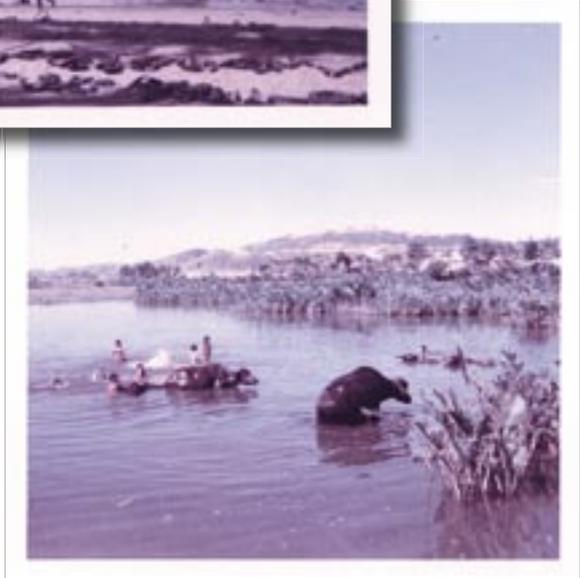




# BETWEEN THE LINES

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.,  
Chapter 20

August 2006  
Issue 91



Summer 1968



PG. 12

Purple Heart

PG. 14

Military Spouse Talk Radio



TOGETHER THEN... TOGETHER NOW

## President's Message

Ken Moore

Well, as always the month has been busy, doing claims for veterans and the motorcycle run that resulted in money for the Chapter's 25 year banquet in the amount of \$1800. Still looking for help sorting food and cleaning up the store room at the chapter; if interested, call me, please. At the board meeting this month we approved a motion to allow the committee of the 25th anniversary to lower the ticket cost for members to \$10.00; please stay tuned for more to come from the committee. The board also approved \$5000 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park for the 10th anniversary as the major sponsor of the event. At this writing we will be having our "Veterans Health Outreach" at the Greece Town mall on July 22. This event, one of, I hope, many, will have VVA membership info, health care issues by the VA

and Chapter 20, benefits by Pat Pudetti and myself, diorama by Pete and information from Dr. Peter Ziarnowski on PTSD. The committee and I hope to inform lots of veterans of the health and compensation that is due to them. I'm still looking for someone to handle public affairs and community service; pays nothing but a great time. We are also looking for help in other committees like social events. Let's all chip in and help the chapter. Till next time remember "together then together now."

Ken Moore  
President

Together then together now

Don't miss  
these  
upcoming  
meetings!

Please come and support your Chapter!

All meetings held at the Ira Jacobson  
Post unless otherwise noted.

### Membership Meetings

2nd Thursday of the month  
beginning at 7:30 p.m.

No August meeting  
September 14th  
October 12th  
November 9th  
No December meeting

August 26, Marching Unit Picnic  
September 9, 7:30pm, Candlelight Vigil  
September 30, Silver Anniversary Celebration

## Co-Workers Support a Soldier's Family

Under the headline, "Co-workers show compassion," the June 26, 2006 *Democrat and Chronicle* ran a story about how the fellow employees of an injured soldier's father are helping make it possible for him to spend time with his son as he recuperates.

According to the story, after Steven Hackett's son, Sgt. Ryan Hackett, was wounded by an improvised explosive device while patrolling near Baghdad, Hackett wanted to spend time with his son at

Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. In order to make it possible, his co-workers at High Falls Brewing Co. raised more than \$900 for travel expenses and donated more than nine weeks of their personal and vacation time. And additional brewery employees are ready to give Hackett more time off if needed.

On July 13, the *Democrat and Chronicle* printed a letter from Chapter 20 president Ken Moore responding to the story. On behalf of Chapter 20, Moore extended thanks to the High Falls Brewing Co. and its employees for showing support of our nation's fighting

men and women.

"Your support of your employee and his son, Ryan Hackett, wounded in Iraq, shows a great amount of patriotism and dedication to your employees," Moore wrote.

Moore quoted the founding principle of Vietnam Veterans of America, "never again shall one generation of veterans forget another." "Your actions support that principle and give us hope that everyone else will also remember them," Moore wrote.

"As veterans we salute you and your employees and thank you for your support of the Hackett family."

## About the Cover

Looking at some photos from another summer 38 years ago reminded me that there is more to my memories of Vietnam than war. Our cover this month presents some pictures of the country and the people.

Bruce McDaniel, editor

### Membership Meeting Attendance July 13, 2006

Ken Moore,  
Geno Lenyk,  
Joan & Chuck Macaluso,  
Larry Schulman,  
Dan Corona,  
Tom & Kathy Gleason,  
Dave Hooker,  
Ralph Pascale,  
Ray Melens,  
Gail Bolona-Melens,  
Bob & Linda DeMitty,  
Joe Harkness,  
Lou Messenger,  
Dick Oleksyn,  
Tom Puff,  
Steve Mros,  
Richard Forsey,  
Joe Peck,  
Edwin Sirls,  
Ron & Wendy Trovato,  
Rusty Kirtz,  
Pat Pudetti,  
David Muley,  
Dick D'Imperio,  
Bruce VanApeldoorn & son,  
John Hrankowski,  
Mike Sanfilippo,  
Bruce McDaniel,  
Cecil Young,  
Mike Rapachietta,  
John Farley Jr.

