

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?



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Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
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Vice President: Al Zawiski428-9352
Secretary: Jim LaManna793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman930-7433

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Edward Fox.....203-637-3705
Carl DiLiberto.....462-0782
Chester Edwards.....937-4443
Terry Keogh.....428-9845
Jim McCauley.....238-3514
William Rod.....406-5858

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Carmel: Karl Rohde.....845-808-1620

Vet Center:682-6250

White Plains Clinic 421-1951
FDR Montrose Hospital..... 737-4400

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Dan Griffin 995-2145/2146

Committees:

Membership	Phil Wanderman..... 963-3034
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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

SUMMER DAYS WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY

WINTER DAYS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

AND HOLIDAYS

864-7263

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

I hope that everyone stays healthy

In the calendars in the back of this newsletter you will see our meeting dates; but in lieu of the Covid-19 virus we will not hold the meetings until further notice.

Even with us not holding meetings, Chapter 49 is still operating our programs; such as the kitchen & bathroom kits for homeless veterans. So far this year we have provided over \$5,000.00 worth of kits.

Also we are still providing pizzas & sodas for the monthly pizza parties at the PTSD unit at the Montrose VA Hospital. Of course for now we do not attend. Please read the attached letter to all of the front line medical personnel combating this virus. It was written by six Vietnam veterans; a Doctor, three Nurses and two Medics.

I wish to thank Bob Miller and his scholarship committee for braving the threat of the virus by meeting and selecting the Scholarship winners.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is the list of Scholarship winners.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a photo of barrels of chemicals that were used as a defoliant in Vietnam. There were many different colors of bands on the barrels depicting the different mixes of chemicals, but the most used were the orange ones; that is why they call all of them Agent Orange.

Also there is a photo of a WWI soldier and his horse; it kind of reminds me of the pandemic that we are experiencing now. During the war, besides worrying about mustard gas they also had to worry about the Spanish flu.

And there is a photo that was sent to me by Chapter member Lenny Dingler. He erected a flag pole in front of his house and a few of us conducted a flag raising ceremony. In the photo from left to right is Pete McCauley, Phil Trerotola, Sandy Carlin, me, Rodney Seaton, Lenny Dingler, Joe Toleno and John Nowak.

Take care of yourself and each other

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our newest members

William McQuaid from Mount Kisco

William Murray from Rye

Donald Sage from Armonk

Patrick Venezia from Putnam Valley

Dennis Barlotta from Mamaroneck

A Letter to All on the Frontlines in the Battle Against COVID-19

In the midst of this pandemic, one the likes of which we have never before seen, we, as veterans, are transported back to memories of our service during the Vietnam War, the last time America witnessed this shocking loss of life. Although the environment and circumstances of our war are not precisely the same as yours, we see a direct correlation to the experiences, conditions, and fallout that we endured from our time in the “trenches.” We know from our wartime experiences the feelings of social isolation; little contact with family; the endless, incoming casualties; the stressful anxiety of making triage decisions; and the frustration of lacking critical medical equipment and personal safety items.

We remember the sadness of our hearts in not having the time to do all we wanted to do for the patients in our care. We see on your faces and hear in your voices the profound weight and sense of grief that you carry. We know that, along with these feelings, you have the added fear and threat of dealing with this unpredictable virus and the burden of potentially exposing family and friends.

We were not prepared for our war, just as you are facing situations unlike any you have experienced before. The daily chaos, anxiety, and stress of the shifts you work can be overwhelming at times with patients wherever you turn, all of whom need your care and attention. You are running a marathon with no finish line in sight, even though you are running as fast as you can.

Your coworkers will be with you forever as you are sharing something that no one else will ever truly understand. This may well be the most intense experience of your life. This will change your life. Don't forget to take care of each other, because you have each other. However, when all is said and done, on the other side of this national crisis, you need to pause, reflect, and get in touch with yourself. We spent too many years after we came home from the war dealing with the denial of our feelings and memories.

