Remembering Our Fallen Heroes
Born in October
Website – http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

Sisario, Felix A. 10-1-1930
Stachowski, Arthur Thomas 10-2-1948
Way, Thomas Urban 10-4-1944
Funk, Robert Nelson 10-4-1945
Davis Jr., Aaron 10-4-1949
Wood, Edward Charles 10-5-1944
Coon, John Lemoine 10-6-1932
Knapp, David Bruce 10-8-1949
Bigtree, James V. 10-9-1940
Morgan Jr., Melvin David 10-9-1946
Hickey, John Powers 10-11-1944
Wilson, Gerald Anthony 10-13-1944
Helstrom, Kenneth James 10-13-1947
Maccio, Donald J. 10-18-1937
Domiano, Peter Paul 10-18-1943
Johnson, Richard Herman 10-18-1948
Gruhn, Robert Ayers 10-19-1946
Valesko Jr., Joseph Jeremiah 10-20-1945
Seiler, William Joseph 10-20-1948
Mularz, John Bruce 10-21-1947
Waugh, John Louis 10-22-1944
Sisson, Ronald Paul 10-26-1942
Smallridge, Jeffrey Ronald 10-27-1947
Gresens, John Carl 10-29-1946

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

3
Brick Detail at work.....

Here are a few pics of the September 6th brick detail that took part in placing new bricks and replacing those that were damaged at the memorial walk. New additions to the walk, the placement of letters and numbers for the rows which would provide an easier locator tool for those looking for an individual brick. The attendees were Dan and Diane Corona, Ken Allocco (scooter man), Ron Trovato, Chuck Macaluso and Tom Puff. In the second picture: Dick Olecksyn and Joe Peck.
There are currently new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the National League of Families and the DOD that three more servicemen has been recovered, returned and identified. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War now stands at \textbf{1603}.

