April is National Volunteer Month!

Chapter 20 members volunteer their time at the Rochester Out Patient Clinic, Lifetime’s Vet-to-Vet Hospice Program, Monroe County’s Vet Court, and in many other areas.

Come and Vote at the Chapter Elections at the Annual Meeting on April 10th!!
Chapter Annual Meeting April 10, 2014 - Election Night.

Location: Italian American Sports Club – 1250 Buffalo Road

Driving Directions - The Club is located on 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 bound on 490, exit Mount Read Blvd and turn left. South bound on Mt. Read to Buffalo Road circle, turn right Westbound on Buffalo Road. 1.4 miles Westbound on the right side North is 1250 Buffalo Rd.

From the West: Heading East bound on 490, exit 33 East bound, Buffalo Road (Gates Center). Head East bound on Buffalo Road. Pass Howard Road 1250 will be on the left North side about .5 miles.

Positions for election –
Four Executive (4) - President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer
Three Board (3) – Directors
New York State Council Representatives

The "new" Nominating Committee will also be elected by the membership that evening.

In order to vote in the Annual Election, voters must be a member for at least 30 days.
• Only paid members with a DD214 on file by 28 February of previous fiscal year are eligible to vote. (For example - 28 February 2014 to vote April 2014).
• A quorum is defined as 10% of VVA 20 membership as of 28 February of the previous fiscal year.

Voting for candidates will take place between 6:30 PM till 7:30 PM, after which no new ballots will be taken and votes will be tabulated.
• According to the National VVA Constitution, “Additional persons may be nominated by any member at the Annual Meeting.” These candidates will fall under the category of Floor Nominations.
• Floor nominated candidates can only receive votes from members present at Annual Meeting. (A “Special Note” stating such will be placed March and April BTL issues.)

The slated candidates for this year (as of 3/15) are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officer Positions</th>
<th>Director Positions</th>
<th>NYS Council Representatives</th>
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<tr>
<td>President – Valentino Gatto</td>
<td>Fred Elliott</td>
<td>Nick DeLeo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President – Chuck Macaluso</td>
<td>Jerry McDermott</td>
<td>Valentino Gatto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary – Joe Peck</td>
<td>Ron Trovato</td>
<td>Jerry McDermott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer – Alan Frisa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ken Moore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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, Dan Corona 406-6108
I was drafted into the United States Army, 5th Infantry Division, at Fort Carson Colorado from 1966 to 1968. I was injured during basic training and spent approximately nine months in the military hospital in Denver. My injuries required two major surgeries. During my recovery, I was assigned to work in the Chapel Center where I served as a chaplain’s assistant for about twelve months.

I have been an active member since 2007 and in 2009 was elected to the Chapter 20 Board of Directors. My responsibilities included the coordination and sale of Chapter 20 related apparel, commonly referred to as “Chapter Gear.” In 2009, I became a member of the Chapter 20 Honor Guard and in 2010 was appointed to the position of Assistant Commander of the Marching Unit and Honor Guard. In 2010, I was elected as a delegate to the New York State Council and appointed Coordinator of Social Events. In 2011, I was elected to the position of Vice President of the chapter. In 2012, I was elected president of Chapter 20. In the two years that I served the chapter along with the BOD, we made a lot of changes and resolved many problems. If re-elected president of Chapter 20 I will continue to better serve the interests of the chapter, its members and the community.

My name is Chuck Macaluso and I would like to start out by giving you a little background about myself. I have served three years in the USMC with duty stations in the Mediterranean, Vietnam, Philippine Islands and Camp Pendleton, CA.

Graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology obtaining an A.A.S. Degree in Electronics. Retired from Eastman Kodak after thirty-seven years as a Process Control/Computer Systems Technician. I am a certified instructor for the Department of Environmental Conservation and teach Hunter Safety for students wishing to obtain a hunting license. I am currently a Life Member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Marine Corps League, American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart and member of The Khe Sanh Veterans. Married for 44 years to my lovely wife Joan, we have two children Dawn & Brian along with two grandchildren, Kylie (Dawn & Mike Mitchell) and Jeffrey (Brian and Allison).

Past Service - I have been an active member of Chapter 20 for thirty-one years, member of the Marching Unit for the same assisting the Commander of the Unit when needed. I have served on the Board of Directors for twenty-five years, Nominating Committee for thirty holding the position of committee chair for past twenty-eight years. Currently President of the Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial and have served on their Board for ten years. I am the founder and Chairman of the Veterans Walk at Highland Park. For the past three and a half years I have assumed the position of Honor Guard Commander.

