

Vietnam Veterans of America



*Westchester
County
Chapter #49*

If box is checked
your dues are due now.

All the POW's are not home yet!
Do you know?
Do you care?



NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #163
WHITE PLAINS, NY

Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
Pleasantville, New York 10570
Notice: Address Service Requested

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Chapter Officers:

President: Robert Jordan.....733-5672
Vice President: Al Zawiski428-9352
Secretary: Jim LaManna793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman930-7433

Board of Directors: (5)

JimMcCauley238-3514
Terry Keogh 428-9845
Bob Miller..... 391-8723
Carl DiLiberto 462-0782
Peter Brown 273-4135

State Council Delegates: (7)

Dan Griffin
Jim LaManna
Barney Puleo
Edward Fox
Al Singerman
Al Zawiski
Terry Keogh

Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Dan Morea..... 377-6700
Carmel: Karl Rohde 845-808-1620

Vet Center: 300 Hamilton Ave, White Plains, NY 10601

Roger Paulmeno 682-6250

White Plains Clinic 421-1951
23 S. Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

FDR Montrose Hospital..... 737-4400

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Dan Griffin 995-2149

Committees:

Membership Phil Wanderman..... 963-3034
Chaplain Al Zawiski 428-9352
Comm. Affairs Dan Griffin 682-4949
POW/ MIA Dan Griffin 682-4949
Member Products Jim LaManna..... 793-6077
Color Guard Rich Palazzo845-297-1513
Scholarship Bob Miller.....391-8723

WESTCHESTER COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

HOURS:

11:00-3:30

914-864-7068

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY
AND HOLIDAYS

Chapter 49

Telephone / Fax Number
(914) 682-4949

Website:

www.vietnamvets49.org

E-Mail:

Mail to: Chapter49@aol.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

7:30

Armonk Post 1097

35 Bedford Rd.

Armonk, NY 10504

This newsletter is a publication of Chapter 49, however the opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors, and as such, they do not necessarily represent those of Chapter 49. All views are welcome for publication. Submit items of interest, including poems, short stories, photographs, etc., to the Editors at the Chapter address or call for other arrangements. Materials submitted will not be returned unless otherwise requested.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There is a lot of helpful information for veterans that comes out on a daily basis on the internet. After checking the source I then forward it to our membership by email; I have about one third of our membership's email addresses. Please send me your email address to chapter49@aol.com.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a flyer about our annual Chapter picnic, please call or send an email letting us know how many are attending. This picnic is a great way for us to get together with old friends and to meet new members.

**If you are not registered with the VA, please do so, even if you have medical coverage from work, Medicare or both.
You can still use the VA; they offer free physicals, free eye glasses and \$8.00 prescriptions delivered to your house.
If you live up County go to Montrose VA with your DD 214 and if you live down County you can use the VA clinic in White Plains or the Bronx VA. To register for the Bronx VA & their Clinic you need to bring your DD 214 to the Bronx VA; Monday through Friday or to my office on the third Thursday of the month. The hours at my office are 11:00 to 3:00.**

Take care of yourself and each other

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our newest members

**David Cowan from Mount Kisco
Jose Fonfrias life member from Hastings-on-Hudson
Michael Flanigan life member Mamaroneck
John Creskey life member from Valhalla
Walter Auch from Greenwich, CT**

**PUBLIC LAW 114-273,
THE CHARLES DUNCAN BURIED WITH HONOR ACT OF 2016**

- 1. PURPOSE/REASON FOR ISSUE:** This notice provides information about Public Law 114-273, The Charles Duncan Buried With Honor Act Of 2016, which amends the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) to furnish a casket or urn for certain veterans buried in State or tribal cemeteries.
- 2. BACKGROUND:** Under Section 2306(f) of Title 38 United States Code (U.S.C.), VA may provide a casket or urn for the burial in a national cemetery of a veteran for whom VA is unable to identify a next-of-kin and for whom sufficient resources are unavailable to provide the casket or urn. NCA published regulations implementing this authority at 38 Code of Federal Regulations 38.628. On December 14, 2016, President Barack Obama signed S. 3076, the Charles Duncan Buried with Honor Act of 2016, creating Public Law 114-273, which amends the statutory authority.
- 3. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC LAW 114-273:** Public Law 114-273 amends Section 2306(f) of Title 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) to extend VA's authority to furnish a casket or urn for an eligible Veteran who is buried in a State or tribal cemetery that has received funding from VA for the establishment, expansion, and improvement of the State or tribal cemetery. Previously VA's authority was limited to providing the casket or urn if the Veteran was buried in a national cemetery only. No other changes were made to the statute, so an eligible Veteran must still lack sufficient resources to purchase a casket or urn, and must be without a next-of-kin.
- 4. ACTION:** NCA will amend its regulation, at 38 CFR 38.628, to reflect this additional authority. However, NCA may begin providing the benefit, as amended, immediately.
- 5. RESPONSIBLE OFFICE:** National Cemetery Administration, Office of Finance and Planning, Legislative and Regulatory Service (42E), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, is responsible for the contents of this notice.
- 6. EXPIRATION:** This notice will be archived on July 31, 2017.

