April is the Month of the Military Child! This special celebration - a legacy of former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger -- was established to underscore the important role children play in the Armed Forces community. During April, Army Garrisons, Child, Youth and School Services programs and Child Development Centers plan numerous events ranging from picnics and parades to recreational fairs and fun festivals -- all to recognize and applaud Families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make in supporting America’s Army.
VOTE
AT THE APRIL 12 CHAPTER 20 MEETING

Executive
President - Val Gatto
Vice-President - Hank Wallace
Secretary - Joe Peck
Treasurer - Alan Friza

Directors
Dave Corona
Bill Auble
Stan Patykiewicz

State Council
Jerry McDermott, Val Gatto, Nick DeLeo, Bill Auble, Kenny Moore (not pictured)

Ballots will be taken from 6:30 PM till 7:00 PM and the results will be announced that evening!
Remembering Our Fallen Heroes  
Born in April

Website - http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

Bierlein, Patrick M.  4-3-1949  
Knickerbocker, Irwin Lee  4-4-1947  
Smith, Carl Arthur  4-5-1946  
Bornheimer, Richard Irving  4-5-1947  
Paniccia, Ronald James  4-7-1949  
Tette, John Bernard  4-8-1946  
Bowen, Howard Lewis  4-9-1946  
Potter, James Frank  4-10-1946  
Downey, Gerald Joseph  4-10-1949  
Christiano, Joseph  4-11-1922  
Judd, Donald R.  4-11-1943  
Strong III, Andrew Carnegie  4-11-1951  
Menzies, Alexander John  4-12-1945  
Wuertenberger, Charles E.  4-13-1942  
Bundy, Wayne Phillip  4-14-1939  
Vanderbrook, Gary  4-15-1944  
Lawrence  
States, David  4-15-1945  
Sochaki, Nicholas  4-18-1944  
Seefeldt, Jr., Charles L.  4-18-1948  
Haupt III, William Henry  4-19-1950  
Forest, Donald Steven  4-20-1944  
Priesthoff, John Howard  4-20-1946  
LaFlair, Richard L.  4-21-1948  
Geary, John Wesley  4-22-1944  
Jacques, Donald  4-23-1947  
Cardot, John Andrew  4-27-1928  
DeVos, William M.  4-28-1949  
Silvernail, Douglas Harold  4-28-1949  
Sheldon, Kimball H.  4-29-1947  
Engle, Richard Eugene  4-29-1948  
Thompson, James  4-30-1947

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

Memorial Tours & Presentations  
Persons interested in on-site tours or presentations at schools or organizations, contact Chuck Macaluso at 585-225-8288 or Chuckmac66@yahoo.com
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 currently new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the National League of Families and the DOD of another service man that has been recovered, returned and identified. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War now stands at 1600.

Lt. Col. Robert Graham Nopp, US Army from Salem, Oregon was a pilot of an OV-1C Mohawk aircraft and was assigned to the 131st Aviation Company, 14th Aviation Battalion of the 1st Aviation Brigade at Phu Bai Airbase in South Vietnam. On July 13, 1966 Then Capt. Nopp and his co-pilot departed on a classified night surveillance mission over the Ho Chi Minh trail (call sign “Iron Spud”). The weather conditions at the time were thunderstorms, heavy rain and poor visibility. The target of surveillance was the south eastern section of Laos were enemy activity and supply routes aided the communist forces in South Vietnam. The last known voice and radar contact was approximately 25 miles southwest of the city of Attopeu in Laos. This was an extremely rugged, jungle covered mountainous area. Search and Rescue, SAR, teams located a parachute but it was determined that it was a trap for the rescue team. After an extended search, with no results, the formal SAR effort was terminated. Both Robert Nopp and his co-pilot were listed as MIA. With the help of the Government of Laos, The remains of Lt. Col. Robert G. Nopp were located and returned on February 17, 2016 and Identified on February 1 2018. He was officially accounted for on February 2, 2018. Interment services are currently pending but he will be laid to rest with full military honors.

