

Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
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All the POW's are not home yet!
Do you know?
Do you care?

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your dues are due now.

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Westchester
County
Chapter #49



Vietnam Veterans of America

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

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

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Bob Kennedy 669-5411
 Terry Keogh 428-9845
 Bob Miller 391-8723
 Ron Stout 739-1088

State Council Delegates: (6)

Dan Griffin
 Jim LaManna
 Al Singerman
 Al Zawiski
 Terry Keogh

Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Al Ramsey 377-6700
 Mt. Vernon: Wil Dubose 665-2319
 Carmel: Brennen Mahoney 845-225-2260

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

Phil Gans 845-356-6438

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

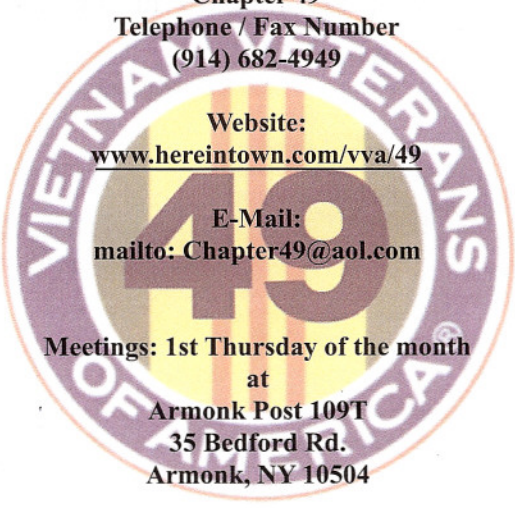
Please leave message

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

Website:
www.hereintown.com/vva/49

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

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month
at
Armonk Post 109T
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 9th at the County Center from 2:00 to 7:00 we will have a table set up; hoping to recruit some volunteers. This is called "A call to service" Become a volunteer and honor the memory of 9/11. There will be over 100 non-profits there to recruit some volunteers. We need volunteers for the Gift Shop and the Museum. So please stop by and help out at the table for a while. Please see the flyer inside this newsletter.

September 18th is our picnic/barbeque. It starts at 12:00 and will be held at the pavilion at the Armonk American Legion. We will have hotdogs, hamburgers, clams, corn, salads, sausage & peppers and lots more! The chapter will also provide soda; if you want beer or liquor you will have to buy it inside the Legion. If you want to, please bring something to add to the food. We all had a great time last year and we hope to have even more come to enjoy the Day. (I hope Marshal Clavel brings those great ribs that he brought last year). All Chapter members, families and friends are invited. Also please see attached flyer.

