

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



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

**May — June
2024**



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

CURRENT OFFICERS
Officers / Board of Directors

President	Glen Zimmerman
Vice President	Jerry Clusen
Secretary	Dave Verhagen
Treasurer	Phil Moore
Board of Directors-BOD	Dennis Bowman
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	Mike Weaver

Committees / Administration

Adopt-A-Family	Phil Moore
Chaplain	Mike Weaver
Chapter Social Events	AVVA
Scholarship	Wade Van Ryzin
Reflections of Vietnam Coordinator	Jerry Clusen
FV Veterans Council & Recognition	Peggy Garefino
Fundraising/Charity Drives	AVVA Chairperson
Membership	Joe Eiting
Nomination/Constitution	Board of Directors
POW/MIA	Terry Pederson
Toxic Chemical Issues	Joe Eiting
Sunshine	Bill Olcott
Taps	Terry Pederson
Retirement Home Visits	John VandenHeuvel
Webmaster	Angie Coenen
Newsletter Editor	Dennis Bowman

Other

Chapter	920-205-1565	info@vvawi351.org
Dennis Bowman	920-858-2551	dbowmanvva@gmail.com
Jerry Clusen	920-205-4494	jerry.clusen@gmail.com
Joe Eiting	920-205-1565	capteiting@aol.com
Phil Moore	920-750-4110	prespanther@att.net
Bill Olcott	920-250-0112	papaolcott@outlook.com
Dave Verhagen	920-725-6896	mopar1974@aol.com
Wade Van Ryzin	920-734-9638	wvanryzin@aol.com
Mike Weaver	920-470-4674	skipatroldoc@gmail.com
Glen Zimmerman	920-428-1229	glenz49@aol.com

Next Meetings

VVA 351 will be meeting at:

**BOD May 7th at Veteran's Village
2919 W Glenpark Dr, Appleton**

**May 9th for
General Membership Meeting at
American Legion Club**

Chapter Tales

Greetings Members!

We had a relatively mild winter for a change and now we are into Spring and, hopefully, our weather will remain warmer than usual. As I look out the window, I see green grass and lots of daffodils blooming in front of the house. I prefer the warmer weather even though it brings yard work with it. But it also gets our EDU program into full swing, which I enjoy being a part of. Besides the EDU program, the coming year has many other opportunities for each of us. As always, we will be part of the Appleton city parades on Memorial Day and Flag Day. Anyone can sit on the chairs on our float and wave at the public – so be there and do it! Show your pride! **STEP UP AND JOIN IN.**

On March 27th we kicked off the EDU program at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. The teachers there were very pleased with the presentation and the students had some good questions. We have another one coming up in April and several more in May, so, please, sign up to help out. **STEP UP AND JOIN IN.** You don't have to get up on stage and speak to the kids if you are not comfortable doing that. Just sit by the display and talk face to face with the students about your experiences in 'Nam. Believe me, they enjoy hearing your stories and the history of our war. So, again, I ask you to **STEP UP AND JOIN IN.** Sign up at the next meeting or contact the leader for the Mission you would like to be part of. YOUR Chapter needs YOU!

The coming year has many opportunities for each of us. We will be part of the parades on Memorial Day and Flag Day. Show your pride! Let's fill the "People Hauler" with proud Veterans and not grand-kids. **STEP UP AND JOIN IN!**

We just completed our Chapter elections and all Officers and Board Members were re-elected to their existing positions. I pray that each of us will continue to serve the membership to the best of our ability and continue to make our Chapter one of the best in the State. Each of you can help out by attending meetings giving your Board some direction. **STEP UP AND JOIN IN!** And, thank you to all the members that showed up at the meeting to give the Board a vote of confidence by re-electing us.

On May 10th and 11th, we will participate in "MISSION: POSSIBLE – A Veteran & Family Symposium" taking place at the Fox Cities Exhibition Center. Soon you will receive an email request to sign up for a 2 or 3 hour shift to cover the display on either Friday or Saturday (or both, if possible). So, mark your calendars now for those dates so you are able to help out. **We need all of you to help out - STEP UP AND JOIN IN!**

Remember, on June 25th, we will be celebrating the 35th Anniversary of our Chapter with a luncheon and presentation ceremony taking place at the American Legion Hall starting at 11:30 a.m. VVA leadership members from National and State will be there to join us.

Feel free to send me any suggestions on activities or changes you would like to see in the future from your Chapter at glenz49@aol.com or call me at 920-428-1229 and leave a message if I'm not available.

My thanks to AWA on all their hard work and congratulations to all the Board members who were re-elected to serve alongside me for another year.

