

**“Never again will one generation of Veterans  
abandon another.”**



**634 Bowers Lane  
Kaukauna, WI 54130-1004**

**January — February 2022**



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

**CURRENT OFFICERS**  
**Officers / Board of Directors**

President	Larry Cavanaugh
Vice President	Gary Brynjulfson
Secretary	Steve Riley
Treasurer	Phil Moore
Board of Directors-BOD	Dennis Bowman
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	David Trost

**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 VandenHeuvel
Webmaster	Angie Coenen
Newsletter Editor	Dennis Bowman

## **Other**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>920-205-1565</b>	<b>info@vvawi351.org</b>
<b>Dennis Bowman</b>	<b>920-858-2551</b>	<b>dbowmanvva@gmail.com</b>
<b>Larry Cavanaugh</b>	<b>920-264-7917</b>	<b>lc090847@gmail.com</b>
<b>Joe Eiting</b>	<b>920-205-1565</b>	<b>capteiting@aol.com</b>
<b>Phil Moore</b>	<b>920-750-4110</b>	<b>prespanther@att.net</b>
<b>Bill Olcott</b>	<b>920-250-0112</b>	<b>papaolcott@outlook.com</b>
<b>Steve Riley</b>	<b>920-288-9544</b>	<b>steveriley55@outlook.com</b>
<b>Wade Van Ryzin</b>	<b>920-734-9638</b>	<b>wvanryzin@aol.com</b>
<b>Mike Weaver</b>	<b>920-470-4674</b>	<b>skipatroldoc@gmail.com</b>

## Chapter Tales

Ladies and gentlemen.

I am going to regale you fine folks with my story. Perhaps we need to set aside a page or two in our Newsletter for anyone that wants to tell of their past history.

Christmas for many is a time to give thanks; it always takes me back to a very difficult time, my early childhood years. I cringe at the thought, though I force myself to take time to reflect on all that I have been given and all that I have accomplished in my lifetime.

Until I was 12 years old. I was a homeless orphan living on my own, sleeping in barns, and helping out local farmers for a decent meal. I never had new clothes and wore hand-me-downs from the neighbors. My shoes always seemed too small and caused ingrown toenails that I still suffer to this day.

I went to a one-room school in the township of Maple Grove until 5th grade. The school was closed down so I was sent to St. Patrick's, Maple Grove, it was a mess. Since I was the new kid, everyone wanted to take the measure of me by fighting. With my rowdy upbringing, I could get the best of anyone that messed with me. I was an outcast, no one cared about me at all. I was not chosen for any school activities like plays, or sports. I became a recluse; in seventh grade, I missed 46 days and in eighth grade, I missed 78 days of school. I was working for various farmers, and it didn't matter to anyone why I wasn't attending school. They just pushed me out and I went into high school.

At the age of twelve, the owner of a large dairy farm took me in. I was in heaven: they had indoor plumbing, running water, a TV, and I was fed three meals a day for the first time in my life. Work was hard from 5 AM until 8 PM, seven days a week, with three hours off on Sunday. The pay was room and board plus \$5.00 per week in the winter months, \$10.00 a week during the summer. I loved it, there was always something to do. I stayed with them thru my high school years and never attended any high school events, because I was always working.

See next page

At 17 and out of school, was anxious to find out about bigger and better things.

There was a rumor of a war starting in Southeast Asia. I didn't want to miss it, so in August 1965, I volunteered for the draft, and did not care if I lived or died.

Well, I did get to live. I did a lot of stupid, idiotic stuff when I returned home. I was getting in fights with everyone, even with some of my friends that I had before my hitch in the service. I nearly killed one of them in a bar fight.

I had to get away from the area I called home, so I hired on with a roofing company that had crews working out of state. I worked for them for five years. then I hired on with a Water Tower erection crew. I have worked all over the US, and even built a tank in Puerto Rico. I made foreman in three years and stayed with them for 33 years retiring in August 2006. I think of all the foremen that I have trained, such great men to this day. One foreman that I trained passed away recently at 62 years of age, I grieve for his family.

Our memories make us rich. Would you agree?

With the COVID pandemic easing up a bit, let us look forward to a very busy year. Stay tuned for all the schedules.

Thanks to all who had anything to do with keeping our Chapter in the top echelon.

With that, I wish you all a happy New Year!

*Larry C.*

## Editor's Musings

Happy New Year to all my Brothers and Sisters.

