



Vietnam Veterans of America Sammy L. Davis Chapter 295



November 2017 Newsletter

President's Message

Greetings, all,

Our cook out was a success with good food, fun games, and wonderful conversation with friends. A special "atta girl" goes to JoAnn and Holly for all the organizing work done and an "atta boy" goes to Tom for his work cooking the chow...the spam, burgers, and dogs were delicious, as well as all those special home prepared recipes! Thanks to everyone for participating in the Silent Auction (thanks Larry!)--we raised just over \$400 for the chapter.



At the Board of Directors meeting, we have formed special committees working on an emergency fund that can be used to assist needy veterans and their families and also a homeless committee to work with HVAF and HRH to help those without a home. Going forward, we are all striving to make a better life for our friends. Keep up the good work. See you Wednesday at the chapter meeting.

Thanks,

Michael L. Hamm

Vietnam Veterans of America

President, Chapter 295

VVA 295 Officers

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| President | Mike Hamm |
| Vice President | Ron Sukenick |
| 2nd Vice President | Larry Shaw |
| Secretary | John Brocklehurst |
| Treasurer | Tom Donoven |

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| | |
|----------------|-------------|
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Mmoja Ajabu

AVVA Chapter Representative

Holly Tookolo

AVVA State President

Tony Gigli

VVA Service Officer—Dennis Smalling

Call 317-313-1577 to schedule an appointment for your VA benefits and claims.

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, please send it to my email: htookolo@indy.rr.com

Important Dates

- Nov 1-8 Remember the Fallen Memorial Display at Ivy Tech, 300 N. 17th St, Noblesville, Nov 1, 1pm to Nov 8, 1pm, Guest Speaker at 10:30am Nov 1 is Ron Sukenick.
- Nov 8 VVA 295 meeting; Board meeting at 6:30pm; Regular meeting 7:00pm
- Nov 9-12 American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) & Vietnam Wall; opens 3pm at French Lick Resort Casino front lawn; this wall is an 80% scale version of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington DC.
- Nov 11 Veterans Day, see page 5 & 6 for Veterans Day specials
- Nov 11 Indianapolis Veterans Day Parade, arrive early (before 10am) to find parking, there is limited parking on north side of Federal Building where some of us park; parade starts about 12 noon after the Veterans Day Service at 11am Indiana War Memorial; Mike has us down for 3 vehicles and 20 walkers in parade; we need someone with a pickup truck to step up so those not able to walk can ride in back of truck; we can provide chairs.
- Nov 15 U.S. Army Field Band, 7:30pm at Carmel Palladium, free tickets at box office
- Nov 18 VVA & AVVA State Council meeting & Thanksgiving meal; bring a dish to share; 12 noon is turkey meal.
- Nov 18 2017 Indiana Military Appreciation Day & Information Fair, 9am-12pm, Lawrence Readiness Training Center, 9920 E. 59th St; Luncheon for Veterans & Retirees at 12:05pm; call Mrs. Dolly Vandrey at 317-876-7526 for reservations by Nov 14, flyer pg 7
- Nov 23 Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 25 Deck the Halls 10am, we decorate a few Christmas Trees and put up other decorations; pizza for lunch for the working volunteers.
- Dec 13 VVA 295 meeting; Board meeting at 6:30pm; Regular meeting 7:00pm
- Dec 16 VVA Christmas Party; doors open 5pm; dinner at 6pm

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- Nov 10-20, 1965** The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division and ARVN troops launch Operation Silver Bayonet in Pleiku Province, II Corps. The purpose of the operation is to seek out and destroy Communist forces operating in the Ia Drang Valley.
- Nov 11, 1967-Nov 1968** The Americal Division conducts Operation Wheeler/Wallowa, search and destroy operations to clear the enemy out of Quang Nam and Quang Tin Provinces, I Corps This is an extension and enlargement of Operation Wallowa, which was launched by the 1st Cavalry Division on October 4.
- Nov 13-30, 1967** The 7th Marine Regiment and Marine Special Landing Force Bravo carry out Operation Foster/Badger Hunt in retaliation for Viet Cong raids in the Dai Loc and An Hoa areas, Quang Nam Province, I Corps.

Vice President's Corner

As we now move into the month of November, I'm sure that everyone is starting to experience the chill of winter. Be sure to weatherize your home and vehicle for a safe and comfortable winter.

For those that were in attendance at our recent cookout, thanks for coming out. For those of you that couldn't make it, we missed you.



Special thanks for all those that contributed in having this event be the success it was.

In the spirit of keeping our Chapter strong, healthy and growing, I want to remind everyone the importance of recruiting other Vietnam Veterans to come and visit at our monthly meetings.

I also want to suggest that you inspire other family members to consider becoming a part of our chapter by learning about and supporting the Associates program (AVVA) for our Chapter activities.

Lastly, I have a question that I want to ask everyone – “What more can we do to make YOUR Chapter even better in meeting your needs and the needs of other Veterans”?

