Welcome to the first edition of Scuttlebutt Monthly, your local source for news, events happening and other military affiliated information.

In each issue you will find articles about what GCC student Veterans have done in the past month as well as pictures, what events are forthcoming (The Loop), This Month in Military History, Member of the Month as well as Ally of the Month recognitions, Letter from the President, motivational pieces, best practices on campuses and military trivia.

This newsletter is peer-driven and all articles will be submitted by our student Veteran Network (VetNet) community or sponsored by a member of the VetNet community. Submissions must be made no later than the 20th of each month for revising and editing purposes.

We hope you enjoy and as always, any suggestions, please feel free to see one of our Vet Net Officers.

PS. Vet of the Month and Vet-Ally of the month are for individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in the community as well as in the organization. Nomination must be submitted to the VETS Center no later than the 20th of the month.

Respectfully,

Kevin F. Leszczynski, VetNet President

CAMPUS BEST PRACTICES
Veterans come from all walks of life and experiences. Avoid suddenly placing the veteran in an uncomfortable position in the classroom by asking him or her to share experiences or disclose opinions, unless a prior relationship has been developed, or prior permission has been given. Being taken by surprise by circumstances like this can lead to a fight or flight type response for some veterans. Either way, it can be very disturbing.

DID YOU KNOW?
Duct tape was first created and manufactured in 1942 by Johnson & Johnson?

The original use was to keep moisture out of the ammunition cases. Because it was waterproof, people referred to the tape as "Duck Tape." Also, the tape was made using cotton duck - similar to what was used in their cloth medical tapes. Military personnel quickly discovered that the tape was very versatile and used it to fix their guns, jeeps, aircraft, etc. After the war, the tape was used in the booming housing industry to connect heating and air conditioning duct work together.

Soon, the color was changed from Army green to silver to match the ductwork and people started to refer to duck tape as "Duct Tape."

“There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.” ~ General Colin Powell
Scuttlebutt Monthly

Kevin Lysczinski, Jeremy Birchall, Diane O’Hearn and I went to Washington from Oct 11-15 to give a voice to GCC’s student VetNet group at the capitol.

The opportunity to speak to Congressman John Olver and Assistant Secretary of Veteran Affairs Joan Mooney was not only extraordinary but also productive.

The main issues we focused on included opening up communication, the VA provide training for college staff, obtaining inoculation medical records at discharge, computerizing all veteran medical records, and most importantly, coordinating resources within and between the college and local, state and federal VA – so we are all on the same page.

Congressman Olver was quite receptive to many of our ideas, especially the push to make inoculation records part of the military discharge process and paperwork. This change would benefit all veterans. The impact for veterans going to school full time would be priceless.

The week was a huge success. In addition to spending quality time with peers and touring DC, we made some solid contacts and have opened a line of communication to our representatives’ office. We definitely have much more work to do but we made big steps in the right direction.

MILITARY HISTORY

Veterans Day 11.11

Veterans Day gives Americans the opportunity to celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. veterans. However, most Americans confuse this holiday with Memorial Day, reports the Department of Veterans Affairs. What’s more, some Americans don’t know why we commemorate our Veterans on Nov.11. It’s imperative that all Americans know the history of Veterans Day so that we can honor our former service members properly.

To learn more about the history of Veterans Day, please join the student Veterans Network (VETNET) club in collaboration with the GCC Student Activities Council on Thursday, November 10, 2011 at noon in the caféteria as they host a lunchtime reception to honor all our veterans.

Josh Carnes, a GCC student veteran, has put together a powerful slideshow that will kick off the event, followed up with a brief program, and a variety of opportunities for our community to share in the experience.

THE LOOP

Stay Connected

Hall of Honor
VETS Center
Hallway
On going all month

11.10.11
Veterans Day Reception
Cafeteria
12:00 - 12:50 pm

11.16.11
Military Families Connecting
5:00 - 7:30 pm

11.18.11
VetNet Potluck
Greenfield Legion
5:00 pm

Please stop by the VETS CENTER for more information on any of these programs/events

GCC VET ALLIES

With Gratitude

This month’s edition of the Scuttlebutt wants to recognize the entire GCC community for their support, encouragement, and generosity. You have all had a hand in helping VetNet thrive on our campus. We could not have done this alone.

The following staff members have been nominated by the GCC student veterans as having gone ‘above & beyond’ in their own individual ways to encourage the efforts of student veterans.

COREY AMES
JENNIFER DUZINSKI
TERRY LYNN
KAREN TRUEHART