



DAR Service for Veterans Committee
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**Celebrate Stars and Stripes Forever
and those who made it possible by
serving the living veterans and honoring the deceased.**

The DAR Service for Veterans Committee serves America's Veterans. The committee provides a tangible way for DAR members to say "thank you" by acknowledging and recognizing veterans' service, sacrifice, and commitment to the preservation of our nation's freedom. Of special importance is the recognition for women veterans' service.

West Virginia is among the states with the highest per capita population of veterans with nearly 10% of the population comprised of veterans. Opportunities to serve our veterans can be as an individual, a chapter or as part of the community. They can be the act of appreciation cards, donations of time or money, or participating in or hosting events that honor and thank our veterans.

Resources for opportunities include, but are certainly not limited to, local Veteran's of Foreign Wars (VFW) Posts, local American Legion posts and the Veterans Hospitals and clinics throughout the state. Senior centers can also be a good source for opportunities. Serving our veterans can also be an opportunity to involve the community, especially our young people, through local schools, 4-H clubs or scout troops.

West Virginia has four (4) VA Medical Centers in Beckley, Clarksburg, Huntington and Martinsburg, a Veterans Nursing Facility in Clarksburg, a Veterans Home in Barboursville and a Fisher House in Huntington. VFW Posts and American Legion Posts are in towns across the state. You can search www.vfw.org to find VFW Posts or www.legion.org to find American Legion Posts near you.

Serve the living:

- Volunteer at or donate to Veterans Hospitals, Veterans Homes or Fisher Houses – Each VA Hospital has a DAR representative that disseminates information about the specific needs at each of the VA Medical Centers.
- Honor Flight – sponsorship, escorts or cheerleading at the airports. Find opportunities in your area at www.honorflight.org
- Preserve Veterans' History through the Veteran's History Project
- Medal of Honor Mail Call provides a way to learn about our living Medal of Honor recipients and write letters of appreciation to be given on Medal of Honor Day – March 25. Another great opportunity to involve youth in your area. (www.janinestange.com/moh/)

Honor the Deceased:

- Participate in local Memorial Day and Veterans Day activities
- Participate in Wreaths Across America

Nominate an Outstanding Volunteer

There are three awards for outstanding volunteer service:

- Outstanding Veterans Volunteer Award
- Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award
- Outstanding DAR Service for Veterans Award

Nominees for the DAR Service for Veterans Award are volunteers in the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement programs.

Reporting:

We want to ensure that West Virginia Daughters are represented by reporting our activities. Please take pictures of your events throughout the year, try to get media coverage (social, print, radio or television). At the end of the year when you are completing your CMR, send a report with photographs and copies of media coverage to the state chair.

Resources:

DAR Service for Veterans Committee webpage -

<https://www.dar.org/members/committees/service-committees/dar-service-veterans/committee-purpose>

DAR Service for Veterans Official Group facebook page – find out how chapters around the country serve veterans in their communities.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions.