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

Clean-up at the Memorial
Sunday, July 13th starting at 8am
Bring line trimmers, safety glasses, gloves, and weed attack equipment
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 sure everyone by now has heard the news that Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, the only American POW held in captivity for almost 5 years in Afghanistan, has been released by the Taliban forces and returned home. There has been much controversy on the prisoner exchange that was made for his release and now his service is being questioned by his comrades at arms, the military authorities and Congress itself. However the outcome of this investigation may turn on the whole matter, Let us be thankful that he has been returned home to his family. Welcome home brother.

There still have been no reports this month 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 is still at 1641.

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

- Pfc. Lawrence S. Gordon, US Army was lost on Aug. 13, 1944 near Ranes, France. He was accounted for on May 27, 2014 and will be buried with full military honors during the summer in Canada.
- SSgt. Robert E Howard, US Army Air Corps was lost on April 16, 1945 in Germany. He was accounted for on May 28, 2014 and was buried with full military honors on June 19, 2014 in Moulton, Iowa.
- Pfc. Cecil E. Harris, US Army was lost on January 2, 1945 in France. He was accounted for on May 29, 2014 and will be buried with full military honors. The date and location have not been determined at this time.

As the years have passed and some memories have faded, let us never give up hope as the families of our missing Americans have never given up hope that we will find their loved ones and return them home.

We will never forget them.
Sunday July 13, 2014
Clean-up at the Memorial starting at 8am. Bring line trimmers, safety glasses, gloves, and weed attack equipment

Valentino Gatto – July 29th
Joan Macaluso – July 29th

Happy Anniversary
Bruce & Nancy VanApeldoorn – July 19th
MARCHING UNIT SCHEDULE

July 4 – Friday – 4th of July – Irondequoit – 11:00am

July 10 – Thursday – Fireman’s Parade – Webster – 6:30pm

July 11 – Friday – Fireman’s Parade – Kendall – 7:00pm

July 24 – Thursday – Fireman’s Parade – Hilton – 7:00pm

August 8 – Friday – Fireman’s Parade – Hamlin – 7:00pm

August 16 – Saturday – NOT A VVA EVENT – Toronto – contact Tim Sturm p51flyer_3@yahoo.com

NOTE: times listed are start times; please plan to be at formation approximately 45-60 minutes PRIOR to the listed start time.
WE’RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEMBERS

Mike General, Chairman, Membership Affairs

Chapter 20 membership is currently at 572 members and AVVA is at 45 members as of 5/31/14. Membership is dropping mainly due to members not renewing. This month we had 2 members not renew, plus 15 members from last month.

Please Renew Your Membership!

If you “upgrade” to a Life Membership when you renew, please remember to include a copy of your DD-214 with your application.

Our membership ranking is 7th Nationally and 2nd in the State. Since 2008 our membership has grown 39.1%.

We need your help in recruiting new members.

Chapter 20 membership is open to U.S. Veterans who served on active duty (other than for training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975, or any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975. Membership includes a subscription to our award-winning newsletter, Between The Lines, 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 this newsletter, or by contacting me. (mwgeneral@aol.com)

New Member
Jim Melton
U.S. Army
1967-68
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Happy Birthday Army!

Guest speaker, Todd Baxter, Executive Director of the Veterans Outreach Center

Jerry McDermott won the flag drawing

Seen at the meeting.

Chapter member, Nick DeLeo, presents a check to the Chapter from Harris Corporation

Dave Duncan won the 50/50 drawing
ODDS N’ ENDS

A page written by Chapter member Fred Elliott. The opinions and/or positions expressed on this page are in no way the opinions or positions of Chapter 20. The author accepts full responsibility for the expression of his opinions and positions on the various items written about on this page.

We’ve all seen the news reports about the VA scandal, the politicians posturing – blaming anyone not in their party, the FBI supposedly investigating possible criminal actions, and just everyone in general making sure we (veterans and the American voting public) know how outraged they are about these atrocious findings. What we haven’t heard is the allocation of more funding by Congress to hire more staff at the VA, the dismissal of those responsible at the various VA facilities for the delays and lack of acceptable care. We have heard how it’s the other guy’s fault; conditions are not really as bad as is reported in the media; and it’s only a very small percentage of the patients treated by the VA that have been affected – the implication being that we shouldn’t blow this out of proportion, after all it’s only a very few people that have suffered or died. (Are you serious !?!?) And now we’re sending ground troops (special advisors) of no more than 300 back into Iraq to pull their fat out of the fire. We all know how that “advisor” thing works out. And of course there is the “domino theory” being applied to Southwest Asia to make us aware of just how important it is for the U.S. to stay involved and committed to the fight against the Jihadists. Wasn’t that same theory used in Southeast Asia to increase our involvement in Vietnam ? (It was!) Call me cynical, but I think we’re being led down the proverbial garden path again.