/s/
Ronald E. Walters
Interim Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs

Distribution: Electronic

January 13, 2017

MOAA continues to lead the effort to end the disability offset to retired pay and strongly supports a plan to phase out the disability offset for all disabled retired service members, with initial priority for those who were prevented from serving 20 years solely because they became severely disabled in service. This issue has been and remains one of MOAA's top legislative priorities.

Concurrent receipt means to receive both service-earned military retired pay and VA disability compensation. Up until 2001, any retired service member who also received VA disability compensation had an amount equal to the VA compensation deducted from his or her military retired pay.

Since then, MOAA has pushed hard in Congress to get the authority for concurrent receipt greatly expanded so that the offset was eliminated for retirees with non-combat disabilities rated at 50 percent or higher.

“Even though we still have more to do, this ranks as one of MOAA's most important legislative achievements,” said Col. Mike Barron, USA (Ret), Director of Government Relations at MOAA.

As the new 115th Congress has been sworn in on Capitol Hill, companion concurrent receipt bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress.

In the House, Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-Ga.) reintroduced H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act, and Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.) reintroduced H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act. Both bills essentially seek to change the law and permit eligible retirees with disability ratings less than 50 percent to receive full concurrent receipt. H.R. 333 also targets support for Chapter 61 retirees with less than 20 years of service.

With the retirement of former Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, two new members of the Senate have stepped up to introduce legislation. Sens. Dean Heller (R-Nev.) and Jon Tester (D-Mont.) introduced S. 66, The Retired Pay Restoration Act.

MOAA will work closely with these members and others in Congress as well as with DoD and the new administration to phase out the disability offset, with initial priority for those who were prevented from serving 20 years solely because they became severely disabled in service.

VA Hudson Valley Partners with Fisher House Foundation to benefit Veteran Families

MONTROSE, N.Y. (November 18, 2016) – VA Hudson Valley Health Care System has been selected as one of fourteen VA facilities nationwide for future construction of a Fisher House, which provides temporary accommodations at no cost for families and caregivers of hospitalized Veterans. Fisher Houses are constructed and donated by the Fisher House Foundation to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) to help keep families close to Veteran loved ones who are recovering from illness or injury while receiving treatment at a VA hospital.

“We are very excited to work with Fisher House Foundation to further our commitment to Hudson Valley Veterans and their families,” said Meg Caplan, VA Hudson Valley Medical Center Director. “We are delighted to have been selected as a priority site for this project. The availability of a Fisher House will open up the possibility of incorporating family into Veterans’ mental health treatment – something we at VA Hudson Valley recognize to be a crucial element in supporting the best possible outcomes for Veterans. The more those supportive individuals are involved in the treatment and understanding of a Veteran’s mental health diagnosis, the better the chances of the Veteran’s success. We are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to our brave men and women who have served our country”.



Scholarship winners



PICNIC



CHAPTER 49 PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 23 12:00 UNTIL?

ARMONK AMERICAN LEGION PAVILION

CHAPTER WILL FURNISH HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS,
CORN, CLAMS AND SODA

PLEASE BRING SALADS AND DESERTS

THIS PICNIC IS FOR US AND OUR FAMILIES

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ARE ATTENDING

SO CALL THE CHAPTER OFFICE 914-682-4949

Or email chapter49@aol.com

BY SEPTEMBER 5th

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DONATE

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE

POW/MIA STATISTICS

Live Sighting statistics provided by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)

Live Sightings: 1,996 first-hand live sighting reports have been received since 1975, none recently. 1,941 (97.24%) were resolved: 1,340 (67.13%) equated to Americans previously accounted for (i.e. returned POWs, missionaries or civilians detained for violating SRV codes); 45 (2.25%) correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sightings of civilians still unaccounted-for; 556 (27.86%) were determined to be fabrications. The remaining 55

(2.76%) unresolved first-hand reports are the focus of continuing analytical and collection efforts: 48 (2.40%) concern

Americans reported in a captive environment; 7 (0.35%) are non-captive sightings. The years in which these 55 first hand sightings occurred are listed below:

