“This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.”

Several years ago the image below was the front of the holiday card sent out by VVA National. The drawing was done by Igor Bobrowski, a Marine Infantryman in Vietnam. It was accompanied by the following poem, written by Mr. Bobrowski.

My Friend,
I can’t give you the serenity
of the fortunately wise,
the spirit
of the loudly strong,
the vision of the prophets,
or the endurance of the distance
runners…..

And I can’t bring you detachment’s
gift
of casual reason,
the blessed certainty
of mind’s opinion’s meanings,
or the cheers, or anger
of those knowing right from
wrong…

My Friend,
I can’t even tell you whether war’s a
sin
and peace a holy blessing,
or where the greater madness lies —
in battle,
or in the midst of smiling crowds…
for all of dear old friendship’s sake,
and time gone by,
I’ve only heart’s deep gentle sorrow
now to give you —
and the silence that will seek,
but never find a word….
except for Love, it’s all I’ve left…..
My friend….
MEMORIAL REPORT

Website  http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

Remembering our Fallen Heroes - December

Joseph Jeremiah Williams  12/1/1945
Frank P. Capuano  12/2/1946
John David Hamilton Jr.  12/5/1948
Francis Paul Rosebrugh  12/6/1946
Richard Lee Bales  12/7/1947
Eugene Richardson  12/8/1942
Richard Floyd Smith  12/9/1944
Donald Edward Beatty  12/10/1942
Gerald Patrick Metott  12/10/1946
James William Schulz  12/11/1944
Stanley Tomaszewcki Jr.  12/11/1947
Gary Dean Doctor  12/12/1946
Richard Allen Setter  12/13/1945
David Albert Semmler  12/13/1947
John Dewey Livingston  12/13/1949
Fred Krec  12/17/1943
Robert David Sage  12/18/1946
James Francis Saxby  12/19/1946
Peter Jon Kaulback  12/22/1942
Clarence Jay Hall  12/24/1948
Thomas Edward Welker  12/26/1944
Ronald Charles Boothe  12/26/1950
Donald James Priest  12/27/1942
John Leo Dengler  12/27/1946
Robert Charles Smith  12/27/1947
Robert Eugene Bryson  12/29/1944
Richard Thomas Wilhelm  12/29/1946
George Michael Underdown  12/29/1949

Memorial Tours & Presentations
Persons interested in onsite tours or presentations at schools or organizations, contact:  Chuck Macaluso
(H) 585-225-8288
chuckmac66@yahoo.com

In the November BTL, we forgot to list Nick DeLeo as one of the volunteers who helped clean the memorial site at Highland Park. Nick is a founding member of Chapter 20, a past Chapter President, Chapter Secretary, and Chapter Treasurer. Thank you Nick.
VETERANS WALK COMMITTEE
154 Mendota Drive
Rochester, New York 14626

From:
Name: ______________________
Address: ____________________
City/Zip: ____________________
Phone: _______________________

The Veterans Walk Committee of Chapter 20, VVA wants 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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Return the completed form to the - Veterans Walk Committee, c/o Chuck Macaluso, 154 Mendota Drive, Rochester, New York 14626.
Include: Payment and “Proof of Service” for above recipient.

Please Note: Engraved bricks will be installed prior to Memorial Day and Veterans Day (twice annually).
Questions please call Chuck or Joan Macaluso as 585-225-8288
LIGHTS OF HONOR

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Honoring all seven branches of our uniformed services, past and present

December 7, 2013 @ 10am
Greater Rochester International Airport
International Arrival Hall
Parking: $2.00 to $4.00

RSVP TO: BluestarmothersROC@gmail.com

To place an ornament with your loved one’s photo and branch of service, send a digital photo to: Bluestarmothers@gmail.com
Or mail it to:
Blue Star Mothers
459 S. Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14620

Presented by:
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
New York Chapter #8
Rochester

The Lights of Honor tree will be illuminated nightly from the opening celebration to January 1.

There is no cost for these photo ornaments and there is plenty of room for your hero.

Please send the following information and a photo.

