



We are dedicated to honoring
our local veterans
ONE MISSION AT A TIME.



**OLD GLORY HONOR FLIGHT
is on a mission to sign-up
more eligible veterans**

Old Glory Honor Flight is proud to announce it has expanded eligibility dates for veteran participants thereby enabling more veterans, including those that served during peacetime, the opportunity to participate in an Old Glory Honor Flight. Now, if a veteran served anytime, anywhere, in any branch of the service between December 7, 1941 – May 7, 1975, they are eligible for the Old Glory Honor Flight of Northeast Wisconsin.

“We are thrilled to offer this special opportunity to ALL vets who served prior to May 7, 1975. We believe all veterans should be recognized for their service and participating in an Old Glory Honor Flight is a special way to honor them,” said Diane MacDonald, executive director of Old Glory Honor Flight.

Do you know a veteran who lives in Northeast Wisconsin and hasn't gone on an Honor Flight yet? Let's get her or him signed up! We have volunteers standing by if the veteran needs help applying online at <https://www.oldgloryhonorflight.org/apply-now/veterans/>. Once the application is submitted, the veteran will be placed on a waitlist with priority given to the eldest of veterans. Current wait time is approximately 12 months.



We serve veterans across these counties:

- Brown
- Calumet
- Door
- Florence
- Fond du Lac
- Forest
- Green Lake
- Kewaunee
- Langlade
- Manitowoc
- Marinette
- Marquette
- Menominee
- Oconto
- Outagamie
- Shawano
- Waupaca
- Waushara
- Winnebago

Dear Friends,

2023 was a whirlwind! Thanks to you, we had a remarkable year honoring our beloved veterans and we created a very special mission along the way. Plus, we participated in several very successful fundraising events. But first, the most important news. In 2023 we honored over 450 veterans who served during WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and those that served in between with a one-day trip to Washington, D.C. The veterans' excitement and smiles have sustained us over the last few months as we get ready for the 2024 flight season. We are blessed to continue our partnership with American Airlines Veterans Initiative Program who donated the charter during our annual "Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight" during EAA's AirVenture. For the second year, we flew on their special plane, called "Flagship Valor" which is decked out in Medal of Honor graphics to honor the brave men and women who served our country. We even had two Medal of Honor Recipients on board, Sammy Davis, credited as the real-life Forest Gump and Jim McLoughlin. Both served in the Vietnam War and were awarded America's highest honor. We are humbled and grateful to all who support our local veterans by giving them their 'Tour of Honor'.

In June, we took a busload of Vietnam Veterans to Crivitz to see the traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. Even though the mission wasn't a flight, it was a meaningful opportunity for those veterans to see their memorial. For many, it was an emotional day spent with fellow veterans and family members.

Finally, we did something big. Really big. We created an unprecedented mission called "Freedom to Liberty: A Mission of Healing to honor and recognize our veterans who served during the Global War on Terror, America's longest war. We took 58 veterans, chosen by random draw, to New York City to visit the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, the Freedom Tower and the Statue of Liberty for a three-night stay. The veterans had an opportunity to reflect on their service, listen to the powerful speeches given by our special guests, 9/11 First Responders who were working on 9/11/01, and bond with their fellow "Battle Buddies." We even had Medal of Honor Recipient David Bellavia join us for dinner one evening. The trip was nothing short of amazing and the Welcome Home crowd cheered and the music played as our veterans got back to Appleton.

“Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I know most of the others on the trip were looking to honor friends they lost, find meaning in their service, or have a chance to befriend other veterans. For me, I was looking to do all three. I am a very stoic person and I don't share a lot of my feelings but I really opened up during the trip. There was a lot of laughter and a lot of crying. There's nothing like being around a group of your peers all experiencing the same emotions and those that did the presentations were amazing and really got me thinking about the journey. I am so grateful; I feel stronger and more at peace. I'm just all around a better person,” said one of our veterans.

As the years roll on, we keep pushing to find new, innovative ways to honor our local veterans in an effort to say, "Thank You." If all goes according to plan in D.C., the Desert Storm Memorial will be opening soon and we can't wait to honor another group of deserving veterans. Stay tuned.

The sky is the limit and we'll "Keep 'em Flying" but we need your continued support. We don't receive any funding from state, local or federal government entities. We are reliant on you, our generous donors, to help us fly to new heights!

Thank you all; you are a blessing to our organization!

Diane MacDonald - Executive Director Old Glory Honor Flight

We rely on you, our generous donors, to “Keep ‘em Flying.” With your help, we have the power to help them heal.

We are so grateful to our partners and in-kind donors for their generous support! Special recognition goes to one of our long-standing partners, Oshkosh Corporation, who’s been sending vets on the Honor Flight since 2011 and through their efforts, have sent **600** veterans to D.C. and have given them a lifetime of memories.



FINANCIALS

Income **\$975,372**
 Expenses **\$841,628**

The Dancing With Our Stars fundraiser was a tremendous success thanks to our star dancer Ken Corry. Ken, a longtime OGHF volunteer and Air Force veteran, and his partner danced their hearts out. We are incredibly grateful to all of you who financially supported the cause. Together, we raised over \$70,000!



Old Glory Honor Flight continues to be blessed by our communities, both big and small. Kelley Country Creamery in Fond du Lac serves up ‘The best ice cream in the middle of nowhere’. Over the last six years, the Kelley Family has grown sunflower fields and invites folks to take in the beautiful sites. The Kelleys give OGHF 100% of the proceeds of bouquet, t-shirt, hat and field entrance totaling well over \$250,000 since 2018!

About an hour away, Doug, Don and the Primary Companies host the Brilliant Brat Fry. This small town has a huge heart and folks come in droves to support it. Over the last several years, the Brat Fry has raised over \$200,000!



Together, they’ve sent over 900 veterans to Washington, D.C. on the Old Glory Honor Flight. Both organizations wanted to find a way to give back to our veterans and look at what’s been accomplished so far. Not only are they major supporters, but they are also incredibly nice people. Hope to see you at one of their events this summer!



Photo taken at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum during “Freedom to Liberty: A Mission of Healing” with our veterans who served during the Global War on Terrorism standing next to 9/11 First Responders. Never Forget!



Mission 65 in October included

20

Among veterans who served in the Vietnam War.



Want to stay up to date on Old Glory Honor Flight’s latest news? Sign up for our free, newsletter called “The Flag Line” which is filled with mission updates, special projects and fundraising events. It’s fast and easy to sign up. Click on “newsletter” under the ‘support’ tab on our website. We promise to keep your information private and we’ll never share it with others.



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