Let me start by saying thank you to our MOUSE, Dick Oleksyn, for all the hard work putting together our bus trip to Washington DC for the 25th anniversary of the Vietnam Wall. From the time we boarded the bus at Wegman's until we returned it was truly a banding of brothers. We had lots of laughs from the masks that Ray Melens provided to each rider (their purpose is still not clear to me), and from all the jokes from our finance wiz Joe Peck and the never ending stories of the past, it was a great trip. It was nice to see the wives on the trip and Chuck's daughter Dawn, her husband Mike and my new best friend Kylie. It was great to see so many veterans from across the country there to partake in the event. At the parade start there was time to meet up with old friends from New York State and other parts of the country. I was a little disappointed that nobody from our government had the time to pay respect to those 58,000 men and women who are enshrined on the wall, but it's just as well; it was a day for our veterans. Lastly, it was great to spend the time with all of you and my wife Sandra Dee that weekend and I thank you for your friendship.

Sadly, the Thursday before we left at the membership meeting Ray Melens received a call that his grandchildren had been kidnapped in their car at BJ's. Thank God that a short time later the kids were found in the city safe and the next day the woman who did it was caught. Sometimes from something as bad as that was, and we can not understand how the parents must have felt, some good can come. On January 20, Chapter 20 will hold a Child's Safety Fair at Ira Jacobson Post that will include child finger printing and ID cards, child seat safety and other safety things for our children. The Monroe County Sheriff's Dept. will be giving away free child booster seats. I would like to make it like an open house between 12:00 noon till 4:00 p.m. Please see the flyer in this BTL about this event.

The chapter will be putting together packages for the troops and if you have someone who you would like to receive one please send the chapter the name and complete address. Remember, if they are to return home in the next 6 weeks or so they will miss the package.

Lastly, we are in the process of putting together the budget for 2008 and would ask that if you have anything you would like to see in it please let me or Ray Melens know.

Till next month,
Together Then Together Now
Ken Moore

“THANK YOU”

At the November membership meeting, my wife Gail and I had gotten a phone call that just made my heart drop to my stomach. Our grandchildren, Collin, Cameron, and Carter had been kidnapped. I can not, nor will I ever be able to explain what I felt when I heard those words. As everyone that was there knows, Gail and I abruptly left the meeting to go be with our family. Shortly after we arrived at BJ's Wholesale on Bellwood Dr. an unmarked police car pulled in with the boys and my daughter, Courtney. That was a welcome sight, let me tell you. All the horrible thoughts that were going thru my mind as I was racing to BJ's ended up being just that, thoughts. I don't think we were there 15 minutes when I got another call. This time it was from our President Ken Moore. He wanted to know how everything was and before he could say much, I interrupted him to let him know that we had the boys back. After that he went on to tell me how everyone at the meeting said a prayer for our grandchildren and our family and also that there were about 50 guys ready to go help us find our grandchildren. You don’t know how much that meant to Gail & I, and my family.

I can not begin to THANK YOU all enough for your thoughts and prayers at that time. Obviously some one up above heard them and looked over our grandchildren. Again, no one can ever tell me that this organization is not a family. Only a family would care and respond the way that our Chapter 20 family did. The boys are fine physically, but emotionally they have been traumatized and have a ways to go. They are getting the professional help that they need and hopefully can have a full recovery. Again I would just like to extend a heart felt THANK YOU to you all from Gail, myself, and my family.

Ray Melens
Marching Unit
Ray Melens, Commander

“What happens in Washington, DC stays in Washington, DC.” Who ever said that is sadly mistaken. I’m sure the stories will be flying around about all the happenings in DC while we were there for the 25th anniversary of the Wall. I really don’t think anyone will have anything bad to say about the trip though. We all had a good time, enjoyed each other’s camaraderie, saw some old friends, saw some sights, and most importantly, at least for me, got to visit my friends on the Wall.

