

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of January 26, 2011

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.

Being we had no meeting in December there were no minutes to be read and approved.

Old Business: Once again the LaSalle Veterans Home was discussed noting there are still many empty beds. All were encouraged to contact their elected state representatives and the governor and request they fulfill their three year promises and hire the staff.

New Business: Delegates discussed the veteran clinic's transportation system. They stated that Hines, on a daily basis will send a medical van to the Peru Veterans Clinic and transport those veterans to Hines VA Hospital. They would then return to the clinic dropping off the veteran patients and drive back to Hines VA Hospital. They will no longer stop at Ottawa or Seneca to pick up veterans who have appointments at Hines. This is fiscally irresponsible and the director of the VA clinic should be contacted expressing the veteran's outrage.

John Duback spoke about the Pillars of Honor that will be in our area in the spring of 2011. In order to see this traveling memorial presentation, applications must be filled out and submitted to the LaSalle V.F.W., Ottawa American Legion or Seneca American Legion. These posts will be hosting events. Ceremony dates for the Pillars of Honor and reservation forms were handed out to all the delegates and alternates.

Larry Graham handed out applications for Honor Flight, which will be transporting veterans to Washington D.C. to see the World War II Memorial. Honor Flight has a group that will leave the Moline Airport or the Chicago Airports. Those applications were also shared with the delegates and alternates.

Bob Riley discussed the Wreath Across America which will take place in the Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Joliet, Illinois. He said there are 24,000 veterans currently buried at that cemetery. The cemetery is in need of volunteers to help and to hold flags. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Lincoln National Cemetery or Bob Riley.

A motion was made by Howard Gast and seconded by Joel Munk to adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Joel Munks, Amvets Post 30; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Alternates John Duback, American Legion Post 33; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT

FEBRUARY 2011

WWII Widow, LaSalle awarded \$2000 in burial benefits and accrued benefits to \$2823 with a total of \$4823

Oglesby, Vietnam awarded a combined 60% with SMC and dependent 11/08 – 12/11 total \$44,080

Vietnam, LaSalle awarded Social Security Disability 7/08 – 12/11 \$58,900

Vietnam, Mendota awarded IUE 11/09 - 12/11 total \$72,975

Earlville, Iraq awarded 30% 9/09 – 12/11 total \$10,528

Vietnam, Marseilles awarded 70% with dependent 7/09-12/11 total \$39,990

Total VA Benefits February 2011 \$172,396

Social Security Benefits \$58,900

TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$400,800

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT JANUARY 2011

WWII WIDOW, Peru awarded DIC benefits and burial benefits (Lou Gerig's Disease) 5/09 – 12/10 total \$23,926.00

VIETNAM, Ottawa awarded IUE 9/09 – 12/10 total \$45,168

WWII WIDOW, Peru awarded burial benefits \$2000

VIETNAM, Marseilles awarded IUE 3/10-12/10 \$10,840

VIETNAM, west end, awarded IUE 6/09 – 12/10 with one dependent \$52,542

VIETNAM, Sandwich awarded 100% 1/10 – 12/10 with one dependent total \$35,028

Total VA Benefits for January 2011 \$169,504

SOCIAL SECURITY 0

TOTAL YEAR TO DATE \$169,504

January 9, 2011

To: Veterans Assistance Commission
From: American Legion Post 33

Dear Superintendent,

Marty, please find enclosed information for your future calendar of events, to share with your members and their families. Post 33 will be supporting "Pillars of Honor," the traveling, original scale-model of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The LaSalle VFW Post 4668 will host an event on April 2nd and 3rd, 2011. The Seneca Shipyard Days Festival will host a presentation on June 26th. Both events require a lead time for submission of a request for V.I.P. seating and/or program inclusion. Details are in the literature enclosed.

Forms are available on the Commanders Board at Post 33, on the office door. Feel free to copy the information for your supporting posts in the county. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, as below.

Yours in service,



John Duback, Commander
American Legion Post 33
E-mail: chongofsb@yahoo.com
Home: 815-434-4583 Cell: 708-382-0930



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.
La Salle Post 4668
2325 Donohue Street
P.O. Box 1664
La Salle, Illinois 61301
www.lasallevfw.org

Commander
American Legion Post 33
901 La Salle Street
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

November 28, 2010

Commander,

The La Salle VFW Post 4668 has made arrangements to bring the "Pillars of Honor" to our Post in La Salle, and we would like to invite your Post to participate in the event. In case you are not aware of the "Pillars of Honor", it is the original scale model of the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC built by the memorial architect Friedrich St. Florian used for the presentation of the concept for what is now the WWII Memorial. The reason for bringing this scale model to Illinois is very simple, even with "Honor Flight" there are thousands of veterans that will be unable to make the trip to Washington to visit THEIR memorial due to medical concerns.

