What's Cooking?

Chapter 20’s Chili/Crockpot Cookoff

COME VOTE!
Annual Meeting & Elections
April 12, 2007 at 6pm

Meet the Candidates

Adaptive Clothing for Military Wounded

Together Then...Together Now
Marching Unit
Ray Melens, Commander

Aaaahh, YES! Spring is hopefully in the air by now and for sure, another parade season is just around the corner. On Saturday, April 28th at 7:00 P.M., the Marching Unit will meet at Ira Jacobson for its annual meeting. This is when we vote on the parades for the upcoming parade season and discuss any matters pertaining to the Marching Unit. Immediately following the meeting we will have pizza and wings and time to socialize and enjoy each others’ company. All Marching Unit members are urged to attend and spouses as well are invited. Hope to see you all there at Ira on the 28th.

On Saturday, February 24th, several members of the Marching Unit got together at Ira for a little work detail. This detail was to assemble and put up shelving, clean plaques and trophies that have been earned and won by the Marching Unit thru the years. I can proudly tell you that they did a fine job of putting it all together and most of all, how great it looks. Whenever you are at Ira for a meeting or whatever, be sure to go upstairs and take a look in the VVA meeting room and see for yourself how great it really looks. There are pictures of the new Chapter office and the meeting room elsewhere in this issue of the BTL. We’re still not finished either. We will be dedicating one wall in the middle room upstairs (next to the meeting room) to our 12 local POW/MIA’s from the Rochester area. Until this wall is completed it will be kept under wraps and at that time a special unveiling will take place. This we want to be a very moving and sincere tribute to these 12 brave Brothers of ours and their families. So watch and listen for the dedication date in the near future.

I have also been informed and asked to partake on the committee that is responsible for bringing the Traveling Wall to the Town of Gates in mid September. As more details become available I will be sure to pass them on. As of this writing I know very little, other than I have been asked to arrange and conduct all the ceremonies for this event. I am not alone in this endeavor. Our President, Ken Moore, is also on the planning committee and is helping me out with the ceremony planning. So I will be asking all Marching Unit members to please plan on attending and partaking in the ceremonies. Right now we are only in the very beginning stages for this huge undertaking. As of right now it’s beginning to sound like it’s going to be a pretty busy summer.

In February, members of the Honor Guard partook in giving a veteran his military honors funeral. The Honor Guard has done several of these funeral details in the past and it always amazes me on the number of comments and compliments I get on behalf of the Honor Guard. This funeral was no exception. While at the funeral home people were commenting to me about what a difference our presence makes. And then the most important ones come right from the family, especially the deceased’s spouse. This widow could not stop thanking us for all we did to honor her late husband. I think all the Honor Guard members together in uniform for a picture for upstairs. The Marching Unit would be taken in uniform as well. So I ask that the Marching Unit members plan to attend those two parades. I will let everyone know when we find someone that will do this for us.

The Honor Guard will not meet on April 12 because of the elections being held that night.

Until next month…………….

AT EASE!!!!!!
ANNUAL ELECTION 2007

Location - Ira Jacobson Post
Home, 90 St. Johns Park
Time - 6:00 PM

Reminder – The Chapter Office at Ira Jacobson, 90 St. Johns Park, will be open for voting from 8:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday April 11th.

Also - On March 6, 2006 the BOD added this voting requirement.

• Motion approved that you need to be a member for 30 days before you can vote in Annual Election.
• Elections will take place on the second Thursday in April, only paid members with a DD214 on file by 28 February of previous fiscal year are eligible to vote. (28 February 2007 to vote April 2007)

Quorum is defined as 10% of VVA 20 membership as of 28 February of the previous fiscal year.

The following positions will terminate this year - 2nd Vice President and Five (5) Director Positions.