We Thank You for Attending Board of Directors

## We Did It Again!

As this issue was being prepared, I received word that, once again, *Between the Lines* has won the VVA Newsletter of the Year award for chapters of 200 or more members. This award is a fitting recognition of the many people who play a part in making the BTL what it is: the officers and committee chairs who write informative reports month after month; Pete Galle, who provides our "Virtual Vet" features; people like Dave Hooker, Joanne Peck and others who keep us supplied with photographs of Chapter events; and others who, from time to time, submit items or provide information which is of interest to our readers. Special mention should be made of Kathy Gleason, who during the past year has helped with editing and checking the proofs, and who puts the issues on the Chapter website. And we must not forget the people at AdNet who do layout, printing, and preparing the issues for mailing;

those who support the BTL through paid advertising; and Barb DiVico, who maintains the mailing list and does other things for the BTL which involve the Chapter office. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize; there are so many who have contributed in one way or another. The BTL is successful because it has the support of the entire Chapter.

I also want to thank New York State Council President Ned Foote for writing a letter of support for *Between the Lines* on very short notice.

This award is especially encouraging to me because over the past year we have been attempting to maintain the quality of the publication while significantly reducing costs.

So, my thanks to all of you who, in many different ways, have contributed to the success of *Between the Lines*.

Bruce McDaniel, editor

I'm proud to announce to all of you that our State Newspaper, Interchange, has won State paper of the year in Tucson. Francisco deserves all the praise for his efforts. He is finally recognized for the job he does and I hope you all send him your thanks. Also Chapter 20, Rochester has once again captured Newsletter of the year. They do a great job up there. Congratulations to 20 and the Interchange.

Ned D. Foote  
President  
New York State Council  
Vietnam Veterans of America

## VVA Chapter 20 2006 Parade Schedule

DAY	DATE	PARADE	START	FORMATION
Fri	Aug 4	Hamlin Firemen's	7:00 pm	On Rt. 19 (usually at VFW)
Sat	Aug 5	Phelps Sauerkraut	2:00 pm	Off Rt. 96 in Phelps
Fri	Aug 18	Wayne County Firemen's	7:00 pm	Area of Rt. 31 & Canal St.

NOTE: Listed are start times. Please be at formation approximately 45 minutes prior to the start time listed.

## Marching Unit

### RAY MELENS, COMMANDER

Here it is August already. This is the last month of the 2006 parade season. The Unit has a few parades to attend this month. We have the Hamlin Firemen's, the Wayne County Firemen's, and the Phelps Sauerkraut Parade. I am glad to report that as of this writing, our parade attendance numbers are up again for this year. I just hope that I haven't jinxed us by saying that.

At the conclusion of this year's parade season, the Marching Unit will once again hold their annual picnic at Ira Jacobson. This picnic will take place rain or shine. We have indoor accommodations if it should rain. I ask that all members of the Unit please R.S.V.P. to me as soon as you read this, so I can start getting a count for the picnic. Hopefully this year's picnic will be even more fun than those in the past. There will be a committee working together this year to try and make sure that happens. The date of the picnic is on Saturday, August 26th. Hopefully many of you will be attending this year and the picnic is also open to the members' immediate families. So bring them along to join in the fun. Just remember to include any family members that will be attending when you turn in your count for the picnic.

As I stated in last month's report, members of the Honor Guard are busily preparing for the 10th Annual trip to Washington, DC for National POW/MIA Recognition Day in September. The weekend before we go there will be a candlelight vigil held at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park. Please see the POW/MIA report in this month's issue for further details.

As of this writing there are approximately 30 people planning on attending this year's services at the Wall and at Arlington National Cemetery. By the time we leave in September there may be even more to add to the list. This is the first year that we have had so many people planning on attending and going on the trip with us. There are three couples coming from Pennsylvania alone. They are members of the VVA Chapter that Marlin Plymette belongs to now. I have still had no response of any kind from any of the four elected officials that I invited to meet us at the Wall. It was over a month ago that I sent invitations to the offices of Senators Schumer and Clinton as well as Congress people Slaughter and Reynolds. I find this hard to believe. Isn't it an election year for some of these people?

The Honor Guard will not meet again until the October membership meeting. If any one is interested in joining the Honor Guard or the Marching Unit, just get in touch with me or any other member of the Unit and they will steer you to me and we'll get you set up. Until next month.....AT EASE!!!!!!

## POW-MIA

### Gail Bologna-Melens, Co-ordinator

I have been re-typing the list of POW-MIAs for our reading at the Candlelight Vigil on Saturday, September 9th, at 7:00 PM at the Overlook of the Memorial. This will be in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park.