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

- Staff Sgt. Leo J. Husak, US Army Air Corps was lost January 30, 1945 in Germany. He was accounted for on February 14, 2018.
- Pfc. Joe Lukie, US Marine Corps Reserve was lost November 20, 1943 in Tarawa. He was accounted for on February 16, 2018.
• Cpl. Leonard V. Purkapile, US Army was lost November 28, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on February 20, 2018.
• 2nd Lt. Harvel L. Moore, US Marine Corps Reserve was lost November 22, 1943 in Tarawa. He was accounted for on February 20, 2018.
• Pfc. Herman W. Mulligan Jr., US Marine Corps was lost May 30, 1945 in Japan. He was accounted for on February 28, 2018.
• 1st Lt. William W. Shank, US Army Air Corps was lost November 13, 1943 in Germany. He was accounted for on March 6, 2018.
• Machinist Mate 1st Class Arthur Green, Machinist Mate 2nd Class Lorentz E. Hultgren, Gunners Mate 2nd Class William F. Hellstern, Seaman 1st Class Henry G. Tipton, Electrician’s Mate 3rd Class George H. Gibson and Radioman 3rd Class Howard V. Keffer all members of the US Navy on board the USS Oklahoma were lost on December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. They were all accounted for in February and March 2018.

Our brothers are no longer missing and unaccounted for. They are finally home and have been laid to rest on the soil that they so willingly fought and died for.
You are finally home.
Membership Update
Mike General Membership Chair

Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 625 members and AVVA is at 39 members as of 02/28/18. Membership has been growing (only 2 new members in the last month), **We need your help in recruiting new members.** Don’t forget to renew on time. Don’t let your membership expire. We had 0 members who did not renew this last month and 1 members who passed away.

**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](mailto: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
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

Eligibility: Vietnam and Vietnam-Era veterans who
Served on active duty in the U.S. Military (for other
than training purposes) between February 28, 1961
and May 7, 1975 (in-country Vietnam), or between

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.

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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.
Highlights of the March Membership Meeting
104 Members Attended

Special Guest Judge Louis Amarosa, USN ’63 – ‘67

New Member Leo Olzenak, USN ’66 – ’70
New Member Rick Miller, Army ’69 – ’72

Stan Patykiewicz won the Flag drawing
Steve Weinstein won the 50/50 drawing
Chapter 20 received $20,000 donation from Bob Bartosiewicz, CEO & Chairman of the Board of CGI Communications. Members are encouraged to volunteer as tour guides at the New Car Museum Downtown, 130 East Main St., Rochester, across from the Hyatt. Volunteers will be compensated with $10 for parking. Please email or call Joe Peck at jpeck2@rochester.rr.com, 585-734-9046 with your availability.

Val presents Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo with a $30,000 donation for the Warriors of Freedom Memorial. Standing behind Val and Ms Dinolfo are Hector Sotomayer, Chairman of Warriors of Freedom Memorial Committee Nick Stefanovic, Director of Monroe County’s Veterans Service Agency, and Larry Staub, Director of Monroe County Parks Department.
St. Patrick’s Day

Pictures by Glen Peck
Chapter 20 Board of Directors voted to donate our half ownership of the house on 459 South Avenue to the VOC. Here Val Gatto and Laura Stradley sign off on the transfer of ownership.

**Red Cross Military Family Salute and Recognition**

Members Mike Sanfilippo and Jerry McDermott volunteered to represent the Chapter and participate in the community outreach at the Red Cross Military Family Salute and Recognition Brunch on March 10th at Bausch & Lomb Place Restaurant at Wintergreen. Mike and Jerry were on hand to give out veteran related brochures and answer questions.
Survivor Benefits for Spouses and Children of Deceased Veterans and Service Members

Surviving spouses and children of deceased military service members and veterans can get DIC or death pension benefits.

By Margaret Wadsworth,

Dependents Indemnity Compensation Benefits

Dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) benefits are for survivors of service members who were killed on active duty and for survivors of veterans who died from service-connected disabilities or had a 100% disability rating for a period of time before death.

