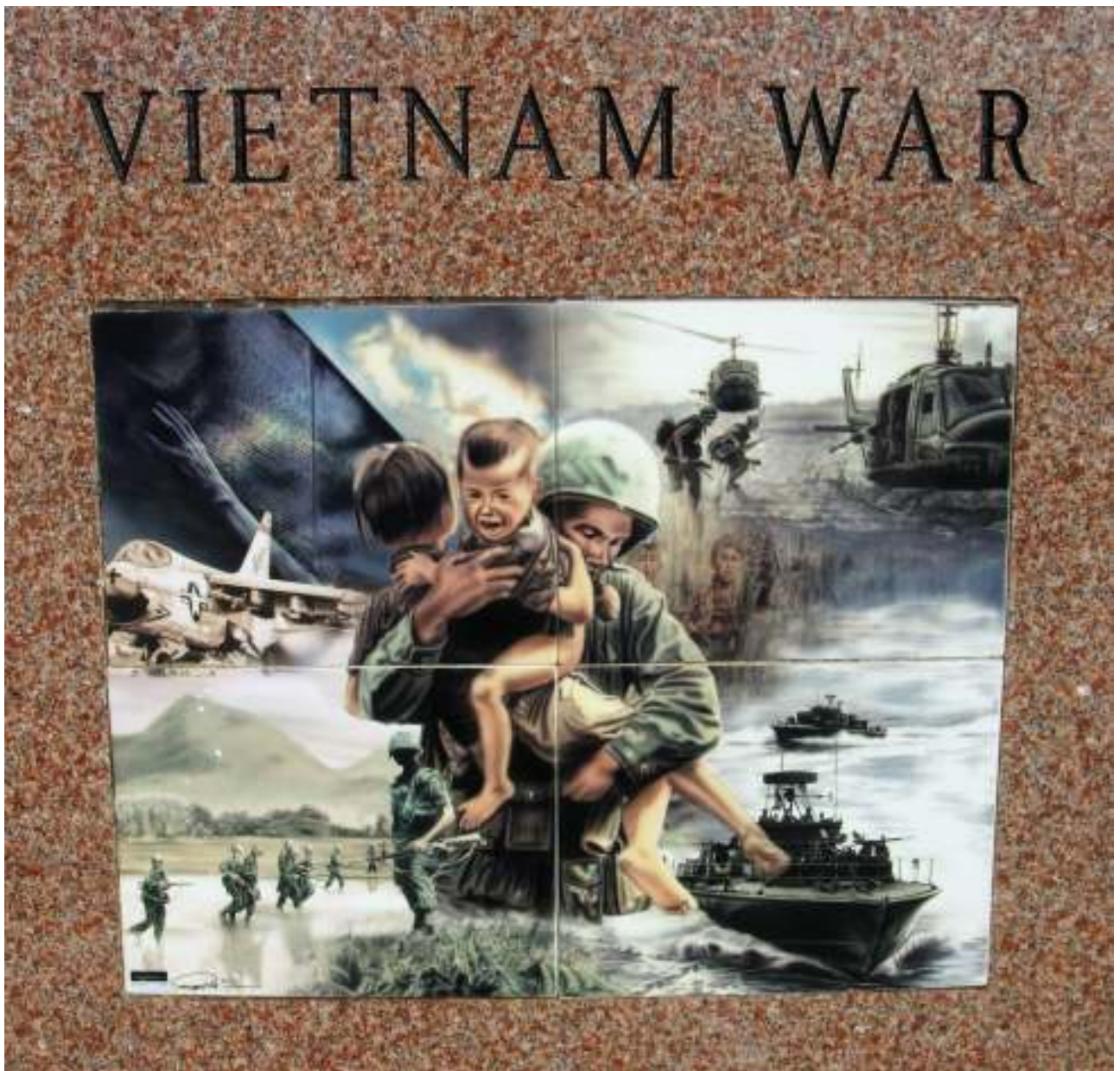




**Volume 15 • Issue 08**

**VVA Chapter 12 ♦ Newsletter**

**August 2015**



**Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12  
PO Box 276, Allenhurst, NJ 07711**

**'For those who fought for it, Freedom has a special flavor the protected will never know.'**



## OFFICERS AND E-BOARD

Dennis Beauregard	President	908-902-8789	<a href="mailto:vva12p@verizon.net">vva12p@verizon.net</a>
Ernie Diorio	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	732-245-5552	<a href="mailto:litetrop67@aol.com">litetrop67@aol.com</a>
Don Davison	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	732-988-4056	<a href="mailto:soulpony@aol.com">soulpony@aol.com</a>
Tony Corbella	Secretary	732-272-8770	<a href="mailto:paddybella@optonline.net">paddybella@optonline.net</a>
Richard Brandon	Treasurer	518-966-8347	<a href="mailto:richbrandon1952@yahoo.com">richbrandon1952@yahoo.com</a>

