

VET NET Newsletter
May 2024



VETERANS' OUTREACH



Serving our veterans in Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama, Florida, West Virginia &
New York since 1994



Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.

Check out our #NonprofitProfile <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/22-3272976> to see the great work we do for our community. We want to make sure you have the progress updates you need to confidently support our work with trust and confidence.

Honoring the Sacrifice: Memorial Day Reflections

Dear Friends,

Memorial Day stands as the pinnacle of patriotic reverence in our nation. It is a day when we pause to honor the profound sacrifices made by the brave men and women who laid down their lives in defense of our freedoms. This month, as we commemorate Memorial Day, let us solemnly reflect on the immeasurable debt we owe to these courageous souls.

Throughout history, 1.2 million valiant individuals have made the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefield, while twice that number have succumbed to the lingering effects of their wartime afflictions. These heroes, totaling 41 million service members, volunteered or were drafted to confront America's adversaries head-on.

"Freedom isn't free," the saying goes, and indeed, Memorial Day serves as a poignant reminder of the tremendous price paid by our brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, relatives, friends, neighbors, and patriots. In the eloquent words of an unknown source, "Some dream the dream, some live the dream, some defend the dream! God Bless the Defenders." Let us forever cherish and honor those who have stood as guardians of our cherished freedoms.

Originally known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day traces its origins to a tradition of adorning graves with flowers, wreaths, and flags as a tribute to fallen service members. Today, it remains a day of solemn remembrance, dedicated to honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.

On May 30th, 1868, General John A. Logan, of the Grand Army of the Republic—an organization of former Union sailors and soldiers—proclaimed the first widespread

observance of Memorial Day. It is a historical footnote that Logan Avenue, located in Liberty Township, Youngstown, Ohio, is named in honor of this distinguished general, providing a poignant reminder of our shared history and the sacrifices of those who came before us.

As we pay homage to our fallen heroes, let us also extend our gratitude to the living veterans among us. If you encounter a veteran, take a moment to express your appreciation for their service. As you pass by a cemetery, consider offering a prayer or placing an American flag on a service member's grave, honoring their memory and sacrifice.

For 30 years, Veterans Outreach has been dedicated to serving the needs of veterans, ensuring they receive the support and assistance they deserve. If you feel compelled to make a difference in the lives of these honorable individuals, we invite you to visit our website at VeteransOutreach.org. Whether through sponsorship, volunteering, or donations, your contributions help us continue our vital mission of serving and honoring our nation's defenders.

Together, let us uphold the sacred duty of honoring those who have served and sacrificed for our great nation. May God bless America, and may God bless our defenders.

"To serve and honor",

John Ely
Founder, Veterans Outreach

For feedback or inquiries, please contact:
jely@veteransoutreach.org
866.212.559
VeteransOutreach.org

History Of Memorial Day



Our Programs For Veterans

Over the last 30 years, we have helped veterans more than 100,000 times. Our motto is to "respectfully serve and honor all veterans".

We have developed programs that perform our mission to help veterans that include the Direct Aid Program, the Outreach Program, the Heroes' Closet Program, and the Freedom Food Pantry Program.

[Read More →](#)



VFW Veterans of Foreign Wars tribute to Memorial Day

Memorial Day, May 30 (traditional), is a sacred day to all war veterans. America's collective consciousness demands that all citizens be reminded of the deaths of their fellow countrymen during wartime. By honoring the nation's war dead, we preserve their memory and thus their service and sacrifice. All U.S. flags should be displayed at half-staff during the morning hours. At noon, they should be raised back to full-staff.

The Meaning of Memorial Day

It's a sacred day to all war veterans: None need to be reminded of the reason that Memorial Day must be commemorated. But what about the general public, and more important, future generations? Do most non-veterans really recognize the importance of the day honoring their fellow Americans killed in war?

Judging from what Memorial Day has become — simply another day off from work — the answer is a resounding no. Perhaps a reminder is due, then. And it is the duty of each and every veteran to relay the message.

Sacrifice is meaningless without remembrance. America's collective

consciousness demands that all citizens recall and be aware of the deaths of their fellow countrymen during wartime.

Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Those freedoms were paid for with the lives of others few of us actually knew. That's why they are all collectively remembered on one special day.

This should be regarded as a civic obligation. For this is a national debt that can only be truly repaid by individual Americans. By honoring the nation's war dead, we preserve their memory and thus their service and sacrifice in the memories of future generations.

