



NOTES FROM THE FIELD: Summer 2023



A beautiful sunrise near Resurrection Bay in Seward, Alaska as Heroes prepare for a full day of fishing and fun at the 10th Annual Alaska Halibut Fishing Event.

Summer is always an exciting time at WWIA as our Heroes took part in five exceptional events across North America. There were also some exceptional fundraisers held in support of our mission. The success of these events and fundraisers are a direct result of our amazing Hosts, Guides, Donors, Supporters, and Volunteers. These patriotic partners selflessly give of their time, expertise, finances, and resources in order to honor and serve our Purple Heart Heroes.

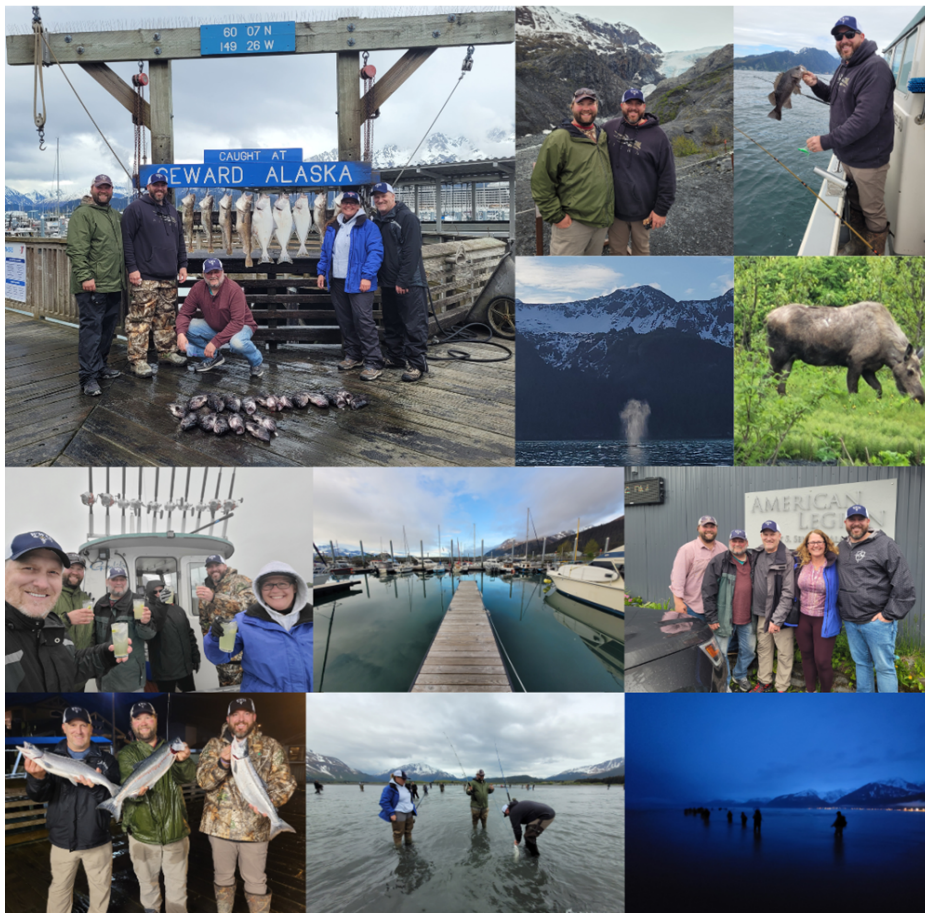
Please continue sharing the mission of WWIA to help us reach and educate others about what we do and how they can get involved. Read on for exciting highlights throughout this summer, and be sure to check out this month's Supporter Spotlight as well! As always, thank you all for standing with us to bring Honor, Connection, and Healing to our combat-wounded Warriors! 💜



EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

10th Annual Alaska Halibut Fishing

June 4-8 Seward, AK



The 10th Annual Alaska Halibut Fishing event celebrated a decade of honoring and serving our combat-wounded Heroes in one of the most majestic and beautiful environments on earth. Everyone arrived in Seward and got situated for their stay at the [Kenai Fjords Bed and Breakfast](#).

The first evening in Alaska was outstanding as everyone enjoyed getting to know one another while dining on a scrumptious dinner of halibut with sweet Thai chili sauce, adorned with peppers and onions over rice, along with green chimichurri halibut over rice with fresh asparagus on the side. Later, there was time for some sightseeing in downtown Seward before relaxing and sharing some stories and laughs.

The next morning, a delicious meal of biscuits and gravy was served, and then the crew headed out for a relaxing hike to the [Exit Glacier](#). The moose were

also out and about in Seward and what a sight they were! Later that afternoon, everyone got geared up and were given expert instruction and guidance as they went snagging for salmon at the head of the bay, in Resurrection Creek, courtesy of Rick Brown and [Adventure Sixty North](#). This was a unique experience as none of the Heroes had ever done any snagging and it was an absolute blast! A wonderful dinner was shared at the local American Legion Post 5 and then a quick nap was had by all before waking up for some late salmon snagging again from midnight to 3am. This day was packed full of fun and adventure, just as you would expect in the Alaskan wilderness!

After a breakfast of fresh blueberry pancakes, it was time to drop some lines in search of grey cod, halibut, and more rock fish. There was a plethora of wildlife sightings again and in addition to the Humpback whales and sea lions, there were killer whales around as well. It was quick work on the water as our Heroes started their morning limiting out on rockfish, then headed over to the [Aialik Glacier](#) to take in the breathtaking sights and enjoy a "glacierita" made with ice from the glacier. What a cool experience! After that, it was time to fish again, with a combination of cod and halibut caught. There was plenty of wildlife to see once again. Humpback whales, orcas, mountain goats, and otters were plentiful and an amazing sight to see. Heroes returned after a long day on the water and feasted on fish tacos with some of the rockfish they had caught that day along with cilantro lime pico de gallo, cilantro rice, and a phenomenal fruit and vegetable mango lime chutney.

The last day of the event began with a wonderful breakfast and send off from our Host before taking in a visit at the [Alaska Sealife Center](#), learning about the local marine life as well as the ecosystem of Alaska. Heroes then made their way to the [Elmendorf-Richardson Joint Military Base](#) in Anchorage for a quick tour. A final meal was enjoyed at the [Moose Tooth Pub and Pizzeria](#) as everyone feasted on pizza and reminisced about an incredible 5 days spent in Alaska.

This trip truly checked off all the boxes as it offered ample relaxation, epic fishing, outstanding camaraderie, wonderful hospitality and food, and one of the most remarkable backdrops in the world! These experiences will stay in the hearts and minds of our Heroes for many years to come as they marveled at scenic vistas, observed native wildlife, learned about local history, and indulged in world-class fishing in the last great wilderness. Our Heroes could not be more grateful for their time spent in Alaska. Our sincere thanks to the [American Legion Post 5](#), the [Sons of the American Legion](#), and the [American Legion Auxiliary](#) for their outstanding support. Additional appreciation and gratitude to Kristin Minden and Allen Long from [Captain Jack's Seafood Locker](#) for packaging, freezing and boxing the Heroes' catches to take home. Special thanks to Host John Moline ([Current Affair Charters](#), [Kenai Fjords Bed and Breakfast](#)), for giving our Heroes a once-in-a-lifetime excursion that will be forever cherished. Special appreciation and thanks to WWIA Guides Jake Whipkey and Matt Brannon for their contributions and assistance during this amazing event.

"My first duty station was in Alaska. I married my wife in Alaska while I was in service and we lived in our first home together there. I haven't been back to Alaska since 2011, so this trip was so meaningful to me. We had an amazing time fishing and sight seeing. We were able to visit multiple glaciers, see whales, sea lions, etc. We were able to catch a lot of fish and John was a great host at his bed and breakfast. This trip helped me so much. I was able to step back in time and take in beautiful Alaska again. WWIA is doing great things and doing it the right way. Everyone was so nice and receptive and I had an amazing week. Thank you."

6th Annual MO-KAN Catfishing Event

June 9-12 St. Joseph, MO





What better way to kick off the summer than by heading to Napier, Missouri for some world-class catfishing! Team MO-KAN proudly welcomed four of our Heroes to the 6th Annual MO-KAN Catfishing event for four days of well-deserved, top-notch food and fellowship. After everyone arrived, they headed to Bandanas BBQ to grab lunch and get to know one another, then headed to Napier Hunt Club to get settled in. After a quick tour and meeting up with some of the local guides, everyone headed to the Missouri River to get some lines in the water. They utilized several different fishing tactics such as bank lines, jug lines, and rod and reel fishing. They met with success on their first day, with several nice catfish caught. Everyone went back to camp for a delicious BBQ Dinner courtesy of [VanZino's](#). After dinner, our Heroes gathered around the firepit where they spent time relaxing and talking.

Inclement weather meant that some of the fishing times had to be adjusted, but once the weather cleared, everyone got their lines in the water and some awesome fish were caught throughout the day. Our Heroes raved about what a great time they had and everyone was grateful for the different techniques they had learned from experienced local guides. Everyone enjoyed a delicious fish fry that evening and there was even time for fishing on Napier pond and shooting some clay pigeons.

As our Heroes headed home the next morning, everyone reflected on the phenomenal time spent in Missouri. As incredible as the fishing was, the camaraderie and bonds formed amongst our Heroes was unquestionably the highlight of their time. The community of volunteers, donors, guides, and supporters that make up Team MO-KAN are simply phenomenal, and every year they pull out all the stops to show their gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifices our Heroes have made in defense of our freedoms. This top-tier event is a testament to the incredible dedication and support of so many wonderful people and businesses in this community. They work throughout the year to ensure that our Heroes not only have an exciting time, but that they leave this event feeling restored and with the knowledge that they are not alone in their healing journey. Another tremendous event that would be impossible without the

unwavering commitment of Team MO-KAN. Thank you Brian Roderick and Team MO-KAN for hosting our Heroes, and for your outstanding efforts and contributions year after year. Additional gratitude and appreciation to Terry Supple and Napier Hunt Club for providing food and housing to our Heroes. Recognition and thanks to WWIA Guide Mark Broda for his outstanding support and leadership throughout the event.

"As always, I have enjoyed myself. A much needed break from everyday life. I need these reminders to the gratitude of our nation for the sacrifices we made. Hosts, Guides, and Warriors were great and amazing people. Glad to have met new Warriors and experienced a new culture of outdoor adventures."

Inaugural WWIA Safety Symposium

July 6-11 Phillips, Wisconsin

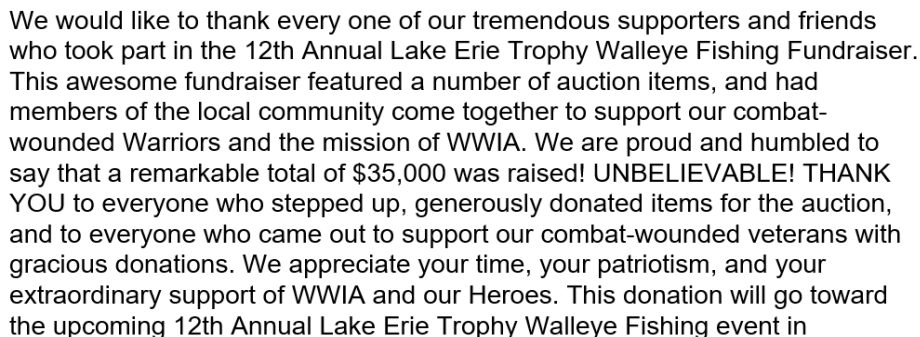


The Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation (WWIA) in conjunction with the [Adaptive Sports and Arts - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#) proudly conducted the Inaugural WWIA Safety Symposium. This comprehensive Safety Symposium is funded and sanctioned by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and focuses on safety in the field as well as adaptive sporting techniques. This event provided ten WWIA Guides the opportunity to further advance their skill set as they received the most current and up-to-date safety training and standards. This symposium assists these Heroes in leading their fellow combat-wounded veterans on WWIA events and help facilitate event Hosts in ensuring that every WWIA event is a safe and enjoyable experience. This all-expense paid 6-day course was held July 6th-11th at WWIA's Northern Healing Center, Camp Hackett, in Phillips, Wisconsin.

Our highest appreciation and gratitude to the Adaptive Sports and Arts - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for supporting and funding this important

Special thanks and gratitude to our ten remarkable Guides who graciously took time away from their families, jobs, and daily responsibilities in order to expand and improve their own skills and to further our mission to serve their fellow combat-wounded Purple Heart Heroes. 💜

July 8 Ashtabula, OH



Ashtabula, Ohio. Special thanks to "Jello John" Everett for his outstanding coordination and mobilization of Team Erie and your amazing network of supporters, volunteers, and donors. Great job, everyone! 💜

12th Annual Lake Erie Trophy Walleye Fishing

August 4-7 Ashtabula, OH



Twelve of our Warriors arrived to a Hero's welcome at the 12th Annual Lake Erie Trophy Walleye Fishing Event as the town of Ashtabula, Ohio greeted them with a police escort and a motorcycle convoy courtesy of the [American Legion Riders](#). Grateful members of the community gathered and expressed their appreciation to our Heroes for their tremendous service and sacrifice. Everyone drove to the local [American Legion Dewey Howlett Post #103](#), which had a fire engine with a huge American flag hanging from the extended ladder over the entrance as they arrived. It was quite a humbling sight and our Heroes truly appreciated the outpouring of love and support from the community. Ed and Kathy Williams also had their [Black Beast \(AKA The Patriot\)](#) show truck parked outside, so the Heroes could see it and take pictures. Then, everyone was led into the American Legion single-file with the Vietnam veterans leading the way, as each veteran was saluted as they entered. This was a great time of fellowship as members of the community were able to meet and greet our Heroes. A delicious steak dinner was served with a variety of sides and deserts. The American Legion Riders presented each Hero with a beautiful plaque expressing their gratitude and appreciation for their service and sacrifices. After such an exceptional first day, the evening ended with our Heroes hanging out around the campfire getting to know each other a bit better.

Everyone woke early the next morning, ate breakfast and loaded the boats in anticipation of a great day on the lake. The fishing on Lake Erie is some of the best around and this year was no exception as lines were cast and catches were

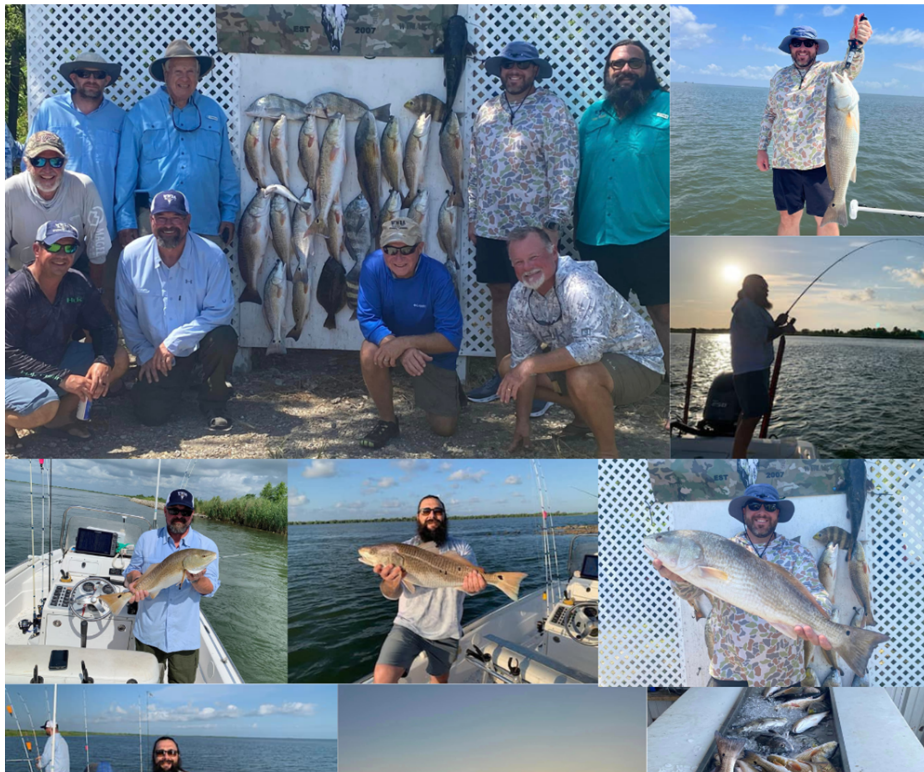
on the hooks all day long! Most boats caught their limits and our Heroes raved about what an amazing time on the water they all had. Boats returned to the marina in the afternoon, the fish were offloaded and everyone was taught how to clean them properly. An assembly line was started, so the tremendous number of fish could be prepared. The evening ended with an awesome fish fry and everyone sharing laughs and stories

The following day, everyone got out early for another exciting day on the water. Fishing was just as good as the first day, and our Heroes were amazed at the bounty of fish caught and the wonderful time they all had on Lake Erie. Later that evening, everyone gathered back at [Kister Campground](#) and Marina to enjoy a hearty and delicious BBQ cookout. There was a spectacular dinner and closing ceremony on the final evening for our Warriors, and each of them returned home with a cooler full of fish, but more importantly with new friendships and treasured memories of their time in Ohio. Our gratitude and appreciation to Hosts Bill and Diane Miller, Larry Fielder, Dave Conant, and to the incredible Team Erie, and all the tremendous volunteers, supporters, and local community for another spectacular event. The care and honor given toward our Heroes each year at this event is absolutely superb! Special thanks to WWIA Guides Jason Gaudette and Greg Brazinsky for their tremendous support and leadership throughout this four-day event.

"This is my first time with WWIA, and I am amazed. I wasn't sure that I would ever be able to hunt or fish again after my injuries. However, after being able to drive again after my brain injury and many surgeries, I have taken the chance on the opportunity of a lifetime. I now have my confidence back to get out and enjoy life again and try the things I used to love doing. The team in Ashtabula, OH are by far the best I've been around since I retired and recovered. My hope is to do more adventures now and meet some more amazing veterans, young and old (Vietnam and more). It meant so much to not just be around other Guld War veterans but especially with other Purple Heart Veterans that came before us. Laying the groundwork for us. I am so grateful for those veterans and the wonderful people that served us this week. Thanks to the great sponsors and guides that worked so hard for us so we could all share this time. I thank God for WWIA and everyone who makes this happen. All my love, prayers and gratitude!"

7th Annual Saltgrass Lodge Red Fishing

Aug 11-14 Venice, LA





Four of our Purple Heart recipients traveled to the Louisiana Bayou for a memorable and exciting time at the 7th Annual Saltgrass Lodge Red Fishing Event in Buras, LA. After getting settled into their accommodations, our Heroes were welcomed with a wonderful redfish dinner, were introduced to their guides, and received a briefing for the next day's fishing itinerary. The remainder of the evening was spent relaxing and allowing everyone to get better acquainted.

The following day, our Heroes had a delicious breakfast and were in their boats ready to go before sunrise. Fishing in this area of Louisiana is simply exceptional, and there were plenty of fish caught early, including redfish, black drum, flounder, and sheepshead. After a great start to their fishing excursion, everyone headed back to the lodge for a delicious dinner courtesy of Host, Raymond Schmitt, while reminiscing about a remarkable day on the water and a great start to their trip.

The next morning, our Heroes were back at it early and hauled in a plethora of fish again throughout the afternoon. Not only was the fishing exceptional, the bonds and camaraderie between the Heroes were equally remarkable. After the fishing was concluded, the Warriors took a drive down to the famous Venice marina, where they were able to observe some other fishing boats come in with some massive tuna that they had caught. It was a neat experience to observe. Upon return to the lodge, the day's catches were cleaned, bagged, and frozen. For dinner, everyone feasted on an incredible shrimp boil and finished it off with some homemade bread pudding for dessert. Stories and laughs were exchanged throughout the evening as everyone talked about what a unforgettable and exciting time was had both on and off the water.

Our Heroes thoroughly enjoyed their time at [Saltgrass Lodge](#) as the food, accommodations, and fishing were first-class all the way. They returned home with lots of new memories, solid friendships, coolers full of fish, and some hog sausage to boot! We extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to Host Raymond Schmitt and Co-Host Audie Murphy for their outstanding efforts in providing this unique and well-loved event for our Heroes over the past seven years. Special recognition and thanks to the skillful boat guides, Capt. Raymond Schmitt, Capt. Ike Schmitt, Capt. Michael "Chief" Duke, Capt. Ryan Arceneaux, and to Pamela Fields and the wonderful and accommodating staff at Saltgrass Lodge for their hospitality and care. Additional thanks to Joan Murphy, Terry Taylor, Dave Cavanaugh, and Daniel Murphy for their event support, and to everyone who made this event possible through their generosity and patriotism. Our appreciation and gratitude to WWIA Guide Matt Brannon for his support and coordination throughout this four-day event.

"I can't say thank you enough! I put off applying for a hunt because I really don't like being around people, but I decided to step out of my comfort zone and do it anyways. I felt welcome as soon as I got here, great Hosts, great guides, and a great group of guys to hunt with. I am really glad that I did this and will be trying to get on other hunts in the future."

Cigars on the Boulevard Purple Heart Day Fundraiser

August 4 Apollo Beach, FL

	<p>CIGARS ON THE BOULEVARD in partnership with the WOUNDED WARRIORS IN ACTION FOUNDATION (WWIA) proudly present:</p>	
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Cigars on the Boulevard in Apollo Beach, FL, partnered with the Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation (WWIA) to host a special fundraising event on Friday, August 4th to help support our mission to bring Honor, Connection, and Healing to America's combat-wounded Purple Heart recipients. This special event featured a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction, as well as access to an exclusive run of 250 "WWIA" branded cigars that were available for purchase. This was an outstanding opportunity that had friends and supporters come out to enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun while helping support a local charity that has been changing the lives of our Purple Heart Heroes for the past 17 years. The Founder and CEO of WWIA, Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) John J. McDaniel was also on-hand to meet and greet guests and thank them for their tremendous support. Thanks to the generosity of those in attendance, a total of \$1,800 was raised to further our mission. Additional thanks to Cigars on the Boulevard Co-Owner Charlie Bunton for his coordination and efforts in making this possible. 🍷🚬

"This has been a weekend to remember. I have had such a great time. The memories had and friends made are something I will remember for the rest of my life. I would like to thank everyone that made this event possible."

