First read the candidates’ statements in this issue of the BTL then attend the Chapter meeting on March 10th and listen to their reasons for running for election. Come and listen to what they have to say, ask them questions, and decide for yourself who will be the best leaders for the Chapter.
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The Annual Meeting & Elections will be held April 14, 2016 at 6:00 PM -
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 westbound on 490, exit at Mt. Read Blvd and turn left. Southbound on Mt. Read Blvd to Buffalo Road traffic circle, turn right (westbound) on Buffalo Road. Continue 1.4 miles to 1250 Buffalo Road on the right (North) side.

From the West: Heading eastbound on 490, take exit 33 eastbound (Buffalo Road – Gates Center). Continue eastbound on Buffalo Road. Cross Howard Road and continue about ½ mile to 1250 Buffalo Road on the left (North) side.

Positions for nominations:

- Four Officer positions
- Five Board positions (Directors)
- State Council delegates and alternates will also be elected by the membership that evening.
- The “new” Nominating Committee will also be elected by the membership that evening.
- A “to date” slate of candidates will be finalized by February 15th and published in the March BTL.
- 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 the previous fiscal year are eligible to vote. (For example – 28 February 2014 to vote April 2015.)
- 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 until 7:30 PM, after which no new ballots will be taken and votes will be tabulated.
- According to the VVA National 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 in the March and April BTL issues.)

Each candidate will address the membership at the March meeting stating their reasons for seeking an elected position.

Any member interested in running for any of the above mentioned positions, please contact one of the following Nominating Committee members: Chuck Macaluso 585-225-8288 or Dan Corona 585-406-6108.
My name is Valentino Gatto and I served in the US Army from 1966-68 at Ft. Carson, Colorado. I was seriously injured in basic training and spent 9 months in the hospital. Later, I served as a Chaplain’s Assistant until my discharge. During my recovery, while going back and forth to the hospital, I would spend time with the wounded patients there to help pass the time and write letters to their families. I have been a Chapter 20 member for 10 years and was elected to the Board of Directors in 2009. In the same year, I took on the sales of the “Chapter Gear.” Soon after, I joined the Honor Guard and subsequently became Assistant Commander of both the Honor Guard and Marching Unit. In 2010, I was elected as a delegate to the NYS Council and my duties with Chapter 20 were expanded to include Coordinator of Social Events. In 2011, I was elected Chapter 20 Vice President, the following year I was elected to serve as your Chapter President, a position I have held for the past 4 years. When I first became president, times were challenging and I had to learn a lot very quickly. We had recently moved to a new location for our meetings, the BTL was going online with significant changes and we were looking for alternative sources of income, due to the closing of our Thrift Store, which would keep the chapter on a firm financial footing. Presently, we are financially viable for at least the next 10 years. Over the past 4 years, we have settled into the Italian American Sports Club where the members are very comfortable. General membership meetings remain very well attended. In my monthly reports, I point out all I have done to represent the chapter and keep us in the forefront of veterans’ organizations in the Rochester community. Forgive me for being a little prideful here, but we are second to none. I have been helped immeasurably by excellent Executive Officers and a knowledgeable Board of Directors, a group I enjoy working with, that bring their expertise to a wide range of issues. There is an active give and take at board meetings that help all of us to make decisions that are in the best interest of the chapter. In short, we have a healthy, active and forward-looking chapter. If elected I would use the next 2 years to continue to develop a strategic plan for our future, while at the same time try to find new ways to expand our membership and footprint in the Rochester and surrounding area. I realize that as captain of the ship, so to speak, that I have a significant responsibility that is first and foremost to the members of Vietnam Veterans Chapter 20.
I was drafted into the U.S. Army in December 1965. After vacationing at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Fort Riley, Kansas, I was privileged to take an ocean cruise to sunny South Vietnam in January of 1967 as part of the 9th Infantry Division. Three months later I found myself being traded to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment to finish my in-country tour.

