

Hampton Elks Lodge #366 Hosts Wounded Warrior Project



Hampton Elks Lodge #366 hosted a presentation by the Wounded Warrior Project in the lodge on 18 June 2011 at 2:00 PM. The event was open to the public. Those present were treated to an inspiring talk by Wounded Warrior Mr. Glenn Kunkel. Glenn, a Purple Heart recipient, is one of a prestigious group of wounded warriors who have been selected to share their personal, inspirational stories of courage and integrity with the public.

Glenn joined the Marines in 1997 on his 17th birthday, against his mother's wishes, two days after graduating from high school. He served as a sergeant in the infantry as a squad leader. In April of 2005, he was seriously wounded by shrapnel from a 120 mm mortar attack in Iraq's Anbar province. Glenn described how the Wounded Warrior Project has aided him in the recovery process and has helped him transition back to civilian life. "I really wanted to stay a Marine. I liked being a Marine, liked

where I was going, and wanted to go further with it. But the choice to be discharged wasn't up to me. Now I want to study law so I can still fight the bad guys. I'll just do it in a suit and won't have to dig ditches anymore."

After what he describes as a 'less than stellar' performance in high school, Glenn is currently studying philosophy at the University of Louisville in Kentucky where he maintains a 3.8 GPA. He plans on entering Harvard Law School for post-graduate work and to earn his law degree. Glenn's natural, sincere and charismatic way of connecting with the audience exemplifies the bright new normal a wounded warrior can experience and the inspiration he or she can provide to their family, community and country. "I want warriors to know they're not forgotten," says Glenn. "Anything you might need, Wounded Warrior Project can help accommodate. I'm like you - I miss military life. But we're on to our next mission. And I can help."

After his presentation, Glenn made it a point to personally speak to everyone who had asked a question, or had expressed concern about a friend or loved one presently in harm's way, or has returned from service and could possibly benefit from the Wounded Warrior Project.

Hampton Elks Lodge #366, and its generous supporters, were proud to honor the sacrifices of our wounded warriors by presenting a donation to the Wounded Warriors Project in the amount of \$2,010.00. David Kelly, Trustee, and Ms. Patsy "Crickett" Alston, Exalted Ruler, made the presentation.