

# The Lycoming Vet

Volume 7, Issue 3

July, 2014

**A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT'S INSIDE**

Thank you!



Arlington National  
Cemetery



VA Open House



Diploma Received



54 Years Later



Add this to your  
Drivers License



Get Involved

# Thank You To All Of Our Volunteers

**One of the most labor-intensive jobs here at the VA office takes place during the months leading up to Memorial Day—which, this year, was Monday, May 26th. A county grave marker is provided to all deceased veterans, including those who served during “peacetime,” as indicated in the County Code. Additionally, a new flags are placed in each marker at every veteran’s grave before Memorial Day.**

**The County Office of Veterans Affairs depends on staff members at the larger cemeteries as well as volunteers throughout the county to assist us in placing the flags each year. Many miles are travelled, many armloads of flags are carried, and the most remote, isolated, and solitary burial sites in the county are visited to ensure that every veteran grave is displaying an American flag on Memorial Day.**



**The Lycoming County Veterans Affairs Office would like to thank all of our volunteers for their help this year for replacing all the old flags with new.**

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## Harry A. Scrimshaw, U.S. Navy WWII Veteran



George Heiges Jr, Director of Veterans Affairs, was honored to be invited by the Scrimshaw family to attend the funeral of WWII Navy Veteran Harry A. Scrimshaw.

The funeral was held at the Arlington National Cemetery on June 23, 2014. To the right is a picture of Harry's wife and son receiving the flag presented by a Navy Honor Guardsman.



George shared that the experience of visiting the cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (pictured to the left) was truly a life experience that will never be forgotten.

**“Thank you to the Scrimshaw family for including me as a part of your family ,”**

George W. Heiges Jr.



# Lycoming County Veterans Affairs Open House



On Friday May 23, 2014, we opened our doors to the community for some snack and refreshments.

This gave Veterans an opportunity to come see our new office and talk with other Veterans before their big Memorial Day weekend. George Heiges, Director of Veterans

Affairs began the celebration by cutting into the cake, welcoming everyone to our new office.

Veterans, family and friends walked around the office to enjoy the military memorabilia hanging throughout the office while enjoying snacks and refreshments.



We would like to give a special thank you to the Williamsport Detachment 388, Marine Corp League, Inc., for their generous donation towards our plaques that are hanging in our waiting area, representing all branches of the United State Military Service.



From Left to right:  
 James Sanders (Vietnam Veteran),  
 Richard Kelly (Vietnam Veteran),  
 Howard Wilt (Korean Veteran),  
 George Heiges Jr (Director of  
 Lycoming County Veterans Affairs),  
 David Keene (Assistant Director),  
 Richard Gilbert (Vietnam Veteran),  
 Thomas Pittenger (Vietnam Veteran)

The Staff of the Lycoming County Veterans Affairs would like to thank everyone that was able to make our open house. We appreciate all of your support.

**Natalie, George,**



# 71-Year-Old Navy Graduate



Arthur Thompson of Williamsport, received his high school diploma after 54-years. Arthur had dropped out of high school just shy three months of graduating and receiving his diploma, to enlist in the United States Navy and serve his Country. Arthur thought his high school diploma was just something that he would never have, “This is something I thought I would never see.”

Then while watching the news Arthur saw that a they had created a state law that school districts had to grant a diploma to Veterans that met high school requirements and had been honorably discharged from the service. Once Arthur heard this he contacted us at the Lycoming County Veterans Affairs to confirm this was true. We did a little searching and found the guidelines and the application “Operation Recognition Act 104” for him. Arthur stopped into the office to pick up the application and kept in contact with the us throughout the process. We were so proud to here that one of our Local Veterans would be receiving his high school diploma after 54 years of being out of high school we contacted the Sun Gazette and kept them updated with all the information and when and where Arthur would be receiving his diploma.



On April 15, 2014 Arthur Thompson stood proud in his Navy Uniform and received his high school diploma at the school board meeting. He was so happy to the let the VA know how everything went he stopped by our office the next day with his diploma and medal that he had received from the school board. We are so proud and happy for Arthur and so glad that we were able to be involved in such a HUGE achievement of yours.

*Congratulations Arthur!*

If anyone else was in the same situation as Arthur we invite you to contact us or stop in to our office for the application and guidelines so you also can be recognized for the sacrifice that you made for our Country.

# PA Veterans Designation

Surrounded by **veterans** and members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Governor Tom Corbett kicked off the new **Veterans Designation** for Pennsylvania driver's licenses and identification cards on March 04, 2014.

The **designation**, an American flag with the word "Veteran" beneath it, will appear on the front of the license or identification card.

