Between The Lines

June 2017
Issue 78

Thank you for your service...
You will always be remembered!
Please make sure you attend the next Chapter meeting on June 13th. We have a Special Guest from the VA, Brian Westlake. Brian is a Mission Act Specialist and will present the changes to the VA health care that will affect all veterans who use the VA health system.
King, Thomas George 6-5-1944
Wilkie, Charles 6-6-1934
Herod, Arthur Weimann 6-7-1943
McCarthy, Glenn 6-7-1943
Ducat, Bruce Chalmers 6-9-1941
Bartolf, Noel Michael 6-12-1942
Allison, Darrell Gene 6-14-1951
Shortall, Stephen A. 6-14-1945
Gebbie, Ronald Jackson 6-17-1948
DeFranco, James Clinton 6-18-1950
Brule Jr., Gordon Joseph 6-19-1948
Moore, Abraham L. 6-20-1945
Fellows, David Thomas 6-21-1946
Gioia, John Albert 6-21-1948
Boyd, Stephen Leslie 6-21-1951
Babey, David Paul 6-24-1949
Lamb, Theodore 6-26-1939
Caldwell III, Edward Clark 6-28-1946
Scott, James Guinan 6-29-1949
Hill, Richard Alfred 6-30-1942
Robena, Charles Edward 6-30-1947
Ekwell, Thomas James 6-30-1948

Website - http://rochestervietnammemorial.org/

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
There are currently no new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the National League of Families and the DOD that any servicemen were recovered, returned or identified this month. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War still stands at 1589.

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

- Pfc. Raymond H. Middlekauff, US Army was lost December 4, 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on April 12, 2019.
- Pfc. John W. Hayes, US Army was lost January 4, 1944 in Belgium. He was accounted for on April 17, 2019.
- Pfc. Dale W. Ross, US Army was lost January 14, 1943 in Solomon Islands. He was accounted for on April 17, 2019.
- Pfc. Dewey W. Harris, US Army was lost November 14, 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on April 22, 2019.
- Sgt. 1st Class. Elden C. Justus, US Army was lost December 6, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 25, 2019.
- Pfc. Sterling Geary Jr., US Army was lost November 27, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 25, 2019.
- Cpl. Ralph L. Bennett, US Army was lost June 13, 1944 in Burma. He was accounted for on April 30, 2019.
- Platoon Sgt. George E. Trotter, US Marine Corps was lost November 20, 1943 in Tarawa. He was accounted for on May 6, 2019.
- Staff Sgt. Wesley L. Kroenung, US Marine Corps was lost November 20, 1943 in Tarawa. He was accounted for on May 7, 2019.
- 2nd Lt. Toney W. Gochnauer, US Army Air Corps was lost January 25, 1944 between China and India. He was accounted for on May 13, 2019.
- Cpl. Charles S. Lawler, US Army was lost November 2, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for on May 14, 2019.
- Pvt. Roy Brown Jr., US Army was lost December 2, 1942 in Papua, New Guinea. He was accounted for on May 14, 2019.
- Fireman 3rd Class Harold K. Costill, US Navy on board USS West Virginia was lost December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He was accounted for on April 18, 2019.
- The following Naval Personnel were on Board the USS Oklahoma and were lost December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii: Seaman 2nd Class, Ray H. Myers and Fireman 3rd Class Jasper L. Pue. They were accounted for on April 18 and April 30, 2019.
THESE MEN ARE FINALLY HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES AND A GREATFULL NATION
REST IN PEACE BROTHERS, WE HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THE SACRIFICES YOU HAVE MADE.
Membership Update

Mike General Membership Chair

Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 616 members and AVVA is at 39 members as of 03/31/19. 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 8 members who did not renew this last month and 4 members who passed away..

Please Renew Your Membership!

**All Life Memberships are $50.00**

*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
Member Application

For new members, print this membership form and complete, then mail with your payment and a copy of the DD214 form. Renewal members may complete and print the form and mail it with your payment. Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #20, P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14692

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As of October 20, 2018, there will be one paid class of membership.

