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First Formation

Events for November/December 2017

DAV 32: No Nov or De-
 cember meetings due to
 the holidays.

Caz Post 491: No Decem-
 ber regular meeting. Will
 bag candy for Weston
 school children at a date
 TBD.

Nov 1: Caz Post 491 will
 begin signing up sons of
 Legion members. There
 are 60 eligible.

Nov 2: 40&8 regular mtg,
 meal 7PM, mtg to follow

**Nov 4: Viet Vets/
 Legacy Vets spon-
 soring Chili
 Cookoff at Phoenix
 Center, RC, 5-
 11PM, or as long
 as the chili lasts.
 All proceeds do-
 nated to commu-
 nity and veterans'
 organizations**

**Nov 5: RC Legion 13
 second 2017 pan-
 cake breakfast,, RC
 legion hall, 7AM to
 noon, followed by
 Vietnam Vets 7 meat
 raffle. All proceeds
 from the breakfast
 are used to fund**

**nursing scholarships.
 Over \$24,000 has
 been raised to date.**

Nov 7: Legion 447 Viola
 regular mtg, 1PM Aux,
 7PM, legion hall

Nov 7: VFW 2267 regular
 mtg, 6:30 supper, mtg fol-
 lows, RC legion hall

Nov 9: Viet Vets 7 regular
 mtg, 7pm, RC legion hall

Nov 10: Women's Relief
 Corp regular mtg, Brewer
 library, 11AM

Veterans' Day Events

**Nov 4: Blind Veter-
 ans Association
 float in Milwaukee
 parade.**

**Nov 9: Viola Post
 447 sponsoring
 speaker Cecil
 Groves 11AM,
 Chicken and pie
 luncheon at 1PM by
 Auxiliary.**

**Vietnam Vets 7 will
 present a program
 at Schmitt Wood-
 land Hills. Begin-
 ning with a meal at**

**12:15 pm, followed
 by the program at
 2.**

**Nov 10: RC Legion
 13 will provide pro-
 grams at 9AM at St.
 Mary's school,
 10AM at the High
 school, and in the
 afternoon at the
 Richland Middle
 School, Ithaca, Jef-
 ferson, and Eagle.
 Legion 13 Aux will
 provide lunch at the
 legion hall following
 High School presen-
 tation.**

**Vietnam Vets 7 will
 provide a program
 at Doudna School
 at 9AM.**

**Legion Post 491,
 Cazenovia, will pro-
 vide a program at
 Weston School.**

**Nov 11: Dedication
 of Lone Rock Veter-**

You Can Help

American Legion 13's Auxiliary in Richland Center has an ongoing project for which they are making attractive bags for homeless women veterans. If you have fabric pieces 5/8 of a yard or larger, please contact Auxiliary president, Sheila Melby, 647-7974, Kershe@mwt.net

Also, the DAR and the Women's Relief Corps both have programs in which their organizations send greeting cards to veterans. Donations of both Christmas and birthday cards are welcome.

Veterans also assemble cancelled stamps into groups for sale to collectors. Used stamps with trimmed borders can be left for them at the history room in the RC Brewer Library.

From HQ

From Karen Knock, VSO

US Census Bureau reports: Twenty million veterans live in the United States. They live in every state and in nearly every county across the nation. About 5 million veterans lived in areas designated as rural by the U.S. Census Bureau during the 2011–2015 period.

Understanding who rural veterans are and what sets them apart from other veterans, as well as from their rural neighbors, provides the necessary perspective for rural communities, government agencies, veterans' advocates, and other policymakers interested in directing programs and services to this population.

In general, individuals living in rural areas differ from their urban counterparts in terms of demographic characteristics, social ties, culture, and access to infrastructure and institutional support. Much depends on the geography itself. In some parts of the country, rural residents may face substantial physical barriers to accessing services and amenities, including longer travel times, lack of transportation options, and limited availability of

services. Veterans, regardless of geography, differ from their nonveteran counterparts in a variety of aspects.

Military history and enlistment policy changes have influenced the demographic composition of the veteran and nonveteran populations over time. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has identified veterans living in rural areas as a population of interest. To help address concerns of veterans' access to care, Congress established the Office of Rural Health within the VA in 2007. One challenge in these efforts is that most of the data available to the VA come only from rural veterans enrolled in their healthcare system, and not all veterans are enrolled. However, to anticipate demand for care, as well as to understand what types of services may be requested or utilized, requires data on all rural veterans.

