...we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain...

REMEMBER DEC. 7th!
Thank you to all of you who helped make the BTL the great newsletter we all know it to be. I truly appreciated all of the items you sent to me to include in the BTL. Without your contributions, the newsletter would have been a smaller, less informative paper.

As you know, I’ve been looking for a replacement for my position as Editor of the BTL and the search is over. Chapter member, Vito Scarpetta, stepped up and volunteered (with no coercion or arm-twisting). I believe Vito will do a great job for the Chapter as Editor of the BTL. Please send him all those items for publication that you used to send me. See the Contacts page for his contact information.
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
Remembering Our Fallen Heroes
Born in December

Website – http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

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

Friends of the Memorial
To be placed on the volunteer contact list, contact Chuck Macaluso at 585-225-8288 or Chuckmac66@yahoo.com

Memorial Tours & Presentations
Persons interested in on-site tours or presentations at schools or organizations, contact Chuck Macaluso at 585-225-8288 or Chuckmac66@yahoo.com
The 20th Anniversary of the Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial

You weren’t able to be there? You were out of town? But you still would like one or more of the mementoes from the event? Good news – the mementoes are available for purchase by contacting Chuck Macaluso by email at chuckmac66@yahoo.com or by telephone at 585-225-8288.

Window Decal

Lapel Pin
(actual pin does not have dates)

Deck of Playing Cards

Mini - Bollard

Challenge Coin
November 3, 2016

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonald,

The Vietnam Veterans’ of America, Chapter 20, representing 628 members, write in adamant protest of the VA’s mishandling of the procurement of a new Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Rochester, NY. This project has been beset by a series of bureaucratic obstacles that have resulted in an unacceptable delay in the construction of this desperately needed facility.

As you are aware, the Rochester region is home to more than 70,000 men and women who have rendered honorable service to this nation. Despite this being one of the largest populations in New York State, Rochester’s Veterans are serviced by a 42,000-square foot outpatient clinic that is overcrowded and insufficient to meet the demands of the community. Consequently, our Veterans are frequently forced to travel 70 miles or more for a range of basic outpatient services that the clinic does not presently provide. This is challenging under the best of circumstances and very difficult for Veterans who must contend with health problems, limited access to transportation and the often-harsh weather conditions of Upstate New York.

These are the concerns for a new outpatient clinic and phase two facility on the same campus:

- Presently our Veterans whose needs go beyond the scope of the Clinic are being sent to facilities 70 miles east (Syracuse) or 70 miles west (Buffalo). This adds to the burden of them getting proper care.
- Access to parking and public transportation is a priority for these faculties.
- One location needed for all clinic and specialty services...such that Optometry, Dermatology, Cardio, etc. which are now housed in different buildings.
- The release of the appropriated funds by the Senate and the House of Representatives Committees to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expedite the leases for the Rochester Outpatient Clinic for Phase II.
Considering these concerns, our community was pleased to learn that the VA intended to replace this facility with a new, larger CBOC that would expand our Veterans’ ability to receive the care they need and deserve. Sadly, this project rapidly became a source of intense frustration. When this project was announced in 2011, we were told to anticipate activation of the facility in 2016. With the end of 2016 upon us, we find ourselves unable to celebrate so much as a groundbreaking. While the reasons for this delay have been, numerous and varied, the common theme is simple: bureaucratic failure.

Furthermore, the forthcoming clinic will not provide all the services the VA originally committed to providing at the new facility. The VA had originally committed to including an ambulatory surgery suite in the new facility that would mitigate some of the problems outlined above. Unfortunately, the square footage necessary to do so was inaccurately calculated and thus, the clinic must be constructed in two phases, with no guarantee that the two facilities would be on the same campus.

Considering this history and the imminent need to our community, we ask the VA to prioritize the construction of the Rochester CBOC. The Department of Veterans Affairs has an obligation to provide our Veterans the care they have earned in service to our nation and ensuring the expeditious construction of the Rochester Outpatient Clinic will demonstrate the VA’s commitment to this mission.

On behalf of my membership,

Valentino G. Gatto
President Chapter 20 Vietnam Veterans of America
There are still no new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the National League of Families this month. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War still stands at 1618.

