



**Vietnam Veterans of America
Sammy L. Davis Chapter 295**



May 2018 Newsletter



**Memorial
Day**
*Never Forget
Ever Honor*

Memorial Day.....

**is the day that's set aside to
remember with gratitude and pride
all those who served and died for
our freedom. May your day be
filled with memories and peace.**

God Bless America

VVA 295 Officers

President	Larry Shaw
Vice President	Bob Parsons
Secretary	Mike Dolan
Treasurer	Wes Anderson
Chaplain	Fred Bishop

Board of Directors

Steve Anderson	Jim Finney
Mike Hamm	Steve Mabrey
Dennis Smalling	Tom Madden
Wallace Vaughn	Ken Walters

AVVA Liaisons

Holly Tookolo	Tony Gigli
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VVA Service Office

Dennis Smalling
smallingindy@sbcglobal.net
Thursday 8am-12pm
Sunday 10am-2pm
By appointment

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 269279, Indianapolis, IN 46226-9279 Phone: 317-547-4748
Physical Address: 9450 E. 59th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46216 Website: www.vva295.com

Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm; Board Meeting 6:30

Newsletter Editor: Holly Tookolo If you have any information for the newsletter, the deadline is the last day of the month—email me: htookolo@indy.rr.com

Important Dates

- May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Wall Meeting 6pm
- May 9 VVA 295 Meeting; Board meeting at 6:30pm; Regular meeting 7:00pm
- May 11 Carmel High School Veterans Program, 8:30am-3pm, flyer page 9
- May 12 Dedication of Southern Hancock County Veterans Memorial 1pm, see flyer page 10
- May 19 Armed Forces Day Event at Indiana War Memorial, 6-9pm, RSVP with \$10 donation at <https://www.armedforcesdayindy.org/rsvp.html>
- May 19 Indiana State Council meeting 12 noon
- May 28 Memorial Day
- May 28 150th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Crown Hill Cemetery, 2-3pm
- May 31—June 4 The Moving Wall, **NEW LOCATION at Lee Road & Memorial Park Dr.**, The Moving Wall Ceremony starts at 1pm June 2, flyer page 11
- June 9 8th Annual Mayors' Veterans, Military & Family Appreciation Day, Picnic & Fish Fry at Garfield Park 10am-3:30pm
- June 13 VVA 295 Meeting; Board meeting at 6:30pm; Regular meeting 7:00pm
- June 15 & 16 Vets for Vets Yard Sale, 8am-5pm, donate your items
- June 23 2nd Annual Cruise-In, Paying tribute to Veterans, 10am-4pm Wilkinson, IN Town Park; Bunker will be setup

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- May 10-July 30, 1966** The U.S. 25th Infantry Division and ARVN troops conduct Operation Paul Revere/Thang Phong 14, a border screening and area control mission to Pleiku Province, II Corps.
- May 18-28, 1967** U.S. Marines conduct Operation Hickory, the western prong of a multiforce offensive aimed at clearing the area southeast of the DMZ in I Corps in preparation for the construction of the Strong Point Obstacle System, which will become known as The McNamara Line.
- May 1970** U.S. Air Force launches Operation Freedom Deal to strike targets in Cambodia in support of Cambodian Army.
- May 8, 1972** President Nixon orders Operation Linebacker, which includes heavy bombing of North Vietnam's military supply network and the mining of Haiphong harbor as well as other measure to prevent the flow of arms and material to the Communists.

President's Message: Greetings to all VVA and AVVA Members.



This is my first message as your President, so it is with deep humility that I say Thank You for allowing me to serve you. You have elected Officers and Board Members that should be able to work together for the good of Chapter 295. We need to make this Chapter great again by doing the programs that the VVA has designed for us. Veterans in class rooms telling the true side of war, and the lives of people it involves. Visiting Veterans in hospitals, nursing facilities, and home bound. Remembering and fighting for the return of our POW/MIA'S. Aiding and serving both the Gold Star and Blue Star Family's. Plus earn respect by working with the Lawrence Community.

May 12th, Military Order of the Purple Heart State Convention 9AM, Indiana war Memorial.

May 13th, Mothers Day. Most of us have lost our Mothers, and our Wives. They were the two most important women in our lives when we were in Vietnam. They shed their tears and prayed for us. They sent the cards, letters, news papers, and care packages filled with goodies to share with our buddy's. It is never too late to say Thank You to those still living. A card, phone call, dinner out, or just a visit will mean so much to them. If they have passed, visit their grave if possible say a prayer of thanks, as they were the ones that helped to mold you into the person that you are today.

