

Changes

Barbara Kae

Fall is a time of changes and new beginnings. Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) has gone through several changes since the publication of the last newsletter. Our summer program was completed and we are now preparing a fall schedule of classes. We have added more furniture and equipment so that we can serve Veterans more effectively. Our administrative assistant, Jenna Hart, had an



**Welcome
Michael**

opportunity to pursue one of her dreams so she gave notice and traveled west. We wished her luck and sent her on her way with a farewell lunch. Then we welcomed our new administrative assistant, Michael Aumack. He has his MBA in Business Administration but is pursuing further education at Wichita State University (WSU). Originally from Florida, Michael has been in Wichita for about four years. One interesting fact about Michael is that he used to collect and repair the original Volkswagen beetles. We have just hired another student assistant, Mike Stoller, who will join the rest of the staff in mid-October.



**Welcome
Mike**

★ VUB's Staff ★

Lawrence Britton - Executive Director
James Holland - Curriculum Coordinator
Barbara Kae - Data Specialist
Michael Aumack - Administrative Assistant
Talal Agha - Student Assistant
Mike Stoller - Student Assistant

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Veterans Upward Bound



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Lawrence Britton

Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Departure for a College Education and Networking for Success

VUB connects Veterans to social networking. Networks make things work. There are all types of networks. The post office is a network that allows mail and packages to go from one address to another more efficiently and easier than delivering them yourself. There is a network of highways in the U.S. that allows travel from city to city. The kind of networks that VUB uses to connect Veterans are social networks which are made up of people. If you want to know how to do something, get a job or meet new people, the use of social networks is critical. VUB is an existing network that Veterans can tie into to reach personal goals. In addition, VUB offers classes and instruction in connecting to social networks on the internet. These networks are an excellent way to connect with people with like interests, similar goals and those that have “been there and done that.” Internet networks are open networks that allow you to connect directly with anyone in the network without using each connection between individuals. For example, you know Bill, and Bill knows Jim. Jim has the information that you need but you don't know Jim exists. On the internet you will know both Bill and Jim without relying on a go-between.

Here is a list of **Social Networking Tools** on the internet that VUB can connect you with:

Blogs - Use a weblog to present your ideas and get feedback from others; learn from the expertise and experience of others who blog.

Wikis - A shared editing space that team members can use to create and manage content such as designs, presentations, or other group material.

Activities - Organize your work, plan next steps, and easily tap your expanding professional network to help execute your everyday deliverables faster.

Forums - Keep a journal or blog of your meetings or create discussions on different topics affecting your team.

RSS/ATOM feeds - Integrate and render feeds from your favorite ATOM or RSS sources in places without having to go to each website.

Profiles - Quickly find the people you need by searching across your organization using keywords that help identify expertise, current projects and responsibilities.

Communities - Create, find, join, and work with communities of people who share a common interest, responsibility, or area of expertise.

Dogear - Save, organize and share bookmarks; discover bookmarks that have been qualified by others with similar interests and expertise.

For more information and training in Social Networking on the internet, please contact Veterans Upward Bound, 415 Jardine Hall, 1845 Fairmount Street, Wichita, Kansas 67260-0137, (316) 978-6742.



Lawrence Britton
VUB's display table at the
VA's Stand Down Event
September 26, 2008

Cast Your Vote



Now is the time to vote for your favorite name for the VUB newsletter. To cast your vote call **1-877-312-2586 toll free** or if you are calling from the Wichita area call **978-6742** or e-mail VUB at **veterans.upwardbound@wichita.edu**. Thanks to everyone who submitted names for the contest!

The Ballot

- The Advance
- Brain Cell
- The Ramparts
- The Upward Flight
- The Vanguard

School's Back in Session

James C. Holland

“Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines!” is the eagerly-awaited prompt for race car drivers. It initiates an adrenaline rush. The drivers anticipate of the smell of burning rubber on the empty expanse of smooth asphalt and the thrill of

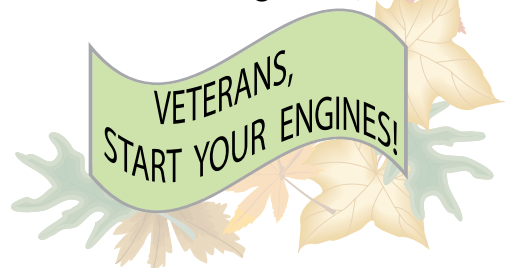
instant acceleration toward their goal, the finish line. Veterans in Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) are also experiencing this fervor to “accelerate” on their personal track and earn their college degree. However, some Veterans have never moved from the starting line because they are waiting for that initial boost. Free classes at VUB can provide that starting boost. Veterans can improve their chances of a successful collegiate career, earn a degree and cross the finish line by using the free services provided by VUB. By providing a variety of services including academic advising, career counseling, computer training, and tutoring, VUB will support all Veterans earning their college degree. Come in and complete the VUB application and rev your *education engine*.

