

MARY CHESEBRO LEE  
DETACHED TENT #23[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wimclduv/)<https://www.facebook.com/duvcwmaryclee>VETERANS SHELTER  
WISH LIST

The Janesville Homeless Veterans Shelter is in need of the following items. We will be collecting these items at the November meeting. Also please bring in candy and holiday cards; we will assemble goody bags and sign cards for the veterans at the meeting.

Hygiene products (alcohol free)  
Non-alcoholic Mouthwash  
Contact Solution  
Q-tips  
Flossers  
Hand Sanitizer  
Liquid Hand Soap  
New Standard Size Pillows/Cases  
Towels  
Single Fitted Sheets  
Gas Only Gas Cards  
Socks (All sizes)  
Underwear (All sizes)  
Chapstick  
Denture adhesive  
New blankets, twin size



## TRIBUTES TO OUR VETERANS

Celebrating Veterans Day in November gives us a chance to thank those brave men and women who defended our nation with extraordinary courage. Their brave service is appreciated, often more than they know. Tent #23 is honoring these veterans by attending the Walworth County Historical Society/American Legion Veterans Day Program where Major General Grant Mulder will be the guest speaker. In addition, the tent placed an ad in the Walworth County Shopper thanking all veterans for their remarkable service. Individual veterans known to the tent were also sent thank you cards by mail.

Those men personally honored by the tent this year include:

Lynn Allen, Lake Geneva	Leroy "Buster" Harry, Elkhorn
Al Anstedt, Elkhorn	Harry Larsen, Delavan
George Ballman, Delavan	Larry Malsch, Delavan
Tom Brandemuehl, Mukwonago	Ralph Moehrke, Delavan
Bill Bultman, Elkhorn	Jerry Peters, Delavan
Tom Cotter, East Troy	Bill Sigmund, Elkhorn
Merlyn "Red" Dahl, Delavan	Bob Webster, Delavan
Frank Eames, Elkhorn	Ray Woods, Delavan
Dale Folkers, Elkhorn	



## FRATERNITY, CHARITY, LOYALTY

The next meeting of Tent #23 will held at the  
Delavan Community Centre at  
6:30pm on Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Refreshments will be provided by  
Judy Manning, Pam Wanasek, & Zoe Woelkey



### GUEST SPEAKER ROB WARREN, MARINE GUNNERY SERGEANT

Rob Warren, a family friend of Charlene Staples, spoke at our October meeting about his experiences as a Marine. His father had been a Marine before him, and he has served over 14 years as an active Marine. He joined in June 2001, and had just finished boot camp in San Diego a week and a half before September 11. Most Marines from Wisconsin train there, but if your father or grandfather had been a Marine and trained elsewhere, they will train you there instead if you prefer.

He has been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan multiple times as well as serving in Spain and South Sudan. On his last deployment to Afghanistan, his platoon commander was killed and he was placed in charge. While there he was shot three times. Eight of the ten Marines recovering with him in the hospital were from his platoon. The nurses told him that the Marines had been mischievous before he arrived but were on their best behavior while he was there.

Rob explained that there are two types of training a Marine can go through, either infantry or combat training (Rob did infantry). As gunnery sergeant, Rob is responsible for billeting and logistics, and acts as a tactical advisor.

While in Afghanistan, Rob found that the children were the key to future success. The adults were not open to change, and resented being told or shown what to do by anyone, even if it was to better their own situation. Rob found it impossible to change their negative opinions of Americans. Instead, he encouraged his men to make a good impression on the children so that they could see that what the adults told them about Americans wasn't true.

The Marine Corps took six years to downsize and is now stabilized. The Army, by contrast, is trying to downsize in just two years and is finding the process more painful than the Marines did.

Most veterans have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder to some degree. Those who see the worst fighting seem to be affected by PTSD the least. Thankfully the stigma of PTSD is gone today, and although the Veterans Administration doesn't help the veterans much, they offer each other support when they need it.