As we begin 2022 let us pray and hope that this year is better than the last two years. Kathleen and I have both received our boosters and have been blessed not to have Covid. We have been able to see our family and many of our friends and so happy that this could happen. In one of my other capacities as the Chaplain for American Legion Post 258, I have been active at ten funerals over the past month and as a Deacon in my church I have been able to see my people regularly again, but have laid six people to rest.

Since becoming the Chaplain at American Legion Post 258, I have learned a tremendous amount about the daily life of our friends, the funeral directors and their staffs. These people have the difficult task of collecting our departed brothers and sisters after their passing. They meet and comfort the relatives of the deceased and prepare the remains depending on the circumstances. They then contact me and other chaplains and the State Veterans Honors program to further inform the Veterans organizations concerning the rights that are to be performed.

In my short time I have met a number of Funeral Professionals in our area. I want to thank them for the difficult duties they must perform.

I want to wish every one of my Brothers and Sisters a very blessed New Year. May our LORD keep us all safe in this New Year.

*Dennis*

## Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

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

### January

RONALD EDWARD JAHNKE	usmc PFC	MENASHA	WINNEBAGO	1/8/1966
JAMES JEROME LIND	ARMY SGT	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	1/5/1968
CHRISTIAN ALAN LANGENFELD	usmc PFC	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	1/27/1968
DONALD ALBERT SUDBRINK	ARMY SP4	HARTLAND	WAUKESHA	1 /1/1970
TIMM CONRAD PETERSON	USMC LCPL	CLAYTON	POLK	1 /10/1967
EDWIN FAY BROWN	ARMY SGT	BELOIT	ROCK	1 /10/1968
DANIEL LEE WESTLIE	NAVY PO3	AUGUSTA	EAU CLAIRE	1 /10/1969
WILLIAM BERTRAM LIBERSKY	USMC LCPL	BLOOMER	CHIPPEWA	1 /11/1970
THOMAS ERWIN MATUSH	ARMY PFC	MADISON	DANE	1 /12/1967
CHARLES JOHN THOMA	ARMY MAJ	MADISON	DANE	1 /12/1967

### February

DENNIS LEE SIEGEL	ARMY PFC	MARION	WAUPACA	2/23/1968
JOHN FRANCIS HARTZHEIM	NAVY PO2	APPLETON	OUTAGAMIE	2/27/1968
FREDERICK SCHMITT	ARMY SFC	KIEL	CALUMET	2/1/1969
WILLIAM ARTHUR BEYER	NAVY HN	PLATTEVILLE	GRANT	2/1/1967
DAVID JOSEPH FRISCHMANN	USMC LCPL	WAUKESHA	WAUKESHA	2/1/1967
LYNN HUDSON SMITH	ARMY 1LT	CUDAHY	MILWAUKEE	2/1/1968
DONALD ALAN KIRKHAM	NAVY HN	BROOKFIELD	WAUKESHA	2/1/1968
CARL ELVING PETERSON	USMC COL	KEWAUNEE	KEWAUNEE	2/10/1968
THOMAS EARL DOBRINSKA	ARMY 2LT	ANTIGO	LANGLADE	2/10/1968
EDWARD JOSEPH BREFCZYNSKI	ARMY MSG	TWO RIVERS	MANITOWOC	2/10/1968



# In Memoriam

## † **Robert “Bob” Gresens** †

*Robert “Bob” Gresens, age 75, passed away bravely and peacefully, on his own terms like a true Marine, surrounded with an incredible amount of love from his family on November 3, 2021.*

*Born on March 29, 1946, to Ann Marie Bachmann, he was raised by his mother and her husband, Kenneth M. Gresens, in Appleton. He graduated in 1964 from Appleton West High School, where his strongest inspiration came from his teachers.*

*Bob joined the United States Marine Corps while in high school. He served honorably during the Vietnam War Era from 1963 to 1971, achieving the rank of Sergeant.*



*Bob’s experience in the Marines played a very important role in his life. He frequently pointed out that the Marines taught him the value of discipline, teamwork and investing in a cause larger than himself. He was an active member of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 351 and American Legion Post 38. He played a very active role in “Reflections of Vietnam” for many years and frequently volunteered to solicit for chapter fund raisers . We are better people for knowing Bob and he will be sincerely missed by those of us who knew him.*

*A memorial of \$865 was given in the honor of Bob to VVA 351. Thank you Marie and family.*



