

THE MT. VERNON VETERAN

MT. VERNON VETERANS' HOME
1600 S. HICKORY ST.
MT. VERNON, MO 65712
(417) 466-7103

Winter 2014

The Price of Freedom is Visible Here

Resident Profile

Charlie Calton was born on August 31, 1925 on a farm outside of Morgan, Missouri. His parents, Floyd and Dora, had five sons and one daughter. Charlie and his siblings would all join the military.

Floyd played the fiddle and banned the children from playing his instruments as he didn't want them damaged. Charlie loved to listen to his father play and at the age of eight would sneak the fiddle into a closet and play when his father was away. One day his father caught him. He simply smiled and let Charlie play. After that Charlie practiced everyday out in the open.

When Charlie was 16 years old Pearl Harbor was attacked. Charlie wanted to go fight for his country. He begged his parents to let him join the Navy. He eventually



Charlie Calton in 1942.

ly convinced them and was allowed to join. However, he was only 16 years old so he had to lie about his age. He later told his family that the Navy should have known as he grew 7 inches the first year and had to constantly receive new uniforms.

Mr. Calton trained at NAS Great Lakes, IL and then at NAS Corpus Christi, TX as an Aviation Ordnanceman. He was eventually assigned to the U.S.S. Matanikau, a Casablanca-class escort carrier. Following training in Puget Sound, WA, the Matanikau's maiden voyage was to the Admiralty Islands in August 1944 discharging men and planes. The ship returned with 112 sailors and 41 damaged aircraft back to San Diego.

The Matanikau then began duty as qualification carrier for naval and marine aviators. On May 25, 1945 fighter and torpedo planes made 602 daylight landings, the greatest number on an aircraft carrier in one day! Charlie's memory was of a plane that crash landed on the deck. He ran to get the pilot, but was restrained by an officer, who

saved his life as the plane almost immediately exploded. Not being able to save that pilot haunted Charlie.

Charlie's love of music did not leave him. During his entire stint in the Navy he would play his fiddle and get together with other musicians to play. He also had another valuable skill: he could shoot. Charlie was so good at skeet shooting that he would instruct fighter pilots to skeet shoot and help improve their aim. Mr. Calton was honorably discharged on January 21, 1946.

Mr. Calton returned to Missouri to help his father farm. He also worked for awhile at the Postal Service at Union Station in St. Louis. In the late forties he went to an electrician's school in Springfield. He became an electrician and in 1949 he began working at Fort Leonard Wood. He worked there until he retired in 1980.

Charlie continued playing music when he returned as well. He began playing with Hap Graves and his daughter Inez. Charlie and Inez would eventually fall in love. They were married on October 10, 1950. They had nine children: Diane,

Teresa, Randie, Brenda, Annette, Charley, Melissa, Matthew and Andrew. Diane was born in 1951. Andrew was born in 1976.

The family all played instruments. They went to blue grass festivals all over the country in the early seventies. From 1976 to 1981 they played at Silver Dollar City on the weekends. In 1981 they opened the "Calton Family Music Show" in Branson, which lasted for a couple of years.

Mr. Calton is multi-talented. He made many fiddles all by himself and could fix any appliance. He also had perfect pitch and could tune an instrument without the aide of a tuning fork. The family is so very proud of their father and rightfully so. The world would be a much better place if more people were like Charlie Calton.

CENSUS

WW II	108
KOREAN	54
VIETNAM	20
PERSIAN GULF	2
PEACE TIME	13
As of January 1, 2014	

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Inez and Charlie Calton at Silver Dollar City in the late seventies. Inez passed away in 2002.

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65712
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Missouri Veterans' Home
1600 S. Hickory St.
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

MISSOURI VETERANS COMMISSION

Chuck Wooten.....	Member
Paul Connors.....	Member
Scott Englund.....	Member
Nancy Nelson.....	Member
Representative Stephen Webber.....	Member
Representative Denny Hoskins.....	Member
Senator David Pearce.....	Member
Senator Scott Sifton.....	Member