**"The brave men and women who put their lives on the line as part of their service to this country deserve to be fully recognized for their efforts," Corbett said. "Today, I am proud to be here as we kick off one more way we honor the service of our veterans here in PA."**



- Qualified applicants for a **Veterans** Designation include those who have received a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty/DD214 or equivalent, for service in the United States Armed Forces, including a reserve component, or the National Guard who were discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable. Applicants do not qualify if the character of their discharge is Uncharacterized (unless service connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Reservist or Active Duty for Training), Under other than Honorable Conditions, Bad Conduct, or Dishonorable. Applicants also do not qualify if they are on Active Duty and do not have a discharge document. Applicants must self-certify with a DD Form 214, NGB Form 22, and or in cases where a discharge document was not issued, please contact the DMVA at 1-800-547-2838.

## The DMVA will audit submissions to verify Veteran's status.

- There is no fee for the **Veterans** Designation, however regular renewal or duplicate fees still apply. Forms for driver's license or ID renewals and duplicates now have a box for applicants to certify that they are a veteran, and to have the **designation** added. Once the **Veterans** Designation has been added to a driver's license or identification card, it will automatically appear each time the card is renewed.
- **Veterans** holding a non-commercial driver's license or identification card can immediately apply for the **designation** by visiting [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us) and clicking on the American Flag/**Veterans** Designation icon.
- To renew a commercial driver's license (CDL) and add the **Veterans** Designation, applicants must complete and mail in a DL-143CD form and applicable fees. To obtain a duplicate CDL with the **Veterans** Designation, applicants must complete and mail in a DL-80CD form and applicable fees.

**If you have any questions or concerns**

**Please call 1-800-547-2838**

# Team RWB Lock Haven - Williamsport

## A New Community

**On Monday 3 February 2014, we officially became a Team RWB "Community" thanks to the hard work and dedication of the volunteers and members of then Team RWB Central PA. We have proven that we can make a positive impact on veterans and the community on a consistent basis and continue to grow.**

**It is an honor and privilege to be part of this organization.  
Our official name is now Team RWB Lock Haven-Williamsport.**

### Mission and Goals:

- **Enrich the lives of America's veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity**
- Reduce the military civilian divide and enrich the lives of community members as well as veterans
- Assist veterans reintegrating back into society; provide veterans a means to continue serving after taking off the uniform
- Focus on positive psychology; reap physical and mental benefits of consistent exercise and authentic interaction with genuine people



### About the Chapter:

- **Became an "official" Community on 3 FEB 2014**
- Grown from 51 members in APR 2013 to 166 members in FEB 2014
- Chapter consists of 87 veterans and 79 community members (NOTE – not just for Veterans)
- Originally developed for Post 9/11 veterans; our chapter is very diverse – children to Vietnam Veterans
- Easy, free registration. No obligations to participate.  
All Veterans receive a free t-shirt.

### Contact Information:

**Chapter Captain: Sean MacMillen - [sean.macmillen@teamrwb.org](mailto:sean.macmillen@teamrwb.org)**

**Social Director: Jennifer Forshey - [jennifer.forshey@teamrwb.org](mailto:jennifer.forshey@teamrwb.org)**

**Community Outreach Director: Melissa Barr - [melissa.barr@teamrwb.org](mailto:melissa.barr@teamrwb.org)**

**Veterans Outreach Director: Bo Hagaman - [bo.hagaman@teamrwb.org](mailto:bo.hagaman@teamrwb.org)**

[www.teamrwb.org](http://www.teamrwb.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/173494196131894/>

Calendar of Events can be found Online





**Physical Activities:**

- Focus on consistent exercise programs – weekly walking, hiking, and running groups in Lock Haven
- Planned for 2014: yoga, functional fitness, biking groups
- Welcome members who want to improve physical health of any ability level
- Members participated in over 20 running and walking events in 2013 as a team in the chapter area



**Sunday Fun Runs:**

Come out and join us for a Sunday Fun Run, Hike, or Walk. We meet at 2 p.m. on Sunday by the parking lot at the head of the levee near Lock Haven University. We are currently planning new fitness groups in the near future.



**Community Activities:**

- Adopted Fairview Cemetery
- Assisted with set-up and tear down at Hometown Heroes ceremony
- Built an easy access ramp for a disabled WWII Veteran
- Cut 8 truckloads of wood for a Navy veteran in poor health
- Participated in the Renovo and Lock Haven Christmas Parades
- Visited Veterans at Susqueview on Christmas Eve to pass out Christmas cards and cookies
- 2014 - provide volunteers for Hyner Challenge, Eagle Trek, Rothrock Trail Challenge and other races

**Social Activities:**

- **Typically have a “get-together” before and after each event**
- **Presented colors and attended LHU’s Veterans Recognition Football game as a team**
- Monthly family bowling night at Clinton Lanes
- Trip to Ski Sawmill planned for 16 FEB 2014 for a day of skiing, snowboarding, and tubing



