



Autumn is official!

Region 8 Veterans Committee

August & September 2018

National Veterans Conference was awesome!



Two receive Wisconsin Army Guard's highest honor

The Wisconsin Army National Guard inducted two retired soldiers into its hall of Honor Sunday May 15, during a ceremony in Witmer Hall at Joint Force Headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin.

Retired Command Sgt. Major Edgar J. Hansen of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and retired Brig. General Dominic A. Cariello of Racine, Wisconsin, were praised for their years of loyal service.

"We choose people of substance and significance who have made a tremendous contribution to this state and to this nation," said Major General Don Dunbar, Wisconsin's adjutant general and commander of the Wisconsin National Guard.

Hansen enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968 and served in Vietnam for more than 18 months. He left the Army in 1980 and returned in 1990 joining the Wisconsin Army National Guard's 32nd "Red Arrow" Infantry Brigade, eventually to become the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team's command sergeant major.

"The thing that always drove me was the fact that I got to be a soldier for the finest, freest nation on this planet, and the best people in the world," Hansen said.



“You’ve got to remember what kind of business we’re in,” he said prior to the ceremony. “This is service above self.”

Hansen said there were too many people that influenced his military career to mention.

“I thank all of the soldiers that served with me, all of the good commanders that gave me direction, and God bless America,” he said.

Cariello enlisted in 1981 in the U.S. Army Reserve and commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1983 in the Wisconsin Army National Guard. He served for 24 years in the 57th Field Artillery Brigade and assumed command of that organization in 2004. He led the unit’s reorganization into the 157th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and commanded Task Force Wisconsin in New Orleans for the Hurricane Katrina response. He then commanded a training team in Afghanistan between 2005 and 2007 that trained Soldiers in the Afghan National Army.

Upon promotion to brigadier general, Cariello served in two vital roles — as assistant adjutant general for readiness and training, and as deputy commanding general for First Army’s training support division west. He retired in 2012 with 31 years of service.

Regarding the most memorable part of his career Cariello said his goal was “making sure that every soldier that left the state of Wisconsin was trained, prepared and ready to do the job and come home.”

A unit transitioning from one mission to another is a very difficult and complex task, Dunbar said of Cariello’s success during the 57th’s transition from field artillery to support.

“Such is the talent of this officer,” Dunbar said. “You did an awesome job for us.”

Retired Command Sgt. Major Edgar J. Hansen of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, was a guest speaker this year and I have to say, his presentation with his troops and mission was served in a great way. His presentation was

given as if a visitor in another country and all the positive and good things they did. It was good to see something good came from wartime.

Another
speaker:
CAPTAIN
BUCHA



guest

PAUL

Bucha was sent to Vietnam in 1967 as a captain and commander of Company D, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment. On March 16, 1968, he and his company of 89 men were dropped by helicopter southwest of Phước Vĩnh^[5] in Bình Dương Province.^[2] The area was believed to be a North Vietnamese stronghold and Bucha's unit was tasked with seeking out and engaging the enemy forces.^[2] For two days Company D encountered light

resistance as it cleared North Vietnamese positions. On the afternoon of March 18, the company's lead group of about twelve men stumbled upon a full North Vietnamese army battalion that had stopped to camp for the night. The lead element came under heavy fire and was pinned down. Bucha crawled towards them and destroyed an NVA bunker. He returned to the company perimeter and ordered a withdrawal to a more defensible position. Throughout the night he encouraged his men, distributed ammunition, and directed artillery and helicopter gunship fire. At one point he stood exposed and used flashlights to direct helicopters which were evacuating the wounded and bringing in supplies. The next morning, as the NVA forces withdrew, he led a party to rescue those soldiers who had been cut off from the rest of the company.^[5]

Once his tour in the Vietnam War ended in April 1970, Bucha returned to the United States and taught Political Science at West Point. It was during this time that he learned he would be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in the battle near Phuoc Vinh. The medal was presented to him on May 14, 1970, by President Richard Nixon

In later life:

Bucha left the Army in 1972.^[6] He worked as chief of operations in Iran for Ross Perot's company, Electronic Data Systems (EDS). When several EDS employees were detained during the 1979 Iranian Revolution, he was involved in the effort to free them. He then started his own company which found American partners for foreign investors. With a French real estate developer he formed a joint venture which began the development of Port Liberté, New Jersey.^[7] He later worked as chairman of the board of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation and was president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.^[6]

Bucha is active in political affairs and campaigned for Barack Obama during the 2008 presidential election. Bucha unsuccessfully ran as a Republican for U.S. House of Representatives in New York in 1993.^[8]



