





# Veterans Committee Newsletter

Spring 2023

The purpose of the Veterans Committee is to create a culture for veterans within the Arrow Exterminators Family of Brands. The culture will center around comradery, recognition, and support for veterans and active service members. This includes their families, and the community at large.

#### **Honoring Adam Ross**

The Arrow Veterans Committee (VETCOM) presented Morriston, TN Home Evaluator Jonathan Ross with a plaque to commemorate his brother Pfc. Adam C. Ross. Pfc. Ross served in the US Army and was KIA while in Afghanistan in 2012. He served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 503<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade Combat Team. The plaque is intended as a tribute to his legacy.





# **CCHVP Partner of the Year 2022**

The Arrow Veterans Committee was a key sponsor for the 8th Annual Homeless Veteran Charity Golf Event on May 20, 2022. This sponsorship came with the opportunity to put a team of 4 together for the tournament. The event was created by the Cherokee County Homeless Veterans Program (CCHVP) with support from local veterans and volunteers. 100% of the proceeds from the golf outing goes to support the various veteran programs of the CCHVP.













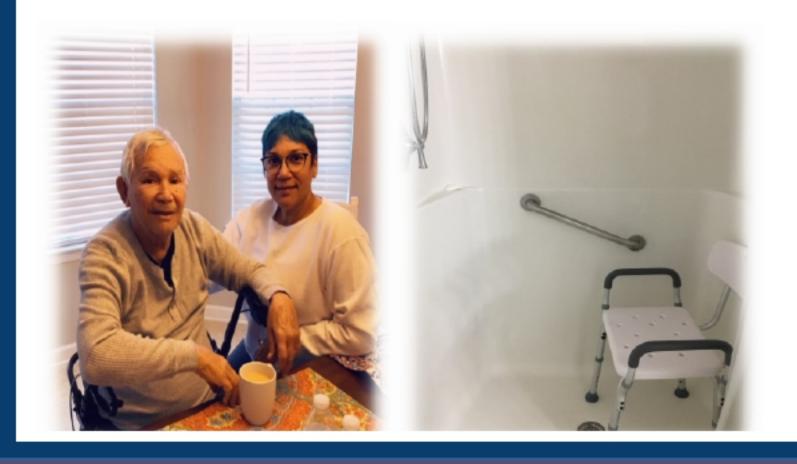
#### Red, White and Blue BBO Tournament

The Arrow VETCOM helped sponsor the second annual Red, White and Blue BBQ tournament on October 29, 2022. The event was tasked with promoting the veterans of Cherokee County and proceeds benefited the Veteran Suicide Awareness and Cherokee County Homeless Veterans programs.



#### Liz's Dad

Our HSC team responded to a request to assist an older Veteran. Liz is the primary caretaker for her father. He had multiple bouts with falls. Liz needed help. Our HSC team installed fall prevention rails in their home. Below is a picture of Liz and her father, and some of the fall prevention we installed around the home.



#### GA Aquarium Adventure

Last year, we were able to take some Arrow Veterans to the Georgia Aquarium. Three groups of Arrow Veterans were treated to an immersive experience swimming with "gentle giants" and cage diving with sharks.



# Appreciate Banquet & Signing Ceremony with Army PaYs

On August 30, 2022, Arrow Exterminators held their inaugural Veterans Appreciated Banquet in Canton, GA. Several of our Veterans and partners were celebrated. Arrow Exterminators was also officially recognized as a partner with the U.S. Army PaYs Program. This program guarantees soldiers an interview and possible employment after the Army. In attendance was Brigadier General RICHARD D. WILSON Assistant Adjutant General - Georgia Army National Guard











# Nineline Apparel

We had another "I Support Veterans" Nineline apparel offering. We sold over 260 articles and raised over \$1,300 toward Veteran initiatives.



# Veterans Tribute Tag Flag

This past year, team members continued to purchase dog tags for our Veterans Tribute Flag. Team members purchase these to commemorate the Veterans they hold high regard. To date, over \$2,000 has been raised. This flag travels to venues where Arrow team members gather so the tributes can be visited.



#### VSG – Van Wagner

Service Center Manager, of our Augusta, GA office, Van Wagner spearheaded an initiative to support the Veteran Support Group in McDonough, Ga. That initiative produced over 900 pairs of socks and a \$1,400 donation to the VSG.



# **Backpacks for Homeless Veterans**

Office Manager, of our Northeast GA Commercial Office, Kim Hauser spearheaded an initiative to support local homeless veterans. The initiative put together backpacks for homeless veterans. These backpacks included first aid kits, hygiene kits, food, masks, hats and so much more that were aimed at helping local homeless veterans. Her efforts were boosted with the help of our Special Ops Department and other service centers.











# Rebuilding Together

Region 8 team members partnered up with "Rebuilding Together" to help Mr. Duckworth repair his home from termite damage. Rebuilding together is a non-profit that helps low-income families repair their homes.





