

"Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another."



**P.O. 1862
Appleton, WI 54912-1862
www.vvawi351.org
info@vvawi351.org**

**September-October
2019**



Annual Airplane Pull

**Fox Valley's Only Chartered Vietnam Veterans
Organization Serving Area Veterans Since 1987**

CURRENT OFFICERS
CONTACTS

Officers / B.O.D.

President	Larry Cavanaugh
• lcavanaugh123@yahoo.com	920-264-7917
Vice President	John Koehler
• kent1952@live.com	920-858-3310
Secretary	Mike Bryan
Treasurer	Bill Olcott
Chaplain	Mike Weaver
Board of Directors -BOD	Joe Eiting
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	Dennis Van Hoof

Committees / Administration

Adopt-A-Family	Dennis Van Hoof
Adopt-A-Highway/Community Service	Jer Sanderfoot
Chapter Social Events	AAVA
Scholarship	Wade Van Ryzin
Reflections of Vietnam Coordinator	John Koehler
FV Veterans Council & Recognition	David Evans
Membership	Joe Eiting
Nomination/Constitution	Board of Directors
POW/MIA	Glen Zimmerman
Sergeant-At-Arms	Dennis Van Hoof
Sunshine/Fundraising/Charity Drives	Bill Olcott
Taps	Larry Cavanaugh
Retirement Home Visits	John VandenHeuvel
Webmaster	Angie Coenen
Newsletter Editor	Dennis Bowman
Vietnam Veterans Chapter 351	John Koehler

Other Contacts

Chapter	920-205-1565	info@vvawi351.org
Tom Bartel	920-739-6839	tebartel@sbcglobal.net
Dennis Bowman	920-858-2551	dbowmanvva@new.rr.com
Mike Bryan	920-740-5042	mjbryan42@gmail.com
Joe Eiting	920-205-1565	capteiting@aol.com
David Evans	920-734-2947	david.w.evans@sbcglobal.net
Phil Moore	920-750-4110	prespanther@att.net
Bill Olcott	920-733-8199	wolcott2009@live.com
Jer Sanderfoot	920-759-7447	jsanderfoot@new.rr.com
Dale Siebers	920-419-6444	rcpo633@gmail.com
Wade Van Ryzin	920-734-9638	wvanryzin@aol.com
Mike Weaver	920-470-4674	skipatroldoc@gmail.com

Note: Contact list is blanked out on Web version

GOAL STATEMENT

To promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam Veterans; to create a new identity for this generation of Veterans; and to change the public perception of Vietnam Veterans.

THE VETERAN

A “Veteran”—active duty, reserve, discharged, or retired—is someone who wrote a blank check payable to the USA for an amount up to and including his/her life. This is a definition of honor; many fail to grasp or perhaps have forgotten this fact.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of a Chapter member that is not feeling well or is having surgery, please contact Bill Olcott at 920-733-8199. Bill sends get-well cards to these folks, so they know that the Chapter has their well-being in mind.

President's Message

Chapter Tales

TAPS

Don Eiden a longtime member of the AM Legion and a member of Chapter 351 passed away. I had the honor of representing the Patriot Guard Riders at the funeral home visitation on Thursday evening. He had many friends and acquaintances.

Chuck Lewis a longtime chapter member, also lost his son this past month.

Let us remember their families, and pray for closure, in this time of great sorrow.

Sick Call

Tim Hewitt is undergoing chemo treatments for his prostate cancer.

Chuck Bongers is being examined for Parkinson's.

That's all that I know of, Dennis if you have more to add, please do so.

Chapter Tales Embers

I suspect most had a very busy summer, traveling to see family and friends that are scattered all around this beautiful country. Welcome back to reality, we have an EDU Mission in Manitowoc, Chapter 731 is having The Wall That Heals @ the County fairgrounds Sept 12th -15th, we set up on Sept 11th. That being said, we have a portion of our Fall Fundraiser that weekend. Please help in any way that you can, we all need to keep abreast of the various events that we participate in and should be volunteering on our own accord. Why do we have to practically beg for help at these events? I think most members need to take on some role or a larger role then they have been and that includes the BOD. Please, step up to assist when needed. We have a very vibrant Chapter, our EDU Program is like no other, it's who we are, it's our signature, be proud of your Chapter.

PS- I love the cool, crisp feel of the mornings, summer's in the past.

Our next Chapter meeting is Sept 12, 11 AM @ Am Legion Post 38, Appleton, Wi. I will have a report on the National Convention.

Larry C.

An Editor's Musings

Well, another Summer is over!! Where did this one go. Another question, wasn't January 1st just the day before yesterday?!! Time sure does fly!

As we all get another day of experience under our belts, we begin to look at life a whole lot different. I am currently listen to reports from our brothers and sister that live in the Southeast about Hurricane Dorian. We are so blessed here to have a climate that does not produce these horrendous storms.

