

Vietnam Veterans of America



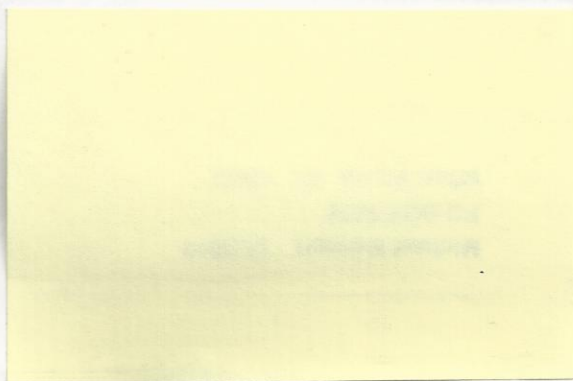
VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



*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?



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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: Al Zawiski 428-9352
 Vice President: Rick Burns 769-7744
 Secretary: Jim LaManna 793-6077
 Treasurer: Al Singerman 930-7433

Board of Directors: (5)

Bob Kennedy 669-5411
 Terry Keogh 428-9845
 Bob Miller 391-8723
 Ron Stout 739-1088
 Barney Puleo 682-4949

State Council Delegates: (6)

Dan Griffin
 Jim LaManna
 Barney Puleo

Al Singerman
 Al Zawiski
 Terry Keogh

Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Al Ramsey 377-6700
 Carmel: Brennen Mahoney 845-225-2260

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

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 Richard Palazzo 845-298-1793
 Scholarship Bob Miller 391-8723

WESTCHESTER COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

Open Memorial Day through Veterans Day

HOURS:

Sundays

Noon to 4:00PM

Phone: (914) 682-4949

No answer

Please leave message

Chapter 49

Telephone / Fax Number

(914) 682-4949

Website:

www.vietnamvets49.org

E-Mail:

<mailto:Chapter49@aol.com>

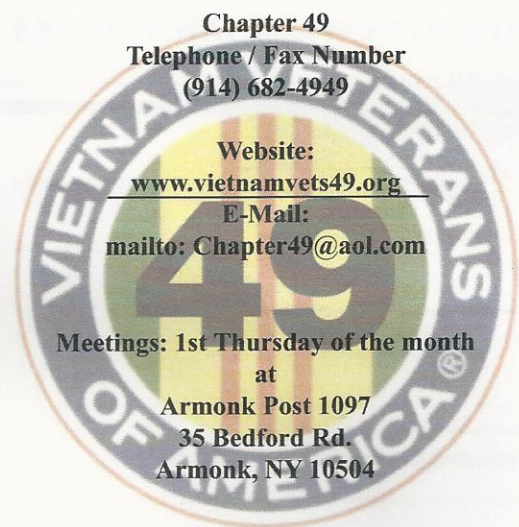
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

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

Within this newsletter are the nominations so far for this year's election. If you would like to nominate someone or nominate yourself for any Chapter office all you have to do is come to the February, March or April meeting and nominate them. Or you can call E-mail or fax in your pick. This year the offices are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five Board of Director positions.

Also in this newsletter is the information about our annual Scholarship. We send out a packet to all of the Schools in Westchester County, but if you know of a Chapter member who has an eligible child or grandchild that doesn't live in Westchester County ask them to call us and we will send them a packet.

If you would like to send a package to a soldier serving overseas Anthony Del Vecchio was just deployed to Afghanistan. Below is the address.

Anthony Del Vecchio
TF WOLVERINE
FPB SHARANA
APO AE 09311

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Dan Griffin

.....

Welcome to our new members

Michael Harrington Life member from Yorktown Heights

George Bailer from New Rochelle

Arthur Martensen from New Rochelle

George Ondek from Peekskill

Charles Jennings from Cortlandt Manor

Robert J. Castelli Life member from Somers

Nominations Class Of 2013-2014

Nominations is now being accepted for all Chapter 49 Officers, Board of Directors and State Council Delegates. Any interested parties should submit candidate's names to the chapter as soon as possible. Nominations will be accepted through April 4, 2013, which is the date of Annual Membership Meeting. Remember that you or anyone you nominate must be a member in good standing, which means that your dues are paid up through 2013. Also you can nominate yourself.

Nominations thus far are as follows:

President: Al Zawisk _____

Vice President: Rick Burns, _____

Secretary: Jim LaManna, _____

Treasurer: Al Singerman, _____

Board of Directors (four positions):

Bob Miller, Terry Keogh, Bob Kennedy, Ron Stout, Barney Puleo _____

Nominating Chairman: Dan Griffin

State Council Delegates (six positions): only on even years

Dan Griffin Al Singerman Jim LaManna

Al Zawiski Terry Keogh Barney Puleo

Forward Nominations via phone: 914-682-4949 or mail to: VVA Chapter 49, P.O. Box 224, Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570 or E-mail: chapter49@aol.com

to vote you must attend (NO PROXIES) the April 4, 2013 annual meeting at the American Legion Post 1097, 35 Bedford Road, Armonk, NY - 7:00PM.

