



**WISCONSIN
VETERANS
MUSEUM
FOUNDATION**

Annual Report



2022



The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation provides funding support to further the Museum's mission to acknowledge, commemorate and affirm the role of Wisconsin citizens in American military history, past and present.

WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As we begin a new year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors and all our board members for your support in 2022. This year, you were quick to respond to several museum projects in need of funding, and we are all grateful for your ongoing support.

2023 will be an extraordinarily challenging year for our Foundation. We are initiating our capital campaign with a goal of raising \$40 million for the construction of a new and significantly expanded Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

Your Wisconsin Veterans Museum is a unique home where the personal stories and experiences of our veterans are the focus of our collection. This is not a museum designed to tell the story of a particular conflict or war. It is a museum dedicated to narrating the individual experiences of those men and women who served our nation in times of war. As faithful donors to the museum, you understand our mission. This is the moment, however, at which we must make a maximum effort to expand the audience for our story. I believe our collection and the venue in which it is housed will make a significant contribution to the understanding necessary for our citizens and politicians to make decisions impacting our future as a state and as a nation.

It is considered appropriate now, when people meet a veteran, to thank them for their service. We have the responsibility and the honor to ensure that the people of Wisconsin know and appreciate what that service was, and a new Wisconsin Veterans Museum will be the place they go to find out.

So once again, let me thank you our donors for your service to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and hope you will all join us in 2023 to continue to support the museum and help fund the construction of a new and expanded home for our story. Wishing you all many blessings this holiday season and beyond!

In gratitude,

Daniel Checki
Foundation President



Thank you for your ongoing and generous support for exhibits, public programs, artifact acquisition, conservation and educational outreach efforts at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum!



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FOUNDATION STAFF

Jen Carlson, Executive Director

OUR MISSION

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation provides private fundraising support for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, ensuring that the Museum continues its record of excellence as the preeminent interpreter of the Wisconsin veteran experience.

We pursue this mission by following best practices in fundraising, providing support for museum projects and special events, and ensuring that the fiduciary and ethical responsibilities of the Foundation are met.



Foundation Support for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's Oral History Program



New Oral History Interview Room

Support provided by Dave & Christina Heiliger to honor the memory of his Dad, COL Donald Heiliger

This year the museum's Research Center on 3rd floor under-went construction to build a new oral history interview room. The museum needed help with sound-proofing supplies. The Foundation's Treasurer Dave Heiliger (pictured left with President Checki) and his wife Christina answered the call as a way to honor the memory of his father, COL Donald Heiliger, who provided his oral history over a decade ago. His story now lives in the museum's oral history collection. You can read his and many other transcripts online at wisvetmuseum.com/learning-research/oral-history/.

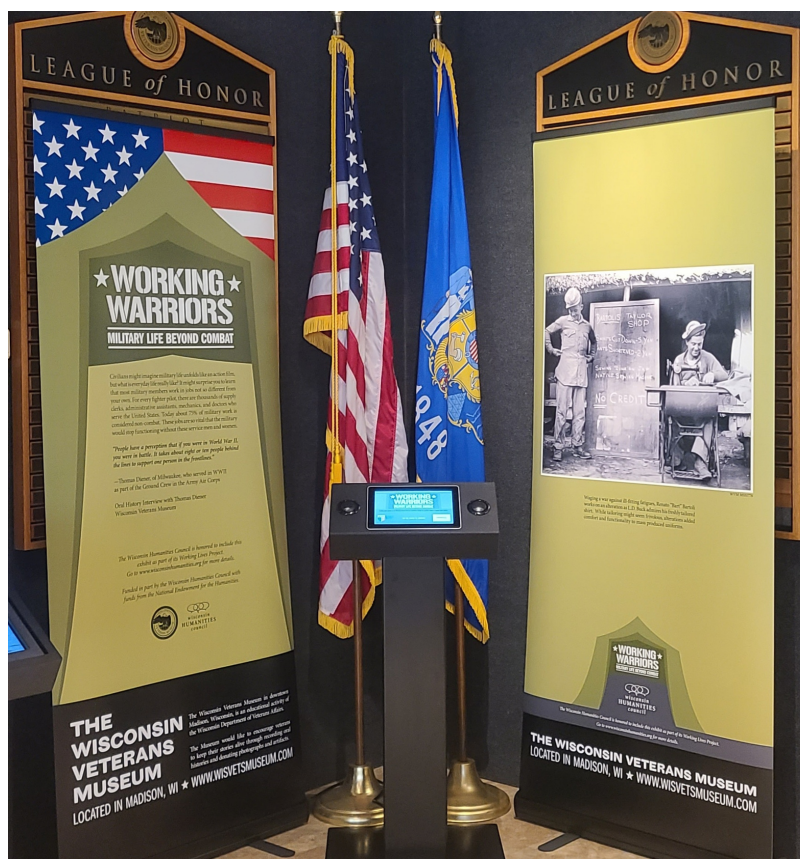
Thanks to their support, the museum now has a sound-proof room dedicated for oral history interviews with our Wisconsin veterans. If you would like to share your story, contact Luke Sprague the Oral Historian at Luke.Sprague@dva.wisconsin.gov.