1. LIFE MEMBERSHIP: $50.00
2. All 3-year members who have paid $50 will automatically become a life member.
3. All one-year members will continue as an individual 1-year member until their membership expires, one-year members will then be required to pay $50.00 to remain a member of VVA.
As frequently discussed at our general membership meetings, there are many changes going on at the VA. It seems that weekly there are new programs, new benefits, and changes to existing benefits, ones already on the books taking place faster than ever before. In 2018, Congress passed and President Trump signed into law the Mission Act of 2018 which, I am paraphrasing, consolidates or streamlines seven separate and different VA health care programs into one program to assist veterans enrolled in the VA health care system and caregivers assisting veterans. This new law was given a lead time to allow for training, education, and transition by the VA health care system to implement this on June 6, 2019 as prescribed by law. As veterans who may be using the VA health care system, this Mission Act will have a profound effect on our choices and needs based services going forward. In early May, I was attending a meeting at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center regarding area Veteran Service Organizations, like VVA Chapter #20, about the Mission Act and changes coming forward. Brian Westlake, Canandaigua VAMC Mission Act specialist has accepted Chapter #20's invitation to present to our membership an overview of this very important law and how it will affect those of us receiving health care services starting in June 2019. I urge you to attend the June 2019 meeting. Mark your calendar and plan to attend our June meeting.

In addition, please review the information pertaining to costly health problems for older adults and some things to consider for their prevention and an article on diabetes. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry McDermott,
Chair, Health Affairs

Costly Health Problems   ►   How to Cut Costs on 7 that Strike after Age 50

As we age, health issues often creep up that threaten to tarnish our golden years. Treating some of these diseases and conditions can be expensive. Fortunately, there are ways to cut the cost of such care. Following are seven health conditions that tend to strike after age 50 — and how to lower the price of care if you are diagnosed with them.

**Arthritis**
Arthritis strikes about 91 million Americans. In 2013, it cost them an average of $2,117 per patient, according to a 2018 report from the Arthritis Foundation.

*How to cut costs.* The Arthritis Foundation has a webpage devoted to ways to trim the tab for arthritis care. It includes resources such as financial aid organizations and pharmaceutical programs that help pay for medications and surgery.

**Osteoporosis**
Around 54 million Americans have low bone density or osteoporosis, according to the National Osteoporosis Foundation. Among women older than 50, 1 in 2 will break a bone due to the disease. Among men in that age group, the figure is 1 in 4.

*How to cut costs.* One study found that osteoporosis care cost the nation $22 billion in 2008. Prescription medications often are used to treat this condition, so ask your doctor about using less costly generic drugs. Weight-bearing exercise — such as lifting weights, walking or running, and activities such as tennis — is also a great way to build bone density, and it costs...
little or nothing to do. Finally, relatively cheap vitamin D supplements can help your body use calcium and strengthen bones. Ask your doctor if they are right for you.

**Diabetes**
More than 30 million Americans have diabetes. Your risk for the disease increases as you age; more than one-quarter of adults ages 65 or older have diabetes. Diagnosed diabetes cost the nation $327 billion in 2017, according to the American Diabetes Association. Patients diagnosed with diabetes bear the brunt of those costs. The price of insulin nearly tripled between 2002 and 2013, and people with diabetes incur health care costs 2.3 times higher than people without the disease, according to the ADA.

*How to cut costs.* Getting tested early for diabetes is the key to keeping care costs under control. As the disease progresses, it can become more dangerous — and significantly more expensive to treat. If you have diabetes, costs will be lower if your health insurance covers your treatments. The ADA’s Diabetes Forecast magazine has some tips for persuading your insurer to help pay for diabetes devices and supplies. Finally, a healthful diet and regular exercise can help you control diabetes. In some cases, your efforts might be so effective that you no longer need expensive treatment. The ADA has tips for food and exercise on its website.

**Obesity**
As the years roll on, our waistlines expand. More than one-third of adults 65 and older were obese, according to a 2007-2010 survey report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC estimated in a 2009 report that an obese person spent 42 percent more for health care — an average of $1,429 per person — than people of normal weight.

*How to cut costs.* Slimming down significantly reduces your risk of being diagnosed with many costly health problems, including diabetes, heart disease, cancer and osteoarthritis. Switching to a healthful diet and starting an exercise program are inexpensive ways to avoid the costs associated with obesity.

**Heart problems**
Simply put, heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the U.S. This condition encompasses many problems related to atherosclerosis, a narrowing of the arteries due to a buildup of fats, cholesterol and other substances. Heart disease costs the nation about $200 billion annually, according to the CDC.

*How to cut costs.* Several medical conditions are closely related to a higher risk of developing heart disease. They include:
- High blood pressure
- High LDL cholesterol
- Smoking

A better diet and regular exercise can help you reduce your blood pressure and improve your cholesterol readings. And quitting smoking is among the best ways to both improve your health and save some money.

**Declining oral health**
About 25 percent of Americans ages 60 and older do not have any of their natural teeth, according to the CDC. That’s a sobering reminder that our oral health begins to slip as we age. Treating such conditions can be expensive. Americans of all ages spent $124 billion on dental expenses in 2016, according to the American Dental Association.

