



Veteran's Advocate

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MN Korean War Veterans 60th Anniversary Ceremony

To observe the 60th anniversary of the start of the Korean War- and in concert with the Minnesota Korean War Veterans- Chapter #1 and the Korean Association of Minnesota are sponsoring a 60th Anniversary Ceremony on the Minnesota State Capitol Mall, Saturday, June 19th 2010 at 1 PM. This ceremony will include an Honor Guard Parade, music and dancers by the Korean American Community. A reception at the nearby Minnesota National Guard Armory will immediately follow the ceremony.



Minnesota's Korean War Memorial

This "60th Anniversary" is a very special event and will demonstrate the close ties of the Minnesota Korean American Community and the Minnesota Korean War veterans. A short "wreath Laying" ceremony at the Minnesota Korean War memorial will take place to honor and pay tribute to over 750 service members killed in action and missing in action between 1950 and 1953.

Upcoming Honor Flight Fundraisers



Help send our World War II veterans to visit their memorial in Washington D.C. by attending the following fundraisers:

April 1st through July 4th

Minnesota and Wisconsin Panera Bread® locations are committed to raising \$20,000 in their participating bakery-cafes through fundraising and matching funds. Purchase a \$10 travel mug for \$10 with proceeds to SE MN Honor Flight. Receive ten complimentary refills of coffee from participating cafes. Participating Panera Bread® locations will also donate 10% of July 4th sales. Monetary donations can be made in participating bakery cafés.
Participating Locations: Rochester, MN, Mankato, MN, Eau Claire, WI and Onalaska, WI. Mug supplies are limited.

Saturday, July 17th 5pm to 8pm

Mantorville VFW Post #4555
Top the Baked Potato
Suggested donation - \$8.00
Enjoy a baked potato with a wide assortment of toppings.

2010 FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 9th - **THIS FLIGHT IS FULL**

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE FLIGHTS IN 2011.

Apply at: <http://www.semnhonorflight.org>



Olmsted County Veteran's Services

2010 Minnesota Legislation of Veteran Interest



Veterans Memorial Highways

Three new memorial highways were designated – Trunk Highway 200 from the border of North Dakota to Mahnomon; portions of Trunk Highways 34 and 87 in Becker County; and Trunk Highway 59 from Karlstad to the border of Canada. (SF2540)

Military Reservist Economic Injury and Veteran-Owned Small Business Loans

The Omnibus Economic Development Policy Bill expands the Military Reservist Economic Injury Loan Program. Under this program, the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) may make one-time, interest-free loans of up to \$20,000 to recently-separated Veterans to start a Veteran-owned small business. (SF2510)

Free Entrance to State Parks

The Omnibus Environment & Natural Resources Bill contains a provision that modifies a program which provides free entrance to state parks for Veterans. Currently, any Veteran with a total and permanent disability can receive a free annual park permit. Under the new law, the program is extended, giving any resident Veteran with any level of service-connected disability a daily park pass. To utilize this program, Veterans must present a copy of their determination letter to a park attendant. (SF3275)

Lawful Gambling Dollars

Lawful gambling proceeds will now be allowed to be used to pay for the utilities (electricity, heating, sewer and water) of the portion of a building used as the primary headquarters of a licensed veteran or fraternal organization. (HF3729)

Survivor Education Benefit Expansion

Definitions were amended to include step-children as eligible for the benefit, and “deceased Veteran” to include persons who were residents of Minnesota within six months of entering the Armed Forces, or for the six months preceding the Veteran’s date of death. (SF2737)

Waiver of Fees for K-12 Activities

Under a provision included in the Omnibus Agriculture/Veterans Bill, a school board may waive any deposit or fee for any pupil whose parent is serving in, or within the past year has served in, active military service. (SF2737)

American Legion Day and VFW Day

There are now two new special days in Minnesota: September 16 has been identified as “American Legion Day,” and May 28 is “Veterans of Foreign Wars Day.” (SF2373 & SF2475)

Veterans License Plates

New plates will be available for Veterans that are recipients of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal or the Silver Star. Also, members of the U.S. Armed Forces who are active duty and a recipient of the Purple Heart are eligible to purchase Purple Heart plates. Previously, these plates were available only to Veterans. (SF2540)

Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities

The EBV is an educational program offering training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post-9/11 veterans with service-connected disabilities. The program is targeted at vets who have a desire to launch and grow businesses – either now or at some point in their futures. The program brings together some of the most accomplished academics, entrepreneurs, and Fortune 500 CEOs, with post-9/11 veterans, in an effort to help them realize their business ownership goals. Our graduates are then plugged into a strong post-training support network, providing resources positioned to help them start and grow a business.

The training is all done over the summer months, and starts with an online course, then a 9-day residency at one of the EBV schools. The program is offered by six world-class business schools across the U.S. – Texas A&M University, Florida State University, Purdue University, UCLA, the Univ. of Connecticut, and Syracuse University. It’s a once in a lifetime experience for the vets – we keep the class size small at each school (20-25 vets per class) so that they have an intimate and personal experience. They get a chance to meet and interact one-on-one with the superstars of the business world – the folks you see on business magazine covers.

The program is open to any vet who served since 2001 (active, guard, reserve), and that has a service connected disability rating of any level. The training takes place at each of the six universities at different times throughout the May through September time period. Importantly, the program is a ‘social venture’ for us; that is, we offer the program **without any cost to the veterans**. It’s all funded privately, and we pay all program costs for accepted veterans, including airfare, lodging, food, everything.

We are in the final stages of the 2010 application process for the upcoming cycle of EBV that commences this summer and we still have a **two week window** that we can accept and process applications for some of the sessions. We are quickly approaching the starting dates for our sessions, so the sooner an interested veteran applies the better his or her chances.

If interested, please contact National Program Manager, Ray Toenniessen, directly at rmtoenni@syr.edu or (315) 443-0256.