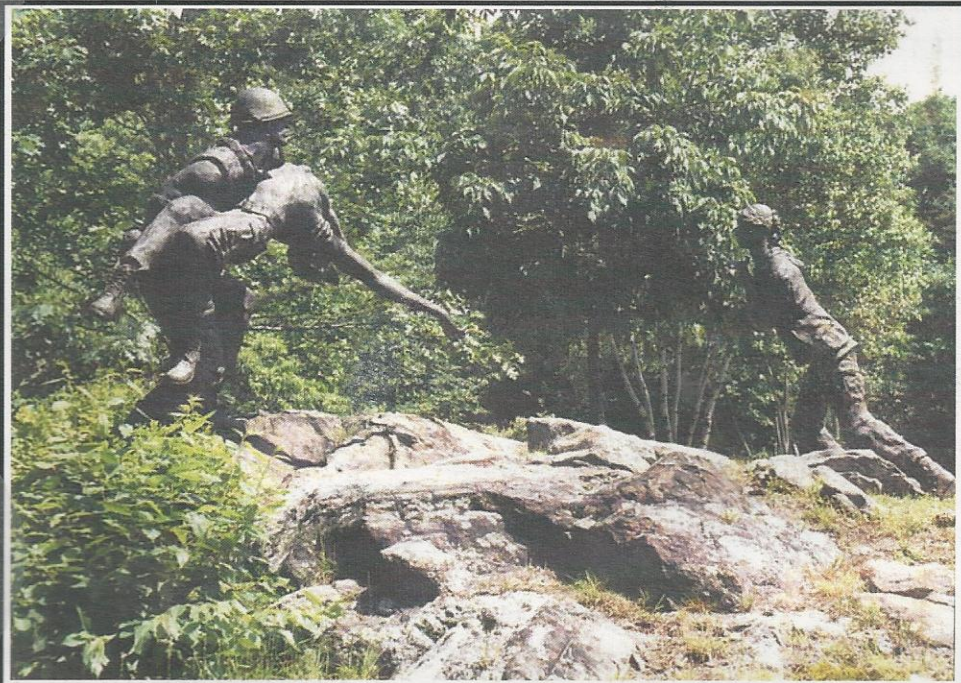


Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



*Westchester
County
Chapter #49*



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

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Dan Griffin

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 Carmel: Brennen Mahoney 845-225-2260

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

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 Vinnie Matthews 682-6250

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

FDR Montrose Hospital 737-4400

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Greg Whittaker 997-4138

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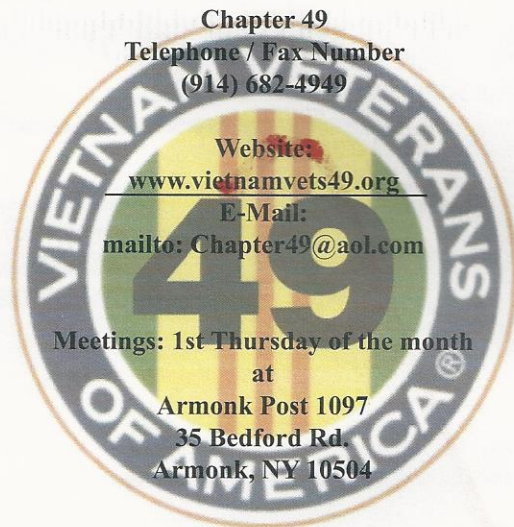
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

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

At our May 2nd meeting we gave out our scholarships, elsewhere in this newsletter is the list of winners.

May is always a very busy month; on May 18th at 3:00 we will be rededicating the Museum and unveiling the eagle statue.

On May 26th we will have our product sales tables set up at Playland for the annual salute to veterans. Sorry to say that there will not be any helicopters this year. We will set up at 10:00 AM, the ceremonies and barbeque will start at 12:00. Then at 4:00 we will hold our annual barbeque for the PTSD Stress Unit behind building 15 at the VA Hospital in Montrose.

Then at dusk we will hold the "watch fire" at the river front.

On May 27th we will march in Chappaqua, we will meet in the grocery store parking lot across the street from Langdon's deli. We will meet at 10:00 AM. Later at 3:00PM we will have our ceremonies at the Vietnam Memorial at Lasdon Park.

Take care of yourselves and each other.

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our new members

For Immediate Release: March 11, 2013

**GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF RETIRED ARMY
COLONEL ERIC J. HESSE AS DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the appointment of retired U.S. Army Colonel Eric J. Hesse as the new Director of the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs.

"Colonel Hesse has a long and distinguished record as an Army leader dedicated to improving the readiness of our military and serving our nation both overseas and here in New York State," Governor Cuomo said. "As Director of New York State's Division of Veterans' Affairs, he will continue his distinguished career of service by helping lead our state's efforts to ensure New York's veterans are receiving the support that they need."

