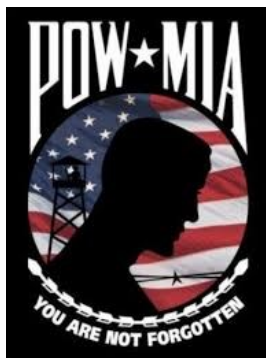


"Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another."



**P.O. 1862
Appleton, WI 54912-1862
www.vvawi351.org**

**March - April
2021**



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

CURRENT OFFICERS
CONTACTS

Officers / Board of Directors

President	Larry Cavanaugh
lcavanaugh123@yahoo.com	920-264-7917
Vice President	Gary Brynjulfson
Secretary	TBD
Treasurer	Phil Moore
Board of Directors-BOD	Dennis Bowman
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	TBD

Committees / Administration

Adopt-A-Family	Dennis Van Hoof
Chaplain	Mike Weaver
Chapter Social Events	AVVA
Scholarship	Wade Van Ryzin
Reflections of Vietnam Coordinator	John Koehler
FV Veterans Council & Recognition	Dennis Van Hoof
Fundraising/Charity Drives	Dennis Van Hoof
Membership	Joe Eiting
Nomination/Constitution	Board of Directors
POW★MIA	Glen Zimmerman
Toxic Chemical Issues	Joe Eiting
Sergeant-At-Arms	Dennis Van Hoof
Sunshine	Bill Olcott
Taps	Larry Cavanaugh
Retirement Home Visits	John Van Den Heuvel
Webmaster	Angie Coenen

Other Contacts

Note: Contact list is blanked out on Web version

Chapter Tales

Welcome back everyone. Chapter-wise, we're attempting to get revved up again by holding our regular BOD and Chapter membership meetings. The weather is reminding us of spring and warmer days, like our Reflections of Vietnam presentations, our spring Orange Blossom Fundraiser. Needless to say, these events need volunteers; I ask you to step up and help as much as your health dictates.

I hope everyone is getting their COVID shots—the VA Clinics, many drug stores, health departments, and some food stores are providing the vaccines.

It is with deep sadness that we have lost several of our Members in the last several months, Chuck Lewis, Bob Stephenson, as well as several spouses.

When it comes to a Member's service history, usually the spouse knows; however, the rest of the family, has no knowledge of their loved one's history. After a Member passes, lots of family members want answers, and its often taken to the grave with them, because many do not ever talk about it.

It is understood, that some Veterans just do not want to talk about their Wartime service. If you do not want to talk, write it down for them to know. Write a story of your life from the earliest days that you can remember. Jogging the memory is great for you—it will give your family great closure and a way to honor your service to the good ole USA.

Our Chapter election will be held at our May Membership meeting. The Secretary position and one at large BOD position are on the ballot.

March 29th is Vietnam Veterans Day. Welcome home, my brothers and sisters.

Our BOD Meetings are held at 1100 hrs on the first Tuesday,

Our Chapter Meetings are held at 1100hrs on the second Thursday.

All BOD and Chapter Meetings are held at Post 38, American Legion Clubhouse, West College, Ave. Appleton, Wi.

We have 'NO MEETINGS' during the months of June, August, December, or February.

Larry C.

An Editor's Musings

It has been a while since one of my musings. The weather is starting to cooperate a little, Covid 19 vaccinations are taking place and we will finally have a Membership meeting. This past year has definitely been unusual. By the time you read this, we will have had our first meeting since last March. The only part of VVA 351 have done are the virtual Vietnam Reflection Seminars. Unfortunately, the display has not left the storage location, but John Koehler and Crew have been able to meet with various schools and telling of the life of a Service Member during their time Overseas. The reviews from the schools has been outstanding. Good job, Comrades!

In the recent Board of Directors meeting, information was brought forward that there have been no applications for the \$1500 VVA 351 Scholarships. This is available to any grandchild of one of our members, no matter what State they reside or what school they pick! Come on Grandmas and Grandpas! Help your grandchildren!!! Deadline is March 31st!!!!

My wife, Kathleen and I took a "road trip" to Sheboygan this past weekend. We visited a number of "meat markets" and Johnsonville Marketplace in Johnsonville. It is a wonderful shop with many Johnsonville sausage products among other "souvenirs". I was surprised at the checkout with a 10% discount because I was wearing my VVA hat. I told them that I would pass the news on to other Veterans.

I am happy to be getting into Senior Residence facilities again after a year without being able to have services with my people. Since I have received by Covid vaccinations, it allows me to see people again. This means that they can see their families again! What a lonesome time it must have been for them. During this time seven people who I visited have gone Home. They are now with God! As Job said, **For the life of every living thing is in his hand, and the breath of every human being.**

I hope you and your loved ones are doing well!

Dennis

Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

The casualty list contains the name of our brothers lost during the months from March and April. — The names listed are from the three from the five county area and seven from the rest of the state the rest come from the rest of the State.

