

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



410 W. Franklin Str. Unit 1862

Appleton, WI 54912-1862

www.vva351.org

contact@vva351.org

***November - December
2013***



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

V.V.A. CHAPTER #351 – Officers

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Wreath.....Leon Meidam
POW/MIA.....Jake Paltzer
Orange Blossom.....Jake Paltzer
Budget.....Leon Meidam

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Panel Presentations.....Leon Meidam

Community Service

Adopt-A-Highway..... Jer Sanderfoot
Veterans Day Group.....Jake Paltzer
Military Support Group..... Mike Weaver

Chapter Appreciation

Picnic.....Mike Weaver
Halloween Party.....Richard Forrest
Appreciation Dinner.....Mike Weaver
Free Fire.....Tom Driessen

Nomination / Constitution

Nomination.....Tom Driessen

Contacts

Chapter info@vvawi351.org
Joe Eiting.....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 7:00 pm, 6:30 pm refreshments and social time. Call to Order 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

2013

November 13th – Chapter meeting

December – no meeting

2014

January – Chapter’s budget planning meeting (to be determined)

February – Chapter’s appreciation dinner (to be determined)

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

November 11th – Veterans Day

November 21st – Thanksgiving

November 28th to December 15th – Chapter’s wreath drive

December 25th – Christmas

NEWSLETTER COVER PHOTO

Mrs. Dorothy R. Hammer, seated, and her family unveiled and admire a bench that was part of the enhancement dedication of the Isle of Valor located in Smith Park in Menasha on August 13, 2013. The bench is in honor of her son, Sgt. Richard Hentz, who is a MIA from the Vietnam War. More on pages 9, 10 and 11,

CORRESPONDENCE

Appleton Area Vietnam Veterans of America:

Last evening I was at the Isle of Valor Memorial Plaza and was so impressed by the large crowd attending the enhancement dedication.

I received several mementos various Veterans gave me from the Vietnam Era and was so pleased to be asked to unveil the lovely bench your organization added to the Isle of Valor grounds.

The bench is so beautiful and well thought out as a lovely memory that my son and others like him are not forgotten.

Keep up the good work. My family all thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

Dorothy R. Hammer

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Thank you to all that helped in making this sixth annual POW/MIA Recognition Day Drive such a BIG SUCCESS!!! The funds that were

raised will be used to purchase material on the POW/MIA issue. This material will then be distributed to local schools and libraries for educational purposes. A couple of scholarships will be established in honor of a local soldier who is Missing in Action or Prisoner of War in the Vietnam War. These scholarships will be presented to a student going on to higher education from a local high school. Also the Chapter supports the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia which works on the POW/MIA issue.

This year the funds are down a little from last year: construction at one of the businesses; not able to offer at another; and we had a good work force for the drive and they did a **GREAT JOB** but we cannot put in the hours like we used to. The total hours are down a little.

Those that helped with drive and did a **GREAT JOB** are: John Breitzman, Roger Brey, Steve Buntjer, Larry Cavanaugh, David Evans, John Fiers, Richard Forrest, Tim Hewitt, Mike Hoks, Leroy Johnson, Bill Kunz, Leon Meidam, Phil Moore, Dick Poukey, Jer Sanderfoot, Sandy Segersin and Ken Wydeven.

The following businesses: Wal-Mart at the Fox River Mall, Wal-Mart in Neenah, Festival Foods on CE, Festival Foods on Northland Ave. “OO” and Larry’s Piggly Wiggly in Little Chute and Kaukauna are where the drive was held. Please “Thank” them for allowing us to hold the drive!!

Even in harder times “the public in the Fox Valley area does support Veterans and Veteran issues and concerns and it showed”!!

Jake Paltzer

WREATH SALE 2013

We will have the wreath sale booth at the east parking lot at Northland Mall again this year. We will be decorating all of the large wreaths, to

get the quality that we want. I will be picking up the large wreaths November 7th. We will have to decorate some for opening weekend and for deliveries. The rest will be decorated as we need them. If you are working, you will have to help decorate as we sell. Cheryl Johnson will be making the decorations for the swags and crosses. I will be picking up the smaller wreath on November 16th. Prices for this year: 24"- \$18.00, 36"- \$25.00, 48"- \$45.00, 60"- \$65.00, 72"- \$80.00, cane and crosses - \$20.00 and swags- \$10.00. We will sell out of large wreaths this year, so get your order in as soon as you can. This way we can have that wreath for you. I can get larger wreaths if needed. Mail your order to: VVA 351 - P.O. Box 1862 - Appleton WI. 54912-1862, call it in at 757-6587 or e-mail it to lrm101@ntd.net. All preorders will be filled first in the order received and paid for.