To honor____________________________

Branch of Service______________________

Era_________________________________(Revolutionary War, WWI, Korea, Afghanistan)

Please include your name, address, phone number, indicate what color to affix to the back of the photo.

SILVER represents a service member wounded in the line of duty.

GOLD represents a service member who has lost his or her life in the line of duty.

BLACK represents a service member that is listed as Missing in Action or as a Prisoner of War.

BLUE represents all other service members.

Email digital photos to:
BluestarmothersROC@gmail.com

Mail actual photos which we will scan and return to you to:
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
NY Chapter #8
459 S. Clinton Ave.
Rochester, NY 14620
On November 7th, I was presented with a plaque by the students of HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW SCHOOL # 36 at their Recognition to Veterans event. The names on the plaque are members of the Marching Unit that participated in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

School # 36 began, in a house, in 1894 and was known as the Carter Street Annex. In 1898, the first formal structure was opened as troops returned from the Spanish American War. The school had five more additions/expansions, the last one in 1934 when the student attendance was 1,974. The school is and has been a center of community activity through its’ history.

The school was named in 1913 for HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW’s contributions to American History. The school hosted RPO concerts, Memorial Day Parade Participation, a RPD sub-station and much more.

The school is 119 years old and held its’27th Annual Veterans Recognition Night. School # 36 has hosted the event since 1996 when it moved from School # 29 to School # 36.

Chapter 20 and the Marching Unit would like to thank the students of School # 36 for their recognition.

###
Due to the political games that were played in Washington D.C. between Democrats and Republicans, which resulted in the temporary shutdown of the government and all of it’s agencies for the last month, it saddens me to say that there have been no new reports from the Defense Prisoner of War/ Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action (JPAC) and the National League of Families. The total number of Americans missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War still stands at 1642. Even as the government is now back in business, The DPMO has been slow to get back on line and to report any changes concerning our missing Americans. In fact, the number of missing from the Vietnam War was set back to 1644 with no evidence to justify this change. Unbelievable! Let us hope that they get their act together and do the job that they are expected to do - to continue the searching for our missing Americans and bring them all home.

There are some reports of the recoveries and identifications of individuals from the following wars:

- Cpl. George W. Conklin, US Army was lost December 3, 1950 near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. He was accounted for on October 30, 2013. He was laid to rest with full military honors in Phelps New York on November 9, 2013.
- Capt. Franklin B. Tostevin, US Army was lost March 20, 1945 after his plane crashed near Elgin, Germany. He was accounted for on October 30, 2013. He will be laid to rest with full military honors in Denver Colorado on December 13, 2013.
- Lt. Louis L. Longman, US Army Air Corps was lost on April 16, 1944 in Papua, New Guinea. He was accounted for on November 1, 2013. He will be laid to rest with full military honors in Clinton, Iowa in the spring of 2014.

These families now have the peace of mind as to where their loved one now rest. Not in foreign lands or in foreign seas but here on American soil. We have waited and prayed for our brothers and now we welcome you home. Rest in Peace.

“Never give in – never, never, never, never, in nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.” Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister, 1874 – 1965.
SATURDAY
December 7, 2013
7:00 am
Hosted by
Rochester Yacht Club
Very end of St. Paul Blvd.
Service sponsored by the Monroe County American legion
Last month we forgot to list Dave Kolchuk’s birthday on November 20th. Happy Belated Birthday, Dave!

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Chapter 20’s Annual Dinner
Health Affairs Committee Chairperson,*
Jerry McDermott

