



The Sentinel

Vol. 5 No. 6

Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter 1002 – Wallkill Valley
P.O. box 463, Vernon, NJ 07462 - 973-271-2413

June 2018

Website: www.VVA1002.org

President: John Harrigan

1st Vice President: John Brady

Secretary: Carl Ohlson

2nd Vice President: Walt Hazelman

Chaplin: George Burns

Treasurer: Owen Martin

Sergeant at Arms: Ted Andrews

FROM THE MINEFIELD:

Submitted by John Harrigan

The 50/50 tickets are in and Teri has all of the locations lined up where we will be selling them so please check the newsletter for times dates and location. Remember we need members to come out and give her a hand in doing this and keeping our Scholarship's going strong for next year.

I would like to Thank the Chapter members who attended our Chapter can shake at Mac and Lindys, we made over \$800.00.

Memorial Day at the cemetery was a very nice occasion with American Legion Post 132 conducting a service Honoring our fallen Brothers and Sisters. A Thank you to the Post members and Chapter 1002 members who attended.

On Thursday Many 31st 22 Chapter members attended Sussex Tech and gave a talk about Vietnam. The Students really enjoyed the different stations that were set up and had a lot of questions to ask on different things from the War to Coming home. Our members really enjoyed this as much as the Students. We are looking forward to doing it again next year and in the years to come.

On June 10th Walt, Teri, myself and Bea attended a Veterans Dinner at Our Lady of Fatima in Highland Lakes and had a great time. The youth group put it together and instead of having it on Veterans Day they set it up at a later date so more people can attend. They intend to do this every year and will let us know in the future so more Veterans can attend.

This Tuesday June 26th at 10am Sussex County Municipal Authority, Abby Glenn Pet Cemetery,

American Legion and Vietnam Veterans of America 1002 will be conducting a Flag retirement ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery in Sparta. The SCMUA has collected over 800 pounds of Flags to be burned and once again Abby Glenn has gotten the permits from the State to dispose of them. This is open to the public so please come out and show your support for what they are doing.

Christmas in July will be Friday July 13th to Sunday July 15th at the Daughters of the American Revolution on Rt. 23 in Wantage. We have been doing this for the past 5 years so if you have the time please come out and help us sell hats and raffle tickets.

Remember sign up for the Chapter Picnic in August. That's about it see you at the meeting.
John

1st VICE PRESIDENT:

Submitted by John Brady

The following is from the Sussex County Senior Times newsletter for June 2018. Bergen County has had a single point of contact for veterans to call who are in need of assistance. It looks as if the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders are trying to do the same by announcing that veteran support services are now available at the County of Sussex Administration Center in Newton. These services are a result of a collaboration between the Sussex County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Senior Services and the Catholic Charities Catholic Family and Community Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

In order to streamline access to services for Sussex County Veterans and create one point of entry to the array of community supports available, outreach workers from

Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another!

the SSVF program will be stations at the Division of Senior Services Newton office. U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and SSVF Veterans Outreach Worker Gina Pollut will be available every Tuesday to conduct outreach services, complete a comprehensive needs assessment and provide appropriate referrals for a variety of veteran services.

In addition to outreach services, SSVF Case Manager Sean Enright will be available every Wednesday to provide services to veterans who are homeless or are in jeopardy of losing their housing. This enhances a veteran's ability to access all services more effectively and efficiently and expedite the services approval process. The Division of Senior Services is located on the 2nd floor of the Sussex County Administrative Center, One Spring Street in Newton. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30p.m. on Monday through Friday.

Please contact the Division of Senior Services for additional program information by calling 973-579-0555, ext. 1221 or via email at seniorservices@sussex.nj.us.

One other item, new Medicare cards are being mailed out to everyone which are **not** based on your Social Security number. This is to better protect your identity.

Mailing the new cards will take some time. You can expect to receive your new card between now and April 2019. As long as your address is up to date with Social Security you do not have to contact anyone. Remember, Medicare will **never** call you for personal information, so beware of scams! It is advised once you receive your new card, destroy your old card and begin using the new one right away.