And have you noticed that after losing almost 5,000 American lives in Southwest Asia, importing less oil, exporting more oil, and producing more oil than ever, prices at the pump continue to rise because of the “unrest” in Iraq. Maybe it’s just me, but I would rather be told that gas prices are being raised because they need to satisfy the greed of the CEOs and stock holders of the oil companies. Just sayin’

Have you heard about the National Resource Directory? It’s an internet web site that connects wounded warriors, service members, veterans, their families and caregivers with those who support them. At https://m.nrd.gov you can search by one or more keywords; enter a city, state or zip code; find information by subject or state. At https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/nrd you can search by keyword and/or location and find resources for benefits and compensation; education and training; employment; family and caregiver support; health; homeless assistance; housing; transportation and travel; other services and resources.
KEY FINDINGS OF A 2010 NATIONAL SURVEY OF VETERANS BY THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR VETERANS ANALYSIS AND STATISTICS

Enrollment and Usage of VA Benefits and Services - Of those surveyed:

21.3% ever applied for VA disability compensation
14.8% ever used VA vocational rehabilitation (of those applying for disability compensation)
26.8% ever enrolled in VA health care
28.4% ever used VA health care
36.9% ever used VA education and training
66.7% ever used VA home loan guaranty (of those ever having home loan)
8.3% covered by VA life insurance
13.4% plan to be buried in VA national/state cemetery

Main Reason for Not Applying or Using VA Benefits and Services

Disability Compensation – 66.2% don’t have service-connected disability
Vocational Rehabilitation – 32.3% don’t know how to apply
Health Care – 42.3% not aware of benefits
Education and Training – 36.6% not aware of benefits
Home Loan Guaranty – 33.6% don’t know about the program
Life Insurance – 65.8% not aware of benefits
Burial – 43.5% already made other arrangements

Reported Plan to Use VA Health Care in the Future, for Selected Groups of Veterans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL Veterans</th>
<th>Women Veterans</th>
<th>Post 9/11 Veterans</th>
<th>Vietnam Veterans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As primary source</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In addition to non-VA</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>health care for some</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As safety net when needed</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For prescriptions</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For specialized care</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some other way</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No plan to use VA</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VA Healthcare Patient Expenditures

From Fiscal Year 2000 to Fiscal Year 2012, total veteran patients increased from 3.7 million to 5.7 million. From FY 2000 to FY 2012, total patient expenditures increased from $17 billion to $42 billion.

VA Disability Compensation Expenditures

From FY 2000 to FY 2012, total disability compensation recipients increased from 2.5 million to 3.6 million. From FY 2000 to FY 2012, total disability compensation expenditures increased from $15 billion to $44 billion.

Veterans With a Service-Connected Disability

From FY 1986 to FY 2012, the veteran population decreased from 28.6 million to 22 million. From FY 1986 to FY 2012, service-connected disabled veterans increased from 20 million to 28 million.

Trends in Service-Connected Disability ratings for Veterans Receiving Compensation for the First Time

From FY 1986 to FY 2012, veterans rated 0% to 20% decreased from 66% to 39%
From FY 1986 to FY 2012, veterans rated 30% to 40% remained almost constant at about 21%
From FY 1986 to FY 2012, veterans rated 50% to 60% increased from 6% to 16%
From FY 1986 to FY 2012, veterans rated 70% to 100% increased from 6% to 23%

Veteran Population by State: Fiscal Year 2014

Veteran Population – 950,001 to 1,800,000 – California, Florida, Texas
Veteran Population – 650,001 to 950,000 – Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia
Veteran Population – 350,001 to 650,000 – Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, South Carolina, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin
Veteran Population – 200,001 to 350,000 – Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon
Veteran Population – 100,001 to 200,000 – Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Utah
Veteran Population – 31,166 to 100,000 – Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

The top three states with veterans under 25 years old as 1.2 to 1.6 percent of the state’s population are: North Dakota, Virginia, and Wyoming.

