

VIETNAM VET "GAZETTE"

Issue 146

Together Then Together Now

November 2014



In Service to America

Up-Coming Meetings

BOD Meeting

2nd Wed of the Month
7:00 PM

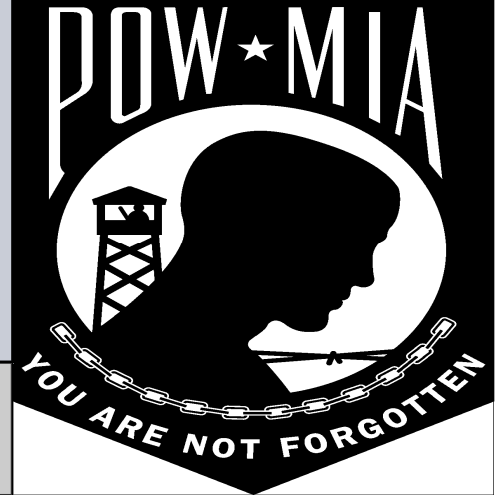
Regular Meeting

3rd Wed of Month
AVVA - Meets 6:00 PM

VVA meet @ 7:00 PM

at the
ROCHESTER VFW

Be Sure To See
Important Dates to Remember
Upcoming Events— Page 13



VETERANS DAY

VETERANS DAY IS SET ASIDE TO HONOR ALL OF THOSE WHO SERVED HONORABLY IN THE MILITARY. VETERANS DAY IS LARGELY INTENDED TO THANK LIVING VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE, TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY AND TO UNDERSCORE THE FACT THAT ALL THOSE WHO SERVED, NOT ONLY THOSE WHO DIED, HAVE SACRIFICED AND DONE THEIR DUTY.

VETERANS DAY ORIGINATED AS ARMISTICE DAY AND MARKED THE END OF HOSTILITIES OF WORLD WAR I THAT OCCURRED AT THE 11TH HOUR ON THE 11TH DAY OF THE 11TH MONTH. THEREFORE, THIS DAY IS ALWAYS RECOGNIZED ON NOVEMBER 11TH, REGARDLESS OF THE DAY OF THE WEEK THE 11TH FALLS ON. IN 1954, THE WORD ARMISTICE WAS REPLACED WITH "VETERANS" AS A WAY TO FORMALLY INCLUDE ALL VETERANS OF ALL AMERICAN WARS IN THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE.

TODAY, **VETERANS DAY** IS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY WHICH MANY CITIES CELEBRATE WITH PARADES AND CEREMONIES.

IN WASHINGTON DC, THERE ARE CEREMONIES THROUGH THE CITY INCLUDING A WREATH LAYING AT ARLINGTON CEMETARY.

THIS YEAR, VVA CHAPTER 862 WILL BE LAYING A WREATH AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AT 3:00 PM ON VETERANS DAY.

BILL (DUCKMAN) LAUGHNER

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT - VVA CHAPTER 862 - SOUTHWESTERN, PA.

Chapter 862 Officers & Committees
(All 724 Area Codes unless noted)

Executive Board

L. Skip Haswell...President.....495-9612
 Bill Laughner... Exec VP.....601-3597
 Rich Kamzelski ... 1st VP.....494-5752
 Cliff Hawes.....2nd VP728-5065
 Lee Corfield.....Secretary775-3027
 Larry Googins.....Treasurer869-7090

Board of Directors

Gary Shaffer1.....643-8941
 Rich Tindell1.....622-0724
 Pete Herman.....1.....712-4324
 Jake Barsottini.....2.....601-7293
 Chuck Inman.....2.....709-7747
 Rich Raich.....2.....412-974-6282
 Michelle Wilcox3.....847-3463
 Don Villella3.....843-7401
 Philip Morris.....3.....643-5725

Delegates

Skip Haswell.....495-9612
 Bill Laughner.....601-3597
 Lee Corfield.....775-3027
 Larry Googins.....869-7090
 Rich Kamzelski.....494-5752
 Philip Morris.....643-5725
 Rich Tindell622-0724
 Chuck Inman.....709-7747
 Terri Carr330-692-1849
 Pete Herman.....712-4324
 Jake Barsottini.....601-7293
 Ray Rapp.....316-6786
 Michelle Wilcox847-3463
 Nick Pavkovick....1st Alt.....847-0592

COMMITTEES

*** Chairman**

Agent Orange

Mike Coligure *.....412-613-1810

Color/Honor Guards

Ray Litzinger*.....378-5855

Community Affairs

Dan Sinclair*.....846-7475

Constitution & By-Laws

William Weiss*.....827-2460

Finance

Larry Googins*.....869-7090

Homeless Veterans

Bill Porupsky*.....495-7051

Legislative

Bart Farzati*.....777-2193

Membership

Gary Shaffer*.....643-8941

Merchandise

Bill Laughner*.....601-3597

Minority Affairs

Reuben Fuller*.....378-4990

**POW / MIA - Information taken from the
National League of POW/MIA Families**

AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR: There are now **1,639** personnel listed by the Department of Defense as missing and unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War, a number finally changed after several months.