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

- Cpl. Melvin R. Hill, US Army was lost on December 2, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on October 12, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Sgt. James E. Martin, US Army was lost on December 3, 1950 at the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. He was accounted for on October 18, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors in Anacoco, Louisiana on November 17, 2016.
- Cpl. Donald E Matney, US Army was lost on July 20, 1950 at Taggok, South Korea. He was accounted for on October 19, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors in Seymour, Missouri on November 19, 2016.
- Maj. Jack D. Griffiths, US Army was lost on November 30, 1950 North Korea. He was accounted for on October 25, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pfc. Lavern C. Ullmer, US Army was lost on November 3, 1950 at the Hofong Camp, North Korea. He was accounted for on October 25, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors in Dayton, OH. on November 11, 2016.

With the passing of another Veterans Day
Let us remember our men and women who
Have served and sacrificed for this great Nation
And remember those who made the ultimate Sacrifice.
You will never be forgotten
My first trip into a Correctional Facility was in January 1989 and I am looking back over a lot of years. My first contact was with Ernie Bullock, President of Chapter #205 at Auburn Prison, and he will soon be leaving his home in Auburn for a job with the DVA in Florida. Ernie, you and Regina will be missed and thank you for all your support and friendship over so many years........A tip of the hat to Chuck Macaluso and the Memorial Board for a wonderful memorial service last month on the 20th Anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial in Highland Park. All the planning and hard work really paid off and the weather more than cooperated. I wish we could have had more chapter members present because it was time well spent remembering the 280 heroes whose names are on the bollards there. Well done everyone........I appreciate all the recent yarn donations too and I just sent a large package to Attica. Chapter #20 member Jack Michael has persuaded the Universal Yarn Company to donate yarn on a monthly basis to the men at Attica and that will be a huge plus for us and the vets there. So far 150 sets of hats and scarves have been completed and will be donated to needy kids in the Buffalo area. Vets H.E.R.D., a Buffalo non-profit, is sponsoring a Christmas party for the kids at American Legion Post 622 in Williamsville, NY and they have also donated 170 Christmas stockings for the children that will be filled with goodies. Thank you Jack for helping coordinate all that and for attending the September and October meetings of the Attica Active Veterans Group at the prison where 40 and 29 incarcerated veterans attended respectively........

I’m still running my veterans bereavement group at Lifetime Care and one of the participants has volunteered to work in the veterans to veterans hospice program. I got to talk to the new volunteers at Lifetime Care last month at their training and Chapter member John McCaffrey has joined our hospice volunteer team. One quarter of all hospice patients in our area are veterans and I thank John for stepping up and getting involved........Years ago Chapter #20 was very involved in the Veterans Residential Treatment Program at the Groveland Correctional Facility and I routinely went into the prison there. For a variety of reasons the program languished there in recent years and Chapter #603, the VVA Chapter there, has not been viable for several years due in part to many Vietnam vets being paroled. To the best of my knowledge, there is no veterans organization at Groveland but I recently heard that an incarcerated Vietnam vet is attempting to organize a chapter of the Veterans of Modern Warfare there. If so, I am going to provide outside support as I did before and as Chapter #20 has done at Auburn, Attica and the Collins Correctional Facilities. I am very hopeful that this will come to pass as the Department of Corrections seems supportive and they will then appoint a staff advisor who we can correspond with regularly. Keep your fingers crossed because Groveland is where we did our best work transitioning veterans back into society.

Had a great Veterans Day with lots going on and I bet a lot of you got texts and messages from family and friends thanking you for your service. That really means a lot and this year seemed extra special to me for some reason. On 11/12 Ken Moore and I were off at the crack of dawn to Attica but as soon as we got off the Thruway the prison called and advised us not to come in due to the area being assigned the veterans (a mess hall) unexpectedly not being available. These things happen from time to time and I wish I could give you an update on the Attica Active Veterans Group but that will have to wait until next time. Hope you all have a great holiday season!
West Point Revisited