\textbf{1st Lt. David Thomas Dinan III}, US Air Force Reserves from Nutley, N.J. was a pilot of a Thunderchief F-105D fighter assigned to the 34\textsuperscript{th} Tactical Fighter Squadron, 388\textsuperscript{th} Tactical Fighter Wing, 7th Air Force. On March 19, 1969 Lt. Dinan, the 2\textsuperscript{nd} aircraft of a 2-plane team, left Korat Airbase in Thailand on a strike combat mission over Northern Laos in Xinghkhouang province. During a second strafing pass over the target, Lt. Dinan transmitted a distress message. His aircraft was struck by hostile fire. The Forward Air Controller then observed the aircraft crash and Dinan’s parachute entering the jungle. Search and rescue aircraft conducted an aerial search and located the parachute and confirmed the death of the pilot. It was noted that the parachute was shredded when entering the jungle and the fall through the trees proved to be fatal for Lt. Dinan. Due to the extremely heavy enemy fire from the area and the hazardous location of the crash site, the body could not be recovered and he was listed as KIA/BNR. In 2014, the crash area was excavated several times by the DPAA and several items relating to Lt. Dinan were located including his military ID card. His remains were retuned on June 1, 2016 and he was identified and accounted for on July 7, 2017. Interment services by the family have not been released at this time.
Col. Martin Ronald Scott, US Air Force from Tulsa, Oklahoma was a pilot of a F4C Phantom fighter/bomber assigned to 497th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 8th Tactical Wing, 7th Air Force in Ubon Air Base in Thailand. On March 15, 1966, Col. Scott and his co-pilot was the 2nd aircraft (call sign Boron 02) in a flight of two conducting a late afternoon armed reconnaissance mission along a heavily defended part of Rt. 19 south of Dien Binh Phu in North Vietnam. Once in the target area the aircraft were instructed to observe any enemy activity. Col. Scott’s aircraft saw two trucks on the main road and signs of enemy activity. After confirming the enemy trucks, Col. Scott initiated a staffing run. The first aircraft then witnessed a bright orange explosion on the ground. The first aircraft immediately tried to contact Col. Scott’s aircraft but there was no response nor were there any parachutes deployed. No search or rescue teams were initiated or deployed because of the fact of being so deep within enemy-held territory and subject it extreme hostile ground fire. Col. Scott and his co-pilot were declared MIA. The remains of Col. Martin Ronald Scott were returned on December 12, 2015, identified on June 15, 2017 and officially accounted for on July 13, 2017. He was laid to rest with full military honors on September 17th at Wood Lawn Cemetery in his home town of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Chief Master Sgt. Donald Joe Hall, US Air Force from Stroud, Oklahoma was a flight mechanic for the HH3E Jolly Green Giant Helicopters attached to the 38th Air Rescue and Recovery Squadron, 7th Air Force at Nakhon Airfield in Thailand. On February 6, 1967, SSgt. Donald J. Hall and 3 others comprised the crew of the lead HH-3H rescue helicopter (call sign Jolly Green 05). Their mission was to search and recover a downed bird dog pilot in the extreme western part of North Vietnam in a main enemy supply route known as Mu Gia Pass. When contact was made with the downed pilot in an extreme rugged karst that was covered in heavy jungle growth, Jolly Green 05 descended to the recovery point through the overcast skies. The pilot was successfully recovered and the helicopter ascended and proceeded south. Within minutes, Jolly Green 05 reported that it had been hit by enemy (37
mm AAA) ground fire and was on fire at the top of the helicopter near the rotors. One mile after being hit, Jolly Green 05 reported that the whole aircraft was on fire before it crashed at a high rate of speed into a karst outcropping near Dong Hoi, North Vietnam. All efforts to locate any survivors by SAR aircraft was initiated. The surviving Co Pilot was located and rescued near the burning wreckage and debris field of the aircraft. He reported that all on board had probably perished as he and the Pilot were the only 2 who had parachutes. Further efforts to search for survivors was called off due to intense enemy activity in and around the area. The remaining members on board the Helicopter were listed as MIA’s. The remains of Chief Master Sgt. Donald Joe Hall were finally located and returned on April 3, 2017. He was identified on August 18, 2017 and officially accounted for on August 25, 2017. He will be laid to rest with full military honors by his family and a Great full Nation.

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

- Radioman 2nd Class Quentin J. Gifford (acct. for 7/31) and Walter H. Backman (acct. for 8/4), Gunners Mate 1st Class George Herbert (acct. for 8/14), Pharmacist Mate 1st Class John H. Schoonover (acct. for 8/15), Samuel W. Crowder (acct. for 8/30) and Elmer D. Nail (acct. for 8/31) US Navy were all on board the USS Oklahoma on December 7, 1941. They were all accounted for accordingly in 2017 and were laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pvt. Vernon P. Keaton, US Marine Corps was lost December 7, 1941 on board the USS Oklahoma. He was accounted for on July 24, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- 2nd Lt. Clarence E. Allen, US Army Air Corps was lost October 12/ 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on August 1, 2017
- Pfc. Walter C. Hackenburg, US Army was lost April 25, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on August 3, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors
- Sgt. Gerald J. Mueller, US Army was lost February 13, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on August 4, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors
- T4 Pete M. Counter, US Army was lost December 5, 1942 in Papua, New Guinea. He was accounted for on August 7, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Cpl. Roy J. Hopper, US Army was lost July 31, 1950 in South Korea. He was accounted for on August 7, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- 1st Lt. Frank A. Fazekas, US Army Air Corps was lost May 27, 1944 in France. He was accounted for on August 8, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Sgt. Philip J. Iyotte, US Army was lost February 9, 1951 in North Korea. He was accounted for on August 8, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Tech Sgt. Earl P. Gorman, US Army Air Corps was lost April 23, 1944 in Yugoslavia. He was accounted for on August 9, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pfc. Walter W. Green, US Army was lost November 2, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on August 10, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pfc. James P. Shaw, US Army was lost December 3, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on August 10, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pvt. Rudolph Johnson, US Army was lost February 21, 1945 in Italy. He was accounted for on August 10, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- MSgt. Finley J. Davis, US Army was lost December 1, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on August 11, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Cpl. Ernest L.R. Heilman, US Army was lost February 13, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on August 11, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class, Ora H. Sharninghouse and Aviation Radioman 2nd Class Albert P. Rybarczyk, both US Navy Reservist were lost September 8, 1944 at Palau. They were accounted for on August 14, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- 2nd Lt. Stanley F. Stegnerski, US Army Air Corps was lost November 21, 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on August 16, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pfc. Felipe A. Champion, US Army was lost February 12, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on August 17, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.
- Pvt. Raymond Sinowitz, US Army was lost September 26, 1942 in the Philippines. He was accounted for on August 24, 2017 and laid to rest with full military honors.
- Hospital Corpsman 1st Class William G. Payne, US Navy was lost December 1, 1951 in North Korea. He was accounted for on August 25, 2017 and was laid to rest with full military honors.