I became a member of Chapter 20 in March of 1983 and a Life Member of VVA in March of 1987. My involvement with the Chapter began immediately in 1983 by being active with the Marching Unit, the Legislative Committee, and the Membership Committee. In 1984 I was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Chapter Board of Directors (BOD). The following year I was elected Chapter Secretary and in 1986, Chapter Treasurer. I was elected Chapter Vice President in 1989 and again in 1990. In 1994 I was again elected as Chapter Treasurer for a two-year term. Then in 1997 I was elected as a Chapter Director. Beginning in 1998, I was elected to serve a two-year term as Chapter President.

As my term as Chapter President was winding down, I decided to run for a National position. In the summer of 1999 I was elected as a National At-Large Director. I went on to become the Region 2 Director for several years and finally was elected National Vice President in 2011 for a two-year term.

In 2014 I was elected to a three-year term as a Chapter Director. I am currently in my third year as the Editor for the Chapter newsletter. This year I will be conducting the second bi-annual Leadership Training Seminar for the Chapter. The Seminar accomplishes three major items: (1) the Chapter saves close to $10,000 by having a local Seminar instead of traveling to a National Seminar, (2) current Chapter Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs are presented with an opportunity to increase their knowledge base, and (3) individuals interested in becoming future Officers, Directors, or Committee Chairs have an opportunity to “test the waters” before making a full commitment. I believe that all my previous experience in various elected positions at both the Chapter and National level of VVA make me uniquely qualified to be Chapter President. My involvement with several Chapter committees, the Marching Unit, and the Honor Guard allow me to stay in touch with Chapter members and be knowledgeable about the issues that are important to them as veterans.

As your President I will strive to infuse some new energy and enthusiasm in the Chapter. I will ask my fellow Officers and Committee Chairs for ideas on how best to improve the Chapter; how to become more engaged with our fellow Veterans Service Organizations locally (VFW, AL, DAV); we will explore more ways to become involved in direct support of today’s Veterans and their families; Committee Chairs will be tasked with specific items and given the freedom and responsibility to fulfill their duties.

I have the time, the energy, the interest, and the passion to be your President. I am asking you to support me in my bid to be your next President. Thank you.
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, a board member since 2007 and Secretary since 2011 and have now joined the ranks as a Life member of VVA. I am also the POW/MIA chair for the Chapter and a member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial 20th Anniversary committee.

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 retired after almost 35 years of service at Xerox and will be celebrating 40 years of marriage this year and 45 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 level of standard. With your vote of confidence, I would like to continue to perform my duties with the executive committee and board to the best of my abilities.

Thank you.

I would like to run for the position of Treasurer. I have taken care of the books for the Chapter for the past 4 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 was drafted in 1966 into the US Army took basic training at Ft Dix 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.

Thank you for your time.
Your brother,
Alan J. Frisa
My name is Ken Allocco and I am running as a candidate to serve on the Board of Directors. I grew up in the Town of Greece, and graduated from Greece Olympia High School in 1967. I entered the United States Air Force in 1968 and continued my service through 1975.

I have been an active member of Chapter 20 for over 15 years. I have enjoyed my many years of involvement in the Honor Guard and Marching Unit. Many of you are also familiar with the success of our monthly flag raffle that I have managed for the last two years.

Serving on the Board of Directors will allow me to increase my involvement with an organization that I am so passionate about. Ensuring my fellow veterans are aware of the services available to them is our most important mission; and we need to continue to grow in our community through education and advocacy. A fresh set of eyes to the Board will help us achieve this; so I humbly ask for your support this year when placing your vote.

Was in the reserves for two years.  
Was the President of the Rochester Chapter, Cycles for Christ, Christian Motorcycle Association for 11 years.  
Have been responsible for selling Chapter Gear for the past year.  
Have been serving on the Chapter Board of Directors for the past

