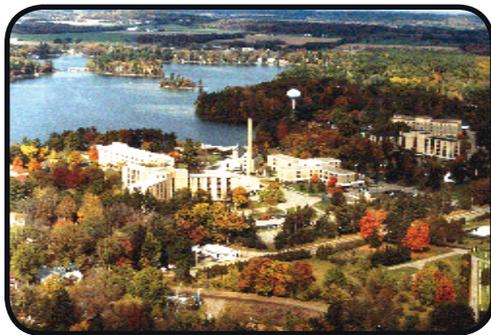


***WISCONSIN VETERANS
HOME AT KING
MISSION STATEMENT***

The mission of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King is to provide an outstanding living experience for military veterans and eligible dependents who have rendered service to their country, state and fellow citizens.



Wisconsin Veterans Home at King
N2665 County Rd QQ
King, WI 54946-0600
(715) 258-5586
www.WVHKing.com

***History of the
Wisconsin Veterans Home
at King***

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“Caring for America’s Heroes”

CHARLES KING

1844-1933

The unincorporated Village of King was named in 1941 in honor of Brigadier General Charles King, famed Wisconsin soldier and author.



Charles King was born in Albany, New York in 1844 to a wealthy and well-known family. His father, Rufus King, came to Wisconsin in 1845 and established the Milwaukee Sentinel.

When the Civil War erupted, Rufus King helped to organize the famous Iron Brigade. Charles was attending Columbia University Prep School in New York City, but convinced his father to help him gain admittance to West Point and soon he was appointed

by Abraham Lincoln to West Point.

Upon graduation, Charles became a Civil War lieutenant. In 1871, he was transferred to the Fifth U.S. Cavalry. During the Indian Wars, he was seriously wounded by an arrow in his left eye and by a bullet in his left arm. Charles was promoted to captain shortly before being discharged for wounds in 1879.

COMMANDANTS

Wisconsin Veterans Home at King 1887 - Present

1887 - 1887	<i>A. J. Langworthy</i>
1887 - 1897	<i>Columbus Caldwell</i>
1897 - 1903	<i>Charles J. Ellis</i>
1903 - 1910	<i>Joseph H. Woodnorth</i>
1910 - 1914	<i>Benjamin F. Bryant</i>
1914 - 1914	<i>John W. Ganes</i>
1914 - 1919	<i>Frederick S. Veeder</i>
1919 - 1920	<i>Jerome A. Watrous</i>
1920 - 1931	<i>John Turner</i>
1931 - 1949	<i>William Holden</i>
1940 - 1945	<i>Carl L. Brosius (Acting)</i>
1949 - 1960	<i>Gilman H. Stordock</i>
1960 - 1965	<i>John S. Drayna</i>
1965 - 1967	<i>Arlin C. Barden (Acting)</i>
1967 - 1984	<i>Arlin C. Barden</i>
1984 - 1985	<i>James M. Olson</i>
1985 - 1990	<i>Richard Scheller</i>
1990 - 2003	<i>Steve Handrich</i>
2003 - 2009	<i>J. W. "Bill" Crowley</i>
2009 - 2011	<i>Jacqueline L. Moore (Acting)</i>
2011 -	<i>Mary P. Hansen</i>

RESOURCES

- American Red Cross
- Being There Reaching Out
- Center for Defense Information
- Doc's Military & War Veterans Site
- Fort McCoy, Wisconsin
- Freedom Honor Flight
- Great Lakes Intertribal Council
- Military Education & Research Library
- Military Memoirs
- Military Times
- Military Woman
- National Gulf War Resource Center
- National Resource Directory
- National VETS Archives
- PBS: Vietnam - Television Documentaries
- U.S. Veterans Resource Interactive Map
- VA Center for Women Veterans
- Veterans Alliance Service Center
- Veterans Assistance Center
- Vet Friends Veterans Locator
- Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation

Upon returning to Wisconsin, King joined the University of Wisconsin staff becoming the cadet militia drill instructor and in 1880 King helped organize the Wisconsin National Guard.

During the Spanish-American War, King was called back to serve as a brigadier general and served in the Philippine Insurrection and in WWI. His remarkable 70 year career serving in five wars: Civil War, Indian War, Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection and WWI, gave Charles the longest term in American military history. Charles King died at the age of 89 in 1933.

