

Veterans Day

Compiled by Patricia Helgerson, November 2004

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/pubs/tapthepower.htm>

The United States observes November 11 as Veterans Day to honor and thank those who served in wartime. We hope the following resources will assist legislators and legislative staff who participate in Veterans Day celebrations and will help answer constituent questions about Veterans Day and veteran services.

The warring powers concluded an armistice on November 11, 1918, which ended the fighting of the most destructive and far reaching war up to that point in history, World War I. After 27 states had declared November 11 a legal holiday, the U.S. Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, requesting the President to issue a proclamation that called for the display of the U.S. flag on all government buildings and appropriate ceremonies. The day gained legal recognition when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a bill on May 13, 1938, that declared November 11 to be "Armistice Day". Responding to petitions from veterans organizations, Congress passed and the President signed Public Law 380 on June 1, 1954, which declared November 11 as "Veterans Day", to honor those who served during World War II and Korea, as well as WW I. The Uniform Holiday Bill, signed June 28, 1968, moved Veterans Day, as well as several other holidays, to Monday observances to create three-day weekends. Protests from veterans organizations and states led to passage of Public Law 94-97 signed by President Gerald R. Ford on September 11, 1975, returning Veterans Day to its original date of observance, November 11.

***The American Legion: An Official History, 1919-1989*, Thomas A. Rumer, 1990. (359.2/R86)**

***Biennial Report, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs*, (359/W7f/1999-2001)**

***Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents, U.S. Veterans Administration*, (359/X7/2003)** Describes federal benefits available to veterans and their dependents. http://www.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm (Spanish option available)

***History of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs*, John R. Moses, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, October 31, 1961. (VetA/h) (noncirculating)** Overview of services to veterans from 1943 creation of Veterans' Recognition Board to 1961.

***History of Veteran Preference in Federal Employment, 1865-1955*, U.S. Civil Service Commission, 1956. (359.71/X)** Historical development of veteran preference legislation.

"King Centennial Issue", *Veterans Affairs in Wisconsin*, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, 1987. (359.4/W7e) The 100th anniversary of Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. Historical photographs and personal recollections.

***State Programs for Veterans*, Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Informational Paper No. 81. (359.74/W7/2003)** www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb/Informationalpapers/81.pdf

***A Thumbnail History of Wisconsin Veterans' Legislation*, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, Informational Bulletin 88-IB-3, 1988. (359/W7g1)**

***"To Hear Only Thunder Again": The Readjustment of World War II Veterans to Civilian Life in Wisconsin*, Mark David Van Ells, UMI Dissertation Services, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1999. (359/V28)** "...[T]his study [explores] the interplay between the readjustment problems faced by returning World War II veterans and the political response to them." It focuses on Wisconsin.

***Veteran and Military Benefits – Summary of 2003-2004 Wisconsin Legislation*, Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, Wisconsin Brief 04-12, June 2004. www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb/pubs/wb/04wb12.pdf**

***Veterans, 2000*, U.S. Census Bureau, 2003. (359/X11)** 2000 census statistics about veterans. One table breaks veteran population down by state and period of service. www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/c2kbr-22.pdf

***Voices of the Wisconsin Past*, State Historical Society of Wisconsin. (HistS/v) (noncirculating)**

pt.1 *Letters from the Front, 1898-1945*, 1992. A "...documentary history of the men and women from Wisconsin who participated in the three foreign wars during an era in which the United States rose to the status of a dominant world power." —introduction.

pt.2 *Women Remember the War, 1941-1945*, 1993. This oral history includes single women, women raising families, and women in uniform.

pt.3 *Voices from Vietnam*, 1996. Compiled from letters and diary entries of 92 Wisconsin men and women who served in the war. Additional material in the Historical Society Archives. ⇒

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Veterans Day Continued

The Wisconsin American Legion: A History, 1919-1992, George E. Sweet, Milwaukee, Wisconsin American Legion Press, 1992. (359.2/Sw3)

Wisconsin at War, James F. McIntosh, Trails Books, 2002. (359/M18) Excerpts from Wisconsin Veterans Museum interviews with veterans from nearly every U.S. military action in the 20th century, including the 1916 Mexican Punitive Expedition.

Wisconsin's Role in World War II – Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of World War II: On the Battlefield, On the Home Front, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, 1994. (341.225/W7a) Teacher's guide developed for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum available at http://museum.dva.state.wi.us/Res_Wisconsin_Role_in_WWII.pdf

Related Web Sites

History and General Information

www.legion.org/?section=our_flag&subsection=flag_code&content=flag_code American Legion. "Flag Code". Display, care, folding, etc. of the U.S. flag. Title 4, U.S. Code, Chapter 1.

www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/stories Library of Congress. Personal narratives submitted by veterans from all wars. Part of The Veterans History Project.

www.military.com/Content/MoreContent1/0,,veterans-day,00.html Military.com. History and related messages.

www.spencergroup.net/military_vets/military_vet_links.htm Spencer Group. A list of military and veterans links.

www.army.mil/cmh-pg/faq/vetsday/vets1.htm U.S. Army Center of Military History. History and links to "Veterans Day Message of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff".

www1.va.gov/vetsday U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. History, 2004 ceremony, kid's page, teacher guide, FAQ page, and links to other resources.

www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/Warletters/letters.htm University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "Wisconsin War Letters".

<http://dva.state.wi.us> Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

www.wisconsinhistory.org/military Wisconsin Historical Society. Military history resources at the Wisconsin Historical Society.

<http://museum.dva.state.wi.us> Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

http://museum.dva.state.wi.us/RC_SearchCollections.asp Wisconsin Veterans Museum, Research Center. Medal of Honor recipients, County Veterans Service Officers, veterans population statistics, and more.

Benefits and Services

www.military.com/NewContent/0,13190,resources-page,00.html Military.com. Links to benefits and resources.

www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-veterans.htm U.S. Department of Labor. "By Audience — Veterans". Good place to start for answers to veteran employment questions.

www.va.gov U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Online applications for federal benefits; information on special programs; link to Census 2000 Veteran Data, a searchable database.

<http://dva.state.wi.us/benefits.asp> Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs. "Wisconsin Veterans' Benefits". Includes link to upcoming Supermarket of Veterans Benefits.

www.dwd.state.wi.us/dws/bjs/veterans/default.htm Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Employment, education, and homeless programs and services for Wisconsin veterans, e-Vets Resource Advisor link.

Women Veterans

<http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/> "Military Women Veterans: Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow". History of women who have served from the Revolutionary War to present day.

www1.va.gov/womenvet/ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Links include health care and other benefits, state women veterans coordinators, and women veteran statistics.

www.terrisspencer.com/vwv/ Vietnam Women Veterans.

www.womenveteransofamerica.com Women Veterans of America.

Organizations

www.legion.org The American Legion.

www.amvets.org AMVETS (American Veterans).

www.dav.org Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

www.nasdva.com National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (for links to other states).

www.pva.org Paralyzed Veterans of America.

www.vfw.org Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

Clippings: (Noncirculating; available for use in the library; clippings prior to 1981 are on microfiche)

- Veterans – 359/Z
- Veterans – Civil service preference 359.71/Z
- Veterans – Housing 359.76/Z
- Veterans – Loans 359.74/Z
- Veterans – Organizations 359.2/Z