On Saturday morning, Nov. 10th, the Marines gathered in the hotel lobby for their pilgrimage over to the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, for the 232nd Birthday ceremony. If you have never witnessed this event, you owe it to yourself to see it some year. I went one year with members of Chapter 20 that were not Marines and they have even admitted that it was really something to see. After that some of us went to Arlington National Cemetery to pay our respects to our local MIAs that have been repatriated. We visited the graves of James Widener, David Crowley, and Rex DeWispelaere.

When we were finished at Arlington, we hiked across the Arlington Bridge to go to the Wall and catch up with others. While there I ran into some old friends from Chapter 77, and on the way back to the hotel ran into Kevin Crouch, a long time Chapter member. Then on Sunday at 1 PM, it was time for the official ceremony to celebrate 25 years of the Wall’s existence and healing powers. Colin Powell was the main speaker along with several others before him. Country music star Darryl Worley was there to sing two powerful songs for those in attendance. He sang his hits, Have You Forgotten, and I Just Came Back (from a war). I thought that those were two great songs for the occasion. The best part was after the ceremony was over, Gail, I and Dick Oleksyn were wandering around and eventually ended up back on Constitution Ave. where we saw Darryl Worley and his bus. He was just standing there talking to some people and we asked of course for an autograph and a picture. What a down to earth person he is. He thanked us for our service and chatted with us for a couple of minutes like we were old friends or something.

Country music star Darryl Worley was there to sing two powerful songs...

Just like everyone else on the trip, I too came home with some fond memories that I will treasure for the rest of my life. I would just like to thank Dick Oleksyn, alias MICKEY, for all his hard work and devotion that he put into the organizing, planning, and arranging of everything for this trip. GREAT JOB, Dick!

On Friday, Dec. 7th, members of Chapter 20’s Honor Guard will be taking part in the annual service in Charlotte to honor Pearl Harbor survivors and all of those that paid the ultimate sacrifice on that day. The service is to begin at 7 AM. Anyone that would like to attend and represent Chapter 20, along with the Honor Guard, is welcome to do so.

I would just like to take this opportunity to THANK Bruce McDaniel for all his years of dedicated service as the Editor of the BTL. For work reasons, Bruce is going to have to step down as the Editor. During Bruce’s time as Editor, the BTL has undergone various changes, most importantly though, through his efforts...
Continued from pg. 3
our newsletter has won national acclaim. I believe it has been a six-time winner of the BEST NEWSLETTER for a large Chapter. I also know that all his hard work and efforts will be picked up and will be continued with the new Editor, Kathy Gleason. Bruce, my friend, I wish you well with your job and look forward to still seeing you at Chapter functions.

At this time I would like to wish all members of Chapter 20 and their families, a Joyous, Healthy, and Safe Holiday Season this year. Also would just like to remind the MU members that they only have a few months to lose all that holiday weight, before they have to get back into their Marching Unit uniforms. Hope that doesn’t put a damper on the holiday feastings for you. Just kidding, guys!

Until next month........
AT EASE!!!!!!!!!

Transition
Bruce McDaniel, Editor

Since word is getting around, I’ll make the announcement official: as of January 1, Kathy Gleason will be taking over as editor of Between the Lines.

Kathy has a background in writing, and has been helping with editing submissions for Between the Lines and checking the proofs. She will bring experience and fresh ideas to the job of editor. I am very pleased that she has agreed to step up to this position.

You can continue to direct submissions to me for the January issue, which Kathy and I will work on in December. After that, submissions can go to her.

The past few years working on Between the Lines have been rewarding for me. I could not have done it without the help of all of you in Chapter 20 who wrote articles, supplied photos, and sent in information of interest to our readers. Please continue to support Kathy as you supported me.

Between the Lines belongs to all of us, and together we can continue to make it a success.