Once we learned of the existence of this model and it's location in Illinois our Post knew we had to try to bring it to our area. We are less than 1 mile from the Illinois Veterans' Home - La Salle and located for easy access to the surrounding areas being very near the crossroads of Interstate 80 and Interstate 39. We will be hosting the model for 2 days at our Post on April 2-3, 2011. There will be 2 programs, one each day from 2-4pm, WWII veterans who register in advance will have reserved seating for the program up front near the display. But they must complete and return to "Pillars of Honor" the enclosed registration form at least 1 week in advance. This so their names can be printed in the program book that will be distributed that day. Also to be included in the book are those organizations that help make this a reality, so we invite you to become a part of this event. We will need people to man an honor guard, and My Post has guaranteed to pay the cost of transportation of the model to and from our Post. If your organization would like to be part of this please fill out the form we have enclosed and indicate how you wish to participate. In case monetary donations are received in excess of the transportation cost they will be donated to "Honor Flight" to help make it possible for those who can go to Washington to see THEIR Memorial.

Please get the word out in your area about this event and the need to pre-register for WWII veterans. There will be no exceptions, if they do not register in advance they will not be allowed to enter as WWII veterans and be given seats of honor. Instead they will have to join the general public for the program and viewing. We ask that you make sure the media outlets in your area are aware of this event and will publish it. If they wish to speak with me please give them my contact information on the organization reply form so they may call. With the help of your group in getting the word out I know this will be a great success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elton Murphy'.

Elton Murphy,
Commander VFW Post 4668

Nov 26, 2010

Ceremony Notice: "Pillars of Honor"

**Saturday, April 2 and
Sunday, April 3, 2011
At 2:00-4:00 PM (both days)**

**Day of Honor and Unveiling of the
Original Scale-Model of the
National World War II Memorial**

**At LaSalle VFW Post 4668
2325 Donohue Street**

This Day of Honor experience gives veterans and their families the opportunity to learn about their memorial; to talk with other veterans, and to reflect upon the sacrifices they and others made during one of the most trying times in the history of the United States.

Notice: For reserved ceremony seating and for your name to be included in the program, WWII veterans must pre-register! Information must be RECEIVED by March 26, so consider March 19th to be the deadline for mailing the application. (No Exceptions! However, you can sit with the general public for the program.)

Forms available at Post 33, or contact Commander Duback at 815-993-3956

For more information, contact VFW Commander Elton Murphy at:

E-mail: commander@lasallevfw.org

Home: 815-224-1864, or Cell: 815-228-1894



La Salle VFW Post 4668
PO Box 1664
2325 Donahue Street
La Salle, Illinois 61301
www.lasallevfw.org



