



Vietnam Veterans of America Sammy L. Davis Chapter 295



March 2016 Newsletter

March 9th Meeting

6:00pm Chili Pitch-in, please bring Chili or another dish to share. It is not fair for only a few people to bring food—everyone please bring a dish.

6:30pm Board Meeting

7:00pm Membership Meeting. Guest Speaker is Fred Day of Cicero Insurance Agency talking about free Medicare Advantage plan available only to veterans, including dental benefits. Nominations for Officers & Board of Directors will be held, with election in April.

Message from our President

With the Chapter elections coming up, I want each of you to consider what you can do to better our organization and its service to our brothers and sisters and our community. You don't have to be a mental giant (I'm a perfect example of that) to serve on our Board of Directors or to be an Officer...you just need to care. New ideas don't just fall out of the air, they come from new perspectives, new minds, new experiences, and new people. If we are to continue our mission, we must change with the "weather", otherwise, just lock the doors. Please consider service to YOUR organization.

Thanks to all,

Michael L. Hamm

President

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 295

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Website: www.vva295.com

Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm (7pm during winter months); Board Meeting 6:30

EVENTS HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS

- March 18 Indianapolis Vet Center Open House, 10am-2pm, 8330 Naab Rd, Suite 103, Indy, 11:30am is acknowledgement of Vietnam Veterans & 50th Anniversary, refreshment & raffle. 10-11:30am is meet & greet, service dog info and tour of mobile vet center, 12:30-2pm is essential oil demo and art therapy demo.
- March 19 Honoring Vietnam Veterans, First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St, Noblesville, across from Crown Land Cemetery, 9-11am, coffee and donuts
- March 29 National Salute to Veteran Patients: Commemoration Events Honoring Vietnam War Veterans, Roudebush VA Medical Center, Peter Scovill 317-988-2420, 1481 W. 10th St, Indy
- March 29 National Salute to Vietnam War Veterans & their Families, Crown Hill National Cemetery, 700 W. 38th St, Indy, Sue Jehlen 765-674-0284
- March 30 Viet Nam Veterans Welcome Home Day, sponsored by City of Carmel and VFW Post 10003, at Tarkington Theater, 3 Center Green #200 near Palladium at 12 noon, Richard Leirer 317-696-0126
- March 30 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Open House, 4-8pm, Fort Harrison Veterans Center, 59th St and Lee Road, meet Indiana Medal of Honor Recipient Sammy Davis, refreshment, music & door prizes, Open to all. See flyer in this newsletter.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall visiting Indiana in 2016

As you probably know, there are several versions of different scales depicting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington DC. Several of these replicas will be visiting Indiana this year.

- April 28-May 2 Boswell at Benton County Fairgrounds hosted by Boswell Alumni Association along with local sponsors.
- June 29-July 4 Kokomo, sponsored by VFW Post 1152, on display at IU-Kokomo, during this time is Haynes Apperson Festival.
- July 27-31 Berne during their Swiss Days Festival
- August 4-7 Flora at Carroll County Fairgrounds sponsored by Carroll County Veteran Remembrance Committee
- August 12-14 Crawfordsville at Lane Place, 212 S. Water St., sponsored by Byron Cox American Legion Post 72
- Sept 22-25 Richmond, Veterans Memorial Park, hosted by Wayne County Veterans, American Huey 369

More info on these events when it becomes available.

VVA Call in Day on the Hill

March 3, 2016



Call (202) 224-3121, give the operator your state or zip code, and he/she will connect you with your elected officials' office. Ask to speak to the LA for Veterans Affairs, **make it clear that you are calling as a constituent, asking for their support of H.R. 1769 and S.901, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015.**

HELP US RECOGNIZE NATIONAL WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY ★ FREE ★ OPEN TO ALL

WELCOME HOME

VIETNAM VETERANS

OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY ★ MARCH 30 ★ 2016

4 - 8 PM

Refreshments 🎵🎵🎵 Music 🎵🎵🎵 Door Prizes

★ **FORT HARRISON VETERANS CENTER** ★

9450 E 59th St, Indianapolis, IN 46216 - 59th & Lee Road

FREE 50TH COMMEMORATIVE PIN TO ALL VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

Meet Indiana Medal of Honor Recipient Sammy Davis

Sammy L. Davis VVA Chapter 295



Together...