*How to cut costs.* Regular visits to the dentist are the best way to catch conditions early, when they are less costly to treat. The ADA notes that while some people should see their dentist just once or twice annually, others may require more frequent visits. Consult with your dentist to find the right schedule for you.

**Shingles**
While this illness is likely to be far less costly than others on the list, it deserves attention because it is so prevalent in the over-50 demographic. In fact, while close to 1 in 3 people will develop it at some point, half of all cases of shingles are diagnosed in people 60 and older. Shingles is a painful, blistering rash. And complications related to shingles — from the blisters to an ongoing type of pain called post-herpetic neuralgia, or PHN, which can last for months or years after the rash is gone — can take a toll on your wallet.

*How to cut costs.* Fortunately, there is an easy and affordable fix for shingles: vaccination. As reported last year, a new vaccine is more than 90 percent effective in preventing shingles in folks age 50 and older.

[Source: MoneyTalksNews | Chris Kissell | April 5, 2019]
Diabetes Update 16 ► Patient Readmission Rate 40% Higher after Discharge

People with diabetes and low blood sugar levels have a 40 percent higher risk of hospital readmission after discharge, a new study says. Diabetes patients with blood sugar levels below 100 milligrams per deciliter had higher 30-day readmission rates after discharge than those with normal levels, according to research published Wednesday in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism. They also had higher 30, 90 and 180-day post-discharge death rates, as well as higher combined 30-day readmission and death rates when their blood sugar levels were low. The researchers say the burden of hospital readmissions cost the U.S. healthcare system about $25 million annually.

"In our novel nationwide study, we examined data of almost 1 million hospitalizations at the VA Health care system," Elias Spanakis, a researcher at the Baltimore VA Medical Center and study author, said in a news release. "We found that patients with diabetes who are discharged with low or even near normal glucose values during the last day of the hospital stay are at a higher risk of dying or being readmitted to the hospital." To gather their numbers, the researchers examined the readmission and death rates of more than 843,000 patients over 14 years. In all, about 9.4 million people in the United States have diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Although future studies are needed, physicians should avoid discharging patients with diabetes from the hospital until glucose values above 100 mg/dl are achieved during the last day of the hospitalization," Spanakis said. [Source: MoneyTalksNews | Brandon Ballenger

The following Executive Summary of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc Strategic plan for Dissolution will be published in two parts. The second part will be published in the July edition of the BTL.

Executive Summary

This Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Strategic Plan for Dissolution (Plan) is the result of two years of investigation, analysis, and deliberation by Working Group I (WG I), and addresses the legal requirements associated with dissolution of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) National Corporation as well as the practical aspects of identifying and transferring issues important to the legacy of the VVA to other organizations that will preserve and extend the legacy of the VVA into the future.

This Plan was completed by WG I for the VVA National Corporation, and was transferred to the VVA National Board of Directors (NBOD) on April 12, 2019, for their safekeeping, information, and use.

This Plan represents the conditions and facts that existed in April 2019, but WG I is aware that organizational, financial, and legal conditions are likely to change between now and the actual date of dissolution. It will be the responsibility of the VVA NBOD for maintaining, updating, and executing the actions and legal responsibilities included in the Plan.

This Plan includes five topical areas: Corporation, Finance, Veterans Benefits Program, Membership, and Chapters and State Councils. Each topical area is divided into subtopics that include: Facts, Analysis, and Actions. The Facts section lists the information that was considered; the Analysis section lists the conclusions reached from analyzing the facts; and the Action section lists each action that needs to be taken, the allocated timeframe when the action needs to be taken, and the person or group within the VVA responsible for
completing the action. WG I has determined that each of the Actions included in this Plan are mandatory, and not optional. For that reason, Actions contain the words will, shall, must, which direct that the Action be taken.

Based on current membership requirements in the VVA, the last date for a person on active duty military service to become eligible for membership was over 43 years ago on May 7, 1975. As a result, the membership is aging, and in 2018 the average age of VVA members was 72 years old. At some point in the not too distant future VVA members will likely not be able to physically perform the tasks required to effectively manage the activities necessary to continue operation of the VVA National Corporation.

The VVA NBOD is directly responsible to conduct business in a lawfully compliant and responsible manner, always in the best interest of the VVA National Corporation and membership. Successful execution of this Plan is vitally important to the VVA National Corporation and will require significant attention and cooperation of the VVA NBOD on an ongoing basis.