Organization Name

Honor Guard Yes, How Many _____

Contact Person

Monetary Donation \$ _____

Address

Other Donation _____

Phone

Contact Information

Elton Murphy

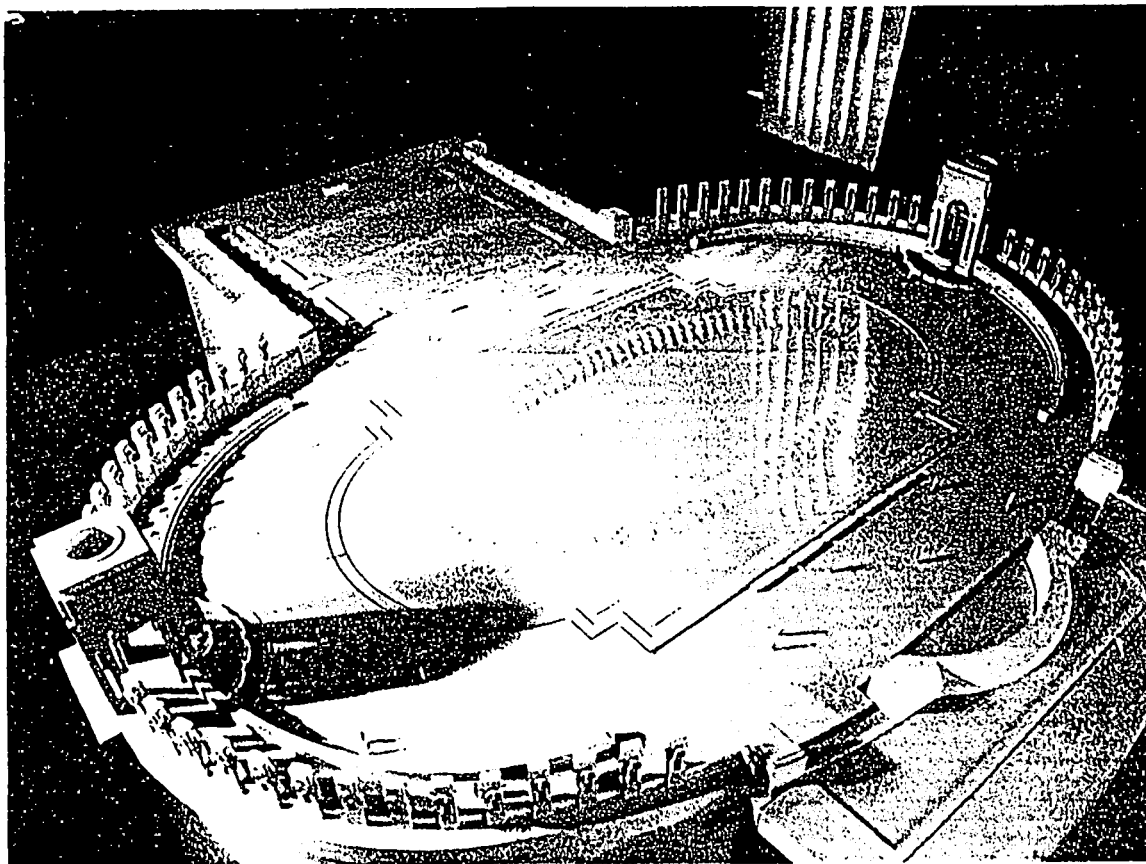
1512 Laharpe Street

La Salle, Illinois 61301-1432

commander@lasallevfw.org

815 224-1864 Home

815 228-1894 Cell





PILLARS OF HONOR, LLC., TRAVELING WWII MEMORIAL PRESENTATION WWII VETERAN RESERVATION

Please reserve a seat at the next PILLARS OF HONOR presentation of the Traveling WWII Memorial program closest to the below address for the following WWII Veteran.

I understand that there is no charge for my spouse or me to attend this event.

VETERAN INFORMATION			
NAME _____	NICKNAME _____		
ADDRESS _____	BIRTHDAY _____		
CITY _____	COUNTY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____	CELL PHONE _____		
EMAIL _____	BIRTHDAY _____		
SPOUSE NAME _____			
WILL YOUR SPOUSE BE ATTENDING? (circle one) YES NO			
SERVICE HISTORY			
BRANCH _____ RANK _____ DATES OF SERVICE _____			
COUNTRY(IES) WHERE YOU SERVED _____			
ACTIVITY DURING WWII _____			
EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION - NOT YOUR SPOUSE			
NAME _____	RELATIONSHIP _____		
ADDRESS _____			
HOME PHONE _____	CELL PHONE _____		
EMAIL _____			

PREFERED ESCORT INFORMATION

An Escort will be provided during the presentation. The Escort will provide assistance to you during the event. If you would like to name a specific relative or friend to act as your Escort, please list his/her name and phone number. Your requested Escort may be asked to assist other Veterans as well. Your spouse is NOT eligible to act as a Escort. Your children, Grandchildren age 18 and older or other relatives are welcome to register as your Escort. Escorts are required to submit a reservation for the presentation.

Requested Escort Name _____

Requested Escort Phone _____

PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY AND SIGN

As photographic and video equipment are frequently used to memorialize and document Pillars of Honor, llc., events, my image may appear in a public forum such as the media or a website, to acknowledge, promote or advance the work of the Pillars of Honor, llc., program. I hereby release all media creators and Pillars of Honor, llc., from all claims and liability relating to said media. I hereby give permission for my images captured during Pillars of Honor, llc., events through video, photo, or other media, to be used solely for the purposes of Pillars of Honor, llc., promotional material and publications and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.

Signature _____ Date _____

SPECIAL NEEDS

Please indicate below those areas in which you may have special needs:

Mobility equipment (circle one): Cane Walker Wheelchair Scooter

Medical Needs: (Please explain) _____

I understand that medical insurance is my responsibility and I understand that Pillars of Honor, llc., does not provide medical care and that I am responsible for all of my special medical needs. I understand that I accept all risks associated with travel to and from Pillars of Honor, llc., events and will not hold Pillars of Honor, llc., responsible for any injuries or illness incurred by me while participating in the Pillars of Honor, llc., event.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail this form to:

Pillars of Honor, LLC.
770 Lee Street
Suite 103
Des Plaines, IL 60016

Fax to:

888-588-4301

Email to:

info@pillarsofhonor.org

Phone:

847-954-0520

Ceremony Notice: "Pillars of Honor"

Sunday, June 26, 2011 at 1:00 PM

Day of Honor and Unveiling of the Original Scale-Model of the National World War II Memorial

Seneca Shipyard Days
At Seneca High School West Campus
226 E. Scott Street

This Day of Honor experience gives veterans and their families the opportunity to learn about their memorial; to talk with other veterans, and to reflect upon the sacrifices they and others made during one of the most trying times in the history of the United States.