By Ron Trovato

It’s off to the West Point Military Academy once again for eight Chapter #20 members led by the intrepid Hank Wallace, West Point Class of ’66. Hank gets a head start in his beater Kia Optima in a good natured competitive race to the Point despite his leaving scattered brake parts along the way. Jerry McDermott has reserved for us a brand new loaded black SUV which oddly enough has a screwdriver sticking out of the ignition. I am with Fred Elliott, Mike Sanfilippo and Jerry and the conversation is lively as we discuss who to vote against in the upcoming election and the secret to a happy marriage. We are barely out of Jerry’s driveway before we are at each others’ throats. I am under a tremendous personal strain because of an unmentionable waste management incident during last years’ trip and it is only because of Hank’s fleeting belief in me and my promise to eat an entire block of Velveeta cheese prior to leaving that I am even allowed to go again. Additionally, I am silently stewing over an argument I recently had with my wife over her refusal to de-friend Charlie Sheen on Facebook. We are over half way to our destination when we come upon a traffic jam and pass a completely burnt out, smoldering car off the side of Route 17 which Mike points out looks exactly like Hank’s car. I tremble at the unthinkable as Jerry slows down and I am reminded of VVA’s pledge: “Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another”. “Hey, we’re in luck. There’s a McDonalds at the next exit,” says Jerry cheerfully. “Let’s get some lunch!”

Hank too is under monumental pressure as his grip on this group of ex-Army misfits is beginning to show cracks. We no longer resemble the easily controlled, neutered lap dogs of past excursions to West Point. He is barely talking to Valentino who put a For Sale sign in Hank’s car window and he has been wounded by remarks critical of his demolition derby-like driving. Yet there is no doubt that Captain Wallace remains in charge and he has ordered us once again to fall out at 0500 hours for the Army vs. Air Force afternoon game. The rest of the trip is uneventful and, as we pull in to our $19.99 per night motel, which is one step above the foxholes Hank had us dig last year, we silently watch Air Force fans enjoying the amenities at the luxury Ramada Inn across the way. Fred and I settle in for the evening and end up watching the “No Signal” pattern on the broken cable TV bounce around the screen for an hour before we are forced to talk to each other. The conversation naturally turns to Vietnam and Fred shows his legendary unawareness by describing his seamless transition to civilian life after the war while strategically placing claymore mines around his bed. He quickly falls asleep after taking my VA meds by mistake, his body riddled with opiates, and I am flashing like a strobe light the rest of the evening.

We fall out the next morning in the parking lot and I am immediately gigged by Hank for smoking during inspection. He mercifully orders only 100 pushups and I get back in formation with several syringes stuck to my clothes and am rather peeved at Lynn Gursslin for losing count several times during this latest indignity. Following our precision timetable for the game, we park in Area K of West Point at 0645 and sit in our vehicle for several hours watching Air Force fans grilling steaks and cavorting with scantily clad college cheerleaders. Jerry leaves to find different license plates and it is almost too much to bear but eventually we are dispatched to hallowed Michie Stadium where we make the inexorable ascent to our seats. Thankfully there are few clouds to obscure our view of the field and we settle in for a pleasant afternoon of sports, bonding and profanity. The Army team is game, but overmatched by Air Forces size, speed and in with the refs. It is unfortunate too that Army’s entire offense consists of two plays, one of which is a punt. The other play is an option sweep that boldly goes nowhere and I begin to suspect that its regular use is part of some kidnappers ransom demand. The high point of the game is when some West Point cadets steal the Air Force team flags which were placed down the barrels of Army howitzers and summarily dispatched to the next time zone. The game becomes one sided and our only recourse is to take the high ground by loudly pointing out the sexual proclivities of the Air Force fans in our general area.
As our beloved Army team is beaten down so is my morale and the pressure on me ratchets up each minute that goes by. I am soon a cauldron of seething anger and resentment. My mood is turning dark and everything is piling up and I start thinking about stuff that really ticks me off: Fred’s good nights’ sleep, the election, yard work, Jane Fonda, colonoscopies, the same seven songs on the radio, lawyers, time outs before field goals, Daylight Savings Time, men in womens’ bathrooms, the movie “You’ve Got Mail”, Zumba, the guy in front of you standing up on every play, safe spaces, commies, recycling, phone talkers, the prevent defense, deer flies, ice storms, surcharges, school buses, the heartbreak of psoriasis, soft rock bands, taxes, the metric system, luggage fees, French cuffs, plea bargaining, Colin Kaepernick, vegans, shaving, deductibles, the DMV, idiot lights, Hollywood, alternate street parking, hippies, CNN, commies again, sensitive guys, decaf, pillow commercials, pitching changes,..............I’m gonna blow up big time!!!!!!!!.........AEEEEEEE!!!!!!!!!.............Val gratefully offers me some kettle corn and I’m cool again.

