Stockbridge-Munsee Community

Tribal Veterans Service Office

203 W. Main St.
Bowler, WI 54416
Telephone: (715)793-4036 ● Fax: (715)793-4039

Thursday, October 22, 2026

Greetings all of you hard charging Veterans. We held our first monthly Veterans breakfast at the Mohican Veterans Memorial Lodge building (W12790 Cty Road A, Bowler, WI. 54416) on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, from 8-11 am. We had 10 attendees and food for 30.

Thank you to Mark Coyhis for his $50 donation (5lbs Nueskes bacon) and I covered the rest for this initial chow hall experience. We had 6 dozen scrambled eggs, 40 handmade biscuits and 6lbs of pork sausage gravy, 6 fried eggs for those picky Army brats, orange juice, coffee and milk. My spare ammo was a box of pancake mix and syrup, but I did not have to use those. It took me 5 hours to cook everything, so if you want to volunteer to help at any of these events, please contact me. I do not believe too many cooks spoil anything. Besides Veterans will eat anything and this was better than C-rats, MCIs or MREs for sure. If I have to do this alone, I will be a run drop with no regrets. Carl Barton washed dishes and some of the last folks there helped clean up. I am thankful.

We had a presentation about internet access, Wi-Fi and telehealth from two VA staff from Boston who flew in to help us check signal strengths throughout Bartelme and Red Springs and conduct the surveys and interviews as part of a VA workgroup I as TVSO serve on. A survey regarding this and an interview in the secure office for confidentiality was conducted for those interested. A $30 gift card was given to those who completed the survey and interview. 4 pairs of Bombas socks were provided to each survey taker also along with some hygiene products. There was TVSO merchandise, challenge coins and travel mugs as gifts. Hopefully this telehealth survey will lead to advancements in the availability of devices for Tribal Veterans to use and to the use of VA telehealth services.

Rainer Shooter from Council attended. The event is intended to be a social event with a short VA benefits presentation, and it did serve this purpose. For Veterans to get an opportunity to speak to each other and leaders is an honor.

We ate, had coffee and visited for a while. 8th Congressional District candidate Retired Army Lt. Col. Rick Crosson attended and listened to Veteran concerns. Everyone had a good time talking about military life and heckling was probably the best part.

We heard about Women's Veteran groups, Honor Guard protocols and many other actions our Veterans group completes within our community and elsewhere.

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We would like to extend an invitation to younger Veterans and hopefully demonstrate the protocols, so the next generation carries on our proud traditions. We had a good laugh about how spry we were nearly 30 years ago and how we now grumble about aches and pains. Any young whippersnappers out there can relieve us of our post and all you would get from me is encouragement and support.

Mohican Veterans Organization and Carl Barton are covering the next breakfast which will be **November 18, 2026, from 0800 to 1100 hrs**. Sign up to attend if interested. If you are interested in sponsoring/donating to cover one of these monthly events, please call me at the number above. Volunteer to help cook and clean up. It is our time together to visit or help each other. You can email me at Gregg.duffek@mohican-nsn.gov for information or to let me know you wish to help or attend.

The Memorial, flags and bricks are an awesome display of the pride we have for our Warriors. I sincerely appreciate the Mohican Veterans Organization allowing me access to the building to hold these events. It is a great home for Veterans and camaraderie.

Semper brothers and sisters. Keep the chow line tight!

Respectfully submitted,

Gregg W. Duffek US Marine
Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians
Tribal Veterans Service Officer