With our Annual Dinner approaching, it’s time to think about those who serve the Chapter as well as all veterans. There are several awards given each year and we are fortunate to have many people in both our Chapter and the community who work diligently above and beyond their normal duties to serve Veterans. Consider those around you and nominate them for one or more of the following 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 11th, 2017.

THE JANUARY WEIGH IN was a good start to the 4-month campaign. Thirty-five members participated, but we need more of you to join in. It’s only the beginning and not too late if you missed last month’s meeting or have a change of mind, you can start at the February meeting. We have until April to show that we CAN DO for a healthier YOU!!!
NEWS FROM THE BOARD

On January 6th, Joe Peck, Hank Wallace and Valentino Gatto attended the dinner meeting at the Italian American Sport Club to present Rino Altiero, club president, a donation from Chapter 20.

On January 21st, Jerry McDermott, Bill Able and Valentino Gatto attended the New York State Council meeting. Jerry and Val participated in the Rifle Salute. Jerry held a rifle and Val commended the unit. Jerry will be giving a report on PTSD and Substance Abuse at our next meeting.

On January 23rd, Stan Patykiewicz and Valentino Gatto attended the “Veterans Lives” meeting sponsored by Ralph Prezut. The focus of this research project is to bring together community members in order to actively and meaningfully discuss salient issues in veteran health care. Stan’s and Valentino’s input helped aid the research project team in understanding and developing dynamic ways to engage and empower veterans, the community in patient-centered outcomes, and comparative effectiveness research processes and activities.
This year I would like to add a couple of new sections to the BTL. Sections that we can all contribute to and hopefully have some fun by sharing and enjoying our fond memories. I’d like to focus on us then and now. These memories can either be from Vietnam or other duty stations around the world. Below are some examples that may help you in your selections.

- **Photos of Nam/duty stations** - Share your favorite scenery photo of Nam or a shot you took while on R&R or at your duty station and we’ll post it in a new section of the BTL.

  - View from Monkey Mt, DaNang
  - Sydney Opera House, R&R in Sydney Australia

- **Me and my Buddies** – Made a friend(s) in country, keeping in touch? Share a photo of you and them and tell us about them.

  - Aboard the USS Maury AGS 16, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
  - Break time at Deep Water Piers Staging Area, Da Nang
• **Me Then and Now** – Share a picture of yourself back then and today. We'll scramble the photos and see how good we are in matching the then and now photos. The answers will be posted in the same issue.

Stacking Cargo, Deep Water Piers, Da Nang

Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

You can either email me the photo at vietvet6748@gmail.com or send it through Dropbox. Make sure you include your name, where the pictures were taken and the names of those people in the picture. Entries must be sent and received by the 15th day of each month to make the following months BTL. Of course, if the volume is such that I would not be able to put all the received photos in that months BTL, I will publish your entries on a first come first basis and hold the photos that do not make it for the following months BTL.

Start digging into your footlockers, sea bags and duffel bags and brush off those pictures!
Remembering February’s Fallen Heroes

Website - http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

Dunham, Richard Francis 2-1-1945
Marasco, William Frederick 2-4-1949
Webber, Frederick Carl 2-5-1947
Forbush, Jr., Robert 2-5-1948
Waldron
Burns, Rocky August 2-5-1951
Hoff, Michael Gordon 2-9-1945
Fegan, Ronald James 2-11-1941
Moore, John Bigelow 2-12-1937
Thacker, James 2-12-1938
Smith, Richard Albert 2-12-1945
Grassi, Ernest Joseph 2-13-1947
Hughes, Graham 2-13-1949
Luker, Russell B. 2-17-1933
Ellsworth, Elmer Edward 2-18-1948
Matarazzo, Peter David 2-20-1949
French, Albert Leroy 2-23-1928
Fusco, Paul Richard 2-23-1947
Strassner, Cornelius William 2-24-1947
Colburn, Richard Eugene 2-24-1950
Fischer, Jr., George Warren 2-25-1945
Harden, John 2-26-1945
Marks, Jr., George Alfred 2-27-1945
Marsh, John Robert 2-27-1949
Dennison, James Richard 2-28-1934

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

Friends of the Memorial
To be placed on the volunteer contact list, contact Chuck Macaluso at 585-225-8288 or Chuckmac66@yahoo.com
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
With the New Year starting, there is new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the National League of Families that another missing American has been recovered and accounted for. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War now stands at 1617.