Co-Sponsors: Seneca Shipyard Days (June 22-26) Festival Committee
and the Illinois LST Association

Notice: For special ceremony seating, WWII veterans must pre-register!

Forms available here at Post 33, or call Commander Duback: 815-993-3956

For more info: www.senecashipyarddays.com, or phone: 815-357-6144; or
E-mail chairman: mnellis@ellishardware.com

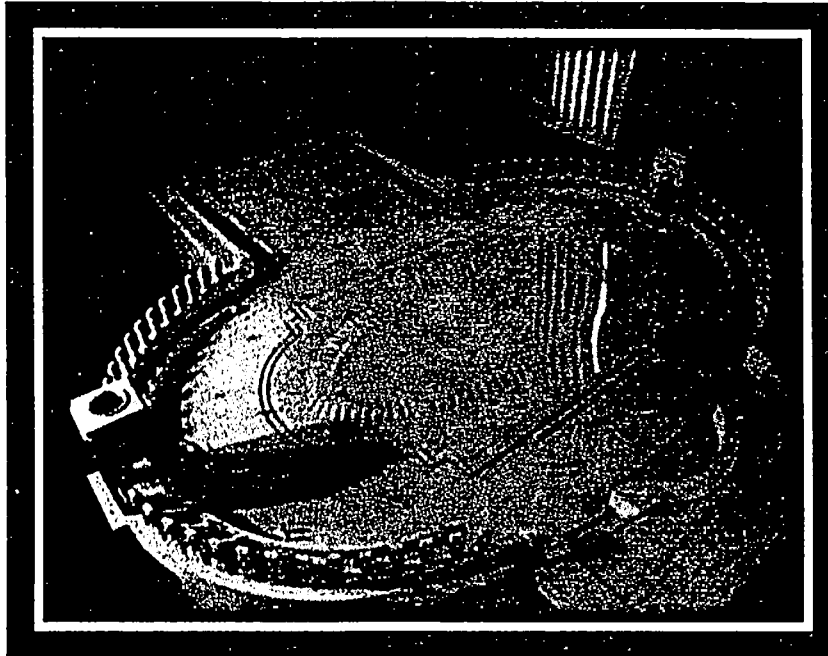
Note: Registration form has other contact information

NOTE: Do Registration mailing by JUNE 10th !!!



Pillars of Honor

**Coming to Seneca Shipyard Days Festival
Sunday, June 26th 2011 at 1pm
Seneca High School West Campus**



Our WWII Vets now number less than three million. We are losing these valuable souls at an alarming rate of 1,200 each and every day. The average age of these Vets is 89 years old.

There are thousands of WWII Vets that are unable to travel to Washington, D.C. to visit THEIR memorial due to illness, travel restrictions, accessibility to transportation or someone to assist them with the trip. These Vets are missing out on the opportunity to get first-hand knowledge about their memorial and more importantly the recognition of their contribution to our nation.

Pillars of Honor have secured the original scale model of the National World War II Memorial. This model was used for the presentation of the concept for what is now a prestigious memorial to permanently provide respect and remembrance to our WWII Veterans. We bring the memorial to these veterans.

We encourage all WW II Veterans to visit www.pillarsof Honor.org to download a reservation form to be listed in the program and be given priority seating. Forms are also available at the Illinois River Area Chamber of Commerce in Marseilles, Illinois, Seneca Village Hall, or by calling 815-357-6144.



The Seneca Shipyard Days Festival is a celebration of Seneca's role in WW II as the home of the Prairie LST Shipyards. We work with the Illinois LST Association to bring history and education to our visitors each year in addition to a carnival, food booths, craft fair and live entertainment.

Seneca Shipyard Days June 22nd - 26th 2011

For more information visit www.senecashipyarddays.com, Phone: 815-357-6144, or email the chairman of the festival at mnellis@ellisacehardware.com



PILLARS OF HONOR, Inc., TRAVELING WWII MEMORIAL PRESENTATION WWII VETERAN RESERVATION

Please reserve a seat at the next Pillars of Honor presentation of the Traveling WWII Memorial program closest to the below address for the following WWII Veteran.
I understand that there is no charge for me or my spouse to attend this event.

