



PO BOX 1862

Appleton, WI 54912-1862

www.vva351.com

contact@vva351.com

May - June

2011



**Fox Valley's Only Chartered
Vietnam Veterans Organization Serving Area Veterans Since 1987**

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POW/MIA Jake Paltzer
Orange Blossom Jake Paltzer
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Education

Scholarship ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ..Carlton Schuh
Vietnam Program ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ B.O.D.
Vietnam Display ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ..Leon Meidam
Panel Presentations ũ ũ .. ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ Leon Meidam

Community Service

Adopt-A-Highway ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ Tom Driessen
Boy Scouts ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ to be appointed
Veterans Day Group ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ..Jake Paltzer
Military Support Group ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ... Mike Weaver

Chapter Appreciation

Picnic ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ... ũ Mike Weaver
Halloween Party ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ .. ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ .. ũ Chris Meidam
Appreciation Dinner ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ Mike Weaver
Free Fire ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ .Tom Driessen

Nomination / Constitution

Nomination ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ Tom Driessen

Contacts

Chapter ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ..contact@vva351.org
Joe Eiting ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ ũ 920-358-6152

GOALS

VVA's goals are to promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam Veterans; to create a new identity for this generation of Veterans; and to change public perception of Vietnam Veterans.

"Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another."

VVA 351 MEETINGS

The Chapter meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm, 6:30 pm refreshments and social time. Call to Order 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

2011

May 11th - Chapter meeting

June, July and August – no meeting

September 14th – Chapter meeting

October 12th - Chapter meeting

November 9th - Chapter meeting

MEETING FACILITY

Chapter meetings will be held at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 724 E. South River Street – Appleton.

This is across the river from Lawrence University in Appleton. Park in the `West_ lot and use the Church entrance on that side.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 6th & 7th - Chapter's Orange Blossom Drive

May 8th - Mother's Day

May 29th - Indianapolis 500

May 30th - Memorial Day

June 19th - Father's Day

July 4th - Independence Day

NEWSLETTER COVER PHOTO

Chapter member, Jerry Segersin and wife his Sandy, attended the Chapter's Appreciation (Valentine) Dinner at Mark's East Side Restaurant. There were 33 members and their spouses or friends, and guests that enjoyed food, gifts and company. A special Thank You to Mike Weaver, and Chris and Leon Meidam for organizing and coordinating the rememberable evening.

THANK YOU LETTERS FROM

Appleton Military Support Group for the \$300.00 donation. The funds will be used to send care packages to the troops overseas. The group is made up of families who have loved ones that are serving our country.

Fox Valley Veterans Council for the \$500.00 donation to the council's SAVE Program (Serving All Veterans Everyday). The program will assist Veterans and their families in the Fox Valley area with housing assistance, utilities, medical bills and a host of other issues.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from V.F.W. Post 8642, Grand Chute, complimenting the Chapter on its newsletter and all the programs that the Chapter has. The Post donated \$25 which will be used to offset the cost of printing the newsletter. From Dick Kerrigan Sr. and Comrades at V.F.W. Post 8642. (Post 8642 is a small Post with an aging membership. They are still very active and take care of each other, the Post and the community that they live in. Truly a role model for any organization to try to imitate!!!)

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Saturday, May 28th:

At the Outagamie County Administration Building (Old Court House) - 410 S. Walnut Str. - Appleton, there will be a program Honoring those

that died from Outagamie County while serving in American Armed Forces. The program starts at 10:00 am, assemble about 9:30 am as part of the Patriot Guard Riders ~ Flag Line, followed by a reception at McGuinness Irish Pub.

Sunday, May 29th:

The Veterans church service will be held at St. John United Church of Christ ~ 1130 W. Marquette Str. - Appleton. The service starts at 9:15 am, but assembly by 9:00 am.

Plot Monday, May 30th:

The Memorial Day Parade in Appleton starts at 9:00 am. Assemble at the Appleton V.F.W. Post on 501 N. Richmond Str. to ride to parade location on College Avenue about 8:00 am. The parade will march to Riverside Cemetery to be followed by a memorial program at the G.A.R. within the cemetery at about 10:00 am. At the conclusion of this program there will be a memorial program at St. Joseph's Cemetery at the American Legion Plot. After this program the public is invited to the Appleton V.F.W. Post on Richmond Street for chili and socializing.