The experience of serving on the Board and working on Chapter goals and activities is very rewarding. We must be actively involved with past and current veterans’ issues, laying the groundwork for future generations of veterans to follow.
I am presently running for re-election for the position of Secretary. I have been a proud member of Chapter 20 since August of 2004 as well as a board member since 2007 and Secretary since 2011. I served in the US Army from 1974 to 1976 and was assigned to the 5th Signal Command under STRATCOM and was stationed in Manheim, Germany. I am presently retired after 35 years of service from Xerox and will be celebrating 38 years of marriage this year and 43 years that my wife, LuAnn, and I first met. I have 2 wonderful children and one beautiful granddaughter who I spend a lot more time with. I have continuously worked to keep the integrity and functionality of the chapter at its highest standard. With your vote of confidence, I will continue to perform my duties with the executive committee to the best of my abilities. Thank you.

I was drafted in 1966 into the US Army, took basic training at Ft Dix, and went on to Ft Knox for armor training. I received orders for Germany where I was stationed in Schweinfurt, where I was a track mechanic. 3rd Infantry Division, 2nd Battalion, 64th Armor. My job was to keep the tanks running to protect the borders from the Russians.

I would like to rerun for the position of Treasurer. I have taken care of the books for the chapter for the past 2 years. I find the job challenging and I am up for the task.

I have had the great pleasure of working with a great President Val, VP Chuck, and Secretary Joe. We got things done, and saved money for the chapter. Please consider me for the position of Treasurer.

I am an Army veteran, having served with both the 9th Infantry Division and the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Having discovered Chapter 20 in 1983, I joined that same year and got involved right away by joining the Marching Unit, the Legislative Committee, and the Membership Committee. It wasn’t too long after that, when I was encouraged to run for the Chapter Board as a Director. I have also served in each of the Chapter Officer positions. Then in 1999, I ran as a National At-Large Director and began my 14 year run on the National Board of Directors.

I am running for the position of Director to increase my involvement with the Chapter. I believe I am qualified because of my previous experience as a Chapter Officer and Director as well as my 14 years of service on the National Board of Directors. As the current editor of the Chapter 20 newsletter, I am aware of those issues of interest to our Chapter membership as well as veterans in general. I have the time, energy, and interest to be a fully dedicated member of the Chapter Board of Directors.
I served in the US Army from March 1968 through March 1971. One year was served in Vietnam, from March 1969 through March 1970. I have been a VVA Chapter # 20 member since 2007 and a Life Member of VVA. I am running for my third term as director.

I currently chair the Health Affairs Committee and have been the on the NYS Council as a Chapter delegate since 2010. Since 2008, I was appointed to the VA/Volunteer Service Council, first as deputy representative, and since 2012 as a representative to the VA Canandaigua Medical Center. Recalling my first election to the BOD in April 2008, I felt that I could contribute and make a difference. I was asked to increase our Chapter #20 efforts in our outreach programs to further contact veterans within our area. I truly wanted to connect with my fellow veterans both within our family of Chapter #20 members and others not part of any veteran organization. I did not fully realize how big of an opportunity this could be and after six years I still feel there is still much more that can be done.

I would like to be able to continue the path that Chapter #20 has allowed me to take. I want to continue to expand my efforts to educate, advocate for, and inform as many veterans and their families within our community. I still want to assist veterans in their efforts to gain their earned benefits through honorable service to our great country. I look forward to your support in this upcoming election, and appreciate the support that you have given me in the past. Thank you all, and Welcome Home!

I’m a two tour Army veteran (69-71) and a founding member of Chapter #20. I have spent about half the time the Chapter has been around on the Board of Directors and I think it is important for Board members to have a link so to speak with the “old days”. I don’t want us to forget where we’ve come from as a Chapter because I think it helps us to see better where we should be going. During this time I have attended numerous National Conventions and State Council meetings and I have chaired this Chapters Incarcerated Veterans Committee since 1989. I presently serve on the Vietnam Memorial Board and have served as NY State Incarcerated Veterans Chair for the past three years. I also recently became involved through the Chapter in the Veterans to Veterans hospice program sponsored by Lifetime Care. I have experience and I also like working with the present Board and Executive Officers. During the past few years we have dealt successfully with several significant issues such as the closing of our thrift store and move from Ira Jacobsen. Additionally, I am proud that we have kept the Chapter financially viable after losing our primary source of income while developing other revenue sources. There remains much to be done and I would like to continue to represent our membership as a member of the Board of Directors. I would also like to continue to give a voice to incarcerated veterans, expand this chapters’ assistance to veterans in hospice and their families, and continue to raise funds so that veterans everywhere can benefit from our sacrifice during the Vietnam War.
### MEMORIAL REPORT