During his lifetime, King also authored 60 books and approximately 250 articles dealing with life in the Frontier Army, Civil War, Spanish-American War and related human interest stories.

So now when you think of King, Wisconsin, you might also be reminded of Brigadier General Charles King, the famed soldier and author.



MAJOR GENERAL

RALPH OLSON



Currently the oldest building in use for member residency is Olson Hall. It was built in 1967 with 200 beds and was named after Major General Ralph Olson.

So who was Major General Ralph Olson and why was this building named after him?

Ralph Olson, a native of Marinette, was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Wisconsin National Guard on July 29, 1926. He was activated as a captain in February, 1942 to serve in Europe during WWII. During the war he served as regimental adjutant, battalion tank commander and on the general staff of the 11th Armored Division in General Patton's Third Army.

During his overseas tour of duty in the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe, he was engaged in many battles with the 11th Armored Division, including the Battle of the Bulge. During his military career, he was awarded the Bronze Star, American Campaign Medal, Eastern-Africa Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze battle stars, WWII Victory Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, USSR Defense of the Fatherland Medal and USSR Medal of Valor. He was also posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct.

Activities

- Bowling Alley
- Theater
- Wood Shop
- Ceramics
- Boating / Fishing
- Library
- Computer Center
- Mini Golf
- Bingo
- Pool Tables
- Work Therapy

Other Services

- Dietary Services
- Barber / Beautician Services
- Security / Fire Protection
- Housekeeping Services
- Laundry Services
- Volunteer Program
- Ministerial Services
- Coffee Shop
- Gift Shop
- Work Therapy
- Transportation Services
- Member Council

To find out more information on the eligibility requirements, volunteer opportunities or services provided at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, please contact your local County Veterans Service Officer, the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King at (715) 258-5586 or go to www.WVHKing.com.



WISCONSIN VETERANS

HOME AT KING

Today the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King is a state operated facility for Wisconsin Veterans and their spouses. From its original enrollment of 50 members, the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King has grown to a community of over 700 members. It is one of the largest and most independent skilled long-term care facilities in the United States with approximately 500 nursing staff and over 300 support staff. In fact, the Home operates similar to a small city and boasts its own power plant, public works bureau, fire department, cemetery and logistics staff.

In addition to the respect and camaraderie of the “military family,” the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King offers many amenities on site including:

Medical Services

- Skilled Nursing Care
- Dental Services
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Respiratory Therapy
- Social Services
- Pharmacy
- Laboratory
- X-Ray
- Medical Transportation

In 1950, Olson was appointed adjutant general of the Wisconsin National Guard and promoted to Brigadier General. In 1951, he was appointed to the Board of Veterans Affairs. In 1955, he was promoted to major general. In 1961, he was elected chairman of the Board of Veterans Affairs which he held until the time of his tragic death, when he and his wife, Ruth, died in an Air National Guard aircraft accident near Mitchell Field in Milwaukee on January 29, 1969.

We salute Major General Ralph Olson and continue to memorialize him with a building in honor of his contributions to the veterans.



THE MACARTHUR LEGENDS

MacArthur Hall consists of three floors. The main floor houses the outpatient clinic, lab, administrative medical offices, inservice, dental office, activities, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy. Medical Supply is located in the lower level. MacArthur Hall is living quarters for members with chronic lung disease or who may need oxygen tanks.



There are 116 beds. MacArthur Hall was built in 1983 and was named in honor of two famous army generals who were father and son, Arthur MacArthur, Jr. and Douglas MacArthur. Both have Wisconsin ties and are recipients of the highest service honor, the Medal of Honor.

When you look at the political career and determination of Arthur Sr., the father and grandfather of these two great men,

in those days and is cited as one of the main reasons for the closure. In 1887, the Greenwood Park Hotel along with 78 acres was purchased for \$7,265 by the City of Waupaca and presented to the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) for the establishment of the Wisconsin Veterans Home.

Dr. Frederick Marden was a Civil War Navy veteran and a GAR member. He was chosen by the GAR to head a five member committee to establish a veterans home in Wisconsin and is credited with drawing up the plans that helped Wisconsin repay its debt of gratitude to veterans. Dr.