Stuff Squeak's Jeep Fundraiser

August 12 Ashtabula, OH





Our gratitude and thanks to everyone who came out and participated in the 4th Annual Stuff Squeak's Jeep Fundraising event, held August 12th in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. This annual event is two-fold, as attendees are encouraged to "stuff" Squeak's Jeep with as much non-perishable food/cans as possible to be donated to [Feed Our Vets](#). It also features a raffle basket auction and a 50/50 with those proceeds being donated to WWIA. This event is held annually to honor the memory of James "Squeak" Thompson, a 6-year Marine Corp Vietnam Veteran and Purple Heart Recipient who had a tremendous heart for helping his fellow veterans. A total of \$2,200 was raised and will go toward the local WWIA Lake Erie Trophy Walleye Event! WWIA's own Steve Fielder of Team Erie was on hand to enjoy the festivities and accept this thoughtful and generous donation. We also recognize and appreciate all the local businesses and sponsors that graciously donated to the event: [Sportsterz Bar and Grill](#), [All Extremes](#), [RedHawks Grille](#), [The Grand River Manor](#), [Crows Nest](#), [BrewStreaks](#), [Madison Walmart](#), [Madison Taphouse](#), [Max's Pizza and Grill](#), [Montrose Off Road](#), [Murphy's Pub and Ale House](#), [Erie Bank](#), [Offroad Charm](#), JCR Precision, and to the [Ashtabula County Off Road](#)! We salute all of the event patrons and supporters for your generosity and support! 🚗

2nd Annual Buskey Bay Resort Musky Tournament

August 26 Iron River, WI





AUGUST 26, 2023

BUSKEY BAY RESORT

IRON RIVER, WI

The 2nd Annual [Buskey Bay Resort](#) musky tournament to support the Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation Bayfield Cast & Blast is in the books! It was another successful and exciting year with 11 boats competing and some beautiful fish brought in! A total of \$1,900 was raised for WWIA and will go to support the local Annual Bayfield Cast & Blast event, which is celebrating a decade of serving and honoring our combat-wounded veterans. As great fishing stories go, this year's winner caught a musky on his first cast and on his very last cast which helped cement his victory. Incredible! Our congratulations to the winners, and gratitude to everyone who participated. It was an awesome day of fishing and a good time was had by all. Additional gratitude and thanks to all of the amazing volunteers, sponsors, and to everyone that made this 2nd annual fishing tournament so successful while helping support our combat-wounded veterans. We hope to see you all again next year! 🧑🏻🦉🐟

Summer Supporter Spotlight

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



We are honored to introduce you to an outstanding friend and supporter of the Foundation, Mr. Steve Kostbade. Steve has been an ardent advocate and a generous supporter of WWIA over the past few years, joining us in our mission to bring healing and restoration to our Purple Heart Heroes. We appreciate Steve and are proud to share a bit about him and his journey with WWIA.

Steve, can you tell us a bit about yourself, please?

I am 69 years old. My wife, partner, and best friend have been blessed with four children, three daughters, and one son. We also have eight wonderful grandchildren. My wife retired two years ago and I retired seven years ago. I

I love to spend time hunting, fishing, playing golf, and enjoying the beach at our second home in beautiful Clearwater Beach, Florida. When we are not at the beach, we reside at our home in southern Indiana, enjoying time with our kids, grandkids and friends.

Can you please tell us how you first became involved with the Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation (WWIA)?

I first became involved with the WWIA in the summer of 2019 at the Heartland Bowhunter Premier in Kansas City, Missouri. I bought a bow at the Premier auction. This particular bow was used by Skylar Wirsig to harvest his huge 8-point buck at Travis Milne's farm in Missouri. Travis was at the Premier and I got to meet and talk with him and he shared a great deal about WWIA with me. Since then, I have bought a couple of other bows at subsequent Heartland Bowhunter Premiers with proceeds going to the WWIA. I have become an avid supporter of WWIA and also follow them on social media.

Can you tell us about your journey as an outdoor sportsman? How has being in the great outdoors benefitted you throughout your life?

I started hunting and fishing at a very early age. I always hunted with my dad, mainly for small game, until I started and fell in love with deer hunting around the age of 16. Since then, I have hunted most of the big game in the U.S. with the exception of sheep and goats. I have been fortunate to kill Whitetail, Mule Deer, Black Bear, Grizzly Bear, Fallow Deer, Red Stag, all 4 species of Wild Turkey, Audubon Sheep, Mountain Lion, Alaska Yukon Moose, Antelope and predator's. I have hunted in New Zealand, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia and 3 Provinces in Canada. I have killed most of the plains game in Africa and as far as dangerous game, I have killed Crocodile and Leopard. I have been able to visit and hunt many places in the world. I have seen how fortunate I am to live, eat, and enjoy life by going to so many far away places. Sleeping out in the mountains seeing all of the stars at night, seeing the northern lights, enjoying the peace and quiet and the sounds in the outdoors. I have met so many people from different cultures and places that I have been able to visit and I would not trade that for anything. I hope I still have quite a few more hunts and trips in the future.

You have been a tremendous supporter of the Foundation through the Heartland Bowhunter Premiere charity auction. Can you explain to everyone why you choose to graciously support WWIA and our combat-wounded Purple Heart Heroes?

I started following the WWIA through the Heartland Bowhunter Premier's and my buddies at Heartland Bowhunter. I feel blessed that I am able to give this organization my support. I have heard some of the veterans stories and I am so grateful for what these men and women do and have done to keep my family and I along with all of the people in the U.S. safe and free. The more I see people and athletes disrespect the flag, the national anthem and our country, the more I want to support our vets and the WWIA. I considerate an honor to support all of our veterans both past and present and will continue to support the WWIA for the rest of my life.

What would you say to others who are considering getting involved with WWIA either as a Supporter or perhaps in some other capacity?

It is impossible to support all of the charities that exist, but if a person was debating which ones to support, I would say to them, support the ones that are dear to your heart. The organizations that hit home, the organizations that affect us the most. Certainly consider WWIA. Look at what these brave men and women have given to us. They have given us freedom, safety, and they stand up and defend our rights. These men and women have lost limbs, and suffered so much from what they have seen and had to do on our behalf. They deserve our help. How can you look at any veteran, some that are homeless

deserve our help. How can you look at any veteran, some that are homeless, some hungry and suffering, some suffering silently, and not want to help them out. They deserve our support. Even if you could just give a little it would be so worth it. Remember, All Gave Some, Some Gave All. God Bless the USA.



