

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 28, 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adla	A.L. 235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick Panta	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-6665
Samuel S. Maggio	Marine Corps League	Del	223-9080
Jim Kirby	Del	Chaplain	246 9740
Bob Westman	^{DDAWA} Post 33	Del	433-4119
Al Strozowski	A.L. #476	Del	223-9521
Joseph Swaszob	CWV 1279	Del	243 4179
Nick Nekrasin	MA #26	Alt	224 2204
Ed Bryant	549	alt	246-9480
John G. G.	UFW 5506	Del	795-6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: 5/24/2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adla	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Bob Westman	AL 33	Pl.	433-4119
NICK PACETTI	VFW 468	DEL.	223-6665
Jmi Terby	549	Chaplin	246-9940
Ed Brant	549	al Del	246-7480
al Stogowski	AL 426	Del	223-9521
Nick Petrosino	AL 426	alt	224-2204
Joseph Swartz	CVEV 1239	Del	223-4179
Tracy Johnson	VFW Alexia 5883	Sept. Henry Co. VAC	309-937-3451
Bob Marshall	Henry county VAC	President	309-949-3447
JOHN LEWINGER	5506	"	795-6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 26, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	A.L. 235	Chairman	795-5436
Bob Westman	Al 33	Del	433-4119
Nick Paull	VFW 4668	DRL	223-6665
TOM PRZYBYL	VFW 5506	COMMAND	433-0803
Sam Maggio	Marine Corps League	Del.	223-9080
Jim Kirby	Chaplin 549	Del	246-9740
Joseph Guozoff	CWV 1229	Del	223 4179
Nick Nekrasius	Amptecians 426	Del	224-2204
JACK LEWINGEN	VFW 5506	Del	795 6065

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 10/10/2001

BY: [Name]

SUBJECT: [Subject]

1. [Text]

2. [Text]

3. [Text]

4. [Text]

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
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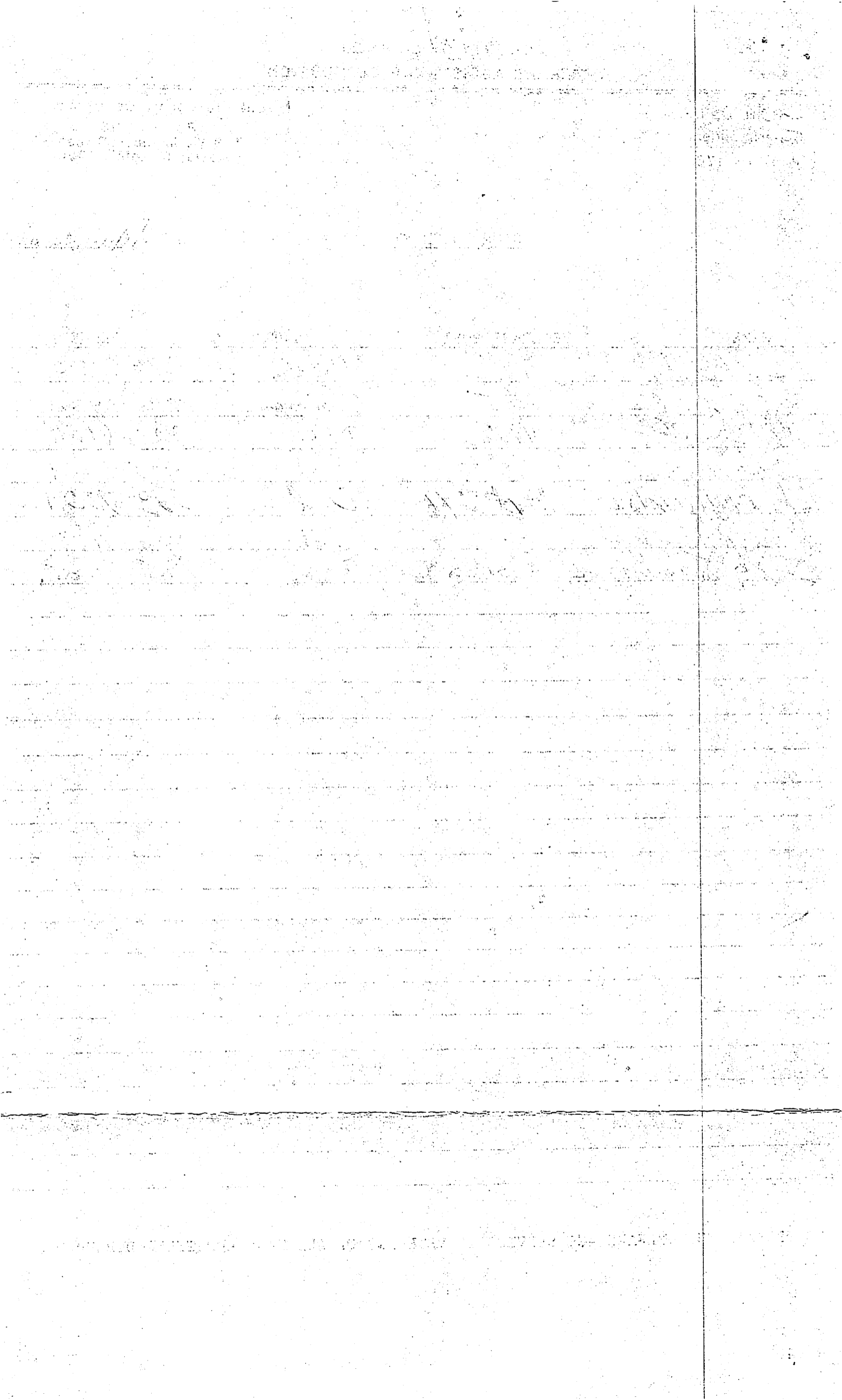
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 22 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Joni Kirby	549	Chaplin	246 9740
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick Pavetto	4668	DEL.	223-6665
Bob Westman	Post 33	Del	433-4119
Al Stozlewski	Post 246	Del	223-9521
Joseph Gwaszch	Post 1029	Del	223-4179
Jack Kemminger	Post 5306	Del	795 6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
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(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb. 23, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Tom Poretsky	5506	Commander	433-0803
Jim Kirby	549	Chaplin	246-9740
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim Koford	Amvets 30	Representative	431-0828
Nick Pautti	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-6665
Samuel S. Maggior	Marine Corps League	Del.	273-908
Nick Nekrasov	Post #26 Am Leg	Del.	224-2904
Robert J. Remy, Jr.	CWV Post #1229	Alt	223-7052
Al Stozowski	Co. B. #426	Del	223-9521
Joseph Swaszek	CWV Post 1229	Del.	223 4178
Jack Stungo	VFW 5506	Del	795-6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

LASALLE COUNTY BOARD ROLL CALL

MOTION: Freeman SECOND: Rigby DATE: 11-20-99
Salary for WAC Superintendent

BOARD MEMBER		AYE	NAY	HERE	DIST.	PRECINCTS
FLANAGAN, DANIEL J.	0699	✓			0 1	Mendota 1, 4, 5 & 7
MARTENS, LARRY	0137	✓			0 2	Mendota 2, 3, 6 & Meriden
STOCKLEY, KENNETH L.	0272		✓		0 3	Adams, Earl 1 & 2
MOWINSKI, THOMAS	0503		✓		0 4	Northville 2, 3, 4 & 5
SMALL, GARY	0534		✓		0 5	Dimmick, Freedom, Ophir, Troy Grove 1 & 2, Waltham
ROSENGREN, RONALD	0298		✓		0 6	Mission 1, Northville 1 & Serena
MCCONVILLE, JUDIE	0747		✓		0 7	Dayton 1 & 2, Miller, Mission 2, Rutland 2 & Wallace
DERANGO, MARIUS	0702	✓			0 8	Peru 10, 11, 12 & 13
JOHNSON, WILLIAM C.	0705	✓			0 9	Peru 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9
RIGBY JR., ARTHUR J.	0602	✓			1 0	Peru, 1, 2, 3 & 4
SAVITCH, JOSEPH A.	0481		✓		1 1	LaSalle 4, 9, 10 & 11
JANKO, JOHN	0484		✓		1 2	LaSalle 5, 6, 7 & 8
PANZICA, RUTH	1633		✓		1 3	LaSalle 1, 2, 3 & 12
PIECHA, AL	1641	✓			1 4	LaSalle 13, 14, 15 & 16
COGDAL, PATRICIA	0528	✓			1 5	Deer Park, Ottawa 15, Utica 1 & 2, Vermillion
DOUGHERTY, GLEN	0356		✓		1 6	Ottawa 7, 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14
FOLTYNEWICZ, RICHARD A.	0571		✓		1 7	Ottawa 6, 11 & 16
KOBAN, ANDREE-MARIE	0478	✓			1 8	Ottawa 1, 2/3, 4 & 5/12
HICKS, JERRY L.	0707		✓		1 9	Manlius 3, Rutland 1 & 3/4
COMBS, GLENN C.	0201		✓		2 0	Manlius 1, 2, 4 & 5
FREEMAN, RANDY L.	0706	✓			2 1	Eden 1 & 2, Groveland 1 & 2, Hope, Osage & Richland
MUSTERED, JAMES C.	0285		✓		2 2	South Ottawa 1, 3, 5 & 7
LANDERS, DALE E.	0574		✓		2 3	South Ottawa 2, 4, 6 & 8
CHAIRMAN HETTEL	1009				2 4	Brookfield, Bruce 13, Fall River, Farm Ridge & Grand Rapids
WOODRICH, RUTH E.	0279	✓			2 5	Bruce 11, 12 & 17, Eagle 2
DITTMER, RONALD J.	1419		✓		2 6	Bruce 3/5, 4, 7 & 9
JORDAN, DONALD E.	0575		✓		2 7	Bruce 1, 2 & 16, Eagle 1 & 3
JAKUPCAK, ROBERT J.	0703		✓		2 8	Bruce 6, 8/15, 10 & 14
GARRETSON, GLENN J.	0147		✓		2 9	Allen, Otter Creek 1, 2, & 3

November 18, 1999

Memorandum for Mr. Joseph Hettel, Chairman LaSalle County Board
707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350

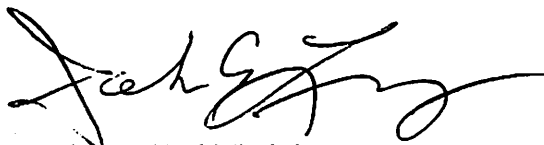
Subject: Veterans Assistance Commission 2000 Budget

The Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC) of LaSalle County believes your current practice of formulating the VAC Budget is in violation of the Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS). We believe the board has the authority to approve or disapprove the budget as recommended by the VAC in order to be in compliance. The County Board is not empowered to unilaterally alter VAC salary levels that are recommended by the Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County.

The Commission is quite confused as why the Finance Committee added \$106,996.00 to our budget recommendations. The LaSalle County Board Veterans Assistance Commission Committee members Patricia A. Cogdel, Ruth (Betty) Woodrich,, Jerry Hicks, Dan Flanagan,, Marius Derango, and Art Rigby, Chairman, approved our budget as submitted by our Commission in the amount of \$171,531.00. This amount also included an increase in our VAC employees and Superintendent salaries. If the LaSalle County Board Veterans Assistance Commission Committee's input and approval of our submitted budget, salaries, does not mean anything, then why are our taxpayers spending money to even hold meetings with that committee?

To add \$106,996.00 to line item 817.001, Catastrophic Medical, without justification, is completely out of line. The Commission has not spent any funds from this line item since 1995 and then only spent \$952.46.

The Veterans Assistance Commission believes that the LaSalle County Board should accept our year 2000 budget as submitted by our Commission in order to be in compliance with the ILCS. They should further reinstate our requested salary for our Superintendent. This procedure would be within the letter of the law. (Gustafson, 319 ILL. App. 255, 49 N.E. 2d 311.)



John A. (Jack) Leininger
LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission
Delegate Marseilles VFW Memorial Post #5506

CC: LaSalle County States Attorney, Mike James
LaSalle County Board Members
Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent, Martin J. Rue
Veterans Assistance Commission Chairman, Ralph Adler

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

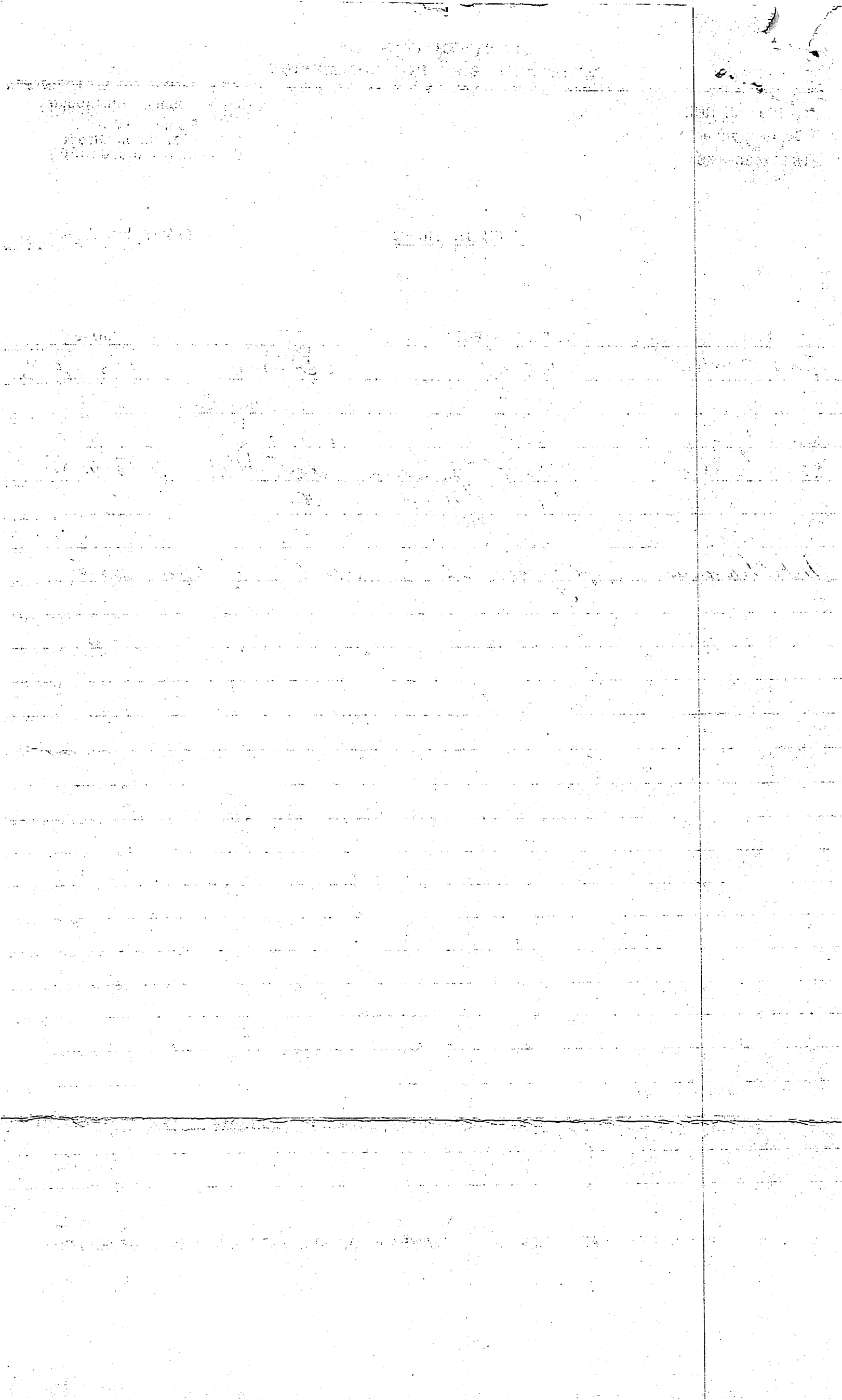
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 26, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Tom PRZYBYLO	5506	Del COMMANDER	433 0803
Jim Kirby	549	Chaplain Del	246-9740
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman Del	795-5436
Sam Maggio	Midvale Pops League	Asst Comdr Del	273-9080
Nick Paretti	DFW 14668	DEL.	223-6665
Bob Westman	American Legion 33	DEL	433-4119
Nick Nekrasus	Legion 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

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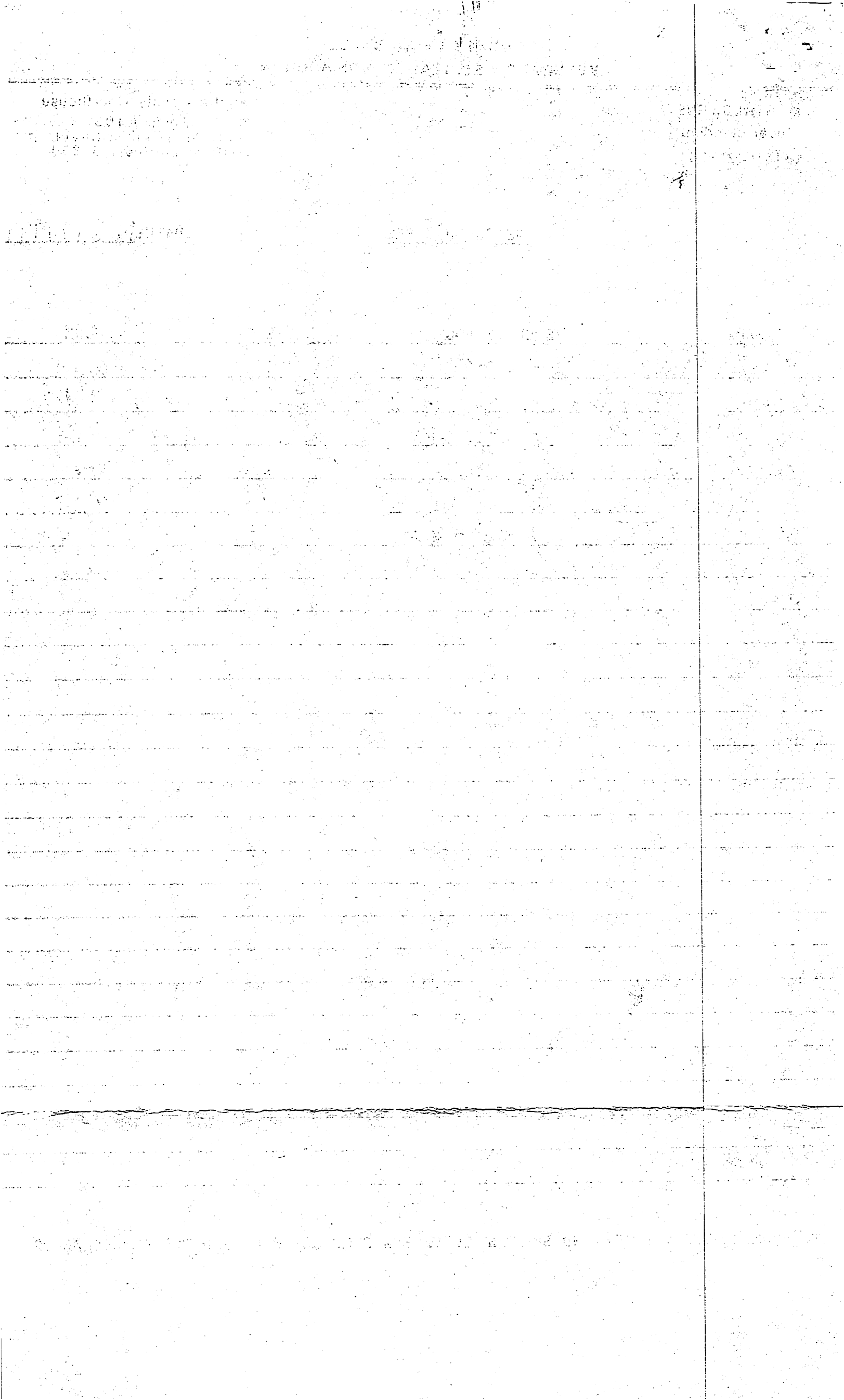
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov. 17, 1999

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Paetti	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-6665
Samuel S. Maggio	Marine Corps League	Del.	273-9080
Jim Kirby	Post 549	Del	246 9740
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Bob Wegman	American Legion 33	Del	433-4119
Dave Scott	VFW 4666	ALT	667-4636
Jennigan	VFW 5506	Del	795 6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
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Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 25, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bob Westman	Post 37	Del.	433-4119
Ed Stask	Post 217	Del	434-7496
John Purby	Post 549	Del (Chaplain)	246-9740
Nick Pautz	4668	DEL	223-9257
Samuel S. Maggio	Marine Corps League	Del.	723-9080
Roy Dickey Jr.	Post 30 Am Vets	Del	434-1716
Tom Argubright	Post 237 A.M.L.	DEC.	883-9170
Ed Bready	Post 549	ad Del	246-9480
Tom Kelly	Post 237	Del	883-8883
Ralph Adler	Post 235	Chairman	795-5436
Bob Kenz	CWV Post #1229	Alt	223-7056
Joseph Durazzo	CWV Post #1229	Del	223-4179
Bob Stropuski	Post #456 A.L.	Del	223-9521
Alfred Spitz	Post #4079 U.F.W.	Del.	538-2023
Jack LENINGER	Post 5506 UFW		795-6065
Robert Mikewicz	American Legion Post 375	CDR	223-8148
Jerry Welch	AMV " " " "	"	223-6829

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Jerry Welch Peru Post 375 American Legion
1018 Henry St Peru Ill

Edward A STASH STEATOR 217 Legion BOX 2063
OTTAWA ILL.

ROBERT G. HICKEY SR. 1315 W. MAIN ST., OTTAWA, ILL. 61350-2518
DEL. AM VETS POST 30

Tom Kelly 817 Swift Ave Oglesby Ill. 61348
Del - American Legion POST 237

Tom Argubright 4 Tredler Ave Oglesby 61348
A.T. American Legion P 237

Albush Spitz - 1408 - Krollcrest Dr.
(del.) Mandota, Ill - 61342 - V.F.W. Post 4079.

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

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Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 23, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<i>C. Nick Pauth</i>	<i>VFW 4668</i>	<i>DPL</i>	<i>223-9257</i>
<i>Ralph Adler</i>	<i>AL 235</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>795-5436</i>
<i>Bob Westman</i>	<i>AL 33</i>	<i>Rel</i>	<i>433-4119</i>
<i>Joni Kirby</i>	<i>549</i>	<i>Chaplain</i>	<i>246-9740</i>
<i>Jack LEWIS</i>	<i>5506 VFW</i>	<i>Del</i>	<i>795-6065</i>

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

001184

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LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from
August 23, 2000

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Joe Iwaszek excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Ralph Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Bob Westman, to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Numerous handouts were given to the Alternates and Delegates pertaining to veteran legislation and other issues. All questions pertaining to those handouts were answered.

Motion was made by Jim Kirby, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
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DATE: Aug. 23, 2000

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<u>C. Nick Pauth</u>	<u>VFW 4668</u>	<u>DPL</u>	<u>223-9257</u>
<u>Ralph Adler</u>	<u>AL 235</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>795-5436</u>
<u>Bob Westman</u>	<u>AL 33</u>	<u>Rel</u>	<u>433-4119</u>
<u>Joni Kirby</u>	<u>549</u>	<u>Chaplain</u>	<u>246-9740</u>
<u>Jack LEWISER</u>	<u>5506 VFW</u>	<u>Del</u>	<u>795-6065</u>

10/10/2011

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Handwritten notes on lined paper, including the word "LAW" and other illegible text.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 24 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 18 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 53 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 15 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 7 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 18 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 16 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 8 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 1 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Widow of veteran awarded reinstatement of Pension benefits effective 2/98-11/98, \$144 monthly, \$1440;12/98, \$143;1/99-12/99, \$103 monthly, \$1236; 1/200-12/2000, \$72 monthly, \$792 (Total \$3611)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits effective 3/99, \$1215 monthly, (Total \$25,515)
3. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 10%, effective 3/99-11/99, \$96 monthly, \$864;12/99-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$1176. (Total \$2040)

4. Veteran awarded waiver of overpayment of benefits from NSC Pension, (Total \$2199)
5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation from BVA 6/97-9/2000 (difference from 50%-100%, \$1447 monthly), \$56,433 retroactive payment; 11/2000-11/2001, \$17,364 (Total \$73,797)
6. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 40%, \$413 monthly effective 10/96-8/2000, retroactive payment, \$18,392; 9/2000-11/2001, \$6195 (Total \$24,587)
7. Veteran awarded Social Security disability, effective 6/2000-6/2001, \$1632 monthly, (Total \$19, 584)
8. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 10%-20%, effective 3/2000-11/2000, (\$90 difference) \$810; 12/200-2/2001, \$270 (Total \$1080)
9. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 30%-70%, (difference of \$605 monthly), effective 3/2000-11/2000, \$5445; 12/2000-2/2001, \$1815 (Total \$7260)
10. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 4/2000-11/2000, \$589 monthly, \$4712; 12/2000-3/2001 \$2356 (Total \$7068)
11. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation, effective 12/99-11/2000, \$98 monthly (Total \$1176)
12. Veteran's Widow awarded Burial Benefits for NSC Pension, \$450

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	45,099.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	350,850.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	97,743.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	838,463.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE	\$1,189,313.00	

(continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of July 26, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Bob Westman, to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Numerous handouts were shared with the Alternates and Delegates present. Two of those handouts pertained to the AMERICAN LEGION BULLETIN. One BULLETIN encouraged veterans to settle all of their delinquent debts they may have with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. If they don't, they will turn the debt over to the United States Treasury Department and they will ensue collection. They have been given authority to even recoup the debt owed from the veterans' Social Security checks or other federal entitlements that they may be receiving. The only stipulation is that the veteran will receive a maximum of \$750 from their Social Security payment. The second BULLETIN talks about a study being conducted by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to investigate Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis ("Lou Gehrig's Disease"). They are hoping to have the majority of Gulf War Veterans enrolled by August 1, 2000. To enroll in the study call a toll-free number 1-877-342-5257. For more information call Lisa Spahr of the American Legion at 1-202-861-2700.

A motion was made by Al Strozewski, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternates Tom Przybyla, VFW Post 5506; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JULY 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 16 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 3 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 11 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 45 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 7 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 41 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 9 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 12 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 1 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 4 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 18 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 9 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 4 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 1 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded S/C Compensation increase from 20%-40% (difference \$225), effective 5/99-11/99, \$2025; 12/99-11/2000, \$4500; 2 month convalescence period @100% \$4072. (Total \$10,597)
2. Veteran awarded increase in S/Compensation under Individual Unemployability (IUE), (difference \$1447) Effective 5/2000-11/2000, \$10,129; 12/2000-4/2001, \$5788 (Total \$15,917)

3. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 10%, effective 1/2000-11/2000, \$98 monthly, (Total \$1176)
4. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation retroactive payment \$3789;8/2000-7/2001, \$188 monthly, \$2256 (Total \$6045)
5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation from 20%-30%, (difference \$100), effective 1/99-11/2000, \$1200; \$2400 (Total \$2400)
6. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, \$1536 monthly, effective 9/200-11/200, \$3072; 12/2000-11/2000, \$18,432 (Total \$21,504)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 21,504.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 305,751.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH: \$ 36,135.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 730,720.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE \$1,036,471.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of June 28, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business. Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers' Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Nick Pacetti, to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission budget for the year 2001 was reviewed line item by line item based upon our expenditures since December 1, 1999. A motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Sam Maggio, that the budget recommendations reviewed for the year 2001 be passed as recommended by the Commission. Motion Passed unanimously.

Numerous handouts pertaining to veteran issues were presented to the Alternates and Delegates present. All questions pertaining to the handouts were answered by the Superintendent. Superintendent Rue also shared with those present a report that he gave as Chairman of the Veterans Assistance Commission for the Amvets State of Illinois.

Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Jim Kirby, we adjourn. Motion Passed.

Members present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, V.F.W. Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, V.F.W. Post 5506; and Alternates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 19 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 13 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 24 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 15 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 19 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 8 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 10 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 0 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 21 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 18 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 3 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 2 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits \$1218 monthly, effective 2/2000-12/2000, (Total \$14,616)
2. Veteran awarded unreimbursed medical expenses, 1/99-12/99, \$7377 & NSC Pension with Housebound benefit 1/2000-11/2000, \$208 monthly, \$2496 (Total \$9873)
3. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation for 13 month due to right knee prosthesis, effective 10/99-11/99, \$1989 monthly, \$3798;12/99-11/2000, \$2036 monthly, \$24,432 (total \$28,410)

4. Veteran awarded Individual Unemployability 50%-70%, effective 10/98-11/98 (\$1447 monthly difference) \$2894;12/98-11/99, \$17364;12/99-11/200, \$17364 (Total \$37,364)
5. Veteran awarded Individual Unemployability 5%-70% effective 10/95-7/2000, \$83,926;8/2000-11/2000 (\$1447 monthly difference), \$5788 (Total \$89,714)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 2/2000-11/2000, \$110 monthly (Total \$1100)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	14,616.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	284,247.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	166,461.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	694,585.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		978,832.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of May 24, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to Old Business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek, to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

An update was given pertaining to the four State Veterans' Homes in the state of Illinois. All delegates and alternates were told to tell their post members and friends to continue to write to Governor George Ryan asking for the total funding for the LaSalle Veterans' Home. They were also told that if the Governor were to come to their area, they should try and attend and ask him where our additional 80 beds are? We must let him know that we want those beds as soon as possible.

Virgil Johnson, Superintendent of the Henry County Veterans Assistance Commission and current State of Illinois VAC President attended our meeting with his county VAC President, Bob Merrill. They briefly spoke to our Commission.

A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Bob Westman, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Pacetti, V.F.W. Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, V.F.W. Post 5506; Alternates Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426, Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235, and Virgil Johnson, Supt., Henry County VAC and Bob Merrill, President, Henry County VAC.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MAY 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 31 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 12 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 14 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 35 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 6 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 31 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 6 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 4 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 13 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 1 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 2 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 8 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 0 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 2 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 3 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5181 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran's son awarded DIC benefits as the child of a deceased veteran, effective 7/99-11/99, \$204, \$612; \$208 Monthly effective 12/99-4/2000, \$1040; 5/2000-12/2000, \$233 monthly, \$1864 (Total \$3516)
1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, for 12 month convalescence leave, effective 4/2000-3/2001, (difference \$1400 monthly, (Total \$16,800)
3. Veteran awarded SSI benefits, 1/2000-5/2000, \$770

4. Veteran awarded Social Security disability, effective
6/2000-11/2000, \$673 monthly, \$4038;12/2000-11/2000,
\$673 monthly, \$8076 (\$12,114)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	12,884.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	269,631.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	20,316.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	528,124.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		797,755.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of April 26, 2000.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS was discussed. Delegates asked as to the status of the 80 additional beds needed at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue shared with the Delegates and Alternates selected copies from the Capitol Development Board Bid Information Newsletter for the months of April 2000 and May 2000. It was noted that the Manteno Veterans' Home and the Quincy Veterans' Home is moving quickly with improvements and expansion projects, but LaSalle Veterans' Home is doing nothing. All present were asked to keep asking our elected officials why there is no expansion at the LaSalle Veterans' Home when there are over 200 applicants for admission on its waiting list and we have been fighting for this since 1993.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Jack Leininger, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates were told that Veterans' Affairs Secretary Togo West rejected the recommendation of the Agent Orange Task Force stating that Vietnam Veterans who have diabetes should be compensated. Dr. Kenneth W. Kiser, U.S.D.V.A. Undersecretary for Health and Joe Thompson, U.S.D.V.A. Benefits Program Director agrees that diabetes should be added to the presumptive list for Agent Orange exposure.

It was announced that the van from the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic will not be traveling to Hines after April 28, 2000 unless they can find volunteer drivers.

Carroll Williams, Director of National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission of the American Legion has asked all veterans to keep an eye open for any attempts by the Veterans Health Administration and the Veterans Integrated Service Network's attempts to drastically combine their health service departments in an attempt to save monies. The national fear is that these studies will reduce U.S.D.V.A. full-time employees by 1500 to 2000 and will have an adverse impact on the delivery of health care services. We are to contact him if we see any major consolidations.

Motion by Sam Maggio, seconded by Bob Westman, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Ralph Adler, Chairman, American Legion Post 235; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Pacetti, V.F.W. Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, V.F.W. Post 5506; Alternate Tom Przybyla, V.F.W. Post 5506

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR APRIL 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 28 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 16 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 27 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 16 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 5 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 8 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 5 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 5 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 18 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 8 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 8678 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 10%-20%, (difference of \$90 monthly) effective 10/98-11/2000, \$2340 (Total \$2,340)
2. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 6/99-11/99, \$615 monthly, \$3690;12/99-11/2000, \$7548 (Total \$11,148)
3. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, retroactive benefit, \$10,884 (Total \$10,884)
4. Veteran's Widow awarded Burial Benefits, \$450

5. Widow awarded Widow Pension effective, 4/2000-12/2000, \$24 monthly, \$216 (Total \$216)
6. Veteran awarded Social security Disability benefits effective 3/2000-12/2000, \$1104 monthly (Total\$11,040))
7. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, effective 1/2000-12/2000, \$1339 monthly, (Total \$16,068)
8. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 10%-20%, effective 4/98 and 10% for tinnitus, effective 6/94 retroactive payment (Total \$8,427)
9. Veteran awarded 10% increase in S/C Compensation for hearing loss from 40%-50%, effective 12/99-11/2000, (difference \$176), \$2112 (Total \$2112)
10. Veteran awarded 7 month convalescence period due to S/C disability at 100% rate, \$2,366 monthly, \$16,562; awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 10%-20%, \$90 monthly 1/2000-12/2000, \$1080 (Total \$17,642)
11. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/A&A effective, 8/99-11/99, \$412 monthly, \$1648;12/99, \$411;1/2000-12/2000, \$4308 (Total \$6367)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	37,992.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	256,747.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	48,702.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	507,808.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		763,555.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Meeting of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission of March 22, 2000.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Delegates and Alternates expressed concern about alleged veterans going from one veteran's organization to another asking for financial assistance. All were told that the veterans' posts should have those alleged veterans contact the VAC office so that they can determine if they may be eligible for any state or federal entitlements. It was also discussed that our local areas should look at organizing a group of representatives from numerous not-for-profit organizations in their area. This group would be used to assist those in need of help who may not be eligible for assistance from the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission or the Township Supervisor. This would be a one-stop shop, which would alleviate the possibility of four or five places providing the same financial assistance for the same individual.

Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Bob Westman, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue stated that the week of April 10 through the 14, 2000 the National Academy for Veterans Service Officers will be holding a course of instruction for accreditation in Springfield, Illinois. Martin Rue and Service Officer, Richard Fogarty are to attend with their expenses paid for thru the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission budget. Motion was made by Al Strozewski, seconded by Jim Kirby, that Martin Rue and Richard Fogarty attend this accreditation training seminar and their cost be reimbursed by the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission budget. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business. Chairman Adler read a letter that he had sent to Mayor Robert Eschbach as Chairman of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. In essence he thanked Mayor Eschbach, Commissioner, Daphne Mitchell, and the rest of the Mayor's administrative personnel for providing a parking stall for the Superintendent of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Chairman Adler was pleased that this 15-year problem has finally been resolved.

Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Nick Pacetti, we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Pacetti, V.F.W. Post 4668; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 246; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, V.F.W. Post 5306 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 27 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 3 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 3 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 27 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 4 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 15 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 0 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 6 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 10 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 13 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 13 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of clients claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 293 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 3 veteran.
41. Sent 2 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 1 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 8678 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded NSC Pension with A/A \$922 monthly, effective 2/99-11/99, \$10,842;12/99, \$939 monthly, effective 1/2000-11/2000, \$795 monthly, \$9540 (Total \$20,832)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits effective 8/98-3/2000 retroactive payment of \$23,567; 4/2000-12/2000, \$1296 monthly, \$10,152 (Total \$33,719)
3. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, effective 1/99-11/99, \$667 monthly, \$8004 (Total \$16,008)
4. Veteran awarded two month convalescence leave for

service connected injury, \$1989, effective 9/99-11/99
(Total \$3978)

5. Widow awarded \$450 Burial benefits due to death of veteran.
6. Widow awarded DIC benefit effective 4/98-12/98, \$7650; 1/99-11/99, \$861 monthly, \$10,332; 12/99-11/2000, \$881 monthly, \$10,572 (Total \$28,554)
7. Veteran received retroactive payment of Social Security disability benefits, \$10,404
8. Veteran awarded increase in service-connected Compensation benefits to IUE, 60%-70%, (difference \$1293 monthly) effective 7/99-11/99, \$6465; 12/99-11/2000, \$15,516 (\$21,981)
9. Veteran awarded \$1400 payment from Public Aid on Appeal.
10. Veteran awarded waiver of overpayment of VA benefits, \$258
11. Veteran awarded 100%service-connected Compensation (increase of \$1748 monthly from 30%-100%), effective 8/94-11/94, \$7156; 12/94-11/95, (difference of \$1802 monthly), \$21,624; 12/95-11/96, (difference of \$1746 monthly), \$20,952; 12/96-11/97, (difference of \$1777 monthly), \$21,324; 12/97-11/98, (difference of \$1819 monthly), \$21,828; 12/98-11/99, (difference of \$1828 monthly), \$21,936; 12/99-11/2000, (difference of \$1879 monthly), \$22,548 (Total \$137,368)
12. Veteran awarded SSI benefits, effective 4/99-4/2000 retroactive payment of \$5648; 5/2000-12/2000, \$432 monthly, \$3456 (Total \$9,104)
13. Veteran's Widow awarded Burial benefits of \$450
14. Veteran awarded increase in service connected compensation from 10%-40%(difference of \$315 monthly) effective 11/99-11/2000, (Total \$3,780)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	81,941.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	218,755.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	217,651.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	459,106.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		677,861.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of February 23, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Sam Maggio, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A discussion ensued concerning to the "Military Veterans Assistance Act" pertaining to delegates and alternates reimbursement for attending meetings and mileage. The Superintendent was requested to look into the legalities of providing per diems for meetings attended and mileage reimbursement.

Nick Pacetti explained to the delegates and alternates that his VFW Post purchased one bus ticket for \$62.75 and he personally paid for the other bus ticket so an honorably discharged Army Reserve personnel and his wife could return from Peru, Illinois to Detroit, Michigan. This was a request for assistance from Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru, Illinois.

Motion by Jim Kirby, seconded by Lyn Kofoid, that we adjourn.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Lyn Kofoid, Amvets Post 30; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Samuel Maggio, Marine Corp League; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235
Alternates Tom Przybyla, VFW Post 5506; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Robert Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

Minutes from the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of November 17, 1999. Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being there were no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Alder stated that the minutes would stand as presented.

Old business was discussed. All questions from the Alternates and Delegates were answered.

New business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Jim Kirby, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Our budget for fiscal year 2000 purported changes by the LaSalle County Board Committee persons was reviewed. Alternates and Delegates of the Veterans Assistance Commission were emphatic about wanting their original line items reinstated to their original budget requests. A motion was made by Sam Maggio, seconded by Bob Westman, that Chairman Adler and Jack Leininger meet with the LaSalle County Board to request that they reinstate the original VAC dollar amounts requested per line item. Motion passed.

A discussion ensued pertaining to the many meetings that were taking place statewide pertaining to additional nursing care beds needed for our veterans in the state of Illinois. Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that Martin Rue should attend all those meetings to protect the additional 80 beds needed for the LaSalle Veterans Home. He will be reimbursed for mileage, meals, and room. Motion passed.

Motion by Sam Maggio, seconded by Jim Kirby, that we dispense with our regular meeting and hold our Commission election. Motion passed.

The election was dually held and the officers elected for the year 1999-2000 are as follows:

Chairman – Ralph Alder
Vice-Chairman – Joe Iwaszek
Chaplain – Jim Kirby
Sgt. At Arms – Jack Leininger

Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegate Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League, Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternate Dave Scott, VFW Post 4668

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1999

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 47 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 15 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 11 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 112 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 59 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 6 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 10 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 6 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 9 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 6 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 30 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 4 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 41 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 27 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of clients claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 149 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 293 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges:
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Board of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 8678 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 10/99-11/99, \$719 monthly, \$1438; 12/99-11/2000, \$8628 (Total \$10,066)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability retroactive payment, \$5908
3. Veteran awarded dependency allowance for children for Social Security Disability, \$4112

4. Veteran awarded Individual Unemployability(IUE) Effective 4/98-11/99, (\$1073 difference), \$21,640 12/99-11/2000, \$12,876 (Total \$34,336)
5. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 11/99, \$1272;12/99-11/2000, \$1302 Monthly, \$15,624 (Total \$16,896)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension,6/99-11/99,\$731 Monthly, \$4386;12/99-11/2000, \$9838 (Total \$14,224)
7. Widow awarded Widow Pension with A&A, effective 10/97, \$719, 11/97, \$435, 12/98-1/98, \$426; 2/98, \$774;5/98-7/98, \$484;10/98-11/98, \$730;12/98-11/99, \$359 (Total \$11,111)
8. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, 12/99-11/2000, \$660 monthly, (Total\$7920)
9. Veteran awarded SSI benefits 7/99-9/99, \$993.87; 10/99, \$289.40;11/99 \$423.59 (Total \$1706.89)
10. Obtained waiver of overpayment for veteran \$9459
11. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 40%-50% (\$183 difference) effective 6/99-11/99, \$1098;12/99-11/2000, \$2196 (Total \$3294)
12. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation effective 4/99-11/99, \$184 monthly, \$1666;12/99-11/2000, \$188 monthly, \$2256 (Total \$3922)
13. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 9/99-11/99, \$731 monthly, \$2793;12/99-11/2000\$749, \$8788 (Total \$11,581)
14. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits effective 1/2000-11/2000, \$1184 monthly, (Total \$14,208)
15. Veteran awarded Social Security disability retroactive benefits, effective 8/98-12/99, \$911 monthly,\$14,576;1/2000-12/2000, \$10,932 (Total \$25,608)
16. Veteran's spouse awarded SSI benfits, effective 10/99-12/99, \$500 monthly, \$1500;1/2000-12/2000, \$512 monthly, \$6144 (Total \$7644)
17. Widow awarded \$450 in Burial benefits for veteran

18. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 30%-40%, (\$000 difference monthly), \$ 1/99-11/2000 \$122 monthly, (Total \$2928)
19. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation retroactive benefits, \$1440;11/99-12/99, \$576, \$1152;1/2000-11/2000, \$1464Total \$2928)
20. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits 1/2000-12/2000, \$1400 monthly, (Total \$16,800)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	97,248.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	97,248.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	98,369.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	195,617.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		195,617.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE



STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

P.O. BOX 19432, 833 S. SPRING STREET, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9432
TELEPHONE: 217/782-6641 * FAX: 217/524-0344 * TDD:217/524-4645

JOHN JOHNSTON
DIRECTOR

GEORGE CRAMER
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

January 18, 2000

Mr. Martin J. Rue
Superintendent
Veterans Assistance Commission
119 West Madison Street
Room 103A
Ottawa, Illinois 61350-5013

Dear Mr. Rue:

Governor George Ryan has asked that I respond to your recent letter concerning the shortage of nursing beds in our Veterans' Homes in the State of Illinois. As you know, George Ryan has only been Governor of the State of Illinois since January of 1999, but I feel that a lot has been accomplished since he took office.

Your letter states that you have been fighting to expand our LaSalle Veterans' Home (by adding 80 beds) since 1993 but nothing has been accomplished. I agree, nothing had been accomplished until George Ryan became Governor. As you know, \$300,00 has been earmarked for the architectural and engineering study of the LaSalle Veteran's Home. On December 28th, 1999, the Department received notice from the Capitol Development Board that the A/E Selection Committee would meet on January 7, 2000 to select A/E firms to be interviewed for this project. Interviews with the selected firms will be conducted on January 18, 2000. The firm selected will be recommended to the Capitol Development Board at their meeting on February 3, 2000 for their concurrence.

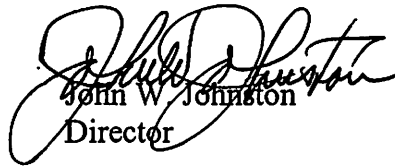
I feel that this is the first important step toward the expansion of our LaSalle Veterans' Home. After the study is completed, and recommendations are made, we can proceed to the next step in the process.

Your letter states that you are concerned about overtime payments and the negative affect it might have on the expansion of the home. I have personally discussed this situation with Representative Mautino and he has agreed to help us secure funding to hire additional staff at the home.

Page two
January 18, 2000

The Department thanks you for your support of the veterans in the State of Illinois. If I can be of further service, please contact me.

Sincerely,



John W. Johnston
Director

cc: GOCA

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

January 20, 2000

Honorable Chairman Joe Hettel
LaSalle County Board
707 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Chairman Hettel:

I want to thank you for returning my call on Tuesday, January 18, 2000. I appreciate your listening to my plea for a parking space on Court Street at our Downtown Courthouse. I understand your concern about providing a parking space for our LaSalle County State of Illinois Veterans Assistance Commission Office when you are only authorized to provide parking spaces for county departments. Be assured that providing a parking spot for the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Office is within your statutory authority as Chairman of the LaSalle County Board. For your benefit I am enclosing a copy of the ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES ACT 45, 330 ILCS 45/10. "Superintendent - Election - Powers and Duties - Office space and personnel Bond - Civil service status - Secretary"

In the statute it states that the Superintendent of the Veterans Assistance Commission of a county shall have charge of and maintain an office in the county building. It further states that the county shall provide the office and further furnish everything that is necessary for maintaining and operating that office. This clearly gives you as County Board Chairman, the authority to grant me a parking space on Court Street so that I can get into my office.

I was thoroughly pleased with your compassionate manner into seeking a solution by which a parking space could be provided for my state office. I was very pleased to be able to locate a statute that would aid you in providing a parking space so that you could request that my sign be made.

Your expediting of this matter would be appreciated. If I can be of further help, do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosure

CC: Art Rigby

Attention: "Joe Hettel"

CITY OF OTTAWA

FORREST T. BUCK
MAYOR

301 W. MADISON STREET • OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350

COMMISSIONERS
ROBERT E. JAMESON
ACCOUNTS & FINANCE
KEITH F. JOHNSON
PUBLIC PROPERTY
WILLIAM P. HEINRICH
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY
WILLIAM N. STEVENSON
STREETS & PUBLIC
IMPROVEMENTS

CHARLES E. SINGER
CITY CLERK
MICHAEL VAUGHN
CITY TREASURER
WILLIAM C. KRAUSE
CITY ENGINEER
JOHN A. HAYNER
CITY ATTORNEY
PHONE (815) 433-0161
FAX (815) 433-2270



October 20, 1993

Mr. Marty Rue
LaSalle County Court House
119 West Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Dear Marty;

As you requested, I have checked into a parking spot for you. It seems that over the years there have been so many requests for parking spots and so much disagreement by the merchants because so many spots were reserved for the Court House that it was decided to assign a number of spots to Jerry Johnson and let him decide who gets them. It would appear that your next step is to contact Mr. Johnson and see if you can talk him out of a space.

The City is not interested in opening this problem up again as we know of four or five others who will want to rush in for a spot.

Sorry I could not be of more assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Forrest T. Buck
Forrest T. Buck
Mayor

FTB:nCS

I am not looking for a road with my name on it or a parking lot, just a little sign that says V.A.C. parking space here.

January 16, 2000

Dear Commander:

By now every Veterans Assistance Commission in the state of Illinois should have complied with our Illinois Compiled Statutes, Act 45, Section 8 of Chapter 330 and submitted their annual report. As has been in the past, I am including a copy of our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission annual report, which was sent to the Honorable Governor George Ryan on December 15, 1999. Coming from a small county, which boasts of only having 11,500 veterans in their population, I am thoroughly pleased with our offices total operation and the benefits our veterans are receiving as a result of our staff's devotion. It is my sincere hope that each county in the state of Illinois would avail these types of services for their veteran community. We have taken our veterans from practically total deprivation to a level in which they can financially meet their lifestyle needs by obtaining Social Security, VA compensation, or pension benefits. We as veterans have a moral obligation to extend a helping hand to all our community members who are in need of assistance.

I am also including in totality a letter that was written to the Honorable Governor George Ryan dated December 10, 1999, which I want to include in my report.

Dear Governor Ryan:

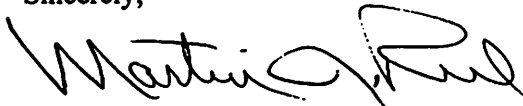
I write you as to some concerns that our veteran community has pertaining to the dire shortage of nursing care beds in our Veterans' Homes in the state of Illinois. At our LaSalle Veterans' Home we have a waiting list of well over 200 applicants with at least another 400 veterans residing in private or public nursing homes within a radius of 35 miles from the city of LaSalle who have not even made application to the LaSalle Veterans' Home. We are also concerned with the negative newspaper articles showing a severe increase to our Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs for overtime payments required in order to adequately staff our State Veterans' Homes. We realize that each Home needs enough staff to cover the time consumed by employees as a result of vacation days, holidays, personal days, family leave of absence time, and sick days. We adamantly feel that the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs budget must be increased to provide the additional staff our State Veterans' Home need in order to cover those employee days off.

Many elected officials that we have spoken to were concerned as to where we could find the needed monies to add the additional 80 beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home and to place the additional 900 needed nursing care beds in communities close to where the veteran populous reside without increasing state taxes. We feel very strongly that there are two current sources of revenue to explore. The first source would be the cigarette taxes, which were passed to provide the needed dollars for our Korean Veteran bonus and our Illinois Vietnam Veterans bonus. It is our understanding that the cigarette tax revenues are still being collected, which were earmarked for our veteran's benefits, but yet are not being received by the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. An audit will have to be done to find out how many tens of millions of dollars have been collected since 1955 and what amount the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs has actually expended. We would then have to find out what balance of unexpended revenues remain and is still owed to the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. The second source of new revenue would be the \$9 billion proceeds that the State of Illinois will be receiving as a result of the tobacco industry lawsuit settlement for smoke related medical problems. We feel very strongly

that our State Veterans' Homes should receive a large portion of those funds because it was our government that provided cigarettes for our soldiers. In fact, in many instances our military cadre would tell the soldiers to light up if they had them. As we veterans know, if we were fortunate enough to serve in one of our nations many wars or any worldwide hotspots, we would receive free cigarettes with our rations. Being that our tobacco industry settlement funds are to be earmarked for healthcare costs as a result of medical illnesses that were incurred from smoking, we do not see how anyone could deny our State Veterans' Homes a large share of that \$9 billion tobacco industry settlement. We should further remember that our citizens had to pay through the nose in order to get their cigarettes and were not encouraged daily to light up. They chose to smoke on their own.

It is our sincere hope that you will expedite the expansion of our LaSalle Veterans' Home by adding the additional 80 nursing care beds that we have been fighting for since 1993. If we started building in 1993 it would have been completed in 1995. Had we started it in 1995 when the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs completed the survey showing a need for an additional 900 nursing care beds, then it would have been completed in 1997. Had we started in 1997 when thousands of Illinois citizens, business groups, elected officials, union representatives, and grassroots people supported the additional 80 nursing care beds needed at our LaSalle Veterans' Home, it would have been completed in 1999. If we would have started in 1999 after discovering that the private sector, public sector, and United States Department of Veterans' Affairs medical facilities would require extensive high cost renovation in order to meet state and federal regulations pertaining to long-term nursing care beds, then it would have been done by the year 2001. Again, we plead that you start now to alleviate the plight of our Illinois veterans needs for long-term nursing care beds.

Sincerely,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

I ask that all our people and their friends contact their Illinois state senators and representatives and request the 80 skill care nursing beds be added to our Illinois State Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. As you know, this has been an ongoing battle since 1993 and it must end. Please help us in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Chairperson
Veterans Assistance Commission

DEPT 01-VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

511.001	TELEPHONE	\$3,000.00
517.001	BLDG RENTAL/UTILITIES	\$3,000.00
540.001	POSTAGE	\$300.00
548.001	EDUCATION	\$500.00
550.001	CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	\$500.00
554.001	TRAVEL & TRANSP (EMERG AMB)	\$12,500.00
570.001	DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	\$225.00
582.001	NEW PROGRAMS	\$300.00
601.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,200.00
601.002	BOOKS & PERIODICALS	\$1,750.00
601.003	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPAIR	\$1,100.00
640.001	PRINTING	\$600.00
701.001	NEW EQUIPMENT	\$1,500.00
806.001	EMERGENCY RELIEF	\$20,000.00
810.001	HEALTH & LIFE INS	\$8,950.00
810.003	LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$3,000.00
004	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$550.00
005	UMBRELLA INSURANCE	\$400.00
006	EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND	\$150.00
817.001	CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL	\$25,000.00
875.001	CONTINGENCIES	\$8,850.00
907.001	SUPRINTENDANT	\$39,840.00
965.001	OFFICE SUPERVISOR	\$23,067.52
986.001	TEMPORARY HELP	\$1.00
999.001	SERVICE OFFICER	\$28,548.32
	DEPT. TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$183,831.84
	FUND TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$183,831.84

FUND 20-VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

101.001	BALANCE ON HAND	\$36,330.84
301.001	TAX LEVY	\$145,000.00
308.001	INTEREST INCOME	\$2,500.00
350.001	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$1.00
	FUND TOTAL EST. INCOME	\$183,831.84

LASALLE COUNTY TREASURER
 Transactions by Account
 As of December 15, 1999

12/16/99

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Ctr	Split	Amount	Balance
2200 - Due to County Corporation							158,296.65
222000 - VAC - Total							158,296.65
2220 - VAC - Cash/STIF							29,469.15
Check	12/2/1999	781	ck 25381 pr		120101 - Urban...	-3,437.51	26,031.64
General Journal	12/9/1999		Int		120101 - Urban...	150.93	26,182.57
Deposit	12/7/1999		Deposit		120101 - Urban...	370.74	26,553.31
Deposit	12/6/1999		Deposit		120101 - Urban...	106.17	26,659.48
Deposit	12/10/1999		Deposit		120101 - Urban...	50.00	26,709.48
Total 2220 - VAC - Cash/STIF						-2,759.67	26,709.48
222001 - VAC - Investment							128,827.50
Total 222001 - VAC - Investment						-2,759.67	128,827.50
Total 222000 - VAC - Total						-2,759.67	155,536.98
Total 2200 - Due to County Corporation						-2,759.67	155,536.98
TOTAL						-2,759.67	155,536.98

Paul 12-1-99

12-15-99

Call me back

LA SALLE COUNTY - 2000 APPROPRIATIONS

APPROPRIATIONS FOR FUND 20-VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

DEPT 01-VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

511.001	TELEPHONE	\$3,000.00
517.001	BLDG RENTAL/UTILITIES	\$3,000.00
540.001	POSTAGE	\$300.00
542.001	EDUCATION	\$500.00
550.001	CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	\$500.00
554.001	TRAVEL & TRANSP (EMERG AMB)	\$10,000.00
570.001	DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	\$225.00
582.001	NEW PROGRAMS	\$300.00
601.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,200.00
.002	BOOKS & PERIODICALS	\$750.00
.003	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPAIR	\$1,100.00
640.001	PRINTING	\$600.00
701.001	NEW EQUIPMENT	\$1,200.00
806.001	EMERGENCY RELIEF	\$20,000.00
810.001	HEALTH & LIFE INS	\$8,200.00
.003	LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$3,000.00
.004	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$550.00
.005	UMBRELLA INSURANCE	\$400.00
.006	EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND	\$150.00
817.001	CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL	\$122,096.00
875.001	CONTINGENCIES	\$10,000.00
907.001	SUPERINTENDANT	\$39,840.00
965.001	OFFICE SUPERVISOR	\$23,067.52
986.001	TEMPORARY HELP	\$1.00
999.001	SERVICE OFFICER	\$28,548.32

DEPT. TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$278,527.84

FUND TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$278,527.84

FUND 20-VETERANS' ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

101.001	BALANCE ON HAND	\$78,000.00
301.001	TAX LEVY	\$195,000.00
308.001	INTEREST INCOME	\$4,500.00
350.001	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$1,027.84

FUND TOTAL EST. INCOME \$278,527.84

V.A.C. OF LASALLE COUNTY
119 W. MADISON STREET
OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350
815-433-1701
FAX: 815-433-6200

September 25, 1997

Mr. Joseph Hellel
Chairman
LaSalle County Board
707 Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Chairman Hettel:

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission held their monthly meeting at the Downtown Ottawa Courthouse on September 24, 1997. During that meeting, Delegate Jack Leininger reported on the two LaSalle County Board Fee and Salary meetings that he and VAC Chairman Ralph Adler attended. He shared with the Delegates and Alternates present the LaSalle County Board Fee and Salary minutes dated September 15, 1997. The last paragraph of those minutes state, "motion by Mr. Stockley, seconded by Mr. Jordan, that Marty Rue get a one year contract and a raise to \$37,840 for December 1, 1997 - November 30, 1998. The Committee feels this is a just and equitable raise. Carried." Jack further stated that the Fee and Salary Committee said, should any LaSalle County Department Head, such as the Auditor, Treasurer, County Clerk, etc., receive any increase in salary for the fiscal year 1998 or 1999, Marty Rue's salary would increase accordingly. Motion by Bob Renz, seconded by Ed Braatz, that our

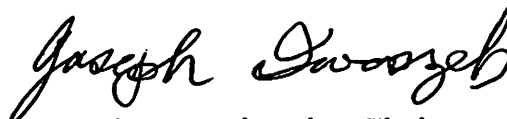
Mr. Joseph Hettel

September 25, 1997

Page 2

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission accept the LaSalle County Board's Fee and Salary recommendation of a one year contract of \$37,840 for our Superintendent Martin J. Rue, noting that his salary should always be at or above all other LaSalle County Department Heads whose salary is not set by Illinois Statutory Authority. Motion passed unanimously.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Iwaszek".

Joseph Iwaszek, Vice Chairman
LaSalle County Veterans
Assistance Commission

cc: LaSalle County Fee and Salary Committee

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of January 26, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek and Sgt. At Arms Jack Leininger excused with all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. It was noted that Chairman Adler was misspelled and was corrected. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as corrected and presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Bob Westman that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented.

A discussion ensued pertaining to no parking area designated at the Downtown Courthouse for the VAC office. Superintendent Rue stated that since the mid-1980's our Commission has requested a designated parking area for our VAC office on Court Street on the east side of the Downtown Courthouse. He further stated that he has shared with the LaSalle County Board Chairman the ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES, which would grant him the authority to designate a parking space with all other county department parking areas.

Numerous handouts were distributed to the Alternates and Delegates pertaining to veteran issues. Questions asked by those present pertaining to the handouts were answered.

Motion was made by Sam Maggio, seconded by Nick Nekrosius, that the meeting adjourn.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Tom Przybyla, VFW Post 5506, Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League, Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR January 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 18 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 7 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 51 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 14 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 16 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 8 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 7 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 7 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 25 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 15 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of clients claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 149 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 293 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Board of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 8678 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded increase in service-connected Compensation, from 70%-100%, \$1313 monthly, effective 9/99-11/99, \$3939;12/99-11/2000, \$15,756 (Total \$19685)
2. Veteran awarded 10% service-connected Compensation \$96 monthly, effective 9/99-11/99, \$288;\$98 monthly 12/99-11/2000, \$1176(Total \$1464)
3. Veteran awarded retroactive Social Security disability benefits, \$2994

4. Veteran awarded 50% service-connected Compensation \$576 monthly, effective 12/97-2/99, \$14,976; 3/99-11/99, \$5184 (Total \$20,160)
5. Veteran awarded NSC Pension with A&A, effective 9/99-11/99, \$1220 monthly, \$3660;12/99-11/2000, \$1249 monthly \$14,988 (Total \$18,648)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, 8/99-11/99, \$99 Monthly, \$396;12/99-11/2000, \$102 monthly, \$1224 (Total \$1630)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	2,994.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	100,242.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	57,658.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	156,027.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		256,269.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes from the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of November 17, 1999. Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being there were no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Alder stated that the minutes would stand as presented.

Old business was discussed. All questions from the Alternates and Delegates were answered.

New business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Jim Kirby, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Our budget for fiscal year 2000 purported changes by the LaSalle County Board Committee persons was reviewed. Alternates and Delegates of the Veterans Assistance Commission were emphatic about wanting their original line items reinstated to their original budget requests. A motion was made by Sam Maggio, seconded by Bob Westman, that Chairman Adler and Jack Leininger meet with the LaSalle County Board to request that they reinstate the original VAC dollar amounts requested per line item. Motion passed.

A discussion ensued pertaining to the many meetings that were taking place statewide pertaining to additional nursing care beds needed for our veterans in the state of Illinois. Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that Martin Rue should attend all those meetings to protect the additional 80 beds needed for the LaSalle Veterans Home. He will be reimbursed for mileage, meals, and room. Motion passed.

Motion by Sam Maggio, seconded by Jim Kirby, that we dispense with our regular meeting and hold our Commission election. Motion passed.

The election was dually held and the officers elected for the year 1999-2000 are as follows:

Chairman – Ralph Alder
Vice-Chairman – Joe Iwaszek
Chaplain – Jim Kirby
Sgt. At Arms – Jack Leininger

Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegate Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League, Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternate Dave Scott, VFW Post 4668

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1999

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 47 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 15 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 11 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 112 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 59 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 6 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 10 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 6 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 9 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 6 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 30 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 4 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 41 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 27 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of clients claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 149 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 293 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Board of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 8678 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 10/99-11/99, \$719 monthly, \$1438; 12/99-11/2000, \$8628 (Total \$10,066)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability retroactive payment, \$5908
3. Veteran awarded dependency allowance for children for Social Security Disability, \$4112

4. Veteran awarded Individual Unemployability(IUE) Effective 4/98-11/99, (\$1073 difference), \$21,640 12/99-11/2000, \$12,876 (Total \$34,336)
5. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 11/99, \$1272;12/99-11/2000, \$1302 Monthly, \$15,624 (Total \$16,896)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension,6/99-11/99,\$731 Monthly, \$4386;12/99-11/2000, \$9838 (Total \$14,224)
7. Widow awarded Widow Pension with A&A, effective 10/97, \$719, 11/97, \$435, 12/98-1/98, \$426; 2/98, \$774;5/98-7/98, \$484;10/98-11/98, \$730;12/98-11/99, \$359 (Total \$11,111)
8. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, 12/99-11/2000, \$660 monthly, (Total\$7920)
9. Veteran awarded SSI benefits 7/99-9/99, \$993.87; 10/99, \$289.40;11/99 \$423.59 (Total \$1706.89)
10. Obtained waiver of overpayment for veteran \$9459
11. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 40%-50% (\$183 difference) effective 6/99-11/99, \$1098;12/99-11/2000, \$2196 (Total \$3294)
12. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation effective 4/99-11/99, \$184 monthly, \$1666;12/99-11/2000, \$188 monthly, \$2256 (Total \$3922)
13. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 9/99-11/99, \$731 monthly, \$2793;12/99-11/2000\$749, \$8788 (Total \$11,581)
14. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits effective 1/2000-11/2000, \$1184 monthly, (Total \$14,208)
15. Veteran awarded Social Security disability retroactive benefits, effective 8/98-12/99, \$911 monthly,\$14,576;1/2000-12/2000, \$10,932 (Total \$25,608)
16. Veteran's spouse awarded SSI benfits, effective 10/99-12/99, \$500 monthly, \$1500;1/2000-12/2000, \$512 monthly, \$6144 (Total \$7644)
17. Widow awarded \$450 in Burial benefits for veteran

18. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 30%-40%, (\$000 difference monthly), \$ 1/99-11/2000 \$122 monthly, (Total \$2928)
19. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation retroactive benefits, \$1440;11/99-12/99, \$576, \$1152;1/2000-11/2000, \$1464Total \$2928)
20. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits 1/2000-12/2000, \$1400 monthly, (Total \$16,800)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	97,248.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	97,248.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	98,369.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	98,617.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO-DATE		195,617.00

(Con't on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes from the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of October 25, 2000.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Thirteen posts were represented at our October meeting. All were warmly welcomed. Chairman Adler asked that each Delegate and Alternate introduce himself at our Commission meeting. He further stated that he hopes to see them at our annual meeting November 15, 2000.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. A news article was shared with the Delegates and Alternates pertaining to the projected cost of renovating a hospital in Rockford, Illinois, which would meet the state and federal requirements to become a state veterans home. The article was discussed in length and all were encouraged to continue contacting Governor Ryan, Senator Pat Welch, and Representative Mautino asking them to expedite the additional 80 beds at our LaSalle Veterans Home.

Our budget for year 2001 was once again discussed. Superintendent Rue answered the questions of the Alternates and Delegates pertaining to the budget and told them that we will not be sure of the County Board's intent until after the County budgets are posted in the middle of November. Ralph Adler and Jack Leininger reported on their meetings with the County Board Finance Committee and the Fee and Salary Committee. They stated that they will be having another meeting with those two Committees and will report back to the Commission at our November 15, 2000 annual meeting.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All question pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by James Kirby to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented. Motion passed.

Ralph Adler gave a report on our Lincoln National Cemetery in Joliet, Illinois. He discussed the one-year-old anniversary of that cemetery.

Tom Argubright and Tom Kelly from the Oglesby American Legion reported that in the month of November Robert Manahan will be putting on a play in LaSalle entitled "VIETNAM REVISITED". Proceeds from this play will go to the monument fund for the preservation of the World War II, Korea, and Vietnam monuments in Oglesby, Illinois. They asked that we watch for the announcement in our papers and attend this production.

Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Samuel Maggio, Marine Corp League; Ron Hickey, AMVETS Post 30; Tom Argubright, American Legion Post 237; Tom Kelly, American Legion Post 237; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Robert Ankiewicz, American Legion Post 375; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Alternates Jerry Welch,, American Legion Post 375; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 11 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 6 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 5 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 14 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 17 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 0 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 6 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 4 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 8 veterans.
26. Sent VA form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 4 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 10-10 (EZ) for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation for right knee increased rating from 40%-50%, (\$176 difference, 3/99-11/99, \$1584; 12/99-11/2000, \$2112 (Total \$3696)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	40,392.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	391,242.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	3,696.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	933,100.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,334,342.00

(Continued on Page 3)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
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18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

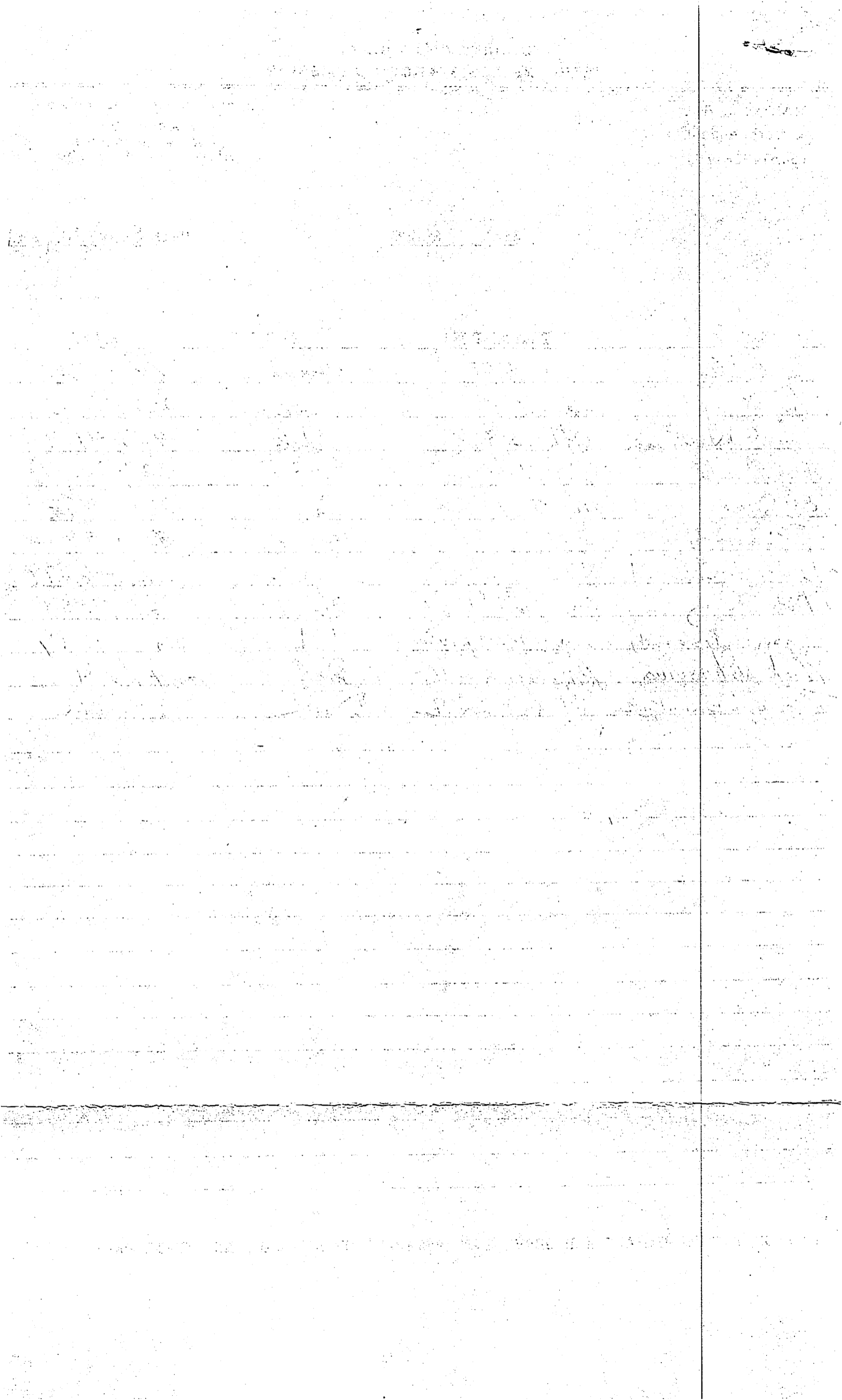
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Sept 26, 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	A.L. 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jeri Kirby	Del 549	Chaplain	246 9740
Bob Westman	Fh. 33	Del.	433-4119
Nick Paetz	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
El Stach	AL 217	DEL	434-7496
El Brandy	549	a Del	446-9480
Jerry Welch	375	Del.	223-6879
Bob Renz	CWV Post #1229	alt.	223-7056
Joseph Guwazeh	CWV Post 1229	DEL	223 4179
Nick Nekrosius	Am Legion 426	Del	224 2204
Jack Laninger	VFW 5507	Del	795 6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 25, 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
E. Nick Pasutto	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
El Stahl	217 Legion	Del	434-7496
Jim Risby	549	Chaplain	246-9740
Bob Westman	Post 33 Legion	Del.	433-4119
Ed Breat	549	at Del	246-9480
Jerry Culek	335 Legion	Peru	223-6879
Jack Leminger	VFW 5506	Del	795-6065

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**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 27, 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jerry Kirby	Nel 549	Chaplain	246 9740
Nick Paetto	4668 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ed Breat	549	al Del	246-9480
Jerry Welch	375	Serv. Off	223-6879
Joseph Durand	1329	Del	223 4179
Al Chojacki	A.P. #426	Del	228-9521
Robert J. Remy, Sr.	CWV-Post #1229	alt.	223-7056
Albert Spitz	V.V.W #4079	Welfare Off.	538-2023

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The first part of the document
 discusses the importance of
 maintaining accurate records
 and the role of the
 various departments in
 ensuring that all
 information is up to date
 and correct. It also
 mentions the need for
 regular audits and
 the importance of
 communication between
 all levels of the
 organization.

The second part of the document
 focuses on the financial
 aspects of the organization
 and the need for a
 sound financial policy.
 It discusses the
 importance of budgeting
 and the role of the
 finance department in
 monitoring the
 organization's financial
 health. It also
 mentions the need for
 transparency in financial
 reporting and the
 importance of
 maintaining accurate
 financial records.

The final part of the document
 discusses the future
 of the organization and
 the need for a clear
 vision and strategy.
 It mentions the
 importance of setting
 realistic goals and
 the need for a
 strong leadership team
 to guide the
 organization through
 the challenges of the
 future. It also
 mentions the need for
 innovation and
 the importance of
 staying up to date
 with the latest
 trends in the industry.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

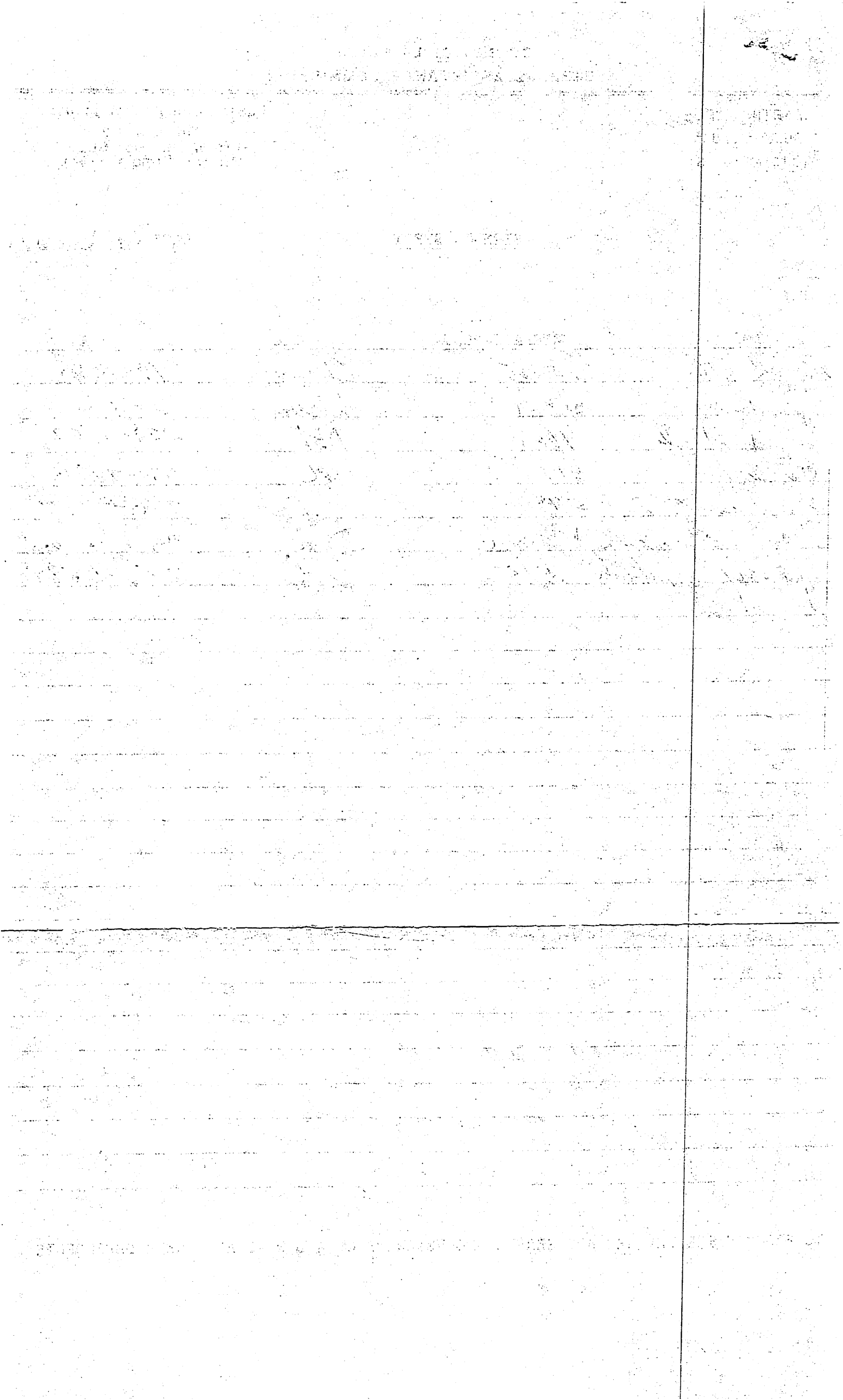
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 25 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Allen	Post 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim Kirby	Post 549	Chaplain	246 9740
Nick Pasella	4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ed Stark	217	DEL	434-7496
Ed Brant	549	ul Del	246-9480
Jack Leininger	VFW 5506	Dem	765-6065
Jerry Welch	375	Del	223-6879

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 28, 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	A.L. 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim Ruby	Del 549	Chaplain	246 9780
Ed Brady	549	W Pal	246-9480
Robert Spitz	VFW 4079	Welfare	538-2023
Bob DeStrom	FL 33	Del	433-4119
Nick Pruitt	4668	DEL	223-9257
Nick Nekrosius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204
Jerry Welch	Post 575 on Lake	Del	223-6879
Bob Kelly	Post 237	Del	883-8883

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 24, 2001

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bob Westman	Am Legion 33	Del	433-4119
Ed Brady	549	alt	246-9480
Jim Kirby	549	Del	246-9741
Ralph Adle	Legion 235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick Pauth	DEL.	DEL	283-9257
Samuel S. Maggio	Del Marine Corps League		223-9080
Ed STASH	Legion 27	Del	434-7496
Dr. Strojzski	C.V. #436	Del	223-9521
Bob Remy	CWV #1229	alt	223-7056
Joseph Swartzel	CWV #1229	Del	223-4179
Nick Nekrosius	Am Legion	alt	224-2204
Jack LEWINGEN	UFW	DES	795-6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of October 24, 2001.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll Call of officers was taken showing Jim Kirby excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Jack Leininger, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegate Jerry Welch handed Superintendent Rue seven additional names of available drivers for use at the LaSalle Veterans' Outpatient Clinic. He also showed a copy of the News Tribune news article asking for names of potential drivers for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic van. Supt. Rue assured Delegate Welch that he would get this list of drivers to the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic.

Delegate Joe Iwaszek gave a report on the LaSalle Veterans' Home stating that there are over 254 veterans on the waiting list for admission to the home. He encouraged anyone to write to Governor George Ryan, Senator Patrick Welch, and Representative Frank Mautino telling them of our dire shortage of nursing care beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. We have been fighting this issue since 1993 and must have legislation submitted for the projected \$9 million construction cost for the additional 80 beds we were promised. Let it not be promises made, promises broken.

Superintendent Rue gave numerous handouts to the Alternates and Delegates pertaining to veterans' issues. Those issues were discussed and all questions were answered.

Motion was made by Delegate Spitz, seconded by Al Strozewski, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW 4079; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 550; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Alternates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ludwig Sikole, VFW Post 4079; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2001

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 43 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 7 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 36 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 42 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 5 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 16 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 9 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 6 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 34 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 8 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 512 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded s/c Compensation, 10%, \$98 monthly, effective 8/2000-11/2000, \$392; 12/2000-11/2001, \$1212 (Total \$1,604)
2. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, retroactive payment \$2520; 12/2000-11/2001, \$252 monthly, \$3024 (Total \$5,544)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded waiver of overpayment, \$922 (Total \$922)
4. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 1/2001-11/2001 \$642 monthly, (Total \$8,104)

5. Veteran awarded six-month convalescence leave due to surgery of s/c disability, 1/2001-7/2001, \$2036 monthly, \$12,216 (Total \$12,216)
6. Veteran awarded s/c Compensation, 20%, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$776; 12/2001-11/2002 \$2328, (Total \$3,104) (s/c for Diabetes Type II due to exposure to Agent Orange)
7. Veteran awarded increase in s/c Compensation, 40%-50% (difference \$211 monthly), effective 10/93-11/2001, \$19,557 retroactive payment; 12/2001-11/2002, \$806 monthly, \$9672 (Total \$29,229)
(Claim went from the Chicago VARO to the BVA, to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, who remanded it back to the BVA, who in turn Remanded it back to the Chicago VARO, who again denied it, and was subsequently Sent back to the BVA who finally granted the benefit sought, increasing disability from 10%-30%, combined 50%. Total time involved in claim 8 years, 1 month)
8. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 3/2001, \$895 monthly, 3/2001-11/2001, \$8055; 12/01-11/02 \$10,740 (Total \$18,795)
9. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, 30%-50%, combined 60%, retroactive payment from 1/2000-11/2001, (difference \$311 monthly & 3 month convalescence period @ 100%, \$4494) \$11,035 (Total \$11,035)
10. Veteran awarded increase in s/c Compensation from 50%-100% (IUE), effective 6/2001-11/2001, (difference \$1,608 monthly), \$9,648; 12/2001-11/2002, \$19,296 (Total \$28,944)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	18,795.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	152,647.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	100,702.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,151,650.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,304,297.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission September 26, 2001 meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Bob Westman, the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented.

Nick Nekrosius and Joe Iwaszek discussed our LaSalle Veterans' Home. They announced that James Arrington has been appointed as director of the home. A lengthy discussion ensued pertaining to the LaSalle Veterans' Home and communications. It was concluded that Governor George Ryan should fulfill his campaign pledge and see that the 80 additional needed beds are immediately added to our home. The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs should be pushing for funding in their budget for this project. The Governor himself could place the monies needed in his budget. A man's word is only as good as the man.

