



Libraries [are] safe places where people care and want to help, and where core professional values

Community Outreach

Libraries provide an important means for Veterans and others to engage with their communities, share their military experiences, and be recognized for their service. For example, the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress “collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.” The Sedona (Az.) Public Library hosts Coffee with a Vet, a monthly event at which the public may meet and thank local Veterans. Cobb County (Ga.) Public Library provided materials for patrons to design holiday cards, collected the cards, and distributed them to Veterans at the Atlanta VA Hospital.

Libraries also provide space where Veterans can meet with each other. The Chapel Hill (N.C.) Public Library hosts a monthly group of Veterans to talk with each other about a selection of readings broadly related to war and homecoming. At the Red Rocks (Co.) Community College, the library provides a space where student Veterans can study, relax, and make connections with fellow student Veterans.

Libraries host exhibits and book talks on military themes. In Oregon, the Tualatin Public Library featured an exhibit of photographs by Jim Lommasson, who also spoke about his book, “Exit Wounds: Sold fl ♣ ♣ ♣, o ; “I

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