## COMMITTEES

Bob Lopez	Minority Affairs	732-988-9241	<a href="mailto:seabees7@verizon.net">seabees7@verizon.net</a>
Charles Wuth	PTSD	732-241-1846	<a href="mailto:cwuth@verizon.net">cwuth@verizon.net</a>
John Rahill	Transportation, Cremains	732-495-2593	<a href="mailto:gladnan@juno.com">gladnan@juno.com</a>
Don Davison	School Speakers Program	732-988-4056	<a href="mailto:soulpony@aol.com">soulpony@aol.com</a>
Tom Milmoie	Agent Orange	732-859-8783	<a href="mailto:milmoe7@aol.com">milmoe7@aol.com</a>
Ernie Diorio	School Speaker Program	732-245-5552	<a href="mailto:litetrop67@aol.com">litetrop67@aol.com</a>
Bob Hopkins	Membership, Grievance	732-531-2574	<a href="mailto:herc3000@aol.com">herc3000@aol.com</a>
	Chaplain		
Bucky Grimm	POW/MIA	732-222-9376	<a href="mailto:wheat1111@comcast.net">wheat1111@comcast.net</a>
Rich Gough	Product Sales, Cremains	732-539-0206	<a href="mailto:rpg3706@aol.com">rpg3706@aol.com</a>
	Public Affairs		
Rich Magovern	Cremains, Community	732-842-2950	<a href="mailto:richandnema@verizon.net">richandnema@verizon.net</a>
—	Affairs		
Michael Quilty	Homeless Vets, Car	732-939-8938	<a href="mailto:quiltym@gmail.com">quiltym@gmail.com</a>
-	Show		
Ernie Diorio	Finance, Fund Raising	732-245-5552	<a href="mailto:litetrop67@aol.com">litetrop67@aol.com</a>
Joe McCreary	Veterans' Health Care	732-228-7852	<a href="mailto:joecmbg@yahoo.com">joecmbg@yahoo.com</a>
Dan Higgins	Cremains, Product Sales	732-581-9715	<a href="mailto:danielhiggins123@coccast.net">danielhiggins123@coccast.net</a>

## STATE COUNCIL DELEGATES

Michael Berman, Delegate  
Paul Bausch, Delegate  
Tony Ponzio, Delegate

Mike Quilty, Alternate Delegate  
Dan Higgins, Alternate Delegate

## OTHER CONTACTS

Margaret Wojciechowicz	VVA National Service Officer	973-297-3227	<a href="mailto:margaretwojciechowicz@va.gov">margaretwojciechowicz@va.gov</a>
Bob Parrella	AVVA Liaison	732-303-1689	<a href="mailto:bobpark4@aol.com">bobpark4@aol.com</a>
<b>Rob Ford</b>	<b>BITW Editer &amp; Web Master</b>	<b>732-687-3846</b>	<a href="mailto:nlvva12@gmail.com">nlvva12@gmail.com</a>



## **President's Message**

Once again, 8 Chapter members took a road trip, this time to Springfield Illinois, for VVA's 17<sup>th</sup> National Convention. Travel time of 15 hours each way went pretty easily with 4 drivers per car.

This year's convention was very well attended with 753 delegates coming from across the country, to cast their votes for VVA leadership for the next two years. The office of President, Secretary and Treasurer had no change. The candidates' for Vice President were Charlie Montgomery the President of CSCP and Marsh Four. The result was that Marsh will be serving her second term as National Vice President.

The results of the National Board of Directors by Regions were as follows:

Region 1: Michael King, Region 2 : Ted Wilkinson, Region 3 : Sara McVicker, Region 4 : Craig Tonjes , Region 5 : Tom Burke , Region 6 : Mike Demske , Region 7 : Dennis Andras, Region 8 : Ron Morgan, and Region 9 : Dick Southern.

For the office of Board Director - At Large, we had 20 candidates who had elected to run, including our own Past Region 2 Director and Past State Council President from New Jersey, Herb Worthington. The following were the results for the 10 position that were open: Charlie Hobbs- TN, Jerry Yamamoto- CA, Kerwin Stone – TX, Richard Delong – LA, Dan Stenvold – ND, Joe Kristek – NC, Pete Peterson – OK, Sandie Wilson – MI, Dave Simmon –WV, and Dottie Barickman – NE.