Website  [http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/](http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/)

**Remembering our Fallen Heroes - March**

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<tr>
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<td>Ronald James</td>
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<td>Kimball H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Thompson</td>
<td>4-30-1947</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Memorial Tours & Presentations**

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

| 1. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 2. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

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
I am pleased to report that the Defense Prisoner of War* Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action (JPAC) and the National League of Families have reported that another MIA has been located and accounted for. The total number of Americans missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War now stands at 1641. He is:

**Captain Douglas David Ferguson,** U.S. Air Force from Tacoma, Washington the co-pilot of a F-4D Phantom jet. On December 30, 1969, Captain Ferguson and his pilot were assigned to a mission called “Barrel Roll” that had an intended target of a petroleum (POL) facility located in the heavily forested mountain region in Xiangkhouang Province of Laos near the Ho Chi Minh trail. This target was an important one as it was classified as a major fuel supplier for the communist war effort and its forces moving south into the war zones.

Upon arriving to the target area, Captain Ferguson’s aircraft was directed by the Forward Air Control to strafe the target. Two successful passes were made and on the third ordnance delivery run, Captain Ferguson’s was seen to have impacted the ground approximately ¼ mile beyond the target resulting into an explosion and fireball. An electronic search was immediately initiated. On December 31st, the wreckage was located near Houamuang, Nakhang and Route 6. Photographs revealed what appeared to be 2 parachutes hanging from the trees but was dismissed as possibly the anomaly caused by shadows of something else nearby. With all communication lost and no sight of the two pilots and a high concentration of enemy forces in the area, the search was terminated and both Captain Ferguson and his pilot were listed as MIA’s. Recent reports state that Captain Ferguson’s remains were located and returned to the U.S. on April 11th, 2013, positively identified on February 14, 2014 and officially accounted for on March 5, 2014. He will be laid to rest with full military honors May 2, 2014 in Lakewood, Washington.

**Until they are all home,**
We must continue to have faith that our missing will be found and brought home to their families and a grateful Nation. We will never forget them.
Dear Editor,

Thanks for e-mailing me the Feb. issue of Chapter 20’s BTL. While I enjoy keeping up with what’s Happening in Rochester (where I used to live), it’s the well written stories that keep me most interested in the newsletter. And the Feb. issue was one of the best I’ve ever read!

“Both Sides of the Coin” by Ron Trovato is full of personal reminiscences that every veteran can relate to. From his lifelong friendship with Steve Silver to the hurt caused a mother saying goodbye to a son going to war, from his personal difficulties reentering civilian life to the shared joy he experienced when Steve’s son returned home from USMC duty in Afghanistan, Ron tells his heartfelt story with authentic sentiment. I enjoyed reading it more than my emotions will allow.

I encourage Ron to write more about his personal experiences, before, during and after Vietnam service. Sometimes it’s only when we reflect on the past and write about it that we can come to grips with some of the most significant moments of our lives. Well done, Ron!

Ira Cooperman
Utica, New York

Fred:

I enjoy reading the VVA monthly newsletter. It usually contains good and relevant information for veterans. However, this month (March) a cartoon featured about gun control on Page 19 really offended me. I was unaware that the VVA had become a lobbyist for the NRA! Whether or not one agrees with the cartoon is irrelevant. What offends me is its placement in this publication.

Sincerely,

Linda Mros
Penfield, NY

SAVE THE DATES!