They came from all walks of life and regions of the country. But they all had one thing in common — love of and loyalty to country. This bond cemented ties between them in times of trials, allowing a diverse lot of Americans to achieve monumental ends.

We remember the loss of loved ones, a sense of loss that takes group form. In essence, America is commemorating those who made the greatest sacrifice possible — giving one's own life on behalf of others.

Means of paying tribute vary. Pausing for a few moments of personal silence is available to everyone.

Attending commemorative ceremonies is the most visible way of demonstrating remembrance: Placing flags at gravesites, marching in parades, sponsoring patriotic programs, dedicating memorials and wearing Buddy Poppies are examples.

Whether done individually or collectively, it is the thought that counts. Personal as well as public acts of remembering are the ideal. Public displays of patriotism are essential if the notion of remembering war dead is to be instilled in youth. As America's older war veterans fast disappear from society's landscape, there are fewer and fewer standard-bearers left to carry the torch of remembrance. Such traditions will live on only if there is a vibrant movement to which that torch can be passed.

[Read More →](#)

What We Do Everyday



Honoring NewLife Church and Save A Lot for Supporting Veterans

In a world where kindness is a currency and compassion a guiding principle, there are shining examples of communities coming together to uplift those who've served our nation. Today, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to two groups whose unwavering dedication to our veterans has

made a tangible difference in their lives: NewLife Church in Poland and Save A Lot stores.

NewLife Church in Poland shines as a beacon of hope, dedicating themselves to supporting veterans by donating essential foods and goods every month. Their selfless acts not only nourish bodies but also symbolize solidarity and compassion during times of hardship, demonstrating the profound impact of community support on those who have bravely served our nation.

Similarly, Save A Lot stores stand as pillars of support for veterans, holding collections three times a year to gather groceries for those facing hardships. This initiative not only provides essential supplies but also reinforces the value and support our veterans receive from their communities. Through partnerships like these, we ensure veterans receive the assistance they need beyond their service, showcasing the transformative power of collective action and community support.

Let the inspiring efforts of NewLife Church in Poland and Save A Lot stores spur us to action in supporting our veterans. Whether through donations, volunteering, or advocacy, each of us holds the power to positively impact the lives of those who sacrificed for our freedom. Let's move beyond words of gratitude and show our steadfast commitment to the well-being and happiness of our veterans through tangible actions of support.

To NewLife Church in Poland and Save A Lot stores, we extend our deepest appreciation for your tireless efforts in supporting our veterans. Your generosity, compassion, and dedication serve as a guiding light for us all, reminding us of the profound impact we can make when we come together in service of others.



Procrastinating Quilters Support Veterans' Outreach Florida

In the heart of Clearwater, Florida, the Procrastinating Quilters gather regularly to weave compassion and support into their community. Renowned for their intricate craftsmanship, they've embarked on a mission to support Veterans' Outreach at our Sarasota, Florida office.

Their journey with Veterans' Outreach began serendipitously when they met one of the organization's collectors, sparking inspiration to give back. Swiftly, they decided to dedicate their efforts to crafting a masterpiece quilt to raise funds for veterans.

True to their name, the Procrastinating Quilters wasted no time in action. With dedication, they meticulously crafted a stunning quilt, symbolizing gratitude and solidarity with veterans across Florida.

Their support extends beyond quilting, as they sell raffle tickets at events throughout the year-long fundraiser. From craft fairs to quilting

conventions, they've spread awareness and rallied support with enthusiasm.

Notable was their appearance at a quilting gathering in Lakeland, where they shared their story, garnering overwhelming support from the community.

Committed to making a difference, the Procrastinating Quilters embody the power of community and individual impact. Join them in stitching hope and healing for our honored veterans. Together, we make a difference, one quilt at a time.

Events

May 25 @ 12:00PM to 5PM
Lemonade Stand Fundraiser

Aunt Mimi's 3rd Annual

LEMONADE STAND FUNDRAISER

Proceeds Benefit Veterans' Outreach

MAY 25TH, 2024 | 12 PM TO 5 PM

1055 SOUTH RACCOON RD, AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

Join us for a refreshing day of lemonade, tang,
cookies, and handmade bracelets by Annalise!



We're Also Collecting the Following Items
for Veterans in Need:

- Sun Protection Items
- Hydration Gear
- Cooling Products
- Outdoor Gear
- Personal Care Items
- Non-Perishable Food Items

Can't Make It? You Can Still Help!