Veterans Incarcerated Committee Report
Ron Trovato

Chapter #205’s bi-monthly newsletter from the Auburn Correctional Facility has a new format, and we commend the guys there on the changes as well as Bill Siefert for all his hard work on it. I also want to thank James “OC” O’Connor, past president of Chapter #205, for his recent donations to Chapter #20 and #205. We wish “OC” well and do appreciate his generous contribution to our chapter.

We continue to be in touch with Jeff Langnese and the Vietnam Veterans Group at San Quentin (Calif.) Prison. The Department of Veterans Affairs sent a video crew into San Quentin to tape the veterans group meeting there. The veterans group has been very supportive in sending phone cards and packages to the troops in Iraq and, hopefully, the video will be shown on the Armed Forces Network there. It looks like the Vietnam Veterans Group at San Quentin will also be able to have their food sale there which in the past has been a good fundraiser for them.

Things seem to be going pretty well with Chapter 190 in Atmore, Alabama. One of their paroled members will be at the 25th Anniversary of the Wall Event in D.C. during Veterans Day and it is only fitting that they will be represented there. This writer was sent their most recent Board Report and it was indeed interesting to see this chapter’s inner workings.

Pat Pudetti and I traveled to the Auburn Correctional Facility to meet with the veterans there on Veterans Day. About 25 vets attended the memorial service in the chapel there and we appreciate the hospitality extended to us by 1st Vice President Wesley Dunn and 2nd Vice President Victor Kilpatrick. Chapter President Bill Layer was in the hospital and we wish him a full and speedy recovery.

Pat and I addressed Chapter 205 members on a variety of issues and later shared coffee and bagels with the guys. As always, we appreciate the hospitality shown to us by everyone at #205 and for all their hard work in keeping that chapter viable.

meetings

VVA Chapter 20 Board Meetings
See page 7 for meeting attendance.
• December 3, 2007

Membership Meetings
2nd Thursday of the Month, beginning at 7:30 pm. All meetings are held at the Ira Jacobson American Legion Post, 90 St. John’s Park, unless otherwise noted.
• No December Meeting

Membership Meeting Attendance
November 8, 2007
Bill Meminger, Lee Reisinger, Tom Puff, Tom & Kathy Gleason, Mike Kelly, David Bair, Russell Chimera, Dick Oleksyn, Pat Mirianetti, Chuck & Joan Macaluso, Skip O’Brien, Joe Harkness, Steve Mros, Bob & Linda DeMitty, Joe Swystun, Bill Ribble, James Visconte, Craig Wirth, Tom Koll, Steve Barkley, Joe & LuAnn Peck, Fred Elliott, Marie Davias, David Crawford, Lee Koffman, Mike Sanfilippo, Glen Peck, Skip Snell, Ralph Pascale, Bob Harder, Hank Wallace, Tom Emerson, Bud Hemmerick, Pat Pudetti, Tim Sturm, Dave Sturm, Ron Trovato, Mick Cole, Jerry McDermott, Gary Redinski, George DefMott.
We’re collecting items to box and send to our troops. 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!

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<tr>
<td>• Soap (bars only)</td>
<td>• Deodorant</td>
<td>• Beef Jerky (a popular favorite!)</td>
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<td>• Toothpaste</td>
<td>• Movie DVDs</td>
<td>• Single stick flavor packets</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Toothbrushes</td>
<td>• Cheez-it Crackers</td>
<td>for bottled water</td>
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<td>• Shaving Cream</td>
<td>• Cream Savers (or hard candy)</td>
<td>(e.g., Crystal Light On the Go)</td>
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<td>• Razors</td>
<td>(no chocolate as it melts!)</td>
<td>• Chewing Gum</td>
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***FORM***

SERVICE PERSON
SERVING IN HARM’S WAY
ADDRESS FOR PACKAGE

RANK AND NAME ________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________

NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING PACKAGE AND PHONE NUMBER ______________________________________

PLEASE INCLUDE COMPLETE ADDRESS TO INCLUDE APO, FPO, ETC.
PLEASE SEND TO CHAPTER 20 OFFICE AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

