

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



**410 W. Franklin Str. Unit 1862**

**Appleton, WI 54912-1862**

**[www.vvawi351.org](http://www.vvawi351.org)**

**[info@vvawi351.org](mailto:info@vvawi351.org)**

*March-April  
2018*



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

### Officers / B.O.D.

President	Larry Cavanaugh
• <a href="mailto:lcavanaugh123@yahoo.com">lcavanaugh123@yahoo.com</a>	920-264-7917
Vice President	John Koehler
• <a href="mailto:kent1952@live.com">kent1952@live.com</a>	920-858-3310
Secretary	Dennis Bloy
Treasurer.../Budget	Phil Moore
Chaplain	Mike Weaver
Board of Directors -BOD	Joe Eiting
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	Tom Bartel

### Committees / Administration

Adopt-A-Family	Chuck Lewis
Adopt-A-Highway/ Community Service	Jer Sanderfoot
Chapter Social Events	Wade Van Ryzin
Education/Scholarship	Richard Poukey
Program Coordinator	John Koehler
FV Veterans Council & Recognition	David Evans
Membership	Joe Eiting
Military Support Group	Mike Weaver
Nomination/Constitution	Board of Directors
POW/MIA	Glen Zimmerman
Sergeant-At-Arms	Frank Billings
Sunshine/Fundraising/Charity Drives	Bill Olcott
Taps	Larry Cavanaugh
The Highground Memorial	Leon Meidam
Webmaster	Angie Coenen
Web Assistant/Newsletter	Dale Siebers

## **OTHER CONTACTS**

920-205-1565      Chapter              info@vvawi351.org

*Note: Contact list is blanked out on Web version*

### **Late Breaking**

The Reflections of Vietnam EDU program begins again in March. We have a very ambitious schedule this year and will need lots of help. The full schedule will be listed in this Newsletter. See pages 10 & 11.

Generally, there are trailer and display item maintenance tasks to be done in March and then "Away We Go!" Contact Larry C. if you want to help!

## **NEWSLETTER COVER PHOTO**

Jan Berry Veterans Day Celebration, 2017. VVA Members: Lloyd Dumke and Frank Billings in the American Legion Color Guard. Presenters: Afghanistan War SSGT Adam Alexander and VVA Member John Koehler. *Photo courtesy of John Koehler*

## **GOAL STATEMENT**

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 the public perception of Vietnam Veterans.

## **THE VETERAN**

A “Veteran”—active duty, reserve, discharged, or retired—is someone who wrote a blank check payable to the USA for an amount up to and including his/her life. This is a definition of honor; many fail to grasp or perhaps have forgotten this fact.

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

If you know of a Chapter member that is not feeling well or is having surgery, please contact Bill Olcott at 920-733-8199. Bill sends get-well cards to these folks, so they know that the Chapter has their well-being in mind.

## *President's Message*

### **Chapter Tales**

I hope everyone stayed warm during the deep freeze. I suggest having EMS on speed dial when you open your heating bill.

Thanks to all who helped plan, and all who came to, our Annual Valentine's Day dinner. From the Barbershop Quartet to Chapter member, Roy Rogers, performing the National Anthem to our closing hymn: *Let There be Peace on Earth*, to Steve Dietzler, the Preacher Man. In my opinion it was "gol-darned-good"! By the way, the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter has been informed about the "sorta-dry" spuds.

John Koehler read *Trivia from 1968*; Everyone seemed enjoyed the history. Thanks to John for assembling that piece of history.

Our Chapter numbers are strong at 149 members; we also have 14 Associate members. Numbers are numbers; what is important is we never lose sight of our objectives/missions and people, they're in front of us as a Chapter: helping fellow veterans in need, helping with Chapter activities and events.

We have nominations at the March 19th meeting, elections will be on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Now's the time have your voice heard. The members present at this meeting will set the stage for the rest of the Chapter for the ensuing year. So, please attend and VOTE, eh'.