MANAGEMENT TEAM

James Dennis.....	Administrator
Angela Piepenbrink.....	Asst. Administrator
Joan Elwing, RN.....	Director of Nursing
Diane Huckeby, RN.....	B - Unit Manager
Donna Requa, RN.....	C - Unit Manager
Becky Williams, RN.....	D - Unit Manager
Patricia Sullivan, RN.....	E - Unit Manager
Lynette Mitchell, RN.....	Nursing Supervisor
Vince Straub, RN.....	Nursing Supervisor
Brenda White, RN.....	Nursing Supervisor
Cynthia Reece, RN.....	Nursing Supervisor
Erika Portillo.....	Administrative Assistant
Donna Stacey.....	Accountant
Dennis Duncan.....	Computer Services
Loni Hill.....	Food Service Manager
Marlene Woodall.....	Environmental Manager
Ron Schmidly.....	Maintenance
Barbara Truman.....	Medical Records
Jenny Myers.....	MDS Coordinator
Sally Quick.....	Personnel
George Bennett.....	Physical Therapy
Debbie Eutsler.....	Purchasing
Keri Creasey.....	Recreational Therapy
Joy Sweeney.....	Social Services Director
Alice Brewer.....	Social Services - B Unit
Angela Gonzalez.....	Social Services - C Unit
Teresa Hoover.....	Social Services - E Unit
April Cutbirth.....	Staff Development Coordinator
David Kloppenborg.....	Volunteer Services

MISSOURI VETERANS HOME ASSISTANCE LEAGUE BOARD

Scott Sifferman.....	President
Dave Eden.....	Vice President
Brad Brown.....	Secretary/Treasurer
Gary Emerson.....	Member
Gene Ingle.....	Member
J.W. Jackson.....	Member
Larry Newman.....	Member
Randee Stemmons.....	Member

Employees of the Month

Pictured are the Employees of the Month for September, October, and November. These employees were nominated by their peers. Congratulations to these employees for their accomplishments and caring attitudes toward the resident Veterans whom they serve. As Employees of the Month, they received a Walmart gift card, a free day off, and a prominent parking space for one month.



Michael White, October 2013

Michael is considered a very valuable part of the maintenance and facility team. When he is called on he is always available for any task that needs to be completed. Michael never complains when given an assignment, but is eager to complete the task.



Keri Creasey, September 2013

Keri, Recreational Therapist, is an amazing person who always goes out of her way to ensure every Veteran and their family is well taken care of and happy. Keri makes a special effort to always include staff and families in the Veteran activities. She is frequently here after hours and on weekends.

Any employee can nominate another employee. The nomination forms are located at the front desk.



Cindy Crouch, November 2013

Cindy, Food Service Helper, makes a daily obvious effort to maintain a positive attitude and go far above and beyond in her responsibilities. Cindy displays herself in a manner that is positive for both peers to see and the Veterans. It means so much to everyone around her.

Missouri Veterans Commission Employees of the Month

Paula Taylor, Certified Nursing Assistant at the Missouri Veterans Home - Mt. Vernon, was selected as the October 2013 MVC Employee of the Month. Paula is an exceptional employee and person and is admired by her co-workers for her ability to deal with the Veterans no matter the circumstance in an unjudgemental manner. See the photo on page 9.

Jesse Campbell, Veterans Service Officer at the St. Joseph Office, was selected as the November 2013 MVC Employee of the Month. In addition to his regular duties, Jesse has provided assistance with travel stop coverage, special events, and has been a peer trainer for newly assigned Veterans Service Officers, all while continually providing exceptional service.

Brooke Broughton, Storekeeper for the Missouri Veterans Home - Mexico, was selected as the December 2013 MVC Employee of the Month. In addition to her regular duties, Brooke took it upon herself to reorganize the storeroom. The appearance of the storeroom has changed dramatically for the better because of a new organization system she created.

WELCOME

Ralph Manley, U.S. Army, served from 1943 to 1945. Mr. Manley moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 8.

Gerald Wallen, U.S. Army, served from 1945 to 1946. Mr. Wallen moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 9.

James Pierce, U.S. Army, served from 1951 to 1952. Mr. Pierce moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 15.

Donald Nunley, U.S. Navy, served from 1951 to 1955. Mr. Nunley moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 16.

Dana Thomas, U.S. Army,

served from 1943 to 1951. Mr. Thomas moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 21.

Paul Gibbs, U.S. Army, served from 1946 to 1947. Mr. Gibbs moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on October 28.

Jimmie Kerr, U.S. Army, served from 1966 to 1968. Mr. Kerr moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on November 4.

Forrest Claxton, U.S. Army Air Corps, served from 1944 to 1947. Mr. Claxton moved to the Home on November 6.