## Reflections of Vietnam Projected Schedule for 2022

4-7	Valders HS	John Koehler	(858 3310)	Valders WI
4-13	FVL HS	Glen Zimmerman	(428 1229)	Appleton WI
4-22	Seymour HS	Ken Wydeven	(734 9540)	Seymour WI
5-2	West HS	Jerry Clusen	(205 4494)	Appleton WI
5-4	Hilbert HS	Marty Huss	(858 1332)	Hilbert WI
5-10	Little Chute HS	Marty Huss	(858 1332)	Little Chute WI
5-12	Kimberly HS	Moderator	TBD	Kimberly WI
5-17	Neenah HS	Moderator	TBD	Neenah WI
5-20	East HS	Gary Brynjulfson	(419 6920)	Appleton WI
10-28	Rawhide	Moderator	TBD	New London WI
10-22	Chippewa Valley Tech	John Koehler	( 858 3310)	Eau Claire WI

This schedule will be finalized on January 31. If you have an interest in attending one of these events, please contact the moderator for the mission. All phone numbers are 920 area code. Our plan is to include Hmong Veterans at a number of these programs as teachers have asked that we do this due to the high number of Hmong students enrolled at their schools.

There are at least 4 other schools that are on our radar screen, but we have not committed to any actual dates with them. Larry Cavanaugh will be working to assign drivers for these missions once they are finalized within the next few weeks.

This program is open to all Chapter 351 members and we would very much like to have you consider attending. You do not have to get up and speak if this is something that you are not comfortable with. You can join us for the camaraderie with fellow members, students and faculty. There is always hot coffee, donuts and often lunch at these schools if we do an all-day program. If you would like your spouse, children or friends to attend this, we can arrange this to happen. AVVA members are also cordially invited to attend any of these events.

I will be providing an update on this year's missions and our program at our next meeting on Jan 13, 2022, at the American Legion.

***John Koehler***



# OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE TREATMENT SERVICES

320 S. WALNUT ST., APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54911

TELEPHONE: (920) 832-5160

FAX NO: (920) 968-4175

December 22, 2021

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 351  
Attn: John Koehler  
410 W. Franklin Street  
Appleton, WI 54912

Dear Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter 351:

Please accept our gratitude for the supportive role you are playing by providing incentives for the Outagamie Veterans Treatment Court. We are blessed to have local veteran organizations, local businesses, and private citizens contribute donations and/or support in order to recognize the efforts our veterans put forth in their recovery of mental health and/or substance abuse diagnoses.

Your donation demonstrates support, recognition, and encouragement to the veterans in our justice system. Your willingness to participate in their recovery and provide support makes this program successful at each milestone. The items you donated will be put to use to encourage and reward positive and healthy behaviors of our veteran participants. Incentives are a critical part of our program, as we aim to focus more on incentives than on sanctions.

The following certificates/gift cards were received on December 15, 2021:

- ☐ 15 – Kwik Trip gas cards (\$10 each)
- ☐ 15 – Festival Foods gift cards (\$10 each)

Thank you for your willingness to continue to work with Outagamie County Veterans Court and for your never ending mission to help veterans in need. It helps us assure that no soldier is left behind.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Niemuth – VTC Coordinator

## Let's Celebrate Valentine's Day Early

### VVA / AVVA Chapter 351

February 10<sup>th</sup> 2022 Thursday Lunch 1:00 pm

#### **El Agave Mexican Grill & Cantina**

1750 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, WI 54913  
[www.elagaveappleton.com](http://www.elagaveappleton.com)  
(920) 358-7795



***Come join your friends!!***

**Excellent food and drinks  
Order off the menu**

**Register with your name, guest, phone  
By Feb. 5th**

**Wade or Chris Van Ryzin  
920-734-9638**

**Or mail 821 W. Browning St  
Appleton, WI 54914**

Cash Bar/Lunch



### **Thank You Note from a DAV Driver**

**From:** Robert Hoffman <[roberhoff44@gmail.com](mailto:roberhoff44@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, January 7, 2022 11:33 AM

**To:** John Koehler <[kent1952@live.com](mailto:kent1952@live.com)>

**Subject:** Gift

Hello John,

A big thank you to you and to VVA Chapter 351 for the generous gift card to Festival Foods. While every DAV driver I know would continue this volunteer work without outside recognition, receiving your gift gives us all a great feeling that the service we provide is appreciated by more than just our passengers.

And you happened to pick my favorite grocery store!!

Please let everyone who was involved in this know your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Bob Hoffman

## **Wreaths Across America Central Wisconsin Veteran Cemetery**



National Wreaths Across America Day took place today at 3,136 participating locations across the country. Our nation's heroes were remembered as each name was said aloud and honored as over 525 truckloads of wreaths were delivered - representing 390 different carriers - and over two million volunteers, a third of whom were children, helped place more than 2.4 million veterans' wreaths on headstones of our fallen across the country.