SERVICE OFFICER:

Submitted by Skip Kays

No report.

WOMEN VETERANS:

Submitted by Walt Hazelman

This Veteran's T-Shirt Calls Out The Sexism Experienced By Women Who Serve

EMILY BECKER @EMMYLOU618 Jun 04, 2018

One veteran's Memorial Day message is going viral as an example of the everyday sexism female service members continue to face. Former Navy service member JoAnn Ortloff took a moment last week to write a powerful post in the Facebook group Pantsuit Nation. While the group is not public, Ortloff's message struck a chord and has been liked over 63,000 times and inspired thousands of comments.

"I was getting tired after 36 years of being asked for my husband's ID, or having retailers etc thank my husband for his service even though I was the one who showed my retired Military ID card," she wrote. "I appreciate our public support of our military, I hope some day soon the minority who always assume it is a male, gets educated."

In the photo accompanying the post, Ortloff is wearing a sweatshirt that reads, "I'm the veteran. Not the veteran's wife," and also noted in comments that her husband does his small part by wearing his own "Proud Navy Husband" shirt. In addition to the thousands who responded to the post, Ortloff told A Plus via email that when she wears the shirt to veterans' gatherings, female service members typically react immediately with exclamations of, "I need that shirt too."

"I thought it was time to spread the message as far as I could to other military women that you are not alone, let's correct this together," she said.

Ortloff was inspired to write the post in order to politely remind others that there are female veterans out there. In the 33 years in which she served in the Navy, Ortloff said she has seen significant positive changes for both male and female service members but, in her experience, female veterans are still often overlooked.

"I am so grateful for our public's support of our military," Ortloff told A Plus. "We couldn't do what we do as well without it. It means so much to us to know when we come home, we are welcomed with respect and honor.

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"I am so grateful for our public's support of our military," Ortloff told A Plus. "We couldn't do what we do as well without it. It means so much to us to know when we come home, we are welcomed with respect and honor.

"It hurts a bit though, when women come home from a deployment and have been through some pretty terrifying moments but remained tough and strong and successful, only to be treated as if we never were there, because we are initially overlooked, and often not approached as the actual veteran."



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Otloff's original post / Reprinted with permission

When she finds herself in the sort of situations that she says many female service members face when they return home — like being asked for their husband's ID when inquiring about a military discount or being yelled at in a parking lot for taking a spot designated for veterans — Ortloff said she is inclined to take the time to correct them, a gesture that she hopes will result in other veterans not having to deal with the sexist assumption as frequently in the future.

"I am just hoping to bring awareness that it is happening and to encourage women in the services to find the right way for them to correct the unconscious bias, and not just let it slide, or else our next generation of young women in the military will have to grow up with it too," she said. "I know no one is intentionally excluding female veterans, they don't know they are doing it, so a polite reminder that the woman wearing the military ball cap or shirt is likely the veteran helps better than embarrassing them by being rude or grandstanding. My mother and the Navy raised me right."

POW/MIA:

Submitted by Bob Gilbert

JUNE-2018 MIA-POW REPORT

June 12, 2018

[Soldier Killed During Korean War Accounted For \(Meshulam, M.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Army Cpl. Morris Meshulam, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on June 4, 2018. In late November 1950, Meshulam was a member of Battery D, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion (Automatic

June 11, 2018

[USS Oklahoma Sailor Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Harris, C.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Charles H. Harris, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on April 26, 2018. On Dec. 7, 1941, Harris was assigned to the USS

June 11, 2018

[USS Oklahoma Sailor Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Tindall, L.\)](#)

Navy Reserve Fireman 1st Class Lewis F. Tindall, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on March 26, 2018. On Dec. 7, 1941, Tindall was assigned to the USS

June 11, 2018

[Marine Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Gilman, P.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Paul D. Gilman, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 17, 2018. In November 1943, Gilman was assigned to Company M, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd

June 11, 2018

[Marine Killed During Korean War Accounted For \(Keirn, M.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Marine Corps Sgt. Meredith F. Keirn, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on May 22, 2018. In late November, 1950, Keirn was a

light machinegun section leader for Company F, 2nd Battalion,

June 5, 2018

[USS Oklahoma Sailor Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Mason, H.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Navy Musician 1st Class Henri C. Mason, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on March 26, 2018. On Dec. 7, 1941, Mason was assigned to the battleship USS

June 1, 2018

[Naval Pilot Killed During Vietnam War Accounted For \(Kilpatrick, L.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Naval Reserve Lt. Cmdr. Larry R. Kilpatrick, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for on May 18. On June 18, 1972, Kilpatrick was a member of Attack Squadron One Hundred Five (VA-105), on board

June 1, 2018

[Airman Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Duran, A.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Army Air Forces Sgt. Alfonso O. Duran, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 22, 2018. In February 1944, Duran was a nose gunner on a B-24H Liberator, assigned to the 724th Bombardment



May 31, 2018

[Remarks by President Trump at a Memorial Day Ceremony](#)

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, Virginia — General Dunford, Joint Chiefs, members of the Armed Forces, members of the Cabinet, members of Congress, and distinguished guests: Thank you for joining us on this solemn day of remembrance. We are

May 31, 2018

[USS Oklahoma Sailor Killed During World War II Accounted For \(Adkins, M.\)](#)

WASHINGTON — Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Marvin B. Adkins, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on April 11, 2018. On Dec. 7, 1941, Adkins was assigned to the battleship USS

AGENT ORANGE:

Submitted by Owen Martin



People hold signs during a demonstration against agribusiness giant Monsanto in 2013. (Nicholas Kamm/AFP/Getty Images)

This is the end of Monsanto as the world has long known it.

New owner Bayer announced Monday that it will nix the brand name as soon as August, when its \$66 billion acquisition of Monsanto is expected to be complete.

The merger, [approved by the Justice Department last week](#), will create the largest seed and agrochemical company on Earth, uniting Bayer's pesticide business with Monsanto's genetically modified crop portfolio.

[Justice Department approves Bayer-Monsanto merger in landmark settlement]

In the process of amassing that portfolio, Monsanto has become one of [the most-hated](#) large companies in the world. Its name is regularly splashed across protest banners and invoked in arguments against the alleged harms of pesticides and GMOs.

The decision to drop Monsanto's name is part of a wider campaign to win back consumer trust, said Liam Condon, president of Bayer's Crop Science Division, during a Monday call with journalists. In [a separate statement](#) Monday, Bayer chief executive Werner Baumann said the company would redouble its efforts to engage with critics.

"The more important point now, once we change the company name, is that we talk about what the new company will stand for," Condon said. "Just changing the name doesn't do so much — we've got to explain to farmers and ultimately to consumers why this new company is important for farming, for agriculture and for food, and how that impacts consumers and the environment."



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“Confirming the name Bayer is just one step,” he added. “Of course, there needs to be a lot more engagement.”

Bayer executives say it's too early to predict the exact form that engagement will take. While Bayer is set to formally acquire Monsanto on Thursday, the companies will not integrate until Bayer has sold off \$9 billion in assets as part of an antitrust agreement with the Justice Department.

Monsanto is a major producer of pesticides and genetically modified crops, selling a package of farm products that have improved yields and cut down on some pest problems. But while that business has made the company popular with many farmers, a series of scandals have damaged its reputation with consumers.

Monsanto has been vocally criticized by environmental activists who question the safety of GMOs and pesticides, by academics who say the company has unfairly swayed science, and by farmers who claim to have been hurt by the company’s tight control of the GM seed supply.

Most recently, Monsanto has faced questions about [the safety of its marquee weed killer](#), Roundup, and [the unintended environmental effects of another product called dicamba](#).

“We’re extremely proud of all we’ve accomplished as Monsanto,” company spokeswoman Christi Dixon said, “and are eager to continue to accelerate innovation in agriculture as we look forward to a future under Bayer.”

But Monsanto's critics say they'll be watching, even if the company operates under a new name. Many were not surprised by the decision to drop the 117-year-old moniker, which is [the maiden name](#) of the wife of the company's founder, John F. Queeny.