Walter Pfisterer, U.S. Army, served from 1943 to 1946.

Mr. Pfisterer moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on November 6.

Harold Sparkes, U.S. Army, served from 1945 to 1946. Mr. Sparkes moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on November 12.

Alva Paul, U.S. Army, served from 1943 to 1946. Mr. Paul moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on November 13.

Richard Melton, U.S. Navy, served from 1936 to 1940. Mr. Melton moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on November 14.

Thomas Jackson, U.S. Air Force, served from 1956 to 1957. Mr. Jackson moved to the Missouri

Veterans Home on November 18.

Gene Wendler, U.S. Army, served from 1952 to 1954. Mr. Wendler moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on December 9.

Thomas Hoke, U.S. Army Air Corps, served from 1942 to 1946. Mr. Hoke moved to the Home on December 10.

Bud Engel, U.S. Navy, served from 1943 to 1945. Mr. Engel moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on December 23.

Robert Harwell, U.S. Army, served from 1942 to 1946. Mr. Harwell moved to the Missouri Veterans Home on December 30.

New Bus On Order

With the help of many organizations and individuals the Mt. Vernon Missouri Veterans Home Assistance League has raised enough funds to purchase the second easy access bus. The Missouri Veterans Home along with the Assistance League wishes to thank the following for donating toward the bus in the last quarter:

Community Foundation of the Ozarks

Eagles Lodge #4155

American Legion Aux. 69

American Legion Post 69

Knights of Columbus, Pope St. Pius X Assembly 1877

Sac River Cowboy Church

FWW Aux. 7628

FWW Post 3404

Elks Lodge 409

Kickapoo VOI 760 40&8

Elmer & Mary Ley

American Legion Riders Ch. 434

Keith Estep

Catherine Ferrell

C.L. & R.M. Napier

FWW Post 963

William Vogle

Jerry & Betty Dickson

Fred & Irene Frey

Judy Guise

Kindrick & Mary Leschinsky

Craig Tabor

William & Judy Vogle

John & Neita Campbell

Richard & Karen Jones

Gene & Ginger Ruble

NARFE Chapter 11

Barbara Peltier



The Eagles Lodge #4155 in Shell Knob donated two checks toward the new bus. Donna Benton and Rich Ford presented the check to Volunteer Supervisor, David Kloppenborg, center, on November 14.

Branch of Service Breakdown

	Army	89
	Women	3
	Army Air Corps	15
	Women	0
	Air Force	30
	Women	0
	Coast Guard	2
	Women	1
	Marine Corps	11
	Women	1
	Navy	43
	Women	2
	TOTAL	197



TAPS



 Wallace Runningen
8/3/24
10/2/13

 Charles Dingman
2/6/25
10/20/13

 Jesse Fureigh
10/25/13
11/4/13

 Darrel Dennis
10/4/29
12/16/13

 B.F. Babb
1/8/20
10/3/13

 James Carrell
3/12/31
10/22/13

 James Miller
7/24/24
11/4/13

 Dewey Pippin
7/16/21
12/17/13

 Edward Hawkins
12/13/30
10/6/13

 Floyd Ginger
6/28/35
10/29/13

 Kenneth Davis
4/20/23
11/8/13

 Joseph Conrace
7/8/33
12/20/13

 Russell Harrison
4/29/31
10/8/13

 Robert Huitt
3/25/27
10/30/13

 Jack England
6/6/20
12/2/13

 Homer Merritt
11/18/20
12/24/13

 Richard Horton
8/5/28
10/16/13

 Robin Helwig
12/7/23
11/1/13

 Granville Beasley
6/30/24
12/5/13

Memorials

Gordon Goetz

Vicki Brown
Geraldine Stafford
Jill Moran
Francis & Laura Moran

Harold Gutscher

Bair's Grocery
James Miller
James & Martha Anderson
David & Julie Burch
Glenn & Carol Elmore
James & Patricia Shane
Wilma & Carol Sutton

Jesse Fureigh

American Legion Post 434
Alan Fureigh
Vernon & Catherine Jenkins

John Schlichting

Carthage Class of 1945
Lee & Carol Foster
Fred & Irene Frey
Richard & Karen Jones
NARFE Chapter 11
Gene & Ginger Ruble
Craig Tabor
William & Judy Vogle