Slated Candidates as per February 15, 2007

2nd Vice-President -
Bruce VanApeldoorn

Director - Joe Harkness
Director - Wally Gekoski
Director - Kathy Ryan
Director - Joe Peck
Director - Dick Oleksyn
Director - Jack Madigan

Any member interested in running for any of the above mentioned positions, please contact one of the following Nominating Committee members: Chuck Macaluso 225-8288, Bob DeMitry 659-2850, Tom Puff 235-3556, Dan Corona 406-6108, Meg Lewczyk 381-3036

Chapter 20’s new office and meeting room at Ira Jacobson American Legion Post

Membership Meeting Attendance
March 8, 2007

Bill Ribble, Steve Barhley
[new members]

Tom Puff, Joe Peck, Dave Hooker,
Tom & Kathy Gleason, Jack Madigan,
Tom Meggison, Cecil Young,
Gary Redlinski, Dick Oleksyn,
Robert & Linda DeMitry, Wally &
Bonnie Gekoski, Bruce McDaniel,
Rich Isaman, Fred Elliott,
Marie Davias, Bruce & Nancy
VanApeldoorn, Chuck Macaluso,
Skip Snell, Kathy Ryan, Steve Mros,
Ray Melens, Gail Bologna-Melens,
Pat Pudetti, Dan Corona, Pete Galle
Bruce C. Van Apeldoorn Sr.
Candidate for 2nd Vice President

Born April 9, 1949 to Henry & Bernice Van Apeldoorn of Rochester.

Education: St. John the Evangelist, Greece Arcadia High School, Greece Olympia – Class of 67

RVN 67-68 as a member of “C” Co. 1st Tank Bn.


Employment: Program Dean, Accounting, Finance & Public Administration, DeVry University Online, Senior Faculty, Keller Graduate School of Management

Membership: Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America, Marine Corps League, USMC Vietnam Tankers Association

Chapter 20 Involvement: Marching Unit, Honor Guard, Finance Committee

I have enjoyed being a member of Chapter 20 the past two years and feel I am ready to be a part of the leadership of the Chapter. I do possess over 20 years of experience working with small business owners to start and grow their businesses. This experience can be applied to the financial operation of the Chapter and its businesses. My goal would be to ensure adequate oversight of the sources of funding for the chapter and the way in which those funds are expended. I plan to provide easy to understand financial information to the Membership and to establish a strong internal control system to protect the assets of the Chapter.

Note: I would miss the July, August and September Board Meetings due to classes I am taking those evenings at St. John Fisher College to prep for the CPA exam.

Wally Gekoski
Candidate for Board of Directors

I was born and raised in Rochester, N.Y. I was a graduate from Edison Tech. I joined the Marine Corps in 1966. I went to boot camp in Sept. 6, 1966, and on completion of boot camp, went to Quantico for schooling. I was stationed at Camp Lejeune until receiving orders for Vietnam. I arrived in Vietnam with the 1st. Marine Air Wing. I was discharged when returning to the states.

I was 7 years as a sheet metal worker, went to the railroad from there for 13½ years. I worked 5 years at a John Deere dealership. My last job was a school bus driver for the town of Kendall, until I retired.

I'm a life member of VVA, involved in the Marching Unit, and the Honor Guard.

I've been married for 7 years to my second wife Bonnie. I have 4 children of my own, and 4 thru marriage, resulting in 15 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild.

Joseph Harkness
Candidate for Board of Directors

VVA Chapter 20 Members,

I will be seeking another term on our Board of Directors. The last few years have been very important for the future of our Chapter. The Board has worked very hard to continue our most important programs despite drastic decreases in our budget. We have recent-
My name is John Madigan (Jack). I would like to start out by giving you some information about myself. I served four years in Marines with duty station in the Mediterranean, Caribbean, Vietnam and Camp Lejeune N.C. I married Laurie in 1975. We have two boys, Shawn, Ryan. We have a grandson Michael.

Graduated from Hilton Central School. Retired from Eastman Kodak after thirty-seven years. I was a stock keeper and in warehousing. I am a member of Vietnam Veterans of America.

I have been a member of Chapter 20 for about twenty years. I am member of the Marching Unit and the Honor Guard.

I would like to get more involved in the chapter. I think this is the best way I could do so. I made many friends in the Marching Unit and the chapter. I hope you give me the chance to do so.

Dick Oleksyn graduated from Edison Tech in 1964 and was drafted into the U.S. Army, with a 13 month tour in Vietnam with the 6/71 Arty—Cam Ranh Bay and Nha Trang. Dick is a life member of VVA Chapter 20 and has served 12 of his 20 years on the Board of Directors. He has co-chaired the New York State convention in Rochester, the 20th Anniversary Celebration; a delegate at VVA National Conventions in 1999 and 2001; served as liaison between the VVA Thrift Store and the BOD pre-LLC; coordinated several bus trips to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., worked with the Chapter to raise funds and worked on our own Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park. He also works on the committee for the Veteran Walk there. He is also the Social Chair for the Chapter. Dick is a member of the Marching Unit and Honor Guard and participated in parades and funeral details and many other events. Dick had the honor to be on the Honor Guard unit for repatriation of two of our MIA’s in Arlington Cemetery.