I will need name readers and bell ringers for the Vigil. So, check your schedule and let me know if you are available. This is always a very well attended event and I expect that,

due to the anniversary, it will be even more so.

I was surprised to find that of the 1,805 names listed by the National League of POW-MIA Families quite a few were not American Servicemen. I am including them in the new list, but at the end in a group for Canada, United Kingdom, Philippines, Panama and the civilians from almost every state.

The THANK YOU letters are really getting out there. They are sent to houses and businesses that fly both the POW/MIA and American flag. But, I know there has to be more POW-MIA and American flags flying out there. Keep your eyes open and let me know the house number, street and town that it is in. In fact, Nick DeLeo works with someone who received one such letter and he was pleased to receive a thank you.

Don't forget to enter your name for the drawing of the POW/MIA and American flag at our membership meeting. The only stipulations are:

1. You must have a place to fly it — it does nothing for awareness being in a drawer — it must be flown.
2. Only people who have not been recipients in the past year are eligible — this gives others a chance.
3. Please, only one per household — whether you both are members or not.

The summer is going fast — so far I have only missed one parade and that was Holley. I had my appendix removed the day before (that's no excuse according to the Commander). Thanks to the Chapter for the beautiful flowers that arrived with well wishes. Thanks also to all my friends who sent cards and e-cards. I'm on the mend.

Put a POW/MIA window decal on your vehicle — they are available at membership meetings. Keep the POW/MIAs in your thoughts and prayers because if we don't RE-MEMBER who will?

**AVVA**  
**Kathy Gleason, Liaison**

It's been a hectic few months since the election as I attempt to learn the communication process and duties of this position. I've gotten to know many of you better and feel truly blessed to be in this extended family. One of the initiatives of our new regime is to focus on our extended family and bring everyone together as often as possible. It occurred to me that most of the time we get together it's for work and/or meetings. I've listened to many recall events of the past and discovered at the July membership meeting that there was substantial interest in bringing back the Halloween party so many remember. Watch the next BTL and website for more information on this — it should be great fun! Another event in the planning phase will be a combination euchre tournament/chili cookoff in February or March. If anyone wishes to help coordinate these events, please contact me.

I attended the last State Council meeting and met a number of other AVVA reps from around the State. After our brief meeting I sat in on the VVA State Council meeting and listened to others communicate the involvement of their chapters. Lots of great things are happening around the State. I intend to be contacting some of the other Upstate AVVA reps to see if perhaps we can work together on a project or two. Many hands make light work, right?

Things are not all fun, however. I learned just a week ago that National AVVA voted to increase the dues for our incarcerated AVVA members from the token \$1 per year to the same \$20 annually that everyone pays. Unfortunately, by the time this information was communicated it had already been passed by the Board. I have agreed to work with Ron Trovato and others to see how we can help those wishing to join or those who wish to continue their membership. If anyone has thoughts, please let me know.

I continue to work with the 25th Anniversary Committee and the

Health Outreach Committee as well to help the Chapter fulfill its commitment. As always, I invite anyone to contact me by phone (585-638-7805 or 585-978-1331) or email (kathy14470@msn.com) with ideas, thoughts, comments and feedback in general. See you soon!

**Government Information  
on the Internet**

The following U.S. Government Official Web Portal provides information on various topics, including information of interest to veterans and information on identity theft:

[www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov)

Thanks to Sue Oleksyn for informing us of this website.

**25th Anniversary Celebration Program Advertisements:**

Quarter Page Size: \$50.00      Half Page Size: \$75.00      Full Page Size: \$100.00

Please write below what you would like to say in your message! If you would like your logo included, please contact Nancy S. Switzer at 585-227-9830 (w), 585-737-2169 (cell) or in the evening at 585-247-2098 (h).

Quarter Page: \_\_\_\_\_      Half Page: \_\_\_\_\_      Full Page: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name/Company/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and your check to:  
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #20  
1199 East Main Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

*We sincerely thank you for your  
contribution to VVA Chapter #20*

## VETERANS INCARCERATED

Ron Trovato, Chair

We continue to receive *The Eagle Speaks* from Craig McLaren of Chapter 190 in Atmore, Alabama. I think the Veterans Incarcerated Committee at National could learn a thing or two about networking with other incarcerated chapters from him. Always good hearing from you guys and we appreciate all the info...

Things are also going well with the Vietnam Veterans Group at San Quentin. They have continued to have monthly general membership meetings and the group donated \$210 for phone cards for wounded American troops and donated 300 phone cards worth \$2000 through "Operation Mom" for our soldiers in Iraq. Their next food sale is tentatively scheduled for September and I want to thank Jeff Langnese for the group photo of the veterans at San Quentin.

Chapter 603 at the Groveland Correctional Facility has a new executive board and we thank new chapter president Wayne Cottrell for keeping in touch with us. They are trying to build up chapter membership there and they developed an informational letter for veterans coming into the facility. The chapter is selling mugs and water bottles to raise funds and their Memorial Day service was well received and complete with color guard. The chapter is also developing a newsletter which we hope will be up and running soon and we extend a special thank you to Gail Bologna-Melens who donated a POW/MIA flag for the guys at Groveland.