May 19th, 12 noon will be the State Council Meeting for the VVA and AVVA Chapters in the Vet Center.

May 19th, Armed Forces Day. When we should say Thank You to the Men and Women serving Our Country around the world, Be they Active Duty, Guard, or Reserve, they are doing what others will not do. We did not wish to be forgotten then, and they do not want to be forgotten now.

May 25th, Memorial Day Observed. This is the day set aside to Honor Our Fallen be they killed in combat, accidents, disease, or their mental or physical wounds. Give Thanks and Condolences to those that they left behind. The Parents, brothers, sisters, Wives, Husbands, and Children. Especially those who never met, or who were to young to remember their parent. To those who have passed away while waiting to hear of the fate of their loved ones, may they be Blessed, and find Eternal Peace. A lot of people today look at Memorial Day week-end as three days to party. The 500 Mile Race, summer, and vacations. They never stop to think who it was, nor how many lives it took, to give them this time to enjoy. They simply take it for granted. It is up to all of us who served, or waited to remind them of the great debt of gratitude that they owe to so many.

May 5th and 6th, We will need help at The Commissary with Poppy donations.

Please come to the meetings, as we need help to make The Moving Wall a success. Our chapter can only be as strong as you members help make it to be.

Never forget "We can each do a little, but together we can do a lot".

May GOD Bless America our Military Men and Women serving around the world, and you.

In Patriotism,

Larry Shaw

President VVA 295

Vietnam Traveling Wall will be in Rensselaer, Indiana

The Vietnam Traveling Wall is an 80% replica of the Vietnam Wall Memorial in Washington, DC. The Wall will be located at Brookside Park in Rensselaer, Indiana. The Wall will be open for visitors at 12 noon May 24 and close 3pm May 28. Open around the clock. For more information please contact the Jasper County Veterans Office at 219-866-4901 or 219-866-9424.

Vice President's Corner



Earlier this month the VVA 295 membership elected officers and board members for the next year or two. I would like to thank the membership for entrusting to us the responsibility of guiding VVA 295. We will do our best to capably and efficiently carry out the responsibilities of our respective offices.

I envision my primary duty as that of assisting and supporting our new chapter President, Larry Shaw. Our initial challenge is the hosting of the "Moving Wall" May 31-June 4. This effort was made even more challenging, this time, by the necessity of relocating the location of the "Wall" to a site not previously used. This was all on rather short notice, but I am confident that if, as a Chapter, we all "roll up our sleeves" and get the job done, this year's event will be a tremendous success and will reflect positively on VVA 295 as a whole. We need everyone's help to make this event a success!

I would like to see Chapter 295 renew our school education program. In the past, small groups of chapter members, visited local schools to speak to Social Studies classes as students were studying the Vietnam War. Often their textbooks covered the war in very few pages and the students at our events were invariably full of questions. As participants in the war we were able to give them a perspective about the Vietnamese people, their country, culture and daily lives that was missing in their texts.

We are all hovering around 70 and we don't have all that long to finish the positive legacy that we as Vietnam Veterans will leave behind when we are gone. The media never told the public about the orphanages we built and maintained, the irrigation systems we engineered and built, the villages that we provided needed medical and dental care to and innumerable other positive and beneficial things that we accomplished while in Vietnam. The public needs to know that the Vietnam War was much more than a "war".

I welcome any and all suggestions, ideas and points of view from our members. Please don't be shy about "bending my ear". This is, after all, "our" chapter.

Now that more and more Vietnam Vets are nearing retirement or already retired they may be more open to joining VVA 295 now that they have more time. A surprising number of Vietnam Vets don't even know we exist and what we do. We need to reach out to them and invite them to visit with and hopefully join us. Let's all make it a priority to reach out to our "brothers & sisters" and get them involved. If they don't qualify for VVA membership or even if they do they can join AVVA and participate in their fine programs.

I have rattled on long enough.

Again, thank you for your faith in me.

Bob Parsons, VVA 295 Vice-President
Vietnam 1966-67-68

National Moment of Remembrance

President Bill Clinton signed the National Moment of Remembrance Act in 2000, which asks Americans to pause and observe a National Moment of Remembrance at 3pm local time on Memorial Day. A number of organizations throughout the country observe this moment, including Amtrak (their trains blast their whistles), Major League Baseball and NASCAR



The Bunker

Hours: 10am—2pm on Sunday.