CHAPTER 20 VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
PO BOX 12580
ROCHESTER NEW YORK 14612

ATTN: TROOP PACKAGES
KIDS SAFETY FAIR
CHAPTER 20 VIETNAM VETS
IN COOPERATION WITH THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT.
PRESENTS
CHILD ID, CAR SEAT SAFETY, CLOWN, FACE PAINTING AND MORE
ALL WELCOME
IRA JACOBSON AMERICAN LEGION POST
90 ST. JOHNS PARK
FREE CHILD BOOSTER SEATS
JANUARY 20, 2008
12:00 NOON TILL 4:00 PM
E-Mail List
We would like to compile an e-mail address list so that we can communicate updated information or news relating to Chapter 20. This list will be used only for Chapter-related business, and will not be published in Between the Lines. We invite you to give your e-mail address to Kathy Gleason, either by e-mail (kathy14470@msn.com) or by calling the Chapter phone number (585 482-7396) and leaving a message.

Volunteers Needed
Please help us pack food baskets on Saturday, December 8, from 8:00 A.M. to noon. Meet at the Ira Jacobson American Legion Post, 90 St. John’s Park. Questions can be directed to Dick McDermott at 451-4125.

New Names for Veterans Walk
Engraved bricks for the following persons were installed by Fred Elliott and Chuck Macaluso on November 8, 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Fontenette, G.</th>
<th>Priest, Donald</th>
<th>King, George H.</th>
<th>Schenker, Rick</th>
<th>Hames, Hollis G.</th>
<th>Emerson, Tom</th>
<th>Wolfe, Eric L.</th>
<th>Dudkiewicz, John</th>
<th>Cenzi, Bob</th>
<th>Heath, John</th>
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roll call: b.o.d. attendance

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>1/8</th>
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<th>4/2</th>
<th>5/7</th>
<th>6/4</th>
<th>7/6</th>
<th>8/6</th>
<th>9/10</th>
<th>10/1</th>
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<td>Treasurer: McAluso, Ray</td>
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<td>Harkness, Joe</td>
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X=Present E=Excused A=Absent
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.)

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

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<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Information</th>
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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 12580, Rochester, New York 14612.

SAMPLE BRICK

PFC John Doe  
US Army  
65-67 Vietnam

When you return the completed form to the Veterans Walk Committee at  
PO. Box 12580,  
Rochester, New York 14612,  
please include your payment and “Proof of Service” for above recipient.

PLEASE NOTE: Order may take up to 6 months to be fully processed. Engraved bricks will be installed prior to Memorial Day and Veterans Day (twice annually). Questions? Please call Chuck or Joan Macaluso at 225-8288.
DAR Project Patriot Assists Wounded Military Personnel

DAR Project Patriot is the official Daughters of the American Revolution committee that supports America’s service personnel in current conflicts abroad. The national committee currently assists the wounded active duty military personnel at the Landstuhl Regional Medical center in Landstuhl, Germany. Since the spring of 2005, the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution has provided thousands of phone cards to our soldiers at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. Unfortunately, the wounded keep coming and the need to talk to their loved ones never stops. Not only does that call bring peace of mind to the wounded GI, it reassures their family as well.

The Irondequoit Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (the Rochester Chapter in the Corn Hill area) is asking for help in purchasing phone cards for our wounded soldiers. Please show your support for our troops by sending a donation, made out to IRONDEQUOIT CHAPTER, DAR to:

The Irondequoit Chapter, DAR
PROJECT PATRIOT
138 Troop Street
Rochester, NY 14608

When you send your donation, please feel free to send along greetings to these men and women. Cards, handmade or purchased, are always welcome.

For more information, e-mail: dar138@yahoo.com, or visit the national web site for the Washington, DC headquarters: www.dar.org/natsociety/content.cfm?ID=334&FO=Y&hd=n
Hard to believe it’s been 25 years since The Wall was dedicated. But then it’s also hard to believe I’ll be eligible for social security next year. Time flies.

