



Give something to those who gave

VET TIX Times

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 9, 2009

FAST FACTS:

- Vet Tix has given away more than 25,000 tickets over the past year!
- That's nearly 7,000 tickets since our last newsletter!
- More than 2000 people joined Vet Tix last month
- The number of volunteer staff has increased to 17!
- Vet Tix is one of the selected charities for the Beauty of a Bonzer concert party for charity

Founder's Corner... ROLL CALL!

It has recently been brought to my attention that the integrity of Veteran Tickets Foundation, our mission, and our work with affiliated groups has been questioned by some of our important community partners.

I, along with my staff made up entirely of volunteers, am very passionate about the service we provide to our Veteran, Active Duty and Reserve population; therefore I feel it imperative that I address these issues immediately in an effort to curb any misinformation.

RUMOR:

Veteran Tickets Foundation collects free tickets, meant for the community, and sells them on VetTix.org.

FACT:

Veteran Tickets Foundation is a nationally recognized 501c3 based out of Phoenix, AZ that collects tickets and distributes



President and Founder of Vet Tix, Michael Focareto

them FOR FREE, without prejudice to Veterans, Active Duty members and their families as a way of saying thank you. This entire organization was built on the premise of thanking a community that is often overlooked

and we pride ourselves on serving our military members; so much in fact, that each of our 17 staff members volunteers their time.

The domain for Veteran Tickets Foundation is VetTix.org. Each and every ticket that has been donated to the Foundation is listed under the "Partners" tab on the Web site.

In one year Veteran Tickets Foundation has given away 25,000+ free tickets to its database, and we couldn't be prouder of the work that we have accomplished.

Because our staff is made up entirely of volunteers, it can be extremely frustrating when a ticket that was claimed, goes unused, not only because another Veteran could have been sitting in that seat, but also because (continues on pg. 2)

Roger That...

Vet Tix continues to take giant steps forward forging relationships and giving away tickets to concerts, sporting events, and theatre performances across the country.

In just the last two months more than 2,000 tickets were

given to Active Duty military members, Veterans and their families. Vet Tix membership rolls are also growing, with more than 10,000 members signed up to be eligible for those tickets.

And while Veteran Tickets Foundation is gaining more expo-

sure via the news media,

Vet Tix mission is getting another boost from Outback Steakhouse's Beauty of a Bonzer Charity Concert. Vet Tix was selected to be one of the non-profits

(continues on pg.2)

ROLL CALL! (Continued from Pg.1)

of the coordination that goes into fulfilling a request by my staff. Consequently we decided earlier this year to institute a shipping charge for requested tickets. The charge is a standard shipping rate, and simply covers the cost of processing requests through our organization.

Incidentally, we have found that organizations donating tickets to Veteran Tickets Foundation appreciate that tickets are no longer going to waste with our new "insurance policy." Simply put, if a person pays a processing

fee they are much less likely to let that ticket go to waste.

Since shipping was implemented, we have documentation illustrating that 80% of tickets donated go to Active Duty military bases, and of the 20% remaining, over 90% are requested by Active Duty members.

RUMOR:

Veteran Tickets Foundation collects free tickets, meant for the community, and sells them on another Web site called VetTix.com.

FACT:

VetTix.com was created as

NOTHING MORE than an alternative for our large database of members who might request a ticket to an event that the Foundation did not receive free tickets for.

There are 26 Million Veterans in the United States, and although the Foundation has high aspirations that tickets will soon be available for every major event in every major city, we simply cannot accommodate that goal at the moment.

VetTix.com is a PRIVATELY funded secondary ticket broker (continued on pg.3)



Did you know??

You can purchase

"Paseo tickets

DIRECTLY from the Vet

Tix Web site at

VetTix.org/events. The

tickets will get you VIP

seating as well as a pre-

party and appetizers

provided by Outback

Steakhouse!!!

Roger That...(cont. from pg.1)

to benefit from the October 17th concert at the U.S. Airways center in Phoenix featuring Kool & the Gang and the Commodores. Visit www.BeautyofaBonzer.com to learn more.

Vet Tix has been selected to host the very popular annual Fear Farm Military Appreciation night! That's right...Military, Veterans and



Their Families w/Military ID, VA Card, American Legion Membership Card or VFW Membership Card, Copy of DD214 w/ valid ID all get in for FREE as Vet Tix hosts this very popular night.

The cost is normally \$20, so this is a huge savings to our members, and a portion of all proceeds goes directly to Veteran Tickets Foundation.



Major Ed Pulido

Member Spotlight...FALL IN!

The Veteran Ticket Foundation is one of many organizations dedicated to supporting the military family. Our member spotlight this month focuses on a Wounded Warrior who continues his service through similar efforts.

Major Ed Pulido is the Senior Vice President of Development

for the Folds of Honor Foundation.

"Folds of Honor's mission," Pulido says, "is to empower deserving military families with educational support and opportunities. We provide significant, generation-impacting scholarships to spouses and children of service members

disabled or killed while serving our country."

On August 17, 2004, Major Pulido was driving an SUV through what is known as "IED Alley" when one exploded right under the vehicle.