Chapter 603's new officers:

- President: Wayne Cottrell
- Vice President: George March
- Secretary: Dennis Cruz
- Treasurer: Dale Thurston
- Sgt. at Arms: Rick Provoost
- Chaplain: James "OC" O'Connor

Attica's Chapter 489 had their special event scheduled for June 17 and I was unable to be processed as a volunteer before that date due to work and family commitments. We hope the guys there had a good day and we appreciate staff advisor Sgt. Schiefer and chapter secretary Philip

Glaser for keeping in touch.

Thirty members attended (Auburn) Chapter 205's Memorial Day service and William Herner did an excellent job organizing the event. We understand that the chapter's honorary chaplain, the Rev. Paul Partridge, donated \$200 to the chapter and we thank him for all his unflinching support over the years.

July 3, 2006

V.V.A. CHAPTER #20

**Attn. Nelson Peck, Pat Pudetti & Entire Chapter Membership**

1199 East Main Street  
Rochester, N.Y. 14609

Dear Nelson, Pat & Membership,

Please know that on Wednesday, August 30, 2006, I will be paroled from Groveland Correctional Facility to begin a solid, productive and constructive life with my wife Regina, our son and other family members.

Because I have so many letters of thanks to send out, I ask that you please accept these few words from me as my sincere gratitude for your supportive prayers and thoughts for my being paroled from me and my family.

Please know too that your supportive beliefs, faith and confidence in me will never be treated lightly. God bless you always.

Sincerely,

*Ernie*

Ernie Bullock

# Afterthoughts on the Unknowns

By Erin Bassegio

On June 24-26, 2006, my eighth grade classmates and I went on our school's annual trip to Washington D.C. On our last day we went to Arlington National Cemetery, which I was especially looking forward to because I had won the privilege of laying the wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I received this honor by writing an essay on what being an American means to me. I was very proud that out of the 84 students attending the trip my essay was one of the four selected.

When we arrived at the cemetery a rush of gratitude went through my body as I realized that all of these men and women buried beneath me had fought for me, as well as our country. We walked the sidewalk a short way when a caisson passed with six horses pulling it. As the coffin came into view, I knew inside was a soldier that had been killed in Iraq and that soldier had also fought for the lives of the Iraqi citizens and their freedom.

When we made it to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier the nerves started to set in as the guard brought out the wreath we would be laying. We walked up to the top of the stairs of the Tomb along with the Guard. I realized then that no other civilians but the ones laying the wreath on the Tomb were ever allowed down on the Plaza, only the Honor Guards. The Guard gave us our directions and as we walked down the marble steps, each step I took I thought about how I was representing our school, our city and our state to the country. We reached the bottom of the stairs and another girl from my class and I were handed the wreath and we held on to it with both of our



hands and carefully placed it on the Tomb. My heart beat with pride as I walked back to one of the Guards and placed my right hand over my heart. Then they played taps on the bugle. This song almost brought tears to my eyes as in my head I sang along:

“Day is done,  
gone the sun,  
from the lakes  
from the hills  
from the sky,  
all is well,  
safely, rest,  
God is near.  
Fading light,  
Dims the sight,  
And a star gems the sky  
Gleaming bright,  
From afar,  
Drawing near,  
Falls the night.  
Thanks and praise,  
For our days,  
Neath the sun  
Neath the stars  
Neath the sky,  
As we go,  
This, we, know,  
God is near.”

I hoped for these unknown soldiers to one day have their identities be discovered and for their families to be at peace in knowing that their baby was okay, and that he has been well cared for and greatly honored. I thanked these soldiers in the Tomb

as again I walked up the steps and returned to my classmates.

This event was a once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget. The gratitude, pride, and honor I felt for those moments can not be described by words. As long as I live, I will remember the walk down the Tomb steps, the laying of the wreath, and the playing of taps. I will also remember the look of intensity on every Honor Guard's face that this was their duty, and they would not let these soldiers down, for they deserved as much honor as the next soldier, no matter their race, gender, rank, or branch of service. All the men and women in the cemetery deserve the honor of burial there for these soldiers helped win wars, they planned battles, they fought in the front lines, they piloted the planes, they captained the submarines; these everyday people rose to the call of the service with the courage that I can only imagine and fought for the freedom for not only Americans but nations all over the world. I left Arlington that day with a newfound love of our country and all the men and women in the armed forces and hope that all the soldiers can remember “This, we, know, God is near.”

Editor's note: the writer is a student in West Irondequoit and her parents have always been supportive of veterans and related issues.

# STARS & STRIPES & THE FLAG STORE

The only store where you can buy  
America's Flag  
*from*  
America's Veterans

BETSY LOMBARDO  
*Veterans Advocate*

DEBRA SLOANE  
*Retail Office Assistant*

A project of the Veterans  
Outreach Center, Inc.