If your veteran spouse passed away while his or her claim for disability compensation benefits was pending, and the claim is approved, you may be entitled to the accrued disability benefits (back payments) that are due to your deceased veteran (more on this below). But you won’t receive ongoing disability compensation payments; instead you may be eligible for dependents indemnity compensation (DIC) benefits.

Veteran Eligibility Requirements

Only family members of deceased veterans who meet the following requirements are eligible for DIC. The veteran must have died:

- while on active duty (including for training) or inactive duty for training
- from a service-connected disability, or
- while receiving (or being eligible for) disability compensation for a totally disabling condition, for one of the following amounts of time:
  - for at least 10 years prior to death, or
  - since discharge and for at least five years prior to death, or
  - for at least one year prior to death, if the vet was a former POW.

Recipient Eligibility Requirements

Surviving spouses and children may be eligible for DIC if they meet the following requirements.

When a Surviving Spouse Is Eligible for DIC

A surviving spouse must meet one of the following requirements to be eligible for DIC. The person must have:

- married the veteran at least one year before the veteran’s death
• married a veteran who died from a service-connected disability, if the marriage was within 15 years of discharge from the period of service that caused the disability
• married a veteran and had a child with the veteran, or
• married a service member who died while on active duty (including for training) or inactive duty for training.

Also, the surviving spouse must have lived with the veteran without any separations until the veteran died, unless the surviving spouse was not responsible for the separation.

**When a Remarried Surviving Spouse Is Eligible for DIC**

In some cases, remarriage makes a surviving spouse ineligible for DIC. This depends on the date of the remarriage and the age of the surviving spouse on the date of remarriage.

Surviving spouses who remarry after age 57 remain eligible for DIC despite the remarriage. A spouse who remaries before age 57 will not be considered eligible for DIC, unless the marriage happened before December 16, 2003.

**When a Surviving Child Is Eligible for DIC**

A surviving child is eligible for DIC if the child isn't included in the survivor spouse's DIC, is unmarried, and is under age 18 (or under age 23 and attending school).

**How to Apply for DIC**

The first step will be to notify the VA of the veteran's death by completing a Report of Casualty form. Then complete the VA Form 21-534 application form and submit it to your nearest VA regional office. You can also request the DIC application form by phone at 800-827-1000.

Submitted by Stan Patykiewicz.

Stan will be speaking more about this and other VA Benefits related topics in the upcoming Chapter meetings.
## Chapter Weigh-in Update

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<td>7</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>205.4</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>USMC</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>218.4</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>34</td>
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**AIR FORCE** Flat in participating members and avg weight. Tom Puff lost 5.1 lbs from previous month.

**ARMY** Army takes the lead with avg weight loss of 29 lbs for month and 31.8 lbs lost for aggragate weight loss.

Biggest loosers, Dale Webster - 11.8 lbs, Bill Wickum - 9 lbs, Jerry McDermott - 4.5 lbs.

**NAVY** Navy comes in second with avg weight loss of 2.8 lbs for month and 12.5 lbs for aggragate weight loss.

Big looser is Bill Heinrich - 2.0 lbs for month and 9.0 lbs for aggregate weight loss.

**USMC** Flat in participating members and down in avg weight. Big looser for month was Charles Klauck - 1.9 lbs.

Last month I erroneously reported that Ed Williams lost 10.4 lbs. Ed lost 0.4 lbs.

This year the participating members lost a total of 28 lbs! Keep up the good work!

**The methodology and reporting is as follows.**

Monthly totals will only include consistent member weigh-ins.

The total gain/loss will be based on the aggregate accumulation of all the months gains and losses.
As we wrap up our 4th monthly weigh-in for the Annual Fit Vet Challenge (10th year) I want to thank everyone who “steeped up on the scales” for the competition between our respective service branches. Our goal in this tongue and cheek Challenge is to start every New Year off with a sense of purpose to focus on your health. Not to make light of it, but to notice that through a few small changes in daily habits you can see results that could add to a better quality of life. Changes in types of food, quantity consumed, and when and what we do eat can make a difference in our health. Add a little of “move more and eat less” and there is the formula for starting healthy habits that can last all year long. Again, I want to thank you for your participation, and whether you lost a few pounds or not, your all “winners” for trying to focus on good healthy habits.