With the passing of another year
Let us remember our missing brothers on POW/MIA Day and every day after that.
Our Mission is to never forget those who are still missing.
And for those who have been returned,
We welcome you home Brothers to finally rest in Peace.
DAY OF RECOGNITION AT CHARLOTTE PARK
Membership Update
Mike General Membership Chair

Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 620 members and AVVA is at 40 members as of 08/31/17. Membership has not been growing (only 2 new members in the last two months), **We need your help in recruiting new members**. Don’t forget to renew on time. Don’t let your membership expire. We had 4 members who did not renew this last month.

**Please Renew Your Membership!**

**All Life Memberships are $100.00**

If you a renewing as a “Life Member”, please remember to include a copy of your DD-214 with your application.

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 or by contacting me. (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.

Mike
It is great just seeing everyone at our membership meetings, I am always amazed at the turnout. I can remember some of the sparsely attended meetings from years ago and the personalities and controversies that kept folks away. There is such a great feeling of camaraderie and fellowship that is present and the pride is unmistakable. And well-earned I might add. I want to thank Hank Wallace and Mike Sanfilippo for covering my committee at the National Convention. Not much to report on that except a committee name change that I have yet to figure out. Thanks too for all the yarn donations that keep coming in and I recently sent off another package to the vets at Attica Correctional. The colors I can’t use go to a group of ladies that make lap blankets for residents of the Fairport Baptist Home so it’s all good. The intrepid Ken Moore and myself plan to visit Sgt. Schiefer and the vets at Attica on November 12th and I do look forward to that. I’m still doing hospice volunteer work being paired up with veterans and once again I want to thank all the volunteers who do this from Chapter 20. It can be difficult but it is so rewarding. We are always looking for new volunteers and the need always seems to be growing. It was good to see so many of Chapter 20’s volunteers at the hospice fundraiser at the Burgundy Basin Inn on September 8th and a good time and good feed was had by all. The veterans' bereavement group I facilitate at Lifetime Care is going very well and it is really run by the vets that attend. Lifetime has been so supportive and I have had the second and fourth Mondays each month at Lifetimes office located at 3111 S. Winton Rd. from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Tip of my hat to Nick DeLeo. We have a mutual friend, a Chapter member, who just can’t stay off the booze. I probably gave up on this guy several years ago but Nick continues to visit him in the southern tier. It’s a very sad case and I give Nick a lot of credit because he has made a huge effort to help this individual, so far to no avail, but he continues to do what he can and I respect him for that. Also want to thank Kenny Allocco, his daughter Nikki and her husband Brent for the Louis Run Funraiser at the N. Greece Fire Dept. on September 17th. It was a perfect day for it and a very successful fundraiser for us. I went to the Rochester Public Library on 9/13 for a preview of the Ken Burns documentary on the Vietnam War. Chuck Macaluso was on the five-member panel that answered questions from the audience and he did a great job representing Chapter 20. As I write this having watched the first four episodes of the documentary, I will say that so far, I feel that it is slanted and the reason I say this is that there seems to be a moral equivalence between the US and North Vietnamese sides and this was just not true. I’m going to try to get through the remainder and I hope I don’t keep watching the John Kerry version of the war. My bottom line on the Vietnam War is that I feel genuine pride that I served and I am especially proud to have served with all of you. Jerry McDermott was at the preview manning an outreach/benefits table and I was in awe of his bait and switch technique to connect with veterans. He must have grown up in a carnival, so smooth. “Hey buddy, want to see some dirty pictures? C’mere! That’s right, now are you enrolled in the VA Health Care System?” I gotta tell you, I fell for it all over again.