“We’ve been expecting that Bayer would drop the Monsanto name because the company has a poor reputation,” said Wenonah Hauter, the executive director of the nonprofit Food & Water Watch, a frequent Monsanto critic. “But unless they shed Monsanto’s destructive products and business practices, too, the Bayer name will become synonymous with environmental and public health disaster.”

Condon said Bayer intends to keep Monsanto’s headquarters in St. Louis and the names for Monsanto products, including Roundup. He also said the merged company will remain focused on research and development.

COMMUNITY/PUBLIC AFFAIRS:

Submitted by Lou Storms

On July 10th we will be making another trip to Lyons VA Hospital to serve dinner to the PTSD Inpatient Unit and the 3rd Floor Ladies Unit. This trip will mark the end of the second year that has been sponsored by Inserra Supermarkets with dinner supplied by their ShopRite of West Milford. I will be requesting their continued support for the coming year and hope for the best.

Anyone wanting to join us on July 10, please sign the sheet up front or contact me.

Scheduled Meetings:

Meetings are held at 2:00 p.m. the 4th Sunday of each month unless otherwise **noted**.

2018

24th June

22nd July

26th August

23rd September

28th October

25th November

1st December – Christmas Party (TBD)

Calendar of Events:

Visit www.VVA1002.org for information on upcoming events.

June 26 – 10:00 am - Flag retirement ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery in Sparta
July 13-15 – Christmas in July – DAR, Wantage

NEW MEMBERS:

“WELCOME HOME”

Robert Stumpf
Erin Ashton

PASSINGS:

No report.

CONGRATULATIONS/CONCERNS:

Happy July Anniversaries:
Rich & JoAnn Strader
Jim & Georgette Fox

Happy August Anniversaries:
Kathy & Tony Alia

Happy July Birthdays:
John Harrigan 8
Jerry Magnus 13
George Knorr 24
Jim Cahill 24

Happy August Birthdays:
Tony Alia 22

MEMBERS CORNER:

Nothing submitted this month.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. **Special Note: If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help RIGHT NOW, call (toll free 24/7) 1-800-273-8255 and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.**
2. Jackets (\$60 (summer) & \$70 (winter)); t-shirts (\$15); hats (\$10); golf shirts (short sleeve \$28; long sleeve \$33) are still available. See Owen Martin for purchases or to place an order (pre-payment for orders are appreciated)

3. Important note to families of deceased veterans, and/or requestors:

Submitted by Bob Caggiano

It is the right of every deceased Veteran to have a Military honors team attend the graveside service, to present the Flag at no charge to the family. Honors Teams are sent out, at the expense of the US Government.

In January 2000, Congress passed legislation guaranteeing Veterans the right to at least two uniformed servicemen, a flag ceremony, and the playing of TAPS at their funeral. Unfortunately, there are not enough buglers to play TAPS, so the historic melody has been played on a CD player at many Veterans' last ceremony, or more currently on a bugle that plays Taps using an electronic insert. The volunteer organization "Bugles Across America" (a.k.a. BAA) was created to honor the service of veterans by providing Taps live by a bugler using a real instrument (such as a bugle, trumpet, cornet, or flugelhorn) at funerals or any other ceremony requiring a bugler. There are currently over 7500 volunteer buglers nationwide in all 50 states, and some overseas who stand ready to serve. BAA volunteers perform Taps as a free service.

As a Vietnam era veteran member of VVA Chapter 1002 and a BAA volunteer bugler, I am available to play for anyone who needs a bugler for Taps (or other appropriate bugle calls) for any honorable discharged veteran or related military ceremony. In the event I cannot play because of a scheduling conflict, I can generally still provide a substitute bugler so please contact me - Bob Caggiano, USAF Veteran, (973) 222-7591 (cell) or FinalTaps@gmail.com.



Editors Corner:

By Linda Skellenger (AVVA)

Please have information to be included in the July newsletter to me by Sunday, July 15th by email: skelle@ptd.net or by snail-mail to:

Linda Skellenger
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