Pre-1976	1976-1985	1986-1995	1996-2005	2006-2013	Total
36	3	1	14	1	55

Accountability: At the end of the Vietnam War, there reportedly were 2,583 unaccounted-for American prisoners, missing or killed in action/body not recovered. As of May 19, 2016, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency lists

1,620 Americans as missing and unaccounted-for, 80-90% of them in Vietnam or in areas of Cambodia and Laos where Vietnamese operated during the war. A breakdown by year of recovery for the 963 Americans accounted for from Vietnam War-related losses since the end of the war in 1975 follows:

- 1965-1974 War years: (recently identified) 2
- 1974-1975 Winding down USG effort 28
- 1976-1978 US/SRV normalization negotiations 47
- 1979-1980 US/SRV talks break down 1
- 1981-1985 1st Reagan Administration 23
- 1985-1989 2nd Reagan Administration 168
- 1989-1993 George H.W. Bush Administration 128
- 1993-1997 1st Clinton Administration 326
- 1997-2001 2nd Clinton Administration 57
- 2001-2004 1st George W. Bush Administration 64
- 2004-2008 2nd George W. Bush Administration 62
- 2008-2012 1st Obama Administration 48
- 2012-2016 2nd Obama Administration 9

According to the DPAA Lab, unilateral SRV repatriations of remains with scientific evidence of storage have accounted for less than 200 of the 655 from Vietnam; two were mistakenly listed as KIA/BNR in Vietnam in 1968, but remains were actually recovered at that time. All but seven of the 265 Americans accounted for in Laos since the end of the war have been the result of joint recoveries. Six were recovered and turned over by indigenous personnel from Laos and one from Vietnam. In addition, three persons identified were recovered in Vietnam before the end of the war. There follows a breakdown by country of the 963 Americans accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975.

- Vietnam 655
- Laos 265
- China 3
- Cambodia 40

An additional 63 US personnel were accounted for between 1973 and 1975, for a grand total of 1,026. These Americans were accounted for by unilateral US effort in areas where the US could gain access at that time, not due to government-to-government cooperation with the post-war governments of Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia.

JULY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6 meeting Board 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM	26	27	28	29

AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 meeting Board 6:00 Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:30	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:00 PM	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:0 meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Chapter Picnic 12:00
24 Gold Star Mother's Ceremony 3:00	25	26 pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WE NEED YOU

IN THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



MEMBERSHIP TYPES and ELIGIBILITY

Individual Membership is open to any Vietnam-era Veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. armed forces between January 1, 1959 and May 7, 1975.

Associate Membership in the VVA is open to all who share our concerns – both men and women, friends, supporters, and families – Veteran or not.

Life Membership / Associate Life Membership is available to all who wish to demonstrate a greater commitment to the ideals and work of the V.V.A. (Economically a great deal!)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

check one

circle dues amount if applicable

_____ Vietnam-era Veteran Application: 1 year - \$20 3 years - \$50 Life Membership - \$100
 Individual Membership
 (must provide a copy of applicant's DD-214)

_____ Non-Vietnam-era Veteran Application: 1 year - \$20 3 years - \$50 Life Membership - \$100
 Associate Membership

_____ Non-Member Financial Contribution: \$ _____

_____ Report of Address Change:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please make checks payable to: V.V.A. Chapter #49

Send application and check to:

Membership Chair, V.V.A. Chapter #49 PO Box 224, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Questions? Call the Chapter: Phone/Fax (914) 682-4949

or e-mail: Chapter49@aol.com

www.VietnamVets49.org



**Chapter #49 meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at:
 The Armonk American Legion Hall • 35 Bedford Rd. Armonk, NY 10504
 Dinner at 6:30 pm / Meeting at 7:30 pm**

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR
BUSINESS CARD OR OTHER
ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CALL: 914-682-4949

EMAIL: CHAPTER49@AOL.COM

PETE VALANE

Bagpiper
For All Occasions

914-632-2952

Cell 347-596-8042



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

MICHAEL O'CONNOR, GRI
Associate Broker

(914) 245-3400 BUSINESS
(914) 245-8602 FAX
(914) 528-7279 RESIDENCE

366 UNDERHILL AVENUE
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NY 10598



Independently Owned And Operated By NRT Incorporated.



The First in Synthetics

John H. Pagliuca
Certified Dealer 1423557
johnnypagoil.com

PH: (914) 402-4239
C: (914) 714-5037
johnnamsman@aol.com



**SAILORS - JOIN NOW
CONTACT**

MATTHEW J. COFFEY
Capt. USNR- Ret.

AUSN Regional President - Mid-Atlantic Region

16 N. Broadway White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 997-7663 ★ (914) 584-5741 Mobile
captmjcoffey@aol.com ★ www.ausn.org

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements do not constitute an endorsement of their product or services.