



IOWA HEART BEAT

Department of Iowa Military Order of the Purple Heart Newsletter

Dec 2016

Iowa Veterans Council Coalition

The Iowa Veterans Council Coalition is comprised of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, American Veterans (AMVETS), Marine Corps League and Ex-Prisoners of War. Ex-official members include the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs, Iowa Veterans Home, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs, Iowa County Association, Des Moines VA Regional Office, VA Central Iowa Health Care System (Des Moines), Iowa City VA Health Care System and the Sons of AMVETS.

Vets on the Hill (18 January 2017 at 11:00)

Department of Iowa will be backing and standing behind the Coalition Table at Vets on the Hill this year. It is to show that they have our support in this years Indicatives.

1. In order to continue the programs that support Iowa Veterans and their Families, we support the protection of the financial integrity of the following agencies and programs:

Iowa Veterans Home
Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
Iowa Veterans Trust Fund
County Allocation Fund
Injured Veterans Grant Program
Military Home Ownership Program

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"Our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen volunteer to protect and defend this country and all its citizens, and do so with honor, integrity and excellence. Our nation continually asks them to do more and more, with less and less."

- LTC Allen West (Ret)



Iowa State Capital

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(Above) Cookie Walk, (Below) 861 Cmdr Steve Hyde and wife (Associate Member) Marian

HOLIDAY STROLL AND TINY TIM FESTIVAL OF TREES



Saturday, 19 November 2016 marked the 25th annual holiday festival in downtown Marshalltown. It included a parade, carolers, venders, horse drawn carriage rides, Santa's workshop, tree festival, lighting of the courthouse trees, lumberjack event, and much, much more! Chapter 861 entered a "Purple" Christmas Tree. First place in my opinion, but I may be bias.

Busy night for Chapter 861 in Marshalltown

19 November 2016 is a full day with the Elves' Toyland Craft Show at the Fisher Community Center, Fall Bazaar at the Le Grand Community Center, Zumba at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Courthouse Tours, of course the Holiday Stroll and Tiny Tim Festival Trees on Mai Street District, Soup Supper and Cookie Walk by the First United Methodist Church with Homemade chili and chicken noodle soups plus desserts for free-will offering to include beautiful cookies for sale to end with the harvest ball.



Past Dept Cmdr (Chp 861) Duane Otto and wife, Karen at the soup supper



Each December is National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to *Remember, Honor and Teach* is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

In Iowa it will be at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery on 17 December 2016 at 11:00 a.m.



1979 Commander Bud Beveridge accomplishing the mission



(Top) Pleasant Hill Veterans Home, (Center) Pizza Delivery and (Below) The Chow Line

Chapter 1979 helping the community

Members of the Order bringing a missed tradition to a Pleasant Hill community home of pizza delivery. Commander Bid Beveridge and members of 1979: Randy, Tony and Dave put smiles on the residence's faces and show that Veterans Service Organizations do give back to the community and not just Veterans issues. Making Military Order of the Purple Heart a valid and important part of our Nation by picking up the slack. These four gentlemen are accredit to our Fraternal Order.



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2. Allow Iowa disabled Veterans with 50% or greater service connected disability rating as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, that the State of Iowa will waive registration and license fees for one personal vehicle.
3. Allow an increase of the Military Property Tax Exemption from \$1852 to \$3,700.
4. Iowa Legislature enact legislation to fly the POW/MIA Flag directly below the United States Flag and above the Iowa Flag on the following Federally mandated holidays/observance days: POW/MIA Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Roll Call on the Hill

If you support any of or all the initiatives that the Veterans Council are sending to the Capitol please get behind them and inform your State Representative. We can no longer stay quiet and hope for the best. If we continue to keep our heads in the sand we will lose the current entitlements that we enjoy and benefit from. Veteran programs and benefits tend to be the first to be cut since we represent a fraction of the current population unless we all start to speak with a focused goal. We cannot let our survivors, military and family members be forgotten.

Yours in Patriotism, Robert Suesakul, Commander, Dept. of Iowa

Northwind Traders brings you the world



Iowa Heart Beat

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Give us a call for more information about our services and the Ferternal Order

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