William Vogle

Betty Weiskopf

Kenneth Davis

Pamela Hulland

Raymond Barinsky

Neal & Shellie Checkoway
Anne Dodd

Russell Harrison

Mary Harrison

Richard Horton

Cleta Beatty
Kevin & Cathy Burkett
John & Neita Campbell
Evelyn Dailey
Catherine Ferrell
Friends of the Zoo
Judy Guise
Edith Hinkle
Hosmer, King & Royce
Richard & Janet Johannngmeier
Charles & Joyce Kimbro
Kindrick & Mary Leschinsky
John & Noreene Woolridge

Wallace Runningen

American Board of
Medical Specialties
Kenneth & Lynda Evans
Eugene & Virginia Heintz
Ruth Heintz
Charles & Dianna Mahaffey
George & Janice Ormsby
Arlan Runningen
Dean Runningen
Roger & Marsha Runningen
Violet Runningen
John & Joanne Lechner

Dewey Pippin

I.R. Brooks

Elm Grove Methodist Church

Paul & Irolene Nelson

Byron & Betty Pigg

T.I. Roth

Kenneth & Byna Ruble

Carole Thomas

Now in the Service of the Supreme Commander

VISIT US ON LINE

To learn more about the Mt. Vernon Veterans' Home, visit us at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/Homes/Site/MtVernon To learn more about other Missouri Veterans' Homes and/or other programs offered by the Missouri Veterans' Commission, log on to the Commission Home page at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov

VETERANS' HOME WISH LIST

ITEM	Est. Cost
Deodorant, Stick.....	1.50
Shaving Cream.....	2.00
Denture Cleanser	1.50
Sea Bond Denture Adhesive Wafers.....	2.00
Dental Floss.....	1.00
Body Wash.....	3.00
Body Spray.....	3.00
Book of Stamps.....	9.80

If your organization is interested in purchasing any of the items listed above or are interested in finding out information about larger on-going projects for the facility, please contact David Kloppenborg at (417) 466-7103.

DONATIONS

MONETARY DONATIONS

On behalf of the Assistance League and the Heroes we serve, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for all of the donations received October through December 2013. All donations go directly to Veterans programs. *Please accept our apology if you and/or your organization has unintentionally been left off this list.*

Over \$1000

Eagles Lodge Aerie 4155
Community Foundation
of the Ozarks

\$500 to \$999

American Legion Post 69
American Legion Aux. 69
VFW Aux. 5923
Pope St. Pius X Assembly 1877
D.A.V. #10
Eagles Lodge Aerie 4155
VFW Post 5293
Sac River Cowboy Church

\$200 to \$499

Military Order of the Cooties # 11
Pepsi Cola Bottlers
Mt. Vernon Chamber of Commerce
American Legion Post 137
American Legion Aux. 137
Elizabeth Camp
VFW Aux. 2593
Elks Lodge Aerie 409
Elmer & Mary Ley
VFW Aux. 7628
Kickapoo VOI 760 40&8
VFW Post 3404

\$50 to \$199

VFW Aux. 3770
VFW Aux. 5525
VFW Post 7628
American Legion Post 478
American Legion Aux. 120

Hlavacek, Morris & McIntyre
Race Brothers
Jack Henry & Associates
Lackey Body Works
Alice Lewis
Baker, Davis, Roderique
Mid-Missouri Bank
Schreiber Foods
Wal-Mart #48
Trogon Insurance Agency
Hospice Compassus
Jerry & Betty Dickson
C.L. Napier
Blucurrent
Judy Grise
National 4th Inf. Division Organ.
Carl & Jeanine Jones
American Gold Star Mothers
DAR - Elk Horn Prairie
VFW Aux. 2590
Eagle Riders 3948
Chris & Jill Billings
Industrial Machine & Engineering
Downstream Casino
Arvest Bank
Law Firm of Christopher Dumm
American Legion Riders 434
Keith Estep
VFW Post 963
American Legion Post 175
DAR - Rhoda Fairchild Chapter
American Legion Aux. 233
Linda Waltz
TREA Ch. 41

VFW Post 3691
CVMA 4-9

Up to \$49

American Legion Aux. 23
Melissa Briggs
Barbara Peltier
Louis & Clea Kleeman
VFW Aux. 4409
Todd Daugherty
Lisa Viles
Beth Meyer
Lisa Akins
Jamie Pippin
Andrew Minarda
Lyle Dahle
Exchange Club of Carthage
Tammy Mattox
Jason Hausback