SPONSORS AND FRIENDS

We would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following supporters for their gracious contributions and dedication to WWIA and our Heroes.

THANK YOU!

Donations:

Kenneth Keith \$1,411.04 (CARS vehicle donation)

Chuck Uzes \$888.90

Robert Ojeda \$750 (in tribute to Robert M. Kline)

John Desiderio \$500

Donations toward 12th Lake Erie Trophy Walleye Fishing Event

Anonymous \$2,165

Knights of Columbus 947 \$500

Donations toward 17th Camp Hackett Events

Trailside Bar & Grill \$511

Wisconsin Tavern League Foundation \$500

Price County Tavern League Foundation \$500

Donations toward 2nd Annual Truxton Turkey & Trout

Spring Valley Farm \$700

Donations toward 13th North Carolina OBX Fins & Feathers

Seaside Realty Inc \$1,000

Donations toward 7th Great Creek Turkey Hunt

Stephen Couch \$750

Donations toward 9th Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge

Immaculate Conception Church \$2,000

James and Shawn Stemper \$2,000

Brute Construction, LLC \$2,000

Three Lakes Fish and Wildlife Assoc. \$1,800
Redman Realty Group \$1,000
Phelps Congregational Church \$1,000
J&Z Overhead Doors Inc. \$750
Eagle River Rotary Club \$600
Jeffrey Miller \$500
Brett Kierdrowski \$500
Bostwick Investments \$500

Donations toward 13th NY Upland Bird Couples Retreat

Twilight on the Erie RV Resort LLC \$1,412.86
Inland Waters Trap League \$945

Donations toward 2nd Michigan Patriots Duck & Goose Hunt

Integrated Inventory Solutions \$1,000

Donations toward Inaugural Alabama Turkey and Hog Hunt

Brock Colvin for State House \$1,000

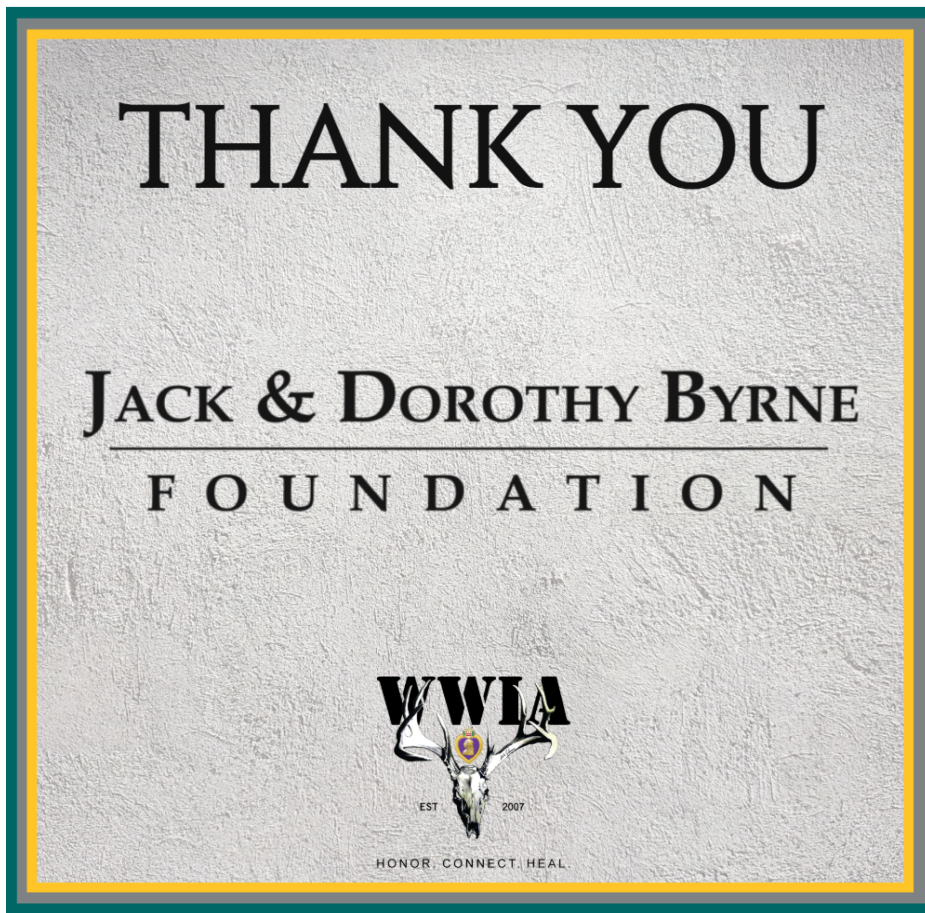
**Thank you Heartland Bowhunter, Midwest Land Group,
Steve Kostbade, & Caleb Barnhill!**



Our gratitude and thanks to Michael Hunsucker and Shawn Luchtel of [Heartland Bowhunter](#), to Steve Kostbade, to Bryhn Craft and Steve Mott of [Midwest Land Group](#), and to [The Outdoors Indoors by Bruce Jameson](#) for their phenomenal generosity and support of the WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes. At the recent Heartland Bowhunter Premiere Charity Auction, Mr. Steve Kostbade made a winning auction bid of \$10,000 on a beautiful [Bowtech INC.](#) Carbon One bow. That generous donation was then unexpectedly and graciously matched by Midwest Land Group. Wow! The Outdoors Indoors Taxidermy then auctioned off a mount as well, generously won by Caleb Barnhill! A total of \$22,000 was raised during this live auction and will go toward the upcoming WWIA MO-KAN Ducks, Bucks, and Trapping Event. Additional thanks to Travis Milne and Lance Cornelius from the [WWIA MO-KAN Chapter](#) for their outstanding support! 🏹

Gratitude and Praise for the Jack & Dorothy Byrne

Foundation!