VETERAN INFORMATION	
NAME _____	NICKNAME _____
ADDRESS _____	D.O.B. _____
CITY _____	COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____	CELL PHONE _____
EMAIL _____	
SPOUSE NAME _____	
WILL YOUR SPOUSE BE ATTENDING? (circle one) YES NO	
HAVE YOU VISITED THE WWII MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON D.C.? YES NO	
IF YES, WHAT YEAR DID YOU VISIT? _____	
SERVICE HISTORY	
BRANCH _____ RANK _____ DATES OF SERVICE _____	
COUNTRY(IES) WHERE YOU SERVED _____	
ACTIVITY DURING WWII _____	
EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION - NOT YOUR SPOUSE	
NAME _____	RELATIONSHIP _____
ADDRESS _____	
HOME PHONE _____	CELL PHONE _____
EMAIL _____	

Continued on Back

ESCORT INFORMATION	
I will be accompanied to the event by:	
Name _____	Phone Nbr _____
Number of other relatives to attend the event: _____	
PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY AND SIGN	
<p><i>As photographic and video equipment are frequently used to memorialize and document Pillars of Honor, Inc., events, my image may appear in a public forum such as the media or a website, to acknowledge, promote or advance the work of the Pillars of Honor, Inc. program. I hereby release all media creators and Pillars of Honor, Inc., from all claims and liability relating to said media. I hereby give permission for my images captured during Pillars of Honor, Inc. events through video, photo, or other media, to be used solely for the purposes of Pillars of Honor, Inc., promotional material and publications and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.</i></p>	
Signature _____	Date _____
SPECIAL NEEDS	
Please indicate below those areas in which you may have special needs:	
Mobility equipment (circle one):	Cane Walker Wheelchair Scooter
Medical Needs: (Please explain) _____	

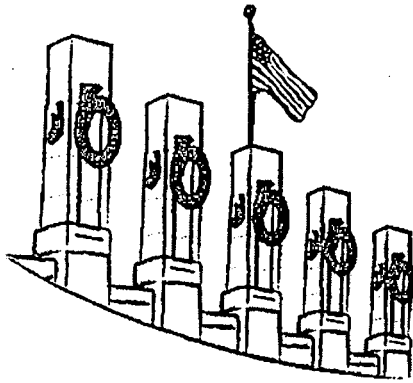
<p>I understand that medical insurance is my responsibility and I understand that Pillars of Honor, Inc., does not provide medical care and that I am responsible for my special medical needs. I understand that I accept all risks associated with travel to and from Pillars of Honor, Inc., events and will not hold Pillars of Honor, Inc., responsible for any injuries or illness incurred by me while participating in the Pillars of Honor, Inc., event.</p>	
Signature _____	Date _____

Please return this form to:

Pillars of Honor, Inc.
 770 Lee Street
 Suite 103
 Des Plaines, IL 60016

Fax to:
 Email to:
 Phone:
 Web Site:

888-588-4301
info@pillarsofhonor.org
 847-954-0520
www.pillarsofhonor.org



Pillars of Honor

On behalf of the *Pillars of Honor* non-profit organization and Veterans Service Organizations of Kankakee County with the Quality Inn Suites of Bradley, proudly invite you to join us at a:

Day of Honor & Unveiling of the Original Scale-Model of the National World War II Memorial

October 9, 2011 at 2 pm

Quality Inn Suites

800 N Kinzie Avenue

Bradley, Illinois

At this special reception, the original scale- model of the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. will be unveiled, during a program honoring veterans and their families. The exhibit and event is brought to you by *Pillars of Honor, Inc.* a local non-profit organization dedicated to honoring WWII veterans unable to travel to Washington DC to see their memorial in person. *Pillars of Honor* brings the memorial to them. You may learn more at www.pillarsof Honor.org.

This is the original scale model that was used by Senator Bob Dole to present the memorial design to Congress. It was designed by Friedrich St. Florian from Providence, RI. *Pillars of Honor*, has this model on loan for a limited time before it has to be returned and placed in the Smithsonian.

Our WWII vets now number less than three million. The average age of these veterans is 89 years old and we are losing these valuable souls at an alarming rate of 1,200 each and every day. These vets are missing out on the opportunity to get first-hand knowledge about their memorial and more importantly receive recognition for their contribution to our nation. This Day of Honor experience gives vets the opportunity to learn about their memorial, talk with other veterans and reflect upon the sacrifices they and others made during one of the most trying times in the history of the United States.

Kindly register your attendance at your earliest convenience, no later than October 2, 2011 to *Pillars of Honor, Inc.* 770 Lee Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016 or call 847-954-0520 for more information.

