

Vietnam Veterans of America

CHAPTER 49 • Westchester County



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



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

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Chapter Officers:

President: Robert Jordan.....733-5672
Vice President: Chester Edwards.....937-4443
Secretary: Jim LaManna793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman930-7433

Board of Directors: (7)

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Edward Fox.....203-637-3705
Carl DiLiberto.....462-0782
Terry Keogh.....428-9845
Jim McCauley.....238-3514
William Rod.....406-5858
Al Zawiski.....428-9352

State Council Delegates: (8)

Edward Fox	Joe Manna
Dan Griffin	Jerry Morano
Terry Keogh	Al Singerman
Jim LaManna	Al Zawiski

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: 377-6700
Carmel: 845-808-1620

Vet Center:682-6250

White Plains Clinic 718-741-4300
FDR Montrose Hospital..... 737-4400

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Dan Griffin 813-5049

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

We would love to have all of you attend our meetings; held once a Month on the first Thursday of the Month; if we need to change the date, I will inform you. Dinner is at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7:30. Our meetings are also on Zoom, to connect by computer go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84554514740>. Or you can call in by phone at 1-929-436-2866, use meeting ID: 845 5451 4740.

Good news: after my complaining, the travel reimbursements at Montrose VA went back to the old way. (Fill out a voucher and place it in the black box). But the VA is still charging a deductible, the State and Federal government has never charged a deductible, only us veterans must pay! And State, Federal govt plus private sector pays \$.58.5 cents a mile. But the VA only pays 38.5 cents a mile. So, call, write or email your Congressmen and Senators to complain about this.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is the list of diseases that are caused by exposure to Agent Orange. If you have been diagnosed with any of these diseases call me at: 914-813-5049. I will submit a claim to the VA for you, also if you have hearing loss and ringing in your ears in will submit a claim for you.

**Live simply
Love Generously
Care Deeply
Speak Kindly**

Take care of yourself and each other.

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our newest members.

**Richard Cassolino
Thomas Forshey
Anthony Giudice
Douglas Gorton
Robert Hancock
John Lemke
John MaGuire
Edward Murray**



SAVE THE DATE

LUNCH *of* HONOR

Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 1pm – 4pm



888 Resorts World Dr. | Monticello, NY 12701

\$65 per person | **\$55** per active duty/retired military

Enjoy a sit-down lunch including entertainment by the Big Band Sound Orchestra.

Free for HVHF Veteran Alumni

[See Back for Sponsorship Opportunities]



P.O. Box 375 • Walden, NY 12586 • 845-391-0076 • hvhonorflight.com

Sponsorship Packages

2023

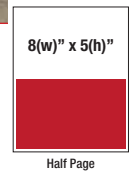
LUNCH OF HONOR



\$5,000

LIEUTENANT GENERAL

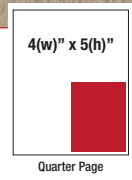
- includes 8 seats at event
- logo displayed at event
- 1/2 page ad in digital/print yearbook



\$2,500

MAJOR GENERAL

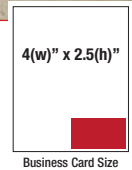
- includes 6 seats at event
- logo displayed at event
- 1/4 page ad in digital/print yearbook



\$1,000

BRIGADIER GENERAL

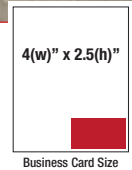
- includes 4 seats at event
- logo displayed at event
- business card ad in digital/print yearbook



\$500

COLONEL

- includes 2 seats at event
- logo displayed at event
- business card ad in digital/print yearbook



For questions regarding the event and sponsorships, or to submit your advertisement, please email us at hvhonorflight.lunchofthonor@gmail.com. All artwork due by November 10.



Yearbook Advertising

- Full page - \$1,000
- Half page - \$750
- Quarter page - \$500
- Business card - \$250
- In Honor/Memory of - \$250

- will include photo, name, rank, branch, war

Please submit camera-ready journal ads to:
hvhonorflight.lunchofthonor@gmail.com

Questions? Call 845-391-0076

All artwork due by November 10.



All donations help us achieve our mission of ensuring that every Hudson Valley veteran has the opportunity to experience the "Flight of a Lifetime".



Platinum Sponsor

Just Sayin': Vietnam vets group proud of its work

August 11, 2023

When veterans came trickling home from Vietnam, unlike their predecessors from World War II and Korea, they did not get a parade or a welcome back. It got worse as the war continued and apathy was replaced by animosity, and these veterans were called “baby killers.”

This was made worse by many earlier veterans’ disdain for their service because most Vietnam vets were required to serve only one year in the combat zone. Ironically, the actual time in combat in one year was often more than some World War II veterans served.

The Vietnam veterans’ life back home was further complicated by high unemployment, mental health issues — later identified as post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD — and cutbacks in the G.I. program that provided so many prior veterans with benefits, including education and housing.

Given these problems and the lack of assistance from their predecessors, Vietnam veterans organized in 1978 as the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). After creating U.S. chapters, they gathered in a convention in 1983 to establish a national organization with a constitution, officers and membership criteria.