Highlights items discussed from the VA/VSS quarterly meeting held, 11-06-13. Per Ms Margaret Owens, Associate Medical Center Director at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center: Canandaigua received grants totaling $2.5 million for programs targeting area homeless veterans, in programs for education, housing, mental health among other designated issues related to our local homeless veterans. Ms Owens further stated that locally newly enrolled veterans who request services from the VA health care system are being seen by health care professionals within 14 days, one of best in the state for compliance to be seen in 30 days or less. There is a possible budget reduction looming in January 2014 caused by the sequester legislation from the previous budget year, perhaps 10% which would be directed at “non-health” related expenses, not staff or services per Ms Owens, no word yet, only a possibility that such reductions to the local VA budget could be effected. Finally, as has been reported in other messages, the Rochester Outreach Patient Clinic is still on track for a June 2016 opening in a new location to house all services under one roof. Other issues...Volunteers needed for the Annual Christmas Gift Wrapping efforts slated for Thursday, 12-12-13 at 1:00pm. Also, the distribution of wrap gifts will take place on Wednesday, 12-18-13 at 12:30 pm. Both events will be staged at Canandaigua VA MC at Bldg. # 5, the Auditorium, on the 18th Christmas Carols and refreshments will also be available for the veteran hospitalized and day treatment programs. Please check your calendars and see if you can assist in this holiday tradition. Locally, during 2013 budget year which ended on 09-30-13, new veteran enrollment into the VA health care system increased by 2% or 1,287 vets. As previously stated, any veteran enrolled in the VA health care system is deemed to have creditable health care coverage as defined by the new Affordable Healthcare (commonly known as Obama care). Finally, the Center of Excellence-Crisis Center, has passed it’s five (5) year review and has been granted a renewal for the prevention and assistance to veterans in “crisis” via the hotline support links widely published. Congratulations for such a forward leaning effort to help veterans, and their families in need at critical times!

Recent discussions at a monthly BOD meeting prompted a reminder to all Chapter #20 members that may have an effect on each of us. Many Chapter #20 members have been enrolled in the VA health care system for a long time. The photo ID’s that were once issued maybe outdated for security purposes, such as...having your “Social Security Account Number” displayed beneath your mug shot picture. So, a suggestion was made to remind all that on your next visit or appointment, go down to the Veterans Service Center, see the staff and if needed get a new ID that does “not” have your “Social Security Account Number” printed on the card. Also, if you do have a “service connected disability” and the wording is not displayed below your photo, this too would be a good time to have your card updated.

Finally, just an “fyi”...to all. With the Christmas holiday fast approaching and the New Year of 2014 not far behind, this is fair warning to all. Enjoy the time with family and friends, if you’re travelling, be safe, if you’re near the table and beverage bar enjoy the many things that make traditional holidays so special with good food and trimmings. If possible, with all the temptations confronting us, try and use moderation. If not possible, just remember that the 6th Annual Fit Vet Challenge will start on January 9th, 2014, open to all Chapter # 20 members, and handouts will be available at the December 12th, 2013 general membership meeting. (How about that as a buzz kill, eh)!

“The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it” Quoted by: General Norman Schwarzkopf
Mike General, Membership Chair

Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 560 members and AVVA is at 47 members as of 10/31/13.

Chapter 20 Coin: One coin is given to each new member. If you lose the coin there is a $5.00 charge for a new one.

Chapter 20 Membership is open to U.S. Veterans who served active duty (other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961 and May 07, 1975, or any duty location between August 05, 1964 and May 07, 1975. Membership includes a subscription to our award-winning newspaper The BTL, and The VVA Veteran, bringing you updates on issues and legislation affecting veterans, as well as unique articles on the people, places, and history of the Vietnam experience.

Membership in the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America is open to anyone; you do not need to be a Veteran.

WE Need New Members! Membership Applications are available on our Website, in the BTL, or by contacting me. (mwgeneral@aol.com)

“A man good enough to shed his blood for his country, is good enough to receive a square deal afterwards ... “
Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States.
On 8/24/13 Ken Moore, Pat Pudetti and I attended the 5th Annual Homeless Veterans Standdown in Auburn, NY hosted by Ernie Bullock. It was very well attended with the VA, several other agencies and veterans groups represented. It was held at the Case Mansion, a huge mansion once owned by a 1920’s Hollywood movie tech. The building was donated by the Presbyterian Church, next door, to be used as a domiciliary for homeless vets and for VVA Chapter 704 meetings. It is a beautiful building being renovated extensively and Gary Beikirch from Chapter 20 was the guest speaker. The best part of the day was spent with Gary just relaxing and catching up on old times......On a sad note longtime Chapter 205 staff advisor John Sroka passed away two days before the event and he will indeed be missed. Always accessible, John was a friend for over 25 years and had a great working relationship with the incarcerated veterans at the Auburn Correctional Facility. He will be missed and cannot be replaced.........A special call-out is in order to Robert Podlaski who held the American flag without respite at the Chapter 20 POW/MIA vigil on 9/14.