We left Rochester at 0600 Friday morning; 56 people eager to get to Washington, DC and pay honor to our brothers and sisters on The Wall. Veterans, wives, children, grandchild, and friends, we were a diverse group.

First let me say THANKS to Dick Oleksyn for the great job he did organizing the trip. It takes a lot of time and work to make a trip like that work -- he did a great job as always.

Friday night in DC the weather was less than hospitable, so most folks stayed around the hotel and got a good night’s sleep before the parade on Saturday.

Saturday dawned cloudy but dry. We all set out for the parade marshalling area at about 0930. Once we got to the area we saw plenty of veterans greeting old friends and “forming up” in units to march in the parade. There were also several floats in various stages of preparation and even some marching bands waiting to step off.

Waiting for the parade to kick off, I wandered around the area saying hello to old friends and taking pictures. I saw people from Chapters 32, 77, 82, 103, 193, 827, and I’m sure some others whose chapter number I don’t know. And of course there were people from New Jersey and Pennsylvania as well. Naturally, Maryland had a large contingent there and most other states had representation as well. Even Alaska had people there. My guess is that some 5,000 to 10,000 people marched in the parade.

After the parade people stayed at The Wall, visited other sights, or walked back to the hotel. Marie and I walked with Bob and Marie Harder to the National Gallery of Art to try and absorb some culture.

Sunday we all went to The Wall again for the ceremony there, and to see Chapter 20 place a wreath at The Wall (one of only 25 allowed to be placed). Of course there were the obligatory speakers (Colin Powell...
was one) as well as other forms of “entertainment.” But for me, the best part was just being there with my fellow veterans and enjoying the moment. I renewed old friendships (such as with Keith Lape, a fellow cavalryman and Chapter 20 member) and made some new ones (with David Crawford from our Chapter). I also saw Chuck Byers, an old Chapter 20 member, along the parade route. Chuck now lives in the Philadelphia area and belongs to the Liberty Bell Chapter. Ira Cooperman, formerly of Chapter 20 and now with Chapter 944 in Utica, brought a West Point third year cadet to the parade to connect a future veteran with us. And Ken and Sandy Moore’s nephew, Gordie was there with us all weekend. Gordie is a three tour Recon Marine (1 in Afghanistan and 2 in Iraq) soon to be stationed at Quantico.

Aside from visiting old friends on The Wall, seeing old friends who also came for the parade, and enjoying the camaraderie of my fellow chapter members, the most poignant moment of the weekend came when we were able to support a fellow veteran. Just as we were leaving The Wall on Sunday, a woman asked Ken Moore and I if we could speak to her husband. It was his first time at The Wall and he was understandably having a difficult time. We quickly agreed and went to this Texas veteran to offer words of support and hugs (as did Chuck Macaluso and Tom Gleason). Ken and I talked to him for a while as our wives comforted his teary-eyed wife. They had been in Virginia for a business related seminar and on a whim decided to come to DC to see The Wall, never thinking about it being Veterans Day. It was a very emotional time but I’m glad that we were there and able to comfort that veteran.

The ride home was uneventful unless you consider seeing a certain career Marine lose twice at checkers an event.

All together the weekend was a huge success for VVA. I know it was a very memorable one for Marie and me. We definitely enjoyed the company of our fellow Chapter members.

When’s the next trip?
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.

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

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Gary T. Redlinski
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Rochester, New York

Various topics are offered from military / veteran oriented, patriotic, scenic, landscapes, nature, botanical, animals, fantasy, in a variety of sizes and gift items
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David J. Kauffman Post #41
Jewish War Veterans
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By 5:30 A.M., cars were arriving at the far end of the Wegmans parking lot on Hylan Drive. The bus pulled in and we loaded up. By around 6:00 we were on our way. Besides Chapter 20 members, family, and friends, there were people from VVA Chapter 827 who had driven over from Herkimer to join us on the trip. This was the same group that had joined us in our trip to the Wall five years earlier. It was good to meet up with them again. As we left, the bus was full of talking and joking, but as we headed south through the darkness the early morning tiredness caught up with us and the bus quieted down. After stopping for the breakfast buffet at the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, we continued on our way, watching a video of previous Honor Guard visits to the Wall. We stopped at a McDonald’s in Jessup, Maryland, then continued on to D.C. We arrived at the Holiday Inn Capitol on C Street a little after 3:00 and got checked in.