### **Cape May Coast Guard**

Will be honoring Vietnam Veterans for the 50 th Anniversary of the ending of the Vietnam War, on August 4, 2015 at 1830, Coast Station Cape May.

Vietnam Veterans of America Vice President Marsh Four will be reviewing the troop on behalf of VVA.

For all Veterans that wish to attend, Chapter 955 will be meeting at the main gate at 18:00, Contact: Vince Deprinzio VVA Southern Director at 1-609-827-7062

### **Chapter Picnic**

On August 9 , 2015 at noon the Chapter will be holding its annual family day picnic at the Ocean Rec center on West Park Ave , Ocean. Stop by and enjoy a great day with your fellow veterans and their family.

Mark your calendar September 13 ,2015 , Chapter 12 and the Veterans Committee of Middletown will be run a Welcome Home Picnic for Veterans and their family at VFW2179 . 1 Veterans Lane, Port Monmouth, this is a free event.

If you are will to help please call me at 908-902-8789

### **The Colonel**



**UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS**

The next Chapter meeting will be at the Chapter Picnic on Sunday, August 9, 2015 at the Ocean Township Rec Center and Pool, Park Ave., Oakhurst, NJ.

**Chapter Picnic (flyer)**

Guest Speaker at the Sept. Meeting (flyer)

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show (flyer)

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Welcome Home Picnic (flyer)

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

8/7 Dan Higgins

8/23 Rob Ford

**Anyone born in August ?? Please let me know so I can put it here!!**

**Welcome New Members**

**Condolences to:**

\*\*\*\*\*

If you wish to post a birthday or anniversary please submit the info by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for the next month's news letter.



# IT'S PICNIC TIME!

Chapter 12s Annual Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 9, 2015**, from 12:00-7:00 P.M.

As usual, we will be holding it at the Ocean Township Community Pool and Tennis Facility, West Park Ave., Ocean Township.

Admission cost to the facility is as follows:

Under 2 years of age	No charge
2-4 years old	\$4
5-11 years old	\$7
12-61 years old	\$8
<b>*62 and older</b>	<b>\$5 *Tell them at gate – Otherwise you'll be charged adult price.</b>

These are the facility charges and we make no money on the entrance fee. When you arrive at the front gate, give them the ages of all in your party and it will be checked off on a list. **Do not pay at the door.** We will collect the money in the picnic area.

Because of a requirement for organizations to provide liability coverage, the event will be listed either under **Bob Hopkins Picnic or VVA Chapter 12**. As a Township resident, I booked the facility under my name, but hope to have a Certificate of Insurance from National. There are two important rules that **must** be followed; **no glass containers** are permitted and **no alcoholic beverages** may be brought into the facility.

We will have the **Sweets and Treats** table and the best home made dessert will win a prize. Only home made desserts are judged, but you can bring other desserts if you wish. The Chapter will provide all the soft drinks and food. Bring your appetite with you!

We normally ask you to contact us in advance, but few do and we always have enough food for all, so only contact us if you have a question.

Bob Hopkins (732) 531-2574  
Dennis Beauregard (908) 902-8789  
Ernie Diorio (732) 245-5552

Join Us

4<sup>th</sup>

CAR SHOW

J  
entertainment  
for all

Presented by

Food  
Trophies



To Support & Benefit



NEW

NEW JERSEY VIETNAM VETERANS' MEMORIAL VIETNAM

ERA MUSEUM & EDUCATIONAL CENTER

**Saturday, October 3, 2014**

At the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center

Exit 116 off the Garden State Parkway

10AM - 4PM (Raindate Sunday, Oct 4)

All registration fees go directly to support the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and the Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center. \$20 donation to register vehicle & driver, \$5 donation per spectator. Children under 12 are free.

