

REGION 8  
LOCAL VETERANS  
COMMITTEE REPORT  
APRIL 2025

After a busy couple of months during the holidays, the first quarter of the year saw a bit of a slow down with several of the Local Veteran Committees. This quarter was used to do a lot of the pre-planning for what the Committees want to accomplish this year. Three Committees saw changes in leadership.

**LOCAL 129 (Grand Prairie, TX)**

- \* The Chair of the Veterans Committee retired. A new Chair has yet to be named.

**LOCAL 276 (Grand Prairie, TX)**

- \* The Veterans Committee paired up with the Civil Rights Committee to celebrate Black History Month in February. Guest speakers included the Mayor of Arlington (Jim Ross) and Committee member James Nelson (a Marine) who spoke about the Montford Point Marines, who were the first African Americans to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps.
- \* The Committee was invited to attend the grand opening of The National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation in Arlington, TX, in March. The museum celebrates Americans who have served in the US Armed Forces, many of whom received The Medal of Honor, our Nations highest recognition for valor.

**LOCAL 862 (Louisville, KY)**

- \* The Local 862 Color Guard had the privilege of presenting the colors at the 2025 Ford sub Council meeting in Chattanooga, TN.
- \* The Color Guard was also able to participate in the third annual Louisville Peace Awards, celebrating leaders in civil rights and community enrichment.
- \* One of the members attended KY Congressman Morgan McGarvey's 2025 African American Veteran's Breakfast with three UAW Local 862 retirees. The retirees received a Certificate of Appreciation for their military service.
- \* The Veterans Committee made a donation to Active Heroes Veterans Retreat in the form of purchasing a table for their Vietnam Veterans Gala.
- \* The Committee now has three members who attend the Joint Executive Council of Veterans Organizations ( JECVO) meetings. This organization shares information about various veterans events and support programs. They periodically bring veteran friendly politicians in as guest speakers.
- \* One of the members of the Committee has volunteered to reach out to different veteran organizations to try to find some other volunteer opportunities for the Committee.

### **LOCAL 1852 ( Springhill, TN)**

- \* The Veterans Committee was able to donate 50 pairs of socks to the Marshall County Veterans Center for distribution to local veterans in need.
- \* Each month, the Committee selects two Veterans of the Month (one retired and one active) to present a flag to.
- \* Due to cuts in staffing, the Committee is currently searching for a new contact for the VA hospital in Murfreesboro, TN.

### **LOCAL 2069 (Dublin, VA)**

- \* The Veterans Committee currently has 31 members. Only 12-15 are very involved in the Committee activities.
- \* The Committee is currently doing a gun raffle to raise funds for future activities. Future activities include a Memorial Day ceremony and a bike ride to DC to join the AmVets in the parade through Washington.
- \* A new 2025 Run To The Wall T-shirt design was selected. The shirts were ordered and will be sold for \$20 as a fundraiser.
- \* The Veterans Committee, with the help of the Community Service Committee, participated in an appreciation dinner for veterans and first responders. The dinner was held at the Union Hall.
- \* Members of the Committee are planning to attend an event in Wytheville to meet the riders who will be participating in the Run To The Wall event. They are going to take a couple trucks with them.

### **LOCAL 2164 (Bowling Green, KY)**

- \* The Veterans Committee has a new Chair (Penny Hogan) and a new Treasurer (Gary Wyatt).
- \* The Committee meet to discuss which charities to donate their left over fundraising money from 2024 to. Future fundraising projects and goals were discussed.
- \* \$1800 was donated to the Kentucky Veterans Brigade, the organization that runs the Veterans Alliance Center. Their donation will be used to help homeless or displaced veterans with clothes and food baskets.
- \* The Committee participated in a car cruise-in with local veterans organizations (VFW, American Legion, AmVets #130 and WKU Upward Bound). Toys for Tots presented the Veterans Committee with a plaque at the cruise-in.
- \* The Committee is currently working on updating the landscaping around the Union Hall's Veterans Memorial Garden. They plan on having this completed by Memorial day.
- \* The Committee had a breakfast meeting with a special guest (Glenda Grider) to discuss sponsoring a Suicide Walk to be held in September at the Hot Rod Stadium. Her son (Jeff Baker) passed away last year. He was prior Military and had also worked at Corvette.
- \* The Committee presented a 2025 scholarship to a member's dependent (Shelby Reed).
- \* There is now a Veterans parking spot at the Union Hall.

### **LOCAL 2360 (Carrollton, TX)**

- \* The Veterans Committee named a new Chair (Derrick Perry).

#### **LOCAL 3047 (Elizabethtown, KY)**

- \* Veterans Committee members were invited to attend a special Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall replica in Elizabethtown, KY.
- \* The Committee has started planning for their 2nd annual Red, White & Blue BBQ cook out to take place on Armed Forces Day.
- \* They have concentrated a lot of their efforts on contacting their Representatives regarding the cuts being done to the VA. They have participated in protests being held by neighboring Locals and within the community.

#### **LOCAL 5285 (Mt Holly, NC)**

- \* The Committee was side lined in January due to a flu bug that was going around.
- \* They worked with Daimler Truck at the Mt Holly plant to set up a Veterans Corner on the DTNA employee app. The Veterans Corner contains info to help Veterans such as links to to Vet Tix and **VA.gov**. They will be adding more links in the future.
- \* The Committee made small care packages to be donated to the Veterans at an assisted care center.