I am running for and looking forward to serving the membership again as a Chapter Board Member. I hope you will vote me back onto the Board. Thank you all.
1. My Primary Goal, is to serve all Veterans and their Families. I am a “Life Member” of Chapter 20.
2. I have been on the Board of Directors of Chapter 20 for 6 years and have enjoyed serving the Chapter.
3. I am the Membership Chairman and have served in that capacity for 8 years.
4. I have been involved in many Trailer Events and many Veteran’s Outreach Events throughout Monroe County.
5. I am a Member of Chapter 20 Honor Guard and Marching Unit.
6. I am Past Commander of Greece Memorial Post 206. (American Legion)
7. I am a Member of Operation Welcome Home.
8. I am a Patriot Guard Member with over 40 Missions.
9. Worked for Honor Flight as The Speakers Bureau Coordinator, also Saturday departures and Sunday Welcome Home.
10. I was in the Air Force from 1962-1966.
11. Past Member of Congressmen Lee’s Veteran Advisory Board.
12. Past Ministry Leader at Hope Lutheran Church for a Small Group named “Hopekeepers”. (for people with chronic illness and pain)
13. Married to Diane for 52 years and have a Son and Daughter with 5 Grandchildren and one Great Grand Daughter.

I’m a proud United States Marine. Served 69-71, Vietnam 70-71, and Active Reserves 71-75. I graduated from Edison Tech. in 1967, went to work at Kodak while going to RIT, got drafted, and then joined the Marine Corp. When I came home, I went to work in the Tool and Die industry, and have been at it ever since, in varying positions.

I now have joined my wife of 37 years, in retirement. Now that I’m retired, I have time to finish all the started projects at home, work on my hobbies, and play with the grandkids. Best of all, I will also have a little more time to focus on Chapter 20 activities and issues (Yeah!!!).

I joined VVA Chapter 20 in 1990, but only started participating in 2008. I am on the Honor Guard/Marching Unit and also on the Board of Directors working with benefits. My term as a director is up in April. I would like to continue working with the membership in keeping us updated on benefits issues and help those who may need to get through the process. Also, with my past experiences, I can work with the rest of the board on all issues pertaining to veterans.

Chapter 20 is family, and I would be honored if the membership would consider me for another term. Thank you for your consideration.
My primary goal is to stand together and be a part of a strong voice of advocacy for every Vietnam veteran, their families, and all veterans. I am a life member of Chapter 20 and have served 21 of my 28 years on the Board of Directors. I co-chaired the VVA NYS convention in Rochester; chaired the 20th Anniversary celebration and subsequent annual dinners; was a delegate at VVA National Conventions in 1999 and 2001; served as liaison between the VVA Thrift Store and the BOD pre-LLC; coordinated several bus trips to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC; worked with the Chapter to raise funds for and worked on our own Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park.

My wife, Sue, and I worked on every March for the Memorial (to raise funds needed). I assist on the Veterans’ Walk at the Memorial as well. I was Social Events Chair for the Chapter for 10 years. I am a member of the Marching Unit and Honor Guard and have participated in parades and funeral details and many other events. I had the honor to be on the Honor Guard unit for the repatriation of two of our local MIAs in Arlington Cemetery at their funerals. I also work on details to send boxes to our active duty military in harm’s way and conduct tours at the Memorial or address classes of students of all ages as requested on Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day. We also have helped provide food baskets, etc. to our local veterans in need.

I graduated from Edison Tech in 1964 and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1965, with a 13-month tour in Vietnam (1966-67) with the 6/71 Arty – Cam Rahn Bay and Nha Trang. I retired from Eastman Kodak Company after 34-1/2 years of service. I co-founded and am active in The Shoremont (neighborhood) Association, Inc., and NYS Certified Neighborhood Watch for our community. We work with the police and fire departments and local officials to maintain the integrity and safety of our community.

I belong to DAV Post 15 as a life member, am a member of American Legion Post 474, a life member of VFW Post 16 and was appointed by the NYS Governor to the NYS Board of Visitors for the NYS Veterans Nursing Home in Batavia; I have served 15 years in this role.

My wife, Sue, and I have been married for 43 years. We have two children – Cory (an IT engineer at Xerox and Past Chief, Lake Shore Fire Department) and Laura (a tenured early childhood teacher who received the VVA college scholarship). Laura married our son-in-law, Kyle, in 2011; they have blessed us with our Grandchildren, Luke and Christian, and our granddog, Teddy Bear.

