

“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

*September – October
2014*



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

V.V.A. CHAPTER #351 – Officers

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Recognition / Awards.....David Evans

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Orange Blossom..... Jake Paltzer
Budget.....Leon Meidam

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Vietnam Display.....Leon Meidam
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.....Leon Meidam
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.

2014

September 10th – Chapter meeting

October 8th – Chapter meeting

November 12th – 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

September 1st – Labor Day

September 19th – POW/MIA Recognition Day

October 24th – Chapter’s Halloween Party / Fall Festival

October 31st – Halloween

November 11th – Veterans Day

December 25th – Christmas Day

NEWSLETTER COVER PHOTO

The annual Chapter's picnic was held after Appleton's Flag Day Parade. It was a great time and enjoyed by all!! The reason for such success is all the behind the scenes work. A special Thanks to all that helped make the picnic successful, and all those that attended and enjoyed the great food and camaraderie. Some of the behind the scenes work that was done before, during and after was by these three ladies – in the photo (L to R) Elaine Bartel, Cheryl Johnson and Edie Dorow.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Veitnam Veterans of America,

Thank you so much for coming to Neenah High School and sharing with us your stories from Vietnam. A HUGE thank you for serving our country honorably. We appreciate everything you have done for our country!!

From,

Meggie and Ally

Dear Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter 351,

The Twin Cities' Veterans Club wish to thank you for participating in the first Armed Forces Day celebration at the Isle of Valor. It was a great day for all of us Veterans and the public who attended. We look forward to see you at next year's event.

V.F.W. Nicolet Post 2126

Dear Appleton Chapter 351,

Your Chapter's donation to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund was featured in our national newsletter, Vietnam Veterans of America "In Service" which highlights the great works of our Chapters and membership. We thank you for continuing V.V.A.'s mission of serving our Veterans, communities, and those in harm's way.

We greatly appreciate all of your hard work!

John Rowan
V.V.A. National President

This is the article from the national newsletter "In Service".

Wisconsin

Appleton Chapter 351 recently donated \$500 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, to help sponsor the V.V.M.F.'s Educational Center. When completed the Educational Center will be located in the National Mall near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and will tell the story of the more than 58,000 U.S. service men and women who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

V.V.M.F. Founder and President Jan C. Scruggs sent Chapter 351 a thank-you letter in which he wrote: "It is with the help of people like you that our work—and this new Educational Center—will go forward for future generations. Thank you for your kindness and for ensuring that those who fell in Vietnam will never be forgotten."

2014 ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

2014 Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up Dates: Wednesdays = October 1st.
We meet at the "park & ride" on the NE corner of Highway 10 County

Road N at 5:00 P.M. **If it is raining at 5:00 PM, make-up date will always be the following Wednesday!** The total job takes about an hour, if eight (8) volunteers show up. Please mark these dates on your calendar, in pencil. If it was like past years, we will have some rain-day changes. After the clean-up, all volunteers will meet at the Darboy (**Mohnen's**) Family Restaurant for something to eat. It is located in the Darboy Plaza on the SE corner of County Roads N & CE, behind the BP gas station. Our VVA Chapter will donate \$5.00 towards each volunteer's meal. "**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**"

Jer Sanderfoot, Coordinator

CHAPTER'S HALLOWEEN PARTY / FALL FESTIVAL

Calling all witches, goblins and ghouls. There will be a burning at the stake of a local scarecrow who has stopped being scary.

This event will take place on Fright Night, Friday, October 24th, starting at 5:30 pm to the witching hour. The Meidam Haunted Manor is at N2241 Mayflower Drive, Appleton.

Meat and beverages will be provided. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass. **Please R.S.V.P. by October 17th to Joyce at 920-739-2603.**

Costumes would be great but not necessary.

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is Friday, September 19, 2014. The Chapter will do a fund drive for this important day. The drive will be

starting at 8:00 am and go to 8:00 pm. The funds raised will be used to fund the Chapter's POW/MIA Program. Last year some of the funds went for a \$1000 scholarships, in the name of a POW or MIA from the area, for a graduating high school student; a donation was made to the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia; and a donation was made to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, to help sponsor the V.V.M.F.'s Educational Center, this donation is in remembrance of the men on The Wall that have not come home as POWs or MIAs.

These are good programs and to keep them vibrant requires financial support. This is where you can help. Take just 1 hour, more if you want, and offer the POW/MIA flower to the public at the following businesses: Wal-Mart by the Fox River Mall, Neenah and Wal-Mart on Appleton's East side. All you need to bring is a chair, if you want to sit, a cap or shirt with the V. V. A. emblem and a BIG SMILE!!! This is a great program that the Chapter is involved in, so let's keep it going.

