

# WVI Newsletter

November 2019



## AMVETS Elects 1st Female National Commander

“AMVETS National Headquarters, August 26, 2019 elected Jan Brown to serve as the organizations 2019 – 2020 National Commander. The election signifies a milestone in AMVETS history, as Commander Brown will be the first female Commander for the organization.

Every year AMVETS Commanders take on a veteran related project in an effort to bring awareness to certain issues and serve veterans across the nation. This year Commander Brown’s focus is Save a Warrior, an organization located in Newark, Ohio that provides counseling services in fields of mental health and wellness, suicide prevention and post traumatic stress to veterans, military personnel, police, firefighters and first responders.

AMVETS, which is also know as American Veterans, is the most exclusive Congressional chartered veteran service open to represent the interests of 20 million veterans and their families. We are veterans serving veterans since 1944”. (News release August 25, 2019)

## Feedback: Ohio Women’s Veterans Day

On April 10, 2019 the Senate passed Senate Bill 77 (Ohio Women Veteran’s Day) as written. The bill now heads to the House of Representatives for consideration.



## November Veteran Activities

- ◆ November 6 (Wed.) at 8:30am Park Terrace (2735 Darlington Rd. Toledo) will provide a complimentary breakfast. Reservation not required.
- ◆ November 9 (Sat.) Hope Baptist Church will sponsor a “Day of Honor”. There will be a free steak dinner at 6:00pm at 6250 South Ave. Toledo. RSVP: 419-867-9996
- ◆ November 10 (Sun.) at 11:00am there will be a veterans mass at Immaculate Conception Parish (434 western Ave. Toledo). A brunch will follow the mass. There will be an Honor Guard, bag piper and Springfield High School Band. Flier will be forwarded.
- ◆ November 11 (Mon.) at 9:00am join WVI at UT Savage Hall for the annual Veteran Appreciation Day and Resource Fair. Free breakfast. Reservations not required. WVI would like to save a table for members therefore; let Carolyn Nagy know if you are planning to attend.
- ◆ November 14 (Thurs.) Storypoint Waterville (1470 Pray Boulevard Waterville) will provide a complimentary lunch for veterans from 11:30am – 1:00pm. RSVP: 419-878-1000.
- ◆ American Legion Toledo Post #335 will present Judge J. Lanzinger (Nov. 1), Eric Buetikofer (Director UT Military Affairs) (Nov. 8), Stephen Johnson, Pro-medica Chaplin (Nov. 15) and a Metroparks Ranger will discuss “Co-existing With Coyotes” on Nov. 22. The lunch and meeting is held at The Toledo Club from 11:30am – 1:30pm. Lunch: \$15.00 (Flier will be forwarded).

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R. Bayes  
Picture provided by C. Nagy

## Women Veteran Turns 101!

Roena Bayes (Bryan, Ohio) turned 101 years old August 27, 2019. She was surprised by a parade in her honor organized by Tweila Cauthen, the adjunct for the USS Jacob Jones American Legion Post No. 2 in Washington D.C. and Army recruiter Sgt. Kyle Pierson.

The marchers included friends from Washington D. C., current and past military members, friends, Girl Scouts, members of the Legion Riders and the Bryan High School Marching Band. There was a beautiful cake, speeches and socialization. Ms. Bayes is a 75 year member of American Legion Post No. 2 where she has served as post commander

and department commander. AmLegion Post 2 is the only all female post. Ms. Bayes contributed valuable historical information regarding the post and helped to keep it alive. For those reasons Ms. Bayes was given the honor to house the AmLegion Post No. 2 flag in her home until her passing. (See picture) The flag will be in a prominent place at her funeral after which it will be returned to the Post.

Ms. Bayes was raised in Farmer, Ohio where her family operated a general store and garage. She was working as a teacher when she saw a full page ad for the Army. She mentioned joining to her patriotic mother who said join first and than tell your father. Ms. Bayes joined the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) for basic training and later The Army Administration School. She spent some time in Texas tracking officer's flying time to and from various locations throughout the world. She spent time in California, England, France, and Germany during WWII. The war ended before she could be sent to the Pacific. Ms. Bayes was called back to duty for the Korean Conflict but could not serve due to a heart murmur. She stayed in Bethesda, Maryland where she worked as a medical technician in pathology and hematology for the next 27 years.

Ms. Bayes is still very active and drives to church. Her "job" is documenting the family genealogy in the many individual family members notebooks. Each notebook is carefully cataloged for eventual donation to the historical society. Her condo is filled with military memorabilia and pictures grace her wall from when she landed in France.

Denise Schantz and Carolyn Nagy had the privilege and honor to spend an hour with Ms. Bayes for this interview on September 5, 2019.

### Veteran Discount

Habitat for Humanity will give WVI members a 50% discount at Restore (1310 Conant Street, Maumee). The discount is not to exceed \$200 per visit. This means the veteran can purchase \$400 worth of supplies and/or furniture during the visit. To receive the discount you must mention that you are a WVI member.

### Holiday Gathering

- ◆ December 10 (Tuesday)
- ◆ 6:00pm - 8:30pm
- ◆ **Charlies** on Dussel Rd., Maumee
- ◆ Snacks provided by WVI. Beverage must be purchased.
- ◆ Gifts and door prizes
- ◆ Bring a women veteran as your guest
- ◆ Reservation due to Carolyn Nagy by 12/3.
- ◆ Flier will be forwarded

### United States Vets, Inc. (USVI) Fundraiser



Inside the Five Brewing Co. (5703 N. Main Street Sylvania) is hosting a fundraiser for veterans. The proceeds will be divided between a national veterans organization and USVI. Veterans have selected a special beer "All American Ale" to be available by November 11, 2019 for purchase at Inside the Five. The sale of this beer will generate funds for the identified veteran organizations for as long as the supply lasts. USVI/WVI will be available November 15 (Fri.) from 11:00am - midnight to greet veterans. If interested in being a greeter contact Carolyn Nagy for details. Flier will be forwarded.