Madison County Veterans Commission
119 W. Madison St
Ottawa, IL 61350

Attn: Martin Rouse
Cindy Necker

Re: 33022PRE3K14
File # 8-984-152
Fred A. Wallace Jr.

I am writing this letter to thank you and your office for the recent approval of financial aid as it was much needed. You and your staff have done a magnificent job. It is unbelievable how your wonderful people have followed through with this. The help was certainly needed and will allow me to stay in my own home. I was 3 months away of trying to an equity loan.

You have no idea the stress you have relieved me of. There is no way there is any way I can repay you for the great job you have done!

Forever indebted

Respectfully,
Fred A. Wallace

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of February 23, 2011

Meeting opened in due form by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing Sgt. At Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the January meeting were presented to the Delegates and Alternates present. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that those minutes will stand approved as presented.

Old Business: All Delegates and Alternates received a packet of applications for those veterans wanting to attend the Pillars of Honor, Honor Flight, and Wreaths Across America.

New Business: The Service Officer's Report was presented. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

John Duback asked if I had met with the Veterans' Representative from Employment Security pertaining to participation in their monthly veterans information seminars held in Bloomington, Illinois. Veterans would attend this monthly session and we would be filing applications for their benefits. I stated that we have all we can do in our own V.A.C. office to attend to the needs of our veterans. We cannot afford to waste the time not knowing if any veterans would appear.

Bob Riles notified those present that he had emailed our state elected General Assembly representatives and Governor Quinn asking them to open the 50 empty beds at LaSalle. He encouraged all to do the same.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 235; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Larry Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Alternate John Duback, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT MARCH 2011

Vietnam, Sandwich added spouse to 100% service connected compensation
1/10 – 12/11 TOTAL \$3,600

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 100% 2/09 – 12/11 TOTAL \$98,805

World War II widow, West end, awarded burial benefits \$2000

Korean, Marseilles, awarded Aid and Attendance, 3/10 – 12/11 TOTAL \$35,090

Vietnam, Ottawa, awarded IUE, 11/09 – 12/11 TOTAL \$53,307

World War II widow, LaSalle awarded DIC and Aid and Attendance 3/10 –
12/11 TOTAL \$48,960

World War II, Peru awarded accrued benefits TOTAL \$2823

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 40% with Dependent 3/10- 12/11 TOTAL \$22,724

Vietnam, Brooklyn, awarded 100% with dependent 9/10 – 1/10 and 50% 10/11
12/11 TOTAL \$36,411

TOTAL VA BENEFITS MARCH 2011	\$303,720
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY	\$58,900
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$704,520

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of March 23, 2011

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 excused and Vice-Chairman and Chaplain present. The minutes of the February meeting were presented to the delegates and alternates present. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Vice-Chairman Mason stated the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Superintendent Rue presented the Service Officer's Report for the month of March. It was noted that since our fiscal year of 2011 our veterans have been awarded \$704,520 in financial benefits. A motion was made by Willis Noel and seconded by Robert Riley that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Howard Gast that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Willis Noel, American Legion Post 235; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Joel Munks, Amvets Post 30; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Lawrence Graham, DVA Chapter 86; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; Alternate Robert Riley, VFW Post 2470; and Vice-Chairman George Mason, VFW Post 2470

**SERVICE OFFICERS' REPORT
APRIL 2011**

Vietnam, Oglesby awarded dependent to his 60% 10/08 –
12/10 total \$2430

Vietnam, west end awarded 70% 5/10 – 12/11 total \$26,660

World War II, Marseilles awarded Aid and Attendance \$1644
monthly 5/10 – 12/11 \$32,880

Iraq, Mendota awarded IUE 9/09 – 12/11 \$81,732

Vietnam, Marseilles awarded additional dependent \$2400
yearly

Vietnam, Seneca awarded 100% with SMC and Dependent
1/10 -12/11 total \$70,056

TOTAL Veterans Benefits April \$216,158

Social Security 0

TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$920,678

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of April 27, 2011

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

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented to the delegates and alternates, being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Chairman Nanowski stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Bob Riley and George Mason discussed the "PILAR OF HONORS" program that was presented at the LaSalle V.F.W. They said that the VFW was packed during the two day program and everyone was very pleased with the presentation.

George Mason stated that the new veteran outpatient clinic in Peoria, Illinois is now open. He further stated that the VA has announced that 18 veterans are committing suicide every day.

Superintendent Rue presented the Service Officer's Report. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason, to accept the Service Officer's Report as presented.