Donate by Check:
Veterans' Outreach
17 Colonial Drive
Youngstown, OH 44505

Donate Online:
www.veteransoutreach.org



Why Aunt Mimi's Lemonade Stand Began.

Amy Kenyon-Bowman, a loving family member from Girard who recently moved to McDonald after marrying James Bowman, Jr., was devoted to her family. She held her mother, Mary Kenyon, father Gregory Kenyon, Sr., brothers Kevin Kenyon and Gregory Kenyon Jr., and husband Jim close to her heart. Her love extended to her niece Annalise, nephew Jordan, and cousin Zoey, and she had a passion for animals and Disney. Sadly, Amy passed away at 47 on July 16, 2022. In her memory, her niece Annalise and nephew Jordan established Aunt Mimi's Lemonade Stand to honor her legacy, spreading love and making a positive impact on the community, reflecting Amy's enduring kindness and spirit.



Youngstown Foundation Event Center

Located at Veterans' Outreach,
17 Colonial Drive, Youngstown, OH 44505

Book Your Event Today!

- 4,000 sq ft of space
- Perfect for any occasion
- Kitchen available
- Tables and chairs provided for up to 80 guests
- Available for bookings on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, with some evening availability during the week
- All proceeds benefit Veterans' Outreach
- Accessible bathrooms on-site
- Call for pricing and availability

tely@veteransoutreach.org

330-755-5792 x2

Support our veterans and book your event at the Youngstown Foundation Event Center today!



June 15 @ 12:00PM

Flag Retirement Ceremony

17 Colonial Drive, Youngstown Ohio 44505

JOIN US FOR A FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY PRESENTED BY VETERANS' OUTREACH & LOWELLVILLE AMERICAN LEGION POST 247



Date

15 June 2024

Time

12:00 PM

Place

Veterans' Outreach
17 Colonial Drive
Youngstown, OH 44505

Join us for a solemn Flag Retirement Ceremony.
Light refreshments will be provided.
Please bring a chair.

Let's gather to honor our nation's flag and pay tribute to its service.



For more information, contact tely@veteransoutreach.org

July 6 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Car Show & Swap Meet

600 C W Stevens Blvd. Grayson, KY 41143 600 C W Stevens Blvd., Grayson, KY,
United States. Cars, Trucks, Jeeps and Motorcycles Food and Drinks Fee: \$20 Vendor
Fee: \$20 Tool Raffle Basket Tickets : \$5 for 1 & \$10 For 3 Sing in At 9am Judging

Veterans' Outreach CAR SHOW & Swap Meet



Cars, Trucks, Jeeps, Motorcycles

Food & Drinks

Entry Fee: \$20

Vendor Fee: \$20

Tool Basket

Raffle! Tickets: \$5 for

1 & \$10 for 3



July 6TH 2024

9AM-5PM

Sign in at 9AM

Judging at 1:30PM

Trophies at 3:00PM

Grandview Superstore

600 C W Stevens Blvd.

Grayson, KY 41143

For More Information Contact Us: 606-475-0216

www.veteransoutreach.org



Veterans' Outreach Presents our

9TH ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

For the benefit of local veterans

BEDFORD TRAILS GOLF COURSE

713 BEDFORD ROAD

LOWELLVILLE, OH 44436

(330) 755-5792 || www.veteransoutreach.org

6 SEPTEMBER 2024 || SAVE THE DATE



Support For Our Veterans

We are thrilled to share the wonderful news of our strong start to 2024, made possible by the unwavering support of these organizations, and, of course, all of our readers, donors, and supporters. Your generosity has been instrumental in propelling Veterans' Outreach toward new heights, and we extend our deepest thanks for your continued commitment to our mission.

The Youngstown Foundation



A special thank you to The Youngstown Foundation for providing grant funds to facilitate our transition to a new headquarters. The funds allocated for the flagpole, security cameras, and signage are instrumental in creating a safe and welcoming space for our veterans. We are deeply grateful for your support. Your contributions serve as a beacon of hope for the veterans we serve, empowering us to forge ahead with renewed determination. Together, we are making a lasting impact on the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Sheely's Furniture and Appliance



A heartfelt thank you to Sheely's Furniture and Appliance for the fantastic partnership initiated during the first quarter of 2024. The overwhelming response to the survey has set the stage for a meaningful collaboration. Their commitment to matching all donations is a testament to their dedication to the well-being of our veterans. Donations will be collected from January 1st through March 31st at Sheely's North Lima and Aurora locations, making a significant impact on our initiatives. Stay tuned

for more opportunities to contribute throughout the quarter!

