

The Office of Veteran Affairs at the University of Florida would like to welcome you to the December edition of our Monthly Veterans Newsletter.

-UF VA TEAM



Certification for Spring

Not sure if you've requested certification for the Spring 2009 semester? You can check your certification status using your WAVE account or by contacting the Veteran Affairs Office. The sooner that you request benefits, the less likely you will experience a break in GI Bill payments.

Veterans Banquet

Please join us Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 7:00pm – 10:30pm at Reitz Union Grand Ballroom for "A Salute to UF Students Who Served in the Armed Forces from University of Florida," a banquet hosted by the UF Provost's office. We will be acknowledging our Student Veterans and sharing their stories of their adjustments back into civilian life. We also will recognize the Veteran's guest, the person who has helped them through their time here at UF, who might be a faculty member, staff, spouse or friend. Please RSVP at this link veteransdinner@arts.ufl.edu by Dec. 8 and indicate Chicken or Vegetarian for you and your guest. <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/event.php?eid=33750209685&ref=ts>

Toys for Tots

Please come and support the Marines and Omega Delta Sigma as they collect for this year's Toys for Tots. The mission is to collect new, unwrapped toys during the winter months each year and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the

community. Boxes will be placed at the libraries and major buildings across campus. <http://www.toysfortots.org/>

Surfing Therapy

For nearly 30 years, the VA has been a leader in using sports programs to demonstrate that veterans with disabilities can lead active, rewarding lifestyles. The therapeutic value of activities such as skiing, swimming and track and field events in improving the health and fitness of those with disabilities is now widely accepted. This therapy, coupled with the teamwork and camaraderie that comes from military service, was on display recently in San Diego during VA's first ever National Veterans (day?) <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=4609046n&type=2>

Veterans Memorial

A new veterans memorial will be built in the J. Wayne Reitz Union Amphitheatre in honor of Gator veterans and those who have fallen while answering the nation's call to protect our freedom. A floating fountain will be constructed in the center of Green Pond, and a granite dedication monument and one granite monument for each of the five branches of the armed services will be positioned along the amphitheatre's railing.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 10th- Veterans Banquet
Jan. 16th- Flag dedication at Santa Fe College

Student Veteran Organizations

Collegiate Veterans Society

Meeting Time: Friday at 11:00 am
Meeting Place: Turlington 2341
Contact: Dan Wojcik, danshadow@ufl.edu
<http://grove.ufl.edu/~veterans>

Omega Delta Sigma –Veterans Fraternity

Meeting Time: Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Meeting Place: ROTC Building-2nd Floor

Contact: Andrew J Kisz, ufkisz@ufl.edu

<http://grove.ufl.edu/~omegadel>

For archived newsletters, please visit:

<http://registrar.ufl.edu/va/news.html>