

SUNY ORANGE VETERANS ASSOCIATION



April 2016

MISSION

We are an association on campus that has a unique niche. We are a club founded by veterans who want to create awareness to all on campus, to include other veterans (all generations), current military, and anyone who supports our military past, present, and future.

The association and SUNY Orange are working together to enhance the school's "Military Friendly" status for its non-traditional student body population.

WELCOME

SUNY Orange has been home to generations of veterans and military-connected students. The Office of Veteran and Military Services has been established to continue Orange County Community College's enduring commitment to the veteran and military student population. Veterans, active military, and dependents are considered non-traditional students here at SUNY Orange and this is a newsletter intended for us, by us, to get information out for our student population type.

NEWS

Summer Registration – For those students interested in attending summer classes, in order to be considered Full-time, you must be registered for **4 credits per session**. Also, be advised that the online/on-campus rule applies for each summer session. For more information, please contact Kelly Jonigan at Kelly.jonigan@sunyorange.edu or ext 4071

[VA Announces Community Care Call Center to Help Veterans with Choice Program Billing Issues](#) - Veterans can now work directly with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to resolve debt collection issues resulting from inappropriate or delayed Choice Program billing. In step with MyVA's efforts to modernize VA's customer-focused, Veteran-centered services capabilities, a Community Care Call Center has been set up for Veterans experiencing adverse credit reporting or debt collection resulting from inappropriately billed Choice Program claims. Veterans experiencing these problems can call 1-877-881-7618 for assistance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WELLNESS FAIR

Date: April 6, 2016 1000-1400

Where: Fireplace Lounge, Shepard Center

Come meet Mary Mantilla from Castle Point VA!

SPRING PICNIC ROCK WALL

Date: April 19, 2016 (Newburgh)

April 21, 2016 (Middletown)

Where: Alumni Green (weather permitting)

HIRE OUR HEROES- NYC HIRING FAIR

Date: April 21, 2016

Where: NYC

Register for **FREE** at www.HiringOurHeroes.org/events

For more information [Click Here](#)





Rib Rally at Texas Roadhouse, Middletown, NY

Contact Us

SUNY Orange Veterans Association

Email:

veteransclub.sunyorange@gmail.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/sunyovc/>

Amandalee Gladkowski – President
Lawrence Preedom – Vice President
Position Open – Treasurer
Christopher Frye – Secretary

Kelly Jonigan – VA Certifying
Official/Club Advisor
Jaime Morales – Coordinator of
Veteran Services/Club Advisor

PAINTBALL

Date: May 7, 2016

Where: MSG Paintball Field, Middletown

For more information [Click Here](#)

*This event is FREE (including paintballs) for the first 30 to [sign up!](#)

“America's veterans embody the ideals upon which America was founded more than 229 years ago.”

- Steve Buyer

DEADLINES

15 April: SUNY wide survey specifically designed for Student Veterans and Active Duty service members. **Make sure your voice gets heard!**

<https://fs21.formsite.com/UniversityLife/veteransexperience/index.html>

22 April: For the Veterans who are participating in Commencement, Graduation Stoles are available free of charge. The stole will feature your branch and veteran status. To order yours, please go to the Student Involvement desk on the 2nd Floor of the Shepard Center prior to April 22nd and provide them with your name, phone number, and branch. The stoles can then be picked up on graduation rehearsal day by stopping at the information desk after you pick up your cap and gown.

1 May: Last day to sign up for Paintball! This event is Free for the first 30 players who sign up. Guests are invited for discounted price (or free if there are still slots available).

VETERAN RESOURCE CENTER & LOUNGE

We have been given a room to use as a central hub for veterans to be able to come together and have as a space to find information, other veterans to talk to if needed, and a quiet place to do some homework or studying. It's still in the process of being stocked up completely, but we have a couch, coffee machine, desk, and veterans are bringing in books and such to stock the room for other veterans. It is located on the ground floor of the Shepard Student Center building, just off of the cafeteria dining area. It has signs posted on the doors, so feel free to stop by and meet other veterans or just escape the hustle and bustle of college campus life. For access to the Resource Center, please fill out an [Acceptable Use Policy](#) and return to the Office of Veteran and Military Services (3rd Floor, Shepard Center) or email jaimemorales@sunyorange.edu.

WORK STUDY

The Office of Veteran and Military Services is currently accepting applications for a work study position through the VA. You are eligible to apply if you are attending at least 3/4 time. This is a part-time position (up to 25 hours per week) with flexible hours. This will not affect any other VA benefits. If interested, please fill out an [application](#) and return to jaimemorales@sunyorange.edu.

RESOURCES

[Legal Services of the Hudson Valley](#)

[NYSID Veterans Contact Directory](#)

[Orange County Veterans Service Agency](#)

[TRiO](#)

[VA Bus Schedule](#)

[Veterans Crisis Line](#)

[Vettix](#)

[WESTCOP](#)

VA LIAISON TO BE ON CAMPUS WEEKLY

Mary Mantilla, the VA Liaison, is working in the Wellness Center once a week. The purpose is so we can avoid the long haul to Castle Point VA for some basic appointments. She will also be able to assist with registering with the VA Health System, help with filing a claim, and mental health services. The schedule as it stands now is: first three Wednesdays of the month on the Middletown campus, and the last Wednesday of the month on the Newburgh campus; both campuses from 0900-1530 on their days. It's going to be an amazing resource to have at our fingertips, but, we need to all use it.

Supply meets demand.

FOR VETS, BY VETS....

We are a work in progress, both the association and the college. But with everyone lending a hand, an idea, or just a presence, we can take this college to the level we all hope it to be, and create a satisfying experience for all us “non-traditional” students.

Q: How can you help us?

A: The first thing to do is to communicate with us. We need your ideas and input so we can get a wide range of issues that all of our student population are facing here on campus. Secondly, if at all possible, come to our meetings so you can see your ideas in action. We meet every Tuesday from 1100-1200, in the Veteran Resource Center, 1st Floor of the George F. Shepard Student Center. If you're a night student, please give us your contact information so we can get the meeting briefs to you, so you can stay informed.

Q: How do you contact us?

A: Easy, you can email us at: veteransclub.sunyorange@gmail.com or come to a meeting and introduce yourself.



**SUNY ORANGE VETERANS
ASSOCIATION**