



Badger Honor Flight Volunteer Meeting
Wednesday, April 1, 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

- **Wisconsin Honor Flight Summit**
 - We are having a follow-up meeting from our January meeting on April 2, 2026. Topics of discussion include:
 - Kwik Trip Publicity
 - We would do one big publicity for all Wisconsin Hubs. Never Forgotten did this before and had great results for Veteran recruitment.
 - WI State Fair
 - On Veterans Day at the fair, Wisconsin hubs would have a booth.
 - HFN Summit Follow-up
- **BREAKING NEWS!!!**
 - Honor Flight Veteran Eligibility UPDATE. The new eligibility dates have been set: December 7, 1941 – July 31, 1991. The new Desert Storm/Desert Shield Memorial will be opening in October 2026. We will begin taking applications now. We will begin the process of updating all our materials with the new dates. HFN Hubs can start flying these Veterans in 2027. New eligibility dates came from the VA. We have 179 post Vietnam War Veterans on our waitlist, and this will now grow.

2. Speaking Engagements

- Upcoming
 - September 17th, American Legion Post 146 Beaver Dam, Brian Ziegler
- Past Month
 - none
- Contact chairperson@badgerhonorflight.org for speaking engagements



3. Check Presentations

- Mark's Auto Repair – Dodgeville \$1,000
- Oregon-Brooklyn VFW Post #10272 \$1,500

Treasurer Report – Ed Brown

1. Large Donations February and March

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Benjamin and Julie Westra | \$1,200 |
| • Maryann Comparin | \$1,775 |
| • Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin | \$1,947 |
| • Vilter Foundation | \$2,000 |
| • Dale Slusser | \$7,083 |
| • Jeffrey Ladd | |

2. Memorials February and March

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • Nick Baldarotta | \$1,095 |
| • Patrick Stotz | \$2,000 |
| • Wilbur and Betty Hirsch | \$5,000 |
| • John Kavanaugh | \$5,440 |

3. Updates

- All flights and buses for the spring are paid for.

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 – March 2026

- Lawrence Maly - Army Korea - Mission 22
- Wayne Hook - Army Vietnam - Mission 37
- Beverly Krans - Army Vietnam - Mission 41
- Donald Nicholls - Marines Vietnam - Mission 25
- Michael Larson - Coast Guard Vietnam - Mission 55
- Wilbert Hefty - Navy Korea - Mission 14
- Raymond Michaels - Navy Vietnam - Mission 40
- Herman Herkert - Navy Korea - Mission 52
- Terry Hillestad - Navy Vietnam - Mission 42
- George Noth - Army World War II - Mission 51
- Richard Leverentz - Navy Vietnam - Mission 51



- Donald Kuhlman - Army Korea - Mission 16
- Donald Ewelt - Army Korea - Mission 23
- James Bennett - Army Korea – Mission 19

Volunteer Events and Fundraising Report – Tobias

1. Look Ahead

- April 11th: Stoughton VFW Veterans Resource Fair
- April 12th – Tom Waunabowl Veteran Applications
- April 16th: Red & White Wine Bar (wine, beer and cheese raffle 6:30-8pm)
- April 18th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- April 18th: VFW 8483 BHF Fundraiser – (Jane B)
- May 9th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- May 18th: BHF 16th Annual Golf Outing @ Bergamont
- May 30th: Flight Day Send Off & Welcome Home
- June 7th: Monroe Moose Lodge Breakfast 8-12pm
- July 18th: Brat Fry VFW 7591
- July 25th: Baraboo Car Show/Gun Raffle
- July 31st: Mallards 50/50 - non-profit spotlight
- August 8th: Fall Guardian Training – AmFam
- October 12th: Larry Satterlee Memorial Clay Shoot

2. Guardian Training

- Thank You for ALL of your help at Guardian Training!

3. “Uncle Sam” Gary Duerst

- An update from Ann: Thank you for the cards! Gary is making improvements. He is doing rehab. After six weeks in the hospital, he is hoping to come home at the end of this week. He hopes to be back in the fall as Uncle Sam!

4. Channel3000 – Spirit of Service 2026

- Go to channel3000.com and vote for our very own, Retired Col. AJ Feucht!