Thursday April 10, 2014
Chapter Elections – Attend and vote for those people who will be governing your Chapter

Saturday, April 26, 2014
Chapter 20’s Annual Dinner
Bruce VanApeldoorn – April 9th

To be placed on the volunteer contact list:

Contact – Chuck Macaluso
585-225-8288 (h)
Chuckmac66@yahoo.com

How long did President Gatto say we have to hold up this wall?
January  February  March

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This is it! April is the finally weigh in for our 6th Annual Fit Vet Challenge between our various service branches. Again using the football analogy that we began in January, April would be the start of the 4th quarter and the game (Challenge) is almost over for this season. We all began the New Year of 2014 with a certain set of goals, or resolutions that we had hoped to meet or fulfill. I certainly hope working toward a healthier life style was one of your goals. April brings us into our fourth month of preaching the virtues of taking time to be good to yourself in many ways. Certainly eating smart is one of them! Being aware of the calories of each type of foods that you like to eat is a great goal to set. Knowing too what a portion size really equals will help you keep track of your daily calorie intake. Remember it is easier to keep off the extra pounds if you first don’t put them on! Getting more activity in your daily life is a real PLUS! The concept of moving more, eating less should be well in hand now that you have been practicing these past 3 months of the Challenge. Sure, you are going to have some lapses, but it is okay. Just remember to refocus, and keep doing what got you to removing those extra pounds. Resist the super-sizing, or extra helpings at one meal per day at the very least. You do have the power to control, so like the remote next to the easy chair, use it (self-control, or will power) to just stay within the game. No extras, just eat when you’re hungry, and use portion control to help you in your resolution of a healthier you in 2014. Thank you for your cooperation and participation in this year’s Challenge. The winners (that is biggest losers) will be announced after the April’s numbers have been compiled.

Recap: NYS Council Meeting-03/14/2014  Election of NYS Council Officers and Directors is scheduled for June 21, 2014. At this time all current officers and regional directors are planning to run for election. Three (3) NYS Chapters have been “de-certified” and their designation as “not-for-profit” status revoked by the IRS according to report by President Ned Foote. The reasons given were failure to comply with IRS rules pertaining to filing necessary Form 990 as required by law. The process is costly and very time consuming to regain such status if at all per NYS Council President Foote. Rochester’s Chapter # 20 is second in NYS with 569 members just slightly behind Buffalo’s Chapter #77 with 581 as of 02/28/2014. Chapter # 20 is the 7th largest in USA!

Legislation is working its way through the NYS Senate and Assembly (S6363,Carlucci - A85117,Gunter) titled the Community Mental Health Reinvestment Bill, NYS Council supports this effort to assist all veterans regards of time of service. A great deal of interest has been directed towards support and funding to assist families of veterans and to cover Case management/Care Coordination and other Mental Health initiatives at the state level.

Finally, Blue Water Navy veterans are urged to continue to check VA.ORG website for added names to US Navy vessels that have been placed on the Agent Orange Alphabetized Ship List. This list is updated almost weekly, and a continued search may result in the necessary link for application to health benefits if all criteria are met. Keep checking out the www.va.gov website, clink on the link to Agent Orange, Ship Registry.
Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 569 members and AVVA is at 49 members as of 2/28/14.

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)

Recent Chapter Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Branch</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lou Colangelo</td>
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<td>Denis Gurnett</td>
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<td>Neil Hansen</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Sanford</td>
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80 people attended the March General membership Meeting.
Al Smith won the 50/50 raffle.
George Cooper won the flag drawing.
Spring seems to have finally arrived. Thought it would never get here and I must admit to pangs of guilt as I looked out my window and watched the wife shoveling. But with 1300 channels, it is hard to venture out even when the ambulance comes to the house.

That being said, I want to thank Ned Foote and the delegates of the NY State Council for the yarn donation I recently received. Ned took up a collection at the January meeting and the ladies there were kind enough to purchase $170 worth of the best yarn I have ever shipped into a prison. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your kindness and generosity! Packages have been sent to both Auburn and Attica and I have some left over for next time. Ned informed me that Chapter #205 as of 12/15/13 is back in good standing with VVA National and their suspension due to membership and IRS problems has been resolved. It took one and a half years and that may have been because Lois Lerner was always not testifying on Capitol Hill........ The Attica Veterans Group is doing well and the guys already knitted 20 scarves from yarn donations. The AVG helped 15 vets and 9 non-vets complete Anger-Violence/PTSD programs at Attica in 2013 and certificates of completion have been issued. Thanks to Phil Glazier and Staff Advisor Sgt. Mark Schieffer for all their efforts there and congratulations to all the men who finished that program........Robert Legler who is now at the Otisville Correctional Facility in the NY City area has submitted paperwork to Albany for a proposed program “Attention on Deck” that he hopes to implement there. I knew Robert when he was at Oneida and he indicated that they are starting a veterans group at Otisville and have a good staff advisor and seemingly receptive administration there. So far 15 vets have signed up and are active in the vets organization and we wish those guys good luck in their endeavors.......Hospice volunteer work in partnership with Lifetime Care is going real well. The Vets to Vets program has been active for two years and approximately 140 veterans and their families have been helped. A shout out to Bill Auble is in order as he just finished training and my hopes are that some of our other members will soon be joining us.

