



# Vets Do Ask Do Tell, LLC

<http://www.vetsdoaskdotell.org>

Newsletter Vol. 1 Issue 8

November 1, 2009

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the LGBT Community Center, 315 W Court St, Milwaukee, WI. Our meetings are open to the general public. So if your not a member but interest in our work your invited to attend.

**New Phone Number:** We have a new phone number. It's 414-395-6043. For right now it goes to an answering machine, but if you leave a message and phone number we will get back to you within 24hrs.

**Vet to Vet:** We are looking to start an in house support group for veterans. At the moment we are researching an interest within the community. We have place a small questionnaire on our website to be filled out by those who may have an interest. Basically it asks for the best day of the week for you and the best time in the evening you can attend. Also, the best way to contact you ( phone or email ). All inquiries are strictly confidential and all sessions will be held in the strictest confidence.

**Research Request:** Heather Stur, assistant professor of History at the University of Southern Mississippi is writing a book that looks at women's experiences in the Vietnam War. She would like to interview women who served in Vietnam during the war, as well as women who enlisted in the military in the years immediately following the end of the draft. She would like to talk with women of all races and backgrounds.

Her email address is [heather.stur@usm.edu](mailto:heather.stur@usm.edu).

**Korean War Research Request:** Veterans for Change are trying to locate Korean war vets who have been denied services by the VA because their records aren't complete showing their Korean action. You can get more information by emailing Jim Davis, President at [jdavis92840@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jdavis92840@sbcglobal.net) .

**Membership:** Although on our site we don't show any real benefits to being a member. I want to tell you about our past year. Our volunteers who work hard at all our events received some really special rewards. Everyone who worked PrideFest got the weekend at Pridefest for free. For one day commitment they enjoyed the entire weekend. Also, a few members enjoyed VIP passes. This entitled them to back stage and free food. We have volunteers that work every event that got to go to the Community Awards Dinner, which was a gala event at the Potawatomi Casino, which included an evening of entertainment and fine food. This year the board is looking at some special and additional rewards for active members. It pays to stay active and show your support for our organization. An organization is only as strong as the working members it has.

## **Help Wanted:**

**Treasurer to serve on the Board of Directors** ~ We are in search of a person with good mathematical skills to become our treasurer. Responsibilities include monthly financial reports, maintaining financial records and bank accounts belonging to our organization. They must be able to attend meetings usually held on the second Sunday of the month in the afternoons. Anyone interested in helping out can email [ellen.kozel@vetsdoaskdotell.org](mailto:ellen.kozel@vetsdoaskdotell.org)

The position are strictly volunteer. If you have a friend that can help out please forward this to them. Board members do not have to be an LGBT veteran. We are a diverse organization servicing all veterans with a focus on the LGBT community and its veterans although our work extends beyond the community.

We are all bothers and sisters who served our country.

*Vets Do Ask Do Tell, LLC does not discriminate against sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation or lifestyle or disability.*

## **Case Study Underway:**

Do you know of someone who is an LGBT vet but is afraid to use the VA, or hides their lifestyle while at the VA? Any person who is reluctant when it comes to VA benefits because of lifestyle would be a perfect candidate. We are doing a case study to find out why LGBT vets are not out at the VA. The program is totally anonymous. We ask for no names, just concerns of our veterans when dealing with the VA. They can take the quick survey on line by clicking on Case Study off of our main menu. This information will be used in helping us with the VA and also we have a national reporter interested in the results to do a follow up article showing our side of Don't Ask Don't Tell and how it impacts our LGBT vets after service. Let's try to invite as many as possible to the plate so we can better serve our community.

## **Promotional Material:**

Chapters requiring promotional material can email requests to the organization and we will be happy to supply them with a small supply of preprinted flyers. If the chapter is having an event we can also print flyers for the event. Contact us for more information.

## **Taking Pride in What We Do:**

We, the members of Vets Do Ask Do Tell, LLC, pledge our allegiance to the United States of America and to our members in whose name we serve. We are resolved to promote justice, tolerance, peace, and good will among all men and women toward the end that all wars may cease, and to educate veterans in the services available to assist them with growth in a peacetime environment.

As you can see, we have a very busy schedule, donations, membership and support by other organizations help make these events a reality. Your continued support is required to keep these programs alive. We are making a difference.

**~ Country, Honor, Duty ~**

To subscribe to this newsletter write to [president@vetsdoaskdotell.org](mailto:president@vetsdoaskdotell.org) . Events coming up in your local area that you would like to have printed in our newsletter must be submitted no later than the last week of the month.

Editor – Ellen Kozel

# Up and Coming Events



Northern Wisconsin - May 28 - 30, 2010  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Aug 20 - Aug 22, 2010  
Mt. Airy, Maryland - Oct 23 - 25, 2009  
Houston, Texas - Oct 16 -18, 2009

Open to combatant and non-combatant service men and women. This retreat is **FREE** to all who participate.