Once again, as I receive various health issue topics, I want to make these issues available to you and continue to reinforce the need to discuss with your primary care doctor (VA or outside practice) as you see fit. The article concerning Hep C is a good reminder that we should all ask for the blood test to be medically checked and cross that off our “to do list”. Ask the next time you have a blood drawn for this test to be made on a sample. Finally, the article concerning Kidney Disease is also a reminder to be vigilant of a really silent and deadly illness. Read and consult your doctor if you suspect any of these issues.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jerry McDermott
Health Affairs Director

VA Hepatitis C Care Update 17 ➤ Vets Infected 2014 - 146k | 2018 - 20k | 2019 - 0

Only a few years ago, stories appeared in the media about how tens of thousands of U.S. veterans were infected with hepatitis C and that the government couldn’t afford to treat them. Typical was a CBS News report headlined “VA can’t afford drug for veterans suffering from hepatitis C”. The drug in question was Gilead’s Sovaldi, a once-a-day pill that remarkably can cure hepatitis C over a 12 week regimen. The concerns being raised by the press was that Sovaldi cost $1,000/pill – a cost that could cripple the VA’s budget if all of our veterans were to be treated.

The issue was especially timely. These veterans, many of whom contracted the disease during their service in the Vietnam War as a result of battlefield injuries requiring blood transfusions, were now suffering from the consequences of this largely silent menace. They were now experiencing liver disease, cirrhosis and liver cancer. Without Sovaldi, the sicker of these patients were facing certain death. Fast forward to last Friday (23 FEB). At the 24th Annual Wharton Health Care Business Conference, Dr. David J. Shulkin, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, announced that the VA was on track to eliminate hepatitis C infections in the next 12 months for those who are willing and able to be treated. In October 2014, the VA had over 146,000 veterans afflicted with hepatitis C. By next October, this number will be only 20,000.

How did this happen? Here’s the VA’s response as contained in their 2018 Budget in Brief: "In 2014, VA began a ground-breaking system of care for Veterans with the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). The Food and Drug Administration approved two new,
highly-effective drugs – Sofosbuvir (Sovaldi) and Simeprevir (Olysio) – that work to change the lives of Veterans infected with Hepatitis C. Prior to the introduction of the new high-cost treatments therapies in the VA system in January 2014, treatments for Hepatitis C were often ineffective and presented considerable side-effects. By contrast, the new treatment options are considerably more effective than earlier options, and are much easier to administer. Cure of HCV significantly decreases the risk of progression of the disease to cirrhosis, liver failure, liver cancer, and death. VA wants to ensure that all Veterans eligible for these new drugs, based on their clinician’s recommendation, receive the medication.”

But what about the high-cost of these drugs? While the retail price of Sovaldi was $84,000 at launch, the VA is allowed by law to negotiate drug prices. In addition, other hepatitis C cures have been brought to market over the intervening years such as AbbVie’s Viekira Pak and Merck’s Zepatier, thus putting purchasers in a good negotiating position. Here’s how the VA described drug costs in their 2018 Budget in Brief: "VA successfully worked with the manufacturers of these drugs to receive a reduced price for their use to treat Veterans. VA estimates the drugs will cost $748.8 million and provide 31,200 treatments in 2017 and costs increasing to $751.2 million for 28,000 treatments in 2018."