Hollywood Gaming



For years now, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley Race Course has been a supporter of ours. We are so grateful for them and their kindness. These much needed funds go towards renovating our new building location. Thank you Hollywood Gaming!

Target Circle



we're excited to report the positive outcome of our collaboration with Target Circle. Your votes and support have significantly impacted our cause, allowing us to make a tangible difference in the lives of veterans. Their recognition of our mission's importance means so much. Thank you for being a crucial part of our journey

Humana's Sponsorship



We're deeply honored to announce Humana's sponsorship. This invaluable support ensures the continuity of our programs, allowing us to reach more veterans facing challenging times and expanding our impact on their lives.

TCC Gives



Our gratitude extends to TCC Gives for their generous donation of \$2500 towards food for our Freedom Food Pantry. Their support ensures that essential resources are

readily available to our veterans. We appreciate their commitment to making a positive impact in our community and are honored to have their support.

Your contributions serve as a beacon of hope for the veterans we serve, empowering us to forge ahead with renewed determination. Together, we are making a lasting impact on the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Donate Now

We thank all of you that have supported our Mission through your donations, thoughts, and prayers. You made it possible to **help tens of thousands of Veterans** with financial assistance, food, and clothing. Your pledge of support is needed to continue our mission to serve and honor all veterans. **Will you make a small monthly pledge of \$10 or more? This gift can immediately make a difference for a Veteran in need.**



[Donate Now](#)



You can also call 888-2-VET-NET and speak with Teri Ely to donate.

News



May



Month of the Military Caregiver

National Military Appreciation Month

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW)

First full week in May

National Correctional Officers Week

First full week in May

Silver Star Service Banner Day

May 1

Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day

May 8

Armed Forces Week

May 11 (begins), May 18 (ends), 2024

Children of Fallen Patriots Day

May 13

Peace Officers Memorial Day

May 15

Armed Forces Day

May 18

Maritime Day

May 22

Memorial Day

Last Monday in May

Veteran Students



Today's veterans can face any number of obstacles while furthering their education. Taking advantage of all the benefits you've earned and DESERVE shouldn't be one of them! This is why we have teamed up with Student Veterans of America and Sport Clips Haircuts to provide the assistance you need.

[Read More](#)

Scholarships:

The VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way for us to say "thank you" to those who fought for our freedoms.

Scholarship Details:

- Scholarships of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to qualified applicants.
- Awarded scholarships are limited to one per family per semester.
- Applications for the fall semester will be accepted Jan. 1 through April 30.
- Applications for the spring semester will be accepted Aug. 1 through Nov. 15.
- Fall semester scholarships will be

awarded in August, and spring semester scholarships will be awarded in January.

- Scholarships must be used by the end of the school semester for which the veteran is applying or they will become null and void.
- Scholarships are restricted for tuition and fees only and will be paid directly to accredited schools.

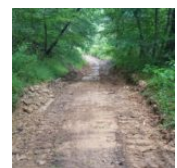
Eligible Applicants Must:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be retired, honorably discharged, active duty, or a member of the National Guard or Reserve.
- Have completed Basic Training and follow-on training (Advanced Individual Training, technical school, etc.).
- Separated with or currently hold a military rank of E-5 or below.
- Demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
- Participate in, be accepted to or currently enrolled in a VA-approved program or school at an accredited post-secondary institution.

Heroes' Passage In Kentucky

Veterans' Outreach was donated 110 acres of Kentucky wilderness. Plans are underway for the development of Heroes' Passage, a veteran retreat with a healing environment for veterans that are having problems with transitioning to civilian life.

[**Read More →**](#)





Veterans' Outreach



Ohio	Alabama	Florida	Kentucky	New York
Corporate				
17 Colonial Drive	807 Midway St.	5650 Park Blvd. N	512 E. Main St.	P: (888) 283-8638
Youngstown, OH	Hartselle, AL	Ste. 3	Grayson, KY 41143	West VA
44505	35640	Pinellas Park, FL	P: (606) 475-0216	P: (888) 283-8638
Phone: 888-	P: (256) 778-3266	33781	F: (606) 475-0217	
2VETNET	F: (256) 778-	P: (727) 317-3712		
Fax: 330-755-5930	03267	F: (727) 317-3713		

Veterans' Outreach | 17 Colonial Drive, Youngstown, OH 44505

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