455 South Avenue • Rochester, NY 14620  
Tel: 585-546-FLAG • Fax: 585-546-5978

## Vietnam Veterans of America THRIFT STORE, CHAPTER 20, LLC

1199 East Main Street, Rochester, NY 14609

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Car Donations 8:30am - 5:00pm

Truck Pick-up: 9am - 4:30pm  
(weather permitting)



~ Delivery Available ~  
Truck Pick-up #482-8016  
Thrift Store #482-8036

All donations go to the Thrift Store at the address above.

Medals, Badges, Patches, Ribbons, Caps  
Clothing, Boots, Gear, Buckles, Flags,  
Award Cases, Military Rings and Watches

**C.M.**  
**Gifts and Militaria**  
Est: 1987



Charles Rabadoux  
USMC 1957-61  
2nd Mar. Div.

497 Stone Road  
Rochester, NY 14616  
(585) 865-7370



DAVID J. KAUFFMAN POST #41  
JEWISH WAR VETERANS

THE OLDEST ACTIVE VETERANS  
ORGANIZATION  
SUPPORTS THE VIETNAM VETS

LARRY SCHULMAN, QUARTERMASTER, 271-6967

## NEW YORK STATE SENATE



2300 WEST RIDGE ROAD  
ROCHESTER, NY 14626  
(585) 225-3650

E-MAIL: [ROBACH@SENATE.STATE.NY.US](mailto:ROBACH@SENATE.STATE.NY.US)

SENATOR  
JOSEPH E. ROBACH

ROOM 902  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ALBANY, NY 12247  
(518) 455-2909 • FAX (518) 426-6938

## Vietnam Veterans of America CHAPTER 20 Car Donation, LLC



**Call 224-8484**

>>>> photography and digital art to match your mood >>>>



Life Member VVA 20

Various topics are offered from military /  
veteran oriented, patriotic, scenic,  
landscapes, nature, botanical, animals,  
fantasy, in a variety of sizes and gift items

[www.GTRedphotos.com](http://www.GTRedphotos.com)

Gary T. Redlinski Email: [gtredlinskiphotos@frontiernet.net](mailto:gtredlinskiphotos@frontiernet.net)

Rochester, New York

## FREEDOM FLAG CO., INC.

419 Embury Rd. Rochester, NY 14625 • Richard Burgey

**(585) 671-0624**

Flagpoles and Accessories • Flags: USA & International  
Installation & Repair • Custom Banners / Flags

Veteran owned and operated full service flag company.  
Serving the area for 20 years.

# VVA Chapter 20

# Silver

# CELEBRATION

Save the date  
September 30, 2006

*Chapter 20 thanks the following sponsors of our 25th Anniversary Celebration:*

Silver Sponsors: Bausch & Lomb  
Excellus Health Plan, Inc.  
Rochester Gas & Electric



Bronze Sponsors: Monroe Litho, Inc.  
Wegmans Food Market

Thanks also to the following businesses, which have contributed to our Chapter:  
The Distillery, High Falls Brewery, & Doan Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep

## The Ride to the Dakota

By Nancy Switzer

The Fundraising Team of the Silver Celebration committee would like to thank Ken and Sandy Moore and Dave and Sherri Dansig (owners of the Dakota Restaurant) for the outstanding fundraiser - the "Ride to the Dakota," a motorcycle event that raised \$1,800 for Chapter 20's Silver Anniversary Celebration.

Many long hard hours went into preparing this run. Both Dave and Ken really worked hard. What a

great day it was and the weather held out wonderfully. I would like to thank all of the Dakota staff and volunteers as well as the following people from our chapter who assisted on that day: Pat Pudetti, Rich Isaman, Tom Puff, Kathy and Tom Gleason, Meg Lewczyk, Pete Galle, Cecil Young, Joe Harkness, Ralph Pascale, Joe Peck, Dick Oleksyn, Jack Prinzing, Gary Redlinski & Diana Liberti and Rick Switzer. We all had a fabulous time and sincerely thank all that participated in the Run for making it a success.

# Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20 Membership Application

Return this application, *along with a copy of your DD214*, to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, 1199 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY 14609

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M / F  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ W / H  
Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

I am not a Vietnam veteran, but I want to help Vietnam veterans and their families.

Please accept my donation: \_\_\_\_\_  AVVA Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (\$ \_\_\_\_\_)

Eligibility: Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Military (for other than training purposes) between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975 (in-country Vietnam), or between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 (for Vietnam-era veterans).

**Term:** \_\_\_\_\_ 1 year (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ 3 years (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership: \$250 (ages 49 and under)  
\$225 (ages 50-55)  
\$200 (ages 56-60)  
\$175 (ages 61-65)  
\$150 (ages 66 and over)

**Payment Option:** \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order

VVA is a non-profit veterans service organization.  
Programs and services are funded by member dues and public donations.