Glen Zimmerman, President

Editor's Musings

Good Day One and All

Yesterday, April 11th, we had the election for Officers and Board of Directors for VVA 351. Below is a picture of the newly elected members of our organization. Missing from the photo is Phil Moore. Congratulations Gentlemen! Left to right, Dennis Bowman, Board of Directors, Jerry Clusen, Vice President, Glen Zimmerman, President, Wade Van Ryzin, Board of Directors, Dave Verhagen, Secretary, Mike Weaver, Board of Directors.

It seems like Spring is trying to arrive. Hopefully we can get a week when we will have temperatures in the 70's.



I, second Glen's mention of the Fox Valley Lutheran EDU presentation. As an alumni of the great institution I am very pleased how it has grown during the last 58 years since graduation. The young people were very polite and with the Faculty were warmly welcomed.

Later the Presentation Unit went to Hilbert High School, led by Marty Huss. May our EDU Unit be received as well by the rest of the showings coming up including Little Chute High School on May 1. We can always use more members to staff the display and present their memories to the faculty and students.

Hoping all is going well, and see you at the next Membership Meeting on July 9th at Appleton Legion Hall.

Dennis

2024 VVA 352 Scholarship Recipients

Derek Smith from the Tesla Charter School at Appleton East High
Elias Matiash from the Bridges Virtual Academy, Home School
Clayton Marohn from Shiocton High School
Benjamin Reitz from Oshkosh West High School

Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

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

May

ANDREW L HEIDER	ARMY	PFC	NEENAH	WINNEBAGO	5/13/1968
EUGENE KENNETH LUPE	USMC	PFC	GREEN BAY	BROWN	5/18/1968
STEVEN LYNN ZOBEL	USMC	LCPL	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	5/21/1968
RAYMOND THOMAS HEYNE	USMC	LCPL	MASON	BAYFIELD	5 /10/1968
THOMAS JOSEPH BLACKMAN	USMC	PFC	RACINE	RACINE	5 /10/1968
THOMAS ALLAN LAHNER	ARMY	SP4	EAU CLAIRE	CHIPPEWA	5 /10/1972
PETER JOHN CARLSON	ARMY	2LT	LA CROSSE	LA CROSSE	5 /11/1967
MICHAEL BRUCE TURNER	ARMY	CPL	LA CROSSE	LA CROSSE	5 /11/1968
DENNIS ROBERT RANK	ARMY	SP4	ADAMS	ADAMS	5 /11/1969
PATRICK RYAN MCCLURE	USMC	PFC	RACINE	RACINE	5 /11/1969

June

WILLIAM MARVIN BELLILE	ARMY	SGT	NEW LONDON	WAUPACA	6/9/1969
JAMES JOHN AHRENS	USMC	PFC	GREEN BAY	BROWN	6/19/1969
FRANCIS PEDRO VALDEZ	ARMY	SP5	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	6/7/1970
EDWARD HAROLD RIXMANN	ARMY	PFC	STAR PRAIRIE	ST CROIX	6 /1/1967
ROGER JOSEPH KOSTKA	ARMY	SP4	ALGOMA	KEWAUNEE	6 /1/1970
DOUGLAS JACK DAANE	NAVY	PO3	OOSTBURG	SHEBOYGAN	6 /1/1970
GEROLD SCHAEFFER	USMC	PFC	WEST BEND	WASHINGTON	6 /10/1966
JAMES LEWIS HAMLET	USMC	PFC	NEW RICHMOND	ST CROIX	6 /10/1967
JOHN ALEX NORTH	ARMY	PFC	GERMANTOWN	WASHINGTON	6 /10/1969
PHILIP MOREY OVERBECK	ARMY	1LT	STURGEON BAY	DOOR	6 /10/1970

Nursing/Retirement Homes Schedule 2024

Memorial Day Week

Thursday, May 23

Appleton Retirement Community **10:00 to 11:00**
200 W Packard Drive, Appleton 54911 Colleen Brickner/Stacy Ruen

Willow Lane Assisted Living **2:00 to 3:00**
850 W Eisner Road, Appleton 54913 Becky

Tuesday, May 28

Eagle Point Senior Living **10:00 to 11:00**
55 E John Street, Appleton 54911 Katie Neuman/Brenda/McKenzie
(memory care)

Rennes Health & Rehab **2:00 to 3:00**
325 E Florida Avenue, Appleton 54911 Melanie Fintelmann/Claire (Gary)

Thursday, May 30

Good Shepherd Services **10:00 to 11:00**
607 E Bronson Street, Seymour 54165 Michelle Skenandore