We will need help in manning up the sales booth, starting Friday, November 29th through Sunday, December 15th. The hours for the weekend are 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and the weekdays are 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm. It is very important that you do the paper work as you sell. We will be using a larger generator so there will be heat and light. Tom Bartel at 920-739-6839, will co-chair the wreath sales. Call him to sign up to work, if you are not going to be at the November 13th Chapter meeting. This will save us a lot of time in calling you all.

We need help setting up the selling area at Northland Mall, weather permitting on November 26th or 27th. Tom will be in charge of the set up. I will be out of state so if you can help him, call to work times out.

Leon Meidam - Wreath Chairman at 740-8672 or e-mail lrm101@ntd.net
Tom Bartel – Co-Chairman at 739-6839

VETERANS DAY

November 11th is Veterans Day. On this day our Nation honors all military Veterans. There will be a program at the Outagamie County

Court House; this is presently the Administration building located at 410 S. Walnut Street, Appleton. The program starts promptly at 11:00 am with the ringing of local church bells, introduction, prayer, speeches by dignitaries, poster contest done by students from local schools and ending with Taps. Immediately after, visit the Outagamie County Veterans Memorial inside. After the program everyone is invited to the American Legion Post on 3220 W. College Avenue, Appleton for a lunch. Our Chapter supports this program and participates in it.

If you would like to be in the Color Guard, contact Carlton Schuh at 757-0696. We will assemble at 10:30 am in front of the old Court House.

There are a number of offers, discounts and activities on or around Veterans Day, November 11th, to Thank Veterans for their service. Please check your local media listings for the different events and their times.

SEASONS GREETINGS

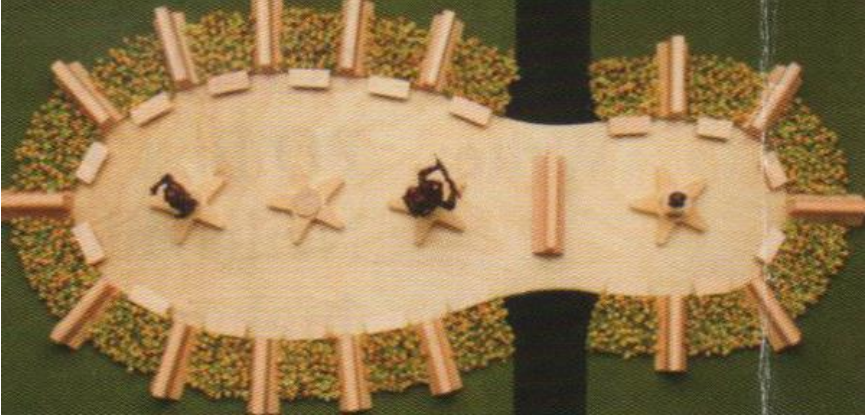
On behalf of the editorial staff of the Chapter, we hope you, your family and friends have a great holiday season – Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year.

As we enjoy the upcoming holidays with our family and friends, please keep in mind that some of our members and their family are not in the best of physical or emotional health. May the new year bring happiness and good health to all.

Staff

The Highground

The Highground in Neillsville, Wisconsin has evolved to be a Veterans 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.



WISCONSIN PERSIAN GULF TRIBUTE

The Wisconsin Persian Gulf Tribute will come to The Highground to honor our newest Veterans. The committee’s mission reads: “To build with honor a tribute for all branches of America’s Military who served around the globe with Desert Storm, through multiple Middle East conflicts, while marching forward in the Global War on Terrorism. May we establish a place of hope so that we do not walk past you but with you. Let this site be an anchor for education and solace while securing in memory sacrifices made. With hope and prayer the Persian Gulf Tribute will provide a safe haven for all to reflect and to heal.”

(This is the last of the series on the tributes at The Highground. If you can, take a little time and visit The Highground in Neillsville, Wisconsin. You will find a healing presence that will touch your heart.)

ISLE of VALOR

1



2



9

At Smith Park, in the City of Menasha, is a section called Isle of Valor. It is a Veterans memorial park and on August 13, 2013 there was an enhancement dedication. On page 9, in photo 1, is the bridge that leads to the entrance to the Isle of Valor. In photo 2, each branch of the Armed Forces' service flags were added plus the service flag of the Wisconsin National Guard.