Our October meeting is the meeting in which our different posts select our delegates and alternates for the year 2002. Superintendent Rue was asked by Chairman Adler to send a letter reminding each post that they must have their delegates and alternates selected for our October meeting. Our November meeting will be our annual meeting in which we hold our elections. Our November and December meetings are to be held on the third Wednesday of the month due to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Good of the Order: The American Legion Veterans Assistance Commission Liaison Committee has presented a plaque to Joe Iwaszek for all of his unselfish work provided to the veterans of our LaSalle Veterans' Home and the Illinois Valley area. The plaque was presented to Joe at our September 26, 2001 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Motion by Jerry Welch, seconded by Nick Pacetti, to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506 and Alternates Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, Chairman American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2001

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices .32 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 11 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 6 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 17 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 39 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 7 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 19 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 1 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 4 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 12 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 8 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 11 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 512 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 1 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 7/2001-11/2001 \$467 monthly, \$2335; 12/2001-11/2001, \$5604 (Total \$7939)
2. Veteran Widow awarded Widow Pension, \$518 monthly effective 4/01-11/01, \$4152; 12/01-11/02, \$6228, (Total \$10,380)
3. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 408, \$427 monthly effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$1708 monthly; 12/2001-11/2002, \$5124 (Total \$6832)
4. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 208 effective 1/2001-12/2001, \$194 monthly, \$2328 (Total \$2328)

5. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/A&A, effective 4/2001-4/2002, \$1293 monthly, \$15,516 (Total \$15,516)
6. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (10%-30%) (difference \$197 monthly), effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$788; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2364 (total \$3152)
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 3/2001-2/2002, \$34 monthly, (Total \$408)
8. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, (60%-100%), (difference \$1530 monthly) IUE, effective 12/2000-11/2001 retroactive payment, \$16,830; 12/2001-11/2002, \$18360; (Total \$35,360)
9. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, (50%-100%), (difference \$1598 monthly) effective 8/99-10/2001, \$41,548 retroactive payment; 11/2001-12.2002, \$19,146 (Total \$60,694)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	00000.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	133,852.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	142,709.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,050,948.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,184,800.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 22, 2001

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice Chairman Jack Leininger. Roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Ralph Adler excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections, Acting Chairman Leininger asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion by Jerry Welch, seconded by Jim Kirby to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Al Strozewski, seconded by Ed Stash to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Motion by Jerry Welch, seconded by Ed Stash that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Robert Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2001

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 25 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 12 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 6 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 26 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 34 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 7 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 37 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 17 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 16 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 20 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 4 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 7 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 512 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 2/01-11/01, \$1015 monthly, \$10,150; 12/01-2/2102, \$3045 (Total \$13,195)
2. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, (Diabetes), \$194 monthly, effective 8/201-11/2001, \$776; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2328 (Total \$3104)
3. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, from 60% - 70%, IUE (difference \$1293), 9/2000-11/2000, \$3879; 12/2000-11/2001, \$25,284 (Total \$29,163)
4. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefit, effective 5/2001-11/2001, \$911 monthly, \$6377; 12/2001-11/2002, \$10,932 (Total \$17,309)

5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (20%-30%) \$176 difference monthly as dependents now added, effective 9/2000-11/2000, \$528; 12/2000-11/2001, \$186 difference, \$2232 (Total \$2936)
6. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation 10%-30%, (\$197 difference) effective 9/2000-11/2000, \$591; 12/2000-11/2001, \$2364; convalescence period from 12/2000-6/2001, \$2107 monthly, \$12,642 (Total \$15,597)
7. Veteran awarded upgrade in discharge from Under Honorable Conditions to Honorable.
8. Veteran awarded Housebound benefit with unreimbursed medical expenses, 6/2000-11/2000, \$375 monthly, \$2250; 12/2000-6/2001, \$381 monthly, \$2667; 7/2001-11/2001, \$232 monthly, \$1060 (Total \$5977)
9. Veteran's ~~Wife~~ awarded 50% S/C Compensation effective 3/2001-7/2001, \$669 monthly, \$3345; 100% S/C, effective 8/2001-11/2002, \$35,648 (Total \$38,993)
10. Veteran awarded one month convalescence leave due to surgery for S/C disability, \$2441 (Total \$2441)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	00000.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	133,852.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	126,284.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	908,239.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,041,991.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 25, 2001.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: Delegates and Alternates had questions pertaining to the additional 80 beds needed at the LaSalle Veterans Home in LaSalle, Illinois. They also had questions pertaining to the lawsuit that had been filed against the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent by an Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs employee. The Superintendent answered all questions. One must always realize that when polyocrats are questions pertaining to their action or lack of action then strange happenings will occur. There are those in the world who will self-appoint themselves to a rank level that they do not deserve. We must work hard to fight for what is right to expose any or all want-to-be's.

The Superintendent discussed his meetings with the LaSalle County Board Fee and Salary and Finance Committees. He is hopeful that they will accept the 2002 budget recommended its totality. Adjustments are needed for our employees who do a stupendous job. All must contact their County Board members for their support of our budget recommendations.

The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Jerry Welch that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

The Illinois State Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission will be meeting at the American Legion State Headquarters August 3 and 4, 2001. Superintendent Rue will be attending those meetings with Service Officer Richard Fogarty.

Our Veterans' Service Officers Training Seminar will be held September 17-20, 2001 in Collinsville, Illinois for accreditation. Superintendent Rue and Service Officer Richard Fogarty will be attending that accreditation-training seminar.

Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Ed Braatz that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JULY 2001**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 12 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 14 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 21 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 20 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 5 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 11 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 13 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 18 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 15 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 8 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 512 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, w/IUE, effective 2/2001-11/2001, \$2189 monthly, \$26,168 (Total \$26,168)
2. Veteran awarded reinstatement of 10% S/C Compensation 7/2001-7/2002, \$101 monthly, (Total \$1212)
3. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 10%, \$101 monthly, retro pay from 6/2000-7/2001, \$1396; 8/2001-11/2001, \$404, (Total \$1800)
4. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation hearing loss, effective 2/2001-11/2001, \$1221 monthly, \$12,210; 12/2001-2/2002, \$2442 (Total \$14,652)

5. Veteran's Widow awarded waiver of overpayment in the amount of \$17,759 (Total \$17,759)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$947 monthly, effective 2/2000-7/2001, retroactive pay \$16,099, (Total \$16,099)
7. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation 108-208 effective 4/99-11/99, (\$85 difference monthly), \$1020; 12/99-11/2000, \$1056; 12/2001-11/2002, \$1116; (Total \$3192)
8. Veteran awarded IUE, effective 3/2001-11/2001, \$2378; 12/2001-2/2002, \$7134, (Total \$28,536)
9. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC, effective 5/2001-11/2001, \$911 monthly, \$6377; 12/2001-4/2001, \$4555, (Total \$10,932)
10. Veteran assisted in obtaining VA payment for inpatient hospitalization due to S/C disabilities, (Total \$29,997)
11. Veteran assisted in obtaining VA payment for inpatient hospitalization due to S/C disabilities, (Total \$12,127)
12. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation from 908-1008 (\$1206 difference), effective 9/200-11/2000, \$3636; 12/2000-11/2001, \$14,472 (Total \$18,108)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 15,232.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$133,852.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH: \$180,582.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$781,855.00
 TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$915,707.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 27, 2001.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Vice Chairman Jack Leininger excused and all other officers were present. Minute's of the previous meeting was read. Being no additions or corrections, Chairman Adler stated minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

NEW BUSINESS: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Ed Braatz, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed with the Delegates and Alternates the lawsuit, which was filed in Sangamon County. Questions pertaining to the suit were answered.

The 2002 budget recommendations were finalized. A motion was made by Jerry Welch, seconded by Al Strozewski, that the Veterans Assistance Commission line-item budget recommendations for fiscal year 2002 be accepted. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Ralph Adler signed the budget recommendation sheet.

Motion by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Delbert Spitz, we adjourn. Motion Passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Alternates Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Robert Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE 2001

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 17 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 19 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 30 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 18 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 3 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 1 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 16 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 8 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 1 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 23 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 2 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 3 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 10 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 requests for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 1 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for 1 veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded Aid & Attendance benefits effective 4/2000-11/2000, \$553 monthly, \$4424; 12/2000-11/2001 \$572 monthly, \$6864 (Total \$11,288)
2. Veteran awarded 40% service-connected Compensation effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$427 monthly (Total \$5124)
3. Veteran awarded waiver of Social Security overpayment \$460 (Total \$460)
4. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation from 12/2000-11/2001, \$460 monthly, (Total \$5520)

5. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 30%, effective 6/2000-11/2000, \$288 monthly, \$1728; 12/2000-11/2001, \$298 monthly, \$3676. (Total \$5404)
6. Veteran awarded NSC Pension with Aid & Attendance, effective 3/2001-2/2002, \$752 monthly, \$9024 (Total \$9024)
7. Veteran awarded NSC pension w/Aid&Attendance, effective 10/2000-12/2000, \$1182 monthly, \$2364; 12/2000-11/2001, \$1189 monthly \$14,268. (Total \$16,632)
8. Veteran awarded increase in NSC Pension with addition of Aid&Attendance, \$500 monthly, 7/2000-11/2000, \$2500 12/2000-11/2001, \$524 monthly, \$6288 (Total \$8788)
9. Veteran awarded 40% S/C compensation effective 2/2000-11/2000, \$413 monthly, \$4130; 12/2000-11/2001, \$427 monthly \$5124 (Total \$9,254)
10. Veteran awarded continuation of SSD disability benefits per review ordered after 12 years of total disability, due to multiple brain tumors, \$1231 monthly, \$14,772 (Total 14,772)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 15,232.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$133,852.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH: \$ 86,356.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$601,273.00
 TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$735,025.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 25, 2001.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections, Chairman Adler stated minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business. Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Ed Braatz, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented a copy of his End of the Year Report of the Veterans Assistance Commission Liaison for the year 2000-2001. Delegates and Alternates discussed the issues included in the report. An update was given pertaining to state and federal legislation that affects our veteran community.

A motion was made by Jerry Welch, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Alternate Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH THROUGH MAY 2001

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 45 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans.
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 29 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 45 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 60 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 4 veteran.
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 12 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 14 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans.
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 11 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 26 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 2 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 20 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 20 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 4 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 2 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded SSD benefits from Social Security, effective 7/99-4/2001, \$860 monthly, \$18,920; 5/2001-11/2001, \$6020 (Total \$24,940)
2. Veteran awarded 20% service-connected Compensation effective 1/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly (Total \$2328)
3. Veteran awarded Non Service Connected Pension, \$3849 retroactive payment; 5/2001-11/2001, \$775 monthly, \$5425 (Total \$9274)

4. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation from 7/2000-11/2000 \$1018 monthly, \$4,072; 12/2000-11/2001, \$1053 monthly, \$12,636 (total \$16,708)
5. Veteran granted waiver of overpayment (Total \$2,122)
6. Veteran awarded unreimbursed medical expenses, (Total \$1080)
7. Veteran awarded 100% service-connected compensation, for convalescence, 4/2000-11/2000, \$2036, \$14,252; 12/2000-11/2001, 60%, \$769 monthly, \$9228 (Total \$23,840)
8. Veteran's Widow awarded last month of veteran benefit, \$5195 DIC benefit, \$911 monthly, 1/2001-11/2001, \$10,932 (Total \$16,127)
9. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 3/2000-11/2000, \$589 monthly, \$5301; 12/2001-11/2001 \$609 monthly, \$7308 (total \$12,609)
10. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$194 monthly, (Total \$2328)
11. Veteran awarded NSC Pension \$117 monthly, 3/2001-11/2001, \$1170; 12/2001-2/2001, \$351 (Total \$1521)
12. Veteran awarded 100% convalescence rating, effective 2/201-4/2001, \$2441 monthly, \$4882; increased compensation 30%-40%, \$129 monthly increase, 11/2000-11/2001, \$1548 (Total \$6430)
13. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation effective 2/99-11/99 \$96 monthly, \$960; 12/99-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$1176; 12/2000-11/2001, \$101 monthly \$1212 (Total \$3348)
14. Veteran's awarded 10% S/C Compensation, \$101 monthly, effective 3/2001-11/2001, \$1010; 12/2001-2/2002, \$202 (Total \$1212)
15. Veteran awarded special monthly compensation, effective 1/2001-11/2001, \$330 monthly, (Total \$3990)
16. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation, effective 5/99-11/99, \$96 monthly, \$672; 12/99-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$1166; 12/2000-11/2001, \$101 monthly, \$1212 (Total \$3050)

17. Veteran awarded increase in S/C compensation effective 8/98-11/98, 10%-50%, \$491 monthly, \$1964; 12/98-11/99, 100%, \$1989 monthly; 12/99-11/2000 \$2036; 12/2000-5/2001, \$2107. (Retroactive check of \$50,804) 6/2001-11/2001, \$12,642 (Total \$63,446)

18. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation effective 1/99-11/99, \$96 monthly, \$1056; 12/99-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$1176; 12/2000-11/2001, \$101 monthly \$1212 (total \$3444)

19. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 9/2000-6/2001, \$775 monthly, \$7750; 7/2001-11/2001 \$3875, (Total \$11,625)

20. Veteran awarded IUE effective 9/98-4/2001, retroactive check received, \$48,576; 5/2001-11/2001, \$2107 monthly, \$14,749 (Total \$63,325)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 57,489.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$118,620.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH: \$293,891.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$514,917.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$733,537.00

(Continued on Page 5)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

2002
BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FORM
JUNE 07, 2001

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ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	1999 EXPENDITURE	2000 EXPENDITURE	2001 APPROP.	% EXP	2001 EXP TO DATE	ORIGINAL BGT REQUEST	BUDGET RECOMMEND
20	VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO							
20-01	VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO							
20-01-511.001	TELEPHONE	1,778.03	1,257.48	3,000.00	13.5	405.60		
* 20-01-517.001	BLDG RENTAL/UTILITIES	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.0	0.00		
* 20-01-940.001	POSTAGE	15.75	35.25	300.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-948.001	EDUCATION	40.80	799.34	500.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-550.001	CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	892.98	373.38	500.00	13.3	66.80		
20-01-554.001	TRAVEL & TRANS (EMERG AMB)	13,400.70	749.11	5,000.00	12.2	613.47		
20-01-570.001	DUES AND MEMBERSHIP	155.00	259.00	225.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-582.001	NEW PROGRAMS	37.50	0.00	300.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-601.001	OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,145.77	788.05	1,200.00	11.6	140.29		
20-01-601.002	BOOKS & PERIODICALS	688.49	671.16	750.00	29.9	224.90		
20-01-601.003	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPAIR	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.0	0.00		
* 20-01-640.001	PRINTING	353.48	590.43	1,000.00	2.5	25.00		
20-01-701.001	NEW EQUIPMENT	3,125.96	249.95	1,500.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-806.001	EMERGENCY RELIEF	5,675.81	7,427.64	14,500.00	42.8	6,207.42		
* 20-01-810.001	HEALTH & LIFE INS	8,280.00	7,491.00	8,950.00	31.5	2,820.00		
* 20-01-810.003	LIABILITY INSURANCE	2,868.00	2,958.25	3,000.00	0.0	0.00		
* 20-01-810.004	WORKERS COMPENSATION	533.00	532.00	550.00	0.0	0.00		
* 20-01-810.005	UMBRELLA INSURANCE	450.00	430.00	400.00	0.0	0.00		
* 20-01-810.006	EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND	101.25	0.00	150.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-817.001	CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-879.001	CONTINGENCIES	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-907.001	SUPERINTENDANT	37,775.27	40,146.92	43,000.00	48.4	20,838.38		
20-01-965.001	OFFICE SUPERVISOR	22,111.92	23,244.64	24,107.92	48.4	11,682.72		

VAC (Vets) - VAC County Board

2002
BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FORM
JUNE 07, 2001

PAGE 76

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	1999 EXPENDITURE	2000 EXPENDITURE	2001 APPROP.	% EXP	2001 EXP TO DATE	ORIGINAL BGT REQUEST	BUDGET RECOMMEND
20-01-986.001	TEMPORARY HELP	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.0	0.00		
20-01-999.001	SERVICE OFFICER	27,613.80	28,767.60	29,588.32	48.4	14,338.80		
TOTAL	VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO	130,161.51	116,730.80	162,621.84	35.2	57,363.38		0.00
TOTAL	VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSIO	130,161.51	116,730.80	162,621.84	35.2	57,363.38		

Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officer's Report for February and March 2001

AWARDS

1. Dependant child of a veteran awarded S.S.I. from Social Security effective August 1999-November 2000 = \$6042.07. December 2000-November 2001 = \$457 monthly = \$5484.00 (total \$11,526.07)
2. Veteran awarded increase in compensation from 20% to 40% combined 50% effective August 1, 2000. Difference of \$415 a month (total \$6,225)
3. Veteran awarded S.S.D from Social Security effective July 2000 = \$582.80 a month = \$2331.20; December 2000 = \$603 a month = \$7,236 (total \$9567.20)
4. Veteran received VA Pension effective August 1, 2000 = \$1236 a month = \$3708
December 2000 = \$1279 a month = \$15,348 (total \$18,948)
5. Veteran awarded VA pension effective April 2000 = \$749 a month \$9092; December \$775 a month = \$9300 (total \$18,392)
6. Veterans spouse awarded S.S.I. from Social Security effective March 2001 = \$101 a month = \$202 May 2001 = \$1212 (total \$1414)
7. Veteran killed in action and his mother receives DIC. She was awarded VA medical reimbursement for the year total \$2519.52

TOTAL SSA awards for months = \$22,507.2 – year to date \$83,638.27
VA awards for months = \$46,084.52 – year to date \$328,241.52
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR TO DATE \$411,879.79

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from March 28, 2001

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Chairman Adler stated minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Numerous handouts from previous meeting were discussed. All questions pertaining to Old Business were answered.

New Business: Delegates and Alternates were made aware of numerous state and federal legislation that has been introduced pertaining to the veteran community, that legislation was discussed.

Delegate Tom Kelly from the Oglesby American Legion Post announced that on April 1, 2001 their post would be holding a wild game feed from 1:00 until 5:00 p.m.

Delegate Jerry Welch announced that the Peru American Legion now has a web page.

Chairman Adler announced that on Sunday, April 29, 2001 the Marseilles American Legion Post would be presenting a program pertaining to veteran benefits. Anyone interested should be there prior to 1:30 p.m. The program will start promptly.

A motion was made by Jim Kirby, seconded by Nick Nekrosious, that we adjourn.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Tom Kelly, American Legion Post 237; Alternate Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 28, 2001.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. At Arms, Jerry Welch absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: All old business was discussed. Questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion Passed.

Jack Leininger gave a report on the Governor's annual budget address, which was given before the Joint Assembly of the Illinois General Assembly in February of this year. He stated that the Governor did not provide the \$9 million needed to add the additional 80 nursing care beds to the LaSalle Veterans' Home. He further discussed Superintendent Rue questioning the Governor on this topic at his press conference held after the budget address.

Ralph Adler read a letter that he submitted to the Illinois Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman on February 28, 2001. This letter addressed language change presented in HB0854 of the 92 General Assembly State of Illinois, which permit those who had served 20 years in the Illinois National Guard or Reserves without any active military time eligible for domiciliary care in our Veterans' Homes. Mr. Adler felt that before such legislation should be enacted for those with no active service our Illinois Veterans' Homes should permit eligibility for those who had served on active duty in our Armed Forces during peacetime. A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Ron Hickey, Sr. that we support Mr. Adler's letter dated February 28, 2001 to the Illinois Veterans' Home Committee Chairman, McAuliffe and his committee members. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue updated us on other legislation bills that have been introduced and letters that have been sent out by the legislative director for the Illinois Military Order of the Purple Heart. It is obvious that this individual is involved in dispensing misinformation and creating a smokescreen in the sense that the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Director is promulgating.

Motion by Al Strozewski, seconded by Bob Westman, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 235; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Ron Hickey, Sr. AMVETS Post 30; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; All Strozewski, Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternates Tom Przybyla, VFW Post 5506; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
207 STATE CAPITOL, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

GEORGE H. RYAN
GOVERNOR

March 12, 2001

Mr. Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County
LaSalle County Courthouse, Room A103
119 West Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Dear Mr. Rue:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed expansion of the Illinois Home for Veterans in LaSalle.

I agree that this expansion project is very important, and I appreciate the time and energy that the LaSalle County VAC and numerous state and nationally chartered veteran organizations have directed toward this issue. I am currently working with the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to secure funds for the LaSalle expansion project. One source could be the home construction reimbursements from the federal government. These reimbursement dollars, which date back to 1995 and total over \$7.7 million, are long overdue and serve as a critical source of funding for IDVA projects. As further evidence of my commitment, I am including in the State's capital budget for Fiscal Year 2002 \$1 million in planning funds for the LaSalle expansion.

In addition to the LaSalle expansion proposal, the State of Illinois currently has several initiatives underway to address the long-term care needs of veterans. The Manteno Home is scheduled to open a new 40-bed unit early spring, and an agreement has also recently been reached with the North Chicago VA Medical Center to make an additional 58 openings available. As you noted in your letter, I am a strong advocate for Illinois' veterans. I assure you that my staff and I are working very hard to make the LaSalle expansion proposal a reality.

Again, thank you for your time and for sharing your concern on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George H. Ryan".

GEORGE H. RYAN
Governor

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A 103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

March 2, 2001

Honorable Lt. Governor Corinne Wood
214 Statehouse Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Lt. Governor Wood:

On behalf of the people in our Illinois valley area and our million State of Illinois veterans, I plead for your help in resolving the dire shortage of nursing care beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. We have been fighting this problem ever since 1993 and still have a shortage of 80 nursing care beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. I submit with this a short fact sheet pertaining to our Illinois Valley area, a March 29, 1988 news article showing the then Lt. Governor George Ryan helping us to get the first phase built, and an October 1998 news article in which then Secretary of State George Ryan pledged in Streator, Illinois that if he were elected Governor he would see that the needed 80 beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home would be built and totally funded.

I myself have written at least three letters to Governor George Ryan asking for the funding of these needed health care beds. Many elected officials and other people in our area have done the same. We have not received a response to those letters that have been written since November of 1999. I was also fortunate on Wednesday, February 21, 2001 to be able to personally ask Governor George Ryan why the monies for these needed 80 beds was not part of his proposed budget that he addressed that day. He appeared surprised and requested that one of his staff person answer the question. I almost felt as though our letters and requests were not reaching him. I beg of you to please intercede and see if you could correct this problem, as then Lt. Governor George Ryan had to back in 1988. Our veterans and our Illinois valley are counting on you.

I will patiently await your reply so that I can share it with all of the people who are interested in seeing this plight of our veterans resolved.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosures

Jim Denbow

From: "James Doran" <JWDoran@co.mchenry.il.us>
To: <jallen@ais.net>; <jctromp@aol.com>; <carrjohn@co.kane.il.us>; <gahenn@co.madison.il.us>;
 <tmartin@co.peoria.il.us>; <vetasst@co.rockisland.il.us>; <johnf@co.sangamon.il.us>;
 <jdenbow@core.com>; <albers@ctnet.net>; <etrowbridge@dupageco.org.com>; <lcvac@fcg.net>;
 <vet@henrycty.com>; <vac@jvil.com>; <lu_woods@mclean.gov>; <rcampbell-karich@theramp.net>;
 <vacwc@willcountyillinois.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2001 12:50 PM
Subject: Re: TEST TRIAL OF LEGISLATION UPDATE!

Jim,
 Looks real good to me. Thanks for the hard work.

FYI, Minutes of last meeting:

Although I can't find them right at this moment, I'd like you to know that the VAC of McHenry County supports HB 0854 authorizing the use of IDVA Nursing Homes by retired members of the National Guard and retired Military Reservists. As for those who have earned a campaign medal, I think that's a moot point. A campaign medal qualifies you as a "combat vet", whether you're regular, reserve, guard, or retiree.

My view on the reired Guardsmen and reservists being allowed utilization of the nursing homes is quite simple. These men and women are being authorized domiciliary care only. There is NO waiting list for the dom's at Quincy and Manteno as far as I know. Yes, once they're residents of the home they will take priority over non-residents for skilled, intermediate, and Alzheimer's beds, however, do we want to just throw them out on the street? They are, after all, military personnel. They signed the contract, did the job, and retired. It is not their fault that the unit to which they were assigned was not Federalized and deployed. The troops were ready, the government was not. On the same theme, it appears that it's the Guardsmen and reservists who have already completed their 20 that the IACVAC is concerned about. Those currently serving are racking up campaign medals at a pretty good clip. Those who served in the 50's, 50's, and 70's may not have been deployed outside of the US, but many of them were Federalized to put down racial unrest, political unrest, and assorted riots during the Vietnam years. Air Guardsmen were the first line of defense in the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) as so many USAF fighter units were deployed overseas during Vietnam that we couldn't mount a defense of our own borders if it became necessary. Don't forget who gets called out in natural calamities - floods, etc. It's the Guard. These men and women risked their lives to protect our homes and communities against the ravages of nature. Personally, I'd rather fight the VC - at least when they were shooting at me I could shoot back. When the Mississippi or Illinois Rivers are trying to drown the Guard, the Guard can't "drown back". I know it's already overcome by events, because the IACVAC has taken a position against this legislation. However, I want to make my views known, too.

Speaking of Nursing Homes, I noted some comments made by Marty Rue in the minutes American Legion 12th District meeting onn 5/7/2000. He stated than "...some states are building or plan to build new Veterans Homes for long-term extended care and noted that Illinois is short on this matter, he also said that these homes should be close to the Veterans family and friends". At the IACVAC meeting in August 2000 he and Delegate Tromp succesfully squashed a motion before the body to support a Nursing Home opening in Belvidere - that would be close to the Veterans family and freinds. Yet at the March 2001 meeting, Mr. Rue stated "that there is a shortage of Nursing Hoime beds for our 999,646 Illinois veterans." Does Superintendent Rue actually mean he supports Nursing Home increases in the State of Illinois or does he JUST support those that go in place in LaSalle County?

I'm inclined to believe the latter.

Finally, I'm concerned with the election of Mr. Carr as Regional VP for the 1st Division. Not that John can't do, and won't try to do, a great job, but three months ago he resigned as Judge Advocate

because he didn't have the time to do the job. Now he suddenly has the time available to do the Regional VP job? I believe that Superintendent Houlihan would have been more appropriate as Regional VP - the State of Illinois has (1999 USDVA figures) 999,124 veterans; 591,252 (59%) of them are in the First Division and 385,454 (65% of the Division and 39% of the State) of them are in his county. However, again a moot point because no one present nominated Mr. Houlihan for the position.

The question, of course, is when does John's term expire? Our by-laws state that the term of office is two years. There was one year left in my term when I resigned. John was elected in March. Does his term expire in December 2001? The by-laws don't seem to be clear on that point. If his term is for two years, it would expire in March 2003 and the by-laws are clear on the fact that officers are elected in December for a two year period of time. If John's term expires in March 2003 he would serve for 27 months, three more than the by-laws allows. Would you ask the Judge Advocate for a reading on this please?

Thanks.

Jim Doran

James W. Doran
Superintendent
Veterans Assistance Commission
County Government Center
2200 N. Seminary Ave., Rm B-180
Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 334-4229

Jim Denbow

From: "James Doran" <JWDoran@co.mchenry.il.us>
To: <vacwc@willcountyillinois.com>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2001 7:45 AM
Subject: Re:

Jim,
Sorry I couldn't make Springfield. I was taking C&P Exams. Today I'm home sick. I don't have a problem with John as 1st Div VP. Was just concerned about the available time. Sorry Houlihan said no.
Disagree with you about Marty. He's ONLY for stuff that goes into LaSalle. I blasted Ryan, twice, and went to the Chairman of the Illinois GOP also. How can our Governor say NO to a 7.3 million (if that much) renovation for a vets nursing home - and then say YES to 387 million for the Bears? I know Johnston's the problem. Cramer's OK. I think he's just been told that to keep his job he stays quiet!
Jim

<<< "Jim Denbow" <vacwc@willcountyillinois.com> 3/23 4:22p >>>

Jim:
It's late Friday, and things are slowing down. I just wanted to respond to your letter.
At the 2nd Division A.L Meeting, in Belvidere, a number of your Commission members voted to pass a resolution against non-active duty guards and reserves using beds in our nursing homes. The vote was unanimous. I'm not sure of your Commission position. My Commission also voted against non-active duty troops. I wish you had been at the meeting to express your opinion. My Commission also supports any vet who is awarded the campaign or expeditionary medals and peace time veterans. It looks like we have won the battle. The bill is held back for re-write. I hope so.
Also at the 12 Division meeting DuPage County VAC supported the resolution. Supt. Trowbridge was the only vote at our Springfield meeting to vote against it. His delegate seconded the motion. But's that's ok to disagree. I always respect anyone who disagrees with me as long as they respect me and my opinion. That's the problem IDVA has with HB-854. They expect all of us to have only one opinion, if not your a bad veteran. Sounds like Clintonism.
Quincy is the only home with Dom beds. We begged for years to get them at Manteno. No luck. Now the 50 empty buildings at Manteno are falling down.
President Johnson asked Supt. Houlihan to run for 1st Div. V-President and he told both of us he is just to busy.
I talked to Supt. Trowbridge and he did not feel ready for the task. I trust Supt. Carr and his decisions. He has always said what he meant and done what he said he would do. His election will be held in December 2001, along with the other officers of IACVAC.
Supt. Rue supports any new beds we can get. IDVA does not. Your problem is not with Marty, it with Johnston and Kramer. If Belvidere could of passed the tests, we would of supported it. One thing is the Governor promised those vets at LaSalle area those 80 beds and he has renigged. Marty should fight hard for those beds to be build first and more beds at Manteno too, and he is.
Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any other questions.

Thanks
Jim Denbow

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

of the United States of America
Department of Illinois
Post Office Box 1883, Springfield, Illinois 62705
217-529-2638

15 February 2001

Hon. Mark H. Beaubien,
State Representative
2108-N Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Representative Beaubien:

In the thirty years that I have monitored legislation, I have never witnessed such blatant misinformation being disseminated concerning a bill designed to benefit those who have worn the military uniforms of our country.

The individual disseminating this false information apparently has a deep seeded dislike for those who have served in the national guard or reserve components of the military.

First, enclosed is a copy of HB 854 for your review.

Second, the following have been identified as misinformation being disseminated by this individual who represents a county association.

1. **misinformation:** the bill will allow individuals access to the domiciliary resident units at the Veterans Homes after only six months of service in the national guard and reserve components.
2. **misinformation:** eligible national guard and reservists will displace a veteran who served on active duty and/or in time of war from occupying a bed.
3. **misinformation:** there is a three month waiting list of veterans who served on active duty and/or in time of war who desire admission to the largest Illinois veterans' home in Quincy

Now permit me to cite facts that will clearly identify the above misinformation as false.

1. **fact:** the national guard member or reservist must have twenty (20) years of service to be eligible to reside only in a domiciliary unit at one of the Illinois veterans' homes.
2. **fact:** there are currently several dozen vacant domiciliary beds at the largest Illinois veterans' home.
3. **fact:** there is no waiting list of veterans who served on active duty and/or in time of war who desire a domiciliary bed at the largest Illinois veterans' home.

Should you desire to confirm the above facts concerning the Veterans Homes, please do not hesitate to call Director John Johnston at the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs at 217-782-6641.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Illinois supports HB 854 for the following reasons.

1. It is anticipated that the number of eligible (20 years of service) national guard or reservists who apply for domiciliary residence only at the homes will be minimal.
2. It is anticipated that in the next ten to fifteen years when the World War II and Korean War Veterans have utilized the care services at the veterans homes, there will be a period of from twelve to twenty years before the next major group (Vietnam Veterans) become of age to use those services [the average age of WW II Veterans was thirty-nine and the average age of Vietnam Veterans was nineteen]; therefore, since there are already vacant beds available in the domiciliary units, that number will most certainly increase traumatically when the aforementioned gap period arrives.

Unless the Act is changed to allow the homes to fill the beds, state and federal budget "head hunters" will certainly challenge the reason for those vacancies and will move to down size the homes.

3. There are currently more active national guard and reservists than there are regular military personnel and those personnel are being absorbed into many regular military units and have commenced training together to serve anywhere in the World on peace keeping and hostile engagements and that role is certain to expand in coming months and years.

By federal rule (Title 38) national guard and reservists are already entitled to the benefit cited in this legislation and by not supporting HB 854, we will be denying a benefit to those who have worn the military uniforms of our Country for more than twenty years.

4. Our largest Veterans organizations are actively seeking membership from the ranks of the national guard and reserve components, so what will the impression be in those units if we solicit membership on one hand and attempt to deny a benefit to them on the other hand.

On the broader issue of our declining membership, Veterans organizations need to put aside the old attitude that one group must always subordinate another group and we need to encourage unity among our surviving patriots and re-establish strength in our collective numbers.

There are some very important bills and resolutions before the state legislature that will greatly impact Veterans, to cite a few, veterans' preference (as opposed to absolute preference) in state hiring practices and reduced interest for buy back of pension credit for military service, etc.

Our Veterans' Organizations should not allow one individual's agenda to stir us into turmoil over any issue.

We have more important items to consider that will benefit of our membership.

Respectfully,



Rick Alan Richards,
Legislative Director
Department of Illinois,
Military Order of the Purple Heart

cc: John W. Johnston, Director, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs
Hon. Mark H. Beaubien, State Representative
Hon. Angelo "Skip" Saviano, State Representative
Legislative Directors - Veterans Organizations
Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions

A motion was made by Supt. Rue "to actively go on record with letter to interested parties opposing HB-854 as recommended by our Legislative Liaison, Will and LaSalle County Resolutions and remove Section 1.5 from bill and oppose any other language that allows this group of non-active duty guard and reserves in our nursing home beds." Seconded by Mr. Banach. During discussion Supt. Rue noted that we presently do, and always have supported guard and reserves that have received campaign or expeditionary medals, the use of our NH beds, and they are admitted to our nursing home beds. We also support the peace time vets that served 2, 3, or 4 years on active duty and do meet the federal definition of a veteran. Motion Passed.

DuPage County Supt. Trowbridge asked to go on record voting no. President Johnson introduced Brian VanHouten, AMVETS Legislative Contact, 800-638-8387. He stated The AMVETS are opposing SB-226 and HB-854 for the same reasons mention above. They are also opposing HB-306. The military has the Medal of Honor and that is all we need. This other bill could be used for political patronage friends. He also pointed out the difference between HB-18221 and SB-248. One calls for full Honorable Discharge and the other requires Under Honorable Conditions only to receive state benefit.

A motion was made by Supt. Rue "to actively go on record supporting HB-154 and HB-3211 as recommended." Seconded by Supt. Taylor. All approved Motion passed.

Supt. Rue explained that Mr. VanHouten was called by an I.D.V.A. employee and was threatened physically and his job was threatened if AMVETS continued to opposed HB-854. Mr. VanHouten asked that no name be mentioned. Supt. Rue then asked that if any one knows Mr. Rick Richards. If you do, ask him to give me a call. This is sad that IDVA allows their State employees to intimidate other veterans that disagree with IDVA's position on a bill. This is another reason why IDVA needs an outside agency to inspect complaints not only at their nursing homes but by their employees and offices too.

10. Report of the Board of Directors Executive Committee: Was given by Supt. Denbow (see Tuesday, 03-06-01 for report). A motion was made by Supt. Denbow "to accept the Executive Committees report and motions." Seconded by Supt. Taylor. All in favor. Motion passed.

11. Report from State VAC Committees: Supt. Rue reported for American Legion Committee that the Legion did pass resolution #3, in 1998, and that most people thought that they were supporting only active duty guard and reserves. Now it is being said that it also included non-active duty guard and reserves. So the A.L. Division 2 will present a resolution like the IACVAC passed today to clarify the correct this mis-representation and assume the position of supporting active duty or federalized veterans only. They too also support those Guard and Reserves who receive Campaign and Expeditionary Medals. AMVETS have already gone on record opposing HB-854.

12. Review of current committee issues were as follows:
 a. Legislative. None. Already covered by Mr. Fred Albers expertly. Supt. Rue accepted the position of Legislative Chairman and Supt. Henn will serve as Vice-Chairman. Thanks to both.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

of the United States of America

Department of Illinois

Post Office Box 1883, Springfield, Illinois 62705

217-529-2638

21 March 2001

**John William Farrow,
Registered Agent
Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions, Inc.
1901 Hood Street
Springfield, Illinois 62703**

**Virgil H. Johnson,
President
Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions, Inc.
307 W. Center Street
Cambridge, Illinois 61238**

**James Denbow,
Secretary
Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions, Inc.
128 North Scott Street
Joliet, Illinois 60432-4210**

**Gary Hodge,
Commander, AmVets (American Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam,
Illinois State Department
402 Pine Street
Waltonville, Illinois 62894**

Gentlemen:

The minutes of the Wednesday, 07 March 2001 meeting of the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions (Inc.) are filled with false, misleading and malicious information intended to impugn not only my position as a past national and current department officer in the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Illinois and has call into question the integrity of my thirty year career as a state employee.

Your individual action and the position taken by your corporation as well as the accusatory position the Department of Illinois Amvets has been placed in via testimony of their legislative officer, will not go unchallenged.

21 March 2001, page two:

During lobbying efforts or testimony at legislative hearings, I have officially represented only the above congressionally charter veterans organization for combat wounded veterans; having at all time worn my official organization cover and miniature decorations and awards.

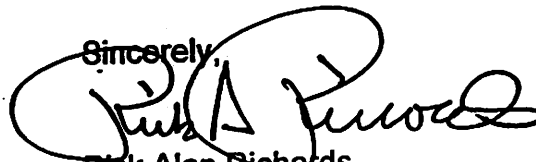
Oral testimony or appearance slips submitted attest to the fact that I have never represented myself as an employee or official spokesperson for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs at legislative committee hearings or during meetings in house or senate member offices; furthermore, when necessary, appropriate personal benefit time leave requests were approved by Department of Veterans Affairs Director, John W. Johnston prior to my attendance at such hearings or meetings.

I have never physically or otherwise threaten an employee of another veterans organization with using the influence of my state position to initiate action toward removing them from their employment.

IACVAC and Amvets have ten (10) working days from receipt of this letter to 1) issue a formal apology to me for the false and misleading information contained in your corporate minutes and 2) for such information having originated from AmVets Legislative Representative, Brian VanHouten and compounded by being announced and disseminated by IACVAC member Martin Rue and/or IACVAC Legislative Officer, Fred Albers and to 3) show proof that the apology has been forwarded via certified mail to all recipients of the aforementioned minutes, to include but not limited to each individual county commissioner and anyone of their employ and all officers of both corporations throughout the State of Illinois.

Failure to issue the apology in the aforementioned and timely manner will result in the filing of litigation for malicious libel and defamation of character naming as defendants both corporations and all individual corporate officers of the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions Inc. and Amvets (Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam), Illinois State Department.

Sincerely,



Rick Alan Richards

Department Legislative Director

cc: John W. Johnston, Director.
Illinois Dept. of Veterans Affairs
Paul A. Mons, Adjutant, Department of Illinois
Military Order of the Purple Heart, USA
Robert Studebaker, President
AmVets, Illinois State Department
Edward McNamara, Attorney at Law

March 8, 2001

Dear Commander:

The State Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions met in Springfield, Illinois on March 7, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. We discussed each bill that had been introduced in our Illinois 92 General Assembly pertaining to veteran's issues. Two bills, HB154 that pertains to language change in the MIA/POW Scholarship and HB3211, which pertains to our Anna Veterans' Home. Those two bills our State Association unanimously voted to support. We voted not to support HB854 as currently written unless all Reserve Force members and National Guard members have been federalized in order to gain eligibility to our State Veterans' Homes and SB0226 unless they remove County Veterans Assistance Commissions from that bill which asks for an Inspector General being officed in the State Department of Veterans' Affairs facility. All the other bills we will keep a close eye on and react accordingly.

We also encouraged everyone present to contact the Governor and their state senator and representative asking that the 80 additional nursing care beds be added to LaSalle Veterans' Home immediately. It was the consensus of all present that the needs for additional veterans' nursing care beds can only be justified by locating them at the LaSalle Veterans' Home and then northern Illinois to satisfy the need of those in the Chicago area. It is up to us to raise hell and request that the State of Illinois start servicing the needs of our veterans. If Quincy Veterans' Home would be in the northern part of our state there would probably be a two-year waiting list for admission, not a 40-bed vacancy. Remember 90% of the veterans reside within a 100-mile radius of our LaSalle Veterans' Home and about 65% of our veterans reside in the Cook County area. Tell the Governor and your representatives that we have been waiting for an additional 1000 beds for our veterans in the state of Illinois since 1993 and to quit playing games and deal with this problems now because the need will still be there after the year 2030.

We were also informed that one of our veterans organization's legislative employees was verbally attacked by an employee of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs for that organizations' opposition to opening the Veterans' Homes to Reserve Forces and the National Guard members who have not had one day of active service and had served 20 years with that Unit. He alleged that Department of Veterans' Affairs employee was going to see if he could not force that individual to loose his job. I find it sad to think that an individual who follows his organization's position on any legislation should be attacked for that position. This is why I have told you time and time again that those clowns, who feel that we must follow the politician whether they are right or wrong, should be exposed for what they are. I believe our United States Constitution grants us the right of Freedom of Speech. We must expose them for what they are and let our people know that they are only regurgitating what they have been forced fed by their political boss and we, as veterans, can feed ourselves. We do not have to be nurtured for our suckling days are over.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Rue, Chairman
VAC Liaison Committee

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

To : James Denbow From : J.C. Tromp
Sent : 3/19/01 at 3:49:28 PM Pages : 1 (including Cover)
Subject :

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The American Legion, Department of Illinois has always been in support of all military personnel including the Reserve Forces and National Guard who were involved in hostile fire environment or been awarded campaign medal for their services as the results of being federalized and eligible for many United States Department of Veterans' Affairs benefits; and

WHEREAS, IDVA Veterans' Homes in North Central Illinois always have had a waiting list of 3-6 months for admission, which has now increased to over 2 years, and

WHEREAS, About 90% of the veteran populous reside within a 100mile radius of the LaSalle Veterans' Home an about 65% of the veterans reside within a 60 mile radius of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, HB0854 or any other such bill if adopted would open eligibility further to those who had served in Reserve Forces or National Guard and did not have any Federal active military service; and

WHEREAS, If HB0854 became law the period of waiting time for a veteran to gain admission to an Illinois Veterans Home would be greatly increased; and

WHEREAS, Some of the Reservists and Guardsmen that could be admitted do not meet the definition of a Veteran as defined in the United States Code of Federal Regulations Title 38 Parts O-17; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the 2nd Division Meeting on March 11, 2001 held in Belvidere, Illinois oppose the adoption of HB0854 or any other such bill that does not require veterans to have been federalized; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Resolution be forwarded to the Department Executive Meeting on April 7, 2001 in Bloomington, Illinois for their adoption.

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of January 24, 2001

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. At Arms Jerry Welch excused. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read with one correction. In the Service Officer's Report award section, the first award should read, "increase in service connected compensation from (80%-100%) IUE not (30%-100%) IUE. With the correction of the Service Officer's Report, Chairman Alder stated the minutes would stand approved as corrected and presented.

Old business: All questions pertaining to Old Business were answered.

New business: Chairman Adler and the Superintendent discussed the National American Legion's written testimony submitted at the Principi hearing on January 18, 2001. It is a 13-page testimony covering the American Legion's request of services needed from the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs. Chairman Adler requested that the VAC Superintendent write a letter to Eldon E. Madden, Clifford N. Kevern, and Henry J. Gazza, Jr. pertaining to the section covering veteran state nursing homes. He further requested that an additional letter pertaining to the needs for additional state veteran homes be sent to Governor George Ryan.

Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Al Strozewski, seconded by Bob Westman that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Motion by Jack Leininger, Joe Iwaszek, that our meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Samuel Maggio, Marine Corp League, Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

January 25, 2001

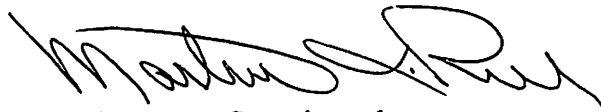
Mr. Elden E. Madden
206 Elizabeth Street
Yorkville, IL 60560

Dear Mr. Madden:

At the request of Ralph Adler find enclosed a copy of written testimony submitted at the Principi hearing. I am also enclosing a copy of letters sent to Governor George Ryan from the LaSalle County Board and myself, also a one-page sheet showing the dire need to provide additional long-term care beds in the state of Illinois for our veterans. Let us not forget that the American Legion has always stated that the need for these beds will surpass the year 2030.

I ask you gentlemen to please rally the troops in the state of Illinois and insist that the Governor add immediately the additional eighty long-term care beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Get your neighbors, friends, and relatives to insist that he do this now so that we can end the fight that we have had since 1993. Let us not forget that all major veterans organizations in the state of Illinois have endorsed by resolution adding the additional eighty long-term care beds to the LaSalle Veterans' Home. We need your help now.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosures

SAME LETTER WAS SENT TO CLIFFORD KEVERN AND HENRY J. GAZZA, JR.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

January 25, 2001

Honorable Governor George H. Ryan
State of Illinois
207 State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Ryan:

After not receiving a response to my letter dated December 6, 2000, I felt it necessary to resubmit that letter and additional information pertaining to the need to immediately add the additional eighty long-term care beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Realizing how busy you are and knowing that brevity is the essence of life, I chose to not send you the entire thirteen-page testimony that was submitted by the National Department of the American Legion at the Principi Hearing. Instead I am enclosing only the pertinent testimony covering grants for construction of state extended care facilities. It is my sincere hope that our state will heed the call by the National Department of the American Legion and develop a proactive and aggressive long-term care plan, which included immediately adding the additional eighty long-term care beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. I would be elated to hear your announcement of this in your State of the State Address.

I will patiently await your favorable response to my request.

Sincerely yours,




Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosures

THE AMERICAN LEGION

National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

TO: National Vice Commanders
Past National Commanders
National Executive Committee
Commission Chairmen
Department Commanders
Department Adjutants

FROM: Joe March, Public Relations 

DATE: January 18, 2001

SUBJ: Written Testimony Submitted at Principi Hearing

Here is the written testimony submitted by The American Legion for the Principi Confirmation Hearing on January 18. The American Legion neither supports nor opposes his confirmation, but took the opportunity to address issues of concern the next Secretary of VA should be prepared to resolve.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Currently, this nation is faced with the largest aging veterans' population in its history. VA estimates the number of veterans 65 years of age or older will peak at 9.3 million in the year 2000. By 2010, 42 percent of the entire veteran population, an estimated 8.5 million veterans, will be 65 or older, with half that number above 85 years of age. By 2030, most Vietnam Era veterans will be 80 years of age or older. The State Veterans' Home Program must therefore continue, and even expand its role as an extremely vital asset to VA. Additionally, state homes are in a unique position to help meet the long-term care requirements of the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act.

State homes provide over 24,000 beds with a 90 percent occupancy rate that will generate more than seven million days of patient care each year. The authorized bed capacity of these homes is 90 nursing care units in 40 states (17,844 beds); 46 domiciliaries in 32 states (5,841 beds); and 5 hospitals in 4 states (469 beds). For FY 1999, VA spent \$255 per day to care for each of their long term nursing care residents, while paying private-sector contract nursing homes an average per diem of \$149 per contract veteran. The national average-daily cost of caring for a state veterans' home nursing care resident during FY 1999 was \$137. VA reimbursed state veterans' homes a per diem of only \$40 per nursing care resident.

As many VA facilities reduce long-term care beds and VA has no plans to construct new nursing homes, state veterans' homes are relied upon to absorb a greater share of the needs of an aging veteran population. If VA intends to provide care and treatment to greater numbers of aging veterans, it is essential to develop a proactive and aggressive long-term care plan.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JANUARY 2001

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 17 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 13 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 8 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 21 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 36 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 10 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 46 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran.
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 5 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 9 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 6 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 7 veterans to Hearing

- Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 8 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
 31. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
 33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 2 veterans.
 35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
 36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
 38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
 39. Sent 2 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
 40. Sent VA Form 516 for 0 veteran.
 41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
 42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
 43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 veteran.
 44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
 45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
 46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
 49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded SSI benefits from Social Security, effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$492 monthly, (Total \$5904)
2. Veteran awarded increase in service-connected Compensation from 30%-40% (difference \$125 monthly) effective 8/2000-11/2000, \$375; 12/2000-11/2001, \$1500 (Total \$1875)
3. Veteran awarded 40% service-connected Compensation, effective 2/99-11/2000, \$413 monthly, \$4956; 12/2000-11/2001, \$427 monthly, \$5124 (Total \$10,080)

4. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$728 monthly, \$8736 (Total \$8736)
5. Veteran's Widow awarded Death insurance benefits, \$10,436 (Total \$10,436)
6. Veteran's Widow awarded \$1050 Burial Benefit from VA for service-connected death.
7. Veteran awarded 40% service-connected compensation, for left shoulder muscle atrophy, effective 6/2000-11/2000 (difference \$233 monthly from 20%-40%, \$1398 12/2000-11/2001, \$2796 (Total \$4194)
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 11/2000-12/2001 \$16,892 (Total \$16,892).
9. Veteran's Widow awarded one month S/C Compensation due to veteran's death, \$2153; awarded DIC effective 8/2000-11/2000, \$881 monthly, \$2643; 12/2000-11/2001, \$911 \$11,892 (Total \$14,926)
10. Veteran awarded unreimbursed medical expenses for 2000 in the amount of \$3279 (Total \$3279)
11. Veteran awarded reimbursed educational expenses in the amount of \$8866 (Total \$8866)
12. Veteran's mother awarded Burial Benefit in the amount of \$1050 for S/C death; Parental DIC effective 6/99-12/2001 \$967 (Total \$2017)
13. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation effective 9/97-12/2000 30%-60%, \$14,649; 1/2001-11/2001, \$841 monthly, \$9972 (Total \$24,621)
14. Veteran's spouse awarded SSD benefits, effective 4/2000-11/2000, \$927 monthly, \$7416; 12/2000-11/2001, \$943 monthly, \$10,373 (Total \$17,789)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 40,475.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 61,131.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH: \$ 90,080.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$221,026.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$282,157.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission annual meeting of November 15, 2000.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being there were no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Questions pertaining to old business were answered. The Commission agreed to accept the adjusted proposed Veterans Assistance Commission 2001 budget. A motion was made by Sam Maggio and seconded by Al Strozewski, to accept any and all changes made to our original budget proposal. Motion passed.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Jerry Welch, seconded by Joe Iwaszek, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed Agent Orange being sprayed around the DMZ in Korea in 1968 through 1969. Any veteran who had served along the Korean DMZ area and is suffering from one of the presumptive disabilities of Agent Orange should file for compensation. He also stated that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has added Adult Diabetes Type II to the Agent Orange presumptive list. We have filed approximately five of those cases to date.

Being there was no other new business to discuss we went into our Veterans Assistance Commission annual election of its officers and four year election of the superintendent position. Delegates nominated the following:

1. Chairman – Ralph Adler
2. Vice-Chairman – Jack Leininger
3. Chaplin – Jim Kirby
4. Sgt. At Arms – Jerry Welch

Each position was properly voted on for the Veterans Assistance Commission officers for the year 2001. At the conclusion of the election a motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Ron Hickey, Sr., to cast one unanimous ballot for the slated officers. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Robert Westman, seconded by Sam Maggio, that the Commission reaffirm the election of Martin Rue as Superintendent of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Motion passed.

Motion by Al Strozewski, seconded by Jack Leininger, the meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

Member present: Delegates Robert Westman, American Legion Post 33; Ron Hickey, Sr., Amvets Post 30; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Sam Maggio, Marine Corp League; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Don Leininger, American Legion Post 375; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2000

CASEWORK;

1. Sent to Service Offices 39 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 19 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 13 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 36 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 102 letters to veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 21 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 50 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 8 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 16 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 15 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 8 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 8 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 4 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 50 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 1 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 6 veterans.

29. Sent various SSA forms for 22 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 22 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 12 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 6 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 516 for 3 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 515 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded increase in service-connected compensation (30%-100%) IUE, \$1000 monthly difference, 6/99-12/2000, \$18000; 1/2001/11/2001, \$1100 (Total \$29,000)
2. Veteran Widow awarded DIC benefit, effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$919 monthly, (Total \$11,028)
3. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 6/2000-11/2000, \$162 monthly, \$972; 11/2000-11/2001, \$172 monthly, \$2064 (Total \$3036)

4. Veteran awarded Rehabilitation for 6 month period due to service-connected disability, \$430
5. Veteran awarded service connected compensation, 30%, effective 6/2000-11/2000, \$288 monthly, \$1728; 12/2000-11/2001, \$299 monthly, \$3588 (Total \$5316)
6. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, effective 8/2000-11/2000, \$1286 monthly, \$5144; 12/2000-11/2001, \$15,532 (Total \$20,656)
7. Veteran awarded 10% service-connected compensation, 8/2000-11/2000, (10% + (k))\$174 monthly, \$696; 12/2000-11/2001, \$179 monthly, \$2148 (Total \$2844)
8. Widow awarded Burial benefits and transportation costs (\$450 Burial + \$280 Transportation), \$730
9. Veteran awarded increase in service connected compensation (30%-100%, \$1748 monthly), effective 12/99-11/2000, \$20,976; 12/2000-11/2001, \$20,976 (Total \$42,952)
10. Veteran awarded increase in service connected compensation, (50%-100%) IUE, (\$1293) difference, 9/99-11/2000, \$19,438; 12/2000-11/2001, \$15,516 (Total \$34,954)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH: \$ 20,656.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 20,656.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONT: \$130,946.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE \$130,946.00
 TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$151,602.00

(Continued on Page 3)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

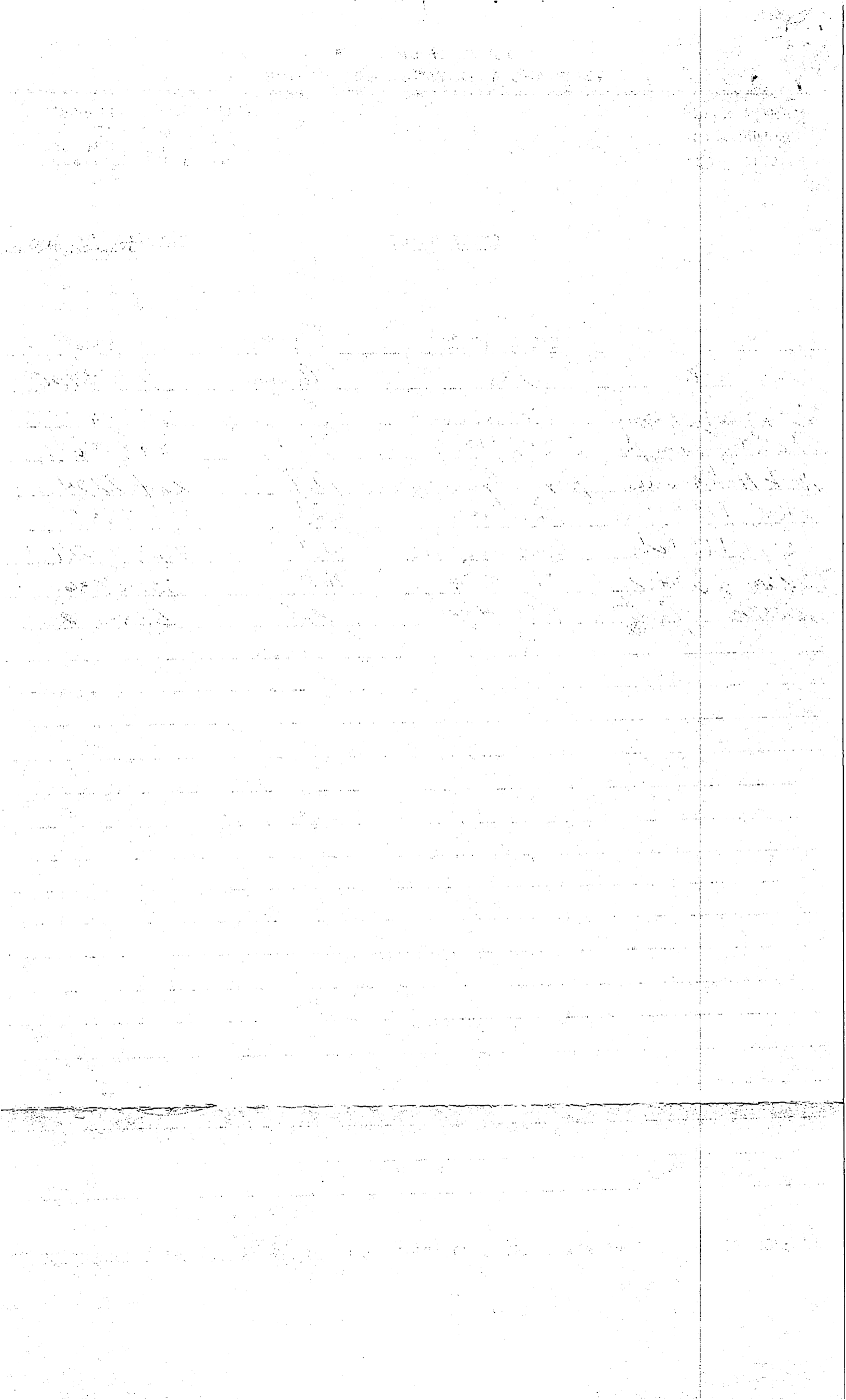
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb 27, 2002

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Joseph Guaszed	Del	CWV 1229	223-4179
Robert J. Reng, Sr.	CWV #1229	DEL.	223-7056
Nick Nekrosius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204
MICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Jerry Welch	CWV Legion	Del	223-6879
Andrew J. Sikole	VFW 4079	ALT	539-6936
Robert Spitz	VFW 4079	Del	538-2023

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Sept 25, 2002

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DRL	223-9257
Jim Kirby	post 549	Del chaplain	246 9940
ED STABL	Post 217	Del	434-7496
Bob Benz	CWV Post #1229	Alt.	223-7056
Mik Petrosian	Am Leg 426	Del	224 2204
Joseph D'Amico	CWV Post 1229	Del	223-4139
Alfred Spitz	VFW 4079	"del"	538-2023
JACK LEWIS	VFW 5506	Del	795-6065
Ralph Allen	235	Chairman	795-5436

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

9

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 23, 2002

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Jim Kirby	549	Chaplain	246 9748
NICK PACETTI	4668	DEL.	225-9257
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Ferry Welch	325	Del	223-6879
Bob Remy	CWV-1229	Alt	223-7056
Joseph Swasch	CWV1229	Del	223 4179
JACK LEMINGEN	VFW 5306	Del	795 6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

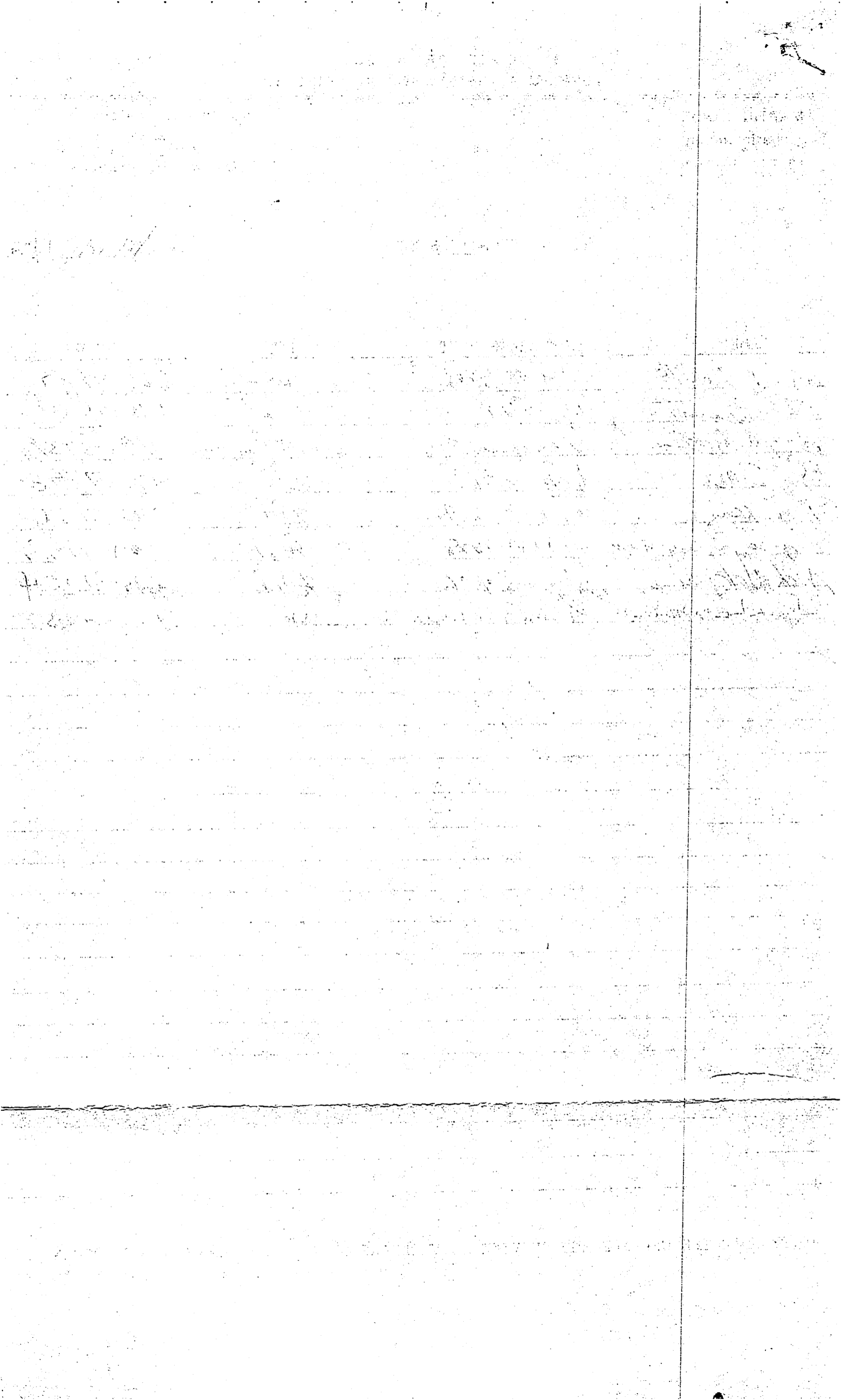
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

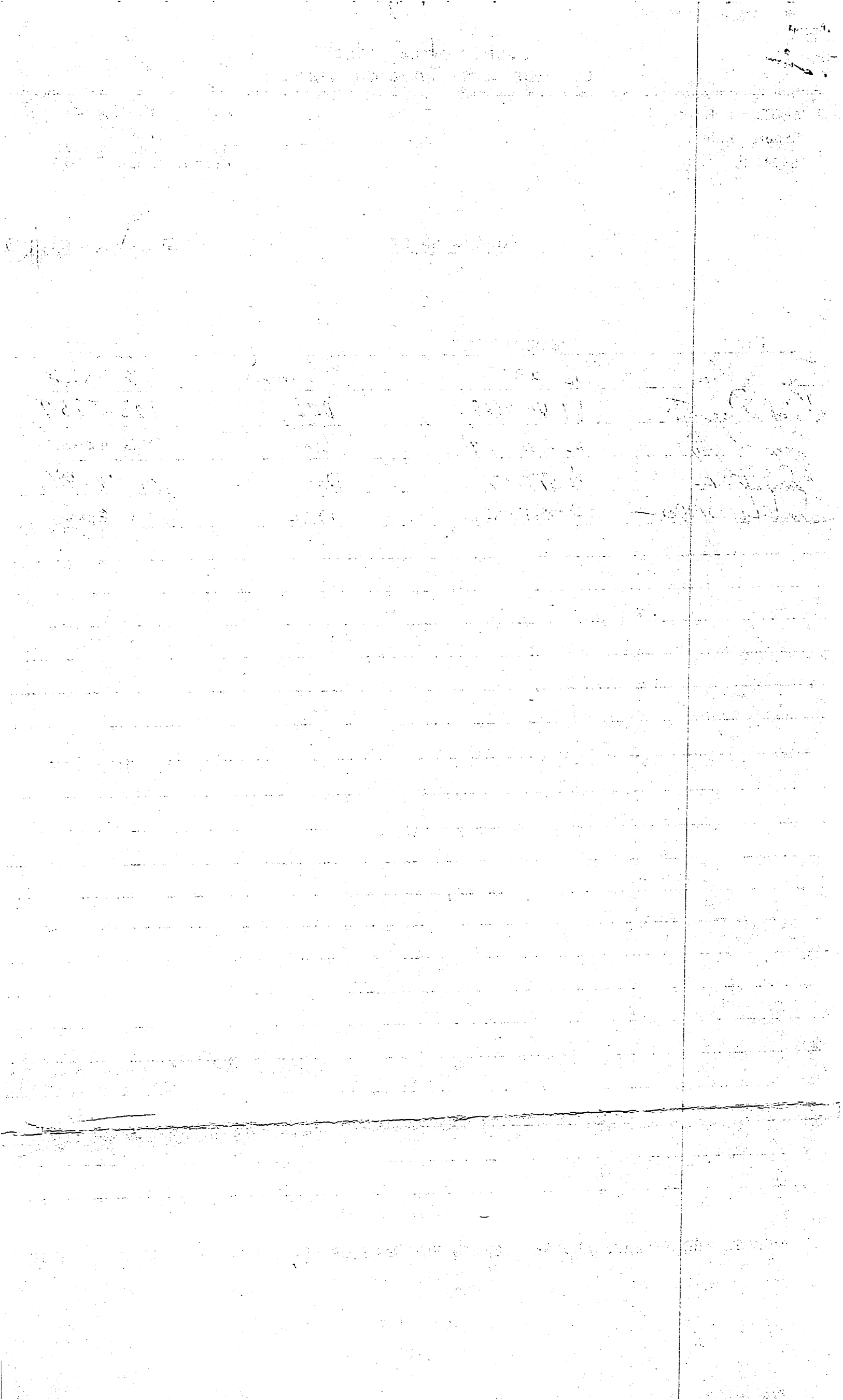
SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 27/02

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Pautto	VFW 4668	DR	223-9257
Ed Brant	Leg 549	Del	246-9480
Ralph Adler	Legion 235	Chairman	795-5436
EQ STABL	Legion 217	Del	434-7496
Bob Rens	CWV #1229	Alt	223-7056
Joseph Swasch	CWV 1778	Del	324 4179
Nick Nakrasius	Legion 426	Del	224-2204
JACK LERNINGEN	MAR'S VFW 5506	Del	795-6065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS





Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of November 28, 2001.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. Delegates stated that there are still a few beds opened at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. The home is in the process of bringing back every veteran that had to leave due to the renovation. It was also stated that one million dollars was appropriated this fiscal year to do additional wiring. Currently there is over 250 veteran applicants on the LaSalle Veterans' Home list with a three year wait for admission.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers' Report were answered. Motion by Bob Westman, seconded by Al Strozewski that the Service Officers' Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates were informed that there would be no VAC meeting in the month of December. Our next meeting will be January 23, 2002 in the Downtown Courthouse in Ottawa, Illinois at 7:00 p.m.

Our election of officers for 2002 was held. Delegates nominated the following:

1. Chairman – Ralph Adler
2. Vice-Chairman – Jack Leininger
3. Chaplin – Jim Kirby
4. Sgt. At Arms – Jerry Welch

Being no other individual were nominated for these four offices and the proper motions were made to close the nomination for each of the four offices, a motion was made by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Bob Westman that one unanimous vote be cast for each officer who had been nominated. Motion passed.

Motion by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Nick Pacetti that the meeting adjourn.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW 4668; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4070; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Al Strozewski, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates Ludwig Sikole, VFW Post 4079; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 43 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 12 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 8 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 15 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 79 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 12 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 44 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 3 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 7 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 18 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 8 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 7 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 16 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 25 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 0 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 45 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 14 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 17 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 5 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 514 for 2 veteran.
41. Sent 3 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 1 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Westside VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 517 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, effective 6/2000-11/2001, \$1052 monthly, \$18,936; 12/2001-11/2002, \$ 12,624 (Total \$31,560)
2. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (70-100%) (\$1138 difference) effective 7/2000-11/2001, retroactive payment of \$18,208;12/2001-11/2002, \$13,656 (Total \$31,656)
3. Veteran's S/C compensation increased from (70-100%) effective 6/2000-11/2000, \$8682;12/2000-11/2001, \$2252 monthly, \$27,024;12/2001-11/2002, \$2311 monthly \$27,732 (Total \$63,438)

4. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 6/2001-11/2001 \$1015 monthly, \$6090; 12/2001-11/2002, \$12,180 (Total \$18,270)
5. Veteran awarded retroactive payment for diabetes back to original date of claim due to U.S. District Court Nehmer v USDVA, \$7312
6. Veteran awarded waiver of overpayment \$2,793
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 6/2001-11/2001, \$83 monthly, \$498; 12/2001-11/2002, \$996 (Total \$1494)
8. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (50-70%) (difference \$1831), \$2440 monthly, effective 6/2001-11/2001, \$10,986; 12/2001-11/2002, \$21,972 (\$32,958)
9. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 8/2000-11/2000 \$1456 monthly, \$23,296; 12/2001-11/2002, \$17,916 (Total \$40,592)
10. Veteran awarded waiver of overpayment due to hardship, \$14,000 (Total \$14,000)
11. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation effective 7/2000-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$490; 12/2000-11/2001 \$101 monthly, 41202; 12/2001-11/2002, \$103 monthly 41236 (Total \$2928)
12. Veteran awarded financial aid \$5353 for (2) semesters (Total \$10,704)
13. Veteran awarded continuation of 100% S/C Compensation \$2473 monthly, 12/2001-11/2002, (Total \$29,676)
14. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 5/2000-12/2001, \$18,453 retroactive payment, 1/2002-12/2002, \$957 monthly, \$11,484 (Total \$29,937)
15. Veteran awarded SSD benefits \$848 monthly, effective 7/2000-12/2001 retroactive \$14,416; 1/2002-11/2002, \$870 monthly, \$9570 (Total \$23,986)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	126,075.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	126,075.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	215,229.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	215,229.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	341,304.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Daily News Tribune 11/11/69

Ask Amnesty

For 10,000

Who Refused

Part in War

LONDON (AP) — Amnesty International, a human rights organization, appealed to the U.S. government today to declare an amnesty for persons imprisoned, awaiting trial or in exile because of their refusal to take part in the Vietnam war.

The organization said such an amnesty would apply to about 10,000 people. It said indicted draft resisters and some of the deserters in exile formed a reservoir of potential "prisoners of conscience" who may be in American jails long after the Vietnam war is over.

EDITORIAL

Promoting human rights in Vietnam

The United States and Vietnam are moving steadily toward a fuller normalization of political, diplomatic and economic relations. As this process continues, the Clinton administration has a moral obligation to ensure that the issue of human-rights isn't swept aside, as Hanoi would obviously prefer.

Despite some liberalizing economic reforms during the 1980s, Vietnam remains a dictatorship with distinct police-state trappings. Vietnam's ruling Communist Party tolerates no significant dissent, no hint of political pluralism and precious few civil liberties. Given the American blood and treasure once expended to save at least the South Vietnamese from this grim fate, a human rights component is an imperative for U.S.-Vietnam relations.

There are, of course, limits to what such a policy can achieve. For the immediate future, Vietnam's 75 million people are destined to live under the repressive rule of the Vietnamese Communist Party. But a principled, carefully crafted U.S. policy might well ease their plight.

In particular, the United States should join with such organizations as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch/Asia in pressing Hanoi to improve its dismal record on civil, political and religious liberties. A good start would be advocacy on behalf of prisoners of conscience and the millions of Vietnamese —

Catholics and Buddhists alike — denied important religious freedoms.

Over time, similar advocacy combining both incentives and disincentives helped diminish repression in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe during the 1970s and 1980s. The same steady pressure, properly applied, could get results in Vietnam as well.

At a minimum, the Vietnamese government should be told that the extent of its relations with the United States will depend on whether Hanoi respects internationally accepted standards on human rights. These standards are codified in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They provide the legal basis for pressing even Communist regimes to behave better.

The Clinton administration should also encourage American companies doing business in Vietnam to accord their Vietnamese workers legal and labor rights. A comparable effort a generation ago produced the highly beneficial and effective Sullivan principles adopted by U.S. corporations in South Africa.

Before the Clinton administration grants Vietnam most-favored-nation trade status (meaning full normalization of commercial ties), it needs an appropriate human rights policy. That much at least is owed to our former South Vietnamese allies and to the 58,000 Americans who died helping to defend them.

San Diego Union-Tribune

ATT: ELIZABETH DONALD

ISN'T IT IRONIC, NOTE THE ARTICLE FROM OUR DAILY NEWSTRIBUNE DATED 11/11/69. I WOULD THINK THAT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SHOULD SHARE PART OF THE BLAME FOR PUTTING THESE POOR SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN SHACKLES BY NOT SUPPORTING OUR AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO NEUTRALIZE THE INTOLERABLE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS.

Activist: Bar Vietnamese War Criminals

(*Stars and Stripes*)—Sgt. Harold G. Bennett of Perryville, AR, who served in the Military Assistance Command in Vietnam, was held prisoner for six months before being publicly murdered with a shot to the head, execution style.

Capt. Humberto Versace of Norfolk, VA, served in the Army Special Forces in Vietnam and was murdered in Sept. 1965.

Sgt. Kenneth M. Roraback of Baldwin, NY, was murdered in his POW camp with a shot to his head while he was eating his daily bowl of rice.

These are just three of apparently hundreds of U.S. POWs who were tortured or killed by the Vietnamese, many of whom were purposely exposed to the elements and starved to death, according to government reports.

But Vietnamese war criminals, unlike their Japanese counterparts

from WWII, can enter the United States and live without being prosecuted or deported, and at least one activist wants that changed.

“My gripe is that the whole U.S. government is bent on protecting Vietnamese war criminals,” said Ted Sampley, who runs the Last Firebase in Kinston, NC, last week. “We’re still deporting Nazis out of this country.”

Last December, the U.S. Justice Dept. began increased the number of Japanese war criminals barred from entering the U.S. in a new policy aimed at those suspected of experimenting medically on WWII prisoners.

Sixteen who fit that category were initially placed on Justice’s watch list. “All served in Unit 731 or otherwise were involved in medical experimentation cases,” Justice spokesman John Russell told the Associated Press recently.

Unit 731 was an army detachment in Manchuria that conducted phony medical experiments on thousands of non-volunteer POWs, in addition to civilians.

In mid-March, another 17 Japanese war criminals were added to the list, according to Justice, which said more names may be added later.

In addition, in the European WWII theaters, over 60,000 people connected to Nazi atrocities there have been put on such a list since 1979. More than 100 people have been prevented from entering the United States since 1989, when record-keeping began.

Washington’s unwillingness to condemn Vietnamese war criminals who committed the atrocities “is a blatant example of its indifference and disrespect for not only the sacrifices of U.S. servicemen but for all who stood for freedom,” Sampley said.★

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of
January 23, 2002.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Chaplain Jim Kirby and Sgt. At Arms Jerry Welch absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions and corrections to the minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officers' Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek, that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion Passed.

Motion by Jack Leininger, seconded by Bob Westman, to adjourn. Motion Passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Bob Westman, American Legion Post 33; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

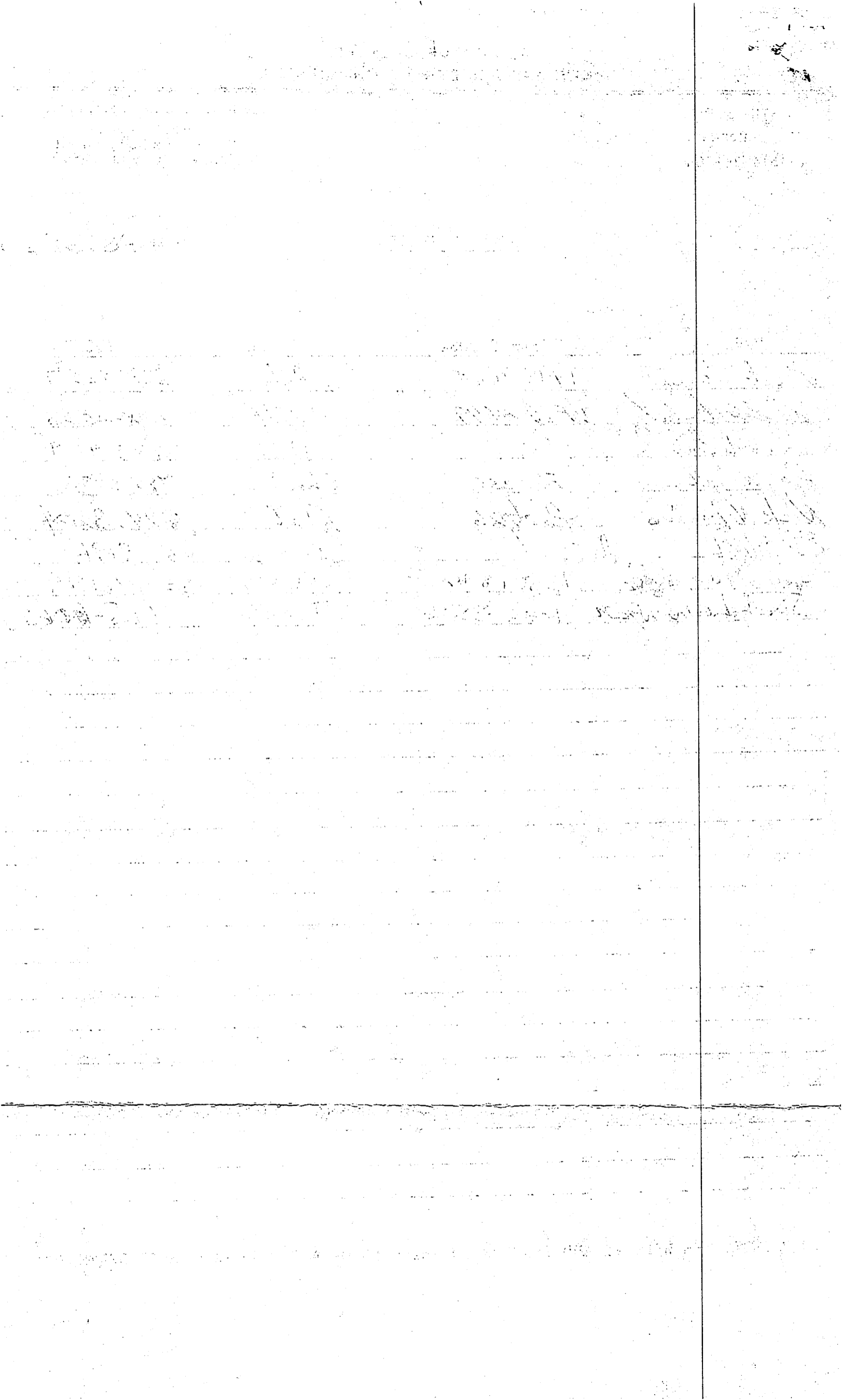
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 23 2002

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Parotti	VFW 4668	Del	223-9257
Albert Pitz	V.F.W. 4079	Post W.F.	538-2023
Bob Westman	Post 33	Del	433-4119
Ralph Adler	Post 235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick Nicosino	Post 426	Del	224-2204
ED STASL	Post 217	Del	434-7496
Joe Jurek	Post 1229	Del	223-4179
JACK LEWINGER	Post 5506	Del	795-4065

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JANUARY 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 24 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 7 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 10 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 37 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 43 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 14 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 8 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 5 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 22 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 28 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 20 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 3 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 514 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 1 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran's Widow awarded reinstatement of DIC benefit, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$911 monthly, \$3644; 12/2001-11/2002, \$930 monthly, \$11,160 (Total \$14,804)
2. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (50-~~1008~~⁷⁰⁷⁰) (\$575 difference) effective 6/2001-11/2001, retroactive payment of \$3450; 12/2001-11/2002, \$6,900 (Total \$10,350)
3. Veteran's S/C compensation 20% (Diabetes), effective 9/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$582; 12/2001-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$2389 (Total \$2970)

4. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 40%, effective
7/2001-11/2001, \$528 monthly, \$2640; 12/2001-11/2002,
\$6436, (Total \$9076)
5. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, from
60%-80% (difference \$365 monthly) effective
3/2001-11/2001, \$3285; 12/2001-11/2002, \$4380
(Total \$7665)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	0.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	126,075.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	44,865.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	260,094.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	386,169.00

(Continued on Page 4)

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 27, 2002

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Jack Leininger and Jim Kirby excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Adler stated that they would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Jerry Welch, seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue stated that Arnie Bitterman from Kendall County asked if he would be willing to meet with them on Friday, March 15, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss a Veterans Assistance Commission being formed in Kendall County. They will be meeting at that time with members of the Kendall County Board at their informal board meeting. The newly elected VAC Superintendent, John H. Farr sent a letter to Superintendent Rue asking for his attendance. That letter was shared with our Commission's delegates and alternates. A motion by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by Delbert Spitz that Superintendent Rue should attend the March 15, 2002 meeting with the Kendall County Board members and their VAC in order to answer any questions pertaining to the VAC that they may have. Motion passed.

The delegates and alternates discussed our LaSalle County VAC meetings throughout the year. Superintendent Rue was asked to write a recommended VAC bylaw change calling for four meetings of the Commission per year. Those meetings should be held in March, June, September, and November of each year with the annual meeting being held in the month of November. This bylaw change must be sent to each delegate and alternate of our Commission prior to our March 2002 meeting.

The delegates and alternates receiving notification that the Veterans' Advisory Council for our LaSalle Veterans' Home will be meeting March 9, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. The guest speaker will be the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director John W. Johnston. Chairman Adler asked that Superintendent Rue attend that Saturday meeting in his behalf due to the fact that he would be in Washington, D.C. and unable to attend.

Two of our delegates reminded those present of the dates in which their posts will be holding their corn beef and cabbage dinner. All were encouraged to attend.

Motion by Jerry Welch and seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jerry Welch, American Legion; Ludwig Sikole; V.F.W. Post 4079; Alternates Robert Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ludwig Sikole, V.F.W. Post 4079; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices 33 VA Form 4138 for veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 16 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 11 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 25 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 10 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 6 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 53 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 4 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 16 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 4 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 35 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 41 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 21 veterans to Hearing

- Office for Social Security Disability
30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
 31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
 32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
 35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
 36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
 38. Sent 1 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
 39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
 40. Sent VA Form 514 for 0 veteran.
 41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
 42. Sent 2 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
 43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
 44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
 45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
 46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
 49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded 10% S/C for Diabetes due to Agent Orange exposure, effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$101 monthly, \$202; 12/2001-11/2002, \$103 monthly, \$1236 (Total \$1438)
2. Obtained VA contract for local Nursing Home care for veteran, \$3500 (Total \$3500)
3. Obtained VA contract for local Nursing Home care for veteran, \$3500 (Total \$3500)

4. Obtained Chapter 35 Educational benefits for dependent education at NIU, \$670 monthly, 12/2002-12/2002, \$7370 (Total \$7370)
5. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, \$6870 retroactive benefits, 1/2002-11/2002, \$930 monthly, \$11,160 (Total \$18,030)
6. Veteran's Widow awarded S/C Burial Benefits due to husband's S/C death, \$2000 (Total \$2000)
7. Veteran awarded un-reimbursed medical expenses, \$2783,
8. Veteran awarded waiver of VA Home Loan debt, \$16,026
9. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, effective 7/2002-11/2002, \$640 monthly, \$3200; 12/2002-11/2003, \$7680 (Total \$10,880)
10. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation increase (30%-40%) (\$182 difference) effective 1/98-11/2001, retroactive payment, \$10,820; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2164 (Total \$12,004)
11. Veteran awarded 40% S/C effective 3/98-11/2001, retroactive payment of \$19,655; 12/2001-11/2002, \$439 monthly, \$5,268. (Total \$24,923)
12. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$694 monthly, effective 12/2001-11/2002, \$8088 (Total \$8,088)
13. Veteran awarded IUE benefit (90%-100) (\$1021 monthly) effective 9/2001-11/2001, \$3063; 12/2001-11/2002, \$12,252 (Total \$15,315)
14. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation, \$841 monthly, effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$1682; 12/2001-11/2002, \$864 monthly, \$10,368 (Total 12,050)
15. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 12/2000-11/2001 \$112 monthly, \$1,344; 12/2001-11/2002, \$115 monthly \$1380 (Total \$2624)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTH:	\$	10,880.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	136,955.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTH:	\$	140,531.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	400,625.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	537,580.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from the March 27, 2002 meeting.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing Jim Kirby and Jerry Welch excused. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meetings were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes be approved as presented.

Old Business: An amendment to the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Bylaws was presented pertaining to meetings. The Delegates and Alternates decided that our next meeting would be held June 26, 2002 and the following meeting will be September 25, 2002. At the September meeting it will be determined as to which months the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission will meet in the future. A motion was made by Jack Leininger and seconded by Ed Stash that the Commission will decide at the September 2002 when our future Commission meetings will take place.