March

David F Vanden Heuvel	ARMY	PFC	West De Pere	Brown	3/2/1969
William John Stedl	ARMY	SP4	Greenleaf	Brown	3/10/1969
Richard Edward Matyas	USMC	PFC	New London	Waupaca	3/10/1969
Russell Ole Ledegar	ARMY	PFC	La Crosse	La Crosse	3/16/1967
Frank Micheal Pokey Jr	USMC	CPL	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	3/16/1967
Theodore R Woods Jr	USMC	CPL	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	3/21/1967
Robert Harvey Reinke	ARMY	CPL	Appleton	Outagamie	3/21/1967
Kenneth Wayne Brenwall	ARMY	SP4	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	3/22/1967
Frederick Harold Brodhagen	USMC	PFC	Greendale	Milwaukee	3/24/1967
Raymond Roger Demoe	USMC	PFC	Elk Mound	Dunn	3/25/1967

April

Edward Valentine Eiden Jr	ARMY	SGT	Winneconne	Winnebago	4/11/1969
James Norbert Blavat	ARMY	SGT	Green Bay	Brown	4/14/1969
John Joseph Hickey	USMC	LCPL	Green Bay	Brown	4/25/1969
James Michael Arries	USMC	PFC	Elk Mound	Dunn	4/1/1967
Robert Paul Ruminski	USMC	LCPL	Two Rivers	Manitowoc	4/1/1967
William Paul Martin	ARMY	SGT	Beloit	Rock	4/2/1967
Leonard Dean Thompson	ARMY	SP4	Madison	Dane	4/25/1967
Larry Frederick Geiger	USMC	PFC	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	4/26/1967
Robert James Schley	USMC	CPL	Oregon	Dane	4/30/1967
Barry Jan Short	ARMY	PSG	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	4/30/1967

Chapter and Associate Information

Veterans, you may have seen more active participation by spouses and friends of Veterans and wondered why. As family and friends, many of us were supporting and helping “behind the scenes”. I was especially interested in the education of toxins and environmental exposures which brought me to the VVA -sponsored Town Hall meetings and the state VVA/AVVA combined quarterly committee meetings in Waupaca. At the VVA/AVVA meetings, I was asked to join the AVVA. We are not just a “ladies” group, we are men and women who want to “stand by all Veterans.” So here is more information avva.org. Perhaps more would like to become a part of a great program. We generally meet early evening at the Vet & Friends Center on North Richmond St Appleton cbvabryzin@gmail.com 920-734-9638

What Is AVVA?

As Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA), we are passionate about our work and the real life issues facing Veterans and their families. We strive to create a positive impact on our Veterans and their families by making life better. AVVA is a national, nonprofit, membership organization dedicated to advancing the awareness of issues affecting Veterans, their families, and their communities. AVVA strives to ensure that ALL Veterans attain the honor, respect, and benefits they deserve. We lend our expertise, support, and leadership to all Veteran related programs, community service, and social activities, while remaining actively involved in our own programs and educational endeavors.

Who can become a member?

AVVA is made up of Veterans of all eras, families and friends of Veterans, and all persons who support Veterans' issues. AVVA is a catalyst for action, healing, reconciliation, mutual support, and fellowship. With more than 10,000 members, we are a thriving and strong organization. AVVA is a non-partisan, tax exempt organization.

Regular membership shall be granted to any persons who are ineligible for membership in Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA) and who wish to further the purposes of both VVA and the Corporation.

Dual membership shall be limited to those who are eligible for membership in VVA.

AVVA MISSION STATEMENT?

To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education.

AVVA VISION STATEMENT?

To create a better everyday life for Veterans and their families.

Chris Van Ryzin

2021 Spring Orange Blossom Fund Drive

This Spring's Fund Drive is coming soon.

There will be seven stores this time. The collections will take place on three weekends in April and May. The schedules are as follows:

For 4/30 & 5/1:	Fleet Farm Festival Foods – Darboy
For 5/7 & 5/8:	Piggly Wiggly – Kaukauna Festival Foods – Neenah Festival Foods – OO
For 5/21 & 5/22:	Festival Foods – Menasha Piggly Wiggly – Little Chute

Senior Residence Facilities Visits

Because of the CORVID situation, visits to Living Care Facilities will be held when visits are allowed. The following are tentative.

Saturday, May 29

Appleton Retirement Community	10:00 - 11:00
Willow Lane Assisted Living	2:00 - 3:00

Tuesday, June 1

Eagle Point Senior Living	10:00 - 11:00
Rennes Health & Rehab	2:00 - 3:00

Thursday, June 3

Good Shepherd Services	10:00 - 11:00
Brewster Village	2:30 - 3:30

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.

VVA Chapter 351 Scholarship 2020 – 2021

Do you have a child or grandchild who is a graduating High School Senior continuing on to further education?

The Scholarship information and application will be is available now, with return submission by March 31, 2021.

The essay is based on an interview with a Vietnam Veteran.

Information_on web page: www.vvawi351.org

VVA 351 MEETINGS DATES

VVA 351 had not met during the pandemic, we have begun with BOD and Membership meetings. Next meetings will be held on:

Apr. 8, May 13 June 10

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.

