

Home Front Newsletter



Commandant's Corner

Dear Members, families, volunteers and staff,

The full force of winter is upon us, so please be careful when walking outside this winter. It's interesting that accident prevention experts advise us all to "walk like a penguin" when traversing slippery surfaces.

Here's how to do the "Penguin Walk":

- Bend legs slightly and walk flat-footed
- Point both feet slightly outward
- Extend arms outward and to your side to maintain balance
- Move slowly to react to changes in grip and keep forward momentum at a minimum
- Position your center of gravity as directly over your feet as possible

So, if your Commandant is looking really silly waddling flat-footed through the parking lot...don't laugh... I'm just protecting my aged bones! Isn't it amazing what we can learn by observing God's creatures!

I am also very pleased to share with you that the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove has recently been recognized by the Lake Superior Quality Innovation Network for achieving "excellence in infection control practices". This network of quality experts monitor and assist in the implementation of quality initiatives in nursing homes throughout the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan. They provide care facilities in those states with benchmarks to gauge performance and ideas on how to develop "best practices" for the provision of healthcare. Literally, all of the employees at our Home have contributed in some way to achieving this success and recognition...not bad for bunch of penguins!

Wishing you a safe and healthy winter,

Randy

MEMBER
Spotlight

Couple of the Month

Eser Family



With Valentines around the corner, we thought it would be fitting to highlight a Veterans Home couple...

We present the Eser Family -Tom and Henryetta.

When asked if they would share their story, Henryetta stated, "maybe!"

Tom and Henryetta met at a dance in Milwaukee. "Cha Cha" was the new dance and neither of them knew how to do it. Tom said, "When you learn how to do it please let me know!" The next week according to Henryetta, "We took dance lessons at the YWCA." They married soon after and have been married for 55 years. When asked any advice to married couples? Tom responds, "The woman always wins!" Henryetta states, "That statement is Wrong!!"© Tom was in the Coast Guard and we moved every 2 or 3 years. We had an interesting life. We had seen some pretty interesting places, like New York. We lived on an island and could see the Statue of Liberty from the apartment window and the World Trade Center.

Another interesting place was Kodiak, Alaska. The scenery was beautiful- mountains, and rivers, and wild life, nature and lots of seafood. After he retired from the Coast Guard Tom and I learned how to square dance. We made many friends at square dancing and still have some of them. We also traveled on a variety of cruises and tours.

Tom and Henryetta are often seen together joining activities, such as bingo, trivia, and special events. They are relatively new to our facility, if you see them share a "hello". Both Tom and Henryetta have fun stories and humor to share. Happy Valentine's Day!



Building	Where To	Date/Time	Volunteers/Needed
Boland Hall-1 st Floor	Walmart	Thurs., Feb. 15 th 1:00pm	2-3
	Walmart	Thurs., March 22 nd 1:15pm	2-3
Boland Hall – 2 nd Floor	Walmart	Wed., March 14 th 1:00pm	2-3
Boland Hall-3 rd Floor	Walmart	Fri., Feb. 16 th 9:30am	2-3
	Walmart	Fri., March 23 rd 9:30am	2-3
Fairchild Hall	Walmart	Mon., Feb. 19 th 1:00pm	2-3
	Church Lunch	Wed., Feb. 21 st 11:30am	2
	Walmart	Mon., March 5 th 1:00pm	2-3
	Church Lunch	Thurs., March 8 th 11:30am	2
	Walmart	Mon., March 19 th 1:00pm	2-3
Gates	Fish Fry	TBA	
	Walmart	Mon., Feb. 19 th 1:00pm	2-3
	Walmart	Mon., March 19 th 1:00pm	2-3



NEW DELI SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Saturday - Full Breakfast beginning at 8:00am. Breakfast service will stop at 9:15am.