After completing the free, refresher courses this past summer, several Veterans have enrolled in college. With the start of the fall semester beginning October 6, VUB is offering the same opportunity to all eligible Veterans. Refresher courses offered this fall will be Algebra, English Composition, Spanish, Pre-Algebra, and Computer Applications. Classes will run through November 29. VUB welcomes Veterans that want to join classes after the starting date. All VUB courses, as well as, class materials are **FREE**. Time and a commitment to your future will be the

only costs a Veteran will incur as VUB teams up with Veteran students racing to the finish line and the checkered flag.

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
10:00 - 11:30		Pre-Algebra		Pre-Algebra
1:30 - 3:00	Algebra 1		Algebra 1	
3:00 - 4:30				Computer
3:30 - 5:00	Spanish		Spanish	
4:30 - 6:00		English Comp		English Comp

2008 FALL SCHEDULE of CLASSES
Room 415B Jardine Hall WSU



New GI Bill Signed into Law

The improved GI Bill goes into effect on **August 1, 2009**. The table below highlights the differences between the Montgomery GI Bill and the New GI Bill. For the entire article go to <http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/new-gi-bill-overview>.

	Montgomery GI Bill Chapter 30	Post 9/11 GI Bill Proposed-Chapter 33
Payment Rate for Full-Time Student	Annually set - nationwide - monthly payment rate. Set to increase to \$1321 for 2008-2009. Paid to the student each month.	A payment indexed to full in-state tuition for public schools. A lump sum paid directly to the school each term. The national average for in-state tuition in 2008 is \$6,185.
Duration of Program	36 Month entitlement	36 Month entitlement
Additional Expense Payments	No additional payments for expenses.	Living Expenses - stipend based on local BAH for E-5 with dependents - paid monthly avg. app. \$1,400 per month. Books and Fees - up to \$1,000 per year
Eligibility Requirements	Those who entered military service after June 30, 1985	Active-duty service since Sept. 11, 2001
VEAP-Era Eligibility	No - Except those who elected to convert in the past	Yes - those who meet the eligibility criteria above
Benefit Expiration	10 years after discharge or separation	15 years from last period of active duty of at least 90 consecutive days
Transfer Benefits to Families	Limited - Currently limited to Army for Critical MOS only	Yes - but this is limited to those in the military. The details are still being worked out.
Enrollment Fee	Yes - \$1,200*	None

* In earlier copies of the Post 9/11 GI Bill, it was stipulated that members would be able to stop making enrollment payments for the MGIB. This stipulation was removed from the law. This means that those servicemembers who are currently paying the \$100 a month enrollment fee will be required to continue making payments until the \$1,200 enrollment fee is paid in full.

Reaching Out to the Homeless

Barbara Kae

Veterans Upward Bound recently participated in the STAND DOWN event sponsored by the local Department of Veterans Affairs. The event began at 9:00 AM Friday, September 26 and aimed to provide assistance in breaking the cycle of homelessness. A hot meal, a relaxing environment, medical checks, and even massages were offered to those who attended.

Lawrence Britton, James Holland and Barbara Kae were on hand at various times throughout



the day to answer questions about VUB, pass out literature, and to encourage Veterans to acquire their post-secondary education. VUB was well received by both the Veterans and the other organizations who participated. VUB's display table was located across from our partners at Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas. The Workforce Alliance offers a variety of services to people seeking employment.



Did you know...

- ◆ that funds from the GI bill can only go towards accredited schools and Veterans Upward Bound has a list of accredited Kansas schools available
- ◆ that there are scholarships available for junior and senior high students through the local VFW's and American Legions which have the applications
- ◆ that on average a woman's earning potential is increased by 76% after obtaining a college bachelor's degree as compared to having a high school diploma
- ◆ that on average a man's earning potential is increased by 67% after obtaining a college bachelor's degree as compared to having a high school diploma
- ◆ that the Robert J. Dole Department of Veterans Affairs Medical and Regional Office Center(VAMC&ROC) located in Wichita, Kansas is a teaching hospital and has an Masters Level Social Work Internships Program
- ◆ that the Robert J. Dole VAMC&ROC gives preference to Veterans who apply for job positions
- ◆ that state Veterans homes were established after the Civil War because the need was so great and several states established Veterans homes at their own expense