New Oral History Traveling Exhibit

*Sponsored by **GENERAC***

Thanks to the generous support of Generac Powers Systems, the museum was able to build the first oral history traveling exhibit (pictured right) to travel across the state. Participants can interact with this touch table and listen to preloaded oral histories from different eras, while hearing their first-hand account of our Wisconsin veterans' stories.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Oral History Program contains the personal stories and military experiences of Wisconsin-connected veterans of the Spanish-American War to the present day. There are currently over 2,800 interviews in the collection and hundreds available online that are digitized for you to read and listen to. The Foundation continues to provide monetary support to help the museum digitize these stories and make them accessible online.



Foundation Support for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's Educational Programs



24 YEARS OF *TALKING SPIRITS*

This year's *Talking Spirits* program at Forest Hill Cemetery raised over \$9,000 to support the museum's largest public program! For the past 24 years, Dane Arts and the Wisconsin Humanities Council have provided continued grant funding, with other revenues coming from admissions and donations from the public. This was one of our most successful years, serving 585 school children, and a sold-out crowd of 550 attendees for the candlelit and daylight tours.

This year's theme, "Henceforth and Forever Free," featured four vignettes, which highlighted the contributions made to Wisconsin by African Americans whose lives were changed by the Emancipation Proclamation. Because of our donors, we can continue to provide quality programming to the public, by sharing these poignant and important stories in a unique way. To take the tour online, visit wisvetsmuseum.com/madison-cemetery-tours/.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS & *MESS NIGHT* AT THE MUSEUM

A heart-felt thank you to Barb Finley, friends and family for providing funding for the museum's virtual programming to honor the memory of Pat Finley (pictured right). This crucial support provides fun and engaging programs like *Trivia Night*, *Drink and Draw*, *Movie Night* and monthly book talks. This year, the museum hosted 51 virtual events, with over 1,000 people in attendance reaching across the globe!

Because of you, the Foundation is able to continue to provide funding for other educational programming, including an extremely popular in-person dinner lecture series, *Mess Night at the Museum*. Every *Mess Night* features a new speaker, topic, dinner, beverages, and time to socialize before and after the talk. During each *Mess Night* the audience takes a deeper look into the personal stories of Wisconsin's military history in a format that is accessible for all who want to learn. Over 150 people joined us this year!



Foundation Support for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's Artifact Conservation



HENRY HARNDEN SADDLE CONSERVATION

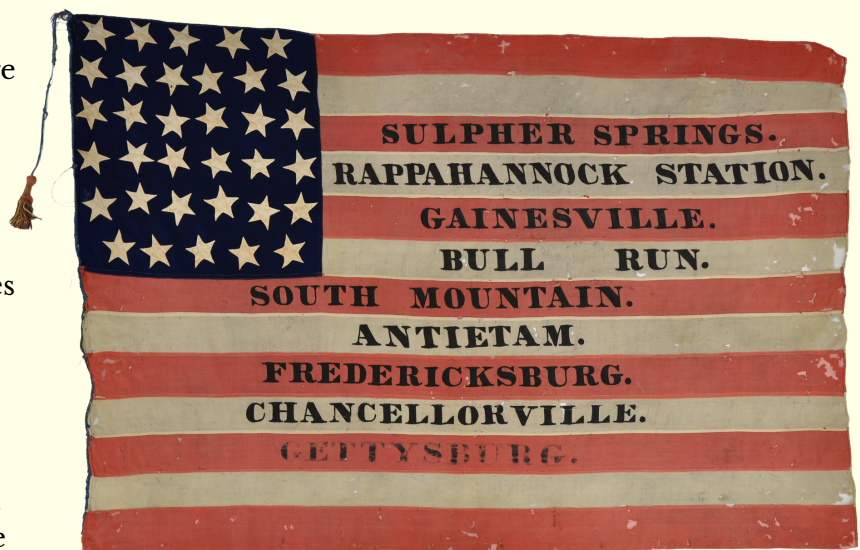
While the museum was closed last year, the staff assessed objects on view in need of conservation. The saddle of Brevetted Brigadier General Henry Harnden on view for more than 30 years, was in dire need of cleaning and care. Thanks to Alan Hembel and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Henry Harnden Camp No. 2 and friends for their gift of over \$9k, the saddle has since returned to the Civil War gallery and is now on view with other Harnden artifacts. Pictured left, Curator of Exhibits Greg Krueger and Curator of History Kevin Hampton set the saddle on its new mount.

