



THE DAYBREAKER

September 8th, 2022



Today we had in person and 7 Zoom attendees

This quarter all Happy Bucks will benefit **Life Has No Boundaries**.
Please be very happy to benefit this great organization.

Service Opportunities:

**If you have interest in volunteering at Food Finders Food Bank,
please contact Larry Fisher**

GUESTS: Khalil Williams

INVOCATION: Matt Salsbery

REACQUAINTANCE SPEAKER: Chris Campbell



PROGRAM: Carl Schwamberger – Mary T Klinker Veterans Center

Carl explained that the Mary T Klinker Veterans Center (The Center) was established as a 501C3 non-profit in 2011. At that time services for our veterans were at a low point with the VA system in very difficult times. The Center was opened to fill this need, particularly as veterans needed help with financial stresses. One of the problems identified was the difficulty in filling out paperwork for the VA and this was something the Center could really help. One of the interesting issues was veterans becoming homeless due to unpaid utility bills and with being able to help with these relatively small bills the Center was able to keep veterans in their homes. At that point they also realized that about 10% of their cases were due to mental health and substance abuse issues and services were nearly impossible to find at that point. Creative solutions were found by transporting veterans to distant sites to get help and finally by being able to recruit a volunteer clinical social worker who had done her research in PTSD.



Over time they came to realize that mental health issues were more of a challenge than previously thought and also found a need to prevent vulnerable veterans from being exploited. They also found they were being called upon far outside their initial service area and felt to be a positive force for veterans throughout the state. Over the years they have served over 400 veterans with 67 new cases opened in 2021, 87% of which were combat veterans. So far this year they have opened 51 cases and had a budget of \$51,000 in 2021. Funds are raised by donations and over \$33,000 last year from fund raising efforts. One of their challenges they have felt recently is the aging, and deaths, of many of the people that were instrumental in starting the Center, a loss which is difficult to replace.

In answer to questions Carl felt that services from the VA have improved over the years, particularly in terms of mental health and substance abuse as well as services for Traumatic Brain Injuries. The problem at this point is the amount of need, which seemed to increase since the pullout from Afghanistan as well as the ongoing issues with paperwork to receive VA services.

Thought of the Week: Fight for the things that you care about but do it in a way that will lead others to join you. — *Ruth Bader Ginsburg*

Trivia Question for the week: In 1976, Ron Wayne sold his 10% ownership of which company for \$800?

Answer from last week's trivia question: Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the moon. Who was the last?



Captain Eugene Cernan holds the distinction of being the last human to leave his footprints on the moon. Cernan's achievement means that Purdue University currently holds the distinction of being the alma mater of both the first person to walk on the Moon (Neil Armstrong), and the last. The final words Cernan spoke on the Moon in December 1972 represented everything the Apollo missions stood for. "We leave as we came and, God willing, as we shall return, with peace, and hope for all mankind." Cernan traced his only child's initials in the dust before climbing the ladder of the lunar module the last time. Eugene Cernan died on Jan. 16, 2017, in Texas.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

September 15 – John Hughey – Long Center and Lafayette Theatre

September 22 – Raquel Lopez – Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette

September 29 – Ken Ritchey – Rwanda water issues