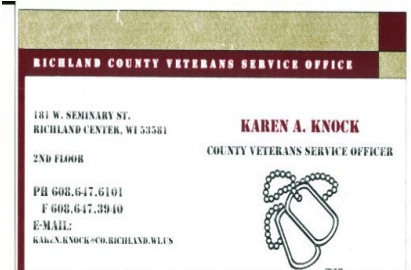
This brief aims to answer the question "Who are rural veterans?" by considering the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of rural veterans compared with both urban veterans as well as with rural nonveterans. It also examines rural veterans by the level of rurality of their county of residence to understand some of the impact of geography on their characteristics. The data used in this report are

primarily from 2011–2015 American Community Survey (ACS), 5-year estimates. This report presents statistics about veterans and, where applicable, nonveterans 18 years and older living in rural and urban areas of the United States.

The complete report appears in the links below:

<http://veterans.co.richland.wi.us/.../10/RuralVets20112015.pdf>

<http://veterans.co.richland.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/RuralVets20112015.pdf>



The Blind Veterans' Association has some equipment available at no charge to any vet who is blind or who has low vision. Both a vision machine and a laptop particularly fitted for these needs are available to someone who qualifies for their use. These items need a home. Please call Tom Peralta, 649-3407.

Events (Ctd. From page 1)

ans' memorial 10AM, memorial park, Lunch follows at noon.

Nov 11: Marine Corp Birthday party dinner at legion hall, RC
 Nov 11: Caz Legion 491 soup supper, 4:30-7, legion hall
 Nov 12: Cazenovia Post 491 card party, 1:30, legion hall
 Nov 13: Lone Rock vets memorial mtg, 6:30, village hall
 Nov 15: Legion 383 Aux regular mtg, 5PM, Masonic hall
 Nov 16: RC Legion 13 Regular mtg, 6:30 supper, 7:30 mtg, legion hall
Nov 18, 40&8 Steak Feed, 4:30 PM to 8:30PM., RC Legion hall, all proceeds go to maintain the 40&8 Parade locomotive
 Nov 21: Legion 383 Lone Rock regular mtg, 7PM, library
 Dec 2: Blind Vets' Association Christmas party at HoChunk casino.
 Dec 2: DAR winter dinner meeting to work on Christmas cards.
 Dec 5: County Legion meeting, 7PM, RC Legion Hall
Dec 6: Women's Relief Corps Share night at RC Culvers. Proceeds to be donated to the GAR Museum in Springfield, IL, to repair flood damage.
 Dec 7: 40&8 regular mtg, meal 7PM, mtg to follow
 Dec 8: Women's Relief Corps, Statewide meeting, White House, 11AM.
 Dec 11: Lone Rock Vet memorial mtg, 6:30, village hall
 Dec 12: Legion 447 Viola regular

mtg, 1PM Aux, 7PM legion, legion hall
 Dec 12: VFW 2267 regular mtg and Christmas meal for members and spouses, 6:30 supper, mtg follows, RC legion hall

Dec 13: VFW 2267 annual fundraiser at Richland County Bank. Taking donations of items for patients at the Tomah VA: supplies, games, personal care products, and more.

Dec 14: Viet Vets 7 regular mtg, 7PM RC legion hall
 Dec 19: Legion 383 Lone Rock regular mtg, 7PM library
 Dec 19: Legion 491 Caz regular mtg, legion and aux 7PM, legion hall
 Dec 20: Legion 383 Lone Rock Aux regular mtg, 5PM, Masonic hall
 Dec 21: RC Legion 13 regular mtg and Christmas supper, 6:30 legion hall



Veteran Santas

Look for members of Vietnam Veterans 7 to be ringing bells for the Salvation Army outside of Walsh's Ace Hardware this Christmas season. They will also be raising funds to donate to displaced or injured veteran families.

Purple Heart Progress

The Military Order of the Purple Heart is making progress. The first sign has been dedicated, and funds have been raised for the second and third signs to be erected, one on the east end of town near Simpson's Tractor and another at the Richland Center Industrial Park. Funds are being raised now for the fourth and last sign. Well done!

Listening to Their Stories

Richland Center VFW Post 2267 is beginning a round table program for vets now living at Pine Valley Nursing Home. At 1:30 PM on the third Thursday of every month, they sit down with the vets and take time to listen to their service stories. All are welcome to come and listen. A POW/MIA table has also been set up at the home.

**The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is the vigilant, to the active, the brave.—
 Patrick Henry**