



*Jim Doyle, Governor
John A. Scocos, Secretary*

STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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February 28, 2007

Dear Service Member/Veteran:

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) in January 2007 appointed a Women Veterans Committee to assist with identifying the needs and concerns of women service members and veterans, and to establish a statewide Women Veterans Conference.

In order to identify the needs and wishes of women service members and veterans we are asking you to assist us with completing the enclosed confidential survey. If you ever served one day in any branch of the military (active, guard or reserve) I ask that you please fill out the survey. The information you provide will help us in identifying the important issues for the service members and veterans, and assist us in the planning of the future conference.

WDVA has obtained information on only about 5% of the women veterans and Guard/Reserve members who are residents of this state. Therefore, we are asking that you provide copies of the survey to those women veterans that are either veterans or current members of the Guard/Reserve that may not have received a mailing. The survey is also available to download from our web site at www.dva.state.wi.us under women veteran. You can either mail the survey to the address listed in the letterhead, or email it to Gundel.metz@dva.state.wi.us.

The committee has chosen the Wisconsin Military Academy on Ft. McCoy as the location of the first conference to be held on September 29, 2007. See the enclosed flyer. More information will be posted on the WDVA web site regarding the conference to include the registration form.

Thank you so much for taking the time to fill out this survey and returning it.

Sincerely,

Gundel Metz
Women Veterans Coordinator
608-266-1312

Enclosure

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WOMEN VETERANS COMMITTEE

The following individuals have been appointed to the Women Veterans Committee. These members were recommended by their peers at the Women Veterans Forum held in December 2006.

Sharon Berge – Retired Army Reserve, Madison

Phyllis Berthoff – Army, American Legion - Milwaukee

June Dykstra – Air National Guard, WI National Guard Joint Force Headquarters - Madison

Holly Hoppe – Retired Air Force, Disabled American Veterans - CVSO Oconto County

Bobbie Kolehouse – Civilian, Director Rural Women's Health Program - Stevens Point

Mary Lloyd – Marine, Women's Marine Association - Madison

Gundel Metz – Retired Army and Veterans of Foreign Wars - Committee Chair, Madison

Jean Panich – Army Reserve, Milwaukee

Deb Rice – Retired Army National Guard, Madison

Vera Roddy – Air Force, United Women Veterans - Milwaukee

Connie Schauer – Army Reserve - Spencer (Tomah area)

Chris Scoville – Retired Navy Reserve - Assistant CVSO Dane County

Frances Wiedenhoeft – Army Reserve – Madison

The veterans listed are members of various veteran organizations which include:

American Legion

Disabled American Veterans

United Women Veterans

Veterans of Foreign Wars

101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division Association

AMVETS

National Gulf War Resource Center/Veterans of Modern Warfare

The Retired Enlisted Association

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

WOMEN SERVICE MEMBERS/VETERANS SURVEY

The information you provide will allow us to plan a Women Veterans Conference with your concerns and needs in mind. This survey is confidential and will be used only for planning future women veterans programs for Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

1. Do you consider yourself a veteran? Yes No

If no, why not? _____

2. What is your period of service? (Please mark the one that pertains to most of your time in service)

WW II Era Korean War Era Vietnam War Era Peacetime

Desert Storm/Shield Era Global War on Terrorism Era (OIF/OEF)

3. Which branches of service did you serve in and how many years?

Army Marines Navy Air Force Coast Guard

Years on Active Duty Years in the Reserves Years in the National Guard

4. What is your age group?

18-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 61-70 Over 71

5. What is your education level?

High School to include GED

Trade School

Some College

Associate Degree

Bachelor Degree

Advanced Degree

6. In which County do you live? _____

7. Please identify the areas that you are concerned about.

Health Care

- Amputations
- GYN (gynecological)
- Head Injuries
- Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Sexual Assault
- Sleep Disturbances
- Urological problems
- Others _____

Mental Health Care

- Adjusting to physical limitations
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Guilt for leaving family for deployment
- Stressors of single parenting
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Sexual Assault
- Others _____

8. Have you have used the services of the Veterans Administration (VA) hospitals or clinics?

Yes

No

If no, why not? _____

9. Do you feel that as a women veteran you have different needs then your male counterparts in the following areas?

- After deployment concerns
 - a. being a parent again Yes No
 - b. being a spouse again Yes No
 - c. being single Yes No
 - d. being a civilian again Yes No
- Continuing Education Yes No
- Deployment Yes No
- Occupation
 - a. Getting a job as a combat veteran Yes No
 - b. Going back to your old job Yes No
- Other areas _____

10. Are you aware that you may be eligible for Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) benefits?

Yes No

11. Have you applied for any of the following WDVA veteran benefits?

- Assistance to Needy Veterans Yes No
- Assistance for VA Claims Yes No
- Home Improvement Loan Yes No
- Home Loan Yes No
- Personal Loan Yes No
- Retraining Grant Yes No
- Veterans Assistance Program (homeless) Yes No
- Veterans Education Grant Yes No
- Wisconsin "GI" Bill Yes No

12. Have you visited your County Veterans Service Office (CVSO)?

Yes No

13. What time of the year would you prefer that Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) hold a Women Veterans Conference? Please choose only one that best meets your need.

Spring Summer Fall Winter

14. What day of the week would you be available to attend a Women Veterans Conference? Please choose only one that best meets your needs.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

15. What topics would you like to see covered in a state wide Women Veterans Conference? Where should we hold the conference?

- | Topic | Location |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | a. _____ |
| b. _____ | b. _____ |
| c. _____ | c. _____ |