Brewster Village **2:00 to 3:00**
300 W Brewster Street, Appleton 54914 Pam Schmidt

Veterans Day Week

Friday, November 8

Eagle Point Senior Living **10:00 to 11:00**
955 E John Street, Appleton Katie Neuman/Brenda/McKenzie (memory care)

Brewster Village **2:00 to 3:00**
300 W Brewster Street, Appleton Pam Schmidt

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Nursing/Retirement Homes Schedule 2024 (Continued)

Tuesday, November 12

Appleton Retirement Community 10:00 to 11:00
200 W Packard Street, Appleton Colleen Brickner/Stacy Ruen

Rennes Health & Services 2:00 to 3:00
325 E Florida Avenue, Appleton Melanie Fintelmann/Claire (Gary)

Thursday, November 14

Good Shepherd Services 10 :00 to 11:00
607 E Bronson Street, Seymour Michelle Skenandore

Willow Lane Assisted Living 2:00 to 3:00
850 W Eisner Road, Appleton Becky

Big Thank You!

**VVA 351 would like to thank the following businesses for being our
fundraising location:**

Woodman's

**This location will again be used for our upcoming June Campaign.
Our help is needed!!!**

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 and spouses are welcome; bring a vet buddy along—there is a lot of room. We have Vets of all wars at our table. **Angel's** is at 1401 E. John St. Appleton —between College & John St. roundabouts.

Vets and Friends Coffeehouse Inc. 2508 N. Richmond St. Appleton WI 54911

Free hot meals are provided to veterans and their spouse/friend on the first Saturday of each month. We have a FUN TIME activity from 4-5pm to socialize, play cards, pinball and records on the jukebox. MEAL TIME is served at 5pm.

A special announcement: We are building a memorial wall to honor the 1,163 Wisconsin Vietnam veterans that died in Vietnam. A soft dedication is planned for this summer.

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.

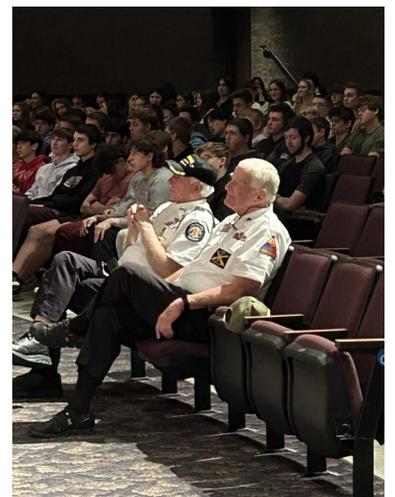
VETS & FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN Inc.

Meets at St. James United Methodist Church, 100 W. Capitol Drive in Appleton WI 54911. We serve Wednesday lunches from 11am-1pm and Friday breakfasts from 8am-10am. Please join us for camaraderie, great food and a relaxing atmosphere!

The VVA 351 Educational Display Unit at Fox Valley Lutheran High School



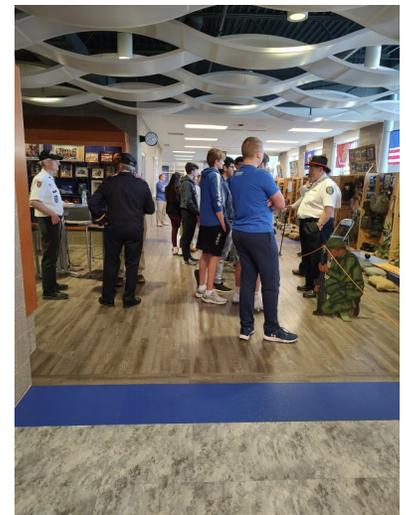
On March 27th members of VVA 351 were present with EDU at Fox Valley Lutheran High School. The Junior History classes viewed the display and were present for the Panel Discussion by the veterans of Vietnam. Many questions were asked of the group.



VVA 351 Educational Display Unit at Hilbert High School



On April 24th a team of VVA 351 members staffed the EDU component at Hilbert High School. The students and staff of the school are always very receptive for the veterans and the artifacts that are contained in the display.



VVA Members and Spouses gather at Angels Restaurant to honor Roy Rogers with his Honor Quilt



Angels Restaurant has long been a location where members of VVA 351 and their spouses have gathered on Saturday morning. On April 24th there was a special get-together to honor Roy Rogers as he received his Quilt of Honor.



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. (920) We generally meet early evening at the Vet Center on North Richmond St Appleton)

What Is AVVA?

As Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (920) 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. (920) 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 920-734-9638