Your purchases at The Bunker support VVA 295 and Fort Harrison Veterans Center.

April 30—May 4 The Bunker will be setup at VA

The Veteran Magazine Project

Repurpose your copy of The Veteran. VVA board member Jim Pierce brought this terrific idea before the board and membership at our last meeting. After you have read your copy of The Veteran, mark out your name and address. Attach your business card or the VVA business card which is available at the VVA office. Take it to your local library and ask if want your issues of The Veteran. Jim said they were very happy to take his issue. Do this each month to reach out to Veterans in the area and maybe even gain new members. Thank you Jim for a great idea!

AVVA Chapter 295

Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America is the extended family of VVA. We are made up of Veterans of all eras, families and friends of Veterans, and all persons who support Veterans’ issues. AVVA works in conjunction with VVA striving to ensure that Vietnam Veterans, as well as ALL Veterans, attain the honor, respect, and benefits they deserve. We are here to help Veterans and VVA Chapter 295 with their programs and activities.

Check Out the New Vendor for AVVA and Agent Orange Products

Find their link on the AVVA website, under AVVA Products / The Agent Orange Store. <http://www.agentorangestore.com> Make sure you say AVVA when you place order.

Roudebush VA Medical Center is needing volunteer drivers. Veterans Transportation Service provides Veterans a ride to their medical center or outlying clinic. This is a great way to help Veterans. To volunteer, visit or call Volunteer Services, 317-988-2734 or call driver Pat Parrish, 317-632-4263 (he’s a VVA member).

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 meat & tuna, pasta and noodles. You can visit their website to see what they do. <http://www.hvafofindiana.org/>

HVAF needs volunteers. Volunteers help sort and stock donations that come to HVAF. They provide essential services to Veterans to help promote them towards self-sufficiency. Volunteers also beautify housing properties by raking leaves, painting and landscaping. Call 317-951-0688 or email hvaf@hvaf.org

Company/Coffee All Veterans WWII to present day are invited for free coffee & safe space to share.

Come every Tuesday 10am—2pm at Higher Grounds Coffee Shop inside Geist Christian Church, Promise Rd & 126th St. Fishers. If you have questions, contact John Smitha 317-439-6304 or jonsmitha@comcast.net

Fifteen American Service Members Accounted for in 2017

4/26/2018 <http://www.vvmf.org/news/article=Fifteen-American-service-members-accounted-for-in-2017>

Each spring, VVMF (Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund) works with the Department of Defense to make sure The Wall is accurate. Names are added for those service members who have met the Department of Defense criteria for addition to The Wall, having sustained wounds in Vietnam from which they eventually perished. Those service members who in the last year were returned or accounted for have their statuses changed from MIA to known dead. For 2017, there were no additions to The Wall. Fifteen service members who previously were missing were accounted for and those service members will be officially welcomed home at the Memorial Day ceremony. Beside each name on The Wall is a symbol designating status. The diamond symbol denotes confirmed death. The cross represents missing in action. When a service member's remains are returned or accounted for, the diamond is superimposed over the cross. These 15 service members were accounted for:

- Robert R. Barnett; CAPT, USAF; Gladewater, TX; Panel 6E, Line 91
- James R. Bauder; CAPT, USN; La Canada, CA; Panel 10E, Line 126
- David T. Dinan III; 1LT, USAF; Nutley, NJ; Panel 29W, Line 62
- Charles B. Goodwin; LCDR, USN; Haskell, TX; Panel 2E, Line 78
- Donald J. Hall; CMSGT, USAF; Stroud, OK; Panel 14E, Line 129
- Roosevelt Hestle Jr; COL, USAF; Orlando, FL; Panel 8E, Line 134
- Robert E. Holton; CAPT, USAF; Butte, MT; Panel 33W, Line 14
- John A. House II; CAPT, USMC; Pelham, NY; Panel 22E, Line 87
- John D. Killen III; LCPL, USMC; Des Moines, IA; Panel 22E, Line 88
- Glyn L. Runnels; CPL, USMC; Birmingham, AL; Panel 22E, Line 90
- William C. Ryan Jr; 1LT, USMC; Bogota, NJ; Panel 25W, Line 54
- Martin R. Scott; COL, USAF; Tulsa, OK; Panel 6E, Line 12
- Joseph S. Smith; CAPT, USAF; Assumption, IL; Panel 4W, Line 106
- Daniel W. Thomas; CAPT, USAF; Danbury, IA; Panel 3W, Line 102
- James B. White; MAJ, USAF; St. Petersburg, FL; Panel 16W, Line 119

The Department of Defense sets the criteria for the makes decisions about whose names are eligible for inscription on The Wall. VVMF pays for the name additions and status changes, and works with the National Park Service to ensure long term preservation and maintenance of The Wall.