If you quickly do the math, 59,200 U.S veterans will be cured of hepatitis C for roughly $25,300/soldier. That’s remarkable and a far cry from the concerns being raised less than four years ago. This is a great story. Thanks to the VA’s commitment as well as the innovation on the part the manufacturers, a major health issue for our veterans will be eliminated. Hopefully, the press will be motivated to cover this story as diligently as they did in 2014. [Source: Forbes | John LaMattina | March 1, 2018 ++]

Kidney Disease Update  Risk Reduction

Your kidneys are important organs that have many essential tasks that impact your health. Some of these include removing toxins from your blood, making urine, playing a role in blood pressure control, and helping to maintain healthy bones. There are many risk factors that contribute to chronic kidney disease, several of which can be managed with healthy eating and physical activity. These risk factors include poorly-controlled diabetes, hypertension (high blood pressure) and being overweight or obese. Risk factors that we can’t control include advanced age, family history of kidney disease and being of African, Asian or Aboriginal origin. While we can’t change our age or genetics, there are many lifestyle changes we can make to protect our kidneys.

Maintain healthy blood pressure.

- Whether it’s table salt, sea salt or Himalayan salt, it’s all high in sodium and too much of it can raise blood pressure. Salt is an acquired taste, meaning if you cut back gradually, your taste buds adapt.
- Try adding flavor with low-sodium alternatives such as spices and herbs instead of salt. Limit salty seasonings such as adobo, tartar sauce and soy sauce.
- Choose canned products that are low-sodium, reduced sodium or have no added salt. Draining and rinsing canned items (such as beans and vegetables) can remove up to 40 percent of the sodium.
- Read it before you eat it. Many foods (soups, frozen meals, breakfast cereals, snacks) contain sodium. Look for items that contain 5 percent or less of the daily value for sodium or less than 140 milligrams of sodium per serving.
- Cook at home more often. When you cook, you control the ingredients. Fast-food and restaurant meals are very high in sodium, so be cautious with how often you choose to eat out.
Maintain healthy blood sugar levels for those diagnosed with diabetes.

- It’s not just soda, cookies, and candy that raise blood sugar levels. Many foods contain carbohydrates, which turn into sugar in your body, including milk, starchy vegetables (like corn, beans, peas, and potatoes), cereals, juices and bread.
- Plan your meals using the healthy plate method. Limit carbohydrates to a quarter of the plate. Try choosing high-fiber whole grains such as unsweetened oatmeal, whole wheat pasta or brown rice. Or, choose starchy vegetables like baked potatoes, kidney beans or butternut squash. The higher fiber content may help you feel full longer.
- Choose low-sugar beverages. There is a lot of sugar in regular sodas, lemonade, bottled smoothies and sweetened bottled teas. Try unsweetened or diet versions of these drinks. Another option is to fill half of your glass with water and the other half with the sugary beverage to dilute it.

Maintain or achieve a healthy body weight. Consider joining the MOVE! Weight Management Program at your local VA.

Be more active. Exercise (after discussing it with your doctor) on a regular, consistent basis. Stand while you talk on the phone, walk around your house during commercials, park far away from the store – every little bit helps!

Ask your provider about your risk for developing chronic kidney disease. Then, talk with your PACT team or MOVE! registered dietitian about how you can reduce your risk by building healthier eating habits, even while still choosing foods you enjoy. If you have kidney disease, you may need to monitor specific nutrients, depending on what stage you are in. Contact your PACT today to learn more. [Source: VAntage Point | March 7, 2018 ++]
The five Sullivan brothers, serving together, were killed in World War II. Their ship was just found.

by Cleve R. Wootson Jr.  The following story was in the March 20, Washington Post.

Thomas Sullivan was getting ready for work in Waterloo, Iowa, when three men in Navy uniforms walked up to his front door.

“I have some news for you about your boys,” one of the officers said, according to an excerpt of the conversation in the Red State blog.

All five of Sullivan’s sons had enlisted in the U.S. Navy after the Pearl Harbor attack, and on that January morning in 1943, he wanted to know which one wasn’t coming home.

“All five,” the officer said.

The Sullivan brothers — George, Madison, Albert, Francis and Joseph, who was also known as “Red” — were already famous for insisting on serving together.