Supt. Rue announced that his lawsuit, which was filed in Sangamon County is over and all bills have been paid. The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs employee lost on all counts filed against Supt. Rue and the judge dismissed the case from court.

Supt. Rue attended the Illinois Veterans' Home Advisory Council meeting on March 9, 2002. The Department of Veterans Affairs Director announced that his department budget for next year has been submitted to the appropriate committees in the Illinois House of Representatives and Senate. He stated that last fiscal year his budget was \$81 million and this coming fiscal year he only requested \$79,705,000. What concerns many veterans is how he will be able to fund all the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs programs with less money than he had the year before. It is very obvious that they will not be able to adequately staff our veteran homes nor be able to adequately fund their veteran education entitlements. It is also obvious that they will not be able to add the needed beds or staff to our state veteran home programs.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Ed Braatz and seconded by Nick Pacetti that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A memorandum from Major General David Harris, the Adjutant General announcing the April 3, 2002 dedication ceremony at the Illinois Army National Guard Complex in Marseilles was read to the Delegates and Alternates present. All were invited to attend the ceremony, which will start at 11:00 a.m. at the Illinois National Guard Training Complex in Marseilles, Illinois.

A motion was made by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by Nick Neqrosius that the meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Ed Braatz, American Legion Post 549; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1228; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH/APRIL/MAY 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 80 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 15 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 10 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 30 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 106 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 14 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 52 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 11 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 4 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 14 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 36 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 8 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 7 veteran.
22. Sent 30 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 5 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 52 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 5 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 38 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 23 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 7 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 6 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 2 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 2 veteran.
41. Sent 3 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C for Prostrate Cancer due Agent Orange exposure, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$2315 monthly, \$9260; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2376, \$28,512 (Total \$37,772)
2. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 7/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$970; 12/2001-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$2388 (Total \$3358)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$935 monthly, \$11,120 (Total \$11,120)
4. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$935 monthly, \$11,120; S/C Burial benefits, \$2000 (Total \$13,120)

5. Veteran's family awarded S/C Burial benefits, \$2000
6. Veteran's awarded one month convalescence leave @ 100%
12/2001, \$2163; S/C increase (Diff. \$625 monthly)
1/2002-12/2002, \$7500 (Total \$9663)
7. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation
(30%-100%), (diff. \$2379 monthly), effective
12/2000-11/2001, \$28,548; 12/2001-11/2002, \$29,320
(Total \$57,868)
8. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits,
effective, 6/2001-11/2001, \$1617 monthly, \$9702;
12/2001-11/2002, \$1659 monthly, \$19,908 (Total \$29,610)
9. Veteran awarded IUE benefits, (70%-100%) (diff. \$1168)
effective 9/2001-11/2001, \$3504; 12/2001-11/2002,
\$14,016 (Total \$17,520)
10. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 7/2001-11/2001
\$349 monthly, \$1745; 12/2001-11/2002, \$346 monthly,
\$4152 (Total \$5897)
11. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits,
\$1038 monthly, plus \$500 dependency allowance, \$1538,
effective 6/2002-11/2002, \$6228; 12/2002-11/2003, \$12356
(Total \$18,584)
12. Veteran awarded \$702 in un-reimbursed medical expenses.
13. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefit, \$935 monthly,
effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$11,120 (Total \$11,120)
14. Veteran's mother awarded Parental DIC benefit, \$5 monthly
1/2002-12/2002, \$60; un-reimbursed medical expenses
\$742 (Total \$802)
15. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/A&A, \$1328 monthly,
effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$15,936 (Total \$15,936)
16. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension, w/A&A, \$853
monthly, 4/2002-3/2003, \$10,236; 4/2003-4/2004, \$730
monthly, \$8760 (Total \$18,996)
17. Veteran awarded \$2137 un-reimbursed medical expenses.
18. Veteran granted total waiver of overpayment of benefits,
\$5021
19. Veteran granted S/C Compensation benefits, 20%, effective
9/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$582; 12/2001-11/2002, \$199
monthly, \$2388 (Total \$2970)

20. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation benefits, 208, \$194 monthly, effective 9/2001-11/2001, \$582; 12/2001-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$2388 (Total \$2970)
21. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation benefits, 108, 11/2001, \$101 monthly; 12/2001-11/2002, \$103 monthly, \$1236 (Total \$1337)
22. Veteran awarded increase in S/C compensation benefits, (208-30) (diff. \$107 monthly), effective 2/2001-11/2001, \$1177; 12/2001-11/2002, \$1380 (Total \$2557)
23. Veteran awarded IVE S/C Compensation benefits, retroactive payment, \$22,792; 6/2002-11/2002, \$2376 monthly, \$14,256 (Total \$37,048)
24. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation IVE benefit, effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$2228 monthly, \$4456; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2287 monthly, \$27,344 (Total \$31,800)
25. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/AA, 1/2002-11/2002, \$728 monthly, \$8736 (Total \$8736)
26. Veteran granted increase in S/C compensation benefit, effective 6/93-6/2002, (208-308) retroactive payment, \$31,723; 6/2002-11/2002, \$306 monthly, \$1530 (Total \$33,253)
27. Veteran granted NSC Pension, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$755 monthly, \$3020 (Total \$3020)
28. Veteran awarded S/C compensation benefits, 408, effective 6/2001-11/2001, \$2562; 12/2001-11/2002, \$439 monthly, \$5268 (Total \$7830)
29. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, \$1133 monthly, effective 3/2002-11/2002, \$10,197; 12/2002-2/2003 \$3399 (Total \$13,596)
30. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation Increase (408-608) \$391 difference, effective 12/2001-11/2002, \$4692 (Total \$4692)
31. Veteran awarded SSD dependency award, \$566 monthly, \$6792 (Total \$6792)
32. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation benefit, effective 5/2001-11/2001, (diff \$952), \$6664; 12/2001-11/2002, (\$1018 diff.) \$12,216 (Total \$18,880)
33. Veteran awarded 1008 S/C Compensation benefit, effective 1/2001-11/2001, \$2107 monthly, \$25,284; 12/2001-1/2002, \$2163, \$4326; 6082/2002-12/2002, \$8690 (Total \$36,137)

34. Veteran awarded increase in S/C compensation (50%-80%)
(diff. \$531 monthly), effective 2/2000-11/2000, \$5310;
12/2000-11/2001, \$6372; 12/2001-11/2002, \$6372
(Total \$18,054)
35. Veteran's Widow awarded SSD benefits, retroactive payment
\$3144; 6/2002-11/2003, \$786 monthly, \$14,048
(Total \$17,192)
36. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits,
retroactive payment \$17,931; 6/2002-11/2003, \$1214 monthly,
\$21,852 (Total \$39,783)
37. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 20%, effective
9/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$582; 12/2001-11/2002,
\$199 monthly, \$2388 (Total \$2970)
38. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 60%, effective
12/2001-11/2002, \$864 monthly, \$10,368 (Total \$10,368)
39. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation, effective
7/2000-11/2000, \$459 monthly, \$2754; 12/2000-11/2001,
\$475 monthly, \$5700; 12/2001-11/2002, \$488 monthly,
\$5856 (total \$14,310)
40. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective
4/2001-11/2001, \$298 monthly, \$2384; 12/2001-11/2002,
\$306 monthly, \$3672 (Total \$6056)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 123,646.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 260,701.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 454,642.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 855,277.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$1,115,878.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from June 26, 2002.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Jerry Welsh absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no addition or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes be approved as presented.

Old Business: All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Ed Stash that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates of the Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County went through the budget for fiscal year 2003. Each line item in the VAC's proposed budget was reviewed and a dollar figure for each line item was listed. Budget recommendations for fiscal year 2003 totaled \$164,861.84. Ten line items in our 2003 budget recommendations requests have asterisks before those line items and the appropriate County Board Committee should make the proper adjustments to those totals once they are aware of what the new cost will be. A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Jim Kirby, that the budget requests be adopted as presented and Chairman Adler, our VAC Chairman, will sign the 2003 VAC budget recommendations. Motion Passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Jack Leininger seconded by Ed Stash that we adjourn.

Members present: Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; and Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 92 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 35 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 14 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 55 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 81 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 17 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 80 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 14 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 4 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 17 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 38 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 8 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 5 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 3 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 9 veteran.
22. Sent 41 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 8 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 71 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 3 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 28 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 30 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 4 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 7 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 1 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 1 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 2 veteran.
41. Sent 4 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded S/C Compensation increase, (30%-100%) (difference \$1857) effective 12/99-11/2000, \$22,284; 12/2000-11/2001, \$22,304; 12/2001-6/2002, \$11,142; 7/2002-11/2003, \$33,326 (Total \$89,056)
2. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, (Prostrate Cancer), \$2185 monthly, effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$4370; 12/2001-4/2002, \$2243 monthly, \$13,458; 60% effective 5/2002-11/2002, \$870 monthly, \$6090 (Total 23,918)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded S/C Compensation increased 30%-50% (difference \$319 monthly) 6/2000-11/2000, \$1914; 12/2000-11/2001, \$3828; 12/2001-11/2002, \$3828 (Total \$9570)

4. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, effective 7/2001-11/2001, \$5931 (includes 100% 1 month award) 12/01-11/02, \$935 monthly, \$11,220 (Total \$17,151)
5. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (difference \$96 monthly), 10%-20%, 1/2002-11/2002, \$1152; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1151 (Total \$2304)
6. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, effective 5/2002-11/2002, \$1135 monthly, \$6810; 12/2002-11/2003, \$13,620 (Total \$20,430)
7. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation effective 7/200-11/2000, \$98 monthly, \$490; 12/2000-11/2001, \$101 monthly \$1212; 12/01-11/02, \$103 monthly, \$1236 (Total \$2938)
8. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, (30%-100%) with IUE, (DIFFERENCE \$2,009) 2/2002-11/2002, \$22,099; 12/2002-11/2003, (DIFFERENCE \$1,813, loses dependent) \$21,756 (Total \$45,855)
9. Veteran awarded NSC Pension \$1219 monthly, effective 2/2002-7/2002, \$9752; 8/2002-11/2002, \$579 monthly due to SSD award, \$2316 (Total \$12,068)
10. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (30%-70%) retroactive payment \$12,204; 1/2001-11/2001, (difference \$663 monthly), \$7,293; 12/2001-11/2002, \$690 monthly, \$8280 (Total \$15,593)
11. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, \$1490 monthly, effective 6/2001-6/2002, retroactive payment, \$19,142; 7/2002-11/2002, \$7450 (Total \$26,592)
12. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation for diabetes, effective 7/2001-11/2001, \$194 monthly, \$770; 12/2001-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$2388 (Total \$3,158).
13. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 100% effective 8/96-7/2002, retroactive payment \$129,121; 8/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$8,552 (Total \$137,673) (6+ years)
14. Veteran awarded 20%, (K) S/C Compensation for diabetes, effective 8/2001-11/2002, \$272 monthly, \$1088; 12/2001-11/2002, \$3348 (Total \$4,436)
15. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 10/93-11/2001, \$204,587 retroactive payment; 12/01-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$25,956 (Total \$230,543) (9 years)

16. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, (30%-100%) due to IUE, (difference \$1631) effective 1/2002/11/2002, \$19,572 (Total \$19,752)
17. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, effective 2/2002-11/2002, \$306 monthly, \$3060; 12/2002-11/2003, \$3772 (Total \$6,832)
18. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability Dependency Allowance for child, 6/2001-7/2002, \$5154 retroactive Payment; 8/2002-12/2002, \$745 monthly \$3,725 (Total \$3,725 (Total \$8,879)
19. Veteran's oldest daughter awarded Dependency Allowance, \$5,154 ((Total \$5,154) Daughter now dropped as dependent due to age limitation.
20. Veteran's daughter awarded Social Security Disability effective 7/2002-11/2002, \$244 monthly, \$1220; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2928 (Total \$4,148)
21. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation benefits, effective 11/1999-7/2002, (difference \$484 monthly) retroactive payment \$15,488; 8/2002-8/2003, \$7260 (Total \$22,748)
22. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, \$1,538 monthly, effective 9/2002-11/2002, \$4,614; 12/2002-11/2003, \$18,456 (Total \$23,170)
23. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$1043 monthly, effective 4/2002-3/2003, \$12,516 (total \$12,516)
24. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 10%, effective 12/2000-11/2001, \$101 monthly, \$1212; 12/2001-11/2002, \$103 monthly, \$1236 (Total \$2,448)
25. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$298 monthly, \$1192; 12/2001-11/2002, \$306 monthly, \$3672 (Total \$4,864)
26. Veteran granted increase in S/C compensation benefit, effective 12/99-11/2002, (10%-30%) retroactive payment, \$7308 (Total \$7,308)
27. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 20%, effective 5/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$1,393; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2388 (Total \$3,781)
28. Veteran awarded S/C compensation benefits, 60%, with IUE benefit, effective 7/98-11/2001, retroactive payment of \$85,916; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2,287 monthly, \$27,444 (Total \$113,360)

29. Veteran's daughter awarded Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI) disability benefits, (due to low SSD award) 5/2002-7/2002, \$452 monthly, \$1356; 8/2002, \$441; 9/2002-9-2003, \$545 monthly, \$6,540 (Total \$8,337)
30. Veteran's Widow awarded NSC Burial benefits, \$450 (Total \$450)
31. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (10%-30%) (difference \$203 monthly) 12/2001-11/2002, \$2,436 (Total \$2,436)
32. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation benefit, (difference \$1638) 50%-100%, IUE, effective 2/2002-11/2002 \$16,380; 12/2002-2/2003, \$4914 (Total \$21,294)
33. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation benefit, with (K) \$272 monthly, effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$1088; 12/2001-11/2002, \$279 monthly, \$3348 Total \$4,436)
34. Veteran awarded increase in S/C compensation (50%-70%) with IUE benefit, (diff. \$1373 monthly), effective 12/2001-11/2002, \$10,984 (Total \$10,984)
35. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation, 40%-50%, (difference \$196 monthly), 7/2001-11/2001, \$980; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2352 (Total \$3,332)
36. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation, \$790 monthly, effective 3/2002-11/2002, 7110; 12/2002-11/2003, \$9480 (Total \$16,590)
37. Veteran awarded increase S/C Compensation, 50%-70%, with IUE benefit, (difference \$1387), effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$2,774; 12/2001-11/2002, (difference \$1423), \$17,706 (Total \$20,480)
38. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 40%, effective 5/2001-8/2001, \$334 monthly, \$1670; 9/2001-11/2001, \$475 monthly, \$1425; 12/2001-11/2002, \$488 monthly \$5856 (\$8,951)
39. Veteran awarded Dependency Allowance for dependents due to SSD award, \$769 monthly, 9/2002-11/2002, \$2307; 12/2002-11/2003, \$9228 (total \$11,535)
40. Veteran awarded waiver of overpayment by VA, \$2024 (Total \$2,024)

41. Veteran awarded 10% S/C compensation effective
12/2001-11/2002, \$103 monthly, \$1236 (Total \$1,236)

42. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation 10%-50%,
(difference \$502 monthly) 3/2002-11/2002, \$4518;
12/2002-2/2003, \$1506 (Total 6,024)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	98,148.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	358,849.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	893,276.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,748,553.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,107,402.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission of September 25, 2002

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Jerry Welsh absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes be approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and Alternates questioned Supt. Rue about the status of their proposed budget for fiscal year 2003. A lengthy discussion ensued answering questions pertaining to our proposed budget. Chairman Adler stated that the unions representing county employees received a three-year raise from the County Board through negotiations. He further stated that the elected and appointed officials had received a \$2000 per year raise for four years. A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Delbert Spitz that Chairman Adler should go back before Fee and Salary and ask for a raise of \$2000 per year for three years for Superintendent Rue. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegates and Alternates discussed the scheduling of our VAC meetings. They decided that we should go back to our regular scheduled meetings.

Delegates and Alternates were reminded that at our October 23, 2002 meeting all posts should have their names of their selected Alternates and Delegates for fiscal year 2002/2003.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Jim Kirby that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates were reminded that at our annual meeting on November 20, 2002 the election of officers would take place. The reason the meeting is being held on the third Wednesday in the month of November is to not interfere with Thanksgiving. Mark your calendars for our November 20, 2002 annual meeting.

A motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Ed Stash that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Member present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 28 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 17 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 48 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 9 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 38 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 3 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 21 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 4 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 10 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 1 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 6 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 6 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 2 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 3/2000-11/2000, \$288 monthly, \$2592; 12/2000-11/2001, \$298 monthly, \$3576; 12/2001-11/2002, \$306 monthly, \$3672 (Total \$9840)
2. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation retroactive payment from 7/98 through 8/2002, \$11,662; 9/2000-11/2002, \$597 (Total \$12,259)
3. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (40%-50%) with a (K), (difference \$216), 8/2002-11/2002, \$864; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2592 (Total \$3456)

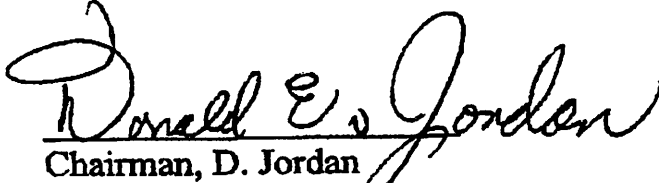
4. Veteran granted S/C Compensation, with IUE, effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$25,956 (Total \$25,956)
5. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, effective 1/2002, received 12,519 retroactive payment, 10/2002-9/2003, \$1391 monthly, \$16,692 (Total \$29,211)
7. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation effective effective 6/1999-11/2002, (10%-20%) (diff. \$106 monthly) \$4,104 retroactive payment (Total \$4,104)
8. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 6/2002-11/2002, \$350 monthly, 2100; 12/2002-11/2003, \$355 monthly, \$4260 (Total \$6,360)
9. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$1592; 12/2002-3/2003, \$795 (Total \$2388)
10. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (20%-40%) (difference \$320 monthly), effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$1280; 11/2001-11/2002, \$3840 (Total \$5120)
11. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, \$2228 monthly, effective 7/2001-11/2001, \$11,140; 12/2001-11/2002, \$2387 monthly, \$28,544 (Total \$39,684)
12. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, \$935 monthly, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$7480; 12/2002-3/2003, \$948 monthly, \$3792 (Total \$11,272)
13. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 10%, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$824; 12/2002-3/2003, \$104 monthly, \$416 (Total \$1,240)

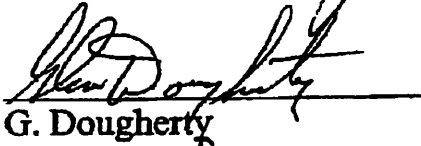
TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	29,211.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	388,060.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	121,679.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,870,232.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,258,292.00

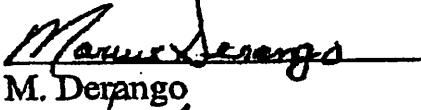
EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

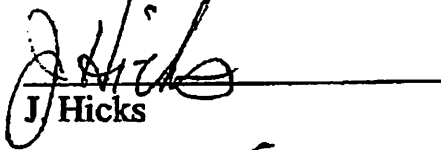
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4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
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6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
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9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
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14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
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19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
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24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

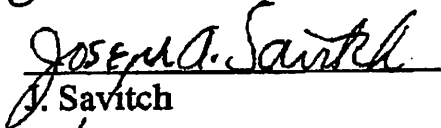
We, the undersigned members of the Fee & Salary Committee, do hereby recommend to the LaSalle County Board for approval of the attached Resolution.


Chairman, D. Jordan


G. Dougherty


M. Derango


J Hicks


J. Savitch


K. Stockley

M. Treschak

(#02-77)

WHEREAS, P.A. 98-405 provides that salaries for local government official must be established 180 days before their term of office begins, and;

WHEREAS, the terms of office for the position of LaSalle County Clerk and Treasurer shall begin on December 1, 2002, and;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the salaries of the County Clerk and County Treasurer be set at the following sum for the period indicated:

December 1, 2002 through November 30, 2003	\$43,000.00
December 1, 2003 through November 30, 2004	\$45,000.00
December 1, 2004 through November 30, 2005	\$47,000.00
December 1, 2005 through November 30, 2006	\$49,000.00


THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LaSalle County Clerk receive the additional sum of \$1,500.00 annually as Supervisor of Elections.

WHEREAS, the salaries for the County Coroner, Auditor, Recorder of Deeds and Circuit Clerk are set through November 30, 2004 and that they be set as follows:

12/1/02	43,250.00
12/1/03	43,500.00
December 1, 2004 through November 30, 2005	\$47,000.00
December 1, 2005 through November 30, 2006	\$49,000.00


JOSEPH E. HETTEL, Chairman
LaSalle County Board

ATTEST:


LaSalle County Clerk

DATED: May 9, 2002

Marilyn James 5-10-02

County officeholders' salaries approved

By JASON CARSON WILSON
Staff Writer

The La Salle County approved the salaries of the sheriff, county clerk, coroner, auditor, recorder of deeds and circuit clerk.

All officeholders except La Salle County Sheriff Tom Templeton now make \$41,000 a year. Templeton earns \$53,000.

From Dec. 1, 2002, to Nov. 30, 2003, Templeton will earn \$55,000. He'll be paid \$57,000 from Dec. 1, 2003 through Nov. 30, 2004, then his salary will increase to \$59,000, from Dec. 1, 2004, through Nov. 30, 2005, and to \$61,000, from Dec. 1, 2005 through Nov. 30, 2006.

He will also earn an additional \$1,500 for serving as supervisor of safety.

For Dec. 1 to Nov. 30, 2003, La Salle County Clerk Mary Jane Wilkinson will earn \$43,000. Her salary will increase to \$45,000 for Dec. 1, 2003 through Nov. 30, 2004. From Dec. 1, 2004 through Nov. 30, 2005, Wilkinson will earn \$47,000, which will increase to \$49,000 for Dec. 1, 2005 to Nov. 30, 2006.

She will also be paid an additional \$1,500 per year to serve as supervisor

of elections.

The county clerk and sheriff aren't currently receiving the extra stipend

Salaries of Coroner Jody Bernard Auditor Jody Wilkinson, Recorder of Deeds Tom Lyons and Circuit Clerk Joseph Carey have been set through Nov. 30, 2004. They will earn \$47,000 for Dec. 1, 2004, through Nov. 30, 2005 while earning \$49,000 from Dec. 1 2005, to Nov. 30, 2006.

QUOTE

\$2,000 increase a year each year of next 4 years. They also receive a \$6500 dollar stipend from the state.

Appointments, salaries OK'd

Daily Times
10-11-02

By TAMMIE SLOUP
Staff Writer

Christine Rosengren, wife of former La Salle County Board member Ronald Rosengren, was appointed to fill the remainder of her husband's term by La Salle County Board members Thursday.

Ronald Rosengren, R-Serena, resigned from the board last month. His term expires in December. His wife took his seat as the District 6 board member at Thursday's meeting.

She did not want to comment on the appointment or her husband's resignation after the meeting.

Hettel said Rosengren resigned because of an employment conflict.

"He took a different job, so that would have interfered with him making committee meetings and County Board meetings," Hettel said today.

His wife was the only person who showed interest in the seat, Hettel added.

"The state statute says in the event of a vacancy, the person (appointed) has to be from the same political party and the same district," he said, adding the board had to fill the seat within 60 days of the resignation.

Ronald Rosengren previously announced he would not run for re-election in November. He has served on the board since 1980.

District 6 will become District 4 under redistricting, and candidates for that district include Democrat John H. Duffy, of Serena, and Republican Ronald L.

Johnson, of Leland.

The board also approved the following reappointments and wage increases:

■ Dr. Dell Brodd was reappointed as animal control administrator for La Salle County for a two-year term beginning in December. His salary increased from \$17,000 to \$19,000 per year.

■ The salary for Martin Rue, Veterans' Assistance Commission superintendent, was increased from \$45,000 to \$47,000 for the period of Dec. 1 to Nov. 30, 2003.

■ Michael Harstead was reappointed as enforcement officer and Scott Cofoid was reappointed as assistant enforcement officer for one-year terms beginning in December. Harstead's salary will stay the same at \$7,500, and Cofoid's salary will remain at \$7,000.

Harstead also was rehired as the Environmental Service and Development director for two years beginning in December. His salary increased from \$47,620 to \$48,070 for the period Dec. 1 to Nov. 30, 2003. His salary was set at \$48,620 for Dec. 1, 2003, to Nov. 30, 2004.

■ The salary of the court-appointed attorney for juvenile proceedings also was increased from \$19,950 to \$22,000 for one year beginning Dec. 1 and expiring Nov. 30, 2003.

Donald Jordon, D-Streator, who is the chairman of the county's Fee and Salary Committee, noted the animal warden and attorney do not receive benefits from the county.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 23, 2002.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A discussion ensued pertaining to Supt. Rue's salary contract with the LaSalle County Board. A motion was made by Jack Leininger seconded by Joe Iwaszek stating that Chairman Adler should go back to the Fee and Salary Committee of the LaSalle County Board and request that Supt. Rue receive a three years contract stating that each year his salary would be increased by an additional \$2000 per year. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Numerous handouts pertaining to various issues were shared with the delegates and alternates present. Each handout was discussed with the delegates and alternates. Chairman Adler shared a response that he received from his letter sent to Congressman Jerry Weller.

Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Jerry Welch, seconded by Jim Kirby that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Adler requested that Supt. Rue send a letter to all delegates and alternates reminding them of our annual meeting which will be held November 20, 2002 in the Downtown Courthouse in Ottawa, Illinois at 7:00 p.m. Our annual meeting will be the election of officers for fiscal year 2002-2003.

Motion by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission of September 25, 2002

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Jerry Welsh absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes be approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and Alternates questioned Supt. Rue about the status of their proposed budget for fiscal year 2003. A lengthy discussion ensued answering questions pertaining to our proposed budget. Chairman Adler stated that the unions representing county employees received a three-year raise from the County Board through negotiations. He further stated that the elected and appointed officials had received a \$2000 per year raise for four years. A motion was made by Jack Leininger, seconded by Delbert Spitz that Chairman Adler should go back before Fee and Salary and ask for a raise of \$2000 per year for three years for Superintendent Rue. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegates and Alternates discussed the scheduling of our VAC meetings. They decided that we should go back to our regular scheduled meetings.

Delegates and Alternates were reminded that at our October 23, 2002 meeting all posts should have their names of their selected Alternates and Delegates for fiscal year 2002/2003.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Jim Kirby that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates were reminded that at our annual meeting on November 20, 2002 the election of officers would take place. The reason the meeting is being held on the third Wednesday in the month of November is to not interfere with Thanksgiving. Mark your calendars for our November 20, 2002 annual meeting.

A motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Ed Stash that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Member present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Jack Leininger, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2002

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 28 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 5 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 17 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 48 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 9 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 38 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 3 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 21 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 4 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 10 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 1 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 6 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 6 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 2 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 3/2000-11/2000, \$288 monthly, \$2592; 12/2000-11/2001, \$298 monthly, \$3576; 12/2001-11/2002, \$306 monthly, \$3672 (Total \$9840)
2. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation retroactive payment from 7/98 through 8/2002, \$11,662; 9/2000-11/2002, \$597 (Total \$12,259)
3. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (40%-50%) with a (K), (difference \$216), 8/2002-11/2002, \$864; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2592 (Total \$3456)

4. Veteran granted S/C Compensation, with IUE, effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$25,956 (Total \$25,956)
5. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability benefits, effective 1/2002, received 12,519 retroactive payment, 10/2002-9/2003, \$1391 monthly, \$16,692 (Total \$29,211)
7. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation effective effective 6/1999-11/2002, (10%-20%) (diff.\$106 monthly) \$4,104 retroactive payment (Total \$4,104)
8. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 6/2002-11/2002, \$350 monthly, 2100;12/2002-11/2003, \$355 monthly, \$4260 (Total \$6,360)
9. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$1592;12/2002-3/2003, \$795 (Total \$2388)
10. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (20%-40%) (difference \$320 monthly), effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$1280;11/2001-11/2002, \$3840 (Total \$5120)
11. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, \$2228 monthly, effective 7/2001-11/2001, \$11,140;12/2001-11/2002, \$2387 monthly, \$28,544 (Total \$39,684)
12. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, \$935 monthly, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$7480;12/2002-3/2003, \$948 monthly, \$3792 (Total \$11,272)
13. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 10%, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$824;12/2002-3/2003, \$104 monthly, \$416 (Total \$1,240)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 29,211.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 388,060.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 121,679.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$1,870,232.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$2,258,292.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

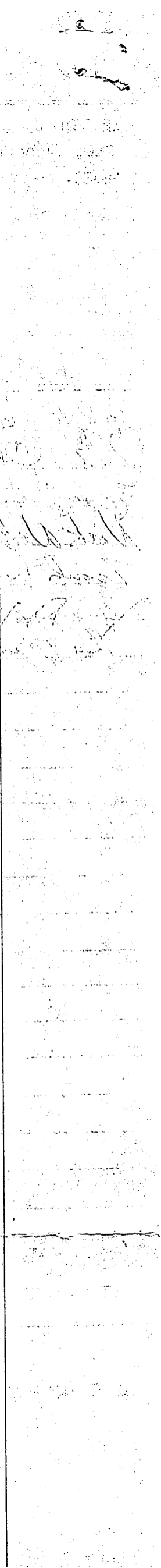
DATE: Sept. 24/03

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adla	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Rick Olsen	2470	Quartermaster	433-2857
Joseph Swasgeb	Post 1229 Del	Del.	223 4179
Nick Aleksasius	Am Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Frank R. Jura	AL 375	VICE CHAIR	223-0782
Jim DeMaad	VFW 5506	ALTERNATE	795-2959
Ken Hauken	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 21, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Jim DeMoss	VFW 5506	Deputy	795-2959
Ken Hausken	VFW 5506	DL2	795-2466
FRANK SUMER	LEGION #375	Vice Chair	223-0782
DELBERT SPITZ	VFW #4079	Adl	538-2023

[Handwritten signatures]

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 23, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<i>Ralph Adla</i>	<i>A.L. 235</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>795-5436</i>
<i>Ken Hauke</i>	<i>VFW 5506</i>	<i>DEP</i>	<i>795-2466</i>
<i>Jim DeMond</i>	<i>VFW 5506</i>	<i>AWT</i>	<i>795-2959</i>

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 25/03

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adler	A.L. 235	Chairman	795-5436
Frank Adams	AL 375	Vice Chair	223-0782
Jim DeMood	VFW 5506	ALT	795-2959
Ken Hauka	VFW 5506	DL	795-2466
Albert Spitz	VFW 4079	DEL.	538-2023

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 26/03

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Allen	Legion 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim Ruby	Legion 549	Chaplain	246-9740
Albin Spitz	VFW 4079	Welfare	538-2023
Rudwig Sikole	VFW 4079	Alternate	539-6936
Ken Hank	VFW 5506	Dir	795-2466
Frank R. Dura	Legion 355	PERM	223-8782
Jerry Welch	Park Post 375		223-6879
George Dewarzel	CWV 1229	Dir	523-4179
Bob Perry	CWV 1229	Alt	223-7056
Nick Nekrosina	Am Legion 426	Pres	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 23, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adla	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Frank L. Lutz	AL 375	VICE CHAIR	223-0782
Jerry Welch	AL 375	SO.	223-6889
Jim DeMaio	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2959
Ken Harkner	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
Bob Reuz	CWV 1229	Chf.	223-7056
Joseph Quaszel	CWV 1225	Del	223 4179
Nick Netrovian	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb. 26, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Jim Kirby	549	Chaplain	246 9740
Rudwig Nikole	4079	alt.	539-6936
Alfred Spitz	4079	Welfare office	538-2023
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Joseph Swaszko	1289 CWV	Del	223 4179
Nick Nekrasius	Amy Legion 426	Del	224 2204
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

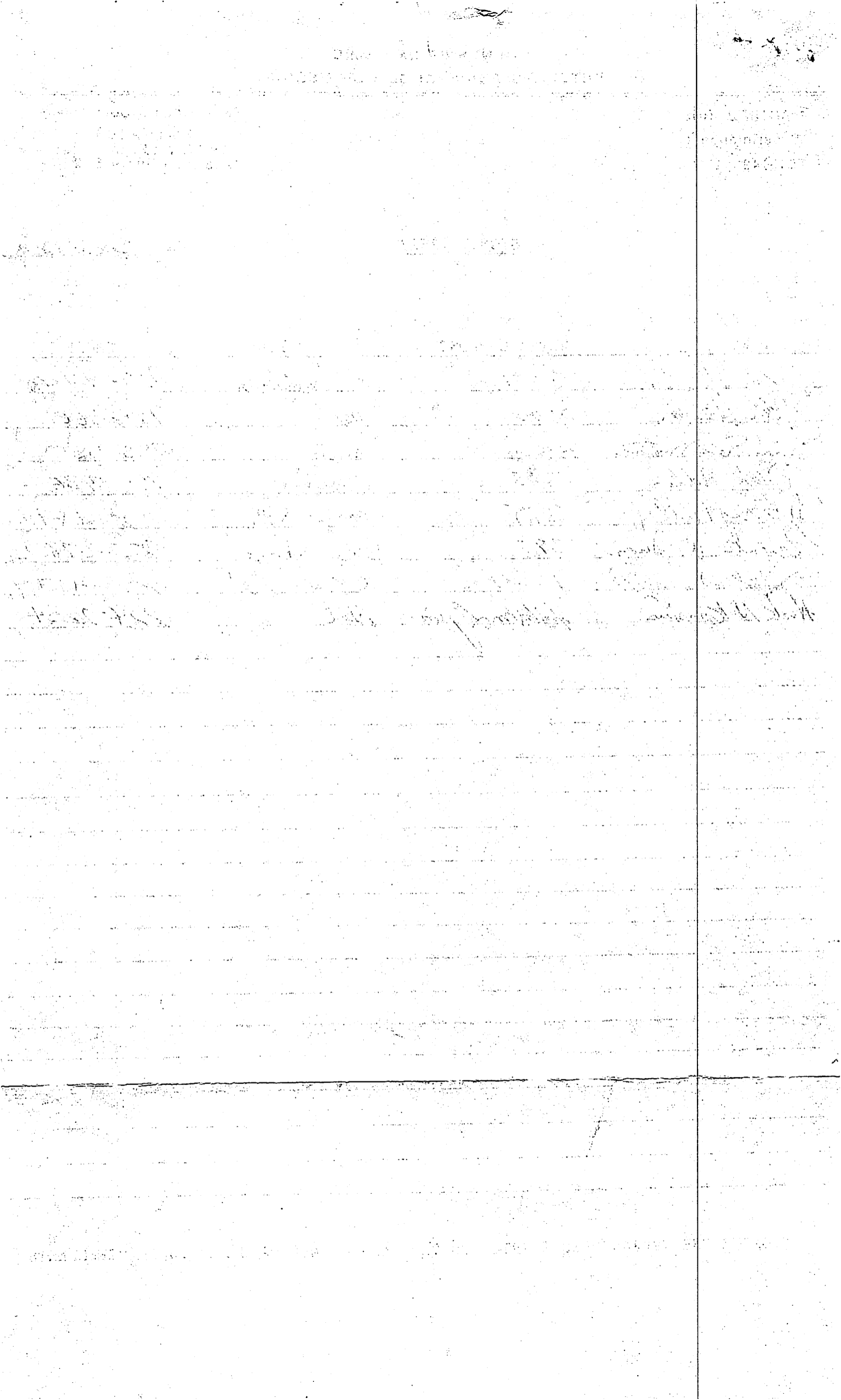
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 22, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Jim Kirby	549	Chaplain	296 9748
Ken Hauken	5506	Del	795-2466
Jim DeMauro	5506	ANT.	795-2959
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Jerry Bullock	375	adj. S.O.	223-6879
Frank R. Sney	375	Vice Chair	223-8782
Joseph Szwengel	1229	Cur. Del	223-4179
Mark Netzer	414	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
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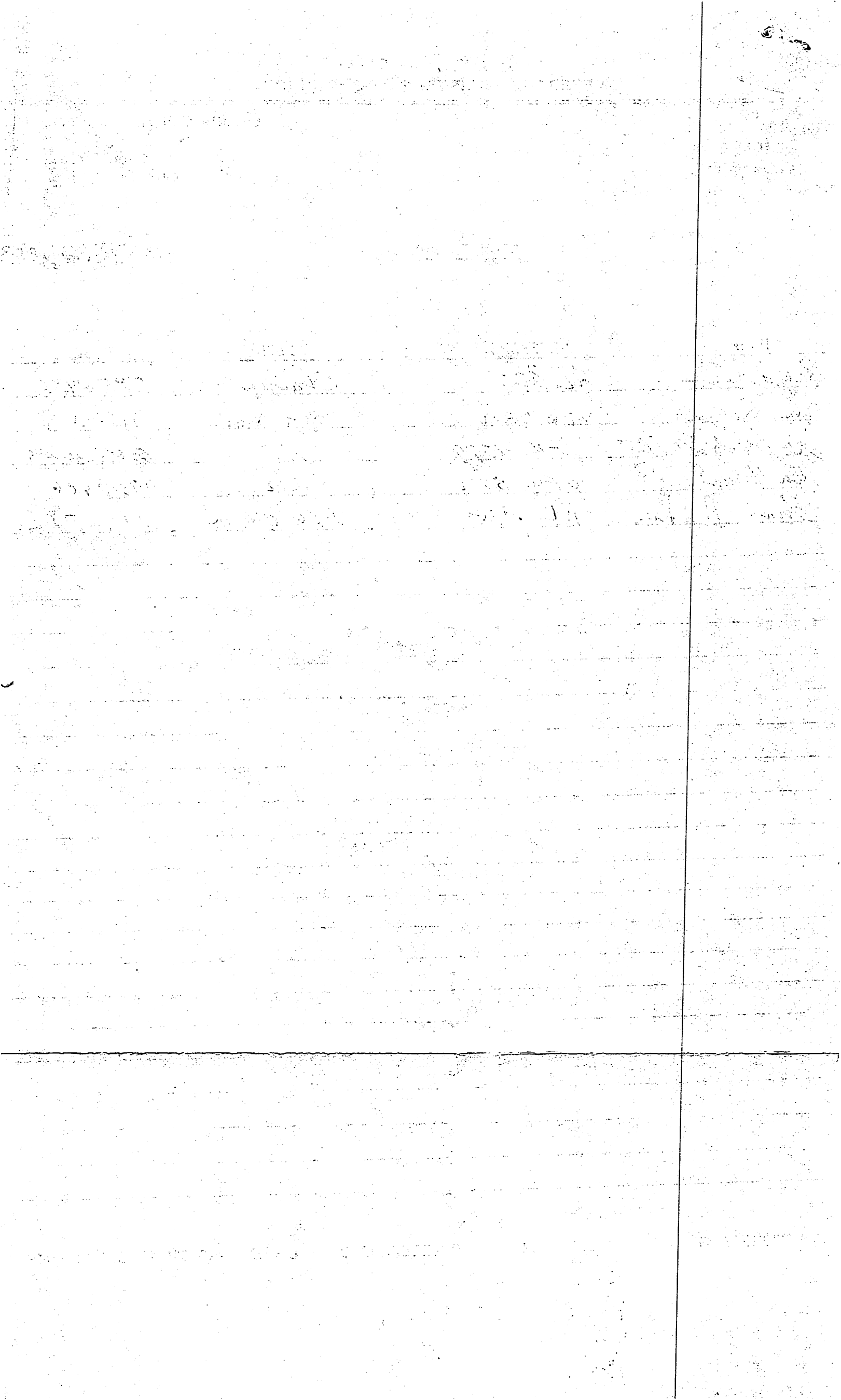
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 22, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim DeMoss	VFW 5506	ALT. DEL	795-2959
Delbert Spitz	V.F.W. 4079	Del	538-2023
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	295-2466
Frank A. Am	AL 375	Vice Chair	223-6782

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of October 22, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing our Chaplain and Sgt. At Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion was made by Frank Suarez, seconded by Ken Hausken that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Adler reminded everyone that our annual meeting and election of officers for next year would be held on November 19, 2003. As our bylaws require, Superintendent Rue will send a letter to each delegate and alternate reminding them that their post should submit the names of their delegate and alternate for the year 2003-2004 so they will be able to vote in the November 19, 2003 annual meeting.

Motion was made by Frank Suarez, seconded by Delbert Spitz that the meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegate Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 22, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Questions were asked by the Delegates and Alternates as to the status of adding the additional 80 beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue stated there are currently 270 veterans waiting for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. He suggested that all people should write letters to their State of Illinois Senators and Representatives requesting the legislation be submitted to add those additional 80 beds and legislation for the funding of that project. He further stated that the architect and engineer's plans for construction were finalized over a year ago, so that part is done.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Frank Suarez that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Frank Suarez that a letter be sent from our Commission to Jack Leininger thanking him for his years of service on our Commission. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates asked questions pertaining to our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic's inability to take in more veterans. Superintendent Rue answered their questions and explained that all Category seven veterans who enroll in the VA health care system after January 17, 2003 will be placed in Category eight.

Delegates and Alternates were concerned about our procedures for canceling meetings due to the prediction of severe storms. It was the consensus that our Chairman or Superintendent is empowered to cancel any meetings scheduled by calling all Delegates and Alternates the morning of the meeting in which our National Weather Service is predicting severe storms for that afternoon or evening.

Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Jim Kirby that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Alternates Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JANUARY 2003

.CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 20 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 3 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 6 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 43 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 3 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 25 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 8 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 9 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 7 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 21 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 6 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 20 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 20 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 10 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 1 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded increased S/C Compensation, IUE (50%-70%) (diff \$1676) 11/02, \$1676; 12/2-11/3, \$2408 monthly, \$28,816 (Total \$30,572) (Westend, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (50%-70%), IUE, (diff \$1600), 12/01-11/02, \$19,200; 12/02-11/03, \$2318 monthly, \$27,816 (Total \$47,016) (Streator, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, 11/02-12/02 \$1932; 1/03-12/03, \$979 monthly, \$11,748 (Total \$13,680) (Eastend, Vietnam)

4. Veteran's spouse awarded SSD benefits, retroactive payment from 8/2000-12/2002, \$9653; 1/03-11/03, \$356 monthly, \$4272 (total \$13,925) (Streator, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded 100% s/c Compensation, 8/02-11/02 \$9,418; 12/02-11/03, \$2318 monthly, \$27,816 (Total \$36,964) (Troy Grove, Korea)
6. Veteran awarded 50% s/c Compensation 9/02-11/02, \$609 monthly, \$2436; 12/02-11/03, \$625 monthly, \$7500 (Total \$9936) (Westend, Gulf War)
7. Veteran awarded 20% s/c compensation 8/01-11/01, \$194, monthly, \$776; 12/01-11/02, \$199 monthly, \$2388; 12/02/11/03, \$201 monthly, \$2412 (Total \$5576) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, (40%-60%) (diff \$172) 9/2001-11/01, \$516; 12/01-8/02, (\$175 diff), \$1400; 9/02-11/02, \$2287 monthly, \$6861; 12/02-11/03, \$2318, \$27,816 (Total \$36,593) (Sheridan, Vietnam)
9. Veteran's spouse awarded SSD benefits, 6/03-11/03 (\$930 monthly, \$5580; 12/03-11/04, \$949 monthly, \$11,388 (Total \$16,698) \$27,444 (Total \$45,571) (Peru, WWII)
10. Veteran awarded retroactive payment (10%-70%), 1/99-12/02, \$42,016; 1/03-11/03 \$1008 monthly, \$12,096 (\$Total \$54,112) (Ottawa, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	54,573.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	187,033.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	220,769.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	860,803.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,081,572.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Melanie R. Sopko & Gary Sopko

4409 Kangley Avenue
Streator, Illinois 61364
815-672-3914
815-674-8251
frog63@email.uophx.edu

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February 25, 2003

Dear Angels and All,

I have to address this to my angels. I have always believed in them, but I now know three of mine. This is a message and a thank you to everyone. If it were not for Cynthia Ketchum, Martin Rue and Mary Ann Berry, I would not be where I am today emotionally, spiritually, financially and most of all five minutes away from my dad.

It has been a long eight months in my life. I never thought that at twenty-six I would have an ill parent. I have been sent many angels in this time and the three of you are the only ones I know by name and have met personally.

Cynthia, I honestly believe that it was fate the day that we met last fall at the Hines Extended Care Facility. We spoke briefly in the lobby. In that brief time I received, much needed information that would change my life and most importantly my dads. You took the time to ask me about my dad and his condition and cared how I was coping. You led me to Martin who I spoke to on the phone (that very same day) and he said, "Maybe I can help." I was just shocked at all kindness I received in on day. I did not think that people were like this anymore. Martin immediately called me back and informed me on the information he would need about my father.

Who just leads us down the right roads? All of you did. Mary Ann I have to personally thank you for how expedient you handled things. Thank you for your concern about my father and me and our well-being. Words cannot even explain how thankful I am for the channels you took to complete this task. The three all went beyond and I want you to know how grateful we are.

This letter does not even express how very thankful my dad and I truly are. Martin you even came to the VA to visit my dad. I appreciate that so much. He is very thankful for all of you and is still in awe about his compensation. I am a very lucky girl to know all of you. In addition, even luckier to have run into Cynthia that day. Cynthia, Martin and Mary Ann, please feel free to share our story with anyone I want everyone to know that miracles do happen.

Sincerely,

Melanie Sopko &

*GARY
"SOUP"
SOPKO*

Legislators look to add space to veterans' home

By **STEPHANIE SIEVERS**
Daily Times Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD — With hundreds of veterans waiting to get in and federal money available to help offset some construction costs, legislative efforts are again under way to add 80 beds to the Illinois Veterans Home in La Salle.

The \$12 million expansion could be paid for with \$7 million the federal government returned to Illinois for repairs and construction on earlier veterans' home projects and another \$5 million in state bonds, according to Rep. Frank Mautino, D-Spring Valley.

Because the federal government reimburses states for two-thirds of the cost of improvements made to veterans' homes, Illinois could get about \$8 million back after the project is complete, he said.

Mautino is sponsoring legislation this session to build the addition, which would bring bed totals up to 200 at La Salle. Sen. Pat Welch, D-Peru, is sponsoring similar legislation in the Senate.

Mautino said both lawmakers believe the project is a critical one. There are already 281 veterans waiting to get into the home and the man at the top of the list has been waiting for 15 months, he said.

There are waiting lists at all



Mautino



Welch

four of Illinois' veterans' homes, but La Salle's is the longest. Quincy has the smallest with 13, then Anna with 61 and Manteno with 243, according to John Johnston, acting director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs.

And Manteno has 38 beds sitting empty because the home can't find enough nurses to meet staffing requirements, Johnston said.

With a nursing shortage statewide, James Arrington, administrator of the La Salle home, said staffing could eventually become an issue there as well.

Mautino and the La Salle home have been pushing for more beds for about a decade, but legislation got stalled in the Senate. Despite a state budget crisis, Mautino thinks it may still have a shot this time because the state's share would come out of bond revenue and not the general revenue fund, where a multi-billion dollar shortfall is anticipated.

January 29, 2003

OPEN FORUM

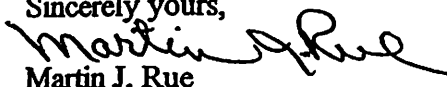
I write in response to the article that appeared on the front page of the NEWS TRIBUNE on January 25, 2003 entitled "Message from I.V.C.C. 'Give Peace A Chance,'" and a follow up article on January 27, 2003 entitled "Peacemakers' gather for discussion in Princeton." Those articles brought back memories of the media frenzy in the late 1960's and early 1970's. In fact, I had to speak at the moratoriums that were held at I.V.C.C. in the early 1970's in support of our soldiers who were fighting in Vietnam and their families who in many instances were being chastised by United States protesters. Those years were the darkest days of Hell in which institutes of higher learning chose to call our United States "soldiers" baby killers, war mongers, rapists, inhuman, immoral, un-Christian, etc. Back then, Hollywood, the news media, and our institutes of higher learning did all they could to destroy the minds of our returning soldiers and their families. They pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor, and lovers against lovers, leaving a stigma on the Vietnam Veteran that still remains today and had not been seen in this country since the Civil War. I sincerely hope that those days do not resurface ever again. Those who were singing "Give Peace a Chance" were anti-capitalist, anti-government, flower children who were for the most part pacifists that oppose our democracy and would not serve in our military under any circumstance. In fact, in the 1950's their chant was "I would rather be Red than Dead."

Today our nation and other nations of the free world face another enemy called terrorism. These enemy combatants are funded by tyrannical leaders of nations that also offer sanctuary in their country for training and supply them with weapons that cause mass destruction to innocent citizens. These tyrannical leaders further blackmail nations of the free world with the threat of using their weapons of mass destruction if we do not grant their demands. We have seen this with the assault on the Kurds, plundering of Kuwait, ravaging in many of the African nations, and the burning of many villages in Asian countries.

The results of those terrorist's actions have left devastating death and destruction in those nations. Let us not forget that millions of innocent civilians were gassed in Germany and butchered in countries such as Cambodia and Africa, to name a few. Let us also not forget that over 3,600 Americans have been killed by radical Islamic terrorists in such attacks as the Marine barracks in Lebanon, the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 in Scotland, the plane crash into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and the plane crash into the World Trade Center in New York. This must be stopped and stopped now! In order to have world peace, nations of the free world must stop these terrorists by halting their violence and force. Our armed forces are ready to do just that. They are totally devoted to our government's preservation of freedom for our people. They will protect our nations vital interest anywhere in the world at any given time. They are loyal to our nation and firmly believe in the preservation of our western democratic ideals. Only a fool buries their head in the sand thinking that once the terrorist see that act they will stop their siege on innocent civilians on their own.

As many before me, I have experienced the ravages of war and bare the scars of its actions. I truly wish that no one else would ever have to experience its true horrors for I see no honor in neutralizing others. In the same token, I do not feel that we can sit back and not defend our freedoms or way of life. Taking no action against terrorists only encourages them to continue their actions causing millions of more innocent deaths. As a wise law enforcement officer once said, "You do not shoot a rabid dog to prevent other rabid dogs from biting. You shoot that rabid dog so that they do not bite other people." I truly hope that all wars can be prevented, but feel we have a moral obligation to use whatever force is necessary to prevent terrorists assaults on innocent people. I will pray for peace, back our government's actions, and remain totally in support of our American Soldiers.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue

815-433-1761 (day)

815-224-4286 (evenings)

DATE	COUNTRY/CITY	ATTACK	U.S. KILLED	TERRORIST NATIONALITY
Feb 21, 1970	Switzerland, Zurich	Bombing of Swissair Flight 330	6	Palestinian
Feb 23, 1970	Israel, Halhul (West Bank)	Gunfire at a Bus	1	Palestinian
Jun 10, 1970	Jordan, Amman	Assassination	1	Palestinian
Jan 16, 1972	Israel, Gaza Strip	Gunfire at a Car	1	Palestinian
May 8, 1972	Israel, Tel Aviv	Shoot-out at Airport	1	Palestinian
Mar 1, 1973	Sudan, Khartoum	Execution at Saudi Embassy	2	Palestinian
Jun 2, 1973	Iran, Tehran	Assassination	1	Iranian
Aug 5, 1973	Greece, Athens	Gunfire at TWA Passengers	2	Palestinian
Oct 18, 1973	Lebanon, Beirut	Execution at Bank of America	1	Lebanese
Dec 17, 1973	Italy, Rome	Grenade into Pan Am Plane	14	Palestinian
Sep 8, 1974	Greece, Ionian Sea	Bombing of TWA Plane	17	Palestinian
May 21, 1975	Iran, Tehran	Assassination	2	Iranian
Jun 16, 1976	Lebanon, Beirut	Assassination	2	Palestinian (?)
Aug 11, 1976	Turkey, Istanbul	Attack at Airport	1	Palestinian
Aug 28, 1976	Iran, Tehran	Assassination	3	Iranian
Jun 3, 1978	Israel, Jerusalem	Bombing of Bus	1	Palestinian
Dec 23, 1978	Iran, Ahwaz	Assassination	1	Iranian
Jan 14, 1979	Iran, Kerman	Assassination	1	Iranian
Feb 14, 1979	Afghanistan, Kabul	Execution	1	Afghan
Nov 21, 1979	Pakistan, Islamabad	Mob Attack on U.S. Embassy	2	Pakistani
Aug 9, 1982	France, Paris	Shooting Spree	2	Palestinian
Apr 18, 1983	Lebanon, Beirut	Truck Bombing of U.S. Embassy	17	Lebanese
Sep 23, 1983	United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi	Bombing of Plane	1	Palestinian
Oct 23, 1983	Lebanon, Beirut	Truck Bombing of Marine Barracks	241	Lebanese
Jan 18, 1984	Lebanon, Beirut	Assassination	1	Lebanese
Sep 20, 1984	Lebanon, Beirut	Car Bombing of U.S. Embassy Annex	2	Lebanese
Dec 4, 1984	Iran, Tehran	Execution	2	Lebanese
Jun 14, 1985	Lebanon, Beirut	Execution Aboard TWA Flight 847	1	Lebanese
Oct 4, 1985	Lebanon, Beirut	Execution	1	Lebanese
Oct 7, 1985	Mediterranean Sea	Execution Aboard Ship <i>Achille Lauro</i>	1	Palestinian
Nov 23, 1985	Malta, Luqa	Execution Aboard Plane	1	Palestinian
Dec 27, 1985	Italy, Rome	Assassination at Airport	5	Palestinian
Apr 2, 1986	Greece, Athens	Bombing Aboard TWA Flight 840	4	Palestinian
Apr 5, 1986	Germany, Berlin	Bombing of La Belle Disco	2	Libyan
Apr 17, 1986	Lebanon, Beirut	Execution	1	Lebanese (?)
Sep 5, 1986	Pakistan, Karachi	Assassination Aboard Pan Am Flight 73	2	Palestinian
Dec 21, 1988	Scotland, Lockerbie	Bombing Aboard Pan Am 103	189	Libyan
Jul 6, 1989	Israel, Tel Aviv	Bus Crash	1	Palestinian
Jul 31, 1989	Lebanon, Tyre	Execution	1	Lebanese
Sep 19, 1989	Niger, Agadez	Bombing Aboard UTA Flight 772	7	Lebanese
Mar 27, 1990	Lebanon, Rashaya Al-Fukhar	Assassination	1	Lebanese
Oct 28, 1991	Turkey, Ankara	Car Bomb	1	Lebanese
Feb 26, 1993	U.S., New York City	Bombing of World Trade Center	6	Egyptian
Mar 8, 1995	Pakistan, Karachi	Assassination	2	Pakistani
Aug 21, 1995	Israel, Jerusalem	Bombing of Bus	1	Palestinian
Nov 13, 1995	Saudi Arabia, Riyadh	Car Bombing of Building	5	Saudi
Feb 25, 1996	Israel, Jerusalem	Bombing of Bus	3	Palestinian
May 13, 1996	Israel, Ramallah (West Bank)	Bombing of Bus	1	Palestinian
Jun 25, 1996	Saudi Arabia, Dhahran	Truck Bombing of Khobar Towers	19	Saudi
Nov 12, 1997	Pakistan, Karachi	Assassination in Car	4	Pakistani
Aug 7, 1998	Kenya, Nairobi	Bombing of U.S. Embassy	12	Saudi
Oct 12, 2000	Yemen, Aden	Boat Bombing of <i>USS Cole</i>	17	Saudi
May 9, 2001	Israel, Teqoa (West Bank)	Stoning	2	Palestinian
May 29, 2001	Israel, West Bank	Gunfire on Car	1	Palestinian
Aug 9, 2001	Israel, Jerusalem	Suicide Bombing of Restaurant	2	Palestinian
Sep 11, 2001	U.S., New York City	Plane Crash into World Trade Center	2,823*	Saudi**
Sep 11, 2001	U.S., Washington, D.C.	Plane Crash into Pentagon	189	Saudi**
Sep 11, 2001	U.S., Shanksville, Pa.	Hijacking/Crash of United Flight 93	45	Saudi**
Oct. 6, 2001	Saudi Arabia, al-Khobar	Parcel Bombing of Shopping Area	1	Saudi
Jan 23, 2002	Pakistan, Karachi	Execution	1	Pakistani
Mar 17, 2002	Pakistan, Islamabad	Assassination (grenades) in Church	2	Pakistani
Jul 31, 2002	Israel, Jerusalem	Bombing at Hebrew University	5	Palestinian

*This total is for all deaths, including citizens of 77 other countries.

**Fifteen of the 19 (79%) hijackers were Saudis of al Qaeda.

SOURCE: Almanac of Modern Terrorism by Jay M. Shafritz, et al (N.Y.:

Facts on File, 1991) and Significant Incidents of Political Violence Against Americans, 10th Anniversary Issue (1997 annual), U.S. Dept. of State (Bureau of Diplomatic Security). Washington, D.C.: November 1998.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 22, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Questions were asked by the Delegates and Alternates as to the status of adding the additional 80 beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue stated there are currently 270 veterans waiting for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. He suggested that all people should write letters to their State of Illinois Senators and Representatives requesting the legislation be submitted to add those additional 80 beds and legislation for the funding of that project. He further stated that the architect and engineer's plans for construction were finalized over a year ago, so that part is done.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Frank Suarez that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Frank Suarez that a letter be sent from our Commission to Jack Leininger thanking him for his years of service on our Commission. Motion passed.

Delegates and Alternates asked questions pertaining to our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic's inability to take in more veterans. Superintendent Rue answered their questions and explained that all Category seven veterans who enroll in the VA health care system after January 17, 2003 will be placed in Category eight.

Delegates and Alternates were concerned about our procedures for canceling meetings due to the prediction of severe storms. It was the consensus that our Chairman or Superintendent is empowered to cancel any meetings scheduled by calling all Delegates and Alternates the morning of the meeting in which our National Weather Service is predicting severe storms for that afternoon or evening.

Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Jim Kirby that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Alternates Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 20, 2002.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Chairman Adler was asked about his meeting with the Fee and Salary Committee. He explained that the Fee and Salary Committee agreed to grant our superintendent a salary increase each year for two years. They will be introducing a resolution before the full county board documenting their requests.

New Business: The election of officers for the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission was held. Superintendent Rue opened up the nominations for each elected position. Through the nomination process those individual selected by the delegates are as follows:

1. Chairman – Ralph Adler
2. Vice-Chairman – Frank Suarez
3. Chaplain – Jim Kirby
4. Sgt. At Arms – Jerry Welch

Jack Leininger made a motion, seconded by Nick Nekrosius that one unanimous ballot be cast for the above dually nominated officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Jim Kirby, seconded by Nick Pacetti, that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ed Stash, American Legion Post 217; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 217; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Jack Leininger VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2002
CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 56 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 19 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 8 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 30 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 95 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 24 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 114 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 6 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 17 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 29 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 14 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 4 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 17 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 6 veteran.
22. Sent 40 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 85 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 2 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 30 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 12 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 2 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 2 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 2 veteran.
41. Sent 1 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded increased S/C Compensation, IUE with Housebound benefit, (20%-90%), (diff. \$2081) 1/2000-6/2000, \$12,486; 7/2000-11/2000, (diff. \$888) \$4440; 12/2000-8/2001, \$8244; 9/2001-11/2001, \$6477; 12/2001-11/2002, \$23556 (Total \$55,203) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation 20%-60% (diff. \$591) 1/2002-1/2003, (Total \$7,092) (EastEnd, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation (20%-50%) (diff. \$425 monthly), effective 9/2001-11/2001, \$1275; 12/2001-11/2002, \$5100 (Total \$6375) (Sheridan, Korea)

4. Veteran granted increase in S/C Compensation, (608-90)w/IUE, (\$1373 diff) effective 7/2002-11/2002 \$6865;12/2002-11/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$16476 (Total \$23,341) (LaSalle, Korea)
5. Veteran awarded Dependency Allowance, effective 12/01-11/02, \$888 (Total \$888) (LaSalle, Korea)
6. Veteran awarded 20%, w/(k) 8/2001-11/2001, \$279 monthly, \$1116;12/2001-11/2002, \$3348 (Total \$4464) (Seneca, Vietnam)
7. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, effective 4/2002-11/2002, \$1066 monthly, \$8528; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1081 monthly, \$12,972. (Total \$21,500) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$796;12/2002-3/2003, \$202 monthly, \$2424 (Total \$3220) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
9. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation retroactive payment \$18,127;12/2002-11/2003, \$2287 monthly, \$27,444 (Total \$45,571) (Peru, WWII)
10. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (30%-70%) (diff.\$439), effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$4829; 12/2002-11/2003, (diff \$452), \$5424 (Total \$10,253) (Tonica, Persian Gulf)
11. Veteran awarded NSC Pension retroactive payment, \$13,400, effective 6/2001-7/2002;8/2002-11/2002, \$796 monthly, \$2388. (Total \$15,788) (LaSalle, Vietnam)
12. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 30%, effective 2/2002-11/2002, \$306, \$3060;12/2002-11/2003, \$310 monthly, \$3630 (Total \$6690) (Ottawa, Persian Gulf)
13. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, retroactive payment, \$4674;11/2002-12/2002, \$1558; 1/2002-11/2003, \$18,696 (Total \$20,254) (Vietnam, Peru)
14. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 8/01-11/01, \$609 monthly \$2436;12/01-11/02, \$625 monthly, \$7500 (Total \$9936) (Marseilles, Vietnam)

15. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, received \$23,412 retroactive payment, 11/2002-11/2003, \$2422 monthly, \$29,064 (Total \$54,898) (Streator, Vietnam)
16. Veteran awarded payment for S/C disability through outpatient fee basis, (\$5903) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
17. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation, \$103 monthly, effective 2/2002-11/2002, \$927; 12/2002-11/2003, \$105 monthly, \$1260 (Total \$2187) (Eastend, Vietnam)
18. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 30%, effective 12/99-11/2000, \$364 monthly, \$4368; 12/2000-11/2001, \$376 monthly, \$4512; 12/2001-11/2002, \$386 monthly, \$4632 (Total \$13,512) (LAsalle, Persian Gulf)
19. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation w/AAA, 8/2002-11/2002, \$2699 monthly, \$10796; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2737 monthly, \$32,844 (Total \$43,650) (Tonica, Vietnam)
20. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, \$199 monthly, 8/2002-11/2002, \$796; 12/2002-11/2003, \$202 monthly, \$2424 (Total \$3220) (Streator, Vietnam)
21. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, \$1479 monthly, effective 12/2002-11/2003, \$17,748 (Total \$17,748) (Oglesby, Peacetime)
22. Veteran awarded retroactive payment benefits for period 3/97-11/2002, 100% S/C Compensation \$129,888; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2661 monthly, \$31,932 (Total \$161,820) (Streator, Vietnam)
23. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$1043 monthly, effective 9/2002-11/2002, \$3129; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1057 monthly, \$12,684 (Total \$15,813) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
24. Veteran awarded Increased S/C Compensation (60% w/IME), effective 10/2001-11/2002, (diff. \$1323 monthly) \$15,876; 12/2002-11/2003, \$26,244 (Total \$42,120) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
25. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation effective 10/2001-11/2001, \$854; 12/2001-9/2002, \$439, \$4829; 10/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193 monthly 31,999 (Total \$31,999) (Westend, Vietnam)

26. Veteran awarded increase in S/C Compensation to 80% w/IUE, received \$32,317 retroactive payment; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2318 monthly, \$27,816 (total \$60,133) (Streator, Korea)
27. Veteran's Widow awarded \$600 for Burial/Plot costs and \$535 for transportation costs due to death of veteran. (Total \$1135) (LaSalle, WWII)
28. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, retroactive payment for period 1/2002-11/2002, \$16,830; 12/2002-11/2003 \$1552 monthly, \$18,624 (Total \$35,454) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
29. Veteran's spouse awarded DIC benefits, effective 4/01-11/2001, \$911 monthly, \$7288; 12/2001-11/2002, \$935 monthly \$11,200; 12/2002-11/2003, \$948 monthly, \$11,376 (Total \$32,844) (Marseilles, WWII)
30. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 4/21002-11/2002, \$777 monthly, \$6216; 12/2002-11/2003, \$807 monthly, \$9684 (Total \$15,900) (Peru, Vietnam)
31. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits received retroactive payment for period 1/2001-12/2002, \$1039 monthly, \$25,136; 1/2003-11/2003, \$12,368 (Total \$37,504) (Peru, Peacetime)
32. Veteran awarded 80% w/IUE, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$8652; 12/2002-11/2003, 42193 monthly, \$26,216 (Total \$34,868) (Marseilles, VietNam)
33. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (10%-70%) (\$892 diff.), effective 12/98-12/2002, \$42,816; 1/2003-11/2003, \$895 monthly, \$10,740 (Total \$53,556) (Ottawa, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	132,460.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	132,460.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	850,803.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	850,803.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	983,263.00

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Page 1 of 2

U.S.D.V.A. Health Care Concerns

A. Nursing Home Contracts

With our aging veteran population there is a greater need for nursing care beds and U.S.D.V.A. contracts for those beds. In many instances our veterans end up in a hospital for their physical problems and then are transferred to a local nursing home for their extended care needs. If Medicare covers them, they may become eligible for different forms of additional therapy, which the nursing home can provide at an additional cost for care above their daily cost of care. Should the U.S.D.V.A. permit the veterans to use Medicare payments for nursing care before the U.S.D.V.A. contract starts, the nursing home could receive \$100 more a day than they would receive from the U.S.D.V.A. under contract. I would strongly recommend that this be allowed for those nursing homes that wish to bill Medicare

B. Out-patient Clinics

Our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic has been very successful since it has opened. At the present time they cannot take any new patients because our limited staff have all the patients that they can treat and provide quality medical care. We have been referring those that are able to travel to the Aurora VA Clinic or the Joliet VA Clinic. It is my understanding that it now takes about six months to get into the Aurora VA Clinic and four months to get into the Joliet VA Clinic. We must remember that those using the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic live in a geographically remote rural area, which have no transportation system other than individual cars if they can find someone to give them a ride. We must realize also that they are over 100 miles from the closest U.S.D.V.A. hospital and over 60 miles from the nearest U.S.D.V.A. medical clinic. In many instances due to the veterans' age and lack of physical mobility or stamina they do not have access to U.S.D.V.A. medical care even though they are eligible for it. It is my opinion that our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic needs more medical personnel so we can start servicing more area veterans who are asking for their eligible medical entitlements.

C. Out-patient and In-patient Fee Basis

Many times our veterans are forced to go to a local hospital in need of life threatening medical care for their service-connected disability. They notify the U.S.D.V.A. In-patient Fee Basis of their admission within 48 hours of their admission for

U.S.D.V.A. authorization of financial costs. U.S.D.V.A. is then liable for the hospital bills due to the veterans' admission for treatment of their life threatening service-connected disability. Where the problem comes into play is if the hospital bills Medicare or a third part insurance company that the veterans entitled too and they pay any part of that bill. In-patient Fee Basis will refuse to pay anything on the remaining bill. The one that suffers is the veteran who becomes liable for the remaining bill. It would be fiscally responsible for the U.S.D.V.A. to pay the remaining bill and it would save them a lot of money. But instead, the U.S.D.V.A. makes the veteran force the hospital to send the money back to Medicare or the insurance company and then the U.S.D.V.A. In-patient Fee Basis will pay the entire bill as per contract payment leaving the veteran owing nothing. In my personal opinion this is fiscally irresponsible and cost prohibited to the U.S.D.V.A. I strongly recommend that in these cases the U.S.D.V.A. pay only the difference owed on the hospital bill, which will save the U.S.D.V.A. millions of dollars, please the veteran, and the medical providers will be happy.

Out-patient Fee Basis has become a true nightmare and one of the most frustrating bureaucracy to try and work with after a veteran has received authorization from them to receive treatment for their service-connected disability from a private health service provider. It is not uncommon for the health service provider to have to wait a year or two for payment of the U.S.D.V.A. authorized medical services they had provided. This puts the veteran in a bad light with the health service provider because most of them expect to be paid immediately after the service is provided. It is not uncommon to have to send four or five billing statements to Out-patient Fee Basis, certified mail return receipt, and still not get the bill paid. The health service provider may then send the medical bills to a collection agency and refuse to provide any medical service to those service-connected disabled veterans without immediate payment from said veteran on completion of that medical service provided. This action will also adversely affect the veteran's credit rating because the collection agency will notify those agencies that provide credit rating information. This action goes totally against the U.S.D.V.A.'s mission of " 'Putting Veterans First' is more than just a slogan. It is a mission statement of the Department." I thought it was the U.S.D.V.A.'s statutory obligation to see that those service-connected disabled combat veterans received medical treatment for their service-connected disabilities even if they reside in geographically remote rural areas having no access to U.S.D.V.A. medical treatment centers. The current broken down Out-patient Fee Basis system must be fixed immediately and its bureaucracy destroyed.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Write Your Legislators

Federal

President Bush

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dick Durbin-D

U.S. Senate
267 Russell Building, Washington, D.C.
20510

no e-mail address established
phone: (202) 224-2152.

Peter Fitzgerald-R

U.S. Senate

555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
phone: (202) 224-2854.

House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert-R

14th District
2369 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C.
20515

e-mail: dhastert@mail.house.gov
phone: (202) 225-2976.

Jerry Weller-R

11th District
424 Cannon HOB, Washington, D.C.
20515

e-mail: jerry.weller@mail.house.gov
phone: (202) 225-3635.

Lane Evans-D

17th District
2335 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C.
20515

e-mail: lane.evans@mail.house.gov
phone: (202) 225-5905.

Ray LaHood-R

18th District
329 Cannon HOB, Washington, D.C.
20515

e-mail: il840@mail.house.gov
phone (202) 225-6201.

(A list of state legislators will appear next Saturday)

Write Your Legislators

State

Governor

George Ryan
State Capitol, Room 207, Springfield
62706

38th Legislative District

Sen. Patrick D. Welch-D
904 Shooting Park Road, Peru 61354

75th District

Rep. Mary K. O'Brien-D
760 E. Division St., Coal City 60416

76th District

Rep. Frank Mautino-D
108 W. St. Paul St., Spring Valley 61362

37th Legislative District

Sen. Todd Sieben-R
137 S. State St., Geneseo 61254
Rep. Gerald Mitchell-R
Sterling, Ill. 61081

44th Legislative District

Sen. Bill Bradley-R
2203 Eastland Drive, Suite 3 Bloomington
87th District

Rep. Dan Rutherford-R
732 W. Madison St., Pontiac 61764

47th Legislative District

Sen. Carl Hawkinson-R
5415 N. University, Ste. 105, Peoria 61614

93rd District

Rep. David R. Leitch-R
3114 N. University, Peoria 61604

94th District

Rep. Donald L. Moffit-R
5 Weinberg Arcade, Galesburg 61401

(A list of federal legislators will appear next Saturday)

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of February 26, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Frank Suarez excused and Harry Welch absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Alder stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Supt. Rue shared with the Commission that Representative Frank Mautino and Senator Patrick Welch had introduced legislation requesting the 80 additional beds be added to our LaSalle Veterans' Home and \$12 plus million be provided to fund that project. All other questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read; all questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion by Nick Nekrosious, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

The delegate and alternates discussed an interim vice-chairman to temporarily replace Frank Suarez who has been federalized with the Peru Army Arsenal Reservists. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Delbert Spitz that Joe Iwaszek be appointed as Interim Vice-Chairman of our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Numerous handouts were shared with the delegates and alternates present. Those handouts were discussed and all questions pertaining to them were answered.

Letters of gratitude from Albert D. Latimer and Gary Sopko for the assistance our VAC office provided for them in their compensation claims were handed out to the delegates and alternates. Motion by Jim Kirby, seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, Post 4079; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1225; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, V.F.W. Post 5506; Alternate Ludwig Sikole, Post 4079 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2003

CASEWORK:

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7. Sent out 38 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
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10. Sent letter to 4 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
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13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 9 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 14 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 7 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 34 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 6 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 16 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 6 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded 50% s/c Compensation w/ (K), effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$767 monthly, \$8437; 12/2002-11/2003, \$776 monthly, \$9204 (Total \$17,641) (Westend, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 7/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$10,815; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$26,316. (Total \$37,131) (Eastend, Vietnam)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension effective 10/2002-11/2002, \$142 monthly, \$284; 12/2002-11/2003, \$147 monthly, \$1764 (Total \$1948)

4. Veteran awarded increase in S/Compensation, w/IUE, (\$1194 diff.), 9/2002-11/2002, \$3582; 12/2002/11/2003 (\$1198 diff.), \$14,376 (Total \$\$17,958) (Streator, WWII)
5. Veteran awarded Chapter 35 Educational benefits, retroactive 1/2002-2/2003, \$1178; 3/2203-11/2003, \$680 monthly, \$6800 (Total \$7978) (Ottawa, RVN)
6. Veteran awarded 60% s/c Compensation 9/01-11/01, \$769 monthly, \$2307; 12/01-11/02, \$790 monthly, \$9480; 12/02-11/03, \$801 monthly, \$9612 (Total \$21,399) (Sheridan, Peace Time)
7. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension w/A&A, 1/2002, \$588 monthly; 2/02-5/02, \$91 monthly, \$364; 6/02-11/02, \$92 monthly, \$360; 12/02-1/03, \$186; 2/03-12/03, \$114 monthly, \$1140 (Total \$2628) (Sheridan, WWII)
8. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, (20%-30%) (diff \$105) 7/2001-11/01, \$525; 12/01-11/02, (\$107 diff), \$1284; 12/02-11/03, (diff. \$109) \$1308 (Total \$3117) (LaSalle, Vietnam)
9. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (30%-40%) (diff. \$133 monthly), 5/2002-11/2002, \$931; 12/02-11/03 (\$135 monthly) \$1620 (Total \$2551) (LaSalle, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	187,033.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	112,361.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	973,164.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,160,197.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

3-17-03

La Salle County Board
707 Etna Road
Ottawa, Ill. 61350

Dear Board Members,

I am a veteran of the Korean War. I was drafted. At that time, I had 7 older brothers that had been drafted and served in World War II. We were probably the poorest family in La Salle County but we were proud to serve for our country and our rights.

The night before I was to go for my physical, I met the commander for the Ill. National Guard in Streator, Ill. He told me that if I went with him right then and joined the national guard, he'd see to it that I would not have to go to the army. I refused and said I would go to the army, serve my time and be able to walk down the street and hold up my head to any man.

I was sent to Korea and was assigned to 3RD Platoon, Co. C, 14TH Inf., 25TH division, on 10-22-52. About 11-1-52, the rank was frozen for

for all the personnel. We were made PFC's when assigned to front line duty. I was made assistant machine gunner and worked up to be Squad leader of the machine guns.

About 8:00 AM. (Green time) a mortar round hit the back of the trench at chest height and about 8 feet from my body. Not quite a direct hit. I spent the rest of my army time in hospitals and was a PFC upon my discharge.

After my discharge, I applied to the V.A. for assistance and was awarded 40% disability. There was denial of any stomach injury. Luckily, I had the address of one of my Drs at Goryeo Army Hospital. I wrote him and sent a picture of myself for verification the injury. A copy of his letter is enclosed.

I had (and still do have) a lot of trouble with my stomach. In the army, I had trouble and they said there was nothing wrong. In 1956 I was hospitalized by my family Dr. and he diagnosed my problem.

In 1958, I was called to Hines Hospital for re-evaluation and took a letter from my family Dr. in which he diagnosed the problem. I gave the envelope to the Dr at Hines. He took it and threw it into the waste basket and said "We make our own decisions at this time, my disability was cut back to 30%. At that time, I felt I should be satisfied or they might take all my disability away."

I was very disheartened and at times (most of the time) very upset over decisions concerning the V.A. decisions. I became a life member of DAV, VFW, and a member of the American Legion hoping one of them could help me. None of them did. I was very discouraged.

When I moved back to La Salle County, other V.A. members told me to go to the V.A. office in Ottawa. Jack Murphy, Pontiac, Ill. had been in my platoon in ~~the~~ Korea and said that Martin Rug and Rick Yozity would help me. I felt they would be like to others and "give me a line of talk."

I was completely wrong. For the 1st time in all these years, they were interested and wanted to help me. For the first time in all these years, I felt I was no longer alone in this battle.

Mr. Rue and Mr. Hogarty both worked diligently for my welfare and got my disability increased to 100%. When I got the letter from the V.A. notifying me of the increase I cried. Finally two people were willing to put forth the effort to help me. Words can not express my thanks for the efforts put forth by the Ottawa office. It wasn't easy, but they did it. I feel you couldn't have any one more interested in helping the veterans in that office. Thank you all for having these men helping the veterans.

Enclosed are copies of some letters verifying some of my statements.

Sincerely yours,
James E. Simpson



James E. Simpson
15 Old Orchard Ln.
Streator, IL 61364

To Richard Fogarty, Martin Rue & the
LaSalle County Board,

My Family and I would like
to express our deepest and most
greatful thanks for the help that Mr.
Fogarty and Mr. Rue gave me. They
were able to relieve the stress I
was under and give me hope at a
time in my life that I could hardly
see the light for all the clouds and
darkness that had taken place.

The work that these men
do may often go unseen or un-
heard by the majority, but their
work will forever be known
and appreciated by my Family and
I. May God Bless them and the
LaSalle County Board that has the
insite and wisdom to recognizing
the need for such an important
assistance.

With much
thanks,
Daniel & Donna
Pack

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of February 26, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Frank Suarez excused and Harry Welch absent. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Alder stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

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New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read; all questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion by Nick Nekrosious, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

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Numerous handouts were shared with the delegates and alternates present. Those handouts were discussed and all questions pertaining to them were answered.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, Post 4079; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1225; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, V.F.W. Post 5506; Alternate Ludwig Sikole, Post 4079 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

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SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2003

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26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 6 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 16 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 6 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 0 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Awarded 50% s/c Compensation w/ (K), effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$767 monthly, \$8437; 12/2002-11/2003, \$776 monthly, \$9204 (Total \$17,641) (Westend, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 7/2002-11/2002, \$2163 monthly, \$10,815; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$26,316. (Total \$37,131) (Eastend, Vietnam)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension effective 10/2002-11/2002, \$142 monthly, \$284; 12/2002-11/2003, \$147 monthly, \$1764 (Total \$1948)

4. Veteran awarded increase in S/Compensation, w/IUE, (\$1194 diff.), 9/2002-11/2002, \$3582; 12/2002/11/2003 (\$1198 diff.), \$14,376 (Total \$\$17,958) (Streator, WWII)
5. Veteran awarded Chapter 35 Educational benefits, retroactive 1/2002-2/2003, \$1178; 3/2203-11/2003, \$680 monthly, \$6800 (Total \$7978) (Ottawa, RVN)
6. Veteran awarded 60% s/c Compensation 9/01-11/01, \$769 monthly, \$2307; 12/01-11/02, \$790 monthly, \$9480; 12/02-11/03, \$801 monthly, \$9612 (Total \$21,399) (Sheridan, Peace Time)
7. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension w/A&A, 1/2002, \$588 monthly; 2/02-5/02, \$91 monthly, \$364; 6/02-11/02, \$92 monthly, \$360; 12/02-1/03, \$186; 2/03-12/03, \$114 monthly, \$1140 (Total \$2628) (Sheridan, WWII)
8. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, (20%-30%) (diff \$105) 7/2001-11/01, \$525; 12/01-11/02, (\$107 diff), \$1284; 12/02-11/03, (diff. \$109) \$1308 (Total \$3117) (LaSalle, Vietnam)
9. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (30%-40%) (diff. \$133 monthly), 5/2002-11/2002, \$931; 12/02-11/03 (\$135 monthly) \$1620 (Total \$2551) (LaSalle, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	187,033.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	112,361.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	973,164.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,160,197.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of March 3, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Frank Suarez, seconded by Jim Kirby that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented to the delegates and alternates letter of gratitude received from veterans who were assisted by the LaSalle Veterans Assistance Commission office.

Jim Kirby told the Commission that on March 25, 2003 he went to the Iowa City VA Medical Center for an appointment. While he was there members of the V.F.W. and American Legion posts were giving veterans fruit or gift packs which contained items such as body lotion, tooth brushes, tooth paste, etc. He felt this was a very nice gesture and would hope that other veteran organizations would do the same at other VA health care centers.

Motion by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBER PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Alternates Ludwig Sikole, VFW Post 4079; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH 2003

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 24 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 13 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 34 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 40 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 10 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 0 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 6 veteran.
22. Sent 30 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 3 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Widow awarded Burial Benefits for veteran's death, \$1400 (LaSalle, WWII)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, effective 10/2002. Received \$8612 for retroactive payment for period 10/2002-2/2003; \$1732 monthly from 3/2002-12/2003, \$17,320 (Total \$25,932) (Westend Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded 60% S/C compensation w/IUE (diff. \$1643) 9/2002-11/2002, \$4929; 12/02-11/03, \$19,716 (Total \$24,645) (Ottawa, Persian Gulf)

4. Veteran awarded 20% S/C benefits, effective 9/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$597; 12/2002-11/2003, \$201 monthly, \$2412 (Total \$3009) (Northside, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (40%-60%) (diff \$356), 12/2002-11/2003, \$4272 (Total \$4272) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
6. Veteran awarded Aid & Attendance on to his 100% s/c Compensation 9/02-11/02, (Total \$10,500) (Streator, Vietnam)
7. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension, 10/2002-11/2002, \$533 monthly, \$1066; 12/2002-11/2003, \$541 monthly, \$2369 (Total \$3435) (Streator, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment, \$16,665, effective 1/2002-3/2003; 4/2003-11/2003, \$1122 monthly, \$10,098 (Total \$26,763) (Seneca, Vietnam)
9. Veteran 90% S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective 6/2001-11/2001, @90% \$969 monthly, \$5814; \$995 monthly, 12/2001-10/2002, \$10,945; 11/2002, \$2163; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193, \$26,316 (Total \$45,258)
10. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (40%-50%) (diff \$135 monthly) 12/2002-11/2003, \$1620 (Total \$1620) (LeLand, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (30%-50%) (diff \$323) 5/2001-11/2002, \$6460; 12/2002-11/2003, \$3876 (Total \$10,336) (Eastend, Persian Gulf)
12. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$11546 monthly, \$4624; 12/2002-11/2003, \$13,822 (Total \$18,496) (Westend, Vietnam)
13. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, retroactive payment, \$6672; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1688 monthly, \$20,016 (Total \$26,688) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
14. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, effective 11/2002 (diff \$248) (\$40%-50%), \$248; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2976 (Total \$3224) (Oglesby, Vietnam)
15. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$1096 monthly, \$13157; 1/2003-12/2003, \$13,157 (Total \$26,314) (Streator, Vietnam)

16. Veteran awarded 100S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective
2/2003-12/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$24,123 (Ottawa, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	107,528.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	294,561.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	182,223.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,043,026.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,337,587.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
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22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Friday April 18, 2003

Soldiers come first for veterans assistance official

Martin Rue will be here for Iraq veterans when they return

By Craig Sterrett
News Editor

The numerous local rallies in support of U.S. troops do not seem at all redundant to Martin Rue.



