

# *Vietnam Veterans of America*



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



*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 Zawiski ..... 428-9352  
Secretary: Jim LaManna ..... 793-6077  
Treasurer: Al Singerman ..... 930-7433

## Board of Directors: (5)

Jim McCauley ..... 238-3514  
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: Brennen Mahoney .... 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 ..... 995-2146 / 2145

## 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 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](http://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.

Published by: Westchester County Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 49  
PO BOX 224, Pleasantville, New York 10570

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**May is our busiest month of the year; starting on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Lasdon Park we will help them with their annual plant sale. It starts at 9:00 AM; we help by carrying the plants to the buyer's cars. For helping the Friends of Lasdon, they donate \$1,000.00 to our Foundation Basecamp Westchester.**

**On May 28<sup>th</sup> Westchester County will hold the annual Veterans Appreciation Day at Play land. There will be free parking, free entrance, free rides and free barbeque. Plus the Marines will land four helicopters and set up a defensive perimeter. Our Chapter will have tables set up to sell our hats, shirts; pins, etc. please stop at the tables and help out for a little while. The Park opens at 11:00 Am, I would arrive at 9:00 for a good parking spot and to help set up our tables. After Playland we will hold our annual barbeque for the guys at the PTSD Unit at Montrose VA Hospital. It will be held behind building 15 at 4:00 PM.**

**After the Barbeque we will hold the "watch fire" on the picnic grounds at the Hospital. This ceremony of lighting a bonfire is to guide all of the POWs and MIAs back home.**

**The next day on the 29<sup>th</sup> we will march in the Yorktown Memorial Day parade; first a ceremony will be held at 11:00 AM in front of Town hall and then step off.**

**Then at 2:00 PM we will hold our Memorial Day ceremonies at the Vietnam memorial at Lasdon Park.**

**Take care of yourself and each other**

**Dan Griffin**

---

**Welcome to our newest members**

**Joseph Musich life member from Stamford, CT**

**Donald Lewandoski life member from Greenwich, CT**

**Michael Bolnik from Harrison**



## *VA News Release*

### **VA's Rule Establishes a Presumption of Service Connection for Diseases Associated with Exposure to Contaminants in the Water Supply at Camp Lejeune**

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has published regulations to establish presumptions for the service connection of eight diseases associated with exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The presumption of service connection applies to active duty, reserve and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune for a minimum of 30 days (cumulative) between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987, and are diagnosed with any of the following conditions:

- adult leukemia
- aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- bladder cancer
- kidney cancer
- liver cancer
- multiple myeloma
- non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease



# Department of Defense Extends Online Military Exchange Shopping Privileges to ALL Veterans

Press Operations

Release No: NR-010-17

Jan. 13, 2017

The Department of Defense announced a policy change that will extend limited online military exchange shopping privileges to all honorably discharged veterans of the military.

The veterans online shopping benefit will be effective this Veterans Day, Nov. 11. 2017

While shopping privileges exclude the purchase of uniforms, alcohol and tobacco products, it includes the Exchange Services' dynamic online retail environment known so well to service members and their families. This policy change follows careful analysis, coordination and strong public support.

"We are excited to provide these benefits to honorably discharged veterans to recognize their service and welcome them home to their military family," said Peter Levine, performing the duties for the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

"In addition, this initiative represents a low-risk, low-cost opportunity to help fund Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs in support of service members' and their families' quality of life. And it's just the right thing to do," Levine added.

The online benefit will also strengthen the exchanges' online businesses to better serve current patrons. Inclusion of honorably discharged veterans would conservatively double the exchanges' online presence, thereby improving the experience for all patrons through improved vendor terms, more competitive merchandise assortments, and improved efficiencies, according to DoD officials.

"As a nation, we are grateful for the contributions of our service members. Offering this lifetime online benefit is one small, tangible way the nation can say, 'Thank you' to those who served with honor," Levine said.

# Chapter 49 Scholarship awards for 2017

\*The Pete Lambert Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Isabel Slingerland she attended Ossining High School

\*The Peter T. McCauley Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Elana Hausknecht she attended White Plains High School

\*The Hamilton Fish Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Michael A. Hirsch he attended Somers High School

\*The William Sudderth Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Liam S. Montgomery he attended Ossining High School

\*The Anthony Shine Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Zachary J. Ymbas he attended Arlington High School

\*The Jonathan Shine Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Daniel R. Gordon he attended John Jay High School

On behalf of the Officers, Board of Directors and Members of Chapter 49 we would like to congratulate these young individuals and wish them all the luck in their educational endeavors.