Marden originated the idea of making the home a true retirement community for veterans, allowing wives and widows of veterans to live at the home, as well as the idea of allowing members to live in cottages. Dr. Marden died on September 24, 1887, just a year before he was able to see his dream of a veterans home become a reality. The Wisconsin Veterans Home was dedicated on August 19, 1888.



F. A. MARDEN MEMORIAL

The F. A. Marden Memorial was built in 1972. The main floor houses the King Post Office, museum, gift shop, activity offices, a meeting room and a multi-purpose room



which is used for many of the functions held throughout the year. Third floor houses the library and a computer center for member use. First floor houses a wood shop, coffee shop, patio area, ceramic shop, movie theater, bowling alley, bar, game room and a tugger pick up and drop off area for members. All three floors offer a picturesque view of Rainbow Lake.

This building was named in memory of one of the Home's founding fathers, Dr. Frederick A. Marden of Milwaukee, and is actually the second building at the Home named in his honor. In 1888, the Greenwood Park Hotel had been renamed Marden Hall and was used to house 24 widows of veterans. The hotel had been built in 1881 on the eastern bank of Rainbow Lake and southwest of where the park stands today. It was the first summer resort on the Chain O'Lakes. The original intent was for use by families and friends, but eventually the resort was opened to the public. Although the owners had good intentions, the hotel failed after only four seasons. Transportation to the hotel was difficult

you can fully appreciate the dedication and drive they possessed. In 1815, while still a youngster, Arthur Sr. immigrated from Scotland with his family to Massachusetts where he earned his law degree. In 1849, Arthur Sr. left his successful legal practice in New York and moved the family to Milwaukee where he soon had



another flourishing practice. In 1855, he ran as the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor with incumbent Governor William A. Barstow. On the day they were inaugurated, some questions about voting irregularities were raised which caused Governor Barstow to resign and left Arthur Sr. serving the shortest term for a Wisconsin Governor of just five days at which time the state court decided the election victory belonged to the Republican opponents. In 1857, Arthur Sr. was appointed to the State Supreme Court and in 1870 he was appointed by President Grant to the Federal Supreme Court.



ARTHUR MACARTHUR, JR.

“The Boy Colonel”



Arthur Jr. was born in 1845 in Springfield, Massachusetts. The family moved to Wisconsin when he was four and he spent his childhood living at 1101 N. Marshall Street in Milwaukee. He had quite a group of playmates who were looked upon by the neighborhood women as ruffians. This group grew up to become five generals including General Charles King, a U.S. Senator, two rear admirals, a doctor, three lawyers and three soldiers who were killed in the Civil War.

Arthur Sr. had high hopes of his son pursuing a career in law or to at least attend West Point. The outbreak of the Civil War caused Arthur Jr., at the age of 16 to ignore his father’s wishes and to persuade his father into arranging a commission as first lieutenant in the 24th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. At first, soldiers laughed at the “baby adjutant,” but not for long. He quickly impressed others with his self-assurance and dedication to duty. Young Arthur saw action in 14 major battles including Chickamauga, Stones River, Chattanooga, Kenesaw Mountain and the siege of Atlanta.

On February 10, 1944, while caring for patients in a hospital tent, Ellen was hit by enemy fire and died six days later at the age of 24. She was the only Wisconsin servicewoman killed in action during WWII. Ellen was awarded posthumously three medals: the Silver Star (the third highest award for bravery), the Purple Heart and the Red Cross Bronze medals.

According to the award citation, “Second Lieutenant Ainsworth was on duty in a hospital ward, while the area was being subjected to heavy enemy artillery shelling. One shell dropped within a few feet of the ward, its fragments piercing the tent in numerous places. Despite the extreme danger, she calmly directed the placing of (42) surgical patients on the ground to lessen the danger of further injury. By her disregard for her own safety and her calm assurance, she instilled confidence in her assistants and her patients, thereby preventing serious panic and injury.”



To commemorate her bravery, a health clinic at Fort Drum, New York, the American Legion Post in Glenwood City and a conference room at the Pentagon have also been dedicated to Ellen. She is buried at the U.S. Military Sicily Rome Cemetery, Nettuna, Italy.