There was no set schedule so we were on our own. I meet Hank Wallace, with whom I would share a room, and we went out to scout out the area. We went into the National Archives shortly before closing time and saw the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. For me, it was an awesome sight to see those documents and to remember how important it is to defend the principles they represent.

Saturday morning was overcast, but not raining. Chapter 20 gathered in the hotel lobby. Someone held up his “challenge coin,” with the Chapter 20 logo on one side and the POW/MIA logo on the other, and in a moment challenge coins were coming out of pockets all over the lobby.

We walked toward the Mall and the staging area for the parade which would celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. On the streets, people wearing jackets bearing the insignia of other VVA chapters were everywhere. Soon we were part of a crowd of thousands of Vietnam vets.

VVA Chapters would march by states in alphabetical order. We found someone holding the sign for New York; somehow, Hank Wallace ended up holding the sign, and carried it until the end of the parade. We listened to the opening ceremony, the U.S. Capitol visible in the distance. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, the National Anthem sung, and a prayer was offered. Speeches by Jan Scruggs and a number of dignitaries followed. We heard about the Sons and Daughters In Touch; we were reminded that there are women who are veterans; we were encouraged not to forget those who are currently serving.

VVA President John Rowan pointed out that the Wall is not...
between the lines

Continued from pg. 13

a war memorial; it is a veterans’ memorial. This wall is America, he said; every race and religion and sex is represented.

Medal of Honor recipient Paul Bucha said that the Wall not only honors those named there; it reminds us of what each of them might have been. Our country has not lived up to the principle that we would not send people to war without a commitment by the nation to care for them on their return. We have learned that for each month in combat a person needs three to recover; now we are seeing PTSD again. PTSD is not something to be afraid or ashamed of. It is something to be proud of, a scar from our service. Those currently serving need to be proud and seek treatment. We in VVA have an obligation to make sure the country honors its debt to them.

By the time the parade stepped off, the sun was breaking through the overcast. 258 groups would be marching, the divisions separated by marching bands. After a wait of about 45 minutes, the New York contingent walked out to Seventh Street and headed north. We waved to the people along the street who were clapping and calling out “Thank you” and “Welcome Home!”

As we marched west on Constitution Avenue Kathy Gleason was at the side, holding up her challenge coin. Immediately, all of Chapter 20 had their coins held high. I understand that afterward Kathy got some questions from onlookers.

The parade came to an end at Virginia Avenue. We fell out and walked toward the Wall. We could hear names being read as we approached, a process which had begun three days earlier. I became separated from the rest of Chapter 20 as I made my way slowly through the huge crowd, finding the 16 names I look for whenever I come here.

A short distance from the wall organizations had set up tents: the American Red Cross, the Vet Center Program, Point Man Ministries, the Vietnam Writers Project, and others. People were signing a petition for mandatory health care funding for all veterans. Vendors sold unit insignia and other pins.

Within walking distance of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial are other memorials: the Vietnam Women’s Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, the World War II Memorial. For me, visiting those other places gives a larger context to what I feel as a Vietnam vet.

By late afternoon I was on my way back to the hotel. At the Sylvan Theater near the Washington Monument a “Welcome Home” concert was in progress and I stayed long enough to hear Blue Eyed Soul and get an autographed photo from...
Chris Noel.

Back at the hotel, Chapter 20 gathered in Room 753 for a Marine Corps birthday party.