They were honored 11 months after a Japanese torpedo sank their ship, the USS Juneau, in the southwestern Pacific. Some called their deaths the greatest sacrifice of the greatest generation. Others said their story was exploited by a U.S. government desperate to get a nation to accept the sacrifices of war.

Either way, people across the country pored over the Sullivan brothers’ story, examining the smallest details of their lives, their service, their violent deaths.

But one thing has remained hidden until now:
Their final resting place.

A team funded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen recently discovered the wreckage of the USS Juneau 2.6 miles below the surface of the Pacific Ocean, near the Solomon Islands. For years, Allen’s team has been combing the Pacific for ships that sank decades ago.

The team has used advanced technology such as side-scan sonar and submersible drones to locate several ships, including the USS Indianapolis and the USS Ward. But finding the final resting place of the USS Juneau connected their endeavor with a part of U.S. history that still reverberates today in both memory and policy.

The Sullivan brothers have been memorialized with a museum wing, a school and two Navy ships. And the brothers’ deaths led to “sole survivor” policies, which exempt people who have lost a family member from the draft or military service. They were the subject of a 1944 war movie, “The Fighting Sullivans.”

The brothers had heard about the attack on Pearl Harbor over the radio during dinner on Dec. 7, 1941, according to the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. Their thoughts immediately turned to Bill Ball, a friend stationed in Hawaii who, they later learned, died in the attack. The Sullivan brothers, all in their 20s, wanted to take up the fight.

The Navy at first balked at their request to serve on the same ship but ultimately relented.

“I was talking to an ensign the other day,” Red Sullivan wrote a friend, according to the Courier. “From the way he talked, all five of us brothers are going to get on the same ship. I wish the rest of you guys could go along.”

That ship was the USS Juneau: a ship that carried nearly 700 men and was almost as new to the war effort as Red Sullivan was. It was commissioned about a year before it sank.

The USS Juneau specialized in defending other vessels from warplanes. It performed patrol and escort duties in the North Atlantic and Caribbean and then was dispatched to the Pacific, where it was involved in several battles, including the naval battles of Guadalcanal. In its final battle, it served as part of a protective screen for cargo vessels and transports as U.S. forces tried to keep their grip on the Pacific foothold.

The Juneau held its own during fierce, nighttime fighting.

But it was badly damaged by a torpedo during the costly American victory. (In total during the naval battles near Guadalcanal, American and Japanese forces lost two dozen ships apiece). Badly listing to one side, it limped away with other ships. But the Japanese submarine I-26 was lurking nearby. One of its torpedoes missed the USS San Francisco but struck the USS Juneau near where it had been previously hit — and near the compartment where munitions were stored.

The rest happened in a flash, according to declassified documents obtained by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier:

I saw the spot where the Juneau had been. The only thing visible was tremendous clouds of grey and black smoke. ... The men told me that the Juneau appeared to explode instantaneously and appeared to break in two, both segments of which sunk in 20 seconds. ... The signalman on the bridge of the Helena was in the process of taking a message from the
Juneau and had his glass trained on the signalman of that ship and reports that the signalman was blown at least 30 feet in the air.

Three of the Sullivans died in that initial blast. Two made it into life rafts but died in the ensuing days at sea, waiting for rescue.

In death, they went from being a famous footnote to national heroes. Their mother christened a new destroyer with the Sullivan name, and the U.S. government alluded to the family’s sacrifice when asking people to buy war bonds.

The appeal was both simple and effective: The Sullivan family gave so much. Can the rest of us pitch in, too?

Message from Chapter 20 member Don Alford....
Looking for anyone in Chapter 20 who was in the 114th AHC (Attached Helicopter Corp) in Vinh Long from 1972 to 1974. The AH-1 Cobra Helicopter # 15680 is now at the Bath NY VFW on display. Please contact me if you have any information at alfordroc@yahoo.com
The United States Air Force Concert Band along with the Singing Sergeants, the official chorus of the US Air Force, will give a **FREE** concert April 10, 2018 at 7 pm at the Eastman Theatre Kodak Hall. Tickets are limited to 4 per person.