Thanks to all who volunteer every day and keep our Chapter out front in the community. Let's keep our enthusiastic attitudes and desire to help whenever needed; it keeps us moving forward. I will be in touch with all that signed up for the EDU display work.

Larry C.

### ***Editor's Note***

For Calendar items, Photo Gallery, Videos, and Events, please contact Angie Coenen at [mamacoenen55@gmail.com](mailto:mamacoenen55@gmail.com) .

**Anyone with pictures of your service for the new chapter DVD that is being made, please contact Angie Coenen at 920-570-2591 or [mamacoenen55@new.rr.com](mailto:mamacoenen55@new.rr.com) She can help you get them copied or help you get them sent. Please do this ASAP with deadline on March 15<sup>th</sup> for the DVD to get done in April.**

Check out Chapter 351's Webpage! ***In Retrospect*** is your page. If you have stories, pictures, news links, or other stuff that relates to us, please send them. They may be in the newsletter and up here too. ***In Retrospect*** is not constrained by newsletter publishing dates. Send me the info; I'll get it formatted and put up there. From the Home Page, click on ***In Action***, then ***In Retrospect***.

Mike Weaver recently survived a very serious bout of internal bleeding; we're thankful that he pulled through; it was a close call!

You've heard I am being treated for cancer; undergoing chemo/radiation and doing fine. It is treatable and beatable. Unfortunately, I may not be able to attend meetings or events through March due to the treatment regimen, but I'll try.

Check out this link: [www.caringbridge.org/visit/chief.d.siebers.usnr](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/chief.d.siebers.usnr) for updates on my status.

I will continue as the editor of the newsletter and my little corner of our Webpage. One needs to stay busy, I say—this is fun for me and keeps me happily engaged.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### VVA 351 MEETINGS

The Chapter meets once a month at 7:00 pm at VFW Post 2778, 501 N. Richmond Street, Appleton—3<sup>rd</sup> Monday this year. Refreshments/Social time at 6:30 p.m.—Call to Order/Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Meeting time is approximately one hour. Special events of interest may follow the meeting and there is time to socialize.

### 2018 Chapter Meeting Dates

March 19	April 16	May 21
Summer—None	September 17	October 15
November 19	December—None	

### Military Calendar for March and April

<b>March 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Navy Reserve Birthday
<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Medal of Honor Day
<b>March 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day
<b>April 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Gold Star Spouse's Day
<b>April 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Air Force Reserve Birthday
<b>April 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Army Reserve Birthday

## EVENTS AND OFFERS

### Saturday Morning Breakfast at Angel's

Join us and other veterans for breakfast on Saturday mornings. ALL Veterans of the US Armed Forces are welcome; bring a veteran buddy along—there is a lot of room. We have vets from WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan wars at our table(s). Angel's is at 1401 E. John St. Appleton—between College Ave. and John St. roundabouts. ([www.angelsrestaurant.com](http://www.angelsrestaurant.com))

### 2018 Breakfast Meeting Dates (8:30-10 a.m.)

March 03, 17, & 31 and April 14 & 28.

Contact: John Koehler 920-858-3310 / [kent1952@live.com](mailto:kent1952@live.com)

*John Koehler '69-72' Semper Fi*

### FVTC Coffee for Veterans

FVTC has a Resource Center for Veterans— to stop, study, and enjoy free coffee. The coffee and supplies are donated by the staff.

### Half-Off Meal at Appleton Mr. Cinders

Mr. Cinder's has a **half-off** meal on the **1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month** for veterans. Open at 10:30; offer runs all day—stop in and check it out.



## **EVENTS AND OFFERS**

### **Free Coffee and Doughnuts**

Festival Foods of Menasha, Neenah, & Green Bay (University Avenue) provide FREE coffee and doughnuts every Friday morning for veterans from 8 a.m. to noon. No RSVP required.

### **Vets and Friends of Wisconsin Inc. 2508 N Richmond St. Appleton**

Our Coffee House provides free soup and sandwich to Vets and Friends every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We have also partnered with St. Joe's food program to provide short-term and long-term needs.