POW/MIA Statistics as of 09/21/12

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the third Friday of September each year. Americans take the time to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families. It is a time to pause to remember the sacrifices and service of those who were prisoners of war (POW), as well as those who are missing in action (MIA), and their families. All military installations fly the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag, which symbolizes the nation's remembrance of those who were imprisoned while serving in conflicts and those who remain missing.

Currently, these service members are still missing:

73,681 from World War II

7,550 from the Korean War

1,661 from the Vietnam War

126 from Cold War service

6 from missions since 1986

Portman, Begich Legislation to Ensure Veterans Receive Proper Burial Passes Senate

Washington, DC - The Veterans Missing in America Act, legislation led by U.S. Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Mark Begich (D-AK) that would enable the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to work with veterans groups to help determine whether unidentified or abandoned remains are those of veterans eligible for burial at a National Cemetery, passed the U.S. Senate last night as part of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act (S. 3202). Portman and Begich introduced the Veterans Missing in America Act in March, and Congressmen Pat Tiberi (R-OH-12) and Steve Stivers (R-OH-15) have introduced a companion bill in the House of Representatives. Following Senate passage, S.3202 has been sent to the House and the bill sponsors are pressing to get it passed before the end of the year. "Veterans have put country above self to defend our nation, and they deserve our utmost respect," said **Portman**. "The least we can do is ensure that those who were willing to risk their lives to protect the freedoms we hold so dear receive a proper burial. Passage of this bill is a commonsense step toward ensuring that we show eligible veterans our respect and gratitude by honoring them with a burial in a National Cemetery." "All of America's veterans deserve a dignified burial along with recognition of their service to their country," said **Begich**. "This bipartisan bill will help do just that and I am thankful to Senator Portman for his hard work to ensure that all veterans receive an appropriate burial in a National Cemetery for their service, and ultimate sacrifice." "Since it was brought to my attention years ago by a volunteer helping to ensure all service members received a proper burial, I have been pushing for this legislation and am pleased that Missing in America is one step closer to becoming law," said **Tiberi**, who first introduced Missing in America in 2009. "I'd like to thank Senator Portman for pursuing this measure in the Senate, and Ohio Department of Veterans Services Director Thomas Moe (USAF Ret) for his testimony in front of the House Veterans Affairs Committee earlier this year regarding the need for this crucial legislation. Military men and women who have served their country should not be slipping through the cracks if they have no next-of-kin. They deserve the dignity of a proper burial and the appreciation of a grateful nation." "We are talking about veterans who have given the last, full measure of devotion," said **Stivers**. "It is only right that we take the steps necessary to honor those who have served our nation by ensuring a proper burial for those who are eligible." "It has been a long time coming for this bill to pass. With the hard work of Senator Portman and all of the supporters of this bill, the Missing in America Project can continue its efforts in locating our lost and forgotten veterans," said **Chastity Booth, Ohio Director of Missing in America Project**. "Words cannot express the gratitude I have for everyone involved with this effort. Our veterans need this, our veterans earned this, and our veterans deserve this. Thank you for doing what is right for our veterans." The Veterans Missing in America Act directs the VA to work with veterans service organizations and other groups, like the Missing in America Project, in assisting entities in possession of unidentified or abandoned remains to determine if the remains are that of a veteran eligible for burial at a National Cemetery. The VA will cover the burial cost if the remains are determined to be that of an eligible veteran who doesn't have a next of kin.

Governor Cuomo Signs Bill Allowing DMV to Mark Veteran Status on Driver's Licenses and Non-driver IDs

Albany, NY (October 3, 2012)

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today signed legislation allowing the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to place a distinguishing mark on a driver's license, or non-driver ID, to indicate its holder is a veteran. Under this law, a veteran of the United States Armed Forces may request to have this veteran status mark from the DMV.

Many local businesses across the state currently provide discounts to veterans. This law will make it more simple and convenient for veterans to show and verify to a business their status as veterans on a driver's license or non-driver ID without having to carry multiple forms of identification. In order to obtain this status from the DMV, applicants will have to submit proof that they were honorably discharged from the armed forces.

"These men and women have made invaluable sacrifices for our state and nation, and now that they have returned home, government will work for them," Governor Cuomo said. "We are proud to help distinguish them as veterans."

The law takes effect in one year.

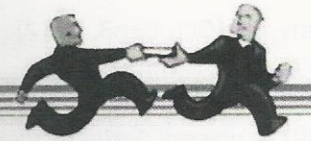
In the meantime, DMV will revise its application forms and make other accommodations to handle requests for a status mark. In addition, the review of documents supporting an honorable discharge from the armed forces will be an additional task for DMV staff during the license renewal process, and license renewals for those requesting a mark will be processed manually. Currently, routine renewals are processed automatically.

Senator Greg Ball said, "It is impossible to fully express both my excitement and appreciation for the Governor's support. The biggest problem we face in providing services and benefits to veterans is actually being able to identify them, especially returning veterans. This will now give veterans the option of indicating their service on their driver's licenses. Once identified we can pro-actively communicate with veterans to connect them to the hundreds of services and benefits available. I am proud to be the sponsor of this bill and I thank the Governor for his continued support and leadership on this critical matter."