Brighton Starbucks, Tuesday, March 18, 11:00 AM.........Definitely white bread, mostly women talking loudly. Half the open chairs are taken up by coats, laptop purses, backpacks, and assorted geek debris. These folks require more space than the average Joe and I’m the only real man in the joint. The chattering and bleating is unending, like an M-60 on full auto. I try to relax and drink my coffee but the pressure on me builds and is unrelenting and devastating in its creepy crushing of my psyche. Not unlike Obamacare. I try to think of something else and I fantasize on the best looking babe wearing a scuba suit. Nothing can calm the raging volcano inside me. It’s seething, boiling, gaining tremendous force and begins popping rivets. Finally, I can take it no more. I jump to my feet and erupt at the top of my lungs, “I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY!!!!!” The barnyard is quiet for a moment as the customers look up from their computers, cell phones and lattes. But only for a moment, and then the clucking and cackling continues......... (Editor’s Note: This is only one of many pointless stories and observations regularly submitted by the above committee chair. It has been shared in the hopes that more stable, lucid chapter members will begin to submit articles of higher quality to Between The Lines. Thank you.)
In 2010, I remember hearing that the VA was going to place a national veterans’ cemetery in Western NY. It was to be located midway between Buffalo and Rochester to be convenient for the veterans of Western NY. And then about a year ago, Senator Schumer told us that a site had been selected. VA officials said they hope to close on the chosen property this spring. Wow, everything was going along according to plan…but wait, archaeological tests on the site that are required because of Native American artifacts buried on the site are slowing down the process. (Leave it to the VA to settle on a site that isn’t easily purchased.) Now the VA cautions us that design and construction could take another four or five years after they actually purchase the property. And by the way, Congress has yet to appropriate funding for the project. If all this sounds vaguely familiar, you must be thinking about the Out Patient Clinic that VA says will be built in Rochester when the lease runs out on the current facility on Westfall Road. Even though the property hasn’t been purchased, and the design isn’t finalized, and Congress hasn’t appropriated funding for the construction, they claim we’ll be in the new facility in 2016. Remember, they’re the Government and they’re here to help us.

Volunteering once a week at the Out Patient Clinic as a “greeter” allows me to see many fellow Chapter members and other veterans that I haven’t seen in a while. One such person, Bob Craig, a former Chapter Board member told me about a Graduate program at Empire State College. The college has a Graduate Certificate in Veterans Studies. The certificate is designed for: veterans who want to serve other veterans; active-duty personnel interested in a career serving veterans; veterans service officers; military family members who wish to advocate more effectively; and others. Courses are taught on-line and may be begun in the fall, spring, or summer terms. The courses are Veterans Services and Public Policy; Veteran Outreach, Services and Advocacy; Veteran programs and Benefits; and Military and Veterans Culture : Developing Cultural Competency. Admission requires submitting an official transcript of your bachelor’s degree along with a completed application. Acceptance will require candidates to apply to the master’s degree program and complete the full admission process. The Program Coordinator is Penny Coleman at penny.coleman@esc.edu. Penny and I have swapped emails now and she tells me that the college is going to introduce an undergrad certificate program in Veteran Studies.

We know that, here in Rochester, we have the greatest Vietnam Veteran Memorial outside of Washington, D.C. But how many other people know about it? Not enough! I thought maybe, as the best Vietnam Veterans memorial in New York, it would be in the book, *Warriors Remembered*. Sadly, it’s not. (It is listed on their website on the interactive map of the U.S.) Nor has it ever been featured in the VVA *Veteran*, although the editor of that distinguished publication did tell me they have been meaning to get to Rochester to do a story about the memorial but just haven’t found the time or money yet. Even without a photo layout of our memorial, the book *Warriors Remembered* is a good book loaded with some of the best Vietnam Memorials from around the nation. Check it out at www.warriorsremembered.com.
Left to right: Chili VFW Memorial Post #412 members, Jack Caiazza, Mike Dinsmore, Rich Forcey, and Mike SanFillippo present a check for $1,000 to Chapter 20 President Val Gatto.

