

# THE JOURNEY

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. Chapter 227  
The Dean K. Phillips Memorial Chapter

*“Serving Veterans and the Community in Northern Virginia”*



*“Never Again Shall One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another”*

October 2012

## FAIRFAX CITY FAIR OUTREACH

Joe and Sharon Celesnik will manage our information booth at the Fairfax City Fall Festival on October 13th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Rain date is October 14th. The booth number is 356, which is across from the old Fairfax City hall on University Drive. A Vet Center representative will be available to answer benefit questions too. This event has resulted in new members and contacts with the general public and family members of Vietnam veterans. Your help is needed for this event.

## 27<sup>th</sup> CHAPTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The chapter celebrates its 27th Birthday at the October 18th membership meeting. The official chapter charter date is October 11, 1985. Past officers and directors and founding members are strongly encouraged to attend another chapter milestone. Cake and ice cream is part of the celebration too.

Come early to enjoy a great meal and meet fellow members! Better yet, bring a fellow veteran with you.

## U.S. MILITARY OPERATIONS IN MR II & LAOS

Paul White, retired U.S. State Department Foreign Service Officer, will discuss his Tour of Duty involving military and civic action operations in South Vietnam MR II and Laos and lessons learned at the October 18, 2012 membership meeting. Paul's perspective of the Vietnam War is a must attendance for all veterans and interested parties.

## MINUTEMAN ALERT PARTNER FUNDRAISERS

Two of the chapter's Minuteman Alert partners are conducting fundraisers for veterans and active duty military. Your support is encouraged.

- October 19: Americans Adopt A Soldier Golf Tournament, Bristow Manor Golf Club, Bristow, Va. from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Volunteers, sponsors, and golf teams needed. Call 703-405-9956 or visit the website, [www.americasadoptasoldier.org](http://www.americasadoptasoldier.org).
- October 21: The Elks Lodge # 2188 covered dish barbecue is from 4 pm to 8 pm, which is located at 2188 Arlington Blvd (Rte 50) in Fairfax about a mile west of the U.S. 50/I-495 interchange. \$15 per person or \$10 with a covered dish.

## HOLIDAY OUTREACH

The chapter's Christmas Outreach is being developed. If you are interested in sponsoring a VASH family or contributing, call Diane Ignatowski, AVVA Representative, at 703-255-0353. The program details are being discussed with the two VASH case workers, and should be finalized for the November newsletter.

“Make Charlie Ride the Hood” children gift program for homeless children will be conducted at the chapter Holiday Party on December 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. Plan on attending the Holiday Party.

## “GO GREEN” IS WORKING FOR YOU

The chapter's two environmental support programs are alive and well. The used book program via The Hole in The Wall Books store at 905 W. Broad Street, Falls Church has resulted in another \$22 donation for the Vince Kaspar Excellence in the Arts program. 100% of sales proceeds are for the program expenses. Call Charlie Klein to donate your books at 703-527-5678.

**Please do not directly donate books to the store.**

The Staples store printer cartridge recycling program received a donation of 17 cartridges from Roger Stevens of Chapter 710, while Charlie Klein and John Runyon keep a steady supply of empty cartridges. A \$2 rebate is earned for each cartridge. Bring your empty cartridges to a chapter meeting or deliver them to a Staples store and use our Account # 3042519359, Chapter 227 Vietnam Veterans of America.

# “DMZ TO Delta”<sup>®</sup> DANCE – BE THERE!

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. ® Chapter 227

**DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2012**

**TIME: 8:00 PM TO MIDNIGHT**

**HOLIDAY INN ROSSLYN at Key Bridge**

**1900 N. Ft. Myer Dr., Arlington, Va.**

I want to order \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$30 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I cannot attend, but I want to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ guest tickets \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Gold Star Mother, guest veteran)  
 I want to make a donation since I can't attend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail my tickets to the following address:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email for future mailings:** \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket orders received after October 20, 2012 will be held at the Will Call Desk, which opens at 7:00 pm. Questions, call 703-255-0353 or visit our website at [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org).

Please make your check payable to **Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Chapter 227**, and mail your ticket order to:  
 Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.® Chapter 227  
 P.O. Box 5653, Arlington, Va. 22205

## SEPT. MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Byron Sheldon, Chapter President, presents a Veteran/US Flag pin to VVA VP Fred Elliott. Photo by Jonathan Olson

The September 20<sup>th</sup> membership meeting fulfilled our guiding principle of “Never Again Shall One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another” when Carolyn Fix, a WW II army veteran shared her Tour of Duty as an X-Ray technician. She enlisted in November 1943 at the age of 20, which was the minimum age for women. After basic training at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., she was assigned as an X-ray technician at Pittsburg, California, an Italian POW camp. When a cargo ship exploded while being loaded with war munitions at the Chicago, California navy depot, she was quickly exposed to the horrors of war as she worked continuously taking X-rays of wounded sailors and civilians. She had been outside the navy yard after singing at a new ship launching. The explosion was attributed to competition to load a ship in the shortest possible time. After the war, she received advance X-ray training and served at several army hospitals. At one stateside base, a daily challenge was getting into their boots that were frozen to the floor. She left the army in 1948 and pursued academic degrees including a Fulbright Scholarship. Her professional in the career included the fields of geology and public health. Her military service contributed to the respect and opportunities for women in the military. Byron presented a veteran/US flag lapel pin and a VVA baseball cap. In conjunction with her appearance, Lois Beck, chapter member, gave an overview of women military service.

A surprise visitor was VVA Vice President Fred Elliott, who responded to a meeting invitation at the Leadership Conference from Byron Sheldon and Bruce Waxman, both chapter officers. Fred spoke briefly on VVA current programs and accomplishments. The meeting marked a great start after our summer vacation, and future meetings offer the same level of camaraderie and education.