We are an area that think of other people before we think of ourselves. Just look at the people that volunteered to pull a jet airliner. That raised \$103,000 for the Glory Honor Flights which allows this great group to take more of Veterans of Korea and Vietnam to visit the honored memorials in Washington D.C. as well as the flight that took the members of VVA351 to the places where they served.

Our Lord says that **Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.** (Joh 15:13) Our fellow veterans look at life this way. When you stepped into Vietnam, you were placed into harms way. You looked out for yourself and your brothers next to you. Now as we get a bit "older", we look at life as a life of giving, rather than receiving.

May we teach our following generations that very "gift of giving" of ourselves.

Dennis

Chapter VVA351 Membership Information

We've lost two brothers this summer. Donald Eiden, USMC, and US Army, Retired, and Michael Blenke, US Army. Both served in VietNam. We celebrate their lives and the brotherhood they shared.

Two VVA members transferred into chapter 351; Michael Carow, a Navy Seabee who lives in Hortonville, and Wallace Morrow, an Army veteran from Darboy. Welcome. Hope to see you active in our chapter.

The AVVA also welcomes Lynn Brynjulfson, spouse of Gary, to the chapter.

Events & Offers

Saturday Morning Breakfast at Angel's

We now meet on every Saturday morning at the regular time of **0830 1000 hours**. Join us on Saturday mornings. ALL Veterans of the US Armed Forces are welcome; bring a vet buddy along—there is a lot of room. We have vets from all wars at our table(s). **Angel's** is at 1401 E. John St., Appleton —between College & John St. roundabouts.

Contact: Phil Moore prespanther@att.net 920.750.4110

Free Coffee and Doughnuts

Festival Foods of Menasha, Neenah, & Green Bay (University Avenue) provide FREE coffee and doughnuts every Friday morning for veterans from 8 a.m. to noon. **No RSVP required.**

Vets and Friends of Wisconsin Inc.

2508 N Richmond St. Appleton

Our coffee house provides free soup and sandwich every Saturday to Vets and friends from 11am-2pm. Contact Jack Voight or Gary Brynjulfson for further info. (**No RSVP required**)



Reflections of Vietnam Tour Schedule

We are going to be very busy for the year presenting programs in throughout Wisconsin. Typically we look for 6-8 vets for each program. If you know you have an interest and want to sign up, please contact the moderator for additional info.

November

Reflections of Vietnam Ed Program

Rawhide—1 (Weaver)

Reflections of Vietnam Ed Program

UWEC—11 (Koehler)

Thank You Letter

Dear Mr. Wade VanRyzin,

Thank you so much for the Richard Pokey Memorial Scholarship. I greatly appreciate you selecting me for the scholarship in which it will support my tuition for my future college education. I am excited to go to UW Oshkosh for the Dual Program in Education - Elementary & Special Education. My future career plan is to be a special ed teacher. Because of you, this scholarship has supported and will help me for my future. I greatly appreciate it.

Thank you again,

sincerely, Madison Meyer

Items of Interest

Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

According to the Defense Casualty Analysis System, the total record count of deaths for Wisconsin is 1,161 as of April 29, 2008.
(www.archives.gov/aad)

The months of September and October are tied for 10 in the number of casualties for the State of Wisconsin. Wisconsin had 148 casualties overall for September and October during the duration of the war. Out of the group of 20 soldiers below, 5% Air Force, 15% Marines, 60% Army and 15% Navy paid the ultimate sacrifice.

September

TERRY LYNN PUNDSACK	ARMY	SP4	MILWAUKEE	9/25/1966
GARY RUSSELL DOPP	ARMY	PFC	ALMOND	9/25/1966
RAY ARTHUR SCHOLD	ARMY	SP4	KENOSHA	9/3/1967
JACK WILLIAM ANDERSON	MARINE CORPS	PFC	MILWAUKEE	9/3/1967
DONALD WILLIAM DOWNING	AIR FORCE	LTCOL	JANESVILLE	9/5/1967
RONALD RICHARD REINKE	NAVY	PO3	MIDDLETON	9/6/1967
LEONARD JOHN TAUSCHEK	ARMY	PFC	BELOIT	9/7/1967

October

JAMES BRIAN HUDIS	NAVY	LTJG	BROOKFIELD	10/26/1966
GLEN HARRY YOUNG	ARMY	PFC	BRODHEAD	10/26/1967
DONALD ALFRED CHRIST	ARMY	PFC	MILWAUKEE	10/26/1968
DUANE ANDREW NOVOBIELSKI	ARMY	PFC	GREENWOOD	10/26/1969
PAUL ANTHONY OESTREICHER	ARMY	SP4	LA CROSSE	10/26/1970
JAMES ARNOLD STOEBERL	ARMY	SP5	ALMENA	10/26/1971
MELVIN EDWARD JOHNSON	NAVY	CN	LOMBARD	10/26/1972
RONALD S SANDEL	ARMY	PFC	THORP	10/26/1973

Important VVA351 Information

VVA Chapter 351 Member Request for Funds Effective 6/1/19

Periodically there are requests for financial assistance for various causes that are requested by members of the chapter. When this need arises, the following steps should be followed:

The request should be put in writing outlining who the organization is, what specifically the money will be used for, who if any other veteran's organization is currently helping to fund the entity, when the money will be needed, and the amount that is requested.