**Take care of yourselves and each other.
Dan Griffin**

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

William Rod (Life Member) from Pleasantville

Peter Stone from White Plains

Jerry Orser (Life Member) from Cortlandt Manor

A Call to Service

Become a volunteer and honor the memory of 9/11

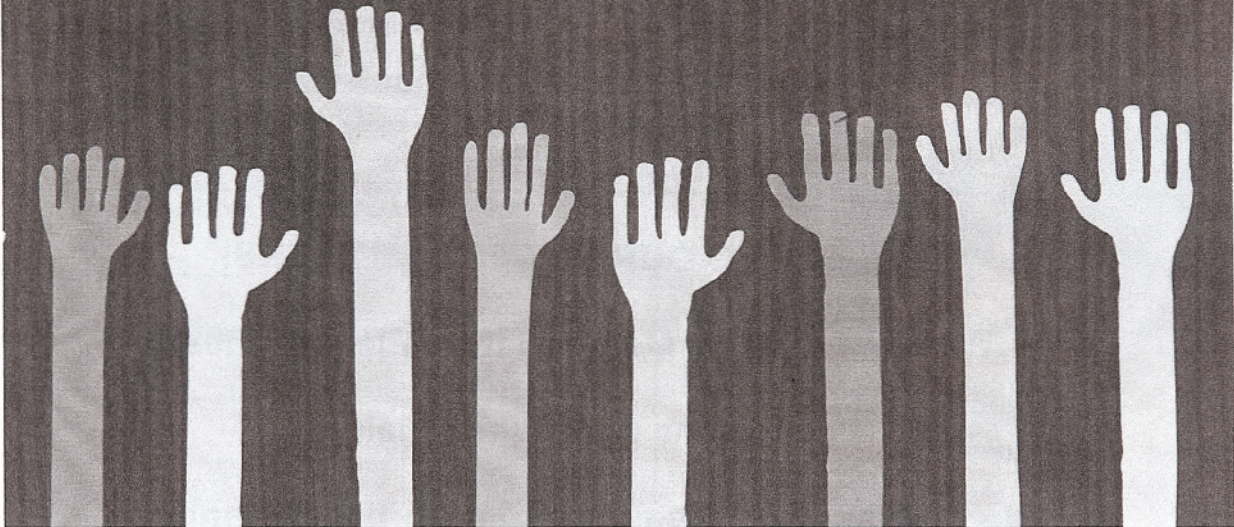
FREE event and parking

Westchester County and The Volunteer Center of United Way are looking for people who would like to give back to their communities and at the same time commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Let us know if you are coming and which activities you want to be part of by visiting www.volunteer-center.org or by calling (914) 948-4452.

- **Connect** with over 100 non-profit organizations that need you.
- **Give** blood to help save a life.
- **Participate** in activities to support our men and women in uniform.
- **Bring** non-perishable/canned food for the Montrose VA Food Pantry.

Friday, Sept. 9, 2011, 2 – 7:00 PM
County Center • 198 Central Avenue, White Plains



Westchester
gov.com

Robert P. Astorino, Westchester County Executive
County Board of Legislators

SERVE and LEARN

This program is sponsored by Westchester County and The Volunteer Center of United Way, with the support of Chase Bank, Con Edison, Key Bank and The Rollins Agency.



Subj: **Vietnam Veterans of America opposes cut to veterans benefits**
Date: 7/27/2011 12:06:44 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: govtrelations@vva.org
To: chapter49@aol.com

News Flash



Vietnam Veterans of America opposes cut to veterans benefits

**VIETNAM VETERANS
OF AMERICA**

July 26, 2011

**No. 11-17
Contact:
Mokie Pratt Porter
301-585-4000, Ext.
146**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Budget Cuts Must Not Impact Veterans Programs

(Washington, D.C.) – Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) was one of the key veterans and military organizations present at a briefing at the White House late Tuesday regarding the potential impacts if the nation defaults on its loans on August 2. The debt ceiling must be raised by next Tuesday to prevent the United States from defaulting on its obligations. While senior Presidential advisors neither endorsed nor opposed any of the competing plans put forth by Democrats and Republicans, they did stress the President's continuing strong commitment to active-duty military, veterans, and our families.

"VVA maintains, and we hope that Democrat and Republican agree, that caring for veterans is part of the continuing cost of the national defense," said John Rowan, VVA National President. "The President and his advisors seem to understand this. Some in Congress, however, seem less conscious of the sacrifices by current military and by veterans in defense of our nation. There needs to be shared sacrifice. It is not right for millionaires who never served to keep their tax breaks, while disabled veterans' compensation payments are delayed or reduced.

"We want to make it clear," Rowan said, "that VVA will oppose any proposal that cuts benefits to veterans, our dependents, or our survivors. These benefits are earned, earned by service, earned by sacrifice, earned by blood spilled from WWII through the current conflicts. Similarly, we will oppose any cuts to already inadequate compensation for active-duty service members and their families, who continue to sacrifice so much.

"VVA is a non-partisan organization, and our members follow all political persuasions," Rowan said. "However, the ill-advised and serious attempt in the Senate last week to curtail benefits to Vietnam veterans who are ill as a result of exposure to Agent Orange should have convinced all of us that veterans' benefits are in jeopardy.

"We fought for the ideals of America, for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all who come to our shores. We fight, mostly, for our buddies next to us. We didn't leave them behind on the field of battle, and we won't leave them behind here at home. And neither should our elected officials in the corridors of Congress."

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Vietnam Veterans of America is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans' service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and our families. VVA's founding principle is, "Never again will one generation

Thursday, July 28, 2011 AOL: Chapter49

VIETNAM VETERANS

JOIN US IN NEW YORK ON VETERANS DAY!



The United War Veterans Council invites all VVA Chapters and Vietnam Veterans to join us in New York City with their families and friends this Veterans Day!

In addition to marking the 10th Anniversary of 9/11, the 2011 New York City Veterans Day Parade will honor the **50th Anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam War**, in partnership with the Department of Defense's 50th Anniversary Commission.

This Veterans Day weekend will also feature the Traveling Wall, Medal of Honor recipients from Vietnam, and Vietnam-era vehicles and re-enactors.

To learn how you can join us, contact our Vietnam veterans coordinator Bob Skibar (Vietnam Veteran, U.S. Navy) at 212.693.1476 or rskibar.uwvc@gmail.com.