The Concert Band and Singing Sergeants perform together on a regular basis, representing the U.S. Air Force and our country as part of The United States Air Force Band. They frequently perform for national television broadcasts and online videos, including the Band’s annual holiday flash mobs, which have been viewed by millions worldwide. Whether these groups are performing in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area, throughout our great country or around the world, they are proud to represent all Airmen, whose selfless service and sacrifice ensure the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

To get tickets, call the Eastman Box Office at 585-274-3000. Tickets can be held at will call or you could request to have them emailed to you.
Paraprosdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (Winston Churchill loved them.)

1. Where there’s a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you.... but it’s still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we’d both be wrong.

1. Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.
2. Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.
3. I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.
4. There is great need for a sarcasm font.
5. How the hell are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?

‘A SHOT OF WHISKEY’ - In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

BUYING THE FARM - This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth $5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

IRON CLAD CONTRACT - This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.
### Board Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 3, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5, 2018</td>
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</table>

### Membership Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 12, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 10, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
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**Monthly Membership Meetings start at 6:30 pm**

*At the Italian American Sports Club, 1250 Buffalo Road, Rochester*

**Driving Directions to the Italian American Sports Club:**

The Club is located at 1250 Buffalo Road close to the intersection of Howard Road, directly across from the stone quarry, next to the Eagles Club and the Catholic Diocese of Rochester.

From the East: Heading west on 490, exit Mt. Read Blvd. and turn left; south on Mt. Read to Buffalo Road circle, turn right, west on Buffalo Road, 1.4 miles, the Italian-American Sports Club is on the right side.

From the West: Heading east on 490, exit 33 east, Buffalo Road (Gates Center); head east on Buffalo Road; continue past Howard Road; the Italian-American Sports Club will be on the left side in about .5 mile.
Your business card could be here. Contact Chapter Treasurer, Alan Frisa (afrisa@rochester.rr.com), for details.
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
Remembering Tom Gleason
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

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
### Contact Information

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Valentino Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vgatto@rochester.rr.com">vgatto@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. President</td>
<td>Hank Wallace</td>
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<td>260-6035</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Alan Frisa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alanfrisa@gmail.com">alanfrisa@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>370-7962</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DIRECTORY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ken Allocco</td>
<td><a href="mailto:KBUD920@yahoo.com">KBUD920@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>392-9424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Auble</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wauble@hotmail.com">wauble@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>683-2213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Corona</td>
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<td>Mike Sanfilippo</td>
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<td>594-2649</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ron Trotavo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ronbo215@gmail.com">Ronbo215@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>857-3630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Auble</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wauble@hotmail.com">wauble@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>313-8188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor – Vito Scarpetta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vietvet6748@gmail.com">vietvet6748@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaplain – Tom Huff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter Gear – Lynn Gursslin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constitution – Fred Elliott</td>
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<td>Finance – Jerry McDermott</td>
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<td>Honor Guard – C. Macaluso</td>
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<td>225-8288</td>
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<td>Incarcerated – Ron Trotavo</td>
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<td>857-3630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>683-2213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marching – Hank Wallace</td>
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<td>334-5352</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership – Mike General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial – Chuck Macaluso</td>
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<tr>
<td>POW/MIA – Joe Peck</td>
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<td>734-9046</td>
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<td>Public Affairs – Mike Sanfilippo</td>
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<td>594-2649</td>
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<td>Social Events – V. Gatto</td>
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<td>227-2741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker’s Bureau – Ken Allocco</td>
<td><a href="mailto:KBUD920@gmail.com">KBUD920@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>392-9424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vet Benefits – Stan Patykiewicz</td>
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<td>247-4830</td>
</tr>
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<td>Veterans Walk – C. Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pefrose@gmail.com">pefrose@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>738-6138</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION**

- Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial: 227-7275
- (enter 9; enter 2 to leave a message)
- VA Outpatient Clinic: 465 Westfall Rd, 663-463-2600
- 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.nyvietnamesvets.org