If elected, I will continue to be a strong voice for the Chapter and every veteran to the best of my ability. NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT !!
My name is Mike Sanfilippo and I am running for reelection to the VVA Chapter 20 Board of Directors. I would like to give you a little background about myself. I served with the US Army for two years in Transportation as a five ton tractor trailer driver. I also served eight years in the US Army Reserve 98th Division Committee Group as a Basic Training Instructor at Fort Dix and Fort Leonard Wood.

I graduated from Edison Tech in Rochester. When I returned from the Army, I entered an apprenticeship working as a welder and precision sheet metal fabricator at Uniweld and Mixing Equipment Corp. I then spent twenty eight years at Eastman Kodak. After Kodak, I worked as a supervisor for a major security company for four years before retiring. I have been married to my wife, Joan and we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year. Our family consisted of two daughters and two grandchildren with the recent addition of great grandchildren.

I have been a life member of Chapter 20 since the 1980’s. I have been a member of the Chili American Legion Post 1830 for over twenty three years and I am also a life member of Chili VFW Memorial Post 412. I am currently serving as a Vice Commander in both the American Legion Post and the VFW Post. I also served on the Board of Directors in the American Legion. I enjoy sports such as hunting, fishing, shooting and spending time at my hunting camp in Birdsall.

Most of my years at Kodak included working the “B” trick which prevented me from being as involved in community activities as I would have liked. However, I was involved with the United Way at Kodak for many of those years.

The past three years as a board member has been very interesting. I enjoy being involved in keeping the Chapter on track to being solvent for many years to come. With the closing of the Thrift store we have to make the right decisions to preserve our savings and investments. I have learned a lot and met some really nice people in the last three years.

In the past year I was asked by our President to take on the role of working with the Chapter’s Public Relations. This includes working with the D&C and community newspapers as well as television stations when we have major events. I also am involved helping with health and membership outreaches. Currently I am also participating in the Lifetime Care Hospice Program which is a very rewarding experience.

I find being on the board of an organization, volunteering and working with other people to be very rewarding. I am looking forward to the opportunity to lead Chapter 20 into the future.

Life member of VVA and Marine Corps League (Senior Vice Commander). Member of Ely Fagan Post for 27 years (Chaplain and Past Commander). Retired from Rochester Psych. Center where I worked in medical records and served as a Union Steward. I have served on the Chapter Board three times including a term as Treasurer. I took a short break from the BOD between terms after my son died of lung cancer. I am ready to serve again if it is the will of the membership.
My name is Ken Moore and I think I know most of you but I want to give you a little background on myself and tell you a little why I’m running for the Board of Directors. I was drafted into the Army November of 1965 after basic, AIT I shipped out to Vietnam and spent a year as infantry with D Troop 17 cavalry. Returned home and back to work at Kodak retiring in 1991.

My past VVA experience, I served as your president for many years in the past, served as secretary, board member and NY state council rep. My other veterans involvement over the years are as follows: Past National VP of Veterans Aimed toward Awareness, a veteran health group; presently National President of Heather French foundation for veterans; past member of Monroe County Veterans advisory committee; VP of the Greater Rochester Vietnam Memorial board and member since 1986; Veterans Service officer / Outreach Coordinator for 12 years; Life Member of Chapter 20 member since 1986; 2011 elected into New York State Veterans Hall of fame.

I would like to tell you a few ideas I have on why I would like to be elected president. Vietnam Veterans of America founding principle is “NEVER AGAIN SHALL A GENERATION OF VETERANS FORGET ANOTHER” These principles were based on the way we as Vietnam Veterans were treated as we returned home. Today I feel there is much more we as members can do to support our fellow veterans and below are some suggestions, concerns and ideas.