NEW YORK CITY VETERANS DAY PARADE



NOVEMBER 11, 2011 - TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11



Mayor's Office of
Veterans Affairs



Apply today, or learn how you can join us as a partner or volunteer!

1.855.VETSDAY | www.vetsday.org





PICNIC



CHAPTER PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 18TH 12:00 UNTILL ?

ARMONK AMERICAN LEGION PAVILION

CHAPTER WILL FURNISH HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS,
CORN, AND SODA

PLEASE BRING SALADS AND CONDIMENTS

THIS PICNIC IS FOR US AND OUR FAMILIES

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ARE ATTENDING

SO CALL THE CHAPTER OFFICE 914-682-4949

BY SEPTEMBER 5th

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE

Soldier Missing from Vietnam War Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Chief Warrant Officer George A. Howes, of Knox , Ind. , will be buried Aug. 5 in Arlington National Cemetery . On Jan. 10, 1970, Howes and three aircrew members were returning to their base at Chu Lai, South Vietnam aboard a UH-1C Huey helicopter. Due to bad weather, their helicopter went down over Quang Nam Province , Socialist Republic of Vietnam (S.R.V.). A search was initiated for the crew, but no sign of the helicopter or crew was spotted.

In 1989, the S.R.V. gave to U.S. specialists 25 boxes that reportedly contained the remains of U.S. servicemen related to this incident. Later that year, additional remains and a military identification tag from one of the other missing servicemen were obtained from a Vietnamese refugee.

Between 1993 and 1999, joint U.S./S.R.V. teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), conducted three investigations in Ho Chi Minh City and two investigations in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province (formerly Quang Nam Province). A Vietnamese citizen in Ho Chi Minh City turned over a military identification tag bearing Howes' name and told the team he knew where the remains of as many as nine American servicemen were buried. He agreed to lead the team to the burial site. In 1994, the team excavated the site and recovered a metal box and several bags containing human remains. In 2006, the remains of three of the four men were identified and buried. No remains could be attributed to Howes given the technology of the time. In 2008, given advances in DNA technology, the remains were reanalyzed.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used dental comparisons and mitochondrial DNA – which matched that of Howes' sister and brother—in the identification of the remains.

> No More Agent Orange Claims

>

> (Washington, D.C.) – “Sooner or later, some senator or congressman was going to target benefits earned by veterans,” said John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). “It seems that Senator Tom Coburn (R-Oklahoma) is the one who has taken aim and fired.”

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> Senator Coburn, a medical doctor with a well-earned reputation as a fiscal conservative, has offered an amendment to H.R. 2055, the Military Construction and Veterans’ Affairs and related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012. His amendment would require proof of a “causal relationship” rather than a “positive association” of certain illnesses to Agent Orange exposure. “If enacted, this measure will significantly restrict Agent Orange benefits and care. VVA vigorously opposes this amendment,” Rowan said

>

> “This measure is wrong-headed. It is out of touch with science – and with the intent of the Agent Orange Act of 1991. It attempts to undo two decades of policy. Currently, veterans are presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange if they served ‘boots-on-the-ground’ in Vietnam and, in some instances, along the demilitarized zone in Korea,” Rowan said. “If they develop certain maladies that the VA Secretary has determined, on the basis of sound scientific and epidemiological research, that a positive association exists between the exposure and the occurrence of the disease, they are entitled to health-care and disability compensation.

>

> “Congress, in part, settled on this mechanism because it was nearly impossible for Vietnam veterans to prove that their exposure to Agent Orange caused their health conditions, many of which are ultimately fatal,” Rowan said. “Requiring a causal relationship, which is well nigh impossible to demonstrate, would essentially mean that benefits due to Agent Orange exposure would be out of reach for Vietnam veterans.”

>

> “If the senator feels that Agent Orange benefits and needed medical care ought to be stripped from Vietnam veterans and their families, then he should introduce a bill and arrange to hold a hearing,” Rowan said. “But there has been no bill, and no hearing. And if his colleagues really do care about the health of Vietnam veterans, they ought to stand with Vietnam Veterans of America, with all Vietnam veterans and our families, and with most of our colleagues in other Veterans Service Organizations. We call on a bipartisan majority of Senators to reject the ill-advised Coburn amendment out of hand.”

>

September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Chapter 49 Picnic 12:00 Armonk Legion	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Gold star Mothers at the Dam Valhalla 3:00	26	27 Pizza party FDR stress Unit 15CD 5:00	28	29	30	

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Pizza party FDR Stress Unit 15CD 5:00	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween					



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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