Rue

"War is one of the ugliest things there is for the old and the youngest to understand."

their uniforms, because those flags might agitate the people protesting the war.

The Vietnam veteran and director of the La Salle County Veterans Assistance Commission thinks they're necessary, especially considering the anti-war protests that gain nationwide publicity. It bothered him when he heard that police officers in a West-Coast city were told they needed to remove the U.S. flags from

Rue is glad that large numbers of people, whether they support the concept of war, are expressing support for military personnel. He and the rest of the Veterans Assistance Commission are ready to do their part for the troops when they come home from war. Rue knows from experience on the VAC and in Vietnam the ugly, confusing scene U.S. soldiers may be involved in.

When they return, the Veterans Assistance Commission can provide financial assistance to veterans when they come home.

The VAC can represent them on Social Security or Veterans Administration disability claims, and the VAC can help them understand the entitlements they may be eligible for. The commission staff also may help refer veterans to counselors or attorneys.

Simply put, the VAC will be there for them.

"I presume that many of them, being involved in a combat situation, will have possibly problems with dealing with what they had seen and what they had been through. ... it's not like going to the La Salle 150th sesquicentennial, and somehow these who have had to pay that price are going to have to deal with what they've been through," Rue said during a telephone interview

Monday afternoon.

"Their family members will have to learn to deal with those veterans," because they may come back with a completely different attitude than what they had when they left, Rue said.

It will be the duty of all community service providers and healthcare providers, Rue said, to help the veterans "pick up and move on with life as they've known it prior to being involved in war."

If any of the soldiers have incurred physical disabilities as a result of their service, the VAC can help them file health claims.

"Many are just going to need someone to talk to -- someone to share their experiences with, who would be familiar with what they are talking about," said Rue. In addition to other veterans groups, the VAC staff will have some understanding, since both Rue and his assistant served in Vietnam. "Many may be questioning why there are those in our country who were not in support of them in their activities, because they do read and they do see these different protests either in the newsprint or on television."

"I'm only grateful that (war protests have) been few in number so that those veterans unlike the veterans of Vietnam won't be questioning

themselves, whether they have a country to return to," Rue said. "... That's why I think you're seeing more and more support for the troops groups organizing. ... We support the First Amendment, freedom of press, freedom of speech, but we also deserve the right to be heard."

Rue digressed, mentioning a New York Times article in which a CNN executive admitted that journalists had agreed to suppress some details of certain actions by the dictatorship in Iraq, because the dictatorship would allow those journalists to stay in the country if they followed Saddam Hussein's rules.

Now the question is whether freelance reporters who are in these countries have provided readers with the whole truth, he said.

"At least the embedded reporters have first-hand documentation of what's going on," Rue said.

Rue remains hopeful that soldiers from this war will receive the help they need before they are discharged.

Whatever the case and whenever troops do begin returning from Iraq, the Veterans Assistance Commission will be available to help veterans or their families.

The VAC may be reached at 433-1761.

President Bush failed to teach Iraq 101

News Trib 3/18/03
By Morton Kondracke
Newspaper Enterprise Association

Here's a test that most educated Americans ought to be able to pass: on the eve of war with Iraq: What is Halabja? Al-Anfal? The Mukhabarat? Who was Michel Aflaq? How did Saddam Hussein come to run Iraq, anyway?

I know from testing a number of intelligent people that the Bush administration and the media have failed to teach Iraq 101 to the public. Americans have been told — endlessly, by the administration — that the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein is “evil,” “a dictator” and “a menace.”

It's all true. It's well documented that he's a sadistic, murderous monster, responsible for more than a million deaths. Administration officials claim they have tried to make the human rights case against Hussein, and they say they've had some success around the country, though less with the Washington media. “We've been persistent, repeated and consistent,” said

Tucker Eskew, chief of the White House's Office of Global Communications. “You can't find a speech of the president's in which he doesn't mention the pligh of the Iraqi people.”

That's true, though President Bush rarely gets more specific than to charge that Hussein has “poisoned his own people” and “invaded his neighbors” and “rules by torture.”

This weekend, the White House plans to observe the 15th anniversary of Halabja. What happened there was chillingly described by British writer Gwynne Roberts in the 1999 book “Crimes of War” (W.W. Norton) as follows: “It was 6:20 p.m. on March 16, 1988, when a smell of apples descended on the town of Halabja. This Iraqi Kurdish town of 80,000 was instantly engulfed in a thick cloud of gas, as chemicals soaked into the clothes, mouths, lungs, eyes and skin of innocent civilians.

“For three days, Iraqi Air Force planes dropped mustard gas, nerve agents known as sarin and tabun

and VX. ... These chemicals murdered at least 5,000 civilians within hours and maimed thousands more over the next several years.

“Halabja has experienced staggering rates of aggressive cancer, genetic mutation, neurological damage and psychiatric disorders since 1988. If you walk through the streets today, you will see many diseased and disfigured citizens.”

The attack on Halabja was part of a wider, genocidal campaign against the Kurds known as Al-Anfal, which killed 30,000 to 60,000 between 1983 and 1988.

The eight-year Iran-Iraq war launched by Hussein in 1980 killed an estimated 1 million people on both sides of the conflict, many by poison gas.

Thousands more died as a result of his attack on Kuwait in 1990, which led to the first Persian Gulf War.

To continue with Iraq 101, the Mukhabarat is Hussein's Gestapo, his internal security apparatus. What it has done was described this way by Amnesty International:

“Political prisoners and detainees were subjected to systematic torture.

It's well documented that Hussein's police rape daughters and wives to extract confessions from prisoners and torture and murder the children of suspected dissidents.

Michel Aflaq? He was an early leader of the Baath party and Saddam Hussein's ideological father. The Baath promulgates a doctrine of Arab racial superiority, a destiny of dominance over “imperialist” powers and a system of party rule based on Stalinist principles of terror.

Hussein was a Baathist thug who rose to power by connivance, maneuver and murder. And the minute he achieved power in 1979, he executed all his potential rivals — and sent videotapes around to terrorize others.

Critics of Bush's war policy often say, “I know he's a bad guy, but ...” The problem is, no one has educated them on just how bad a guy he is.

The News We Kept To Ourselves

By Eason Jordan

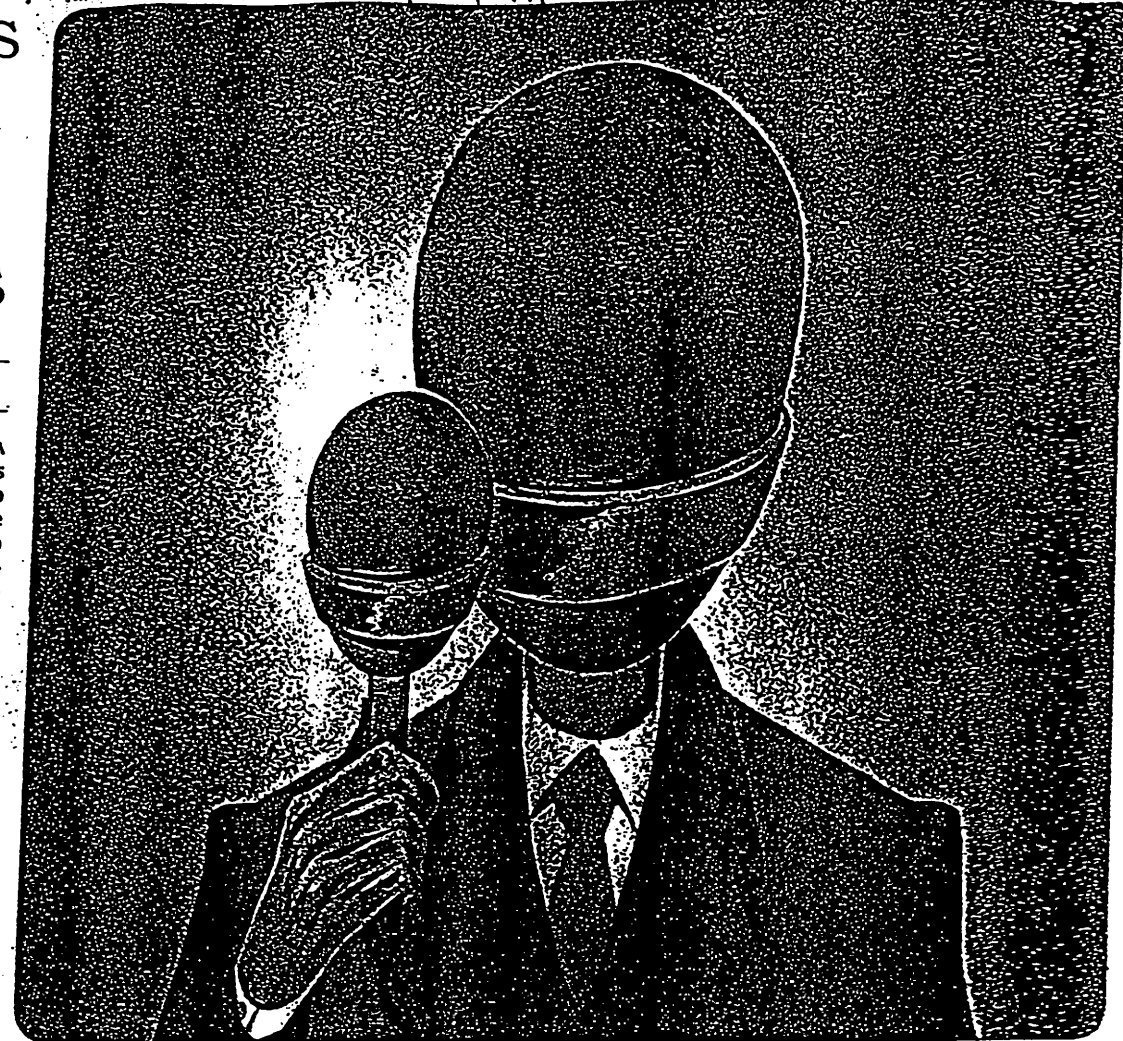
Over the last dozen years I made 13 trips to Baghdad to lobby the government to keep CNN's Baghdad bureau open and to arrange interviews with Iraqi leaders. Each time I visited, I became more distressed by what I saw and heard — awful things that could not be reported because doing so would have jeopardized the lives of Iraqis, particularly those on our Baghdad staff.

For example, in the mid-1990's one of our Iraqi cameramen was abducted. For weeks he was beaten and subjected to electroshock torture in the basement of a secret police headquarters because he refused to confirm the government's ludicrous suspicion that I was the Central Intelligence Agency's Iraq station chief. CNN had been in Baghdad long enough to know that telling the world about the torture of one of its employees would almost certainly have gotten him killed and put his family and co-workers at grave risk.

Working for a foreign news organization provided Iraqi citizens no protection. The secret police terrorized Iraqis working for international press services who were courageous enough to try to provide accurate reporting. Some vanished, never to be heard from again. Others disappeared and then surfaced later with whispered tales of being hauled off and tortured in unimaginable ways. Obviously, other news organizations were in the same bind we were when it came to reporting on their own workers.

We also had to worry that our reporting might endanger Iraqis not on our payroll. I knew that CNN could not report that Saddam Hussein's eldest son, Uday, told me in 1995 that he intended to assassinate two of his brothers-in-law, who had defected and also the man giving them asylum, King Hussein of Jordan.

Eason Jordan is chief news executive at CNN.



Times Photo

dan. If we had gone with the story, I was sure he would have responded by killing the Iraqi translator who was the only other participant in the meeting. After all, secret police thugs brutalized even senior officials of the Information Ministry, just to keep them in line (one such official has long been missing all his fingernails).

Still, I felt I had a moral obligation to warn Jordan's monarch, and I did so the next day. King Hussein dismissed the threat as a madman's rant. A few months later Uday lured the brothers-in-law back to Baghdad; they were soon killed.

I came to know several Iraqi officials well enough that they confided in me that Saddam Hussein was a maniac who had to be removed. One Foreign Ministry officer told me of a colleague who, finding out his brother had been executed by the regime, was forced, as a test of loyalty, to write a letter of congratulations on the act to Saddam Hussein. An aide to Uday once told me why he had no front teeth: henchmen had ripped them out with pliers and told him

Life-and-death decisions at CNN Baghdad.

never to wear dentures, so he would always remember the price to be paid for upsetting his boss. Again, we could not broadcast anything these men said to us.

Last December, when I told Information Minister Muhammad Said al-Sahhaf that we intended to send reporters to Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq, he warned me they would "suffer the severest possible consequences." CNN went ahead, and in March, Kurdish officials presented us with evidence that they had thwarted an armed attack on our quarters in Erbil. This included videotaped confessions of two men identifying themselves as Iraqi intelligence agents who said their bosses

in Baghdad told them the hotel actually housed C.I.A. and Israeli agents. The Kurds offered to let us interview the suspects on camera, but we refused, for fear of endangering our staff in Baghdad.

Then there were the events that were not unreported but that nonetheless still haunt me. A 31-year-old Kuwaiti woman, Asrar Qabardi, was captured by Iraqi secret police occupying her country in 1990 for "crimes," one of which included speaking with CNN on the phone. They beat her daily for two months, forcing her father to watch. In January 1991, on the eve of the American-led offensive, they smashed her skull and tore her body apart limb by limb. A plastic bag containing her body parts was left on the doorstep of her family's home.

I felt awful having these stories bottled up inside me. Now that Saddam Hussein's regime is gone, I suspect we will hear many, many more gut-wrenching tales from Iraqis about the decades of torment. At last, these stories can be told freely.

"We must support our leaders and our troops!! Freedom is never free!!"

Let us now reflect upon what a "Veteran" is. First and foremost they are true patriots of their country. These young men and women have given up their constitutional rights and unquestioningly do whatever our government leaders ask of them. They must show total devotion and loyalty to our government's preservation of freedom for its people. They must answer our country's call to protect its vital interest anywhere in the world at any given time. Their devotion to the preservation of western democratic ideals has carried with it a very high price. From World War I in 1917 through Persian Gulf War in 1994 over 41 million young men and women have answered our nation's call to protect freedom in our world.

So as not to confuse anyone, I would like to share with you a veteran's definition of war. According to Webster's Dictionary, war is defined as a "state of usu. Opened and declared hostile conflict between states or nations." When we look up the term "usu.", it states, "The abbreviated word applies to what is favored, sought, or purposefully cultivated."

Part two definition of war is "a state of hostility, conflict, or antagonism. A struggle of opposing forces."

I submit to you that not only was the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam Conflict a war, but so were our involvement in Beirut, Grenada, Central America, Persian Gulf, Somalia, Bosnia, and any other area in which our soldiers are engaged in hostile conflicts.

Anti-human rights group at surface

News Tribune 4/18/03

By Nat Hentoff
Newspaper Enterprise Association

If there were a George Orwell Prize for truth in international reporting, I would enthusiastically nominate Anne Bayefsky for her March 19 Chicago Sun-Times article on the opening of the 59th session of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva. Among the guardians of worldwide human rights, Bayefsky wrote, were such serial violators of the most basic human liberties as Syria, Sudan, Zimbabwe, China and Saudi Arabia.

The chairman of the commission is the representative of Libya, Najat Al-Hajjaji. Bayefsky — an international lawyer and a member of the governing board of the Geneva-based U.N. Watch — reported that as the chairman was about to speak, “hundreds of leaflets were dropped in silence from the second-floor balconies” by a group, Reporters Without Borders, based in Paris.

Their message:

“Disappearances, torture, arbitrary arrests, detention without charge or trial, pervasive censorship. Libya ... knows a thing about human rights violations.”

In supporting this claim, Amnesty International adds that the torture of political prisoners in Libya includes “attacks by aggressive dogs, causing serious injuries.”

One might hope that if U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, 2001 Nobel Peace Prize winner, had shown up at this grim opening session of the Human Rights Commission, he would have spoken for the tormented souls in the torture chambers of these nations and nobly exposed the shame of the United Nations that permits this grotesque hypocrisy.

Unfortunately, in all these years, Annan hasn't been a visible protester against slavery and genocide of the mostly black Christian population in Southern Sudan by that nation's National Islamic Front government in Khartoum.

When Eleanor Roosevelt was instrumental in supporting the

United Nations, I truly believed there would finally be a place where the wretched and abandoned of the earth would find relief.

However, in addition to the cruel farce of this Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva, Bayefsky writes of “the hapless Iraqi dissident who, weeks ago, frantically climbed into a U.N. inspector's Jeep in Iraq, only to be hauled off by Iraqi guards to certain torture.”

Meanwhile, I learned from the American Anti-Slavery Group that the African bloc of nations at the United Nations is working to get the Human Rights Commission to upgrade Sudan's U.N. human rights status by freeing Sudan from all previous economic restrictions and allowing the United Nations to provide economic support for that violent government.

You would think these nations would be against slavery.

In the Sudan Peace Act, passed by Congress last year and signed by the president, the United States flatly accused Sudan of genocide.

(According to the law, if Khartoum doesn't stop subjugating its opponents, sanctions will include opposing international loans and credits to the government.)

But, in the March 15 Boston Globe, John Eibner of Christian Solidarity International and Charles Jacobs, head of the American Anti-Slavery Group, pointed out that France has “provided Khartoum with military intelligence for the prosecution of (that government's) jihad” against blacks in the South. As for France and Germany's histories of appeasing the Khartoum government in Sudan, Eibner and Jacobs also reported that these two nations, “with the rest of the (European Union) and their new East European satellites in tow, overcame American objections and easily persuaded the U.N. Commission of Human Rights to censor any use of the word ‘slavery’ from official documents on Sudan and replace it with the euphemism ‘abduction’ — a lesser offense.”

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: Our LaSalle County Board and our citizens of LaSalle County have noted that thousands of American citizens have been targeted or killed over the last twenty years by international terrorists as our citizens have traveled abroad or even in our homeland. These barbaric terrorists have placed explosive devices in vehicles that were detonated next to United States Embassies or crowds, terrorists place bombs inside of restaurants, night clubs, or on airplanes killing hundreds of American citizens, and have flown large passenger airplanes into such places as our World Trade Center and our United States Pentagon, and

WHEREAS: Our United States one hundred and seventh Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 23 known as "Authorization for Use of Military Force" which grants the President of the United States "to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorists attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001 or harbor such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States by such nations, organizations or persons" who threaten the United States of America's national security and foreign policy, and

WHEREAS: The United States of America introduced in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441 which demanded that Saddam Hussein and his regime comply with the previous 16 United Nation resolutions that he had agreed to resulting in the 1991 Gulf War cease fire, disclosing all records of how he destroyed all his weapons of mass destruction and immediately disarm or face serious consequences. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441 passed unanimously as a result of Saddam Hussein's failure to comply with the previous passed 16 United Nations resolutions over the past 12 years, and

WHEREAS: Saddam Hussein's failure to comply had increased a severe threat to our United States citizens, our national security, and our foreign policy which has caused our president to send our soldiers to foreign lands in order to prevent weapons of mass destruction to be sold or given to other terrorist to be used on innocent free nations of the world, and

WHEREAS: In our Illinois Valley area, descendants of our area citizens have always answered our nations call to protect our freedoms by volunteering in all our wars such as the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War, and over one hundred other war engagements as a result of a possible threat to our citizens, our national defense, or our foreign policies. Our area soldiers have always unselfishly gave of themselves by entering into our Active Armed Forces, Illinois National Guard, or Illinois Military Reserve Units many of whom are currently serving to liberate the Iraqi citizens or those in Afghanistan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The LaSalle County Board in our great state of Illinois totally support the actions taken by our government in their endeavor to protect our citizens, national security and foreign policy from those who wish to reign terror on our people by expressing their barbaric behavior to the innocent of our world. We pray for the safety of our leaders, our soldiers, and all other involved in protecting our freedoms and hope that they remain safe in their actions, returning unharmed, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: A copy of this resolution take effective immediately upon passage and be sent to the following:

1. President of the United States, George W. Bush
2. President of the United States Senate, Richard Cheney
3. President Pro Tempore, Ted Stevens
4. Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Bill Frist
5. Minority Leader of the United States Senate, Tom Daschle
6. Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Dennis Hastert
7. Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, Tom Delay
8. Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of March 3, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Frank Suarez, seconded by Jim Kirby that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented to the delegates and alternates letter of gratitude received from veterans who were assisted by the LaSalle Veterans Assistance Commission office.

Jim Kirby told the Commission that on March 25, 2003 he went to the Iowa City VA Medical Center for an appointment. While he was there members of the V.F.W. and American Legion posts were giving veterans fruit or gift packs which contained items such as body lotion, tooth brushes, tooth paste, etc. He felt this was a very nice gesture and would hope that other veteran organizations would do the same at other VA health care centers.

Motion by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBER PRESENT: Delegates Jim Kirby, American Legion Post 549; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Alternates Ludwig Sikole, VFW Post 4079; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Bob Renz, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH 2003

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 24 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 13 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 34 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 40 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 10 veterans
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 0 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 6 veteran.
22. Sent 30 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 3 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 0 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran Widow awarded Burial Benefits for veteran's death, \$1400 (LaSalle, WWII)
2. Veteran awarded Social Security disability benefits, effective 10/2002. Received \$8612 for retroactive payment for period 10/2002-2/2003; \$1732 monthly from 3/2002-12/2003, \$17,320 (Total \$25,932) (Westend Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded 60% S/C compensation w/IUE (diff. \$1643) 9/2002-11/2002, \$4929; 12/02-11/03, \$19,716 (Total \$24,645) (Ottawa, Persian Gulf)

4. Veteran awarded 20% S/C benefits, effective 9/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$597; 12/2002-11/2003, \$201 monthly, \$2412 (Total \$3009) (Northside, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (40%-60%) (diff \$356), 12/2002-11/2003, \$4272 (Total \$4272) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
6. Veteran awarded Aid & Attendance on to his 100% s/c Compensation 9/02-11/02, (Total \$10,500) (Streator, Vietnam)
7. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension, 10/2002-11/2002, \$533 monthly, \$1066; 12/2002-11/2003, \$541 monthly, \$2369 (Total \$3435) (Streator, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment, \$16,665, effective 1/2002-3/2003; 4/2003-11/2003, \$1122 monthly, \$10,098 (Total \$26,763) (Seneca, Vietnam)
9. Veteran 90% S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective 6/2001-11/2001, @90% \$969 monthly, \$5814; \$995 monthly, 12/2001-10/2002, \$10,945; 11/2002, \$2163; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193, \$26,316 (Total \$45,258)
10. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (40%-50%) (diff \$135 monthly) 12/2002-11/2003, \$1620 (Total \$1620) (LeLand, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (30%-50%) (diff \$323) 5/2001-11/2002, \$6460; 12/2002-11/2003, \$3876 (Total \$10,336) (Eastend, Persian Gulf)
12. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$11546 monthly, \$4624; 12/2002-11/2003, \$13,822 (Total \$18,496) (Westend, Vietnam)
13. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, retroactive payment, \$6672; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1688 monthly, \$20,016 (Total \$26,688) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
14. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, effective 11/2002 (diff \$248) (\$40%-50%), \$248; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2976 (Total \$3224) (Oglesby, Vietnam)
15. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$1096 monthly, \$13157; 1/2003-12/2003, \$13,157 (Total \$26,314) (Streator, Vietnam)

16. Veteran awarded 100S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective
2/2003-12/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$24,123 (Ottawa, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	107,528.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	294,561.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	182,223.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,043,026.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,337,587.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

4. Veteran awarded 20% S/C benefits, effective 9/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$597; 12/2002-11/2003, \$201 monthly, \$2412 (Total \$3009) (Northside, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (40%-60%) (diff \$356), 12/2002-11/2003, \$4272 (Total \$4272) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
6. Veteran awarded Aid & Attendance on to his 100% s/c Compensation 9/02-11/02, (Total \$10,500) (Streator, Vietnam)
7. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension, 10/2002-11/2002, \$533 monthly, \$1066; 12/2002-11/2003, \$541 monthly, \$2369 (Total \$3435) (Streator, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment, \$16,665, effective 1/2002-3/2003; 4/2003-11/2003, \$1122 monthly, \$10,098 (Total \$26,763) (Seneca, Vietnam)
9. Veteran 90% S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective 6/2001-11/2001, @90% \$969 monthly, \$5814; \$995 monthly, 12/2001-10/2002, \$10,945; 11/2002, \$2163; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2193, \$26,316 (Total \$45,258)
10. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (40%-50%) (diff \$135 monthly) 12/2002-11/2003, \$1620 (Total \$1620) (LeLand, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded increased s/c Compensation (30%-50%) (diff \$323) 5/2001-11/2002, \$6460; 12/2002-11/2003, \$3876 (Total \$10,336) (Eastend, Persian Gulf)
12. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$11546 monthly, \$4624; 12/2002-11/2003, \$13,822 (Total \$18,496) (Westend, Vietnam)
13. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 8/2002-11/2002, retroactive payment, \$6672; 12/2002-11/2003, \$1688 monthly, \$20,016 (Total \$26,688) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
14. Veteran awarded increased s/c compensation, effective 11/2002 (diff \$248) (\$40%-50%), \$248; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2976 (Total \$3224) (Oglesby, Vietnam)
15. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 1/2002-12/2002, \$1096 monthly, \$13157; 1/2003-12/2003, \$13,157 (Total \$26,314) (Streator, Vietnam)

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 25, 2003.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Jim Kirby and Jerry Welch excused. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business was discussed. There was a lengthy discussion pertaining to our LaSalle Veterans Home. Superintendent Rue stated there were numerous beds open at our LaSalle Veterans Home due to the fact that the staff needed to provide the medical care has not been hired yet. He stated that everyone should contact Governor Blagojevich and their local state of Illinois senator and representatives asking that they intercede with this plight.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Frank Suarez, seconded by Delbert Spitz that the Service Officer's Report be approved as presented. Motion Passed.

Superintendent Rue submitted to those present a copy of the Budget Recommendation Form dated June 6, 2003, which covers 2004 budget recommendations. Delegates and alternates went through each line item presenting the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission's budget recommendations for the fiscal year 2004. A discussion entailed pertaining to no line item in our budget for legal fees. A motion was made by Frank Suarez, seconded by Delbert Spitz that a line item should be added to the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission budget for legal fees. Motion passed unanimously.

It was further noted that the salary line items of the Veterans Assistance Commission employees were totally blackened out so that no one would even be able to realize what those line items were for. The Commission noted that this is the first year that they have not seen the employee's line items as part of the total budget recommendations. They had asked Superintendent Rue to request a 2004 Budget Recommendation Form that shows each line item in our entire budget.

A motion was made by Frank Suarez, seconded by Ken Hausken that the figures discussed per line item of the 2004 Budget Recommendation Form by the delegates and alternates of the Veterans Assistance Commission be approved as they recommend. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE 2003**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 26 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 6 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 19 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 30 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 26 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 14 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 8 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 6 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 29 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 15 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 3 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 2 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, \$2274 monthly, effective 2/2003-11/2003, \$22,740;12/2003-2/2004, \$4558 (Total \$27,298) (Westend, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded increased S/C compensation, (20%-40%) (diff. \$244) 8/2001-6/2003, \$5368;7/2003-11/2003, \$1220 (Marseilles, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded S/C compensation w/(k), effective 2/2002-11/2002, 20%, \$219 monthly, \$2790;12/2002-11/2003 \$282 monthly, \$3384 (Total 46,074) (Marseilles, Vietnam)

4. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, 5/2003-6/2003, \$2318 (veterans compensation), 6/2003-11/2003, \$5688 (Total \$8,006) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, 6/2002-11/2003, \$1376 monthly, \$24,768 (Total \$24,768) (Earlville, Vietnam)
6. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, retroactive payment of \$13,340 for period through 8/2000-4/2003; \$760 monthly, 5/2003-11/2003, \$6080 (Total \$19,420) (Streator, Vietnam)
7. Veteran awarded 20% S/C compensation effective 8/2001-11/2001, \$272 monthly, \$816; 12/2001-8/2002, \$279 monthly, \$2511; 9/2002-11/2002, awarded 70% w/IUE, \$2367 monthly, \$7101; 12/2002-6/2003, \$2399 monthly, total retroactive payment, \$27,182; 6/2003-5/2004, \$28,885 (Total \$56,070) (Streator, Gulf War)
8. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, effective 6/2003-5/2004, (30%-40%) (diff. \$293), \$3516 (Total \$3516) (Streator, Gulf War)
9. Veteran awarded increased S/C compensation, 10%-40% (diff. \$391), effective 6/2003-1/2003, \$2346; 12/2003-11/2003, \$4692 (Total \$7038) (Westend, Vietnam)
10. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 7/2003-11/2003, \$957 monthly, \$4785; 12/2003-11/2004, \$11,384 (Total \$16,169) (Streator, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 1/2002-11/2002, \$372 monthly, \$4,464; 12/2002-11/2003, \$383 monthly, \$4596 (Total \$9360) (LaSalle, Vietnam)
12. Veteran awarded NSC Pension \$99 monthly, effective 5/2003-11/2003, \$693; 12/2003-11/2004, \$1188 (Total \$1888) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
13. Veteran awarded SSD effective 2/2003-11/2003, \$1729 monthly, \$17,290; 12/2003-1/2004, \$3458 (Total \$21,748) (Ottawa, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 82,105.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 430,543.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 125,838.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$1,711,405.00
 TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$2,141,948.00

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 23, 2003.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Adler present and all other officers excused.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A discussion ensued pertaining to the additional 80 beds needed at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. There are currently over 150 veterans waiting admission. Superintendent Rue stated that the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Roy L. Dolgus stated that he has the money to open up an additional 106 beds at the Quincy Veterans' Home and hire the staff needed to take care of that 106 beds. He also stated that he has money available to hire the staff and open up an additional 38 beds at the Manteno Veterans' Home. He further stated he is working with Hines VA Hospital to enter into a contract to open an additional 60 beds for nursing home care and hire the staff needed for that facility. He further stated that he is working with North Chicago VA on contract to open additional nursing care beds at their facility. His staff also mentioned that our senator had them testify on the Senate Funding legislation to add the additional 80 beds to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs said they testified in favor of the funding legislation, but our senator never called for the bill to be voted on in Committee. As a result, our funding legislation bill to add the 80 beds to the LaSalle Veterans' Home is still sitting in Committee. Neither the House funding legislation for our 80 beds nor the Senate funding legislation were called for a vote in Committee. We must contact our state of Illinois Representatives and Senator requesting that those bills be called for a vote in Committee and sent to the House and Senate for their approval in this coming legislative veto session of our Illinois General Assembly.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was given. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Chairman Adler stated that the Service Officer's Report would be accepted as presented.

Chairman Adler requested that a copy of all presented be mailed to the delegates and alternates who could not attend.

Chairman Adler dually closed our meeting of July 23, 2003.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235.

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JULY 2003**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 27 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 20 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 32 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 10 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 41 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 3 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 8 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 11 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 14 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 3 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 0 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 34 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 16 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 4 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 2 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, \$199 monthly, effective 11/2002, \$199; 12/2002-2/2003, \$201 monthly, \$2412 (Total \$2,611) (STREATOR, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded S/C compensation, 30%, effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$301 monthly, \$903; 12/2002-11/2003, \$310 monthly, \$3720 (Total \$4623) (LASALLE, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 11/2002, \$796; 12/2002-11/2003, \$807 monthly, \$9684 (Westend, Vietnam)
4. Veteran's daughter awarded Chapter 35 Educational Benefits, \$710 monthly, effective 8/2003-5/2004, \$8520 (Total \$8520) (Serena, Vietnam)

5. Veteran awarded 90% w/IUE, S/C Compensation, effective 5/2002-11/2002, \$2287 monthly, \$16,009; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2318 monthly, \$27,816 (Total \$43,825) (TONICA, VIETNAM)
6. Veteran awarded 100% convalescence due to hospitalization \$4386; 4/2003-11/2003, (diff \$1022), \$8176. (Total \$12,562) (MENDOTA, Vietnam)
7. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (30%-50%) (diff. \$331) 12/2000-8/2003, \$10,592; 9/2003-11/2003, \$993 (Total \$11,585) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefit, \$1187 monthly, effective 12/2002-11/2003, \$14,144. (Total \$14,144) (Westend, Vietnam)
9. Veteran awarded increased S/C compensation, 30%-70% w/IUE (diff. \$1887), effective 6/2003-11/2003, \$11,3226; 12/2003-11/2004, \$22,644 (Total \$33,966) (Seneca, Vietnam)
10. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation for diabetes, 6/2002-11/2002, \$199 monthly, \$1194; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2412 (Total \$3606) (Streator, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded unreimbursed medical expenses \$3407 (\$3407) (LaSalle, WWII)
12. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation effective 6/2003-5/2004, \$310 monthly, \$3720 (Total \$3,720) (Southwest End, Vietnam)
13. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation w/IUE, (diff. \$1473 monthly) \$17,676 (Total \$17,676) (Ottawa, Vietnam)
14. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation for diabetes 6/2003-8/2003, \$310 monthly, \$620; \$347 monthly, 9/2003-5/2004, \$3123 (Total \$3,470) (Mendota, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	14,144.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	444,687.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	171,061.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	2,165,092.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,337,153.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 27, 2003.

The meeting was opened in due form by Acting Chairman Frank Suarez. Roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Suarez present and all other officers excused.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Acting Chairman Suarez stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: All old business was discussed. All questions pertaining to old business were answered.

New Business: Service Officers Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers Report were answered. Motion was made by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Ken Hausken that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Acting Chairman Suarez stated he had heard that there were vacant beds at the LaSalle Veterans Home that were not being filled. Supt. Rue explained that according to the Director of the Illinois Dept. of Veterans' Affairs there are currently nine beds vacant as a result of staff shortages. The State of Illinois must hire 16 employees before those beds can be filled.

Motion by Jim DeMoss, seconded by Delbert Spitz that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375, Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; and Alternate Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2003**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 33 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 12 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 7 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 40 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 17 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 57 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 17 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 5 veteran.
22. Sent 28 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 31 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 3 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 21 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 1 memo to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
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35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 2 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 2 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
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46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
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48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (diff. \$186) 8/01-11/01, \$744; 12/02-11/02, (diff. \$211), \$2532; (diff. \$244) 12/02-11/03, \$2688 (Total \$5,964) (MARSEILLES, Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded reinstatement of NSC Pension, 1/02-11/02, \$372 monthly, \$4,092; 12/02-11/03, \$383 monthly, \$4,596 (Total \$8,688) (LASALLE, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive payment for period, 12/01-7/03, \$1,234 monthly, \$23,259; 8/03-11/03, \$4,936 (\$28,195) (Southwest End, Vietnam)

4. Veteran awarded SSD benefit effective 5/03-8/03, \$4,044 retroactive payment; 9/03-8/04, \$12,132, \$1,011 monthly (Total 16,176) (Ottawa, Persian Gulf)
5. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation, effective 4/02-11/02, \$439 monthly, \$2222; 12/02-11/03, \$5,340 (Total 7,562)
6. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, effective 3/02-11/02, \$369 monthly, \$3321; 12/02-11/03, \$373 monthly, \$4,476 (Total \$7,797) LaSalle,
7. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 9/03-11/03, \$3,342; 12/03-11/04, \$1,114 monthly, \$13,368 (Total \$16,687)
8. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 5/03-7/03, \$1896, \$3,792; 8/03-9/03, \$2103, \$4,206; 9/03-8/04, \$2193, \$26,316 (Total \$34,314) (Southwestend, WWII)
9. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation, 5/03-3/04, \$445 monthly, \$5,240 (Total 5,240)
10. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 5/02-11/03. \$2194 monthly, \$41,667 (Total \$41,667)
11. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, 12/02-11/03, \$1,052 monthly, \$12,624 (total \$12,624)
12. Veteran's Widow awarded NSC Burial Benefits, \$600.

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 73,682.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 528,369.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 111,832.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$2,276,924.00
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EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

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LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 27, 2003.

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Acting Chairman Suarez stated he had heard that there were vacant beds at the LaSalle Veterans Home that were not being filled. Supt. Rue explained that according to the Director of the Illinois Dept. of Veterans' Affairs there are currently nine beds vacant as a result of staff shortages. The State of Illinois must hire 16 employees before those beds can be filled.

Motion by Jim DeMoss, seconded by Delbert Spitz that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375, Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; and Alternate Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2003**

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25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

(Review pages 4+6 of these minutes)

ILLINOIS VETERANS' HOME AT LASALLE

Illinois Veterans' Advisory Council Meeting Summary
Saturday, September 13, 2003

1. The twenty-third meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Council of the Illinois Veterans' Home at LaSalle was convened at 10:00AM in Conference Room C on Saturday, September 13, 2003.

2. Representatives in Attendance:
 - 1st District II VFW - Mr. Martin H. Levit
 - American Legion - Mr. Bill Franquist
 - American Legion Am. Vet Adv. - Mr. Val H. Raloff
 - Polish Legion of American Veterans - Mr. Richard Foltyniewicz & Barbara
 - Catholic War Veterans - Mr. Joseph Iwaszek
 - Mendota Elks - Mr. Al Veverka
 - Military Order of the Purple Heart - Mr. Paul Mons
 - AMVETS - Mr. Martin Rue
 - VFW - Jeffrey A. Sacks
 - Polish Legion of American Veterans - Walter Komamicki
 - Veterans of Foreign Wars - Mr. Joseph Gerace
 - Disabled American Veterans - Mr. Elmo R. Younger
 - Catholic War Veterans - Mr. Pete Panier and Mrs. Angie Panier
 - VFW 5506 & VHPA - Jack Leininger- Guest
 - Senator Patrick Welch - Guest

3. Representatives Excused:
 - Marine Corps League - Mr. Joe McGuan
 - NW IL Chapter Korean War Veterans' Assoc., Inc. - Mr. Howard Faley
 - Navy Club - Mr. Jeff Rose
 - Marine Corp League - Mr. Bernard Payne
 - 1st DIV American Legion - Mr. William R. London
 - 1st DIV Cook County - Mr. John R. Shunick, Commander
 - Daughters of the American Revolution - Ms. Mary Flahaven
 - American Legion - Mr. Ralph Adler, Jr.
 - Streator Elks - Mr. Ron Barnhart
 - Waves - Mrs. Jean Goretski
 - US Submarine Veterans of WWII - Mr. Joseph Kovar
 - Military Order of the Purple Heart - Mr. Robert Farrell
 - Ex-Prisoners of War - Mr. Martin Parisot
 - The Honorable Lane Evans - Ms. Ginny Shelton
 - Disabled American Veterans - Mr. George Brown
 - Disabled American Veterans - Mr. George M. Isdale, Jr.
 - Combined Veterans Association - Mr. Eddie Butler
 - American Legion - Mr. Lloyd Henderson
 - American Legion - Mr. Ron Abel
 - IL N/W Korean Vets - Mr. Donald R. Hoem

4. Department of Veterans' Affairs Attendees:

IVH-L – Mr. James W. Arrington, Administrator
IVH-L – Mrs. Marilyn Weeks, Director of Nursing
IVH-L – Ms. Cheryl Damron, Accountant Supervisor
IVH-L – Mrs. Marian Bickett, Director of Volunteer Services
IVH-L – Ms. Carolyn Johns, Human Resource Specialist
IVH-L – Mr. Stanley Greicius, Adjutant

5. Mr. Arrington welcomed the Veterans' Advisory Council Representatives and others in attendance. He thanked everyone for all the support they provide the LaSalle Veterans' Home.

Mr. Arrington announced that we would be serving lunch following the meeting. The lunch will be the same as the residents. A total of 27 agreed to stay for lunch.

Mr. Arrington asked those who were in attendance to notify Vickie Trumpinski, Executive Secretary, whether or not they would be attending the meeting or not. The letter requests notification of attendance.

Mr. Arrington stated we have a new Governor, a new Director Mr. Roy Dolgos, and a new Assistant Director Rochelle Crump. The Director and Assistant Director could not attend due to prior engagements.

Mr. Arrington introduced our new Adjutant, Stanley Greicius. Mr. Greicius came to us with 8-1/2 years of experience as a VSO for the Department. He is knowledgeable of veterans' benefits and we are glad to have him on board.

Mr. Arrington announced that Mr. Carlson's doing well and his cancer is in remission. He volunteers at the Home quite often.

6. Mr. Paul Mons, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Vincent Lawniczak, President of the Home's Resident Council, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by the opening prayer by Mr. Stanley Greicius.

7. The minutes of the March 8, 2003 meeting were approved as presented. Motion made to accept said minutes by Richard Foltyniewicz and seconded by Val Raloff, motion carried.

8. Mr. Val Raloff brought to the council a paper from his American Legion organization regarding the purchase of cigarettes and newspapers for the Manteno and Quincy Homes. According to Mr. Raloff the Central Office of the DVA has announced that the newspapers are not being renewed and

cigarettes will **not** be purchased with the money from the Member Benefit Funds. Mr. Raloff stated that the State of Illinois is trying to tell them what they can do with their money. Mr. Arrington stated that the Member Benefit Fund by Statute, is for the special comfort, pleasure and amusement of the resident. At the LaSalle Home, the residents purchase their own cigarettes and newspapers. The Home purchases two local newspapers and they are placed in the front lobby for the residents to read. Mr. Arrington informed the groups in attendance they need to specify what their money is to go for. This can be done by putting the item in the lower left-hand corner of the check or by a letter indicating what is to be purchased with the money. It was stated that the LaSalle Home has a Wish List and any organization can call Ms. Marian Bickett and ask what is needed.

Mr. Vincent Lawniczak, a resident at the LaSalle Home, stated he and all the other residents at the LaSalle Home receive A1 care and it is a pleasure to be here. He appreciates the care he receives.

9. Ms. Cheryl Damron, Accountant Supervisor, announced at the end of the Fiscal Year the LaSalle Home had expended \$7,871,834 and were appropriated for \$8,486,900. The average cost per resident per month for FY'03 was \$5,844 with the average cost per resident per year being \$70,127. Pharmaceutical costs average \$285 per month per resident.

She thanked the organizations for their generous donations made to the LaSalle Benefit Fund during the year. We expended \$43,344 this year to provide "special comfort and amusement" items to our residents. Such items as: music programs which are well received, pet therapy, cable TV, internet services for the residents, etc. The music therapy has given the resident the most response.

The Home has been blessed with Auditors. They pull vouchers to see if they are correct.

Mr. Rue asked Ms. Damron if the pharmaceuticals the Home receives could be received from the Federal Government. Ms. Damron stated that Manteno and Quincy each have a Pharmacist on staff and LaSalle doesn't because of our size and storage limitations. At the present time, we are negotiating with Hines VA and the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic.

10. Mrs. Marilyn Weeks, Director of Nursing, thanked everyone in attendance for the many hours they spend helping the veterans' and staff at the Home. Items and hours in volunteering help us improve daily living for the residents of the Home.

She agreed that the music therapy is a big part of getting the low functioning residents to respond and is enjoyed by all the residents.

The staff at the LaSalle Veterans' Home strives to keep the residents content and functioning at the highest level possible. We offer physical and occupational therapy that keeps them active. We offer attractive and nutritious meals three times a day. Our new Social Worker II has improved our Coffee and Conversation group tremendously and more residents are attending. The Home purchases the local newspaper and places them in the front lobby for residents to read. A new aquarium was purchase for the SNU by a deceased resident's family and it offers therapy to the residents in SNU.

The Nursing Department continues to have a good deal of overtime. The staff is to be complimented for working these additional hours without complaining. We recently interviewed for two part-time RN's. LPN interviews were scheduled but no applicants showed up for their interview.

We continue to get students of the Nursing program at the local college, IVCC. Staff appreciates their assistance and residents enjoy the pampering they receive. The Home has a problem hiring new graduates as the private sector is able to hire "License Pending" and we are unable to.

*

Change the law. I ask Senator Welch to change it.

11. Ms. Carolyn Johns, Human Resource Specialist, welcomed everyone to the meeting and started out by informing the group that the current budgeted headcount for the LaSalle Home as of August 31, 2003 is 125 full-time equivalent positions. We have 129 employees, 117 full-time, 8 part-time, and 4 on Leave of Absence. We have 109 female employees and 16 male. Our turnover rate from January 1, 2003 through August 31, 2003 was 4.0%. At the end of August 2003 we had one contractual employee who works for us part-time in our Library.

*

The Home, at the end of August 2003, had a total of sixteen (16) vacancies – one (1) Public Service Administrator (a Nursing Supervisor position), three (3) fulltime Support Service Workers, one (1) part-time Support Service Worker, two (2) full-time Veterans Nursing Assistant – Certified positions, one (1) part-time VNAC position, one (1) full-time Licensed Practical Nurse II, one (1) part-time LPN I position, three (3) full-time Registered Nurse II positions, one (1) full-time Cook II position, and two part-time Cook II positions.

I asked Senator Welch to get home permission to hire the 16 short

To fill a vacancy, the Home has to prepare and send a "personnel action request" form to Central Office for their approval, they in turn send it to the Bureau of the Budget for final approval, it's then sent back to Central Office, and then returned to the Home for posting. This procedure has lengthened the time it takes to fill vacancies. Since our last meeting we have filled our Public Service Administrator (Adjutant) and RN II (Infection Control, Employee Health and Education) RN positions which are important and key positions at the Home.

Our Leave of Absence list consists of 4 employees, three (3) RN positions and one (1) full-time Office Assistant.

She also thanked everyone for his or her attendance and continued help and support.

12. Ms. Marian Bickett serves as the Volunteer Service Coordinator and supervises the Activity Department, which consists of one full-time Activity Therapist, a full-time Activity Aide and a part-time Activity Aide. Her days are full. Serving as the Volunteer Service Coordinator gives her the opportunity to work with all the wonderful groups and organizations who help out at the Home. She thanked the various groups who do so much for our veterans.

Since last March the following activities have taken place:

On May 9th we held our first annual senior prom, complete with decorations, prom pictures. All attendees had a great time. The staff contributed to this day by going out and getting prom dresses for the lady residents to wear and some participated by being prom dates for the residents.

A Memorial Day program was held in the memory of all the residents who passed away during the past year. The families of those residents are invited.

The annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon was held on June 4, 2003. Those volunteers invited to the luncheon accumulate 20 hours or more. During the past year 450 volunteers accumulated 6,576 hours with the residents.

On Sunday, August 3rd the Home held its second annual Family Day. An afternoon of special events was planned and the event grows each year.

Our Library has been opened for almost a year and a half and has been a great addition to the Home. Mary our Librarian does a great job of promoting the Library with the residents.

At the present time we are preparing for the Annual Fall Bazaar, which will be held on Friday, October 3rd and Saturday, October 4th. Proceeds from the bazaar benefit the Volunteer Services Department.

The Vets Gazette Newsletter continues to be a big part of her job. She is trying to keep it interesting for the readers and if anyone has suggestions for improvement, ideas for articles, please let her know. The Military Order of the Purple Heart sponsors the Vets Gazettes printing.

Included in your folder is a copy of the current Wish List for the Home. We appreciate everything you do for our veterans. There is no way we could do what we do for our residents if it weren't for the loyal volunteers who are always ready and willing to assist us.

* 13. Mr. Greicius stated the waiting list is at 364 applicants with 46 of them for the SNU. Admission to the Home is at least 1-1/2 to 2 years. We are admitting a new resident to the SNU on Wednesday, September 17th and another by October 1st.

* Presently there are 109 residents in the Home with 11 empty beds. Eighty-one (81) residents served in the Army, twenty-three (23) in the Navy, four (4) were Marines, and one (1) was in the Air Force. The Air Force and Air Corp are considered part of the Army. Eighty-seven (87) residents served during WWII, 80 are male and 7 are female, two (2) served WWII and Korea, one (1) served during WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, fifteen (15) served during Korea, and four (4) during Vietnam.

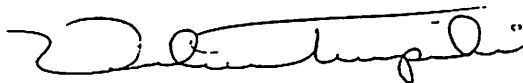
14. Mr. Arrington introduced Senator Patrick Welch. Senator Welch stated he appreciated the invitation to attend the meeting. He stated that legislation for the addition of the 80-beds had passed, but the appropriation for the funding did not. We were very fortunate to get this facility 11 years ago. Education, Public Safety, and Economic Development were what the Governor wanted. The 80-bed addition is the #1 priority for Senator Welch and Representative Mauntino for next year. They are trying to get the Governor to put the 80-beds and funding into the Budget before January 2004. Priorities need to be set and the funding of the VA Homes needs to be a higher priority.

15. Mr. Stanley Greicius gave the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 12:10 a.m.

16. The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

17. Lunch was served to the Advisory Council Representatives.

Respectfully submitted:



Vickie Trumpinski
Executive Secretary

*364 on waiting list.
15 apps. pending*

<u>COUNTY CODE</u>	<u>COUNTY NAME</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
15	BUREAU	21
27	DEKALB	1
40	GRUNDY	2
45	HENRY	3
53	KANE	4
55	KENDALL	1
58	LASALLE	43
61	LIVINGSTON	2
67	MARSHALL	3
71	MCHENRY	1
72	MCLEAN	5
80	PEORIA	2
89	ROCK ISLAND	2
97	STEPHENSON	2
98	TAZEWELL	1
106	WHITESIDE	2
107	WILL	4
109	WINNEBAGO	3
110	WOODFORD	3
200	COOK	3
700	OUT OF STATE	1

We need these Two Bills passed now. Tell your State of IL. Rep. 93rd

SENATE BILL NO. 590

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced February 18, 2003, by Senator Welch

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED

Appropriates \$12,000,000 to the Capital Development Board from the Capital Development Fund for the construction of 80 additional beds at the LaSalle County Veteran's Home. Effective July 1, 2003.

LRB093 10801 BDD 11236 b

SB590

LRB093 10801 BDD 11236 b

1	AN ACT making appropriations.	59
2	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,	63
3	represented in the General Assembly:	64
4	Section 5. The amount of \$12,000,000, or so much of that	67
5	amount as may be necessary, is appropriated to the Capital	70
6	Development Board from the Capital Development Fund for the	71
7	construction of 80 additional beds at the LaSalle County	72
8	Veteran's Home.	
9	Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on	75
10	July 1, 2003.	

HOUSE BILL 1422
93rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced February 6, 2003, by Representative Mautino

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED

Appropriates \$12,000,000 to the Capital Development Board from the Capital Development Fund for the construction of 80 additional beds at the LaSalle County Veteran's Home. Effective July 1, 2003.

LRB093 08353 BDD 08572 b

HB1422

LRB093 08353 BDD 08572 b

1	AN ACT making appropriations.	57
2	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,	61
3	represented in the General Assembly:	62
4	Section 5. The amount of \$12,000,000, or so much of that	65
5	amount as may be necessary, is appropriated to the Capital	68
6	Development Board from the Capital Development Fund for the	69
7	construction of 80 additional beds at the LaSalle County	70
8	Veteran's Home.	
9	Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on	73
10	July 1, 2003.	

A BILL FOR

FROM

JERRY WELLER

11th DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

(WED) 7. 23' 03 15:04/ST. 15:03/NO. 4861217329 P 2



HOUSE REPUBLICAN
POLICY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BIOTECHNOLOGY,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 18, 2003

The Honorable Rod Blagojevich
Governor
State of Illinois
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Blagojevich,

I am pleased to be writing you in regards to the legislation that you recently signed into law that will expand the Illinois Home for Veterans in LaSalle. Congratulations on this accomplishment!

As a result of this landmark legislation, I urge you to apply for federal funds from the State Home Construction Grant program, which could reimburse the State for up to 65% of the cost of the expansion.

As you may know, in the past, the State of Illinois had expressed concerns about the State Home Construction Grant program. Specifically, the State had made repairs and/or improvements to the home in LaSalle and had not been awarded funding by the federal government for these projects through the grant program. Last July, after working with the Ryan Administration and the VA, the State was paid \$7.3 million as a reimbursement for renovations/improvements made to State veterans' homes. The State is no longer due any reimbursement funds from this program.

Included in legislation enacted in the 106th Congress were changes for the requirements needed for submitting an application. After submitting the application, the VA will assign it a priority (if it approves the application), and the State will then have 180 days to meet all necessary requirements, including proof of the 35% matching funds. With the new law that you have just signed that guarantees the State has the matching funds for the project, the expansion will likely be placed high on the priority list for FY2004 funding. The application deadline for submitting projects for FY2004 is August 15, 2003. Due to the budget problems that the State is now having, I strongly urge you to apply for federal funds through the State Home Construction Grant program.

As you may know, I offered amendments to the VA, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies appropriations bills in fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001 to increase the funding for veterans' state grants, which are used by the Manteno and LaSalle facilities for

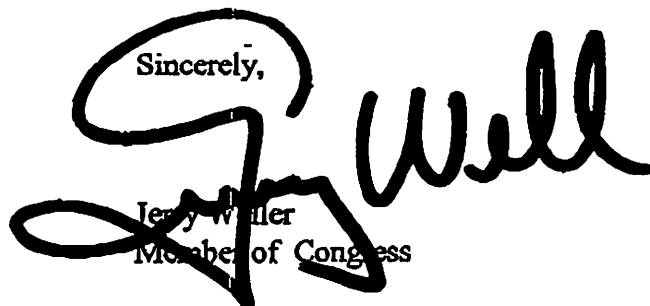
construction or addition of new beds or facilities. In FY2002 and FY2003, Congress fully funded the State Home Construction Grant Program, and President Bush has indicated that he will fully fund it in upcoming fiscal years. Our success with fully funding this program increases the chance that the state could be reimbursed for the LaSalle expansion project.

I am optimistic that funding for the LaSalle expansion would be awarded soon since this would most likely be designated by the VA as a Priority One project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jack Dusik on my staff at (202) 225-3635.

Thank you for your support of the expansion.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Miller". The signature is written over the printed name and title.

Jerry Miller
Member of Congress

Officials optimistic on vets home expansion

Barley Jones 3/5/99

By **JOHN SCARBECK**

Staff Writer

LA SALLE — A bill that would add 80 beds to the Illinois Veterans Home has better chances of becoming law this year, state legislators and veterans officials believe.

"With the overwhelming support of the House, chances of Senate approval are improved," said State Sen. Patrick Welch, D-Peru.

"Last year when we had the bill in the Senate, the (Illinois) Department of Veterans' Affairs sent their liaison to testify against the bill," Welch said.

"This year, with the new governor, we might have a new view from the department of veterans."

House Bill 307 was approved in the Veterans Affairs Committee Monday, but still must be voted on by the House as a whole.

State Rep. Mary Kay O'Brien, D-Coal City, said for a House bill to be considered by the Senate, it must be passed by the House by March 26.

Martin Rue, spokesman for the Concerned Veterans of the Illinois Valley, said the bill was first introduced in the state Legislature last year.

It passed the House unanimously but was killed in the Senate's Rules Committee, he said.

Rue said former Gov. Jim Edgar was against the bill, but Gov. George Ryan expressed support when campaigning last fall.

"In October of '98, when he was in Streator, he said, 'If I'm elected, I will get you those beds,'" Rue said.

Welch said Ryan also endorsed adding veterans home beds when he campaigned in La Salle last



Welch



Mautino

year, and "we're going to remind the governor of his promise."

Welch said if the House passes the expansion bill, the Senate would probably consider it in April. The House and Senate must pass the measure, and Ryan sign it, for it to be enacted.

Rue believes the bill may well become law: "We feel we've got a great shot at this."

But Rue explained that for the state to get matching funds from the federal government, it must first complete the expansion project.

The expansion would entail building an addition to house the 80 new beds, according to Otto Faflogia, deputy director of operations for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs.

Rep. Jerry Weller, R-Morris, said the matching funds — federal money equal to about 65 percent of the project's cost — would come from a pool allocated by the federal budget.

Weller said Thursday that congressional districts compete for funds from that pool, but "on the behalf of Illinois Valley veterans, I will seek those funds" if the bill becomes law.

He said the money won't be available until Oct. 1, when federal fiscal year 2000 begins. Also, the Illinois Department of Veter-

ans Affairs must first submit an application to the federal Department of Veterans Affairs before he can pursue funding.

Faflogia said the La Salle veterans home has 120 beds. If the home is expanded, it would have 200 beds, which Rue said represents the ideal figure for an Illinois veterans home according to a 1995 survey done by a Wisconsin agency for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs.

The state has about 1 million veterans. Since 90 percent of them live within 100 miles of the Illinois Valley, Rue said, expansion advocates have argued the beds should be added in the La Salle facility.

He said veterans typically wait two to three years after applying before they are admitted to the La Salle home, but the 80-bed expansion would "considerably" cut the waiting time.

Weller said the La Salle home has the longest waiting list of any veterans home in Illinois.

Expansion advocates, including State Rep. Frank Mautino, D-Spring Valley, who sponsored House Bill 307, have fought for the bed increase since 1993, Rue said.

To qualify for admission to the veterans home, a person must have entered military service from Illinois, served at least one day during a period of armed conflict and was honorably discharged, Faflogia said.

An Illinois veterans home mainly provides nursing care, he said. Extended medical care is provided at Veterans Affairs hospitals.

Rue said the Illinois veterans population is not projected to decrease until 2024 because of the predominance of veterans ages 45 to 49 and their expected life span.

Legislators look to add space to veterans' home

By **STEPHANIE SIEVERS**
Daily Times Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD — With hundreds of veterans waiting to get in and federal money available to help offset some construction costs, legislative efforts are again under way to add 80 beds to the Illinois Veterans Home in La Salle.

The \$12 million expansion could be paid for with \$7 million the federal government returned to Illinois for repairs and construction on earlier veterans' home projects and another \$5 million in state bonds, according to Rep. Frank Mautino, D-Spring Valley.

Because the federal government reimburses states for two-thirds of the cost of improvements made to veterans' homes, Illinois could get about \$8 million back after the project is complete, he said.

Mautino is sponsoring legislation this session to build the addition, which would bring bed totals up to 200 at La Salle. Sen. Pat Welch, D-Peru, is sponsoring similar legislation in the Senate.

Mautino said both lawmakers believe the project is a critical one. There are already 281 veterans waiting to get into the home and the man at the top of the list has been waiting for 15 months, he said.

There are waiting lists at all



Mautino



Welch

four of Illinois' veterans' homes, but La Salle's is the longest. Quincy has the smallest with 13, then Anna with 61 and Manteno with 243, according to John Johnston, acting director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs.

And Manteno has 38 beds sitting empty because the home can't find enough nurses to meet staffing requirements, Johnston said.

With a nursing shortage statewide, James Arrington, administrator of the La Salle home, said staffing could eventually become an issue there as well.

Mautino and the La Salle home have been pushing for more beds for about a decade, but legislation got stalled in the Senate. Despite a state budget crisis, Mautino thinks it may still have a shot this time because the state's share would come out of bond revenue and not the general revenue fund, where a multi-billion dollar shortfall is anticipated.

FIGURES IN MILLIONS

II. Funding in Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003

State or Territory	Medicaid	Flexible	TOTAL
Alabama	\$120.62	\$151.22	\$271.84
Alaska	\$34.11	\$50.00	\$84.11
Arizona	\$126.41	\$174.47	\$300.88
Arkansas	\$87.79	\$90.91	\$178.70
California	\$1,238.78	\$1,151.81	\$2,390.60
Colorado	\$94.21	\$146.27	\$240.47
Connecticut	\$140.75	\$115.81	\$256.56
Delaware	\$28.21	\$50.00	\$78.21
District of Columbia	\$44.48	\$50.00	\$94.48
Florida	\$398.48	\$543.48	\$941.97
Georgia	\$221.71	\$278.38	\$500.10
Hawaii	\$30.86	\$50.00	\$80.86
Idaho	\$33.91	\$50.00	\$83.91
Illinois	\$357.82	\$422.32	\$780.14
Indiana	\$163.41	\$206.77	\$370.18
Iowa	\$80.27	\$99.51	\$179.78
Kansas	\$79.40	\$91.42	\$170.82
Kentucky	\$153.77	\$137.44	\$291.21
Louisiana	\$162.30	\$151.97	\$314.27
Maine	\$64.30	\$50.00	\$114.30
Maryland	\$162.25	\$180.11	\$342.36
Massachusetts	\$298.61	\$215.90	\$514.51
Michigan	\$367.55	\$337.96	\$705.51
Minnesota	\$182.56	\$167.29	\$349.85
Mississippi	\$109.15	\$96.73	\$205.88
Missouri	\$208.22	\$190.27	\$398.48
Montana	\$23.40	\$50.00	\$73.40
Nebraska	\$57.95	\$58.19	\$116.15
Nevada	\$28.78	\$67.95	\$96.73
New Hampshire	\$34.36	\$50.00	\$84.36
New Jersey	\$290.58	\$286.13	\$576.71
New Mexico	\$71.40	\$61.86	\$133.26
New York	\$1,397.38	\$645.30	\$2,042.68
North Carolina	\$274.20	\$273.72	\$547.91
North Dakota	\$23.48	\$50.00	\$73.48
Ohio	\$383.13	\$386.07	\$769.20
Oklahoma	\$99.03	\$117.34	\$216.37
Oregon	\$125.58	\$116.35	\$241.93
Pennsylvania	\$490.34	\$417.62	\$907.96
Rhode Island	\$54.11	\$50.00	\$104.11
South Carolina	\$129.16	\$136.43	\$265.59
South Dakota	\$25.15	\$50.00	\$75.15
Tennessee	\$264.85	\$193.47	\$458.31
Texas	\$509.77	\$709.07	\$1,218.85
Utah	\$39.92	\$75.94	\$115.86
Vermont	\$29.83	\$50.00	\$79.83
Virginia	\$147.30	\$240.71	\$388.01
Washington	\$200.85	\$200.43	\$401.28
West Virginia	\$72.16	\$61.49	\$133.66
Wisconsin	\$196.74	\$182.39	\$379.13
Wyoming	\$12.75	\$50.00	\$62.75
American Samoa	\$0.46	\$10.00	\$10.46
Guam	\$0.77	\$10.00	\$10.77
N. Mariana Islands	\$0.28	\$10.00	\$10.28
Puerto Rico	\$25.53	\$129.51	\$155.05
Virgin Islands	\$0.80	\$10.00	\$10.80
TOTAL	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00

Our federal government passed the Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003 and President Bush signed it. Illinois received \$780,140,000 of which \$422,300,000 could be used for any state of Illinois budget need. Where is our money to build the additional 80 care beds that the La-Salle Veterans' Home urgently needs?

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News

Saturday, August 9, 2003

Governor releases pork money

Welch claims his district wronged

By Associated Press
News wire service

SPRINGFIELD — Just hours after releasing a list of pork-barrel projects Friday, Gov. Rod Blagojevich's administration took back three of them, angering one of his key Senate allies.

The state Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity said the proposals for lighting at a sports complex, a ball field and riverfront improvements, and a skate park were inadvertently added and would not be funded right now. Blagojevich has said he will only approve projects that benefit public health, safety, education and job creation.

That angered Sen. Patrick Welch, D-Peru, the appropriations chairman who helped push through Blagojevich's budget in the spring. Welch said Blagojevich's office told him last month that funding would be released to reimburse Mendota, which built a \$35,000 skate park.

"I've got a press release that I issued based on what they called and told me," Welch said. "That's ridiculous."

Laura Hunter, spokeswoman for the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, said the skate park, lights for a Springfield high school sports complex, and construction of a ball field and other improvements on Lyons' riverfront were never approved. The projects, totaling \$537,500, were accidentally added to the list released Friday, she said.

Lyons Village Manager Patrick Burelle said the \$1 million riverfront project, which includes an already completed ball field, has gotten half the money. Even though money was deleted from the list Friday, Burelle said he is confident the rest will come because the village has a contract with the state.

"We are in motion. It would be pretty hard to stop it now," Burelle said.

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Blagojevich's campaign for governor last fall included a pledge to end the practice of doling out lump sums to the Legislature for "member initiatives" — money that legislators could decide how to spend in their communities.

He later said he would OK \$450 million for projects already in the works if they met his criteria.

The list produced Friday included \$69 million in spending to complete 304 projects costing a total of \$147 million, to which \$78 million had already been paid.

Blagojevich said they passed muster and that he was obligated to fund them because lawmakers and the past governor had approved them.

"Education, health care, public safety and economic development (are) the principle that we're trying to follow," the governor said after cutting the ribbon to open the Illinois State Fair in Springfield.

Still, projects that raise questions remain. One involves \$1.7 million for remedial math and reading programs in Thornton Township High School District 205, in near south suburban Chicago.

Senate Republican budget negotiator Steve Rauschenberger of Elgin said sending extra money to a school district sets a dangerous precedent.

"It opens up for every state legislator and every school district a race to the bottom; everybody arguing that they need funding over and above what the state board (of education) allocates," Rauschenberger said.

The bulk of the money for the projects comes from the sale of bonds. That revenue cannot be used to balance the state budget's operating fund, which was running a \$5 billion deficit at the end of June.

But more than \$4 million of the money is from general revenue funds, including the Thornton school money, although the state faced a \$5 billion deficit at the end of June. Only \$550,000 of that was approved on the list Friday.

Historically, member-initiative money has been divided fairly evenly among the four partisan caucuses and the governor.

But of the \$147 million in projects on the current list, only \$7 million of them are allocated to Senate Republicans, who tried to block the budget, got only a fraction of what the other caucuses got.

Three of them were initially submitted by Sen. Kirk Dillard, R-Hinsdale, who was one of four Republican defectors to support Blagojevich on a key budget vote last spring.

Dillard did not dispute that politics played a role.

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"The governor and his staff operate by human nature and they're more inclined, in a close call, to do things for people they like and that cooperate with them," Dillard said. "And I'm sure the governor and his staff are sending a subtle political message."

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Department #: 31-2003 a 3:39PM Public Opportunity
 All member projects released to date as of 07/01/2003 @ 9:00 am
 State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
 no. 025 P.2
 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Project #	Legislator	Name	Fund	Count	Amount
DC0178	Shaw	Village of Dorton	BIBF	1	\$1,250,000
DC0174	Shaw	Village of Robb	BIBF	1	\$1,500,000
DC0376	Barkert	Village of Lincolnwood	BIBF	1	\$650,000
DC0542	Jones, E.	Chicago State University	BIBF	1	\$5,000,000
DC0671	Schmitt	City of Batavia	BIBF	1	\$187,200
DC0711	Wright, John	Northern Paul County Fire Protection District	FIF	1	\$50,000
DC0727	Kingler	Village of Dixon	BIBF	1	\$200,000
DC0748	Zicus	Village of Willow Springs	BIBF	1	\$1,300,000
DC0837	Link	Village of Riverwoods	BIBF	1	\$500,000
DC0858	Munoz	Association (IACA)	FIF	1	\$100,000
DC0880	O'Daniel	Village of Woodburn	BIBF	1	\$400,000
DC0895	Black	City of Danville	BIBF	1	\$800,000
DC0898	Black	City of Danville	BIBF	1	\$400,000
DC0887	May, Karen	City of Hillwood	GDF	1	\$300,000
GOV20011	Madigan, M.	AidCare	BIBF	1	\$3,500,000
GOV20004	Gov	City of Chicago for Horizons	BIBF	1	\$1,500,000
GOV20122	Gov	Illinois Institute of Technology	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
GOV20006	Gov	Hotocaust Museum	BIBF	1	\$5,000,000
GOV30006	Gov	City of Mearlham	GDF	1	\$1,230,000
GOV30032	Gov	Village of Chandon Hills	BIBF	1	\$300,000
GOV30039	Gov	Illinois Institute of Technology	BIBF	1	\$5,000,000
GOV30072	Gov	MidAmerica Inlandport Port Auth.	GRF	1	\$250,000
GOV30105	Gov	Village of Ballwin	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
GOV30108	Gov	Museum of Science and Industry	BIBF	1	\$5,000,000
GOV30112	Gov	Liba City	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
GOV30118	Gov	City of Quincy	BIBF	1	\$500,000
GOV30137	Hassett	Jeffrey Area Community Hospice	BIBF	1	\$400,000
GOV30140	Gov	Access Living of Metro Chicago	BIBF	1	\$2,300,000
GOV30141	Gov	Village of East	BIBF	1	\$636,000
GOV30142	Gov	Village of East	BIBF	1	\$815,000
GOV30143	Gov	Village of East	BIBF	1	\$250,000
GOV30148	Gov	Thomson Township High School	FIF	1	\$274,000
GOV30147	Gov	Thomson Township High School	FIF	1	\$250,000
GOV30148	Gov	Thomson Township High School	FIF	1	\$151,000
GOV30148	Gov	Thomson Township High School	FIF	1	\$1,025,000
LD0057	Brady	Living Park YMCA	FIF	1	\$100,000
HD0070	Davis, Montague	Scissors	FIF	1	\$50,000
HD0149	Howard	Village of Burnham	GDF	1	\$50,000
HD0216	McCarty	Village of Orland Park	FIF	1	\$170,000
HD0248	O'Brien	Harshbarger Legion Community Center	FIF	1	\$32,000
HD0255	O'Brien	Brookville Township	GDF	1	\$29,000
HD0289	Fowler	Sarino County Industrial Development Company	FIF	1	\$100,000
HD0301	Fowler	City of Mount City	GDF	1	\$40,000
HD0361	Fowler	Sarino Co. Sheriff's Dept.	FIF	1	\$24,000
HD0371	Fowler	City of Cairo	GDF	1	\$10,000
HD0372	Fowler	Village of Edgelyne	GDF	1	\$20,000
HD0376	Quinn	Harris YMCA	FIF	1	\$25,000
HD0470	Capprelli	City of Niles	GDF	1	\$125,000
HD0502	Capprelli	City of Chicago for the Chicago Public Library	GDF	1	\$100,000
HD0880	Shine	City of Peoria for the Neighborhood Development Commission	GDF	1	\$35,000
HD0739	Porty, Gary	Saline County	GDF	1	\$100,000
HD0872	Hebrack	Naplesh Township	GDF	1	\$29,000
HD0878	Habrook	Village of Caseyville	GDF	1	\$500,000
HD0921	Grandjean	City of Carthage	GDF	1	\$500,000
HD1042	Dart, T.	The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago	FIF	1	\$5,000
HD1059	Davis, Steve	Naplesh Township	GDF	1	\$25,000
HD1105	Acvedo	Hispanic American Construction Industry Assoc.	FIF	1	\$50,000
HD1151	Ratitz	City of Neshville	GDF	1	\$76,000
HD1162	Ratitz	City of Rad Bud	GDF	1	\$50,000
HD1162	Hartke	City of Olney	GDF	1	\$976,000
HD1239	Fritsch	City of Woodstock	GDF	1	\$100,000

HD#	Date	Time	Organization	Fund	Yr	Amount
HD2006	JUL . 31, 2003	3: 40PM	Waukegan Elementary School	FIF	1	\$30,000
HD20128			City of Granite City	COF	1	\$300,000
HD20129			Village of Homewood	FIF	1	\$25,000
HD20148			Southwest Women Working Together	BIBF	1	\$800,000
HD20166			Village of Stone Park	COF	1	\$30,000
HD20168			Village of Orland Park	BIBF	1	\$2,300,000
HD20202			Hilltop Hospital	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
HD20211			Chicago Youth Centers	FIF	1	\$30,000
HD30019			Chicago Park District	BIBF	1	\$10,000,000
HD30024			City of Lake Forest	BIBF	1	\$20,000
HD30026			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$3,000,000
HD30029			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$3,000,000
HD30030			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$2,500,000
HD30031			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HD30032			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$750,000
HD30033			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$800,000
HD30034			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HD30035			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$150,000
HD30041			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$1,225,000
HD30042			City of Rockford	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HD30057			Village of Hartford	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
HD30073			Jewish Federation of Metro Chicago	BIBF	1	\$1,705,500
HD30074			Indo American Center	BIBF	1	\$77,000
HD30076			Agudath Israel	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HD30077			Open Hand Chicago	BIBF	1	\$825,000
HD30091			City of Morrisville	COF	1	\$80,000
HD30113			Village of Dalton City	FIF	1	\$300,000
HD30117			Erickson Institute	FIF	1	\$254,800
HD30119			Chicago Academy of Sciences	FIF	1	\$500,000
HD30127			Village of Essex	COF	1	\$600,000
HD30139			City of Chicago, DOT	BIBF	1	\$3,500,000
HD30146			Springfield Center for the Arts	BIBF	1	\$5,500,000
HR0079			Frankfort Township Road Dist	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR0130			Village of Northbrook	COF	1	\$150,000
HR0158			Village of LaGrange Park	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HR0169			City of Plano	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR0217			Village of Virgil	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR0268			Morgan Co. Historical Society	BIBF	1	\$150,000
HR0316			Village of Oswego	COF	1	\$200,000
HR0379			City of Park Ridge	BIBF	1	\$400,000
HR0473			Quincy Area Projects	FIF	1	\$5,000
HR0489			City of Chicago for the Chicago Public Library	COF	1	\$400,000
HR0490			Village of Harwood Heights	COF	1	\$100,000
HR0491			Village of Harwood Heights	COF	1	\$100,000
HR0531			Village of Darien	COF	1	\$80,000
HR0546			Village of Elizabeth	COF	1	\$100,000
HR0582			Town of Sterling/Sterling Township	COF	1	\$100,000
HR0666			City of Dixon	COF	1	\$50,000
HR0715			Village of Villa Park	COF	1	\$725,000
HR0744			City of Elgin	COF	1	\$225,000
HR0855			Village of Lemont	COF	1	\$100,000
HR0903			Village of Willow Springs	COF	1	\$700,000
HR0909			Village of Lena	COF	1	\$200,000
HR20018			Village of Stibman Valley	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20024			City of Elgin	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
HR20029			Village of Lakewood	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20031			Family Services Community Mental Health Center for McHenry County	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR20032			Lake in the Hills Police Department	BIBF	1	\$58,000
HR20033			City of Danville	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HR20034			City of Petersburg	BIBF	1	\$234,000
HR20035			Village of Berlin	BIBF	1	\$400,000
HR20038			Village of Mount Prospect	BIBF	1	\$400,000
HR20040			Head House Inc.	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR20041			Mount Prospect School Dist. #57	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HR20042			Community Consolidated School District #2	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HR20051			Rolling Meadows Park District	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR20062			Heaven World of Barrington	BIBF	1	\$23,000
HR20054			Clearbrook	BIBF	1	\$55,000
HR20057			Palatine Park District	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20058			Community Consolidated School District #15	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20080			Palatine Township	BIBF	1	\$28,000
HR20089			WINGS program	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20086			City of Trenton	BIBF	1	\$100,000

HR3002 JUL 31, 2003		3:41 PM		Lab	
HR30033	Hoar/Mumaen	Eight PADS	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR30044	Leitch	City of Peoria for the Springdale Cemetery Management Authority	BIBF	1	\$280,000
HR30047	Mulligan	Fire Department, City of Dec Plaines	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
HR30048	Mulligan	Maine Township High School District 207	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR30066	Lindner	Big Rock Historical Society	BIBF	1	\$20,000
HR30065	Lindner	Kaneville Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR30079	Haasert	Village of Bolingbrook	BIBF	1	\$400,000
HR30082	Zickus	Village of Willow Springs	CDF	1	\$300,000
HR30083	Zickus	Village of Willow Springs	CDF	1	\$225,000
HR30096	Osgmond	Newport Township Fire Protection District for the Northwest Lake County Fire Training Cooperative	CDF	1	\$200,000
HR30098	Cross	Ready, Set, Ride Therapeutic Rec.	FIF	1	\$25,000
HR30101	Berna	City of Champaign	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR30119	Brady	Bloomington Fire Department	BIBF	1	\$147,900
HR30122	Winkol	Eastern Illinois Foodbank	BIBF	1	\$20,000
HR30131	Daniels	Field Museum of Natural History	BIBF	1	\$6,000,000
HR30132	Krause	Village of Elk Grove	BIBF	1	\$125,000
HR30134	Krause	School Dist. #69	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR30138	Schmitz	City of St. Charles	BIBF	1	\$125,000
HR30147	Moffitt	City of Galesburg	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30164	Zickus	Palos Comm. Cons. School Dist.	CDF	1	\$180,000
HR30180	Bedlock	Village of Clarendon Hills	CDF	1	\$500,000
HR30181	Biggins	Village of Westchester	BIBF	1	\$240,000
HR30184	Moffitt	Oncida Wreage FPD	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR30189	Moffitt	City of Galesburg	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30173	Schmitz	Office of Kane County State's Attorney	CDF	1	\$40,000
HR30181	Borns, Tom	Eastern Illinois Foodbank	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR30192	Daniels/Cross	Village of University Park	FIF	1	\$160,000
HR30188	Daniels/Cross	Wau. Co.	CDF	1	\$925,000
HR30205	Myers	Bushnell FPD	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR30206	Myers	Emmet Chalmers FPD	BIBF	1	\$150,000
HR30208	Myers	City of Carthage for Carthage Fire	BIBF	1	\$150,000
HR30212	Hoelt	Village of East Dundee	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR30214	Hoelt	Village of East Dundee	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR30223	Pankau	Village of Glendale Heights	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR30227	Daniels	Chicago Mem. Hospital	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
HR30228	Schmitz	Village of Burlington	CDF	1	\$100,000
HR30230	Poe	Spfld. SE High School	BIBF	1	\$40,000
HR30236	Jones, John	SW IL Resource & Conservation	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30257	Black	Eastern Illinois Food Bank	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR30260	Poe	Pleasant Plains Community Unit School District #8	BIBF	1	\$200,000
HR30264	Watson, Jim	City of White Hall	CDF	1	\$60,000
HR30285	Sommer, Keith	City of Mank	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR30288	Sommer, Keph	Village of Deer Creek	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR30307	Sommer, Keith	Village of Rutland	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR30325	Bedlock	Village of Hinsdale	BIBF	1	\$65,000
HR30331	Bedlock	Village of Hinsdale	CDF	1	\$35,000
HR30334	Winters	Rosecrance	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR30355	Leitch	Methodist Medical Center	BIBF	1	\$1,250,000
HR30385	Cross	Greater Joliet Area YMCA	BIBF	1	\$260,000
HR30404	Coulson	Glenview Park District	CDF	1	\$200,000
HR30408	Coulson	SHORE	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30410	Coulson	SHORE	FIF	1	\$40,000
HR30412	Coulson	8Koko Chamber of Commerce	FIF	1	\$5,000
HR30432	Coulson	Glenkirk	FIF	1	\$40,000
HR30443	Poe	World War II Veterans Mem.	BIBF	1	\$800,000
HR30456	Moffitt	City of Princeton	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR30471	Saviano	Village of Northlake	CDF	1	\$250,000
HR30473	Mulligan	City of Park Ridge	CDF	1	\$400,000
HR30479	Brady	El Paso FPD	FIF	1	\$24,200
HR30518	McAuliffe	Village of Noridge	BIBF	1	\$175,000
HR30544	Moffitt	City of Galesburg	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30611	Coulson	Village of Golf	BIBF	1	\$60,000
HR30612	Bassi	Hoffman Estates Park District	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR30613	Bassi	Village of Palatine	BIBF	1	\$150,000
HR30644	Brady	Bloomington Twnap. FPD	FIF	1	\$18,000
HR30655	Leach	Argonne Natl Lab	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
HR30675	Saviano	Village of Elmwood Park	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HR30680	Daniels	Field Museum of Natural History	BIBF	1	\$728,000
IF0322	Fowler	Johnson County	CDF	1	\$350,000
IF0370	Franks	McHenry County	CDF	1	\$50,000
IF0933	Morrow	Noah's Ark	FIF	1	\$15,000

JUL. 31. 2003		3:40PM	Community Memorial Hospital & Nursing Home	BIBF	1	\$205,000
HR20069	Black		Markum Charities	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20074	Wojcik		Alfred Campanelli YMCA	BIBF	1	\$450,000
HR20076	Wojcik		Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20080	Wojcik		Glenside Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20081	Wojcik		Village of Palatine	BIBF	1	\$175,000
HR20087	Bassi		City of Plano	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20089	Lindner		Blackberry Township	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20098	Lindner		Fox Valley Family YMCA	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20102	Lindner		Village of Bolingbrook	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HR20104	Hassert		City of Lockport	BIBF	1	\$360,000
HR20106	Hassert		Village of Elmhurst	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20110	Lindner		Village of Schaumburg	BIBF	1	\$70,000
HR20113	Wojcik		Village of Round Lake Park	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20117	Beaubien		Health World of Barrington	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20118	Beaubien		Seymour Fire Corporation	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR20119	Winkel		Village of Gleepy Hollow	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR20126	Schmitz		Kane County Sheriff's Office	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR20132	Schmitz		Dundas Township Park District	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20133	Schmitz		Village of Gilberts	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR20135	Schmitz		City of Athens	BIBF	1	\$250,000
HR20138	Kingler		Village of Prairie Grove	BIBF	1	\$35,000
HR20139	Beaubien		Village of Fox River Grove	BIBF	1	\$55,000
HR20140	Beaubien		Winthrop Harbor Grade School District #1	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR20155	Osmond		First Fire Protection District of Antioch	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20157	Osmond		Cadlin Public Library District	BIBF	1	\$120,000
HR20160	Black		Algonquin Township	BIBF	1	\$48,000
HR20163	Beaubien		Grant Township	BIBF	1	\$40,000
HR20164	Beaubien		Village of Fox River Valley Gardens	BIBF	1	\$88,000
HR20165	Beaubien		Village of Tower Lakes	BIBF	1	\$35,000
HR20166	Beaubien		Village of Wauconda	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20167	Beaubien		Westville Public Library District	BIBF	1	\$120,000
HR20173	Black		Walter Lawson Children's Home	BIBF	1	\$40,000
HR20177	Winters		Harlem Township	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20183	Winters		Village of Oswego (Veterans Memorial Fund)	CDF	1	\$20,000
HR20186	Cross		Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20192	Coulson		Village of Round Lake	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20198	Beaubien		Village of Westchester	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR20203	Biggins		Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sangamon County	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR20206	Poe		Village of Loda	BIBF	1	\$70,000
HR20210	Black		YMCA of Benwyn Cicero, Inc. (PAV YMCA)	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR20211	Lyons, Eileen		City of Ava	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR20216	Boel		McHenry County PADS, Inc	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR20221	Kurtz, Rosemar		Elgin PADS	BIBF	1	\$75,000
HR20224	Hogel/Munson		Village of Shawswood	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HR20228	Cross		Township of Troy	BIBF	1	\$50,000
HR20230	Cross		Village of Plainfield	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HR20232	Cross		Oswego/Lake Park District	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR20233	Cross		Village of Channahon	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20234	Cross		Housing Authority of the County of DeKalb	BIBF	1	\$76,000
HR20237	Wisting		Public School District #170 of Dixon	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20240	Mitchell, Jerry		Way Back Inn	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR20242	Biggins		Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$27,800
HR20244	Kurtz, Rosemar		Warrington Greer Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$95,000
HR20254	Black		Denville Family YMCA	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20255	Black		YWCA of Danville	BIBF	1	\$48,000
HR20256	Black		Township of Schaumburg	BIBF	1	\$108,734
HR20257	Wojcik		Thomas H. Boyd Memorial Hospital	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20278	Watson, Jim		City of Grifton	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR20280	Watson, Jim		Youth Attention Center, Inc.	BIBF	1	\$80,000
HR20283	Watson, Jim		Village of Rockbridge	BIBF	1	\$25,000
HR20284	Watson, Jim		Rutland Dundee Washo FPD	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR20295	Schmitz		Brookfield North Riverside Water Commission	CDF	1	\$250,000
HR20297	Lyons, Eileen		Save A Life Foundation	BIBF	1	\$100,000
HR30010	Poe		Mt. Pulaski Rural Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$30,000
HR30015	Mitchell, Bill		City of Des Plaines	BIBF	1	\$300,000
HR30020	Mulligan					

IF1248	JUL. 31, 2003	3:42 PM	of YMCA of Pisen	BIBF	1	\$450,000
IF1253	Mendoza, Susa	YMCA Pisen- Little Village	FIF	1	\$100,000	
IF1321	Young, W.	East St. Louis Community Action Network	FIF	1	\$150,000	
IF1348	Beaubien	Wauconda	BIB	1	\$250,000	
IF1385	Black	Vermilion County Airport	BIB	1	\$580,000	
IF1487	Durkin	City of Oakbrook Terrace	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
IF1854	Krause	Prospect Heights	BIB	1	\$700,000	
IF1748	Mitchell, Bill	City of Neoga	BIBF	1	\$180,000	
IF1848	Mulligan	Park Ridge	FIF	1	\$100,000	
IF1873	Myers, R.	Arendsville	BIB	1	\$200,000	
IF1901	Pankau	Roselle	BIB	1	\$100,000	
IF1919	Marquardt, Rog	Village of Glen Ellyn	BIBF	1	\$900,000	
IF1945	Pos	Oakford	BIB	1	\$230,000	
IF2023	Watson, Jim	Village of Woodson	BIBF	1	\$400,000	
IF2226	Wising	City of Rochelle	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
IF2312	Clayborne	Clyde Jordan Senior Center	FIF	1	\$75,000	
IF2349	del Valle	Norwegian American Hospital	FIF	1	\$20,000	
IF2469	Madigan, L.	Lesban Community Cancer Project	FIF	1	\$30,000	
IF2594	Donahue	Mt. Sterling Brown County	CDP	1	\$360,000	
SD0024	Halvorson	Village of Thornton	BIBF	1	\$200,000	
SD0051	Jones, E.	City of Chicago	BIBF	1	\$1,015,000	
SD0061	Jacobs	Erie Police Dept.	FIF	1	\$22,000	
SD0104	Shaw	Riverdale Redevelopment Corporation	BIBF	1	\$300,000	
SD0164	Jones, E.	University of Illinois, Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction	FIF	1	\$50,000	
SD0177	Bowles	Senior Citizens Services, Inc.	BIBF	1	\$200,000	
SD0280	Shadd	Bradley University for the West Main Redevelopment Association	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
SD0348	Rosen	Rogers Park Community Council	BIBF	1	\$800,000	
SD0428	Walsh, Larry	Manee Township	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD0494	Lightford	Lee's Infant and Child Care Center, Inc	FIF	1	\$78,000	
SD0599	Lightford	Loyola University Chicago Niehoff School of Nursing	BIBF	1	\$525,000	
SD0638	O'Daniel	City of Olney	BIBF	1	\$375,000	
SD20005	Demuzio	Blackburn College	BIBF	1	\$1,600,000	
SD20007	Jones, E.	Roseland Hospital	BIBF	1	\$1,500,000	
SD20012	Jones, E.	Bethel New Life	BIBF	1	\$1,100,000	
SD20013	Jones, E.	Lakeside Community Committee	FIF	1	\$400,000	
SD20082	Cullerton	Children's Memorial Hospital	BIBF	1	\$400,000	
SD20094	del Valle	Erie Family Health Center	BIBF	1	\$700,000	
SD20089	Munoz	Rainbow House	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20101	Welch	City of Streator	BIBF	1	\$1,250,000	
SD20121	Woolard, Larry	Village of Valer	BIBF	1	\$30,000	
SD20122	Woolard, Larry	County of Putnam	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20123	Woolard, Larry	Village of North City	BIBF	1	\$100,000	
SD20124	Woolard, Larry	City of Vienna	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20125	Woolard, Larry	Village of Royaton	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20126	Woolard, Larry	City of Mount City	BIBF	1	\$100,000	
SD20184	Jones, E.	Chicago Association for Retarded Citizens	BIBF	1	\$400,000	
SD20185	Jones, E.	Lakeside Community Committee	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
SD20178	Woolard, Larry	Village of Joppa	CDP	1	\$30,000	
SD20179	Jones, E.	Southwest Women Working Together	BIBF	1	\$780,000	
SD20180	Jones, E.	Chicago Housing Authority	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
SD20183	Jones, E.	Howard Area Community Center	BIBF	1	\$600,000	
SD20191	Bowles	City of Granite City	BIBF	1	\$200,000	
SD20195	Bowles	Nameoki Township	BIBF	1	\$400,000	
SD20201	Jacobs	Village of Erie	BIBF	1	\$100,000	
SD20205	Jacobs	Colona Grade School	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20206	Link	Vernon Hills Park District	BIBF	1	\$75,000	
SD20211	Link	Lake County Forest Preserve	BIBF	1	\$75,000	
SD20237	Viverto	Central Stickney Sanitary District	BIBF	1	\$540,000	
SD20238	Viverto	Garden Center for Handic.	BIBF	1	\$500,000	
SD20244	Link	Central Baptist Children's Home Family Services	BIBF	1	\$25,000	
SD20245	Link	Countryside Fire Protection District	BIBF	1	\$75,000	
SD20246	Link	Lake County Health Department & Community Health Center	BIBF	1	\$75,000	
SD20253	Smith, MA	Chinese American Service League, Inc	BIBF	1	\$50,000	
SD20255	Smith, MA	Charles Hayes Family Investment Center	BIBF	1	\$125,000	
SD20288	Trotter	Chesterfield Community Council	FIF	1	\$50,000	
SD20301	Jones, E.	Horizons Community Services	BIBF	1	\$5,000,000	
SD20302	Jones, E.	Access Community Health Network	BIBF	1	\$1,350,000	
SD20303	Jones, E.	Muntu Dance Theatre	BIBF	1	\$4,500,000	
SD20309	Cullerton	Chicago Historical Society	BIBF	1	\$75,000	

SD2031 JUL 31, 2003 3:42PM		Memorial Hospital			
SD20313	Jacobs	Colona Police Department	BIBF	1	\$1,412,000
SD20324	O'Daniel	Southtown Youth Program	BIBF	1	\$28,000
SD20341	Demuzio	City of Carlinville	CDF	1	\$400,000
SD30042	Jones, E	Little Black Pearl Workshop	FFI	1	\$250,000
SD30047	Demuzio	Carlinville Public Schools Foundation	BIBF	1	\$100,000
SD30060	Jones, E.	IL Assoc. of Minorities in Gov't	BIBF	1	\$250,000
SD30071	Hendon	Outreach Mission Christian Center	FFI	1	\$200,000
SD30078	Jones, E.	Little Black Pearl Workshop	BIBF	1	\$1,500,000
SD30080	Jones, E	Palliative Health Care	BIBF	1	\$250,000
SD30104	Demuzio	Blackburn College	BIBF	1	\$170,000
SD30130	Jones, E	Senonia Centre	BIBF	1	\$125,000
SD30133	Jones, E	Children's Home and Aid Society	BIBF	1	\$3,500,000
SD30135	Jones, E	Little Company of Mary Hospital	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
SD30137	Jones, E	St. Leonard's Ministries	BIBF	1	\$500,000
SD30139	Jones, E	Chicago Music & Dance Theatre	BIBF	1	\$10,000,000
SD30168	Jones, E	Children's Mem. Hospital	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
SD30175	Viverto	Thomas Edison School	FFI	1	\$0,000
SD30192	Jones, E	Chicago Housing Authority	CDF	1	\$2,000,000
SD30207	Jones, E	Chicago State University	BIBF	1	\$100,000
SD30213	Jones, E	Chicago State Univ/Argonne	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
SD30216	Jones, E.	Concordia Lutheran Church	BIBF	1	\$2,000,000
SR20041	Dillard	Village of Clarendon Hills	CDF	1	\$200,000
SR20042	Dillard	City of Danon	CDF	1	\$100,000
SR20048	Dillard	Village of Lemont	CDF	1	\$100,000
SR20053	Dillard	Village of Woodridge	CDF	1	\$128,000
SR20263	Dillard	Village of Mount Prospect	BIBF	1	\$150,000
SR20327	Noland	Austin Twship Road District	BIBF	1	\$40,000
SR20385	Danahue	Schwuyler Co FPD	BIBF	1	\$175,000
SR30060	Phillip	Village of Glendale Heights	BIBF	1	\$100,000
SR30088	Philip	City of Elmhurst Public Library	BIBF	1	\$1,000,000
SR30141	Cronin	City of Elmhurst Public Library	BIBF	1	\$275,000
SR30150	Weaver	University of Illinois	BIBF	1	\$0,000,000
SR30160	Parker	SHORE Community Services	FFI	1	\$33,000
SR30225	Radogno	Trinity Services	BIBF	1	\$100,000
SR30292	Sullivan	Village of Norridge	BIBF	1	\$50,000
SR30421	Phillip	Museum of Broadcast Communications	BIBF	1	\$1,800,000
SRS0453	Dillard	Village of Clarendon Hills	BIBF	1	\$360,000
Total				380	\$197,578,334



VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF WILL COUNTY



EXECUTIVE CENTRE • 128 N. SCOTT STREET • JOLIET, IL 60432-4210 • (815) 740-8389 • FAX (815) 740-4329
<http://www.willcountyillinois.com/veterans/VetHomePage.htm> vacwc/willcountyillinois.com

TO: SUPT. MARTIN RUE *Marty*
FROM: JIM DENBOW *Jim Denbow*
DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2003
RE: VAC VAN DRIVERS

OFFICE STAFF
SUPERINTENDENT
JAMES W. DENBOW

SERVICE OFFICER
CYNTHIA KETCHAM

ADMIN. AIDE
SHARON L. FRANK

TRANSIT V.S.O.
MICHAEL SEVERADO

I really enjoyed our conversation concerning Will County VAC providing transportation to our 38,601 veterans. Just to cover a few points of our conversation.