# CHAPTER 227 DOG TAGS

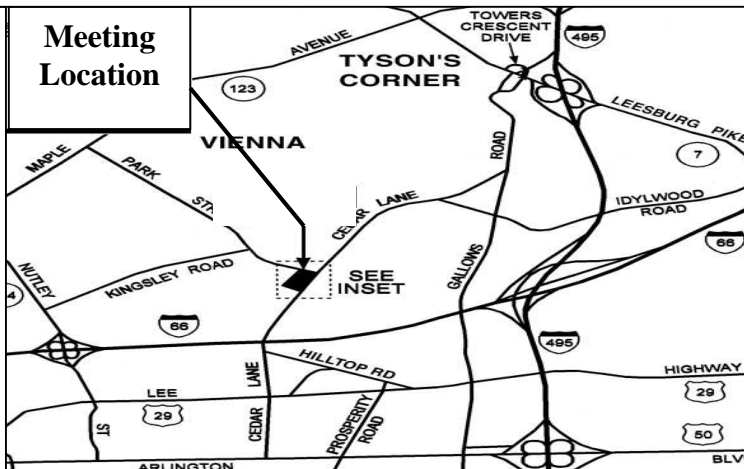
October 2012



## OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHAPTER 227

**President:** Byron Sheldon – 703-850-3498  
**Vice President:** Bruce Waxman – 703-323-0269  
**Secretary:** Ron Ball  
**Treasurer:** Chuck Harris  
**Sergeant at Arms:** Jonathan Olson  
**Board of Directors:** Paul Stancliff, Len Ignatowski, Bill Dumsick, Charlie Klein, Joe Celesnik, Max Knouse, Bill Lynch, Chris Beverley, and Tom Stryer.  
**AVVA Representative:** Diane Ignatowski 703-255-0353  
**Newsletter Editor:** Len Ignatowski 703-255-0353  
**School Speaker's Panel:** Tom Stryer 703-323-9032  
**Meeting Guest Speaker:** Len Funk 703-820-8118  
**DMZ To Delta@Dance:** Len Ignatowski  
**Suits for Veterans:** Chuck Harris 703-729-5665  
**Lyons PTSD Visit:** Ben Buckley 703-978-9179

### Meeting Location



**CHAPTER INFORMATION: 703-968-0686**

**CHAPTER WEB SITE: [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org)**

### MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane  
 Vienna, Virginia (Park St. & Cedar Lane)  
 Pre-Meeting Dinner (Optional): 6:45 PM  
 Meeting Time: 7:30 PM Phone: 703-698-8010

## CHAPTER OPERATIONS PLAN

### October 2012

- 11: Chapter's 27th Birthday
- 13: Fairfax City Fall Festival 10:00 am to 5:00 pm: Public and veteran outreach. Your help is needed.
- 18: Membership Meeting & 27th Birthday Celebration: Speaker: Paul White, "U.S. Ground Operations in MR II and NE Laos from Mid-60's to early 70's". All former officers and directors and founding members are especially invited to attend.
- 21: Elks Lodge 2188 Veteran and Military Fundraiser Covered Dish Barbecue.
- 31: Lyons Combat PTSD Class Visit: Meet at the flagpole by The Wall at 11:00 AM. Ben Buckley 703-978-9179

### November 2012

- 01: Board Meeting 7:30 PM: American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street, North, Vienna, Va.
- 10: DMZ to Delta @ Dance: Buy your tickets NOW!
- 11: Veterans Day and 30th Anniversary of The Wall
- 15: Membership Meeting: Speaker: Richard Kirkland, "Fighter Pilot and One of First Combat Helicopter Pilots of WW II".

### VETERAN'S HOTLINE 1-800-273-8255

**24 HOURS/ 7 DAYS A WEEK  
 DON'T HESITATE! CALL NOW**

### VVA CAR DONATION PROGRAM

**1-800-Help Vets**

## **NEW HOUSEHOLD GOODS STORE - POTOMAC MILLS**

*"It Works for Us!"*

- The quarterly Household Goods rebate check of \$ 723 was received on September 29th.
- SAVERS Thrift Store has opened a store at 14427 Potomac Mills Road. Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 9 pm and Sunday 10 am to 6 pm.
- The second store is Unique Thrift Store at 2956 Gallows Road (the old Levitz Store)
- To schedule a pickup, call, 1-800-459-8387 or deliver the items at either store.
- Shop at the store which offers an excellent source for home furniture and decorations for children's new apartments or your second home. Clothing and other items are like new, and some items even have the original sales tag attached.

# **27th CHAPTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

**October 18, 2012**  
*MEMBERSHIP MEETING*

## **LYONS COMBAT PTSD CLASS VISIT**

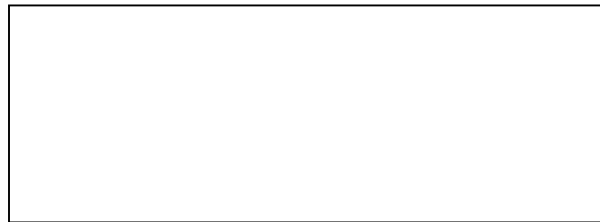
**October 31, 2012**  
*Meet at the flagpole by The Wall at 11:00 AM*

## **DMZ to Delta® Dance**

**November 10, 2012**  
*Buy you tickets now!*

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ® INC.  
CHAPTER 227  
DEAN K. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL CHAPTER  
P.O. Box 5653  
Arlington, Virginia 22205-0653

Address Service Requested



## **OUR MISSION**

**To “Serve Veterans, Their Families,  
Our Community and Our Country”**