**Corporation**

The Corporation section of this Plan pertains to the VVA National Corporation in general and includes: Corporate Structure, Corporation Dissolution, Asset Distribution, Constitution, Government Affairs, and Committees.

The Corporation section of the Plan is very detailed and contains numerous legal requirements that must be completed in an orderly and timely manner. The information contained in the Executive Summary section is abbreviated and should be considered for information rather than reference purposes. More detailed information is contained in Section 3 of this Plan.

**Corporate Structure**

The VVA National Corporation is a non-profit corporation formed under the laws of the State of New York. The VVA Constitution, as amended from time to time, establishes the structure of VVA.

As the VVA National Corporation nears the date of dissolution it may wish to adopt an amendment to the VVA Constitution to reduce the size of its NBOD and reapportion some responsibilities. For example, as funding for the Conference of State Council Presidents is removed, then the CSCP will cease functioning and the NBOD position held by the President of the CSCP could be eliminated. Further, the remaining number of NBOD could be reduced by eliminating the At-Large Directors (10) or the Regional Directors (9), or some combination of the two groups, with the remaining Directors assuming greater responsibilities. Under New York state law, there must be a minimum of one (1) member of the Board of Directors.

When the VVA National Corporation dissolves it will have a direct impact upon State Councils, Chapters, and Membership, as none of them will be bound by the structure set forth in the VVA Constitution. The VVA Constitution will cease to exist.

As a general proposition, the Law is the highest authority having a bearing upon the organization and operation of the VVA National Corporation, and the lower authorities are listed in descending order: Law, Articles of Incorporation, Congressional Charter, VVA Constitution, Special Rules of Order, Rules of Order, Board Policies, and Staff Policies.
Corporation Dissolution

As a legal entity, the VVA National Corporation’s existence will be brought to an end eventually, regardless of anyone’s wishes or desires. Much like an individual person, the VVA National Corporation has a life span which will be ended by its dissolution (either voluntarily or involuntarily). An involuntary dissolution would result from the failure by the VVA National Corporation to file some required government report, or perhaps an unpaid creditor would put VVA National Corporation into bankruptcy or otherwise take all of its financial assets. A voluntary dissolution would allow the VVA National Corporation to decide to control its end in a manner that will perpetuate VVA’s legacy and which will continue to bestow benefits upon future generations of veterans. The VVA National Corporation can accomplish this through planning in advance for its voluntary dissolution.

Defaults by the VVA National Corporation give rise to possibilities of personal liabilities upon officers/directors of the VVA National Corporation.

Not later than one year prior to dissolution, subject to the advice of New York counsel, the VVA NBOD must commence the process of formal dissolution of VVA National Corporation by the adoption of a Plan of Dissolution and Distribution of Assets addressing the close of the VVA National Corporation and the distribution of assets not previously distributed and by the filing of a Petition for Dissolution with the New York Attorney General or a New York Supreme Court. This plan should not be confused with the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Strategic Plan for Dissolution.

A Petition must be filed with either the New York Attorney General (AG) or a New York Supreme Court. Upon approval of the Petition by the AG or the Court the Plan of Dissolution must be carried out within 270 days (distribute assets and pay liabilities), “Wind up” the dissolution by filing a final Financial Report (showing no assets or liabilities), prepare a Certificate of Dissolution, and file a Petition for its approval with the New York AG.

Asset Distribution

The VVA National Corporation has both tangible and intangible assets at this time and will probably have both types of assets at the time the VVA National Corporation dissolves.

The VVA has substantial flexibility in transferring assets prior to the filing of its Plan of Dissolution, without having to be concerned about State oversight. The VVA should use that flexibility to identify its “legacy” assets, with a view toward transferring ownership (but not necessarily possession) to a successor organization or other selected organization(s) before filing the Plan of Dissolution.

For distribution of assets under a Plan of Dissolution, significant oversight by the State of New York is imposed, including filing of financial reports, affidavits, and governing documents of recipient organizations.

When the VVA National Corporation dissolves, all of its remaining assets (after payment of all remaining debts) will, if not otherwise disposed of, be given to an organization which is tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), which is the usual form of charitable or religious organization, or 501(c)(19), which is the form specifically for veterans’ organizations. If the VVA National Corporation has not designated any such organization(s), the State of New York will make that determination.
Also, six years prior to dissolution the VVA NBOD shall direct the finance staff of VVA National Corporation to make a comprehensive listing of the Corporation’s assets, both tangible and intangible. This list must be updated on a biennial basis (i.e., every two years) and finalized two years prior to dissolution.¹

At two years prior to dissolution the VVA NBOD must select the organization(s) that will receive VVA National Corporation tangible assets, along with the description of assets it desires to transfer to those organization(s). Distribution of these assets must be completed before the VVA National Corporation files its Plan of Dissolution.

