



KENTUCKY
VETERANS
HALL OF FAME

"honoring veterans who continue to serve above and beyond"

Alumni Association Newsletter November 2023



*Happy
Thanksgiving!*

The KVHOF is a 501(c) (3) organization. Donations may be sent to KVHOF, PO Box 1446, Florence, Ky, 41042. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.





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Please join us!

Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame Monument Dedication

Recognizing Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame
Fayette County Inductees

11:30 a.m., December 5
Veterans Park (650 Southpoint Drive)





KENTUCKY VETERANS HALL OF FAME

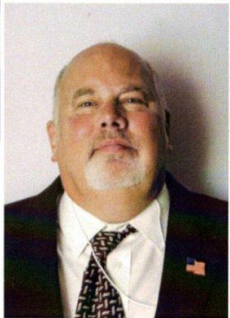
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Class of 2017 Inductee



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US Army
SSG. Daniel Houston

Staff Sgt. Daniel L. Houston joined the army 1977 at 17, earned the Emergency Medical Technician license and became a Trauma Specialist. He worked at Darnell Army/Community Hospital at Fort Hood, later becoming a clinical specialist and a Texas Dept. of Health Paramedic. He spent the last 14 months of active duty as a Med-i-vac medic and was discharged in 1980. After his active duty, Sgt. Houston re-enlisted in the Army Reserves as a medic with the 478th Combat Engineer Medical Section in Ft. Thomas. He became the non-commissioned officer in charge and was discharged in 1989.

Staff Sgt. Houston became involved in many community activities after his discharge in 1980. He worked on the Florence Rescue Squad and has served on the executive board of the Bean Bash that raises significant funds for multiple charities in Northern Kentucky. His leadership in the Boone Co. Businessman's Association has helped raise significant funds for children, schools, and the needy in Boone Co. He has been an American Red Cross instructor and the Drug Awareness Chairman for the Elks Club. He has served on the Board of American Federation of Riders, raising funds for medical equipment and Christmas toys for underprivileged children. He teaches a free seminar called *Refuse To Be A Victim* to church and civic groups. His non-profit business, Borne Again Bikes, reconditioned old bicycles and gave them to less fortunate children. He and a friend adopt several families each year for Christmas. He is currently preparing to work for St. Elizabeth Hospital Hospice as a minister. Dan credits his dad for teaching him to give back to his community.

Alumni Dues

Alumni dues are set at \$25 a year. If you have previously paid a life type membership dues you can disregard this. We have set future lifetime dues at \$250.

The dues go towards the ceremonies, banquet and inductions each year.

Thank you, Terry.
terryvannarsdale@gmail.com

Your KVHOF

This is your Alumni Association. We value your opinions and suggestions. If you can help spread the word about the Kentucky Veteran's Hall of Fame, it is appreciated.

Nominations for inductees are now accepted all year round. Applications can be downloaded at:

www.kyveterans.org

We have 11 Regions, or Chapters, set up for the Hall of Fame. We currently have Governors for four of them. We are looking for volunteers to head up the other seven regions. The last page of the newsletter shows the Hall's regions. If you are interested in becoming a Governor for your area, please let me know. Terry Vannarsdale
terryvannarsdale@gmail.com





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Board of Directors



Gary Griesser

Gary Griesser is Executive Director and a lifelong resident of Burlington, Kentucky. He is a product of the Boone County, Kentucky School system, graduating from Boone County High School in 1962. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky and a Master's Degree in Guidance Counseling from Georgetown College. He holds a second Master's Degree in School Administration from the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

He spent most of his vocational career working in the Boone County School System. He has held positions of: Guidance Counselor, Assistant Principal, Elementary Principal, Supervisor of Instruction, Assistant Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and Acting Superintendent. He completed his educational career as Associate Commissioner for District Support Services with the Kentucky Department of Education in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Gary began a new career as a motivational speaker in 1994. He has traveled to 47 states making over 1,700 presentations to various state and national conventions. He has spoken and sung in over 1200 churches. He is an active member and a Paul Harris Fellow with the Florence, Kentucky, Rotary Club of Rotary International and a member of the Northern Kentucky West Camp of Gideon's International. He is also on the Board of Directors of Heritage Bank

Scheduled Meetings for 2024 Times are yet to be set.

January 18th

February 29th

March 22nd

April 26th

May 17th

June 14th

August 2nd (Inductee Introduction and Parachute Jump)

September 6th & 7th (Banquet and Induction Ceremony)

October 17th Luncheon

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From **Adrian Bambini**: On November 17th, almost 400 veterans and guests attended the military ball held here in Owensboro at our convention center. Lots of great contacts. I got spend a few minutes talking to the group and had a small HOF booth (photo attached).



From **Bill Rachford**: I spoke at the Friday, Nov 10, Veterans Day program at Reiley Elementary School, Alexandria, KY. I asked the students to "talk to their veteran" to learn what they learned in the military. I also spent several minutes talking about KVHOF and encouraging attendees to nominate candidates. In addition to me, other KVHOF members, Mark See and Dennis Bush were in attendance as part of the color guard of VFW Post 3205.

Thanks and have a Happy Thanksgiving,
Bill

From **Adrian Bambini**: Adrian and members of the KVHOF from Daviess County participated in the veterans day parade in Owensboro/Daviess County Veterans Day Parade.



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From **James Goodall**: 12 NOV 23 / 0934 Hrs.

We held our veterans Day parade in Owensboro, Ky. yesterday to large crowd on the parade route. It was an honor for 94 year old Korean War veteran Darrell Simith to ride my WW II jeep in the parade. We gave him a LST-325 "thank you for your service" medallion. He was a very happy veterans and enjoyed the parade and all the honor shown him on the parade route. Please see the attachment photo. Thanks, take care. SARGE



From **Jo Ann Orr**: While working with the Thea Bowman Society researching unmarked slave graves in St. Louis Cemetery, we uncovered 17 slaves who had served in the US Military during the Civil War, 1861 thru 1865. Their service has been confirmed and documented and grave markers have been requested from the Veteran Administration. On Saturday, November 11, 2023, the National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS) held a memorial to thank them for their service. The St. Louis Cemetery, is located at 1167 Barret Ave., Louisville. The slave section is located on the East and South Corner of the Cemetery. It is an open area with only one tombstone. The Society has not completed its research at St Louis, but it is our desire to not make these heroes wait another year without recognizing their service. Veterans Day is a busy time for many of us. **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE.** (Edited by Terry Vannarsdale)

Jo Ann Orr
NABVETS Woman Liaison
(502)767-2260

From **Jo Ann Orr**: Jo Ann requests your assistance. When you come to the next general meeting on January 18th, please bring a clean blanket (new or used). These blankets will be given out to female veterans who are in need of them.