Dick is a retiree from Eastman Kodak Company with 34½ years of service. He founded and is active in The Shoremont (homeowners’) Association, Inc. and NYS Certified Neighborhood Watch for our community. He works with the police and fire departments and local officials to maintain the integrity and safety of our community. He also belongs to AVVA, the American Legion 474, VFW Post 16 in Rochester and was appointed to the NYS Board of Visitors for the NYS Veterans Nursing Home in Batavia by Governor Pataki.

Dick is married to Sue (VVA Chapter 20 Health Affairs Coordinator) for 34½ years and has two children—Cory (a systems engineer for EDS/Xerox and Assistant Chief, Lake Shore Fire Department) and Laura (a tenured kindergarten/1st grade early childhood teacher at Longridge School in Greece with a master’s degree and NYS certifications in Early
Hi, I am Joe Peck. Let me start by telling you a little about myself. First of all, if you already don’t know this about me or didn’t pick up on it during a conversation with me … I am a military fanatic!! Since I can remember, I always wanted to be in the armed services and serve my country. I enlisted in the Army while I was still in high school. My basic training was in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, went on to AIT at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and served overseas in Manheim, Germany with the 5th Signal Command. I was honorably discharged in 1976 from the Seneca Army Depot here in New York.

I have been married to my high-school sweetheart for 31 years. We have two wonderful children and one absolutely amazing granddaughter. I am presently employed by Xerox Corp (29 years).

My spare time is spent doing research and collecting military memorabilia from the Civil War to modern day War on Terrorism. In addition to my collecting, I am an avid genealogist and have been researching my family since 1986.

My community services include the following: a member of the Executive Board of U.N.I.T.E. Local 14A Union; an active volunteer in the annual United Way Days of Caring; an organizer of the donation collection program at Xerox to the military bases in Djibouti, Africa for needy orphanages and a participant in the assembly of items in the Toys for Tots program.

I have been a member of VVA at the National level since 1997. Then I joined Chapter 20 in August of 2004. Right from the start, everyone made me feel like part of the “brotherhood”. I joined the Marching Unit in 2004 and the Honor Guard in 2005. I am extremely honored and very proud to be part of the Marching Unit and Honor Guard. I was very fortunate to be part of the POW/MIA Recognition Day in Washington, D.C. last year. The respect and admiration shown to our Honor Guard was astounding. I was a member of the committee for the 25th anniversary of the Chapter and was responsible for getting the chapter window decals created. I am presently on the Chapter’s Finance Committee in the capacity of an “Official Advisor” (??)

Consider voting for me to be a representative on the Board of Directors and bring some “new” ideas to the Chapter. Thank you!!

Kathleen Ryan
Candidate for Board of Directors

Member of Board since 2004.

Served in the Army 1974-1977 as a Russian language interrogator (96C) at the Joint Interrogation Center, 18th Military Intelligence Battalion, 66th MI Group in Munich, Germany, one of the first American service-women to be assigned as a POW interrogator during the Cold War.

Bachelors Degree from Nazareth College in Social Sciences. Masters Degree in Social Work from the Greater Rochester Collaborative MSW Program, through Nazareth College and SUNY Brockport. Licensed to practice in New York State. I am married and have a 12-year-old son in middle school.

I am currently employed as the primary care social worker for the Batavia VA Medical Center Outpatient Clinic. In this capacity I have the privilege to work with veterans who are enrolled for VA health care, including those young men and women who are returning from deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. I’d like to find
Can You Help?

The New York State Veterans’ Home at Batavia needs your help!

Chapter 20 is planning to help out at the Restaurant Nights on May 1 and 2, 2007, from 4:00 P.M. to approximately 7:00 P.M. Help will also be needed on June 23 for a picnic for the residents. For more information or to volunteer, contact Dick Oleksyn, 585-663-5255.

Vietnam Veterans of America
CHAPTER 20
Car Donation, LLC

Call 224-8484

Don’t miss these upcoming meetings!