Also, at two years prior to dissolution the VVA NBOD will determine the amount of assets required to pay all remaining liabilities until the anticipated date of dissolution, and safeguard those assets in the Dissolution Fund or other protected status.

Constitution

The VVA Constitution establishes a structure among the National organization, the State Council, and the Chapters. If VVA National Corporation dissolves but leaves State Councils and Chapters which are active, the VVA Constitution ends along with VVA National Corporation, relieving those corporations of requirements contained in the VVA Constitution.

Currently the VVA Constitution contains no provisions for dissolution or other termination of the VVA National Corporation. Working Group I submitted a proposed amendment to the VVA Constitution to require the NBOD to actively manage the legal dissolution of the VVA National Corporation, to include adopting, updating, and implementing a strategic plan for dissolution, and to take all actions necessary to accomplish the orderly dissolution of the Corporation.

When the date of dissolution is adopted the VVA NBOD shall immediately have responsibility for actively managing dissolution activities, to include adopting, updating and implementing a strategic Plan for dissolution, monitoring and responding to liabilities and vulnerabilities, and all other actions necessary to bring the existence of the VVA National Corporation to an end.

Prior to each VVA National Convention after 2019, the VVA NBOD shall timely submit such proposed amendments to the VVA Constitution as may be necessary in order to carry out the Strategic Plan for Dissolution (for example, changes in the number and/or composition of the Board of Directors of the VVA National Corporation).

Government Affairs

“Government Affairs” is a broad term which encompasses not only the work of VVA officers, staff, and hired consultants/lobbyists, but also the Government Affairs Committee. The Government Affairs Committee accepts input from all of the other VVA committees and, if congressional or other action is warranted, then places the item in the hands of VVA’s Government Affairs Department, officers and staff to carry out.

The work of Government Affairs in Congress is considered by the general membership as one of the most vital functions to preserve the Founding Principle, “Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.”

¹ Note: Valuations are not the focus of this effort.
Two years before dissolution the VVA NBOD shall direct the Government Affairs staff to determine the status of each undertaking then in progress, along with the anticipated time needed to see that undertaking completed. For any undertaking which cannot be completed prior to the dissolution of the VVA National Corporation, the VVA NBOD needs to identify a successor organization(s), or another existing organization, or consider formation of a new organization of similar status, willing to continue that undertaking, and transfer to it all of VVA’s preparatory work supporting that undertaking. This action may involve coordinating with other organizations to place VVA employed personnel in direct contact with counterparts in those organizations. Transfers need to occur in a timely manner with regard to legislative calendars and sessions, such that all transfers occur not later than one year prior to dissolution.

Committees

Some committees primarily support the VVA National Corporation, and others primarily support the membership. The standing committees are adopted by the VVA Constitution and will remain in effect unless and until the VVA Constitution is amended, or the VVA National Corporation dissolves, or the VVA National President ceases to appoint chairs of the committees. Most standing committees meet for only six hours per year, three meetings a year for two hours at each meeting.

The standing committees which primarily support the VVA National Corporation may need to remain functional until the VVA National Corporation dissolves.

Beginning with the next fiscal year budget cycle, and continuing each year thereafter, prior to January 31, the VVA NBOD shall determine which committees will continue to be funded.

Additionally, as early as five years before dissolution the VVA NBOD shall determine whether individual committees should consider merging, separately incorporating, or aligning with other organizations to share information. This action must be completed not later than one year prior to dissolution.

Finance

Revenue

Historic Revenues have not substantially changed over the last few years. Total Revenue for 2018 was $9,691,195, and the major sources of revenues were: The Household Goods Donation Programs at $6,508,654, 67 percent, Contributions $2,158,606, 22 percent. Other sources of revenue include: Membership Dues $341,517, Veterans Support Foundation Grant $261,583, The VVA Veteran magazine $197,368, Conventions & Conferences $134,871, Royalties $62,958 and Other $25,538, totaling 11 percent.

The VVA National Corporation’s greatest financial concern is the risk of loss of critical revenues such as the Household Goods Donation Program, and contributions, which make up the largest portion of revenues. The VVA NBOD should take prudent actions to ensure revenue sources continue as long as possible and should attempt to identify new sources of revenues in case one of the main sources reduces or becomes unreliable.