When we get back to the cars, the downward spiral the rest of the guys are all in after witnessing Army being mugged is instantly dispelled by Jerry McDermott’s impromptu tailgate party. He opens up the back of the SUV which is ironically loaded with “My Health-e-Vet” brochures. He has bags and coolers loaded with all the main food groups and he passes out Ho Ho’s, pepperoni, candy bars, Slim Jims, cheese, peanut butter, crackers and chips for eight famished, disheartened GI’s. We pounce like Michael Moore on a baked ham, gorging ourselves on carbs and sugar. Once again, all is right with the world and we shake hands, stuff our pockets and hug each other as we leave. Jerry easies the SUV into traffic and in a few minutes, displaying my formidable incuriosity, I am fast asleep.

( Again, I want to thank Hank Wallace for organizing this memorable trip to West Point. The scenery was magnificent with great fall colors all around and we caught a very mild, very sunny day. With that kind of weather, the cadets passed in review and it was just awesome to see that once more before the game. Their marching, uniforms, camaraderie and spirit are unmatched. Army has a good football team and they battled hard the whole way. There is always hope for this country as long as we have the service academies and this hope is not misplaced. There is always hope because we have West Point. Go Army!)
Members of Chapter 20 were invited to the church attended by Lynn Gursslin to participate in their Veterans Day service.
A Quick Visit to the Purple Heart Museum at New Windsor, NY.
Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 627 members and AVVA is at 40 members as of 10/31/16. Membership is growing, but we still need your help in recruiting new members. Don’t forget to renew on time. Don’t let your membership expire.

Please Renew Your Membership!

If you are renewing as a “Life Member”, please remember to include a copy of your DD-214 with your application. PLEASE NOTE: Time payment option (Charge Card) for “Life Membership” has been dropped by National.

When you have an address change, please notify Mike General so we can keep our Roster up to date and notify National.

Need your help in recruiting new members.

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.

Associate Membership 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 issue of the BTL, or by contacting me at (mwgeneral@aol.com)

NEW: We are offering an “Honorary Membership” to Chapter 20 to all spouses who husbands have passed away. If you know of someone who has lost their loved one, please contact Mike General.
Author Mike Keene talks about his book, Vietnam Reflections.

The President of Honor Flight Rochester is presented with a $700 donation from the Chapter.

Somebody had a 241st birthday.

Continued on the next page............
Waiting to cut the cake.

Gilles Bray won the flag drawing

Pete Tantalo won the 50/50

135 people were in attendance!
BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – More than 150 Corvettes roared to life Nov. 3 as 12 wounded warriors from Fort Campbell’s Warrior Transition Battalion approached the parking lot of vehicles, beginning their “Vets ‘n’ ‘Vettes” experience at the National Corvette Museum.

Katie Frassinelli, marketing manager for the Corvette Museum and MotorSports Park, said this is the ninth year the museum has hosted the “Vets ‘n’ ‘Vettes” three-day event. This is the seventh year Soldiers from Fort Campbell have participated.

“Thursday is dedicated to veterans recognition so we like to show them all a good time,” she said. “We offer the rides in Corvettes, laps on the track, a complimentary barbecue lunch, plant tours, museum tours, free ice cream and a $50 gift card to our gift shop. We just like to tell them how much we appreciate their service.”

Since MotorSports Park was built three years ago, Corvette owners from across the country have been invited to drive their vehicles on the track for “Vets ‘n’ ‘Vettes” if they will let wounded warriors and veterans ride with them.

“It’s just a really fun event,” Frassinelli said. “A lot of people here have things in common so they can enjoy getting together and sharing the hobby.”

Frassinelli said there were 150 Corvettes present to offer veterans and wounded warriors laps around the track. She said about 300 people participated in the event overall.

“I would say this is our biggest year for this,” she said. “People really enjoy running the laps. So I think that aspect has helped this event to grow. The veterans love getting the rides so that has helped to increase the participation.

The Soldiers, timid at first, carefully chose a car to slide into and strapped their seatbelts across them before the cars lined up to roll onto the track.

“It was so cool to be out on the track,” Sgt. Dylan Olesen said. “We had the top down. My eyes were watering and my heart was pounding. It was such a great experience. So exhilarating. Such a great feeling.”

Olesen, a Soldier at Fort Campbell WTB, said he heard about the program from his squad leader and decided to sign up for it because he had free time.

“I consider myself a car guy,” he said. “It sounded interesting and I had nothing going on today.”