We heard from Robert Legler who helped form the veterans group at the recently closed Oneida Correctional Facility. He has been transferred to the Otisville Correctional Facility in NY City and prior to leaving Oneida he had been working on a proposal called “Attention On Deck” to favorably affect recidivism of young offenders. He is preparing to present this proposal to the administration at Otisville and we have sent him a letter in support of this initiative as we did before at Oneida.

The Veterans Group of Auburn and the Attica Active Veterans Group both had Veterans Day Services at their respective prisons. Ken Moore and I attended the service at Attica where there were 36 inmates present. Phil Glazier helped run the show there and after the service we were treated to pizza and wings. Jack Michael from Chapter 77 also attended and he left with a bag of twenty scarves that the guys knitted for children in need. Jack is an amazing guy who hasn’t slowed down at all and is such an advocate for all veterans. Great job and a tip of the hat to the AAVG......Staff advisor Sgt. Mark Schieffer was also awarded a nice plaque from the NYS Council for his long time contributions to incarcerated veterans. He has done a phenomenal job working with the vets at Attica and is respected by both inmates and staff there. He helps us get in and out of Attica with no hassle which is greatly appreciated. Cindy Thayer from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs has talked to the vets of the AAVG and she is scheduled to return in December. She advises the guys on benefits and assists those close to release. There is also a Veterans PTSD pilot program beginning on Saturday afternoons there and the AAVG continues to crank out their newsletter.

Veterans Day “Weekend” was really extra meaningful for me this year. I was asked to do a couple TV interviews regarding the Veterans To Veterans Hospice Program run by Lifetime Care. I want to recognize Debbie Arnot, Rose Fletcher and Lindsay Brown who oversee the program there and are just the best folks to be working for. Then it was off to Attica at the crack of dawn with Kenny Moore and a stop for breakfast where the sausage gravy hit us about two hours later like the Germans going through France. Sunday at Browncroft Community Church, the pastor asked all the veterans to stand up and it was so moving to get the ovation from everyone there. Veterans Day started off with the memorial service at the War Memorial where Joanne and I saw Joe Peck, Mike General, Ken Moore and Veterans Service Agency Director, Laura Stradley. Then I visited my hospice vet and afterward, I spoke to a group at Lifespan. I finally ended up at the hockey game where vets were again recognized and I got to relax. It was really special this year, especially the reception I got everywhere I went.
Annual Blue Star Moms ROC
Army vs. Navy Football Party

December 14, 2013 @ 2 pm
Buffalo Wild Wings on Jefferson Rd in Henrietta
A portion of your food tab goes to support our efforts to support our troops.
Great food. Great rivalry. Raffles, and more !
Please bring items to be donated to care packages !

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Angie Uhnawy
Auhnavy@gmail.com or 585-313-3662
Earning Respect

Veterans Day, November 11th, was cool and rainy at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park. However, despite the miserable weather there was a very good turnout of Chapter members, their spouses, and other interested people. I was most impressed that our County Executive, Maggie Brooks, was there and spoke a few words. She didn’t have to be there, is not a veteran, and certainly has a full plate; and yet, there she was, in the rain, with an umbrella, to speak to veterans about something that is obviously important to her. Thank you Ms. Brooks for being there for us and for all the other times that you have been in attendance at our events. It is appreciated.

Time Marches On

From USA Today on October 14, 2013: Wilmington, Delaware. It’s not an expensive watch. For someone, however, it was a daily reminder of a seminal point in their lives: a year served in the Vietnam War. Located amid a pile of empty cans in the woods, it has a story to tell. Whether that’s a story of pride in service, a tale of sadness, or something in between is anyone’s guess. Unless the owner can be found.

Kathy Campbell found it. She was out on her neighborhood “Adopt-a-Highway” walk in Delaware. It was April, the day after Easter. Strolling along the edge of a two-lane highway, she spotted a bunch of empty beer cans under a tree, in a spot barely 1,000 feet from the Pennsylvania state line.