Fourteen percent of Marines are women. At this time they are unable to be in infantry or reconnaissance. As an effort to open these areas to women, 250 women were sent through the infantry officers training course. None were able to complete it successfully. They are finding that lack of physical strength and repetitive motion injuries are problems for women.

Today Rob is stationed in Madison with Gulf Company 224 where he trains reservists. He finds that they lack experience but are very eager and willing to try. He is also active with the Marines' Toys for Tots drive. He encouraged us to volunteer in Milwaukee or Madison during the toy distribution on Dec. 14 - 17.

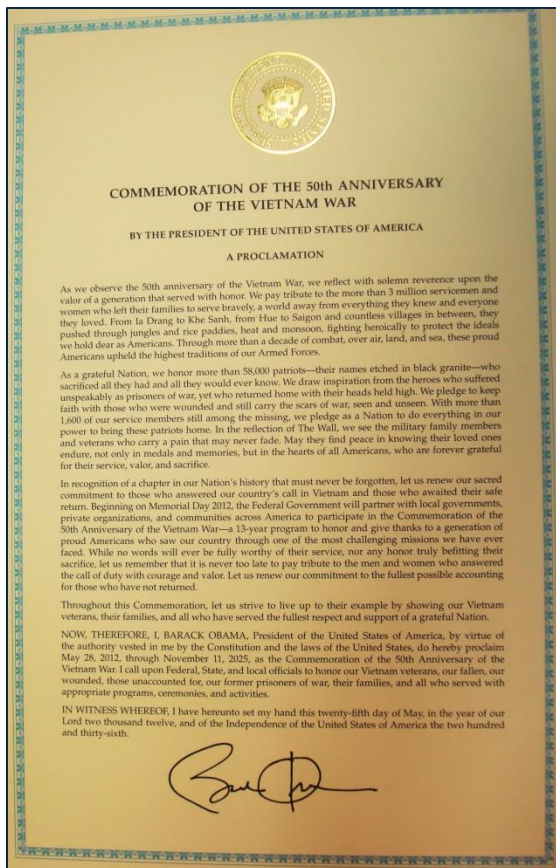


**A (SHORT) HISTORY OF TOYS FOR TOTS:** In 1947 Major Bill Hendricks, USMCR founded Toys for Tots in LA; 5,000 toys were collected. From 1947 – 1979, new and used toys were collected, and reservists refurbished used toys on drill weekends. By the 1970s an average of 6 million toys were collected and distributed each year. Starting in 1980, only new toys were collected. In 1995 the Secretary of Defense approved Toys for Tots as an official activity of the USMC and official mission of the USMC Reserve. Today Toys for Tots distributes over 16.8 million toys each year. (Info from <http://www.toysfortots.org/abouttoysfortots/toysfortotsprogram/chronology.aspx>)



### TENT #23 RECOGNIZED AS COMMEMORATIVE PARTNER

The Department of Defense issued an award certificate to our tent for “assist[ing] and support[ing] a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam War Veterans...” A flag commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the war was also received by our tent. Below is the proclamation issued by President Obama establishing a 13 year program from 2012-2025 to recognize, honor and thank our Vietnam Veterans.



**VIETNAM WAR STATISTICS:** More than 3 million Americans served in Vietnam. Over 58,000 lost their lives in the war and there are still over 1,600 missing. Although it is commonly believed that the average age of an infantryman in Vietnam was 19 years old, in reality the average age was 22 years old. The average age of a service-person killed in Vietnam was 23.11 years. The average infantryman in the South Pacific in WWII saw about 40 days of combat in four years, as opposed to the average infantryman in Vietnam who saw about 240 days of combat in one year. 1 in every 10 Americans who served in the Vietnam War was a casualty: amputations and crippling wounds were 300% higher in the Vietnam War than in WWII, even though the percent of those who died is similar. 75,000 Vietnam veterans are severely disabled. It is also a common myth that most of those who served were drafted. In actuality, 2/3 of those who served volunteered (as opposed to WWII, when 2/3 of those who served were drafted). (*Information from President Obama's proclamation above and <http://www.vhfcn.org/stat.html>*)