Memorial program will be held at 2:00 pm at Highland Memorial Park (cemetery) ~ 3131 N. Richmond Str. ~ Appleton. Be there by 1:30 pm to assemble.

Please try to attend all three days of activities. On the May 30th program, if you can not march then you can ride on the float, jeep or trailer. The Boy Scout Troop 57 and Cub Scout Troop 3057 will be the Color Guard at the May 30th programs.

Let us take a minute to remember the **Fallen**. They served to make us and the world a safe place.

Flag Day Parade

The Flag Day Parade is Saturday, June 11th. The route has changed this

year. The staging area is on State Street between Atlantic Street and College Avenue and Packard Street between Richmond Street and Division Street. The parade starts at 2:00 pm and we will assemble about 1:00 pm at the Chapter's designated parade location. The parade starts on the corner of State Street and College Avenue going East on College Avenue and then turns left on to Drew Street and ends at Erb Park. If you can not march then you can ride on the float, jeep or trailer. The Boy Scout Troop 57 and Cub Scout Troop 3057 will be the Color Guard at this parade. The Chapter picnic will follow the parade. It will be held at the Northside Kiwanis Park on 2315 N. Nicholas Street, Appleton. This is located to the West of Highland Elementary School in Appleton.

EAGLE SCOUT

Boy Scout Troop 57, sponsored by the Chapter, held a Court of Honor Ceremony. Two Boy Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout at the Court of Honor. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an important moment in a young man's life. Earning the Eagle Scout rank says that you are a well-rounded person who is community-minded, responsible and dedicated. Originally the Eagle Scout was a merit badge that represented a perfect scout. Today, the Eagle Scout rank shows you're an invaluable community member. On page 9, the photo of new Eagle Scouts, Jeffrey Moore (L) and Matt King (R) with Leon Meidam holding the Troop 57 Eagle Scout plaque to which their names were added. A Big congratulation to Jeffrey and Matt!!!

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBERANCE

During the Vietnam War, as thousands of young Americans sought refuge in Canada to avoid the conflict; thousands of young Canadians were not openly recruited by the United States to fight in that same war. The U.S. government did facilitate the enlistment of Canadians. Some 20,000 American draft dodgers and 12,000 deserters are estimated to have fled to Canada, while 40,000 Canadians, the majority of them had

volunteered to serve in the American armed forces, and at least 12,000 fought in Southeast Asia. The true number will never be known. Many crossed at border cities and listed that town as their residence.

There is a memorial, The North Wall, at Assumption Park, Windsor, Ontario, overlooking the Detroit River. It honors the more than one hundred Canadians who lost their lives in Vietnam and the seven who went missing in action. It is a fine tribute to Canadians who served and sacrificed all for their belief in freedom during the Vietnam War. One Canadian, Peter C. Lemon, won the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor. The memorial was dedicated on July 2, 1995. Those men that died are also listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC. Canadian Memorial Day is observed on July 1st.

Other countries that sent troops or support in the Vietnam War are: South Korea, approximately 320,000 troops served; approximately 60,000 Australian troops and approximately 3,000 troops from New Zealand served; Philippines sent approximately 11,000 troops; and Thailand sent troops and approximately 80% of the U.S. Air Force strikes on North Vietnam originated from Thailand.

Last year at LZ Lambeau, the `Welcome Home_ to the Vietnam War Veterans and era Veterans, a replica of the Canadian Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, `The Wall That Heals_, was on display. Photo is on page 9.

The Highground

The Highground has evolved to be a memorial park that pays tribute to the Dead, and honors the Survivors, their service, and their sacrifices.

It also pays tribute to the people who supported them when they were away and upon their return.

