

# WARRIOR WEEKEND PROGRAM



## NEWSLETTER – VOLUME 6 – OCT. 2023

### **President's Message** **James J. Lafferty**

The third quarter of 2023 has ended. During these three quarters of 2023, we completed five weekend trips. During these five trips, the total number of soldiers and their families we entertained was eighty-two. These five weekends were spent at Rehoboth Beach, DE, Chincoteague, VA twice, Philadelphia, PA, and Hershey Park, PA. The remaining two weekend trips will be at Rehoboth Beach, DE., in October and November. The location of these weekends was actually decided by the soldiers themselves. After a few years, it was obvious they enjoyed spending time with their families at these locations.

At each of these locations, there are activities available for them and the choice is theirs to participate. If they would rather spend the time reconnecting with their families, that's fine with us. The choice is theirs. The troops really appreciate the fact that the weekends are not regimented or structured, the time is theirs. They love getting away from the hospital and military environment and relaxing with their families.

Please remember that these weekends would be impossible without your generosity and support. Because of your kindness and compassion, we can put smiles on the faces of these American Heroes and their families and provide memories they will cherish for a long time.

In this issue, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the AMVETS Post 2 in Long Neck, DE, The American Veterans Thrift Shop in Lewes, DE, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 28, Legion Riders Post 28, and the Pot Nets Homeowners Association in Millsboro, DE, and Steve & Victoria Hoff, Humboldt, NE for their most generous donations to our program during this third quarter.

As a reminder, the purpose of this and every newsletter is to inform you, our donors, how much we appreciate your support and how and where we spend your donations. We do send a thank you letter for every donation received; however, we feel it is also important for you to know how we spend your donations.

### **WARRIOR WEEKEND PROGRAM OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

James J. Lafferty, President  
Scott Underkoffler, Vice President  
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FB: Warrior Weekend Program

The Warrior Weekend Program is a 501(C)3 non-profit and all of us who work the program are volunteers. No one receives any salary or compensation for their time and efforts. Our reward is watching the smiles on the faces of these American Heroes and their families and believe me, it's very rewarding. I thank you for providing us with the funds to put a little sunshine in the lives of these heroes and their families.



The following comments from the last two trips will give you an idea as to what these weekends mean to these heroes and their families. Thank you for making all of our trips possible. Please remember these soldiers are all active-duty soldiers who are recovering from their injuries while stationed at a military medical facility.

Hershey Park, PA July 20, 21, 22 & 23, 2023  
Name: Sergeant First Class Jeffrey Winfree

The hotel accommodations were great, the location was convenient to the park, shopping, and touring options. The rooms were great! The itinerary was great! It allowed my family and I to enjoy ourselves and still have time to meet with the group. Nothing was mandatory other than having a great time and unwinding. I know dining out was not mandatory, but it should be because that's the only time the group can come together and show what the trip is truly about, bringing us together with family and enjoy new faces, friends, and memories that can last a lifetime, and even more important, to show us service members that people truly care about us.

My overall impression of the weekend was not spending it with family but with strangers who chose to go above and beyond to make me feel appreciated, respected, and comfortable like family. I will continue to advocate for programs like this Warrior Weekend Program while I am at the Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU). Please continue your mission because what you are doing can mean the world to a service member who may not have a good support group or one at all. We had a blast!!!



Chincoteague, VA September 14, 15, 16 & 17, 2023  
Name: Sergeant Jarelle Turner

Thanks!!!! We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the thoughtfulness and generosity this organization has provided my family. Lasting memories and family bonding time are priceless. Your organization's willingness to go above and beyond for military families shows there is still compassion in this world. It was pleasurable spending time with each of you who visited. The suggestions for the weekend events were a nice touch. Once again, please know that your kindness will always be remembered. See you on the next trip.



As you can see from these comments, lasting memories, friendship, and family time are what these soldiers enjoy and cherish the most from these weekends. They also realize there are people who care about them.

## HERSHEY PARK & CHINCOTEAGUE



## **OUR FEATURED VOLUNTEERS**

### **HACK AND JUNE JONES, DIRECTORS**

Our reason for joining the Warrior Weekend Program is to be able to help the soldiers enjoy some time away from the hospital and spend time with their families.

We enjoy giving the children gifts and watch the smiles on their faces.

We enjoy working the different projects to help raise funds so the program will continue to support these troops.

It's so rewarding to see how much the troops appreciate what the Warrior Weekend does for them.



### **LINDA SHELLY, DIRECTOR**

All veterans need to be honored and respected. The Warrior Weekend Program does this, especially for those wounded warriors.

The Program provides weekends for them and their families to spend time together and enjoy themselves.

For me, the joy I see when they are with their families makes my heart happy.

That's the reason why I joined the Warrior Weekend Program.



*We ♥ our  
Volunteers*

## WARRIOR WEEKEND PROGRAM WELCOMES OUR NEWEST DIRECTOR

### Mike McBride, AMVETS Post 22 Historian

Mike has a soft spot in his heart for all active-duty military, for veterans, and especially for the wounded warriors. We look forward to working with Mike as the program continues to provide weekends for our Nation's Heroes.

An opportunity to meet the **Troops & Families** visiting Delaware in November!  
All Welcome to Attend as Bob "Elvis" Lougheed pays Tribute to our Heroes!  
Proceeds Benefit **Warrior Weekend Program**

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 28 PRESENTS

# BOB LOUGHEED & THE MEMPHIS MAFIA

SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>  
12 N - 4 PM  
\$25 PER PERSON  
INCLUDES  
LUNCH & SHOW



JOIN US AS WE HONOR OUR ACTIVE-DUTY TROOPS & THEIR FAMILIES VISITING  
DELAWARE AS GUESTS OF THE WARRIOR WEEKEND PROGRAM.  
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND!  
LOCATION: AL POST 28, 31768 LEGION RD., RTE. 24, MILLSBORO, DE  
TICKETS AVAILABLE @ BAR OR CALL 302.381.3897.

Lunch - 12 - 1 pm Meatball Sandwiches, Baked  
Ziti, Dessert, Tea & Coffee  
Show Starts: 1 PM

