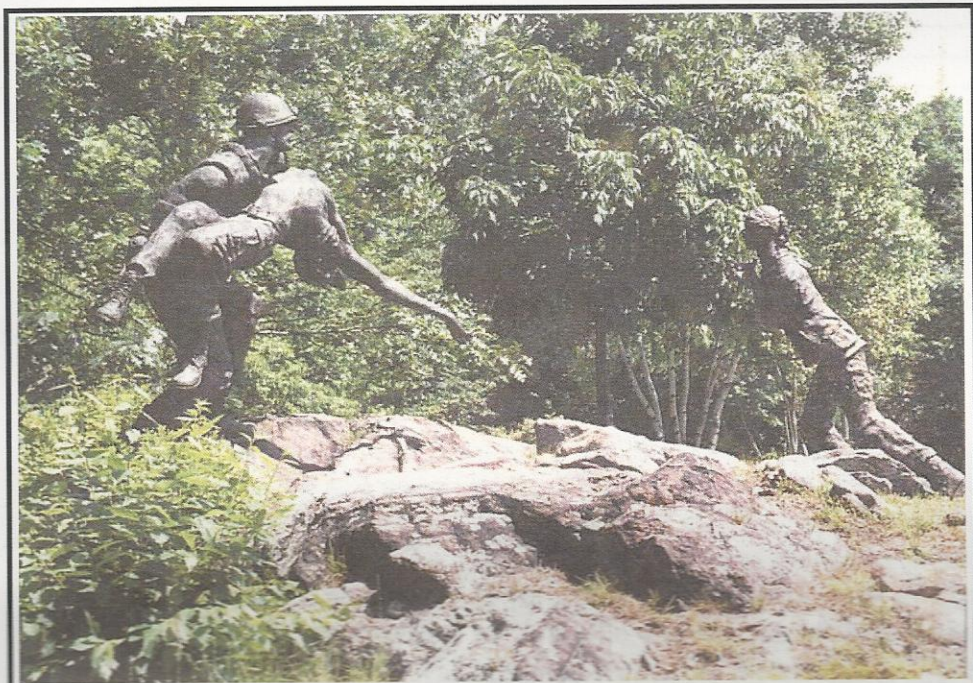


# Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



*Westchester  
County  
Chapter #49*

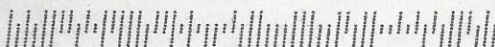
If box is checked  
your dues are due now.

All the POW's are not home yet!  
Do you know?  
Do you care?



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Vietnam Veterans of America  
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# VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

## Chapter Officers:

President: Rick Burns ..... 769-7744  
Vice President: Al Zawiski ..... 428-9352  
Secretary: Jim LaManna ..... 793-6077  
Treasurer: Al Singerman ..... 930-7433

## Board of Directors: (5)

Bob Kennedy ..... 669-5411  
Terry Keogh ..... 428-9845  
Bob Miller ..... 391-8723  
Carl DiLiberto ..... 462-0782  
Barney Puleo ..... 682-4949

## State Council Delegates: (6)

Dan Griffin  
Jim LaManna  
Barney Puleo

Al Singerman  
Al Zawiski  
Terry Keogh

## Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

## Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Al Ramsey ..... 377-6700  
Carmel: Brennen Mahoney .... 845-808-1620

Vet Center: 300 Hamilton Ave, White Plains, NY 10601

Roger Paulmeno ..... 682-6250  
Vinnie Matthews ..... 682-6250

White Plains Clinic ..... 421-1951  
23 S. Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

FDR Montrose Hospital ..... 737-4400

## Vets Employment Counselor:

Greg Whittaker ..... 997-4138

## Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Director: Vito Pinto ..... 995-2146

## Committees:

Membership Phil Wanderman ..... 963-3034  
Legislation Al Singerman ..... 930-7433  
Comm. Affairs Dan Griffin ..... 682-4949  
POW / MIA Dan Griffin ..... 682-4949  
Member Products Jim LaManna ..... 793-6077  
Color Guard Richard Palazzo ..... 845-298-1793  
Scholarship Bob Miller ..... 391-8723

