

Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
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All the POW's are not home yet!
Do you know?
Do you care?



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Westchester
County
Chapter #49



Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Lasdon Park, Somers, New York



Vietnam Veterans of America

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

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Vice President: Al Zawiski 428-9352
Secretary: Jim LaManna 793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman 930-7433

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Bob Miller 391-8723
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Barney Puleo 682-4949

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Jim LaManna	Al Zawiski
Barney Puleo	Terry Keogh

Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Louis Navarro 377-6700
Carmel: Brennen Mahoney 845-808-1620

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

Roger Paulmeno 682-6250
Vinnie Matthews 682-6250

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

FDR Montrose Hospital 737-4400

Vets Employment Counselor:

Greg Whittaker 997-4138

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Director: Vito Pinto 995-2146 / 2145

Committees:

Membership	Phil Wanderman 963-3034
Legislation	Al Singerman 930-7433
Comm. Affairs	Dan Griffin 682-4949
POW / MIA	Dan Griffin 682-4949
Member Products	Jim LaManna 793-6077
Color Guard	Rich Palazzo 845-297-1513
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:

mailto: Chapter49@aol.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

at

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

In the last newsletter when I was thanking our Chapter members who have been performing a great job volunteering at the Gift Shop I wrote Chapter member Mike Foley instead of Mike Fogarty. I am sorry Mike; but we do have a Chapter member named Mike Foley.

We are now sending our newsletter by email as well as by US mail; to cut down on cost. If you want to receive yours by email, call us @ 682-4949, email us @ chapter49@aol.com or go to our web site @ vietnamvets49.org

New York State passed a Bill granting a School tax break for veterans, but it is up to each School Board to pass it or not. So ask your local School Board to hold a hearing. Find out when the hearing will be and get as many vets as you can to attend. Since the School tax is the largest part of your taxes, there will be a lot of resistance to the break for vets. The reason they will be against it is that when they give a break to some the rest of the people's taxes will be raised to make up for the lost revenue. Let us know when your School Board hearing is and we will try to attend to support you. So far Yonkers voted for it and Lakeland school District in Yorktown voted it down. In Putnam County the Carmel and Mahopac School Districts have adopted the exemption.

I have looked up the number of veterans in each City that already are receiving the alternative tax exemption. When you go to your hearing you will be able to inform everyone that this is the number of vets were talking about, and so that the effect will not be that great on the other tax payers. Call me and I will let you know how many vets are receiving the Alternative tax exemption in your City.

In April the VA will be sending the new medical ID cards to everyone who has the old card. People signing up now will receive a card sometime afterward. In the meantime do not carry your old card with you; someone with a cell phone standing next to you can scan your Social Security number right off of your card while it is in your wallet in your pants.

Take care of yourself and each other

Dan Griffin

2014

VIETNAM VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY

8:30 - 9:30 am | REGISTRATION/CHECK IN

- VIPs, dignitaries, honored guests
- Name readers
- Group representatives

10:00am - 12:00 PM | THANK YOU FOR SERVING & "WELCOME HOME"

- Proclamations from the Mayor of New York City and the Governor of New York State.
- Music and distinguished speakers.
- Remarks by Medal of Honor recipient Paul Bucha (U.S. Army. Vietnam).
- A promise made: ensuring present day military and family members are recognized for their service.

12:00 - 12:45pm | REUNION & REFRESHMENTS

Locate fellow attendees from their service branch, unit or similar dates/locations of service, while enjoying light refreshments & beverages.

12:45 - 2:45pm | HONORING THE FALLEN

- A quiet, respectful, ceremony.
- Family members of the fallen (Gold Star), friends and veterans come together to remember and reflect.
- Featuring the reading of names of 1,741 New Yorkers lost in service in Vietnam and those lost since 9/11/2001.

