



2016-17 Veteran Volunteers of the Year

Thank you to all our exceptional Elks volunteers who devote their time and efforts to veterans throughout the year.

Alaska Jan C. Jonker, PER, and Kathi A. Johns, PER

Arizona Roger G. Bedell

Arkansas Martin G. Caldwell Jr., PER, and Evonne Darrow

California-Hawaii Robert A. Pickett, PER

Colorado Larry C. Herrera, PER, and Joan Verhey

Connecticut Philip C. Sengle and Denise Johnson, PER

Florida James Klocke and Lisa Ann Leighty

James Klocke manages the Adopt-A-Veteran program, regularly holds meals and other veterans events, and initiated the Veteran Fund at Manasota, FL Lodge No. 2734.

A longtime volunteer, Lisa Leighty coordinates meals and activities for VA residents, organizes trips, and supports the annual Christmas event for veterans with visual impairments at Orlando, FL Lodge No. 1079.

Georgia John C. Hunt Jr. and Maureen Ann Manning

Idaho Ralph F. West, PER, and Susan West

Illinois Stanley K. Hayes and Dolores Tomscheck

Indiana Robert M. Hill

Iowa Bob Kirchner and Tasha Welch

Kansas Gary A. Austin, PER

Kentucky Mike See and Janet Cartwright, PER

Louisiana Don Baye, PER



(Left to right) PGER Jim Damon, Idaho Veteran Volunteers Susan and Ralph West, PGER Ron Hicks

Maine Henry G. Breton and Sandra L. Anderson, PER



Maine Veteran Volunteer Henry Breton dressed up as a lobster with a local restaurant owner and community supporter.



Maine Veteran Volunteer Sandi Anderson sets up at a fundraising event for homeless Veterans.

MD-DE-DC Guy W. Boniface

Minnesota Richard Peterson and Gretchen Peterson

In Minnesota, the Petersons have spent the past year rallying lodge members and changing the lives of more than 100 veterans in the Minneapolis area through the Welcome Home Program, as well as many other volunteer activities with veterans.

Missouri Steven C. Jeffries and Mary Ouhl

Nebraska Jimmie L. Meers and Shirley Meers

New Hampshire Dennis M. Joy Sr. and Marion Savage



New Hampshire State Veterans Chair James Stewart presents Dennis and Marion with their awards.

New Jersey Fred Spages, PER, and Kelly Mazzocchi, PER

New Mexico Allen Semrau and Janice Semrau

New York William T. Mayer

Bill Mayer, a veteran himself, has been an active member of the Veterans Committee at Haverstraw, NY Lodge No. 877 for 34 years, including his service as the chair for the last 15 years. He makes weekly visits to the Montrose VA and local nursing homes, organizing bingo, meals, and holiday events.

North Carolina Frank T. Brady Sr., PER, and Joan K. Breidenbach

Oregon Robert A. Wymore, PER, and Rhonda Brustol

Rhode Island Pasquale A. Matteo and Lynette Michele Wagner

South Carolina Robert Block and Jeanette Roveri-Smith

Texas Roy J. Chambers, PDDGER

Utah Alan P. Saunders and Judith Cooley

Virginia Dieter Schneider, PER, and Patricia J. Graves, PER

West Virginia Nick Conti and Carol Bostic



Marcella Conti (right), accepts the West Virginia Veteran Volunteer of the Year Award on behalf of the late Nick Conti.



Virginia Veteran Volunteer Patti Graves, PER.



Virginia Veteran Volunteer Dieter Schneider, PER, receives his award.