The remains of SSG James L Van Bendegom, USA, missing in Cambodia since July 12, 1967, were recovered March 21, 1986, and identified August 26, 2014. The remains of Capt Richard L. Whitesides, USAF, missing in South Vietnam on March 26, 1964, were recovered September 9, 2013, and identified September 22, 2014. The number of Americans announced by DoD as returned and identified since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is now 944. Another 63 US personnel, recovered by the US and ID'd before the end of the war, bring the official total of US personnel accounted for from the Vietnam War to 1,007. Of the 1,639 total, 90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Cambodia and Laos under Vietnam's wartime control: Vietnam-1,274 (VN-469, VS-805); Laos-306; Cambodia-52; PRC territorial waters-7. Over-water losses on DoD's list of No Further Pursuit cases number well over 600.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY:

At the national ceremony held at the Pentagon on September 19th, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel stated in part: "The United States appreciates the ongoing support of many allies and partners across the globe – many represented here today – and on behalf of the men and women of our military, I thank you. You have helped us in recovering our missing. A good example of many of these efforts is Vietnam. Vietnam has been providing an increasing amount of archival documents to support our pursuit of our missing Americans. We appreciate these efforts and will continue to build on this partnership going forward....As many of you know, earlier this year I directed the Defense Department to organize this effort into a single, accountable operation that has the responsibility for personnel accounting resources, research, and operations....resolving issues of duplication and inefficiency, while also making that organization stronger, more effective, more transparent, and more responsive....DoD has been working closely with everyone who has a stake in this mission – including families, the veterans' service organizations that are represented here today, and I thank them, Congress, and the agencies' workforce. We've made progress in this transformation, and the new Defense Personnel Accounting Agency will achieve initial operating capability this January."

Operations in Cambodia have been sporadic at best, with only one JFA thus far in 2014, postponed twice in 2013. Due to the "complete reorganization" now ongoing, the PACT (for DoD) has authorized JPAC to proceed with planned field operations, whether or not Congress has approved the budget for FY15 or a Continuing Resolution to carry over the existing budget for contracting and other operations requirements. The Cambodia Stony Beach specialist is permanently in-country and conducts investigations when and where needed. No JFAs were scheduled in Cambodia until early 2015, but that could still change. For the first time in over 20 years, technical level talks were not held with Cambodia in FY2014, ending September 30th, but plans are being considered for senior level discussions with Cambodia's POW/MIA Committee leadership before the end of the calendar year.

POW News (cont on Page 3)

**VVA 862
COMMITTEES (Cont)**

Scholarship
Lon Hogue*846-8857

Sgt of Arms
Roy Barlett*378-0272

Veterans Affairs - Advisor
Kathy Nairn.....770-4450

Veterans Assistance Committee
Bill Laughner*601-3597

Hospital Committee
Lon Hogue*846-8857

Woman Veterans
Michelle Wilcox...*847-3463

Auditing Committee
Bill Winkle*.....774-2626
Wayne Cumer947-3859
Joe Maverio.....494-1505

Webmaster
Lee Corfield*775-3027

n3ial@comcast.net

Nominating Committee
Lon Hogue*846-8857
Bart Farzati777-2193
Ken Pingatore876-0335

PTSD
Rich McCracken *266-4914

POW / MIA
Phil Morris* 643-5725

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AVVA 862 - Officers

President..Bobbie Morris...643-5725

V.P. Marji Slawianowski...378-7315

Secretary .Veronica Grant...462-3717

Treasurer .Sue Bridgewater. 643-0731

AVVA BOD

Keith Black.....513-3177

Carl Curtis.....869-0294

Sandy Giordano.....203-4569

**AVVA Membership Chair
&**

Parliamentarian
Veronica Grant.....462-3717

Chaplain

Barb Googins869-7090

**POW Update (cont from Page 2).
(Taken from the POW MIA League of Families)**

The embattled head of America’s efforts to account for MIAs has resigned, according to emails obtained by Stars and Stripes.