At the enhancement dedication, several memorial benches were added. The Chapter purchased the bench below. It is in honor of Sgt. Richard Hentz, who is a MIA from the Vietnam War.



Shown on page 11, photo 1, are some of the Chapter members that attended the enhancement dedication. (L to R) Steve Buntjer, (behind Steve) Larry Cavanaugh, Leroy Johnson, Richard Forrest, (behind Richard) Tim Hewitt, Mike Hoks, (behind Mike) Tom Bartel, Mike Weaver and (behind Mike) Jake Paltzer.

1



2



Well organized and attended program!!!

UNKNOWN SOLDIERS

He joined them from his jungle,
To form our new quartet—
To add to their collection,
A song that fit his set.

A Doughboy started single—
Was seen by all to share;
He sang out loud and boldly—
George Cohan's "Over There".

One day a G.I. joined him,
To make a two-part team;
The song that they kept singing—
John Mercer's lifting "Dream".

Too fast another found them,
With freedom on the line;
The trio's newest entry—
Was Lanza's "'cause You're Mine".

Until the middle Eighties,
Unknown to those three,
The song the Grunt brought with him—
The Beatles'—"Let It Be".

He's singing with his elders—
To us we hear them shout,
Of years and times that challenged,
And how we worked things out.

The tenor's voice is purist,
The second's notes are right,

The baritone blends firmness—
The bass is getting tight.

They sense through frenzied torrents,
The tensions that increase
“Be strong,” they sing, “but listen—
For that could keep the peace.”

The quartet keeps on singing,
To people passing slow;
They sing to them of conflicts
And times that some don’t know.

For they know all our fallen;
Committed we must be—
To patience and convictions,
To keep us whole and free.

The sad song of these four men,
Within this hallowed place,
Is to their sides and round them,
Lies too much empty space.

They smell our future jungles
And hear our nation’s dead,
And through their honored lining
They sing into our heads.

They sing to all who visit,
Through waltzing, rocking tree,
Heard over the Potomac
In sanguine harmony.

They sing to the white crosses—
The living they implore—
With now a steady quartet—
They have no need for more.

(It should be noted that the representatives from World War II and Korea were interred at the same time, and currently there are no remains in place representing Viet Nam.)

R.K. Mitby

CHURCH SERVICE

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Spencer standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy and said quietly, 'Good morning Spence.'

'Good morning Pastor,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this?'

The pastor said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Spencer's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, 'Which service, the 8:30 or the 10:30?'

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Attorney Schuh is looking for Veterans who have been diagnosed with Mesothelioma, Asbestosis and / or lung cancer associated with Mesothelioma and Asbestosis. There is SUBSTANTIAL compensation available for victims, especially military Veterans.

I travel ANYWHERE in Wisconsin to meet with and consult with victims. PLEASE call now at 920-731-0479.

Life Member: V.V.A. – Chapter 351, V.F.W. Post 2778 and American Legion Post 38.

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SAVE4VETS



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You Can Help Fox Valley Veterans!
americannationalbank.org/vets

Veterans In Need

American National Bank Fox Cities has partnered with the Fox Valley Veterans Council to build an emergency fund for Fox Valley Veterans in need. Funds are needed annually for housing, utility payments, clothing, food, medicine, transportation or any other high priority need. This emergency fund can save lives and families. Visit our website at americannationalbank.org/vets

Military Accounts

American National Bank Fox Cities offers a special Liberty Checking and Savings account with benefits for military service members on active duty, Reserves, National Guard, or Veteran status.

Bank Here & We Donate

American National Bank Fox Cities will donate to the Fox Valley Veterans emergency fund throughout the year when you open a new checking or savings account, or when you take out a mortgage loan. (Now offering VA loans).

- \$10 - Checking Account
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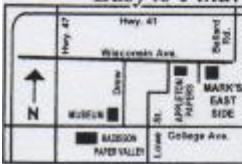
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Membership Eligibility

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 56-60

Life \$175.00 () ages 61–65

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 _____.

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Phone _____.

Dues payable and mail to: Vietnam Veterans of America – 410 W.
Franklin Str. Unit 1862 – Appleton, WI 54912-1862

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CHAPTER 351 - APPLETON AREA
410 W. FRANKLIN STR. UNIT 1862
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