



## LOCAL 873 VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2025

### Veteran Committee Executive Member's

#### Chairman

Patrick Julian

#### Vice Chairman

Joel Bolen

#### Secretary

David Sherron

#### Treasurer

Brandon Fulk

### Chairman's Message

Brothers and Sisters,

There's not a whole lot new to report this month, and that's okay. We've been staying steady, and sometimes that's just as important as big updates. The work we've done so far speaks for itself, and it's given us a strong foundation to build on. As we move into our new **quarterly meeting schedule**, we'll have more time between meetings to rest up and focus on finishing what we've started. Thanks to everyone who continues to stay involved, represent the committee, and help us grow—even when it's just showing up or checking in.

See you at the next meeting.

### Committee Updates

We're continuing our work behind the scenes on the veteran information packets and the recruitment trifold brochure. These will be key tools for spreading awareness about the committee and welcoming new veterans into Local 873 and the IBEW.

Starting this fall, Veterans Committee meetings will move to a quarterly schedule. After months of steady growth, successful volunteer projects, and relationship-building, we feel confident that the committee has strong momentum and structure in place. This change will give members more time between meetings to focus on completing action items and projects, a chance to rest, regroup, and avoid burnout and better alignment with major union events, holidays, and seasonal volunteer work. In the meantime, we'll continue sharing updates through newsletters, text/email chains, our facebook page and word of mouth at the hall. As always, if urgent matters arise or support is needed, don't hesitate to reach out to our executive members.

### Merchandise

Local 873 Veteran Hats and Shirts: Available now at the hall. These are sold at cost by the Hall. Veteran Committee Coins and Hats: A Bulk order for hats are here; If you would like a hat, reach out to Patrick Julian or Joel Bolen. Reach out to Joel Bolen or Bill Percy for Veteran Committee Coins. All proceeds go toward supporting committee activities and veteran outreach.

*Hoc Nos Defendemus   Semper Fidelis   Non Sibi Sed Patriae  
Semper Paratus   Aim High...Fly-Fight-Win   Semper Supra*



## **LOCAL 873 VETERAN'S COMMITTEE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER 2025**

### **Washington Watch**

In an effort to keep our veterans informed, we will be highlighting key legislation and policy changes each month that impact veterans, their benefits, and their families.

VA offers 12-month community care authorizations for 30 specialty services, reducing the need for reauthorization every 90–180 days.

New mobile app feature: Veterans can now submit “mileage-only” travel reimbursement claims via the VA Health & Benefits app.

VA to reduce staff by nearly 30,000 in FY2025 through attrition, retirements, and hiring freeze (no large forced layoffs announced).

VA removes secondary review for community care authorizations, expediting access to non-VA care.

### **Important Dates**

Vet Committee Meeting: October 27<sup>th</sup> 2025; 5:30 PM at the Red Dog.

### **Phone Numbers/Emails**

Chairman-Patrick Julian: (260)330-5554; [patrickjulianjr@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjulianjr@gmail.com)

Veteran Coins-Bill Percy: [billpercy873@gmail.com](mailto:billpercy873@gmail.com)

### **Websites**

IBEW 873: [www.ibew873.com](http://www.ibew873.com)

### **Social Media**

Facebook: IBEW 873 Veteran's Committee

Members Only Page

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