W. Montague Winfield, deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs and director of the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, submitted his resignation letter to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Oct. 15, according to an email from his special assistant that was sent to family and veterans groups.

The retired Army major general’s resignation is effective Nov. 15, when he will return to work for the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency.

After becoming the first commanding general of the newly formed Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in 2003, Winfield became a polarizing figure in the accounting community, alternately blamed for its shortfalls and credited with its successes. His resignation comes on the heels of a nearly yearlong reorganization effort and a damning Inspector General report on America’s accounting operations.

“... Winfield made great strides in bringing the various components of the Personnel Accounting Community together as a team, and his emphasis on families brought new energy to Department of Defense meetings with families and veterans/family service organizations,” Air Force Lt. Col. Christopher Workerger wrote in the email. “We greatly appreciate his many years of service, as a soldier and a civilian, and wish him continued success at FEMA as he continues to serve our nation.”

The resignation comes at a fragile time in the reorganization process, as both JPAC and DPMO have merged into a new command that is to be set up by January. The Oct. 17 IG report made it clear that the effort is threatened by poor leadership and a hostile work environment.

Family groups lashed out at the reorganization efforts in recent weeks because leaders whom they blame for the dysfunction remained in top positions.

Emails from Personnel Accounting Consolidation Task Force Director Alisa Stack, who is overseeing the reorganization on Hagel’s behalf, confirmed that Johnnie Webb, JPAC’s longtime deputy to the commander for external relations and legislative affairs, has been appointed to a position “working on the future family experience.”

News of the appointment angered families and leaders of the National Alliance of Families for the Return of America’s Missing Servicemen, who have sharply criticized Webb.

“This supposed reorganization is nothing more than a multimillion-dollar public relations stunt designed to get Congress and the media off DOD’s back,” Alliance research director Lynn O’Shea wrote in an email to Stars and Stripes. “Do they really expect the individuals who caused the problems to correct them? DOD is thumbing their noses at the families by involving Webb and any other senior management in the reorganization.”

Tom Holland, JPAC’s scientific director and deputy to the commander for Central Identification Laboratory operations, recently told a group of Korean War families and advocates that he had been fired.

However, family groups say that they have been told by Stack that no officials will be losing their jobs. They may be offered other positions within the new agency if the need for their current positions no longer exists.

For some, like Holland, this could mean having considerably less power and authority. Winfield, or “Q” as he is called by friends and colleagues, served in the Army for 31 years, according to his DPMO biography. He later served as a federal coordinating officer for the FEMA, where he coordinated the federal response and recovery activities for 11 presidentially declared disasters.

Initial efforts to reach Winfield, Webb and Stack for comment were not successful. Holland referred questions to the secretary of defense’s office, which declined to comment on personnel issues.

Respectfully submitted,

**Philip Morris
Chairman POW/MIA**

Minutes from October 15th, 2014 Meeting

Meeting called to order by V P Pres Bill Laughner @ 7:00 PM with Pledge of Allegiance and an Opening Prayer by Chaplain Don Villella. Attendance was “ 137 ”

Guest Speaker : Eric Lumon Pittsburgh, Vet Center Program.

Veterans “Sick or In Distress” - Ed Bernstein, Michelle Wilcox, Sam Giordano,

Guests and/or Prospective New Members - Ron Steiner, Chester Rhodes, Todd Buccier, Bob Atkinson, Don Reitz, BJ Jewel, Len Possade, Mike Baranek, Larry Bates, George Harris. Roy Shriver.

Guest Speakers - Roll Call of Officers - 12 - Present 2 - Absent 1 - Excused

Secretary’s Report: Minutes: were accepted as printed in the recent Newsletter.

Treasurer’s Report: was read by Treasurer Larry Googins to be accepted as read, pending audit.

Motions made by the BOD that need voted on by Membership:

- (1) Motion was made by Dave Walker 2nd by Wally Cheveront to donate \$250.00 to the 14th Quartermaster Family readiness Group. Motion Carried.
- (2) Motion was made by Joe Feltes 2nd by Nick Vietz to donate \$150.00 to the Midland American Legion to help with the expenses towards the Veterans Day Parade. Motion Carried.
- (3) Motion was made by Bill Harlow 2nd by Bob Feick to donate \$450.00 towards the next WWII Bus trip to Washington DC. Motion Carried.
- (4) Motion was made by Ralph Cordes 2nd by Joe Feltes to donate \$100.00 to the upcoming DAV Dinner on November 8th. Motion Carried.
- (5) Motion was made by John Szatkiewicz, 2nd by Dave Kane to donate \$100.00 to the Darlington Food Pantry. Motion Carried.
- (6) Motion was made by Frank Petz 2nd by Ralph Cordes to give Chuck Inman \$50.00 to decorate the Christmas Tree for the upcoming “Festival of Trees”. Motion Carried.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Lee read Thank You’s from 2 funerals,, Explained about those having problems with using Internet Explorer on our VVA 862 Website. Lee referred everyone to use Google Chrome.