Olesen said his favorite car from the track was a black 2017 Chevrolet Corvette Z06.
“It was an absolute blast to be here today,” he said. “The track was incredible. Just being able to talk to owners and get their real life experiences with their vehicles. Being out there and being able to test drive all of the vehicles was so great.”

First Lt. Eric Daguanno, cadre at Fort Campbell WTB, said this event is an opportunity for Soldiers to leave Fort Campbell and experience civilian life while also relaxing.

“The [WTB] is all about helping Soldiers transition into the civilian world or back into the [force],” he said. “In doing so, events like this are kind of a therapeutic thing. It gets them into things outside the Army. It’s just one of the many programs that we do that’s more of a therapeutic thing that gets them out of their rooms and keeps them engaged.”

Sergeant Matthew Schwertfeger, a Soldier at WTB, said during the trip he was able to meet new people, which he is grateful for because he moved from Fort Stewart, Georgia to Fort Campbell about two weeks ago.

“I was able to make a few new friends on this trip and I really appreciate that,” he said. “This is a great group of people. These guys have been so welcoming.”

He said during the track time he rode in about six vehicles including two 2017 Chevrolet Corvette Z06s – one silver and one red.

“I was just so impressed by the way they hugged the corners when we were taking turns,” he said. “When our wheels first hit the test track I was just like, ‘Oh my gosh, this is awesome.’ I was so excited about it.”

Schwertfeger said without the “Vets ‘n’ ‘Vettes” event he would not have been able to experience the Corvette Museum or the track at the MotorSports Park.

“They took really good care of us and it was awesome to get away from work and destress,” he said. “I got to hang out with fun people and ride in fast cars. It was great.”

###
Boy Scouts of Troop 127 from Ontario, NY were at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park on Saturday, November 12 for a clean-up project.
Happy Veterans Day

A Tribute to Our Veterans
November 2016

For the Freedoms that we all enjoy.
Our Thanks go to the young men and women
serving in all branches of the military.
We Salute You!

Jonna Johnson, Principal

YOU'RE MY HERO!

HOME OF THE
BRAVE...

THANK YOU FOR
PROTECTORING OUR
COUNTRY
On Saturday, November 12th, VVA Chapter 77 dedicated their “Remembering Vietnam” monument at Veterans Park in the City of Tonawanda. Chapter 20 provided an honor guard and a rifle squad.
Fred Elliott with Jimmie Ferguson who piloted the Cobra in Vietnam. Jimmie came from Bowling Green, Kentucky to be at the Dedication.

Continued on next page....
Santa Claus is coming to town
December 10th from 1-4 P.M.

Join Vets H.E.R.D. and the George F. Lamm Post
for a joyous afternoon to celebrate the Christmas Season
Contact: Jack Michel @ 716.435.7210

George F. Lamm Post #622
962 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221
Tel: 633-7242
Come Fly A Kite For Homeless Veterans
please join us for a Free Family Event

June 3rd, 2017
12 noon - 4 p.m.
Bratteck Waterfront Park
North Tonawanda, NY

Food & Refreshments will be available
(please do not bring any alcohol)

Kites will be available for everyone
Any questions please call
(716) 435-7210 or (716) 515 58 44

Hosted By

VA Health Care
Defining EXCELLENCE in the 21st Century

Veterans One-stop Center
of Western New York, Inc.
www.VOCWNY.org

VETSH.E.R.D. Inc.

Donations will be accepted. All proceeds will go to help Homeless Veterans in WNY.
December 1 – The 25th Infantry Division launches Operation Ala Moana in an effort to keep the VC away from the rice-producing areas adjacent to the Ho Bo and Boi Loi Woods.

December 2 – U.S. Navy jets strike five miles outside Hanoi in the closest raid to the city since June 29th. Further north, two major fuel depots are bombed. A record eight U.S. planes are lost in one day.

December 4 – A VC guerrilla unit penetrates the 13-mile defense perimeter around Tan Son Nhut airport. They succeed in damaging one aircraft before being driven off.

December 5 – The U.S. destroyer Ingersoll is damaged during a battle with a North Vietnamese coastal battery.

December 10 – Governor-elect, Ronald Reagan, declares that he favors “an all-out total effort” in Vietnam.

December 13 – U.S. bombers attack a truck depot two miles south of Hanoi. The raid brings international condemnation.