Please come and support your Chapter!

All meetings are held at the Ira Jacobson American Legion Post, 90 St. John’s Park, unless otherwise noted.

Membership Meetings
2nd Thursday of the month beginning at 7:30 P.M.

April 12, 2007 (6:00 P.M.)
May 10, 2007
June 14, 2007
July 12, 2007
August 9, 2007
September 13, 2007
October 11, 2007
November 8, 2007
(no December meeting)

Annual Dinner & Awards, April 21, 2007

Memorial Day Picnic, May 28, 2007

Our new address

Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter 20
P.O. Box 12580 • Rochester, New York 14612
Phone numbers are the same.

Visit our new office & meeting room at Ira Jacobson Post in Charlotte...

ways to build connections between the Chapter and these new veterans, as they certainly will struggle with many of the same issues other vets have faced.

Within the Chapter I’ve been involved with the Christmas baskets project as well as food distribution to needy veterans and the poor in the community. The Christmas baskets project was a huge success, and based on the feedback we received, I’d like to work on expanding it to include visits to veterans in assisted living facilities and nursing homes in the Rochester community.
Chapter 20 thanks the following sponsors of our 25th Anniversary Celebration:

Gold Sponsor: Dakota Restaurant
Dave & Sherri Danzig, Owners

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

Bronze Sponsors: Monroe Litho, Inc.
Wegmans Food Market
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.

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

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.

David J. Kauffman Post #41
Jewish War Veterans

The Oldest Active Veterans Organization
Supports the Vietnam Vets

Larry Schulman, Quartermaster, 271-6967

TOM DAVIS
INCOME TAX CONSULTATION & PREPARATION
Year-Round. By Appointment Service

1732 Winton Rd. N.
Phone (585) 288-8465 • Fax: (585) 288-8465

FreeDm 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.

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
Gary T. Redlinski Email: gtredlinkskphotost@frontiernet.net
Rochester, New York

Senator Joseph E. Robach

New York State Senate

2300 West Ridge Road
Rochester, NY 14626
(585) 225-3650

Room 902
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247
(518) 455-2909 • Fax (518) 426-6938
E-mail: roBach@senate.statEny.US

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

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.

David J. Kauffman Post #41
Jewish War Veterans

The Oldest Active Veterans Organization
Supports the Vietnam Vets

Larry Schulman, Quartermaster, 271-6967

Tom Davis
Income Tax Consultation & Preparation
Year-Round. By Appointment Service

1732 Winton Rd. N.
Phone (585) 288-8465 • Fax: (585) 288-8465

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.

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
Gary T. Redlinski Email: gtredlinkskphotost@frontiernet.net
Rochester, New York
Support Our Troops

We may be fondly wishing for heat, but our troops are in the desert – we’re collecting items to box and send to them. Please bring whatever you can from the list below to the next General Membership meeting. We will announce a date shortly thereafter and ask help to prepare packages for shipment.

Likewise, if you know of someone stationed in the Middle East, give us their contact information and address so we can include them on our list. You can bring the information that evening, or email it to kathy14470@msn.com. Thanks for your help!

- Items include:
  - Razors
  - Deodorant
  - Movie DVDs
  - Cheez-it Crackers
  - Cream Savers (or hard candy) (no chocolate as it melts!)
  - Beef Jerky (a popular favorite!)
  - Single stick flavor packets for bottled water (e.g. – Crystal Light On the Go)
  - Chewing Gum

Adaptive Clothing For Military Wounded

American military personnel are serving our country in a variety of dangerous situations and locations. A number of them return seriously wounded or injured. Modern medical technology is having great success saving the lives of these heroes. However, medicine doesn’t address some of their basic needs, such as clothing that will accommodate medical devices and situations - braces, fixators, casts, prosthetics and burns. Many of the wounded troops are left with a hospital gown as their only clothing option.

SewMuchComfort (www.sewmuchcomfort.org/index.asp) is a collaborative of seamstresses from around the country modifying clothing to accommodate these needs. All clothing is provided free of charge to the soldiers.

Marianne Wink-Sturgeon lives in Fairport, N.Y. and requests donations for her part in this project. Donations of new men’s boxer shorts (sizes L, XL or XXL only, please) are requested. Donations can also be made to Marianne in the form of gift cards to Target, Kmart, Penney’s, etc. or cash (Paypal to mari6art@aol.com). Any and all donations are welcome.