Agent Orange - Mike Coligure gave an update on what all his committee has been up to.

Honor Guard - Rich Raich gave an updated report on what all our Honor Guard has been working on.

Legislative - Bart Farzati spoke about what all our legislators are doing and not doing.

Membership - Gary Shaffer reported that we have **693 VVA** members with **LIFE 463**. We have gained 66 members since January 1st.

Women Veterans - We now have 4 members.

AVVA - Marji Slawianowski gave the report on what the AVVA is up to. . **141 AVVA - 51 Life**

Tom Robes Cancer Fund - Cliff Hawes announced that the AVVA is now taking over Tom Robes Vets for Vets Campaign. He explained how it will work. AVVA will oversee this. He explained that from now on, there will be a container on the table at the door, when you come in. **No longer will be going from table to table for donations.**

Old Business - N/A

New Business - Luke Patrino gave a report on what’s happening in Ohio pertaining to Veterans. Run to the Ohio Wall brought in \$5,000.00.

Highway Clean Up - Dave Kane - Spoke about the upcoming Highway Clean up. Need more help. PX & Commissary will be opening the 1st of November

Min (cont on Page 5)

Minutes (cont from Page 4)

Good of the Chapter - Bill Laughner spoke about the USS Frank Evans being struck by a cutter during Vietnam War. They would like those killed to be added to the Memorial. There were 3 brothers, 1 father & son. Bill thanked all who helped at the Wall.

Bill explained about the plaques from the wall will be given to those families Tom McCormack wanted to thank everyone who helped unload the containers from Panama.

Don Villella spoke about the Veterans Honor Dinner coming up. Pamphlets are on the table.

Alex Del La Cruz read a letter of proclamation from Keith Rothfus.

DAV Dinner - Cam Adamson spoke about the upcoming DAV Dinner. Nov 8th. at the Aliquippa Elks. 5:30

Wreaths Across America - Chuck Inman spoke about this upcoming event.

TET Party - still need volunteers. Larry Googins spoke about needing more people for the committees.

Next meeting will be Nov 17th. Please attend and offer to help. Tickets will be \$25.00 ea. \$250 per table.

Festival of Trees - Chuck Inman spoke about needing ideas for the tree that will be on display at the Festival of Trees.

Marine being held in Mexico - Al Whitehill asked for prayers for the Marine being held in Mexico.

POW Ride - Phil Morris gave a report on the recent POW Ride will held the 13th Ride to the Wall.

AVVA drawing winner was Ray Litzinger.

Respectfully submitted

Lee Corfield - VVA 862 Sec.

Looking for, as the Marines Say - A "Few Good Men"**Highway Clean – Up**

Well a total of 10 men showed up this morning for the highway and we managed to get it all done.

I want to thank the men that showed up for project.

Frank Petz, Larry Tanner, Charles (snakedog) Smith Bruce Maratta, Chuck Szabo, Chuck Jenkins, Randy Tallon, Carl Curtis, Jake Palm, Skip Haskell (the good skip).

They along with myself did the whole length of the highway from Beaver Falls to Koppel.

I think this is going to be my farewell performance, I can't do this anymore. Begging people to come out to take care of OUR HIGHWAY and only ten people show up.

Dave Kane

We will be looking for someone to fill these (2) two positions.

*

Christmas Tree Vigil

I'm looking for someone to Stand-Up and **take over and Chair the Christmas Vigil**; if No one does, I believe the Vigil will have to be Cancelled. I've done it for the last 6 years and can't do it anymore, I'll come down and spend time with the group. Thanks, for all Past Help.

Kamm

VVA 862

<http://www.vva862.org>

Subject: Not all Thieves are Stupid

1. **Some people** left their car in the long-term parking while away, and someone broke into the car. Using the information on the car's registration in the glove compartment, they drove the car to the people's home in Pebble Beach and robbed it. So I guess if we are going to leave the car in long-term parking, we should NOT leave the registration/insurance cards in it, nor your remote garage door opener. This gives us something to think about with all our new electronic technology.

