

# Kind campaign: Kind to honor Wisconsin veterans at 16th annual old-fashioned Wisconsin corn roast

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*Will bring the community together for food, fun, and to thank Wisconsin Veterans for their service*

**La Crosse, WI** – Today, Ron Kind announced that during his 16th Annual Corn Roast on Friday he will recognize Wisconsin veterans Petty Officer Martin Severson, of Sparta, and Staff Sergeant Louis Ferris, of La Crosse, for their service to our country and contributions to the local community. People from across Wisconsin's Third Congressional District are invited to join Ron in thanking these veterans and enjoying free beer, brats, and corn.

"Every year I look forward to my annual Old-Fashioned Wisconsin Corn Roast. It is a chance for people from all across western and central Wisconsin to come together to eat some delicious brats and corn, drink some Wisconsin beer, and recognize our neighbors who work every day to make our community a better place. This year it is my honor to recognize Petty Officer Martin Severson and Staff Sergeant Louis Ferris, two Wisconsin veterans who have dedicated their lives to serving others and improving our western Wisconsin community," **said Ron Kind.**

Petty Officer Martin Severson served as an intelligence officer aboard the U.S.S. Niagara Falls, monitoring radar and communications. After his time in the Navy, he became a local celebrity radio host known as "Brucie Bumchuckles," well known for his pranks in the community. He remains active in helping the Wisconsin veterans community.

Staff Sergeant Louis Ferris is a first generation American – born of parents who emigrated from Lebanon at the turn of the 20th century. He is a lifetime and loyal "northsider" who still lives in the city of La Crosse where he was born. Ferris enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard and later served a tour with the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He has held a variety of leadership positions with the local Veterans of Foreign Wars, participates in military funerals and visits veterans in area nursing homes. He is currently president of the local chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association and was instrumental in creating the Korean Veterans War Memorial that was dedicated at Veteran's Freedom Park this past July.

Ron Kind's 16th Annual Wisconsin Corn Roast will take place Friday, September 15th, at 6:00 p.m. at the La Crosse County Fair Grounds in West Salem. Details on press logistics will be released later in the week.