As you all know, I'm always available to speak – I'm reachable at 317-696-1367 or rs@ronsukenick.com

Look forward to seeing everyone in at our November meeting.

Regards, Ron Sukenick, Vice President - VVA Chapter 295

2nd Vice President's Corner

Greetings Everyone,

I hope this finds you well, if not please let us know.

To those of you who attended the cookout, making donations in the form of food, or items for the auction, and for those that bid on them THANK YOU. Special thanks to one of our newer members at our meetings Mike O'Neil for donating a brand new, still in the box lawn mower. This was the highest value item, and naturally brought the highest bid. THANK YOU Mike.

Thanks to Joann Weaver for putting this meal together. We hoped for a larger turn out, but everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to Joann's sister and friends for silent auction donations. THANK YOU Joann.



Thanks to Tom Donovan who by a twist of fate did the cooking, which he was not scheduled to do. THANK YOU Tom.

Thanks to Holly Tookolo for setting up and running the auction, that I had volunteered to do. A prior out of state commitment made me two hours late getting there. THANK YOU Holly.

We don't have all the bills in yet, so we aren't sure of how we did. The winning bids were given by are most continuous members, as they are the ones that has known for years how much this chapter means to our members and the public when we bring in one of the TRAVELING WALLS, and that is what we are raising money for. So to Those of you high bidders THANK YOU.

To ALL VETERANS, and their families HAPPY VETERANS DAY, and THANK YOU for your service.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE. As you count your blessings, and feel that they maybe few, look around at others who maybe worse off than you. May GOD BLESS you all, keeping you warm and safe.

May God Bless our military men and women serving around the world, and their families.

Most of all. may GOD BLESS AMERICA. Please keep our AMERICAN FLAG flying.

Remember we each can do a little, but together we can do a lot.

Larry Shaw, 2nd Vice President—VVA Chapter 295, 765-618-4067

Nov 5 - Daylight Saving Time ends at 2am, turn clocks back one hour



The Bunker

Hours: 10am—2pm on Sunday.

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

The Bunker now has a new t-shirt—the one pictured here.

We Stand for the FLAG, We Kneel for the FALLEN

Get yours today!

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!

Hats, Scarves & Gloves

Please donate hats, scarves and gloves in the container in the lobby. This is an annual project of Vets for Vets. They will be taken the Roudebush VA Medical Center for the Veterans. Flyer on page 8.

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.

***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

2017 Veterans Day Free Meals, Discounts & Deals

Sunday, Nov 5—McCormick & Schmick's offering free lunch or dinner to Veterans and Gold Star families

Tuesday, Nov 7—Chipotle is offering Buy one Get one (BOGO) from 5pm to close

Friday, Nov 10

IHOP will have free stack of Red, White & Blue pancakes for all former and current military

Breakfast for the Brave at Benjamin Harrison YMCA, 5736 Lee Rd, 9:30-11am, must register in advance by calling 317-547-9622; food provided by Art's Skillet;

Saturday, Nov 11

Applebee's is offering free meal for Veterans and Active Duty Military

Bob Evans has a free meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner) for Veterans and Active Duty Military

Bonefish Grill is giving out free Bang Bang Shrimp appetizers to Veterans and Active Duty Military

Boston Market has a free brownie or cookie with any purchase for all Veterans and Active Military

Buffalo Wild Wings is offering a free small order of 10-12 wings and side of fries

California Pizza Kitchen is offering a free entrée for all Veterans and Active Duty Military

Carrabba's Italian Grill is giving free appetizer to all former and current military

Cheeseburger in Paradise has free Veteran's Burger with fries for all former and current military

Chili's has a free entrée to Veterans and Active Duty Military

Chuck E. Cheese's has one free personal cheese pizza with any food purchase for those that served

Cici's Pizza is having free buffet by showing military ID

City Barbeque has a free sandwich platter for all former and current military

Cracker Barrel has complimentary slice of Double Chocolate Fudge Coca-Cola Cake

Denny's will give a free Build Your Own Grand Slam breakfast to all former and current military

Einstein Bros has a free bagel and shmear with purchase for all former and current military

Famous Dave's is offering a free two meat combo to all former and current military

Fazoli's is giving Free Spaghetti with meat sauce or Marinara for Veterans and Active Duty Military

Gift & Hobby Show at Indiana State Fairgrounds-free admission & free parking

Granite City Food & Brewery has free lunch and coke for all Veterans and Active Duty Military

Great Clips has a free haircut or card for free haircut at a later date

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream has a free single cone for Veterans and Active Duty Military