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

Open Memorial Day through Veterans Day

### HOURS:

Sundays

Noon to 4:00PM

Phone: (914) 682-4949

No answer

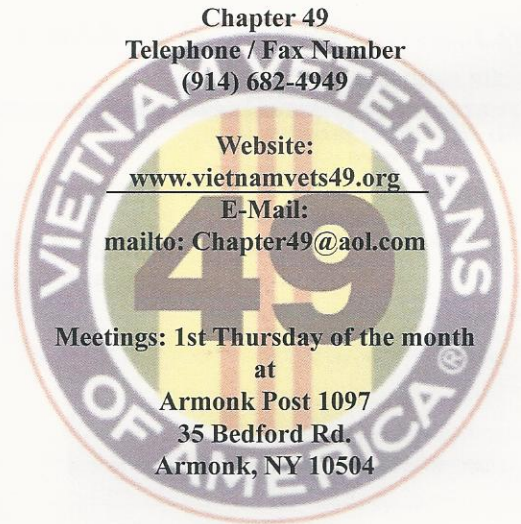
Please leave message

Chapter 49  
Telephone / Fax Number  
(914) 682-4949

Website:  
[www.vietnamvets49.org](http://www.vietnamvets49.org)

E-Mail:  
<mailto:Chapter49@aol.com>

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month  
at  
Armonk Post 1097  
35 Bedford Rd.  
Armonk, NY 10504



This newsletter is a publication of Chapter 49, however the opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors, and as such, they do not necessarily represent those of Chapter 49. All views are welcome for publication. Submit items of interest, including poems, short stories, photographs, etc., to the Editors at the Chapter address or call for other arrangements. Materials submitted will not be returned unless otherwise requested.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On September 22 we held our Chapter picnic/barbeque; it was a great time with lots of good food and just relaxing with our fellow Chapter members, their family and their guests. We wish to thank the following businesses for their donation; Neri's Bakery in Port Chester and Augustine's Farm on King Street near the Westchester County Airport. And thank you to Marshal Clavel and his girl for their expert grilling. Also thank you to all of the Chapter members and friends who donated to offset the cost.

November and December are always busy on November 11<sup>th</sup> we will hold our ceremony at Lasdon Park at 3:00. On December 8<sup>th</sup> will be the Christmas party at the PTSD Unit on the second floor of building 15. We will bring a six foot wedge and a sheet cake. The party is from 1:00 to 5:00. On December 14<sup>th</sup> we will host the annual Wreaths Across America in Lasdon Park at 12:00. Also we will place wreaths at the Dam in Valhalla, one at each of the plaques for the men who gave their lives in the war against terror. On December 22<sup>nd</sup> we and the Boy Scouts will hold our annual Candle light Vigil at Lasdon Park we will light the candles at dusk.