## BETWEEN THE LINES

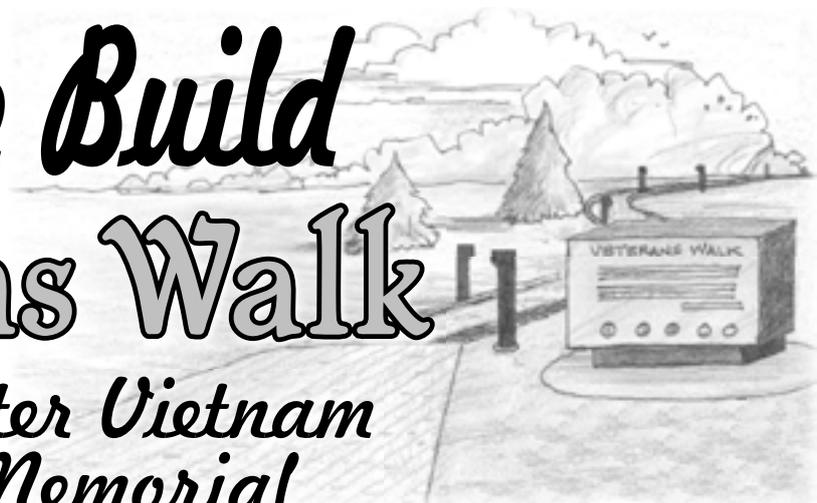
*Between the Lines* is published monthly by Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Chapter 20, or the Vietnam Veterans of America, its officers, board of directors, or the general membership. No subscription fee is charged for this publication, and inclusion on the mailing list is available on request. *Between the Lines* can also be seen on the Chapter 20 website, [www.vva20.org](http://www.vva20.org).

We welcome letters to the editor, poetry, original articles, and suggestions. Submissions can be sent to: *Between the Lines*, 1199 E. Main Street, Rochester, New

York 14609. If you want to submit something on disk, call the office (585-482-7396) to check on compatibility. If you want your manuscript returned, include a self-addressed envelope with postage. We reserve the right not to use materials we think are not appropriate for the publication, and to edit for space and clarity. We'd also like to have a phone number as well as your name in case there are any questions.

The deadline for submissions intended for a particular month's issue is the 5th of the preceding month. If the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is the first business day following the 5th.

# Help Build The Veterans Walk at the Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Any past or present member of the United States Armed Services, Active or Reserve, is eligible. Simply fill out and mail the completed form to the Veterans Walk Committee at PO Box 92402, Rochester, New York 14692.

The **Veterans Walk Committee of Chapter 20, VVA** want to thank you for your purchase of a personalized, engraved paver brick. Each paver brick (4" x 8") can have from one to three lines of engraved information. The cost will be \$50.00 per brick. Make checks or money order payable to: **VVA Chapter 20, Veterans Walk.**

The engraved line(s) can include any of the following information:

- Full name
- Branch of service, rank
- Dates of service (1967-1969, etc.)
- Conflict (WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, etc.)

### SAMPLE BRICK

**PFC John Doe  
 US Army  
 65-67 Vietnam**

Please print the information you would like engraved on the brick below. (Maximum of 14 letters/numbers, including spaces per line).

1.														
2.														
3.														

**When you return the completed form to the Veterans Walk Committee at  
 P.O. Box 92402,  
 Rochester, New York 14692,  
 please include your payment and "Proof of Service" for above recipient.**

PLEASE NOTE: Order may take up to 6 months to be fully processed.

**Peter M. Galle**

Email: PGALLE5000@aol.com

Landline: (585) 272-9873

<http://www2.powercom.net/~rokats/decora.html>

## PURPLE HEART

**1. Description:** A Purple heart within a Gold border, 1 3/8 inches wide, containing a profile of General George Washington. Above the heart appears a shield of the Washington Coat of Arms (a White shield with two Red bars and three Red stars in chief) between sprays of Green leaves. The reverse consists of a raised Bronze heart with the words "FOR MILITARY MERIT" below the coat of arms and leaves.

**2. Ribbon:** The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/8 inch White 67101; 1 1/8 inches Purple 67115; and 1/8 inch White 67101.

**3. Criteria:** a. The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an Armed Force who, while serving with the U.S. Armed Services after 5 April 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded;

(1) In any action against an enemy of the United States;

(2) In any action with an opposing armed force of a foreign country in which the Armed Forces of the United States are or have been engaged;

(3) While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party;

(4) As a result of an act of any such enemy of opposing armed forces;



(5) As the result of an act of any hostile foreign force;

(6) After 28 March 1973, as a result of an international terrorist attack against the United States or a foreign nation friendly to the United States, recognized as such an attack by the Secretary of the department concerned, or jointly by the Secretaries of the departments concerned if persons from more than one department are wounded in the attack; or,

(7) After 28 March 1973, as a result of military operations, while serving outside the territory of the United States as part of a peacekeeping force.

(8) After 7 December 1941, by weapon fire while directly engaged in armed conflict, regardless of the fire causing the wound.

(9) While held as a prisoner of war or while being taken captive.

b. A wound for which the award is made must have required treatment by a medical officer.