At Arlington National Cemetery specifically, the Wreaths Across America program saw 66 tractor trailers deliver over 250,000 veterans' wreaths that were placed by nearly 38,000 volunteers. This was the 30th year that veterans' wreaths have been placed there, a tradition started by Maine wreathmaker Morrill Worcester as a gift of thanks. Morrill once again made the trek to Arlington this year to place wreaths as he has each December since 1992. "When I brought down those 5,000 wreaths that first year, I just thought it was a way for me to say thank you, for what we have in this Country," said Worcester, Founder of Wreaths Across America. "I could have never imagined it would strike a chord like it has and make such an impact. Me and my family continued to be humbled by the support this program receives across the country."

Wreaths Across America would like to thank the communities, dedicated volunteers, generous sponsors, essential truck drivers, local officials, and our friends in the media for coming together in unity and support for those who have protected our freedom. Each person has played an important part in the mission to Remember the fallen, Honor those that serve and their families, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

Each live, balsam veteran's wreath was a gift of respect and appreciation, sponsored by an individual or organization and placed on a headstone by volunteers as a small gesture of gratitude for the freedoms Americans enjoy. For centuries, fresh evergreens have been used as a symbol of honor and have served as a living tribute renewed annually. Wreaths Across America believes the tradition represents a living memorial that honors veterans, active-duty military, and their families. When each wreath is placed the servicemember's name is said out loud, ensuring their memory lives on.

## **Nursing Home Visit at Eagle Point Senior Living Facility**



The nursing/retirement committee visited Eagle Point Senior Living. Brewster Village, Appleton Retirement Community, Rennes Health and Rehab, Good Shepherd Inn and Willow Lane Assisted Living for Veterans Day week. We did a demonstration of folding the flag and what each fold stands for. Plus everyone enjoyed singing along with Roy Rogers. VVA members involved were Ron Krause, Wade Van Ryan, Tom Bartel, Steve Riley, Roy Rogers and John Van Den Heuvel. AVVA members helping out were Chris Van Ryan, Frank Witt and Shirley Van Den Heuvel. An email from one of the homes commented that the people were still talking about it at breakfast the next morning.. Anyone that would like to help out this committee (including AVVA members) please contact John Van Den Heuvel at 920-915-4397 or email at [shirley54130@gmail.com](mailto:shirley54130@gmail.com). Next planning meeting will be the end of January.





# **Restricted Flight Golf Tournament**

**2 Person Best Ball \$25.00 Per Person  
Walking – \$10.00 extra for Cart**

**Rainbow Straits Golf  
Course part of  
Camp 10 Camp-  
ground**

*18227 US 10, Reedsville. Wisconsin on Sunday, July 17, 2022  
Noon Shotgun Start. Every entry will be given 2 restricted flight  
golf balls. Regular golf balls cannot be used!*

**18 Holes (9 Holes Putting on  
Greens and 9 Chipping Holes)**

**Beverage Cart  
50/50 Raffle  
Hole Prizes**

**Contact: Dave Trost  
548 E. Murray Avenue  
Appleton, WI 54915  
(920) 991-9320  
trost2@sbcglobal.net  
Please make checks payable to Old  
Glory Honor Flight**

**See next page**

## **What is Restricted Flight Golf?**

Restricted Flight Balls are lighter than regular golf balls and do not travel as far as a regular golf ball. You use regular golf clubs to play Restricted Flight Golf.

You can walk the course which is considerably shorter than regular golf course but golf carts are available to rent.

The Camp 10 Restricted Flight Golf Course is an 18 hole course (9 regular putting greens and 9 chipping holes).

Restricted Flight Golf at Camp 10 is open to the public!

## **Big Thank You for Fund Raising Assistance**

**I can't thank our members enough.** Because of you and generous donors we had a very successful fundraising effort in 2021

During the May and September effort forty-one members, including six captains, who stepped up and worked anywhere from one to six shifts.

Here is a list of each individual from my records, they are not perfect!!! If I missed naming you, I humbly apologize.

Wade and Chris Van Ryzin, Angie Coenen, Bill Perkovich, Dennis Bloy, Dennis Bowman, Tony Eickstein, Don Phillip, Carl Jansen, Tim Mulloy, nDon Bengal, Jack and Shirley Vanden Heuvel, Dave Verhagen, Wayne Steffen, Bob Patschke, Mike Bryan, Jim Marohn, Ken Wydeven, Terry Engelhardt, Steve Day, Steve Leonard, Frank Witt, Jerry Clusen, Jake Paltzer, Joe Eiting, John Britzman, John Stafford, Rich Stewart, Butch Prillwitz, Louie Gast, David Trost, John Koehler, Glen Zimmerman, Karl Wouters, Phil Moore.