**For additional information call Herb at 732-849-5700**

**Guest Speaker**

VVA Monthly Meeting

**9/2/15**

Robert J. Brown

US Navy CPO (Ret)

Veterans Service Officer

Division of Veterans Services

State of NJ Dept. of Military and Veterans  
Affairs

Q & A to follow





# **Vietnam War Commemoration**

## **Vietnam Era Veterans**

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

#### **“Welcome Home Picnic “**

**When: September 20, 2015. 12:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Rain or shine**

**Picnic Location: VFW Post 2179  
1 Veterans Lane  
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758**

**Gps+++ Directions: 460 Route 36  
Port Monmouth, NJ**

**Picnic Commemorative Gift for All**

**Picnic Menu: Soda, Water, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Bake Beans and Water Melon.**

**Governor Christie Announces Continuation of Vets4Warriors Program**  
*Peer to Peer Support Program for Veterans, Service Members, and Families will  
Continue with State Funds*

For Immediate Release  
Friday, July 3, 2015

Contact: Brian Murray  
Nicole Sizemore

[609-777-2600](tel:609-777-2600)

**Trenton, NJ**—Governor Christie today announced that the Vets4Warriors Program, operated by Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care, will be able to continue operations with State support. This announcement follows news that the U.S. Department of Defense may discontinue federal funding for the program. New Jersey's Fiscal Year 2016 budget includes \$8 million to ensure and expand access to health care for veterans in our State; a portion of those funds will be used to support the Vets4Warriors program.

"The Vets4Warriors Program offers an invaluable resource to our nation's service men and women in need," said Governor Christie. "I am committed to continuing mutual efforts with our congressional delegation in preserving funding for this important program. In the meantime, the State of New Jersey will maintain program funding for this year as we work to identify and explore resource options for the future."

Governor Christie's action demonstrates the Administration's strong commitment to New Jersey veterans and their families. This includes creating and enhancing assistance tools that provide financial support and peer counseling services through the New Jersey National Guard State Family Readiness Council, as well as expanding the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs' successful Veterans Haven program to provide access to services for homeless veterans in the northern part of the state. In addition, the Administration has taken measures to connect veterans and employers to help military service members transition back into the civilian labor market through initiatives such as Helmets2Hardhats, Operation Hire a Jersey Hero and the VETeach program. Governor Christie also has signed legislation that awards high school diplomas to veterans who dropped out to serve in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam and strengthens the support network for military families after the death of a service member.

The Vets4Warriors Peer Support Line, which is available 24/7 and toll-free to all active duty, Reserve and National Guard members, is staffed entirely by veterans. The unique structure of Vets4Warriors allows individuals to receive support in a completely confidential, personal, non-threatening way from other veterans, who know the challenges of military life and the rigors of the transition to civilian life, since they have lived through it themselves.

Chris Kosseff, President of Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care expressed the sentiments of many in reaction to the news saying "I want to express my deepest gratitude to the Governor and the Legislature for keeping Vets4Warriors alive to support our service members and veterans and for keeping 40 veterans employed doing this important work; we look forward to continuing to serve those who keep us safe and free."

Since its inception in December 2011, Vets4Warriors has made over 130,000 veteran contacts and has continuously employed over 40 New Jersey veterans.

From: Paul Sutton  
Date: Jul 16, 2015 2:23:35 PM  
Subject: Camp Lejeune Family Member Program

For anyone who served @ MCB Camp LeJeune, NC from 1957 to 1987; or, was a dependent family member of those veterans...

<https://www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov/>

### Veterans Choice Program Tool Kit

From: F ARMINIO  
Date: Jul 3, 2015 5:44:27 PM  
Subject: Veterans Choice Program

<http://www.va.gov/opa/toolkit/>



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

[Print](#)

[Close Window](#)

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 7, 2015

No. 15-15

### Press Release

**Contact:**  
**Mokie Porter**  
**301-585-4000, Ext. 146**

Former POW William Robinson to Deliver Keynote Speech At Vietnam Veterans of America's 17th National Convention

(Washington, D.C.)— William A. Robinson, who spent more than seven-and-a-half years as a Vietnam War prisoner of war, will give the Keynote Speech to close out the Opening Ceremonies at Vietnam Veterans of America's 17th biennial National Convention on Wednesday morning, July 22, at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, Illinois. The event is free and open to the public.

While serving as a crew chief aboard a U.S. Air Force Rescue helicopter, Airman First Class Robinson was shot down and captured in North Vietnam on September 20, 1965. After a brief time in the Hanoi Hilton, he was held until 1973 in a series of other brutal North Vietnamese POW camps. He is the longest-held enlisted POW in American military history.

"Bill Robinson is an engaging speaker and has an amazing and inspiring story to tell," said VVA National President John Rowan. "I am sure his Keynote will be one of the most memorable events of the Convention, and will get off to a rousing start."

More than eight-hundred delegates from VVA chapters across the country will join hundreds of other Vietnam veterans and guests in Springfield, along with members of the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA), which will also be holding its National Convention.