1. Today veterans of all eras are homeless in the streets of Rochester. I’m not sure of the answer but I think supporting Richards House, Eagle Star shelter and others would be a good start. We may also want to form a committee to go out with Monroe County Social Services looking for those vets and get them shelter and food.
2. Many of us in the chapter along with veterans in other parts of the county are either in need of filing claims for compensation or have claims pending. Today the VVA office in the Buffalo VA is swamped with claims and we may need to hire a service officer, this is one of the most important programs in VVA for veterans of all eras.
3. We need to get more proactive in voicing our displeasure of the VA as a whole from the claims and appeals taking too long, not accurate and incomplete.
4. We need to reach out to all veterans and help them get the benefits they deserve. Many of them have no idea their benefits that may be due like compensation and health care for their service. In the past we set up in the malls and other areas that draw a crowd and I think we need to get back to that because today there are still veterans that need our help.
5. We need to get more proactive getting the VA move forward on the new clinic. The money is now there but the VA is dragging their feet. With the lack of space at ROPC and no parking it’s well past due on the new clinic. We need to put the pressure on our elected officials and not ask but demand this project move forward.

In closing there is much more I could talk about but I’ll leave you with asking for your support and elect me to the Board of Directors.
Metcalf, Larry Duane 3-1-1942
Koch, Kenneth Edwin 3-4-1949
Shorack, Theodore 3-6-1929
Schieb, Ralph Eugene 3-6-1945
McFarland, Sylvester 3-8-1948
Leone, John Frank 3-9-1947
Beale, Robert B. 3-11-1939
Hockridge, James A. 3-12-1944
Carapezza, Richard Allen 3-13-1948
Bachmann, Jr., Lynn 3-15-1945
Roberts, Wallace 3-17-1928
Nadeau, Harold Bradley 3-17-1947
Malone, Richard Lee 3-18-1950
DeRue, David John 3-19-1947
Coles, Leonard Ashworth 3-20-1945
Keenan, Dennis Joseph 3-22-1943
Nederlk, Michael Alexander 3-22-1948
Kooman, Gary Roger 3-23-1946
Curtis, David Allen 3-23-1949
Covey, Jr., Elwood D. 3-29-1943
Siegwalt, Marlin L. 3-30-1937
Natale, Nicholas Anthony 3-31-1948
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
There are 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 1624.

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

- Roy A. Henderson, US Army was recorded lost July 27, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on January 14, 2016 and will be buried with full military honors.
- Dudley L. Evans, US Army was recorded lost on February 15, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on January 29, 2016 and will be buried with full military honors.

“Welcome Home Brothers”

We shall never give up hope
Until they are all home

(See the POW/MIA “Family Tree” on the next page.)
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency - Family Tree

JPAC: Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command
DPMO: Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (originally, Defense POW/MIA Office)
LSEL: Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory
CILHI: Central Identification Laboratory – Hawaii
JTF - FA: Joint Task Force - Full Accounting
CDO: Central Documentation Office
DIA: Defense Intelligence Agency
Task Force Russia: US Army Organization
ISA: International Security Affairs
CIL – THAI: Central Identification Laboratory - Thailand
JCRC: Joint Casualty Resolution Center
JPRC: Joint Personnel Recovery Center
Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 605 members and AVVA is at 41 members as of 12/31/15. 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: LIFE MEMBERSHIP IS NOW $100 FOR ANY MEMBER.

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.
Highlights of the February Membership Meeting

Gail Melens, Nancy Vanapeldoorn, Rita Hasenauer, Mary Kier, Barb Stifter

Chapter 20 President Gatto receives a lap robe

Dale Webster, Commander of Chili Post 1830, presents a $500 donation for Lap Robes for Veterans

Mary Ellen Kesel of the VA Vet Center accepts a $700 donation

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE
New Member – Robin Dettman – US Army

Steve Mros won the flag drawing

Hank Wallace won the 50/50 drawing

Lynn Gursslin won a lap robe

- Despite the bad weather, 97 people were in attendance
- Chapter member Charlie Ennis spoke about the need to talk to your local school board about the available veterans tax exemption for school taxes
- Chapter member Mike Sanfilippo spoke about an ad campaign the Board approved with the Democrat & Chronicle
Canal View Elementary School in Spencerport - Valentine’s Day Salute to Veterans