### 4. Components:

a. Decoration (regular size): MIL-D-3943/24; NSN for set 8455-00-269-5757; individual medal 8455-00-246-3833.

b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943//24.

c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/126. NSN 8455-00-9948.

d. Lapel Button (metal replica of ribbon bar): MIL-L-11484/18. NSN 8455-00-253-0818.

**5. Background:** a. The original Purple Heart, designated as the Badge of Military Merit, was established by General George Washington by order from his headquarters at Newburgh, New York, August 7, 1782.

The writings of General Washington quoted in part: "The General ever desirous to cherish a virtuous ambition

in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of Military Merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with a due reward”.

b. So far as the known surviving records show, this honor badge was granted to only three men, all of them noncommissioned officers: Sergeant Daniel Bissell of the 2d Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line; Sergeant William Brown of the 5th Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line, and Sergeant Elijah Churchill of the 2d Continental Dragoons, which was also a Connecticut Regiment. The original Purple Heart depicted on the first page is a copy of the badge awarded to Sergeant Elijah Churchill and is now owned by the New Windsor Cantonment, National Temple Hill Association, PO Box 525, Vails Gate, NY 12584. The only other known original badge is the badge awarded to Sergeant William Brown and is in the possession of The Society of the Cincinnati, New Hampshire Branch but differs in design by not having any lettering embroidered on the heart and the leaves are at the top only with a larger spray of leaves at the base.

c. Subsequent to the Revolution, the Order of the Purple Heart had fallen into disuse and no further awards were made. By Order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart was revived on the 200th Anniversary of George Washington’s birth, out of respect to his memory and military achievements, by War Department General Orders No. 3, dated 22 Febru-

ary 1932. The criteria was announced in War Department Circular dated 22 February 1932 and authorized award to soldiers, upon their request, who had been awarded the Meritorious Service Citation Certificate or were authorized to wear wound chevrons subsequent to 5 April 1917.



d. During the early period of World War II (7 Dec 41 to 22 Sep 43), the Purple Heart was awarded both for wounds received in action against the enemy and for meritorious performance of duty. With the establishment of the Legion of Merit, by an Act of Congress, the practice of awarding the



Purple Heart for meritorious service was discontinued. By Executive Order 9277, dated 3 December 1942, the decoration was extended to be applicable to all services and the order required that regulations of the Services be uniform in application as far as

practicable. This executive order also authorized award only for wounds received.

e. Executive Order 10409, dated 12 February 1952, revised authorizations to include the Service Secretaries subject to approval of the Secretary of Defense. Executive Order 11016, dated 25 April 1962, included provisions for posthumous award of the Purple Heart. Executive Order 12464, dated 23 February 1984, authorized award of the Purple Heart as a result of terrorist attacks or while serving as part of a peacekeeping force subsequent to 28 March 1973.

f. The Senate approved an amendment to the 1985 Defense Authorization Bill on 13 June 1985, which changed the precedent from immediately above the Good Conduct Medal to immediately above the Meritorious Service Medals. Public Law 99-145 authorized the award for wounds received as a result of “friendly fire”. Public Law 104-106 expanded the eligibility date, authorizing award of the Purple Heart to a former prisoner of war who was wounded before 25 April 1962.

g. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85) changed the criteria to delete authorization for award of the Purple Heart Medal to any civilian national of the United States while serving under competent authority in any capacity with the Armed Forces. This change was effective 18 May 1998.

h. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.



## MILITARY SPOUSE TALK RADIO

Victoria Parham, a retired Army spouse and veteran, has recently launched an Internet-based talk radio show called Military Spouse Talk Radio, an upbeat 30 minute talk show segment designed to empower, inspire, and educate all military spouses. A current project is a series entitled, "Military Spouses Past and Present." She is very interested in interviewing military spouses of the Vietnam era who are open to sharing their lives, their stories, their way. Topics of conversation for the interviews center around family, career, self-empowerment, education, volunteerism, and mentoring. Spouses of the past have worked and fought for many of the spouse and family programs and changes in our modern day military and she is eager to share these with her listeners. Interviews will take place by telephone (or in-person for spouses located in the Virginia/DC/Maryland area). These interviews are recorded and streamed from the Military Spouse Talk Radio ([www.militaryspousetalkradio.com](http://www.militaryspousetalkradio.com)) website.

Spouses who are interested in participating in this project can contact her office toll free at (866) 401-9878 or by email: [vparham@militaryspousetalkradio.com](mailto:vparham@militaryspousetalkradio.com). Please be sure to leave your contact information: Name and Telephone Number with Area Code. Any questions or concerns regarding this request and can be directed to her via phone at (434) 594-4677 or via email: [vparham@militaryspousetalkradio.com](mailto:vparham@militaryspousetalkradio.com).