A motion was made by Bob Riley and seconded by Willis Noel that we adjourn.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius; American Legion Post 426; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Ken Hausken, VFW Post 5506; Willis Noel, American Legion Post 235; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260; John Duback, American Legion Post 33; and Alternates Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
MAY 2011

Marseilles, Iraq awarded 10% 11/07 – 12/11 total \$11,779

Marseilles, Iraq awarded 30% 6/10 – 12/11 total \$6768

Putnam, Vietnam awarded 10% 3/10, 100% 4/10 – 12/11 total \$53,583

Sheridan, Vietnam awarded 30% with dependent wife 5/10 – 12/11 total \$7999

Ottawa, Vietnam awarded Social Security Disability 3/10 – 12/11 \$1943 total with back-pay \$40,803

Spring Valley, World War II widow, awarded DIC 6/10 \$1400; veterans last S/C check \$2823; and \$2000 burial benefit through 12/11 \$30,023

Streator, Vietnam awarded 30% with dependent wife 6/10 – 12/11 \$7578

Peru, Vietnam awarded 20% 9/10 – 12/11 total \$3888

Ottawa, Vietnam awarded 60% 5/10 – 12/11 with dependent wife \$21,280

Mendota, Vietnam awarded 20% with SMC 3/10 – 12/11 total \$7458

Total VA Benefits May 2011	\$150,356
Social Security Disability 5/11	\$40,803
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	\$1,111,837

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of June 22, 2011

Meeting was opened in due for by Chairman Jim Nanowski. A roll call of officers was taken showing all officers present except Sgt. at Arms excused.

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 presented. All questions pertaining to the Service Officer's Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by George Mason that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Bob Riley said he attended burial ceremonies at Lincoln National Cemetery for 66 veterans who had no family. He said that quarterly Lincoln National Cemetery preforms these full military ceremonies, which lasts about a half hour each. Bob further stated that the LST#325 which is located in Evansville will be traveling up river to Henry, Illinois this summer.

John Duback stated that many of the area local cemeteries will have little American Flags at the cemetery for those veteran graves that do not have a flag on them on Memorial Day so that no veteran's grave will be overlooked.

Delegates and Alternates reviewed each line of the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Budget Recommendation form. After reviewing the amount of expenditures per line item and estimating the additional dollars needed to complete this fiscal year, they recommended the total dollar amount which would be needed in each line item for fiscal year 2011. They further placed asterisks for those line items which may require additional financial adjustments prior the finalization of the VAC 2012 Budget Recommendations. A motion was made by John Duback and seconded by Howard Gast that the VAC 2011 Budget Recommendations line item dollar amounts be passed as recommended by those Delegates and Alternates present. VAC Chairman Jim Nanowski will sign the 2012 Budget Recommendations as passed by the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rue was instructed by the Commission to present said passed budget to the LaSalle County Board Veterans Assistance Commission Committee asking their approval and their forwarding it to the LaSalle County Board Finance and Fee and Salary Committee for their approval.

Motion was made by George Mason and seconded by Doug Grieves we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Joel Munks, Amvets Post 30; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Doug Grieves, American Legion Post 260; Alternates Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506; John Duback, American Legion Post 33; and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33

SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT
JULY 2011

Tonica, Iraq awarded 80% with dependent 6/09 – 12/11
\$45,210

WWII, Peru awarded housebound 2/10 – 12/11 \$13,087

Korean widow, Grand Ridge awarded burial benefit \$600

Vietnam, Leland awarded 20% with SMC 3/10 – 12/11 \$7458

Vietnam, west end, awarded 30% with dependent 11/09 –
12/11 \$10,946

Vietnam, Sublett awarded 100% with SMC and dependent
12/07 – 12/11 \$155,231

Vietnam, Streator, awarded 30% 7/10 – 12/11 \$6768

TOTAL VA Benefits JULY 2011 \$239,300

SS Benefits JULY 2011 0

TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$1,351,137

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of July 27, 2011

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman Jim Nanowski and Ken Hausken, Sgt. At Arms 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 stand approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS: Superintendent Rue presented to those present the 2012 Budget Recommendation Form, which he had presented to the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission Committee members for fiscal year 2012. After answering questions pertaining to said line items, all LaSalle County Board VAC Committee members signed the VAC proposed budget and forwarded it to the LaSalle County Board Finance Committee for their review on August 10, 2011.