2. GPS:

Someone had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents. Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it... Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

3. CELL PHONES:

I never thought of this..... This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her cell phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet, etc., was stolen. Twenty minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says, "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

Moral of the lesson:

- a. Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc....
- b. And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, CONFIRM by calling back.
- c. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet "family and friends" who text you.

4. PURSE IN THE GROCERY CART SCAM:

A lady went grocery-shopping at a local mall and left her purse sitting in the children's seat of the cart while she reached something off a shelf... wait till you read the WHOLE story! Her wallet was stolen, and she reported it to the store personnel. After returning home, she received a phone call from the Mall Security to say that they had her wallet and that although there was no money in it, it did still hold her personal papers. She immediately went to pick up her wallet, only to be told by Mall Security that they had not called her. By the time she returned home again, her house had been broken into and burglarized. The thieves knew that by calling and saying they were Mall Security, they could lure her out of her house long enough for them to burgle it.



Associates of Vietnam Veterans Chapter 862 October 15, 2014

A regular meeting of the AVVA Chapter 862 was called to order by Vice President Marji Slawianowski at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the POW/MIA.



A word of prayer was given by Sandy Giordiano.

All Officers and Board Members were present except for President Bobbie Morris who was excused.

Vice President Slawianowski welcomed guest Angie Jojola. Angie spoke about the Spaghetti Dinner being held to help raise money for her father who has Agent Orange and needs a Stem Cell Transplant. The dinner will be held on October 25th from 2pm to 6pm at the Marion Hill Christian Missionary Church.

A motion by Sue Bridgewater to accept the minutes of September 10, 2014 as drafted in the October newsletter, seconded by Sandy Giordiano. Motion carried.

Sue Bridgewater, Treasurer gave the financial report and approved pending audit.

Membership Chair Veronica Grant reported that our Chapter has 90 regular members, 51 life members for a total of 141.

Chuck Inman VVA/AVVA member asked if the AVVA would take over the Wreaths Across America – it was rejected by the AVVA. He also needs help decorating the Christmas Tree at the Brady's Run Lodge – if interested contact Chuck at 724-843-0619.

The VVA/AVVA will have a food drive to help the first U.P. Church of Darlington. Bring your nonperishable foods to our November and December meetings. A motion to donate \$100.00 to the first U.P. Church of Darlington to provide food for veterans and families was made by Sandy Giordano, seconded by Judy Hage. Motion Carried.

Please bring in your signed Christmas cards to the November meeting so they can be distributed to the veterans at the Butler VA and local nursing homes. Vice President Slawianowski will get a date for a Christmas visit to the veterans at the Beaver Valley Nursing Home.

In December after the VVA meeting there will be a lunch for VVA/AVVA members only, please bring your favorite dessert.

A motion was made by Sue Bridgewater and seconded by Linda Szatkiewicz to donate \$150.00 to the Family Readiness Group 14th Quartermaster to purchase gifts for the children of our soldiers and veterans. Motion Carried.

AVVA Minutes (cont on Page 8)

**Next AVVA 862 - Meeting
November 19th - 6:00 PM**

AVVA Minutes (cont form Page 7)

A motion by Sandy Giordano and seconded by Barbara Kamicker to donate \$50.00 to help with the cost for busing veterans for WWII Trips. Motion carried.

A motion by Linda Szatkiewicz and seconded by Judy Hage to reimburse Sandy Giordano \$14.25 for the Gold Star Mother's and The Wall scrap books. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm; the next meeting will be November 19, 2014 at 6:00 P.M. at the VFW Post 128 in Rochester, PA.

Submitted by,

Veronica Grant,
Secretary, Chapter 862

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

AGENT ORANGE BALLOON RELEASE - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARADE
Proceed to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial - Time: Approx 1:00 PM

***Associates of Vietnam Veterans** please Bring in extra Xmas cards in November meeting so our members can sign them which will be given to veterans at Butler VA and our local nursing homes.

***VVA/AVVA** will be having a food drive to help the first U.P Church of Darlington (VVA Member Chuck Ray brought this need to our attention) Please Bring your non perishable food in for our November and December meeting. This will provide food for 22 Veterans that they provide food for and a couple of WWII Veterans.

Please Note:

The views and opinions are solely that of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions or policies of the Vietnam Veterans of America, (National, State or Local).

All articles written by the editor unless otherwise stated.