If we all help out, we will make this a very successful drive. You can sign up for the business that you would like to help at and the time you would like to work. Attend the September 10th meeting and sign up at that time or if you cannot attend the meeting, contact me at 739-2603. Please call by September 12, 2014.

To make a donation: make the check-out to the V.V.A. – Chapter 351 and in the memo section write POW/MIA 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.

Jake Paltzer

PRESTIGIOUS MEDALS

Prestigious service medals someone might receive while serving in U.S. Armed Forces.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS – COAST GUARD



The **Coast Guard Distinguished Service Cross** is the second highest military decoration for valor that may be awarded to a member of the Coast Guard. Established by Act of Congress on October 15, 2010, it is intended to recognize members of the United States Coast Guard for extraordinary heroism in action, while not operating under the Department of the Navy. Coast Guard members serving under the United States Navy would be eligible for the Navy Cross. This medal, though approved, has not yet been awarded.

CHAPTER'S APPRECIATION (VALENTINE) BANQUET

The Chapter's Appreciation (Valentine) Banquet was held on February 12th at Mark's East Side Restaurant. More photos of the evening.



Enjoying the evening (L to R) Nancy Koehler, Candace and Phil Moore, and John Koehler.



Enjoying the evening are Tom and Elaine Bartel.



Enjoying the evening are Leon Meidam and Vicki Hartjes.



Enjoying the evening are Peg and Mike Hoks.



Enjoying the evening are Richard and Cheryl Forrest.



Enjoying the evening are Frank McGinnis and Elaine
(Soon to be Mrs.McGinnis.)

STAPLES

Uphold the Code of Silence—
Be still, suppress your thoughts—
Pretend it didn't happen—
That's what he had been taught.

And so he kept his lips sealed—
To those outside his caste—
Until one day some non-Vets dug,
And he began to blast

And dredge his feelings from far down,
While still not telling all—
His listeners he'd awakened
To what had been his call.

And when his tale was over,
They searched and spoke up slow,
“We've been together many years—
Gee, man—we didn't know.”

Then in his mind he traveled—
To Nam and to his past—
For the sacrifices
While asking, gazing upwards—
“Now, am I home at last?”

AT PEACE

Floating with the current
Or anchoring quite secure—
Fishing bass and crappies
With minnows, not with lures.

Finding all the right spots:
Sinking logs—in cover thick—
Where fish were in there hiding
My partners knew the trick

To find the furtive largemouths,
To catch and then release:

We caught what we were after
And left the lake in peace.

WITH THE LOON AND EAGLE

With the loon and eagle—
Yes, we were quite a bunch—
Out searching for some fish
To make a luscious lunch.

One dove down from the surface,
And one plunged from the sky—
I threw out my fishing line:
We gave the fish a try,

And we were all successful—
Each caught a meal to eat,
And we'll get back together
For another triple treat.

R.K. Mitby

MOON LANDING

On July 20, 1969, as commander of the Apollo 11 lunar module, Neil Armstrong was the first person to set foot on the moon. His first words after stepping on the moon, “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind,” were televised to earth and heard by millions.

But just before he re-entered the lander, he made the enigmatic remark “Good luck, Mr. Gorsky.”

Many people at NASA thought it was a casual remark concerning some rival Soviet Cosmonaut. However, upon checking, there was no Gorsky in either the Russian or American space program.

Over the years, many people questioned Armstrong as to what the “Good Luck, Mr. Gorsky” statement meant, but Armstrong always just smiled.

On July 5, 1995, in Tampa Bay, Florida, while answering questions following a speech, a reporter brought up the 26 year old question about Mr. Gorsky to Armstrong.

This time he finally responded because Mr. Gorsky had died, so Neil Armstrong felt he could now answer the question. Here is the answer to who was Mr. Gorsky.

In 1938, when Armstrong was a kid in a small Mid-Western town, he was playing baseball with a friend in the backyard. His friend hit the ball, which landed in his neighbor’s yard by their bedroom window. His neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Gorsky. As he was leaning down to pick up the ball, young Armstrong heard Mrs. Gorsky shouting at Mr. Gorsky.

“Sex! You want sex?! You’ll get sex when the kid next door walks on the moon!”

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In the Fox Valley, WI

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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
- \$10 - Savings Account
- \$50 - Mortgage Loan



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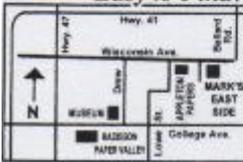
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Membership Eligibility

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 \$200.00 () ages 56-60

Life \$175.00 () ages 61-65

Life \$150.00 () ages 66-71

Life \$100.00 () ages 72 +

\$50.00 rebate on Life Membership from Chapter

Name _____.

Address _____.

City _____.

State / Zip _____.

Phone _____.

Dues payable and mail to: Vietnam Veterans of America – 410 W.
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