



Veterans Service Program Newsletter



October 2009

WELCOME ABOARD

To the New Service Officer

St. Louis Region: Steven Hudson – Hillsboro

Northeast Region: Mary Kientzy- St. Charles

Congressional Gold Medal Award to WASP

On July 1, 2009 President Barack Obama and the United States Congress awarded the WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots) the Congressional Gold Medal. Three of the roughly 300 surviving WASPs were on hand to witness the event. During the ceremony President Obama said, "The Women Airforce Service Pilots courageously answered their country's call in a time of need while blazing a trail for the brave women who have given and continue to give so much in service to this nation since. Every American should be grateful for their service, and I am honored to sign this bill to finally give them some of the hard-earned recognition they deserve."

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest and most distinguished award Congress can award to a civilian. Since the American Revolution; Congress has commissioned gold medals as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions. In 2000 and 2006, Congress awarded the Gold Medal to the Navajo Code Talkers and the Tuskegee Airmen, respectively.

Two Local WASPs Mary L Nirmaier of Columbia and Rose Ross of Moberly was presented and honored on September 28, 2009 at Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer office in Columbia, MO for their commitment, dedication, sacrifices and service to our nation as groundbreaking members of the WASPS during World War II.

Information from Bob Harvey

VA DENTAL CARE: Dental services to eligible Veterans include dental examinations and emergency and non-emergency outpatient dental treatment. Relatively few veterans receive free dental treatment because of the rather strict eligibility requirements. In contrast to other types of VA health care, free VA dental care is not offered to low-income veterans. Depending on his or her status, a Veteran may be eligible for unrestricted, cost-free dental care from the VA, or only needed for a certain specified type of care or for a limited number of treatments. The following are the only Veterans eligible for unlimited, unrestricted dental care from the VA on an unlimited, unrestricted basis:

Service connected Veterans rated totally (100 percent) disabled (including veterans rated totally disabled by reason of individual unemployability).

Veterans who were prisoners of war detained or interned for any period of time.

Veterans having a service connected compensable dental disability or condition rated under the 9900 diagnostic code series in the Schedule for Rating Disabilities.

There are a number of other groups of Veterans eligible for limited dental care listed in the 38 CFR 17.160 through 17.166 regulations. The most common is the honorably discharged Veteran in need of treatment at discharge (non compensable SC), who served at least 180 days (90 days for Gulf War service); and importantly, who apply to VA for treatment within 180 days of discharge. They are eligible for one time treatment. For a list of the other eligible for limited treatment, review the CFR list above.

If you have news or events you would like to post, please submit the information to:
Cindy Stivers, VSO at Cindy.Stivers@mvc.dps.mo.gov or
Karla Alsberge, OSA at Karla.Alsberge@mvc.dps.mo.gov for submission
www.mvc.dps.mo.gov



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Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans

On September 8, 2009 Karen Etzler our Women Veteran Coordinator was appointed to the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans through September 2011. The fact that there are only 12 members who serve on this committee and she is now one of them. The committee was established in 1983 to provide advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki on the needs of Women Veterans with respect to health care, rehabilitation benefits, compensation, outreach, and other relevant programs administered by the Department of VA.

CONGRATULATIONS KAREN!!!

Missouri Veterans Home and CBOC in Cape Girardeau changes

The Cape Girardeau CBOC is moving out of the Missouri Veterans Home. Sid Smith, VSO and Shawna Rogers the SOSA will stay at the Home.

Kevin Colyott, VSO, will move his office in the new CBOC area.

Stan Baughn, the Director of Cemetery Program will be located at the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau.

New address for CBOC in Cape Girardeau:
3051 Williams Street
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

Missouri Veterans Commission is planning its first annual leadership conference for December 1-4, 2009 at Embassy Suites in St Charles, MO.

December 1- 2 will be for the Veterans Service Program

December 2 - 4 will be for the leadership from VSP, Cemeteries and Homes

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Central Office/Veterans Services Program/Cemeteries Program.

Tonya Nichols, Senior Office Support Assistant (Keyboarding) with the Missouri Veterans Cemetery –Springfield, has been selected as the September, 2009 Employee of the Month for the Central Office/Veterans Services Program/ Cemeteries Program.

Missouri Veteran Homes

Janice “Jan” Smith, Supervisor of Volunteer Services for the Warrensburg Veterans Home was selected as the September 2009 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month.

Congratulations to both!



OCTOBER Birthdays

Bruce Cross	10/05
Jim Hurst	10/08
Rebecca Bradley	10/09
Dan McFarland	10/18

Happy Birthday!!!

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