# AMERICAN LEGIONS, VFW's & OTHER COUNTY VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS



## American Legion Post 1-

Garrett Cochran  
10 E. 3rd St., Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-323-9409

## Veterans of the Vietnam War – Post PA 51

P.O. Box 23, Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-547-2814

## American Legion Post 35-

Glenn Sharrow  
78 N. Main St., Hughesville, PA 17737  
Phone: 570-584-2123

## VFW Post 3428-

Edward J. Smith Post  
12 N Market St., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-3820

## American Legion Post 36 -

George Webster Pepperman  
P.O. Box 211, Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-4174

## VFW Post 5859-

Billy O. Brandt Post  
201 N. Lincoln Ave., Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
Phone: 570-398-2801

## American Legion Post 104 -

Eugene Grafius  
1312 Broad St., Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-368-9000

## VFW Post 7863-

Le Roy O. Buck Post  
150 Shaffer St., South Williamsport, PA 17702  
Phone: 570-323-1579

## American Legion Post 251 -

Bower Decker  
185 Broad St., Montgomery, PA 17752  
Phone: 570-547-2039

## VFW POST 844-

Howard W. Kahler Post  
1260 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-326-2752

## American Legion Post 268 -

Roland Ritter  
515 Legion Rd., Muncy, PA 17756  
Phone: 570-546-5210

## Forty & Eight Voiture 382

345 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-322-1670

## American Legion Post 617 -

Royal P. Steinbacher  
901 Market Street, South Williamsport,  
PA 17702  
Phone: 570-327-0255

## Susquehanna Valley Chapter 47 of The Disabled American Veterans

P.O. Box 3372, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-567-4554

## American Legion Post 999 -

West Branch Service Post  
2985 Four Mile Drive, Apt. 107  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
Phone: 570-447-1572

## Williamsport Detachment 388 Marine Corp League Inc.

P. O. Box 3245, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-323-9900

## Korean War Veterans of Lycoming County, Inc.

P. O. Box 3232, Williamsport, PA 17701  
Phone: 570-745-3775 (Military Funerals)

# Your Reps in Washington & Harrisburg



## U.S. Representative Thomas Marino— 10th Congressional District

**Williamsport District Office**  
**1020 Commerce Park Drive, Suite 1A**  
**Williamsport, PA 17701**  
**Phone: 570-322-3961**  
**Fax: 570-322-3965**  
**Office Hours: M-F 9-5**  
**Website: <http://marino.house.gov/>**



## PA State Senator Gene Yaw— Senate District 23

<b>330 Pine Street, Suite 204</b>	<b>One Progress Plaza, Suite 13</b>
<b>Williamsport, PA</b>	<b>Towanda, PA 18848</b>
<b>Phone: 570-322-6457</b>	<b>Phone: 570-265-7448</b>
<b>Fax: 570-327-3703</b>	<b>Fax: 570-268-4313</b>
<b>Toll-free: 1-800-443-5772</b>	
<b>Website: <a href="http://senatorgeneyaw.com/">http://senatorgeneyaw.com/</a></b>	<b>Email: <a href="mailto:gyaw@pasen.gov">gyaw@pasen.gov</a></b>



## PA State Representative Garth D. Everett— 84th Legislative District

<b>Penn Hills Plaza, Halls Station</b>	<b>Tiadaghton Valley Mall</b>
<b>21 Kristi Road, Suite 2</b>	<b>Room 105</b>
<b>Muncy, PA 17756</b>	<b>Jersey Shore, PA 17740</b>
<b>Phone: 570-546-2084</b>	<b>Phone: 570-398-4476</b>
<b>Fax: 570-546-5220</b>	<b>Fax: 570-398-5963</b>
<b>Office Hours: M-F 9-5</b>	<b>Office Hours: M-F 9-4:30</b>
<b>Website: <a href="http://www.repeverett.com/">http://www.repeverett.com/</a></b>	<b>Email: <a href="mailto:geverett@pahousegop.com">geverett@pahousegop.com</a></b>



## PA State Representative Rick Mirabito— 83rd Legislative District

<b>800 West Fourth Street, Suite GO2</b>	<b>115 East Wing P.O. Box 202083</b>
<b>Williamsport, PA</b>	<b>Harrisburg, PA 17120</b>
<b>Phone: 570-321-1270</b>	<b>Phone: 717-772-1314</b>
<b>Fax: 570-327-3719</b>	
<b>Office Hours: M-F 8-5</b>	
<b>Website: <a href="http://www.pahouse.com/mirabito/">http://www.pahouse.com/mirabito/</a></b>	<b>Email: <a href="mailto:rmirabito@pahouse.net">rmirabito@pahouse.net</a></b>

**Not sure who your representative is? Find out at:**

**<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/findyourlegislator/countylist.cfm?CNTYLIST=LYCOMING>**

## FROM THE LYCOMING COUNTY VA OFFICE:

Would you like to have a VA Benefit Seminar at a Nursing Home, Legion, VFW, or Other Organization? Have George come and speak to the Veterans and Widows about what they could be eligible for through the VA. Call our office at 570-327-2365 to set it up.

