



WILDERNESS VETERANS MEMORIAL FLAME FOUNDATION INC.
NEWSLETTER
ISSUE Eleven 2025

Our greetings to you as we wish you a Happy Holiday Season. The Memorial is eight years old and counting. As the years go by, our special place in Presque Isle continues to be serene despite a troubled world. Plan a visit, you will see.

What happened in 2025

- The newly installed irrigation system has been very successful keeping the grass, new trees, plantings and ESPECIALLY THE WEEDS thriving!
- Which brings us to our newest challenge: how to maintain what we want and remove what we do not want. It has been very difficult to locate a maintenance service, so we are attempting another approach with the help of two knowledgeable advisers, Annie Shelby and Carol Stone. They have been helping our volunteers remove overgrowth and weed removal. In Spring 2026 new plantings will be installed along with temporary planters to fill in gaps. We will also be adding more cranberry mulch around the plantings. Our goal is to make the plantings more colorful throughout the growing season. Look for spring daffodils donated by friends of WVMFF. Stay tuned!
- JJs Acres, Minocqua will arrive in 2026 to restore and replant grassy areas which have been damaged due to erosion and critters. We have finally found someone willing to mow the grass on the very steep banks. Finally, thank you to Board Member Bernie Klotz who volunteered to “weed and feed” the grass.
- All of the above maintenance work is either done by volunteers or paid for by our donors via the WVMFF Endowment Fund.
- As part of our maintenance program all the flags are replaced every two years or as needed. Wind and sun cause wear and tear. The granite structures are still beautiful and show no wear.
- Freeze/thaw has created a bulge around the vehicle barriers; we are currently assessing the problem with plans to make repairs in 2026

The WVMFF Endowment

The Endowment Fund is slowly reaching a level which will begin providing for our annual fixed expenses including utilities, maintenance, insurance, accounting/investment costs, and small projects such as the landscaping project scheduled for 2026. Over the years, we have settled on a budget of approximately \$10,000.00 per year. We also rely heavily on the generosity of volunteers!!

WVMFF Foundation Board

WVMFF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit Foundation which consists of an 11-member Executive Board and members like you. All Board members serve for three years with an option to continue. We meet once a year, in May. Thanks for your service, Board Members: Patrick Roche, (Newly Elected President), Colleen Gorrilla (Assistant to the President), Sue Harris (Vice-President), Janice Peterson (Secretary), Steve Metz (Treasurer), and At-Large Members: Bob Berdan, Jack Curtis, Bernie Klotz, Otto Novak, Greg Strasser, and David Wirtz, Special thanks to our intrepid comptroller Lorine Walters.

Pass It On To Your Friends and Family

- Enshrine a veteran friend or family member. We still have a few locations available at a cost of \$300 per name.

Use this link to go directly to the online application form.

[Online Application Form](#)

Or, stop at the Memorial Kiosk for a paper application form.

- Donations to the Endowment of any amount are gratefully accepted.
- Major Giving Levels:

Bronze: \$1,000 – 1,999

Silver: \$2,000 – 4,999

Gold: \$5,000 -- 9,999

Platinum: \$10,000 –

- For more options, as well as information about purchasing remaining monuments, call 715-686-2517.
- Mailing Address: WVMFF, PO Box 83, Presque Isle, WI 54557

We Give THANKS for your Support

Nothing is possible without you. "Spend some quiet time at the memorial, open 24/7/365. Suggestions for improving your visit are always welcome. Also, plan a visit to our sister organization Winegar American Legion Post 480 (summer hours only).

Sincerely,

The WVMFF Board of Trustees
PO Box 83
Presque Isle, WI 54557
www.wildernessvetmemorial.org