

**Commemorative Program Book** 

## **Mission Statement**

The purpose of this organization is to honor US Military Veterans of all wars and conflicts, active duty, National Guard and reserve forces, by ceremonies and presentations of awards. citations and medals to veterans and active duty personnel. To honor Military Working Dogs and Combat K-9's for their service. To annually serve as the foundation to commemorate the forgotten battle of WW II, the naval "Battle of Exercise Tiger" every April 28th. Since 1989 the USTF has become one of the nation's premier foundations recognizing citizens, communities, VA staff, elected officials and others for their positive and patriotic actions. The USTF is a non-profit veterans organization as set forth in IRS codes and guidelines and meets criteria of 501 c (19). Its IRS # is 50717400. The USTF exists under the generosity of donors, grants, crowd sourcing, and fund-raising. If you can donate or assist with any funding, please see Susan the National Director, Bill or Walt.

### The USTF Auxiliary Rank

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The USTF members of the National Office & Staff wear USCG Aux. rank ( with permission) that reflect their positions in the national staff structure. The  $\mathbf{I}$  denotes a non active duty rank.

### **Exercise Tiger "80" Events....** "The MO State Capitol Tribute"

April 22, 2024

Today marks the first time in history that an official ceremony to honor the men and memory of those who fought in the Battle of Exercise Tiger will take place at and in a State Capitol of the United States. Further Mike Kehoe will become the nation's first Lt. Governor to ever take part and to "Declare" Exercise Tiger Day in Missouri on the 28th of April. Also, SECNAVY, SECARMY reps are in attendance as are members of the MOARNG's 175th MP BN, and senior leadership from Ike Skelton. Veterans from WW II to Afghanistan will be honored. Rennie Davis & Family will represent their uncle Lowell Renner, US Army, 3206th QM who died this week 80 years ago. The senior staff of US Army Engineers, Army North, Region 7 are attending as is the Navy's NTAG from St. Louis.

## "The National Ceremony"

#### April 28th, 2024 Audrain County Courthouse

This is the 80th Anniversary Ceremony and will feature a "Flyover" by US Navy T 28 Navy Trojan Trainer over the Missouri Exercise Tiger Army & Navy Anchor Memorial. Guest speakers will prese remarks from SECNAV', a USCG Admiral, and Lt Gov proclamation. Commemorative flags have been flown by the 442nd FW and souvenir t-shirts will be available. The ceremony will conclude with a 21 gun salute by the MOANG followed by a "Red Carpet" landing at the Mexico Airport where the Awards and Reception will take place.



# THE USTF'S NATIONAL OFFICE

The new home of the USTF was dedicated on December 30th 2019 with fanfare and news. "The West Wing" is occupied by the USTF and came just in time to serve as the HQ for the USTF's "Mask A Vet" statewide program housing over 100,000 masks at its peak. It also contains our "Hall of Presidents Letters", Governors Proclamations, along with letters from SECNAV, Army, Air Force & Coast Guard, & Boone County Proclamations *Note ~ The USTF Annex is at 25 N. 10th St.* 



USTF Senior Staff & Leadership Susan Haines CEO & State/National Executive Director & Co-Founder Walt Domanski Chief of Staff / PAO & Founder Pat Acton Executive Assistant To The "C" Suite Bill Slama Marketing & USTF Auxiliary Officer

ounder Bo Do Ric Bry Lar

Veterans Board & USTF Auxiliary Staff Larry Warren, Major Gen. USAF ret. Chair

Bob Jackson, MSGT USAFR ret. Don Wright, Sgt. US Army ret. Richard King, At Large Bryan Cook, PO1 US Navy ret. Larry Washington, MSGT USAF ret Dave Raithel, US Army, ret Vice Chair Steve Wendling, at large Mike Kelly, at large Rick Neuner, US Army ret Ben Wallace, SGT USMC, ret.

Volunteers/Auxiliary; Melinda Jackson, Paula Ritchie, Linda Lightfoot

#### Most recent USTF Programs & Honors & Mid-Mo State Tributes 2023~2024 In The News Media





96 yr old D-Day vet honored at USTF's D-Day ceremony in COMO. USTF Staff form "Sideboys" for Navy vet Felipe Regaldo.



COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE





COMO Mayor & USTF Dir. Susan Haines assisted by USN PO place Pearl Harbor wreath at Boone County Memorial. Left, Boone Commissioner Justin Aldred & State Rep./Veterans Chair Dave Griffith key speakers at Mid Mo Pearl Harbor Tribute.

Susan Haines presents blanket & MREs to native indian who was homeless this past winter.



MISSOURIAN Free haircuts were given to veterans on Valentine's day,

as a way of showing our respect and appreciation of their

service. Veterans and their pets received "valentines"

The USTF's Blankets for Vets & Pets Program provided 300 blankets to area Mo homeless and shelters.



These two Programs alone helped provide over 300 blankets. 200 Lifeiackets and 23 k-9 Lifejackets to Missouri Veterans. Families in 2023/24 Thats 523 souls helped by the USTF! Since the inception of these two programs 3 years ago, the USTF has provided over 500 blankets. 395 Lifejackets, 32 K-9 Lifejackets and this past feb 50 MRE's to those in need.

🐨 "Invest In a Veteran This Summer, Get A Lifevest SGT Rosie, Worlds 1st "Cockalier Spaniel" Therapy Dog Honored By US Army's Famed 94th K9 Unit in 2022 2 Media Partner MISSOURIAN turday July 1st 3-5 PM Saturday July 1st 8-11 AM Provided FREE To The Mid-Mo Veterans Community For a Safe Summer by The United States Exercise Tiger For More Info: Contact USTF Duty Phone 573-356-0529 ustf.org@gmail.com Foundation www.exercisetiger.org MSHP Marine Div. & Troop F ~ Water & Boating Safety Partners With oundation USTE 1 Lifejacket per Veteran/Guardsman/or family Household Lifejackets are USCG Approved for persons 90 Lbs and above. Lifevests/jackets will be given out first come/first serve until supply lasts. Limited supply of K-9 lifejackets for small to Large Dogs.

#### Covid And The USTF ~ Statewide Mask Campaign To Help Vets Only One of its Kind in Nation

Approved & Humans



During Covid, the USTF provided FREE 194,000 masks to Missouri Veterans, Guard members, families. 54,000 veterans were helped. 20,000 masks went to the under served Black Veterans of KC! This was part of the Gov. support of vets during Covid. USTF worked with DHSS and MSHP.



COMO Police stop traffic as the first of over 200.000 masks arrive from SEMA at USTF State & National Office.

USTF By the Numbers last 5 yrs Veterans Helped - 75,000 Veterans Grants Utility Bills - 126 Veterans Food For Pets - 3000lbs + Active Duty Troops Honored - 165 Families helped - 202 Homeless helped - 150 Veterans Honored w medals 702



Fallen Warrior Memorial Honoring Missourians Lost In Afghanistan The USTF is making avaiable this 36 inch stone casting of a "Warrior" carrying a fallen warrior. For a future Columbia, Boone County or state memorial located in Mid-Missouri.on a Missouri Granite or Limestone base.



US Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler places USTF Medal on BG Spindler US Army at a prior *Adopt A Warrior Banquet* 

Annual "Battle of Exercise Tiger" Ceremony



Battle of Exercise Tiger family member, Rennie Davis assists placing wreath with US Navy officer and state official at the Mo Army & Navy Anchor Memorial in Mexico Mo.



Public Service Announcement on KMIZ