Home Loans? Contact Bob Brown, Sr. Loan Officer at Allentown Mortgage Corp. VA Loan Specialist/ Residential Financing.

Phone: 610-883-7601 or 484-494-6593

Email: [bobbrown@worldlynx.net](mailto:bobbrown@worldlynx.net)

Web: [www.allentownmortgage.com](http://www.allentownmortgage.com)

\*Licensed by the PA Dept. of Banking\*

## FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:

Are you rated 100% disabled by the VA? Then you may be eligible for real estate tax exemption and free hunting and fishing licenses. Call 570-327-2365 for more information.

If you or anyone you know are interested in being trained for an Honor Guard position please contact the VA office at 570-327-2365.

## Important information to Know when Transitioning from TRICARE Prime to Standard.

- You can still see your same doctor.
- Costs for care will change.
- Your health care prior authorizations are still valid.

Be aware that your out-of-pocket costs for existing care will change from TRICARE Prime copayments to TRICARE Standard (Extra) cost-shares and deductibles on **October 1, 2013**.

If you have any other questions or concerns please contact us at 570-327-2365



# VA Outpatient Clinic



The VA Outpatient Clinic was established July 1997 on the Campus of Divine Providence Hospital in the Wenner Building, 1705 Warren Avenue, Suite 304, Williamsport, PA **Phone:** 570-322-4791 **Fax:** 570-322-5170  
Open: Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Scheduled appointments only  
~ No Emergency Services/No walk-ins

**Services Include:** Primary Care, Enrollment/Eligibility forms, Psychiatry, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Social Services, Counseling, Lab, Nutrition services, and Immunizations.

**The VA Clinic has a social worker at the clinic on Tuesday and Thursday. Her name is Chris Veach; please call the clinic at (570) 322-4791 to schedule an appointment.**

## Vet Center

The Vet Center is located at Suite 104, 49 East Fourth Street, Williamsport, next to the James V. Brown Library. Phone 327-5281. All services provided by the Vet Center are **FREE OF CHARGE**. These include readjustment counseling and outreach services to all veterans who served in any combat zone. Services are also available for their family members. These include:

- individual and group counseling: women, spouses, WWII, Korean, Vietnam, OEF/OIF, and other combat veterans.
- group counseling
- marital and family counseling
- bereavement counseling



- substance abuse information and referral
- referral in applying for VA Benefits, job counseling and educational VA benefits
- referral for homeless vets
- military sexual trauma (male and female) counseling & referral
- outreach and community education

*Pennsylvania*  
**CareerLink**  
LYCOMING COUNTY

The PA Career Link—Lycoming County office is located at 329 Pine Street in Williamsport and is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

**Contact:** Timothy French

**E-mail:** [tifrench@state.pa.us](mailto:tifrench@state.pa.us)

**Phone:** 570-601-5934

**Online:** [www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us](http://www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us)



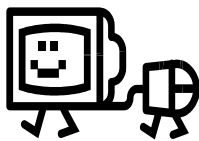
**Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs**

330 Pine Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
Suite 401  
Executive Plaza Building  
Mailing Address:  
48 West Third Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-327-2365

*County Commissioners*  
*Jeff C. Wheeland,*  
*Chairman*  
*Ernest P. Larson,*  
*Vice Chairman*  
*Tony R. Mussare,*  
*Secretary*



For up-to-date  
News and  
Information  
For Veterans



***The Lycoming Vet***  
*is published*  
*by the Office of*  
*Veterans Affairs*  
*in Lycoming County, PA*

**We are here to help you . . .**

**MSGT George W. Heiges (Ret.)**

**Lycoming County Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 gheiges@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Twenty- one years USAF

**David A. Keene**

**Assistant Director of Veterans Affairs**

570-327-2365 dkeene@lyco.org

- Fully accredited as a Veterans Service Officer by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Four years USMC

**To make an appointment, please contact**

**Natalie Miller at: 570-320-2101**

Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM  
Monday– Thursday: Scheduled Appointments Only  
Friday: Walk-Ins 9:00 AM- 4:30 PM  
Closed weekends and major holidays.

**The Lycoming County VA**  
**Office Will Be Closed:**

Independence Day– Friday, July 4, 2014  
Labor Day– Monday, September 1, 2014

**Do you have announcements  
or information to share???**

The Lycoming County Office of Veterans Affairs invites you to submit articles and items of interest to be published in the next edition of *The Lycoming Vet*.

For questions or to make submissions,  
please contact Natalie Miller at the Veterans Affairs Office.