Strictly Opinion Department: If I actually had a moment of self-awareness I’d probably never write this but here goes......Is the country on suicide watch or what? What have we become, another iceberg seeking ship? Everything seems 180 degrees out of whack. Up is down, down is sideways. We have a demolition derby Presidency and Hillary comes out with a book explaining how she gave up ten runs in the bottom of the ninth. As a candidate, she was as interesting as a cell phone service agreement. All I could think of during the last election was those cartoon characters that keep
stepping on rakes......And the media, man, don’t get me started. Their approval rating is right up there with a case of the shingles. And our tax rate is approaching Roman Empire levels and we are overregulated to the max. Gallows have to be wheelchair accessible now. Everywhere we have the feelings police and if you listen to them, well, pretty soon you find yourself in the basement listening to Barry Manilow and not going to work. I just know I’m not going to like what’s at the end of their little rainbow........But whenever I feel really down and defeated I ask myself, what would my all time hero Lee Kaufman do? What would he say to me? Something like........"Ron, make me proud. Or at least less ashamed. For God’s sake, BE A MAN!" Then everything is cool, I take my meds and my wife comes in off the ledge. Have a great month Chapter 20!
Highlights of the September Membership Meeting

New Member Phil McNash, US Coast Guards - ‘68 - ‘72

New Member Bill Pardue, US Army - ’66 - ’69

Visiting guest from Port Lucy Fl Bob DeCarlo

Tim Bortree won the Flag drawing.

Lynn Gursslin won the 50/50 drawing.
John Pellito from Louise Slaughter’s office was guest speaker for the night. John gave an update on the progress of the VA Clinic (ROPC). Ground was broken event took place on Sept 29th, expected completion date is March 2019. John also spoke about the VA fixing issues in the Veteran’s Choice Program.

Allan Frisa reports on the Chapter’s financial news as well as a good joke or two.

Tom Chacko from UB gave an update on the UB Vietnam Study conducted earlier this year.

At the September Board meeting, the Chapter voted to donate $2000 to the VVA Chapter 292 in Texas.
The annual RUN For LOUIE was a big success. How big?? You’ll find out at the next Chapter meeting

Thanks
Kenny A.
Saturday, September 16th, Chapter 20 members and their families and many other participants had a perfect night to hold our annual vigil to honored our 1602 POW/MIA’s that are still unaccounted for at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park. Each individual’s name was read followed by a single ring of the bell.

While we now extinguish the flames of our candles, let us keep the flame burning in our hearts for our missing and unaccounted for until they are all returned home.
Submitted by Joe Peck
Chapter 20, POW/MIA Chair

On Saturday September 23 the Chapter held our annual Marching Unit and Honor Guard picnic to thank the members that matched all year. Thanks guys!
Master of Ceremonies US AirForce Retired Ted Fafinski SMS, presents guest speakers Senator Pam Helming and Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb at the event. The Farmington Vietnam War Commemorative Committee was chartered by the Department of Defense.
Excerpts from Director’s Reports at the VVA National Convention...