(continued on pg.3)

31 Stadiums to honor a fallen hero

As Nate Thompson finalized details for what is proving to be a life-changing trip cross country with his brother and another friend, he never thought he'd be doing it without his buddy Joe Lusk.

In honor of Lusk, who was killed in an Apache helicopter crash in Kuwait on Jan. 21, 2005, Nathan Thompson, Aaron Thompson and Nolan Meyers have decided to drop everything and travel to all 31 NFL stadiums and nine college games during the 2009 season. The three kicked off the season on

Sept. 7. Along the way the three will be hosting tailgate fundraisers at 40 pro and college football games throughout the season to raise money for the Joe F. Lusk II Memorial Fund (joelusk.org).

The guys have linked up with Veteran Tickets Foundation (VetTix.org). Vet Tix will be sponsoring the RV as it travels around the country and hosts tailgates at each stadium.

31stadiums.com was created in 2009 to allow others to follow three friends around the coun-

try. The site offers information, blogs, pictures, and video of the adventure and also offers a chance to donate to the cause. Visit 31stadiums.com to follow an adventure of a lifetime.



Aaron Thompson, Nolan Myers and Nathan Thompson enjoy Dallas



Member Spotlight (cont. from pg.2)

When he was pulled from the SUV he says he knew his left leg was damaged beyond repair. Although they tried to save the limb, 52 days after the explosion Pulido underwent 17 hours of surgery and six blood transfusions while surgeons amputated his leg. He says that's when he nearly gave up.

"It was true hopelessness," he said. "Then I got well wishes and

support from lots of people, and that's what's uplifting; you've got to hit rock bottom because there's only one way up."

And as he grew stronger physically Pulido's spirit returned. Now, through Folds of Honor and advocating for injured vets, he uses his experience to help strengthen other Wounded Warriors and their families. And he supports

organizations like the Veteran Tickets Foundation, because there's more to living than just surviving.

"By providing tickets to events and shows across this great nation, they are making sure that they use entertainment as a critical outlet for recovery from war," says Major Pulido.

ROLL CALL (cont. from pg. 2)

Web site that anyone may use to purchase tickets to events. The inventory listed for sale on this site is not owned, nor provided by anyone associated with Vettix.org. Independent brokers from around the country pay to use the site to sell their inventory.

The bonus for patrons of VetTix.com is that a portion of each ticket purchase goes directly to Veteran Tickets Foundation, so

that we may continue our mission of providing free tickets to our members.

The veteran population is extremely loyal, and VetTix.com was merely created to keep our customers happy; customers who believe in purchasing something from a business that gives so much back to its community.

Because the name VetTix is being used on both the .com and .org

pages, it has become somewhat confusing both to our customers and more importantly our donors. Because of this, VetTix.com has been renamed FNGTickets.com to create a clear delineation between the two organizations. Same owners, same mission.

RUMOR: Veteran Tickets Foundation does not have a measure in place to ensure (continued on pg.4)



Give something to those who gave

3401 E. Turquoise Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85028

Phone: 602-314-8414

Toll-Free: 1888-241-1550

Fax: 602-324-7494

Check us out online at www.VetTix.org

We're also on Facebook: VETTIX

Twitter: VETTIX

Comments? Letters to the editor?

Please email HGray@VetTix.org

Veterans Tickets Foundation (Vet Tix) is a national non-profit, non-governmental 501c(19) tax-exempt organization whose mission is simple: Give something to those who gave.

The group gives without prejudice free tickets to all Veterans, Active Duty Service Members and their families as a way of saying "thank you." All contributions made to the organization are deductible under section 170 of the IRS Code. To learn more about the Veteran Tickets Foundation, please visit www.VetTix.org.



ROLL CALL (cont. from pg. 3)

each member is either a legitimate Veteran or Active Duty member of the U.S. military

FACT:

Veteran Tickets Foundation ensures that each one of its members is legitimate through a validation process which includes providing a confirmed .mil email address for Active Duty and Reserve members, and a DD-214 discharge form and photo ID for Veterans members.

RUMOR:

Veteran Tickets Foundation is simply a money making guise for several unethical individuals.

FACT:

I challenge you to find a more ethical

group of individuals than the ones who sacrifice their time for an organization I hold so closely to my heart. We stand by our mission because we ARE the mission.

Every single person working at Veteran Tickets Foundation has either served in the U.S. military, or has had a loved one that served. As we speak, our Volunteer Coordinator's husband, who is stationed at Luke Air Force Base is deploying to the Middle East. It's because of people like her and her husband that we attempt, if only in a small way, to show our deep appreciation for our service member's sacrifice.

I encourage you to take a look at the "About Us" page on VetTix.org and dispute that the staff I handpicked would unethically mistreat those that we serve.

My staff is so dedicated to what we do, that on almost any given weekend, you'll find them attending events in the community to help spread the word, like the Miramar air show we attended this past weekend.

Or you'll find them working feverishly gathering and distributing tickets at a moment's notice if it means a Veteran can enjoy a night out with his or her family.

Because we understand that without the support of our community our mission cannot be carried out, I invite anyone, at any time to view our detailed ticket log, strategic plan or financial statements. Please call our office at 1-888-241-1550 or email us on the Web site at VetTix.org and we will be more than happy to accommodate your requests.

"Give something to those who gave."