Submissions will be gladly accepted by the editor

Lee Corfield - Editor VVA 862 Beaver Co., Pa
140 Knob Vue Drive
Freedom, Pa. 15042

We reserve the right to edit submissions as space allows.

DARLINGTON FOOD PANTRY

We would like to ask our members to bring **"Can Goods"** to our next two meeting **NOVEMBER / DECEMBER** for the Darlington Food Pantry .

This food bank is helping a number of veterans and/or veterans families in that local community They hold a food bank each month and can always use extra Can Goods.

Please give them to Charles "Homer Ray" when you come to the meeting.

He will have his table in the back as you enter.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO OUR
MEMBERS**

November

Hope McFee..... Nov 1
 Albert Montillo Nov 1
 Dan Benincase Nov 2
 Albert Emler Nov 2
 Mike Patterson..... Nov 2
 David Knorr..... Nov 3
 Alan Hazelwood Nov 3
 Tom McCormack..... Nov 3
 Rich Corbett..... Nov 4
 Cliff Hawes..... Nov 4
 Glenn Rethage Nov 5
 Regina Shea Nov 6
 Jim DiBenedetto Nov 7
 Bill Dorwarth..... Nov 7
 Eugene Martucci..... Nov 7
 Joe Whitehill..... Nov 8
 John Bacher Nov 9
 Steve Wuebbles Nov 9
 Veronica Grant..... Nov 10
 Larry Slem Nov 10
 Tom Cekovich Nov 11
 Philip Morris..... Nov 11
 Rich Packer Sr. Nov 11
 Anthony Siegel Nov 11
 Ron Bruce Nov 12
 Dave Kunsman..... Nov 12
 Chester Rhodes Nov 12
 Arden Sams..... Nov 12
 Phyllis Weiss Nov 12
 Teresa Carr..... Nov 13
 Don Dreyer Nov 13
 John Gillespie Nov 13

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO OUR
MEMBERS**

November

Kenneth Sevacko..... Nov 13
 Wynn Starr Nov 13
 John Adams Nov 14
 Jon Kloos..... Nov 14
 Ronald Wallace Nov 14
 Louis Andelmo..... Nov 15
 Sylvester Kubacki..... Nov 15
 Chuck Timblin..... Nov 15
 Pat Polis..... Nov 15
 Rev Keith Black Nov 16
 Mike Foley Nov 17
 Joe Glass..... Nov 18
 Peter Bau Nov 19
 Bob Cervi Nov 19
 Bill McCartney..... Nov 19
 George Wick..... Nov 20
 Don Demacio..... Nov 21
 John Farmer Nov 22
 Kathy James Nov 22
 Bettie Jacobs..... Nov 22
 John Szatkiewicz..... Nov 22
 Joe Corrigan Nov 24
 Rich McCracken..... Nov 24
 Dan McNary Nov 25
 John Angelucci..... Nov 26
 Drew Grivna..... Nov 26
 George Yaccich Nov 27
 Donna Corfield..... Nov 28
 Ken Elliott Nov 30
 William Guitteau Nov 30
 John Marx..... Nov 30
 Kenneth Young..... Nov 30

Lee's Tid Bits

Veterans Day Parade

We need bodies!!!! Come down and take part in the upcoming Veterans Day Parade which is being held in Beaver. We have what we call, **“The Gimp Wagon”** which is used for us guys that can no longer march. It has really come in handy the last few years. Only problem is, It’s getting crowded.

This year’s Veterans Day Parade is being sponsored by the Midland American Legion. After the Parade is over, then AVVA will be holding the **“Agent Orange Balloon Release”!** This has been held in honor of not only those that we have lost from Agent Orange, but those who are still suffering everyday with the effects of Agent Orange.

I will have my “Pick Up” which seats 5 comfortably, to follow behind the “Gimp Wagon.” Feel Free to join us after the Balloon Release, we will then proceed to the Monaca American Legion, where there will be a light lunch provided for those who took part in the Parade. Monaca American Legion has offered to provide the faculties for this luncheon since it would be a long ride to Midland.

This parade is always a very special one, as we honor those Veterans who are still with us. Come out and enjoy the camaraderie with all the brothers and sisters. At 11:00 AM the parade stops, as all the High School Bands play the National Anthem as we honor all those who have passed before us.

Looking forward to seeing many of you.
Lee

*Next VVA 862 Meeting
 November 19th - 7:00 P M*

Tom Robes Cancer Fund

As you noticed in the minutes, what used to be called Vets 4 Vets, will now be called the Tom Robes Cancer Fund.