Alan Frisa, Ken Moore, Dave Dietrich

Tom Hetherington, Dick Oleksyn

Joe Peck (on the right) with his cousin Ed
Awards

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
This Award recognizes a group, organization or individual who has demonstrated a strong sense of community service and who favorably recognizes and relates to Vietnam Veterans’ issues.
My nomination for this award is____________________________ Because_____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________

VETERAN SERVICE AWARD
This Award recognizes an individual who demonstrated outstanding dedication in improving the conditions of Vietnam Veterans and/or the Community. (There may be up to 3 awards presented annually.)
My nomination for this award is____________________________ Because_____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________

ROGER ROBACH AWARD
This Award is given to an individual who has spent a minimum of ten years working for the betterment of all veterans in New York State.
My nomination for this award is____________________________ Because_____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________

DON AND RORI MURRELL HUMANITARIAN AWARD
This Award is given to an individual who has accomplished an extraordinary effort on behalf of active duty personnel and/or veterans and their families. (All individuals are to be considered for this award regardless of Chapter or veteran affiliation.)
My nomination for this award is____________________________ Because_____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
This Award is given to an individual, group or organization that, through their single or continuous action, has favorably benefitted Vietnam or other Veteran issues.
My nomination for this award is____________________________ Because_____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please consider nominating those who you feel go above and beyond their normal duties and submit your nominations to the Secretary, Joe Peck, at jpeck2@rochester.rr.com  Deadline for all nominations is March 12th, 2016.
Canandaigua Highlights

Volunteer Opportunities

- Clerical
- Hospice Visitation
- Canteen Food Assistants
- Welcome Center Greeters
- Laundry assistance
- Recreation Therapy
- Transportation drivers
- Veterans History Project
- Wheelchair escorts

All volunteers must complete an orientation prior to volunteering. Weekly orientations are held Thursdays in Voluntary Service, Building 7, room 19. Please call Gina Deck to schedule an appointment at (585) 393-7761. To schedule an orientation at the Rochester VA Outpatient Clinic please call Louise Motyka at (585) 393-7729. Thank you for considering volunteering with the Canandaigua VA Medical Center!

Bea Sank (right), American Legion Auxiliary 7th District President, coordinates holiday gifts to be sent to the family of Michael Thomas (left), a retired Gunnery Sgt. United States Marine Corps Veteran and Community Living Center resident.

On September 28, Hank Riegel, Recreation Program Manager, accepted a generous donation of $4,000 for Veterans from members of the Canandaigua Skychiefs.

Wish List

- Baking items, granola bars, snack size chips
- Deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream, body lotion, nail clippers
- Forever postage stamps
- Gift cards from Walmart, Wegmans, Tops, Dunkin Donuts, Tim Hortons, Home Depot, Lowes, or prepaid gas cards
- Paper products (plates, napkins)
- Tickets to sporting events, zoo, bowling, movies, music, Bristol Mountain Aerial Adventures and outings
- Jeans (assorted sizes)
- T-shirts (any color; L, XL, 2XL)
- Underwear
- White t-shirts (XL, 2XL)
- Winter coats (all sizes; men’s and women’s)
- Winter hats and gloves
- Socks and shoe laces
- Sneakers and boots (all sizes)
- Sweat pants/sweatshirts

Women’s Clothing:
All new items
- New underwear (sizes six and up)
- New sports bras (M – XL)
- Sweatpants/sweatshirts (M – XL)

For Homeless Program:
All new items
- Air mattresses
- Alarm clocks
- Blankets & pillows
- Brooms
- Kitchen items (dishes, utensils, pots/pan)
- Mops
- Shower curtains and hooks
- Towels, sheets and pillow cases
- Toilet paper and cleaning supplies
- Vacuum cleaners

Friendly reminder that calendars, greeting cards, books and magazines are not needed at this time.
Employees from **Gleason Works** donated more than 200 holiday stockings for Veterans at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center. “We are happy to help in some small way,” said **Kay Pierson**, Gleason Works Benefits Specialist. “It’s the least we can do for those who have sacrificed so much for us. Happy Holidays from Gleason Works!”