Assemblyman Bob Sweeney said, "This new law will make it easy for veterans to identify themselves to businesses who choose to offer discounts. The law will provide assistance to veterans and recognize their service. I would like to thank Governor Cuomo for signing this bill into law and Mr. Bill Linder of Copiague, Lt. Commander, U.S. Navy (retired) for suggesting the idea."

Subj: **VVA opposes including Section 733 in H.R. 5973, the FY 2013 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.**
Date: 12/12/2012 2:01:04 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
From: govtrelations@vva.org
To: chapter49@aol.com

TAKE ACTION



VVA opposes including Section 733 in H.R. 5973, the FY 2013 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

December 12, 2012

If you are concerned about the health of your children and your grandchildren, take heed of an attempt to include Section 733 in H.R. 5973 in any omnibus spending bill, Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Oregon) warns.

He describes Section 733 as "a dangerous policy rider intended to weaken the ability of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the judicial branch to protect our nation's agriculture sector.

"In recent years," DeFazio notes, federal courts have ruled that several USDA approvals of genetically engineered (GE) crops have "violated the law and required further study of their economic, health and environmental impacts." Their judgments came down at odds with the manufacturers of GE seed, and that continued planting "may cause harm to the environment and/or farmers." They ordered interim planting restrictions on future plantings; however, they did allow continued cultivation of those already planted, pending further USDA analysis.


Section 733 is specifically intended to:

- Prohibit federal courts from imposing reasonable restrictions when a GE crop approval is deemed unlawful and potentially hazardous;
- Eliminate the critical roles of our most important environmental laws;
- Remove federal agency discretion over GE crop approvals; and
- Establish a backdoor approval mechanism for unlawfully approved GE crops

"Judicial review is an essential element of U.S. law, providing a critical and impartial check on government decisions that may negatively impact human health, the environment or livelihoods. Inclusion of this rider," DeFazio said, "is a brazen overreach into the authority of the independent judiciary and its ability to protect the rights of all Americans."

Go to <http://capwiz.com/vva/home/> and contact your member ASAP and ask them to oppose the inclusion of Section 733 in any future omnibus spending bill.

If you no longer wish to receive e-mail from us, please click [here](#).

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**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER #49
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM**

Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #49, awards six scholarships of \$700 each year to high school graduates in Westchester County. The awards are granted to assist with a college or vocational school education. These scholarships honor five outstanding individuals from our area and are named the Pete Lambert Memorial Scholarship, the Congressman Hamilton Fish Jr. Memorial Scholarship, the Peter T. McCauley Memorial Scholarship, the Anthony Shine Memorial Scholarship, the Jonathan Shine Memorial Scholarship, and the William Suddereth Memorial Scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY: Students who will complete high school in Westchester County this year, are the child or a grandchild of an active duty service veteran, and plan to attend an accredited U.S. college/university or vocational/technical school are eligible to compete for the scholarships. **Please note** that service in the Reserves or National Guard does not constitute veteran status, unless you were activated for more than 90 days for purposes other than training. **Also note** that the child of any veteran is eligible; service does not have to be during the Vietnam era.

HOW TO APPLY: There are four selection criteria that the student must submit in order to be considered for a scholarship:

1. Junior year rank in class.
2. Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores; no other test score will be accepted. **Note;** for those who will be attending a vocational/technical school this requirement will be waived.
3. A resume of extracurricular activities to include school clubs, sports and student government, work experience, volunteer experience and other interests. Relevant references, with addresses and phone numbers, should be provided.
4. A written statement, not to exceed two typed pages, on the topic "The affect (if any) of my mother's/father's military service on my attitudes toward life and country."

Students should complete the attached application and return it, along with the other requested items, by **April 1, 2013** to:

Vietnam Veterans of America #49
Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 224
Pleasantville, NY 10570

SELECTION OF AWARDEES AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS: VVA #49 Scholarship Committee is solely responsible for the selection process. In late May the Committee will notify those selected for scholarships and their high schools and the acceptance and enrollment of those selected in an accredited college or technical school will be verified. Scholarship awards will be presented at a meeting of VVA #49 during the summer.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Application **must be submitted by April 1, 2013** and must include a copy of parents DD-214 (military discharge). Principal or guidance counselor must certify your rank in class and SAT score; a copy of your SAT score must be included. Include the phone number of your high school and make sure the application is complete. **THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE WILL NOT CONSIDER APPLICATIONS THAT DO NOT CONTAIN ALL OF THE REQUESTED INFORMATION IN ITS REQUIRED FORM OR ARE RECEIVED AFTER THE SUBMITTAL DATE.**

NOTE TO CHAPTER MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RESIDE IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY TO APPLY FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIP. PLEASE CALL THE CHAPTER AND WE WILL SEND YOU AN APPLICATION package.

JANUARY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Years Day	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	21	22 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5 PM	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2013

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



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)

<p>LIFE MEMBERSHIP: _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> VIET-NAM ERA VETERAN</p> <p><input type="radio"/> ASSOCIATE MEMBER</p> <p>* see note above</p>

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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914-632-2952

Cell 347-596-8042



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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



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is YOUR Satisfaction"



Rick Burns
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