In addition to Bill Robinson, other special guests who will take part in the Convention include Vietnam veterans Duery Felton, the former curator of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Collection; Walter Anderson, the writer, playwright, and former long-time editor-in-chief of Parade magazine; and Dr. Timothy Miller, the renowned plastic and reconstructive surgeon. Felton, Anderson, and Miller will be honored at the Awards Banquet on Saturday night, July 25.

*Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA's founding principle is "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."*



We've been informed that VA mistyped their C-123 help line which we passed along. The CORRECT number is (800) 749-8387. VA's web pages continue to show the correct number. Sorry for the confusion and hope this correction can be reflected in upcoming publications.

Wes

--

Wes Carter, Chair

Mission Statement: [VA Recognition of C-123 Veteran Agent Orange Exposure](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

To Presidents

Can you please put in your Chapter news letter that , a Veteran from Brick won this years 50/50.

\$10,050.00

The Colonel



From: F ARMINIO  
Date: Jul 14, 2015 2:00:36 AM  
Subject: VA says it may shut down hospitals to close \$2.5B budget gap

## VA says it may shut down hospitals to close \$2.5B budget gap

By MATTHEW DALY

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Department of Veterans Affairs may have to shut down some hospitals next month if Congress does not address a \$2.5 billion shortfall for the current budget year, VA officials warned Monday.

The VA told Congress that it needs to cover shortfalls caused by an increased demand by veterans for health care, including costly treatments for hepatitis C. The agency also is considering furloughs, hiring freezes and other steps to close a funding gap for the budget year that ends Sept. 30.

The VA said it wants authority to use up to \$3 billion from the new Veterans Choice program to close the budget gap, with as much as \$500 million going to treat hepatitis C. A single pill for the liver-wasting viral infection can cost up to \$1,000.

The Choice program, the centerpiece of a VA overhaul approved last year, makes it easier for veterans to receive federally paid medical care from local doctors. Congress approved \$10 billion over three years for the Choice program as it responded to a scandal over long waits for veterans seeking medical care and falsified records to cover up the delays. Deputy VA Secretary Sloan Gibson told Congress that VA health care sites experienced a 10.5 percent increase in workload for the one-year period since the scandal erupted in April 2014.

The VA needs flexibility from Congress to close the budget gap, Gibson said, adding that action is needed in the next three weeks to avoid drastic consequences.

Lawmakers from both parties faulted the VA for failing to announce the

impending shortfall before last month. Lawmakers also criticized the agency for failing to anticipate or fix budget problems, including a failed VA hospital project in Denver that is more than \$1 billion over budget.

Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, said he was troubled at "VA's continued lack of transparency and refusal to be forthright with Congress," but said, "veterans must not be penalized for VA's ongoing mismanagement." "This is far from the first time VA has disclosed problems far too late and turned its blatant mismanagement into a fiscal emergency," Miller said Monday night. He called on President Barack Obama to "step up and become engaged" in order to "ensure VA's incompetence does not shut down hospitals and deny veterans the care they have earned

# Call To Action

From: "Robert E. McNulty, Sr."  
Date: Jul 28, 2015 9:05:35 PM  
Subject: Call for Action!  
To: Dennis Beauregard <[vva12p@verizon.net](mailto:vva12p@verizon.net)>

During the month of August, members of the House of Representatives will be in their home districts. This would be a good time to visit with them and seek their co-sponsorship of HR1769, the Toxic Exposure Research Act. Currently only Congressmen LoBiondo and Smith have signed on as co-sponsors.

I have attached some info about the act along with a copy of VVA President Rowan's testimony on identical bill S901 (pages 2-4).

Do a little studying of the matter, set up an appointment and go meet with your member of Congress on this important legislation.

## Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015Act

In May, VVA started a concerted effort to support S901 and HR1769, the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015. This legislation:

Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to select a VA medical center to serve as the national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the biological children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of individuals exposed to toxic substances while serving as members of the Armed Forces that are related to such exposure.

Requires: (1) the Department of Defense (DOD) or the head of a federal agency to make available to the VA for review records held by DOD, an Armed Force, or that federal agency that might assist the VA in making determinations regarding individuals and descendants afflicted with a health condition as a result of such exposure; (2) the VA and DOD or such agency head to jointly establish a mechanism for the availability and review of records by the VA; and (3) the national center to employ at least one licensed clinical social worker to coordinate access of individuals to appropriate social and health care programs and to handle case management.

Establishes an Advisory Board to oversee and assess the national center and to advise the VA regarding the center's work.

Directs DOD to declassify documents (other than documents that would materially and immediately threaten national security) related to any known incident in which at least 100 members of the Armed Forces were exposed to a toxic substance that resulted in at least one case of an associated disability.