MATERIAL DONATIONS

Ozark Mtn. Motorcycle Club
Military Order of the Purple Hearts
DAR - Rhoda Fairchild Chapter
DAV Ch. 52
DAR - Elk Horn Prairie Ch.
Military Officers Association
Telephone Pioneers
Gary Puckett
Elks Lodge Aerie 501
Craig Crosswhite
Marlene Bundy
Family of B.F Babb
Becky Todd
Family of Wallace Runningen
Elks Lodge Aerie 409
Harold Holcomb
Gene Gilbreath
Colonial Dames of the 17th Century
Robert Napier Ch.
Edith Vance
Mercy Hospital
Charles Sloan
VFW Post 6415
Steve & Sally DiPierdomenico

Bill Turpin
Daughters of American Colonists
Stukely Westcott Ch.
DAR - Rachel Donelson Ch.
Family of Robert Huitt
Elks Lodge Aux. 501
Delores Langley
Immanuel Baptist Church
Girsl Scout Troop #10250
Wacky Women & Giddy Girls
John Wilson
Elks Lodge Aerie 2557
East Newton High School
Mr. Gripka's class
Presley's Country Jubilee
Family of Robin Helwig
Military Order of the Cooties #11
Generations of Heroes Ranch
DAVA #62
Bowlers to Veterans Link
VFW Aux. 3404
Ronda Schapeler
Skyline Grade School
Second Grade
George Lamp
Patriot Guard Riders
Messiah Lutheran Church
DAR - Lake Taneycomo Ch.
LeRoy Busch
Elks Lodge Aerie 2858
Rolling Thunder
Carthage Veterans Alliance
Dora Gaydou
Jean Pearson
VFW Aux. 9638
Riverbend School
Weller Elementary Schhol
Mrs. Hughes Class
Webb City Elks Lodge
DAV #68
Bolivar Elks Lodge
R.J. Acheson
SAC River Stables 4-H
LeeAnn Brittenham & Family

HOW TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION

Checks should be made payable to the Mt. Vernon MVH Assistance League and mailed to:
Missouri Veterans Home
1600 S. Hickory St.
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

The Donation Form is provided for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact:
David Kloppenborg
417-466-7103 Ext. 1185
david.kloppenborg@mvc.dps.mo.gov

DONATION FORM

DONOR INFORMATION:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____

Donation in: ___ honor ___ memory of _____

Send Memorial Acknowledgement to:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____

OPTIONAL Donor Designation

___ Resident Activities Fund

___ Holiday Fund

___ Postage Fund

___ Indigent Fund

___ Employee Recognition Fund

___ Other: _____

Holiday Meals at the Home



Barb Truman and Joan Elwing serve fruit to Veteran R.J. Acheson during the Veterans Day Breakfast.



Veterans Lloyd Evatt and Gerald LaHaie wait to be served on Veterans Day.



Veteran Giles "Larry" Steffan and his wife Marguerite wait to be served during the Thanksgiving Dinner.



Veteran Mike Pennington and cousins enjoying their Thanksgiving Dinner on November 22.



The Main Dining Room all decked out and awaiting the Veterans before the Christmas Dinner.



Veterans and family enjoyed another great meal at the Christmas Dinner held on December 20.



The Joplin High School JROTC visited the Home on November 26.



Members of the Joplin H.S. JROTC visit with a few Veterans.



The Ozark Mountain Motorcycle Club visited the Home on December 14.



The OMMC distributed personal care items and treats for the Veterans.



Santa Claus was a busy man during the Christmas Party. The Home would like to thank Season's Compassus for all their help as Santa's helpers.



Santa Claus brought many gifts to all the Veterans on December 20. The Christmas Party coincided with the Christmas Dinner so loved ones could eat and be present when the Veterans opened their presents.

National VFW Auxiliary President Sissy Borel Visits Home

Sissy Borel, the National President of the VFW Auxiliary visited and toured the Home on November 18. Administrator, James Dennis, showed off the Home to Mrs. Borel and a large contingent of VFW members.



The MVH Float won first place in the Apple Butter Makin' Days Parade in October.



The NAHCA booth at ABMD. The team consists of April Cutbirth, Kati Pickrell, Misty Antill, Travis Woods, Emily Carty, Barb Truman and Angela Piepenbrink.



The First Baptist Church Choir of Jefferson City visited the Home on October 20.



Veterans Oscar Moore and Ralph Glendenning on Veterans Day.