This is a continuing series on the tributes at The Highground. On page 10 in photo #1 is the Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Tribute: `The National Native American Vietnam Veterans Memorial_. This tribute was dedicated in 1995. The National Native American Vietnam Veterans Memorial is the first National Memorial to come to The Highground. Mounted on a ten ton piece of red granite symbolizing the blood that was shed, the sculpture depicts an American Indian soldier in jungle fatigues, holding a rifle in one hand and an Eagle staff in the other. At the base, is a circle of white stones depicting a field of honor. The names of all American Indians in North America, who died as a result of the Vietnam War, are etched into the black granite base which skirts the entire statuary. In photo # 2, is a plaque on the tribute which reads:

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

`THE FORGOTTEN WARRIOR_

THIS MEMORIAL STATUE WAS ENVISIONED TO SERVE AS A TOUCHSTONE WHERE THE QUIET TEARS OF UNRESOLVED GRIEF FROM MOTHERS, FATHERS, BROTHERS, SISTERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS COULD BE SHED IN AN HONORIFIC SETTING AND BE STRENGTHENED BY THE GROUNDSWELL OF PRIDE THAT THEIR DEPARTED LOVED ONES STAND IN AN ELITE COMPANY OF NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIORS WHO FOUGHT IN AMERICA'S LONGEST AND COSTLIEST UNDECLARED WAR. `THE FORGOTTEN WARRIOR_ STANDS FORTH SYMBOLICALLY TO UPHOLD AND MEMORIALIZE THE HONOR OF THOSE NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIOR CASUALTIES AS A LASTING TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES MADE IN THE SCRIP OF COMMITMENT COMMINGLED WITH UNCERTAINTY AND STRENGTH EMPOWERED BY PURITY.

EAGLE SCOUTS



MEMORIAL DAY



The Highground



2

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL
"THE FORGOTTEN WARRIOR"
THIS MEMORIAL STATUE WAS ENVISIONED TO SERVE AS A TOUCHSTONE WHERE THE QUIET TEARS OF UNRESOLVED GRIEF FROM MOTHERS, FATHERS, BROTHERS, SISTERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS COULD BE SHED IN AN HONORIFIC SETTING AND BE STRENGTHENED BY THE GROUNDSWELL OF PRIDE THAT THEIR DEPARTED LOVED ONES STAND IN AN ELITE COMPANY OF NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIORS WHO FOUGHT IN AMERICA'S LONGEST AND COSTLIEST UNDECLARED WAR. "THE FORGOTTEN WARRIOR" STANDS FORTH SYMBOLICALLY TO UPHOLD AND MEMORIALIZE THE HONOR OF THOSE NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIOR CASUALTIES AS A LASTING TRIBUTE TO THEIR SACRIFICES MADE IN THE SCRIP OF COMMITMENT COMMINGLED WITH UNCERTAINTY, AND STRENGTH EMPOWERED BY PURITY.
DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 16, 1995

MEMORIAL DAY

Formerly known as **Decoration Day**, it commemorates U.S. service men and women who died while in military service. First enacted to honor Union and Confederate soldiers following the American Civil War, it was extended after World War I to honor Americans who have died in all wars. Let us take a moment to remember a family member, a friend or may be someone we served with on this Memorial Day.

Four Quatrain to the Three Nurses

The nurses all were volunteers
Long hours, dust, and rain:
Recipients of combat´
Of shared and constant strain.

The nurses hold a soldier
Being doctors, lovers, mom.
They´ll do their best to heal him´
Far off in Vietnam.

The nurses hold a Veteran
Who gave the U.S. all,
And now he´s marching slowly
To join his comrades on the Wall.

Many took the journey
And suffer with the stare´
The nurses keep on searching
To get us back from there.

R.K. Mitby

Three Soldiers

With our Wall and with our Flag
On guard three soldiers stand´
To symbolize a message
To take across the land.

They´re serving us as models,
From weapons to their gear´
They listen to the questions
That will not disappear.

They never stop patrolling
And searching for us all
And living for their comrade's dreams
Reflecting off the Wall.

Duty. Anger. Honor.
They're straining night and day'
Still sifting out the answers
Where hearts of Nam Vets stay.