At one o’clock on Sunday the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund hosted a ceremony at the Wall. The crowd was so huge that I could not get anywhere close. Among the speeches I heard some interesting facts and observations: over the last 25 years, 100,000 items have been left at the Wall. One half of the people who visit the Memorial are younger than the Memorial. Vietnam vets have taught the nation how to welcome veterans home. The Wall makes real what we saw every day. A message from Maya Lin, the designer of the Memorial, spoke of the price of war and the sacredness of those lives. General Colin Powell pointed out that there is greatness in every generation, including the generations of the Vietnam War and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The ceremony concluded with the laying of wreaths by a number of organizations, including Chapter 20, and the playing of Taps.

By late afternoon Chapter 20 and Chapter 827 had gathered in the hotel lobby. We signed a banner that had appeared from somewhere and boarded the bus. After dinner at a Cracker Barrel in Maryland, we settled in for the trip home. I was tired, physically and emotionally, but happy to have had the experiences of the last three days. We had come together once more.
As most of us deal with our own health and aging issues, we find ourselves also caring for our parents. There is a new resource available to help those of us in this area determine what services might be available for us for support in this area.

Greater Rochester Area Partnership for the Elderly, G.R.A.P.E., has a new website that I encourage you to check out! On the site www.grapelder.org you will find a comprehensive guide to senior services in Monroe County. The site is “interactive,” meaning as programs or services change it can be updated immediately. As a result, it is the most up to date resource currently offered in Monroe County.
25th Anniversary

Photos by Dave Crawford, Fred Elliott and Bruce McDaniel
of the Wall

Photos by Dave Crawford, Fred Elliott and Bruce McDaniel

BETWEEN THE LINES
25th Anniversary

Photos by Dave Crawford, Fred Elliott and Bruce McDaniel
of the Wall

Photos by Dave Crawford, Fred Elliott and Bruce McDaniel
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: ______________________ 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 $50 Other ($_______)


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.
CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Ken Moore ....... 392-0269 (h)...576-9000 (c)
1st Vice President: 
2nd Vice President: Bruce VanApeldoorn.... 252-514-597 (c)
Secretary: Chuck Macaluso .......................... 225-8288 (h)
Treasurer: Ray Melens .............................. 392-2079 (h)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Corona .............................................406-6108
Pete Galle ...............................................
Kathy Gleason .........................................978-1331
Tom Gleason ..........................................978-1995
Joe Harkness ...........................................889-9728 (h)
Max Lill ..............................................288-4646 x18
Jack Madigan .........................................392-8259
Dick Oleksyn ..........................................663-5255 (h)
Ralph Pascale .........................................755-2560 (h)
Joe Peck ...............................................734-9046 (c)
Pat Pudetti .............................................753-6040 (w)
Ron Trovato .........................................544-8470 (h)

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Agent Orange/Health Care ...... Sue Oleksyn 663-5255
AVVA........................................ Kate 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 ...................................... Joe Peck 734-9046
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
(enter 9; enter 2 to leave a message)

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 Medical Center in Batavia .............. 585-297-1000
VA Hospital in Buffalo ......................... 716-834-9200

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION, CONT’D.

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., Beth Affeldt ...... 482-8036
Donation Pick-up, Cindy Rowley .................. 482-8016
VVA Vehicle Donations, Cindy Rowley ........ 224-8484
VVA Chapter 20 ............ bdivicco@vva20.org • 482-7396

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Bruce VanApeldoorn ..... bvanapeldoorn@rochester.rr.com
December 2007

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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td>Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>Hanukkah begins at sundown</td>
<td>Happy Birthday to John Chilson</td>
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<td>Pearl Harbor Day</td>
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<td>Happy Anniversary to Chuck &amp; Diane Rupert</td>
<td>Happy Birthday to Peter Galle</td>
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<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
<td>Happy Anniversary to John &amp; LuAnn Farley</td>
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If you would like your Birthday or Anniversary included on the BTL calendar, please call the office at 482-7396 or E-mail info@vva20.org