In Olympic Competition

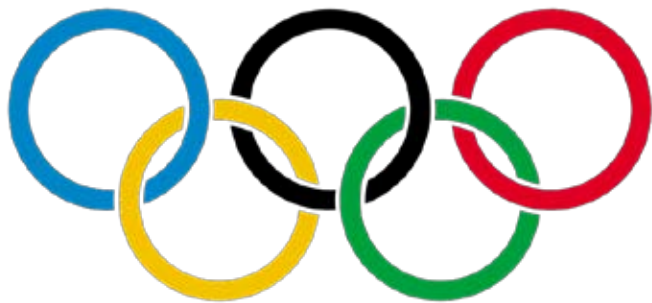
Barbara Kae

The Olympics in Beijing this August saw at least fifteen military athletes competing for the United States. Most of the events entered by these military men and women involved marksmanship. The events included air rifle, 50-meter three-position rifle, women's sport pistol, rapid-fire pistol, free pistol, pistol shooting, trap shooting, double trap shooting, and skeet shooting. Other competitions included Greco-Roman wrestling, epee fencing, the 20-kilometer race walk, and the modern pentathlon. The modern pentathlon includes five events: shooting, fencing, swimming, horseback riding and running.

Medals won by military personnel:

Gold medal - Army Spc. Glenn Eller in double trap shooting. He set an Olympic record with a score of 190.

Gold medal - Army Pfc. Vincent Hancock for skeet shooting. Last year he set a world record in every skeet shooting event he entered.



In total the United States earned medals in 110 events. Our countrymen and women brought home gold medals from 36 of those events, silver from 38 and bronze from 36. Winning a medal is impressive but just obtaining a place on the Olympic team is an honor and a significant accomplishment. Many of the participants have set records and won medals in previous competitions including past Olympics.

Eller participated in two previous Olympic competitions finishing 17th in 2004 and 12th in 2000. He has also won several medals in various international competitions. Although Hancock has not participated in the Olympics before, he has won other awards. His first one was the World Champion title in men's skeet shooting event at the age of 16.



Forbidden City, Beijing, China
Photo by Barbara Kae

For a complete list of the medals and who won them in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing go to <http://en.beijing2008.cn/> and click on "Medals" in the left-hand column.

In addition to the competitors there were several service men and at least one Veteran assisting behind the scenes. Retired Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah served as a technical advisor for Team USA. Abdullah, a World Class Athlete Program (WCAP) boxing coach, was head coach in the previous Olympics held in Athens, Greece. WCAP boxer Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Downs and WCAP fencer Spc. Cody Nagengast both served as training partners this summer in Beijing.

Sources: Army News and Veterans Advantage News



Student Profile: Joseph Moore

Barbara Kae

With an easy smile, a warm handshake, and a quick "hello" Joseph Moore has entered the offices of Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) again. This VUB student stops by even when he doesn't have classes. He finds Room 415 in Jardine Hall a good place to relax and regroup between classes. Joseph found out about the VUB program through the Admissions Office at Wichita State University (WSU).

His first impressions of VUB were very positive. Although a little apprehensive about entering college, he felt welcomed by VUB's staff. After discussing his educational goals with one of the VUB staff members, he was encouraged about his choice to pursue his bachelor's degree. He plans to graduate in 2010 with a degree in music education and teach in the Wichita school system. His overall goal is to become a positive male role model in the Wichita community and have an effective impact in the lives of youth.

Joseph was born and raised in Wichita and graduated from East High School in 2000. He joined the army in 2002 and was with the 2/18FA Battalion 212 Brigade based at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He served one year of his three-year enlistment in Iraq. He was nervous



about college because he had been out of school for several years. Joseph has been getting tutoring services from VUB in both math and English. He says that he now feels more confident and better equipped for his college classes. Besides tutoring VUB has helped Joseph apply for scholarships, complete the FAFSA forms, and "smoothed out road blocks."

One of Joseph's first impressions of VUB was that of a very welcoming place full of friendly faces. Even though the office is every bit as business-like as any other office, Joseph discovered that VUB has an "open-door policy and doesn't confine help to business hours only. They are here for the Veterans." VUB has "help in place to better our (Veterans') education." He definitely recommends VUB to other Veterans. "Lawrence Britton has put together a great cast of genuinely caring staff. It's all about the Veterans!" says Joseph.



IMPORTANT EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL VETERANS



There are a number of different restrictions with the new GI Bill. Before dropping out of classes to use the benefits in the new GI Bill or stopping your current enrollment payments, please consult with your education officer or advisor.



Veterans Upward Bound - WSU
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(316) 978-6742
www.wichita.edu/vub

Mission Statement

The mission is to provide necessary training and support that will enable eligible Veterans to successfully enter into college or any other post-secondary institution.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, status as a Vietnam Era Veteran, or disability. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies:

Director

Office of Equal Employment Opportunity
Wichita State University

1845 Fairmount St, Wichita, Kansas 67260-0205
Tel # (316) 978-6791; Email: ted.ayres@wichita.edu



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