One of the legacies of the Vietnam War is that society now accepts Post-traumatic Stress as a natural reaction to abnormal events. We discovered the importance of seeking professional help to explore the emotional residue created by our war. We had to take a deep dive into our feelings and search our souls in order to heal ourselves. We know this path—it is a life-long journey. Your loved ones are suffering and sacrificing in this fight. Don't forget to include them in this process. Family and friends are your first line of support and are critical to healing.

We write this letter because we believe we share a commonality of serving our nation in a time of uncertainty and need. You are the very essence of what make America great. Your courage, determination, strength, and selfless sacrifice give us hope. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. We salute you. You are not alone. We stand with you.

Chuck Byers, BSN
Chair, VVA Veterans Health Committee
U.S. Army Combat Medic RVN 67-68 Arizona

Marsha Tansey Four, RN
U.S. Army Nurse Corps Vietnam 1969-1970
Special Advisor to the VVA National President
Immediate Past National Vice President, VVA
Pennsylvania

Dr. Thomas C. Hall, PhD
U.S. Army Vietnam 68-71 National Chair
VVA PTSD Committee Missouri

Kate O'Hare-Palmer, RN, RD
U.S. Army Nurse Corps Vietnam (1968-1969)
National Chair of the VVA Women Veterans Committee
California

Dr. Linda Spoonster Schwartz, RN, MSN, DrPH FAAN
U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps (1968- 1986)
Special Advisor to the VVA National President
Connecticut

Rick Weidman,
Executive Director for Policy and Government Affairs
Vietnam Veterans of America
U.S. Army Combat Medic RVN 1969 Maryland

2020 Scholarship Winners

*The Pete Lambert Memorial Scholarship —JoAnna Galbo attended Beacon High School

*The Peter T. McCauley Memorial Scholarship —John Boccardi attended Westlake High School

*The Hamilton Fish Memorial Scholarship —Tyler Petschek attended John Jay High School

*The William Sudderth Memorial Scholarship —Sophia Autorino attended Mamaroneck High School

*The Anthony Shine Memorial Scholarship —Morgan Robinson attended Mamaroneck High School

*The Jonathan Shine Memorial Scholarship—Mark DeAngelis attended Ossining 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 Bob Miller and the Scholarship Committee for all the work they have done.



Photo sent by Chapter member Lenny Dingler.
He erected a flag pole in front of his house and a
few of us conducted a flag raising ceremony.

left to right

Peter McCauley, Phil Trerotola, Sandy Carlin,
Dan Griffin, Rodney Seaton, Lenny Dingler,
Joe Toleno, John Nowak

IT WASN'T JUST AGENT ORANGE

The Rainbow Herbicides of the Vietnam War Era



AGENT GREEN
2,4,5-T

USED: 1962
PURPOSE: Defoliation of
Jungle Vegetation
IN VIETNAM: 365 drums
(20,056 gallons)



AGENT PINK
2,4,5-T

USED: 1961-1963
PURPOSE: Defoliation of
Jungle Vegetation
IN VIETNAM: 1,315
drums (72,256 gallons)



AGENT PURPLE
2,4-D; 2,4,5-T

USED: 1962-1965
PURPOSE: Defoliation of
Jungle Vegetation
IN VIETNAM: 12,475
drums (685,474 gallons)



AGENT BLUE
Cacodylic Acid

USED: 1966-1972
PURPOSE: Crop
Destruction
IN VIETNAM: 29,330
drums (1,611,619 gallons)



AGENT WHITE
2,4-D; Picloram

USED: 1966-1972
PURPOSE: Defoliation of
Jungle Vegetation
IN VIETNAM: 104,800
drums (5,758,528 gallons)