Now comes the six team captains who keep everything organized, recruit and solve problems: Tom Bartel, Gary Brynjulfson. Larry Cavanaugh, Bill Olcott, Mel Rabideau, Mike Weaver.





**Vietnam Veterans of  
America**  
**Appleton Area Chapter 351**  
Appleton, WI 54912-1862  
vvawi351.org



**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, APPLETON AREA CHAPTER 351**  
**RICHARD POUKEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**ELIGIBILITY** – A graduating senior attending an area high school or a child/grandchild of a Chapter 351 Vietnam Veteran member.

**SUBMISSION** – Write an original narrative essay based on your interview with any US military veteran of any branch of service who served on active duty anywhere in the world during the 16 year period January 1, 1959 to May 7, 1975. We hope that by opening a cross generational dialogue with a Vietnam Veteran you have an opportunity to learn history directly from a veteran who lived it and may gain a deeper understanding of their youth goals, life experiences, and value challenges.

You, the student, may be a dependent, relative, or acquaintance of your interview subject. If you are not able to connect with a qualifying veteran of your own choosing contact VVA 351, Wade Van Ryzin at 920-540-0924, prior to March 1st for the name of a member to interview. You must be a US citizen or permanent resident of the USA.

**SCHOLARSHIP** - The scholarship is intended to assist in alleviating some of the expenses incurred in furthering your post-secondary education. There are four scholarships available, in the amount of \$1,500.00 each. The winners will receive their check following the completion of one semester at a post-secondary facility including technical college.

**APPLICATION** – Please submit of the following:

Application form

Transcripts – official copy of high school grade transcripts

Proof of Service Statement by Veteran – DD214 accepted

Essay – A double-spaced, three to five page interview narrative essay, in 10 or 12 point font.

The most critical aspects of the narrative essay are what you have learned from the interview and how you express those ideas. Your entry will be scored based on originality, appearance and grammar (verbatim or basic question/answer formats will not be accepted).

All data must be postmarked by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. The four successful candidates will be notified by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

All materials are to be returned to:

VVA Appleton Area Chapter 351 Scholarship Committee  
Wade Van Ryzin  
821 W Browning St, Appleton, WI 54914

Congratulations graduate!

Wade Van Ryzin

For further information: ON WEB PAGE [www.vvawi351.org](http://www.vvawi351.org)  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351 Scholarships

Also check for additional scholarships:

Vietnam Veterans of America State Scholarships

Vietnam Veterans of America National Scholarships

If you have questions or desire additional information, please contact Wade Van Ryzin at 920-540-0924.

## **VVA Chapter 351 Educational Scholarship**

Do you have a child or grandchild who is a graduating High School? Senior continuing on to further education? The Scholarship information and application is now available with return submission by March 31<sup>st</sup>. The essay is based on an interview with a Vietnam Veteran. Information is on our web page: at [www.vvawi351.org](http://www.vvawi351.org) or contact Wade VanRyzin at 920-540-0924 or [vvanryzin@aol.com](mailto:vvanryzin@aol.com) **See Application on page 17.**



**RICHARD POUKEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**Student Personal Data:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Middle I.) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifying Veteran Interviewed:**

Name (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Middle I.) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran is student's \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Grandparent \_\_\_\_\_ Relative \_\_\_\_\_ Acquaintance

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_

(Please complete the attached Qualifying Veteran Release/Proof of Service Statement)

**Educational Data:**

High School(s) Attended with Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade point average \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

# 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.

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

The coffeehouse initially served a sandwich and soup on **Saturdays from 11:00am – 1:00pm** but has now expanded it's meal selection to a rotating menu of hot foods including ham, beef, pork and chicken along with all of the fixings. The Coffeehouse also serves a full breakfast on **Friday mornings from 8:00am till 10:00am**.

## **The Quartermaster Corner**

There are four products that are provided at every membership meeting. Available are the Military White Dress shirts, Polo shirts with the VVA patch, white jackets with all patches and finally, you can purchase a VVA 351 name tag. The store with samples is open after every membership meeting.

## **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.

# AVVA

**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 where 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 about AVVA. Perhaps more would like to become a part of a great program. (We generally meet early evening at the Vet Center on North Richmond St Appleton)

## **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

[cbvanryzin@gmail.com](mailto:cbvanryzin@gmail.com) 920-734-9638



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Appleton Area VVA 351  
634 Bowers Lane  
Kaukauna, WI 54130-1004

**First Class Mail**