THE QUARTERMASTER CORNER

There are four products that are provided at every membership meeting. The Military White Dress shirts are valued at \$77.00 with the first one available to members for \$26.00!! Polo shirts with the VVA patch are available for \$40.00. The third items are the white jackets with all patches for \$52.00. Finally, you can get a name tag for \$12.00. The store with samples is open after every membership meeting.

Events & Offers

Saturday Morning Breakfast at Angel's

We now meet on every Saturday morning at the regular time of **0830 1000 hours**. Join us on Saturday mornings. ALL Veterans of the US Armed Forces are welcome; bring a vet buddy along—there is a lot of room. We have Vets from all wars at our table(s). **Angel's** is at 1401 E. John St., Appleton —between College & John St. roundabouts.

Free Coffee and Doughnuts

This has been shut down until further notice.

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

Closed due to Covid, will open when possible.

Reflections of Vietnam

During the Covid Pandemic time, the Reflections Display is not being utilized. However, John Koehler and Volunteers have been doing virtual EDU Programs. These have been well-received and very successful opportunities for our Comrades to tell their stories of their time of deployment. The Schedule is continuing and can be seen below.

Moraine Park Technical College – Monday March 29th

Valders High School – Thursday April 15th

Appleton West High School – April 29th & 30th

Neenah High School – May 11th & 12th

Christian Valley School – Tuesday May 18th

Appleton East High School – May 19th

Kaukauna High School – Tuesday May 25th

ANNUAL EDU MEETING

April 1

1100

American Legion Post 38

Everyone welcome! Discuss upcoming EDU season!

Reflections Display Workweek

The week of 22 - 25 March will be the time cleanup and updating of the Reflections will take place. It will be at Larry's home:

N9189 Cty. Rd. PP

Brillion, WI

Everyone's help is appreciated!

Senior Living Facility Visits

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351 and Associates donated to Aubree's Blankets for Veterans so we could give lap blankets to the Veterans in nursing/retirement homes when we did our visitations for Veterans Day. However, we were not able to visit the homes because of the coronavirus. The committee decided our Veterans still need some recognition. John Van Den Heuvel contacted each nursing home activity director and they were very excited that we wanted Aubree's blankets to be given out to the Veterans. We also had a Certificate of Recognition made up for each Veteran. Each home gave these out to the Veterans on Veterans Day. A copy of the certificate is enclosed. Also a picture of Good Shepherd Services and Appleton Retirement Community. John and Shirley Van Den Heuvel delivered 21 blankets to Good Shepherd and 12 to Appleton Retirement Community.

Comments: Good Shepherd "I feel so blessed that you came into Good Shepherd's life. You truly are a blessing. We are so grateful you are doing this for our Veterans.

Appleton Retirement Community "I can't begin to tell you how much our Veterans were touched by your thoughtfulness. Some of them were moved to tears upon receiving your gifts. They are truly amazed that they are still being recognized. The Veterans all held the blankets near to them and commented about how soft and warm they are. I hope that we can gather together again in the new year. May the Lord bless you.



509th Engineering Company

Panel Bridge

Jack Van Den Heuvel



New Conditions Added to Agent Orange List

Three medical conditions were added to the VA's Agent Orange presumptive conditions list after approval of the *National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2021* on New Year's Day.

The law (P.L. 116-92) now requires VA to add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism

to the list of conditions caused by Agent Orange exposure to troops in the Vietnam War.

The addition of these conditions comes after the introduction of the *Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act of 2020* (S. 3444). A portion of the bill was added to the NDAA.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine in recent years has published two studies linking Agent Orange exposure to the three approved conditions. Since then, VFW has advocated for VA to add the conditions to the list, which lowers the amount of evidence veterans need to provide for disability benefits connected to Agent Orange exposure.

VFW asks veterans who served in or off the coast of Vietnam or Thailand to contact a VFW-accredited service officer to discuss whether they are eligible to file a VA claim. Visit www.vfw.org/nvs to find a nearby service officer.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES PHOTO

A UH-1D helicopter from the 336th Aviation Company sprays a defoliation agent on a dense jungle area on July 26, 1969, in Vietnam's Mekong Delta. The *National Defense Authorization Act of 2021* now requires VA to add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism to the list of conditions caused by Agent Orange exposure to troops in the Vietnam War.

17 PRESUMPTIVE AGENT ORANGE CONDITIONS

To qualify for Agent Orange-related benefits, a veteran must have one or more of the 17 conditions VA presumes to have been caused by exposure, which are:

- Chronic B-cell Leukemia
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Prostate Cancer
- Respiratory Cancers
- Soft Tissue Sarcomas
- AL Amyloidosis
- Chloracne
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Parkinson's Disease
- Early onset Peripheral Neuropathy
- Porphyria Cutanea Tarda
- Bladder Cancer (added by NDAA 2021)
- Hypothyroidism (added by NDAA 2021)
- Parkinsonism (added by NDAA 2021)



Vietnam Veterans of America
Appleton Area
410 W. Franklin St Unit 1862
Appleton WI 54191-1862

