



# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Tournament



Greetings from the National Convention Committee. Plans for the upcoming convention in Minnesota 2003 are going very well. Many thanks to the patriots and ladies who have stepped forward to offer their service and help as chairpersons. You may be contacted by the chairpeople to work with them in various areas.

This will include fund raising events, like our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf tournament which was held at Mount Frontenac Golf Course on Saturday, September 7, 2002. A good time was had by all who attended, even the peanut gallery was exceptionally friendly and nice. The first place team posted a score of 69 (three under par). They were Igy Theisen, Carl Falkowski, Jr., Jim Hannegan, and Dave Esch. There were three Purple Hearters present - one on each team.

With that said, we want to thank our sponsors for their support: the Department of Ohio for sponsoring five holes for the tournament, Treasure Island Resort and Casino for donating the prizes for the tournament, and A BIG thank you to the patriots, friends and family members that played and assisted in making the tournament a success. Everyone who participated had a good time and stated that they will be back for the next tournament.

A lack of patriot and lady golfers from the Department of Minnesota was evident. Even with this lack of participation we went ahead with the fundraiser and raised monies so that we can put on a great convention for our fellow brother and newly elected National Commander, Bill Wroolie. The Patriots across this nation are looking forward to a very good convention in Minnesota. Let's go all out and let our hospitality speak for itself.

Other fund raising events will happen during the year. We will make an effort to get the information on these events out to the Chapters and members well in advance. We look forward to better participation and sponsorship from within the Department.



## Honor Guard Forming

Submitted by Dennis Wells

The Department of Minnesota is looking for a few good men... seven (7) dedicated Patriots to form an Honor Guard for the Department. The Honor Guard would present colors at meetings, conventions, funerals, pow-wows, etc. If anyone is interested, please contact Dennis Wells at (612) 877-1605

## An I.O.U. to the Veterans of the U.S.A.

By John Evan Carson / Copyright 1996 / Used with permission

Please accept this I.O.U.  
it's all I have today  
The debt I owe is far beyond  
my ability to pay

An I.O.U. from my heart  
for all that you have done  
You've given up everything  
that through your loss we've won.

I.O.U. - for my home  
the one you left to defend  
I.O.U. - for my family  
thank you for leaving yours my friend.

I.O.U. for freedoms light -  
for a chance of prosperity  
I.O.U. for the futures bright -  
my children are all free.

## Committee Chairpersons 2003 National Convention

Anyone that is interested in lending a helping hand for the 2003 National Convention please contact the chairperson for the committee that you wish to assist with. The chairperson's names and phone numbers are listed below. As Convention Chairman, please contact Dennis Wells with any concerns, suggestions and/or ideas you may have.

Convention Chairman	Dennis Wells	(612) 877-1605
Registration (Ditty Bags)	Carl Goodermont	(612) 881-7253
Transportation	Richard Jenkins	(651) 459-6446
Vendors Tables	Mary Lou Murphy	(507) 645-6318
Hospitality Room	Carlene Vietor	(612) 889-1497
Entertainment	Clayton Irmen	(612) 831-6168
	Lorraine Irmen	(612) 831-6168
Finance	Larry German	(612) 588-3874
Color Guard	Dennis Wells	(612) 877-1605
Advertising/Promotional	Dennis Wells	(612) 877-1605
	Carlene Vietor	(612) 889-1497
Decorating	Gloria German	(763) 424-4055
	Mary Lou Murphy	(507) 645-6318
Fund Raising	Carl Falkowski	(651) 227-4456
Convention Secretary	Carl Falkowski	(651) 227-4456
Emergency Contact	Carlene Vietor	(612) 889-1497

## From Your National Service Officer

Carlene Vietor

News from the Federal Building at Fort Snelling is that a new Director for the Regional Office, Vincent Crawford, has been selected. Assigned previously in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, he will be on station as of October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The National Commander has appointed PNC Mike Tomsey as the new National Service Director. Tomsey's duties will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Good luck to Mr. Tomsey for an easy transition.

I am down to a one-person office. My secretary's last day was September 13, 2002. I have already discussed the hiring of a new assistant with the new NSD. Consideration of a replacement will not take place until after the Eastern Conference.

I will be traveling to Myrtle Beach, SC for the Eastern Training Conference for Service Officers on October 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>. Moses Carr, Hospital Rep, will also be attending this conference.

*Editors note: John Evan Carson lives and works in Minneapolis. After finding out our daughter Niki's connection with a military organization, John brought Niki these poems that he has written as a tribute to veterans and asked her to share them with us.*

I.O.U. for your pain and loss -  
for the health I have today  
I.O.U. for coming across  
when harm was in the way.

So please accept this I.O.U.  
it's all I have to say  
The debt I owe is far beyond  
my ability to pay.