2:45 - 3:00pm | WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

- Laying of wreaths at the New York City Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall.
- Raising of the Department of Defense's Vietnam War Commemoration Flag
- Vietnam Veterans Fair with information and displays

Saturday, March 29, 2014

55 Water Street

New York, NY 10041

- LOBBY PROMENADE -

Adjacent to Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza

RAIN OR SHINE

Visit www.uwvc.org/vietnam for parking options

Please RSVP:

212.693.1476 | rsvp@uwvc.org

For the latest information, visit:

www.uwvc.org/vietnam



Presented by the



UNITED WAR VETERANS COUNCIL

www.UWVC.org | 1-877-PARADE 3
TOLL FREE

Visa/MasterCard Credit Card Scam

The scam works like this:

Person calling says: "This is [name] and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card which was issued by [name of bank]. Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for \$497.99 from a marketing company based in Arizona?" When you say "No", the caller continues with, "Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. This is a company we have been watching, and the charges range from \$297 to \$497, just under the \$500 purchase pattern that flags most cards. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to [gives you your address]. Is that correct?" You say "Yes."

The caller continues: "I will be starting a Fraud Investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 1- 800 number listed on the back of your card (1-800-VISA) and ask for Security. You will need to refer to this Control Number." The caller then gives you a 6 digit number. "Do you need me to read it again?"

Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works:

The caller then says, "I need to verify you are in possession of your card." He'll ask you to "turn your card over and look for some numbers." There are 7 numbers; the first 4 are part of your card number, the last 3 are the Security Numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read the last 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say, "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?"

After you say no, the caller then thanks you and states, "Don't hesitate to call back if you do," and hangs up. You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the card number.

According to the victim, if you call the 1-800 listed on your card as instructed, the *real* VISA Security De-partment will answer and you will be told it was a scam and in the last 15 minutes a new purchase of \$497.99 was charged to your card. Make a real fraud report and close the VISA account. VISA will issue a new card number.

Important: What the Scammer wants is the 3-digit PIN number on the back of the card. **Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call VISA or Master Card directly for verification of the conversation.**

The real VISA told the victim that they will never ask for anything on the card, as they already know the information because they issued the card. If you give the Scammer your 3 Digit PIN Number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see charges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's almost too late and/or more difficult to actually file a fraud report. The following day, the same victim received another call from a "Jason Richardson of MasterCard" with a word-for-word repeat of the VISA Scam. As instructed by VISA, a police report was filed.

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Congressional/Stakeholder Notification

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

February 2014

Summary:

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is implementing a newly redesigned, more secure Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC) to replace the Veteran Identification Card (VIC), which was issued in 2004.

In 2010, VA initiated a redesign effort to remove the SSN from the barcode and magnetic stripe on the VIC to improve the protection of Veteran's private information in conformance with the Social Security number reduction and security mandates throughout the Federal Government. VA is preparing to implement a new Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC).

The new cards are distinguished by additional security features, which better protect the Veteran's personal information and have a different look and feel. In addition to being more secure, the card offers enhanced features -- transforming it into a Health Identification Card. Similar to a typical health insurance card, the VHIC displays the Veteran's Member ID, a new unique identifier, as well as a Plan ID, reflecting the Veteran's enrollment in VA health care.

As part of a phased rollout, in February 2014, the card will be offered to newly enrolled and other Veterans who have not been issued a VIC. Then, in early April, VA will begin a three month effort to automatically issue the more secure VHIC to each VIC cardholder. VA recommends Veterans safeguard their VIC as they would a credit card, and cut up or shred the card once it is replaced.

While a VHIC is not required to receive VA health care, VA wants all enrolled Veterans to have a card that protects their personal information.

Card Features:

- **Secure** – Redesigned card contains new identifiers – a Member ID and Card Number eliminate the need for the Veteran's SSN to be on the card
- **Personalized** -- Displays emblem of Veteran's branch of service, and identifies if the Veteran was disabled from a service-connected condition, is a former POW or recipient of a Purple Heart or Medal of Honor
- **Accessible** – Braille "VA" helps visually impaired Veterans to recognize and use the card
- **Interoperable** - Can be used to look up Veteran's health records at VA and Department of Defense health care facilities when arrangements are in place.
- **Anti-Counterfeiting** – Microtext helps prevent card reproductions
- **Compliant** -- Meets national standard for health identification cards
- **Informative** – Displays VA phone numbers and emergency care instructions

Facts:

- Enrolled Veterans use the VHIC within VA health care facilities as proof of identity and to facilitate check-in to appointments.
- The Plan ID displayed on the VHIC is a unique number issued to VA by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and identifies the health plan offered to enrolled Veterans. Starting in 2016, this number will be used by doctors and hospitals to assist them when they send in health related claims for payment to VA.

