

Pictured below is Mary Gathman, our oldest female resident who turns 94 in May of 2011 and who has resided at the Home going on 8 years. She is from New York state and retired to Florida in 1982. She outlived her 2 husbands and says she has had a good life, is content and enjoys the memories. Mary enjoys life at the Home, as well as working puzzles, word search, knitting and crocheting. Often when we have female guests she brings out her handy work, crocheted wash cloths and gives them as a gift from her. Mary is a life member of VFW Post 4337 in Inverness and has been a Ladies Auxiliary member for over 20 years!

Also pictured is Resident Jim Gerline, who is a WWII, Navy, submarine veteran, who volunteered for submarine service. He served in the USS Cobra and at one point their sub was reported lost at sea. Another time they surfaced in the middle of Japanese convoy, but escaped. After the Pacific Theater he served in Australia then returned to the Great Lakes and on to the Panama Canal. He remembers spam as being a food staple during that time and to this day reiterates that he still dislikes it! Jim states that after his time at sea he had to learn how to walk on dry land due to his "sea legs".

Jim heard about the Home at a VFW State Convention, made 2 trips here and moved in 14 years ago. He has witnessed many new changes, including 2 new wings and inside renovations and watched his family grow! He is a life member of VFW Post 4252, Hernando, FL.



Our Fitness and Recreation Room is a great gathering place for our residents and guests to enjoy a few hours of relaxation playing pool or working out and getting in shape.

Our Family Room is used for our residents' visiting family and guests when they want to have a get together for a birthday or special occasion. In addition, the room is used for small group meetings, resident orientation, prayer groups and church services.



"Welcome Home Heroes"

To learn more about the VFW Retirement Home call us at 352-236-0823 or visit us at:

13005 NE 135th Street
Fort McCoy, FL 32134

Check our website at:

www.vfwretirementhome.flvfw.org

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA VFW RETIREMENT HOME, Inc.



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Fort McCoy, FL 32134
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Website: www.vfwretirementhome.flvfw.org



Our "Heroes" are our Veterans residing here at our Veterans Home, in Fort McCoy!

Present in the above picture are left to right front row: Jim Gerline, Navy, WWII, Henry Pope, Army, Vietnam; 2nd row: Earl Gunderson, Coast Guard, WWII, Larry Smith, Marine Corp, Vietnam and Herman "Al" Taege, Air Force, Korea.

Total years of these men spans 384 years and 3 generations of military service.

The Home has a dedicated and talented "Task Force," that is committed to our Residents in assuring that their lives here are comfortable, enjoyable and peaceful. We are very proud of our outstanding Kitchen Supervisor, staff, Resident Care Coordinator, Operations Department, Transportation Department and Housekeeping. The Director and our Deputy Director are proactive and always looking for ways to enhance the Home, services and programs for the Residents.

Independent Living Community

The Department of Florida VFW Retirement Home located in Fort McCoy, Florida is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Independent Living Facility.

Our MISSION is to provide the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their spouses, along with the Ladies and Mens Auxiliary and their spouses, affordable, living accommodations, to include an array of services and programs.

We are owned and operated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Florida in Ocala. It is the only facility of its kind anywhere in the world! The Home is not subsidized by any government, federal, state or local agencies. The cost of operations is met by rental income; plus an estimated revenue of 5% received in donations and another 5% in fundraisers.

The doors of the VFW Retirement Home opened in October 1991 and is currently celebrating its 20th year anniversary. We are a non-medical facility, whereby residents must be able to live independently. However, many of them do receive limited medical care through home health agencies that visit the Home.

To qualify for Residency at the Veterans Home you must be a VFW member, Ladies' or Men's Auxiliary member or show proof of eligibility to join the organization.



We offer the "Best Rates" in the State of Florida as an independent living facility, offering a unique home like lifestyle and are dedicated to our American heroes and their spouses.

Current Monthly Rates as of March 2011:

Couples: \$1,615.00 per month

Private Room/Single: \$1,415.00 per month

Shared Room: \$807.50 per month

There is a \$250.00 Room Deposit, which can be prorated and must accompany a completed Application for Residency.

Our motto is:

"Taking Care of Veterans"

The VFW Retirement Home continues to be the "brightest star" to the Department of Florida VFW membership!

Meals: We provide three meals a day, to include our famous cook to order breakfast served from 3:00AM to 8:00AM. Salad bar, along with assorted beverages, and desserts available daily with your Lunch and Dinner meals included in the "RENT!"... We even do the dishes so you can relax and enjoy!!!!

The Home's Kitchen is staffed 24/7 and there is always a staff member on the premises in case of an emergency.

Facility Information:

- Single story, 50 000+ Square Foot Facility
- 69 furnished rooms (single or double occupancy)
- Rooms have Resident controlled heat and air conditioning units
- Phone with free (CONUS) long distance
- Cable TV (72+ channels)
- High Speed Internet Hook-ups
- Handicapped accessible bathrooms
- Walk-in closets
- 4 - In-House Laundry Rooms
- 12 - Washers and 12 Dryers
- Paved & Handicapped Parking
- Wheelchair accessible
- Large Commercial Kitchen
- Kitchen Staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!
- Large remodeled Dining Room Area
- TV Room/Commons Area
- Screened Patio, Indoor Atriums
- Barber Shop and Beauty Salon
- VA Tel-Care Services
- Library and Video Library
- Fitness/Recreation Room
- Family Room
- Multipurpose Room
- Social and Leisure Activities
- Health and Wellness Presentations
- Senior Resources and Expos
- Offsite outings and events



"Bon Appétit" Residents enjoy the healthy, home cooked meals, soups, baked pies, cakes and more.



The Home's newest wing, dedicated to the "Women of the Armed Forces" opened in late February 2011.

On Tuesday, October 19, 2010, Director retired Army Lt. Col. Al Lugo handed the official VFW Retirement Home flag to Deputy Director Gera Judge and Mark Bates, a superintendent for the Construction Company, symbolizing the opening into the Home's main dining area from the new wing. The addition was made possible through a Community Development Block Grant that was approved by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.

The addition features another 18 units, plus a laundry room and a large multi-purpose room that will boast social activities to include Wii games, movie night, ping pong and table tennis, foosball, poker table, puzzle and craft areas and bingo. The new room will also be available for meetings, speakers, presentations, ice cream socials, banquets, family gatherings, Post and Ladies Auxiliary meetings and more.

The Home's GOAL is to continue to strive to become an integral part of the community by being proactive, and growing our services, along with partnerships to ensure that our residents continue to enjoy life here. We are "Taking Care of Veterans".

Transportation: The Veterans Home does provides transportation to and from the Gainesville VA Hospital or the Ocala VA Outpatient Clinic for appointments on a recurring rotating schedule. We request at least a 72 hour notice from a resident to arrange transportation for appointments if possible. Transportation is also provided to a local Wal-Mart, Dollar General and local Banks on a weekly basis, as approved by Director.

Housekeeping: We provide a light, basic cleaning of your room, which includes laundering and changing of your linens and towels, bathroom cleaned and the main floor vacuumed weekly.



A sneak preview of a couple of units.