Resident Council News

The Resident Council met on October 2, 2013 with three officers and nine other residents in attendance.

In new business discussion regarding fundraising ideas for the council were raised. Ideas include bake sale, making bird houses, cookbooks and soliciting businesses for donations. Administrator, James Dennis, reminded the council that all solicitation for donations had to go through the Assistance League.

James updated the Council on several projects: the solarium, public wifi, therapy track, bus repair, and the government shutdown.

The Resident Council next met on November 6, 2013 with two officers and eleven residents in attendance.

In new business fundraising was once again discussed. One suggestion was to raffle off the pool table and shuffle board, but since they are owned by the state they must remain. Activities Director, Keri Creasey, stated that donations may be coming that could be used for Bingo money. The hours of operation for the Barber Shop were next discussed. The new hours for the Barber Shop are posted.

The Resident Council next met on December 4, 2013 with two officers and ten other residents in at-

tendance.

In new business, ideas were discussed on getting new people to attend the meetings. The Council agreed to watch for new residents and meet with them the day following admission to invite them to attend Resident Council. Administrator, James Dennis, stated that the facility was next on the list for installing/programming of wifi. He also reported that the solarium was almost completed.

Some residents reported that they have never seen the doctor. Doctor Billings does not wear a white coat, so many residents do not recognize him. James stated that his picture will be taken and framed and placed at each nursing station with his name so residents will know that he is the physician.

A resident commented that he is not able to hear the Final Salute and suggested that the receptionist announce overhead "ATTENTION PLEASE" three times before she makes the Final Salute announcement. James stated that he will have that initiated at once.

Another resident commented that he can not read the names of staff because the writing on the nametags is too small. James stated that he will have a dry erase board installed on each unit that will be updated with staff names each day.



Resident Jesse "James" Fureigh celebrated his 100th birthday on October 24th in the main Dining Room with a party and cake. Unfortunately, Jesse passed away 11 days later on November 4. Rest in Peace Jesse!

Paula Taylor is MVC Employee of the Month



Paula Taylor, CNA I, was selected as the Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month for October 2013. She is presented a plaque by MVC Deputy Director, Bryan Hunt at a ceremony on October 21. Below, Paula is congratulated by Cheryl Wilson and Betty Bridges.



The SKUMS Band performed on October 17.

New Volunteers



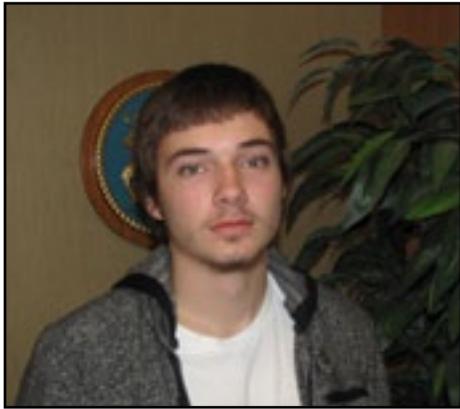
Joshua Sheets



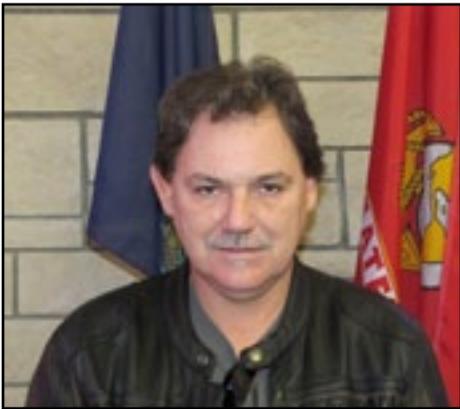
Leigh Hudgings



Marty Rodgers



Corey Blevins



Dewey Duncan



Rebecca Shields



American Legion Post 69 in Springfield donated several checks toward the purchase of a new bus. Volunteer Coordinator, David Kloppenborg, traveled to the post to receive the checks. Above are Bob Keller, Post 69 Commander, David Kloppenborg, Louella Wilson, Auxiliary Commander, and Bob Cale, Voiture 760 Junior Vice President.

News From Special Care Unit - D Wing

Nina Thompson - Activities, Special Care Unit

Hello from our SCU! We have had a few months since the last newsletter and lots of exciting things have been going on. We have new faces among us with Veterans and Staff alike. Several Holidays have come and gone. During the Halloween Trick or Treat Walk Thru some of our Veterans sit at a table to pass out candy to all the children that came through and had a great time watching them.