We would like to recognize and thank the Jack & Dorothy Byrne Foundation for their incredibly gracious donation of \$20,000 toward the 5th Annual New Hampshire Bear and Bass Combo in Grafton, NH. They have been outstanding supporters of the Foundation over the years, and their generosity and dedication to WWIA and our Heroes is exceptional. Thank you! 🙏

We Appreciate Ammo.com's Exceptional Partnership & Support!





Please join us in recognizing and thanking our friends and partners at [Ammo.com](https://ammo.com) for their recent donation of \$4,020.08 to WWIA. These amazing Bronze Star Patrons have donated an incredible \$84,848.38 to WWIA and our Heroes since 2019 through their Freedom Fighter program. Wow! When it comes time to order your ammunition, please consider ordering from [Ammo.com](https://ammo.com). Whenever you purchase your ammo from them, they graciously donate 1% of your entire purchase back to WWIA. All you have to do is select WWIA as your preferred "Freedom Fighter" option from the drop-down menu at checkout. And right now, you can also save \$20 off any order of \$200 or more! Simply go to <https://ammo.com/wwia-supporter> to get started and find out more information. Our sincere thanks to [Ammo.com](https://ammo.com) for their tremendous support and to everyone who chose WWIA as their "Freedom Fighter" designation when ordering. We are honored by your generosity and partnership, and we applaud your outstanding patriotism!

Our Appreciation and Gratitude to Fort Meyer Thrift Shop & Boutique.



It is with tremendous gratitude and appreciation that we recognize and salute the patriots from [Fort Meyer Thrift Shop](https://www.fortmyerthriftshop.com) for their generous donation of \$4,000 to WWIA. This donation will benefit WWIA events in both Virginia and Maryland. Fort Meyer Thrift shop has been a remarkable partner of the Foundation, helping us further our mission to bring healing and restoration to our combat-

wounded Heroes. Thank you, Fort Myer Thrift Shop, for your outstanding support and dedication throughout the years to WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes. 🙌

**Our Sincere Thanks and Admiration to
Western States Fire Protection Co.**



We recognize and salute [Western States Fire Protection](#) for their recent donation of \$4,000 in support of WWIA's 14th Annual [WWIA MO-KAN Chapter Ducks, Bucks, and Trapping Event](#). Western States has been a longtime supporter of WWIA and the mighty MO-KAN event, having donated an incredible \$30,500 in total! Thank you Western States Fire Protection for your outstanding patriotism and generosity in helping support the mission of WWIA. 🔥

**Thank You Whitetails Unlimited for Supporting Our
Heroes and Our Mission!**



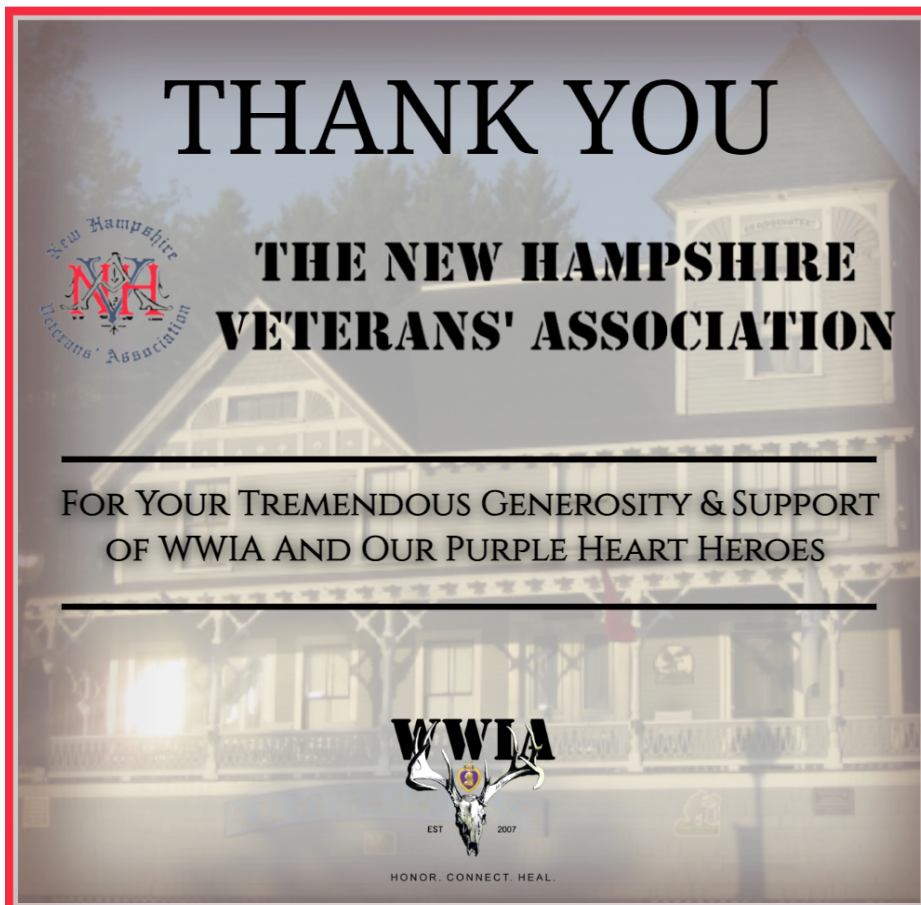


FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS SUPPORT OF
WWIA AND OUR COMBAT-WOUNDED HEROES



Thank you to [Whitetails Unlimited Official](#) for their incredibly generous donation of \$6,374.28 to WWIA. This donation was raised from a Whitetails Unlimited banquet dinner and the donation will be split equally between two local WWIA Wisconsin events, the 4th Annual Heroes Northland Experience Bear Hunt, and the 11th Annual Bayfield Cast & Blast. Whitetails Unlimited is the nation's premiere organization for the betterment of whitetail deer and their environment. They have been an outstanding supporter of WWIA over the years and we appreciate their generosity, patriotism, and support of our combat-wounded veterans.