Please bring your donations to the next membership meeting or call Kathy Gleason at 978-1331.

Marianne Wink-Sturgeon
17 Monroe Street, Fairport, New York 14450
mari6art@aol.com (use this email address for Paypal donations)
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20
Membership Application

Return this application, along with a copy of your DD214, to:
Vietnam Veterans of America, P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14612

Name: ___________________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________ Sex: M / F
Address: __________________________________ Home Phone: (_____) ____________
City: _____________________________________ Work Phone: (_____) ____________
Zip: _______________ Country: ______________ E-mail Address: ______________________
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 ______ $50 _______Other ($_______)


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 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.

We welcome letters to the editor, poetry, original articles, and suggestions. Submissions can be sent to: Between the Lines, P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, New York 14612 or e-mailed as a word document to: bruceimcdaniel@earthlink.net. 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.

Between the Lines runs paid advertisements to help offset the cost of publication and as a convenience to our readers. Chapter 20 does not endorse any advertiser or guarantee satisfaction with goods or services provided.
From the desk of The Voracious Veteran!

Having been asked to sample the wares at the latest Chili/Crockpot cookoff for Chapter 20, I prepared myself for a variety of bland, uncreative dishes. How mistaken I was – these folks can actually cook!

There were 2 categories – Chili and Crockpot (stews, soups, etc.). In the latter category there were only 2 entries so I tried those first, saving my very favorite dish – chili – for last. The Clam Chowder was scrumptious, perfect consistency and went down very easily. The second dish, Chili/BBQ Baked Beans, was almost the best of both worlds and would be an outstanding addition to any picnic. This dish won the popular vote – well deserved – but a difficult choice to be sure.

On to the chili! They weren’t ranked mild to hot, so it was anyone’s guess as you dipped the spoon into the bowl. Several were of the mild variety, very tasty, some a bit chunkier than others. All very good. One was a bit more spicy – I’m told this was a recipe that Minnie Mouse used to make for the love of her life – and this chili won the popular vote. Only one was what I would call “hot.” Very tasty, many comments from the crowd, ranging from “evil” to “sadistic.” Some even felt this was a taste of Hellish Heat from their own Chaplain. There was also a late entry that missed the voting, but was delicious as well. Someone said the secret ingredient was Guinness – if that had been there for the voting, it surely would have been a contender.

I will definitely watch for this event next year – and hope that they once again consult The Voracious Veteran! As a food critic – what a great job this is!
Help Build The Veterans Walk at the Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Any past or present member of the United States Armed Services, Active or Reserve, is eligible for an engraved paver brick. For information and an order form, please contact the Chapter 20 office at 482-7396.

Volunteers Needed!

A traveling, three-quarter-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is coming to Gates Memorial Park, 150 Spencerport Rd. September 7-9, 2007, and we NEED YOUR HELP preparing for its arrival!

A tribute to all U.S. veterans and dedicated to Vietnam veterans, the Wall is a powerful and emotional experience. Show your support and patriotism by helping plan for the three-day exhibition of THE DIGNITY MEMORIAL® VIETNAM WALL™

To volunteer, please call Alvah Halloran & Son Funeral Home (585) 247-7590

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

Thursday, June 14, 2006 (June 9 & 10, too!)
Join volunteers from throughout the Greater Rochester community to distribute hand-held, made-in-the-USA American flags in exchange for contributions to the VOC. Volunteer by yourself, or gather a group of friends or coworkers and make it a day of fun in honor of the Flag, as it was meant to be!

Monday, June 25, 2007
Have a ball while raising funds for the VOC at one of Rochester’s premier private golf clubs, Penfield Country Club. Registration and lunch begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Sign up to golf, sponsor the event, or donate raffle prizes.

Proceeds from these events support vital programs and services offered by the Veterans Outreach Center to our veterans and our returning servicemen and women. The VOC is the nation’s oldest community-based outreach effort serving veterans and their dependents. We strive to improve their quality of life by offering free, veteran-specific services through a seamless continuum of care designed to nurture individual potential and provide support in building a better future.

