



Badger Honor Flight Volunteer Meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 2026 7:00PM
VFW Post #7591 301 Cottage Grove Rd.
Madison, WI 53716

Chairperson Report – Ziegler

- 1. Meeting called to order at 7:05PM**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Two new volunteers**
- 4. Board and Flight Team Introductions**

Chairperson Report – Brian Ziegler

1. Overview

- WI Honor Flights / Honor Flight Network News
 - WI Honor Flight Summit – Jan 24 in Wausau
 - The Wisconsin hubs will work with each other on TLC Veterans. Ziegler will be in contact with Kwik Trip about advertising videos at the gas pumps. We will work jointly together regarding a booth at the State Fair. Working on extending service eligibility dates for Veterans due to the Desert Storm Memorial opening this fall. There will be 24 charter flights from Wisconsin this year to Washington, D.C.
- Honor Flight Network
 - HFN Summit: Feb 27 – Feb 28 in Washington, D.C.
 - Three BHF Board members and myself are going. Jody will be presenting a breakout session entitled “Keeping The Mission Strong”. We will learn the best practices to help our missions. There is a new Interim CEO, Marion Watkins and the New Board Treasurer is myself. We are excited for fresh new perspectives and initiatives on the National level. Our focus will be the hubs and how to better serve them.

2. Speaking Engagements

- Upcoming
 - none
- Past Month
 - Becky Clark – New Glarus VFW Post 10549
- Contact chairperson@badgerhonorflight.org for speaking engagements



3. Check Presentations

- Buena Vista Wonder Workers 4-H Club \$1,210
- FLOG (For Love Of Golf) \$310
- Waunakee American Legion Auxiliary Unit 360 \$1,300
- Piggly Wiggly Prairie Du Chien Information Table \$200
- Starkweather Brewing \$275

Treasurer Report – Ed Brown

1. Large Donations

- Soils and Engineering Services \$1,500
- American Legion Auxiliary # 172 \$1,500
- UPS Store # 3629 – Monona \$1,250
- Adams-Columbia Electric Co-op \$1,000

Memorials

- John Kavanaugh \$2,620
- Mary West, USAF Retired \$1,920

2. Updates

- Guardian fees for the spring flights are rolling in. We have already received 10% of the money for the Clay Shoot.

Secretary Report – Becky Clark

1. Thank you

- Thank you very much for attending the services of our fallen heroes. Your presence means so much to our Veteran's families.

2. We Remember the Fallen – January 2026:

- Patrick Statz -Army Korea - Mission 19
- Felix Ring - Navy World War II - Mission 20
- Ronald Goette - Army Vietnam - Mission 24
- Mary West - Air Force Vietnam-Mission 63
- Ronald Lange - Navy Korea - Mission 24
- Jerry Frautschi - Navy Korea - Mission 52
- Donald Chisman - Marines Vietnam - Removed Illness
- Kenneth Goss - Navy World War II - Mission 9
- Lowell Bakken - Marines Korea - Mission 58
- Jeffrey Henderson - Army Vietnam - Mission 35
- Gene Simpson - Army Vietnam - Mission 54
- Howard Haase - Air Force Korea - Mission 30



- Nick Baldarotta - Army Korea - Mission 11
- Richard Hodges - Navy Korea - Mission 50
- Eugene Schneeberger - Army Vietnam - Mission 51
- Robert Forbess - Navy World War II - Mission 13
- George Fuller - Army Korea - Mission 27

3. Emails from the Funeral Team

- It was an honor to represent Badger Honor Flight at the visitation for Mr. Simpson. The family appreciated our attendance and the message posted on the tribute wall on the funeral home website. One of the posters included photos of his day in DC with his son. They related how much Gene enjoyed his Honor Flight, even though he was suffering from dementia. The family shared that Mr. Simpson continued to wear his Honor Flight cap out and about and was happy when people came over and thanked him for his service. Mr. Simpson's son said he continues to proudly wear his Guardian baseball cap.
- Mr. Baldarotta's visitation was well attended! There was a display of his military experience and medals. The display included his Honor Flight cap, badge, and photos from his trip. His family appreciated our presence. They said "Badger Honor Flight is a well-oiled machine". In addition, an attending Veteran stopped to say thank you and to tell us of his recent Honor Flight last fall.

Volunteer Events and Fundraising Report – Tiffany Tobias

1. Look Ahead

- February 21st: Rudes Lanes, Deforest – Bowling
- March 7th: Guardian Training @ American Family Insurance
- April 18th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- May 9th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- May 18; BHF Golf Outing
- May 30th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- June 2026: Women's Veteran Recognition Booth Ceremony, Cook-Out Resource Fair thru VA
- July 25th: Baraboo Car Show/Gun Raffle
- July 31st: Mallards 50/50 - non-profit spotlight

2. Volunteer Opportunities

- Medical Team Members
- Admin Support
- IT Management
- Newsletter Article Writer



Inventory Report – Babler

1. Merchandise Items

- We are bringing back the BHF round refrigerator magnets. We are also going to revive the pom poms

2. Merchandise Clothing for Guardian Training

- We will be packaging up the clothing for the Spring flights on February 21st. We will be operating the clothing distribution as we have the last few seasons.

