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LEBANON VA MEDICAL CENTER ATHLETES BRING HOME THE GOLD!

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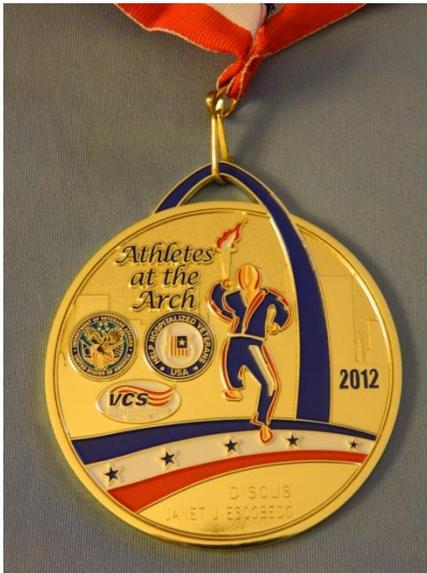
Nearly 800 Veterans from across the nation competed in the 26th National Veterans Golden Age Games held recently in St. Louis, MO, with 15 of those Veterans representing the Lebanon VA Medical Center (VAMC). The event is the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the overall health, well-being and quality of life for older Veterans. This program includes Veterans who have a wide range of abilities and disabilities over the age of 55. It is one of the most progressive and adaptive rehabilitative senior sports programs in the world, offering 15 different sports and recreational activities.

The Lebanon VAMC established a team of fifteen (13 male and 2 female) Veterans who attended and participated in the games. The team proudly brought home 8 medals from the games. Veterans bringing home the coveted Gold, Silver and Bronze medals are as follows:

Earl L. Ressler,	Gold (Air Rifle), Gold (Golf)
Janet Escobedo	Gold (Discus), Bronze (Shot Put), Bronze (Javelin)
William H. White	Silver (Backstroke), Bronze (Freestyle-swimming)
William D. Lux	Bronze (Bowling)

Competitive events during the Golden Age Games include: swimming, cycling, golf, shot put, discus, javelin, 10-meter air rifle, table tennis, dominoes, shuffleboard, horseshoes, nine-ball, bowling, checkers and croquet. Each event has seven age categories for participation: 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84 and 85 and up. Additionally, Veterans with visual impairments and those who use wheelchairs for mobility may compete in the Visually Impaired or Wheelchair Divisions.

Next year's Golden Age Games will be held in Buffalo, NY. If you are a Veteran and would like to find out how to become a member of next year's team, please contact the Lebanon VAMC's Recreational Therapy Department at 717-272-6621, extension 5784.



(Caption: One of the Gold Medals brought home by Lebanon VAMC Golden Age Games team members.)



(Caption: Lebanon VAMC Staff and Veterans get ready for 2012 Golden Age Games. Pictured as follows: Back Row/Left to Right: Bill Kline, Bob Hummelbaugh, Earl McPhearson, Charlie Miller, Ted Anspach, Joel Butler, Orrin Hicks. Middle Row/Left to Right: Adam Schaeztle, Bill White, Bill Crim, Rich Mellott, Earl Ressler, Ann Mellott, Vince Ringer. Kneeling in front/Left to Right: Marilyn Radatz, Janet Escobedo.)