Hooters has a free meal for all Veterans and Active Duty Military

Ikea has a free entrée for all Veterans and Active Duty Military

Little Caesars Pizza 11am-2pm free lunch combo for Veterans and Active Duty Military
Longhorn Steakhouse has a free appetizer or dessert for all former and current military
Max & Erma's has a free Cheeseburger Combo Meal with Dessert for all former and current military
O'Charley's has a free meal for Veterans and Active Duty Military
Olive Garden is having a free meal for Veterans and Active Duty Military
On the Border has free combo meal for Veterans and Active Duty Military
Outback Steakhouse is giving a free Bloomin' Onion and beverage for all military personnel
Perkins Restaurant has a free Magnificent Seven Meal for former and current military
Ponderosa Steakhouse has free buffet from 4pm to closing for all former and current military
Primanti Bros. has a free classic Primanti Bros. sandwich
Red Lobster is giving a free appetizer or dessert to all former and current military
Red Robin has a free Red's Tavern Double burger & fries for all former and current military
Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery is offering a free craft beer to former and current military
Ruby Tuesday has free appetizer for Veterans and Active Duty Military
SportsClips has free haircut for those that served
Starbucks is giving a free Tall Brewed Coffee to all former and current military
Texas Roadhouse is offering free special Veterans lunch menu
Tractor Supply is offering 15% off entire purchase for current and former military personnel
TGI Fridays is having free lunch 11am-2pm for Veterans and Active Duty Military
White Castle has free combo meal, breakfast, lunch or dinner for all Veterans and Active Military

Nov 12—Dec 31 Outback Steakhouse is giving 15% military discount off total check

Monday, Nov 13—Golden Corral is offering a free dinner 5-9pm for Veterans and Active Duty Military

The **Peace Cross** is a war memorial, located in the three-way junction of Bladensburg Road, Baltimore Avenue, and Annapolis Road in Bladensburg, Maryland. It is a large cross, 40 feet (12 m) in height, made of tan concrete with exposed pink granite aggregate. The arms of the cross are supported by unadorned concrete arches. It was designed by John J. Earley and placed in 1919-25 in commemoration of the town's World War I war casualties. The memorial was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015. In October, 2017 the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that publicly funded maintenance of the cross was unconstitutional because it "excessively entangles the government in religion because the cross is the core symbol of Christianity and breaches the wall separating church and state." The court remanded the issue of what will happen to the cross to the district court.



2017 Indiana Military Appreciation Day and Information Fair



Sponsored by:

Time: Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Where: The Lawrence Readiness Training Center
9920 East 59th Street—Old Fort Benjamin Harrison
(Next to the Exchange / Commissary)

All military personnel, veterans and retirees are invited including widows and dependents of Active, National Guard, and Reserve Forces.

Activities:

Health Screening by Company B, 801st CSH

- Flu Shots - free to all attendees. Vaccine is provided by AseraCare Hospice
- Blood pressure check

Veterans and Retiree Luncheon (12:05 PM)

- \$8 per person
- Call Mrs. Dolly Vandrey at 317-876-7526 or email at dollyvandrey@comcast.net for reservations by November 14

Reserve Officer Association (ROA) Seminar with distinguished speakers:

- BG Joseph Edwards II, Dep CG, US Army Cadet Command & CG, 104th Division
- Dakota L. Wood, Sr Research Fellow, Defense Programs, Heritage Foundation
- Hon Jim Baird, State Rep. Dist 44, of Greencastle, Vietnam Vet (Purple Heart)

ROA Annual Department meeting after luncheon

INFO: Several (40 plus) Informational Displays related to military support, services, and organizations, plus Exchange and Commissary giveaways.

For more information, please call Ron Martin at 317-709-2567

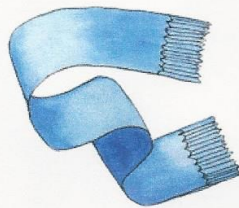
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OUR ANNUAL DRIVE FOR**



Hats, Scarves & Gloves

**DONATION CONTAINER AT FT HARRISON VETERANS
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**THEY WILL BE TAKEN TO VA HOSPITAL AFTER
DECEMBER 17, 2017 TO GIVE TO VETERANS**



Supporting Advertisers

Disclaimer: The ad solicitations posted here do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of VVA Chapter 295. They are established vendors that support the VVA chapter and seek to do business with you.



My name is Mike Dolan and I am retired Air Force and a member of VVA Chapter 295. I am a specialist in Medicare and am here if you need someone to help you in navigating the many options for Medicare and Medicaid and how these benefits interact with VA benefits. There are several medical plans that many folks are unaware of and it is my mission to help veterans understand their options and act on the appropriate ones. A great client is someone over 65 who served in the military for a tour or so but did not draw military retirement (Tricare), and is eligible for VA healthcare but not 100% disabled. If you would like to review your options, please contact me. Most of these plans offer a wide network of doctors and hospitals outside of the VA system and offer an expanded formulary of available prescription drugs., all with low or no monthly cost. There are also incidental benefits such as dental, vision, gym membership, etc. If you would like to visit, please contact me using the information below. I speak a foreign language- I speak **Medicare!** Michael E. Dolan, Maj USAF (Retired), 317-374-5578, michaeledolan@prodigy.net

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