



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



**August 2021 Newsletter**



Purple Heart Day on August 7 is the kind of day created to give back. It's a day for Americans to remember and honor the men and women who bravely represented their country and were wounded or killed whilst serving. These people are decorated with a Purple Heart in the name of the President, and this day is for remembering them and their sacrifice. Purple Heart Day was first observed in 2014 and has been observed every year since. It's a chance to reflect on the bravery of those who have fought for the U.S. and to ensure that their courage is never forgotten.

You are invited to celebrate National Purple Heart Day on August 14 with the Howard County Vietnam Veterans at 11am. Join HCVVO as they honor those that have been given a Purple Heart.

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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 6:00pm  
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    317-844-3554 or cell 317-294-4607  
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## VVA 295 Officers

President	Larry Shaw	comdshaw@yahoo.com	765-618-4067
Vice President	Don McFarland	dmac101@comcast.net	812-593-2554
Secretary	Mike Dolan	michaeledolan@prodigy.net	317-374-5578
Treasurer	Fred Bishop	fbishop89@gmail.com	765-621-5515
Chaplain	Robert Wright	gospelbobw@gmail.com	317-714-4618

## Board of Directors

Steve Anderson	asteton@aol.com	317-431-9683
Ron Ayres	ron.ayers@att.net	317-319-6968
Rick Brown	rbrown46140@gmail.com	317-509-2022
Mike Hamm	indyhambone@sbcglobal.net	317-371-9833
Verne Hanson	ver61el.handon@comcast.net	317-439-7982
Steve Mabrey	spmabrey@comcast.net	317-459-6255
Ken Walters	kennethgwalters@gmail.com	317-372-2231
Dennis Smalling	smallingindy@sbcglobal.net	317-313-1577

## AVVA Liaison

Tony Gigli	Anthony.gigli@gmail.com	317-965-1976
Holly Tookolo	htookolo@indy.rr.com	317-294-4607

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## WARRIORS HOPE

Every Thursday evening at 6pm you will find John Smitha at the Fort Harrison Veteran Center leading and helping a group of veterans with fellowship. Coffee and donuts are usually available. All veterans are welcome. It is good to talk with other veterans. If you have questions, call John Smitha, 317-439-6304.



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**Reminder: The Veteran Magazine is online at [www.vvaveteran.org](http://www.vvaveteran.org)**

**The July/August issue is out there now. Read the article about Charlie Hobbs who has been the National Membership Chairman, especially when Charlie describes the Howard County Vietnam Veterans reunion when he setup a booth for membership.**

# Important Dates

- Aug 4** Coast Guard founded 1790
- Aug 7** National Purple Heart Day & Operation Desert Shield begins 1990
- Aug 11** VVA 295 Board Meeting at 6pm; Regular meeting at 7pm
- Aug 14 & 15** 15th Annual Gathering of Veterans & Patriots at American Huey 369, across from Grissom
- Aug 29** Fort Harrison Veteran Center Support Ride
- Sept 6** Labor Day
- Sept 11** Patriot Day
- Sept 13-19** Howard County All Veterans Reunion
- Sept 17** National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Sept 18** Pow/Mia Ride to Remember—US Air Force Birthday 1947
- Sept 26** Gold Star Mother's & Families' Day

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## THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- Aug 7, 1964** Congress passes Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, giving President Johnson the power to take whatever actions he deems necessary to defend Southeast Asia.
- Aug 1, 1965** Operation Market Time monitors the sea traffic along the Vietnam coast to cut off supplies to the Viet Cong. It was reassigned from the U.S. Seventh Fleet to a newly created coastal surveillance force controlled by the Navy.
- Aug 22-Oct 2, 1965** U.S. Task Force Collins from the 101st Airborne Division conducts Operation Highland, a clearing operation to secure An Khe base for the incoming 1st Cavalry Division in Binh Province, II Corps.
- Aug 1-25, 1966** The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), South Korean, and ARVN forces conduct Operation Paul Revere II, a border screening/surveillance and area control operation in Darlac and Pleiku Provinces.
- Aug 6-22, 1966** U.S. Marines and ARVN forces conduct Operation Colorado/Lien Ket-52 to drive the North Vietnamese from the Que Son Valley in Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces.
- Aug 11-28, 1967** The 1st Marine Division conducts Operation Cochise, a continuation of search and destroy operations in the old Union II area in the Que Son Valley, Quang Tin Province.
- Aug 27, 1969** The 1st and 2nd Brigades of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division depart Vietnam. The 3rd Brigade remains in country, reassigned to the 25th Infantry Division.



### The Bunker

**Hours 10am-2pm Sunday**

Your purchases support VVA 295 and Fort Harrison Veterans Center. The Bunker is scheduled to be at the VA most of the year. Steve is still looking for another manager to help with the Bunker. Right now Steve and Wallace Vaughn take turns as manager at VA. To volunteer call Holly 317-294-4607; to manage, call Steve 317-459-6255.

Hours 7am-3pm at VA

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## Indiana Vietnam Veterans Free Gift

To get your free gift, call Fred Bishop 765-621-5515 so you can get this after the VVA 295 meeting in the parking lot on Wednesday August 11.