Directs the VA to conduct a national outreach and education campaign directed toward members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their family members to communicate information on: (1) incidents of exposure of members of the Armed Forces to toxic substances, health conditions resulting from such exposure, and the potential long-term effects; and (2) the national center. Requires DOD and the Department of Health and Human Services to assist the VA in implementing such campaign.

Currently there are 13 co-sponsors, none from NJ for S901. There are 74 co-sponsors for HR1769 including Congressman LoBiondo (NJ-2) and Congressman Smith (NJ-4).

May 15th, 2015 the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health forwarded the bill to the full committee by voice vote.

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs held a hearing on S901.

VVA also started an effort to get state legislators to introduce resolutions in support of this legislation. Here in New Jersey Senator Whelan has introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 174 which urges Congress and President of United States to enact H.R.1769 and S.901, "Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015." This bill was referred to the Senate Environment and Energy Committee.

Identical Bill Assembly Concurrent Resolution 239 was introduced by Assemblymen Vincent Mazzeo and Bob Andrzejczak and referred to the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee.

## **The National Association of Counties Passes Resolution in Support of the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015**



### **Commissioner Bill Hall and VVA Special Advisor Jack McManus celebrate passage of NACO's resolution of support**

After Lincoln County Commissioner Bill Hall attended an Agent Orange Town Hall meeting in Newport, Oregon, convened by Region 8 Director Tom Owen and VVA Chapter 411 President Tony Molina, he introduced a resolution in support of H.R. 1769 and S.901 to the Oregon Association of Counties. The resolution was then introduced at this week's annual meeting of the National Association of Counties by Commissioner Hall. The resolution in support of the Toxic Research Bill of 2015 was passed unanimously.

For more information on S.901 and H.R.1769, see [www.vva.org](http://www.vva.org)

# **DAV opposes age restrictions for Veterans Individual Unemployability benefits**

**DAV testified this week before the House Veterans Affairs' Committee in opposition of new proposed age standards for determining eligibility for veterans' individual unemployability (IU) benefits.**

**In June, the Government Accountability Office's IU Report identified several options to revise IU eligibility requirements. Included among these options was suspending IU payments to veterans who have passed Social Security's full retirement age (between 65 to 67, depending on the beneficiaries' birth year).**

**DAV strongly opposes any legislation or recommendation that would restrict entitlement to IU on the basis of age, and opposes the offset or reduction of IU benefits to a disabled veteran simply because they are in receipt of separate benefits under any other federal program.**

**"Age is not a determining factor in IU, nor should it be," said Assistant National Legislative Director Paul Varela during testimony. "While compensation is an age-neutral benefit, common sense suggests that age should be a factor in determining whether vocational rehabilitation is feasible, for reason that the effects of age diminish human faculties."**

**IU payments rose 30 percent from \$8.5 billion in 2009 to \$11 billion in 2013. DAV believes this growth is consistent with an increase in the number of seriously disabled veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, in addition to increases in claims processing, VA's intense outreach efforts, and expansion of presumptive disabilities and new rules governing claims for post-traumatic stress disorder. The increasing prevalence of service-connected PTSD and other mental health disorders, as well as those veterans with newly adjudicated compensation for Agent Orange exposure, may also account for the increase in IU ratings.**

**VA currently determines eligibility for IU benefits based on a veteran's inability to maintain substantial employment due to the severity of a service-connected disability, not because of age, voluntary withdrawal from work, or other factors.**

**"Because the purpose of VA compensation is to make up for the effects of service-connected disability, it should not be tied to factors extraneous to the character of the disability," said Varela. "It would be inappropriate to pay different levels of compensation based on age, for example, to deny IU to a younger veteran on the basis of age and award it to an older veteran with the same level of disability, or vice versa."**



**RIP**

## Remains of 36 Unidentified Marines from WWII Battle Return



U.S. Marines carry the remains of 36 unidentified Marines found at a World War II battlefield during a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Sunday, July 26, 2015, in Honolulu. (AP Photo/Marco Garcia)

Associated Press | Jul 27, 2015

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — The military and a private organization have brought home the remains of 36 [Marines](#) killed in one of World War II's bloodiest battles.

A group called History Flight recovered the remains from the remote Pacific atoll of Tarawa, the U.S. Marine Corps said. A ceremony was held Sunday in Pearl Harbor to mark their return.

History Flight has started identifying the remains, and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency will complete the effort, the Marines said. The Marines plan to return the remains to their families after they've been identified.