“It looked kinda like a bunch of kids had been sitting there, just hanging out, over the weekend,” said Campbell. “So I was just picking up everything. And I saw this watch. And I honestly thought, you know, a lot of the kids wear these inexpensive watches with the real big faces, and that’s what I thought it was.”

Back home, Campbell took another look at the silver-and-gold timepiece and realized she might have something special. An older brother had served in Vietnam. “I can recall a lot about those years,” she said.

The words on a small, gold-colored disc affixed to one end of the flexible wristband jumped out at her. “Republic of Vietnam Service,” it read, the words embossed under the image of a dragon behind bamboo trees. On the other end of the wristband was something equally intriguing: a miniature version of the rectangular green, yellow and red ribbon that denotes service in Vietnam. Then she flipped it over. Engraved on the back were someone’s initials and the dates 1967-1968.

Campbell put on her detective’s hat. She ran lost-and-found notices in local publications and on Craig’s list. She contacted several veterans groups. All to no avail. She even called the Delaware State Police in case it had been stolen. The initials on the watch are not being revealed in hopes that the owner will read about the watch being found and contact her with the correct initials. The search continues. Anyone with information on the rightful owner is asked to contact Amy Vanneman at Voices of War, which has offered to serve as the point of contact: amy@vowtour.com.

###
Veterans Day at St. Anne’s Home in Webster
Veterans Day at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park
Memorial Tours & School Visits
At the War Memorial on Veterans Day

At Brighton High School
Thank You from:
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Board of Directors

Thanks to all volunteers for attending the four Memorial “Clean-Ups” this year. Your hard work kept it looking manicured for visitors and our veterans. Many of the jobs you do, such as brick repair, save us from using endowment funds needed for future upkeep. With the onset of Winter all will get a well-deserved break till Spring.

Sincerely,
VVM Board

Chapter 20 Honor Guard

I would like to thank all the members of the Chapter 20 Honor Guard for the outstanding job they did at all events this year. We had more than a dozen requests as well as our attendance at several funerals for our fallen brothers and sisters. All the HG members are also members of the Chapter 20 Marching Unit keeping everyone busy all Summer representing Vietnam Veterans in our community. Your hours donated, as well as out of pocket costs, are truly appreciated.

Again,
Chuck
The School Without Walls

Every year the School Without Walls collectively studies a topic of compelling political, social and educational significance. Last year, the entire school read Elie Wiesel’s *Night* as part of a larger exploration of the Holocaust. As part of the community component, local Holocaust survivors visited to tell their stories. (see http://blogs.democratandchronicle.com/editorial/?p=29725)

Jerry McDermott, Joe Peck, Chuck Macaluso, Geno Lenyk, Valentino Gatto

This year the school is reading Tim O’Brien’s *The Things They Carried* as an avenue for comprehending the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Last week, local veterans visited to share their memories and start the conversation. As Principal Dr. Idonia Owens explains, “Many of our students have relatives who were in ‘Vietnam’, but don’t know anything about what it means.” As students gain historical, interpretive and experiential knowledge, Idonia expects they will better understand the veterans in their communities.

Elaborating on the school’s philosophy, Idonia adds, “We are fortunate here at SWW that we have the opportunity to delve deeply into subjects, connect with the larger community, and bring history to life.” By the time the students complete the project, in addition to meeting the veterans, they will have toured the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial Park in Highland Park, seen the Vietnam War exhibit center at the Rundel library, learned the historical background through a range of written and visual sources, read actual letters from Vietnam Veterans, memorialized individual deceased veterans by reverently tying yellow ribbons to a pole in the commons area, prepared photos for a gallery walk, and written a literary analysis based on a critical lens and *The Things They Carried*.

When the five Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter # 20 men came on Tuesday for the project kick-off, during the full group presentations the students were fully respectful and attentive. Selected student ambassadors shared lunch with the veterans, allowing the opportunity for more personal connection. In the short sessions, the men could only begin to cover the complex topic. But, in their enthusiasm and accessibility, the men provided students with real faces to attach to long ago historical events. And, the vets also drew many laughs with timeless tales about young men on R&R leave for the first time in exotic locales like Japan, the Philippines, or Australia (and perhaps not always behaving like perfect choir boys.)

