

Badger Honor Flight Serving Those Who Served for US

I heard about BHF through my Veteran employee resource group at Epic, where I work. Brian's (BHF Chairperson) wife, Laura, is a colleague of mine and reached out to the Veteran group looking for volunteers. She also mentioned that there was a board position available.

There are a few reasons why I chose to begin my BHF volunteer journey as Director – Medical Support. First, I thrive in roles where I can determine the direction of things. I tend to be an all-or-nothing type of person, and the Director role allowed me to fully immerse myself from the beginning. Additionally, I realized I was missing philanthropic endeavors in my life, specifically those benefiting Veterans. In college, I was President of the Student Veteran's Association at Appalachian State, where my now-wife Cynthia was the Vice President. Lastly, although I don't hold any professional medical licensure, my family's careers and my chosen careers after the military have always kept me "healthcare adjacent." This is a theme I wanted to continue to pursue in my life.

By holding this position, I was able to bring something new to the organization and the medical side of things. We transitioned from paper to almost fully electronic records, with the exception of using paper for records during flights. I had a direct impact on the Veterans we serve and their families, and I keep a few of the thank-you emails I received tacked up in my office. I had the opportunity to connect with the selfless volunteers of our healthcare system who graciously donated their time. While I'm proud of my impact on BHF, the impact on myself was probably the largest. From extreme moments of sadness, like losing a Veteran the week they were supposed to fly, to moments of happiness, the role, the organization, the volunteers, and those we served filled my heart with so much joy and love.

As an Afghanistan Veteran, it will be a long time before I can travel with my brothers and sisters to our future monument. But I hope that serving on the BHF board contributes to ensuring we all have that opportunity. I have great love and respect for the Veterans I had the opportunity to serve as a BHF board member. Perhaps the best way to express that is through the closing lines of the Nightstalker Creed: 'I serve with the memory and pride of those who have gone before me for they loved to fight, fought to win, and would rather die than quit.'



Please be selfless in all that you do. Your position is of great importance and offers a level of comfort and security to our Veterans and their families that is hard to explain. Our volunteers come from the healthcare and first responder community; they have little time to spare and have chosen to spend it with our wonderful organization. You and your fellow board members are there to serve our Veteran community, not to seek personal accolades. The mission must be the priority, and the mission is serving those who served for us.

-NSDQ, Anthony

MONTH IN REVIEW	UPCOMING EVENTS
 Deerfield Coffee House "Round Up" Campaign Monroe Moose Lodge Breakfast 1st Annual Summer Solstice Pickleball Tournament Pinseekers Meat Raffle 	 Rock the Ramp Friday, July 19 The Jerry Open Weekend July 19-20 Mallard's Non-Profit Spotlight Night Friday, July 26 Honor our Veterans Car Show Saturday, July 27 American Tribute Ride Saturday, July 27
FALL FLIGHT DATES	VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
 Mission 55 - September 7, 2024 9:20 PM arrival MSN Mission 56 - October 12, 2024 9:20 PM arrival MSN Mission 57 - November 2, 2024 8:20 PM arrival MSN 	 Director - Medical Support Director - Volunteer Events Admin Support IT Management Medical Team Members Newsletter Article Writer Photo Storage and Photo Sharing Site Maintenance Team SignUp Genius Helper
Click <u>HERE</u> for Meeting Minutes	Click <u>HERE</u> for Veteran Application

BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Chairperson of the Board: Brian Ziegler chairperson@badgerhonorflight.org Administration: Eileen Stevens administration@badgerhonorflight.org Flight Operations: Jody McClain flightoperations@badgerhonorflight.org Inventory: Dawn Splittgerber inventory@badgerhonorflight.org Medical Support: Anthony Corso medical@badgerhonorflight.org Secretary / Historian: Becki Clark secretary@badgerhonorflight.org Treasurer: Ed Brown treasurer@badgerhonorflight.org Volunteer Events: Isabel Brisky volunteerevents@badgerhonorflight.org

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