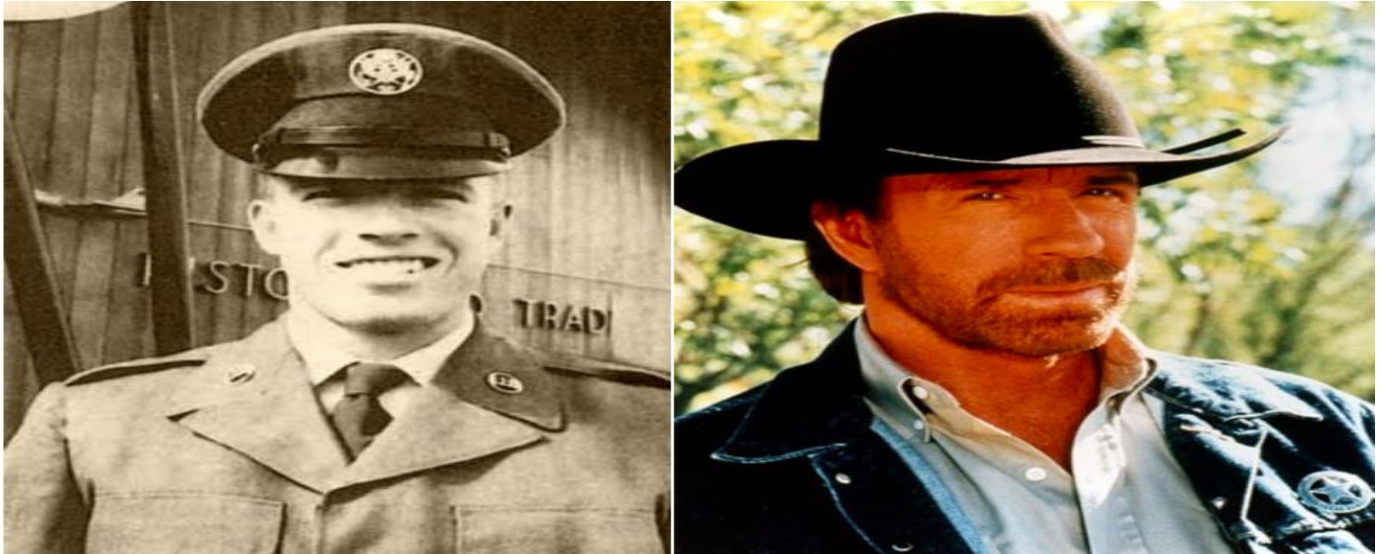
He is an honorary member of the Rhode Island Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars.

DID YOU KNOW: **Martha Raye**

Known as "The Big Mouth" and considered the female equivalent to Bob Hope, Martha Raye was an American icon in her own right.

She was born Margy Reed in Butte, Montana, to Maybelle Hazel (Hooper) and Peter Reed, Jr., vaudeville performers. She had Irish, German, and English ancestry. Raye made her acting debut before the age of 10 as she toured the nation with her parent's variety show

"Reed and Hopper". In her late teens she was hired by band-leader Paul Ash as his lead vocalist and was spotted by a Hollywood talent scout during a New York City concert in



1934. She soon relocated to Hollywood where she began making a name for herself appearing in a string of successful screwball comedies alongside the likes of Bing Crosby, Jimmy Durante, W.C. Fields, and Joe E. Brown.

With the outbreak of World War II she took a break from film making to focus on entertaining servicemen and women traveling with the USO on many tour stops. She soon became even more famous for her dedication to America, its values, and its soldiers which helped earn her the beloved nickname "Colonel Maggie".

She continued acting into the late 1980s dividing her time between movies, TV guest spots, and occasional stage appearances. She passed away on October 19, 1994 after a long battle from pneumonia and was buried [with full military honors at the Fort Bragg Main Post Cemetery, Fort Bragg, North Carolina](#). Martha "Colonel Maggie" Raye was 78 years old.

Chuck Norris

Born	Carlos Ray Norris March 10, 1940 Ryan, Oklahoma , U.S.
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1958 to 1968: United States Air Force and Martial arts



Air Police Badge

He joined the United States Air Force as an Air Policeman (AP) in 1958 and was sent to Osan Air Base, South Korea. It was there that Norris acquired the nickname “Chuck” and began his training in Tang Soo Do (tangsudo), an interest that led to black belts in that art and the founding of the Chun Kuk Do ("Universal Way") form.^[14] When he returned to the United States, he continued to serve as an AP at March Air Force Base in California. Norris was discharged from the U.S. Air Force in August 1962.

So many times, we hear about the Green Berets, Navy Seals, and Special Forces but we don’t hear too much about the Air Force. Here is a heroic act with the **Air Force** and **SEAL Team 6**, in 2002.

