

Vietnam Veterans of America



*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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Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
Pleasantville, New York 10570
Notice: Address Service Requested

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Chapter Officers:

President: Robert Jordan.....733-5672
Vice President: Al Zawiski428-9352
Secretary: Jim LaManna793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman930-7433

Board of Directors: (7)

Peter Brown.....273-4135
Blaise Bruno.....203-661-6622
Carl DiLiberto.....462-0782
Chester Edwards.....937-4443
Terry Keogh.....428-9845
Jim McCauley.....238-3514
William Rod.....406-5858

State Council Delegates: (7)

Edward Fox	Barney Puleo
Dan Griffin	Al Singerman
Terry Keogh	Al Zawiski
Jim LaManna	

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Dan Morea.....377-6700
Carmel: Karl Rohde.....845-808-1620

Vet Center:682-6250

White Plains Clinic 421-1951
FDR Montrose Hospital..... 737-4400

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Dan Griffin 995-2145/2146

Committees:

Membership	Phil Wanderman..... 963-3034
Chaplain	Al Zawiski.....428-9352
Communications Director	Jerry Morano..... 937-8984
POW/ MIA	Dan Griffin..... 682-4949
Member Products	Jim LaManna.....793-6077
Color Guard	Rich Palazzo.....845-297-1513
Scholarship	Bob Miller.....391-8723

WESTCHESTER COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

HOURS:

11:00-3:30

SUMMER DAYS WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY

WINTER DAYS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

AND HOLIDAYS

864-7263

Chapter 49

Telephone / Fax Number
(914) 682-4949

Website:

www.vietnamvets49.org

E-Mail:

Mail to: Chapter49@aol.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

7:30

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

Our membership has been growing; we are now the 21st largest Chapter out of over 500! In every issue of our newsletter there is an application to join; please whenever you meet a Vietnam Vet, invite him or her to join.

Blue water Navy news; the Veterans Administration has decided not to appeal the Court's decision to award claims for the diseases that are caused by exposure to Agent Orange. If you served in the South China Sea and have one of the diseases listed below, you need to submit a claim. Or if you were denied a claim in the past, we will appeal that decision; call me at my office.

List of diseases:

Ischemic heart disease, respiratory cancers, prostate cancer, multiple myeloma, hodgkin's disease, non-hodgkin's lymphoma, parkinson's disease, type II diabetes, peripheral neuropathy, Al Amyloidosis, chronic B-cell leukemia, chloracne, soft tissue carcomas and porphyria cutanea tarda

Please check the calendars in this newsletter for upcoming events.

Take care of yourself and each other

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our newest members

**David DeCinto from Bronxville
Alan Richman from Mamaroneck
Kenneth Wales from Yonkers
Vincent Caporale from Yorktown Heights
James Engberg from Mount Vernon
Gary Weintraub from Ossining
Edward O'Neill from Bronxville
James Sardone from Harrison
Dale Cusack from Carmel
Lawrence DeFalco from White Plains
Albert Laughlin from Shrub Oak
Charles Shay from Mahopac**

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans AffairsNew York/New Jersey VA Health Care Network
VA Hudson Valley Health Care System2094 Albany Post Rd. | Montrose, NY 10548
914-737-440041 Castle Point Road | Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
845-831-2000www.hudsonvalley.va.gov

Dear Veteran,

This letter is to inform you that VA Hudson Valley Health Care System (VA HVHCS) will permanently change its Montrose Urgent Care Clinic operating hours beginning April 1, 2019. The new clinic hours will be **8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays.**

This change supports the difference between the VA HVHCS Montrose Urgent Care Clinic and a full Emergency Department. It will ensure Veterans access the right level of care at the right time and eliminate any delay in care for critical medical issues.

The level of care at any Urgent Care clinic is different than that available at an emergency room. The Montrose Urgent Care Clinic offers care for such illnesses as cold and flu symptoms, high/low blood pressure, high/low blood sugar, and nausea. Emergency rooms, in contrast, are for when you need fast care for life or limb-threatening illnesses and injuries. Examples include shortness of breath, head injury, broken bones, chest pain or pressure, to name a few.

For routine office visits and medication requests or refills, please continue to seek treatment from your Primary Care Provider. If you have a condition that cannot wait for a Primary Care appointment, please call the **24/7 Nurse Triage Service at 1-800-877-6976.**

If you experience life-threatening symptoms, you are urged to call **9-1-1** or go to the nearest emergency room for care.

When you arrive at an emergency room, please notify the staff that you are a Veteran. Our Community Care office can be reached at 845-838-7656, 24 hours a day. This does not guarantee any type of payment; this will ensure the care is considered for payment. We need to determine if the care received was an emergency and was not available at the VA. These determinations are made after care is given. Please keep in mind that all decisions by VA regarding coverage and payment of emergency room care are based on federal law, which directs the VA in how it pays for emergency room care.

Thank you for your service to our country. We will continue to do all we can to ensure the highest quality, timely care for our nation's heroes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margaret B. Caplan".
Margaret B. Caplan
Medical Center Director



2019 VVA CHAPTER 49 ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT: Bob Jordan
VICE PRESIDENT: Al Zawiski_
SECRETARY: Jim Lamanna
TREASURER: Al Singerman

BOARD of DIRECTORS (7)

Peter Brown, Blaise Bruno, Carl DiLiberto, Chester Edwards, Terry Keogh, Jim McCauley, Bill Rod

STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES: (7) (only on even years)

New York State Senator Peter Harckham

invites you to join our
Veterans Advisory Council

Please join
Senator Harckham
to discuss the
issues affecting the
veteran community
throughout
New York State.

Meetings and
events will be held
throughout the year.