We would like to offer a special thanks to the Scholarship Committee for all the work they have done.

## PARASITES

Several Vietnam Veterans brought before the State Council a **Parasite Warning** explaining how their lives have been affected by ingesting a parasite found in the **water supply in Southeast Asia** and found in **raw fish**. The widow of Vietnam Veteran **Edward S. (Pete) Harrison, Sheila Harrison**, related a story about Pete who served in the U.S. Army, (The Big Red One) from June 1969 to June 1970. He **died** on January 20, 2006 from **Cholangiocarcinoma**. The Veterans Administration has ruled his death **service connected** as a result of **ingesting a parasite** while serving in **Vietnam**. This **parasite causes a malignant tumor** of the bile ducts within the liver, or leading from the liver to the small intestine - a rare tumor with a poor prognosis for most patients. **Common symptoms** may include: gastrointestinal discomfort; clay colored stools; dark urine; jaundice; abdominal pain that may extend to the back; loss of appetite; unexplained weight loss; fever; chills; fatigue.

There are two known causes: **Hepatitis C** – a blood-borne, infectious, viral disease and a **Parasite** (Southeast Asia liver fluke) found in **raw fish** and the **water supply in Southeast Asia**, which lodge in the bile duct of the liver and damage cells, and over time turns into cancer.

**It cannot be stressed enough how important it is to have your bile ducts checked before symptoms occur.** Certain laboratory tests of the blood may aid in the diagnosis. The most important one is the test for elevated **bilirubin** in the bloodstream.

**Guys it is also very important that you request your Doctor to test for “river fluke” in you bloodstream**

**Dan**

### **Medical ID Bracelets & Pendants Update 01 ► How To Get**

Medical IDs are an important benefit that veterans can claim, free of charge. It is Veterans Health Administration policy (file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/12009007%20(1).pdf) that medical ID bracelets and pendants are made available for veteran patients at no cost. Medical ID is jewelry that could save your life. Medical conditions like diabetes, heart problems, PTSD, and injuries like embedded metal fragments can be engraved onto the surface of a medical ID bracelet or necklace. A veteran's medical ID can also include prescribed medicines and emergency contacts. Veterans can choose from the below veterans' medical alert bracelets and necklaces from American Medical ID, free of charge.

In the event of an emergency, this important information can help first responders and/or doctors in providing veterans with the precise treatment at the right time. Wearing a medical ID protects against potentially harmful 30 medical errors and eliminates unnecessary trips to the hospital. It is easy to claim your veteran medical ID with the help of your clinician. Follow these simple steps to obtain this benefit:

- Step 1: Download and print the VA information sheet to bring to your VA clinician <https://www.americanmedical-id.com/media/wysiwyg/PDFs/AMI-VAHandout2016v3.pdf>
- Step 2: Select from the available medical ID styles on the information sheet.
- Step 3: Visit your clinician to discuss the engraving information on your medical alert bracelet or necklace.
- Step 4: Submit the VA information sheet to your clinician who will process your order with a Purchasing Agent.

Your medical ID will ship to your desired address once the order is complete. [Source: Veteran Resources | March 3, 2017 ++]

\*\*\*\*\*

# 2017 VVA CHAPTER 49 ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT: Robert Jordan

VICE PRES: Al Zawiski

SECRETARY: Jim LaManna

TREASURER: Al Singerman

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terry Keogh, Bob Miller, Carl Diliberto

Peter Brown, Jim McCauley

## State Council Delegates:

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

## COINS ON A HEADSTONE

**A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect. Leaving a penny means you visited. A nickel means that you and the deceased soldier trained at boot camp together. If you served with the soldier, you leave a dime. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that soldier died. I AM VERY PROUD TO SHARE THIS.**



## MAY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20 Plant sale Lasdon Park 9:00 AM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Playland 11:00, barb. FDR PTSD unit Watchfire	29 parade 11 Yorktown Lasdon Ceremony 2:00	30	31			

## JUNE 2017

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

## 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		



# 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](mailto:Chapter49@aol.com)  
[www.VietnamVets49.org](http://www.VietnamVets49.org)



Chapter #49 meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



**John H. Pagliuca**  
Certified Dealer 1423557  
[johnnypagoil.com](http://johnnypagoil.com)

PH: (914) 402-4239  
C: (914) 714-5037  
[johnamsman@aol.com](mailto:johnamsman@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](mailto:captmjcoffey@aol.com) ★ [www.ausn.org](http://www.ausn.org)

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

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