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 Ebner 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.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Douglas Grieve, American Legion Post 260; and Alternate Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506

August 2011
Service Officers Report

Vietnam, Tonica awarded 100% with dependent and SMC 9/10
– 12/11 \$46,704

Vietnam, Cherry awarded 60% 6/10 – 12/11 \$19,260

Vietnam, Mendota awarded 20% and SMC 1/09 – 12/11
\$12,204

Vietnam, Ottawa awarded VA pension 11/09 – 12/11 \$13,680

Vietnam, Ottawa awarded VA pension 11/10 – 12/11 \$114
monthly \$1596

Vietnam, Sheridan awarded 100% with spouse and SMC 8/10 –
12/11 \$55,461

TOTAL VA BENEFITS AUGUST 2011 \$148,905

SOCIAL SECURITY \$0

TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE \$1,500,042

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of August 24, 2011

Meeting was opened in due form by Vice-Chairman George Mason. A roll call of officers was taken showing Chairman and Sgt. at Arms excused and all other officers present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. All questions pertaining to those minutes were addressed. Being no additions or corrections to those minutes, Vice Chairman George Mason stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

New Business: Superintendent Rue presented the Service Officers Report. All questions pertaining to the Service Officers Report were answered. A motion was made by Nick Nekrosius and seconded by Howard Gast that the Service Officers Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Rhode Bronk, Delegate for the Disabled American Veterans for the Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission called and requested a copy of our bylaws. He stated that six veteran posts in Grundy County were being denied representation on the Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission from their superintendent. In February of 2011 LaSalle County Court ruled that the Grundy County Veterans Assistance Commission Superintendent's election violated the law. As a result, it is my opinion that he is not a dually elected superintendent forcing a new election this year.

As a result of the State of Illinois Continued Education the week of September 26 in Bloomington, Illinois our VAC meeting for September 28, 2011 should be cancelled. A motion was made by Bob Riley and seconded by George Mason that the VAC meeting of September 28, 2011 will be cancelled. Motion passed.

Our next meeting will be October 26, 2011. Superintendent Rue will send to all alternates and delegates the notice of the September meeting cancelation and remind them that if there is any changes in the alternates and delegates to please let our office know at our October meeting.

Motion was made by Jim Ebner and seconded by Joel Munks that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 429; John Duback, American Legion Post 33; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; Joel Munks, Amvets Post 30; George Mason, VFW post 2470; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260 and Alternate Bob Riley, VFW Post 5506

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT
OCTOBER 2011**

Vietnam veteran, Mendota awarded 20% to 50% 2/10 with spouse and SMC 12/11 Total \$20,702

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded a combined 90% with SMC and back pay 10/10 – 12/11 Total \$60,658

Afghanistan, LaSalle awarded 40% 10/09 – 12/11 total \$21,099

Vietnam veteran, Marseilles awarded 70% - 7/10 – 12/11 total \$23,932

Vietnam veteran, west end awarded 100% with SMC and spouse 12/09 – 12/11 total \$83,448

WWII widow, LaSalle, awarded A&A 10/10 – 12/11 total \$14,784

WWII widow, west end, awarded DIC 6/10 – 12/11 total \$21,926

WWII widow, west end awarded A&A \$189 6/10 -12/11 total \$3591

TOTAL VA BENEFITS OCTOBER	\$250,140.00
SOCIAL SECURITY	0.00
TOTAL BENEFITS YEAR TO DATE	<u>\$1,750,182.00</u>

LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission minutes of October 26, 2011

Meeting was opened in due form by Chairman Jim 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 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 George Mason that the Service Officer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion passed.

Delegate Robert Riley stated that on September 10, 2011 "Wreaths Across American" will need volunteers at the Lincoln National Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. to assist them with their program. Delegate Larry Graham stated that there are numerous fundraisers to purchase a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln to be placed at the Lincoln National Cemetery.

It was noted that Superintendent Rue has been committed to the events that follow:

1. November 1, 2011 Senior Fair of State and Federal Agencies being held at the Peru American Legion Hall
2. November 10, 2011 guest speaker at the Peru Maples Super Club for the Peru Rotary. He is to discuss veteran benefits and leave plenty of time for questions and answers.
3. November 16, 2011 is the VAC annual meeting with the election of officers for the year 2012.

Superintendent Rue will send a letter to all delegates and alternates announcing the annual meeting.

Motion was made by Larry Graham and seconded by Robert Riley that we adjourn. Motion passed.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delegates Lawrence Graham, DAV Chapter 86; Lance Sires, American Legion Post 235; Robert Riley, VFW Post 5506; Jerry Fuchs, American Legion Post 570; Nick Nekrosius, American Legion Post 426; Jim Ebner, American Legion Post 237; George Mason, VFW Post 2470; Joel Munks, Amvets Post 30; Howard Gast, American Legion Post 549; Doug Grieve, American Legion Post 260 and Chairman Jim Nanowski, American Legion Post 33