There were 810 voting delegates. There were 92 delegates from Region 2 which includes Chapter 20. I attended the 1 ½ hour Veterans Incarcerated Committee Meeting on Wednesday. The chair of the Committee is from a chapter in the NYC area. At the Springfield, Illinois Convention in 2015 he was the new chair of this committee which came on like gangbusters. He seemed pretty sharp and had some great ideas. This year there was a lot of discussion on changing the name Veterans Incarcerated to Veterans in the Justice Systems. There was considerable input from the attendees including a prisoner from Angola Prison in LA. This was passed. From what I can see the Chair was collecting a lot of ideas and input from chapter members who deal with incarcerated vets; however, the Chair kept saying he was going to formulate this and that and I really don’t believe he has done much if anything since the last convention. Mike Sanfilippo

The most interesting item that came from the committee chair was a discussion about Jr. ROTC programs, awards to seniors, lowers classes, something that they can wear on a uniform. I will be getting more info on this program in an email from the committee chair. In Government affairs, 5 resolutions were reviewed, all kept, of interest was #G-7 about service connection for Hepatitis C. This was first adopted in 1999. It states that Vietnam Veterans of America, urges congress to pass appropriate legislation to establish Hepatitis C be considered a presumptive disability. There was more discussion in the general assembly about the future of VVA, will it be “lights out” or “preserving our legacy”. The past two conventions voted “lights out”, overwhelmingly. Now there are two work groups putting together plans for each. There reports will be announced at the next leadership conference. There was even talk of a combination of both, (how would that work?) At this time Chapter 20 is planning for “lights out”. Daniel Corona

The committee for the POW/MIA was one that I planned on attending. There was no new resolution planned this year but Rich Delong and Grant Coats did indeed fill us in on what is going on with efforts to locate and find our missing service men. The stories that have surfaced over the years and through their trips to Vietnam, have been forwarded to the local authorities and investigated by teams from the Vietnamese Government as well as the DPAA, which has an active office in Hanoi, Vietnam. Nothing is ignored. One interesting piece was that a local farmer had reported that he knew of a cave that he saw remnants of what appeared to be uniforms, and weapons. Again, the case was forwarded to the DPAA to be investigated. One surprising milestone that has since happened is that the National Republic of Vietnam is now working on finding and identifying ARVN MIA’s. This was unheard of years ago but with the cooperation from all the agencies, they are succeeding with the goal to find and identifying all MIA’s whether NVA, ARVN or American Service men.

The POW/MIA ceremony was hosted early Friday morning by the local VVA Chapter from Louisiana at the main convention hall. It was a somber but powerful ceremony honoring the 1606 who still missing and all those who sacrificed and gave their lives during the war. Several of the Chapter 20 delegates were in attendants. Joe Peck
Convention opening session got us started and went over the convention schedule. We had the introduction of officers and some keynote speakers. Terry Courville, Louisiana State Council President, gave us all a warm welcome. It was good to meet other veterans from around the country and talk to some, from meeting them the last time. We all got another year older and health issues are still affecting us. I was able to attend the Veterans Health care meeting. The Department of Veterans Affairs and Veterans Health Administration is responsible for providing health care to veterans with service connected disabilities and others. Many veterans have been adversely affected by a health care system in crisis. This means that the DVA must provide the highest quality medical and mental health treatment. Congress must remove restrictions against providing DVA medical care to non-citizen, service connected disabled veterans. Additionally, to maintain medical competency and expertise in the provision of health care services, the system needs to maintain a critical mass of patients. So, the VVA is resisting any attempt to eliminating “priority 7 & 8”. This is another job for our new administration. I also attended the Veterans Benefits Committee. Seems like most benefits issues and any new ones are being pursued by the VVA in Congress. This task has shown that we have their attention and all is moving along, albeit a little slower then we’d like. VVA, along with other veterans’ service organizations, continues to ask Congress to intercede and make the VA implement processes to improve its claims processing and delivery of services to veterans. Stan Patykiewicz

A LETTER TO HER HEROES.....

Welcome Home!!! 50 years ago, today, my husband, Dick Oleksyn, returned to American soil. In Seattle, as he entered the airport, a female spit on him. It happened to many of our noble veterans--unforgivable. They will never spit on you all again.