VVA Shirts

We are selling a new green polo shirt to help raise money for The Moving Wall. This has the outline of Indiana. At the top, inside it reads: "Sammy L. Davis Chapter". Included is a circle with the American Flag and the country of Vietnam. Around the inside edge it reads; "In recognition of those who served in Vietnam".

Under the circle reads; "Indianapolis VVA 295. These shirts are \$29.00 Each, and come in sizes-M,L,XL,XXL, and XXXL. Order one or more today. They will look nice at The Moving Wall, or where ever else you decide to wear them. Show your pride in the Chapter and help fund The Moving Wall. Order today. Thank you. Please call 765-618-4067, with your name, phone number, size, and quantity. When the shirts are ready I will call you, and you can pick them up at the building. Money is due at this time.



Thank you. Larry

Flyers attached to newsletter:

Real ID Checklist, VEText, Carmel H.S. Veterans Program, Dedication of Hancock County Memorial, and The Moving Wall

Real ID Documentation Checklist

As of October 1, 2020, a Real ID-compliant driver's license, permit, or identification card will be required to board commercial airplanes, travel by Amtrak trains, or enter certain federal facilities.

Bring the appropriate documentation from each category below to your local BMV Branch to upgrade to a Real ID.



WILL YOUR LICENSE FLY?

REALID.IN.gov | 888-692-6841

1 - IDENTITY

Present **ONE** original document to establish identity. **Name change documents must be provided. More information at the bottom of this page.**

- Unexpired U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card.*
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a U.S. state or territory office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in your state of birth.*++
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) issued by U.S. Department of State: Forms FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545.*
- Certificate of Citizenship: Forms N-560 or N-561.*
- Certificate of Naturalization issued by DHS: Forms N-550 or N-570.*
- Unexpired Permanent Resident Card: Form I-551.*
- Unexpired foreign passport in your name with English subtitles or translation, with an unexpired U.S. Visa and an approved I-94.
- Unexpired foreign passport without a U.S. Visa if your authorized admittance and lawful status can be verified by DHS.*
- Unexpired Employment Authorization Card: Form I-766.
- Unexpired Indiana Real ID credential.
- Other documentation as determined by DHS or the BMV Commissioner.

2 - LAWFUL STATUS

Present **ONE** original document to establish lawful status. **More than one document may be required.**

- Unexpired U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card.
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a U.S. state or territory office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in your state of birth.*++
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) issued by U.S. Department of State: Forms FS-240, DS-1350 or FS-545.
- Certificate of Citizenship: Forms N-560 or N-561.
- Certificate of Naturalization issued by DHS: Forms N-550 or N-570.
- Unexpired Permanent Resident Card: Form I-551.
- Unexpired foreign passport in your name with English subtitles or translation, with an unexpired U.S. Visa and an approved I-94.
- Unexpired foreign passport without a U.S. Visa if your authorized admittance and lawful status can be verified by DHS.
- Proof of application for asylum in the U.S.: Form I-589.
- I-797 Notice of Action received by DHS and accompanied by other U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) documents.
- Other USCIS lawful status documents that can be used to verify lawful status with DHS.

* Document may establish identity and lawful status.

++ If born outside the U.S., delayed birth certificates do not establish lawful status.

3 - SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Present **ONE** original document with your name and Social Security number to establish Social Security number.

- Social Security Card.
- W-2 Form.
- SSA- 1099 Form.
- A non-SSA - 1099 Form.
- Pay stub containing the applicant's name and Social Security number.

All Social Security information will be verified. If you are unable to document eligibility for a Social Security number (SSN), you must provide proof of ineligibility from the Social Security Administration (SSA). Letters that are more than 60 days old will not be accepted.

The applicant's SSN presented to the BMV must match the information that the SSA has in its records for the SSN or for the SSA documentation.