ELLEN G. AINSWORTH

The newest of the four member resident buildings, Ainsworth Hall, was built in 1993 and named in honor of Second Lieutenant Nurse Ellen G. Ainsworth. This building consists of four floors, has 205 beds, and a designated alzheimers/dementia unit with an enclosed courtyard.



Ellen Ainsworth was born March 9, 1919. She was a Glenwood City, Wisconsin resident and graduated from the Minneapolis Eitel Hospital School of Nursing in 1941 and in March of 1942, entered the U.S. Army Nurses Corps. Ellen served at the Station Hospital at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, until the end of the year when she was assigned to Fort Sam's 56th Evacuation Hospital in Houston, Texas. The hospital was soon sent to Bizerte, Tunisia, located in North Africa, and several weeks later was relocated to Anzio, Italy.

It was at Missionary Ridge near Chattanooga on November 25, 1863, that his gallantry earned him the Medal of Honor. The battle was one of the key turning points of the Civil War as the victory gave the North control of key railroads. Confederate troops were entrenched on the 1,000 foot Missionary Ridge and were raining cannon fire down on Union troops. The 24th Infantry along with other troops were to fake an attack on Confederate troops down the middle so General Hooker's troops had room to maneuver around. It was during this battle that Arthur Jr. picked up the fallen flag of



the 24th regiment and charged the Confederates yelling "On Wisconsin!" General Grant observed this unauthorized action and promoted Arthur to major and later at the age of 19 to colonel which soon gave him the nickname "The Boy Colonel" as he was the youngest colonel in the Union Army.

Arthur Jr. retired from the military in 1909 after a 48-year career. On September 12, 1912, Arthur addressed a group at a reunion of the 24th Infantry to celebrate 50 years since the regiment left Milwaukee for the Civil War. While he was recounting the exploits of the regiment, he suddenly said he was too weak to go on. Arthur slumped back into a chair and died of a heart attack. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

“I shall return!”



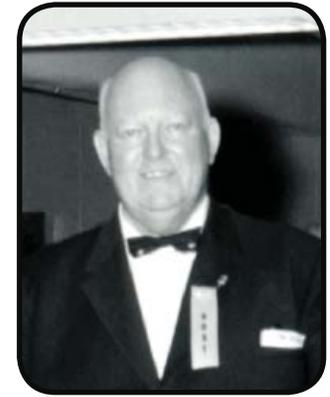
Douglas MacArthur was born in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1880 and is probably the most famous of the three MacArthur men. He lived his entire life from cradle to grave in the United States Army. His father’s constant message to his children was, “Do what is right no matter what the personal sacrifice might be.

The Country always comes first.” Every night at bedtime his mother would say, “You must grow up to be a great man like your father and Robert E. Lee.” It wasn’t until he was six years old that he was finally introduced to “civilian” life. He graduated from West Point first in his class as well as having one of the highest academic records in West Point’s history. At West Point, he was also an outstanding baseball player.

Upon graduation, his first assignment was to work with a corps of engineers in the Philippines which eventually became a lasting connection. One of his next assignments included service as an aide in Theodore Roosevelt’s White House which found him working on an engineering assignment in Milwaukee.

After his father died in 1912, MacArthur was transferred to the War Department in Washington so he could care for his mother. In 1915 he was promoted to major and the following year became the Army’s first public relations officer. He is

Gil was a native of Avon and Beloit. He enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard in 1914. During the Mexican Border War, Gil served with the 1st Infantry Regiment. After federalization in 1917, he served overseas for 12 months with the 127th Infantry in the 32nd Division and rose to the rank of Battalion Sergeant Major. His battalion was involved in the defensive and offensive engagements against the Germans in Alsace Sector, Chateau-Thierry, Juvigny, Soissons Forest and Argonne Forest. Additionally during World War II, he served as a lieutenant colonel in the State Guard after the Wisconsin’s National Guard was federalized.



Gil was a lifelong campaigner for veterans’ benefits and served in various veterans organizations on local, state and national levels. In 1969, Gil was appointed to the Board of Veterans Affairs. On February 17, 1971, he passed away due to a heart attack and is buried in the WWH-King cemetery.



