

# UNION GROVE NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN VETERANS HOME AT UNION GROVE



## CREATIVE ART FESTIVAL

We are calling for Veteran Member Artists for our up-and-coming Creative Art Festival. We are asking for Members to share their art and other creative works to be displayed beginning Friday, January 26 from 1:30 PM through January 28th. Mark your calendars for a special “Meet and Greet the Artist Gala” which will take place on Friday, January 26th, at 1:30 PM. This event will be held in the Boland Hall MPR and include autoharp entertainment, wine, cheese and crackers.

If you are a Veteran or a Spouse of a Veteran who resides at the Union Grove Veterans Home, please contact Diana Venus- 262-878-6700, Ext. 6725 or [Diana.Venus@dva.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Diana.Venus@dva.wisconsin.gov), prior to January 12th, to reserve your booth for displaying your creations. To make this creative arts festival a success, we are looking for a variety of woodcrafts, drawings, paintings, sketches, poetry, pottery, cross stitch, etc. We have a lot of talent at the Home. We would like to have your art on display!



## NOVEMBER

Gordie Voss – November 1st  
Ray Prochazka – November 9th  
Jim Sarchet – November 15th  
John Gustin – November 21st  
Richard Backler – November 22nd

## DECEMBER

Robert Patyk – December 2nd  
James Metzger – December 6th  
Garth Rasmussen – December 11th  
Ray McNurlan – December 23rd  
Kenney Blue – December 28th  
Mary Weil – December 29th

# MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## JANUARY

Jim Abuya – January 17th  
Bill Baumgardt – January 18th  
Greg Mitchell – January 24th  
Jim Hickman – January 31st

## DONATIONS

We received **\$5,670.00** in monetary donations from September through November to assist with activity programming, campus events, catered meals, and for general purposes.

In addition 50 non-monetary donations were provided including bingo snack items, for our Members, woodshop items, greeting cards, pumpkins for Members to decorate, reading glasses, bingo quarters, Halloween decorations, newspaper subscription, birthday cupcakes, and MANY Veterans Day cards which were passed out during daily mail call.



A special thank you to the Vietnam Veterans of America for donating 2 outdoor benches that will provide additional seating during our wonderful Wisconsin weather.

**VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED OVER 218 HOURS OF SERVICE FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER. THANK YOU SO MUCH TO OUR HARDWORKING VOLUNTEERS, WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOU!**

# WELCOME

## TO OUR NEW MEMBERS AT UNION GROVE

**Raymond (Ray) Prochazka** was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and worked as a printer for 31 years. He served as a Marine. Ray enjoys watching movies, dogs, car racing and music from the 60-70's. Please welcome Ray and say hello when you see him.

**Edward (Ed) Waldron** was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, making him a Bears and Cubs fan! He served in the Army and later became an Accountant. He enjoys exercising to stay healthy, and really enjoys a cup of coffee and conversation. Please welcome and say hi to Ed when you see him.

**Tommy Webb** was born and raised in Richland, Virginia. He served in the Army and later became a Diesel Mechanic, a job he really enjoyed. A favorite past time of his was going to watch the stock car races, and he continues to enjoy watching the Motor Trend channel. Please welcome and say hi to Tommy when you see him.

**Richard Backler** was born and raised in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War and later became a pattern maker for car parts, engines, etc. Some favorite hobbies (past and current) include working on cars, spending time outside, dancing, reading magazines, playing baseball, riding motorcycle, etc. Please welcome and say hi to Richard when you see him

**Gary Anderson** was born in Racine, Wisconsin. He served in the Navy during the Vietnam war. After the service he was a carpenter and later went on to be a mechanic at Case. Gary enjoys music and has played several instruments including the accordion and bagpipes. Other interests include fishing, hiking, camping, and his BMW Motorcycle. Please say hello to Gary when you are visiting.

## MANY WAYS TO SPEND TIME VOLUNTEERING WITH OUR MEMBERS THIS WINTER:

- Provide one to one visits for Members on our Memory unit
- Provide one to one visits on Boland Hall second floor
- Take Members for wheelchair walks outside, weather permitting
- Provide a movie night on Boland Hall second floor
- Maintain organization of the Boland Hall library
- Escort Members to Happy Hour on Fridays at 2:00pm
- Escort Members to bingo on Tuesdays at 11:00pm
- Pass Member monthly activity calendars in Boland Hall
- Water plants and weed during gardening season
- Assist Members with computers and technology

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IF YOU'RE A VISITOR OR VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CHECK-IN AT THE KIOSK BEFORE MOVING ABOUT THE BUILDING. VOLUNTEERS MUST BE TESTED FOR COVID BEFORE VISITING MEMBERS. PLEASE CONTACT TERRI PRESSER AT 262-878-6725 IF YOU'RE UNSURE OF THE REQUIREMENTS OR PROCESS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

HERE ARE SOME OF THE SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR DECEMBER 2023 AND JANUARY 2024. PLEASE REFER TO EACH FLOOR'S MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR THE COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF ALL OUR WONDERFUL ACTIVITIES.