Colonel Eric J. Hesse, USA, Retired, said, "I am honored to join Governor Cuomo's administration and help guide the state's efforts to ensure that New York takes care of veterans and their family members and provides our returning military service members with the support and benefits that they deserve. Since taking office, the Governor has worked to make New York State friendlier for veterans, including returning service members as they transition into civilian life and seek employment opportunities here in our state. I look forward to working in this administration on behalf of all our veterans."

Major General Patrick Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York, said, "Colonel Hesse has been an outstanding Army officer, and his extensive experience with both the Active Duty military and the National Guard, along with his service in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosovo, helps him understand what veterans go through. I look forward to working with him on veterans' issues as part of Governor Cuomo's team."

Colonel Hesse retired from the Army last week after more than 26 years of service that included deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo.

Since July 2009, Colonel Hesse served as Command Inspector General of the New York Army and Air National Guard in Latham, New York where he was responsible for ensuring the readiness of an 18,000-member organization dispersed across New York State. His efforts focused on professional development and education programs as well as implementing a statewide inspection oversight effort aimed at improving military readiness.

Colonel Hesse previously served in numerous leadership positions culminating as Command Inspector General of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Fort Drum, New York. The appointment is effective immediately.

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Governor Cuomo Announces Rededication of New York State Vietnam Memorial Gallery
Albany, NY (April 15, 2013)

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced the reopening of the New York State Vietnam Memorial Gallery in the Robert Abrams Building for Law and Justice. The gallery, which has been closed since 2009, is being opened in conjunction with the state's partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the United States' military involvement in Vietnam. The exhibition is titled "Welcome Home, The 50-Year Commemoration of the Vietnam War, 1962-1975." The gallery will be open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and is free to the public.

"Today we commemorate and thank the veterans, many of which were New Yorkers, who served our nation in Vietnam, as well as honor the memory of the men and women who lost their lives fighting in this war," said Governor Cuomo. "By rededicating this gallery, we can once again thank the men and women that served our nation in Vietnam while also help educate the younger generation about this period in our nation's history."

"Governor Cuomo and I are pleased to carry on the Empire State's long tradition of honoring its veterans and to be a partner with Washington in paying tribute to the New Yorkers who served in Southeast Asia when our nation called upon them," said Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy. "We believe the rededication of the Vietnam Memorial Gallery is an excellent way to thank those men and women and their families for all the sacrifices they made, and we invite all who come to New York's capital to visit this very special place."

"As we rededicate the gallery, I join Governor Cuomo in asking all New Yorkers to honor the memory of the men and women who served their country in Vietnam," Commissioner Destito said. "The state's Vietnam Memorial Gallery is a place where people can go to learn about our state's involvement in the Vietnam War and solemnly reflect on the sacrifices made by those who were killed or declared missing in action."

"The Department of Defense Vietnam War Commemoration office is extremely proud to welcome The State of New York as a Commemorative Partner. We are grateful to Governor Andrew Cuomo for his leadership and to the other state officials for their help in assisting a grateful nation in thanking and honoring our Vietnam Veterans and their loved ones," said Lieutenant General Mick Kicklighter, USA, Retired, the director of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration.

"Governor Cuomo is committed to working with veterans and their families to expand opportunities and recognize the important role these individuals play in our state. The reopening of this gallery is one of many examples of his respect and honor for those who serve," New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs Director Colonel Eric J. Hesse, USA, Retired, said. "It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of this gallery, which will once again provide a place of reflection for those who so valiantly served our state and our country during the Vietnam War and an excellent educational resource for our community."

Important Announcement for ALL PTSD Combat Grunts in the NY Hudson Valley:

6:00 pm EDT / 18:00 Romeo - EVERY Wednesday, @ The Wellness Center of Hyde Park, 4307 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, New York 1253, we will be having a weekly EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) Workshop for Safely, Quickly, and Permanently Healing Combat/War Related PTSD.

ALL Combat Grunts, Medics, Nurses, Docs, Cops, & Firemen Welcome!

This work-shop is absolutely FREE. We don't take money from Vets. We pass the hat and suggest a donation of \$5.00 to help pay for the space.

No-one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) is a POWERFUL, non-medical, non-pharmaceutical SELF-HELP Healing Process, that can safely, quickly, and effectively HEAL Combat/War Related PTSD PERMANENTLY.

Though not affiliated with any other organization like P.T.S.D.A. (P.T.S.D. Anonymous), A.A., or N.A., etc... EFT is 12-Step Friendly.