R.K. Mitby

POW/MIA REPORT

From May through August the POW-MIA Flag flies just below Old Glory in our front yard as a reminder that we all didn't come home. There are still 1,695 Americans listed by the Department of Defense POW/MIA Personnel Office (DPMO) missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

The news that the remains of Capt. Darrell J. Spinler, USAF listed as KIA/BNR June 21, 1967 in Laos were recently recovered November 17, 2010 and identified January 5, 2011 and we're sending him home at last. The number of Americans returned and identified since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is now 888.

I have ordered and reserved the POW/MIA flags for VVA Chapter 351 and sizes are: 4' X 6', 3' X 5', 12" X 18" and 4" X 6".

If interested in purchasing one, please call me at 920-836-2906.

Richard Forrest

ORANGE BLOSSOM DRIVE

The V. V. A. - Chapter 351 will be holding a fundraiser called the Orange Blossom Drive. The drive will be on Friday May 6, 2011 and

starting this year the drive will also be held on Saturday May 7, 2011. The drive will start at 8:00 am and go to 8:00 pm. The reason for the two day drive is to help support the funding of programs and activities of the Chapter. Some of the programs and activities are: sponsor and charter Boy Scout Troop 57 and Cub Scout Pack 3057; participate in Adopt-A-Highway Program; sponsor a bike tour for the Veterans Memorial Project at Neillsville; participate in Adopt-A-Family Program at Christmas time; fund an educational display of military equipment for students and the public; fund a Color/Honor Guard for parades, programs and dedications; help the Chapter be the leading advocate for Vietnam Veterans by securing benefits and services and assist needy Veterans, and their families, through programs managed by a local Veterans Council with the guidance of the local County Veterans Service Officer.

These are good programs and activities and to keep them vibrant requires financial support. This is where you can help. Take just 1 hour, more if you can, and offer the Orange Blossom to the public at the following businesses: Cops on Wisconsin Avenue; Festival Foods on Northland Avenue and Van Roy Road (off of CE); and Wal-Mart by the Fox River Mall, on Calumet Street (KK) and Neenah. Please contact Chris Meidam at 757-6587 to let her know where you would like to offer the flowers and at what times.

If you are unable to help by offering flowers at businesses, but still would like to help, you could make a donation to the drive. To make a donation: make the check out to the V.V.A. - Chapter 351 and in the memo section write Orange Blossom Drive. Mail to this address: V.V.A. - Chapter 351 - P.O. Box 1862 - Appleton, WI 54912-1862. The V.V.A. - Chapter 351 is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c) (19) of the IRS Code.

Jacob Paltzer - Orange Blossom Chairperson

QUARTERLY MEETING

The V.V.A. Quarterly Meeting was held in Waupaca, WI on Saturday March 5th. From the Chapter, Mike Weaver and Joe Eiting

attended. These are some of the highlights of the meeting:

Steve Conto gave a presentation about the virtual wall and his journey around the state looking for and verifying the location of those that died from Wisconsin in Vietnam and locating their grave markers. (There was an article written by Steve on this project in the January - February newsletter). Mike Derks talked about LZ Lambeau and plans to undertake LZ America. They are forming a tool box for other PBS stations to make it easier to put together their own programs. The plan is to offer one location, or source, for all returning Veterans, County Veteran Service Officer - CVSO, the VA, and wounded warriors to connect with all organizations to provide coordinated support. There was also talk of the 50 year commemoration of Vietnam starting in 2011 and running through 2025. There was a presentation from Stepping Stone Farms, where rescued horses are used to help rehabilitate individuals with emotional and mental issues. They are looking for volunteer workers, drivers to transport Vets from the Milwaukee VA back and forth to the farm, and people just willing to help. The Badger Veteran newsletter is now only available on the internet. They are always looking for articles, news, whatever. If you go to www.vvawi.org, then go to job thoughts, there is a free program for any Wisconsin Veteran to look for a job, to help apply, to make a resume, or to hone skills to get a job.