1st Lieutenant William Cornelius Ryan Jr., from Bogota, New Jersey. As a Marine Corps Reservist, he arrived in Vietnam in August 1968 and was first assigned to VMFA-334 (F-4J) and then transferred to VMFA 115 as a radar intercept officer on board an F-4B with the Marine Fighter Attack force, Marine Air Group 13, 1st Marine Air Wing, Fleet Marine Force Pacific. On May 11, 1969 he was scheduled to go on R&R with his wife in Hawaii but had cancelled to cover for someone who was sick for a mission that day. While on this combat mission over Savannakhet Province, Laos, his aircraft was pulling out of a bombing pass and was hit by enemy AAA ground fire. The pilot lost control of the aircraft and ejected before the plane crashed. A search and recovery effort was made and the Pilot was rescued. The pilot stated that Lt. Ryan was killed instantly from shrapnel that penetrated the belly of the aircraft. Lt. Ryan was then declared deceased. In 1993, the remnants of Lt. Ryans planes and an unopened parachute were discovered near Ban Alang Noi. The site was later excavated and human remains were sent to the DPAA on February 17, 2016 for analysis and identification. On January 3, 2017, 1st Lt. William Cornelius Ryan Jr. was officially accounted for. He will be laid to rest with full military honors pending interment services.

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

- SFC. Eugene J. Colley, US Army was lost on December 2, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on December 12, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Staff Sgt. Byron H. Nelson, US Army Air Corps was lost on April 25, 1944 in Italy. He was accounted for on December 12, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Cpl. James T. Mainhart, US Army was lost on November 30, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on December 12, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
• Cpl. George A. Perreault, US Army was lost on February 13, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on December 13, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
• Cpl. Jules Hauteman, US Army was lost on December 2, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on December 14, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
• Cpl. Luis P. Torres, US Army was lost September 1, 1950 at Changyong, South Korea. It was reported that he was captured and executed by enemy forces. He was accounted for on December 15, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors on January 13, 2017 in San Antonio, Texas.
• Pfc. Thomas C. Stagg, US Army was reported lost on November 29, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on December 15, 2016 and laid to rest with full military honors.
• Fireman 3rd Class Kenneth L. Holm, US Navy (Accounted for on December 14, 2016)
• Seaman 1st Class Harold R. Roesch, US Navy (Accounted for on December 14, 2016)
• Seaman 1st Class Floyd F. Clifford, US Navy (Accounted for on December 14, 2016)
• Seaman 1st Class Camilius M. O’Grady, US Navy (Accounted for on December 16, 2016)
• Electricians Mate 3rd Class Cecil E. Barncord, US Navy (Accounted for on December 16, 2016)
• Radioman 3rd Class Howard W. Bean, US Navy (Accounted for on December 16, 2016)
• Fire Controlman 2nd Class Donald R. McCloud, US Navy (Accounted for on December 16, 2016)
• Coxswain Verne F. Knipp, US Navy (Accounted for on December 22, 2016)
• F3c Glaydon I.C. Iverson, US Navy (Accounted for on December 22, 2016)
• Mess Attendant 1st Class Ralph M. Bourdreaux, US Navy (Accounted for on January 3, 2017)

They were all members on board the USS Oklahoma and was reported lost when their ship was sunk at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. They were all accounted for and laid to rest with full military honors.

WE WELCOME YOU ALL HOME BROTHERS

You will never be forgotten.
One hundred and twelve members attended the January 12 Chapter 20 meeting!

Dr Pete Ziarnowski receives $800 check from the Chapter.

New Members, Jane and Michael Decker join Chapter20.

Connie Pratt donates $500 to the Chapter in Memory of her husband Steve. Thank You!

New Member Larry Barbato joins Chapter 20.

Larry Kindler wins the Flag drawing!

Lee Kauffman wins the 50/50 drawing, $175!
Chapter 20 Membership currently is at **622** members and AVVA is at 40 members as of 12/31/16. 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.
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.
How time in Navy, Vietnam shaped a budding billionaire’s life

“Three years in the Navy during the Vietnam War was a good investment of time for billionaire Bill Gross.

Known as the “bond king” who founded the trillion-dollar global money management firm PIMCO, Gross cites his naval experience as the most formative time of his life — despite enduring some of his most humiliating failures and biggest blunders while serving from 1966 to 1969.