Van Driver: VAC Will County Transit Service Officer
Salary: \$21,500.00 yearly
Started: March 17, 2003.
Benefits: Complete umbrella of Will County Employee benefits. Including health insurance, sick days, personal days, vacation days, yearly salary increases. and IMRF Retirement.

COMMISSION OFFICERS
CHAIRMAN
WAYNE HORNE

Our driver is also an accredited service officer. He does some case work at Hines VAMC, the only VA hospital we deliver veterans to. We also keep him in our office at least one day per week to do additional VA case work. Our advocacy work continues to increase the dollars returned to our community by the USDVA. With our population increase that Will County has experienced, we could use a third VSO in our office.

VICE CHAIRMAN
TONY SALLESE

To accomplish this task, the Will County Board has allowed us to continue to use a select group of volunteer drivers. These volunteer drivers drive the Will County para-transit 14 passenger bus, usually 1-2 times weekly, and are covered by Will County auto insurance. They are volunteers and are not paid a salary from Will County or my VAC office.

SECRETARY
ALVIN KNOX

One thing my Commission Board does, now not my VAC Office or my will county budget, is to provide a gift certificate to a local restaurant for the volunteer drivers. When they have driven five days, they are given a \$25.00 meal certificate. This is provided by my Commission. They have 2 yearly fund raisers to be able to provide this incentive to their volunteers. They raise close to \$4,000.00 yearly and also provide a yearly banquet for their volunteer drivers.

TREASURER
PAUL E. BRIESE

I hope this idea can assist your VAC in continuing this very important service to your 11,224 LaSalle County Veterans.

SGT-AT-ARMS
ANTHONY MIKULIC

TO PROTECT-PROMOTE-PROVIDE NEEDED SERVICES TO ALL MILITARY VETERANS

CHAPLAIN
THOMAS RILEY

MEMBERS
DONALD WALDEN
WILLIAM DUERR

PAST CHAIRMAN
J.C. TROMP

MEMBER
ORGANIZATIONS
AMERICAN LEGION
VOYURE 40 ETB
V.F.W.
D.A.V.
AMVETS

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of September 24, 2003.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing our Chaplin and Sgt. At Arms excused and all other present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Once again our LaSalle Veterans Home was discussed and Supt. Rue shared with the delegates and alternates present the minutes of the Sept. 13, 2003 Illinois Veterans Advisory Council meeting which took place at our LaSalle Veterans Home. He stated that the LaSalle Veterans Home was experiencing higher expenses each year for their pharmaceutical needs. Supt. Rue suggested that the home contact Hines VA Hospital and see if they couldn't enter into an intergovernmental agreement to purchase all pharmaceutical needs from the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs. Their cost would surely be significantly less. It was also discovered that the LaSalle Veterans Home was short sixteen full-time health service providers resulting in eleven beds remaining vacant at the home. The State of Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs has not given them authorization to hire those sixteen needed employees. Supt. Rue asked Senator Pat Welch who was present to see that those sixteen employees are authorized to be hired immediately. It was also noted at the meeting that the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs cannot hire graduating nurses until they receive their license from the State of Illinois. Supt. Rue noted that many private and public health care providers do hire those graduates while their license are pending. Supt. Rue asked Senator Welch to change that state law so your veterans homes can hire these individuals while their license are pending instead of waiting 120 days or more for those graduates to get their grades from testing.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Frank Suarez that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue shared with the delegates and alternates present the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Opportunity Funded Programs and the Illinois funds received from the federal government as a result of the Jobs and Growth Tax Act, which was passed in Washington, D.C. and signed by President Bush. He also reminded those present that the law passed to generate one billion dollars of funds for bricks and mortar for Illinois First Projects has not been rescinded. As a result of the enclosed funding charts and the Illinois First Pork Barrel Funds there is approximately two billion dollars for priority projects. From that we should be able to get \$12 million for our 80-bed expansion. All present were asked to write to Governor Rod Blagojevich and their state senator and representative asking that they immediately fund the badly needed 80 beds for our LaSalle Veterans Home. There are over 365 individuals waiting for admission.

Motion by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Frank Suarez, American Legion Post 375; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Rick Olesen, VFW Post 2470 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2003**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 32 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 6 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 17 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 27 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 5 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 40 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 9 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 14 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 3 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 16 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 7 memo to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 518 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 4 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 3 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$1195 monthly, effective 6/03-5/04, \$14,240 (Total \$14,240) (WESTEND , Vietnam)
2. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 5/03-11/03, \$807 monthly, \$5666; 12/03-11/04, \$9684 (Total \$15,340) (STREATOR, Vietnam)
3. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive payment for period, 7/02-8/03, \$1,560 monthly, \$21,735; 9/03-8/04, \$18,720 (Total \$40,455) (OTTAWA, Vietnam)
4. Veteran awarded increased S/C compensation, (20%-30%) (diff. \$109) 8/03-11/03, \$327; 12/03-11/04, \$1308 (Total \$1635) (SENECA, PEACETIME)

5. Veteran awarded SSD effective 10/03-11/03,
\$1002 monthly, \$2004;12/03-11/04, \$12,240
(Total \$14,244) (Streator, Vietnam)
6. Widow of Veteran awarded DIC, effective
5/03-11/03, \$948 monthly, \$6636;12/03-11/04,
\$4740, (Total \$11,376797) (WestEnd, Vietnam)
7. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation effective
6/01-8/02, \$101 monthly, \$202;9/01-12/01, \$404;
12/01-5/02, \$103 monthly, \$618; 6/02-11/02,
\$306 monthly, \$1866;12/02-6/03, \$310 monthly,
\$1860;7/03-5/04, \$347 monthly, \$4164
(Total \$7,864) (Marseilles, Vietnam)
8. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation,
effective 10/98-10/03, (diff \$1624) (50%-100%)
BVA decision, \$97,440;11/03-11/04, \$19,488.
(Total \$116,928) (Grand Ridge, Persian Gulf)
9. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, 10/02-11/02,
\$306 monthly, \$612;12/02-11/03, \$310 monthly,
\$3720 (Total \$4,332) (Peru, Persian Gulf)
10. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, effective
2/03-11/03, \$347 monthly, \$4,164 (Total \$4,164)
(SouthEnd, Vietnam)
11. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation with a (k),
\$282 monthly, 12/02-11/03, \$3384 (Total \$3,384)
(Marseilles, Vietnam)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 54,699.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 583,068.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 179,263.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$2,456,187.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$3,039,255.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 26 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Jim Monardi	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Nick Nekrosia	Post 426	Del	224-2204
Douglas Grieve	Am Legion 260 Tonica	Del Commodore	252 6974
Jim DEMOSS	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2959
KEN HAUSKEN	VFW 5506	Alternate	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

100

100

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been
 named in the report of the committee on the subject of the
 proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of New York.
 The names are given in the order in which they were named in the
 report.

The names of the persons who have been named in the report of the
 committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution
 of the State of New York are as follows:

The names of the persons who have been named in the report of the
 committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the constitution
 of the State of New York are as follows:

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov. 19, 2003

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACOTT	4668 VFW		223-9257
RALPH ADLER	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
DELBERT SPITZ	4079 VFW	Del	538-2023
Jim DEMOSS	5506 VFW	DEL	795-2959
KEN HAUSKEN	5506 VFW	DEL	795-2466
TONY KARLZWESKI	OWV LaSALLE	Del	224-3035
Nick Nekrasius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb 25/04

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Pacutti	AL VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Howard Mast	AL 549	Comr.	815-246-9689
Jim DeMood	VFW 5506		795-2959
Kent Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2825
Bob Burt	AL 540	Adjt	539-3077
Carl Key	AL 540	Secretary	539-7759
Robert Stutz	VFW 4079	Service Off.	538-2023
Joseph Buechel	CVV Post 1229	Del	223 4179
Nick Nekrasus	AL 426	Del	224-2304
Douglas Griere	Touica 260	Commander	252-6974

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Fred BURNETTE
603-9th AVE
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-3077 left mess.

HOWARD GAST Com 549
4443 E. 1309 RD
EARLVILLE, IL 60518
815-246-1

Carl E. Key alternate
1700 Burlington SE. Apt 206
Mendota, IL 61342 left message
Phone 815. 539-7759.

Douglas Grielle can't make it.
American Legion Post 260 P.O. Box 101
Tonica IL 61370 252 6974 cell phone

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A 103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 24/04

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<i>Calvin Abitz</i>	<i>VFW Post 4079</i>	<i>Sec. off.</i>	<i>535-2023</i>
<i>Ralph Allen</i>	<i>AL 235</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>795-5436</i>
<i>Fred Burnett</i>	<i>AL 540</i>	<i>DeLEGATE</i>	<i>539-3077</i>
<i>Howard Gast</i>	<i>A.L. 549</i>	<i>Commander</i>	<i>815-246-9689</i>
<i>Jim Nourli</i>	<i>A.L Post 33</i>	<i>DeLEGATE</i>	<i>434-4633</i>
<i>Joseph Luszczak</i>	<i>CWV Post 1029</i>	<i>Rep.</i>	<i>223 4179</i>
<i>Nick Nekrusina</i>	<i>Am Legion 426</i>	<i>Del</i>	<i>224-2204</i>
<i>Ken Hauken</i>	<i>VFW 5506</i>	<i>DEL</i>	<i>795-2466</i>
<i>Jim DeMond</i>	<i>VFW 5506</i>	<i>AL</i>	<i>795-2959</i>

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 23, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PARETTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ralph Adla	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Core Key	AL 540	FINANCE O-	539-7159
Robert Spitz - VFW		del	538-2023
Joseph Swaged	CWV	DEL	223 4179
Nick Nekrasine	Am Legion LaSalle	DEL	224-2204
Jim DeMoad	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2959
Ken Hawk	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
Douglas Grice	Russell Zear 260 Tonica	Commander	252 6974

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE July 21, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adla	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
NICK PACEPTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Howard Gast	Post 549	Post Comm.	246-9689
Jim Novak	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Fred BURNETTE	Post 540	Post Adjutant	539-3077
Ken Hauka	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
Malabets	VFW 4079	Del	538-2023
Care Key	Post 540	-	539-7759

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug 25, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Ralph Allen	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Robert Spitz	V.F.W. 4079	Del	538-2023
Nick Nekrasov	Am Legion 426	Del	229-2204
Joe WASZEK	EW V Post 1229	Del	223 4179
Fred Burnett	Am Legion 540		539-3077
KEW HAUSKEN	VFW 5506	DEL	295-2466
Doug Grieve	Touisa American Legion 260		252 6974
Jim Manske	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

1942

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 28. 28th of January
 29. 29th of January
 30. 30th of January
 31. 31st of January

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Sept. 22, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Nick Nekrasius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204
Joe Iwaszek	CWU Post 1229	Del.	223 4189
Douglas Grice	American Legion Post 260	Del	252-6974
Robert Spitz	V.F.W. #4079	Del	538-2023
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	295-2466 (FAX)

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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Bottom section of the page containing additional handwritten text, possibly a continuation of the notes or a separate entry.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 27, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Ralph Adle	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Douglas Grieve	Tonica 260		252-6974
Howard Gast	AL 549	Post Com.	246-9689
Nick Nekrosius	Am Legion 466	Del	224-2204
Jim Noroshi	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Joseph Swassgel	Post 1779	Del	233-4179
Carl Key	Mendota 540		539-7759
Del Spitz	Mendota ^{VFW} 4079	Del	538-2023
Ken Hawk	MARSHALLS VFW 5506 DR		295-2460

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 27, 2004.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler state the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates questioned the status of the 80-bed addition to the LaSalle Veterans Home. Superintendent Rue stated the funding is to be brought up in the override veto session. We must keep in touch with Representative Mautino and Senator Welch to make sure our funding stays in the capital project bond bills.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue went through numerous handouts with the delegates and alternates present. All questions pertaining to those handouts were answered.

Our annual meeting will be held November 17, 2004 due to Thanksgiving being on the 25th of November. As required by our bylaws, Superintendent Rue is instructed to send a letter to all delegates and alternates ten days prior to the annual meeting. This will also be the night of the election of our VAC officers for the upcoming year.

A motion was made by Douglas Grieve seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting minutes of September 22, 2004.

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Ralph Adler excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Vice-Chairman Iwaszek said that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue informed those present that the health service personnel needed to open the ten empty beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home have been hired. He was further told that by the end of October 2004 all beds would be filled.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ken Hausken, seconded by Douglas Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; and Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2004

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 32 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 76 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 7 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 19 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 53 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 10 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 27 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 4 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 67 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 6 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 6 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 10 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 23 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 1 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded TDIU w/70% service connected compensation, effective 10/2003-11/2003, \$2318, \$4636;12/2003-11/2004, \$2366 monthly, \$28,322 (Total \$33,028) PTSD, Vietnam, Ottawa
2. Veteran awarded \$22,986 retroactive pay for SSI. Back condition, Vietnam, Marseilles,
3. Veteran's widow awarded 100% S/C Compensation due to prostrate cancer. (Total \$28,392) Ottawa, Vietnam, Cancer

4. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits based upon the S/C death of veteran, effective 6/2004-6/2005, \$967 monthly, \$11,604; accrued benefit 6/2004, \$2239; Burial Benefit, \$2000 (Total \$15,843)
Westend, WWII, POW Heart Condition
5. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation for diabetes, effective 11/2002, \$197; 12/2002-11/2003, \$201, \$2412; 12/2003-11/2004, \$205 monthly, \$2460 (Total \$5069)
LaSalle, Vietnam, Diabetes
6. Veteran granted NSC Pension benefits, \$824 monthly, 12/2003-11/2004, (Total \$9888)
Peru, Vietnam, Heart Condition
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension benefits, \$488 monthly, effective 4/2004-3/2005, (Total \$5876)
Ottawa, Vietnam, Stroke
8. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 11/2003, \$201 monthly, 12/2003-11/2004, \$205 monthly, \$2460 (Total \$2661) LaSalle, Peacetime, Hand/Back
9. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, w/IUE, \$2239 effective 12/2003-11/2004, \$26,868 (Total \$29,107)
Streator, Vietnam, Diabetes/PTSD
10. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$824 monthly, \$9888 (Total \$9888) Ottawa, Vietnam, Mental
11. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation for MS, 30%, combined 80% w/IUE, \$2239 monthly, effective 12/2003-11/2004, \$26,868 (Total \$26,868)
Ottawa, Vietnam, PTSD/MS
12. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 10/2002-11/2003, \$5628; 12/2003-11/2004, \$454 monthly, \$5448 (Total \$10,716)
Vietnam, Earlville, Heart/Diabetes
13. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, \$1029 monthly, effective 9/2004-11/2004, \$2058; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1057 \$12,684 (Total \$14,742)
Ottawa, Vietnam, Mental
14. Veteran Widow awarded accrued benefits of \$762
Westend, WWII, Heart/PTSD (Husband POW)

15. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$824 monthly, \$9888
12/2003-11/2004, (Total \$9888)
Marseilles, Vietnam, Back/Knee

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	22,986.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	583,497.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	191,589.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,618,112.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,211,609.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

RESOLUTION

(#04-123)

WHEREAS, the LaSalle County Fee & Salary Committee recommends to the LaSalle County Board that the salary for the VAC SuperIntendent, Martin Rue be set at the following sum for the period indicated:

December 1, 2004 to November 30, 2005	\$51,000.00
December 1, 2005 to November 30, 2006	\$53,000.00
December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2007	\$54,000.00
December 1, 2007 to November 30, 2008	\$55,000.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the LaSalle County Board that the salary for the VAC Superintendent, Martin Rue be set at the following sum for the period indicated:

December 1, 2004 to November 30, 2005	\$51,000.00
December 1, 2005 to November 30, 2006	\$53,000.00
December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2007	\$54,000.00
December 1, 2007 to November 30, 2008	\$55,000.00



GLEN P. DOUGHERTY, Chairman
LaSalle County Board

ATTEST:



LaSalle County Clerk

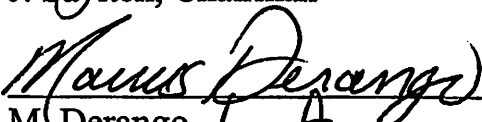
DATED: October 14, 2004

res vac super

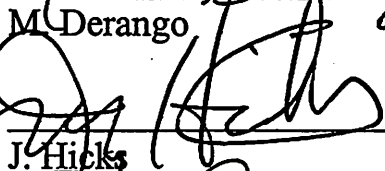
We, the undersigned members of the Fee & Salary Committee, do
hereby recommend to the LaSalle County Board for approval of the attached
Resolution.



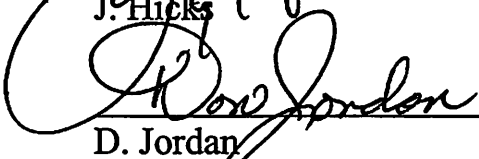
J. Savitch, Chairman



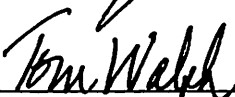
M. Derango



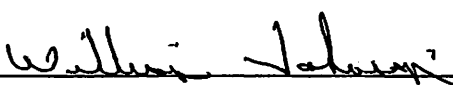
J. Hicks



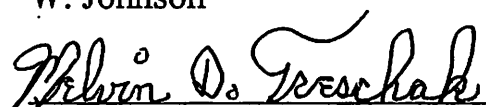
D. Jordan



T. Walsh



W. Johnson



M. Treschak

LASALLE COUNTY BOARD ROLL CALL

MOTION: Sanitor SECOND: Shopper DATE: 10-14-04
Motion Rec - Salary Increase

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	HERE	DIST.	PRECINCTS	Party	
GARRETSON, GLENN J.	0147	✓			29	Allen, Bruce 12, Otter Creek 1, 2 & 3	R
JAKUPCAK, ROBERT J.	0703		✓		28	Bruce 6, 8, 10 & 14	D
JORDAN, DONALD E.	0575	<i>absent</i>			27	Bruce 1, 2, 5 & Eagle 1 & 3	D
TRESCHAK, MELVIN D.	0223	✓			26	Bruce 3, 4, 7 & 8	D
MYERS, JERRY	1254	✓			25	Bruce 11, 12, 15, Eagle 2 & Highland	R
LEININGER, JACK	1270	✓			24	Breakfield, Fall River, Farm Ridge, Grand Rapids & South Ottawa 1	R
LANDERS, DALE E.	0574		✓		23	South Ottawa 2, 4, 1 & 1	D
HALL, MICHAEL J.	0507		✓		22	South Ottawa 1, 3, 6 & 7	D
FREEMAN, RANDY L.	0706	✓			21	Dear Park, Eden 1 & 2, Cleveland 1 & 2, Hope, Orange Vermillion	R
CAPPELLINI, JAMES	0287	✓			20	Madison 1, 4 & 5	D
HICKS, JERRY L.	0707	✓			19	Madison 2, Rolland 1 & 3	D
WALSH, TOM P.	1273	<i>absent</i>			18	Ottawa 1, 2, 4 & 5	D
FOLTYNEWICZ, RICHARD A.	0571		✓		17	Ottawa 6, 11, 12 & 14	D
CHAIRMAN DOUGHERTY *	0356				16	Ottawa 7, 8, 9, 10 & 13	D
BOE, RUSSELL A.	0350	✓			15	Dayton 1 & 2, Madison 3, Miller & Rolland 2	R
PIECHA, AL	1641	✓			14	LaSalle 13, 14, 15, 16 & a portion of LaSalle 12	D
PANZICA JR., JOSEPH J.	1271	✓			13	LaSalle 2 & 3, Ottawa 3 & portions of LaSalle 1 & 2 (LaSalle 1)	D
GRUENWALD, GEORGE	0454		✓		12	LaSalle 5, 6, 7 & 8	D
SAVITCH, JOSEPH A.	0481	✓			11	LaSalle 4, 9, 10 & 11	D
RIGBY JR., ARTHUR J.	0602	✓			10	LaSalle 1, Peru 1 & 3 & portions of LaSalle 12, Penn 2 & 4	D
JOHNSON, WILLIAM C.	0705	✓			09	Peru 5, 6, 7, 8 & a portion of Peru 4	D
DERANGO, MARIUS	0702	✓			08	Peru 9, 10, 11, 12 & a portion of Peru 2	D
SMALL, GARY N.	0534	✓			07	Dunlap, Ophir, Trey Grove 1 & 2, Wallace, Waltham 1 & 2 of US 8	R
KAMINKY, DON	1247	✓			06	Northville 2, 3, 4 & 5	R
MOWINSKI, TOM	1256		✓		05	Mislon 1, Northville 1, 6 & 7	R
JOHNSON, RONALD L.	0444		✓		04	Adams 1 & 2, Mislon 2 & Sorens	R
STOCKLEY, KENNETH L.	0272	✓			03	East 1 & 2, Freedom & Meriden	R
MCCONVILLE, JOSEPH J.	0310	✓			02	Mendota 2, 3 & 6	D
FLANAGAN, DANIEL J.	0699	✓			01	Mendota 1, 4, 5 & 7	D

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 25, 2004.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes were stand approved as presented.

Old Business: The delegates and alternates raised questions pertaining to the LaSalle Veterans Home's shortage of staff personnel. Superintendent Rue has been told that in order to open the ten empty beds an additional eight health service providers must be hired and additional dietary employees will be needed to provide service for the patients needs. Superintendent Rue was told to keep on Director Dolgos until the needed staff is hired.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report was answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Fred Burnette that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue handed out numerous articles pertaining to veteran issues. All questions asked by the delegates and alternates pertaining to the articles were answered.

Motion was made by Jim Nanowski and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Fred Burnette, American Legion Post 540; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2004**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 23 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 43 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 20 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 10 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 9 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 24 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 8 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 29 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 9 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 6 veteran.
22. Sent 18 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 20 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 10 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
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42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 2 Veteran.
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45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 90% s/c Compensation benefit, effective 3/2003-11/2003, \$1317 monthly, \$11,853; 12/2003-11/2004 \$16,128 (Total \$27,981) Westend, (VIETNAM, PTSD)
2. Veteran awarded reimbursed office for General Assistance due to SSI award, \$1239.61 Vietnam, Marseilles
3. Veteran's widow awarded S/C DIC benefit due to s/c death of veteran, effective 3/2004, \$2366; 4/2004-3/2005 \$967 monthly, \$11,604; Also awarded Burial Benefit, \$2000 (Total \$15,970) Eastend, Vietnam, Cancer

4. Veteran awarded payment of charges for S/C disabilities provided by a private medical provider, \$299 (Ottawa, Persian Gulf, Chronic Sinusitis)

5. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, effective 12/2002-11/2003, \$1394 monthly, \$16,728; 12/2003-11/2004, \$1422 monthly, \$17,064 (Total \$33,792) LaSalle, Peacetime, Multiple Sclerosis

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	560,511.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	79,281.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,426,523.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,987,034.00

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Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County minutes of July 21, 2004.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Senior Vice Chairman excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A copy of the Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County's 2005 budget recommendations, which was signed by Chairman Adler and the LaSalle County Board's VAC Committee, was presented to the Delegates and Alternates present.

Superintendent Rue reported that Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Roy Dolgos has granted the LaSalle Veterans' Home permission to interview and hire the health care service providers that are needed to open up the additional 12 beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Howard Gast that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue stated that Congressman Jerry Weller had introduced H.R. 4637, which is cited as the "Combat Military Medically Retired Veterans' Fairness Act of 2004".

A motion was made by Jim Nanowski, seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Fred Burnette, American Legion Post 540; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Alternate Carl Keys, American Legion Post 540; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JULY 2004**

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24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
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27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
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JERRY WELLER
11TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 13, 2004

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Mr. Ralph D. Adler Jr.
919 Catalpa Street
Marseilles, IL 61341

Dear Mr. Adler Jr.:

The House of Representatives is accomplishing veterans priorities by the passage of key legislation which I support. These initiatives provide significant benefits for America's veterans and servicemembers including disabled veterans and surviving spouses of veterans. Let me focus on veterans spending issues, and share some good news with you.

Over the past several years, the Republican led House, working with President Bush, passed significant and needed increases in funding, benefits, and services. We are committed to improving benefits for our nation's veterans.

The budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the Fiscal Year 2004 was *increased by \$6.2 billion* for a total of \$61.5 billion. This represents more than a 10-percent increase from last year's budget, and shows the strong commitment of Congress to fund priority programs for veterans. Not content to rest until all of our veterans' needs are met, the President requested \$67.3 billion for FY05, and the *House Budget Committee passed a total of \$70.8 billion* for FY05.

The Republican Congress expanded eligibility for medical care in 1996 and 1999 and as a result, the number of veterans using VA medical care has increased from 2.5 million in 1995 to 4.7 million today – *an 88% increase, and an all time high.*

Since 1995, total spending on veterans has increased from \$38 billion to over \$60 billion, a *58 percent increase.* Some other figures of note include:

- Total per-veteran spending increased from \$1,368 in 1995, to \$2,443 in 2004 – *a 79% increase.*
- Veterans medical care grew from \$16.2 billion in 1995 to \$28.3 billion in 2004 – *a 75% increase.*
- Veterans disability compensation grew from \$18.7 billion in 1999 to \$30.7 billion in 2004 – *a 10.4% average annual increase.*
- Monthly education benefit payment levels under the Montgomery GI Bill *more than doubled,* from \$405 billion in 1995 to \$985 billion in 2004 – *a 143% increase!*

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Clearly, the House of Representatives, under Republican leadership, stands strongly with our nations veterans. We will continue working hard to ensure our veterans are compensated their service to our country that they so richly deserve.

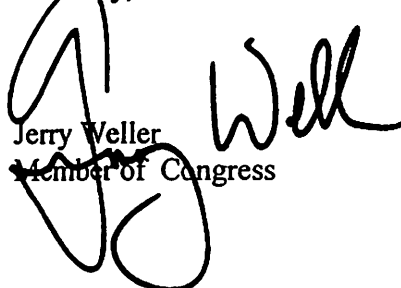
Also, let me update you on the Lincoln National Cemetery. As you may know, the National Cemetery was dedicated October 3, 1999, as the 117th national cemetery within the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration. This 982 acre facility serves approximately 1 million Chicago Metropolitan area veterans. Over 6,000 eligible individuals have been interred. When fully developed, the cemetery will provide 400,000 burial spaces.

I have recently introduced legislation, H.R. 4637, the "Combat Military Medically Retired Veteran's Fairness Act of 2004." This bill would provide payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation to disabled retired members of the Armed Forces with less than 20 years of active military service awarded the Purple Heart. This bill would affect approximately 18,000 disabled veterans. Previously, the only option afforded them for their sacrifices was forcible retirement from the military, making them ineligible for concurrent receipt.

Another development I would like to share with you is the recently opened World War II Memorial. On May 29th, the memorial was dedicated before a crowd of over 150,000 people assembled on the National Mall. The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort here at home. It will inspire future generations of Americans, deepening their appreciation of the World War II generation for their accomplishments toward preserving democracy and saving the world from tyranny. Above all, the memorial stands as an important symbol of American national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and awesome power that can flow when a free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and just cause.

America's veterans served their country with dignity, bravery, and honor. It is the duty of the Congress to ensure that our veterans' needs are met and their sacrifices are honored. I continue to fight in Congress for veterans benefits and causes important to veterans. Should you ever wish to share your views with me on veterans issues, or other issues of concern to you or your family, please don't hesitate to contact me. Finally, I encourage you to visit my website, <http://www.house.gov/weller/> to receive updates on other issues I have been working on for Illinois' 11th Congressional District.

Sincerely,


Jerry Weller
Member of Congress

6-8

"passed convention in Illinois as amended"

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910**

Resolution No. 92 PAGE 1 OF 3 Date 2004

Subject SUPPORT H.R. 4637

Referred to Committee on _____

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

WHEREAS: The American Legion's primary goal is to see that the needs of our veterans and especially those who have fought our wars, barring the scars, losing their limbs or blood are met. Our wounded combat soldiers only make up a small percentage of our military personnel, and

WHEREAS: The United States Department of Defense chooses to place our war wounded soldiers on military medical retirement for their combat disabilities, paying an amount of retirement pension based on their years of service as opposed to keeping them in the Armed Forces. In many instances, the combat wounded soldiers medical retirement pension is higher per month than their service-connected disability compensation check from the Department of Veterans Affairs. For example, they may be military medically retired from the United States Military as 100% service-connected for seven different service connected disabilities and only be rated at ~~60%~~ ^{50%} combined from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for the same disabilities, and

WHEREAS: Most of these severely disabled combat veterans will not be able to procure employment as a result of the workman's compensation laws, which hold our corporations liable for all injuries of workers even if the injury is a direct result of their service-connected disabilities even if the service-connected disabled veteran signed a waiver to that effect. The signing of such waiver would be considered as signing under duress, and

WHEREAS: Congressman Jerry Weller realizing this true travesty to our combat military medically retired war veterans has introduced

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE	
Approved _____	Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments _____	

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Post but with indicated Department action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by (Post Name) _____

Post No. _____

7-8
THIS FORM MUST BE TYPED

OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

**THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910**

Resolution No. 92 PAGE 2 OF 3 Date 2004

Subject _____

Referred to Committee on _____

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

in the 108th Congress H.R. 4637, which is cited as the "Combat Military Medically Retired Veterans' Fairness Act of 2004", which would exempt those severely wounded combat veteran from the 20 years of service requirement in order to be eligible for "Concurrent Receipt". Have all veterans and their friends contact their elected United States Congressional Representatives asking that they immediately co-sponsor H.R. 4637.

WHEREAS: Proponents for "Concurrent Receipt" have argued that retirement pay is for those who are military retired, coming from the Department of Defense, and service-connected disability pay is for disabilities which incurred in service, which comes from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. They further argue that retired pay is earned by your sacrifices made while in uniform and compensation is for the impact of a service-connected disability on "future life and earning powers", and

WHEREAS: To further strengthen their argument for "Concurrent Receipt" they use the example of asking, "How can the sacrifice of two legs and an arm be considered equivalent to being paid for performing honorable military service...." They are using an example that for the most part would only happen to the combat soldier and that person would not be permitted to remain in the military for 20 years or more because they could not pass the physical requirements or military readiness standards, and

WHEREAS: In accordance to the American Legion Dispatch dated December 20, 2002 pertaining to "Concurrent Receipt" legislation

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

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Approved _____ Rejected _____

Submitted by (Post Name) _____

Approved with Amendments _____

Consolidated with _____

Post No. _____

8-8

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OFFICIAL FORM

RESOLUTION

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

P.O. BOX 2910, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910

Resolution No. 92 PAGE 3 OF 3 Date 2004
Subject _____

Referred to Committee on _____

PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ABOVE THIS LINE

they state that it would affect 550,000 disabled veterans, but when the representatives ammended it to require those retirees to have disabilities incurred because of wounds substained in combat those affected fell to an estimated 30,000 retirees. This further illustrates that very few career military personnel have served on the frontlines of combat, so we should not disgrace ourselves by excluding our military medically retired from being included in any "Concurrent Receipt" legislation, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the American Legion, Department of Illinois, at Convention assembled July 13-17, 2004 in Springfield, Illinois be insistent that the United States Congress includes all service-connected disabled combat veterans who have been military medically retired from their combat wounds in any "Concurrent Receipt" legislation that they may pass and not disgracefully discriminate from these true heros and back Congressman Weller's legislation H.R. 4637 and ask all veteran groups to support ~~it~~ ^{this resolution}

~~THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to the following:~~

- ~~1. President of the United States, George W. Bush~~
- ~~2. President of the United States Senate, Richard Cheney~~
- ~~3. President Pro Tempore, Ted Stevens~~
- ~~4. Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Bill Frist~~
- ~~5. Minority Leader of the United States Senate, Tom Daschle~~
- ~~6. Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Dennis Hastert~~
- ~~7. Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, Tom DeLay~~

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved _____ Rejected _____

Approved with Amendments _____

Consolidated with _____

This is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our Post but with indicated Department action substituted for the local resolving clause.

Submitted by (Post Name) _____

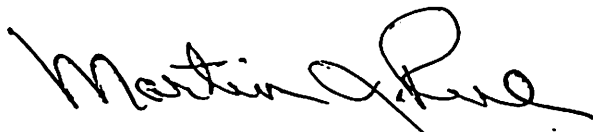
Post No. _____

Location of Post (City) _____

Dear

Find enclosed a copy of H.R. 4637, which was introduced by Illinois Congressman Jerry Weller in the 108th Congress second session. I would ask that you encourage all your friends and organizations to contact their United States senators and United States representatives asking that they immediately support H.R. 4637. Our severely wounded combat soldiers, who will become or are military medically retired from the United States Department of Defense, as physically unfit to serve need our help now. Under any Doctrine of Fairness, they should not be denied their military retirement pay just because they are receiving United States Department of Veterans Affairs compensation. They should be exempt from the longevity clause because of their severe combat wounds, which will severely affect their employability capabilities. Let us not desert those that bare the scars of our wars. They gave their all for us. The least we can do is see that they receive their military retirement pay, which they have truly earned.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

LASALLE COUNTY V.A.C.
Jowntown Court House, Room 103A
119 W. Madison St.
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-1761

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4637

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of active military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2004

Mr. WELLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of active military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Combat Military Medi-
5 cally Retired Veteran's Fairness Act of 2004".

26 subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to payments
25 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 (3) of that subsection.”

23 this section shall be made without regard to paragraph
22 amount of compensation to be paid such member under
21 a member, the determination under subsection (b) of the
20 ability described in subsection (e)(1). In the case of such
19 of subsection (a) if the member has a combat-related dis-
18 combat-related uniformed services retiree for the purposes
17 creditable under section 1405 of this title is an eligible
16 chapter 61 of this title with less than 20 years of service
15 (1), a member of the uniformed services retired under
14 “(2) In addition to members described in paragraph

paragraph:

12 (4) by adding at the end the following new
11 has” and

10 (3) by striking “(2) has” and inserting “(B)
9 has”;

8 (2) by striking “(1) has” and inserting “(A)
7 of”;

6 (1) by inserting “(1)” before “For purposes
5 United States Code, is amended—

4 (a) ENTITLEMENT.—Section 1413a(c) of title 10,

HEART.

3
2 FOR MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED PUNISH
1 SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO 20-YEAR SERVICE REQUIREMENT

3

1 of compensation under section 1413a of title 10, United
2 States Code, for months beginning on or after the date
3 of the enactment of this Act.

○

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 23, 2004

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we go into executive session to review the minutes of the May 26, 2004 executive session meeting. Motion passed.

Motion made by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Jim DeMoss that we come out of executive session. Motion passed.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Ken Hausken to accept the Service Officer's report as presented.

Motion by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek, that our meeting of July 28, 2004 be changed to the third Wednesday, July 21, 2004 so that Supt. Rue may attend the State of Illinois Accreditation Training School from July 25, 2004 through July 29, 2004. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegates and Alternates present reviewed the 2005 budget recommendation form in its entirety. The total budget recommendations for the fiscal year 2005 is \$195,783.00. Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Delbert Spitz that the VAC 2005 budget requested by the Commission be approved in the amount of \$195,783. Motion passed unanimously.

Supt. Rue was requested to attend the American Legion Convention of July 15, 2004 to defend two resolutions, which are being presented at the Resolutions Committee for veteran's entitlements.

Supt. Rue and Service Officer Rich Fogarty must attend the State of Illinois Service Officer Training School in Collinsville, Illinois from July 25, 2004 through July 29, 2004. Any expenses incurred on July 15, 2004 or the 7/25/04 through July 29, 2004 will be reimbursed from the LaSalle County VAC budget after dually authorized vouchers are submitted for requested repayment.

Motion by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Carl Key that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE 2004**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 18 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 16 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 43 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 6 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 16 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 11 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 8 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 8 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
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41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5498 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded Dependency Allowance, \$38 monthly effective 5/2002-11/2004, \$1178 (Total \$1178)
2. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation w/IUE, effective effective 12/03-11/04, \$2364 monthly, \$28,368 (Total \$28,368) WWII (POW) WestEnd
3. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation effective 8/03-11/03, \$801 monthly, \$3204; 12/03-11/04, \$817 monthly, \$9804 (Total \$13,008) Persian Gulf, Oglesby
4. Veteran awarded American Legion emergency grant, \$1000 (Total \$1000)

5. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation, effective 10/02-11/02, \$549, \$1098; 12/02-11/03, \$556, \$6116; 11/02, \$637, \$1274; 12/03-11/04, \$623, \$7,476 \$15,964 (Total \$15,964) Vietnam, Streater
6. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC due to service-connected death of husband, 1/2004, \$2366; 2/04-11/04, \$957 monthly, \$9670 (Total \$121,036) Troy Grove, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded \$9604 retroactive payment for NSC Pension, 1/04-11/04, \$824 monthly, \$9888 (Total \$18,952) Vietnam, Westend
8. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (50%-70%) w/ IUE, 8/03-11/03 (\$1560 diff.), \$6240; 12/03-11/04, \$2239, \$26,768 (Total \$33,008) Westend, Persian Gulf
9. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, \$1076 monthly, 9/04-9/05, \$12888 (Total \$12,888) Vietnam, Marseilles
10. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, effective 3/04-11/04, \$316 monthly, \$2844; 12/04-2/05, \$1248 (Total \$4092) Westend, Vietnam
11. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 90%, effective 11/03, \$1317; 12/03-11/04, \$1344 monthly, \$16,128 (Total \$17,445) WWII, LaSalle
12. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, 11/03, \$310 monthly; 12/03-11/04, \$316 monthly, \$3792 (Total 4102) WWII, Westend
13. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 7/03-11/03, \$633, \$3,165; 12/03-11/04, \$646 \$7652 (Total \$10,817) Persian Gulf, LaSalle

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	12,888.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	560,511.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	159,870.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,129,453.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,689,964.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 5129-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S. CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 5128- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, DENTAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL.
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-TAX WITHHOLDING AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 3940-VETERAN'S APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1900-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5231-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BLENDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 3573-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 23, 2004

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9. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, \$1076 monthly, 9/04-9/05, \$12888 (Total \$12,888) Vietnam, Marseilles
10. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, effective 3/04-11/04, \$316 monthly, \$2844; 12/04-2/05, \$1248 (Total \$4092) Westend, Vietnam
11. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 90%, effective 11/03, \$1317; 12/03-11/04, \$1344 monthly, \$16, 128 (Total \$17,445) WWII, LaSalle
12. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation, 11/03, \$310 monthly; 12/03-11/04, \$316 monthly, \$3792 (Total 4102) WWII, Westend
13. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, effective 7/03-11/03, \$633, \$3,165; 12/03-11/04, \$646 \$7652 (Total \$10,817) Persian Gulf, LaSalle

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 12,888.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 560,511.00
 TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 159,870.00
 YEAR-TO-DATE: \$1,129,453.00
 TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$1,689,964.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 517V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S. CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 5128- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL.
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-TIME-OUT NORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERAN'S APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SEVERE BLEIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4637

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of active military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2004

Mr. WELLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of active military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Combat Military Medi-
5 cally Retired Veteran's Fairness Act of 2004".

1 **SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO 20-YEAR SERVICE REQUIREMENT**
2 **FOR MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED PURPLE**
3 **HEART.**

4 (a) **ENTITLEMENT.**—Section 1413a(c) of title 10,
5 United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “(1)” before “For purposes
7 of”;

8 (2) by striking “(1) has” and inserting “(A)
9 has”;

10 (3) by striking “(2) has” and inserting “(B)
11 has”; and

12 (4) by adding at the end the following new
13 paragraph:

14 “(2) In addition to members described in paragraph
15 (1), a member of the uniformed services retired under
16 chapter 61 of this title with less than 20 years of service
17 creditable under section 1405 of this title is an eligible
18 combat-related uniformed services retiree for the purposes
19 of subsection (a) if the member has a combat-related dis-
20 ability described in subsection (e)(1). In the case of such
21 a member, the determination under subsection (b) of the
22 amount of compensation to be paid such member under
23 this section shall be made without regard to paragraph
24 (3) of that subsection.”.

25 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
26 subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to payments

1 of compensation under section 1413a of title 10, United
2 States Code, for months beginning on or after the date
3 of the enactment of this Act.

○

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of May 26, 2004

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Alder. Roll call of officers was taken showing our Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read, being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Douglas Grieve that the Service Officer's report would be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

We then discussed a packet of information that pertained to legislation, which would affect our VAC's, and our Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. We also discussed a letter dated June 27, 2003, which was sent to the LaSalle County State's Attorney, Joseph P. Hettel and his May 26, 2004 response.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Jim DeMoss that we go into an executive session to discuss legal matters in accordance with the ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES (5 ICCS 120/2 (c) (11).) Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Jim Nanowski, seconded by Douglas Grieve that we come out of executive session. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Jim DeMoss that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MAY 2004**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 21 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 12 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 15 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 17 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 5 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 5 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 14 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 1 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 5 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 32 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 4 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 9/03-11/03, \$2318, \$6954; 12/03-11/04, \$2366 monthly \$28,392 (Total \$35,346) Vietnam, OTTAWA
2. Veterans, (4), received emergency fund assistance due to tornado from American Legion, \$5000 (Total \$5000)
3. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC due to service-connected death, \$967 monthly, effective 2/04-11/04, \$9670; 12/04-11/05, \$11604, (Total \$21,274) Vietnam, EastEnd
4. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 70%, \$1029 monthly, 1/2004-12/2004, \$12,348 (Total \$12,348) \$5448 (Total \$5,893) Vietnam, WestEnd

5. Veteran's Widow awarded S/C Burial Benefits, \$2000
Vietnam, Eastend
6. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 80%, 9/03-11/03,
\$1171, monthly, \$3513;12/03-11/04, \$1195 monthly,
\$14,240 (Total \$17,753) WestEnd, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded SSD effective 4/03 received retroactive
payment, \$4965;6/04-11/04, \$468 monthly, \$2808.
(Total \$7773) Vietnam, Streator
8. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC due to service-connected
death of veteran, \$967 monthly, 5/04-4/05, \$967
monthly, \$11604 (Total \$11,604) EastEnd, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded 80% S/C w/IUE, effective 7/03-11/03,
\$2193 monthly, \$8772;12/03-11/04, \$2239 monthly,
\$26,868 (Total \$35,640) Vietnam, Earlville
10. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, effective
8/2002-11/2004, \$199 monthly, \$4472;12/03, \$210;
8/2003-11/2003, \$1352 monthly, \$5408;12/03-11/04,
\$1378 monthly, \$16,436 (Total \$25,526)
Vietnam, Streator
11. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive benefits for period
11/03-5/2004, \$25,926;6/2004-5/2005, \$1750 monthly,
\$21,000 (Total \$46,926) Vietnam, SouthEnd
12. Spouse of veteran awarded SSD benefits effective
4/2004-11/2004, \$1007 monthly, \$9063;12/2004-11/2005,
\$3021 (Total \$12,084) Vietnam, Streator
13. Veteran awarded S/C increased Compensation (10%-30%)
(diff.\$200), effective 9/2003-11/2004, \$3000
Persian Gulf, Naplate
14. Veteran awarded 70% w/IUE, effective 8/2003-11/2003,
\$2318 monthly, \$9272;12/2003-11/2004, \$2366 monthly,
\$28,392 (Total \$37,664, Vietnam, Ottawa

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	66,783.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	547,623.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	207,155.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	969,583.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,517,206.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 190-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form- (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 9940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 28, 2004

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing our Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and Alternates discussed the LaSalle Veterans Home. Superintendent Rue explained that the home is still short employees needed to open up the vacant 8 beds. He has been in contact with the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs as to this problem.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed House Bill 3918 and Senate Bill 2626. He had to go to the General Assembly in Springfield to discuss these two pieces of legislation. As requested by the State Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions, Superintendent Rue drafted amendments to these two bills and asked Senator Welch and Representative Mautino to amend those two bills. The State of Illinois Attorney General's Office, Secretary of States Office, Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, American Legion, County Veterans Assistance Commissions and other veterans organizations wanted this legislation to be all-inclusive. The amendment drafted was acceptable to all the above agencies because it was all-inclusive. Senator Welch and Representative Mautino agreed to amend Senate Bill 2626 and House Bill 3918 to make them all-inclusive.

Motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast American Legion Post 549; Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Alternates Roger Baker, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR APRIL 2004**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 25 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 6 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 6 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 19 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 32 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 3 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 5 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 9 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 0 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 27 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 11 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 1 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation, 9/03-11/03, \$104 monthly, \$312; 12/03-11/04, \$106 monthly, \$1272 (Total \$1584) Vietnam, OTTAWA
2. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, 4/2004-3/2005, \$927 monthly, \$11,124 (Total \$11,124) Vietnam, LaSalle
3. Veteran awarded \$7,126, 30% retroactive payment effective 5/2002-4/2004, \$306 monthly; 5/04-11/04 \$2142 (Total \$9,268) Vietnam, WestEnd
4. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 40%, \$445 monthly, 11/2003, \$445; 12/03-11/2004, \$454 monthly, \$5448 (Total \$5,893) Vietnam, LaMoille

5. Veteran awarded SMC (k) \$81 monthly, 3/2003-11/2003 \$729; 12/2003-11/2004, \$972 (Total \$1701) Vietnam, Eastend
6. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (40%-60%) (\$363 diff.), 9/2003-11/2003, \$1089; 12/2003-11/2004, \$4356 (Total \$5445) Marseilles, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension \$824 monthly, 1/2004-11/2004, \$9064 (Total \$9064) Vietnam, Earlville
8. Veteran awarded 100% unemployability, effective 1/2004-11/2004, \$2366 monthly, \$26,026; retro pay \$2946 received (Total \$28,972) Eastend, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive payment, \$23,725; \$1645 monthly, 5/2004-4/2005, \$19,470 (Total \$43,465) Korea, Peru

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	54,589.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	480,840.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	61,927.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	762,428.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,243,268.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149-APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517-IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 24, 2004.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A discussion ensued by the delegates pertaining to the press conference held by Senator Pat Welch and Representative Frank Mautino at the LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois on March 21, 2004. Superintendent Rue thanked all those for showing on such a short notice. Through their efforts over 75 veteran leaders from our Illinois valley area appeared to show their gratitude for our legislative representatives efforts.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Fred Burnett, American Legion Post 540; Jim Nanouski, American Legion Post 33; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1225; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH 2004**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 22 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 9 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 2 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 8 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 12 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 12 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 30 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 5 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 10 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 18 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 3 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 40 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 17 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 4 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 2 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 1 veteran.
41. Sent 2 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 100% s/c Compensation retroactive payment, 6/01-11/02, \$36,120; 12/03-11/04, \$27,852 (Total \$63,972) Vietnam, Peru
2. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive payment 5/02-2/04, \$30,644; 3/04-11/04, \$1424, \$12,816 (TOTAL \$43,460) Vietnam, Ottawa
3. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (20%-30%) (diff. \$214) 10/03-11/03, \$428; 12/03-11/04, \$2568 (Total \$2996) Peacetime, WestEnd
4. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, \$14,859 retroactive payment, 8/02-2/2004; \$804 monthly, 3/2004-12/2004, \$8040 (Total \$22,899) Gulf War, Ottawa

5. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 70%, \$1239 monthly, 8/03-11/03, \$4956; 12/03-11/04, \$1264, \$15,168 (Total \$20,124) Gulf War, LaSalle
6. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, 6/2002-11/2002, \$2045 monthly, \$12,270; 12/02-11/03, \$2194 monthly, \$26,316; 12/03-11/04, \$26,868 (Total \$65,454) WestEnd, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded \$21,772 retroactive payment for SSD benefit, 2/2003-3/2004, \$1578 monthly, ; 4/2004-12/2004; \$14,202 (Total \$35,974) SouthEnd, Vietnam
8. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, \$807 monthly, 11/03; 12/03-11/04, \$824 monthly, \$9888 (Total \$10,695) Oglesby, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, (60%-100%) (diff. \$1392) 10/03-11/03, \$1392, \$2784; 12/03-11/04, \$26,868 (Total \$29,652) Oglesby, WW II

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	102,333.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	426,251.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	192,976.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	700,501.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,126,752.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of February 25, 2004.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of all Officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections of those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Another discussion ensued pertaining to the shortage of staff at our LaSalle Veteran's Home. The Commission requested that Superintendent Rue contact the powers that be and they request that they give the Home permission to hire those needed to fill our empty beds.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer Report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, Seconded by Joseph Iwaszek that the Service Officer report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue announced that the LaSalle Veterans Home will be holding their quarterly meeting on March 13, 2004, at the LaSalle Veterans Home at 10:00am.

Motion was made by Delbert Spitz seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourned. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:DELEGATES: Nick Pacett, VFW Post 4668;Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235;Howard Gast, American Legion 549;Jim Demoss, VFW Post 5506;Fred Burnette, American Legion Post 540;Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Joseph Iwaszek, LaSalle Catholic War Veterans Post 1229;Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426;Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260;ALTERNATES: Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506;Carl Key, American Legion Post 545.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2004

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 38 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 6 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 9 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 24 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 4 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 32 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 6 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 3 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 17 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 22 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 25 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 23 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

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30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
 31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
 35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 2 veterans.
 36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
 37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
 38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
 39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
 40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
 41. Sent 1 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
 42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
 43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 3 Veteran.
 44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
 45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
 46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
 49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded SSD effective 5/03-11/03, \$1763 monthly, \$12,348;12/03-11/04, \$1763 monthly, \$21,168 (Total \$33,516) Mendota, Vietnam
2. Veteran awarded IUE w/Housebound benefits, 10/03-11/03 \$4322;12/0311/04, \$2715 monthly, \$32,580. (Total \$36,902) WestEnd, Vietnam
3. Veteran awarded 60% s/C Compensation, effective 10/03-11/03, \$942 monthly, \$1884;12/03-11/04, \$958 monthly, \$11,496 (\$13,380)
4. Veteran awarded 90% S/C Compensation 8/03-11/03, \$1398 monthly, \$5592;12/03-11/04, \$1425 monthly, \$17,110 (Total \$22,702)

5. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 2/02-2/04,
\$28,788; 3/04-11/04, \$1113 monthly, \$10,017
(Total \$38,805) SouthEnd, Vietnam
6. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 4/04-11/04,
\$1649 monthly, \$13,192; 12/04-3/05, \$6596
(Total \$19,788) West End, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective,
6/03-12/03, \$12,343; 1/04-12/04, \$1795 monthly,
\$21,540 (total \$33,883) Westend, Vietnam
8. Veteran awarded SSD effective 12/03-2/04,
retroactive payment, \$5337; 3/04-11/04, \$1779, \$16,011
(\$21,348) Streator, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, effective
6/03-11/03, \$821 monthly, \$4926; 12/03-11/04, \$9852
(Total \$14,778)
10. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 3/04-11/04,
\$1576 monthly, \$14,184; 12/04-2/05, \$4718
(total \$18,902) Peru, Vietnam
12. Veteran awarded S/C compensation (50%-70%),
(diff. \$378 monthly) 7/03-11/03, \$1890; 12/03-11/04,
\$4536 (Total \$6426) Earlville, Vietnam

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	166,242.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	323,918.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	94,189.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	507,525.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	831,443.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of November 19, 2003.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Ralph Adler present, Vice-Chairman, Chaplin, and Sgt. At Arms excused.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A lengthy discussion ensued pertaining to a shortage of staff at our LaSalle Veterans Home and the over 350 applicants waiting for admission. It was agreed by all that we must get everyone to write letters to Governor Blagojevich and our elected state senator/state representative asking them to immediately fund the expansion of those 80 additional health care beds.

New Business: Service Officer's Report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. Motion by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

The Commission held its election of officers for the fiscal year 2004. Those elected are as follows:

Chairman - Ralph Adler
Vice Chairman - Joe Iwaszek
Chaplin - Delbert Spitz
Sgt. At Arms - Ken Hausken

Each officer was thanked by the delegates and alternates present for their desire to serve the veterans of LaSalle County.

Motion by Jim DeMoss, seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Tony Karczewski, LaSalle Catholic War Veterans, Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Alternate Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2003

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 87 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 33 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 16 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 40 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 80 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 14 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 108 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 9 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 2 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 9 veteran placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 22 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 18 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 3 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 5 veteran.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 52 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 7 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 9 veterans.
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 83 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 3 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 67 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 7 memo to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 4 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veteran.
41. Sent 3 requests for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals(BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 10%, effective 3/2002-11/2003, \$103 monthly, \$927; 12/03-11/04 \$104 monthly, \$1248 (Total \$2175) (Vietnam, Westend)
2. Veteran awarded SSD benefit, effective 2/2002-11/2002 \$578 monthly, \$5780; 12/02-11/2003, \$586 monthly, \$7032; 12/03-11/04, \$608 monthly \$7296 (Total \$20,108) (Oglesby, Peacetime)
3. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 9/2003-11/2003 \$807 monthly, \$2421; 12/03-11/04, \$823 monthly \$9876 (Total \$12,297) (Earlville, Gulf War)

4. Veteran awarded SSD effective 8/03-11/04, \$1356 monthly
(Total \$20,340) (Sandwich, Vietnam)
5. Veteran awarded 100% IUE, effective 11/02, \$2287;
12/02-11/04, \$2318 monthly, \$55,362 (Total \$57,919)
(Westend, Vietnam)
6. Widow of Veteran awarded Pension w/A&A, \$137 monthly,
7/03-11/03, \$685; 12/03-11/04, \$140 monthly, \$1680
(Total \$2365) (Seneca, WW II)
7. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation effective
7/03-11/03, \$810 monthly, \$4050; 12/03-11/04,
\$826 monthly, \$9720 (Total \$13,770)
(Vietnam, Peru)
8. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, effective
7/2002-11/2002, \$1555 monthly, \$5775; 12/02-11/03,
1571, \$18,752 (Total \$ 24,027)
9. Veteran awarded SSD benefit effective 9/03-11/03
\$1656 monthly, \$3312; 12/03-11/04, \$1688 monthly,
\$20,256 (Total \$23, 568) (Vietnam, Westend)
10. Veteran's Widow awarded retroactive benefits from
BVA decision, effective 4/93-10/2003, \$103,552;
\$948 monthly, 12/3-11/04, \$11,376 (Total \$113,928)
11. Veteran awarded SSD benefit effective 8/03-11/03,
\$1806 monthly, \$7224; 12/03-11/04, \$1842 monthly,
\$22,104 (Total \$29,328) (Vietnam, Southend)
12. Veteran's Widow awarded \$600 Funeral Expenses for
NSC death of veteran.
13. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation increase (30%-60%)
(diff. \$658) 7/03-11/03, \$3290; 12/03-11/04, \$765 monthly,
\$9180 (Total \$12,470) (Peacetime, Southend)
14. Veteran awarded SSD retroactive benefit effective 11/02-
11/03, \$15,258; 12/03-11/04, \$1041 monthly, \$12,492
(Total \$27,750) (Vietnam, Westend)
15. Veteran awarded NSC Pension benefits, effective
9/03-11/03, \$1,057 monthly, \$3171; 12/03-11/04, \$1079
monthly, \$12,940 monthly (Total \$16,119)
16. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation effective 8/03-11/03
\$1008 monthly, \$4032; 12/03-11/04, \$1029 monthly
\$12,348 (Total \$16,380) (Ottawa, WW II)
17. Veteran awarded medical payment for S/C disabilities
for emergency treatment (\$5435)

18. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (50%-60%)
(diff. \$249) w/k 12/02-11/03 \$2988; 12/03-11/04, \$899
monthly, \$10,788 (Total \$13,776) (Vietnam, Marseilles)
19. Veteran increased S/C Compensation, 70% w/IUE,
(diff. \$1185) 8/03-11/03, \$4740; 12/03-11/04, \$2239
monthly, \$26,868 (Total \$31,608) (Ottawa, WW II)
20. Veteran awarded NSC Pension retroactive payment
\$5,915; 12/03-11/04, \$1007 monthly, \$12,084
(Total \$18,000) (Vietnam Westend)

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	105,836.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	105,836.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	340,869.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	340,869.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	446,705.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

January 28, 2004

Glen Dougherty
1426 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

Our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission (V.A.C.) was legally formed in September of 1984 and funded by the LaSalle County Board since 1985. We are a special unit of government that is statutorily charged with providing the needed assistance of our veterans and their dependants who reside in LaSalle County in the state of Illinois.

One such service that we are statutorily charged to provide is financial assistance for those eligible veterans who have no means to provide for themselves. We must provide General Assistance for our eligible veterans adhering closely to the regulations set by the Illinois Department of Public Aid (I.D.P.A.). In fact, we even use the I.D.P.A. application to determine if our applicants are eligible for financial assistance. Once a determination is made, our applicants will receive a "Notice of Decision" pertaining to their request. I submit to you a copy of our "Notice of Decision of Application for General Assistance" for your review. Please note that our applicants must contact our office within the first five days of each month in order to be eligible for General Assistance for that month. Should they not contact our office within the first five days, we must then send out a termination notice of General Assistance. When that happens, then they have the right to appeal our termination notice. Their "Appeal Rights" are explained at the bottom of our "Notice of Decision". This has worked out well since 1985 because our county has its vendor run twice a month. The first vendor run is around the 15th of the month and the second vendor run is at the end of the month. Those applicants who had forgotten to apply within the first five days of the month could appeal and if found eligible would still receive their General Assistance for that month. This would prevent them from possibly becoming homeless or ending up in the rears with additional costs added in late fees. From 1985 until 2003 our County Board V.A.C. meetings on our bills were held twice a month so our vendors were always timely paid.

In 2003 the Chairman of the LaSalle County Board went to one county VAC meeting on the bills per month stating that all we had to do was write "PREPAY" on our bills if no meeting was scheduled and he would see that they were paid. On three separate occasions this did not work and the vendors were not timely paid. For the month

Page 2

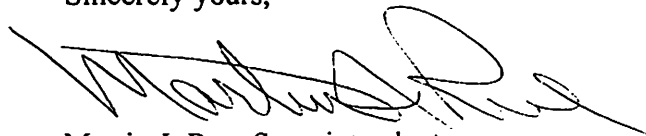
February 28, 2004

of February 2004 he has scheduled our County V.A.C. meeting on our vendor bills for February 3, 2004. The County Board and Auditor said that all bills for the month must be submitted four days before our County Board V.A.C. Committee meeting on our bills. Our V.A.C. vendor bills would have to be submitted on January 28, 2004 for the month of February 2004 even though our veterans have the first five days of the month to request General Assistance for that month. This would mean that any General Assistance entitlement that our veteran applicants would be eligible for in February 2004 would not be paid until March of 2004.

On or about the second week of January 2004 I contacted Art Rigby the Chairman of the County Board V.A.C. Committee explaining the dilemma created by scheduling our meeting on the bills on February 3, 2004. A day later he called me stating that he spoke with the Chairman of the County Board and he said that he could not change the meeting date. This appears to be political in nature, purely a tool being used to deny veterans in need of General Assistance their entitlements. I will not violate our rules, regulations or any laws. As a result, I must wait until after the fifth of February to submit our V.A.C. monthly bills for payment.

Due to the mitigating circumstances, I will not attend the February 3, 2004 County Board V.A.C. Committee meeting because our bills for February 2004 cannot be submitted until after February 5, 2004. It is truly regretful that this should have had to happen.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin J. Rue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

enclosure

**COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

**NOTICE OF DECISION OF APPLICATION
FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

Applicant: _____ Date _____

Address _____

This is to advise you that your application for General Assistance has been approved as follows:

- Medical _____
- Food _____
- Utilities _____
- Rent _____

Additional Assistance will require applicant to make a further request. Applicant must also contact our office within the first five days to each month to be eligible for that month's assistance.

This is to advise you that your application for General Assistance has been denied for the following reason:

- Receiving assistance from another agency: _____
- Not a resident of LaSalle County: _____
- Has sufficient income according to Public Aid Standards: _____
- Application contains false and fraudulent statements: _____
- Other: _____

BY _____
Superintendent

APPEAL RIGHTS

If you disagree with the determination of this office, you may file an appeal. Your appeal must be filed in this office within (9) days after the date of this determination if it was mailed to you, or within (7) days after the date of this determination if it was verbally given to you. Any appeal submitted by mail must bear a post-mark date within the applicable time limit for filing. Once filed, you will be notified of the appeal hearing.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

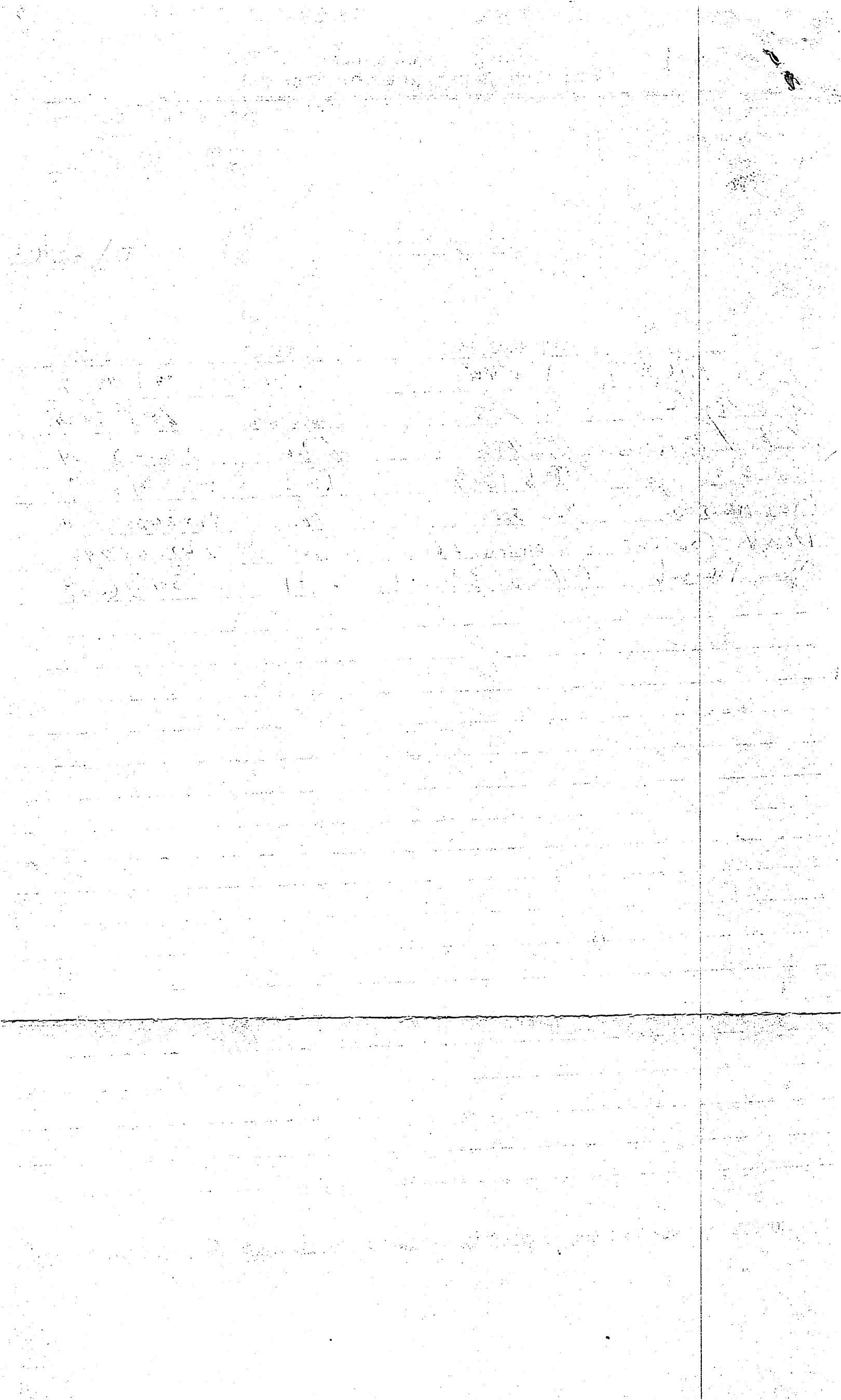
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb 23/05

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick McGowan	AA 426	Del	224-2204
Joseph Swartz	CDW 1229	Del	823 4179
Ken Hausken	VFW 5506	DEL	295-2466 FAA
Douglas Griener	Tonica 260	Del	252 6974
Jim Norwalk	Ottawa 33 AL	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov 17, 2004

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	4668	DEL	223-9257
Ralph Adle	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Delbert Spitz	VFW 4079	Del	538-2023
Douglas M Grice	Tonica Legion 260		252 6974
Nick Nebesinin	Am Legion 424	Del	224 2204
Joseph Swaszyk	1229	Del	223 4179
Ken Hunk	VFW 5506	DEL	298-2466
Jim Novak	Post 33	DEL	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

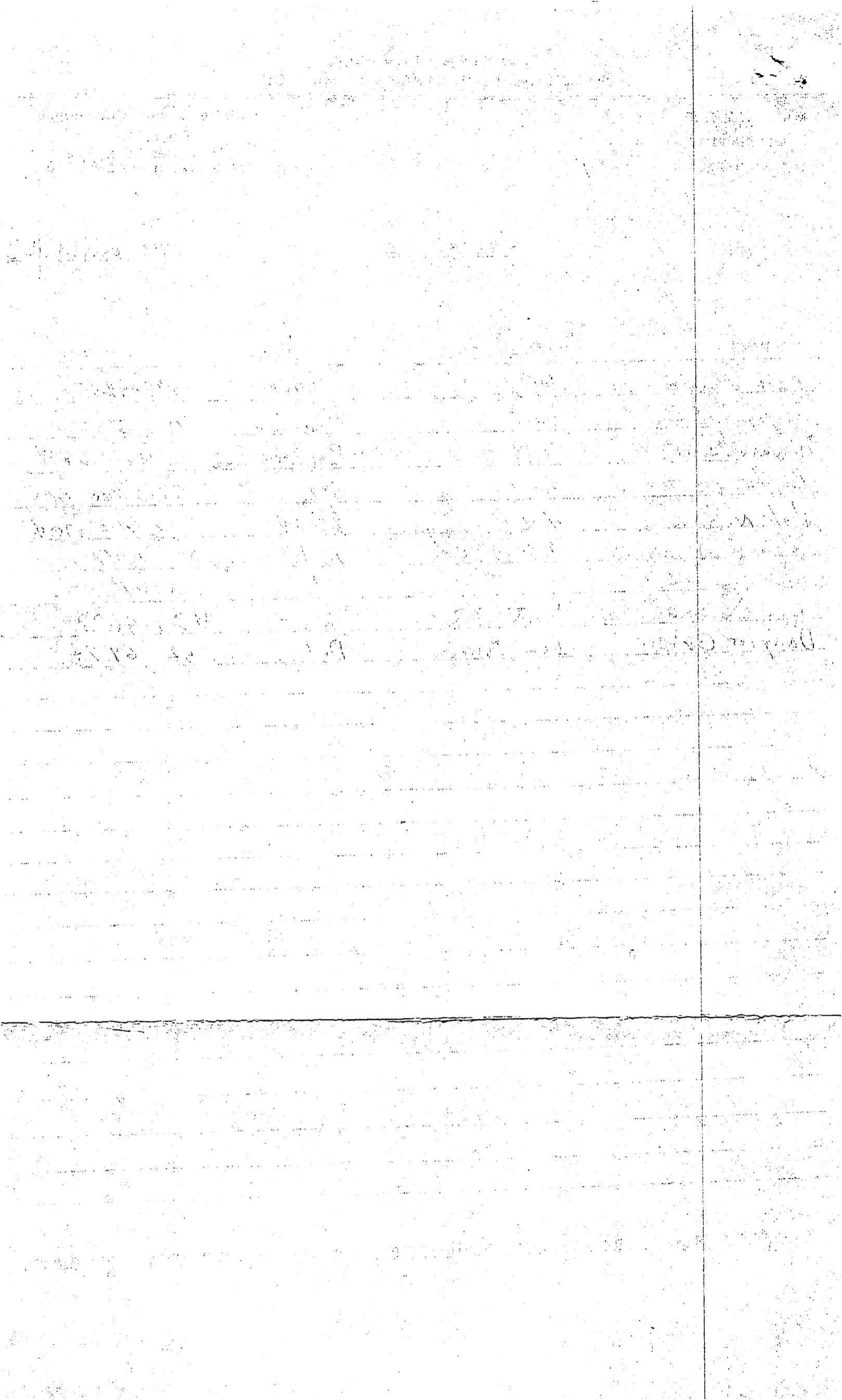
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 26, 05

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Parotto	4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ralph Adler	235	Chairman	795-5436
Howard Gust	249	Part Commander	246-9689
Ken Hauke	5506	DEL	795-2466 FAX
Nick Nekrasov	426 Prof. League	Del.	224-2204
Joseph Dineen	Post 1225	Del	223 4179
Harry K... ..	"	"	224-3035
Jim	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Douglas Griere	262 Tonica	Del	252 6974

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 23/05

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Lawrence TORAKOM	DAV 86 Morris	Del	431-0106
Doug GRIFFIN	Tonica 261	Del	252 6974
Howard GAST	Post 549	Post Commr.	246-9689
Steve WASSON	Post 426	Delegate	224-2204
Joseph SWANZEL	Post 1279	DEL	223 4179
Ralph ADLER	Post 235	Chairman	785-5436
Ken HAWK	PVFW 5506	DEL	295-2466 FAX

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 27, 2005

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
GEORGE SEBASTIAN		VLSI TOR	815 303 9600
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4068	DEL.	223-9257
Lawrence Graham	DAV 86	Del	431 0106
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Joseph Jurasz	Post 1229	Del	223 4179
Nick Nektrosius	Poppy Legion 426	Del	224-2204
Jim DeMauro	VFW 5506	ALT. DEL	795-2959
Jan Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
Carl Key	Mendota	—	539-7759
Robert Spitz	VFW 4079	DEL	538-2023
Jim Nankala	Post 33	Del	434 4633
JERRY FUCHS	Post 520	VLSI TOR Del	495-9404
Doug Greer	Post 260	Tonica	252 6979

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

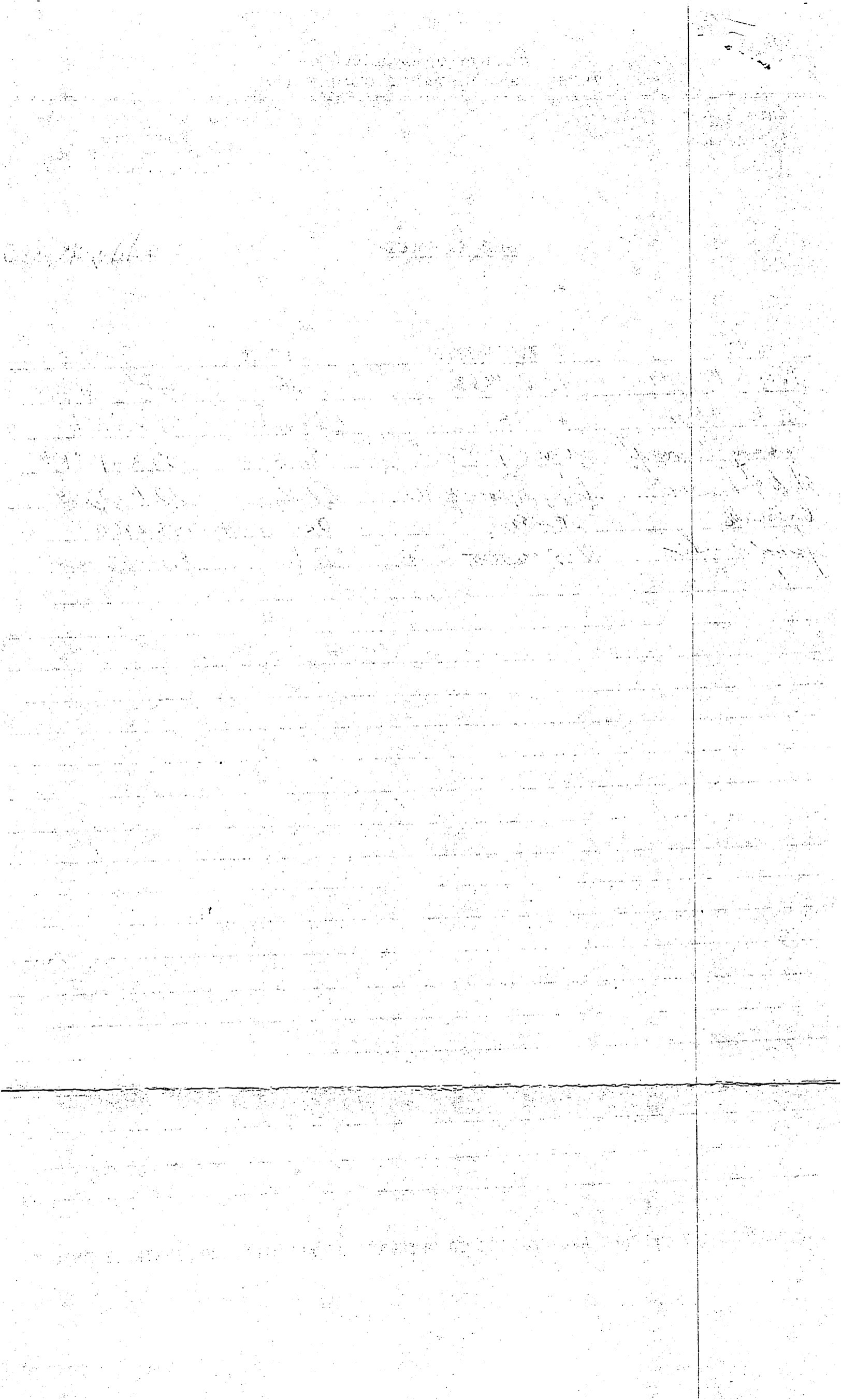
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 25, 2005