Eight years prior to dissolution the CFO and National Treasurer must provide line item details of revenues instead of lump sums values to the VVA NBOD so they have more knowledge of what they are working with. On a quarterly basis the CFO and staff will need to prepare financial reports, including graphs and charts to keep the VVA NBOD completely up to date on transactions that affect the final goal of transition.
Two years prior to dissolution the VVA NBOD must begin to notify the revenue sources of the intent to dissolve the VVA National Corporation or to transition to another organization, and work with those sources to sustain revenue as long as possible.

**Expenses**

The authority to incur expenses is implied in the Articles of Incorporation and Congressional Charter, and further defined in the VVA National Policies and Procedures. The Congressional Charter emphasizes the following right to members, “All books and records of the corporation may be inspected by any member having the right to vote or by any agent or attorney of such member, for any proper purpose, at any reasonable time.”

The expense budget for VVA for Fiscal Year 2018 was $9,300,000.

As VVA National Corporation progresses through the Plan, the needs of the organization will change, and some expenses will be reduced or eliminated, while some, such as the VVA National Officers, attorney fees, consultants and some committees might increase or decrease.

The VVA Chief Financial Officer (CFO), VVA National Treasurer and necessary staff members within the Finance Department will be crucial through the dissolution of the VVA National Corporation.

The VVA NBOD must become more actively involved in reducing expenses to meet the goals outlined in this Plan. This includes use and possible elimination of the reserve and investment funds. Beginning as soon as possible, the CFO must provide detailed expenses on a quarterly basis to enable the VVA NBOD to make sound financial decisions. The VVA NBOD will determine what details and data format will be presented to them on a quarterly basis.

The VVA NBOD must establish and fund a Dissolution Fund to ensure there are sufficient funds remaining to cover final dissolution expenses. The initial estimate for this fund is $1,800,000, with the understanding that the VVA NBOD will need to monitor and reevaluate costs associated with dissolution and adjust the fund balance as necessary.

*Part II of the Executive Summary will be in the July edition of the BTL.*
Our 280 Brothers

This is the third personal story about one of our fallen 280 Brothers. We will continue to publish these stories as long as we receive them from you. If you knew one of our fallen Brothers and would like to honor him with a shared memory, please write your story and submit it for publication in the BTL. Include a picture(s) of the Brother if available. *Your story may also be submitted to the Living Wall site, www.vvmf.org.

If you have an article and would appreciate a second opinion on grammar and sentence structure email it to Kathy Gleason at Kathy14470@msn.com. If you just don't know where to start but would appreciate some help writing the article you can call Kathy at 585-978-1331 or email her for an appointment.

If you would like to submit a story, please send it to vietvet6748@gmail.com.

Fred Elliott shared a memory of John Bruce Mularz.

In 1951, my family moved into half of a double house on Weaver Street in Rochester. This would be our home for the next ten years. John and I lived seven or eight houses apart on the street. Soon enough we became friends and did those things that young boys did in the 1950s. At some point our twosome expanded to a gang of five to include Tony Comella, Gary Miller, and Billy Cybulski.

John
Bruce
Mularz
1947 - 1968
We rode bikes, played baseball, ran through yards, and sometimes pissed off some of the neighbors. But we were friends and even though we sometimes fought each other we remained friends through it all. I remember John as I remember all of us from that time, happy, carefree, living in the moment and rarely, if ever, considering the future.

John’s passion was baseball. His parents had an extra room in their house that they annually rented to a member of the Rochester Red Wings when the stadium was on Norton Street. Each season a new player would show up at John’s house, much to John’s delight I’m sure. Although we played softball in the Kodak Park Athletic Association (KPAA) leagues, John always aspired to be a hardball pitcher.

I lost track of John and the others when I moved away to Norton Village and attend Benjamin Franklin High School (John went to Edison Technical High School). It wasn’t until after I returned from the Army and Vietnam that I again heard about John. While I was beginning to make my journey home from The War, John was beginning his tour of duty in November of 1967. Ten months later, while serving with the 4th Infantry Division, John made the ultimate sacrifice in the highlands of central Vietnam. John was two months shy of his 21st birthday.

After the requisite calling hours at Felerski’s funeral home (a neighborhood institution), John was laid to rest in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery. You can see John’s black granite marker from Dewey Avenue. (John can also be visited at Bollard 167 in Highland Park at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial) or in Washington, DC at The Wall, Panel 48W, Line 14).