Gross said one particularly nerve-racking experience at sea was a “seminal moment” that shaped the way he did business for decades after serving.

“We were in the middle of the Pacific coming home from Vietnam,” Gross, 71, recalled recently in a telephone interview from his office in Newport Beach, Calif., where he now serves as portfolio manager at Janus Capital.

Gross was serving aboard the USS Diachenko, a 306-foot amphibious transport ship with a crew of about 120 sailors. Around 2 a.m., while standing the “midwatch,” he detected a large freighter heading straight toward their vessel.

As protocol required, he rang up the ship’s captain to inform him of the situation. The skipper, Lt. Cmdr. Sam Steed, whom Gross described as an “old salt in his 60s,” simply told his chief engineer to call later. After 10 minutes, Gross called again, reiterating to the captain in naval terms “contact constant bearing, decreasing range,” which meant the two ships were on a collision course.
Gross recalled how Steed finally left his quarters: “He staggers up in his skivvies, plops into the chair and grunts, ‘I’ve got the deck. I’ve got the con,’” meaning the skipper was at the helm in command of the ship.

It appeared to Gross that the two vessels were definitely going to collide, but since no orders were given to change course, Gross kept silent, figuring Steed knew what he was doing.

“He did nothing, and I did nothing. And it passed like 20 yards to the stern, about as close as you can get. And just as it’s passing, the captain wakes up and says, ‘What the F was that?’ It became apparent that he was asleep the whole time. ... It was one of the most incredible things I’ve ever seen. We almost got sliced in half in the middle of the Pacific.”

Gross said he and the captain were “scared to death” and knew they would have been court-martialed if the ships had collided.

Though Gross calls the episode “the big mistake” of his life, he also views it as a significant learning moment. Junior officers bear responsibility for notifying superiors of exactly what’s going on — even if the superior is a gruff old salt who commands in his skivvies.

That experience, Gross said, taught him to speak up and to always communicate clearly, crisply, directly, immediately.

“That became the hallmark of how I did things,” he said.

For 35 years, Gross said that communication style worked well for him at PIMCO, where as chief investment officer, he was essentially the captain of the ship. “To say what I thought, to make sure everyone understood me ... We didn’t have any collisions, put it that way. We had lots of smooth sailing.”

(This is an excerpt taken from an article in the Stars and Stripes, Viet Nam 50 Years Series)
Recreation Therapy

Creative Arts Festival

VA Western New York Healthcare System
3495 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo

Veterans artwork completed within the year are eligible and welcomed for entry into the February show!

Friday, February 10, 2017
Freedom Hall
11am-2pm

Deadline for entries is February 1, 2017
Contact Patrick McGowan at 862-7376 or Pamela Kaznowski at 862-6814 for more information.
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
Board Meetings

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Membership Meetings

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.
Denis Gurnett, Instructor

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Vet Gatto Contractor
Valentino G. Gatto
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vgatto@rochester.rr.com
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Rochester, NY 14616

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Tom Davis
Income Tax Preparation/Consultation
1732 Winton Rd. N.
Irondequoit, NY 14609
585 - 288 - 8465
tintern22@frontiernet.net

Your business card could be here.
Contact Chapter Treasurer, Alan Frisa (afrisa@rochester.rr.com), for details.

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VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION
Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial 753-7275
(entry 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 888-829-6636
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
POW/MIA Updates 202-223-6846
Richards House at VOC 506-9060
The Resource Center at VOC 546-4250
Stars & Stripes – The Flag Store 546-3524
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.nyvietnemvets.org
Honor Flight www.HonorFlightRochester.org

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

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Treasurer Alan Frisa alanfrisa@gmail.com 370-7962 c
VA Health Care Benefits
Contacts and References

E-Benefits Portal Site
https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal

Enrollment/Eligibility
http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility
Health Resource Center 1-877-222-8387 (VETS)

OEF / OIF
http://www.oefoif.va.gov

Women Veterans Benefits Line
http://www.va.gov/womenvet
1-855-829-6636

Dental Care

Copays
http://www1.va.gov/CBO/brochures.asp
Health Resource Center 1-877-222-8387

Suicide Prevention Hotline
1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

Prosthetics
http://www.prosthetics.va.gov

My HealtheVet
http://www.myhealth.va.gov

Homeless Veterans Hotline
1-877-424-3838