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEP.	223-9257
Ralph Allen	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Joseph Swartz	CWV 1279	DEP.	923 4179
Mick Melrose	Am Legion 426	DEP.	224-2204
Ken Wank	VFW 5500	DEP. FAX	795-2466
James Truby	Legion Post 570	DEP.	815-495-9404

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

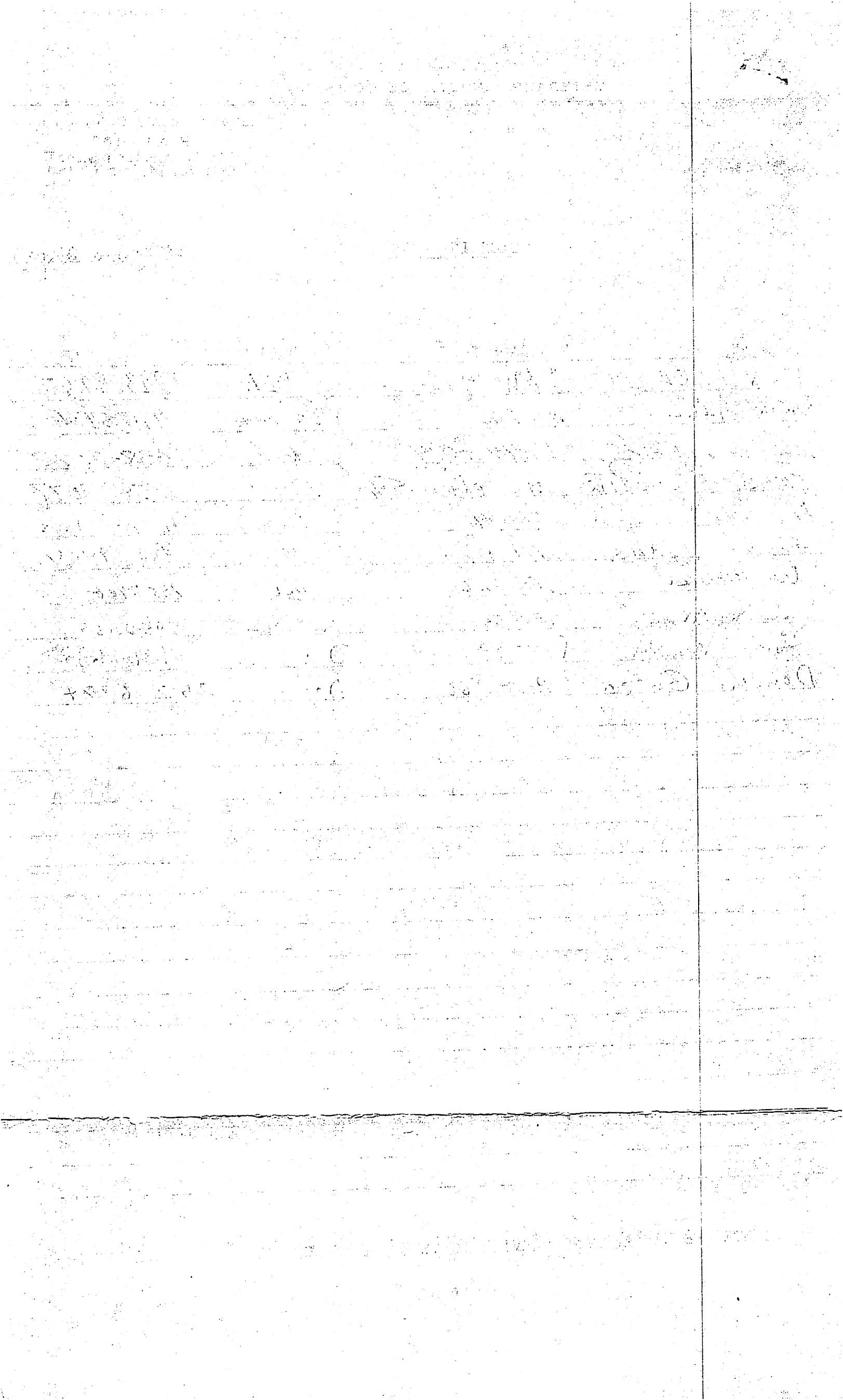
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 22/05

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL.	223-9257
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Albert Spitz	VFW 4099	Del.	538-2023
Fred Burdette	AM. Legion 547	DEL.	539-3077
Laurence Graham	DAV 86	Del	431-0106
JEFF FUCHS	AL 570	Del	495-9404
Ken Hausken	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466 FAX
Jim DeMaso	VFW 5506	ALT DEL	795-2959
Jim Monahan	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Douglas Gniere	Post 260	Del	252 6979

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

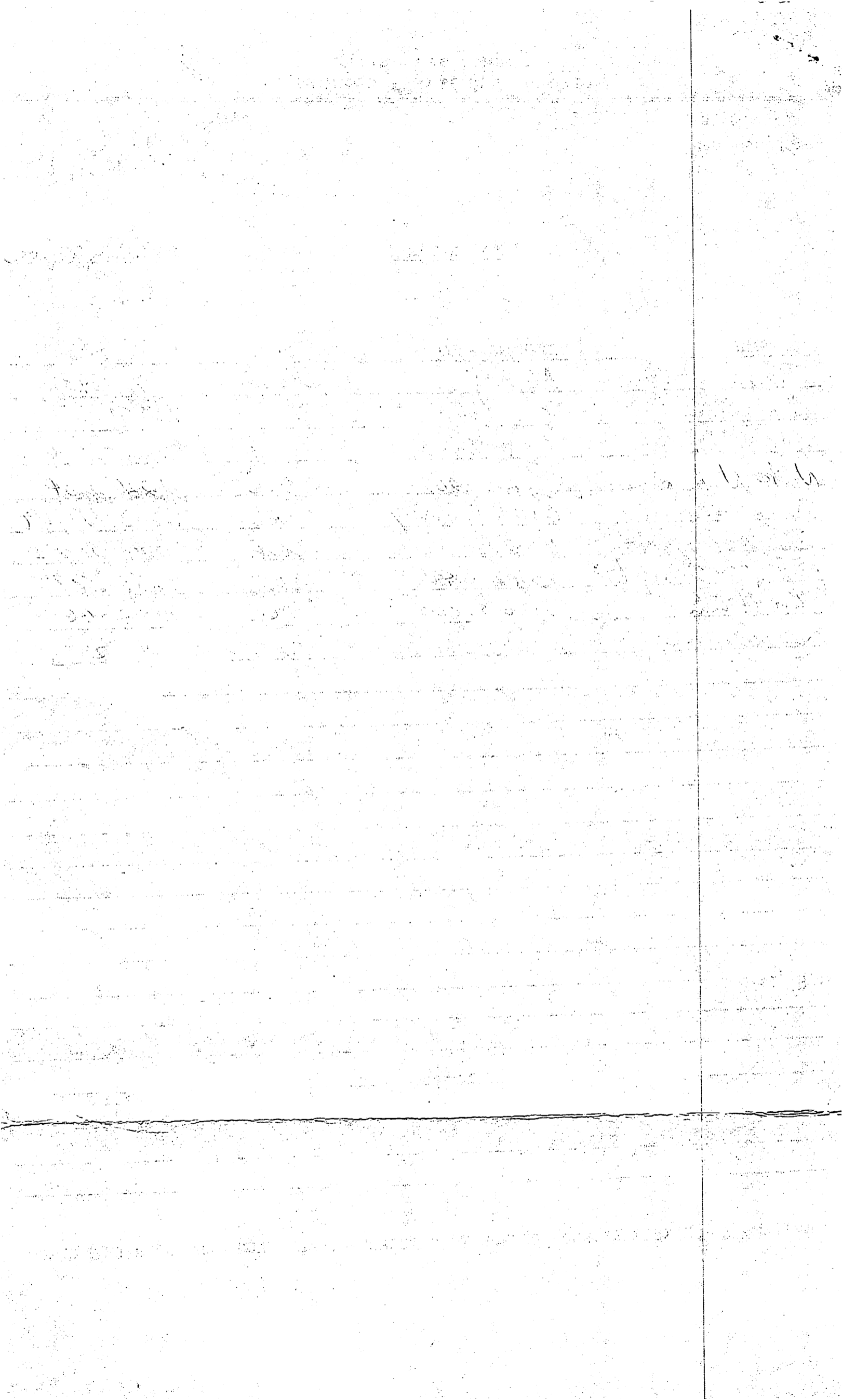
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 27, 2005

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adle	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
Nick Pacetti	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
LARRY LORHAM	DAV#86	del	431-0106
Nicko Nekrasus	Legion 426	Del	224-2209
Joseph Swartzel	CWV Post 1229	Del	223-4179
Alfred Spitz	VFW	Del.	538-2023
Orlando Smith	Legion 540	Del	539-3077
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
J. D. Moore	VFW 5506	ALT	795-2959

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug 24, 2005

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Ralph Adler	AL 235	Chairman	795-5436
NICK PACETTI	VFW 4668	DEL	223-9257
Joseph Juraszek	CW 11229	DEL	203 4179
Nick Hekrovia	Am Legion 486	DEL	224-2204
JERRI FUCHS	AL 570	DEL	485-9404
Ken Aduska	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466
Larry Gubman	DAV 86	DEL	431-0106
Jan Novak	Post 33	DEL	434-4632
George Nason	Post 2470 ^{OTTAWA} _{IL}	DEL	433-0586
Doug Grieve	Post 260	DEL	252 6974

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

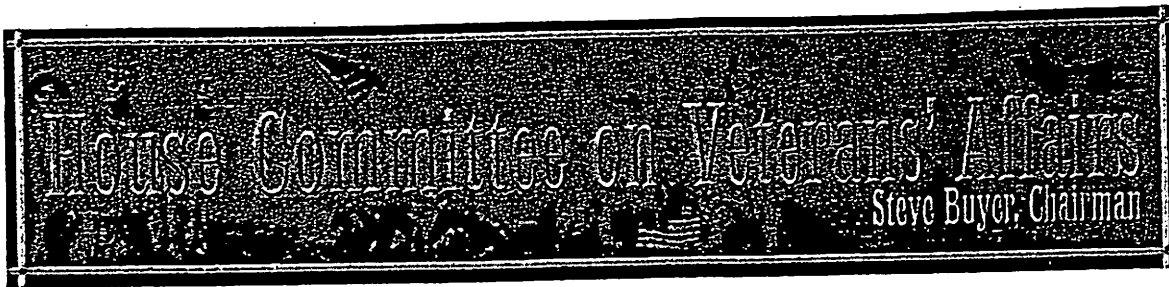
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 26 / 05

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Lawrence L. Latham	DAV Chapter 86	Chaplain	431-0106
Nick Aleksinski	Am Legion 426	Deh	224-2284
Joseph Iwaszek	DEW-V	Deh	323-4178
Jim Nason	Post 33 Ottawa	Delegate	434-4633
George Nason	Post 2470 Ottawa	Delegate	433-0586

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



(Courtesy: House Committee on Veterans' Affairs)

Congressional Accomplishments In Support of Veterans

A 10-Year Record of Support for Our Nation's Veterans

- The Veterans budget has increased by 77 percent since 1995, the year Republicans became the majority, averaging over 7 percent each year. The Veterans healthcare budget has increased by 86 percent in the same period.
 - From 1965 to 1995, total annual veterans' spending in constant dollars only grew an average of under 2 percent.
- The Republican-led Congress passed and President Bush enacted legislation that provides disabled military retirees with concurrent receipt of their military retirement and disability benefits.
- Republicans are committed to ensuring that the men and women serving in our Armed Services are given the access to healthcare they deserve both while serving their country and after their service:
 - *Republican budgets have enabled VA to care for a record number of high-priority patients, those veterans counting on us the most. This includes veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.*
 - *Five million veterans will receive health care services this year, about 1 million more than just four years ago.*
 - *Republican budgets have enhanced the quality of veterans health care: VA leads the health care industry in computerized records, patient safety and standards for high-quality care.*
 - *More than 90 percent of veterans will receive primary care within 30 days of their desired date, and more than 90 percent of veterans seeking specialty care will receive it within 30 days.*

The Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) program includes 28 new outpatient clinics, funding for design work for two new medical facilities in Biloxi, Miss., and Fayetteville, Ark., and funding for five other major construction projects in Las Vegas, Nev.; Cleveland, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Gainesville, Fla.; and Anchorage, Alaska.

Recent Accomplishments for the Republican-led Congress and President Bush:

- **Veterans Budget Increased More than \$20 billion in 5 years**

The total VA budget has increased from \$48 billion in FY 2001 to approximately \$70 billion in FY 2006, a 46 percent increase in five years.

- **Veterans Medical Care Funding Rose 46 percent in 4 years**
Veterans medical care funding has risen from \$21.3 billion in the FY 2001 budget to approximately \$31 billion in FY 2005.
- **Historic New \$22 billion Concurrent Receipt Benefit Enacted**
In 2004, Congress approved a historic concurrent receipt benefit for veterans that will provide over \$22 billion to more than 250,000 disabled military retirees over the next ten years. Effective January 2005, a retiree rated 100 percent service-connected disabled is authorized to receive their disability and military retirement benefits concurrently. (P.L. 108-375)
- **GI Bill Benefits Boosted 46 percent Since 2001**
In 2001 legislation, the GI Bill educational benefit was boosted by 46 percent, raising the lifetime benefit for qualified veterans from \$23,400 to \$35,460 and giving our nation's veterans more opportunities to pursue a higher education.
- **VA Home Loan Guarantees Increased by 67 percent Since 2001**
In 2004, Congress increased the maximum VA home loan guarantee to \$333,700, an increase of 67 percent from the prevailing maximum level in 2001, affording more veterans the opportunity of homeownership.
- **Dozens of Expanded and Improved Veterans Benefits and Services**
Over the past four years, Congress has passed and President Bush has signed, 17 separate bills to improve and expand veterans' benefits and services that:
 - *Expands the scope and quality of veterans' healthcare services;*
 - *Provides new and increased benefits to disabled veterans;*
 - *Improves job training and placement services for veterans;*
 - *Clarifies and strengthens employment and reemployment rights for veterans;*
 - *Extends new benefits to veterans' widows and dependents;*
 - *Helps eradicate homelessness among veterans – since 2001, homelessness among veterans has been reduced from 250,000 (about 33 percent of the total homeless population) to 192,000, about 25 percent (VA);*
 - *Strengthens legal rights and protections for all servicemembers;*
 - *Continues the largest expansion of the national cemetery system since the Civil War, the 2006 budget funds land purchase for six new national cemeteries in Bakersfield, Calif.; Birmingham, Ala.; Columbia-Greenville, S.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Sarasota, Fla.; and southeastern Pennsylvania; and expansion of the Fort Rosecrans Annex in Miramar, Calif.; and*
 - *Includes \$32 million for new state cemetery grants.*

(Courtesy: Department of Defense)

Legislative Update: Progress In Iraq

As mandated in the FY05 Defense Supplemental Appropriations Act, the Department of Defense has provided Congress with an update on Iraq's progress in moving toward a secure and self-supporting society. The report is one of a series of updates the Department provides to Congress. The report is not the single source of information about what is going on in Iraq. Other sources are listed at the bottom of this update. The report's findings indicate that there is considerable momentum towards the goal of a secure, stable Iraq with a democratic system supported by all Iraqis and accepted by the international community, yet there is more work ahead.

Political Progress: Terrorists have failed to derail the political process in Iraq.

- The constitution drafting process remains on schedule and the Iraqi Transitional Government and Transitional National Assembly continue to demonstrate a willingness to accept additional Sunni participation into the political process.
 - Draft Constitution Deadline - August 15, 2005
 - National Referendum on Constitution - October 15, 2005
 - Elections for Permanent Iraqi Government - December 15, 2005
 - International support is on the rise.
 - The U.N. is supporting Iraq's constitutional development process.
 - The United States and the E.U. jointly hosted a conference in Brussels that led to additional pledges of financial support for the new Iraqi government.
 - Jordan will host an international donors' conference later this month.
 - Iraqis' confidence in their future is increasing - a recent poll showed the numbers of Iraqis who believe their country is heading in the right direction has risen from 52 percent in January to 61.5 percent today.

Economic Progress: The Coalition continues to assist the Iraqi government to establish a foundation for a strong economy.

- The stability of the Iraqi Dinar has prevented hyperinflation.
- Iraq's fiscal outlook has improved with debt forgiveness programs.
- New business registrations have increased by 50 percent in the first six months of this year.
- Cell phone and Internet usage is up- access to both was severely restricted under Saddam's regime. As of June 2005, there were 2.7 million active cell phone subscribers in Iraq, up from 800,000 a year ago.

Security Progress: The number of Iraqi Security Forces exceeds the number of Coalition troops by a good number.

- Since the January elections, the number of insurgent attacks has remained stagnant and centered in three of the 18 provinces.
- Week-to-week incidents are off their pre-election peak.
- Time is not a yardstick to measure Iraqi security readiness; troop capability will determine when Iraqi security forces are prepared.

Challenges: A candid assessment of challenges ahead.

- Although they've suffered numerous setbacks, terrorists in Iraq remain effective, adaptable, and intent on carrying out attacks against Iraqi civilians and Iraqi officials.
- The extremists continue to try to foment tension, ethnic strife and even civil war between Sunnis and Shi'ias through murder and attacks on religious sites.
- Countries such as Syria and Iran remain notably unhelpful in assisting Iraq secure its borders from foreign invaders.
- Unemployment remains a concern- though increasing business investment should help alleviate that problem.

(Courtesy: House Armed Services Committee)

STRENGTHENING TRICARE COVERAGE AND BENEFITS FOR OUR RESERVISTS

- As our nation continues to fight the global war on terror, we increasingly rely on the skills of our reservists and national guardsmen. These individuals and their families serve our nation with dedication. We honor their commitment and sacrifice.
- Recognizing the need to improve benefits for those we call on to serve, the Congress has been instrumental in expanding TRICARE coverage. In the National Defense Authorization Acts (NDAA) for Fiscal Years 2004, 2005 and 2006, for example, we incorporated the following changes:
 - made all reservists and their families eligible for TRICARE coverage upon alert for mobilization (up to 90 days prior to mobilization); expanded the eligibility of TRICARE coverage for 180 days after separation from active duty;
 - extended health care benefits for qualified members who are involuntarily retired, and for those mobilized reservists with a commitment to continued service, they and their families are eligible for TRICARE Reserve Select. (TRICARE Standard coverage is provided for reservists and their families who have been activated for more than 30 days since September 11, 2001, in support of a contingency operation and commit to continued service in the Selected Reserves. For every 90 days of consecutive active duty service, the member and their family are eligible for one year of TRICARE coverage while in a non-active duty status.)
- The NDAA for Fiscal Year 2006 builds on our efforts to provide reservists with additional benefits in other areas.
 - eliminated the Basic Allowance for Housing Type II, thereby making the reserve rates for basic allowance of housing the same as active duty rates when reservists are mobilized for over 30 days;
 - increased the amounts that may be paid for reserve enlistments to \$15,000; added reserve personnel to be eligible to receive a Critical Skill Retention Bonus;
 - increased the reserve affiliation bonus to \$15,000, increased the death gratuity to \$100,000, increased the hardship duty pay from \$300 to \$750 per month and
 - required the Government Accountability Office to review all compensation and benefit programs for reservists.



COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Steve Buyer, Chairman, 335 Cannon House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515

Congressional Accomplishments In Support of Veterans

Past 10 Years: The record speaks for itself

- ☑ The Veterans budget increased by 77 percent since 1995, the year Republicans became the majority -- averaging over 7 percent each year.
- ☑ The VA healthcare budget was increased 85 percent in the same period.
- ☑ Congress and President Bush enacted law that provides disabled military retirees with concurrent receipt.
- ☑ Access to VA health care has improved:
 - *Republican budgets have enabled VA to care for a record number of high-priority patients, those veterans counting on us the most, as well as veterans of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.*
 - *Five million veterans will receive health care services this year, about 1 million more than just four years ago.*
 - *Republican budgets have enhanced the quality of veterans health care: VA already leads the health care industry in computerized records, patient safety and standards for high-quality care.*
 - *More than 90 percent of veterans will receive primary care within 30 days of their desired date, and more than 90 percent of veterans seeking specialty care will receive it within 30 days.*
 - *The Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) program includes 28 new outpatient clinics, funding for design work for two new medical facilities in Biloxi, Miss., and Fayetteville, Ark., and funding for five other major construction projects in Las Vegas, Nev.; Cleveland, Ohio; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Gainesville, Fla.; and Anchorage, Alaska.*

FACTS – When Democrats were the Majority Party

- The VSO's "Independent Budget" was not adopted. A Committee or Floor vote was never allowed.
- Concurrent Receipt was not enacted.
- From 1965 to 1995 -- from the Vietnam War to Operation Desert Storm -- total annual veterans' spending in constant dollars grew an average of under 2 percent.
- From 1983 to 1993, total veterans' spending saw zero growth in constant dollars.

Past 4 years: Congress and President Bush working for veterans:

☑ Veterans budget increased more than \$20 billion in 5 years

The total VA budget has been increased from \$48 billion in FY 2001 to approximately \$70 billion in FY 2006, a 46 percent increase in five years.

☑ Veterans medical care funding rose 46 percent in 4 years

Veterans medical care funding has risen from \$21.3 billion in the FY 2001 budget to approximately \$31 billion in FY 2005.

☑ Historic new \$22 billion concurrent receipt benefit enacted

After more than a century of inaction the federal government, Congress approved a historic concurrent receipt benefit for veterans that will provide over \$22 billion to more than 250,000 disabled military retirees over the next ten years. Public Law 108-375: Effective January 2005, a retiree rated 100 percent service-connected will be authorized to receive full retirement benefits.

☑ GI Bill boosted record 46 percent since 2001

With 2001 legislation, the GI Bill educational benefit was boosted by 46 percent, raising the lifetime benefit for qualified veterans from \$23,400 to \$35,460.

☑ VA home loan maximums increased by 67 percent since 2001

Public Law 108-454 increases the maximum VA home loan guarantee to \$333,700, an increase of 67 percent from the prevailing maximum level in 2001.

☑ Dozens of veterans benefits and services expanded and improved

Over the past four years, Congress has passed, and President Bush signed, 17 separate bills to improve and expand veterans' benefits and services that will:

- *Expand the scope and quality of veterans' health care services;*
- *Provide new and increased benefits to disabled veterans;*
- *Improve job training and placement services for veterans;*
- *Clarify and strengthen employment and reemployment rights for veterans*
- *Extend new benefits to veterans' widows and dependents;*
- *Help eradicate homelessness among veterans – since 2001, homelessness among veterans has been reduced from 250,000 (about 33 percent of the total homeless population) to 192,000, about 25 percent (VA);*
- *Strengthen legal rights and protections for all servicemembers;*
- *Continue the largest expansion of the national cemetery system since the Civil War, the 2006 budget funds land purchase for six new national cemeteries in Bakersfield, Calif.; Birmingham, Ala.; Columbia-Greenville, S.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Sarasota, Fla.; and southeastern Pennsylvania; and expansion of the Fort Rosecrans Annex in Miramar, Calif.;*
- *Include \$32 million for new state cemetery grants.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS ACTIONS OF 109th CONGRESS TO DATE

Insurance Programs

- In response to the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance program amendments ultimately enacted in the Emergency Supplemental (Public Law 109-13), the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs (DAMA) hosted a roundtable discussion with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs and private insurance companies, to discuss the policy rationale underlying the proposals.
- On June 16, 2005, DAMA held a legislative hearing to discuss, among other things, draft legislation to improve the SGLI, VGLI, and traumatic injury protection amendments made in PL 109-13. The draft legislation was introduced by Mr. Jeff Miller on July 11, 2005, as H.R. 3200. H.R. 3200 would:
 - Make permanent the increase from \$250,000 to \$400,000 in maximum Servicemembers' Group and Veterans' Group Life Insurance coverage;
 - Make permanent the increments of SGLI coverage from \$10,000 to \$50,000;
 - Require the military service Secretary concerned to notify a servicemember's spouse or unmarried servicemember's next-of-kin, in writing, if the servicemember declines SGLI or chooses an amount less than the maximum, and also require the military service Secretary concerned to notify a spouse if someone other than the spouse or child is designated as the policyholders' beneficiary;
 - Clarify that spousal notification requirements do not apply to VGLI; and
 - Permit a servicemember to decline Traumatic Injury Protection coverage established by section 1032 of Public Law 109-13.
- H.R. 3200 passed the House on July 26, 2005 by a vote of 424-0.

National Cemetery Administration

- On April 20, 2005, DAMA held an oversight hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration (NCA) to examine policy and operational issues facing NCA, short- and long-term goals with respect to new cemetery construction, and what efforts NCA is taking to address the 928 restoration and repair projects identified in 2002 by the Logistics Management Institute. Additionally, DAMA took testimony on VA's State Cemetery Grants Program. Congress is committed to ensuring that the benefits and services provided by VA's National Cemetery Administration remain a standard of excellence.

Disability Compensation and Pension

- On March 10, 2005, Chairman Steve Buyer introduced H.R. 1220, a bill to provide a cost of living allowance (COLA) to VA monetary benefits effective December 1, 2005. The COLA bill ensures that that monetary benefits provided to veterans and survivors retain their purchasing power and are not eroded by

inflation. The COLA is estimated to be 2.3% this year. H.R. 1220 passed the House on July 13, 2005.

- On May 5, 2005, DAMA conducted an oversight hearing to review the operations of the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) and VA's Appeals Management Center (AMC). Representatives from the Board of Veterans' Appeals, Appeals Management Center, veterans' service organizations and other veterans' advocates testified on the state of VA claims processing and the appeals process. Congress is committed to improving the timeliness and accuracy of claims decisions. The Committee will continue to work with VA to determine what is necessary to adjudicate claims in a timely and accurate manner.

Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) and Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)

- On May 4, 2005, the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a legislative hearing to discuss, among other things, draft legislation to improve SCRA and USERRA.
- On May 3, 2005, H.R. 2046, Servicemembers' Health Insurance Protection Act of 2005, was introduced by Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee, Honorable Steve Buyer and Honorable Lane Evans, respectively, and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, Honorable John Boozman, and Honorable Stephanie Herseth, respectively. On May 11, 2005, a markup was held on H.R. 2046 and reported favorably out of Committee. H.R. 2046 would:
 - Amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to limit premium increases on reinstated health insurance coverage of servicemembers who are released from active duty; and
 - Amend the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights to preserve employer-sponsored health plan reinstatement rights for certain Reserve-component members who acquire TRICARE eligibility prior to entering active duty.
- H.R. 2046 passed the House on May 23, 2005 by voice vote.

Small Business

- Public Law 106-50, the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Act of 1999, made improvements in access to capital, federal contracts, and government procurement information for veterans and service-disabled veterans who own or aspire to own small businesses. Public Law 108-183, established a contract set-aside "tool" for use by contracting officers to reach the three-percent goal. However, even with these tools the government-wide goal has yet to be reached.
- On April 7, 2005, the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity and the Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports of the Small Business Committee conducted a roundtable discussion on veterans' entrepreneurship with several government departments and agencies, veteran small business owners, and veterans service organizations.

- On May 24, 2005, the Subcommittee held a joint hearing with Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs of the Committee on Small Business received testimony on laws to assist veterans, especially service-disabled veterans, in starting and growing a small business and sharing in federal procurement opportunities.
- On July 27, 2005, the Subcommittee held a legislative hearing on H.R. 3082, the Veteran-Owned Small Business Promotion Act of 2005, introduced by Mr. Boozman on June 28, 2005. H.R. 3082 would:
 - Require that 9 percent of procurement contracts entered into by VA be awarded to veteran-owned small businesses, including existing 3 percent requirement for service-disabled veteran small business owners;
 - Require that all veteran small business owners seeking procurement preference through this program be listed in a database of veteran-owned small businesses maintained by VA; and
 - Allow a surviving spouse of a veteran who inherits ownership rights to maintain the status of a veteran-owned small business for ten years or until the surviving spouse remarries.

Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)

- On May 4, 2005, the Subcommittee conducted a legislative hearing to discuss, among other things, a draft bill to reauthorize HVRP. On July 14, 2005, Mr. Boozman introduced H.R. 3279, the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Reauthorization Act of 2005. On July 27, 2005, the Subcommittee marked up H.R. 3279. H.R. 3279 would:
 - Reauthorize the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program for fiscal years 2007 through 2009; and
 - Retain the maximum authorization of \$50,000,000 per year.

The President's National Hire Veterans Committee

- On January 1, 2005, Mr. Mike Simpson introduced H.R. 419, the Hire Veterans Act of 2005. On May 4, 2005, the Subcommittee conducted a legislative hearing to discuss, among other things, H.R. 419. On July 27, 2005, the Subcommittee marked up H.R. 419. H.R. 419, as amended, would:
 - Extend the operation and authorization for use of appropriated funds for the President's National Hire Veterans Committee until December 31, 2006;
 - Require the Assistant Secretary to assume certain duties of the President's National Hire Veterans Committee and report to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, no later than July 1, 2006, on a plan for the transfer of such duties;
 - Modify the title and membership of the "Advisory Committee on Veterans Employment and Training" to be the "Advisory Committee on Veterans Employment, Training, and Employer Outreach"; and
 - Expand the duties of the Advisory Committee to assist the Assistant Secretary in carrying out outreach activities to employers with respect to the training and skills of veterans and make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary on outreach activities and the employment and training of veterans.



COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN STEVE BUYER

VETERANS' HEALTH CARE BUDGET SHORTFALL TIMELINE

Presently July 26, 2005: The budget shortfall is expected to be resolved in conference by amending the vehicle of choice, H.R. 2361, the FY 2006 Interior Appropriations Bill, to add \$1.5 billion dollars in supplemental funding for veterans' health care in FY 2005. Floor action on H.R. 2361 is anticipated this Thursday, before the August recess.

The funding shortfall for FY 2006 is expected to be fully resolved with a budget amendment, the amount of which has yet to be determined.

Background: On June 23, 2005, Chairman Steve Buyer of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs held an oversight hearing to examine the VA healthcare cost model, which uncovered weaknesses within VA health care forecasting for FY 2005. During their testimony, VA officials testified that there was a shortfall in large part, because of flaws in the forecasting model and the need to assess demand for health care services two to three years into the future, due to the budget cycle process.

This hearing provided the Committee the opportunity to assess VA's weaknesses in accurately predicting healthcare demand resources necessary. Eighteen months ago, the VA model forecasted a 2.3 percent growth in enrollment for FY 2005; the actual demand for FY 2005 is 5.2 percent. This inaccuracy is a result of underestimation of the impact of the Iraqi and Afghanistan wars. VA also indicated they were conducting workarounds in the FY 2005 veterans' health care budget: using \$375 million intended to be carried over in FY 2006 and transferring roughly \$600 million originally budgeted for non-recurring maintenance and capital accounts to pay for FY 2005 health care services, subsequently also creating a shortfall for FY 2006.

At a June 30, 2005, hearing before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Secretary Nicholson notified Congress that the Administration is requesting \$975 million in additional funds for veterans' health care for FY 2005. On that same day, the House passed H.R. 3130, an FY 2005 supplemental appropriations bill that would provide VA with \$975 million, the amount requested by the Administration. The previous day, June 29, 2005, the Senate passed H.R. 2361, the Fiscal Year 2006 Interior Appropriations bill, which included \$1.5 billion in emergency funds for VA health care. The amendment would allow unused funds for FY 2005 to carry over to FY 2006.

The VA revealed that an additional \$300 million is needed to meet FY 2005 health care needs on July 11, 2005, based on updated VA field data. The following day on July 12, the Senate unanimously adopted a \$1.5 billion amendment as part of H.R. 2360, the FY 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, for veterans' health care. This move by the Senate created two vehicles for moving the \$1.5 billion for FY 2005 forward.

On Thursday, July 14, 2005, the Administration submitted to Congress an amendment to the Administration's Fiscal Year 2006 budget requesting \$1.977 billion for higher-than-expected veteran's health care needs. The FY 2006 budget amendment includes the \$300 million to replenish carry-over funds to be expended in FY 2005.

On July 21, 2005, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a Full Committee oversight hearing on the Administration's Fiscal Year 2006 budget amendment (in the amount of \$1.977 billion) for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Chairman Buyer called for greater accountability and tasked the VA to look inwardly at its personnel make-up to press for necessary changes and asked members of the Committee "to continue to monitor the FY07 budgetary process to ensure that the VA changes its methodology and assumptions so that the mistakes of FY05 and 06 are not made again."

**Chairman Buyer also announced his intention to investigate the rumors of denial of access to care for returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan by traveling to a VA polytrauma rehabilitation center during the upcoming recess.

Senate Action: On July 21, the Senate acted on the Administration's budget amendment to address the FY 2006 shortfall; the Senate Appropriations Committee added an amendment for \$1.977 billion to H.R. 2528, the FY 2006 Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, and reported the bill out of Committee.

MARCH

- **March 24, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson letter to Chairman Walsh and Ranking Member Edwards of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs informing of VA's intention to transfer \$684 million to the medical services account, taking \$232 million from medical administration and \$452 million from medical facilities.

APRIL

- **April 5, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson letter to Senator Hutchinson, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, stating that VA, as part of good management, prudently uses reserve funding whenever trends indicate the need for refocusing priorities.

- **April 7, 2005**—Dr. Perlin, Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, testified to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee at his confirmation hearing that reserve funds were being used to meet operational needs in 2005.
- **April 12, 2005**—Dr. Perlin letter to Senate VA Committee stating that projected carryover for FY2006 might be diminished to address current operational demands, including care of OIF/OEF returning combat veterans noting that “we do feel confident that VHA has sufficient resources for the remainder of 2005.”
- **April 19, 2005**—VA staff met with both majority and minority Members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee. During the meeting management decision to reallocate capital funds for direct patient care in 2005 was discussed.

MAY

- **May 26, 2005**—H.R. 2528, the FY 2006 Military Quality of Life Appropriations Act passes the House with a total of \$28.8 billion for the Veterans Health Administration, \$600 million above the President’s original request.
 - Approximately \$21 billion is for medical services, \$1 billion above President’s original budget request for this account (to compensate for legislative requests not enacted by Congress, i.e. \$250 enrollment fee and an increase in pharmaceutical co-payments).

JUNE

- **June 3, 2005**—VA meeting with House and Senate Majority Staff (at the request of staff) detailing the modeling differences between the Independent Budget and the VA’s annual budget process. (Chief Business Officer, Chief Financial Officer)
- **June 9, 2005**—Chairman Buyer meeting with Sec. Nicholson, General Counsel McClain, and General Love regarding budget shortfall and the extent to which reprogramming had already taken place.
- **June 21, 2005**—Chairman Buyer meeting with Sec. Nicholson regarding upcoming hearing on budget modeling.
- **June 22, 2005**—Chairman Buyer meeting with Dr. Perlin regarding mid-year review and reprogramming of capital asset and rollover accounts into medical services.
- **June 23, 2005**—Hearing before HVAC investigating the budget modeling process at VA, the independent budget and the private sector.

- **June 27, 2005**—Senators Santorum/Hutchison offered a 2nd degree amendment for \$1.5 billion for VA Medical Funding for the FY 2005 shortfall, designated as emergency, to Sen. Murray's \$1.42 billion amendment offered earlier in the day.
 - The \$1.5 billion amendment for FY 2005 passed unanimously in the Senate.
- **June 28, 2005**—House Democrats send letter to the Administration requesting that the President submit an FY 2005 supplemental funding request adding at least \$1.3 billion to address the shortfall.
- **June 28, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson testifies before House Appropriations Military Quality of Life Subcommittee regarding newly identified budget shortfall for 2005 and 2006.
 - Sec. Nicholson identifies an updated growth in demand of approximately 6 percent rather than the original 2.4% on which the budget request was based.
- **June 28, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson testifies before SVAC regarding newly identified budget shortfall for 2005 and 2006.
- **June 29, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson joins HVAC Republicans in a press conference to alert the committee to a forthcoming request for a 2005 supplemental.
- **June 29, 2005**—Senate passes H.R. 2361, the Fiscal Year 2006 Interior Appropriations bill, which included \$1.5 billion in emergency funds for VA health care. The amendment would allow unused funds for FY 2005 to carry over to FY 2006.
- **June 30, 2005**—Sec. Nicholson and Dr. Perlin testify before HVAC regarding the Administration's specific request for \$975M in supplemental funding for VA FY 2005 that included:
 - \$273 million to fund healthcare for returning Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom veterans, including members of the Guard and Reserve;
 - \$226 million to continue funding the shared federal and state VA long-term care nursing home program;
 - \$200 million to fund unanticipated increases in the healthcare for priority-group 1-6 veterans;
 - \$95 million to fund unanticipated energy, fuel and utility costs;
 - \$84 million to buy emergency medical equipment; and
 - \$39 million to pay for the increase in healthcare benefits for dependants of 100-percent service-connected veterans as the need has increased at a rate greater than expected.

JULY

- **July 11, 2005**—VA reveals that an additional \$300 million is needed to meet FY 2005 health care needs.
 - Updated VA field data identifies that the average cost per patient in the entire system has increased by 1 percent and now \$300 million of expected carryover will be used for the re-estimated FY 2005 needs.
- **July 12, 2005**—Senate unanimously adopted a \$1.5 billion amendment as part of H.R. 2360, the FY 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, for veterans' health care.
- **July 14, 2005**—OMB Director, Joshua Bolten, testified on the Mid Session Review of the President's FY 2006 Budget Request before the House Budget Committee:
 - Bolten claimed that Congress has given VA more than it needs: in each of the last three years, appropriations have exceeded the VA medical care needs by \$500 million.
- **July 14, 2005**—Administration submits to Congress an amendment to the Administration's Fiscal Year 2006 budget requesting an additional \$1.977 billion. The FY 2006 budget amendment includes:
 - \$300 million to replenish carry-over funds to be expended in FY 2005 to cover the increase in average cost per patient;
 - \$677 million to cover an estimated 2 percent increase in the number of patients expected to seek care in FY 2006;
 - \$400 million increase in recognition of the expected cost of providing more costly treatment; and
 - \$600 million to correct for the estimated cost of long term care.
- **July 18, 2005**—Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid attempted to call up H.R. 3130 by unanimous consent in an attempt to increase the bill's funding from \$975 million to \$1.5 billion.
 - Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist blocked this move.
- **July 19, 2005**—Senator Frist identifies the FY 2006 Interior Appropriations bill as the preferred vehicle to move \$1.5 billion for veterans' health care in FY 2005.
 - The \$1.5 billion is likely to be removed from the FY 2006 Homeland Security appropriations bill as a result of this decision.

- **July 19, 2005**—Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs reports its FY 2006 appropriations bill.
 - The medical services account would be funded at \$23.3 billion, including \$1.977 billion to address the FY 2006 shortfall.
 - FY 2005 funding is not addressed in this spending bill

- **July 21, 2005**—HVAC holds a Full Committee oversight hearing on the Administration’s Fiscal Year 2006 budget amendment (in the amount of \$1.977 billion) for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA):
 - Chairman Buyer tasked the VA to look inwardly at its personnel make-up to press for necessary changes and asked members of the Committee “to continue to monitor the FY07 budgetary process to ensure that the VA changes its methodology and assumptions so that the mistakes of FY05 and 06 are not made again.”
 - Chairman Buyer announced his intention to travel to a VA polytrauma rehabilitation center during the upcoming recess to investigate the rumors of denial of access to care for returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan.

- **July 21, 2005**—Senate Appropriations Committee marked up H.R. 2528 and reported the bill out of Committee with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and without a written report.
 - The amendment includes \$1.977 billion to address the FY 06 shortfall.
 - HR 2528 was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

- **July 26, 2005**—A conference meeting has been scheduled on HR 2361, the FY 06 Interior Appropriations bill, with both House and Senate appropriators close to writing a conference agreement on the bill.
 - There is still debate over whether to designate the FY 05 funds as emergency spending or not:
 - Emergency spending does not count against budget caps.
 - The House argues that VA has adequate funds to cover the shortfall before the health care accounts are renewed for the balance of FY 05, while the Senate claims the VA’s health care accounts are in a state of emergency.
 - The Interior conference report may be considered on the floor as early as mid-week if a deal is agreed to by the House and Senate.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 24, 2005.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and Alternates were asked to contact their state of Illinois governor, senator and representative pleading that our LaSalle Veterans' Home gets authorization to hire the ten health service personnel needed in order to open those twelve vacant beds at our home. Let us not forget that there was a time when our home had ample staff and all 118 beds were filled. We must also remember that opening those 12 vacant beds will not alleviate the need for the 80 additional health care beds because we have over 400 veterans on our list for admission. In fact, there are over 40 veterans who are currently in Quincy or Mantino that are waiting for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. One individual has been at the Quincy Veterans' Home for over 3 years.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Jerry Fuchs that we accept the Service Officer's report as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue stated that the Finance Committee has requested that we change the line item in our budget for education to \$1500. They stated that they want actual figures of known expenditures submitted in our budget line items. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we increase our education line item for 2006 to \$1500. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue will be attending the Illinois Veterans Assistance Commission State Association Annual Training from September 26-29, 2005. As a result on September 28, 2005 our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting will be canceled. A letter will be sent out to all Delegates and Alternates stating our next official Commission meeting will be October 26, 2005.

A motion as made by Ken Hausken and seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Larry Graham, DAV Post 86; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

Veterans Assistance Liaison Committee Minutes

The Veterans' Assistance Liaison Commission met at American Legion State Headquarters in Bloomington, Illinois September 24, 2005. Our meeting was called to order by Chairman Rue in due form at 10:00 a.m. Roll call of members was taken. They are as follows:

1. Martin J. Rue, Chairman Division 2 – District 12 LaSalle County – Present
2. Jack Thompson, Division 1 – District 4 Cook County – Present
3. Jack Carrico, Division 3 – District 14 Mercer County – Present
4. Richard P. Moran, Division 3 – District 17 McLean County – Present
5. Bernard R. Schwartz, Division 5 – District 22 St. Clair County – Present

Introduction of Guests:

Department Commander Eugene Thompson
Department Sr. Vice Commander Luis V. Gonzalez

OLD BUSINESS:

LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois has 12 empty beds because the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs cannot get permission to hire the ten health service personnel needed to provide the quality health care to those veterans who would be admitted. This is truly disgraceful when there are over 425 veterans on its current waiting list for admission. Our current health care staff is spread very thin having to work many hours of overtime. It is costing the state of Illinois hundreds of thousands of dollars in overtime by not hiring the staff that is needed to provide the quality health care our veterans deserve. Write to the governor and your state of Illinois senator and representative telling them to hire the necessary staff at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Remember also that there are forty of our veterans at other state veterans' homes waiting for a bed opening at our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

Congressman Jerry Weller's Bill H.R. 995, which would exempt those severely wounded combat veterans who had received a Purple Heart Award and were military medically retired by the Department of Defense as unfit to perform their military duties from the 20-year longevity or 15 year (T.E.R.A.) Temporary Early Retirement for "Concurrent Receipt" legislation. H.R. 995 would permit those severely wounded military medically retired soldiers to receive their pro-rated military retirement pension along with their V.A. compensation without the dollar for dollar reduction of V.A. compensation from their military retirement pension. This would correct this deplorable inequity placed on our severely wounded combat veterans. None of our Illinois United States Congressional Representatives have signed onto H.R. 995 as co-sponsors. Are they against our American combat soldiers? Do they not care or appreciate the dear price our combat wounded soldiers have paid to protect our countries way of life and freedoms? Are they upset that our severely wounded combat soldiers who had received a Purple Heart Award and were military medically retired as physically unfit to serve in our military had not

died of their wounds so they would not have to provide medical care for their wounds? We must get on them now and request that they co-sponsor H.R. 995. Contact them immediately. Have your friends and organization contact them also.

NEW BUSINESS:

Illinois 94th General Assembly

1. H.B. 3472 – Public Act 94-0585 – 8/15/2005 - Lottery – Scratch Off For Veterans “This instant scratch-off game revenue will be deposited into the Illinois Veterans Assistance Fund for making grants, funding additional services, or conducting additional research projects relating to certain veterans issues.”
2. H.B. 0815 – Public Act 094-0583 – 8/15/2005 – Illinois Veterans grant program changes. “This bill has caused all kinds of confusion in our veteran higher education students assistance act by which some of the educational programs of the past will no longer qualify for funding. Two such programs are the truck driver C.D.L. Program and Pilot License Program. Chairman Rue is already appealing two veterans’ cases that were denied educational benefits after they returned from their tour of duty in Iraq.
3. We discussed the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S.D.V.A.) reviewing some of the 100% service connected disability award for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D.) and Individual Unemployability (I.U.E.) since 1999. The U.S.D.V.A. has discovered that once the veterans was awarded 100% service connection (S/C) for P.T.S.D. they no longer require counseling sessions nor medication for their treatment. U.S.D.V.A. also discovered that some who were awarded 100% (S/C) for I.U.E. went out and worked for cash. Either you can work or you cannot. It is abuses such as these that our taxpayers see and it makes them want to do away with all our entitlement programs.

Our next meeting will be December 1 and 2, 2005 in conjunction with the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission in Bloomington, Illinois at Jumers. Further updates will be sent out later.

Having no further business we adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin J. Rue, Liaison Chairman
Veterans Assistance Committee

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 26,
2005

The meeting opened in due form by Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek present and all other officers excused.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Acting Chairman Iwaszek stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue told the delegates and alternates that Chairman Ralph Adler had passed away. He would find out the arrangements for Chairman Adler's wake and contact the Commission delegates and alternates with the information. We will gather as a unit at Chairman Adler's wake.

Due to the passing of Chairman Adler, the Commission made a motion to elect Joe Iwaszek as our chairman for the remainder of the year. Motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by George Mason that Joe Iwaszek be elected chairman of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Nanowski announced that Mendota has asked veterans posts to bring their color guard for a rededication of a memorial to a Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Jim said that the Ottawa American Legion post would be taking their color guard and asked all other posts to participate.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jim Nanowski that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Lawrence Graham, D.A.V. Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; George Mason, V.F.W. Post 2470; and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 24, 2005.

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Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and Alternates were asked to contact their state of Illinois governor, senator and representative pleading that our LaSalle Veterans' Home gets authorization to hire the ten health service personnel needed in order to open those twelve vacant beds at our home. Let us not forget that there was a time when our home had ample staff and all 118 beds were filled. We must also remember that opening those 12 vacant beds will not alleviate the need for the 80 additional health care beds because we have over 400 veterans on our list for admission. In fact, there are over 40 veterans who are currently in Quincy or Mantino that are waiting for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. One individual has been at the Quincy Veterans' Home for over 3 years.

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Illinois 94th General Assembly

1. H.B. 3472 – Public Act 94-0585 – 8/15/2005 - Lottery – Scratch Off For Veterans “This instant scratch-off game revenue will be deposited into the Illinois Veterans Assistance Fund for making grants, funding additional services, or conducting additional research projects relating to certain veterans issues.”
2. H.B. 0815 – Public Act 094-0583 – 8/15/2005 – Illinois Veterans grant program changes. “This bill has caused all kinds of confusion in our veteran higher education students assistance act by which some of the educational programs of the past will no longer qualify for funding. Two such programs are the truck driver C.D.L. Program and Pilot License Program. Chairman Rue is already appealing two veterans’ cases that were denied educational benefits after they returned from their tour of duty in Iraq.
3. We discussed the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S.D.V.A.) reviewing some of the 100% service connected disability award for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D.) and Individual Unemployability (I.U.E.) since 1999. The U.S.D.V.A. has discovered that once the veterans was awarded 100% service connection (S/C) for P.T.S.D. they no longer require counseling sessions nor medication for their treatment. U.S.D.V.A. also discovered that some who were awarded 100% (S/C) for I.U.E. went out and worked for cash. Either you can work or you cannot. It is abuses such as these that our taxpayers see and it makes them want to do away with all our entitlement programs.

Our next meeting will be December 1 and 2, 2005 in conjunction with the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission in Bloomington, Illinois at Jumers. Further updates will be sent out later.

Having no further business we adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin J. Rue, Liaison Chairman
Veterans Assistance Committee

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 24, 2005.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and Alternates were asked to contact their state of Illinois governor, senator and representative pleading that our LaSalle Veterans' Home gets authorization to hire the ten health service personnel needed in order to open those twelve vacant beds at our home. Let us not forget that there was a time when our home had ample staff and all 118 beds were filled. We must also remember that opening those 12 vacant beds will not alleviate the need for the 80 additional health care beds because we have over 400 veterans on our list for admission. In fact, there are over 40 veterans who are currently in Quincy or Mantino that are waiting for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. One individual has been at the Quincy Veterans' Home for over 3 years.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Jerry Fuchs that we accept the Service Officer's report as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue stated that the Finance Committee has requested that we change the line item in our budget for education to \$1500. They stated that they want actual figures of known expenditures submitted in our budget line items. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we increase our education line item for 2006 to \$1500. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue will be attending the Illinois Veterans Assistance Commission State Association Annual Training from September 26-29, 2005. As a result on September 28, 2005 our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting will be canceled. A letter will be sent out to all Delegates and Alternates stating our next official Commission meeting will be October 26, 2005.

A motion as made by Ken Hausken and seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Larry Graham, DAV Post 86; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

Veterans Assistance Liaison Committee Minutes

The Veterans' Assistance Liaison Commission met at American Legion State Headquarters in Bloomington, Illinois September 24, 2005. Our meeting was called to order by Chairman Rue in due form at 10:00 a.m. Roll call of members was taken. They are as follows:

1. Martin J. Rue, Chairman Division 2 – District 12 LaSalle County – Present
2. Jack Thompson, Division 1 – District 4 Cook County – Present
3. Jack Carrico, Division 3 – District 14 Mercer County – Present
4. Richard P. Moran, Division 3 – District 17 McLean County – Present
5. Bernard R. Schwartz, Division 5 – District 22 St. Clair County – Present

Introduction of Guests:

Department Commander Eugene Thompson
Department Sr. Vice Commander Luis V. Gonzalez

OLD BUSINESS:

LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois has 12 empty beds because the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs cannot get permission to hire the ten health service personnel needed to provide the quality health care to those veterans who would be admitted. This is truly disgraceful when there are over 425 veterans on its current waiting list for admission. Our current health care staff is spread very thin having to work many hours of overtime. It is costing the state of Illinois hundreds of thousands of dollars in overtime by not hiring the staff that is needed to provide the quality health care our veterans deserve. Write to the governor and your state of Illinois senator and representative telling them to hire the necessary staff at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Remember also that there are forty of our veterans at other state veterans' homes waiting for a bed opening at our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

Congressman Jerry Weller's Bill H.R. 995, which would exempt those severely wounded combat veterans who had received a Purple Heart Award and were military medically retired by the Department of Defense as unfit to perform their military duties from the 20-year longevity or 15 year (T.E.R.A.) Temporary Early Retirement for "Concurrent Receipt" legislation. H.R. 995 would permit those severely wounded military medically retired soldiers to receive their pro-rated military retirement pension along with their V.A. compensation without the dollar for dollar reduction of V.A. compensation from their military retirement pension. This would correct this deplorable inequity placed on our severely wounded combat veterans. None of our Illinois United States Congressional Representatives have signed onto H.R. 995 as co-sponsors. Are they against our American combat soldiers? Do they not care or appreciate the dear price our combat wounded soldiers have paid to protect our countries way of life and freedoms? Are they upset that our severely wounded combat soldiers who had received a Purple Heart Award and were military medically retired as physically unfit to serve in our military had not

died of their wounds so they would not have to provide medical care for their wounds? We must get on them now and request that they co-sponsor H.R. 995. Contact them immediately. Have your friends and organization contact them also.

NEW BUSINESS:

Illinois 94th General Assembly

1. H.B. 3472 – Public Act 94-0585 – 8/15/2005 - Lottery – Scratch Off For Veterans “This instant scratch-off game revenue will be deposited into the Illinois Veterans Assistance Fund for making grants, funding additional services, or conducting additional research projects relating to certain veterans issues.”
2. H.B. 0815 – Public Act 094-0583 – 8/15/2005 – Illinois Veterans grant program changes. “This bill has caused all kinds of confusion in our veteran higher education students assistance act by which some of the educational programs of the past will no longer qualify for funding. Two such programs are the truck driver C.D.L. Program and Pilot License Program. Chairman Rue is already appealing two veterans’ cases that were denied educational benefits after they returned from their tour of duty in Iraq.
3. We discussed the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S.D.V.A.) reviewing some of the 100% service connected disability award for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D.) and Individual Unemployability (I.U.E.) since 1999. The U.S.D.V.A. has discovered that once the veterans was awarded 100% service connection (S/C) for P.T.S.D. they no longer require counseling sessions nor medication for their treatment. U.S.D.V.A. also discovered that some who were awarded 100% (S/C) for I.U.E. went out and worked for cash. Either you can work or you cannot. It is abuses such as these that our taxpayers see and it makes them want to do away with all our entitlement programs.

Our next meeting will be December 1 and 2, 2005 in conjunction with the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission in Bloomington, Illinois at Jumer. Further updates will be sent out later.

Having no further business we adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin J. Rue, Liaison Chairman
Veterans Assistance Committee

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 27, 2005.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing all of the officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: A lengthy discussion ensued pertaining to the ten empty beds at the LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. Superintendent Rue stated that the reason for the empty beds was due to the fact that the State of Illinois will not permit the home to hire the needed health care staff to open those beds. He advised all to contact Governor Blagojevich, Senator Dahl and Representative Mautino to let them know of their disgust with their refusal to take care of the needs of our honorably discharged veterans. There are currently over 425 veterans on the waiting list for admission to our LaSalle Veterans' Home. It is truly repulsive to think that they will not provide the moneys needed to hire the staff needed to provide quality health care as our state statutes require.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Larry Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ken Hausken and seconded by Delbert Spitz that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Larry Graham, DAV Post 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Fred Burnett, American Legion Post 540; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JULY 2005

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 15 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 15 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 10 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 18 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 16 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 2 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 22 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 10 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 9 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 3 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 15 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 6 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 15 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 15 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 12/2005-11/2005, \$1253 monthly, \$15036 (Total \$15,036)
EARLVILLE BACK/KNEE/DEPRESSION GULF WAR
2. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, effective 10/2003-11/2003, \$991 monthly, \$1982; 12/2003-11/2004, \$1029 monthly, \$12,348; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1056 monthly, 12,632 (Total \$16,692)
WESTEND PTSD/BACK/KNEE WWII
3. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation w/TDIU, effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$2239 monthly, \$4478; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$28,588 (Total \$33,066)
OTTAWA, PTSD, VIETNAM

4. Veteran's son awarded SSI benefits effective
2/2003-8/2003, \$443 monthly, \$3101; 9/2003, \$293 monthly
\$293; 10/2003-12/2003, \$443 monthly, \$1329;
1/2004-12/2004, \$455 monthly, \$5460; 1/2005-12/2005,
\$470 monthly, \$5640, (Total \$15,823)
OGLESBY, MENTAL/BACK DISORDER KOREA

5. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, 9/2004-11/2004
\$1195 monthly, \$2390; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1227 monthly,
\$14,724 (Total \$17,114)
LASALLE PTSD/BACK CONDITION/FACIAL SCAR GULF WAR

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	15,823.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	507,114.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	98,382.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	2,221,565.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,728,679.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Minutes of June 22, 2005 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman Joe Iwaszek excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Jerry Fuchs and seconded by Doug Grieves that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue went through the handouts that were presented and shared a letter of appreciation from Robert Acosta for services rendered at his request. All questions pertaining to the handouts were answered.

Our Commission went through the line item budget recommendations form for the fiscal year 2006. Delegates questioned the line items pertaining to the office supervisor's salary for fiscal year 2005 and the service officer's salary for fiscal year 2005. Superintendent Rue stated that the budget recommendations for fiscal year 2005 that was submitted to the LaSalle County Board requested that the office supervisor be paid \$32,150.00 for fiscal year 2005 and the service officer's salary be set at \$37,496.00 for fiscal year 2005. With asterisks after each salary line item stating that should the County Board pay higher salaries for like personnel positions that they should adjust our salary line items so that our personnel are paid equally to what like personnel are paid. Superintendent Rue stated that our non-union employees are being held back their raises as a result of ongoing negotiations with some county union personnel contracts. Delegates present could not understand why our non-union administrative personnel are not being paid what was requested by our Commission for fiscal year 2005 included in our total budget requests for fiscal year 2005 and past by the full County Board at their final November meeting in 2004. The Commission strongly recommended that Superintendent Rue take the steps necessary to rectify this situation in a timely fashion.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Delbert Spitz that the line item budget recommendations for fiscal year 2006 in the amount of \$262,161.00 be passed by the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission, including the salary increases for the officer supervisor, service officers and superintendent. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ken Hausken and seconded by Jim Nanowski that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4099; Fred Burnette, American Legion Post 540; Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Doug Grieves, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion 235.

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JUNE 2005

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 32 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 14 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 29 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 3 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 24 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 11 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 5 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 18 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 25 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 32 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 11/2004, \$2325 monthly; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2387 monthly, \$28,644 (Total \$30,969)
OTTAWA, MENTAL DISORDER, VIETNAM
2. Veteran awarded NSC Pension, effective 2/2005-5/2006, \$831 monthly, \$9972 (Total \$9972)
PERU, ARTHRITIS/HEPATITIS C, VIETNAM
3. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment of \$13,120 for 8/2004-5/2005; \$1326 monthly, 6/2005-11/2005 \$7956 (Total \$21,076)
OTTAWA, DIABETES, VIETNAM

4. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 6/2004-7/2004, \$205 monthly, \$410; 8/2004-9/2004, 100% \$2239 monthly, \$4478; 10/2004-12/2004, \$106, \$212; 12/2004-11/2005, \$108 monthly, \$1296 (Total \$6396)
STREATOR, KNEE SURGERY, GULF WAR
5. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation 20% S/C Compensation effective 5/2003-11/2003, \$201 monthly, \$1206; 12/2003-11/2004, \$205 monthly, \$2460; 12/2004-11/2005, \$210 monthly, \$2530 (TOTAL \$6196)
WESTEND, DIABETES, VIETNAM
6. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, effective 3/2004-11/2004, \$205 monthly, \$2050; 12/2004-11/2005, \$210 monthly, \$2520. (TOTAL \$4570)
EASTEND, LEFT ANKLE INJURY, VIETNAM
7. Veteran awarded adaptive equipment grant by VA for new automobile, \$11,000 (TOTAL \$11,000)
OTTAWA, RIGHT HAND/FOOT, VIETNAM
8. Veteran awarded Housebound benefit, effective 4/2005-3/2006, \$222 monthly, \$2664 (TOTAL \$2664)
WESTEND, COPD, KOREA

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 21,076.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 491,291.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 71,767.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$2,123,183.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$2,614,475.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of May 25, 2005.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing the chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: Again questions were asked pertaining to the additional staff needed at the LaSalle Veterans Home as well as the funding for the additional 80 needed beds. Superintendent Rue stated that all people in the Illinois valley area should contact their state of Illinois representatives, senators and governor. There are over 400 veterans on the waiting list and they need our help.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Ken Hausken and seconded by Nick Pacetti that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570 and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MAY 2005**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 36 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 19 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 7 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 25 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 22 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 6 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 24 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 9 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 1 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 1 veteran.
22. Sent 3 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 26 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 2 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 0 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 2/2005-11/2005, \$2429 monthly, \$24,290;12/2005-1/2006, \$4858 (Total \$29,148)
Oglesby, Large cell lymphoma, Vietnam
2. Veteran awarded 30% S/C Compensation effective 4/2004-11/2004, \$316 monthly, \$2528;12/2004-11/2005, \$324 monthly, \$3888 (Total \$6416)
Streator, Back/DJD of Knees, Gulf War
3. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$1029 monthly, \$2,058;12/2004-11/2005, \$1056 monthly, \$12,672 (Total \$14,730)
Ottawa, PTSD, Vietnam

4. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment
\$4827, 3/2005-5/2005; 6/2005-5/2006, \$1609 monthly
\$19,308 (Total \$24,135)
WestEnd PTSD/BiPolar, Vietnam
5. Veteran awarded S/C compensation 10% S/C Compensation
effective 11/2004, \$106 monthly; 12/2004-11/2005,
\$108 monthly, \$1296 (total \$1402)
Peru Left Knee Injury Vietnam
6. Veteran awarded 90% S/C Compensation, w/TDIU
effective 3/2003-11/2003, \$2399 monthly, \$28,788;
11/2003-11/2004, \$2448 monthly, \$29,344;
12/2004-11/2005, \$2513 monthly, \$30,156 monthly
(Total \$88,288)
Sheridan PTSD/Diabetes/Diabetic Retinopathy Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 8/2004-5/2005
retroactive payment, \$6712; 6/2005-5/2006, \$1678 monthly
\$19,136 (Total \$25,848)
WestEnd PTSD/Diabetes Vietnam
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, Dependency
Allowance, \$3348 for children; \$870 monthly,
for (3) children; 6/2005-11/2005, \$5220
(Total \$8568)
WestEnd PTSD/Diabetes Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective
10/2004-11/2005, \$1682 monthly, \$21,866
(Total \$21,866)
LaSalle PTSD/Right Hand Vietnam
10. Veteran's Spouse awarded SSD benefits effective
9/2005-11/2006, \$160 monthly, \$2240 (Total \$2240)
Peru Mental

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS: \$ 82,657.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$ 470,215.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS: \$ 139,984.00
YEAR-TO-DATE: \$2,041,317.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE: \$2,511,532.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes
of April 27, 2005

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler.
Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no
additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler
stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All
questions pertaining to the service officer's report were
answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and
seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's
report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Joseph Iwaszek and seconded by
Nick Pacetti that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post
4068; Lawrence Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post
86; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229;
Nick Nedrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken
Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Carl Key, VFW Post 4079;
Delbert Spitz, VFW 4079; Jim Nanowski, American
Legion Post 33; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570;
Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Jim
DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Chairman Ralph Adler,
American Legion Post 235; and George Sabastian, visitor

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
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7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
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12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
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15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes
of April 27, 2005

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler.
Roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no
additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler
stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All
questions pertaining to the service officer's report were
answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and
seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's
report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Joseph Iwaszek and seconded by
Nick Pacetti that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post
4068; Lawrence Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post
86; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229;
Nick Nedrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken
Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Carl Key, VFW Post 4079;
Delbert Spitz, VFW 4079; Jim Nanowski, American
Legion Post 33; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570;
Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Jim
DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Chairman Ralph Adler,
American Legion Post 235; and George Sabastian, visitor

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR APRIL 2005**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 25 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 8 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 3 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 5 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 34 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 15 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 4 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 11 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 4 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 9 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 19 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 8 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 1 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, (permanent & total), effective 3/2004-11/2004, \$2366 monthly, \$23,660; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2429, \$29,148 (Total \$52,808)
WestEnd, lymphatic leukemia, VIETNAM
2. Veteran's Widow awarded Widow Pension, effective 8/2004-11/2004, \$73 monthly, \$292; \$88 monthly, \$1144; 3/2005-8/2005, \$539 (Total \$1975)
Peru, WWII
3. Veteran awarded 50% S/C Compensation, 1/2005-12/2005, \$663 monthly, \$7293 (Total \$7293)
WestEnd, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, Vietnam

4. Veteran awarded 30% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2003, \$310 monthly, \$1240; 12/2003-11/2004, \$316 monthly, \$3,792; 12/2004-11/2005, \$324 monthly, \$3888 (Total \$8920) WestEnd Bilateral Knee/Tinnitus Gulf War
5. Veteran awarded S/C compensation 70% W/IUE, effective 5/2003-11/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$17,544; 12/2004-11/2004, \$2239 monthly, \$26,868; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,588 Ottawa, PTSD, Vietnam
6. Veteran awarded 70% s/C Compensation, effective 12/2003-4/2004, \$824 monthly, \$4120; awarded IUE 5/2004-11/2004, \$2239 monthly, \$15,673; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,888 (Total \$47,681) WestEnd, PTSD, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$1361 monthly, \$2722; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1398 monthly, \$16,776 (Total \$19,498) Ottawa, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, Vietnam
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 2/2005-11/2005, \$1473 monthly, \$14,730 (Total \$14,730) WestEnd, Spinal Tumor/Herniated Disc, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, (Permanent & Total), effective 12/2005-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,588 (Total \$27,588) Ottawa, Multiple Myeloma, KOREA/VIETNAM
10. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 12/2004-11/2005, \$1889 monthly, \$22,668 (Total \$22,668) EastEnd, Diabetes, Vietnam
11. Veteran awarded 30 % S/C Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2004, \$318 monthly, \$1,264; 12/2004-11/2005 \$324 monthly, \$3888 (Total \$5152) Streator, Hernia/Bursitis/DJD, Gulf War
12. Veteran's mother awarded SSD benefits, \$465 monthly, effective 1/2005-11/2005, \$5580 (Total \$5580) Earlville, Back condition
13. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, TDIU, effective 11/2004-12/2005, \$2523 monthly, \$30,276, (Total \$30,276) Ottawa, PTSD, Persian Gulf

14. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 4/2002-5/2005,
\$34,967 retroactive payment; 6/2005-11/2005, \$1789
monthly, \$10,734 (Total \$45,701)
Oglesby, PTSD/Diabetes, VIETNAM

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	88,679.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	387,558.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	273,371.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,901,333.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,288,891.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
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16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 23, 2005.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. A lengthy discussion ensued once again pertaining to the 80 beds needed at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. Superintendent Rue once again ensured the delegates and alternates that they must continue to discuss this issue with their state of Illinois representative, senator and governor. They must get their friends and relatives to do the same. As we all know this has been an ongoing discussion since 1993. We now have over 400 applicants on the waiting list with a two and a half year wait for admission. Supt. Rue reintegrated that this discussion should have taken place under old business. Chairman Adler stated due to no additions or corrections to the minutes they will stand approved as presented.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Lawrence Graham that they service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Rue shared a letter from United States Representative Jerry Weller announcing that he has re-introduced "Combat Military Medically Retired Veterans Act" HR 995. That letter and the language of HR 995 was shared with our veterans. Congressman Weller will be holding a press conference in front of the Downtown Courthouse in Ottawa, Illinois and asks that veterans be present on March 29, 2005 to hear the announcement.

Chairman Adler announced that the superintendent at the Lincoln National Cemetery in Joliet, Illinois will be replaced in April of 2005. As a result the Lincoln National Cemetery Committee feels very strongly that their previous problems will be resolved.

Motion by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by Nick Pacetti that our meeting be adjourned. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; Doug Grieves, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 23, 2005.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. A lengthy discussion ensued once again pertaining to the 80 beds needed at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. Superintendent Rue once again ensured the delegates and alternates that they must continue to discuss this issue with their state of Illinois representative, senator and governor. They must get their friends and relatives to do the same. As we all know this has been an ongoing discussion since 1993. We now have over 400 applicants on the waiting list with a two and a half year wait for admission. Supt. Rue reintegrated that this discussion should have taken place under old business. Chairman Adler stated due to no additions or corrections to the minutes they will stand approved as presented.

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Members present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; Doug Grieves, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR MARCH 2005**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 26 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 10 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 16 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 48 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 4 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 35 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 1 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 17 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 7 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 21 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 35 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 0 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 12 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 2 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 4 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 2 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded 60% w/IUE, effective 10/2003-11/2003, \$2318, \$4636; 12/2003-12/2004, \$2366, \$28,392; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2429, \$29,148 (Total \$62,176)
WestEnd, COPD, VIETNAM
2. Veteran awarded 20% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 9/2004-11/2004, \$205, \$615; 12/2004-11/2005, \$210 monthly, \$2520 (Total \$3135)
Mendota, Rt shoulder/knee, PEACETIME
3. Veteran awarded 20% S/C Compensation, with a (k), \$294 monthly, 12/2004-11/2005, \$3528 (Total \$3528)
WestEnd, Diabetes w/(k), VIETNAM

4. Veteran awarded 60% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 9/2004-11/2004, \$817 monthly, \$2451; 12/2004-11/2005, \$839 monthly, \$10,068 (Total \$12,519)
LaSalle, PTSD, Chin injury IRAQI WAR
5. Veteran awarded S/C compensation 60% W/IUE, effective 11/2004, \$2239; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,588 (Total \$29,827)
Earlville, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, VIETNAM
6. Veteran awarded 90% s/C Compensation, w/IUE, effective 9/2003-11/2003 (40%-100%) (diff. \$1954), \$5862; 12/2003-11/2004, (diff. \$1994) \$23,938; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2513 monthly, \$28,156 (Total \$57,956)
Marseilles, PTSD/Diabetes, VIETNAM
7. Veteran granted waiver of overpayment of NSC Pension (Total \$46,588)
Mendota, Heart, COPD, WWII
8. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 50%, effective 1/2004-11/2004, \$646 monthly, \$7106; 12/2004-11/2005, \$663 monthly, \$7956; (Total \$15,062)
WestEnd, Bi-Polar, VIETNAM
9. Veteran awarded SSD, effective, 8/2003-3/2005, \$16,344; 4/2005-11/2005, \$1549 monthly, \$11,392 (Total \$27,736)
Marseilles, PTSD/Diabetes, VIETNAM
10. Veteran awarded 60% S/C Compensation, W/IUE, effective 4/2004-11/2004, \$2448 monthly, (diff. \$1491), \$11,928 12/2004-11/2005, \$2513 monthly, \$30,156 (Total \$42,084)
Marseilles, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, VIETNAM
11. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 80%, effective 3/2003-11/2003, \$1252 monthly, \$12,520; 12/2003-11/2004 \$15,324; 12/2004, \$1311; 1/2005-11/2005, \$1464 monthly, \$16,104 (Total \$45,259)
Sheridan, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, VIETNAM
12. Veteran awarded 90% W/IUE, effective 3/2003-11/2003, (diff. \$1001), \$9,009; 12/2003-11/2004, \$2366 monthly, \$28,392; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2429 monthly, \$29,148 (Total \$63,549)
WestEnd, PTSD, CAD, Diabetes, VIETNAM
13. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 11/2003, \$1167; 12/2003-11/2004, \$1167 monthly, \$14,004; 12/2004-11/2005, \$14,204 (Total \$29,375)
WestEnd, Cancer/Diabetes, VIETNAM

14. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, effective
10/2003-11/2003, \$1271 monthly, \$2542; 12/2003-11/2004,
\$1296 monthly, \$15,552; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1331 monthly,
\$15,972 (Total \$34,066)
WestEnd, PTSD/CAD/Hypertension, VIETNAM
15. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/A&A, effective
4/2004-11/2004, \$1375 monthly, \$12,375;
12/2004-11/2005, \$1412 monthly, \$16,944 (Total \$29,319)
Ottawa, Stroke, VIETNAM
16. Veteran awarded SSD, effective 10/2004-12/2005,
\$1450 monthly, \$18,850 (Total \$18,850)
Ottawa, Diabetes w/multiple residuals, VIETNAM
17. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation (by schedule)
effective 12/2004-11/2005, \$2730 monthly
(Total \$32,760)
Ottawa, PTSD/tinnitus, VIETNAM

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	75,961.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	298,879.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	475,589.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,627,962.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,926,841.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC (DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE



John Kass

30 years later, Vietnam vet asks: 'Was it worth it?'

Next week marks the 30th anniversary of the end of the war in Vietnam. Rather than talk to a professor, I talked to John Colovos.

He owns the Cambridge House Restaurant where I eat lunch, at Ohio and St. Clair, near the Tribune. He's a few days shy of 60, but wiry and strong, a hunter, still.

One early morning last week, we sat in a booth in the back. John didn't eat. He spiked his coffee with sugar and smoked. It was the first time we'd ever talked about Vietnam.

"I love my country. I fought for my country. I got wounded in Vietnam. But was it worth it? I still think about that."

He received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart. Though born in Europe, the immigrant became an American through loss of blood.

"In the old country, in the village, a Communist guerrilla captain was going to kill my dad because he wouldn't join the Communists. He put the gun to my father's head. The man with the gun was my father's first cousin. He let him live, but that's how bad it was. That civil war was cousin against cousin. I thought Vietnam would have the same dynamic."

They left Greece and settled in Chicago, where his father cut leather in a shoe factory.

"One day one of those presses took his left hand off. I quit school and worked."

He was drafted in June 1965. After boot camp, a sergeant approached: "'Hey, you Greeks did good in Korea. Come here you.' That was it and I was in the 101st Airborne.

"... In Vietnam, we'd capture a hill. Then they'd say, 'We're moving out' and you say, 'What happens to the hill when we move out?' and they say, 'We're here to show our power. This hill doesn't mean anything.' You think to yourself, 'Oh,' and you think about friends who died.

"We'd see the Frenchmen in a Michelin plantation. They were protected by us. They lived in style. Every time we cut rubber trees to clear the area, our government paid them something like \$1,500 per tree. And we were protecting *them*?

"And that's when I started asking, why am I here? It was strictly a business war. Real estate and business."

We didn't discuss China and Russia, dominos, gradual escalation, political theory. Theory was so thin so early in the morning, so airy, so light. As John Colovos thought back almost 40 years, his own kids grown, smoking in a booth in his restaurant, his boots were on the ground.

He thought about the deadly village of Cu Chi, at a camp situated above a series of enemy underground tunnels.

"They came at us about 5:30 in the morning. They overran the camp. We beat them back. They overran it again. We beat them back. I'd never seen hand-to-hand before. It lasted more than six hours. I see a personnel carrier. One of the Vietnamese, he didn't even have a weapon anymore, just a little guy with a hatchet. The battle was over, but he ran and attacked the personnel carrier, banging on it with his hatchet.

"One of our guys on top of the carrier looked down at him. He shook his head. He couldn't believe an enemy like this, no gun, had the will to fight. With his hands.

With a hatchet. That's how we would be if some country attacked America. But we were over there, thousands of miles away.

"That's when I was thinking, maybe we shouldn't have been in Vietnam. An officer showed up. We saluted. He said that he should be saluting us. Then I looked down at my leg and it was all bloody. Then I passed out. It was a hand grenade."

On June 6, 1967, he flew into O'Hare International Airport. His buddy, Joe, from Michigan, was worse off, having lost his leg below the knee.

"We were all spit and polish, we had our medals on, walking to another gate for Joe to take his flight home," Colovos said. "Then we got the welcome home. There were three guys with long hair. They walked up to us. We stood there. They spit."

Wounded and outnumbered, they brawled on the floor with the other three. John screamed for bystanders to help.

"The bystanders were in a circle, watching. They didn't help. That broke my heart."

John pulled a pistol and the fight stopped. Two police officers calmed things down, let him keep his pistol but took the bullets, then scattered the crowd. After seeing Joe off to Michigan on another flight, the police drove Colovos home to North and Central.

"The older officer, he was a nice man, kept saying, 'Settle down, the war's over,' and I said, 'Maybe for you, but not for me.' It took me a long time to get back to normal.

"Now the Vietnamese have vacation tours, but I'm not going there. I don't blame the Vietnamese. They did what they did. We did what we did. But I'm not going back. So many kids got killed, and now our country and Vietnam are friends. They have vacations, resorts, and you ask me if it was worth it.

"So many dead. My friends are dead. What did we get out of it? What did we gain?"

jskass@tribune.com

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 23, 2005.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing our Chaplin excused and all other officers present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to those minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Once again the 80 beds for the LaSalle Veterans' Home were discussed. Superintendent Rue stated that all people in our Illinois valley should keep calling or writing to the Governor and their state representatives and senator.

New Business: Service Officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Chairman Adler discussed the problems surrounding the National Cemetery at Joliet. He stated that many veterans' organizations were being denied Honor Guard duty. He said that would be straightened out.

Motion by Douglas Grieves and seconded by Ken Hausken to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2005**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 41 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 14 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 4 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 20 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 43 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 6 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 32 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 2 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 3 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 2 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 12 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 3 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 3 veteran.
22. Sent 13 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 39 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 11 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 6 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 1 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 2 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded adaptive equipment and automobile allowance award, \$12,000 (Total \$12,000)
left hand/leg condition, Vietnam, OTTAWA
2. Veteran awarded 100% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 9/2004-11/2004, (80%-100%-diff.\$1070), \$3210; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2513 monthly, \$30,516 (Total \$33,366)
Diabetes/Peripheral Vascular Disease, Vietnam, OTTAWA
3. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, (50%-100%) (diff.\$1636), 4/2004/11/2004, \$13,088; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2429, \$29,148 (Total \$42,236)
Psychiatric Condition, Sheridan, Gulf War

4. Veteran awarded 10% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 9/2004-11/2004, \$106 monthly, \$318; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1296 (Total \$1614)
Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Gulf War Mendota
5. Veteran awarded S/C compensation for seizure disorder, 100%, 6/95; 40%, 11/97; 20%, 1/2001. Earlier effective date for award of TDIU effective 11/97; 100% from 6/95; 70% from 11/97; 90% S/C Compensation from 8/2000; Retroactive payment of \$76,208 (Total \$76,208)
Seizure Disorder, Vietnam, Oglesby
6. Veteran awarded 40% s/C Compensation effective 5/2004-11/2004, \$504 monthly, \$3528; \$518 monthly, \$6216 (Total \$9744)
Knees/Right Arm, Gulf War, SHERIDAN
7. Veteran awarded 40% S/C Compensation, effective 7/20094-11/2004, \$593 monthly, \$2965; 12/2004-11/2005, \$607 monthly, \$7284 (Total \$10,249)
BiPolar/Hearing Loss, Peacetime, EastEnd
8. Veteran awarded S/C Compensation, 60%w/IUE, effective 5/2002-11/2002, \$2287 monthly, \$16,009; 12/2002-11/2003, \$2318 monthly, \$27,816; 12/2003-11/2004, \$2366 monthly, \$28,392; 12/2004-11/2005, \$29,148 (Total \$101,365)
Hip/Spine conditions, WWII, Peru
9. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, w/IUE, effective 12/2000. Veteran received retroactive payment of \$84,220 for period from 12/2000-12/2004; \$2299 monthly, \$26,888
PTSD/Tinnitus, Vietnam, WestEnd
10. Veteran awarded 10% S/C Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2003, \$104 monthly, \$312; 12/2003-7/2004 \$106 monthly, \$954; 8/2004-11/2004, 100%, \$2588, \$10,352; 12/2004-3/2005, \$2657, \$10,628; 4/2005-11/2005, 90% \$1464 monthly, \$11,712 (Total \$34,062)
PTSD/Prostrate Cancer/Tinnitus, Vietnam, Ottawa
11. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation (10%-40%) (diff. \$358), 10/2003-11/2003, \$358; 12/2003-11/2004, \$4256; 11/2004-11/2005, \$4296 (Total \$8910)
Right Wrist/Migraines, Gulf War, Mendota

12. Veteran awarded increased S/C Compensation, 60%-90%
(diff.\$527) 7/2004-11/2004, \$2635;12/2004-11/2005,
\$1518 monthly, \$18,972 (Total \$21,607)
Peripheral Neuropathy/PTSD, Vietnam, Marseilles

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	222,918.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	472,469.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,151,373.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	1,374,291.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of
January 26, 2005.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Adler. Roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Adler stated that the minutes were stand approved as presented.

Old Business: The delegates and alternates were concerned about the funding of the 80 beds at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue encouraged them to write to the Governor of the State of Illinois and their State of Illinois representatives and senator.

New Business: The Service Officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Joe Iwaszek that the Service Officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Nick Pacetti, seconded by Ken Hausken that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

Members present: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 249; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 262; Alternate Tony Karczewski, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC & IT PROCESSING
January 12, 2005

VAC

A meeting of the VAC Committee was held January 12, 2005 in room 242 with the following members present: George Gruenwald, Mike Hall, Joseph Panzica, Jerry Myers, Gary Small and Art Rigby

Motion by Myers 2nd by Panzica that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as read. Carried.

Motion by Small 2nd by Gruenwald that the bills in the amount of \$960.00 (20-01) be allowed. Carried.

Comments: Mr. Rue reported on the 80 bed expansion for the LaSalle Vets Home. He asked that the board support the funding – next month's agenda will include a resolution to go to the full board to ask the State Legislators to release funding.

Motion by Myers 2nd by Panzica that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

Present: Marty Rue

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A meeting of the Data Processing Committee was held January 12, 2005 in room 242 with the following members present: George Gruenwald, Mike Hall, Joseph Panzica, Jerry Myers, Gary Small and Art Rigby

Motion by Gruenwald 2nd by Hall that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as read. Carried.

Motion by Small 2nd by Hall that the bills in the amount of \$37,352.84 (01-05) be allowed. Carried.

Motion by Myers 2nd by Panzica to go into executive session at 4:03 p.m. to review past executive session minutes. Ayes -- Gruenwald, Hall, Panzica, Myers, Small

Motion by Gruenwald 2nd by Hall that committee come out of executive session. Ayes -- Gruenwald, Hall, Panzica, Myers, Small

Motion by Panzica 2nd by Small to keep closed due to continued need for confidentiality the executive session minutes of 04-30-01, 12-15-99, 11-30-99 & 11-10-99. Carried.

Motion by Myers 2nd by Gruenwald to approve and release minutes dated 06-10-04. Carried.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 17, 2005.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Ralph Adler. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Adler stated those minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates were given handouts of news articles announcing that the LaSalle Veterans Home will finally get its 80-bed expansion. A press conference was held by Senator Pat Welch and Representative Frank Mautino announcing that Governor Blagojevich had told them that the funding for this project has been approved in the Capital Bond Fund Budget. This press conference was held at the LaSalle Veterans Home on Sunday, March 21, 2004.

New Business: Superintendent Rue shared with the Commission the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission's annual report, which was sent to Governor Rod Blagojevich on November 17, 2004.