At this time, I think of so many of our brothers and sisters--veterans and spouses--who have died so much earlier than normal or are dying due to Vietnam and its related carcinogens, toxins, poisons, and God knows what else. Perhaps we can have a moment of silence for them.

Then I think of what amazing, noble veterans you are and what an honor it is to walk with you. We look at the politicians who are at fault for Vietnam and today still don't bother to serve their country as you all did with integrity, sacrifice and honor. Regrettfully, politicians are the gatekeepers of our destiny and most importantly, that of our children and grandchildren. If they had one ounce of the character and integrity that you all do, our world would not be ready to be annihilated with radiation that no one will avoid.

We have been together in Chapter 20 since the 80's. When I think of all of the wonderful work and money that has helped so many other veterans and their families and so many in our community, it makes me so very proud. You came home from one of the most unjust tragedies in our country and joined together and literally, you have shown others by your example of how to be. You honor your fallen, you build a memorial to their memory and honor those who have gone on due to service connected cancers and other diseases, you help your community at every turn, and so many other good deeds.

I always told our children, "If you want to find heroes, you don't have to look any further than Dad and our wonderful Vietnam veteran family." I just wanted to take a small moment and say THANK YOU, WELCOME HOME AND WE LOVE YOU ALL VERY MUCH. I pray that we see the day come that the VA rightfully connects and serves every veteran who was exposed and suffers greatly from the Vietnam and all subsequent wars. No less will do.

God bless each one of you. God bless and protect America. Peace. Respectfully and with Great Love, Sue Oleksyn.
On the Road with…..

This month I would like to start a new series that I hope that you all will enjoy it, and most of all, participate by sending in your stories and pictures. The idea is for you to send in a few pictures and a short sentence/paragraph of places you visited either on vacation, day trip or work-related trip. Just telling our readers where you went, how much you enjoyed the trip, the sites you seen and of course restaurants you ate at and how much you liked it or didn’t. “On the Road with” will have your name completing the sentence.

I’ll start by these pictures of a trip I made earlier this month to Charleston, SC for a Navy reunion, then out to see a friend some of you may recognize, in Austin, Tx.

Charleston Plantation where they filmed “North and South” with Patrick Swayze

Tour of the USS Yorktown

Quarter Deck of the USS Yorktown

Fort Sumter still on point
Fantastic downtown Austin Lake Park

VVA member now Austin resident, Jon Phelps

Great Mexican restaurants!!
The year is 1963 and that’s Bill Heinrich on the right and his mate Pete “Scotty” Tulley on the left.

Fast forward to 2011 and Bill is still on the right but is that really Pete “Scotty” Tulley? Yes, it is!
Chapter 20 President, Valentino Gatto is presented a $2,500 donation from Sam's Club for Chapter 20.

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**Genesee Valley Detachment, Marine Corps League**

*Jerry Knitis, Detachment Public Relations Officer*

The Word is a short brief note that is issued when important information is passed to the Public Relations Officer of the Detachment. We can get this out to all who have electronic mailing. The other will have to wait until the next issue of the Detachment newsletter.

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**Location:** American Legion Greece Post #468  344 Dorsey Road  Rochester, New York 14616
Hello!

My name is Michelle Hertel, and I am the coordinator for the 2017 Veteran's Expo legal fair and service provider portion. I work at LawNY, which last year hosted Valor Day. The Veteran's Expo continues the work Valor Day has done, but partners with the VOC’s job fair and the VBC’s business expo in order to provide a more comprehensive veteran’s event.

The 2017 Veteran's Expo will take place on October 25, 2017 from 8:00am-5:00pm, at the Holiday Inn on State Street in downtown Rochester.

I would love to have the Genesee Valley Detachment Marine Corps League in attendance to provide information about your services to veterans. Please let me know if you would be interested in attending, and I can send you additional details and answer any questions you may have.