The chapter’s President Valentino Gatto’s story was the most compelling. During basic training in Carson, Colorado, he seriously injured his back, and was unable to go overseas. At first, Valentino felt guilty. But his next assignment eased his regret. He was sent to a chapel at the Fitzsimon General Hospital in Denver to minister to the most physically and psychologically damaged soldiers returning from Vietnam. Many of the men had lost one or multiple limbs. Others were without hands. Some were blinded; some had grievous facial wounds and could not speak.
Depression was commonplace. It was Valentino’s job to write letters home for the men, to convey to their loved ones that, despite their devastating injuries, they hadn’t given up. His life forever changed, Valentino realized he was doing his duty as much as his comrades on the front lines.

This year’s project has particular personal significance to two SWW teachers. Social Studies teacher Windsor Asamoah-Wade was himself a veteran, having served with the 173rd Airborne Brigade as an infantryman in 1971. Of all the books and movies on the war, *The Things They Carried* touched him the most. Most of what O’Brien wrote about Windsor experienced; “I read his book many years ago and got to hear him speak two years ago at the University of Rochester Interfaith Chapel on a cold and rainy October night. The audience was filled with men like myself forty years removed from the beauty and the horror which Vietnam gave us.”

Windsor believes reading the book, and the community based activities the students will experience, should give them a new perspective on an historical event they have only come to know as a subject in American History class. Windsor eloquently concludes, “So after the students finish this community read project, when they see me walking in the hallways they will a very different understanding of me, their teacher who at the age of 20 was drafted and sent to fight in the jungles and rice paddies of a country on the other side of the world.”

School social worker Tom Soule brings to the project a different perspective. During the war, Tom became a conscientious objector on religious grounds. When Tom was about 16, a youth minister made him aware of the conscientious objector draft status, and emphasized that anyone would need to be sincere in his beliefs if he chose to express these while standing before the draft board in a hearing. Tom began to more often think about the violence of war and determined that killing was not something in which he felt he could participate. Tom ended up doing his alternative service at the Hillside Children’s Center where he developed a lifelong passion for working with young people. Looking back, Tom feels blessed with being forced to examine his beliefs very closely at a young age. During the project, Tom has been willing and available to discuss his own moral journey.

So far, the students are excited by the project. For example, Tom and Shavon want to learn about the real nitty-gritty of what the soldiers went through. At the same time, they are formulating deeper, probing questions. Shavon wants to find out if it was really worth going to war. Reflecting that the American homeland was never threatened, Tom wonders, “Because losing the war was not actually going to end the United States, did the veterans really believe passionately in the cause.” In a question fitting for SWW, Tom asks, “Why were so many underprivileged minorities sent to combat while wealthy individuals were able to get a pass?”

Right now the project is just starting. When it is done, I’ll fill you in on the results.
In Memory Donations

When the simple act of placing flowers on a casket or placing stones on a headstone does not seem to be enough to honor the memory of a special someone who has passed away, one may choose to make a donation in his or her honor to commemorate the values and beliefs of the deceased. Chapter 20 VVA is committed to recognizing the sacrifices made by all military personnel in every branch of the armed forces. The memory of the deceased veteran is honored in the continuous work and service carried out by the dedicated Chapter members and associates. The monetary donations sent by individuals help make it possible to continue serving veterans and their families. The combined efforts of donors, lawmakers, members, and associates have far-reaching effects on the quality of our lives.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 20 offers several ways of commemorating a special person. One of those ways is the Memorial Walk at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Walk is a pathway of bricks inscribed with the names of individuals who have served their country with valor. Their names will forever remain a reminder of the dedication and tenacity demonstrated by the thousands of men and women who have served in the U. S. Armed Forces.