Fred Elliott

*We may not be able to include these wonderful stories on the Living Wall as there is a limit to the amount of words that can be placed on the site.
Highlights of the May Membership Meeting
104 People Attended

NEW MEMBER TERRY O’REILLY, ARMY ‘67 - ‘70

NEW MEMBER DONALD COLE, ARMY ‘67 - ‘70

JOHN GUZZETTA, USN ‘64-‘68 RETURNING MEMBER

RITA HASENAUER WON THE ARMY SHIRT

FLAG DRAWING WINNER, BILL HEINRICH

50/50 DRAWING WINNER, LYNN GURSSLYN
### VVA CHAPTER 20 MARCHING UNIT 2019 SCHEDULE

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HONOR FLIGHT
UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING

PHOTOS BY GLENN PECK

..........AND HERE’S WHAT IT TAKES TO BRING OUT THE BEAUTY OF THE MEMORIAL. THANK YOU ALL!!!
PHOTOS BY GLENN PECK

LILAC PARADE
CHAPTER 20 MEMBERS, CHUCK MACALUSO, KENNY ALLOCCO AND JOE PECK MET WITH THE STUDENTS AT THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL
**CHURCHVILLE - CHILI**

Chapter 20 members attended the Churchville Chili school talk in April 29th and 30th. They also presented the Annual community service award to Elizabeth Hoelperl and the teaching staff at that school. From l to r members Chuck Macaluso, Ken Allocco, Joe Peck, Ron Trovato and Jerry McDermott.

**GATES - CHILI**

Chapter 20 met with the Gates Chili High School students at the Vietnam Memorial. Afterwards the Chapter members went to the school for a tour. The school sent several letters of appreciation and thanks. Chapter members who attended were: Jerry Mc Dermott, Bruce Apeldoorn, Fred Elliot, Ralph Pascale, Joe Peck and Kenny Allocco.
Dear Kenny,

Thank you so much for coming in to our humanities class with the other veterans to talk to us. Each of you personally had an impact on my future and reassured my decision to go into the military. Since my cousin, a master sergeant, is currently deployed for eight months, it was nice to be able to talk to other veterans face to face. Each story that was told made me feel as though I had made the right decision to go into the military. Your story especially was an inspiration and one that I shared with my family. Though I am just starting my military career, it is always nice to hear what other soldiers and veterans have gone through. The B-52 was also one of the first planes I could easily name and recognize when I started to have an interest in the Air Force. Overall, I'd like to just thank you for serving and for the impact you made on me and my classmates. I will hold your story close to me throughout my time in the military and there after.

Sincerely,
Arielle Read
Dear Vietnam Veterans,

I want to thank you for coming into our class and talking to us about your experiences in the war. I really enjoyed hearing your stories and what you had to deal with. It was interesting to hear how the Vietnamese people called the Vietnam war, the American War. I'm Vietnamese and I've never heard of anyone calling it that. When I asked my question about ever having any Vietnamese food, Bruce said he's had kimchi, but kimchi isn't necessarily Vietnamese, it's Korean. But kimchi is really good, just eat it with rice and not plain. And I also wanted to say that Kenny had a fun sense of humor. I thought listening to all these stories were going to be sad, well they were, but Kenny added some humor and I found all his jokes funny. Overall this experience was phenomenal opportunity to get more insight and I want to thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimmy Do
Chapter 20 members, Jerry McDermott, Kenny Allocco and Dick Pearce met with Pam Claeys at Roth MS where the Chapter presented Pam an award for the schools participation in our Vietnam War education.

Roth MS is the last school that the Chapter will be visiting for the 2019 season. If you know of a school that would like to be participate in our educational program please send an email to Ken Allocco at kbud920@yahoo.com.
So you thought you knew everything.....well think again!

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the $5 bill.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

The University of Alaska spans four time zones.

The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted.

Warner Communications paid 28 million for the copyright to the song Happy Birthday, which was written in 1935!

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

A comet's tail always points away from the sun.

The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.
Happening JULY 20, 2019 at HIGH NOON at the Hemlock Fair.

All proceeds to benefit the New York State Sheriffs’ Institute Summer Camp. Help us send more than a dozen children, who might not otherwise have the means, to camp this summer! Put a smile on the faces of kids as they laugh, build positive relationships with one another and law enforcement, and just be plain ol’ kids for the week! Check out their Facebook Page.  
Come out or support with this easy link.  
gf.me/u/sbppxar
Please share with your friends.

THANK YOU!
Todd

Flag Day Volunteer Registration is now open!

It's time to sign up for Flag Day!

Don't miss out, sign up now for your favorite location today!

We are excited to have some new locations, so please be sure to check those out.

Over 300 volunteers are needed this year, so please share this with your friends and co-workers. The best recruiting is word of mouth.