The home sponsored a Veteran's Day Breakfast with steak, eggs and all the trimmings. It was a wonderful way to wake up to a day all about their service to our country. Our Thanksgiving Family Meal was served on Friday, November 22, with lots of families enjoying a traditional Thanksgiving Meal with their loved one.

The beginning of the Christmas season was celebrated with a Pizza Party. We ordered pizza and all the extras were served with soft drinks. There were lots of smiles that day. The Family Christmas Meal and Santa's special visit with gifts was held on Friday, December 20. This was conducted a bit differently this year and the family members helped their loved one with his/her gifts. Those that did not have family with them that day had assistance with their gifts from staff members. Everyone had a most enjoyable time. Most of the comments from families were very positive and they were pleased to enjoy the opening of gifts together.

Our Veterans particularly enjoyed the Christmas trees on their unit and the Christmas music playing throughout the season. There was an abundance of reminiscing going along when sitting by the Christmas trees or hearing a favorite carol. Although we have had some horrendously cold and snowy weather everyone has enjoyed this time even with cancellations of entertaining groups not being able to make their way in. We hope everyone had a very Joyous Holiday Season.



On December 30, 2013 Eric Helwig and his mother Vivian presented a plaque that they had made to place on an organ that they had donated earlier. The organ was donated in honor of Eric's father "Rocky", who passed away on November 1, 2013. The organ is located on the Special Care Unit - D Wing.



Employee Awards



The Missouri Veterans Home honors all employees who have reached the five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, and thirty year milestones. Pictured above left is September five year recipient Cheryl Potter and Administrator James Dennis. Above center is September ten year recipient Cheryl Driver and Mr. Dennis. At left is November five year recipients Deb Webb and Diann Coates with Mr. Dennis. Above is September twenty-five year recipient, Barb Truman with Mr. Dennis. Not available for pictures in September were Joan Letsinger - five years. October: Janet Davis and Velvet Keever - five years; Charlie Campbell - ten years, Rebecca McNeill - fifteen years. November: Barbara Garrett and Roanna Lewis - five years.

New Employees

October

Alison Tomlin - Food Service Helper I
Suzette Corpier - Certified Nursing Assistant

November

Zanarie Carter - Custodial Worker I
Alisha Gaines - Domestic Service Worker
Brandy Smiles - Certified Nursing Assistant
Veronica Franco - Certified Nursing Assistant

December

Lindy Shepherd - Licensed Practical Nurse III
Sara Ogle - Certified Nursing Assistant
Deidra DeLong - Certified Nursing Assistant
Chelsea Black - Certified Nursing Assistant
Jennifer Pence - Health Program Aide
Nicollette Fellwock - Health Program Aide

NAHCA News

By Barb Truman

The Annual Christmas Party was Saturday December 14, 2013 at Kingsway Christian Church. Due to the nasty weather, we had approximately 112 employees and guests attend. The week leading up to the Christmas party we had a daily drawing for those who played our trivia games daily. Those winners were:

Monday – Tracy Epperson – HIM; Tuesday – Loni Hill – Dietary; Wednesday – Sheila Jack – Nursing; Thursday – Linda Gann – Nursing; Friday – Vince Straub – Shift Supervisor. Saturday night we had too many winners to remember, but we do remember that our Grand Prize Winner of \$200.00 was Cheryl Wilson, Nursing. Congratulations to all those winners!!

We enjoyed a wonderful brisket meal/smoked turkey with all the fixins meal. Thank you to our caterers Pat & Liz Elsey and Steve and LeighAnn Carnes.

NAHCA is in need of new ideas and we want your input! Please see a NAHCA member. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. NAHCA will be doing something!!!! I don't know what for sure, but we will be doing something!!!!