Best,
Michelle

Michelle Hertel
Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc.®
Formerly known as Monroe County Legal Assistance Center
1 West Main St, Ste 400
Rochester, NY 14614
Ph: 585-295-5646
Fx: 585.325.2559

Submitted by Marine Jason Tiefel
Nazareth College is proud to welcome "The President’s Own" United States Marine Band to the Arts Center for a free concert. Established by an Act of Congress in 1798, the United States Marine Band is America’s oldest continuously active professional musical organization. More information at this website: https://www2.naz.edu/events/2281/

Tickets are free but required and are available at marineband.ticketleap.com/usmbtourrochester/

Nazareth College Arts Center
4245 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618
585-389-2170 | artscenter@naz.edu

Submitted by Marines J. Sheridan, J. Marrero and Bill Durand
U.S. Marine Corps
Birthday Celebration Breakfast

You earned it....let's celebrate it.

0830 Greetings & Coffee
0900 Birthday Ceremony
0915 Buffet Breakfast
Period uniform encouraged
Breakfast & Gratuity $12.95

November 10, 2017 @ 0830
Romig's Tavern - 18 Bennington Dr.

RSVP via email NLT 11/1
bvanapeldoornsr@gmail.com

BRUCE C. VAN APELDOORN
MSGT. USMC RETIRED
Subject: Veterans Programming at MVP Health Care

Save the Date
On Wednesday, November 1, 2017 from 12:30 – 2:30 pm, MVP Health Care will be hosting a Veterans Open House. This year’s event will take place at our Wellness Center located at 220 Alexander Street. We are well into the planning stages of the open house, so more details will follow over the next few weeks.

In addition to the open house, we are also expanding program offerings specifically targeting veterans:

Chef Ellen Adams, an Air Force veteran, will be offering 2 hands-on cooking classes (August and September) through the Cooking with Heroes program located at the EquiCenter.

Roderick Castle, Marine Corps veteran and case manager/mental health counselor in the Wellness Program at Veterans Outreach Center will be offering a presentation “Moral Injury and Veterans: Beyond PTSD” in September at MVP Health Care’s Wellness Center.

The attached PDF will give the finer details of these programs. We would greatly appreciate your help in getting the word out about these programs through your website and/or Social Media. If you would like “hard copies” of the attached postcard, please contact me at cminchella@mvphealthcare.com or 585-327-5752.

I look forward to seeing you at this year’s open house and thank you for your support of these events.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl Minchella
Community Health Educator
MVP Health Care
220 Alexander Street
Rochester, New York 14607
(585) 327-5752
(585) 258.8624 (fax)
IMMUTABLE LAWS

- Law of Close Encounters
  The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

- Law of the Result
  When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!!

- Law of Biomechanics
  The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table. I asked her, "Do you know him?"
"Yes", she sighed,
"He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."
"My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"
And then the fight started...

Life from the seat of a tractor. An old Farmer's Words of Wisdom we could all live by......

"Keep skunks and bankers at a distance."
"Life is simpler when you plow around the stump."
"A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor."
"Words that soak into your ears are whispered........ not yelled."

Cynical philosopher...
♦ When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90% of their body... men are so polite they only look at the covered parts.
♦ Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?
♦ You know that tingly little feeling you get when you like someone? That's your common sense leaving your body.
♦ Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?
$1000.00 Chapter #20 donation to NYS Service Officer Program! Chapter #20 NYS Council delegates Jerry McDermott and Bill Auble present check to NYS president Ned Foote 09/16/2017

Panel discussion hosted by WXXI and Rochester Central Library. Chapter members Chuck Macaluso and Stephen Nash discussed their Viet Nam war service along with other panelist at the public forum.
Board Meetings | Membership Meetings
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October 3, 2017 | October 12, 2017
November 7, 2017 | November 9, 2017
December 5, 2017 | December 14, 2017

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.
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
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 1-855-829-6636
http://www.va.gov/womensvet

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
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- Women’s Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams: pefrose@gmail.com 738-6138 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: 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: 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

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- www.vva20.org

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