- Veterans can continue to use their VIC until their VHIC is received. VA health care applications have been enhanced to read both the new VHIC as well as the old card. VA communications to Veterans will advise them that upon receipt of the VHIC, to destroy their VIC either by cutting up the card or by shredding it.
- To receive the VHIC, the Veteran must show appropriate identification document(s) and be enrolled in the VA health care system.
- Starting February 21, 2014, VA will process VHIC requests for new enrollees and other enrolled Veterans who do not have a VIC.
- Production of the replacement VHICs will begin in early April 2014 and will be automatically mailed to Veterans who have been issued a VIC. All cards are expected to be replaced within three months.
- Enrolled Veterans can get more information by calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387), by visiting their VA medical facility Enrollment Coordinator or online at www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic.

The following documents are acceptable proof of identity. Documents presented as proof must be current (not expired) and original. Photocopies are not acceptable.

Primary Identification	Secondary Identification
Present ONE form of Primary Identification	If a Primary form of Identification is not available, present TWO forms of Secondary Identification
State-Issued Driver's License	Certified Birth Certificate
State issued ID	Original Social Security Card
United States (U.S.) Passport	DD214 or equivalent certificate issued by Department of Defense or War Department
VA Identification Card (VIC) or VHIC	Marriage License (certified copy)
Military ID Card	State Voter Registration Card
Temporary Resident Card	Student ID Card
Resident Alien Card	Native American Tribal Document
Permanent Resident Card	Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (INS Form N-560 or N-561)
Other Federal or State issued photo ID	Certificate of Naturalization (INS Form N-550 or N-570)
	Certificate issued by US Consular Offices documenting the birth of a child on foreign soil to a US citizen. (Form FS-545, Form DS-1350, DS Form 240 or FS Form 240)



Application for Alternative Veterans Exemption from Real Property Taxation

General information and instructions for completing this form are contained in Form RP-458-a-Ins.

1. Name and telephone numbers of owner(s):

Day No. () _____
Evening No. () _____
E-mail address: _____

2. Mailing address of owner(s):

3. Location of property (*see instructions*):

Street address

City/Town

Village (if any)

School District

Property identification (*see tax bill or assessment roll*)

Tax map number or section/block/lot _____

4. Is the owner a veteran who served in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If No, indicate the relationship of the owner to veteran who rendered such service: _____

If Yes, is the veteran also the unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Indicate branch of veteran's service and dates of active service: _____
(attach written evidence)

6. Was the veteran discharged or released from the active service under honorable conditions? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(if Yes, attach written evidence)

7. Did the veteran serve in a combat zone or combat theater? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, where did the veteran serve and when was such service performed? _____
(attach written evidence)

8. Has the veteran received, or did the veteran receive prior to his/her death, a compensation rating from the United States Veteran's Administration or from the United States Department of Defense as a result of a service connected disability? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what is (was) the veteran's compensation rating? _____
(attach written evidence showing the date such rate was established)

☐ Check if rating is permanent?

If No, did the veteran die in service of a service connected disability or in the line of duty while serving during wartime? ☐ Yes ☐ No (if Yes, attach written evidence)

9. Is the property the primary residence of the veteran, unremarried surviving spouse of the veteran, or Gold Star parent? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If No, is the veteran, unremarried surviving spouse of the veteran, or Gold Star parent the owner of the property and absent from the property due to medical reasons or institutionalization? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Explain: _____

10. Is the property used exclusively for residential purposes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If *No*, describe the non-residential use of this property and state what portion is so used. _____

11. Date title to this property was acquired: _____
(attach copy of deed)

12. Has the owner(s) ever received or is the owner(s) now receiving a veterans exemption based on eligible funds on property in New York State? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If *Yes*, the amount of eligible funds used in the purchase was \$ _____

Was the exemption for the same property location listed on line 3? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If *No*, enter the location:

Street address: _____

Village: _____ City/Town: _____ School District: _____

I (we) hereby certify that all statements made on this application are true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief and I (we) understand that any willful false statement made herein will subject me (us) to the penalties prescribed therefore in the Penal Law.