**The Salon Professional Academy - \$5 Veteran Haircut - Mondays**  
—Military / VA ID or DD-214 required—  
3355 W College Ave Call: 920-968-0433

## EDU EVENTS

### **"VVA Chapter 351 - Committed to Education"**

This year our members are planning on visiting 16 different high schools, technical colleges, and universities throughout Wisconsin. We continue to deliver our message on the trials and tribulations of the Vietnam War, seen through the eyes of the troops who served there.

If you are new to our organization, this program is an excellent way to get acquainted with our members. You do not have to "present" to an audience if you are not comfortable doing so. Several guys would rather talk one on one with students when they view the display; it is a good way to learn about what we do, and how we do it.

We are estimating that we will again reach 20,000 people with Reflections of Vietnam in 2018. Thanks to everyone who has helped to make this program a success!

In addition to our EDU Presentations Chapter 351 is also offering four \$1500 scholarships to area high school students, which is a first for us. If you are interested in finding out more about this program or downloading an application from our web site, please contact Dick Poukey at (920) 731-1077.

John Koehler EDU Coordinator (920) 858-3310

## EDU EVENTS

### Reflections of Vietnam Schedule for 2018

Mar. 29	Moraine Park Tech. College	Fond du Lac
Mar. 29	Marian University	Fond du Lac
Apr. 4	FV Lutheran HS	Appleton
Apr. 9	Valders HS	Valders
Apr. 13	Oneida Nation HS	Oneida
Apr. 18	UW Fox Valley	Menasha
Apr. 24	Chippewa Valley Tech College	Eau Claire
Apr. 27	Appleton North HS	Appleton
Apr. 30	Seymour HS	Seymour
May 11	Hortonville HS	Hortonville
May 16	Neenah HS	Neenah
May 18	Menominee Indian HS	Keshena
May 20	King Veterans Home	King
Oct. 26	Rawhide Boys Ranch	New London
Nov. 6	NE WI Tech. College	Green Bay
Nov. 8	Lakeshore Tech College	Manitowoc
Tentative	UW Eau Claire	

## ITEMS OF INTEREST



**Tuesday, March 20th 2018**

Fox Valley Technical College - Public Safety Training Center  
W6400 County Rd BB, Appleton

*Join us as we raise awareness and learn about the trauma and challenges our Veterans, Firefighters, Police Officers, and EMS face each day. Find resources and educational tools to assist those who serve, their families, and our community.*



11:00am - 7:00pm

**Resource Fair**

50 Booths featuring topic specific and local support organizations

11:00am - 11:30am  
& 4:00pm - 4:30pm

**Key Note Speaker: David Chrisinger, Award Winning Author, "See Me For Who I Am"**

11:30am - 12:45pm,  
2:15pm - 3:30pm &  
4:30pm - 5:54pm

**Breakout Sessions**

Four sessions to choose from: Opus Peace, Code 9 Project, Camp American Legion, High Ground, and David Chrisinger

1:00pm & 5:45pm

**Showing of the film "Almost Sunrise"**

5:45pm - 7:15pm

**QPR Training**

Mindfulness Training available throughout the day



**Coordinating Organizations**

- Veterans Mentor Group - American Legion Post 38 - Fox Valley Veterans Council - Prevent Suicide Fox Cities
- Fox Valley Technical College Veterans Services & Public Safety Training Center - JJ Keller Foundation
- Multi-Conveyor, LLC - Fox River Lions - Festival Foods - Vietnam Veterans of America 351 - Shiocton Lions
- Homes for Heroes



Find this event & follow our Facebook page at "Connect to Courage"