This request should then be submitted to the president or vice president of the chapter for executive board discussion and review. If the amount is over \$300 the membership will be asked to vote on the request at the next scheduled membership meeting.

If the amount is under \$300 the board will either approve or disapprove the request. If the request is disapproved by the board, the member may ask for a vote at the next scheduled chapter meeting. If the majority of the members vote to fund the request the board will be overruled, and the request will be granted.

This process was voted on and approved at the May 16,2019 meeting by chapter members .

Spending policy for standing committees (MIA-POW , EDU , Fund Raising , etc.)

Items or services under \$300 may be purchased if they were budgeted for. For items or services over \$300, an email should be sent out to treasurer, VP, and President 3 days prior to purchase. The email must justify why the item or service is being purchased.

This process was voted on and approved at the May 16,2019 meeting by

Chapter and Associate Information

Veterans, You may have seen more active participation by spouses and friends of veterans and wondered why. As family and friends many of us were supporting and helping “behind the scenes”. I was especially interested in the education of toxins and environmental exposures which brought me to the VVA sponsored Town Hall meetings and the state VVA/AVVA combined quarterly committee meetings in Waupaca where I was asked to join the AVVA. We are not just a “ladies” group, we are men and women who want to “stand by all Veterans.” So here is more information about AVVA. Perhaps more would like to become a part of a great program. (We generally meet early evening at the Vet Center on North Richmond St Appleton)

What Is AVVA?

As Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA), we are passionate about our work and the real life issues facing Veterans and their families. We strive to create a positive impact on our Veterans and their families by making life better. AVVA is a national, nonprofit, membership organization dedicated to advancing the awareness of issues affecting Veterans, their families, and their communities. AVVA strives to ensure that ALL veterans attain the honor, respect, and benefits they deserve. We lend our expertise, support, and leadership to all veteran related programs, community service, and social activities, while remaining actively involved in our own programs and educational endeavors.

Who can become a member?

AVVA is made up of Veterans of all eras, families and friends of Veterans, and all persons who support Veterans' issues. AVVA is a catalyst for action, healing, reconciliation, mutual support, and fellowship. With more than 10,000 members, we are a thriving and strong organization. AVVA is a non-partisan, tax exempt organization.

Regular membership shall be granted to any persons who are ineligible for membership in Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA) and who wish to further the purposes of both VVA and the Corporation.

Dual membership shall be limited to those who are eligible for membership in VVA.

AVVA MISSION STATEMENT?

To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education.

AVVA VISION STATEMENT?

To create a better everyday life for Veterans and their families.

Chris Van Ryzin

cbvanryzin@gmail.com 920-734-9638

EVENTS AND OFFERS

VVA 351 MEETINGS DATES

The chapter now meets at Appleton American Legion Post 58 on West College Ave. The meetings begin at 11:00 and end at 1300 hours. The first hour is the meeting and the second hour for a meal and social time. The meetings generally fall on the Second Thursday of the meeting months. **We will not meet during the Summer months of June, July and August.**

September 12 October 10 November 14 December 12

Note: The Board of Director Meeting are held the first Wednesday of every month except during the summer months. They are held at Perkins East from 11:00—13:00. Members may attend if they have an interest or have business that needs to be addressed by the board.

Quartermaster Corner

There are three items available starting this September. The first are the White Jackets which have been available for the past four years. The second are the Polo Shirts and the third are the white dress shirts. All three items can be ordered at VVA regular meetings which is the preferred method or you can contact Dennis Van Hoof at 320-321-2915.

Upcoming Events

POW-MIA fundraiser - Saturday September 21: As we have done in previous years this fundraiser will be held at eight stores from Neenah to Kaukauna. There are about sixty people we will need to fill a three hour time-slot at the eight stores. **Someone** will be in touch with you in July or August to ask for your participation in this event.

Fish Fries

September 20
October 18

Rawhide Ranch
Pullmans

Riverboat Trip

September 11

See Trip Flyer

Thank You, Bernatello's

Chapter 351 wishes to thank Bernatello's Foods for their very generous donation of \$1500 to our organization . This money will be used to support various veteran causes in and around the Fox Valley area. We appreciate your support .