On November 17, the **Canandaigua Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 4** donated a 2015 Ford Flex valued at $34,000 to the Canandaigua VA Medical Center.

Left to right: **Robin Johnson**, Voluntary Service Manager; **Peg Owens**, Associate Director Canandaigua VA Medical Center; **Nick Conrad**, DAV Hospital Service Coordinator; **Garnet Root**, U.S. Air Force Korean War Veteran; **Marty Collins**, DAV Commander; and **Ron Edwards** DAV Chaplain and Treasurer.

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### Calendar

**Second Monday of each month (January – December)**  
Bee Keepers Association Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

**Third Monday of each month (January – December)**  
Canandaigua Lake Trout Unlimited Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

**Fourth Tuesday of each month (January – May)**  
(September – November)  
Project Healing Waters Clinic  
7:00 p.m.

**Fourth Wednesday of each month**  
Remote Control Model Plane Flying Club  
6:00 p.m.

**Thursday of each month (December – July)**  
Snow Shoeing  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Auditorium

**Wednesday, February 3**  
VA Voluntary Service/Community Council Meeting  
1:00 p.m., Auditorium

**February 14 - 20**  
Natural Salute to Veterans  
See Schedule of Events

**March 7 - 11**  
National Veterans Creative Arts Competition, Local Veterans Show  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Auditorium  
For more information and/or to participate please contact Hank Riegel at (585) 393-7370.

**Tuesday, March 31**  
American Red Cross Blood Drive  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Auditorium

**April 10 - 17**  
National Volunteer Week  
Refreshments served for volunteers in Building 7 and at the Rochester VA Outpatient Clinic and Clinton Crossings

**Wednesday, April 13**  
Annual Volunteer Awards Banquet  
Burgundy Basin Inn  
11:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, April 13**  
*Midsummer Night’s Dream performance*  
4H Drama Club  
1:00 p.m., Auditorium

**Sunday, April 17**  
Sweetheart Dance  
2:00 p.m., Auditorium

**Monday, May 2**  
Re-Creation Show  
2:00 p.m., Auditorium

**Wednesday, May 4**  
VA Voluntary Service/Community Council Meeting  
6:00 p.m., Auditorium

**Saturday, May 21**  
Welcome Home 2016  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Johnson-Costello American Legion, Penn Yan

Catholic Mass is held Monday, Tuesday and Friday in the Catholic Chapel in Building 3 at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday in Building 8B at 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Services are held on Sundays starting at 9:10 a.m. on 8B and 10:30 a.m. on 7B.

Please contact Chaplain Service at (585) 393-7886 for more information.

* Escorts Needed  
Escorts are needed 45 minutes prior to events to take Veterans to the Auditorium and/or Pavilion. Without your assistance, many of the Veterans may not be able to participate.
VA COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VIETNAM WAR

Date: March 29, 2016
Time: 5:30pm
Place: Monroe Community Hospital, 435 East Henrietta Road (at the corner of Westfall Road)

This event is being planned by:

- Canandaigua VAMC/Rochester VA Outpatient Clinic
- VA Vet Center
- VA Voluntary Services Organizations
- Military reserve musical support
- Monroe County Veterans Service Agency

Schedule:

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

- Food – appetizers/light fare – provided by Monroe County Veterans Service Agency

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

- Invocation – Chaplain Searle
- Guest Speaker – Gary Beikirch, Medal of Honor Recipient
- Vietnam War Veteran Affairs presentation of certificates from County Executive
- Presentation of Vietnam Veteran Coin by Canandaigua VAMC Interim Director Michael Swartz
- Slide show with welcome home

7:30 pm

- Dessert Social
**LEADERSHIP SEMINAR**

Have you ever thought about becoming an Officer, Director, or Committee chair for Chapter 20? If so, join us on Saturday, July 23rd from 9am to 3pm at the Chili American Legion Post #1830, 450 Chili-Scottsville Rd.

We will be providing “seminars” on what is involved in becoming part of the leadership of Chapter 20. Information and hand-outs will be provided on all elected and appointed positions within the Chapter.