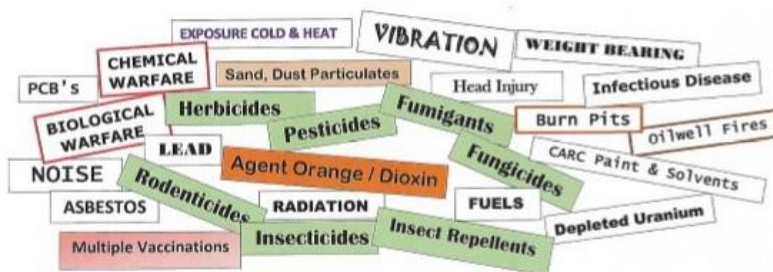
[connect2courage@gmail.com](mailto:connect2courage@gmail.com)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Public Welcome

# ALL VETERANS... and Families TOXIC EXPOSURE

*Agent Orange, Burn Pits, Burning Oil Fields, etc.*



If you are unsure about exposures or their effects, the Wisconsin State Council of the Vietnam Veterans of America request your participation in a Townhall Meeting.

Learn: About the various toxins and their effects - Agent Orange & beyond.  
How exposures have affected others, yourself and your spouse.  
How your children and grandchildren are, or could be, suffering from abnormalities resulting from your exposures.

*Let's share our stories!*

**Saturday April 21, 2018 12pm to 4pm**

D.J. Bordini Center - Fox Valley Technical College, Room 112 A&B  
5 Systems Drive, Appleton, WI 54912

(Directly across the street from Fox Valley Technical College)

Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America - Wisconsin State Council and Association of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.



RSVP thru Eventbrite with number of attendees requested but not required:  
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/agent-orange-toxic-exposure-tickets-42776240888>  
INFO contact: Joseph Eiting at 920-205-1565 or [jeiting67@gmail.com](mailto:jeiting67@gmail.com)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Upcoming Events

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, the Chapter is having a “Spring Fling-Fish Fry” at Van Abel’s in Hollandtown (<http://vanabels.com/>). This will be an “order off the menu” event. Further details will be announced at the March meeting.

Generally, we do this twice-a-year in addition to our other social events, the Valentine’s Dinner and the Summer Boat Ride (on the Chain of Lakes). The second fish fry will be at Pullman’s on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Both Van Abel’s and Pullman’s work well for us because they have room to gather and socialize before dinner (and the food is good too).

Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day are not far off. Our Orange Blossom drive will happen in early May.

We will be having another July cruise on the Chain-O-Lakes in Waupaca—date to be announced. Email Joe Eiting at the following email address with your name and phone number if you are interested: [capteiting@aol.com](mailto:capteiting@aol.com)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Huey

I was outside jogging  
When I heard it flying by,  
And the Huey took me back  
As I watched it in the sky,

And I recalled those days  
When I flew within its shell,  
And the men who gave their all,  
And those where demons dwell

Deep within their mind-sets,  
Pulled up by sounds and sights—  
Striving for normality  
And an exit from that fight.

Pink To Gray p.6  
Cheryl Mitby & R.K. Mitby

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

According to the Defense Casualty Analysis System, the total record count of deaths for Wisconsin is 1,161 as of April 29, 2008.

(<http://www.archives.gov/aad>)

The months of March and April rank 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the number of casualties for the State of Wisconsin. Wisconsin had 136 casualties overall in March, and 94 overall in February during the duration of the war.

#### March

Richard E. Jaeck	Army	Cudahy	3/14/64
David J.W. Widder	Army	Sheboygan	3/24/65
Phillip H. Clark	Army	Wisconsin Rapids	3/4/66
James H. Page	Army	Eagle River	3/5/66
Charles L. Davidson	Army	La Crosse	3/9/66
Jerald L Pinneker	Navy	Milwaukee	3/20/66
Clyde D. Dawson	Air Force	Fond du Lac	3/23/66
Michael D. Laux	Marine Corps	Appleton	3/25/66
David A. Siemanowski	Marine Corps	Milwaukee	3/26/66
Richard C. McKee Jr.	Army	Green Bay	3/5/67