BIRTHDAYS

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>January</u>	
James McQueen	1/03
Mike Pennington	1/03
James Scott	1/04
Ross Spencer	1/04
Harold Sparkes	1/06
B.F. Babb	1/08
Chester King	1/08
Chester Shoemaker	1/08
John Rooney	1/09
Earl Seaton	1/09
Fred Herriman	1/10
Paul Ellis	1/11
Harold Holcomb	1/11
Charles Miller	1/16
Lawrence Tresler	1/16
Gerald Aquino	1/17
Earl Dodd	1/18
James Langley	1/18
Lloyd Evatt	1/23
Clifton Journagan	1/23
Sam Arnold	1/25
Carl North	1/25
George Armstrong	1/25
<u>February</u>	
Jay Hess	2/01
Billy Hand	2/07
Bobby Crowe	2/09
Walter Serviolo	2/13
Harold Wright	2/14
Elwin Matthews	2/16
Barrie Peterson	2/17
Jack Eiffert	2/19
Vergil Long	2/22
Charlie Haynes	2/22
<u>March</u>	
Roy Francis	3/01
Russell Carlin	3/01
Billy Denton	3/03
John Carney	3/05
Jimmie Kerr	3/05
Dana Thomas	3/06
Edgar Apperson	3/09
James Cox	3/09
William Grayson	3/09
Homer Isbell	3/11
Randy Gage	3/16
Kenneth Gold	3/20
James Pierce	3/23
James Walton	3/23
Joseph Ballew	3/25
Giles Steffen	3/28
Marlin Woods	3/29
Forrest Claxton	3/30

<u>JANUARY</u>	
Jan. 2	<i>B-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Jan. 4	USMC Auxiliary Visit. A.R., 9:30
Jan. 5	Patriot Guard Riders Visit, 10:00 AM
Jan. 5	Loose Notes Band D.R., 2:00 PM
Jan. 6	<i>Downstream Casino C & E Units, 9:00</i>
Jan. 8	Resident Council A.R., 1:00 PM
Jan. 8	Elks 409 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Jan. 9	<i>C-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Jan. 11	DAVA #68 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Jan. 13	<i>Famous Dave's BBQ, B-Unit 10:30 AM</i>
Jan. 15	Christian County Elks Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Jan. 16	Korean War Vets Visit, 9:30 AM
Jan. 16	Baptist Choir D.R., 10:00 AM
Jan. 16	A/L 137 Bingo D.R., 6:30 PM
Jan. 19	Mennonite Choir D.R., 2:30 PM
Jan. 20	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>
Jan. 22	<i>Hinode Japanese Restaurant, C & E Units, 10:30 AM</i>
Jan. 23	<i>E-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Jan. 27	<i>Downstream Casino B-Unit, 9:00 AM</i>
Jan. 29	Appetizer Party A.R., 2:00 PM

Does your civic organization need a program? The Missouri Veterans Home can help you out. We can attend your meeting and give a presentation which explains the admission requirements, costs, and frequently asked questions. We would be happy to come to your meeting at any time to present the facts. The presentation can be tailored from 10 minutes to 40 minutes. Call (417)466-7103 and ask for David Kloppenborg.

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	
Feb. 2	Loose Notes Band D.R., 2:00 PM
Feb. 5	Resident Council A.R., 1:00 PM
Feb. 6	<i>B-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Feb. 8	DAVA #68 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Feb. 12	Elks 409 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Feb. 13	<i>C-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Feb. 19	Christian County Elks Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Feb. 20	Korean War Vets Visit, 9:30 AM
Feb. 20	A/L 137 Bingo D.R., 6:30 PM
Feb. 27	<i>E-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>

All Out Trips are listed in Bold-Italic.

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT.

The Activities Department has received an Ipad and is now ready to assist any Veteran who would like to Facetime or Skype their loved ones. This is the ability to talk to someone like on a phone and being able to see them on the computer screen at the same time. If interested contact the Activities Department.

If your group or organization is interested in providing an activity for the residents of the Mt. Vernon Veterans Home, please contact the Activities Department at (417)466-7103 Ext. 1159.

<u>MARCH</u>	
Mar. 2	Loose Notes Band D.R., 2:00 PM
Mar. 6	<i>B-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Mar. 8	DAVA #68 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Mar. 12	Elks 409 Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Mar. 13	<i>C-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>
Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day Party, D.R., 2:00 PM
Mar. 19	Christian County Elks Bingo D.R., 2:00 PM
Mar. 20	Korean War Vets Visit, 9:30 AM
Mar. 20	A/L 137 Bingo D.R., 6:30 PM
Mar. 27	<i>E-Unit Walmart 9:00 AM</i>

Church Service in Chapel every Sunday at 9:45AM
Bible Study in Chapel every Tuesday at 10:00 AM
Catholic Communion in Chapel every Thursday at 9:30 AM



Above, Veteran Ken Bay gets a hug from Meric Piepenbrink during the Halloween walk around.