Dan Griffin

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Welcome to our new members

Robert J. Jordan from Pound Ridge

## **Governor Cuomo Announces Veteran Designation Now Available on Driver Licenses, Permits, Non-Driver IDs**

Albany, NY (October 3, 2013) Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is now offering qualified veterans the option of having their status as a veteran indicated on their New York State driver license, permit or non-driver identification card. The Governor signed legislation last year that directed the DMV to make the veteran's status available to all honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces who apply for the designation on a DMV issued photo document. "The men and women of the armed forces have sacrificed so much for our state and nation, and it is only appropriate that we do everything we can to support them," Governor Cuomo said. "Allowing veterans to have their status indicated on their driver licenses, permits or non-driver IDs will not only make it easier for them to receive the benefits to which they are entitled, but also provides another way for them to show their pride in having honorably served our country." Col. (Ret) Eric J. Hesse, Director of the Division of Veterans Affairs, said, "On behalf of all veterans in the state, I thank Governor Cuomo, the Legislature and the DMV for making the veteran's status available. This is just one of many examples of New York State's high level of commitment to honoring and supporting our returning service members." "It is very important that we, as a society, recognize our veterans for serving our nation and defending the freedoms we cherish as Americans," said Barbara J. Fiala, Commissioner of DMV and Chair of the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC). "We are very proud of our veterans and pleased to offer them the option of having their status as veterans indicated on their DMV-issued photo documents." In order to obtain this status from the DMV, applicants must mark the appropriate box on the application form (MV-44 or MV-2) and show their original Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD-214) which states either "Honorable" or "Under Honorable Conditions" in the "Character of service" section. Eligible veterans who request to have this status from the DMV will have the word "Veteran" printed on the upper left corner of their newly issued driver license, permit or non-driver ID. There are no additional fees for qualified veterans to receive the status on their driver license or non-driver ID. However, the regular fees for an original license or non-driver ID, a license or non-driver ID renewal or a duplicate driver license or non-driver ID still apply. Applicants may apply either through the mail at renewal time (a photocopy of the DD-214 form is acceptable) or by visiting their local DMV office for a renewal or replacement document. The licenses cannot be ordered by phone or online. Many local businesses across the state currently provide discounts to veterans. This option makes it simpler and more convenient for veterans to show and verify to a business their status as veterans without having to carry multiple forms of identification.

## NOW SHE IS A TEACHER!!!

In September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

'Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.'

They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

'Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. Kids called their parents to tell them what was happening and by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom. Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned. Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom

to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher was awarded Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.

White Plains Middle School- Eastview 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus  
Presents

## “A Veterans Day Musical Salute”



The students and staff of the Eastview 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus of White Plains Middle School would like to invite you to join us as we honor our veterans with “A Veterans Day Musical Salute!”

This very special event on Friday, November 8th at 8:15 am will feature patriotic music, readings about the history and importance of Veterans Day and a video montage honoring veterans. Mr. Timothy Connors, the Superintendent of the White Plains City School District and a Vietnam veteran, will be our honored guest speaker this year.

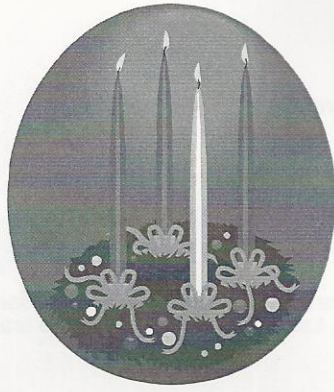
Our Eastview students have already started preparing for our celebration.  
Mark your calendars today!

You may RSVP to [matthewhommez@wpcsd.k12.ny.us](mailto:matthewhommez@wpcsd.k12.ny.us).

We hope you join us for our “Veterans Day Musical Salute” at Eastview on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am!



# “Honoring All Who Served”



## **Candle Light Vigil**

**Lasdon Park**

**December 22th**

**4:00 PM**

**This is our Christmas for the men and  
women who did not come home from  
Vietnam.**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 670-13  
September 19, 2013

### Airmen From Vietnam War Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of Air Force pilots Maj. James E. Sizemore of Lawrenceville, Ill., and Maj. Howard V. Andre Jr., of Memphis, Tenn., have been identified and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors on Sept. 23 at Arlington National Cemetery.

On July 8, 1969, Sizemore and Andre were on a night armed reconnaissance mission when their A-26A Invader aircraft crashed in Xiangkhoang Province, Laos. Both men died in the crash but their remains were unaccounted for until April 2013.

In 1993, a joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic team investigated an aircraft crash site in Laos. They recovered aircraft wreckage from an A-26. The team was not able to conduct a complete excavation of the site at that time.

Twice in 2010, joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic teams conducted excavations of the crash site recovering human remains, aircraft wreckage, personal effects and military equipment associated with Sizemore and Andre.

In the identification of the remains, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison – which matched Sizemore's records.

There are more than 1,640 American service members that are still unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, call 703-699-1169 or visit the DPMO website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo>.