# Region 8 - Coat Drive

Region 8 completed another successful coat drive for their local veterans! Chad Brown, Service Center Manager in Dallas, TX, received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Veterans Resource Center for Region 8's donations to the Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas.



#### Pitner Elementary Veterans Lunch

Pitner Elementary School, in Acworth, GA, hosted a Veterans Day event for our local veterans. The event was sponsored by Arrow. They provided breakfast followed by the presentation of colors, songs, and poems. The day concluded with a veteran's parade throughout the halls of the school! Some our own veterans were sent letters of appreciation written by students.









# Coat Drive

This year, the VETCOM completed our annual coat drive in partnership with GPCA. Many volunteers joined in collecting, moving, and sorting the coats. We are pleased to announce that we had a record year for collections with a total of over 5,000 coats collected for veterans. Arrow contributed the majority thanks to YOUR participation.













# Warrior Breakfast

As part of our coat drive service centers compete by decorating their collection box. This year, there were so many unique designs that it was hard to choose a winner. After tallying votes from the VETCOM, the Dallas, GA service center won! Service Center Manager Oliver Aspinwall and his team were rewarded with a "Warrior Breakfast" that included catering from a local breast diner.





# Adopt-A-Vet

This past Christmas, the Arrow VETCOM adopted two families for Christmas. The first was the family of Henry Smith. He is an Air Force veteran who has been struggling with illnesses. The second was the Paulynn Christopher family, who is a Navy Veteran, and is raising her two young by herself. We were able to provide all their requested gifts to make sure they both had a special Christmas with their families.





# **Battalion Buddies**

In January of this year, we partnered with Operation Gratitude and GPCA/NPMA Pest Vets raising funds for Battalion Buddies. We were so successful in supporting this program that we Operation Gratitude asked to use the additional money raised to open a facility in Austin, TX.



#### **Branded Bills Hats**

We continue to offer "I Support Veterans" Branded Bills Hats. Team members can go online and purchase a hat. We have them available for each brand. Last year, we also added a limited-edition multi-cam\_design. All contributions, made from the hat sales, go in support of our initiatives. To date, we have sold over \$7,000 in hats.



Scan here if you would like to purchase a hat:



https://i-support-veterans-branded-hats.cheddarup.com









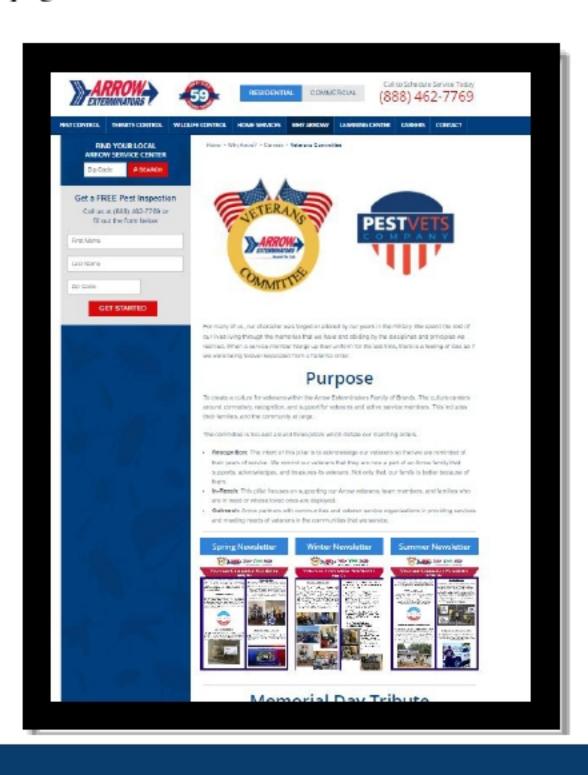
#### Hand-made Wooden Flag Raffle

Last summer, Service Center Manager, and Veteran Clint Vickery, led a silent auction for five 1776 style handcrafted custom pine wood military flags, one for each service branch. A Marine Corps Veteran handcrafted these flags. He graciously contributed the wood, and his friend donated his craftmanship. After the bidding closed, we were able to donate \$1,000 to The Long Walk Home. This is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting veterans, and their families, in the transition from military to civilian life.



# Veterans Committee Webpage

Missing us between our newsletter publications? Do not forget to visit our landing page at arrowexterminators.com under the careers page!



Arrow is 268 Veterans strong. The Veterans Committee has 4 Key Position holders and 8 Veterans Committee Liaisons who are committed to giving their time and energy to support veteran matters. The Veterans Committee is open to anyone who would like to be in support of those who served. If you would like to contribute your volunteer efforts, or support the committee's initiatives, please send an email to <a href="mailto:veterans@arrowext.com">veterans@arrowext.com</a>.

# WHAT'S COMING NEXT?

This year, we will be participating as an industry partner/employer for DOD SkillBridge. The DOD SkillBridge program is an opportunity for Service members to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific industry training, apprenticeships, or internships during the last 180 days of service. SkillBridge connects Service members with industry partners in real-world job experiences.



