janet Seahorn, co-author and wife of Tony Seahorn writes from the perspective both as a wife who has lived for thirty years with a Veteran with Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), and as a professional in human development and neuroscience. Dr. Seahorn's research has focused on the effects PTS has on the brain, body, and spirit.

If you, or someone you may know is interested in receiving a copy of this book, please stop in our office to receive a free copy.

AMVETS POST 42 RAFFLE WINNERS

Listed below are the winners of the AMVETS Post 42 Annual Fundraiser that was held on October 26, 2014. AMVETS Post 42 would like to thank everyone who participated and we look forward to everyone participating next year. The funds raised will be used to help needy veterans and community programs. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Marvin Dequaine, Post Commander, at 920-487-2248.

1st Place	Dennis H. Walter	\$300.00
2nd Place	Joe Wiese	\$250.00
3rd Place	Vern Green	\$200.00
4th Place	Nathan Schmechel	\$150.00
5th Place	Don Rank	\$100.00

WISCONSIN MILITARY HONORS TRAINING CONDUCTED



On August 30, 2014, a Wisconsin Military Honors Program refresher training was conducted at the Luxemburg Community Center. This training was attended by 23 veterans from the 7 Veteran Service Organizations in Kewaunee County. The training was arranged by Nellie DeBaker, Immediate Past American Legion County Commander. Each member received a pin for attending, and each member will also receive a certificate at the quarterly American Legion County meeting on November 17, 2014 that will be held at the American Legion Luxemburg Post 262 in Luxemburg, WI. This training ensures that each deceased military member in Kewaunee County is properly honored by a professional military burial for years to come.

FILE YOUR DISCHARGE PAPERWORK

As a reminder, take the time to file your discharge paperwork in the Kewaunee County Veterans Service Office. It is very difficult to have to explain to a family member that paperwork cannot be completed for benefits until the discharge paperwork is obtained. To obtain the records from other resources can take several months.

YOUR VETERANS POST NEEDS YOU!

If you served in the military and have not joined a local Post, please consider taking the time to do so. These Organizations are a fighting voice for us in Washington to maintain and acquire benefits for all of us who have served in the military. Please contact the Kewaunee County Veterans Service Office to discuss eligibility.

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Paradise Estates LLC would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Veterans and their spouses and to offer assistance in receiving your full benefits you deserve for any assisted living needs you or your spouse have earned.

Thank you,
Mike & Kathy Paral

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Kewaunee County Veterans Organizations, their Auxiliaries, and the Sons of American Legion Want You!

AMERICAN LEGION

Kewaunee Post 29 Casco Post 319
 Algoma Post 236 Carlton Post 538
 Luxemburg Post 262

VFW

Kewaunee Post 3392

AMVETS

Kewaunee County Post 42

SQUADRON POST 538

Sons of the American Legion

To apply or obtain more information, contact **Joe Aulik** at the County Veterans Service Office at **388-7198** or e-mail at aulikj@kewauneeeco.org to sign up for the veteran benefit e-mail list to keep up-to-date on benefits. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/KewauneeCVSO.

VETERANS VOICE

The Best on Earth: A Veteran's Day Tribute

If someone has done military service,
They earn the title "veteran," and more;
They earn our deep respect and admiration;
That they are special no one can ignore.
They sacrificed the comforts we enjoy;
The list is long of all the things they gave.
Our veterans are extraordinary people;
They're loyal, dedicated, true and brave.
When terror and invasion were real threats,
They showed us they could handle any storm.
We owe our freedoms and our very lives
To our veterans, who served in uniform.
Our veterans should be celebrities;
They're exceptional; no other group compares.
We're grateful for the many things they've done;
They're always in our hearts and in our prayers.
We owe our veterans support and friendship;
Let no one ever question what they're worth.
These men and women served us and our country,
Our veterans--the very best on earth.

By Joanna Fuchs



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