Brevet Brigadier General Henry Harnden, a Madison, Wisconsin resident, served as an officer with the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry Regiment during the Civil War. Harnden saw action in several major battles. He is most famously known for leading elements of the 1st Cavalry during the capture of Jefferson Davis. After the war, Harnden settled in Madison where he was active in politics and served as the commander of the Wisconsin Department of the Grand Army of the Republic until his death in 1900.

BATTLE FLAG CONSERVATION

The past year, Gary Van Kauwenbergh led the effort to raise funds for one of the many battle flags in need of conservation. The Miner's Guard Flag (pictured right), made in 1861 by Mrs. George W. Cobb of Mineral Point and presented to Company I of the Miner's Guard, 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, was carried for the duration of the war. Captain George Otis, captain of the company, later sent it to Mr. James B. Prideau of Mineral Point. Stenciled on the flag are the names of the engagements in which this regiment participated.


Thanks to Gary Van Kauwenbergh, American Legion Posts 141, 197, 433, 437, 493, 501, the 2nd WI Volunteer Infantry Association, and Joseph & Steven Baye, this flag will be preserved for future generations to view!



Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation's Annual Fundraising Events



Convoy Speaker Series: La Crosse

Sponsored by 

EDGEWOOD COLLEGE
Military & Veterans Services

This year's *2nd Annual Convoy Speaker Series* at the Grand Hotel Ballroom in La Crosse on Saturday, November 12th, was enjoyed by 65 new attendees. This series travels across the state and is designed to connect veterans among themselves and with the museum, connect a community, and educate people about veterans' experiences, all while sharing some great stories related to Wisconsin veterans.

A big thank you to Don Weber (pictured left), a United States Marine Corp Vietnam War Combat veteran, who donated his time to share his inspiring story, and also to our sponsors, Edgewood College Military & Veteran Services, Dairyland Power Cooperative, Bill & Jackie Hustad, Kwik Trip, Nate & Tanisha Millsap, Alejandro & Erin Arango-Escalante, Paul McEvilly, and all those who attended. The Foundation was able to raise more than \$6,100 to support programs at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. Hope to see you at our next Convoy checkpoint in Green Bay.

WVMF 18th Annual Golf Outing

Sponsored by  WPS HEALTH SOLUTIONS

The *Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation's 18th Annual Golf Outing*, sponsored by WPS Health Solutions was held on Monday, July 11th at the beautiful Oaks Golf Course in Cottage Grove. Golfers enjoyed a fun-filled day of activities, while setting a record breaker year in the history of the golf outing fundraiser. Every year this event supports our veterans physical and mental health, as it allows them exercise, as well as comradery amongst their teams. This year was our most successful to date, raising more than \$41,000!

It was a record-setting year in a number of ways. Selling-out the event in just four weeks, we had 148 golfers, 21 sponsors and 35 raffle donors. The raffle alone raised more than \$9k, which is \$3k more than last year. A big thank you to all of you who participated, volunteered and sponsored this year's event! We cannot continue to make a difference without your support!





YOUR IMPACT

Dear Valued Supporters,

Because of you, 2022 has provided almost \$80,000 to support the Wisconsin Veterans Museum! And, thanks to \$50,000 in additional unrestricted gifts in FY22 from the Dane County COVID Relief Fund via the Madison Community Foundation and Jerome Frautschi Foundation, we were able to create sustainability and flexibility in funding to help further our mission. Our membership continues to grow, our donations have increased, and we are grateful for this growth, knowing that none of this would be possible without individuals like you.