Aeden Kelley, a third-year Criminal Justice student at RIT is interviewing Vietnam Veterans for a school project. (Her Dad is a 32-year retired Marine.) If you are interested in being interviewed, email her at ACK8905@RIT.edu.
On Sunday, March 23rd, Chapter 20 had its first Sock Hop Appreciation Day. The brain child of Terry Hogan, a huge supporter of Chapter 20 and all veterans, Terry organized and coordinated this great event attended by over 200 people. Live music was provided by Danny B. (Danny Barnes), The Firebirds (Geoff Latta, Gerry Daniels – Army Vet, Ken McCarthy-Navy Vet, and Kurt Lewis-Marine Vet), and Happy Daze (Angelo Ciresi-Air Force Vet, Roy Vatale-Army Vet, Rick Lundgren-Navy Vet, Pete Tantalo-Army Vet, and Lenny Colontoni). There was a 50/50 raffle, a Chinese Auction, and a raffle for a quilt provided by Nancy VanApeldoorn.
The best” Poodle Skirt”, Antonitta Frianciosa and the best “Greaser”, T.J. DeBellis
Monroe County’s Veterans Service Agency hosted the annual Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day at the Olmstead Lodge in Highland Park. The event was well attended by many Chapter 20 members and other Vietnam Veterans. Chapter 20 was presented with a frame proclamation from the County Exec that had a Glenn Peck photo as the background. And each veteran present was given a matted and signed Thank You from the County Veterans Service Agency. (There were also coffee and doughnuts available for all the attendees.)

Laura Stradley, Director of the County Veterans Service Agency and emcee

Joe Marhatta of the County American Legion led the Pledge of Allegiance
The County American Legion Color Guard

County Exec Maggie Brooks and County Legislator (and Vietnam Veteran) Dick Yolevich present the proclamation to President Gatto

President Gatto presenting his remarks.

Veterans Outreach Center’s Executive Director, Todd Baxter delivers remarks

President Gatto receives his “Thank You”
Rochester Armed Forces Day Committee, Inc.
and
Monroe County Veteran’s Organizations

PRESENT AN

ARMED FORCES DAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 17, 2014

The Luncheon will be held at
Diplomat Party House
1956 Lyell Avenue, Gates, NY 14606

Invited Guest Speaker

Rear Admiral Fred M. Midgette
Commander, 9th Coast Guard District, U.S. Coast Guard

There will be pre-luncheon music by the 198th Army Band

There will be military displays in and around the luncheon area. The luncheon will be from 12 Noon to 1:30. Following the luncheon there will also be additional viewing of the displays. Free parking is available for luncheon attendees.

For additional information please call 1-800-845-2412

Sponsored table $250.00 each table ______
(includes 8 tickets & recognition in the program book)
Single Tickets Only $25.00 each ______
Children (12 and under) $12.00 each ______

Contribution Only

Check enclosed for total amount ______

Name of Organization: ___________________________ Your Name: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ Your Phone: ___________________________
City, State, ZIP: ___________________________ No. of tickets paid for: ______
Email: ___________________________

Make Checks payable to “Armed Forces Day Committee” Cut at the line and return this portion of the form to Caroline Ader, PO Box 93097, Rochester, NY 14692. Paid tickets will be picked up at the luncheon.

Tickets are limited - Purchase by May 4, 2014
A new study found that airmen who flew and maintained the C-123 Provider long after the planes were used to spray Agent Orange over Vietnam were exposed to dangerous levels of the dioxin that remained in the aircraft.

A report in Environmental Research titled "Post-Vietnam Military Herbicide Exposures in UC-123 Agent Orange Spray Aircraft" found that environmental testing of the planes revealed traces of dioxin levels above the Defense Department's own standards for maximum permissible exposure to poisonous chemicals.

The American Legion used news of the report's findings to reiterate its call for the Department of Veterans Affairs to extend disability compensation benefits to former C-123 aircrews and maintainers. The Legion first announced its support for the approximately 1,500 C-123K vets in a resolution passed in August 2012 at its annual convention in Indianapolis.

"The Legion is committed to ensuring that veterans receive the benefits they deserve," American Legion National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger said on Monday. "We will work with Congress and the VA to promptly designate C-123K aircraft as Agent Orange exposure sites, thereby qualifying veterans who worked with these planes to be eligible for Agent Orange-related benefits."