If you wish to make a monetary donation directly to Chapter 20 in support of all the functions and services they provide to veterans and their families, send your check or money order payable to Chapter 20, VVA:

Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 20
P.O. Box 12580
Rochester, NY 14612
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20

Name: ____________________________________  Date of Birth: ________________  Sex ( ) M ( ) F
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ________________________________  Zip: ________  County ______________
Email Address: ____________________________
Sponsor: _______________________________________
Payment Options: ( ) Check ( ) Money Order
Return this application, along with a copy of your DD214 to:
Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY  14612
Attn: Membership


Term: ( ) 1 year; $20  ( ) 3 years; $50  ( ) Life Membership:
  $200 (ages 56-60),
  $175 (ages 61-65),
  $150 (ages 66-71),
  $100 (ages 72+)

I am not a Vietnam Vet, but I want to help Vietnam Veterans and their families. Please accept my donation: ____________________
( ) $10 ( ) $20 ( ) $50 ( ) Other ($__________)

Home Phone: ( ) ________________________________
Work Phone: ( ) ________________________________
Date of Birth: ____________________  Sex ( ) M   ( ) F
Home Phone: ( ) ________________________________
Work Phone: ( ) ________________________________
Email Address: ____________________________
Sponsor: _______________________________________
Payment Options: ( ) Check ( ) Money Order
Return this application, along with a copy of your DD214 to:
Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY  14612
Attn: Membership

VVA is a non-profit 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. Between the Lines can be viewed on the Chapter 20 website at www.vva20.org.

We welcome letters to the editor, poetry, original articles and suggestions. Submissions should include name and phone number and can be sent to Between the Lines, P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14612 or emailed to felliott@rochester.rr.com. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity and to not use materials we think inappropriate for the publication. Deadline for submissions for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month. Exceptions may be granted by contacting the editor.
Italian American Sports Club
1250 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, NY 14624
(585)464-9160
Friends of the Memorial  
To be placed on Volunteer Contact List  
Contact: Chuck Macaluso  
(h) 585-225-8288  
chuckmac66@yahoo.com

### Board Meetings

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<td>December 3, 2013</td>
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#### Monthly Membership Meetings start at 6:30 pm

At the Italian American Sports Club, 1250 Buffalo Road, Rochester

Driving Directions to the Italian American Sports Club:

The Club is located at 1250 Buffalo Road close to the intersection of Howard Road, directly across from the stone quarry, next to the Eagles Club and the Catholic Diocese of Rochester.

From the East: Heading west on 490, exit Mt. Read Blvd. and turn left; south on Mt. Read to Buffalo Road circle, turn right, west on Buffalo Road, 1.4 miles, the Italian-American Sports Club is on the right side.

From the West: Heading east on 490, exit 33 east, Buffalo Road (Gates Center); head east on Buffalo Road; continue past Howard Road; the Italian-American Sports Club will be on the left side in about .5 mile.
### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- President Valentin Gatto: vgetto@rochester.rr.com  227-2741 h
- V. President Chuck Macaluso: chuckmac66@yahoo.com  225-8288 h
- Secretary Joe Peck: jpeck2@rochester.rr.com  734-9046 c
- Treasurer Alan Frisa: alanfrisa@gmail.com  370-7962 c

### DIRECTORS
- Dan Corona: nycorona@juno.com  406-6108 c
- Mike General: mwgeneral@aol.com  227-4383 h
- Lynn Gursslin: 352-0578 h
- Jerry McDermott: jmcdermott@murphysnolan.com  313-8188 c
- Don Nealon: dnealon1@rochester.rr.com  392-6052 h
- Dick Oleksyn: roleksyn@yahoo.com  663-5255 h
- Stan Patykiewicz: 247-4830 h
- Rosemary Rossi-Williams: pefrose@gmail.com  738-6138 c
- Mike Sanfilippo: mikemo66@aol.com  594-2649 h
- Ron Trotto: Ronbo215@gmail.com  857-3630 c
- Hank Wallace: whwnbt@frontiernet.net  334-5352 h

### STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES
- Nick DeLeo: ndeleo52@yahoo.com  334-7043 h
- Fred Elliott: felliott@rochester.rr.com  288-5756 h
- Valentino Gatto: vgetto@rochester.rr.com  227-2741 h
- Chuck Macaluso: chuckmac66@yahoo.com  225-8288 h
- Ken Moore: 17CAV@rochester.rr.com  392-0269 h
- Jerry McDermott: jmcdermott@murphysnolan.com  313-8188 c
- Joe Peck: jpeck2@rochester.rr.com  734-9046 c
- Pat Padotti: patrickusmc1@yahoo.com  555-5555 h