Since 1991, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation has worked in partnership with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum to provide educational opportunities and services designed to tell the stories of Wisconsin's service members and to illuminate the role they played in shaping this nation's history. Each year, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation provides funds in direct support of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's exhibits, programs, publications, preservation efforts, and artifact purchases. We do so through tax-deductible donations received from you! While the Museum does receive state funding, these funds often fall short of providing the support needed to offer innovative, educational resources to the public.

The Foundation matters.

With your continued support, the Museum can produce new quality exhibits, implement public education programs, acquire historical collections, and engage in other activities that further the Museum's mission. For nearly 30 years, this is exactly what we have been doing. Through the generosity of corporate and individual support from all of you, we can support the Museum as they honor Wisconsin's service members and stand stronger than ever.

As you see, you are playing a crucial role in providing the financial support needed to pursue our mission. We continue to strive to provide even more support to the Museum. We hope that you will continue to join us and look for more ways to support our organization.

To all our valued donors and members, we say thank you! Thank you for choosing to be a part of our family. Thank you for donating your valuable resources to the cause. But most of all, thank you for supporting our veterans.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Carlson

Foundation Executive Director



FY 2022 AUDITED FINANCIALS



REVENUES

\$197,038

NET ASSETS

\$135,809

Unrestricted
41%

Temporarily Restricted
for conservation,
program & exhibit
support
29%

Restricted for Expansion
Planning
30%

SUPPORT BY TYPE

Individuals
69%

Corporate/
Organization Gifts
27%

In-Kind Support
6%

Grants
4%

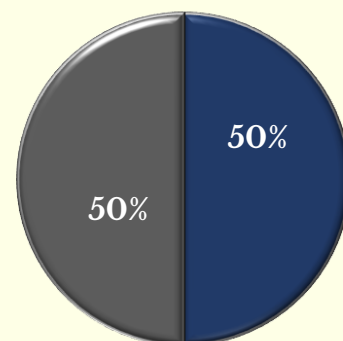


TOTAL EXPENSES

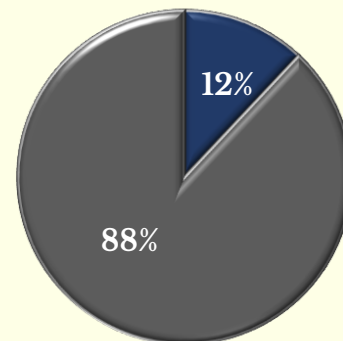
\$169,985

See below for the breakdown of Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation vs DVA funding for 3 key Museum projects.

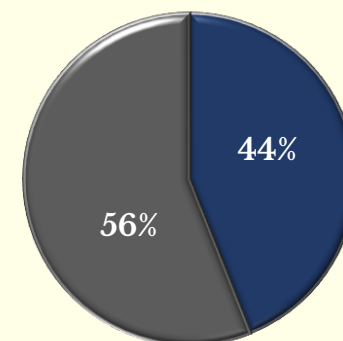
EXHIBITS



PROGRAMS



CONSERVATION



★ FOUNDATION
★ DVA (state funding)



THANK YOU DONORS!

A most sincere thank you to all who donated in 2022! You are the reason we can provide quality programming and award-winning exhibits.



Frautschi, Jerome
Henry Harnden Camp No. 2,
SUVCW of Wisconsin &
Individual Members & Friends
Dane County & Madison
Community Foundation



2nd Wisconsin Volunteer
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Bonack, Donald
Brodd, Thomas
Chase Bank
Cullen, Mark
Dane Arts
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Dept of Wisconsin
Edgewood College Department
of Military & Veteran Services
Finley, Barbara
Greene, Dan
Harned, Lewis
Heiliger, Cheryl
Heiliger, David & Christina
Heiliger, Jr., Donald
Hooper Foundation
Isensee, Natalie
J.P. Cullen
Kolar, Mary & Scott
Lewis, Joel
McCormick, Frederick & Ginny
Millsap, Nathaniel & Tanisha
Naleid, William
Naylor, Joe & Tasha
Pulvermacher, Andy
Reiland, Tim & Liz Orella
Thomas, Robert
Van Kauwenbergh, Gary &
Darlene
Wagner, Dennis
Wertsch, Paul
Wilkening, Patricia
Wisconsin Humanities Council