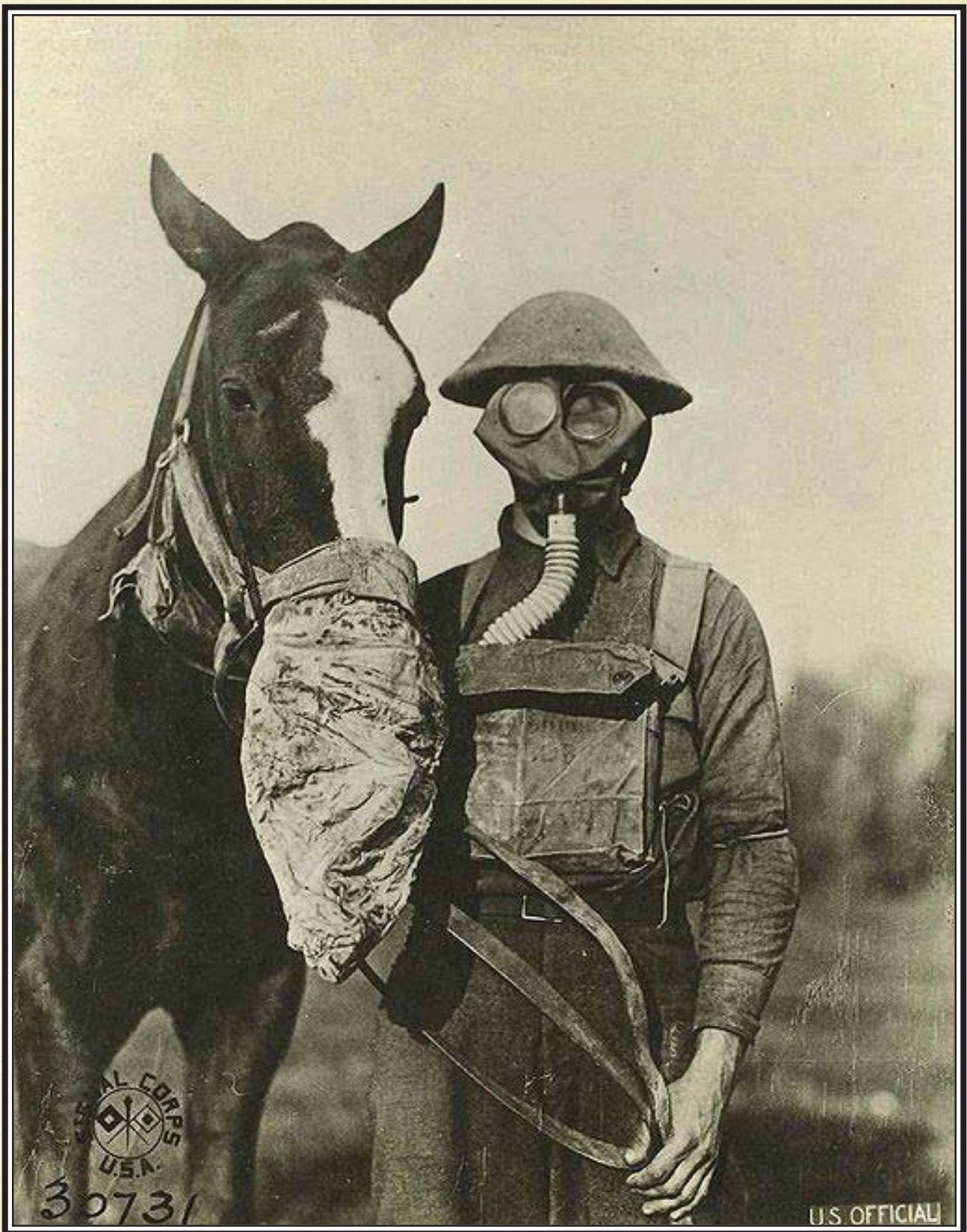
AGENT ORANGE
2,4-D; 2,4,5-T

USED: 1965-1970
PURPOSE: Defoliation of
Jungle Vegetation
IN VIETNAM: 208,330
drums (11,447,272 gallons)



WWW.VVA.ORG |||| 1-800-VVA-1316





Protection from Mustard Gas,
Spanish Flu and Covid-19

JULY 2020

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

AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	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 5:00 pm	26	27	28	29

MAY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 <hr/> 31	25	26 pizza Party FDR Stress unit 5:00 pm	27	28	29	30 Memorial Day

JUNE 2020

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

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