Our annual election was held for our VAC officers and superintendent of the commission. Those officers nominated are as follows:

1. Chairman – Ralph Adler
 - a. Nominated by Nick Nekrosius, moved to close nominations by Nick Pacetti. Passed
2. Vice-Chairman – Joe Iwaszek
 - a. Nominated by Ralph Adler, moved to close nominations by Ken Hausken. Passed
3. Chaplain – Delbert Spitz
 - a. Nominated by Joe Iwaszek, moved to close nominations by Ralph Adler. Passed
4. Sgt. At Arms – Ken Hausken
 - a. Nominated by Nick Nekrosius, moved to close nominations by Jim Nanowski. Passed

Motion was made by Jim Nanowski, seconded by Douglas Grieve that a unanimous ballot be cast for all VAC officers nominated. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius, seconded by Delbert Spitz that Martin Rue be elected superintendent of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission for the years 2005 through 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue announced that we have to elect a treasurer and three directors to add to our Not-For-Profit Annual Report, due to deaths. Those nominated by the alternates and delegates present at our annual meeting are as follows:

Treasurer – Ken Hausken
Director – Nick Nekrosius
Director – Delbert Spitz
Director – Jim Nanowski

All four nominated candidates agreed to serve. Motion by Joe Iwaszek, seconded by Nick Pacetti that the Commission elect the four above named individuals who were nominated. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Delbert Spitz, seconded by Doug Grieve that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Pacetti, VFW Post 4668; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joe Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Ralph Adler, American Legion Post 235

VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2004
CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 47 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 23 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 7 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 28 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 40 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 4 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 38 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 4 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 1 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 5 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 22 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 2 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 7 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 1 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 2 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 5 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 3 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 4 veteran.
22. Sent 15 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 0 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 2 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 50 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 31 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 0 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 1 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 3 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 1 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded TDIU w/80% service connected compensation, effective 7/2004-11/2004, \$2448, \$9792; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2538 monthly, \$30,356 (Total \$40,148) PTSD, Vietnam, STREATOR
2. Veteran awarded 20% Service-Connected Compensation, \$205 monthly, effective 3/2004-11/2004, \$1845; 12/2004-11/2005, \$212 monthly, \$2544 (Total \$4389) Diabetes, Vietnam, SHERIDAN
3. Veteran awarded 10% Service-Connected Compensation, \$106 monthly, effective 7/2004-11/2004, \$530; 12/2004-11/2005, \$111 monthly, \$1332 (Total \$1862) Knee Condition, Gulf War, STREATOR

4. Veteran awarded 70% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 7/2004-11/2004, \$1182 monthly, \$5910; 12/2004-11/2005, \$14,712 (Total \$20,622)
PTSD, Vietnam, OTTAWA
5. Veteran awarded SSD benefits retroactive payment for period 3/2003-10/2004, \$30,492; 11/2004, \$1539 monthly; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1596 monthly, \$19,052 (Total \$51,083)
Mental Condition/Stroke Residuals, PeaceTime, WESTEND
6. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 12/2004-11/2005 \$1760 monthly, \$21,120 (Total \$21,120)
Back/Heart Condition, Vietnam, PERU
7. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 2/2004-11/2004 \$1610 monthly, \$16,100; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1647 monthly \$19,764 (Total \$35,864)
Diabetes & Residuals, Vietnam, EASTEND
8. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 9/2003-10/2005, for right knee replacement, \$2299 monthly, \$29,887 (Total \$29,887)
Right Knee condition, Vietnam, MARSEILLES
9. Veteran awarded 50% Service-Connected Compensation effective 8/2002-11/2002, \$790 monthly, \$3160; 12/2002-11/2003, \$9672; 12/2003-11/2004, \$9804 (Total \$22,636)
Depression, PeaceTime, OTTAWA
10. Veteran awarded permanent and total rating for unemployability.
Multiple Sclerosis, Vietnam, OTTAWA
11. Veteran awarded 70% Service-Connected Compensation effective 6/2004-11/2004, \$1117, \$6702; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1147, \$13,764 (Total \$20,466)
Diabetes/PTSD, Vietnam, WESTEND
12. Veteran awarded 10% Service-Connected Compensation by the BVA for period 2/2001-11/2004, (20% to 30%) \$4995 (Total \$4995)
Digestive Disorder, Desert Storm, PERU
13. Veteran awarded 80% Service-Connected Compensation, w/IUE, effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$2523, \$5046; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2589 monthly, \$31,068 (Total \$36,114)
Multiple Sclerosis, PeaceTime, LaSalle

14. Veteran awarded 100% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2003, \$2274, \$9096; 12/2003-11/2004, \$2321, \$27,852; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2513 monthly, \$30,156 (Total \$67,104)
Diabetes/PTSD, Vietnam, EASTEND
15. Veteran awarded IUE effective 8/2003-11/2003, \$2193, \$8772; 12/2003-11/2004, \$26,868 (Total \$35,460)
PTSD/Leg Condition, Vietnam, EASTEND
16. Veteran awarded 60% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 3/2003-11/2003, \$899 monthly, \$8091; 12/2003-11/2004, \$10,788 (Total \$18,879)
Heart Disease/Diabetes, Vietnam, OTTAWA
17. Veteran awarded 80% Service-Connected Compensation, w/IUE, effective 9/2003-11/2003, \$2472, \$7416; 12/2003-11/2004, \$2523, \$30,276; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2589, \$31,068 (Total \$68,760)
Back Condition, Gulf War, OTTAWA
18. Veteran awarded 60% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 12/2003-11/2004, \$817 monthly, \$9804; 12/2004-11/2005, \$827 monthly, \$9924 (Total \$19,744)
Heart Condition, Vietnam, LASALLE
19. Veteran awarded 40% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 5/2004-11/2004, \$504 monthly, \$3528; 12/2004-11/2005, \$516, \$6192 (Total \$9720)
Hypothyroidism, Persian Gulf, SHERIDAN
20. Veteran's Widow awarded DIC benefits, 11/2004, \$967; 12/2004-11/2005, \$993 monthly, \$11,916 (Total \$12,883)
Heart Condition (POW), WWII, PERU
21. Veteran awarded IUE effective 6/2004-11/2004, \$2439, \$14,634; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2531 monthly, \$28,372 (Total \$43,006)
Knee condition, Bilaterally, Vietnam, WESTEND
22. Veteran awarded NSC Pension w/A&A, effective 4/2004-11/2004, \$1375 monthly, \$11,000; 12/2004-11/2005 \$1401 monthly, \$16,812 (Total \$27,812)
Heart/Stroke conditions, Vietnam/Gulf War, OTTAWA

23. Veteran awarded 20% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 9/2003-11/2003, \$201 monthly, \$603; 12/2003-9/2004, \$205 monthly, \$1845; increased to 60% effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$893 monthly, \$1786; 12/2004-11/2005, \$917 monthly, \$11,004 (Total \$14,345) Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, Vietnam, LaSalle

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	108,067.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	108,067.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	499,040.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	499,040.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	607,107.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

1. Form 526-APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION OR PENSION
2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
7. VA Form 530-APPLICATION FOR BURIAL BENEFITS
8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
12. VA Form 10-10-APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
13. VA Form 5655-FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
15. VA Form 8416-REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING MEDICAL, LEGAL, OR OTHER EXPENSES.
16. VA Form (1-9)-APPEAL TO BOARD OF APPEAL
17. VA Form 517 IMPROVED PENSION ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT (VETERAN WITH CHILDREN)
18. VA Form 527-INCOME-NET WORTH AND EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT
19. VA Form 519-CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION FOR VA PURPOSES
20. VA Form 4125-CLAIM FOR ONE SUM PAYMENT
21. VA FORM 8940-VETERANS APPLICATION FOR INCREASED COMPENSATION BASED ON UNEMPLOYABILITY
22. VA FORM 1900-DISABLED VETERANS APPLICATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
23. VA FORM 1990-APPLICATION FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
24. VA FORM 5281-APPLICATION FOR REFUND OF EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS
25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

**VAC SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
SERVICE OFFICER REPORT FOR JANUARY 2005**

CASEWORK:

1. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 4138 for 30 veterans.
2. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 21-22 for 21 veterans
3. Sent to Service Offices VA Form 526 for 5 veterans.
4. Sent out birth, death, DD214, and marriage certificates to service offices for 15 veterans.
5. Sent out letters to 20 veterans to discuss, explain or inquire as to the status of their case.
6. Sent out 8 Form 180 to St. Louis for veterans personnel records.
7. Sent out 31 requests for medical records to various doctors, hospitals, etc for various veterans.
8. Sent copy of veteran's records to 5 veteran
9. Sent medals received to 3 veteran.
10. Sent letter to 3 veterans placing their file on inactive status.
11. Sent out various VA forms to 17 veterans to sign and return.
12. Sent VA Form 4142 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
13. Sent VA Form 530 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
14. Sent Representative forms for Social Security for 2 veterans.
15. Sent application for headstone to sexton for 2 veteran.
16. Sent application for headstone to Washington DC for 1 veterans
17. Sent VA Form 534 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
18. Sent VA Form 8940 to Veterans Administration for 2 veterans.
19. Sent VA Form 8416 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
20. Sent VA Form 527 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
21. Sent Request for Reconsideration to SSA reference denial of disability benefits for 2 veteran.
22. Sent 10 medical records for veterans to Social Security office.
23. Sent VA Form 5655 to VA for 2 veterans.
24. Sent VA Form 9 to VA for 1 veteran(s).
25. Sent medical records to various service organizations for 33 veterans.
26. Sent VA Form 1900 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
27. Sent Request for Presidential Memorial Certificate to VA Regional Office for 0 veterans' widows.
28. Sent NA Form 13055 to National Personnel for 1 veterans.
29. Sent various SSA forms for 13 veterans to Hearing Office for Social Security Disability

30. Sent 3 memos to National Service Offices to check progress of client's claims.
31. Sent VA Form 516 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
32. Sent VA Form 514 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
33. Sent VA Form 686c to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
34. Sent VA Form 10-10t to Veterans Medical Centers for 0 veterans.
35. Sent VA Form 10-10F to Veterans medical Centers for 1 veterans.
36. Sent VA Form 674 to Veterans Administration for 0 veterans.
37. Sent 0 request for waiver of overpayment to the Social Security Administration.
38. Sent 0 requests for review of ALJ decision denying claim for benefits.
39. Sent 1 VA Form 149 to veterans pertaining to upgrade of discharges.
40. Sent VA Form 517 for 0 veterans.
41. Sent 0 request for Aid & Attendance for veterans.
42. Sent 0 request for Outpatient Fee Basis Card for veteran to Hines VAMC
43. Sent VA Form 5490 for 0 Veteran.
44. Sent 0 claim to Court of Veterans Appeals (BVA) for their consideration and review.
45. Sent 0 VA Form 0304 to Veterans Administration for spina bifida benefits for children.
46. Sent VA Form 293 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
47. Sent VA Form 4502 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran.
48. Sent VA Form 4555 to Veterans Administration for 1 veteran.
49. Sent VA Form 5281 to Veterans Administration for 0 veteran

AWARDS.

1. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 11/04, \$1773;12/2004-11/2005, \$21840 (Total \$23,613)
Diabetes/Heart Condition, Vietnam, OTTAWA
2. Veteran awarded 100% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 11/2004, \$2,458;12/2004-11/2005, \$2523, \$30,276 (Total \$32,734)
PTSD, Persian Gulf, OTTAWA
3. Veteran Widow awarded DIC, effective 9/2004-11/2004, \$967 monthly, \$2901;12/2004-11/2005, \$11,916 (Total \$14,817)
Diabetes/Heart Disease, Vietnam, OTTAWA

4. Veteran awarded 20% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 8/2004-11/2004, \$205 monthly, \$820; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2520 (Total \$3340)
Adjustment Disorder/tinnitus, Gulf War LASALLE
5. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 6/2004-11/2004, \$1774 monthly, \$10,644; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1810 monthly, \$21,120 (Total \$31,764)
Back Condition, Korea, MENDOTA
6. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, effective 8/2004-11/2004, \$2458 monthly, \$9832; 12/2004-12/2005, \$30,276 (Total \$40,108)
PTSD, Vietnam, WESTEND
7. Veteran awarded SSD benefits effective 9/1999-2/2005, retroactive payment of \$44,047; 3/2005-11/2005, \$1703 monthly, \$15,327 (Total \$59,474)
PTSD/Back Condition/Seizures, Vietnam, WESTEND
8. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, Permanent and Total
PTSD, Vietnam, WESTEND
9. Veteran awarded 40% S/Compensation, effective 10/2003-11/2003, (\$244 diff., 20%-40%), \$488; 12/2003-11/2004, \$2928; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2964 (Total \$6380)
Peacetime, Leg Injury, WESTEND
10. Veteran awarded 70% S/C Compensation, effective 3/2004-11/2004, \$1117 monthly, \$10,053; 12/2004-11/2005 \$1147, \$13,764 (Total \$23,817)
PTSD, Vietnam, WESTEND
11. Veteran awarded IUE, effective, 12/2003-11/2004, 42366 monthly, \$28,392; 12/2004-11/2005, \$30,376 (Total \$58,668)
Diabetes/Heart Disease, Vietnam, MENDOTA

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	114,851.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	222,918.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	179,864.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	678,904.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	901,922.00

EXPLANATION OF VA FORMS:

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2. VA Form 4138-STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLAIM
3. VA Form 180-REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS
4. VA Form 534-APPLICATION FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION OR DEATH PENSION BY SURVIVING SPOUSE OR CHILD.
5. VA Form 21-22-APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE ORGANIZATION
6. VA Form 518-IMPROVED PENSION EVR (Surviving Spouse with no children)
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8. VA Form 535-APPLICATION FOR DIC(DISABILITY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION) BY PARENTS
9. VA Form 512V-SECTION 306 EVR (VETERAN)
10. VA Form 686C-DECLARATION OF MARITAL STATUS
11. DD Form 149- APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS UNDER THE PROVISION OF TITLE 10 U.S.CODE, SECTION 1552
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14. VA Form 512S- SECTION 306 EVR (Surviving Spouse)
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25. VA FORM 4125-REQUEST FOR LUMP SUM PAYMENT
26. VA FORM 5490-APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORS AND DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
27. VA FORM 0304-APPLICATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA BENEFITS.
28. VA FORM 4502-APPLICATION FOR AUTOMOBILE OR OTHER CONVEYANCE OR ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT
29. VA FORM 4555-VETERAN'S APPLICATION IN ACQUIRING SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING OR SPECIAL HOME ADAPTATION GRANT.
30. VA FORM 8678-APPLICATION FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

4. Veteran awarded 30% Service-Connected Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2003, \$310 monthly, \$1240; 12/2003-11/2004, \$316 monthly, \$3,792; 12/2004-11/2005, \$324 monthly, \$3888 (Total \$8920) WestEnd Bilateral Knee/Tinnitus Gulf War
5. Veteran awarded S/C compensation 70% W/IUE, effective 5/2003-11/2003, \$2193 monthly, \$17,544; 12/2004-11/2004, \$2239 monthly, \$26,868; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,588 Ottawa, PTSD, Vietnam
6. Veteran awarded 70% s/C Compensation, effective 12/2003-4/2004, \$824 monthly, \$4120; awarded IUE 5/2004-11/2004, \$2239 monthly, \$15,673; 12/2004-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,888 (Total \$47,681) WestEnd, PTSD, Vietnam
7. Veteran awarded NSC Pension effective 10/2004-11/2004, \$1361 monthly, \$2722; 12/2004-11/2005, \$1398 monthly, \$16,776 (Total \$19,498) Ottawa, Diabetes/Peripheral Neuropathy, Vietnam
8. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 2/2005-11/2005, \$1473 monthly, \$14,730 (Total \$14,730) WestEnd, Spinal Tumor/Herniated Disc, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded 100% S/C Compensation, (Permanent & Total), effective 12/2005-11/2005, \$2299 monthly, \$27,588 (Total \$27,588) Ottawa, Multiple Myeloma, KOREA/VIETNAM
10. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 12/2004-11/2005, \$1889 monthly, \$22,668 (Total \$22,668) EastEnd, Diabetes, Vietnam
11. Veteran awarded 30 % S/C Compensation, effective 8/2003-11/2004, \$318 monthly, \$1,264; 12/2004-11/2005 \$324 monthly, \$3888 (Total \$5152) Streator, Hernia/Bursitis/DJD, Gulf War
12. Veteran's mother awarded SSD benefits, \$465 monthly, effective 1/2005-11/2005, \$5580 (Total \$5580) Earlville, Back condition
13. Veteran awarded 80% S/C Compensation, TDIU, effective 11/2004-12/2005, \$2523 monthly, \$30,276, (Total \$30,276) Ottawa, PTSD, Persian Gulf

14. Veteran awarded SSD benefits, effective 4/2002-5/2005,
\$34,967 retroactive payment; 6/2005-11/2005, \$1789
monthly, \$10,734 (Total \$45,701)
Oglesby, PTSD/Diabetes, VIETNAM

TOTAL SSA AWARDS FOR MONTHS:	\$	88,679.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	387,558.00
TOTAL VA AWARDED FOR MONTHS:	\$	273,371.00
YEAR-TO-DATE:	\$	1,901,333.00
TOTAL AWARDS YEAR-TO DATE:	\$	2,288,891.00

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 25, 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Lawrence Tarabum	DAV#86	Chaplain	4310106
Herlet A. Gwathmey	DAV#86 (Guest)	Commander	729-9495
Bernard M. Smith	AL 235		795-2768
GARY HAMILTON	AL 235		357-8006
Delbert Spitz	VFW 4079	"Welfare"	538-2023
Carl Key	Al. Post 540		539-7759
Fred Barrett	Al. Post 540	Commander	539-3077
Mark H. Korman	Al 426	Delegate	224 2204
Ken Hawk	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
George Mason	VFW 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Howard Hart	Post 549	P. Commander	246-9689
Jim Vansant	Post 33	Delegate	434-4633
James F. Frels	Post 570	DelegATC	495-9404

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

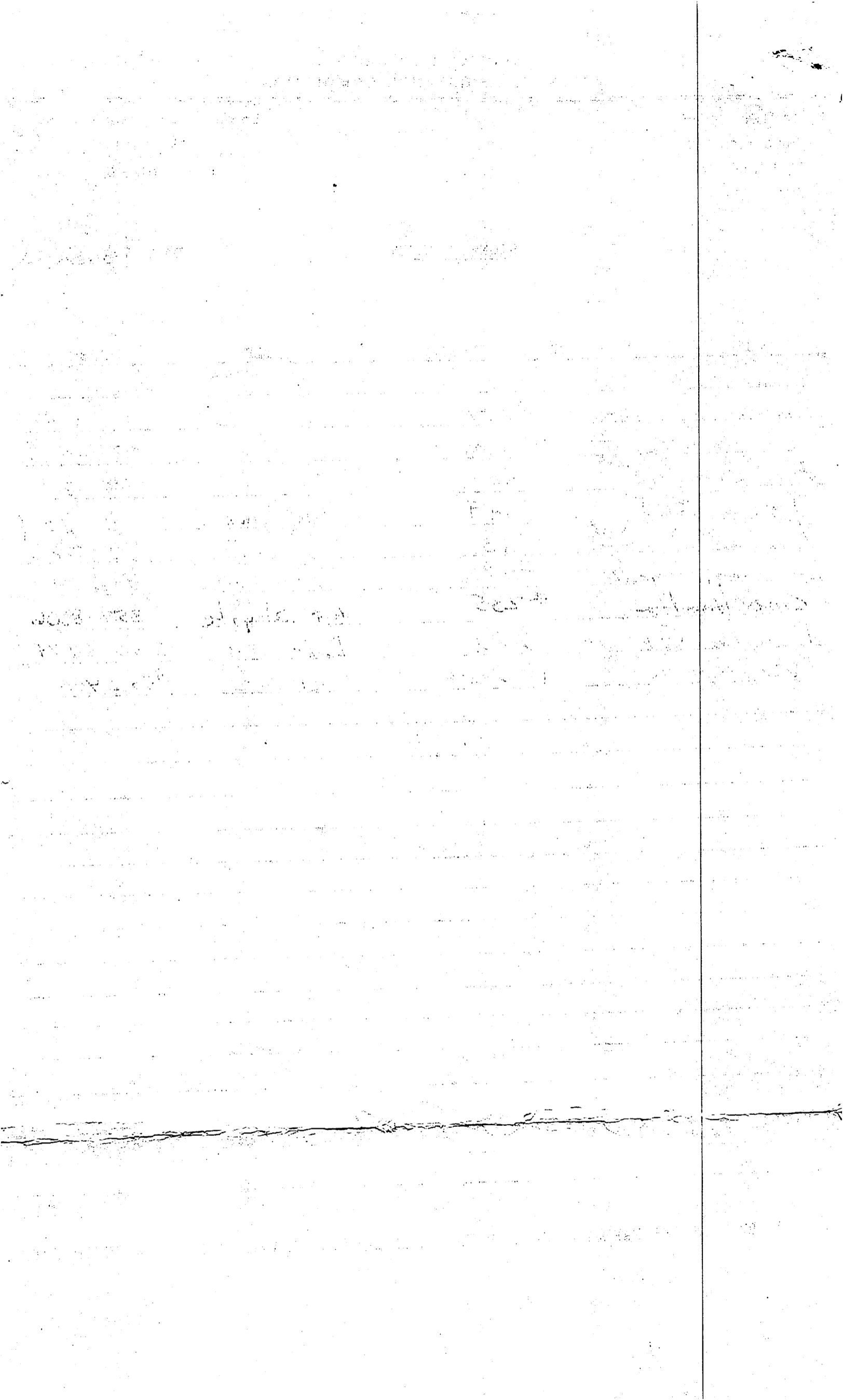
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb. 22 / 06

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Lawrence Towsham	#86	Delegate Chaplain	431-0106
George Mason	#2470	Delegate	433-0586
Robert Spitz	#4079	"	538-2023
Fred Burnett	#540	"	539-3077
Howard Galt	#549	Post Comm.	246-9689
Bernard Smith	#235	Delegate	795-2768
James Fyels	#570	Post PMDR	495-9404
GARY Hamilton	#235	Alt. Delegate	357-8006
Douglas Griere	260	Delegate	252 6974
KEN HAUSKEN	VFW5506	DELEGATE	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 22, 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Don McCollough	# DAV 86	Adj	815-237-0513
Larry Graham	DAV 86	Del.	431-0106
JERRY FUCHS	Legion 570	CMDR.	815-495-9404
Ferry Welch	Legion 375	Adj	815-223-6879
GARY HAMILTON	Legion 235	Adj	815-357-8006
Hewlett Gwathmey	DAV 86	Commander	815-729-9495
Nick Makrasian	AMVets 426	Del.	224-2204
Delbert Spitz	4099-VFW	Del	538-2023
Joseph Dierengel	CVV 1729	Del	223-4179
Ken Hank	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Howard East	POST 549	Post Comm.	246-9689
Douglas Grieve	Post 260	Del	252-6974
Bernard M. Smith	Post 235	Del	795-2768
Jim Venable	Post 33	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 26/06

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Lawrence Lenham	DAV #86	Delegte	4310106
GARY Hamilton	MARSEILLES 235 235	ALT AD.	357-8006
Hewlett Gwynne	DAV #86	Commander Guest	709-9495
Joseph Dumas	CWU Post 1279	DEL	273 4179
George Mason	VFW 2470	DELEGATE	433-0586
Douglas M. Griewe	Tonica 260	Delegte	252 6974
Howard Gast	Post 549	Post Commander	815-246-9689
Jim DeMoss	Post 5506	DEL	795-2959
Bernard Smith	Post 235	Del	795-2768
Jim Monahan	Post 33	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

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COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 24/06

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Hewlett A. Guathmey	DAV Chapter 86	Commander	429-9495
George J. Mason	V.F.W. Ottawa 247	Delegato	433-0586
Jamerson Draken	DAV #86	chaplain	431-0106
Robert Spitz	V.F.W. 4079	Sen. off.	538-2023
Carl Key	Legion 540	Mentor	539-7759
James Lytle	Legion 520	Comdr	485-9401
Bernard	Legion 235	Delegat	795-2768
GARY Hamilton	Legion 235	ALT.	
Joseph Swasz	CWV 1289	Del	923 4179
Nick Mikosius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204
Douglas Grice	Am Legion 268	Del	252 6974
Jim Namba	Legion Post 33	Del	434-4633
Jim DuMont	VFW 5506	hlt DEL	795-2959
Ken Hausken	VFW 5506	DEL	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 28/06

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Hewlet A. Gwathmey	DAV Chapter #86	Commander	815-729-9495
Lawrence W. Ernhorn	DAV #84	Chaplain	431-0106
Bernard M. Smith	American Legion 235	Delegate	785-2768
GARY HAMILTON	American Legion 235	ALT Del.	357-8006
Nick Nakrossis	AM Legion 426	Del	224-2204
George Swaszko	CVL 1229	Del	223-4179
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Del	433-0586
Kent Hulse	VFW POST 5506	Del	795-2466
Jan Novakis	Legion Post 33	Del	434-4633
J. D. Mead	VFW 5506	ALT DEL	795-2959

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Handwritten notes on lined paper, including a vertical line on the right side and a horizontal line near the bottom. The text is mostly illegible due to blurriness and fading.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

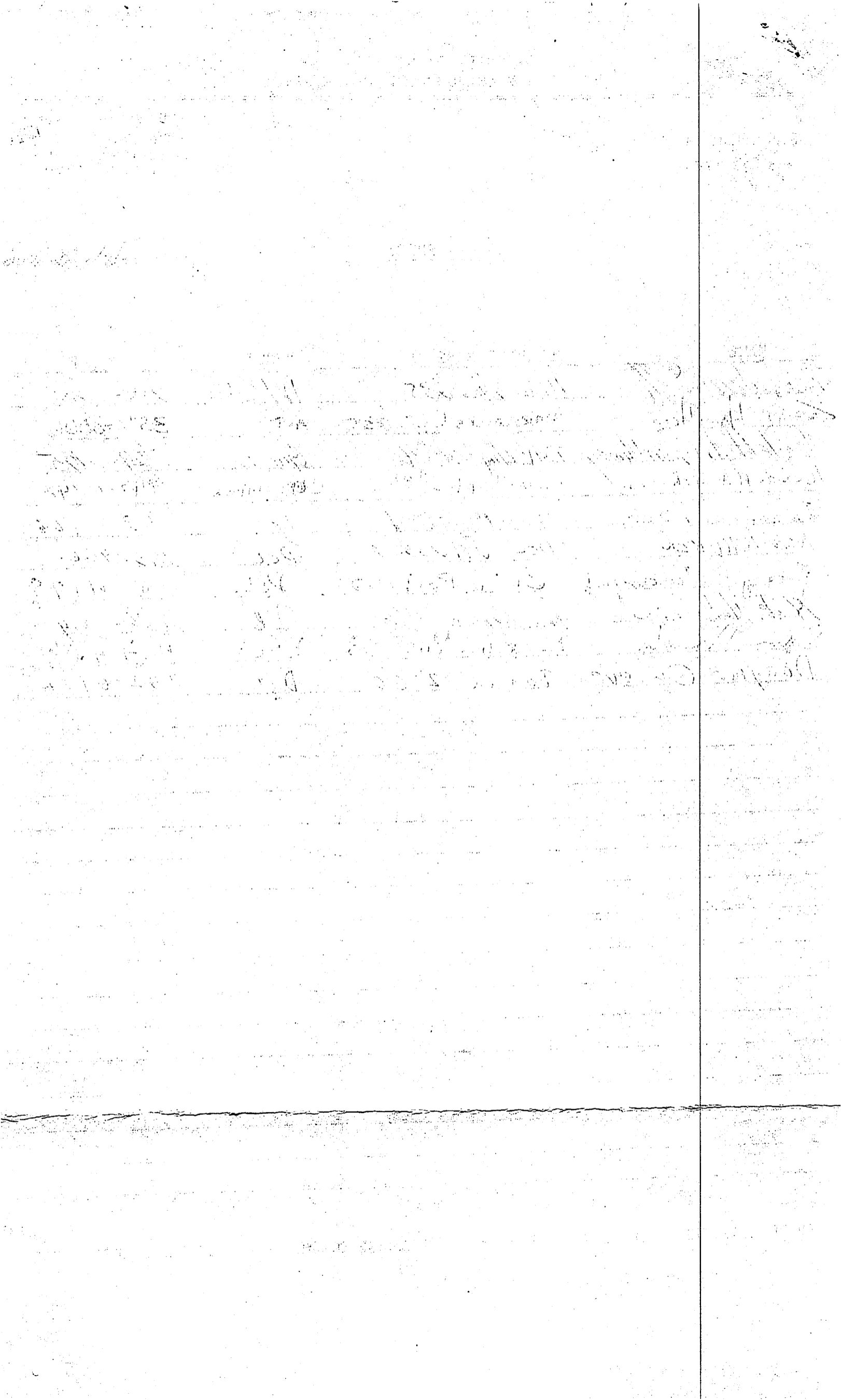
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 26 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard [Signature]	Marseilles 235	Det [Signature]	795-2768
GARY HAMILTON	MARSEILLES Legion 235	ALT	357-8006
Hewlett A. Guathmey	DAV Chapter #86	GUESS	729-9495
Wendell A. Johnson	DAV Chapter #86	COMMANDER	942-6742
Lawrence Terkhan	DAV Chapter #86	Del	431-0106
KEN HAUSKON	DCZ VFW 5506	DCZ	795-2468
Joseph Swartzel	CWV Post 2225	Del	923 4179
Hick Makrasius	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204
Jim Daniels	Legion Post 33	Del	434-4633
Douglas Gniere	Tonica 260	Del	252 6974

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Sept 27/06

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Larry Graham	DAV 80	Deleg 9/06 Chaplain	471-0106
Bernie Smith	Marxilles 235	Delegate	795-2768
GARY Hamilton	MARSEILLES Post 235		357-8006
George Mason	V.F.W. Ottawa 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Alex Nekrasin	Amvets 426		224-2204
Joseph Sworzech	CAV 1229		223-4179
Robert Spitz	V.F.W. 4074	"	538-2023

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 23, 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Larry Totham	Chapter 8 DAV	Delegated	421 0106
Joseph Swaszel	CWV	Delegat	223 4179
Jim Nordin	Post 33	Delegat	434-4633
Bernard Smith	Post 235	Delegat	795-2768
Nick Nakrasus	Am Legion 426	Delegat	224 2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Handwritten notes in cursive script, possibly a list or a set of instructions, located in the upper portion of the page. The text is faint and difficult to decipher but appears to include several lines of text.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

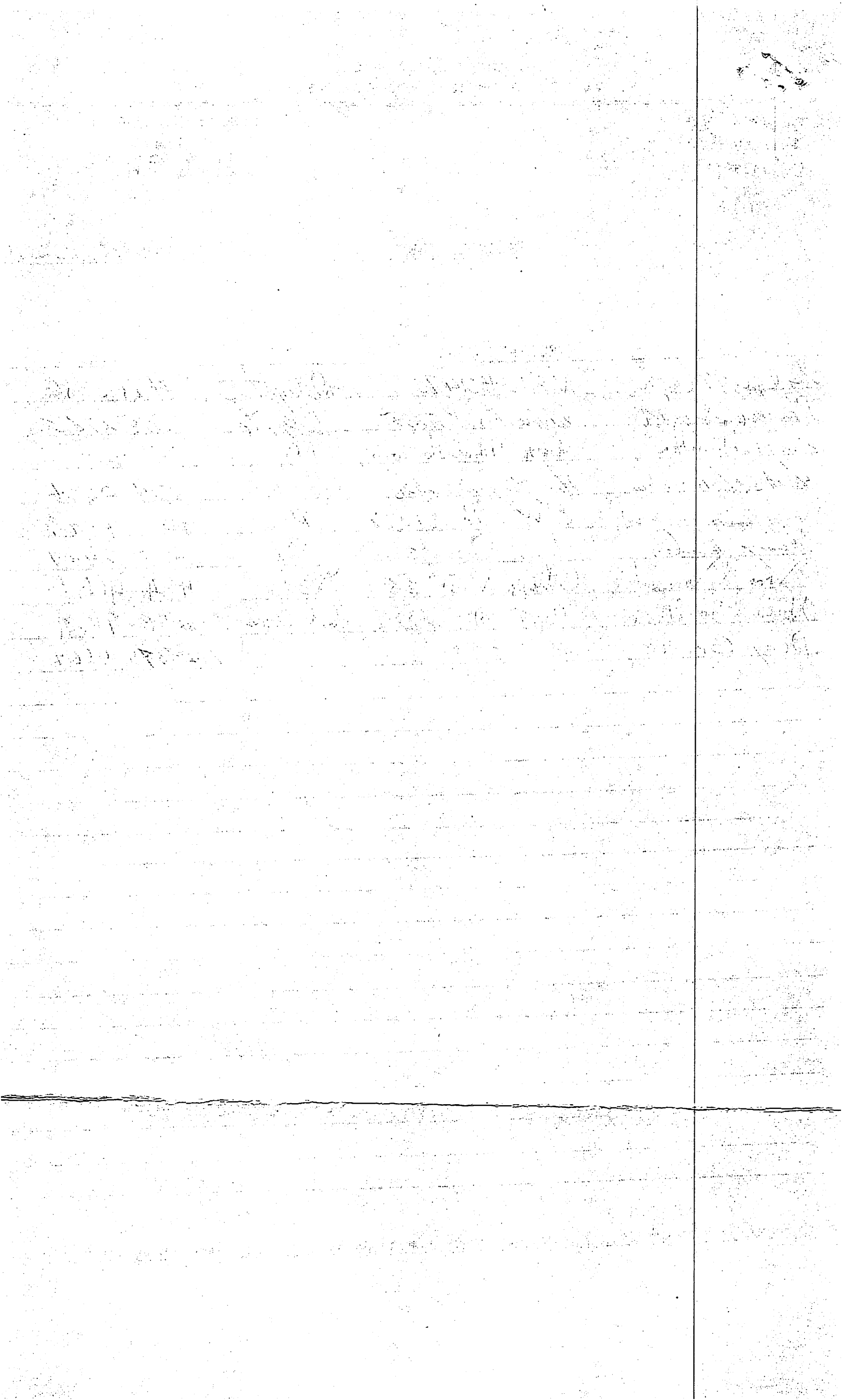
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 25 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W #2470	Delegate	433-0586
Bernie Smith	Marsilles Post 235	Delegate	795-2768
GARY HAMILTON	MA Marsilles Legion	ALT	795-6010
Wick Kobrosnik	Rm Legion 426	Del	224 2204
Joseph Gusszel	C.V.V Post 1229	Del	223 4179
James Gales	Legion Post #570	Del.	495-9404
John Tomaski	Ottawa Post 33	Del	434-4633
Howard H. Gast	Post 549 Enlille	Post Comm.	246-9689
Doug Grieve	Post 260		712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission
Service Officer Report
October 2006**

1. Veteran awarded 20% for diabetes \$218 from 2/28/04 through 12/06 \$7630
Vietnam, Leland
2. Veteran awarded 60% for PTSD \$839 from 9/05 – 11/05 and \$873 from 12/05
through 12/06 total \$13,866 Vietnam, west end
3. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability w/2 dependent children 12/04 \$31,051
Vietnam, Ottawa
4. Veteran awarded 100% IPIU \$864 3/02 – 8/02 - \$2287; 12/02 – 12/06 total with
back pay \$131,447 Vietnam, Oglesby
5. Veteran awarded 70% 1/06 – 12/06 \$1193 total \$14,316 WWII, Streator
6. Veteran awarded 70% for PTSD and Diabetes 2/05 – 12/06 total \$27,958
Vietnam, west end

Total SSA awards for month	\$31,051.00
Year to date	\$688,857.00
Total VA awards for month	\$195,217.00
Year to date	\$941,205.00
Total awards year to date	\$3,158,593.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 25, 2006.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain and Sgt. at Arms excused with all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Superintendent Rue stated that our LaSalle County service officers had a banner year with our veterans receiving \$3,158,533 in monetary benefits for their disabilities. This is the largest amount of awards for any single year since 1985. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Delegate Nick Nekrosius submitted a DD 214 on William Patrick Dooley who will be the LaSalle American Legion alternate to fiscal year 2006-07.

Our next meeting will be November 15, 2006. This is our annual meeting and we will elect our VAC officers for fiscal year 2006-07. Our by-laws require our superintendent to send a letter on notification to our delegates and alternates.

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Douglas Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

Dixie P. Johnston
304 West Fourth Street
Spring Valley, Illinois 61362
(815) 664-5502

September 1, 2006

Mr. Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
Veterans Assistance Commission of LaSalle County
Courthouse Room 103A
119 West Madison Street
Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Mr. Rue:

I am so very happy to write you once again and thank you for your continued support in helping the Veterans of Illinois, especially my husband, Edward Johnston.

I was informed that Ed could be transferred from Quincy to Manteno, even though he had not yet completed six months in Quincy. Thanks to you, Ed will be moved to Manteno on September 12. This is wonderful as he will be so much closer to me.

Again you have more than done your job, and I so appreciate your care and concern on our behalf.

Most Sincerely,



Dixie P. Johnston

cc: Senator Gary Dahl
103 5th Street
Peru, IL 61354

State Representative
Frank J. Mautino
108 West St. Paul Street
Spring Valley, IL 61362

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LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 23,
2006

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing the chaplain and SSgt. at arms excused with all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: Lawrence Graham gave his report on the van fund donation program stating that we collected \$10,800 of our goal of \$12,500.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jim Nanowski that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue told the delegates and alternates that the VAC office would be closed from September 11, 2006 through September 15, 2006 in order for its staff to attend their annual accreditation training in Bloomington, Illinois.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Bernard Smith that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 8; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission
Service Officer's Report
September 2006**

1. Veteran awarded IUE 8/1/04 increased from 90% received \$20,050 in back pay and \$31,380 annually – total \$51,430 Vietnam veteran Streator
2. Veteran awarded 40% 11/05 back pay \$1864 – 12/05 – 12/06 \$485 \$5820 – total \$7684 Ottawa -Vietnam – Diabetes
3. Veteran awarded 10% 5/05 – 12/06 \$112 monthly total \$2240 West end – Vietnam – Diabetes
4. Veteran awarded 20% 3/04 – 11/04 \$1845; \$210 12/04 – 2/05 \$630; 50% \$812 3/05 -11/05 \$7308; \$844 – 12/05 – 12/06 \$10,972 total \$20,755 West end Vietnam – Diabetes
5. Veteran awarded 20% 7/05 – 12/06 total \$3924.00 Marseilles Vietnam diabetes
6. Veteran awarded IUE 100% was getting 60% increased to 100% at \$2393 monthly 5/05 – 12/06 \$33,702 Ottawa Vietnam heart failure
7. Veteran awarded 90% \$1557 effective 11/05 – 12/06 up from 60% total \$15,804 Marseilles – Vietnam - PTSD/heart condition
8. Veteran awarded waiver for debt of \$244 Earlville – Vietnam total \$244
9. Veteran awarded 60% \$1012.00 - 12/01 -12/06 total \$72,864 West end – Desert Storm veteran
10. Veteran awarded VA pension 2/06 -12/06 \$740 total \$8140 Vietnam – Streator – heart problems

Total SSA awards for month	\$0
Year to date	\$657,806.00
Total VA wards for month	\$216,787.00
Total VA awards to date	\$745,988.00
Total awards year to date	\$2,932,325.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of September 27, 2006.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Joe Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing vice-chairman and the sgt. at arms excused with all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegate Graham stated that we currently have raised a little over \$12,000 towards our goal of \$12,500 on the van fund. Delegates present asked if I would send another letter out offering those who have not had time to donate a last chance to contribute to this worthy fund. Delegate Delbert Spitz gave the superintendent his personal contribute towards the van fund.

Chairman Joe Iwaszek gave all those present an update on the LaSalle Veterans' Home and its construction project. He stated that the 80 bed expansion is on schedule.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer report were answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the service officer report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue was asked to send a letter to all delegates and alternates reminding them that their posts should announce who their delegates and alternates will be for the fiscal year 2006-07. He should also remind them that the annual election of commission officers for fiscal year 2006-07 will be held November 16, 2006.

Superintendent Rue reported on our annual accreditation training which was held in Bloomington on September 11, 2006 through September 15, 2006. This year's school was put on by the National Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions. I am happy to announce that Cindy has been accredited by the Council General's Office in Washington, D.C. as a county veteran's service officer. As a result of completing the week long instruction and passing the exam, we again have two nationally accredited county service officers working in our office in LaSalle County. As you know she has assisted me in veterans service work for the last three years.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veteran Post 1229.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 26, 2006 meeting.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Lawrence Graham gave a report on the van fund donations stating we have raised \$10,427 of our goal of \$12,500.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue gave the delegates and alternates present our LaSalle County Guide of Services Provided Rules and Eligibility Standards. He encouraged those delegates and alternates to send all eligible veterans to our office for assistance.

A motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternates Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; Guest Hewlett Gwathmey and Wendell Johnson, DAV Chapter 86; and Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

LaSalle County Veterans' Assistance Commission
Service Officer's Report
August 2006

1. **Veteran awarded Social Security Disability from 6/30/03 to 12/06 total \$97,632.00 Vietnam veteran from Arlington, IL**
2. **Veteran awarded Social Security Disability from 2/03 to 12/06 \$1884 monthly total \$109,272.00 Vietnam veteran**
3. **Veteran awarded S/C compensation 11/05 \$391 20% diabetes and 10% coronary with a back pay of \$8492.00 (from 2/1/04) total \$13966.00 Vietnam veteran from Tonica**
4. **Veteran awarded 50% S/C from 1/06 – 12/06 \$690 monthly total \$8280 diabetes Vietnam**
5. **Veteran awarded VA pension 2/04 – 12/06 \$881 monthly total \$24,060 Vietnam veteran Streator**
6. **Veteran awarded VA pension 1/06 – 12/06 \$881 monthly total \$10,572 Vietnam veteran**
7. **Veteran awarded 30% S/C 8/04 – 12/06 \$337 monthly total \$9436**
8. **Veteran awarded S/C compensation at 10% \$112 monthly 5/06 – 12/06 \$896 Iraq veteran**
9. **Veteran awarded S/C compensation 10% \$112 monthly 7/05 – 12/06 \$1904 Iraq veteran Streator**
10. **Veteran awarded S/C compensation at 40% \$485 3/05 – 12/06 10% shoulder; 10% feet and 30% skin condition total \$10185.00 Iraq veteran west end**

Total SSA awards for month	\$206,904.00
Year to date	\$656,806.00
Total VA awards for month	\$79,299.00
Year to date	\$529,201.00
VA awards for	\$2,186,337.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of the June 28, 2006 meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and being no additional corrections or questions to the minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Superintendent Rue stated the van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic is presently there at the clinic. To date, we have raised \$9,500 towards our goal of \$12,500. One of the area American Legion posts, who wish to remain anonymous, made a generous donation of \$5000. We must keep the money coming in.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was read and all questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

The 2007 budget recommendation form was reviewed line item by line item. A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Ken Hausken that the 2007 budget recommendation, which was completed by the delegates and alternates present, be passed. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosious and seconded by Jim Nanowski that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Alternates Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; Guest Hewlet Gwathney, DAV Chapter 86 and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek

LASALLE COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
JULY 2006

AWARDS:

1. Veterans awarded S/C compensation of 40% - \$518 effective 5/04 – 12/06 (total \$12,346) DePue, Vietnam, Diabetes
2. Veteran awarded Pension and Aid and Attendance 8/05 – 12/06 \$1412 monthly (total \$22,592) Korean veteran – nursing home
3. Veterans awarded S/C compensation 1/05 – 12/06 60% \$873 and 1/05 – 12/05 20% \$218 (total \$13,968) Peru, Vietnam, Diabetes
4. Veteran awarded Pension and Aid and Attendance 3/06 – 6/06 \$1077 monthly (total \$4308) Vietnam Era – Seneca
5. Veteran awarded S/C 100% (was 80%) 12/02 – 12/06 \$3278 Back pay \$33,621 SMC and Auto grant \$11,000, Housing grant \$50,000, and state housing \$15,000 MS – 6/05 – 12/06 (Total \$132,567.) LaSalle
6. Veteran awarded S/C 50% PTSD \$690 5/06 – 12/06 \$5520 and back pay \$12052 (total \$17,372) Vietnam , Streator
7. Veteran awarded back pay for S/C disability 5/06 (total \$11,427) Vietnam, Ottawa
8. Veteran awarded burial benefits \$600 Ottawa, Vietnam
9. Veteran awarded Social Security Disability 02/06 – 12/06 \$19,800 Vietnam, Ottawa
10. Veteran awarded S/C compensation 20% 2/05 – 1/06 \$218; 50% 2/06 – 12/06 \$690 (Total \$7590) Vietnam, Marseilles, Diabetes
11. Veteran awarded Social Security 9/04 back pay \$17,405 \$1253 11/05 – 12/06 (total \$33,692) Vietnam, Sheridan
12. Veteran awarded S/C 20% \$218 1/04 – 12/06 (Total \$10,632) Vietnam, Ottawa, Diabetes
13. Veteran awarded 40% S/C compensation \$539 8/06 – 12/06 \$2695; 100% convalescent pay 6/05 – 8/06 \$35,237 (total \$37,932) Prostrate Cancer, Vietnam, Marseilles

14. Veterans awarded 50% S/C compensation \$844 12/05; 20% 7/04 – 12/06 (total \$17,495) Vietnam, Spring Valley, Diabetes
15. Veteran awarded 30% S/C compensation \$337 7/04 – 12/06 (total \$13,817) Vietnam, Streator, PTSD

TOTAL SSA Awards for Month	\$53,492.00
Year to date	\$449,902.00
TOTAL VA Awards for Month	\$302,646.00
Year to date	\$1,450,232.00
TOTAL Awards year to date	\$1,900,134.00

Minute of the May 24, 2006 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Being no additional questions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Questions were answered pertaining to the veterans' home construction. Hewlett Gwathney told those present that the van for the LaSalle Veterans' Home would be there mid-June 2006. The \$25,000 needed for the van had been paid in equal shares by the State of Illinois Disabled American Veterans and three local D.A.V.'s posts loaned us our \$12,500 needed to secure the van. Larry Graham reported that our van fund is currently \$2700. All present were asked to get donations toward this van fund with checks made out to the Disabled American Veterans' Chapter 86. Send those checks to Martin Rue at our VAC office in Ottawa, Illinois and he will make the deposit.

NEW BUSINESS: Bernard Smith of the American Legion Post 235 told those present that on June 17, 2006 the Illinois Freedom Run will be holding services at 1:00 pm. At the Return To The Middle East Memorial in Marseilles, Illinois. Everyone is welcome. Get the information out to the people in your area. They are expecting close to 47,000 participants again this year.

The service officer report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the service officers' report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason that our meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 247; Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Jerry Fuch, American Legion Post 570; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosious, American Legion Post 426; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Delegates Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506; and Gary Hamilton. Guest Hewlett Gwathney, DAV Chapter 86 and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Post 1229

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officer's Report
June 2006

1. Veteran awarded earlier effective date on his 100% S/C I.U.E. award. Award goes back to October 2000 instead of March 2002 at \$2393 a month. (total \$43,074) Ottawa, Illinois Vietnam P.T.S.D.
2. Veteran's spouse gets veterans last months S/C disability check \$2,429 S/C death benefit = \$2000 and D.I.C. at \$1,033. a month effective 10/05 – 12/06 (total \$18,891) WWII veteran Oglesby, Illinois
3. Veteran awarded S/C disability of 100% effective 2/06 – 12/06 at \$2,480 a month with \$81 S.M.C. "K" award (Total \$25,610) Vietnam prostrate cancer Oglesby, Illinois
4. Veteran needed immediate nursing home care cost of \$5000 a month. State representative sent veteran's wife to me. Public Aid was forcing her to cash in her 35 year I.R.A. of \$300,000 with penalty before they would help or divorce him. I forced a State Veterans' Home to take him saving her \$5000 a month. (total \$60,000 for 12 months. Korean veteran Alzheimer's West end
5. Veteran denied emergency medical services provided by St. Mary's Hospital in Streator, Illinois. Appealed denial and U.S.D.V.A. agreed to pay all bills under the Millennium Health Care Act. (total \$45,000) WWII Streator, Illinois
6. Veteran awarded S/C disability of 50% effective 6/2005 – 12/2006 at \$806 a month. (total \$14,568) Marseilles, Illinois Vietnam P.T.S.D.

Total SSA Awards for Month	\$0
Year to date	\$396,410
Total VA Awards for Month	\$207,083
Year to date	\$1,147,586
Total Awards Year to date	\$1,543,996

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of March 22, 2006

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates were very concerned about the eighteen empty beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Supt. Rue stated that the home had not received authorization to hire the ten employees.

H.R. 995 was again discussed. Supt. Rue stated that only two Illinois United States Congressmen have signed on to Congressman Weller's bill.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Hewlett Gwathney, Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 86 spoke on the possibility of applying to the Colorado Trust for monies needed to purchase a new van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. If our area could raise \$12,000 towards this endeavor the D.A.V. would be able to get the additional monies needed from the Colorado Trust to purchase the van. Hines VA Hospital is totally in favor of this type of a contract. This issue will be discussed at our April 26, 2006 meeting.

Supt. Rue presented numerous articles to the delegates and alternates pertaining to veteran issues. Supt. Rue presented the March 11, 2006 Illinois Veterans' Home Advisory Council meeting summary. Alternate Gary Hamilton of the Marseilles American Legion presented his minutes from the same meeting. Delegates and alternates briefly discussed those minutes.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz and seconded by Ken Hausken that the meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Post 86; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260, Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Alternates Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Don McCollough, DAV Post 86; Hewlett Gwathmey, DAV Post 86; Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officer's
Report
April 2006**

Awards:

1. Veteran's spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 8/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,033 a month (Total \$17,561) Peru, Illinois WWII
2. Veterans' spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 7/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1254 a month (Total \$22,572) South end Vietnam
3. Veteran awarded S.S.D. effective 10/2003 – 12/2006 at \$1,916.20 a month (Total \$74,731) Vietnam West end P.T.S.D.
4. Veterans awarded VA pension effective 10/2003 – 12/2006 at \$1,154 a month (Total \$18,464) Ottawa, Illinois Vietnam era Hepatitis C
5. Veteran awarded 60% Service connected disability combined effective 8/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,001 a month (Total \$12,012) Vietnam Diabetes Streator, Illinois
6. Veteran's spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 10/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,001 a month (Total \$15,495) Oglesby, Illinois WWII seizure disorder

TOTAL S.S.A. Awards For Month	\$74,731.
Year to Date	\$368,714.
VA Awards for Month	\$86,104.
Year to	\$877,850.
Total Awards Year to Date	\$1,171,834.

Minutes of the April 26, 2006 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek and a roll call of officers was taken showing the chaplain and SSgt. at arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Being no additions or corrections to the minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: The delegates and alternates were told the LaSalle Veterans' Home hired the needed employees to open the empty beds. At this time there are 106 beds filled with 12 beds remaining empty in order to allow the expansion of the additional 80 beds. There are currently 450 applicants on the waiting list for admission and the contractors are currently on site starting the expansion. The Capital Development Board has awarded the contracts and the contractors are going forward with the expansion.

New business: The service officer's report was read and all questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be approved as presented. Motion passed.

Hewlett Gwathney discussed the van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. He stated that three Disabled American Veterans Posts would kick in \$12,500 and the State Department of the Disabled American Veterans would kick in the other \$12,500 to pay for the new van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. He has set up a special account at the First National Bank of Ottawa and asks that our veterans organizations donate to this van fund so that we can reimburse the three Disabled American Veterans' posts who took dollars from their posts funds totaling \$12,500 so that our veterans in the Illinois valley would have a van to haul them to Hines VA Hospital. The commission asked that Superintendent Rue send out a letter to the veteran's posts in the Illinois valley asking for donations with the information needed to be placed on the check so that it gets deposited into the right account. These letters should further ask that these tax-free donations be sent to the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission office so their post can be properly recognized for their contribution and he can make the tax-free deposit into the D.A.V. account. This way we will know when we reach our \$12,500 goal for our area and could stop the donations.

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Jim DeMoss that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jim DeMoss, V.F.W. Post 5506; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1279; and Hewlett Gwathney, Commander D.A.V. Post 86, guest.

**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officer's
Report
May 2006**

AWARDS:

1. Veteran awarded S/C combined disability of 90% effective 4/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1557.00 a month (total \$31,140) West End Vietnam P.T.S.D. and Tinnitus
2. Veterans awarded S/C combined disability of 30% effective 1/2005 – 12/2006 at \$337 a month (total \$8,088) Serena – hearing loss and tinnitus
3. WWII veteran repaid for co-payments from U.S.D.V.A. after we appealed because he is 100% S/C total \$315 – Peru
4. Veteran awarded S/C combined disability of 20% effective 1/2005 – 12/2006 at \$218 a month (total \$5,232) – Ottawa Gulf War era – gastroesophageal reflux and back strain
5. Veteran awarded S.S.D. benefit effective 1/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,154 a month (total \$27,696) Marseilles – Vietnam P.T.S.D.
6. Veterans appeal for denial of medical bills under the New Millennium Health Care Act for private hospital care (Naperville, I.V.C.H. and St. Francis) won at total of \$17,878. West end WWII veteran

TOTAL S.S.A. Awards for Month	\$27,696
Year to date	\$396,410
TOTAL U.S.D.V.A. Awards for Month	\$62,653
Year to	\$940,503
TOTAL Awards year to	\$1,336,913

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of March 22, 2006

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Chairman Iwaszek stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates were very concerned about the eighteen empty beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Supt. Rue stated that the home had not received authorization to hire the ten employees.

H.R. 995 was again discussed. Supt. Rue stated that only two Illinois United States Congressmen have signed on to Congressman Weller's bill.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Hewlett Gwathney, Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 86 spoke on the possibility of applying to the Colorado Trust for monies needed to purchase a new van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. If our area could raise \$12,000 towards this endeavor the D.A.V. would be able to get the additional monies needed from the Colorado Trust to purchase the van. Hines VA Hospital is totally in favor of this type of a contract. This issue will be discussed at our April 26, 2006 meeting.

Supt. Rue presented numerous articles to the delegates and alternates pertaining to veteran issues. Supt. Rue presented the March 11, 2006 Illinois Veterans' Home Advisory Council meeting summary. Alternate Gary Hamilton of the Marseilles American Legion presented his minutes from the same meeting. Delegates and alternates briefly discussed those minutes.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz and seconded by Ken Hausken that the meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Post 86; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260, Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Jerry Welch, American Legion Post 375; Alternates Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Don McCollough, DAV Post 86; Hewlett Gwathmey, DAV Post 86; Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

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**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service Officer's
Report
April 2006**

Awards:

1. Veteran's spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 8/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,033 a month (Total \$17,561) Peru, Illinois WWII
2. Veterans' spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 7/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1254 a month (Total \$22,572) South end Vietnam
3. Veteran awarded S.S.D. effective 10/2003 – 12/2006 at \$1,916.20 a month (Total \$74,731) Vietnam West end P.T.S.D.
4. Veterans awarded VA pension effective 10/2003 – 12/2006 at \$1,154 a month (Total \$18,464) Ottawa, Illinois Vietnam era Hepatitis C
5. Veteran awarded 60% Service connected disability combined effective 8/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,001 a month (Total \$12,012) Vietnam Diabetes Streator, Illinois
6. Veteran's spouse awarded D.I.C. effective 10/2005 – 12/2006 at \$1,001 a month (Total \$15,495) Oglesby, Illinois WWII seizure disorder

TOTAL S.S.A. Awards For Month	\$74,731.
Year to Date	\$368,714.
VA Awards for Month	\$86,104.
Year to	\$877,850.
Total Awards Year to Date	\$1,171,834.

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 22, 2006

Meeting was opened in due form by Acting Chairman Ken Hausken. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Iwaszek and Vice-Chairman James Nanowski excused with all others present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Acting Chairman Ken Hausken stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: The LaSalle Veterans' Home still has 18 empty beds. The state is going to hire six or seven health care providers so they will be able to fill all but 12 beds. Those 12 beds will remain empty until the construction of the additional 80 beds is completed.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion by George Mason and seconded by Douglas Grieves that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Lawrence Graham submitted to those present a six-page facts and statistics handout on the Iraq and Afghanistan War. It also told of a state-of-the-art rehabilitation center, which will encompass a 60,000 square foot structure to include \$35 million indoor and outdoor facilities, a childcare center and other needed facilities. It will be located at Brooke Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. They will receive severely wounded soldiers and treat them through their journey of extensive rehabilitation. This facility, which is being constructed through the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, will offer its services to all five military branches and the Department of Veterans' Affairs patients. Their services will be available to all severely injured soldiers of all eras.

A motion was made by Gary Hamilton and seconded by Howard Gast to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, American Legion Post 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Fred Burnette, Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; American Legion Post 540; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235

**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service
Officer's Report
MARCH 2006**

AWARDS:

1. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation with I.U.E. effective 2/2005 – 12/2006 at \$2862 a month (total \$65,826) West end – Vietnam P.T.S.D.
2. Veteran awarded S.S.D. benefit effective 4/2004 – 12/2006 at \$1322 a month (total \$43,626) South end
3. Veteran awarded 30% S/C compensation effective 8/2004 – 12/2006 at \$485 a month (total \$13,580) Earlville Vietnam P.T.S.D.
4. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation with I.U.E. effective 5/2004 – 12/2006 at \$2528 a month (total \$80,896) Ottawa Schizophrenia Vietnam
5. Veteran awarded 20% S/C compensation with SMC award letter K at \$294 a month (total \$10,878) Ottawa Vietnam Diabetes
6. Veteran awarded S.S.D. benefit effective 2/2006 – 12/2007 at \$647 a month (total \$14,881) Ottawa,
7. Veteran awarded S.S.D. benefit effective 2/2004 – 12/2006 at \$996 a month (total \$34,860) North end

**TOTAL SSA awards for month - \$93,367
Year to date - \$219,253
TOTAL VA awards for month - \$171,180
Year to date - \$791,746
TOTAL AWARDS Year to date - \$1,010,999.**

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 25, 2006

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman James Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Iwaszek excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. All questions pertaining to the minutes were answered. Vice-Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD Business: Once again our LaSalle Veterans' Home was discussed. Two open forums pertaining to the need of additional staff at the LaSalle Veterans' Home were handed out to the delegates and alternates. A form letter addressed to the Honorable Governor Blagojevich pertaining to the twelve empty beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home was given to each person present. They were told they could make copies of this form letter and have as many people as possible sign and send it to the governor. A petition to adequately staff our LaSalle Veterans' Home was presented to the delegates and alternates asking them to recopy the petition and get as many signatures as possible and return them to Superintendent Rue. All other questions pertaining to old business were answered.

The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jerry Fuchs that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Lawrence Graham introduced Commander Hewlett Gwathmey of Disabled American Veterans Chapter #83. He talked to the delegates and alternates present about having a joint fund-raiser to purchase a van for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. He guesstimated the cost of about \$25,000 needed in order to purchase the van through the Disabled American Veterans organization. He was told by Vice-Chairman Nanowski to get all the information requested and give it to Superintendent Rue who will share it with the Commission.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Delbert Spitz, V.F.W. Post 4079; Fred Burnett, American Legion Post 540; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, V.F.W. Post 5506; George Mason, V.F.W. Post 2470; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Alternates Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Vice Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; and guest Hewlett Gwathmey, D.A.V. Post 86

**LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Service
Officer's Report
FEBUARY 2006**

AWARDS:

1. Veteran awarded 10% S/C compensation effective 3/2005 – 11/2005 at \$120 a month = \$960.00 12/2005 – 11/2006 = \$1440 (total \$2400) OTTAWA Diabetes Vietnam
2. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation effective 7/2005 – 11/2006 at \$2299 a month (total \$39,083.00) OGLESBY, IL Prostrate Cancer Vietnam
3. Veteran awarded S.S.D. effective 11/2004 – 11/2006 at \$1293 a month (total \$31,032) NEWARK, IL
4. Veteran awarded 10% S/C compensation effective 2/2005 – 11/2006 at \$110 a month (total \$2,640) West End P.T.S.D. WWII Tiger Team awarded without stressor.
5. Veteran awarded 30% S/C compensation effective 12/2004 – 11/2006 at \$324 a month (total \$8100) West end Rt. Shoulder, tinitus, hearing loss, Vietnam
6. Veteran awarded S.S.I. effective 10/2005 – 11/2006 at \$469.67 a month (total \$7,045) OTTAWA
7. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation with I.U.E. effective 3/2004 – 11/2006 at \$2429 a month (total \$84,448) West end
8. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation with I.U.E. effective 4/2005 – 11/2006 at \$2429 a month (Total \$51,009) West end
9. Veteran awarded S.S.D. effective 8/2003 – 11/2006 at \$1833 a month (total \$72,329) Mendota, IL
10. Veteran awarded 30% S/C compensation effective 2/2004 – 12/2004 \$6058.00 2/2005 – 11/2006 100% S/C compensation with I.U.E. at \$2299 a month (total \$58,035) South end
11. Veteran awarded 50% S/C compensation effective 11/2004 – 11/2006 at \$663 a month (total \$16,575) West end
12. Veteran granted waiver of overpayment as of 12/2005 (total \$921.56) West end
13. Veteran awarded 100% S/C compensation effective 3/2002 – 11/2006 at \$2429 a month (total \$138,453) West end P.T.S.D. and Diabetes Vietnam

Total S.S.A. Awards for month	\$119,406.00
Year-to-date	\$125,886.00
Total VA Awards for month	\$302,564.56
Year to date	\$620,566.56
Total Awards Year-to-date	\$745,452.56

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov 14 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	Marselles #235	Deputy	815 795 2768
George Mason	Ottawa V.F.W 2470	Deputy	815-433-0586
Ken Hank	MARSELLES VFW 5506	Del	815-795-2466
Douglas Dime	Post 260 TONICA	Del	712 375 5569
Howard Gast	POST 549 EARLVILLE	Past Com.	815-246-9689
Joseph Jucisgal	Post CWV 1799	Del	223 4179
James Namb	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Nick Hebronia	Post 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

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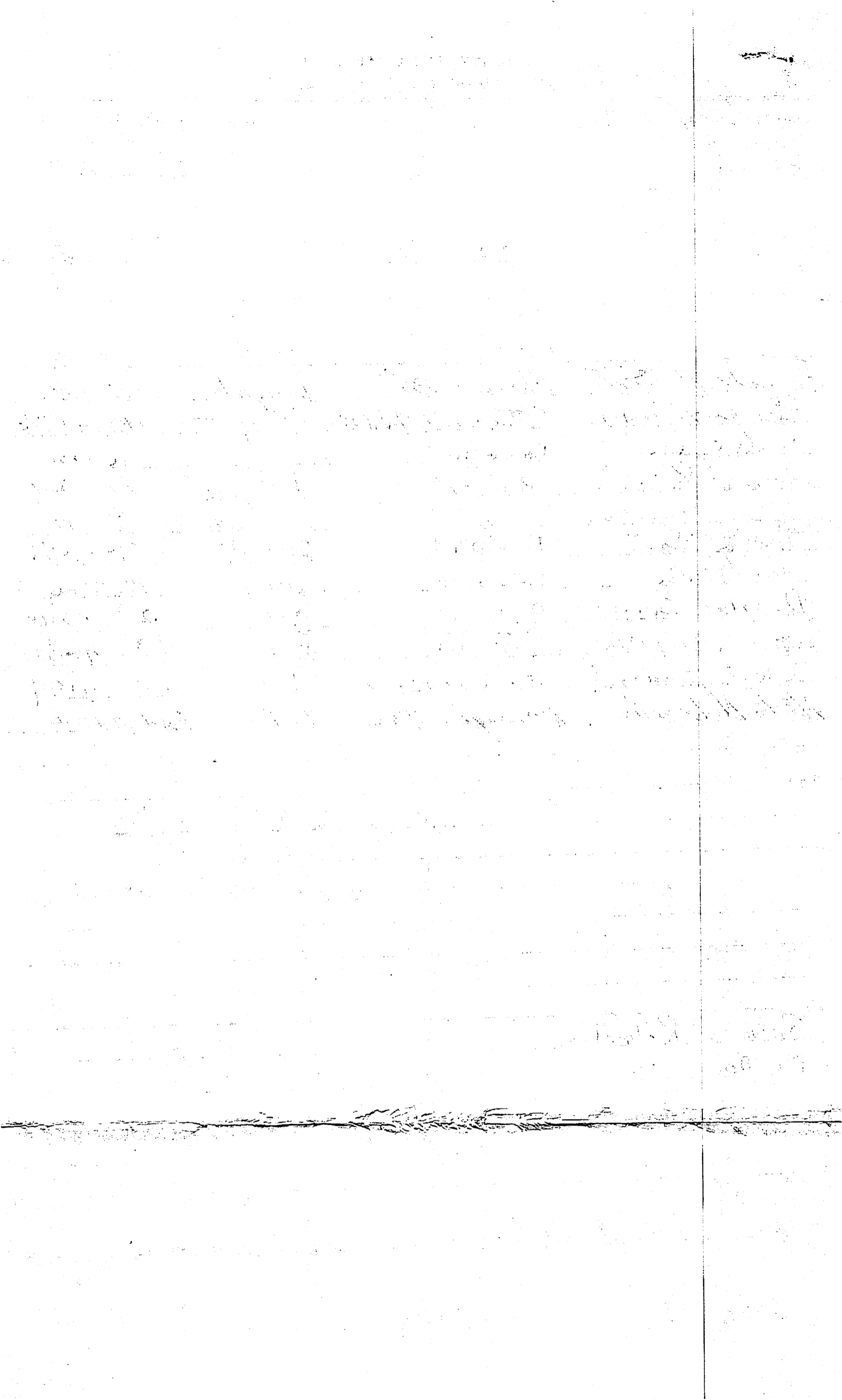
DATE: Nov. 15, 2006

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard M Smith	Marseilles 235	Delegate	78-2768
George Mason	Ottawa 247 V.F.W.	Delegate	433-0586
Lowell Amber	Earlville		246-6821
Raymond Richardson	Post # 549	Delegate	246-7181
Lawrence Graham	Chap. 86	Delegate	431-0106
Howard Gast	Post 549	Delegate	815-9689
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Douglas Griere	Post 260	Del	712 375 5589
Jim Marouli	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Joseph Swaszko	C.V.V Post 1929	Del	223 4179
Mark Nakrasim	Am Legion 426	Del	224-2204

Raymond Richardson #30
Marseilles 10
Illinois 2332

RAYMOND RICHARDSON
P.O. Box 535
EARLVILLE, IL 60518
attorney

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS



COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb. 28, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
LARRY TORAHAN	* 86	Delegate	437-0106
RAY RICHARDSON	445 549	Alternate	246-7181
George Mason	2470	Vice Chairman	433-0586
GARY HAMILTON	235	ALT.	357-8006
Bernie Smith	235	Delegate	795-2768
Ken Hauke	VEN 5506	DEL	795-2466
Joseph Swanson	CWU 1279	Del. -	228 4179
Mick Makosina	Am Legion 426	Del	224 2204
Howard H. Gast	POST 549	Post Comm.	246-9689
John Nambie	Post 33	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 28/07

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
GARY Hamilton	Legion 235 Marseilles	ALT.	357-8006
Larry Terkham	DAV 86 MARRIS	Del	431-0106
Bergie Smith	Legion 235 Marseilles	DET	78-2768
Carl Key	Legion 540 Mendota	-	539-7759
Albert Spitz	VFW - 4079	Del	538-2023
Howard Gast	Legion 549 Earlville	Del Com	815-246-9689
Jerry Fuchs	Legion 570 Leland	Del Com	815-495-9404
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	DCI	Fax 795-2466
Jim Monahan	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4633
Doug Grieve	Post 260 Tonica	Del	712 375 5569
George Mason	Post 2470 Ottawa	Del Vice-Chm	433-0586

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
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LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 25, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
GARY Hamilton	MARSEILLES Legion	ALT	357-8006
Bernard Smith	Marselles Legion	Del	815 795 2768
Nick Nekrasius	LaSalle Legion	Del	224-2204
George Mason	Ottawa V.F.W. Post #470	Vice Chair	433-0586
Judith Smith	Leland Legion	570 Chair	495-9407
Jerry Johnson	Ottawa	Del	
Howard Gast	Earlville,	Post 549	246-9689
Douglas Grienc	Tonica	Post 260	712 375 5569
Jim Novak	Ottawa	Post 33	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
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LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 23, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Nekrasine	Am. Legion	Del.	224 2204
RAY Richardson	Reg. Richardson #549	MS	246-7181
JERRY TUCKS	Region 570	Del	495-9404
KEN HANUSKON	UFWS506	DEL	295-2466
Howard Gast	Earlville 549	Post Commander	246-9689
Jim Monahan	Ottawa	Post 33 Del	434-4633
LARRY TORBEN	MORRIS	86	431 0106
Doug Grieco	Tonica	POST 260	712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 25, 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Howard Gast	Post 549	Post Commander	246-9689
Jerry Graham	# 86	chaplain	431-0106
George Mason	Post 2490	Delegate	433-0586
Phil Hunter	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Bernard Smith	Legion #235	Del	795-2768
GARY Hamilton	Legion 235	ALT Del.	357-8006
Joseph Swasgeh	CW V 1779	Del	923 4179
Jim Nembli	Post 33	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 22/07

NAME	VETERANS POST.	TITLE	PHONE
Ray Richardson	Post 549	AIT	246-7181
Bennie Smith	Post 235	Del	795-2768
Larry Graham	chap. 86	Del	431-0106
George Mason	Post 2470	Del.	433-0586
Douglas M. Griere	Post 260	Del	712 375 5569
Terry Fuchs	570 AL	Del.	815-495-9404
Joseph Quaszel	Post 1779	Del	223 4179
Joni Mowbray	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4637
Nick Nekrosim	Am Legion LaSalle	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Oct 24 2007

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	Mareilles # 235	Delegate	795-2768
Larry Graham	Morris Dav 81	Delegate	4310106
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Mick Makrasian	M. Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Joseph Swaseh	C.V.V. Post 1229	Delegats	223 4179
Howard Gant	Post 549	P. Comm.	815-246-9699
Douglas Mihlin	Post 260	Delegate	712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 22, 2007.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officers' report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue discussed an advisory resolution that Lt. Governor Pat Quinn has asked to be presented in all counties in the state of Illinois so that it could be on the February ballot. This advisory referendum is asking our United States Congressmen to totally fund our VA Health Care System. The delegates present refused to take action to support this resolution that was drafted by Lt. Governor Quinn without it first being presented to their post membership for consideration. Superintendent Rue assured the delegates that he could not support this resolution at this time. The county board could do whatever they wished.

A motion was made by Ray Richardson and was seconded by Larry Graham that the Commission take no position on this mandatory resolution to fund the VA Health Care System at this time. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Bernard Smith that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosious, American Legion Post 426; Alternate Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2007**

Vietnam veteran, Oglesby awarded 100% service connected disability 2/06 – 11/06 \$2615; 12/06 – 12/07 \$2699 TOTAL \$61,237

Widow of a WWII veteran, Mendota awarded DIC \$1067 4/07 – 12/07; burial benefit \$2000; veterans last 100% S/C check \$2590 TOTAL for 2007 \$16,245

Iraq veteran, LaSalle, awarded 60% S/C 6/06 – 11/06 \$5562; 12/06 – 12/07 \$12,441 TOTAL \$18,003

Vietnam veteran, Streator, awarded S/C for diabetes and residual effects; 40% \$645; 2/06 – 12/07 TOTAL \$16,311

Vietnam veteran, Ottawa, awarded Social Security Disability \$1273 monthly 2/07 – 12/07 TOTAL \$14,003

Vietnam widow, Mendota, awarded DIC \$1067 3/07 – 12/07 and veterans last S/C check \$2994 TOTAL 13,664

Vietnam veteran, Tonica, awarded 20% 7/06 – 12/07 \$225 TOTAL \$4050

Vietnam veteran, Ottawa, awarded 100% S/C for convalescence 12/06 – 12/07 TOTAL \$33,761

WWII veteran, Mendota awarded IUE with Aid and Attendance 8/06 – 11/06 @ \$3112 monthly and 12/06 – 12/07 @ \$3214 TOTAL \$54,230

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER	\$217,501.00
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	\$14,003.00
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER	\$231,504.00
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$1,573,911.00

No SOP for meeting

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 24, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Nanowski excused, Sgt. at Arms excuses and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented, being no additions or corrections to those minutes Vice-Chairman George Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. Again this year our veterans received monetary awards totaling \$1,730,911.00. A motion was made by Joe Iwaszek and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion by Bernard Smith and seconded by Lawrence Graham that meeting adjourns. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, Disabled American Veterans Post 86; George Mason , VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; and Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260

The LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 25, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplin excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report was answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW 5506; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
AUGUST 2007**

Vietnam widow awarded burial benefits \$2000, Sandwich TOTAL \$2000

Iraq veteran, awarded IUE 2/06 – 11/06 \$2830 and 12/06 – 12/07 \$2921
TOTAL \$66,273 STREATOR

Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 7/05 – 12/07 TOTAL \$78,645 OTTAWA,

WWII widow awarded VA pension with Aid and Attendance 5/07 12/07
\$976 TOTAL \$7808 PERU

Vietnam veteran awarded 60% 8/06 – 11/06 \$960 - \$3840; 12/06 – 12/07
\$990 - \$12,870 TOTAL \$16,710 WEST END

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR MONTH	\$171,436.00
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	.00
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR AUGUST	\$171,436.00
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$1,342,407.00

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of June 27, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates discussed the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue stated that it is entirely enclosed and on schedule. He further stated that additional parking areas would be appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was presented showing that the financial awards to area veterans are now past the \$1 million mark for the year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and alternates reviewed the budget for fiscal year 2008. The Commission reviewed each line item and entered the dollar amount that they felt our VAC would need in order to fund its 2008 operations. A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by George Mason that the VAC budget for fiscal year 2008 be passed as recommended. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Doug Grieve and seconded by George Mason that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33.

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
JULY 2007**

Vietnam veteran, east end awarded 70% for P.T.S.D. 7/2005 – 12/07
TOTAL \$34,200

Persian Gulf veteran, Seneca, burial benefits \$600.00

Vietnam veteran's widow awarded D.I.C., death benefits, and last veteran's
last 100% S/C VA check for veteran received TOTAL Benefits \$16,359.00

Vietnam veteran, Streator, received waiver of overpayment of \$4000 of VA
Pension benefits

Vietnam veterans, Granville awarded 50% for diabetes and residuals 3/07 –
12/07 \$810 monthly TOTAL \$8010

Vietnam veteran, Sandwich awarded 100% 6/06 – 11/07 \$2528; 12/06 –
6/07 \$2610; 60% 7/07 – 12/07; TOTAL \$39,342.00

Iraq veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% for mental disorder 3/06 – 12/07 \$1135
TOTAL \$24,970.00

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR JULY \$127,481.
TOTAL SS BENEFITS FOR JULY 0.
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR JULY \$127,481.
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR YEAR \$1,170,971.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of May 23, 2007.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice-Chairman excused. All other officers were present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue explained to the delegates and alternates present that the LaSalle Veterans Clinic van is operating four days a week, Monday through Thursday. The clinic further stated that if they get additional volunteer drivers they would be operating five days a week.

The LaSalle Veterans Home is on schedule and is completely enclosed. Anyone wishing to work there should make application at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Once they start the hiring process it will be too late to get on Central Management Services list of applicants eligible for hire. We expect the interview process to start sometime after January 2008.

New Business: The service officer's report was read showing that our veterans as of May 2007 have received awards of \$830,277 for this fiscal year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jerry Fuch that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegate Doug Grieves announced that the LaSalle County Historical Society will be paying tribute to all past and present servicemen and servicewomen who have served in our United States Armed Forces. This patriotic observance will be held June 16, 2007 in Utica as part of the LaSalle County Historical Society Centennial Year Celebration. It will take place at 10:00 in the morning and will be the start of the formal ceremonies and the public address by Lt. General Richard C. Henry, U.S.A.F (Ret.).

Motion was made by Howard Gast seconded by Jerry Fuch that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuch, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
JUNE 2007**

Veteran awarded Social Security Disability, West end, 11/03 – 12/07
\$825.70 monthly TOTAL \$36,275.50

WWII veteran awarded IUE, Streator, \$2528.00 (1/06 -11/06) \$2610 (12/06
– 12/07) TOTAL \$61,738.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles awarded PTSD \$70 \$1135 awarded 8/02 –
12/07 Total \$81,000

Vietnam veteran, east end, awarded PTSD 70% 7/05 – 12/07 Total \$34,200

TOTAL VA benefits for month	\$176,938.00
Social Security for month	\$36,275.50
TOTAL for month	\$213,213.00
TOTAL year to date	\$1,043,490.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 25, 2007

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old business: Delegates discussed the LaSalle Veterans Clinic Van Program which goes to Hines VA Hospital in Hines, Illinois. They stated that there are four volunteer drivers. They want the superintendent to contact the clinic and find out which days of the week the van travels to Hines VA Hospital.

New business: The service officer's report was read showing that our veterans have received \$727,236 in financial benefits this fiscal year. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion by George Mason and seconded by Nick Nekrosious that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, VFW Post 33

**Service Officer's Report
May 2007
Office Copy**

1. WWII Widow, DIC, west end, \$2610 12//06 – 12/07 and death benefit total \$17,414
2. VIETNAM WIDOW, DIC and death benefit, LaSalle 2/07 -12/-07 \$1067 monthly TOTAL \$16,347
3. VIETNAM WIDOW, west end, DOD survivor benefit \$790 2/07 - 12/07 TOTAL \$8690
4. IRAQ VETERAN, PENSION, Earlville TOTAL with backpay \$24,580
5. IRAQ VETERAN, Streator S/C 705 for back condition, 6/05 – 12/07 and backpay TOTAL \$36,010.00

TOTAL VA benefit for month	\$103,041.00
Social Security	00.00
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR MONTH	\$103,041.00
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	\$830,277.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 28, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Alternate Hamilton stated that there is still a problem with the LaSalle Clinic's Van Program to Hines VA Hospital. He stated that some of those potential drivers from Marseilles were upset with the VA's request of a background check of potential drivers. Delegate Graham stated that Hines VA was going to be sending individuals to the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic to test the potential volunteer drivers. Chairman Nanowski stated that the van was going to Hines and that he has an appointment scheduled for next Monday.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officers' report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by George Mason that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Delbert Spitz and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Carl Key, American Legion Post 540; Delbert Spitz, VFW Post 4079; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Alternate Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

Service Officers' Report
APRIL 2007

1. WWII veteran awarded I.U.E. \$2471 monthly from 11/1/04 – 12/07 total \$91,427
2. Iraq veteran from Streator awarded Social Security Disability from 2/07 through 12/07 \$1237 monthly and back pay \$27,209 total \$40,824
3. Vietnam veteran from Sandwich awarded 100% service connection for Lymphoma 7/05 \$2299; 12/05 \$2393; and 12/06 – 12/07 \$2471 total \$74,805
4. Vietnam era veteran from Mendota awarded 20% service connection for a back condition \$218 9/06 – 12/06; 1/07 – 12/07 \$225 total \$3579
5. Vietnam veteran from Ottawa awarded back pay for dependents from Social Security and monthly compensation for those dependent \$28,788
6. Vietnam veteran from Streator awarded Social Security Disability 6/07 – 12/07 total \$8970

TOTAL VA benefits for month \$169,811.00
Social Security for month \$78,582.00
TOTAL BENEFITS for month \$248,393.00
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE \$727,236.00

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815) 433-1761

April 9, 2007

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 103A
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Honorable Representative Careen Gordon
760 E. Division Street
Coal City, IL 60416

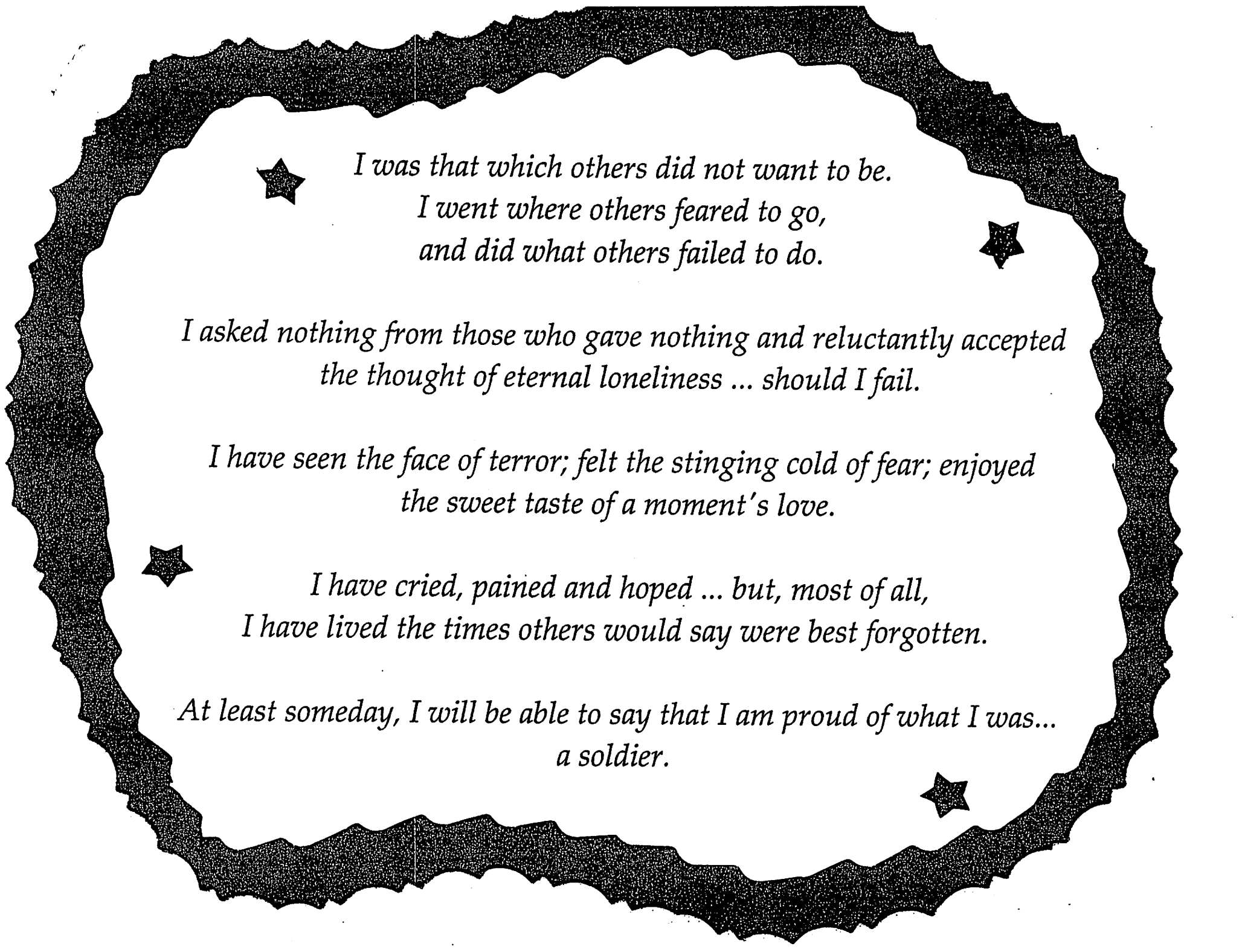
Dear Representative Gordon:

State of Illinois Representative Jack D. Franks for the fifth year has introduced H.B. 1139 which would correct the grave disparity in our State's disabled veterans "PROPERTY TAX CODE STATUTE", which denies many of our 100% service connected disabled veterans who are rated permanent and totally disabled by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs their property tax exemption. I would ask you to sign on as a co-sponsor of H.B. 1139 if you have not already and ask your colleagues to also co-sponsor this legislation. The current state statute discriminates against 100% service connected permanent and totally disabled veterans by dividing them into two separate 100% disabled classes instead of treating them as equals. I know of no other State that says we will treat these 100% service connected disabled veterans better than these 100% service connected disabled veterans because one group must have made a greater sacrifice than the others. By not treating 100% service connected disabled veterans as equals they are saying we will provide this property tax exemption for these few and we will punish those other 100% service connected totally and permanently rated 100% disabled veterans for not sacrificing enough. To me, as a combat veteran, that is no different than saying if you are engaged in a battle and were killed by friendly fire you are not entitled to an honorable military burial as the soldier is that died in the same battle from enemy fire. Please correct this unjust statue now by seeing that H.B. 1139 gets passed now.