 SHARE

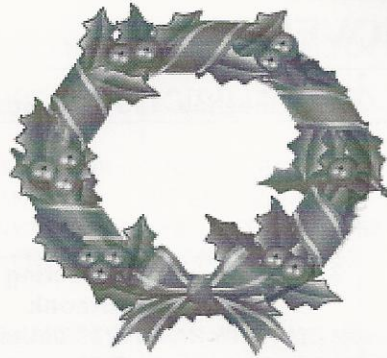
U.S. Department of Defense  
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

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Media Contact: +1 (703) 697-5131/697-5132

Public Contact: <http://www.defense.gov/landing/questions.aspx> or +1 (703) 428-0711





**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

**LASDON PARK**

**DECEMBER 14th**

**12:00 PM**

**We will present wreaths at our Vietnam Memorial and at each one of the statues on the "Trail of Honor"**

**Also we will place a wreath at each of the memorial trees at the Kensico Dam**

## NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day 3:00 Lasdon Park	12	13 American Legion Lasdon Park 2:00	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

## DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	6	7 Pearl Harbor
8 Xmas party Stress unit 1:00-5:00	9	10	11	12	13	14 Wreaths Lasdon Park 12:00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 candle Light vigil Lasdon Park 4:00	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve				



★ **MEMBERSHIP** ★



WE NEED YOU IN THE VIET-NAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND FEES

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL WHO SHARE OUR CONCERNS, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS, AND FAMILIES, VETERAN OR NOT. WE ENCOURAGE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 1959 TO MAY 7, 1975.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

- ★ INDIVIDUAL MEMBER (IND) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO PAYS MEMBERSHIP FEES ANNUALLY.
- ★ ASSOCIATE MEMBER (ASO) - A NON VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO PAYS MEMBERSHIP FEES ANNUALLY.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

- ★ LIFE MEMBER (PAID) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHOS LIFE MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL.
- ★ ASSOCIATED LIFE MEMBER (PAID) - AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER WHOS LIFE MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL.
- ★ LIFE MEMBER PLANNED PAYMENT (LMPP) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE PLANNED PAYMENT ( LMPP ) FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ ASSOCIATED LIFE MEMBER PLANNED PAYMENT ( ALPP ) - AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE PLANNED PAYMENT (ALPP ) FOR ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ THE PLANNED PAYMENT REQUIRES COMPLETION WITHIN A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS.
- ★ FEES: ANNUAL FEES OF \$ 20.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL OR ASSOCIATED MEMBERSHIP OR MAKE A PAYMENT OF 50.00 FOR A THREE YEAR MEMBERSHIP AND SAVE \$ 10.00.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENT AGE:	
49 AND UNDER.....	\$ 250.00
50 TO 55.....	\$ 225.00
56 TO 60.....	\$ 200.00
61 TO 65.....	\$ 175.00
66 AND OVER.....	\$ 150.00

PLEASE NOTE:

- ★ PROOF OF AGE MUST BE SUBMITTED ON ALL APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ COPY OF FORM DD 214 MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR VIET-NAM ERA VETERANS.

\* MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \*

- I AM A VIET-NAM VETERAN / FEE: \$20.00 of 50.00 / Copy of DD 214 is Required
- I AM A NON-VIET-NAM VETERAN AND PLEASE ENROL ME AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF VVA / FEE: \$20.00 or 50.00
- RENEWAL of MEMBERSHIP / FEE: \$20.00 or \$50.00
- I Wish to Contribute and be kept informed  
(Enclosed is my Annual Contribution) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ADDRESS CHANGE (Indicate Chages Below)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

\* see note above

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE of BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Cheque or Money Order Payable to: V.V.A Chapter #49  
To: Membership Chair, V.V.A. Chapter #49 PO Box 224, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Questions?: Call the Chapter. Phone/Fax (914) 682-4949  
Meetings of the Viet-Nam Veterans of America, Chapter #49  
are held the first Thursday of each Month @ 7:30pm.

Please check current Newsletter for Location.



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