

SUNY ORANGE VETERANS CLUB



Volume 3/ Issue 1

MISSION

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

HELLO EVERYONE!!

Welcome all new students to SUNY Orange, and welcome back to all our returning students. 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 about things on this campus that are happening for our student population type.

What's in the works for our veterans on campus?

Over the summer SUNY Orange has been diligently working to improve the school's veteran friendliness. They have gotten the approval for a Veteran's Coordinator position, have allotted funds for Summer Session scholarships, officiated the Veterans Task Force, and many other exciting things to come.

Fall Semester Happenings

Some of the upcoming happenings to look forward to are:

Ask-A-Vet – an event where a panel of student veterans speak upon their service and experience in their respective military branches, and have an open Q&A forum with students and faculty. This is an opportunity to meet other veterans, active duty, and dependents on campus, and to let the campus' student body know a little about who they're sharing the campus with. Date TBA

Blood Drive – 20 October, Middletown campus, 1100-1600.

Register with the American Red Cross for an appointment and walk-ins are welcome too. www.redcross.org

VA Representative – Mary Mantilla, from 0900-1530. First 3 Wednesdays of the month on Middletown campus in the Wellness Center of the Shepard Student Center, last Wednesday of the month on Newburgh campus.

Veterans Club Meetings – all semester long. Meets every Tuesday from 1100-1200 in the upstairs of the library, Room 221.



"A good battle plan that you act on today can be better than a perfect one tomorrow."

- General George S. Patton



Rib Rally at Texas Roadhouse, Middletown, NY

Contact Us

SUNY Orange Veterans Club

veteransclub.sunyorange@gmail.com

Amandalee Gladkowski – President
Lawrence Preedom – Vice President
Kevin Coates – Treasurer
Christopher Frye – Secretary

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 in the downstairs 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. Please contact the club via email or through one of its members to get the access code, or you can speak to someone at the Student Activities desk in the Sheppard Building.

IN THE WORKS....

There are ideas being tested in small groups to adjust the admissions process for veterans to make it easier and less stressful. We almost all have had questions about one aspect of admissions or another, so the school is working on solutions to our concerns. Please keep an eye on your student emails to see updated information on the new processes to be implemented. And, please, if you have concerns about the current process or ideas to remedy stressors you yourself or someone you know have incurred, email the club or come to a club meeting and let us know so we can help the school become more Veteran Friendly.

VA LIAISON TO BE ON CAMPUS WEEKLY

Mary Mantilla, the VA Liaison, will be 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.**

VETS4VETS

This is the peer to peer mentoring program that the college has had, but is in the process of revamping it and making it more accessible. You do not need to be a new student to SUNY Orange to apply to be a part of the program. Its purpose is to get a veteran who wishes to be a mentor paired up with a veteran who would like a mentor. These mentors are there to answer questions about the college, college life, college campus; scheduling; common veteran benefit questions; be available if another veteran just would like someone to talk to about engaging in a college atmosphere; or just as a safety net to have a name and contact information for a fellow veteran in times of need. We all know that it's usually another veteran or military member who will be able to understand whatever it is we are going through, so sign up today so you can connect with another veteran on campus who feels the same way.

Connect with another SUNY Orange Veteran using this link: <http://sunyorange.edu/machform/view.php?id=109435>

FOR VETS, BY VETS....

We are a work in progress, both the club 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 inputs so we can get a wide range of issues that all of our student population is 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 upstairs of the Library, in Room 221. 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.

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