



CHICKASAW COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE UPDATES--DECEMBER 2023

1. Veterans

- a. Seems like we are busier and busier each day. The Gulf War Veterans are coming out in Doves now which means more claims daily.**
- b. A couple of "Feel Goods" that I wanted to share with you.**
 - i. I found where one Veteran had submitted a claim for an issue that later was a Presumptive, I submitted the claim and he was back paid roughly \$20,000 dollars.**
 - 1. He just could not believe he was awarded anything and could use the money. He just smiled and shook my hand.**
 - ii. In Jan 2023, I had started a claim for the Widow of a Vietnam Veteran in that had been denied a claim years ago. As my case seemed to be stalled, I had written Earns office several times for Congressional intervention.**
 - 1. Her son brought her to the office to ask me what this large envelope was as she had not opened it. I opened it and explained that she was awarded her case. As she looked at it, it appeared roughly \$15,000 total. I then put it on a spreadsheet to show them that she was getting roughly \$199,000.00 in backpay and the original \$2,000.00 for burial benefits.**
 - 2. She was Elated and could not tell me thank you enough.**

2. American Legion Auxiliary, Post 38

- a. They had contacted me about donating a \$50.00 Fareway Gift card to Veterans that would like/need them.**
 - i. I came up with a list of about 20 that had either asked or expressed that they/family could use one. Every Receiving Veteran was so appreciative of this gift.**
 - 1. Thank you, Ladies Auxiliary, Post 38 New Hampton.**

3. Rotary Club

- a. They are putting together a Food Gift box for deserving Veterans**
- b. They asked for the names of the Veterans, can I give them that list?**
 - i. I had heard a good way to do this is to call each and ask them if I may give them their number.**

4. Des Moines VA Hospital

- a. **Todd Schriever (Floyd VSO) invited me to ride along down to his VA appointment.**
 - i. **He said it is a cool place to see at least once in a lifetime**
 - ii. **I would like permission to shut the office in the afternoon and ride along to see what it is like.**

5. Veterans Home in Marshalltown

- a. **Todd Schriever (Floyd VSO) and I are going to take a drive down on Friday either the 15th or the 22nd to deliver all the items that we have collected in our offices for the Veterans**
 - i. **At the fall class the Commandant invited all VSO to visit the Home.**
 - ii. **Since I am off on Friday, I thought this would be a great day to do this**

6. Budget

- a. **December 11th, Sheila S. sent me the Budget worksheet.**
- b. **I have a few copies of this worksheet but will send (email) them to any of you that wants them. If not, I will need your input into what you want on there?**
 - i. **Other Money?**
 - 1. **In speaking with Todd, he said they have county money for when a Veteran dies the can chip in money for funeral, he said the add a couple hundred dollars or so.**
 - 2. **I had a Veteran that (Current Guardsman) that asked for help with an Ambulance bill? Should we have money for that?**
 - a. **What about that "Administration Expense" could we change that to ½ Veteran Funeral Expense and ½ Veteran Emergency Help?**
 - 3. **Or do we want to stay away from that because Community Actions should help with that?**

7. Meeting Dates

- a. **It appears that the meetings will be the 2 Wednesday of the month from here on out.**

8. VA Cups

- a. **Katy K still needs to pick hers up.**

9. Coffee Club

- a. **I am expecting a rather large turn out as we (Karla and Keith) purchased extra gifts for the season to be raffled off during the coffee club on the 20th of this month.**
- b. **Schueth Ace hardware has donated some of the prizes for the Veterans**
- c. **I expect to see you all there as you are all Veterans and all eligible to win also.**

10. DAV Van

- a. **The volunteers really like the van shed and the new light in it**

- b. They requested a door be added to it. One of the volunteers has an 8' door that he would donate but we are afraid that is a little bit too narrow.

- i. Thoughts?

11. Budget

- a. Please remember that this report is generated from last month to the current date/month of meeting.

- i. Assumption all Commissioners will be attending meeting

12. DAV Trip Log (Tally)

- a. Please see attached