What a great tribute to the man who came up with this idea originally.

We have had many talks and discussions on how this campaign that Tom Robes started should be kept going. Tom Robes helped many Veterans in this area, and we probably will never know the total count. Tom would walk around, while the meeting was going on collecting donations from those who wanted to give. We all knew it was going to a good cause. If you had any loose change or anything you wanted to give, you placed it in his jug.

Well, that's not going to change.

What is going to change is that we will **"No Longer"** be walking around taking a collection. There will be a container at the front door when you come in. If you want to donate, you will be able to place your donation in that container.

So, "You can still bring that loose change or whatever you want to donate and put it in the jug at the door".

This committee will now be taken over by the AVVA 862 in which Cliff Hawes has offered to be chairman. Cliff has agreed to keep us up to date on any reports that need to be given at the meetings.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cliff. @ [724-728-5065](tel:724-728-5065)

"A TOUCH OF HUMOR"

The Missing Wife

A husband went to a police station to report his missing wife:

Husband : I've lost my wife, she went shopping yesterday and has still not come home.

Sergeant : What is her height ?

Husband : Oh, 5 something . . .

Sergeant : Build?

Husband : Not slim, not really fat.

Sergeant : Color of eyes?

Husband : Never noticed.

Sergeant : Color of hair?

Husband : Changes according to season.

Sergeant : What was she wearing?

Husband : Dress/suit/blue jeans -- I don't remember exactly.

Sergeant : Did she go in a car?

Husband : yes.

Sergeant : What kind of car was it?

Husband : 2015 Corvette Stingray 3LT with the Z51 Performance Package, shark gray metallic paint, with the 6.2 litre V8 engine with Direct Injection generating 460 HP. 8-speed paddle-shift automatic transmission, and GT bucket seats, and has a very thin scratch on the front left door..... at this point the husband started crying...

Sergeant : Don't worry sir.....We'll find your car.

Special "Thank You" from the Yellow Ribbon Girls

Hello to our Vietnam Veteran Friends:

First I want to say how great The Wall was when it was set up in Beaver. I had the opportunity to bring/send many groups to visit The Wall and greet/meet the Veterans. When the clients returned to the WIN Building I heard all kinds of great stories and about how many Heroes they got to shake hands with. Our group also created muffins, cookies and cupcakes and delivered these treats to your R&R tent in the back. Again that was an opportunity to talk to more Veterans and volunteers. Several members of our staff visited The Wall with their families in the evenings too.

Thank you for the TET Dinner donation to the Yellow Ribbon Girls postage fund. The check just arrived and is in waiting for the BIG Christmas care packages that will ship on November 12th. We can think of no better way to pay tribute to our Veterans of all ages then to spend Veteran's Day packing Christmas supplies and treats.

This year with so many troops on the move we are shipping to many USO locations. The YRG is currently shipping to at least 6 countries. It seems most of the troops go through a USO location on their way to parts unknown or while they wait for deployment orders. Our contacts at the USO locations say they open and share some of the boxes but most are forwarded with troops as they move ahead where there will be no PX or local contact for supplies.

We can not THANK YOU enough for all the support and guidance over the past 11 years. Your gang has bailed us out when postage funds were low. You have offered so much advice. You have been our hook-up to opportunities and help. You have been and still are OUR HEROES!

Bonnie ,Vicki and Patti
724-752-3314 or 724-971-1236
yellowribbongirls@yahoo.com
<http://www.yellowribbongirls.com/>
Stay Safe! Stay Strong!

"Wreaths Across America" wreath drive will be very short this year.

If anyone is interested in purchasing a wreath "Please have cash or a check paid to the order of VVA 862" at the November meeting .

The cost of the Wreaths is \$15.00 each, they will be placed at the "Cemetery of The Alleghenies." Also a Wreath can be sent to your home when a "Patriot Pair" is purchased—One would go to the Cemetery and one to the address you give.

If you have any questions or can't make it to the next meeting, call me at [724-709-7747](tel:724-709-7747), Chuck Inman

Death Notice's

Norma E. Hardman - 84 of Rochester, Pa. passed away on October 30, 2014. Norma was the wife of VVA 862 Life Member Robert Hardman.

May she "Rest in Peace"

VVA CHAPTER 862 IS ACCEPTING ORDERS for memorial walkway bricks to be placed at the Vietnam Memorial in Beaver. You may honor Veterans of the armed services, loved ones and friends (*both living and deceased*) with an "In Memory of" brick. You may also want to honor your American Legion post, your Veterans of Foreign Wars post and/or all Veterans Service Organizations. Orders are accepted year round, with placement every spring and fall. Engraving is donated by Rome Monument in honor of county veterans.