Gratitude and Thanks to New Hampshire Veterans' Association for Your Outstanding Support!



Our gratitude and thanks to the [New Hampshire Veterans' Association](#) for their incredible donation of \$2,500 toward the 5th Annual New Hampshire Bear and Bass Event. They have done an incredible job of supporting our mission to bring Honor, Connection, and Healing to our Purple Heart Heroes. We truly

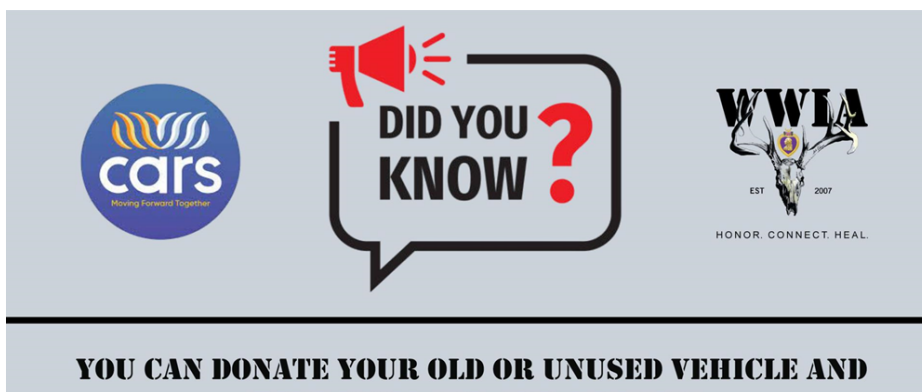
bring honor, connection, and healing to our Purple Heart Heroes. We truly appreciate their outstanding patriotism and are humbled by their generosity. Thank you! 🙏

High Praise and Gratitude for Three Lakes Fish & Wildlife Improvement Association.



Our gratitude and appreciation to [Three Lakes Fish and Wildlife Improvement Association](#) for their recent donation of \$1,800 in support of the 8th Annual [Wounded Warriors In Action Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge](#) event in Eagle River, Wisconsin. They have been tremendous friends and supporters of this event throughout the years and we thank them for their patriotism and for honoring our Purple Heart Heroes. 🙏

Donate your Used Vehicle, Boat, RV, or Motorcycle to Help Support WWIA & Our Heroes.



HELP WWIA AND OUR HEROES!

**WE ACCEPT CARS, TRUCKS, BOATS AND MORE.
THE PROCESS IS EASY, THE PICK-UP IS
FREE, AND YOUR DONATION IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.**



Did you know that you can help support WWIA and our Heroes by donating your car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or airplane? Working or not, free towing, tax benefits, and helping support our combat-wounded veterans are just a few of the benefits of using the CARS vehicle donation program. Simply click [HERE](#) to start the donation process or call CARS toll-free at 855-500-RIDE (855-500-7433) to have a donation staff specialist help guide you through the donation process. If you would like to learn more about how the CARS vehicle donation program works, please click [here](#). We thank you in advance for your support! 🚗

Have You Listened to the WWIA Podcast Yet?



Have you checked out the WWIA Podcast yet? If you haven't given it a listen yet, what are you waiting for!? It's a great way to stay connected, go behind the

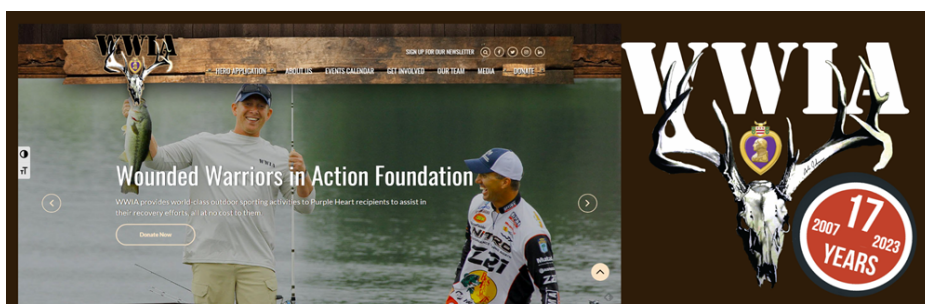
scenes, and get to know more about the incredible people who are a part of our WWIA family. You can listen and download current and past episodes on our website by clicking [here](#). You can also find the WWIA Podcast on your favorite podcast service, such as iTunes, Google Podcasts, Spotify, etc. New episodes drop every two weeks. Be sure to share this with your friends, family, and those in your network! Do us a favor and please leave a review wherever you listen to the podcast. We've got lots of great episodes and guests coming your way, so tune in, subscribe, and enjoy! 🎧

How Can You Help Support WWIA and Our Heroes?



Did you know that there are lots of different ways to help support WWIA and our Heroes? You can donate online, via mail, via PayPal, through vehicle donations, through shopping with our friends and partners, through workplace giving, through donor advised funds, legacy giving, on Giving Tuesday, and so much more! Click [here](#) to learn more about the many ways you can give and partner with WWIA in our mission to bring healing and restoration to our phenomenal combat-wounded Heroes. Thank you! 💜

Want to Learn More About WWIA? Visit Us Online!





Our website is full of information about who we are, how we serve our combat-wounded veterans, and how you can get involved. Visit us today! Click [HERE!](https://www.wwiaf.org)



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OUR NEWSLETTER



HELP SPONSOR
A HERO



WAYS YOU CAN
SUPPORT OUR MISSION



Where to find us!



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