Thursday – No Breakfast, Coffee beginning at 10:30am. Lunch will be served beginning at 11:30am. Lunch service will stop at 12:00pm.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH:

Scott Cincotta



Scott has served as a volunteer for over 7 years. He first got involved in doing drum circles at Boland Hall and Fairchild Hall. Shortly after that, he started volunteering in the Woodworking Shop at Maurer Hall. Scott also volunteers at Fairchild Hall working with a Member doing wood carving as well. Along with volunteering in different capacities at the home, Scott has recently started to help Members with any computer needs they may have. He stated that what he does here at the home is both fun and amazing as he has met many new friends. When asked what motivates him to volunteer, he answered that many people have asked him this question and the answer is “It’s just something I have to do.”

While volunteering at the Wisconsin Veterans Home, Scott has achieved 530 hours.

Along with giving his time with various woodworking projects on the campus, Scott is involved with also volunteering at Bong State Park and during the summer months, he is also a camp host there. In addition to woodworking/woodcarving, he also enjoys camping, traveling, hiking and music.

Scott mentioned that right now a big portion of his life is doing drum circles that he has put on for the veterans home, assisted living centers, nursing homes, memory care centers, daycares, schools, and churches. He is also a music educator, drum clinician and professional percussionist. My many musical endeavors include being the owner of Cincotta Music Enterprises LLC, the facilitator of the Union Grove Village Drum Circle, a percussion/music theory instructor, a composer for Cincotta Publications, a Wisconsin School Music Association master adjudicator and field representative, and the percussionist for the Irish/Celtic Band, “Celtic Gypsies” and the Jazz Band “Twang Shui.”

Overall, he stated his volunteering at the Union Grove Veterans Home has been a very enjoyable and enlightening experience. He will cherish the opportunity for many years to come. He is thankful for the opportunity with the veterans. Scott is well known by all who have contact with him and his generosity and time shows in his true dedication to our Members.



Volunteers Needed....

Volunteer Opportunities – If you are interested in the following volunteer opportunities, please contact the Activity and Volunteer Director, Terri Presser at 262-878-6725 or email at Teresa.Presser@dva.wisconsin.gov

- ❖ Provide a movie night on 3rd floor Boland Hall.
- ❖ We are in need of a volunteer to assist Members with simple computer tasks on a one-to-one basis.
- ❖ Maintain organization of the Fairchild Hall library.
- ❖ Assist with Leather Shop projects on Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00pm.
- ❖ Play Mexican Dominoes with Members.
- ❖ Provide one-to-one assistance on outside walks with Members.
- ❖ Assist activity staff with Member outings.
- ❖ Escort Members to Happy Hour on Fridays at 2:00pm.
- ❖ Escort Members to bingo on Tuesdays at 2:00pm.
- ❖ Switch out seasonal bulletin boards.
- ❖ Assist with writing Member's stories for their Memories in the Making art projects.
- ❖ Facilitate Happy Hour in FH.
- ❖ Pass Member monthly activity calendars in Gates Hall.
- ❖ Play Monopoly, poker, or UNO with 2nd floor Members.
- ❖ Water plants during gardening season.

******* If you have not completed your submission of 2017 volunteer hours, please do so no later than Friday, February 28th. Please return them to Terri Presser.**

Thank You – The Union Grove Veterans Home Volunteer Department would like to thank everyone for your contributions. As a reminder, contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Please contact your accountant or tax professional for advice if needed

Donations- Your continued monetary support for our Members is greatly appreciated.

Just a reminder....We do not accept cash donations. All monetary donations MUST be made payable to **WVH-UG**.

Veteran Honor Wall – “Remember Those Who Gave All”. All funds generated by the sales of tiles at Union Grove will be used to continue support for the Member Veterans with various special events. Contact Terri Presser at (262)878-6725 if you wish to purchase a tile or for additional information.

Newsletter – If you wish to receive this and any future newsletters via email, please let Michelle Adamek know at Michelle.Adamek@dva.wisconsin.gov so that she may place you on the email mailing list for newsletters only.

Dates To
Remember
2018

7/21 – Family Picnic
12/15 – Christmas Party