The top four states with veterans 65 years and older are California, Florida, Pennsylvania, and Texas.
## The Number of Veterans That Use VA Health Care Services: A Fact Sheet from the Congressional Research Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Veteran Population</th>
<th>VA-Enrolled Veterans</th>
<th>Veterans</th>
<th>Non-Veterans</th>
<th>Total Patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2001</td>
<td>26,092,046</td>
<td>5,124,168</td>
<td>3,890,971</td>
<td>356,333</td>
<td>4,247,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2002</td>
<td>25,627,596</td>
<td>6,248,949</td>
<td>4,290,717</td>
<td>380,320</td>
<td>4,671,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2003</td>
<td>25,217,342</td>
<td>7,186,643</td>
<td>4,544,430</td>
<td>417,023</td>
<td>4,961,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2004</td>
<td>24,862,857</td>
<td>7,419,851</td>
<td>4,713,583</td>
<td>453,250</td>
<td>5,166,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2005</td>
<td>24,521,247</td>
<td>7,655,562</td>
<td>4,862,992</td>
<td>445,322</td>
<td>5,308,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2006</td>
<td>24,179,183</td>
<td>7,872,438</td>
<td>5,030,582</td>
<td>435,488</td>
<td>5,466,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2007</td>
<td>23,816,018</td>
<td>7,833,445</td>
<td>5,015,689</td>
<td>463,240</td>
<td>5,478,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2008</td>
<td>23,442,489</td>
<td>7,834,763</td>
<td>5,078,269</td>
<td>498,420</td>
<td>5,576,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2009</td>
<td>23,066,965</td>
<td>8,048,560</td>
<td>5,221,583</td>
<td>523,110</td>
<td>5,744,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2010</td>
<td>23,031,892</td>
<td>8,343,117</td>
<td>5,441,059</td>
<td>559,051</td>
<td>6,000,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2011</td>
<td>22,676,149</td>
<td>8,574,198</td>
<td>5,582,171</td>
<td>584,020</td>
<td>6,166,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2012</td>
<td>22,328,279</td>
<td>8,762,548</td>
<td>5,680,374</td>
<td>652,717</td>
<td>6,333,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2013</td>
<td>21,972,964</td>
<td>8,926,546</td>
<td>5,803,890</td>
<td>680,774</td>
<td>6,484,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2014</td>
<td>21,619,731</td>
<td>9,111,955</td>
<td>5,908,042</td>
<td>708,921</td>
<td>6,616,963</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Total Veterans numbers are from VetPop2011 (FY2010-FY2014), available at http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp, and an archived copy of an earlier version no longer available on the website (FY2000-FY2009). VA-Enrolled Veterans numbers and Patients Using VA Health Care During the Year numbers are from VA budget submissions for FY2000-FY2015; the number for each fiscal year is taken from the budget submission two years later (e.g., the FY2000 number is from the FY2002 budget submission).

Notes: FY2014 numbers for VA-Enrolled Veterans and Patients Using VA Health Care during the Year are estimates.
Overview

CHAMPVA is a comprehensive health care program in which the VA shares the cost of covered health care services and supplies with eligible beneficiaries. The program is administered by Chief Business Office Purchased Care and the offices are located in Denver, Colorado.

Due to the similarity between CHAMPVA and the Department of Defense TRICARE program (sometimes referred to by its old name, CHAMPUS) the two are often mistaken for each other. CHAMPVA is a Department of Veterans Affairs program whereas TRICARE is a regionally managed health care program for active duty and retired members of the uniformed services, their families, and survivors. In some cases a Veteran may appear to be eligible for both/either program on paper. However, if you are a military retiree, or the spouse of a Veteran who was killed in action, you are and will always be a TRICARE beneficiary, you can’t choose between the two.

Eligibility

To be eligible for CHAMPVA, you cannot be eligible for TRICARE, and you must be in one of these categories:

1. The spouse or child of a Veteran who has been rated permanently and totally disabled for a service-connected disability by a VA regional office.
2. The surviving spouse or child of a Veteran who died from a VA-rated service-connected disability.
3. The surviving spouse or child of a Veteran who was at the time of death rated permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected disability.
4. The surviving spouse or child of a military member who died in the line of duty, not due to misconduct (in most of these cases family members are eligible for TRICARE, not CHAMPVA).

An eligible CHAMPVA sponsor may be entitled to receive medical care through the VA health care system based on his or her own Veteran status. If the eligible CHAMPVA sponsor is the spouse of another CHAMPVA sponsor, both may now be eligible for CHAMPVA benefits. In each instance where the eligible spouse requires medical attention, he or she may choose the VA health care system or coverage under CHAMPVA for his/her health care needs.

For more information on CHAMPVA go to http://www.va.gov/hac/forbeneficiaries/champva/champva.asp.
Distinguished Service Cross

Distinguished Flying Cross

Disgusting Double-Cross

"Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

General MacArthur

That's our philosophy here, too...

Putting their lives on the line for their country

Their country putting them in line for their lives

VA: Benefits Backlog

VA: Medical Center

Tomb of the Unseen Soldier
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  (     ) $50  (     )    Other ($__________)

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+)

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.
Board Meetings | Membership Meetings
---|---
July 1, 2014 | July 10, 2014
August 5, 2014 | August 14, 2014
September 2, 2014 | September 11, 2014

**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 July:

2nd (1964) – the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is signed into law

4th (1776) – the Declaration of Independence is approved

6th (1747) – Birthday of Naval officer John Paul Jones: “I have not yet begun to fight”.

10th (2014) – Chapter meeting

12th (1943) – WWII – Battle of Kursk – the largest tank battle in history; 900 Russian tanks vs. 900 German tanks at close range

16th (1999) – JFK Jr. dies in a plane crash

20th (1954) – agreement to end hostilities between the French and the People’s Army of Vietnam

(1969) – Neil Armstrong walks on the moon

26th (1948) – President Truman orders U.S. Armed Forces to be integrated

27th (1953) – Korean War ends

28th (1932) – The bonus march eviction in Washington, D.C. occurred as U.S. Army troops under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, Major Dwight D. Eisenhower and Major George S. Patton attacked and burned the encampments of unemployed WWI veterans.

30th (1975) – Jimmy Hoffa disappears