4 - INDIANA RESIDENCY

Present **TWO** original documents with your name and Indiana residential address to establish Indiana residency. **Documents must contain a residential address. A post office box will not be accepted.**

- U.S. Postal Service change of address confirmation.
- An Indiana voter registration card.
- Survey of your Indiana property.
- Utility company, credit card, doctor, or hospital bill issued within 60 days of application.
- Residence mortgage or similar loan contract, or lease or rental contract.
- Bank statement or bank transaction receipt, dated within 60 days of application.
- Current motor vehicle loan payment book.
- Valid homeowner's, renter's, or car insurance policy dated within one year of application.
- W-2 Form, property tax, excise tax bill, or Social Security Administration or other pension or retirement annual benefit summary statement, dated within current or immediately prior year.
- Pre-printed pay stub, dated within 60 days of application.
- Indiana Family and Social Services Administration child support check stub, Medicaid or Medicare benefit statement dated within 60 days of application.
- Valid Indiana handgun permit.
- First-class mail from any federal or state court or agency, dated within 60 days of application.
- Valid and active ID card issued pursuant to the Indiana Attorney General's address confidentiality program under IC 5-26.5.

IMPORTANT NAME CHANGE INFORMATION: If your name has been legally changed and now differs from your identity document(s) (e.g., birth certificate or passport), proof of the name change must be provided in order to obtain a Real ID. Acceptable documents supporting a legal name change include a marriage license, divorce decree, or court order. In all cases, the documents must show a clear trail of name changes from the name on the identity document to the current name. *For more information, visit REALID.IN.gov.*



VEText

What is VEText?

- An automated, *interactive* text message system to remind Veterans of upcoming VA appointments. **Veterans can respond to confirm or cancel an appointment.**

Why is VA introducing VEText?

- For one reason or another, Veterans miss more than 9 million health care appointments each year. Sometimes it is hard to keep track of the times or it may be difficult to cancel appointments. This program will send timely text alerts. Veterans can confirm or cancel the date and time with a simple text back. VA will then offer any newly opened appointment times to other Veterans.

What does VEText do?

- Reminds Veterans of appointments.
- Allows Veterans a useful cancellation option if desired.
- Allows a download of the reminder to a calendar file.

When will VEText start?

- **Starts Tuesday, May 1st** for Primary Care, Mental Health, Dental, and Poly Trauma appointments.

What do Veterans need to do to get started with VEText?

- Update or provide an active cell phone number with VA staff
- No need to opt-in; text appointment reminders will occur automatically.
- Veterans may STOP the texts by following the instructions within the texts.
- No cell phone? No problem. **VetText** does not replace other reminders. It simply improves the experience.
- VEText does not show personal information—just a simple reminder of an appointment and offers tools to manage the appointment.

Attention:

Cold War/Vietnam War Veterans

Would you like to share the history of your military experiences with younger generations?

Please join us at Carmel High School for a series of round table discussions on May 11, 2018 from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Feel free to arrive & leave at any time during those hours.)

The program will provide students with first-hand accounts of the events they are studying in class.

If you are interested in taking part in one or more of these sessions, please contact James Ziegler at jziegler@ccs.k12.in.us or 317-748-3660 by May 8, 2018

Carmel High School
520 E. Main St.
Carmel, IN 46032

(Parking is available in the Front Lot, by Doors 1 & 2, and outside the Freshman Center, Door 13—Please enter through Doors 2, 4, or 13)

THANK YOU for your service to our country!

Food and Beverages will be provided all day.

Ken Walters

Dedication of the

Southern Hancock County Veterans Memorial

May 12, 2018 at 1:00 P.M.



Concept Drawing Courtesy of Nola Albrecht



Completed Veterans Memorial by
American Legion Post 182

Brought to you by:



The American Legion Family



Located at:

Sugar Creek Park

4161 South CR700 W

There will be music, food and entertainment for kids. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Avoid traffic jam... Free parking at NPHS and New Palestine Elementary with free transport to site.



Half scale replica of Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC

May 31– June 4, 2018

Fort Harrison, Indiana

NEW LOCATION: Lee Road & Memorial Park Dr
One Block South of Lawrence YMCA



The Moving Wall Ceremony: Sat, June 2

1:00pm Prelude Music
1:30pm Native American Blessing
1:55pm Helicopter Fly-in
2:00pm Welcome, Posting Colors,
National Anthem, Invocation,
Pledge of Allegiance, Speakers,
St. Crispin's Day, Laying Wreaths,
Roll Call Of Missing,
21 Gun Salute, Taps, Retire Colors

Master Modeler Display, The Bunker

Brought to you by
Vietnam Veterans of America,
Chapter 295
Fort Harrison Veteran's Center
City of Lawrence, IN

For more info, 317-547-4748

OPEN 24 HOURS