As of March 23, 2007 H.B. 1139 was re-referred to the Rules Committee. This is where a bill is sent to die. Please see that it is brought out of the Rules and passed by the House of Representatives. We are counting on you and your colleagues to see that H.B. 1139 becomes law this year. We need your help now.

Sincerely yours,

Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County



*I was that which others did not want to be.
I went where others feared to go,
and did what others failed to do.*

*I asked nothing from those who gave nothing and reluctantly accepted
the thought of eternal loneliness ... should I fail.*

*I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; enjoyed
the sweet taste of a moment's love.*

*I have cried, pained and hoped ... but, most of all,
I have lived the times others would say were best forgotten.*

*At least someday, I will be able to say that I am proud of what I was...
a soldier.*

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 28, 2007

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and alternates discussed the LaSalle Veterans Clinic van situation. Superintendent Rue stated that we have to find volunteer drivers because Hines will not hire an individual to drive their van for them. It must be a volunteer.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented letters to the delegates and alternates along with a copy of H.B. 243 "COMBAT MEDICALLY RETIRED VETERANS ACT OF 2007" presented by Congressman Jerry Weller and H.B. 1139, which would correct a grave disparity of our disabled veterans "PROPERTY TAX CODE STATUTES" presented by Illinois Representative Jack D. Franks.

Superintendent Rue shared a thank you letter from a couple from Streator in which after 60 years since service our office proved that he had a severe service connected disability, which had been denied twice in the past.

The delegates and alternates received a request to reimburse Kendall County VAC for transportation reimbursement should they take a LaSalle County veteran to the hospital in the Kendall County van. Superintendent Rue shared with the commission the decline of any such proposal due to the fact that our veterans reside in three different "Veteran Intergrated Service Networks" (V.I.S.N.). As a result of this we would have to enter into three different governmental agreements with those VAC's who would be willing to transport our veterans to Danville VA Hospital, V.I.S.N. 11; Iowa City, V.I.S.N. 14; and Hines VA Hospital, V.I.S.N. 12.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Alternates Ray Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Gary Hamilton, American Legion Post 235 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

Service Officer's Report March 2007

1. Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 7/05 – 11/05 \$2429; 12/05 – 11/06 \$2528; 12/06 – 11/07 \$2610; total \$73,883 West end
2. Iraq veteran awarded IUE from 1/07 -12/07 Total \$34,776 Streator
3. Vietnam veteran awarded Social Security Disability \$15,600, two dependent children \$4000 TOTAL \$19,600 backpay, Ottawa
4. Vietnam veteran overpayment waiver total \$33,000, Streator
5. Vietnam veteran Social Security Disability \$1840 monthly 2/07-12/07 \$20,240 and backpay \$80,673; TOTAL \$100,913

TOTAL VA Benefits for month	\$141,659
Social Security for month	\$120,513
TOTAL benefits for month	\$262,172
TOTAL year to date	\$478,843

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 24, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

New business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by George Mason that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue shared a thank you letter with those present from an Ottawa veteran and his wife thanking our VAC for providing the services needed to prevent total devastation to their family.

Superintendent Rue shared letters with those present pertaining to no volunteer drivers for the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic. He also shared letters from United States Congressman Jerry Weller and State of Illinois Senator Gary Dahl pertaining to their requests that Hines VA Hospital hire a van driver. We must keep the pressure on to force Hines to fulfill their obligation to support the needs of our LaSalle Veterans' Clinic.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Alternate Jim DeMoss, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

Service Officer's Report February 2007

1. Iraq veteran awarded 100% convalescent for degenerative disc disease, 1/06 through 12/06 at \$2898 monthly – total \$34,776 Streater
2. Vietnam era veteran awarded pension with spouse and dependent child 1/06 through 12/06 total \$15,661 Ottawa
3. Iraq veteran awarded 40% SC for stomach and 10% for right arm 9/04 through 12/06 total \$17,500 LaSalle
4. Iraq veteran awarded 20% hearing loss at \$218 7/06 through 12/06 total \$1308 LaSalle
5. Vietnam veteran added spouse to pension claim 1/06 through 12/06 total \$3276 Streater
6. Vietnam veteran awarded 100% prostrate (added spouse to claim) \$135 monthly 1/06 through 12/06 \$1620 Oglesby
7. Vietnam veteran awarded 20% for diabetes and residuals 7/05 \$210; 12/05 increased to 60% and added \$87 month (K) \$990 through 12/06; 2005 \$1268; 2006 \$8406; and 2007 \$11,880 TOTAL \$21,554 Streater

Total VA benefits for month	\$95,695.00
Social Security for month	0.00
Total benefits for month	\$95,695.00
Benefits year to date	\$216,671.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 15, 2006.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Iwaszek. A roll call of officers was taken showing in Chaplain excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were read. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Iwaszek stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue shared with the delegates and alternates a letter from Dixie Johnston thanking our office for helping her and her husband with their nursing home problems.

Delegate Graham stated that our van fund was short of its \$12,500 obligation by \$53.32. Delegate Grieves stated he would relinquish that obligation with a check. Alternate Richardson and Delegate Nanowski stated they would kick in with Mr. Grieves to see that the goal was met.

New Business: The election of officers for our VAC was held for the fiscal year 2006-07. Those elected is as follows:

Chairman – Jim Nanowski
Vice-Chairman – George Mason
Chaplain – Douglas Grieve
Sgt. at Arms – Ken Hausken

All delegates and alternates present thanked those newly elected officers.

Motion was made by Delegate Mason and seconded by Delegate Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, V.F.W. Post 247;; Lawrence Graham, D.A.V. Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, V.F.W. Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Alternate Raymond Richardson, American Legion Post 549; Lowell Ambler and Chairman Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229

Service Officer's Report January 2007

1. Vietnam veteran received \$550 for 40% service connection for diabetes from 7/05 through 12/06 total \$9,900, west end
2. Vietnam veteran received 10% for a back injury from 2/05 through 12/06 total \$2484, west end
3. Vietnam veteran received Social Security Disability \$928 9/04 through 12/06 Total \$29,363; Ottawa
4. Vietnam dependent received Educational Benefits from VA \$827 9/06 through 12/06 \$3308; LaSalle
5. Iraq veteran added dependent child to service connected claim 3/05 through 12/06 total \$792; LaSalle
6. Vietnam veteran received 100% Convalescence care 5/06 – 6/07 \$2528; 50% 6/07 through 12/07 \$757 total \$37,406 – Ottawa
7. Vietnam veteran receives increase in service connected disability to 90% from 20% \$8699 back pay and \$1645 monthly total \$28,439; Ottawa
8. Vietnam veteran received 50% service connected for diabetes and PTSD \$844 2/1/06 – total \$9284; Earlville

Total VA Benefits 1/07 -	\$91,613.00
Social Security	\$29,363.00
Total for 1/07	\$120,976.00
Year to date	\$120,976.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 14, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented some news releases to those present. The delegates and alternates discussed the veterans' issues presented and all questions pertaining to those questions were answered.

Chairman Nanowski announced that we will now have the election of our officers for fiscal year 2008. Those elected are as follows:

1. Chairman – Jim Nanowski
2. Vice-Chairman – George Mason
3. Chaplain – Douglas Grieve
4. Sgt. at arms – Ken Hausken

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman James Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

JANUARY 2008

Vietnam veteran, Streator awarded 30% service connected disability 6/06 – 11/06
\$2022.00 12/06 – 12/07 \$348 Total \$6546.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5970.00 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5670 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

World War II veteran, Oglesby awarded burial benefit \$300

Iraq veteran, Marseilles awarded 60% 9/05 back pay \$20,388 and \$901 monthly total
\$26,695 through 12/07

World War II widow, Peru awarded Aid and Attendance 5/07 through 12/07 Total \$7808

Vietnam veteran, Peru awarded 100% service connected for prostate cancer with SMC
12/06 through 8/07 total \$28,325

Vietnam veteran, west end, awarded social security disability \$973 monthly 6/07 through
12/07 total \$6811

Vietnam veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% service connected added his dependants to his
claim 7/05 – 12/07 \$168 monthly total \$5040

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 100% service connected convalescent care 12/06
through 12/07 \$2610 monthly total \$33,930

TOTAL VA BENEFITS THROUGH DECEMBER 2007	\$120,284.
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILTY	6,811.
TOTAL BENEFITS DECEMBER 2007	\$127,095.

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates again discussed our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois after reading the NEWS TRIBUNE November 11, 2008 article in which the State of Illinois stated that there were no new hires at the home due to a freeze in hiring state personnel. Superintendent Rue was pleased to see that the NEWS TRIBUNE reporter finally got the State of Illinois to admit the truth as to why there are approximately 105 open beds at the LaSalle Veterans' Home.

NEW BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates were given additional handouts for their information. One pertained to our LaSalle Veterans' Home and the other announced the name of the new Illinois Department of Employment Security Veterans Representative in Ottawa, Illinois.

Chairman Nanowski opened the election of our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission officers for fiscal year 2009 and the election of the superintendent of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. They are as follows:

1. Chairman – George Mason
2. Vice-Chairman – Jim Nanowski
3. Chaplin – Doug Grieve
4. Sgt. at Arms – Ken Hausken
5. Superintendent – Martin J. Rue

A motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that a unanimous vote be cast for all the newly elected officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue congratulated all the newly elected officers and was grateful for their eager participation for the offices they sought.

Superintendent Rue reminded everyone that there will not be a meeting of our commission during the month of December 2008. Our next meeting will be held on January 28, 2009. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Jerry Fuchs that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

JANUARY 2009
Service Officer's Report

LaSalle Vietnam veteran awarded 70% S/C 4/08 thru 12/09
PTSD total \$43,332.00

Iraq veteran, Utica awarded 40% S/C 11/07 thru 12/09
\$16,268.00

Vietnam veteran, West End awarded PTSD 50%
w/dependent spouse 2/08 thru 12/09 \$19,687

Widow of Vietnam veteran LaSalle, awarded DIC 1/08,
death benefit and last S/C check total thru 12/09 \$29,946

Vietnam veteran, Streator, IUE 12/07 thru 12/09 \$66,110

TOTAL VA BENEFITS	\$175,343.00
SS BENEFITS	0
TOTAL Year to date	\$175,343.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of
November 14, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented some news releases to those present. The delegates and alternates discussed the veterans' issues presented and all questions pertaining to those questions were answered.

Chairman Nanowski announced that we will now have the election of our officers for fiscal year 2008. Those elected are as follows:

1. Chairman – Jim Nanowski
2. Vice-Chairman – George Mason
3. Chaplain – Douglas Grieve
4. Sgt. at arms – Ken Hausken

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman James Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
JANUARY 2008**

Vietnam veteran, Streater awarded 30% service connected disability 6/06 – 11/06
\$2022.00 12/06 – 12/07 \$348 Total \$6546.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5970.00 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5670 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

World War II veteran, Oglesby awarded burial benefit \$300

Iraq veteran, Marseilles awarded 60% 9/05 back pay \$20,388 and \$901 monthly total
\$26,695 through 12/07

World War II widow, Peru awarded Aid and Attendance 5/07 through 12/07 Total \$7808

Vietnam veteran, Peru awarded 100% service connected for prostrate cancer with SMC
12/06 through 8/07 total \$28,325

Vietnam veteran, west end, awarded social security disability \$973 monthly 6/07 through
12/07 total \$6811

Vietnam veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% service connected added his dependants to his
claim 7/05 – 12/07 \$168 monthly total \$5040

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 100% service connected convalescent care 12/06
through 12/07 \$2610 monthly total \$33,930

TOTAL VA BENEFITS THROUGH DECEMBER 2007	\$120,284.
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILTY	6,811.
TOTAL BENEFITS DECEMBER 2007	\$127,095.

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815) 433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 103A
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Page 1 of 2

December 13, 2007

Honorable Governor Rod Blagojevich
207 State House Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Blagojevich:

As the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Act 45, Section 8 of Chapter 330 requires, I am submitting the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission's annual report pertaining to "Military Veterans Assistance Act." In our Commission we have been very active in three general service areas. They are as follows:

1. Vendor financial services to those qualified military veterans, spouse, and dependents that have no financial means to care for themselves.
2. The total viewing of individual cases of veterans to see if any other local, state, or federal agencies may have benefits they may be entitled to and assist in seeing that they properly apply for those benefits.
3. The advocacy work in behalf of our eligible clients who have been denied local, state, or federal entitlements as a result of their rights being violated or a misunderstanding of applicable statutes or regulations pertaining to the assistance a comrade is requesting.

This past year our General Assistance cases have increased substantially. Most of our veterans have been found eligible for Social Security or Department of Veterans Affairs income benefit programs. Our Commission has always followed closely the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the Illinois Department of Public Aid Regulations. Being charged by Illinois law to provide for those who have no means to provide for themselves has found us doing more advocacy work than General Assistance. This I find rewarding because we are taking our comrades from financial deprivation under General Assistance and securing the federal entitlement program that meets their standard of need. As you know, Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, or an increase in United States Department of Veterans' Affairs compensation/pension provide far greater financial assistance than the \$160 Public Aid General Assistance allotment per month for a single veteran. The cases we represent are not considered fee generating, which in many instances leaves our veterans without legal assistance.

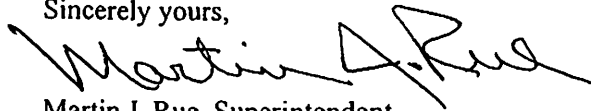
Should they not be able to procure legal assistance, in many instances the federal or state statutes make it possible for us to represent them at their request. We have been very successful in those cases that we have represented. Their "Due Process Right" has been attained. This has saved our county tax dollars that would have otherwise been paid out for General Assistance. Those Veterans Assistance Commissions who provide knowledge and skills to represent veterans at Social Security Disability Hearings or Veterans Administration Hearing Boards and other administrative hearings should strive to become Nationally Accredited County Service Offices (N.A.C.V.S.). In the state of Illinois there are approximately forty County Veterans Assistance Commissions. Those Veterans Assistance Commissions have about 85% of our Illinois veterans residing in those counties. Currently we have Nationally Accredited County Veterans Service Officers working in our County Veterans Assistance Commissions. Each veteran's case that our accredited service officers would win would relieve their county from being required to provide financial assistance to that veteran. That veteran would then have the money needed to become a paying consumer, which would add dollars to the State of Illinois General Fund as a result of taxes paid on purchases.

Governor Blagojevich, the people in our Illinois Valley and especially our veterans are truly grateful to see the completion of our additional 80 health care beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. We were also pleased to see the 2.7 million dollar funding bill to completely staff our LaSalle Veterans' Home pass in our General Assembly only to be disheartened by your veto of this needed funding legislation. As a result of your veto the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs will not be able to interview, hire and train the needed staff that is required to operate our LaSalle Veterans' Home. This process alone will take about four months before they will be ready to provide total health care to our admitted honorably discharged veterans. That lack of funding further prevents I.D.V.A. from hiring the thirty additional staff needed to open the thirty original beds from our 118 that were left vacant as a result of space needed during construction of our new 80 bed addition. There is no longer any need to leave those original thirty beds vacant. Please grant the LaSalle Veterans' Home authorization to immediately hire the staff needed to open those beds. Our people deserve better treatment.

We have also appealed numerous denials of state or federal entitlement programs on behalf of our veterans. We have had a great success rate on those appeals. I am enclosing a sheet which will show the total amount of financial assistance rendered this fiscal year.

I will further submit a page charting the monies received by our clientele as a result of our advocacy work since 1985. If you require a more detailed report or have any questions, pertaining to our office, feel free to contact me at anytime.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosures

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE
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April 15, 2007	\$640.00	\$785.01
April 30, 2007	\$145.01	
May 15, 2007	\$900.00	\$1380.00
May 30, 2007	\$480.00	
June 15, 2007	\$960.00	\$1173.54
June 30, 2007	\$213.54	
July 15, 2007	\$582.60	\$1220.74
July 30, 2007	\$638.14	
August 15, 2007	\$1655.43	\$2991.40
August 30, 2007	\$1335.97	
September 15, 2007	\$899.07	\$1329.35
September 30, 2007	\$430.28	
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COUNTY OF LA SALLE
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2003	\$3,039,255.00
2004	\$2,250,864.00
2005	\$2,728,679.00
2006	\$3,158,593.00
2007	\$1,573,911.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of November 14, 2007.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented some news releases to those present. The delegates and alternates discussed the veterans' issues presented and all questions pertaining to those questions were answered.

Chairman Nanowski announced that we will now have the election of our officers for fiscal year 2008. Those elected are as follows:

1. Chairman – Jim Nanowski
2. Vice-Chairman – George Mason
3. Chaplain – Douglas Grieve
4. Sgt. at arms – Ken Hausken

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Joe Iwaszek that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Ken Hausken, VFW post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Joseph Iwaszek, Catholic War Veterans Post 1229; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; and Chairman James Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

JANUARY 2008

Vietnam veteran, Streater awarded 30% service connected disability 6/06 – 11/06
\$2022.00 12/06 – 12/07 \$348 Total \$6546.00

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5970.00 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles added spouse to service connected claim total \$5670 with
back pay and additional benefits through 12/07

World War II veteran, Oglesby awarded burial benefit \$300

Iraq veteran, Marseilles awarded 60% 9/05 back pay \$20,388 and \$901 monthly total
\$26,695 through 12/07

World War II widow, Peru awarded Aid and Attendance 5/07 through 12/07 Total \$7808

Vietnam veteran, Peru awarded 100% service connected for prostrate cancer with SMC
12/06 through 8/07 total \$28,325

Vietnam veteran, west end, awarded social security disability \$973 monthly 6/07 through
12/07 total \$6811

Vietnam veteran, LaSalle awarded 70% service connected added his dependants to his
claim 7/05 – 12/07 \$168 monthly total \$5040

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 100% service connected convalescent care 12/06
through 12/07 \$2610 monthly total \$33,930

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December 13, 2007

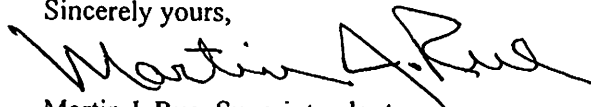
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LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of March 28, 2008.

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Nanowski excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Vice-Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would be approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue reported that he had spoken with Steve Davis, Assistant Administrator at the Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru, Illinois. He stated that the flag pole at the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic would be repaired and a light installed so the American Flag could be flown 24 hours a day. Reed Wilson from United States Congressman Jerry Weller's office stated they would donate three flags to the LaSalle Veterans' Clinic.

Superintendent Rue, as requested by the Commission, sent a letter to all chartered member posts in LaSalle County with the monthly dates of our commission meetings. They were all invited to our commission meetings at the direction of our delegates and alternates.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Larry Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; and Vice-Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

Service Officer's Report March 2008

Vietnam veteran awarded 100% temporary compensation 3/06 through 4/07 (\$37,700) and 90% 4/07 through 12/08 total \$71,640, Ottawa

Vietnam veteran awarded 100% temporary compensation 9/06 through 3/07 and 70% 3/07 through 12/08 total \$46,012, West End

Vietnam veteran awarded pension 5/07 through 12/08 \$14,611, Ottawa

Vietnam veteran awarded 100% temporary compensation 2/07 through 4/07 and 40% 5/07 through 12/08 \$18,677, West end

Vietnam veteran awarded 40% compensation 11/06 though 12/08 total \$12,800, Streator

Iraq veteran awarded 50% 3/05 through 12/08 w/dependent child total \$53,133, LaSalle

Vietnam veteran awarded 50% compensation 12/07 through 12/08 total \$16,893, Streator

World War II widow awarded Aid and Attendance 12/07 through 12/08 \$11,162, Ladd

Total VA Benefits in March	\$244,928
Social Security in March	0
TOTAL Benefits to date	\$563,159

Belleville News-Democrat
120 South Illinois Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220

To Whom It May Concern:

In a Chicago News-Tribune article dated August 9, 2007, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) Director Tammy Duckworth stated that the \$2.7 million dollars for the LaSalle Veterans' Home, passed earlier by our General Assembly, would remain available to hire needed staff and purchase needed equipment. This would be needed so the new 80 bed addition could open in the spring of 2007. One September 6, 2007 the Chicago Sun-Times printed a Letter to the Editor from Ginger Ostro, Illinois Director of Management and Budget, stating that when the LaSalle Veterans' Home "is ready to open, funding will be available to meet its operating needs."

At the same time an announcement was made that the \$2.7 million funding for the LaSalle facility had been cancelled as part of the Governor's cost saving measures. On September 7th IDVA Director Duckworth speaking to the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions (LACVAC) in response to a question on the aforementioned funding, told those of us assembled that although this funding would be delayed, \$300,000 was at the ready to be used to get the beds opened and that the further funding would be worked out.

In the original building there was a need for further staffing to open 20 health care beds that were available. However, the IDVA stated that those beds needed to stay empty until the 80-bed addition was completed.

On or about February of 2008 the 80-bed addition was deemed complete and the IDVA took possession of the addition at LaSalle Veterans' Home. The "fly in the ointment" is that there are no furnishings, equipment or staff to open the addition due to no funding available and no one wishes to address this "oversight". We can take from this that Ms. Ostro and Ms. Duckworth were either misled or have misled the veterans of this state.

I am sure that one is wondering what this LaSalle Veterans' Home situation in northern Illinois has to do with this down-state area. First, there are veterans in that LaSalle home from the Metro-East. Second this is not an isolated case, Manteno Veterans' Home has had to shut down two wings (approximately 40 beds) due to funding cuts. There is a waiting list of 300 veterans trying to get in the LaSalle Veterans' Home. There is a waiting list at every Illinois veterans' home, and the newest of the bunch located in Anna has a two year waiting list. This means that

Page 2.

someone from the Metro-East who wants to be in one of the veterans homes might well put himself/herself on more than one list at these homes in Anna, Quincy, Manteno and LaSalle. With the World War II and Korean veterans, frankly, at rather advanced ages and the Vietnam Veterans quickly about to knock on that same door, the oldest are at risk to pass away before they are able to get into one of the homes.

We, the superintendents of Madison and St. Clair counties, feel this is a disgrace that the veterans of the services charged with the defense of this country, in the final stage of their lives should be treated as they are by this state holding them at bay while the pet projects of a few get funded. The backs of the veterans of this state have bourn the burden of special interests for long enough that they feel like just so many cobblestones on the streets over which these special interests trod. How long will the State of Illinois keep using the veterans programs in the state as a "cash cow" out of which to cut funding and funnel it to other projects.

Sincerely,

Kurt V. Daesch, Superintendent
St. Clair County Veterans Assistance Commission

Greg Henn, Superintendent
Madison County Veterans Assistance Commission

Community appeal: State must hire staff for veterans home expansion

In the NewsTribune article dated Aug. 9, 2007, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director, Tammy Duckworth stated that the \$2.7 million for our La Salle Veterans' Home, which passed our General Assembly, would remain available to hire the needed staff and equipment in the winter of 2007 so all beds could be opened in the spring of 2008. On Sept. 6, 2007 the Chicago Sun-Times printed a Letter to the Editor from Ginger Ostro, the Illinois Director of Management and Budget for the governor stating that when the La Salle Veterans' Home "is ready to open, funding will be available to meet its operating needs."

On or about the month of February 2008 the 80 additional health care beds were complete and the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) took over the new addition to the La Salle State Veterans' Home in La Salle. The only problem is there are no beds or fur-

niture to place in those rooms because it was not purchased. The staff needed to provide care for those additional 80 health care beds have not been hired either because of no funding. Was Ginger Ostro our governor's Director of Management and Budget misleading our Illinois veterans and citizens on Sept. 6, 2007 when she said when the La Salle Veterans' home "is ready to open, funding will be available to meet its operating needs?" We must also remember that we still need money to hire the additional staff for the 20 empty health care beds in our original building that IDVA stated must remain empty until the 80 new bed expansion is completed.

If the governor would let our Veterans' Home hire the 30 health care personnel needed to provide services for those 20 beds, we could fill them now. If the governor would permit our Veterans' Home to hire the 85 health care personnel needed to staff our 80

bed new addition, we could start bringing our veterans in for admission in a month. With over 300 veterans on our waiting list for admission, it is a true disgrace to see those beds sit vacant for months while our veterans are dying prior to admission. They do not have the luxury of waiting two to three years for admission.

Please write or call Gov. Rod Blagojevich, State Sen. Gary Dahl, state Rep. Frank Mautino or your state of Illinois senator and representative asking them to immediately hire the needed 130 employees for our La Salle State Veterans' Home and provide the needed furnishings to open our 80 new bed addition. Have your friends and relative do the same. Our Illinois Valley and veterans are counting on you. With your help all will succeed.

Martin J. Rue,
Superintendent VAC of La Salle County

Open Forum policy

The NewsTribune welcomes letters from readers. Each letter must carry the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

Names and cities will be printed with each letter.

Letters should be of general interest to the public. They should not be used to air private grievances between parties (not public figures) or to endorse or thank a person or organization. N-T reserves the right to edit letters and to limit the number of letters submitted by one

individual to no more than one letter every three months. Writers are encouraged to limit letters to less than 500 words. Please:

MAIL to 426 Second St., La Salle 61301

FAX to 224-6443

E-MAIL to ntnews@newstrib.com

Open Forum

News Tribune April 18, 2008

Veterans urge public to contact lawmakers about home's needs

In the Chicago Tribune on April 4, 2008, there was an article stating "the governor is expanding health care without lawmaker approval and challenging their authority to stop him. Blagojevich's effort to expand Family Health Care, to give middle income Illinoisans access to better health care." On April 4, 2008, in the NewsTribune article it stated that under the Blagojevich Family Care Program "147,000 more people will be eligible for state subsidized health insurance coverage ... And would cost \$40 million this year." With that being said, I find it to be deplorable to think that he has not provided the minimal dollars needed to hire the 130 staff at our state veterans' Home in La Salle, Illinois so we can open those 100 empty beds.

As state Rep. Frank Mautino stated in Letters to the Editor of our area newspapers on Sept. 21, 2007, "providing for our military servicemen and women is one of the most honorable things we can do as a society." Why should our states' honorably discharged veterans be denied a bed at our La Salle Veterans' Home when we are providing medical care to most Illinois citizens, criminals, legal and illegal aliens? Why do our honorably discharged veterans always have to fight in order to be considered better than a third class citizen? All we have ever asked is to be treated equal to all other citizens.

We currently have 350 veterans on our La Salle Veterans Home waiting list for admission. We have over 100 vacant beds and are

short over 130 needed health care providers. Please write or call Gov. Rod Blagojevich, state Sen. Gary Dahl, state Rep. Frank Mautino or your state of Illinois senator or representative asking them to immediately hire the needed 130 employees for our La Salle Veterans Home and open the 100 empty beds. Have your friends and relatives do the same.

Our Illinois Valley citizens and state veterans are counting on you. President Abraham Lincoln said, "It's the duty of all of us on the home front to take good care of those who have borne the battle."

**George Mason,
VFW Post 2470 Ottawa**

Problem of illegal immigration starts with 'bird feeder'

I bought a bird feeder. I hung it on my back porch and filled it with seed. Within a week we had hundreds of birds taking advantage of the continuous flow of free and easily accessible food.

But then the birds started building nests in the boards of the patio, above the table, and next to the barbecue. Then came the bird poop. It was everywhere: on the patio tile, the chairs, the table ... everywhere.

Then some of the birds turned mean: They would dive bomb me and try to peck me even though I had fed them out of my own pocket. And other birds were boisterous and loud: They sat on the feeder and squawked and screamed at all hours of the day and night and demanded that I fill it when it got low on

food.

After a while, I couldn't even sit on my own back porch anymore. I took down the bird feeder and in three days the birds were gone. I cleaned up their mess and took down the many nests they had built all over the patio. Soon, the backyard was like it used to be ... quiet, serene and no one demanding their rights to a free meal.

Hmmmmmm ... Our government gives out free food, subsidized housing, free medical care, free education and allows anyone born here to be an automatic citizen.

Then the illegals came by the tens of thousands.

Suddenly our taxes went up to pay for free services; small apartments are housing five

families; you have to wait six hours to be seen by an emergency room doctor; your child's second grade class is behind other schools because over half the class doesn't speak English; Corn Flakes now come in a bilingual box.

I have to press "one" to hear my bank talk to me in English, and people waving flags other than "Old Glory" are squawking and screaming in the streets, demanding more rights and free liberties.

Maybe it's time for the government to take down the bird feeder.

I need to express my feelings on the subjects of veteran and elder care in our country. I am 76 yrs old, worked all of my life until retiring 17 yrs ago. I was in the army, serving in Korea in the early 50's. When I retired I had medical insurance which included dental and an eyeglass programs. Over the past years, they took away the dental and eyeglass programs, and my monthly rates keep increasing along with higher co-payments. I now get my prescriptions through the VA clinic, but I do have to pay co-payments for them.

Some day in the future I may need to be admitted into an assisted living facility such as the Ill. Veterans home in LaSalle. I was an EMT-I on the Peru ambulance service for 23 yrs, and have taken veterans to and from the facility many times during that period. I know it is a fine facility for our veterans. I was very happy to hear that they finally decided to build an addition to the building to accommodate more veterans.

So what happens now???? I understand that the only thing keeping from furnishing and staffing the new units is MONEY. Who dropped the ball for the men and women who fought to keep our country safe in the future?

I have a decent pension, but in the past few years am finding it harder to keep up with the rising costs of medical, dental, vision, taxes, insurances, gasoline, etc..

I hope this letter will spur you and your fellow politicians to do something to help take care of your veterans and elderly in this country. We see people on public aid getting things for free, and I know there are countless number of them that really are in need of it, but I see younger people buying items at grocery stores with their cards that I would pass up for more reasonable choices.

I am enclosing an open forum letter that was in our local newspaper about a week ago. I think it really hits home and echoes my sentiments exactly. Lets get back on track and take care of the millions of people that served this country and made it what it was in the past. Who knows what it will be in the future if we continue giving away money to the people who really do not give anything back to us.

Hopefully waiting for your reply,

John C Kurtz
1527 Walnut Street
Peru, Il 61354

Marty— This is a copy of the letters I sent to The Governor, Senators, and Representatives that you posted in the newspaper. I just wanted to let you know that I followed through for my part, and I hope many more people will do the same. Thank You,



Minutes of the April 23, 2008 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officer was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would be approved as presented.

Old Business: The Commission discussed the State of Illinois LaSalle Veterans' Home and House Bill 4807, which was introduced by Representative Frank Mautino providing \$8.2 million from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Veterans Affairs for staffing for the Illinois Veterans' Home at LaSalle effective July 1, 2008. That bill passed the House and then was sent to the Senate in which Senator Deanna Demuzio is the sponsor. We have been told that the democrat controlled Senate would not release any funding legislation that is sponsored by a republican so our Senator Gary G. Dahl was asked not to sponsor the bill in the Senate. Normally bills are placed in the Rules Committee to kill them.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Supt. Rue presented numerous handouts. Delegates and Alternates discussed those handouts at length.

Motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Lawrence Graham, DAV 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260, Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICERS' REPORT

April 2008

Vietnam veteran awarded 40% service connected 12/06 -12/08 without dependent wife total \$12,668, Sandwich

Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 1/07 – 12/08 total \$64,056, west end

Vietnam veteran awarded temporary 100% 10/07 – 12/08 \$37,248, Ottawa

Vietnam veteran awarded 20% 1/07 – 12/08 total \$3680, Streator

World War II widow awarded DIC 5/07 – 12/08 total \$21,652, west end

Vietnam widow awarded DIC 1/08 – 12/08 total \$13,092, Marseilles

Vietnam veteran awarded IUE 10/07 – 12/08 total \$39,917 Marseilles

Vietnam veteran awarded Social Security Disability 12/07 – 12/08 total \$13,221, Streator

TOTAL VA BENEFITS IN APRIL	\$192,313
SOCIAL SECURITY	\$13,221
TOTAL BENEFITS IN APRIL	\$205,534
TOTAL BENEFITS TO DATE	\$768,693

Minutes of the May 28, 2008 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue answered questions pertaining to the completion of the 80 bed addition of our LaSalle Veterans' Home. He stated that all rooms are not yet ready to be certified by the required state and federal agencies. All other questions pertaining to the LaSalle Veterans' Home and staffing were answered.

New Business: The service officers' report was presented and all questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. Motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the service officers' report be accepted as presented.

Superintendent Rue gave the delegates and alternates copies of news reports pertaining to our LaSalle Veterans' Home and highlights from the Illinois Veterans' Advisory Council meeting of Saturday, May 3, 2008 at our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Questions pertaining to those highlights were answered.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Lance Sire, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT
May 2008

Marseilles Vietnam veteran awarded depended spouse to 100% service connection 4/04 – 12/08 total \$7994

Tonica Vietnam veteran awarded 100% service connections and SMC 1/08 – 12/08 \$33,120

Ottawa Iraq veteran awarded 40% service connection 1/07 – 12/08 total \$12,520

Earlville Vietnam veteran awarded 40% service connection and SMC 8/06 – 12/08 total \$17,810

Peru Vietnam veteran awarded 60% service connection 6/06 – 12/08 total \$41,676

TOTAL VA CLAIMS	\$113,120
Social Security	0
TOTAL BENEFITS FOR MAY	\$113,120
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	\$881,813

Minutes of the June 25, 2008 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting was presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and alternates present discussed the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue stated that all rooms do not have all the furnishings in them yet. He also stated that there would be an employment open house on July 26, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. He has sent a list of all employment available to the delegates, alternates, and Concerned Veterans which was provided by the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs. He encouraged all to tell those who are looking to work at the LaSalle Veterans' Home to be sure to attend the employment open house.

New Business: The service officers' report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. Motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Bernard Smith that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

The 2009 VAC Budget Recommendation Form was then discussed per line item. The VAC proposed total budget per line item totaled \$241,857.50. A motion was made by Jerry Fuchs and seconded by George Mason that the proposed budget request in the amount of \$241,857.50 be accepted as presented per line item. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Doug Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
JUNE 2008**

Ottawa Vietnam veteran awarded a waiver of an overpayment of VA pension in the amount of \$8465

West end Vietnam veteran awarded 60% service connected 1/08 – 5/08 then 50% 6/08 – 12/08 for a total of \$10,830 for diabetes

West end Vietnam veteran awarded 50% service connected 6/07 – 12/08 for a total of \$13,104 for P.T.S.D.

West end Vietnam veteran awarded 50% service connected 9/06 – 12/08 for a total of \$22,113 for diabetes

LaSalle Iraq veteran awarded service connection for injury 50% with 3 dependents for a total of \$7917

Ottawa Iraq veteran awarded 60% service connection for PTSD 8/07 – 12/08 for a total of \$15,557

Marseilles Vietnam veteran awarded 100% service connection for prostrate cancer 10/07 – 12/08 for a total of \$34,905

TOTAL VA BENEFITS	\$115,891
SS BENEFITS	0
TOTAL for June	\$115,891
TOTAL year to date	\$997,704

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of July 23, 2008.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain and Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Delegates and alternates discussed the shortage of health service personnel at our LaSalle Veterans' Home which prompted the use of paper plates because there were not enough employees to do the dishes. Superintendent Rue stated that the \$6 plus millions for hiring needed employees at our LaSalle Veterans' Home has been passed by the Illinois House and Senate and the Governor has left it in this year's budget. He encouraged all individuals to write or call Governor Blagojevich, their Illinois Senator and state of Illinois Representative asking that those funds be released and our LaSalle Veterans' Home be authorized the right to hire all employees needed.

New Business: Delegates and alternates received a copy of our approved 2009 budget recommendations. The Veterans Assistance Commission budget recommendations were also signed by the LaSalle County Board Committee and the Veterans Assistance Commission committee members. Superintendent Rue will next have to present it to the LaSalle County Board Finance and Fee and Salary Committees.

The service officer's report for June of 2008 was presented showing that our veterans will receive \$997,704 in VA and or Social Security benefits. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegates and alternates were reminded that our LaSalle Veterans' Home would be hosting an Employee Open House on July 26, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. They were asked to get the word out so that those seeking employment at the Home could make application that day.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

JULY 2008
SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Iraq veteran awarded 40% service connected 9/07 – 12/08 TOTAL \$8192 OTTAWA

Iraq veteran awarded 10% service connected 8/07 – 12/08 TOTAL \$1989 PERU

Vietnam veteran awarded Non-service connected pension 8/07 – 12/08 TOTAL \$15,827
SENECA

Vietnam veteran awarded S.M.C. 12/07 – 12/08 TOTAL \$1183 MARSEILLES

Vietnam veteran awarded 10% service connected 1/08 – 12/08 TOTAL \$1404
WENONA

Vietnam veteran added dependent to service connected claim 12/06 – 12/08 TOTAL
\$18,420 SANDWICH

Iraq veteran awarded 100% service connected with four dependents 12/06 – 12/08
TOTAL \$105,538 OTTAWA

TOTAL VA BENEFITS	\$152,253
SOCIAL SECURITY	0
TOTAL FOR JULY	\$152,253
TOTAL Year to date	\$1,149,957

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of August 27, 2008

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented, being no additions or corrections to those minutes Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue stated that Representative Mautino contacted him stating the LaSalle Veterans' Home needs to find three licensed practical nurses so they can start the hiring at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Delegate Mason stated that all the rooms in the new additions are completely furnished.

New Business: The service officer's report was read. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bernard Smith that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue stated that he would be appearing before the LaSalle County Fee and Salary Committee on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 with Chairman Nanowski. He further stated that he will be meeting with the LaSalle County Finance Committee on September 23, 2008.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Doug Grieves that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman Jim Nanowski

**AUGUST 2008
SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Iraq veteran awarded I.U.E. 3/06 – 12/08 P.T.S.D. TOTAL
\$53,358 LASALLE

Iraq veteran awarded 100% service connected for P.T.S.D. 8/05 –
12/08 TOTAL \$100,041.50 MARSEILLES

WWII veteran awarded Aid and Attendance 8/08 – 12/08 TOTAL
\$4110 PERU

Total VA Benefits for August **\$157,509.50**
SOCIAL SECURITY 0
TOTAL benefits year to date **\$1,307,466.50**

Minutes of the September 24, 2008 LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Once again a discussion ensued pertaining to the hiring of the staff at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Delegates Bernard Smith and George Mason discussed the September 13, 2008 Illinois Veterans' Advisory Council meeting that took place at the Illinois Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. They stated that Senator Dahl was going to be contacting Central Management Services in Springfield pertaining to the length of time it takes to authorize the hiring of needed staff at the LaSalle Veterans' Home. They also stated that Edith Duckworth, Director of Nursing at the LaSalle Veterans' Home stated that there are 96 residents currently at the home. The reason that they have not been able to fill the original 118 beds is due to the lack of staff to provide health services for those additional 10 beds.

Mr. Ray Schneider, Business Administrator stated that it is the States intent to have the new Alzheimer section open by December 2008. This will be the first of three sections opening to take place as staff has been hired and trained for the openings.

New Business: Service Officers' Report was read all questions pertaining to the Service Officers' Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius seconded by George Mason that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Lawrence Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Lawrence Graham, DAV 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken [unclear] Post 5506 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post [unclear]

Yes
SOR

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of
October 22, 2008

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Nanowski and Sgt. at Arms Ken Hausken excused. Vice-Chairman Mason and Chaplain Grieves were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Vice-Chairman Mason stated that the minutes were stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue told all the delegates and alternates present that our November annual meeting would be held November 19, 2008 in accordance to our bylaws. Each veterans post should present the names, addresses and phone numbers of their 2009 delegates and alternates. As per our bylaws a letter will be sent to each delegate and alternate announcing our annual meeting which will entail the election of our 2009 VAC officers and our superintendent.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Lawrence Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Lawrence Graham, DAV Post 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549.

Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates again discussed our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois after reading the NEWS TRIBUNE November 11, 2008 article in which the State of Illinois stated that there were no new hires at the home due to a freeze in hiring state personnel. Superintendent Rue was pleased to see that the NEWS TRIBUNE reporter finally got the State of Illinois to admit the truth as to why there are approximately 105 open beds at the LaSalle Veterans' Home.

NEW BUSINESS: Delegates and alternates were given additional handouts for their information. One pertained to our LaSalle Veterans' Home and the other announced the name of the new Illinois Department of Employment Security Veterans Representative in Ottawa, Illinois.

Chairman Nanowski opened the election of our LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission officers for fiscal year 2009 and the election of the superintendent of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. They are as follows:

1. Chairman – George Mason
2. Vice-Chairman – Jim Nanowski
3. Chaplin – Doug Grieve
4. Sgt. at Arms – Ken Hausken
5. Superintendent – Martin J. Rue

A motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that a unanimous vote be cast for all the newly elected officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue congratulated all the newly elected officers and was grateful for their eager participation for the offices they sought.

Superintendent Rue reminded everyone that there will not be a meeting of our commission during the month of December 2008. Our next meeting will be held on January 28, 2009. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.

A motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Jerry Fuchs that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov. 19 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
James Pauls	Legion 570	Delegate	815-445-9404
Wick Hopkins	Am Legion 426	Delegate	274-2204
Bernard [unclear]	Am Legion 235	Delegate	815-795-2768
Howard Gast	Am. Legion 549	P. Commander	815-246-9688
Ken Hawker	VFW 5506	DC	815-795-2466
Robert [unclear]	VFW 5506	Alt. Delegate	815-795-4068
Douglas Griener	Legion Post 260	Delegate	712 375 5569
Jim [unclear]	Legion Post 33	Del	815-434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

- 1) Chairman - George Mason
 - 2) Vice Chairman - Jim Nowowski
 - 3) Chaplain - Doug Greaves
 - 4) Sgt. at Arms - Ken Harker
- Bened Smith - Nick Makowski
only unanimous vote
passed.

Sup. Officer: Martin F. ...
passed.
George Mason - George ...

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: 10/22/08

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Bernie Smith	A.L. Post 235	Delegate	815-795-2768
JERRY TORAHAM	DAV 86 Morris	Delegate	815-431-0106
Nick Nekrasina	AM Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Douglas Griever	Tonica Legion 260	Delegate	712-375-5569
Howard Hart	Post 549	P. Commander	815-246-9689

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Sept 24/98

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Bernard [unclear]	American Legion 235	"	815 795-2768
LARRY FRAHAM	DAV 84	Delegate	815-431-0106
Huck Makrasinos	Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Howard Gast	Post 549	P. Commander	815-246-9689
Jim Nemola	Post 33	Del	815-434-4633
Douglas Grieve	Post 260	Del	712 375 5569
Ken Hawke	VFW 5506	Del	815-795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE WORK DURING THE YEAR 1900

NO. 1	1500	100	1500
NO. 2	1500	100	1500
NO. 3	1500	100	1500
NO. 4	1500	100	1500
NO. 5	1500	100	1500
NO. 6	1500	100	1500
NO. 7	1500	100	1500
NO. 8	1500	100	1500
NO. 9	1500	100	1500
NO. 10	1500	100	1500
NO. 11	1500	100	1500
NO. 12	1500	100	1500
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NO. 14	1500	100	1500
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NO. 19	1500	100	1500
NO. 20	1500	100	1500

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Superintendent
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LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug. 27, 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Lawrence V. Graham	DAV 86	Delegate	431-0106
LANCE C SIRE	Post 235	ACT	795-4540
Bernie Smith	Post 235	Delegate	795-2768
George Mason	Post 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Hick Nekrasius	Post 426	Delegate	224-2204
Douglas Griere	Post 260	Delegate	712 379 5569
Ken Hank	UPV 5506	DR	795-2466
Jim Honouli	Post 33 Ottawa	Del	434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
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119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 23/08

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	American Legion 4235	Delegate	815 795 2768
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Larry Sullivan	DAV 86	Delegate	815-431-0106
Nick Klesnoski	Am Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Jim Nemala	Legion Post 33	Det	434-4633
Howard Gast	Post 549	P. Commander	246-9689

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 25 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	American Legion #235	Delegate	815 795 2768
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
James Smith	Legion #570	Delegate	815-495-9404
Douglas Griever	Post 260 Tonica	Delgate	712 375 5569
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	Del	815-795-2466
Jim Novak	Post 33	Del	815-434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 28 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<i>Lance Chiu</i>	<i>235</i>	<i>Alt</i>	<i>815-795-4540</i>
<i>Bernal Smith</i>	<i>235</i>	<i>Delegat</i>	<i>815-795-2768</i>
<i>Wang Graham</i>	<i>#86 DAV</i>	<i>Delegat</i>	<i>815-431-0106</i>
<i>George Mason</i>			
<i>Mike Aleksinski</i>	<i>426 Legion</i>	<i>Delegat</i>	<i>224-2204</i>
<i>Howard Gast</i>	<i>Post 549</i>	<i>Post Comm.</i>	<i>815-246-9689</i>
<i>Doug Griener</i>	<i>Post 260</i>	<i>Delegat</i>	<i>712 375 5569</i>
<i>Jim Nensky</i>	<i>Post 33</i>	<i>Del</i>	<i>434-4633</i>

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 23, 2008

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Leoye Nelson	Post 2470 V.F.W.		433-0586
Berbie Smith	" 235 A.L.	Delegate	795-2768
Lawrence Graham	Dev 56	Delegate	431-0104
Jim Mansueti	Post 33 Legion	Del	434-4633
Howard Gast	Post 549	P. Commander	815-246-9689
Mike Nekrosius	Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Doug Grieco	Tonica 260	Del.	712 375 5569
Ken Haushon	VFW 5306	Del	795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 28/08

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard Smith	Marxville 235 A.L.	Delegte	815 795 2768
JERRY FUCHS	Leland Post 570 A.L.	Deleg.	815-495-9464
George Mason	Ottawa V.F.W 2470	Vice Chair	815-433-0586
Larry Terhoun	Moree's P.M.V. Chapter 56	Delegte	815 431-0106
Nick Nekrosius	Amosquin 426	Delegte	815-224-2204
Ken Hunker	VFW 5506	DEL	815-795-2466
Douglas Griere	Post 260	Del	212 375 5569
Howard Gast	Post 549	A. Comm.	815-244-9689

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Jan 28, 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W Post 2470	Delegato	1-815-433-0586
Bernard M. Smith	A.L. Post 235	Delegato	815 795 2768
Hick Nekrosius	A.P. 426	Delegato	224-2204
Larry Terhman	DAV 86	Delegato	431 0106
Jim Monahan	Post 33	Del	434-4633
Howard Gast	POST 549	Del	1-815-246-9689
Ken Harker	VFW 5506	Del	815-795-2466
ROBERT RILEY	VFW 5506	Del.	815 795 4668

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DATE: 1/15/50
TO: SAC, NEW YORK
FROM: SAC, PHOENIX

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[The body of the memorandum contains several paragraphs of text that are extremely faint and illegible due to the quality of the scan. The text appears to be a standard memorandum format with a subject line and several lines of descriptive text.]

APPROVED: [Illegible Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Feb 25, 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	VFW Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Nick Nekrosing	Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Bernard M. Smith	Legion 235	Delegat	815-795-2768
Larry Terahon	DAV 86	Delegate	431-0106
Howard Hast	POST 549	Part Comm.	815-246-9689
Douglas Grievic	POST 260	Del.	712-375-5569
KEN HAUSKEN	POST 5506	DB2	815-795-2466
BOB RILEY	POST 5506	ALTERNATE	815-795-4068

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: March 25/09

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Nick Hekrosing	Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
Bernad M. Smith	Marseilles Legion 235	A	815-795-2768
George Mason	Ottawa VFW Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Robert J. Piley	MARSEILLES VFW 5506	ALTERNATE	795-4068
Larry Shalhan	DAV 86 MORRIS	Delegate	4310106
Ken Hank	VFW 5506	Del	795-2466
Douglas McInerney	Post 260 Tonica	Del	712 375 5569
Howard Gast	Post 549 Earlville	P. Com.	815-246-9689
Jim Naulis	Post 33 OTTAWA		815-434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: April 22, 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	VFW Post 2470	Delegate	1-815-433-0586
Bernard M. Smith	AH #235	"	1815-795-2768
Larry Tompkins	DAV #86	"	1815 220 0045
Jim Nonnie	Post 33	" "	815-434-4633
Doug Grieve	Post 260	Del	712 375 5569
Ken Hawker	VFW 5506	DBL	795-2466
ROBERT RILEY	VFW 5506	ALT.	795-4068
Howard Gast	Post 549	Del.	815-246-9689
Nick Hekroser	Legion 426	Del	224-2204

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350
..

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: May 27/09

NAME VETERANS POST TITLE PHONE

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
<i>Nick Nekrosius</i>	<i>Legion 426</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>224-2204</i>
<i>George Mason</i>	<i>V.F.W. Post 2470</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>433-0586</i>
<i>Jim Monahan</i>	<i>Post 33 Legion</i>	<i>Del</i>	<i>434-4633</i>

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [illegible]

10/15/2010

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COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: June 24 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	1-815-433-0586
Larry Graham	DAV 68	delegate	1-815-220-0045
Bernard Smith	A.L. 235	"	18157952768
Douglas Grieve	Post 260	Delegate	712 325 5569
Joe Novak	Post 33	Del	815-434-4633

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: July 22, 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
LARRY GIBSON	NAV 86	Delegate	815 220 0045
LANCE SIREN	POST 235	ALT. DEL	815 795 4540
NICK MEBREIN	Post 426	Del	224-2204
Douglas Grieve	Post 260	Del	712 375 5569
George Mason	Post 2470	Delegate	815-433-0586
Ken Hauke	VFW Post 5506	DEL	815-795-2466

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Aug 26 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Wick Makrosian	Legion 426	Del	4-2204
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegato	433-0586
John Konlis	Legion Post 33	Del	434-4633
Doug Griere	Tonica Post 260	Del	712 375 5969
Ken Hauke	VFW 5506	Del	795 2466
Bernard Smith	AL #235	DEL	795-2768
Jimmy Lucas	AL #570	Del	495-9404

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815)433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room A103
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: Nov. 18, 2009

NAME	VETERANS POST	TITLE	PHONE
Bernard M. Smith	Al. Post 235	Delegate	795-2768
Nick Makrosius	Am Legion 426	Delegate	224-2204
George Mason	V.F.W. Post 2470	Delegate	433-0586
Ken Hauke	VFW POST 5506	Del	795-2466
Douglas McHive	Tonica Post 260	Del	712 375 5569

TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND SERVICE TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

Annual Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of November 18, 2009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice Chairman excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented, being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Our commission held its annual election for commission officers for the 2010 fiscal year. Delegates nominated commission personnel for the office of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Chaplain, and Sgt. at Arms. Those delegates present elected the following officers for our VAC fiscal year 2010.

1. Chairman – Jim Nanowski
2. Vice-Chairman – George Mason
3. Chaplain – Doug Grieve
4. Sgt. at Arms – Ken Hausken

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bernard Smith that a unanimous vote be cast for the four above mentioned officers. Motion passed unanimously. All officers were thanked for their willingness to serve our veteran community.

Superintendent Rue stated he would be sending out a copy of our VAC annual report for fiscal year 2009.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Doug Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

January 2010

Iraq veteran, Peru awarded 20% 9/08-12/10 Total \$6804

Iraq veteran, west end awarded 40% 3/09-12/10 Total \$11,902

VN veteran, Marseilles awarded VA Pension 6/09-12/10 Total \$17,739

WWII widow, Streator awarded burial benefits \$600

WWII, Ottawa awarded 100% 5/08 -12/10 \$87,336

VN veteran, Utica awarded 10% 9/08-12/10 \$3444

Iraq veteran, west end awarded 20% 6/09 – 12/10 Total \$4374

Iraq veteran, west end, awarded 70% 10/08 – 12/10 TOTAL \$46,664

WWII widow, Mendota awarded Aid and Attendance 2/09- 12/10 \$24,288

Iraq veteran, Oglesby awarded 20% 2/09-12/10 Total \$5589

TOTAL VA BENEFITS January 2010 \$208,740.00

TOTAL SOC. SEC. 0

TOTAL YEAR TO DATE \$208,740.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of September 23, 2009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue told the delegates and alternates that the LaSalle County VAC budget was presented to the LaSalle County Finance Committee for fiscal year 2010.

Jim Nanowski introduced the American Legion Second Division VAC Liaison Committee Chairman Ed Stash from the Ottawa American Legion Post 33. Mr. Stash discussed some of the programs that the American Legion is involved in involving veterans.

The Service Officers' report was presented. As of September 2009 the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission, through federal financial programs, has monetary award benefits for veterans they have represented in the amount of \$1,182,811.00. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. Being no additions or corrections to the service officers' report, a motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the service officers' report is accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented numerous handouts pertaining to veteran issues, which were discussed by those present.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Douglas Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernie Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; guest Ed Stash, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of
August 26, 2009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

The minutes of the previous meeting was presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was presented. Being no additions or corrections to that report and all questions answered pertaining to the report, Nick Nekrosius made a motion and it was seconded by Jim Nanowski, that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue presented to all the delegates and alternates a signed copy of the Veterans Assistance Commission's 2010 Budget Recommendation Form, which the LaSalle County Board Veterans Assistance Commission Committee passed on to the Finance Committee.

Motion by Bernard Smith and seconded by George Mason that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570 and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2009

West End, Vietnam veteran awarded a 30% service connected disability with one dependent 7/08 thru 12/09 total \$7578

Vietnam veteran, Tonica awarded VA Pension 10/08 thru 12/09 total \$13,965

World War II widow, Ottawa awarded Aid and Attendance 2/08 thru 12/09 total \$23,708

Vietnam veteran, Earlville was awarded a service connected disability rating of 20% 2/08 thru 2/09 total \$9397

World War II widow, Ottawa awarded burial benefits in the amount of \$600

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR SEPTEMBER	\$55,248
SOCIAL SECURITY	0
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$1,182,811

Minutes of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission meeting of July 22, 2009.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing the vice-chairman excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented, being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason said the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Mason reported on the LaSalle Veterans' Home. The employee numbers are as follows:

1. LPNs – 7.5 full-time; vacant – 3 full-time and 1 part-time
2. RNs - 20 full-time; vacant – 7 full-time and 2 part-time
3. VNAC – 60 full-time; vacant – 10 full-time

There are currently 132 residents with 8 vacant beds put on hold until they can determine if the beds available are available on the skilled care side or lock-down ward. There are currently 60 vacant beds on the eastside of the home, but those cannot be filled until the needed healthcare staff can be hired to provide the needed skilled care for these applicants. The LaSalle Veterans' Home is in the process of hiring additional staff needed for its operations.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was presented. As of July 2009 the total benefits received by our veterans was \$1,066,930. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report was answered. A motion was made by Jim Nanowski and seconded by Douglas Grieve that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue and those delegates and alternates present reviewed the 2010 Budget Recommendation Form that we received in July of 2009. Each line item was reviewed by those present and their budget requests were written per line item. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Lance Sires that the budget requests by the commission be passed as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Ken Hausken that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBER PRESENT: Delegates Larry Graham, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Alternate Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

AUGUST 2009

WWII widow, Ottawa awarded burial benefits \$300

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles awarded 100% service connected for prostate cancer 12/08 through 12/09 total \$37,947

Vietnam veteran, Earlville awarded 20% service connected for diabetes 3/09 through 12/09 total \$2430

Vietnam veteran, Earlville awarded 30% - 1/09; 100% 3/09 – 4/09; and 70% 3/09 – 12/09 TOTAL \$15,922

Vietnam veteran widow, Ottawa awarded \$2000 burial benefit

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 20% service connected for diabetes and SMC 6/09 through 12/09 total \$2,034

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR AUGUST	\$60,633.00
SOCIAL SECURITY	0
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$1,127,563.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 24, 1009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. As of June 2009 our veterans have received \$820,227 in either VA or Social Security monetary awards. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Jim Nanowski and seconded by Lawrence Graham that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue shared with all delegates and alternates present the text pertaining to Vietnam, which was presented by Bill Neal at the 2009 Delta Company 2/8 1st Air Cav. Banquet. This covers the fax pertaining to the Vietnam War 1964-1972 and exposes many of the myths pertaining to that war. He also shared some personal remarks that he has made during veteran ceremonies pertaining to the Vietnam War. Share this with all of your friends or interested persons who wish to know the truth pertaining to Vietnam veterans.

A motion was made by Bernard Smith and seconded by Douglas Grieve that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33 and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

**Service Officer's Report
July 2009**

**VN awarded 100% service connected compensation 2/09
through 12/09 total \$32,109**

**West end, WWII, awarded aid and attendance 3/09 through
12/09 total \$19,490**

**Iraq, west end, awarded 60% from 9/95 through 12/09
\$193,104**

Korean, widow, Ottawa awarded burial benefits \$2000

Total VA Benefits for July 2009	\$246,703.00
Social Security for July 2009	0.00
Total benefits year to date	\$1,066,930.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes from May 27, 2009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing the Chaplain and Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Our LaSalle Veterans' Home was again discussed. Chairman Mason stated that he met with Norm Gross on May 27, 2009 and Director Gross stated the following:

1. Eight new nurses will start working the first week of June.
2. Thirty V-Necks (certified nurses aids) are hired and working now.
3. 43 patients on short list, might add 6 more; 82 patients on long list; 107 patients now in veterans' home
4. All of the west wing has been patched and painted
5. Home is going to add more staff, housekeeping, etc.
6. Now interviewing cooks and social workers, also one driver for the van

Mr. Gross told Supt. Rue that they will be interviewing two veteran applicants for admission a week starting the latter part of June. He further stated that possibly by August or September the state will be interviewing more potential employees so they will have the staff needed to fill the 198 beds which are located at our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

New Business: The service officer's report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. A motion was made by Jim Nanowski and seconded by Nick Nekrosius that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jim Nanowski that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

**Service Officer's Report
June 2009**

Vietnam widow, Ottawa awarded DIC 10/08 through 12/09 total \$31,032.00

Korean, Mendota awarded a waiver for an overpayment of \$17,986

Vietnam, West End, awarded 50% service connected disabled 3/08 through 12/09 total \$19,761

Iraq, Streator awarded Social Security Disability 8/06 through 12/09 total \$38,746.00

Iraq, Marseilles awarded an earlier onset date with 100% backpay total \$22,800

Total VA Benefits for June 2009	\$130,325.00
Soc. Security for June 2009	\$38,746.00
Total Benefits year to date	\$820,227.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 22, 2009

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Old Business: Superintendent Rue told all present that approximately 70 certified nurses' aids were interviewed for hire at the LaSalle Veterans Home. There will be six or seven additional personnel interviewed in the next couple of weeks. From that approximately 39 employees will be hired. Hopefully, by July 1, all employees needed to bring in approximately 30 additional patients will be on board. Our home cannot hire any personnel until Governor Quinn gives the OK for those individuals to be hired. I suspect that there will be an additional 25 to 30 job openings announced in August. In order to fill all 198 beds, the State of Illinois will have to hire approximately 89 employees.

New Business: The service officers' report was presented. All questions pertaining to the service officers' report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jim Nanowski that the service officers' report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBER PRESENT: Delegates Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, DAV #86; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Nick Nekrosius; American Legion Post 426; Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

Service Officer's Report May 2009

Iraq veteran, west end awarded back pay for dependent total to 12/09 \$2454

widow, Mendota awarded veterans last service connected compensation check in the amount of \$2669.00

WWII, LaSalle, awarded Aid and Attendance from 11/08 thru 12/09 total \$22,926.00

Vietnam, Marseilles, added dependent to service connected compensation claim total \$3750

widow, Ottawa, awarded DIC and burial benefits total thru 12/09 \$20,212.

WWII, Ottawa awarded 80% service connected disability total thru 12/09 \$25,686.00

Iraq, Oglesby, awarded 20% from 2/05 thru 12/09 \$14,580

Vietnam, West End, awarded increase from 40% to 50% total \$4580

Total VA Benefits for May 2009	\$96,857.00
SS Benefit for May 2009	0
Total Benefits year to date	\$689,902.00

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 25, 2009.

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and Alternates asked questions of Superintendent Rue pertaining to the LaSalle Veterans' Home. Superintendent Rue handed out numerous articles covering said topic announcing that to date there were no additional hires and only 99 residents in the home. He did state that Governor Quinn did visit the LaSalle Veterans' Home to announce he had authorized the hiring of staff needed in order to fill the 200 bed facility. He hopes to have the staff on board by July 1, 2009. Superintendent Rue also announced that the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs had received the \$8.3 million from the federal government for the completion of construction of the 80 additional beds. This money will go to the Illinois General Assembly's General Fund not the LaSalle Veterans' Home.

NEW BUSINESS: The service officer's report was presented all questions pertaining to the service officer's report were answered. Motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bernard Smith that the service officer's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Larry Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernard Smith, American Legion 235; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 2470 and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

Service Officer's Report April 2009

Iraq veteran, west end awarded 70% service connected 5/06 through 12/09
total \$39,027.00

Vietnam veteran, west end, awarded 20% service connected for diabetes
4/08 through 12/09 total \$4830.00

Iraq veteran, Ottawa awarded 10% service connected 7/08 through 12/09
total \$2106.00

Vietnam veterans spouse, Marseilles awarded burial benefits and veterans
last compensation check total \$4669.00

Vietnam veteran, Streater awarded VA pension 2/07 through 12/09 total
\$3363.00

Vietnam veteran, West end, awarded 20% service connected compensation
3/05 through 12/09 total \$13,004.00

Vietnam veteran, LaSalle, awarded 100% service connected compensation
8/08 through 12/09 \$44,857.00

Total VA Benefits for 4/09	\$111,856
Social Security	0
Total Benefits year to date	\$593,045

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 25, 2009.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice Chairman excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Superintendent Rue presented to the delegates and alternates his letter dated February 23, 2009 which was sent to Governor Patrick Quinn asking him to please hire the staff at the LaSalle Veterans' Home so all 200 beds could be opened. He also presented newspaper articles from other Illinois valley residents who were also supporting the complete staffing for our LaSalle Veterans' Home. All were encouraged to contact their state of Illinois representatives, senators, and governor pertaining to the dire needs of our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

NEW BUSINESS: Everyone received our state and federal legislators' addresses and phone numbers. They were encouraged to share this list with their friends.

The Service Officers' Report was presented. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers' Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Bernard Smith that the Service Officers' Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Bernard Smith announced that the Marseilles American Legion Post will be hosting a Service Officers' Seminar presented by Wayne Macejak of the American Legion on April 18, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. All interested are encouraged to come.

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Larry Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506, Alternate Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 25, 2009.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Vice Chairman excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

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A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Larry Graham that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506, Alternate Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

**SERVICE OFFICERS' REPORT
MARCH 2009**

Vietnam, Streator, waiver of overpayment \$23,806

Vietnam, Ottawa VA Pension 6/08 through 12/09 total \$18,346

Widow, WWII, Peru awarded Aid and Attendance 8/06 through 12/09 total \$20,352

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 80% service connected 5/08 through 12/09 \$30,260.00

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 70% 9/06 through 12/09 total \$77,785.00

TOTAL VA BENEFITS FOR 3/09	\$170,551
SOCIAL SECURITY	0
TOTAL BENEFITS TO DATE	\$481,189

News Tribune March 18, 2009

Quinn to announce funding for vets home expansion

Governor to visit La Salle on Thursday

By Tom Collins
NewsTribune Senior Reporter



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stories at
www.newstrib.com

Gov. Pat Quinn will announce today full funding of the 80-bed expansion at the Illinois Veterans Home at La Salle, a state lawmaker confirmed.

Quinn also is expected to personally appear Thursday at the La Salle facility to make a formal announcement. Times are pending.

State Rep. Frank Mautino (D-Spring Valley) said Quinn addressed a meeting of House and Senate Democrats Tuesday evening and previewed his budget address scheduled today.

Mautino described Quinn's budget as "pretty bleak," but confirmed that it includes funding for the 80 beds plus the opening of another 200 beds in Chicago.

"I've been working on this for 13 years and was delighted we got it built. It's time to get it open," Mautino said. "I'm thankful that Quinn has made this a top priority and put this item in the budget — and I believe it's one of the few new items in the budget."

The announcement is not

completely unexpected. Quinn had previously confirmed that veterans' causes would be a key priority in his administration. He had also, as lieutenant governor, championed legislation such as the Illinois Military Family Relief Act.

Marty Rue, superintendent of the La Salle County Veterans Assistance Commission, welcomed the news and estimated 89 new jobs would be created.

Rue pointed out that the jobs, which pay well and include benefits, come at a time when unemployment in La Salle County is 11 percent.

"This should be an economic boost to the Illinois Valley," he said. "Anybody looking for a job in health services should get over there and apply."

As for the veterans who've waited years for the beds to open, Rue said the funding comes not a moment too soon.

See 'Veterans' Page A2

News Tribune
March 18, 2009
Veterans

Continued from Page One

"We have many veterans who've had to go to Quincy and other places because there were no beds here," he said. "To me it's pathetic. We're centrally located in La Salle, it's a beautiful facility and the employees are great."

March 19, 2009
JOURNAL STAR, PEORIA, ILL.

LaSalle vet funding in budget

Expansion of veterans
home would fill more
beds and create jobs

BY ADRIANA COLINDRES
OF GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

SPRINGFIELD — The long-completed 80-bed expansion of the LaSalle Veterans' Home finally would open and start serving new residents under Gov. Pat Quinn's state budget plan.

"We're very excited here in the Illinois Valley because it's going to be an economic boost for our community," said Martin Rue, superintendent of the Veterans Assistance Commission in LaSalle County.

"In order to fill those beds, they probably will have to hire 89 employees because it's a skilled-care facility," Rue said. "So it's not only providing the promise to the veterans ... but it's also an economic boost for those unemployed in our community."

The veterans home has about 100 vacant beds and a waiting list of at least 100, Rue said. But the beds probably won't all get filled for another year or so because it takes time to hire and train staff, he said.

Rue wrote to Quinn last month and urged him to authorize the release of \$9.2 million that was budgeted last year to the Department of Veterans Affairs to hire extra staff at the veterans home. He said grassroots efforts, including letters sent to lawmakers all over the state, kept the issue on the front burner.

"I asked him to please fulfill your obligation," Rue said Wednesday after Quinn delivered his budget address in the State Capitol. "As a veterans' advocate, you should do this."

"The funding has been there. We just haven't been able to get it staffed," said state Sen. Gary Dahl, R-Granville, who thinks the Blagojevich administration didn't permit hiring additional employees at the facility.

State Rep. Frank Mautino, D-Spring Valley, said: "With this staffing, we can bring on another 80 to 100 veterans who've been waiting for years to get into this facility. It's great news in a year of very, very bad budget news."

Quinn is scheduled to visit the LaSalle Veterans Home at 3:15 p.m. Thursday to talk about his plans for the facility.

Adriana Colindres can be reached at
(217)782-6292 or adriana.colindres@sj-r.com

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815) 433-1761

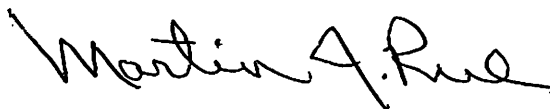
LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 103A
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

March 23, 2009
PRESS RELEASE

According to Governor Patrick Quinn, our LaSalle Veterans' Home battle has come to an end with his release of the funds appropriated by the General Assembly to hire all 90 health care employees needed to completely fill our 200 bed skilled care facility. The explosive rhetoric has ceased and our pens can be locked up until our next battle. This is a great day for all of you veterans in the state of Illinois and all our citizens in our Illinois Valley.

Thank you Governor Quinn for authorizing our LaSalle Veterans' Home to hire all 90 needed employees so our 200 skilled care beds can be filled and releasing the appropriated budgeted \$9.2 million dollars to pay all operating costs. Thank you Senator Dahl, Representative Mautino and all other area General Assembly members that made sure that the \$9.2 million was kept in the state of Illinois fiscal year budget so that this 15 year project could be completed. A special thank you must go out to all our modes of media and special interest groups that kept this issue on the front burners. Without the support from state and local modes of media, elected officials, business leaders, unions, special interest groups, grass roots people and veterans, we would never had been able to accomplish this goal. Once again, thanks to all of you for your support and hard work.

Sincerely yours,



Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

News Tribune
**Durbin: La Salle
veterans home in
line for \$8 million**

The Illinois Veterans Home at La Salle is due to receive \$8,308,000 "for construction," according to a press release from U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.).

The money is part of \$78.8 million allocated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for Veterans Health Administration services throughout Illinois.

March 24, 2009

America's Wars

American Revolution (1775-1783)

Total U.S. Servicemembers	217,000
Battle Deaths	4,435
Non-mortal Woundings	6,188

War of 1812 (1812-1815)

Total U.S. Servicemembers	286,730
Battle Deaths	2,260
Non-mortal Woundings	4,505

Indian Wars (approx. 1817-1898)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (VA estimate)	106,000
Battle Deaths (VA estimate)	1,000

Mexican War (1846-1848)

Total U.S. Servicemembers	78,718
Battle Deaths	1,733
Other Deaths (In Theater)	11,550
Non-mortal Woundings	4,152

Civil War (1861-1865)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Union)	2,213,363
Battle Deaths (Union)	140,414
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Union)	224,097
Non-mortal Woundings (Union)	281,881
Total Servicemembers (Conf.) ²	1,050,000
Battle Deaths (Confederate) ³	74,524
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Confederate) ^{3,4}	59,297
Non-mortal Woundings (Confederate)	Unknown

Spanish-American War (1898-1902)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	306,760
Battle Deaths	385
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	2,061
Non-mortal Woundings	1,662

World War I (1917-1918)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	4,734,991
Battle Deaths	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings	204,002
Living Veterans	1

World War II (1941-1945)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	16,112,566
Battle Deaths	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings	671,846
Living Veterans ⁵	2,306,000

Korean War (1950-1953)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	5,720,000
Battle Deaths	33,739
Other Deaths (In Theater)	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	17,672
Non-mortal Woundings	103,284
Living Veterans	2,307,000

American Revolution

Last Veteran, Daniel F. Bakeman, died 4/5/1869, age 109
 Last Widow, Catherine S. Damon, died 11/11/06, age 92
 Last Dependent, Phoebe M. Palmeter, died 4/25/11, age 90

War of 1812

Last Veteran, Hiram Cronk, died 5/13/05, age 105
 Last Widow, Carolina King, died 6/28/36, age unknown
 Last Dependent, Esther A.H. Morgan, died 3/12/46, age 89

Indian Wars

Last Veteran, Fredrak Fraske, died 6/18/73, age 101

Mexican War

Last Veteran, Owen Thomas Edgar, died 9/3/29, age 98
 Last Widow, Lena James Theobald, died 6/20/63, age 89
 Last Dependent, Jesse G. Bivens, died 11/1/62, age 94

Civil War

Last Union Veteran, Albert Woolson, died 8/2/56, age 109
 Last Confederate Veteran, John Salling, died 3/16/58, age 112
 Last Union Widow, Gertrude Janeway, died 1/17/2003, age 93

Spanish-American War

Last veteran, Nathan E. Cook, died 9/10/92, age 106

VA estimates the number of living World War II U.S. veterans will be:*

9/30/2008	2,306,000
9/30/2009	2,024,000
9/30/2010	1,761,000
9/30/2011	1,517,000
9/30/2012	1,294,000
9/30/2013	1,092,000
9/30/2014	911,000
9/30/2015	750,000
9/30/2016	611,000
9/30/2017	490,000
9/30/2018	388,000
9/30/2019	303,000
9/30/2020	233,000
9/30/2021	176,000
9/30/2022	131,000
9/30/2023	96,000

* Estimates have changed based on new population projections.

Vietnam War (1964-1975)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide) ⁶	8,744,000
Deployed to Southeast Asia ⁷	3,403,000
Battle Deaths ⁸	47,434
Other Deaths (In Theater)	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater) ⁹	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings ⁹	153,303
Living Veterans ^{9,10}	7,125,000

Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	2,322,000
Deployed to Gulf	694,550
Battle Deaths	147
Other Deaths (In Theater)	285
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	1,590
Non-mortal Woundings	467
Living Veterans ^{9,10}	2,269,000

America's Wars Total (1775 -1991)

U.S. Military Service during Wartime	41,891,368
Battle Deaths	651,030
Other Deaths (In Theater)	308,800
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	230,279
Non-mortal Woundings	1,431,290
Living War Veterans	17,456,000
Living Veterans (Periods of War & Peace)	23,442,000

Global War on Terror (Oct 2001 -)

The Global War on Terror (GWOT), including Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), are ongoing conflicts. For the most current GWOT statistics, visit the following Department of Defense Website: <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASU/AFATN/gwot-component.pdf>

NOTES:

1. Exact number is unknown. Posted figure is the median of estimated range from 184,000 - 250,000.
2. Exact number is unknown. Posted figure is median of estimated range from 500,000 - 1,500,000.
3. Death figures are based on incomplete returns.
4. Does not include 26,000 to 31,000 who died in Union prisons.
5. Estimate based upon new population projection methodology.
6. Covers the period 8/5/64 - 1/27/73 (date of cease fire).
7. Department of Defense estimate.
8. Covers period 11/1/55 - 5/15/75.
9. Excludes 150,341 not requiring hospital care.
10. VA estimate, as of 5/08, does not include those still on active duty and may include veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Source: Department of Defense (DOD), except living veterans, which are VA estimates as of September 2008.

**U.S. Veterans and Dependents on Benefits Rolls as of
September 2008**

	Veterans	Children	Parents	Surviving Spouses
Civil War	-	2	-	-
Indian Wars	-	-	-	-
Spanish-American War	-	94	-	90
Mexican Border	-	15	-	60
World War I	-	3,169	-	4,873
World War II	274,052	14,403	117	223,895
Korean Conflict	156,842	3,170	257	60,948
Vietnam Era	1,015,151	8,842	2,932	165,376
Gulf War ¹	896,288	13,688	926	15,945
Non service-connected	315,763	18,103	2	182,236
Service-connected	2,951,587	28,016	5,385	320,979

1. For compensation and pension purposes, the Persian Gulf War period has not yet been terminated and includes veterans of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of the January 28, 2009 meeting.

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Doug Grieve excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Delegates and Alternates again discussed our LaSalle Veterans' Home. Chairman Mason stated that they moved the 20 Alzheimer patients from the old home into the new Alzheimer Unit. He further stated that those patients who are ambulatory are going to the new dining room in the new addition for their meals. Nick Nekrosius asked that Superintendent Rue write a letter to the newly appointed Governor, Patrick Quinn asking that he release the \$9.2 million to hire the staff needed to provide nursing home care for all 198 beds at our LaSalle Veterans' Home.

NEW BUSINESS: The Service Officer's Report was presented. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Jim Nanowski that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Superintendent Rue passed out a flyer from the Earlville American Legion Post Commander Michael Beer stating that their post would be holding a program honoring the 4 Chaplains who gave their lives during WWII by going down with their torpedoed ship. The program will be Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at the Earlville United Methodist Church. All are welcome to attend. Delegates and Alternates asked Howard Gast to please let them know of programs that they are planning on having at least 30 days in advance so they can bring the message to their post meetings.

Motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, Chairman VFW Post 2470; Bernard Smith, American Legion Post 235; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; and Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 5506

SERVICE OFFICERS' REPORT

February 2009

Vietnam, West End awarded 90% for diabetes and residuals, SMC, with dependents 2.07 through 12/09 \$42,663

widow, WWII, Ottawa awarded death benefit \$600

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 100% for lung cancer and prostate cancer. 11/07 through 12/09 \$70,036

Iraq, west end awarded 20% 11/06 through 12/09 \$8541

Iraq, Marseilles awarded 10% 8/05; and 30% 2/08 total with dependent wife through 12/09 \$13,455

Total VA benefits February 2009 -	\$135,295
Social Security Benefits	0
Total Benefits year to date	\$310,638

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815) 433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 103A
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Page 1 of 3

December 5, 2008

Honorable Governor Rod Blagojevich
207 State House Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Blagojevich:

As the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Act 45, Section 8 of Chapter 330 requires, I am submitting the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission's annual report pertaining to "Military Veterans Assistance Act." In our Commission we have been very active in three general service areas. They are as follows:

1. Vendor financial services to those qualified military veterans, spouse, and dependents that have no financial means to care for themselves.
2. The total viewing of individual cases of veterans to see if any other local, state, or federal agencies may have benefits they may be entitled to and assist in seeing that they properly apply for those benefits.
3. The advocacy work in behalf of our eligible clients who have been denied local, state, or federal entitlements as a result of their rights being violated or a misunderstanding of applicable statutes or regulations pertaining to the assistance a comrade is requesting.

This past year our General Assistance cases have increased substantially. Most of our veterans have been found eligible for Social Security or Department of Veterans Affairs income benefit programs. Our Commission has always followed closely the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the Illinois Department of Public Aid Regulations. Being charged by Illinois law to provide for those who have no means to provide for themselves has found us doing more advocacy work than General Assistance. This, I find rewarding because we are taking our comrades from financial deprivation under General Assistance and securing the federal entitlement program that meets their standard of need. As you know, Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, or an increase in United States Department of Veterans' Affairs compensation/pension provide far greater financial assistance than the \$160 Public Aid General Assistance allotment per month for a single veteran. The cases we represent are not considered fee generating, which in many instances leaves our veterans without legal assistance.

Page 2 of 3
December 5, 2008

Should they not be able to procure legal assistance, in many instances the federal or state statutes make it possible for us to represent them at their request. We have been very successful in those cases that we have represented. Their "Due Process Right" has been attained. This has saved our county tax dollars that would have otherwise been paid out for General Assistance. Those Veterans Assistance Commissions who provide knowledge and skills to represent veterans at Social Security Disability Hearings or Veterans Administration Hearing Boards and other administrative hearings should strive to become Nationally Accredited County Service Offices (N.A.C.V.S.). In the state of Illinois there are approximately forty County Veterans Assistance Commissions. Those Veterans Assistance Commissions have about 85% of our Illinois veterans residing in those counties. Currently we have Nationally Accredited County Veterans Service Officers working in our County Veterans Assistance Commissions. Each veteran's case that our accredited service officers would win would relieve their county from being required to provide financial assistance to that veteran. That veteran would then have the money needed to become a paying consumer, which would add dollars to the State of Illinois General Fund as a result of taxes paid on purchases.

Governor Blagojevich, our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois new additional 80 nursing care beds addition was completed around January 2008. That meant that there was no longer a reason to keep 25 of the rooms in the original home vacated for new construction purposes. All we needed was your authorization to let our LaSalle Veterans' Home management hire the needed health care staff to open those original 25 vacant beds. Each year the monies were appropriated as though our Home had a full staff of 140 employees to provide the needed health care for 118 filled beds as they had in 2000. As a result, there was no additional dollars needed to hire the staff needed to care for the 118 original beds, because we were only paying for 122 employees not the 140 employees that we annually budgeted for since 2000. Where is the money?

Fiscal year 2008 budget for our LaSalle Veterans' Home was \$9.2 million so we could also hire the additional staff needed to open the new 80 health care bed expansion. That 80 bed expansion was completed in January 2008 and still remains vacant because you will not give our LaSalle Veterans' Home management personnel authorization to hire the health care staff to service those 80 additional beds. In the CHICAGO SUN-TIMES Letter to the Editor on September 6, 2007 your Director, Ginger Ostro said that when our LaSalle Veterans' Home is "ready to open, funding will be available to meet is operating needs." Your Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Tammy Duckworth in an August 9, 2007 NEWS TRIBUNE article said, "We have approval to hire the staff. Hiring should begin this winter and be fully staffed by the spring of 2008." The year 2008 is almost over and 2009 will be here shortly. One year will have passed with our LaSalle Veterans' Home having 105 vacant health care beds, because you will not authorize the hiring of the health care staff needed to service those 105 beds. What a "Christmas present" from you to our honorably discharged Illinois veterans. You can put coal in my stocking, but you should not do it to our honorably discharged Illinois veterans. They deserve better.


Page 3 of 3
December 5, 2008

The \$9.2 million is still in the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs 2008 Fiscal Budget. Give our LaSalle Veterans' Home management personnel permission to hire all the staff they need so all 200 health care beds are filled at our LaSalle Veterans' Home in LaSalle, Illinois. We are counting on you to honor your pledge to our Illinois Valley area and our Illinois veterans. Hire the needed staff and open all of our 200 health care beds.

We have also appealed numerous denials of state or federal entitlement programs on behalf of our veterans. We have had a great success rate on those appeals. I am enclosing a sheet which will show the total amount of financial assistance rendered this fiscal year.

I will further submit a page charting the monies received by our clientele as a result of our advocacy work since 1985. If you require a more detailed report or have any questions, pertaining to our office, feel free to contact me at anytime.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin J. Rue". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "M" and "R".

Martin J. Rue, Superintendent
VAC of LaSalle County

Enclosures

COUNTY OF LA SALLE
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MARTIN J. RUE
Superintendent
(815) 433-1761

LaSalle County Courthouse
Room 103A
119 W. Madison Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

December 5, 2008

Total awards received by our veterans as a result of advocacy work performed by our office since 1985.

1984	\$60,428.00
1985	\$177,310.00
1986	\$251,293.00
1987	\$320,425.00
1988	\$410,386.00
1989	\$456,625.00
1990	\$456,625.00
1991	\$604,507.00
1992	\$827,498.00
1993	\$1,023,276.00
1994	\$1,267,139.00
1995	\$1,880,016.00
1996	\$1,229,767.00
1997	\$876,703.00
1998	\$958,554.00
1999	\$1,606,843.00
2000	\$1,481,280.00
2001	\$1,304,297.00
2002	\$2,258,292.00
2003	\$3,039,255.00
2004	\$2,250,864.00
2005	\$2,728,679.00
2006	\$3,158,593.00
2007	\$1,573,911.00
2008	\$1,307,466.50

GENERAL ASSISTANCE
December 1, 2007 – November 30, 2008

December 15, 2007	10.00	
December 30, 2007	167.29	\$177.29
January 15, 2008	0	
January 30, 2008	599.77	\$599.77
February 15, 2008	74.94	
February 28, 2008	160.00	\$234.94
March 15, 2008	0	
March 30, 2008	203.00	\$203.00
April 15, 2008	0	
April 30, 2008	1093.16	\$1093.16
May 15, 2008	640.00	
May 30, 2008	0	\$640.00
June 15, 2008	160.00	
June 30, 2008	320.00	\$480.00
July 15, 2008	544.81	
July 30, 2008	160.00	\$704.81
August 15, 2008	480.00	
August 30, 2008	0	\$480.00
September 15, 2008	459.04	
September 30, 2008	160.00	\$719.04
October 15, 2008	160.00	
October 30, 2008	320.00	\$480.00
November 15, 2008	800.00	
November 30, 2008	160.00	\$960.00
TOTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE		\$6772.01