3. Volunteers

- We are appreciative of all the merchandise volunteers. If you are interested or want more information, please let me know.

Administration Report – Barman

1. Spring 2026 Flights

- Flights are FULL! Calls were completed one week ahead of time.
VOLUNTEERS MADE THIS HAPPEN!
 - Eileen for taking the lead on getting the flights filled, assigning all the call files to callers and then to roster managers, making calls, answering all my questions and all the other things
 - Mike for creating all the call files, training new volunteers, running reports in DocuSign
 - Steve for sending out all the DocuSign forms to the Veterans and guardians and doing follow-up when they can't find them
 - Lynn for tracking all the DocuSign forms that come back
 - Callers for making all the calls and then more calls
 - Roster Managers (Mary, Roxanne, Jean) for entering data into Honor Apps
 - Data Entry for the second review of the data in Honor Apps
 - All those that do the follow ups for missing information, missing forms, etc.

2. Calls, Deferrals, etc.

- We had higher deferral numbers than we ever have.
 - 479 Veteran/Guardian calls to fill flights
 - 126 Unsuccessful Calls
 - 6 Deceased
 - 103 Deferred
 - 32 Removed



Medical – Greenwood

1. Medical Forms returned

- April 18th- 77/171
- May 9th - 95/182
- May 30th -78/150

2. Medical Team update

- Establishing Flight Crew- approximately 50% complete
- All review of forms come through me so I can run a report of who hasn't done their forms.
- New provider interest is up - trying to slowly incorporate new providers in with experienced providers.
- Follow up callers - working on getting approximately five providers to do follow-up calls on missing medical forms or medical concerns. List was established through the medical survey interest form that was sent out.
- Establishing Guardian Training Team. Will be established in the next 30 days.

Flight Operations Report – McClain

1. Spring Flight Dates

- Mission 64
 - April 18, 2026
 - Sun Country
 - 6:30am/9:15pm
 - Flight Sponsor: American Family Dream Foundation
- Mission 65
 - May 9, 2026
 - American Airlines
 - 7am / 9:15pm
 - Flight Sponsor: Badger Honor Flight Golf Outing
- Mission 66
 - May 30, 2026
 - JetBlue
 - 6:30am*/8:15pm* (*unconfirmed times)
 - Flight Sponsor:



2. Flight Day Sponsorship Opportunities, per flight

- Alpha/Flight - \$100,000 (May 30)
- Bravo/Day in DC - \$15,000 (all 3)
- Charlie/Welcome Home - \$10,000 (season) (all 3)
- Buses - \$6000 (all 3)
- USPP - \$1500 (all 3)
- Breakfast - \$750 (all 3)
- Lunch - \$2500 (all 3)
- Dinner - \$2500 (all 3)
- Snacks - \$200 (May 9, May 30)
- Contact Brian, Jody or Ed if interested in sponsoring a piece of flight day.

3. Other Ways to Help

- THANK YOU to those of you that purchased items off our Amazon Wishlist or shared the post on Facebook!!
- Swag bag donations
 - If donating, we need 95 of each item donating.
 - Bags
 - Business tchotchkes

4. DC Updates

- National Park Service has cancelled the previously announced full closure of the World War II Memorial. The Memorial will remain open to visitors while the lighting work and upgrades are completed!
- National Honor Flight Summit Feb 26-March 1 in DC.

5. Airport Trivia

- Dane County Regional Airport set a new all-time passenger record in 2025, flying 2,478,661 passengers. This surpasses their previous record, set in 2019 by nearly 100K passengers!

Misc.

1. Spring Flights – Mail Call / Publicity Recap

- Mail Call Team is ready for the Spring
 - Mail Call is to be postmarked by 3 weeks prior to the flight
- Photographer slots are almost filled
- Working on filling VIP / Media slots
- Starting to review Veteran Publicity Forms
 - Recruiting volunteers to assist with Veteran stories



2. Desert Storm Memorial

- The Desert Storm Memorial will be dedicated on October 24, 2026. More information, such as eligibility dates, will be announced at the National Honor Flight Summit. We will share next month!

Upcoming BHF Volunteer Meetings

1. BHF Meetings are held on the first Wednesday evening of each month.
 - **March 4, 2026** – VFW 7591 - 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison at 7:00PM
 - **April 1, 2026** – VFW 7591 - 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison at 7:00PM
 - **May 6, 2026** – VFW 7591– 301 Cottage Grove Rd Madison 7:00pm

Contact the Board -

- **Chairperson of the Board:** Brian Ziegler chairperson@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Secretary/Historian:** Becki Clark secretary@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Treasurer:** Ed Brown treasurer@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Administration:** Miel Barman administration@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Flight Operations:** Jody McClain flightoperations@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Inventory:** Brad Babler inventory@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Medical Support:** Tyler Greenwood medical@badgerhonorflight.org
- **Volunteer Events:** Tiffany Tobias volunteerevents@badgerhonorflight.org

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Clark
Board Secretary
Badger Honor Flight