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 20  
 1199 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY 14609  
 (585) 482-7396 • Fax (585) 482-5513 • www.vva20.org



**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President: Ken Moore ..... 392-0269 (h)...576-9000 (c)  
 1st Vice President: Geno Lenyk .....423-0206 (h)  
 2nd Vice President: Rich Isaman.....594-8022 (h)  
 Secretary: Chuck Macaluso .....225-8288 (h)  
 Treasurer: Larry Schulman.....271-6967 (h)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dan Corona .....349-1828 (h)  
 Pete Galle .....272-9873 (h)  
 Wally Gekoski .....659-2563 (h)  
 Kathy Gleason .....638-7805 (h)  
 Tom Gleason .....638-7805 (h)  
 Joe Harkness .....889-9728 (h)  
 Dave Hooker.....544-8815 (h)  
 Ray Melens .....392-2079 (h)  
 Dick Oleksyn .....663-5255 (h)  
 Ralph Pascale .....755-2560 (h)  
 Kathleen Ryan..... 507-9855  
 Ron Trovato .....544-8470 (h)

**COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

Agent Orange/Health Care .....Sue Oleksyn 663-5255  
 AVVA..... Kathy Gleason 638-7805  
 Between The Lines.....Bruce McDaniel 482-5314  
 Chaplain ..... Tom Gleason 638-7805  
 Comm. Service/Pub. Affairs  
 Constitution.....Fred Elliott 288-5756  
 Finance ..... Rich Isaman 594-8022  
 Historian..... Dave Hooker 544-8815  
 Incarcerated Veterans..... Ron Trovato 544-8470  
 Marching Unit ..... Ray Melens 392-2079  
 Membership, Chapter Gear.... Ralph Pascale 755-2560  
 OWH Liaison .....Sheri Corona 349-1828  
 POW/MIA..... Gail Bologna-Melens 392-2079  
 Scholarship.....Alice Popen 247-1024  
 Social Events .....Dick Oleksyn 663-5255  
 Speakers Bureau ..... Geno Lenyk 423-0206  
 Veterans Affairs/Benefits..... Pat Pudetti 482-2387  
 Veterans Walk ..... Chuck Macaluso 225-8288  
 Volunteer Coordinator ..... Kathy Gleason 638-7805

**WEB SITES/E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

**Veterans Widows International Network**  
 members@aol.com/vetwindows  
**NYS Department Health:**  
 www.health.state.ny.us/nyvets  
**Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park:**  
 www.vietnamemorial.org  
**Operation Welcome Home:**  
 www.operationwelcomehome.org

**VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION**

Ira Jacobson American Legion Post #474 ..... 663-7030  
 VA Clinic - 465 Westfall Road..... 463-2600  
 Veterans Outreach Center ..... 546-1081  
 Vet Center..... 232-5040  
 Veterans Administration ..... 800-827-1000  
 NYS Council..... 888-678-VETS  
 Monroe County Veterans Service Agency..... 753-6040  
 e-mail: serviceofficer@yahoo.com  
 Veterans Benefits Hotline..... 800-827-1000  
 "Veterans Bill of Rights" ..... 800-342-3358  
 VA Hospital in Batavia..... 343-7500  
 VA Hospital in Buffalo..... 716-834-9200  
 VA Medical Center in Canandaigua..... 394-2000  
 VA Medical Center in Bath..... 607-664-4000  
 V.V. of America in Washington ..... 800-VVA-1316  
 V.V. Memorial Fund "The Wall" ..... 202-393-0090  
 Nat.'l Lge. of Fam. MIA/POW Updates.. 202-223-6846  
 Richards House..... 506-9060  
 The Resource Center..... 546-4250  
 Stars & Stripes ..... 546-3524  
 Persian Gulf Vets, Inc..... 385-4097  
 Operation Welcome Home ..... 234-4694

**MISCELLANEOUS**

VVA 20 Thrift Store, LLC Mgmt., Gary Smith ..... 482-8036  
 Donation Pick-up, Beth Affeldt..... 482-8016  
 VVA Vehicle Donations, Beth Affeldt ..... 224-8484  
 VVA Chapter 20, Barb DiVico ..... 482-7396  
 bdivico@vva20.org

**VVA CH. 20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG. ATTENDANCE**

NAME	1/9	2/6	3/6	4/3	5/1	6/5	7/10	8/7	9-5	10-2	11/6	12/4
President: Moore, Ken					X	X	X					
1st V. Pres: Lenyk, Geno					X	X	E					
2nd V. Pres: Isaman, Rich	X	X	X	X	X	X	E					
Secretary: Macaluso, Chuck					X	X	X					
Treasurer: Larry Schulman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Corona, Dan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Galle, Pete	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Gekoski, Wally	X	X	X	X	X	E	E					
Gleason, Kathy					X	X	X					
Gleason, Tom	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Harkness, Joe	X	X	X	X	X	E	X					
Hooker, Dave	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Melens, Ray					X	X	X					
Oleksyn, Dick	X	X	E	X	X	X	X					
Pascale, Ralph	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Ryan, Kathleen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Trovato, Ron							X					

X=Present E=Excused A=Absent