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## Facts about Huey, Bell UH-1

- 7,013 Hueys served in Vietnam from 1962-1975
- 3,229 Hueys were lost while having a 3-6 month life expectancy
- 1,151 Huey Pilots were killed in Vietnam
- 1,231 Huey aircrew were killed in Vietnam
- 11,000,000 Million plus Huey flight hours were flown in Vietnam
- 20,000 Hueys built since the first prototype flew in 1956
- New Bell UH-1Ys are still being built for the Marines at \$29 Million per helicopter
- United States Air Force is still flying Hueys
- Over 50 different models of the Huey have been built by Bell Helicopter.
- Hueys have been built in Germany, Italy, Japan and Taiwan
- Over 50 Overseas militaries have had the Huey in their inventory
- Hueys are flown commercially all over the US and throughout the World
- And most importantly, 18 year old have been serving on Hueys beginning in the 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's and still today!

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## National Museum of Military Vehicles

A private collection of military vehicles has turned into a full scale museum in Wyoming, located near Jackson Hole and Yellowstone National Park (Dubois, WY). The man behind it says he does it to honor veterans' sacrifices to America, to preserve history and educate others. That man is Dan Starks. This museum displays about 200 vehicles and recently opened new Korean War and Vietnam War exhibits. Starks is not a veteran. His father served as an officer in the Navy in WWII. Starks has a close friend who served in combat in the Vietnam War. Starks has read every military book he could get his hands on. He has been fascinated with American military history since he was a kid. To read more on this story, go to:

<https://apnews.com/article/wyoming-lifestyle-travel-museums-health-c91cda16d0c8b62444963c98fb44ba51>

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**Bunker Schedule at VA**

We could still use more volunteers. Call Holly to volunteer 317-294-4607.  
Steve is still looking for another manager so they can take turns at the VA.  
To manage, call Steve 317-459-6255  
Hours open at VA are 7am-3pm.



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**VVA Service Officers**

**Dennis Smalling**  
317-313-1577  
smallingindy@sbcglobal.net

**Michael Dolan**  
317-374-5578  
michaedolan@prodigy.net

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**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.hvafindiana.org/>

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**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).

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**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](mailto:hvaf@hvaf.org)

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**Member Speaker Program at Meetings**– Call Fred Bishop, 765-621-5515 to sign up.

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**Community Guest Speaker at Meetings**

Call Larry Shaw to schedule a speaker from our community. 765-618-4067.

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**Membership Report**

VVA membership total as of June 30, 2021 the VVA membership total is 342

By Steve Anderson

AVVA membership total as of June 30, 2021 is 32.

By Holly Tookolo

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We voted to not participate in the **Indy Stand Down** in September because they limited us to one table. I want to say thank you to Jim Cinkoske and Bob Price for taking the SPAM and other food to HVAF. Thank you



**FORT HARRISON VETERANS CENTER**

9450 E. 59th Street  
Lawrence, Indiana 46216

*Home of  
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 295, Rolling Thunder® Indiana Chapter #1,  
Warriors Hope, American Legion Posts 438, Navy Club Ship 35,  
Vietnam Veterans Indiana State Council  
Indy Sea Cadets, Vets for Vets, Task Force Omega*

**Support Ride and Fundraiser  
Program Agenda  
Sunday August 29, 2021**

**09:00 – 09:45** Registration \$20 per rider and \$5 for passenger

**09:45 – 10:00** Open ceremony

**10:00 –** KSU and Travel to Henry County Memorial Park, New Castle, IN

**11:20 –** Arrive at Henry County Memorial Park

**11:30 – 12:25** Guided Tour of the Park

**12:30 – 13:30** Lunch at the Park

**13:30 –** Self Guided tour of the Park Museum and Monuments

**Note: 50/50 Sales** (6) tickets for \$5.00 or (30) for \$20.00

Point of contact: Vern Rensing 317-403-8979, [vern81006@gmail.com](mailto:vern81006@gmail.com)

Greg Thompson 317-691-5109, [wgthome@aol.com](mailto:wgthome@aol.com)

**Thank you for joining us on this special event.**



**We provide a meeting place of our Veterans**



**VVA REGION 5  
CONFERENCE  
SEPT. 24 -26<sup>TH</sup> 2021  
COLUMBUS, OHIO**

**Double Tree by Hilton  
(Info on reverse side)**

.....DETACH HERE.....RETURN W/ PAYMENT.....

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_ EXTRA MEALS (SPOUSE) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Buckeye State Council

614-228-0188

*"See reverse side for details"*

Reservations can be made at:

**Double Tree by Hilton**

**175 Hutchinson Ave.**

**Columbus, Ohio 43235**

Direct line: 614-885-3334

***Mention: VVA Region 5 conference***

Room rate: \$99.00 per/night plus tax. (inc. 2 Breakfast buffets)

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John Glenn - Columbus International Airport served by all major airlines  
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Conference Registration fee: **\$35.00**

*Registration form on front side of flier*

Registration fee cover's: Fri. night Welcome Home party & Sat. night banquet  
& Conference material

Meals only option: **\$25.00**

Check made out to: **Buckeye State Council**

Send check to: 35 E. Chestnut St. Suite 501

Columbus, Ohio 43215  
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**NOTES:**

National Veterans Memorial & Museum tours begin Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Convention resolutions, Constitution changes begin on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Candidate forum will also be held on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Friday & Saturday lunch will be on your own.

There are several eateries around the hotel.

The Fri. Night party is BIG 10 theme & Saturday night banquet is Business Casual  
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***Registration deadline: AUGUST 15, 2021***