December 14 – General Westmoreland denies that U.S. bombers have attacked non-military targets in Hanoi.


December 26 – The Defense Department concedes that North Vietnamese civilians may have been bombed accidentally by missions against military targets.

December 27 – U.S. planes drop hundreds of tons of bombs and napalm in the Mekong Delta. It is followed by an attack by 6,000 South Vietnamese troops on a major VC stronghold in the U Minh forest.
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

Could someone you know be in crisis?
The VA’s National Suicide Crisis Line
1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-273-8255
24/7 365 days/per year
Provides professional counseling to veterans, their family members, or friends.

Do you know a veteran who is homeless?
The VA’s National Homeless Veterans Hotline
1-877-424-3838
24/7 365 days/per year
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20

Name: ____________________________________  Date of Birth: ________________ Sex ( ) M ( ) F

Address: ____________________________________  Home Phone: ( 555 )________________________

City: _____________________________________  Work Phone: ( 555 )________________________

Zip: ___________ County: ____________________  Email Address: _______________________

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

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

Term: ( ) 1 Year $20  ( ) 3 Years $50  ( ) Life Membership $100

VVA is a non-profit veterans 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, Inc., 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 granting by contacting the Editor.
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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.
Your business card could be here. Contact Chapter Treasurer, Alan Frisa (afrisa@rochester.rr.com), for details.
Contact Information

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Valentino Gatto vgatto@rochester.rr.com 227-2741 h
V. President Hank Wallace whwnbt@rit.edu 260-6035 c
Secretary Joe Peck jpeck2@rochester.rr.com 734-9046 c
Treasurer Alan Frisa alanfrisa@gmail.com 370-7962 c

VVA Chapter 20 585-482-7396
P.O. Box 12580
www.vva20.org
Rochester, NY 14612

DIRECORS
Ken Allocco KBUD920@yahoo.com 392-9424 h
Bill Auble wauble@hotmail.com 683-2213 c
Dan Corona nycorona@juno.com 406-6108 c
Fred Elliott felliott@rochester.rr.com 317-7619 c
Mike General mwgeneral@aol.com 227-4338 h
Lynn Gursslin loiscarolyn@gmail.com 352-0578 h
Chuck Macaluso chuckmac66@yahoo.com 225-8288 h
Jerry McDermott jerrymcdermott648@gmail.com 313-8188 c
Dick Oleksyn roleksyn@yahoo.com 663-5255 h
Stan Patykiewicz SNMPATYK@rochester.rr.com 247-4830 h
Mike Sanfilippo guardian175@yahoo.com 594-2649 h
Ron Trovato Ronbo215@gmail.com 857-3630 c

VVA REGION 2 DIRECTOR
Ted Wilkinson twilkinson@vva.org 585-786-3502

NYS VVA PRESIDENT
Ned Foote nfoote@vva.org 518-338-8147

STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES
Bill Auble wauble@hotmail.com 683-2213 c
Nick DeLeo ndeleo52@yahoo.com 334-7043 h
Valentino Gatto vgatto@rochester.rr.com 227-2741 h
Ken Moore 17CAV@rochester.rr.com 392-0269 h
Jerry McDermott jerrymcdermott648@gmail.com

AVVA REGION 2 DIRECTOR
Nancy Rekowski nrekowski@avva.org

NYS AVVA PRESIDENT
Cherie Steers csvva@optonline.net 516-822-5938

COMMITTEE CONTACTS
Between The Lines
Editor – Vito Scarpetta nav6770@gmail.com 301-5348 h
Chaplain - Tom Puff tpuff@frontiernet.net 227-2741 h
Chapter Gear – V. Gatto vgatto@rochester.rr.com 227-2741 h
Constitution – Fred Elliott felliott@rochester.rr.com 288-5756 h
Finance – Hank Wallace whwnbt@rit.edu 334-5352 h
Heath – Jerry McDermott jerrymcdermott648@gmail.com 313-8188 c

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
Women Veterans Call Center 889-829-6636
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
P.O.W./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
National Caregivers Support Line 855-260-3274
Homeless Hotline 877-424-3838
Crisis Hotline 800-273-8255

WEB SITES / EMAIL ADDRESSES
Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park
www.rochestervietnammemorial.org/The_Memorial
VVA New York State Council
www.nyvietnamvets.org
Honor Flight
www.HonorFlightRochester.org