WPS Health Solutions



Adams, Cheryl
Alvarado, Fernando & Carla
Amacker, Judith
American Legion Otis Sampson
Post 59
American Legion Post 0141
(Stuessy-Kuenzi Post)
American Legion Van Ells-
Schanen Post 82
Andersen, Danny & Linda
Angevine, Jim & Marilou
Arango-Escalante, Alejandro &
Erin
Archer, Erik
Banda, George
Barnett, Jim & Jodi
Barth, Paul
Beckerleg, Steve
Bernards, Cathy & Donald
Bieniek, Brian
Bird, John & Barbara
Boucher, Francois
Bowers Healey, Ellen
Bublitz, James
Bull, Ronald
Carlson, Jen
Checki, Daniel
Clarendon Avenue Elementary
Colbert, Laura Elizabeth
CTW Abbey Carpet & Floor
Culver's at Cottage Grove Rd. &
Todd Dr.
Dairyland Power Cooperative
DAV, Chapter 17
Devitt, Linda & Patrick
Disabled American Veterans,
Chapter 3 (Russell Leicht)
DiSalvo, Tony
Dolinar, Susan
Drake, Chase
Duecker, Robert
Eilbes, Paul
Ely, Michael
Fargen, Joseph

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Fuguitt, Margaret
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Gross, Tammy
Haag, Douglas
Hagen, Scott & Natalie
Haight, James
Hall, John
Hall, Tyson & Danielle
Hattenhauer, John
Hausmann-Johnson Insurance
Heiliger, Dan & Tarah
Heinritz, Melinda & Mark
Helgeson, Jackie
Herb Kohl Philanthropies
Holliday, Kaleen
Howell, Jonathan
Hundt, Michael & Lori
Hustad, William & Jackie
Icke, John & Karen
Johns, Jason
Johnson, Fred & Mary
Johnson, Richard & Brenda
Kafka, Daniel
Kelly, James & Carol
Ketterer, George & Mary
King, Jeannette
Kolakowski, Peter & Jane
Kromanaker, Lisa & Alan
Krueger, Cal & Susie
Kurtz, Anthony & Kimberly
Kurtz, James & Rebecca
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Lamb, Lynette
Leon, Jr, Jose
Leverance, James & Jane
Luther, Robert & Joann
Madison Navy League
Majka, Andrew & Roxanne
Markert, Bruce & Kathryn
Mathews, Joane & Ric
McEvelly, Paul



THANK YOU DONORS!

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Military Order of the Purple Heart
Iron Brigade Chapter 165
Minshall, Jill
Moninski, Kenneth
Monona Grove Business Men's
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Morledge, John
Mullins, Michael & Karen
Myers, Robert
Nehls, Todd
Nemke, James & Karen
Norfolk Historical Society
Olesen, Gerald
Oleson, Nancy
Olson, James
Olson, Peter & Cheryl
Orlowski, Robert
Osborne, Jessica
Osborne, William
Owen, Paul
Pagenkopf, Donna
Patterson, Bill
Peterson, Gary & Susan Schmitz
Prieur, Ken & Lori
Prieur, Linda
Rabinowitz, Abe
Rathmann, Richard
Rattenbury, Richard
Ronge, Robert & Sherri
RP Adler's Pub & Grill
Rueden, Henry
Schaar, Ted
Schemenauer, Ken & Eleanor
Scherer, John
Schmelling, Audrey
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School District of Reedsburg
Schrag, Beverly
Schrum, William
Sel, Joyce
Sharratt, Tom & Sharon
Shaw, Dave
Sheskey, Angela

Sheski, John
Shropshire, William
Sloan, Fred & Nancy
Smith, Gary
Smith, Judy
Smith, Ken & Linda
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Stokes, Willie
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Tilsen, Sara
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Abrahamson Post)
VFW Post 10272 (Oregon Brooklyn
Memorial)
VFW Post 11244 (Waunakee
Memorial Post)
VFW Post 9511 (Mount Horeb
Centennial)
Vietnam Veterans of America,
Chapter 409
Vilumsons, Aina
Viner, Orrin
Wartinbee, Jr, James
Waterloo High School
Wegner CPAs, LLP
Weingandt, John & Marjunice
Wertsch, Paul
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Chapter 7
Wisconsin Vietnam Vets Chapter 3
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Ace, Dennis
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American Legion Post 0151 (West
Side Memorial Post)
American Legion Post 0214 (Bates-
O'Brien-Howe-Wiegel Post)
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American Legion Post 0437
(Greening-Buelow Post)
American Legion Post 0493
(Linden Post)
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American Legion Post 0521
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Gehr)
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A most sincere thank you to all who donated in 2022! You are the reason we can provide quality programming and award-winning exhibits.