More than 990 U.S. Marines and 30 sailors died during the three-day Battle of Tarawa in 1943. Japanese machine gun fire killed scores of Marines when their boats got stuck on the reef at low tide during the U.S. amphibious assault. Americans who made it to the beach faced brutal hand-to-hand combat.

Only 17 of the 3,500 Japanese troops survived. Of 1,200 Korean slave laborers on the island, just 129 lived.

The U.S. quickly buried the thousands of dead on the tiny atoll. But the graves were soon disturbed as the [Navy](#) urgently built a landing strip to prepare for an attack on the next Pacific island on their path to Tokyo.

About 520 U.S. servicemen are still unaccounted for from the battle.

Preliminary work conducted by History Flight indicates the remains of 1st Lt. Alexander J. Bonnyman, Jr., a Marine who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, are among the 36 brought to Hawaii.

Gen. Joseph Dunford, the commandant of the Marines Corps, said in a statement he's pleased to learn of the discovery of the remains at Tarawa, the site of one of the service's most significant battles.

"It was also the first contested landing against a heavily fortified enemy, and a turning point in the development in our amphibious capability. The lessons learned at Tarawa paved the way for our success in the Pacific campaign and eventual end to the war," Dunford said.

History Flight brought attention to the Tarawa missing when its research indicated it had found the graves of 139 U.S. servicemen. The Marathon, Florida-based organization used ground-penetrating radar, reviewed thousands of military documents and interviewed veterans to narrow down possible grave sites.

# JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> AT THE HOME DEPOT







# VVA NATIONAL CONVENTION 2015









Ernie with ex-POW William Robinson, convention keynote speaker



# This Month's Bad Jokes

Thought this would be funny for all of us "almost" 70 guys.

Over 70, who gives a s...

I was standing at the bar one night, minding my own business.  
This fat ugly chick came up behind me, grabbed my butt and said,  
"You're kind of cute, you gotta a phone number?"

I said, "Yea, you gotta pen?"

She said "Yea, I got a pen."

I said, "You better get back in it before the farmer misses you."  
Cost me 6 stitches.

When you are over seventy . . . who gives a \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

I was talking to a girl in the bar last night. She said,  
"If you lost a few pounds, had a shave and got your hair cut, you'd look all right."

I said, "If I did that, I'd be talking to your friends over there instead of you."

When you are over seventy, who gives a \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

I was telling a girl in the pub about my ability to guess  
what day a woman was born just by feeling her boobs.

"Really" she said, "Go on then...try."

After about thirty seconds of fondling, she began to lose  
patience and said, "Come on, what day was I born?"

I said, "Yesterday."

When you are over seventy, who gives a \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

I got caught taking a pee in the swimming pool today.

The lifeguard shouted at me so loud, I nearly fell in.

When you are over seventy, who gives a \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

I went to the pub last night and saw a fat chick dancing on a table. I said, "Good legs."

The girl giggled and said, "Do you really think so."

I said, "Definitely! Most tables would have collapsed by now."

When you are over seventy, who gives a \*\*\*\*

---

## BURGLARY IN FLORIDA

Sometimes things that really happen are funnier than stuff made up. When southern Florida resident Nathan Radlich's house was burglarized recently, thieves ignored his wide screen plasma TV, his VCR, and even left his Rolex watch. What they did take, however, was a white box filled with a grayish-white powder (that's the way the police report described it.)

A spokesman for the Fort Lauderdale police said that it looked similar to high-grade cocaine, and they'd probably thought they'd hit the big time.

Later, Nathan stood in front of numerous TV cameras and pleaded with the burglars: "Please return the cremated remains of my sister Gertrude. She died three years ago."

The next morning, the bullet-riddled corpse of a local drug dealer known as Hoochie Pevens was found on Nathan's doorstep. The white box was here too; about half of Gertrude's ashes remained. Scotch taped to the box was this note which said, "Hoochie sold us the bogus blow, so we wasted Hoochie. Sorry we snorted your sister. No hard feelings. Have a nice day."

And you thought California was the land of fruits and nuts.

## WORST GOLF FOURSOME EVER

1. MONICA LEWINSKI
2. O. J. SIMPSON
3. TED KENNEDY
4. BILL CLINTON

WHY, YOU ASK?

Well, you're going to love this!

1. MONICA IS A HOOKER
2. O. J. IS A SLICER
3. TED CAN'T DRIVE OVER WATER, AND
4. BILL CAN'T REMEMBER WHICH HOLE HE PLAYED LAST

## *PROCLAMATION*

To the citizens of the United States of America from Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In light of your failure in recent years to nominate competent candidates for President of the USA and thus to govern yourselves, we hereby give notice of the revocation of your independence, effective immediately. (You should look up 'revocation' in the Oxford English Dictionary.)

Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will resume monarchical duties overall states, commonwealths, and territories (except North Dakota, which she does not fancy).

Your new Prime Minister, David Cameron, will appoint a Governor for America without the need for further elections.

Congress and the Senate will be disbanded. A questionnaire may be circulated next year to determine whether any of you noticed.

To aid in the transition to a British Crown dependency, the following rules are introduced with immediate effect:

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1. The letter 'U' will be reinstated in words such as 'colour,' 'favour,' 'labour' and 'neighbour.' Likewise, you will learn to spell 'doughnut' without skipping half the letters, and the suffix '-ize' will be replaced by the suffix '-ise.' Generally, you will be expected to raise your vocabulary to acceptable levels. (look up 'vocabulary').

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2. Using the same twenty-seven words interspersed with filler noises such as "like" and 'you know' is an unacceptable and inefficient form of communication. There is no such thing as U.S. English. We will let Microsoft know on your behalf. The Microsoft spell-checker will be adjusted to take into account the reinstated letter 'u' and the elimination of '-ize.'

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3. July 4th will no longer be celebrated as a holiday.

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4. You will learn to resolve personal issues without using guns, lawyers, or therapists. The fact that you need so many lawyers and therapists shows that you're not quite ready to be independent. Guns should only be used for shooting grouse. If you can't sort things out without suing someone or speaking to a therapist, then you're not ready to shoot grouse.

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5. Therefore, you will no longer be allowed to own or carry anything more dangerous than a vegetable peeler. Although a permit will be required if you wish to carry a vegetable peeler in public.

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6. All intersections will be replaced with roundabouts, and you will start driving on the left side with immediate effect. At the same time, you will become metric with immediate effect and without the benefit of conversion tables. Both roundabouts and metrication will help you understand the British sense of humour.

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7. The former USA will adopt UK prices on petrol (which you have been calling gasoline) of roughly \$10/US gallon. Get used to it.

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8. You will learn to make real chips. Those things you call French fries are not real chips, and those things you insist on calling potato chips are properly called crisps. Real chips are thick cut, fried in animal fat, and dressed not with catsup but with vinegar.

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9. The cold, tasteless stuff you insist on calling beer is not actually beer a tall. Henceforth, only proper British Bitter will be referred to as beer, and European brews of known and accepted provenance will be referred to as Lager. South African beer is also acceptable, as they are pound for pound the greatest sporting nation on earth and it can only be due to the beer. They are also part of the British Commonwealth - see what it did for them. American brands will be referred to as Near-Frozen Gnat's Urine, so that all can be sold without risk of further confusion.

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10. Hollywood will be required occasionally to cast English actors as good guys. Hollywood will also be required to cast English actors to play English characters. Watching Andie Macdowell attempt English dialect in Four Weddings and a Funeral was an experience akin to having one's ears removed with a cheese grater.

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11. You will cease playing American football. There is only one kind of proper football; you call it soccer. Those of you brave enough will, in time, be allowed to play rugby (which has some similarities to American football, but does not involve stopping for a rest every twenty seconds or wearing full kevlar body armour like a bunch of nancies).

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12. Further, you will stop playing baseball. It is not reasonable to host an event called the World Series for a game which is not played outside of America. Since only 2.1% of you are aware there is a world beyond your borders, your error is understandable. You will learn cricket, and we will let you face the South Africans first to take the sting out of their deliveries.

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13.. You must tell us who killed JFK. It's been driving us mad.

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14. An internal revenue agent (i.e. tax collector) from Her Majesty' s Government will be with you shortly to ensure the acquisition of all monies due(backdated to 1776).

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15. Daily Tea Time begins promptly at 4 p.m. with proper cups, with saucers, and never mugs, with high quality biscuits (cookies) and cakes; plus strawberries (with cream) when in season.

God Save the Queen!



# TAPS

## Shore Area Vietnam Vets Called Home By The Lord

Baldassare ,Frank, 72, Hazlet, Army

Bashore, Charles, 71, Neptune, Navy

Charles, Donald, 67, Toms River, Navy

Lahr, Richard, 69, Asbury Park, Army

Lambert, Harold "Hud", Lakewood, USMC

Porto, Alfred, 66, Holmdell, Army

Thomas, Joseph, 68, Middletown, Army

**REST IN PEACE BROTHERS**