#### April

Gerald C. Capelle	Army	Fond du Lac	4/1/65
Walter F. Draeger Jr.	Air Force	Deerfield	4/4/65
Nathaniel Merriweather	Army	Milwaukee	4/5/66
Robert A. Kreuziger	Army	Juneau	4/6/66
James P. Harteau	Marine Corps	Waukesha	4/6/66
George C. Steinberg	Army	Milwaukee	4/11/66
Robert D. Arnold	Marine Corps	Galesville	4/18/66
Robert G. Mueller	Army	Hartford	4/25/66
James M. Arries	Marine Corps	Elk Mound	4/1/67
Robert P. Ruminski	Marine Corps	Two Rivers	4/1/67



## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### **Vietnam History**

*(source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Vietnam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Vietnam))*

Vietnam's recorded history stretches back to 2879 BCE. The Red River Valley, bounded by mountains on one side, the sea on the other, were natural barriers; this coupled with its difficult terrain made Vietnam difficult to attack. It remained independent until the Chinese Millennium began in 111 BCE. Once conquered, Vietnam was unable to escape Chinese ruled for the next 1000 years.

In 939 CE, Vietnam's sovereign power was restored, and a series of dynasties ruled for nearly 1000 years. During this time there were many civil wars which divided the country and invited intervention from the Chinese, Mongols, Dutch, Manchurians, and French. The French gained control in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and formed a protectorate with colony status called Cochinchina.

In the 1930s, Marxism was introduced to the area. Japan invaded what was then known as Indochina in 1940. Japan allowed the French Vichy government to remain as a "puppet". Japan was defeated in 1945. Then, Ho Chi Minh proclaimed the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV), naming himself as chairman. His rule was short-lived; the French tried to regain power and were eventually defeated at Dien Bien Phu.

The 1954 Geneva Conference left Vietnam divided with Ho Chi Minh ruling the North and Ngo Dinh Diem ruling the South. The US/Vietnam War ensued. Since 1976, Vietnam has been a unified country in the form of a Socialist Republic.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

One of Chapter 351's members, Merle Sanderfoot, was recently recognized as Kaukauna Volunteer of the Year. Merle volunteers for the 1000 Islands Environmental Center, the food pantry, and the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 351 Highway Cleanup Crew.

A new Hometown Hero is featured every week on WFRV TV Local 5 News Friday: The week of February 11 featured our own Mike Weaver. Other Chapter 351 members have been interviewed in the past, Wayne Westenberg and Rich Wangard among them.

The Chapter recognizes Behr Printing for printing our newsletters. They are wonderful partners with our organization and we truly appreciate their services.

Please check out our Website at [www.vvawi351.org](http://www.vvawi351.org); it is cool.

Also, we are accepting new Regular and Associate members (VVA and the AVVA). You need not have served in the armed forces to join as an associate member.

John Koehler  
Semper Fi  
USMC '68-'72

## Special Life Membership Offer

**Life Membership Dues are normally \$100.00; you can join for \$50.00.**

**Eligibility Requirements for regular membership:** Service in Vietnam between 2/28/1961 and 5/7/1975 **OR** active service at any duty location in the world between 8/5/1964 and 5/7/1975.

**Copy of DD-214 is required for verification.**

*DD-214's are not kept on file after verification and enrollment.*

V.V.A. Chapter 351 will pay \$50 of the \$100 Life Membership when you Join Chapter 351; here is all you have to do:

1. Fill out the form completely-PLEASE PRINT;
2. Attach a copy of your DD-214 and a \$50 check payable to VVA Chapter 351;
3. Send the filled-out form, check, and DD-214 to:

VVA Chapter 351 c/o Joe Eiting  
537 Jackson St.  
Little Chute, WI 54140

Name: _____
Address: _____
E-mail: _____
City/State/ZIP: _____
Telephone: _____ Cell: _____
Birthday: _____ Gender: M F (circle one)
Service Branch: <b>USA USN USAF USMC USCG</b> (circle one)
Former member / wish to transfer? VVA #: _____

For more information, contact Joe Eiting at 920-205-1565 / capteiting@aol.com.

**Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.  
Chapter 351 – Appleton Area  
410 W Franklin St, Unit 1862  
Appleton, WI 54912-1862**