TG & John W. will teach you the basics of EFT and demonstrate how incorporating EFT into a 26 week healing program you can effectively and permanently heal yourself and remove the pain and suffering of Combat/War Related PTSD.

Please feel free to "Share" this Life Saving information with ANY Combat Grunt, Medic, Nurse, Doc, Cop, or Fireman, that you know.

Please feel free to call 845-706-2183 for more info.

Our 2013 scholarship winners are:

*The Pete Lambert Memorial Scholarship \$700—Annalise E. Chapman attended The Ursuline High School

*The Peter T. McCauley Memorial Scholarship \$700—Emily C. Mancuso attended Mamaroneck High School

*The Hamilton Fish Memorial Scholarship \$700—Christina M. Zaccardi attended East Chester High School

*The William Sudderth Memorial Scholarship \$700—Adam S. Howie attended Somers High School

*The Anthony Shine Memorial Scholarship \$700—Heather Palazzo attended Roy C. Ketcham High School

*The Jonathan Shine Memorial Scholarship \$700—Laura Spreitzer attended John F. Kennedy Catholic 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.

Four U.S. Navy sailors reported missing during the Vietnam War will be buried together Thursday in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Lt. Dennis Peterson of Huntington Park, Calif.; Ensign Donald Frye of Los Angeles; and Aviation Antisubmarine Warfare Technicians William Jackson of Stockdale, Texas, and Donald McGrane of Waverly, Iowa, went missing on July 19, 1967, after their SH-3A Sea King helicopter was shot down over North Vietnam's Ha Nam Province, a Defense Department statement said Tuesday.

The four sailors launched from the USS Hornet and were trying to locate a downed pilot when they took anti-aircraft fire from a concealed 37mm gun position, lost control, caught fire and crashed, the statement said. All four died in the crash.

In 1982, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam handed over five boxes of remains to U.S. officials, the statement said. Nearly 27 years later, those remains were identified as Frye, Jackson and McGrane.

A joint U.S. and Socialist Republic of Vietnam team investigated a loss in Ha Nam Province in 1993, the statement said. The team interviewed locals who identified potential burial sites. One local claimed to have buried two crewmen near the wreckage, but said both graves had been exhumed.

Over the next seven years, three subsequent joint teams excavated the site and recovered human remains and aircraft wreckage that correlated to the crew's chopper, the statement said. In 2000, U.S. personnel excavated the crash site and recovered additional remains that the Joint POW/MIA Command Central Identification Laboratory determined came from all four crewmen, including Peterson, the pilot.

Defense Department scientists used forensic tools and circumstantial evidence to identify the remains, the statement said. Peterson was accounted for on March 30, 2012.

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The ones I think are the most urgent are H.R. 543, S.210 and S.234.

The following bills recently were introduced in the House and Senate.

H.R. 543 – Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. Rep. Chris Gibson's (D-N.Y.) bill would authorize presumptive service connection to "Blue Water" Navy Vietnam veterans on their disability claims for health conditions associated with exposure to Agent Orange

H.R. 574 – Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act. Reps. Allyson Schwartz's (D-Pa.) and Joe Heck's (R-Nev.) bill would avoid a 27-percent cut in Medicare/TRICARE payments to physicians by repealing the flawed formula driving the annual cuts and requiring a pilot program to find a replacement formula.

H.R. 679 and S. 629 – Honor America's Guard and Reserve Retiree Act. Rep. Tim Walz's (D-Minn.) and Sen. Mark Pryor's (D-Ark.) respective House and Senate bills would extend recognition as veterans to Guard and Reserve retirees who complete military careers without being activated under federal orders.

H.R. 1333 – Military Family Medical Leave Act. Rep. Matt Cartwright's (D-Pa.) bill would provide two weeks of unpaid leave for eligible family members of service personnel who have been called to active duty in support of a contingency operation.

S. 210 – Stolen Valor Act. Sen. Dean Heller's (R-Nev.) bill would make it a crime for a person to profit by misrepresenting his or her military service or eligibility for military awards or decorations.

S. 234 – The Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2013. Sen. Harry Reid's (D-Nev.) bill would authorize the full concurrent receipt of retired pay and veterans' disability compensation for military retirees regardless of disability rating, including those with Chapter 61 medical retirements.

S. 240 - Reserve Retirement Deployment Credit Correction Act. Senators Jon Tester's (D-MT) and Saxby Chambliss' (R-AL) bill would ease the current requirement that any 90-day period of active service creditable toward early reserve retirement eligibility must be completed within the same fiscal year.

MAY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 meeting Armonk 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18 Museum rededication 3:00 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Playland Barbeque Watch Fire	27 Parade Chappaqua 10:00	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2013

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 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <hr/> 30	24	25 Pizza party FDR Stress Unit 5PM	26	27	28	29



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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