C-123 Providers were used for troop and supply transport. It was also as a part of Operation Ranch Hand during the Vietnam War. Ranch Hand was the defoliation mission that ran from the early 1960s to about 1971.

The study reported on in Environmental Research was led by Jeanne Mager Stellman, a professor at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. The Legion said that Stellman worked with it in the early 1980s, when the organization was trying to prove the link between exposure to Agent Orange and serious health issues among Vietnam veterans.

Under increasing pressure from the Legion and other veterans' organizations, including Vietnam Veterans of America, Congress finally passed the Agent Orange Act of 1991, which set in motion a government study that linked exposure to the dioxin to multiple health problems.

In 2010, VA Secretary Erik Shinseki expanded the number of health problems that are presumed to be linked to Agent Orange exposure, a move that immediately brought in hundreds of thousands of new claims for disability compensation from Vietnam veterans.

Stellman, in the Legion's announcement Monday, is quoted as saying the latest study "should provide the evidence needed for post-Vietnam veterans to receive the same health treatment as in-country veterans."

"They need and deserve it," he said.
Military Studies a Shocking Caffeine Substitute

Stars and Stripes

In a new experiment, the U.S. military is shocking the brains of troops to see if electricity is a decent substitute for coffee and energy drinks, the Boston Globe is reporting. Researchers at the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, have run tests on a number of volunteers to test their mental acuity both before and after a stimulating jolt of electricity, the Globe report said.

The electric shock creates within a mini-seizure in the brain and is based on techniques that are currently being used by medical professionals to treat major depression and other mental disorders, according to the report. So far, the results have been positive. The researchers say the jolt works wonders to improve general alertness in sleepy soldiers, with few side effects. Well, except the brief headaches and minor skin irritation.

"There is some evidence that it does seem to work," Dr. William "Scott" Killgore, an assistant professor of psychology at Harvard Medical School who specializes in the mental health treatments to the Globe. "There have been a few studies that if you use it in the right place it can help mathematical calculations when people are sleep-deprived."

Besides treating sleep-deprivation and lack of focus, the program aims at making soldiers better thinkers. Researchers believe electrodes will become standard issue for "some" military personnel, according to the Globe report.

The long term effects of repeatedly shocking the brain are still being studied, the report said.

(Editor - I couldn’t make this stuff up if I tried. I thought sleep deprivation was treated by getting more sleep.)
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 all 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: ____________________________________
Address: __________________________________
City: ______________________________________
Zip: _______ County _______________

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

Payment Options: ( ) Check ( ) Money Order

Date of Birth: ____________________ Sex ( ) M ( ) F
Home Phone: ( ) _________________________
Work Phone: ( ) _________________________
Email Address: ____________________________
Sponsor: __________________________________

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.

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

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

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.
### 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.
Important Dates in April:

6th (1917) – the U.S. declares war on Germany

7th (1928) – Actor & Army (Korea) veteran James Garner’s Birthday – he received 2 Purple Hearts

9th (1865) – Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House in Virginia

10th (2014) – Chapter Elections !!!

11th (1783) – End of the Revolutionary War

12th (1861) – Fort Sumter, SC is attacked beginning the Civil War

14th (1865) – President Lincoln is shot at Ford’s Theatre

15th (1865) – President Lincoln dies of his wounds
(1912) – The Titanic hits an iceberg and sinks
(2014) – Tax Day

16th (1924) – Conductor & WWII Army veteran Henry Mancini’s Birthday

17th (1964) – The Ford Mustang is introduced

19th (1995) – 168 die in the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma

24th (1898) – Spain declares war on the U.S.