There will be plenty of time for questions and answers. Topics will include the Chapter Policies and Procedures, each of the Officer positions, being a Director, Committee Chairs and other appointees, as well as other items of interest.

No registration fees, free parking, and hand-outs to take home; so if you plan on attending, contact Fred Elliott at felliott@rochester.rr.com or by phone at 585-317-7619. You must be a member of Vietnam Veterans of America to attend.

*Sponsored by the Officers and Directors of Chapter 20.*

This Seminar is open to all current members of Chapter 20.
Stand Down 2016
FREE EVENT
for all Military Veterans
Friday, March 4, 2016
9 am to 3 pm
Harro East Theatre & Ballroom
155 N. Chestnut St., Rochester

Breakfast and Lunch
Provided by Blue Star Mothers NYS #1

Veterans Benefits • Housing • Social Security • Employment
Health Care • Public Assistance • VA Eligibility • Senior Services
Peer Mentoring • Veteran Organizations • Education Counseling
FREE Personal Care Kits & MORE!

Bring your DD 214, military discharge papers, if available.
For more info, contact Veterans Outreach Center
585-546-4250
March 1 – The Republic of Korea announced its plans to increase its commitment to Vietnam by another division and an additional regiment. Australia revealed plans to triple its forces in Vietnam.

March 2 – U.S. forces in South Vietnam number 215,000 with another 25,000 on the way.

March 4 – Operation Utah/Lien Kiet 26 begins as a combined operation with the U.S. Marines and ARVN in the vicinity of Quang Ngai City.

March 7 – The first CH-46 Sea Knight Marine Helicopter Squadron (HMM-164) arrives in Vietnam.

March 9 – An estimated three NVA battalions attack an Army Special Forces camp at A Shau near the Laotian border. Twelve of the 17 Green Berets and 172 Vietnamese were withdrawn on March 12 after 3 days of intense fighting.

March 15 – The U.S. Army’s 25th Division (Tropic Lightning) is deployed to Vietnam.

March 20 – The five-day Operation Texas/Lien Kiet 28, a search-and-clear “reaction” operation, is launched by the U.S. Marines, ARVN and Vietnamese Marine Corps in order to retake the An Hoa outpost in Quang Ngai Province. The Marines and ARVN claim 623 enemy casualties.

March 26/27 – In Operation Kings, two U.S. Marine companies from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, advance towards Route 4. Heavy resistance by the enemy draws Marine jets which eliminate the enemy with bombing, napalm, and 20mm cannons. This pattern is repeated for a second day thus destroying the dug-in enemy and clearing them from an area they had previously dominated.

March 29 – The 9th U.S. Marines enlarge their zone of operation south of Cau Do. And the 1st Marine Division headquarters is established at Chu Lai.
Female Veterans Drop-In Coffee House
The house at 1010 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607
Friday evenings 5:30 to 7:30

Come meet other female veterans in a safe, casual environment to connect, share resources, and network. Coffee, tea, soft drinks, pizza, veggie platter, and dessert provided. For further information call Rochester Blue Star Mothers (585) 350-7271 or e-mail DropIn@BlueStarMomsROC.com

2016 Dates
January through October we meet the 2nd and 4th Friday nights.

January 8 & 22
February 12 & 26
March 11 & 18 - 2nd and 3rd Fridays
April 8 & 22
May 13 & 27

June 10 & 24
July 8 & 22
August 12 and 26
September 9 & 23
October 14 & 28

November and December we meet the 1st and 3rd Friday nights.

November 4 & 18
December 2 & 19
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: ____________________________________ 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


Term: (     ) 1 Year $20  (     ) 3 Years $50 (     ) Life Membership $100 Return this application, along with a copy of your DD214 to:
Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 12580
Rochester, NY 14612

VVA is a non-profit veterans service organization. Programs and services are funded by member dues and public donations.

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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.
Board Meetings | Membership Meetings
---|---
March 1, 2016 | March 10, 2016
April 5, 2016 | April 14, 2016
May 3, 2016 | May 12, 2016

**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.
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Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial  753-7275  
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

**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

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