For more information about these events, please call Alisa Parmiter at 585.546.1081.
SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE MEDAL

1. Description: A Bronze medal 1 ¼ inches wide, with the words “SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE” across the center background. Above the center is a desert scene with a tank, armored personnel carrier, helicopter and camels with the rising sun in the background. Below the center is a seascape with ship, tanker, aircraft and clouds in the background. On the reverse, is an upraised sword entwined with a palm fond and “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA” around the edge.

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/16 inch Black 67138; 1/8 inch Chamois 67142; 1/16 inch Old Glory Blue 67178; 1/16 inch White 67101; 1/16 inch Old Glory Red 67156; 3/32 inch Myrtle Green 67190; center 1/16 inch Black; 3/32 inch Myrtle Green; 3/16 inch Chamois; 1/16 inch Old Glory Red; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Old Glory Blue; 1/8 inch Chamois; and 1/16 inch Black.

3. Criteria: a. Individuals authorized the Southwest Asia Service Medal must have served in support of Operation Desert Shield or Desert Storm, in one or more of the following areas, between 2 August 1990 and 30 November 1995: Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, that portion of the Arabian Sea that lies north of 10 degrees North latitude and west of 68 degrees East longitude, as well as the total land areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. Individuals serving in Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Syria and Jordan (including the airspace and territorial waters) directly supporting combat operations between 17 January 1991 and 11 April 1991 are also eligible for this award.

b. To be eligible for the award, a service member must be: attached to or regularly serving for one or more days with an organization participating in ground/shore military operations; attached to or regularly serving for one or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations; actually participating as a crew member in one or more aerial flights directly supporting military operations in the areas designated; or serving on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days, except, if a waiver is authorized for personnel participating in actual combat…

5. Background: a. In October 1990, the Deputy Director of Personnel and Administrative Services, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), requested that The Institute of Heraldry provide proposed designs of a service medal for Southwest Asia. Proposed medal designs were forwarded to OSD on 30 October 1990. A proposed Executive Order to authorize the service medal was staffed to the Services, by OSD, on 11 February 1991. President Bush established the Southwest Asia Service Medal by Executive Order 12754, dated 12 March 1991.

b. The medal selected was designed by Miss Nadine Russell and recognizes the joint-service nature of the operation. It depicts a tank, armored personnel carrier, helicopter, ship and aircraft with a desert and seascape. The reverse side symbolized military might and preparedness in defense of peace. The sand colored ribbon with red, white, blue, green and black stripes represented the colors of the United States and the coalition members…
CHAPTER OFFICERS
President: Ken Moore 392-0269 (h) 576-9000 (c)
1st Vice President: Ralph Pascale 755-2560
2nd Vice President: Rich Isaman 594-8022 (h)
Secretary: Chuck Macaluso 225-8288 (h)
Treasurer: Ray Melens 392-2079 (h)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Dan Corona 406-6108
Pete Galle 272-9873 (h)
Wally Gekoski 659-2563 (h)
Kathy Gleason 978-1331
Tom Gleason 978-1995
Joe Harkness 889-9728 (h)
Dave Hooker 544-8815 (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 978-1331
Between The Lines Bruce McDaniel 482-5314
Chaplain Tom Gleason 978-1995
Comm. Service/Pub. Affairs Dick McDermott 398-2628
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
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 978-1331

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.vietnammemorial.org
Operation Welcome Home: www.operationwelcomehome.org
VVA New York State Council: www.nyvietnamvets.org
Region 2 Director: www.region2vva.com

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION
Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial 585-753-7275
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 Medical Center in Batavia 585-297-1000
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
Natural Life 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, Beth Affeldt 482-8036
Donation Pick-up Cindy Rowley 482-8016
VVA Vehicle Donations Cindy Rowley 224-8484
VVA Chapter 20 482-7396
bdivico@vva20.org

VVA CH. 20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG. ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>1/18</th>
<th>2/19</th>
<th>3/19</th>
<th>4/19</th>
<th>5/19</th>
<th>6/19</th>
<th>8/19</th>
<th>9/19</th>
<th>10/19</th>
<th>11/19</th>
<th>12/19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st V. Pres</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd V. Pres</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corona</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galle</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gekoski</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gleason</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gleason, Tom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harkness</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooker</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oleksyn</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pascale</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trovato</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X=Present  E=Excused  A=Absent

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 20
P. O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14612
(585) 482-7396 • Fax (585) 482-5513 • www.vva20.org

X=Present  E=Excused  A=Absent