We Make A Difference

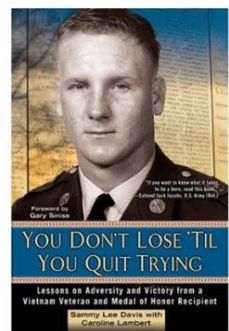
WELCOME HOME



Reserve your

FREE

Vietnam 50 Year Gift coming in mid-2016



Vietnam Veterans of America Indiana State Council ★ Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Indiana State Council ★ Vets for Vets ★ Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter 1 ★ Combat Vets Motorcycle Association ★ Indianapolis American Legion Women's Post 438 ★ 82nd Airborne Association ★ Task Force Omega ★ Navy Club ★ US Naval Sea Cadet Corps ★ Warrior's Hope ★ VSCMC - Veterans Support Council of Marion County ★ MACV ★ Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Inc ★ VeteranEvents.org

For more information or to make a donation please call Jill Fewell 317-549-5900 or Jill@WHV.org



VA News Release

VA Makes Awards Totaling up to \$4.6 Billion to Streamline its Medical Surgical Supply Chain

Makes Good on MyVA Commitments to Improve Service Delivery to Vets & Transform VA's Supply Chain

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced the awarding of four major contracts that will bolster its ability to deliver timely health care to the nation's Veterans. The contracts make up a \$4.6 billion [Medical Surgical Prime Vendor Next-Generation Program](#) (MSPV-NG) acquisition, and represent a major step forward in supply chain modernization – a “breakthrough priority” of the Department's [MyVA](#) transformation effort.

“When MyVA was launched in September 2014, we made a commitment to the Veterans who served our nation and the American public to change the way VA operates,” said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. “To accomplish this, we had to look at our processes – from the way we deliver care – to the way we order the products that provide care. This Next Generation program improves the acquisition process of surgical supplies, and ensures a speedier delivery to Veterans. It is one of many efforts underway to transform our supply chain to provide the service our Veterans deserve and potential cost savings to American taxpayers.”

Contracts were awarded to the following firms:

American Medical Depot, Miramar, FL – Small Business

Kreisers, Inc. Sioux Falls, SD – Small Business

Cardinal Health, Dublin, OH – Large Business

Medline Industries, Inc., Mundelein, IL – Large Business

The contracts are being awarded for a period of 20 months with two, 20-month options, with an aggregate ceiling of \$4.6 billion. The contract will be managed by VA's Strategic Acquisition Center based in Fredericksburg, VA.

House Committee on Veterans Affairs passes H.R. 1769, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015

Thanks to your grassroots efforts on February 25, 2016 the full House Committee on Veterans Affairs under the leadership of Chairman Jeff Miller of Florida, unanimously voted in support of passage of H.R. 1769, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015 as amended. The House Committee on Veterans Affairs must now report the bill to the full House of Representatives for debated and passed on the House floor.

Hep-C Vets Win!

According to a VA Memorandum dated February 24, “Effective immediately for the rest of FY 2016, all veterans with HCV may receive treatment within VA facilities without regard to stage of liver disease; the use of prioritization protocol to determine eligibility for treatment within VA is no longer in effect... Even though we are not limiting treatments, facilities should manage resources to ensure that patients with more advanced disease receive treatment as soon as possible and continue outreach to such patients to offer them treatment. ... At this time, funding for HCV treatment may only be used for drug acquisition.... Veterans who have been offered HCV treatment through Choice, but have not yet seen a Choice HCV provider, may elect, at the veteran's discretion, to receive treatment at a VA facility or continue the referral to a Choice HCV Provider.” *The VHC has also learned that the cost of the HCV curative drugs is going down.*

Food Drive for HVAF

Bring non-perishable food to the next meeting for HVAF (Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation) for the Veterans they are helping. What they need the most is canned meats, pasta and noodles. You can visit their website to see what they do. <http://www.hvafofindiana.org/>