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Baures, Chad
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Benes, James & Lois
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Burkart, Andrew
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Finley, Joan & Casey
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Fletcher, Kate & Sandy
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Frank, Bob
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Geddes, Donna
Geigner, Ralph
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Grannis, II, Thomas
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Hanson, Sharla
Harned, Lewis
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Haugen-Wente, Kristin
Havyer, William & Rachel
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Heiser, Theodore & Ellen
Helfrecht, Donald
Hembel, Alan George
Hemmer, Paul
Hendrickson, Pat
Herrling, Patricia
Hesselbein, Robert
Hettich, COL Paul
Heuer, LT COL (Ret) Martin
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Jevers, Lowell
Jordan, James
Kadlec, Robert
Kallas, Phillip & Priscilla
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Kelly, Joanne
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King, John
King, Kathleen
Kinney, Dennis
Kleinsteiber, Larry
Klem, Bruce



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Knutson, Joyce
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Kostka, Marvin
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Krikelas, Andrew
Kubina, Jo
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LaFarge High School
Larkin, Bruce & Rose
La Sage, Timothy
Laux, Daniel
Leaf, Catherine
Leckel, Eric
Leetz, Daniel
Lemke, Ralph
Lesko, John & Christine
Lewein, Donna & Scott
Lewke, Carl
Ligocki, Clarence
Lindeman, Roy & Dorothy
Lindstedt, John
Lindstrand, Keith & Katherine
Link, Thomas
Lintner, Kimberly
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Liskey, Marley
Lossmann, James & Cathy
Luetke, Art
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Nettesheim, Daniel
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Parpart, Erich
Passante, Vicki & Tony
Paulsen, Robert & Linda
Pederson, Sheryl
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Phillips, Gene
Pickette, Shawn
Pierce, Edward
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Plendl, Matthew
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Powers, Brian
Powles, John & Joanne
Pribbernow, Charles
Pschorr, Nancy
Queen, Kim
Race, John & Rita
Radosavljevic, Julie

Ralston, Richard & Krista
Rasmussen, Steve
Reedsburg Area High School
Reeve, James & Ann
Reichmann, John
Renz, David & Linda
Reuter, Krysta
Richardson, Kenneth & Julia
Ridgely, Jr, COL (Ret) William
Robbins, William & Chris
Roberts, Mary Louise
Robinson, Susan
Roden, Robert
Rogers, Sue
Rohrer, Suellen
Rosen, Maxwell
Rowe, Sandra
Royall Intermediate School
Rusch, Lynn
Sadowsky, Julie
Sara, Charles
Satory, John Joseph
Sayles, William
Schlappi, Ed & Kathleen
Schmidt, James
Schroeder, John
Schroeder, Paul
Schutz, Jacquelyn & Jim
Sergenian, William & Kathryn
Seymour, Jon & Jackie
Shullsburg High School
Siegert, Marvin & Judy
Smith, Craig
Smith, Lanny & Margaret
Sommers, Mike & Mary
Speracino, Denise
Spielman, Ronald
Sprague, Luke
St. Charles Catholic School
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran
School
St. John's Lutheran School
Stangel, Jim
Sulman, David & Anne Altshuler
Symanski, Marilyn
Szymoniak, Krzysztof



THANK YOU DONORS!

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Thomas, Lynn
Thorson, Thor
Tillema, Dean
Turner, Barbara
Unger, Jeffrey
Van Ells, Mark
VFW Greendale Post 10519
VFW Post 01879 (Edwin
Frohman Post)
VFW Post 05373 (Ozaukee County
Memorial Post)
VFW Post 07694 (Lachmund-
Cramer Post)
VFW Post 5716 (Hoepfner-Horn)
Visetsuth, Peernut
Wagner, Gregory
Waity III, Charles
Walker, Ericka
Ward Decatur, Mary Ann
Warfel, Joe
Warren Lee, Leslie
Wartolec, Walter
We Energies Foundation
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Weisner, Kenneth
Werve, George
Westbury, David
White, Larry
Whitfield, Gerald
Wiggins, Katherine
Winn, James & Mary
Wise, Mitchell & Roslyn
Woolley, William & Jean
Wren, Christopher
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Zehren, Geraldine
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Zimbric, Gerald & Hazel



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