## DECEMBER 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS

Monday, Dec. 4th - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30PM - Pub

Thursday, Dec. 7th - **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Display** - Beginning at 9:00AM - Vending Room

Saturday, Dec. 9th - **Racine Community Church of the Nazarene Hallway Caroling** - 1:30PM

Tuesday, Dec. 12th - **Vietnam Veterans of America Sponsored Bingo** - 2:00PM - MPR

Wednesday, Dec. 13th - **Union Grove High School Band** - 1:30PM - MPR



## Member & Family Christmas Party

Wednesday, Dec. 13th - 5:30-7:00PM - MPR and 1W

1W Entertainment - **Susan Olson** | MPR Entertainment - **Wild Hearts**



Friday, Dec. 15th - **Post 171 Gift Giving**

Monday, Dec. 18th - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30PM - Pub

Wednesday, Dec. 20th - **Christmas Sing-Along with the VA Voices, Union Grove Member Choir**  
- 10:30AM - MPR

Tuesday, Dec. 26th - **Navy Ship 40 Sponsored Bingo** - 11:00AM - MPR

Friday, December 29th - **New Year's Eve** - Olive Garden Eat Out in - Noon

## JANUARY 2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, Jan. 5th - **Walmart Outing** - 9:30AM

Monday, Jan. 8th - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30 - Pub

Tuesday, Jan. 9th - **Vietnam Veterans of America Sponsored Bingo** - 2:00PM - MPR

Monday, Jan. 15th - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30PM - Pub

Tuesday, Jan. 16th through Friday, Jan. 19th - **Lumberjack Week Activities**

Wednesday, Jan. 17th - **Lumberjack Pancake Breakfast** - 8:00AM - MPR

Monday, Jan. 22nd - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30 - Pub

Friday, Jan. 26th through Sunday, Jan. 28th - **Creative Arts Festival** - MPR

Monday, Jan. 29th - **Ice Cream Social** - 1:30 - Pub

# BOLAND HALL ACTIVITIES

**1 West** has been busy with exercise groups and active games. Members enjoyed watching the Wisconsin Kites club and a trip through Hickory Grove on the golf cart for Southern's Halloween decorations. We have been busy with watercolor paintings and crafts. 1 West has been getting outside for those nice Wisconsin warm days and enjoying movies. We also enjoyed the Piggly Wiggly chicken and the Halloween party and Happy Hour with entertainment.

During November, Members enjoyed entertainment by the Army Band and Jimmy LeRose. We had a plethora of Eat Out In's and are extremely grateful for the kindness and generosity of R & R pizza. We have had our hearts warmed by the reading of children thank you letters and drawings, in honor of Veteran's Day. We took a trip back in time with impressionist Jessica Michna and hope that she will return with more memories of our younger years. We look forward to Christmas and the hustle and bustle of the season.

**1 East** has enjoyed watching nature with 'squirrel pumpkin carving'! We cut holes in the pumpkins, placed peanut butter on the inside and let them at it. We enjoyed the Piggly Wiggly Eat Out In, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 171, and the kite flyers from the Wisconsin Kite Flyers Club. We learned about different artists of the month, art

groups, and entertainment by the Army Band. The influx of kindness and love from our community on Veterans Day filled our hearts with appreciation.

**2nd Floor** has been busy with many festive activities this month. October was a blast! We participated in haunted golf cart tours through Hickory Grove, thanks to our friends at the Southern Wisconsin Center! We've been painting pumpkins, tasting apples, launching rotten apples, watching a Halloween movie on the big screen, trick or treat bingo, and of course the Halloween party. Special meals are always a hit and we've enjoyed Piggly Wiggly chicken and fresh omelets off the griddle. We also had the pleasure of having the Wisconsin Kites Club here to fly kites outside for our viewing. We are soaking up the random days of nice weather this month, before they're gone for good!

In November, we were busy traveling through time with impressionist Jessica Michna, and the Christa Bauer, from the Racine Heritage Museum who presented, 'Notorious Racine'. The Army Band performed for us honoring our Members for Veterans Day. Don't forget turkey bowling! Lots of laughs by all! We enjoyed the comforts of tomato soup and grilled cheese. And we absolutely love our apple caramel floats. Autumn was a very busy time for 2nd floor.

Emil Tenuta

Served in the United States Army Air Corps

William Bradley

Served in the Marine Corps

Gary Anderson

Served in the Navy

## IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING OUR MEMBERS  
WHO HAVE PASSED  
IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2023

# VETERANS DAY



# TURKEY BOWLING



# TURKEY BOWLING





# VIRTUAL REALITY GOGGLES