Let's make the 26th year of VOC’s Flag Day campaign the best one yet!
Sign up to volunteer

Connect with us

Facebook | Twitter | Instagram
‘Brew Fest for the Vets’

A benefit for the rehab and therapy programs at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center

Friday June 7, 2019
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Tickets $30 each or two for $50

Saint Anne’s Church
1600 Mount Hope Ave.
Rochester, NY

Featuring specialty: Beer, Cider and Spirit tastings from:

Sponsored by:
Knights of Columbus
Fourth Degree
St. John Fisher Assembly #3754
Bishop James E. Kearney Assembly, #723
Board Meetings | Membership Meetings
---|---
June 4, 2019 | June 13, 2019
July 2, 2019 | July 11, 2019
Aug 6, 2019 | Aug 8, 2019

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>E-Benefits Portal Site</th>
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<td><a href="http://www.va.gov/womenvet">http://www.va.gov/womenvet</a></td>
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<td>1-855-829-6636</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-800-273-8255 (TALK)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.myhealth.va.gov">http://www.myhealth.va.gov</a></td>
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<th>Homeless Veterans Hotline</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-877-424-3838</td>
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</table>

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## Contact Information

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- **President** Valentiono Gatto [valentinogatto1969@gmail.com](mailto:valentinogatto1969@gmail.com) 227-2741 h
- **V. President** Hank Wallace [whwnbt@rit.edu](mailto:whwnbt@rit.edu) 260-6035 c
- **Secretary** Joe Peck [jpeck2@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jpeck2@rochester.rr.com) 734-9046 c

### DIRECTORS
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- Dan Corona [nycoronasg@gmail.com](mailto:nycoronasg@gmail.com) 406-6108 c
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- Mike Sanfilippo [guardian175@yahoo.com](mailto:guardian175@yahoo.com) 594-2649 h
- Ron Trovato [Ronbo215@gmail.com](mailto:Ronbo215@gmail.com) 857-3630 c

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- Valentiono Gatto [valentinogatto1969@gmail.com](mailto:valentinogatto1969@gmail.com) 227-2741 h
- Jerry McDermott [jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com](mailto:jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com) 313-8188 c

### COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Contact</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Between The Lines</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vietvet6748@gmail.com">vietvet6748@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>301-5348 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain - Tom Puff</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tpuff@frontiernet.net">tpuff@frontiernet.net</a></td>
<td>227-3426 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Gear – Lynn Gursslin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lynnngruallin@gmail.com">lynnngruallin@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>737-0976 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution – Fred Elliott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:felliott@rochester.rr.com">felliott@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>288-5756 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance – Jerry McDermott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com">jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com</a></td>
<td>313-8188 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health – Jerry McDermott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com">jerrymcdermott64@ymca.com</a></td>
<td>313-8188 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honor Guard – C. Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incarcerated – Ron Trovato</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ronbo215@gmail.com">Ronbo215@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>857-3630 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative – Bill Auble</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wauble@hotmail.com">wauble@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>683-2213 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marching – Hank Wallace</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whwnbt@rit.edu">whwnbt@rit.edu</a></td>
<td>334-5352 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership – Mike General</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwegeneral@aol.com">mwegeneral@aol.com</a></td>
<td>227-4383 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial – Chuck Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POW/MIA – Joe Peck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jpeck2@rochester.rr.com">jpeck2@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>734-9046 c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Affairs – Mike Sanfilippo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:guardian175@yahoo.com">guardian175@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>594-2649 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Events – V. Gatto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:valentinogatto1969@gmail.com">valentinogatto1969@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>227-2741 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker’s Bureau – Ken Allocco</td>
<td><a href="mailto:KBUD920@yahoo.com">KBUD920@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>392-9424 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vet Benefits – Stan Patykiewicz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SNMPATYK@rochester.rr.com">SNMPATYK@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>247-4830 h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Walk – C. Macaluso</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckmac66@yahoo.com">chuckmac66@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>225-8288 h</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 c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION
- Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial 753-7275
- VA Outpatient Clinic 465 Westfall Rd 463-2600
- Veterans Outreach Center 459 South Avenue 546-1081
- VA Vet Center 232-5040
- Veterans Administration 800-827-1000
- Monroe County Veterans Service Agency 753-6040
- e-mail: serviceofficer@yahoo.com
- 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.rochestervietnamveteransmemorial.org/TheMemorial](http://www.rochestervietnamveteransmemorial.org/TheMemorial)
- VVA New York State Council [www.nyveteransvets.org](http://www.nyveteransvets.org)