



STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to host Veterans Day ceremony at King

Ceremony to reflect on veterans' "service and sacrifice"

(MADISON) – Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary John A. Scocos announces there will be a Veterans Day ceremony to be held at the **Wisconsin Veterans Home at King**, Wisconsin, as part of various commemorative ceremonies statewide for Veterans Day.

The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King Veterans Day program will be held on **Friday, November 11th** in the **Marden Memorial Center at 10:30 a.m.** The Wisconsin Veterans Home is located at N2665 County Road QQ in King, just two miles south of the City of Waupaca.

"This year marks the 30-year Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War," said Scocos, "and on Veterans Day 2005 we not only honor, recognize, and remember all who have served their country, but we are making special efforts to recognize our Vietnam veterans. They deserve our thanks for their service. Vietnam veterans have been reaching out to servicemembers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, through 'Mission: Welcome Home,' because they know the importance of helping Wisconsin servicemembers to reintegrate."

"Veterans Day is our time to pay special tribute to all veterans who have honorably worn the uniform of service with dedication to their country," Scocos continued. "This Veterans Day is also important because it is our chance as a state to focus on those who are currently sacrificing so much to serve our country."

Master of ceremonies for the program will be **Commandant Bill Crowley**. The **Waupaca High School Choir**, under the direction of Kristen Kasuboski, will provide patriotic musical selections for the occasion. **Waupaca High School Band** students will sound Taps and echo.

The featured speaker will be the current **Chairman of the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Kenneth Wendt**. Former Governor McCallum appointed Wendt to this prestigious board in 2000. Wendt

served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956, with a tour of duty in Germany. He is currently the chair of the Door County Veterans' Service Commission and has served on the commission since 1991. Wendt is no stranger to the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. He has served as the AMVETS State Hospital Representative to the facility since 1978, and served as Chair of the King Recreation Committee for 10 years. Wendt has also been elected Chairman of the AMVETS State Hospital and Service Foundation since 1981. For his outstanding work with all Wisconsin Veterans, Wendt was chosen AMVET of the year at the organization's 2004 State Convention.

The Wisconsin Veterans Home at King Commandant Bill Crowley recently stated, "We look forward to many of our friends and neighbors attending this year's program. With so many uncertainties in the world today, we are aware that our veterans and current military are more important than ever. This program is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to show our support to those who have given so much. In this small way, we will recognize the service and sacrifice of those who served their country."

Other ceremonies being hosted by the department on Veterans Day will take place as follows:

- Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Spooner, starting at 1:00 p.m.
- Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Union Grove, starting at 3:00 p.m. Secretary Scocos will speak.

For further information on this program contact Wisconsin Veterans Home Public Information Officer Rich Calcut at 715-258-4247 or rich.calcut@dva.state.wi.us. For further information about these and other Wisconsin 2005 Veterans Day programs and ceremonies, visit www.dva.state.wi.us/events.asp.