For more information on the

Veterans Advisory Council

or to RSVP for the next meeting please call

(845) 225-3025 or email Harckham@nysenate.gov.



REBOOTCAMP



Disabled and in debt
Vets receiving disability benefits lack some of the bankruptcy protections that disabled civilians receive.

NEW EFFORT WOULD PROTECT BANKRUPT VETS FROM LOSING THEIR DISABILITY BENEFITS

By Joshua Axelrod
jaxelrod@mco.com

Two senators have introduced a bill designed to shield veterans' disability benefits from debt collectors.

When a disabled vet declares bankruptcy currently, the law allows debtors to count that veteran's disability benefits as disposable income, allowing them to seize the benefits.

Yet Social Security disability benefits are exempted by law from being lumped into a person's disposable income in bankruptcy filings, and disability benefits in any form aren't taxable and therefore generally not considered disposable income.

The Honoring American Veterans in Extreme Need (HAVEN) Act seeks to create the same immunity in bankruptcy cases for benefits provided by the VA and Department of Defense to disabled veterans and their surviving spouses.

Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., and Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, introduced the bill, which has

already been endorsed by 10 Republican and 10 Democratic senators. It has also earned the support of organizations like the American Legion, Disabled Veterans of America and the American Bankruptcy Institute, among others.

"Right now, veterans and their families are forced to dip into their disability-related benefits to pay off bankruptcy creditors," said Baldwin during an unveiling event for HAVEN in her Senate office. "And that's not right. This reform will protect veterans' disability benefits when they fall on hard times."

Supporters of the legislation say it's unfair that veterans may be forced to give up their disability benefits when declaring bankruptcy, while the general population receiving similar benefits through Social Security does not.

"The effect is to shove veterans out of the protections that every other disabled American gets," said

Holly Petraeus, a HAVEN supporter and former assistant director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. "We knew that was not right and

**"DISABILITY
COMPENSATION ...
IS THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN BEING
ABLE TO PROVIDE
THE NECESSITIES
FOR THEIR FAMILY
AND NOT."**

— Shane Liermann,
Disabled American Veterans

GETTY IMAGES

PGA Hope Golf Program

This is a program for all veterans, combat or non-combat, with a valid Veterans ID card. It is not for current veteran employees@ the Hudson Valley VA. It is sponsored by the Metropolitan PGA and co-facilitated by undersigned from the Montrose VA . Undersigned is the contact person for participation in the program. There is no cost to participate in the program. The program is held two times/year---1 in the spring and 1 in the fall. It is held at the West Point golf course in West Point with a graduation event at a location to be rotated each year between Hudson Valley, Bronx and Long Island. The maximum # of participants is 36. It is broken down as follows: 24 outpatient vets and 12 residential vets. Attendance is first come, first served with an alternate list each session if signed up vets cannot attend. At that time, the alternate list will be activated.

All participants are expected to attend all lesson sessions (5) and the graduation-where awards and clubs are given if vet has attended all 5 lesson sessions.

Outpatient vets are expected to get themselves to West Point for the sessions and to the graduation location. Residential vets will be transported to West Point and the graduation location as they live on the Montrose grounds.

Participation in the lessons is permitted one time. Graduates of the lessons will receive a card that will get them discounts/free access to select local golf courses. Graduates are invited to play golf during any of the times when lessons are occurring @ West Point. Graduates must coordinate their play with the PGA personnel as reservations must be made ahead of time. Failure to reserve could lead to not being able to get course access.

Feel free to contact Amy Hahn-Recreation Therapist @ [914-737-4400 x3747](tel:914-737-4400) or Amy.hahn@va.gov for any information about the program.

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 pizza Party FDR Stress unit 5:00 pm	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 meeting Board 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Honor Flight
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18 Plant sale Lasdon park 9::00
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 PTSD unit barbeque 1:00
26 Playland 11:00 Watchfire 6:00	27 parade Yorktown 11:00 Lasdon 2:00	28	29	30		

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <hr/> 30	24	25 pizza Party FDR Stress unit 5:00 pm	26	27	28	29

JULY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 pizza party FDR Stress unit 5:00 pm	25	26	27
28 <hr/>	29	30	31			



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WE NEED YOU

IN THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



MEMBERSHIP TYPES and ELIGIBILITY

Individual Membership is open to any Vietnam-era Veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. armed forces between January 1, 1959 and May 7, 1975.

Associate Membership in the VVA is open to all who share our concerns – both men and women, friends, supporters, and families – Veteran or not.

Life Membership / Associate Life Membership is available to all who wish to demonstrate a greater commitment to the ideals and work of the V.V.A. (Economically a great deal!)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

check one

Life Membership - \$50.00

_____ Vietnam-era Veteran Application:
Individual Membership
(must provide a copy of applicant's DD-214)

_____ Non-Vietnam-era Veteran Application:
Associate Membership

Life Membership - \$50.00

_____ Non-Member Financial Contribution: \$ _____

_____ Report of Address Change:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please make checks payable to: V.V.A. Chapter #49

Send application and check to:

Membership Chair, V.V.A. Chapter #49 PO Box 224, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Questions? Call the Chapter: Phone/Fax (914) 682-4949

or e-mail: Chapter49@aol.com

www.VietnamVets49.org



Chapter #49 meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at:
The Armonk American Legion Hall • 35 Bedford Rd. Armonk, NY 10504
Dinner at 6:30 pm / Meeting at 7:30 pm

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**SAILORS - JOIN NOW
CONTACT**

MATTHEW J. COFFEY
Capt. USNR- Ret.

AUSN Regional President - Mid-Atlantic Region

16 N. Broadway White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 997-7663 ★ (914) 584-5741 Mobile
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