The past 40 years, VVA has tried changing benefits provided to vets. This week, we commemorated our 40th anniversary with a four-day convention in Orlando, Florida, that ends Saturday night.

In 1983, one keynote speaker, former Rep. David Bonior (D-Mich.), drew a strong response from delegates to his phrase that soon became our motto: “Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.” We’ve worked hard to live up to that motto, mostly by working with Congress and the Veterans Affairs bureaucracy.

Our best achievements include getting society to understand and provide assistance for PTSD and creating the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans, providing a way to get justice for those applying for benefits and reinstating generous education packages similar to the ones for World War II veterans and 9/11 first responders.

The most important change, however, was getting Congress and the VA to accept that Vietnam veterans and those who followed have been severely afflicted by exposure to toxic substances such as Agent Orange and those in burn pits.

As we came together this year and begin to fade away, the VVA can be proud of its accomplishments and know that we have lived up to our motto. Hopefully, the men and women who have followed us will continue our work.

— John Rowan, Middle Village, Queens

The writer, a U.S. linguist in Vietnam in 1967, was VVA CEO and president from 2005-2021.



Vietnam Veterans of America at its 40th anniversary convention this week in Orlando, Florida. Ned Foote, with blue lanyard, is president of the NYS Council. Behind him, center, is former CEO John Rowan. Credit: Ken Williamson

Agent Orange Caused Diseases

- **AL Amyloidosis**
A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs
- **Bladder Cancer**
A type of cancer that affects the bladder where urine is stored before it leaves the body
- **Chronic B-cell Leukemias**
A type of cancer which affects white blood cells. This includes all chronic B-cell leukemias, including, but not limited to, hairy-cell leukemias and chronic lymphocytic leukemia.
- **Chloracne (or similar acneform disease)**
A skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.
- **Diabetes Mellitus Type 2**
A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin
- **Hypertension**
- **Hodgkin's Disease**
A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia
- **Hypothyroidism**
A condition that causes the thyroid gland to not produce enough of certain important hormones
- **Ischemic Heart Disease**
A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain
- **Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)**
- **Multiple Myeloma**
A cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow
- **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**
A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue
- **Parkinsonism**
Any condition that causes a combination of abnormal movements. These include slow movements, trouble speaking, stiff muscles, or tremors.
- **Parkinson's Disease**
A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement
- **Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset**
A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of herbicide exposure.
- **Porphyria Cutanea Tarda**
A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.
- **Prostate Cancer**
Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men
- **Respiratory Cancers (includes lung cancer)**
Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus
- **Soft Tissue Sarcomas (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma)**
A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues



National Purple Heart Honor Mission

The National Purple Heart Honor Mission is an approved 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, which supports a variety of programs to promote the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, pay tribute to our Purple Heart Recipients, and educate all Americans about our combat-wounded veterans to ensure those who sacrificed for freedom are never forgotten.

National Purple Heart Honor Mission Hosts
Patriot Project Mission #3

Monday, September 18, 2023, 10:30 am through Friday, September 22, 2023, 11:30 am.

Often described by honorees as the “trip of a lifetime,” one Purple Heart recipient and an escort of their choosing from each state will receive an all-expenses-paid trip filled with special tributes, tours and ceremonies honoring their service and sacrifice.

The four-day Patriot Project Mission will feature visits to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; historic Washington’s Headquarters, where the Badge of Military Merit originated in 1782; the Statue of Liberty; and a private tour of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor – the museum dedicated to our nation’s combat wounded and killed in action.

Learn more at www.purpleheartmission.org/patriot-project.

We need your help!

- On **Monday, 9/18/23** Recipients will be arriving. We need drivers to pick them up at JFK, LaGuardia and Newark and bring them to the Hampton Inn – 1 Crossroads Ct, Newburgh NY.
- On **Thursday, 9/21/23** we need a motorcycle escort from West Point to the Armory, 21 S. William Street Newburgh, NY. Time and rally point TBA
- On **Friday, 9/22/23** Recipients will need rides back to the airports from Hampton Inn – 1 Crossroads Ct, Newburgh NY.

WE NEED TO PACK THE ARMORY TO WELCOME THESE HEROES TO THE HUDSON VALLEY

If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Amy at 845-564-0227.

www.purpleheartmission.org

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	8	9 Chapter BBQ 12:00
10	11	12	13	14	15 POW/MIA Recognition Day	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Goldstar Mother's Day	25	26	27	28	29	30 State Council meeting

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings	2	3	4	5 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 Dinner 7:30 meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				

November 2023

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

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Candlelight Vigil	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Xmas Eve _____ 31 New Years Eve	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WE NEED YOU

IN THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



MEMBERSHIP TYPES and ELIGIBILITY

Life 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.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

check one

- _____ Vietnam-era Veteran Application: Life Membership - \$50.00
(must provide a copy of applicant's DD-214)
- _____ Non-Vietnam-era Veteran Application: 1 year -\$20.00, 3 years-\$50.00
 Associate Membership Life Membership
 under 59-\$175.00, 60 and over-\$100.00
- _____ 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**

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Capt. USNR- Ret.

AUSN Regional President - Mid-Atlantic Region

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