The U.S. Air Force on Thursday released an aerial video that shows highlights of Tech Sgt. John Chapman’s heroics during hand-to-hand combat on an Afghanistan peak before he was killed by Al Qaeda militants.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/08/10/air-force-releases-video-sgt-john-chapmans-final-moments.html>

Chapman, 36, a native of Windsor Locks, Connecticut could be seen on March 4, 2002, charging the enemy on Takur Ghar, a 10,000-foot mountain, Task & Purpose reported. Chapman joined Navy SEALs, to recover a wounded comrade who had fallen from the aircraft after it was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade.

Chapman "charged into enemy fire through harrowing conditions, seized a bunker, and killed its occupants," the White House said.

The Air Force said he was struck and temporarily incapacitated by enemy fire when he moved from one protective cover to engage the enemy.

Britt K. Slabinski, a retired member of SEAL Team 6, who received the Medal of Honor in May for his heroics during the same 14-hour battle, believed Chapman was dead, and moved the team -- including someone with a serious leg injury -- off the battlefield, the New York Times reported.

Chapman regained consciousness and fought for an hour after being gunned down but managed to kill two more enemies, reports said.

Slabinski, who completed 15 combat tours, told the New York Times in 2016 that he was "95 percent certain" that Chapman was killed and was skeptical of the video's accuracy and analyses. He told officials that Chapman's actions helped save his team that day. Slabinski retired from the Navy in 2014 after more than 25 years of service. He said following the ceremony that the medal "belongs to so many others" and named the teammates "who followed me without hesitation." Slabinski said the medal also belongs to seven Americans who died on the mountaintop.

"They gave all for us. This honor is truly theirs. They are the true heroes," he said in a statement delivered on the White House driveway.

Deborah Lee James, who worked under President Obama as the Air Force secretary, said Slabinski deserves his medal and his contributions shouldn't be underestimated.

“Nobody thinks that he did anything other than his absolute best on the worst day of his life,” James said of Slabinski, according to the Washington Post. “He thought he was dead, and he was responsible for four or five others that he was trying to save.”

President Trump will award the Medal of Honor posthumously to Chapman’s family on Aug. 22 - 16 years after he died. He will be the first airman to receive the award since the Vietnam War.

James had recommended Chapman for the award, but she said it stalled.

“I believe the SEALs want to honor John Chapman,” James told the paper. “What some don’t want is they don’t want it linked to him getting back up and fighting back on.”

Hosted by Honor Flight Bluegrass Chapter and Mission BBQ Louisville. Local 3058 attended this function.



MISSION 100

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
11:00 AM**

PLEASE JOIN US AT

**MISSION BBQ
4607 SHELBYVILLE ROAD
ST. MATTHEWS, KY 40207**

For the best barbecue in Louisville
and shake hands with a gathering of



100-YEAR-OLD WWII VETERANS

7.. OR MORE .. ARE EXPECTED

Every service member, regardless of
age, branch or duty station deserves
a thank you in the style that Honor
Fight Bluegrass is legendary for.

MISSION BBQ




Such an amazing day and honor. There were 8 WWII Veterans in attendance ages 100-103 yrs. old. Two of them still drive. We were reminded of our history books and that we were in the presence of LIVE HISTORY.

There was a young boy, Nolan Fox, who had permission to be absent from school to attend this function. He wears his little uniform proudly and his mission is to shake as many hands of these veterans as he can. He loves to learn about WWII. This day he was made an Honorary member of the Honor Flight Bluegrass Chapter Member.

To hear each person's story was so amazing and as their stories were told you could imagine it in your mind. Such a high honor to be among these



gentlemen.



Operation Victory is a coalition of Labor Unions, Community Organizations, and Businesses. Working to provide Homes for Heroes.

Join Us To Rebuild A Home For A Homeless Veteran

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th
8:00AM to 1:00PM

Please Park at Teamsters 89 Union Hall
3813 Taylor Blvd. Louisville, KY

Volunteers will be removing the siding, any unwanted debris from the front and back yard, demolishing the ceilings, and cleaning and removing debris from the basement. Goggles, gloves, & masks will be provided. There will be no restroom on site. Volunteers will be shuttled to and from the home by a Metro United Way shuttle.

This was a joint effort of Local Unions within the Metro Louisville, Kentucky area.



UAW 3058 was present in the giving of yourself to help another.

REMINDER: What is your local doing?

Send to me to share and inspire others...

debbiabattipearson@yahoo.com



RE
M
IN
D
ER
S:



Sunday, Nov.11, 2018

Toys for Tots

Check out these clips:

<https://www.toysfortots.org/images/media/Toys-For-Tots-Christmas-Morning.mp4>

<https://www.toysfortots.org/images/media/Toys-For-Tots-Guard-Duty.mp4>