29th (1945) – U.S. Troops free 32,000 at Dachau concentration camp in WWII
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Valentino Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vgatto@rochester.rr.com">vgatto@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. President</td>
<td>Chuck Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Joe Peck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jpeck2@rochester.rr.com">jpeck2@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>734-9046 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Alan Frisa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alanfrisa@gmail.com">alanfrisa@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>370-7962 c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIRECTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hank Wallace</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whwnbt@rit.edu">whwnbt@rit.edu</a></td>
<td>334-5352 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike General</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwgeneral@aol.com">mwgeneral@aol.com</a></td>
<td>227-4383 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Gurrslin</td>
<td></td>
<td>352-0578 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry McDermott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmcdermott@murphynolan.com">jmcdermott@murphynolan.com</a></td>
<td>313-8188 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Nealon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dnealon1@rochester.rr.com">dnealon1@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>392-6052 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Oleksyn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roleksyn@yahoo.com">roleksyn@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>663-5255 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stan Patykiewicz</td>
<td></td>
<td>247-4830 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Rossi-Williams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pefrose@gmail.com">pefrose@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>738-6138 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Sanfilippo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mikem66@aol.com">mikem66@aol.com</a></td>
<td>594-2649 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Trovato</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ronbo215@gmail.com">Ronbo215@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>857-3630 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hank Wallace</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whwnbt@rit.edu">whwnbt@rit.edu</a></td>
<td>334-5352 h</td>
</tr>
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**STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nick DeLeo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ndeleo52@yahoo.com">ndeleo52@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>334-7043 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Elliott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:feelliott@rochester.rr.com">feelliott@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>288-5756 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valentino Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vgatto@rochester.rr.com">vgatto@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Moore</td>
<td><a href="mailto:17CAV@rochester.rr.com">17CAV@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>392-0269 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry McDermott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmcdermott@murphynolan.com">jmcdermott@murphynolan.com</a></td>
<td>313-8188 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Peck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jpeck2@rochester.rr.com">jpeck2@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>734-9046 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Pudetti</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patrickusmc1@yahoo.com">patrickusmc1@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>555-5555 h</td>
</tr>
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**COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Between The Lines</td>
<td>Editor – Fred Elliott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:feelliott@rochester.rr.com">feelliott@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>288-5756 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chaplain - Tom Puff</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tpuff@frontiernet.net">tpuff@frontiernet.net</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter Gear – V. Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vgatto@rochester.rr.com">vgatto@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Constitution – Fred Elliott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:feelliott@rochester.rr.com">feelliott@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>288-5756 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Finance – Dan Corona</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nycorona@juno.com">nycorona@juno.com</a></td>
<td>406-6108 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health – Jerry McDermott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmcdermott@murphynolan.com">jmcdermott@murphynolan.com</a></td>
<td>313-8188 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honor Guard – C. Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incarcerated – Ron Trovato</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ronbo215@gmail.com">Ronbo215@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>857-3630 c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marching – Hank Wallace</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whwnbt@rit.edu">whwnbt@rit.edu</a></td>
<td>334-5352 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership – Mike General</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwgeneral@aol.com">mwgeneral@aol.com</a></td>
<td>227-4383 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>594-2649 h</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial – Chuck Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority Affairs – Calvin Joseph</td>
<td></td>
<td>719-6138 c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POW/MIA – Joe Peck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jpeck2@rochester.rr.com">jpeck2@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>734-9046 c</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pefrose@gmail.com">pefrose@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>738-6138 c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Events – V. Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vgatto@rochester.rr.com">vgatto@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker’s Bureau – G. Lenyk</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gnl3153@ntid.rit.edu">gnl3153@ntid.rit.edu</a></td>
<td>423-0206</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vet Benefits – Stan Patykiewicz</td>
<td></td>
<td>247-4830 h</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans Walk – C. Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pefrose@gmail.com">pefrose@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>738-6138 c</td>
<td></td>
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**WEB SITES / EMAIL ADDRESSES**

- Veterans Widows International Network: members@aol.com
- NYS Department of Health: www.health.state.ny.us/nyvets
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park: www.rochesterVietnammemorial.org/The_Memorial
- Operation Welcome Home: www.operationwelcomehome.org
- VVA New York State Council: www.nyvietnamiets.org

**VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION**

- Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial: 753-7275 (enter 9; enter 2 to leave a message)
- 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
e-mail: serviceofficer@yahoo.com
- VA Veterans Benefits Hotline: 800-827-1000
- VA Veterans Bill of Rights: 800-342-3358
- VA Medical Center in Batavia: 297-1000
- VA Hospital in Buffalo: 716-834-9200
- VA Medical Center in Canandaigua: 394-2000
- VA Medical Center in Bath: 607-664-4000
- Vietnam Veterans of America National Office: 800-882-1316
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund: 202-393-0090
- National League of Families: www.vva20.org
- 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
- Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255
- Women Veterans’ Hotline: 855-829-6636

**REGION 2 DIRECTOR**

- Herb Worthington: hworthington@comcast.net 732-849-5737

**Misellaneous**

- VVA Vehicle Donations: 224-8484
- VVA Chapter 20: info@vva20.org 482-7396