### COMMITTEE CONTACTS
- Editor – Fred Elliott: felliott@rochester.rr.com  288-5756 h
- Chaplain - Tom Puff: ttpuff@frontiernet.net  227-2741 h
- Chapter Gear – V. Gatto: vpetto@rochester.rr.com  227-2741 h
- Constitution – Fred Elliott: felliott@rochester.rr.com  288-5756 h
- Finance – Dan Corona: nycorona@juno.com  406-6108 c
- Health – Jerry McDermott: jmcdermott@murphysnolan.com  313-8188 c
- Honor Guard – C. Macaluso: chuckmac66@yahoo.com  225-8288 h
- Incarcerated – Ron Trotto: Ronbo215@gmail.com  857-3630 c
- Marching – Hank Wallace: whwnbt@rit.edu  334-5352 h
- Membership – Mike General: mwgeneral@aol.com  227-4383 h
- Mike Sanfilippo: mikemo66@aol.com  594-2649 h
- Memorial – Chuck Macaluso: chuckmac66@yahoo.com  225-8288 h
- Minority Affairs – Calvin Joseph: 719-6138 c
- POW/MIA – Joe Peck: jpeck2@rochester.rr.com  734-9046 c
- Public Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams: pefrose@gmail.com  738-6138 c
- Social Events – V. Gatto: vgatto@rochester.rr.com  227-2741 h
- Speaker’s Bureau – G. Lenyk: gn3153@ntid.rit.edu  423-0206
- Vet Benefits – Stan Patykiewicz: 247-4830 h
- Veterans Walk – C. Macaluso: chuckmac66@yahoo.com  225-8288 h
- Women’s Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams: pefrose@gmail.com  738-6138 c

### VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION
- Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial: 753-7725
- VA Outpatient Clinic: 465 Westfall Rd  463-2600
- Veterans Outreach Center: 459 South Avenue  546-1081
- VA Vet Center: 232-5040
- Veterans Administration: 800-827-1000
- Monroe County Veterans Service Agency: 753-6040
- POW/MIA Updates: 202-223-6846
- Richards House at VOC: 506-9060
- The Resource Center at VOC: 546-4250
- Stars & Stripes – The Flag Store: 546-3524
- Persian Gulf Vets, Inc.: 385-4097
- Operation Welcome Home: 234-4694
- National Caregivers Support Line: 855-260-3274
- Homeless Hotline: 877-424-3838
- Suicde Hotline: 800-273-8255
- Women Veterans’ Hotline: 855-829-6636

### WEB SITES / EMAIL ADDRESSES
- Veterans Widows International Network: members@aol.com/vetwidows
- NYS Department of Health: www.health.state.ny.us/nvets
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park: www.rochestervietnammemorial.org/The_Memorial
- Operation Welcome Home: www.operationwelcomehome.org
- VVA New York State Council: www.nyvietnamsvets.org

### MISCELLANEOUS
- VVA Vehicle Donations: 224-8484
- VVA Chapter 20: info@vva20.org  482-7396
Important Dates in December:

1st (1969) – U.S. Government holds first draft lottery since WWII

3rd (1775) - 1st official U.S. Flag raising takes place on the USS Alfred

5th (1964) – (Vietnam) Army Captain Roger Donlon receives the first Medal of Honor since the Korean War

6th (1884) – Washington Monument is completed

7th (2014) – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

12th (2014) – Chapter Membership Meeting

16th (1773) – Boston Tea Party

17th (1843) – Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol is published

20th (1958) – Elvis Presley gets his draft notice

21st (2014) – Winter begins

22nd (1968) – the crew of the USS Pueblo is released

23rd (1823) – “The Night Before Christmas” by Clement C. Moore is published in

25th (2014) - Christmas

28th (1945) – Congress officially recognizes the Pledge of Allegiance