All Owners Must Sign Application

Signature of owner(s)

Date

Signature of owner(s)

Date

For Assessor's Use Only

Alternative veterans exemption (RP-458-a)	Assessment	Period of war, active service, or expeditionary medal recipient (15% or ceiling max.) approved <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Combat zone service (including expeditionary medal) (10% or ceiling max.) approved <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Service connected disability rating _____ (× 50% or ceiling max.) approved <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Total
Village					
Town/City					
County					
School district					

Assessor's signature

Date

MARCH 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <hr/> 30	24 <hr/> 31	25 pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30	26	27	28	29 NYC Memorial 8:00 AM

APRIL 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Easter	21	22 pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



MEMBERSHIP



WE NEED YOU IN THE VIET-NAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND FEES

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL WHO SHARE OUR CONCERNS, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS, AND FAMILIES, VETERAN OR NOT. WE ENCOURAGE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 1959 TO MAY 7, 1975.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

- ★ INDIVIDUAL MEMBER (IND) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO PAYS MEMBERSHIP FEES ANNUALLY.
- ★ ASSOCIATE MEMBER (ASO) - A NON VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHO PAYS MEMBERSHIP FEES ANNUALLY.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

- ★ LIFE MEMBER (PAID) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WHOS LIFE MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL.
- ★ ASSOCIATED LIFE MEMBER (PAID) - AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER WHOS LIFE MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL.
- ★ LIFE MEMBER PLANNED PAYMENT (LMPP) - A VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE PLANNED PAYMENT (LMPP) FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ ASSOCIATED LIFE MEMBER PLANNED PAYMENT (ALPP) - AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE PLANNED PAYMENT (ALPP) FOR ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ THE PLANNED PAYMENT REQUIRES COMPLETION WITHIN A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS.
- ★ FEES: ANNUAL FEES OF \$ 20.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL OR ASSOCIATED MEMBERSHIP OR MAKE A PAYMENT OF 50.00 FOR A THREE YEAR MEMBERSHIP AND SAVE \$ 10.00.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CURRENT AGE:

49 AND UNDER.....	\$ 250.00
50 TO 55.....	\$ 225.00
56 TO 60.....	\$ 200.00
61 TO 65.....	\$ 175.00
66 AND OVER.....	\$ 150.00

PLEASE NOTE:

- ★ PROOF OF AGE MUST BE SUBMITTED ON ALL APPLICATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP.
- ★ COPY OF FORM DD 214 MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR VIET-NAM ERA VETERANS.

* MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION *

- ☐ I AM A VIET-NAM VETERAN / FEE: \$20.00 of 50.00 / Copy of DD 214 is Required
- ☐ I AM A NON-VIET-NAM VETERAN AND PLEASE ENROL ME AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF VVA / FEE: \$20.00 or 50.00
- ☐ RENEWAL of MEMBERSHIP / FEE: \$20.00 or \$50.00
- ☐ I Wish to Contribute and be kept informed
(Enclosed is my Annual Contribution) \$ _____
- ☐ ADDRESS CHANGE (Indicate Chages Below)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

- ☐ VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN
- ☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER

* see note above

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ DATE of BIRTH _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

Please make Cheque or Money Order Payable to: V.V.A Chapter #49
To: Membership Chair, V.V.A. Chapter #49 PO Box 224, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Questions?: Call the Chapter. Phone/Fax (914) 682-4949
Meetings of the Viet-Nam Veterans of America, Chapter #49
are held the first Thursday of each Month @ 7:30pm.

Please check current Newsletter for Location.



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Bagpiper
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Cell 347-596-8042



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