GILMAN H. “Gi” STORDOCK

Gil Stordock was Commandant of WVH-King from 1949-1960. In 1970, a building was constructed and named in honor of his accomplishments and dedication to veterans affairs. The building was named Stordock Hall.



The first floor of Stordock Hall, currently, houses the administrative offices including offices for the commandant, deputy commandant, adjutant, nursing administrator, finance, payroll, admissions and personnel. The members’ credit union is also located in the lobby area.

The other four floors of Stordock Hall consist of 200 beds with 50 members on each floor. There is a designated all male unit on second floor and more independent living on the fourth and fifth floors.

largely credited with the public’s acceptance of the Selective Service Act of 1917, which was critically important as the country moved ever closer to joining WWI.

MacArthur was quickly promoted to Brigadier General and led the Rainbow Division through the thick of the fighting in France. He became the first decorated American soldier of WWI. After the war, MacArthur was appointed to the coveted peacetime position of Superintendent of West Point. He was determined to drag the academy into the 20th century. It was during this time that he married Louise Cromwell Brooks. MacArthur was soon sent to the Philippines on an assignment which displeased his wife who was accustomed to the glamour of New York and Paris. They were soon divorced after returning to the States. In 1930, President Hoover named MacArthur to the Army’s top job, Chief of Staff. In 1935, MacArthur was invited to return to the Philippines by his good friend, Manuel Quezon, then President of the newly created Philippine Commonwealth. President Quezon asked MacArthur to head a U.S. military mission to prepare the island for full independence. MacArthur accepted.

The next years were among the happiest of his life. He fell in love with 37 year-old Jean Marie Faircloth from Tennessee who helped to fill the void in his life, particularly when his mother died shortly after his arrival in Manila. A son, Arthur MacArthur IV, was born and the 58 year-old general proved to be a doting father. Their blissful life in Manila was slowly overshadowed by the growing threat posed by Japan. When war finally came with the blow at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the Philippines were doomed. MacArthur’s Air Force was quickly destroyed; his army shredded and by January of



1942, his forces had retreated and were struggling to survive. As President Quezon prepared to evacuate by submarine, he offered to take MacArthur's family out of harm's way, but MacArthur declined the offer with his reply, "My wife married a soldier. My son is the son of a soldier." MacArthur finally withdrew when President Roosevelt ordered his withdrawal to Australia and MacArthur made a promise to the Philippines, "I shall return." MacArthur was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions on April 1, 1942. His defense of the Philippines and overall military skills during World War II resulted in his appointment as General of the Armies (5 Star). For the next three years, the world watched as his personal quest, "I shall return," became synonymous with the war. On September 2, 1945, he did return and presided over the Japanese surrender on board the "USS Missouri" bringing an end to WWII. The famous photo to the right shows MacArthur's return. MacArthur's popularity after WWII and image as a war hero made him a contender for the Republican nomination for president in 1948, but after a poor showing in the Wisconsin primary he withdrew.

In June of 1950, the sudden outbreak of the Korean War thrust MacArthur back into action. The 70 year-old MacArthur called it "Mars' last gift to an old warrior," and he headed the United Nations troops. In a brilliant move, MacArthur turned the war around when he ordered an amphibious attack behind enemy lines at Inchon on a high tide that would carry his landing ships over the sea walls. It was considered to be the riskiest plan ever, but it worked.

MacArthur retired from the military in 1951. He was invited to address a joint session of Congress and is known for his famous retirement speech in which he quoted an

old British Army ballad "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." MacArthur spent his retirement years quietly in New York serving as chairman of the board of the Remington Rand Corporation. He made an endowment to the City of Norfolk, Virginia, his mother's hometown and the city used it to convert its old city hall into the General Douglas MacArthur Memorial for a museum. Today the memorial consists of four buildings beautifully landscaped on MacArthur Square in downtown Norfolk.



Shortly before his death in 1964, Douglas MacArthur's memoirs, *REMINISCENCES*, were published and he spoke of his father's death and is quoted as saying, "My whole world changed that night. Never have I been able to heal the wound in my heart." After a state funeral, he was buried in a crypt at MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia. Arthur Jr. and Douglas MacArthur left an unmatched family legacy. Of the more than 3,400 men and women who have been awarded the Medal of Honor, they are the first father and son recipients.