5. Happy 100th Birthday!

- Help one of our volunteers make her stepfather's 100th Birthday special! During World War II, Bill was deferred from service to remain home and work on the farm. He later served during the Korean Conflict and returned home quietly, without fanfare. In 2019 his years of service were celebrated when he participated in the Never Forgotten Honor Flight. The family has rented a special PO Box to receive cards. They are hoping they will receive 100 cards! Please send to this address before April 26th.
 - Bill Huiras
PO Box 24
Barron, WI 54812

6. Volunteer Opportunities

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

Inventory Report – Babler

1. Thank you!

- Thank you to Dawn, Marnette & Hazel and their significant others and all of our Volunteers!

Administration Report –Barman

1. Waitlist March 2026

- World War II – 1
- Korea – 6 – all on spring flights
- Vietnam – 423 – 237 on spring flights
- Post Vietnam - 179

2. Breakdown of Waitlist

- April 18th Flight
 - Korea – 3
 - Vietnam – 81
- May 9th Flight
 - Korea – 2
 - Vietnam – 85
- May 30th Flight
 - Korea – 1
 - Vietnam – 71
- Standby
 - 5



3. Veteran Counts from Our Service Area by County

- Columbia 34
- Dane 159
- Dodge 11
- Grant 28
- Green 16
- Iowa 21
- Jefferson 15
- Lafayette 4
- Richland 7
- Rock 22
- Sauk 32
- In 41 other WI counties 57

4. Veteran Counts from Other States

- AZ 1
- FL 2
- IA 1
- IL 8
- KY 1
- MN 2
- SC 1
- TN 1

Medical – Greenwood

1. April 18th Medical Flight Team

- MD/DO- Dr. Jodi McGraw
- NP- Lisa Kromanaker
- Paramedic- Greenwood (Lead)
- RN- Kennedy Nelson
- PT- Dr. MaryRose Strickland
- 6th seat- Dr. Janis Tupesis



2. BHF Medical Team Additions and New Roles

- Established a team to do follow-up phone calls. Follow up callers:
 - Danielle Clary 4-18 & 5-9
 - Pam Schultz 5-9
 - Brittany Hudziak 5-30
 - Adrea Simons - Medical follow up questions
- TLC Coordinator
 - Patty Scanlin

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
 - JetBlue
 - 6:30am/8:15pm
 - 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)
- Contact Brian, Jody or Ed if interested in sponsoring a piece of flight day.



3. Spring Flight Logistics

- New entry requirements at Arlington
- New airline(s) – Sun Country & Jet Blue
- New MSN Ground Ops – Trego Dugan
 - Used by Sun Country & JetBlue
- New arrival terminals at DCA
- New processes at DCA
- Lots of new things this Spring!

4. Other Ways to Help

- We need swag bags! Anyone got a lead on a business or insurance agent that may want to donate 95 bags? Great opportunity for free advertising! Contact Jody if you have a lead.

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
 - If you know of a group interested in writing letters to our Veterans, email us at mailcall@badgerhonorflight.org
 - If you are interested in assisting with assembly of Mail Call packets, contact mailcall@badgerhonorflight.org or see me.

2. Spring Flights – VIPs / Guardians

- April 18th
 - American Family Insurance representatives
 - Jeff Wiegand, Air Force, Retired
 - Jason Pixley, Marines Corps
- May 9th
 - BHF Golf Outing representatives
 - Ben Wanta, Army
 - Maurie Mueller
- May 30th
 - Jeff Supple, Lake Ridge Bank



3. Publicity Update

- Publicity Advisory Team
 - Team is working on:
 - Updating all BHF materials with our new Veteran eligibility requirements
 - Veteran recruitment
 - Volunteer recruit
 - Sponsorships
 - Donations
 - Social Media

Upcoming BHF Volunteer Meetings

1. BHF Meetings are held on the first Wednesday evening of each month.
 - **May 6, 2026** – VFW 7591 - 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison at 7:00PM
 - **June 3, 2026** – VFW 7591 - 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison at 7:00PM
 - **July 1, 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