



HOGS FOR HEROES ADVISORY BOARD

JASON JOHNS

member since 8/2017

Jason “J.J.” Johns served with the Army’s 4th Infantry Division in Iraq. He was wounded in action on 26 October 2003 when his convoy was hit by an anti-tank land mine while manning a roadside checkpoint north of Samarra, Iraq. He returned home in May 2004. His military awards include: Purple Heart Medal, Combat Action Badge, Army Commendation Medal (x2), War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (w/ star), Overseas Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal and the Armed Forces Reserves Medal with an “M” for meritorious service.

Jason is an attorney and president of N.M.L.B. Veterans Advocacy Group, a legal firm focused on representation of veterans’ appeals in front of the VA’s Board of Veterans Appeals and U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in Washington, D.C. He is also the president of Wisconsin Legislative Strategies, Inc., a government relations firm. Both firms are based on Capitol Square in Madison, WI. J.J. previously served in state government as the deputy secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs.

Jason continues to serve his fellow veterans every day. He founded the Purple Heart Riders of WI chapter in 2015 and is the state president. He has been active with veteran service organizations and has previously served as the National Judge Advocate for the Military Order of the Purple Heart. In 2018 he was elected by his fellow comrades in the VFW to the position of State Junior Vice Commander. In 2020-21 he will serve as the VFW of Wisconsin’s first Post 9/11 State Commander.

Jason has been riding motorcycles since he was a teenager and bought his 1st Harley Davidson immediately upon his return from Iraq. In the 13 years since he has ridden over 100,000 miles around the U.S. and Canada, riding in 45 of the “lower 48” states thus far. His passion for riding became deeper as it became his “zen” in dealing with the traumas of war and has contributed greatly to his healing and return to civilian life.

Jason lives outside of Oregon, WI with his wife Carin and their twin daughters and son. Jason rides a 2008 Ultra Classic and is favorite saying to describe riding and what it means to him is “4 wheels move the body, but 2 wheels move the soul.

SCOTT KRUCHTEN
member since 4/2017

Scott is a Marine who deployed to Iraq's "Triangle of Death" with the Madison-based Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines in 2004. On November 8th of 2004, Scott's infantry platoon out was on patrol and his Humvee was destroyed by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Scott was critically injured, and was the only survivor of the incident.

While he received a permanent medical retirement in 2010, he remains active in the community and on veteran-related issues. He is also a board member with "Purple Heart Riders of WI", "Back to Basic Training", "Cover Me Veterans" and "Cover Me BLUE". Scott has been a consultant for "Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy" (CURE) in their efforts of combating the staggering amount of Epileptic tendencies that occur after a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Scott started riding motorcycles over 25 years ago, and bought his first Harley-Davidson just after graduating high school. Scott worked at Sauk Prairie Harley-Davidson when he enlisted with the Marine Corps, and riding motorcycles was more than just a means of transportation. Unfortunately, after being injured overseas, Scott had to sell both of his motorcycles and quit the dealership because that "way of life" was no longer an option for him.

After almost a 12-year hiatus from riding motorcycles, Scott was honored to be the first recipient of a Hogs For Heroes bike in May, 2016. Scott was further honored when he asked to participate on the Hogs For Heroes Advisory Board, starting in 2017, and is excited to help more veterans get some therapeutic time behind the handlebars.

Scott lives in Sun Prairie with his wife Amy and son. He is employed by the State of Wisconsin as an HVAC Specialist Advanced. Scott is a member of Military Order of the Purple Heart, Harley Owners Group, and Purple Heart Riders (Wisconsin Chapter). Scott loves spending time with his family, his military brothers and sisters, and behind the windshield of his 2016 Road Glide Special.

TERRY MCGOWAN
member since 4/2016

Terrance E. "Terry" McGowan is President/Business Manager of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 139, a statewide skilled trade union primarily representing heavy equipment operators and mechanics. Terry also serves as a General Vice President at the IUOE Headquarters in Washington D.C. Local 139 has a membership of 10,000 Operating Engineers and an annual business volume of \$12 million to \$14 million.

Local 139 is headquartered in Pewaukee and maintains branch offices in Madison, Altoona and Appleton. The union also operates a nationally renowned Training Center situated on 400 acres in Coloma. From 1995-2001, Terry was the Training Director and Apprentice Coordinator at this facility and now represents labor's interest as a board member of Wisconsin Technical College System throughout all of Wisconsin's sixteen technical colleges.

A 35-year member of Local 139, Terry also has served the members as Business Agent, Auditor, Financial Secretary, District B (Madison) Manager, Vice President and President. Terry also has been a member of the Local 139 Executive Board since 1992; the Chairman of the union's Health Benefit Fund; Chairman of the Wisconsin Operating Engineers Skill Improvement & Apprenticeship Fund, and Chairman of the Construction Business Group, a labor/management trust fund designed to protect the interests of fair contractors. He additionally is one of five trustees from labor to serve on the Central Pension Fund of the International Union of Operating Engineers, considered one of the best managed multi-employer funds in North America.

The son of Richard J. McGowan, a 33-year USN-MCB3 Senior Chief, Terry has lived both on and off naval bases for the first years of his life. Eventually, Terry's mother decided to stay behind in Wisconsin to raise five kids while her husband continued his career of service to his country. Terry holds a special place in his heart for families that make so many sacrifices during times of service to our nation. In 2015, Terry was approached by a group of Operating Engineers about the possibility of starting their own American Legion post. Realizing the amount of veterans in his organization, Terry did not hesitate. This was the birth of the first union American Legion Post in the country. Through finance and support, Operating Engineers American Legion Post 139 was born! Terry also takes a lot of pride in sitting on the advisory board for Hogs for Heroes. He also takes a lot of pride in coordinating fundraising events with staff and Post 139 members to help finance the cause of Hogs for Heroes.

LIEUTENANT CARLOS TUCKER **member since 2015**

Carlos Tucker is the Senior Vice Commander of VFW Post 1318 and an Air Force Battlefield Weather Officer. He is the Commander of Wisconsin's 126th Weather Flight at Volk Air National Guard Base.

Tucker began his military career in 1995, serving with Colorado's 120th Fighter Squadron and the Idaho National Guard's 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team. He then moved on to New York's 152nd Air Operations Group before crossing into Air Force Special Operations, attached to the Army 19th Special Forces Group. He was then recruited into Kentucky's 123rd Special Tactics Squadron where he served as a Special Operations Weather Technician. Carlos transferred to the 126th Weather Flight at Volk

Field, WI in 2010, and after 18 years of enlisted time, was commissioned as an Air Force Officer in 2013.

His deployments include Iraq in 2006 with the 10th Special Forces Group, Qatar in 2010 with Combined Forces Special Operations Command Central, and Kuwait in 2017 with the 35th Infantry Division.

Carlos has been riding motorcycles for over 30 years and lives in Middleton, WI with his wonderful partner Megan and their 4 energetic daughters. They own two local Madison area businesses and are active in the community, volunteering time and holding several annual fundraisers for multiple local non-profits and Veteran's organizations.