Joseph P. Eiting

HIGHWAY PICKUP

The dates for the Highway Pickup are May 25, July 27 and August 31. The dates are all on Wednesday. We will meet at 5 pm in the 'park & ride' on the corner of Highway 10 and County N. We do two miles of Highway 10 between County N and Highway 55. Depending on how many show up, it usually takes just over an hour. When we finish, we go to the Darboy Family Restaurant for something to eat. The Chapter donates \$5 towards each person's meal. Good chance to get some fresh

air and help the Chapter.

EDUCATION REPORT

We had some work days to get the Vietnam Display and trailer ready for this year's presentations. The weather was bad so we did not get everything done we would have liked to. We concentrated on what was needed most. LeRoy Johnson got the trailer lights fixed and working. Steven Buntjer and Richard Forest worked on the changes to the display boxes. We will have to look at the trailer brakes after the weather gets better. We thank them for giving up two days to get the display and trailer ready to go.

We did Winchester Community Center, April 7. We set up at 11:30 am and had home school students and members of the community come through up to 3:00 pm. They were very interested in our program and the Vietnam display. We took a small lunch break and were ready for the public to come through at 6:00 pm. We did our program and let them view the display and answered questions until 10:00 pm. It was a long day but satisfying. Thanks to Richard Forrest for setting this program up and presenters Steven Buntjer, Michael Hoks and Leon Meidam.

Each year we need help doing the programs. To put out a good program we need veterans that served in each branch of service and all around the world. There is a lot more information to put out to the students. Everyone had a job to do somewhere, Skills you got and what the military life did for you. Call me and let me know if you can help. You can come and see how a program works and to see if you can do it. You can help with just a school or as many as you want. This program is not blood and gut stories, it is how you did your duty for your country.

Schools that we have requests for: Kaukauna Middle School - April 19, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm; Appleton North High School - May 5, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm; Little Chute High School - May 18, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and Neenah High School - May 25, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. If you know of a

school that would like us to come to do classrooms or put up our display contact me at (920)-757-6587.

Leon Meidam

TAPS

May each of us, when our voyages and battles of life are over, find a welcome in that region of the blest where there is no more storm-tossed sea nor scorching battlefield.

THOMAS F. DEROUIN

Our friend is in the hands of our Heavenly Father and **‘God giveth His beloved sleep.’**

Chapter member Tom Derouin passed on Tuesday, April 12, 2011. Tom served in the U.S. Air Force as a medic. He met his wife Linda, also a U.S. Air Force Veteran, while serving in the military. Tom had been active in the Chapter. He served as an officer and committee head. He was proud to be a Chapter member. Please keep Tom and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

SCOUTING

I went to a Court of Honor on Sunday, January 30th, for two scouts that earned the Eagle Scout Award. I congratulated them for the Chapter and received the Eagle Scout Plaque with their names added. The Cub Scouts are doing a candy bar fund raiser like last year. I signed the paper work for them to do it. Let me know if you would like to order some. We have two leaders that are getting the District Award of Merit: Bob King and Carrie Lehner of Troop 57. I congratulated the Eagle Scouts and the leaders in their awards and thanked them for all the time and work they do.

Leon Meidam

If you have been injured in an accident, I can make a monetary claim on your behalf for:

• Hospital and medical expenses

• Pain and suffering

• Loss of enjoyment of life

• Lost wages

• Damage to your vehicle

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WAYNE F. TAUBER
MANAGER/CEO/DIRECTOR

Membership Eligibility

Regular Member: In Vietnam between **February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975** or any duty location in the world between **August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975**. Copy of DD 214 **required**.

AVVA Member: wives, children and concerned individuals.

To Join – Complete The Following

NEW () Renew () Member () AVVA ()

1 Year \$20.00 () 3 Year \$50.00 ()

Life \$225.00 () ages 50-55

Life \$200.00 () ages 56-61

Life \$175.00 () ages 62-65

Life \$150 () ages 66 and over

Life installments \$50.00 Down + 8 months of \$25.00

Limited time - \$50 rebate on Life Membership.

Name _____.

Address _____.

City _____.

State / Zip _____.

Phone _____.

Dues payable and mail to: Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 1862 - Appleton, WI 54912-1862

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC
CHAPTER 351 - APPLETON AREA
P.O. BOX 1862
APPLETON, WI 54912-1862