Brick Walkway Order Form

Please PRINT all information clearly in BLUE or BLACK ink only.

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

contact telephone number: _____

2 Sizes Available (*check one*) Checks payable to: **VVA CHAPTER 862**

8" x 4" **\$75**
 3 lines,
 13 characters*

8" x 8" **\$200**
 6 lines,
 13 characters*

* includes punctuation and spaces

Mail completed forms to:
William Laughner
119 Jonathan Drive
Darlington, PA 16115

VVA 862 WEBSITE

Please Note: Our Chapter Web site has been updated with several "Links" with more being added everyday. Check all the "Links" !

"Agent Orange" Link now has a Reference to all the Illnesses Related to Agent Orange along with the Birth Defects and it also includes the "Faces of Agent Orange" This would be a Good Link to refer your friends to that don't know what Agent Orange is and how it can affect your family.

C-123 Link Just Added! They Sprayed it!

Go to <http://www.vva862.org> & "Check it Out"

"TOGETHER THEN"

Calendar of Events for 2014

"TOGETHER NOW"

November

- Nov 2 Daylight Savings - Ends"
- Nov 14 Honor Guard Practice 7:00 PM
Midland VFW
- Nov 10 US Marines Birthday
- Nov 11 **Veterans Day—Parade** - -Beaver
"Agent Orange Balloon Release
@ 1:00 PM at the Vietnam Memorial.
Luncheon will follow at the
Monaca American Legion, sponsored
by the Midland American Legion
- Nov 12 VVA 862 - BOD Meeting - 7:00 PM
- Nov 19 AVVA 862 Meeting - 6:00 PM
VVA 862 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
- Nov 25 "Happy Thanksgiving

December

- Dec 7 "Pearl Harbor Day" 73 years
- Dec 10 VVA 862 - BOD Meeting Rochester
VFW 7 PM
- Dec 12 Honor Guard Practice 7:00 PM
Midland VFW
- Dec 13 "Wreaths Across America - Gazebo
Irvine Park Beaver
- Dec 17 VVA 862 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
Short Meeting with Food / Drinks after
- Dec 24 VVA 862 Christmas Tree @ Memorial.
Looking for Chair person for this event.
See Newsletter for details.
- Dec 25 "Merry Christmas"
- Dec 31 "New Year's Eve"

Protect yourself from Email Scams

In order to help protect yourself from email scams and viruses, remember the following:

1. **Don't click on any links or attachments** within the e-mail or text message, unless you are **absolutely** sure it is trustworthy and from **someone you know**.
2. **Don't click on any links or attachments** within the e-mail or text message from organizations no matter how authentic it looks.
3. Instead, **Sign in directly to the host site** to check messages and perform other actions.
4. If the e-mail arrives in your social networking inbox, **be wary of links from people you don't know** or of messages that don't read the way a friend would normally write.
5. **All unsolicited e-mails concerning password or account changes**—especially those that contain attachments—**should be considered scams until verified**. Log in to the account in question to check the situation.
6. **If you accidentally access a dangerous attachment** and believe a password-stealer is running on your computer, **contact a technology specialist as soon as possible**.

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ANY VETERAN WHO SERVED ANYWHERE DURING THE VIETNAM WAR ERA

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Birthday ___/___/___

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

____ I served in the US military (for other than training purposes) between 8/5/64 & 5/7/75

Or

____ I served in the US military in Vietnam between 2/28/61 and 5/7/75

____ DD-214 enclosed (Applications without DD-214 will be processed as Associate Memberships)

____ Renewal Membership Card # _____ New Member: _____

____ I wish to join the (AVVA) - Associates of the Vietnam Veterans of America \$20.00 P/Year

Type:

- ____ **1 Year Individual Member-** \$20.00 ____ **3 Year-** \$50.00
- ____ **Life Member Optional Time Payment \$50 down/ \$25/mth**
- ____ **\$250.00 (Ages 49 and under)**
- ____ **\$225.00 (Ages 50-55)**
- ____ **\$200.00 (Ages 56-60)**
- ____ **\$175.00 (Ages 61-65)**
- ____ **\$150.00 (Ages 66 +)**



Return this form to:

GARY SHAFFER
VVA CHAPTER 862
709 OHIO AVE
MIDLAND, PA 15059

