

November 2024

Our mission is to educate the Veteran community and support quality care and benefits for all Veterans in the VA Healthcare System.

Next Meeting: to be announced ~ Winter 2025

We wish to remember all veterans and active military on 11-11-24:  
*Thank you for your service to our country.*

*Message from the VU Executive Committee*

**VU Meeting Update:** Retired US Navy Commander **Joseph E Troiani**, PhD, addressed the 9-28-24 membership meeting at the Oak Park Public Library. Commander Troiani served 32.5 years in the Naval Reserve Intelligence Program. He is the founding director of the Military Psychology Program at Adler University where he is also associate professor of clinical psychology.

Commander Troiani hails from a military family: grandfather~ Army WW1; uncle (USMC) and father (Army) in WW2. He has been affiliated with the Chicago Police Academy regarding Mental Health issues in Veterans. On 9/11, he was with the Joint Reserve Intelligence Center, Fort Sheridan. Commander Troiani provided our membership with a gripping tale of his stellar career. We are very appreciative to have had him as a speaker and are grateful for his special service to our country.

**New legislation in Springfield:** Governor Pritzker signed a bill which adds substantive changes to the **Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act** to become effective January 1, 2025. All county veteran service officers must now be VA accredited. This bill also is the needed action against "claim sharks" who scam veterans and families seeking VA benefits which are rightfully owed. Veterans are encouraged to contact IL Dept of VA Veteran Service Officers equipped to assist them navigate the benefits and services **free of charge**.

**New TV series on Amazon, Apple TV, Google Play:** The American Legion makes a TV debut on Nov. 8 when "Office Joe" is released with an all-star cast of military affiliated entertainers. The six-episode series is written and directed by Nick Palmisciano, former Army infantry officer. The series is an adult comedy with serious undertones showing challenges which veterans face entering civilian life. This story follows the journey of Joe Hauser who following discharge drives across country to begin his dream job as graphic designer. According to Palmisciano, member of American Legion Post 6, Chapel Hill, NC, it is important to show the modern military veteran that transition obstacles are normal, and that these creative projects can be very therapeutic. Let's tune in and check it out.

**Veterans for Unification** is a not for profit 501c (3) organization. Address: 805 Lake Street, #198, Oak Park, IL 60301.

Wash your hands ~ wear a mask ~ practice social distancing. ~ get vaccinated

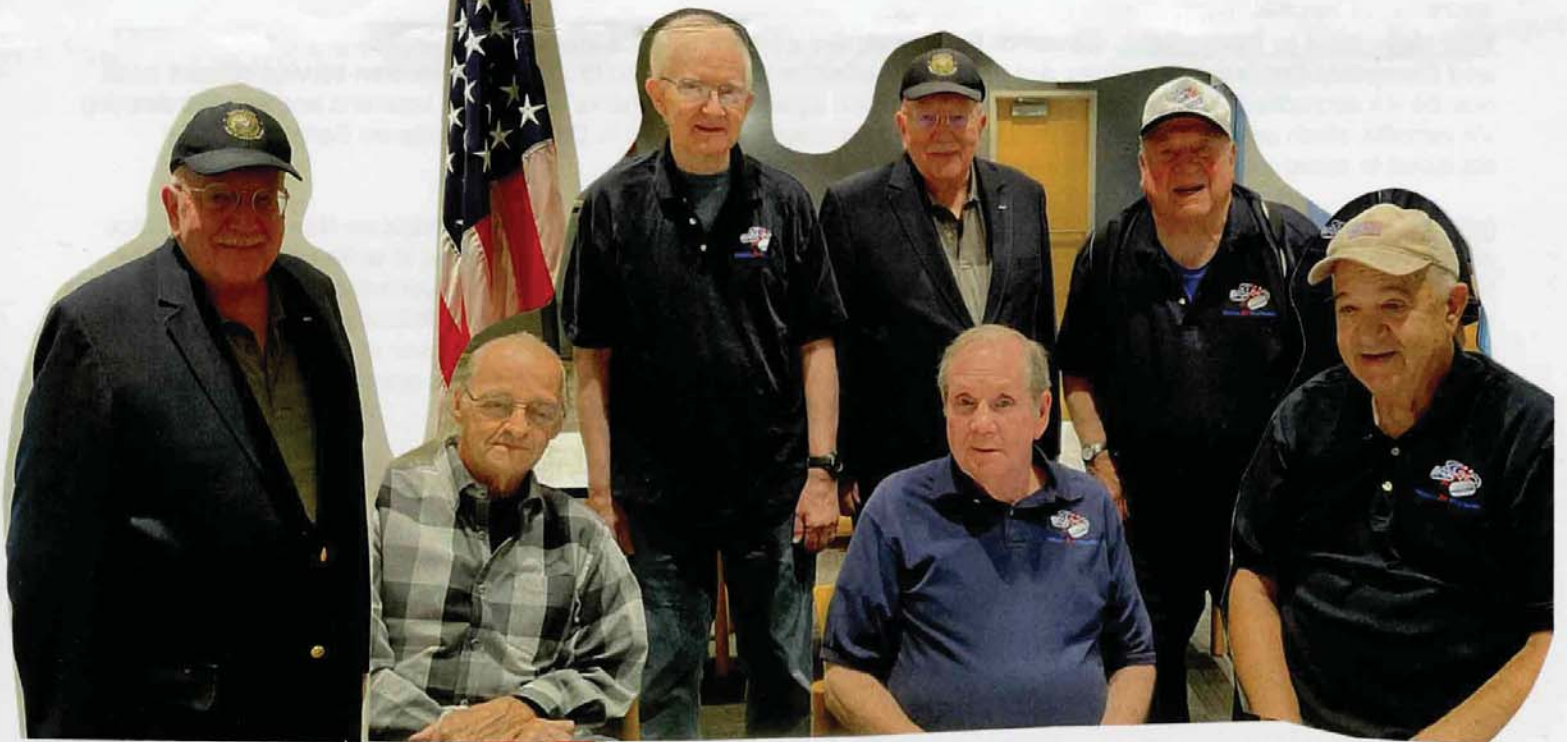
Check out our website: [veteransforunification.org](http://veteransforunification.org)

For more info: 773-736-1941

Catherine Sevedge, LCSW, CADC, Director, with Forest Park IL Vet Center mural ~ Contact: 708-457-8805



Commander Joseph Troiani (US Navy Ret) with VU officers and membership





# Membership Form

I wish to: (Check one)      Apply for a new membership to Veterans for Unification.  
Renew my membership to Veterans for Unification.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:     Veteran  
                   Associate (non-veteran)

**Membership fee:**

\$20/Year

Membership fee: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would also like to make a tax  
deductible donation to VU: .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks or money order payable to:  
Veterans for Unification

Please mail your completed membership application form and  
payment to:

VETERANS FOR UNIFICATION  
805 LAKE STREET #198  
OAK PARK IL 60301