FALL CHAPTER 351 FUND RAISING DRIVE

Mills Fleet Farm	September 20 September 21	John Koehler Gary Brynjulfson
Walmart - East (KK)	September 21	Bill Olcott
Walmart - Neenah	September 14	Phil Moore
Festival – “00”	September 21	Tom Bartel
Festival – Darboy	September 14	Frank Billings
Festival – Menasha	September 21	Dennis Van Hoof
Festival – Neenah	September 21	Larry Cavanaugh
Larry's Pig – Kaukauna	September 21	Mel Rabideau

Chapter 351 Summer Sunset Boat Tour

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Departs 6:00 pm



Σ Together Always Π

Join us for some time on the water – sun on your face, gentle breeze in your hair, and refreshing cocktail in your hand ... the evening river is often as calm and smooth as glass, the sunsets are superb – what could be better?

101 James Street in De Pere
1.5 hour cruise \$24 per person

We have reserved a number of passenger slots.

Please RSVP to insure count by August 25th Chris or Wade VanRyzin

920-734-9638 (land line) or cbvanryzin@gmail.com

Purchase your tickets Fox River Tours – Reference: Vietnam Veterans Chapter 351 group

- **By calling** 920.422.6300 – Someone will be at the phones from 11:00am until the last cruise of the day.
- **Or visiting in person at their Ticket Booth** which they lovingly call *Summer Tyme*: 155 Front Street, De Pere, WI (right across the street from the dock in De Pere)
- **Or on day** - arrive 30 minutes prior to departure.
- **Or send them an email** at reservations@foxrivertours.com

River Tyme is full service with fully stocked bar and 4 crew – Captain, Bartender, 1st Mate, 2nd Mate. An enclosed lower level, open air upper level and a capacity of 49 passengers. Outfitted with tables, chairs, carpet, and restroom. Docked in De Pere. Structured to accommodate people of all needs, the vessel has been modified to be wheelchair-friendly, but are not fully ADA-compliant. Ramps into the vessel are present, but, access to upper deck is by stairwell only.

Please arrive 10-15 minutes prior to departure to allow for safe boarding.

Parking is across the street from the boat. Please check in at the ticket booth in the parking lot. *If raining:* Cruise will commence as we have an interior deck area, and will have ponchos available for purchase. *If severe weather, which is rare:* It is within the Captain's discretion to cancel the cruise. Notification will be given via email and a credit for a future cruise, or a refund will be arranged.



**Chapter 351 Fall Fish Fry at
RAWHIDE
Friday, September 20, 2019
Serving from 5 - 8 pm**



- Fish fry guests will have the opportunity to hop on a tour bus to get a behind-the-scenes look at the picturesque Rawhide campus at the foot of the Wolf River.
- Music by *Untapped Potential*
- Be sure to check out the Bart and Cherry Starr Museum, with rare memorabilia and items on loan from the Packers Hall of Fame.

RSVP by Sept. 11th Chris or Wade VanRyzin

920-734-9638 or cbvanryzin@gmail.com

**Rawhide has been a great supporter of our chapter educational project, having us as guests several times including a great lunch.
Let's us, support their projects in return.**

2019 Menu for Fish Fry Nights

A full salad bar and Rawhide cookie is included with all meals.

Traditional Fried Lake Perch \$17.00

Haddock: Baked or Fried \$11.00

Fried Gulf Shrimp \$12.00

Combo Platter: Fried Perch, Haddock, & Shrimp \$16.00

Chicken Dinner: 4-Piece \$10.00


Chicken Dinner: 2-Piece \$8.00

Directions to Rawhide E7475 Rawhide Rd, New London 54961

Located just south of New London on over 700 acres of picturesque property along the famous Wolf River. Join us for a guided tour, seasonal fish fries, or other events.

From the East (Appleton Area)

- Exit US 41 at Hwy 96 exit (by the Fox River Mall)
- Continue west on Hwy 96 15 miles to the town of Readfield
- Right (north) on Cty Rd W 2.75 miles to Cty Rd HH
- Left (west) on Cty Rd HH 1 mile to Ernst Rd
- Right (north) on Ernst Rd 1/2 mile
- Road will curve to left and become Weiland Rd
- Continue 3 miles to end of road and Rawhide
- (Weiland Rd becomes Rawhide Rd just before Rawhide)



THE PLAY

SEPTEMBER 12-14
www.xaviertheatre.com
 920-733-8840

WITH ROCKY BLEIER

STARRING ROCKY BLEIER

A four-time Super Bowl champion and native son of Appleton, Rocky Bleier brings his astonishing life story to the stage in The Play. Directed by Scott C. Wise and written by Gene Collier, The Play takes audiences to three bars from Rocky's life — including the one owned by his father in Appleton — where he tells stories of family, war, and the best of Steeler Nation.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Adult \$25 • Senior Citizen \$20 • Xavier Alumni \$20
 Child \$15 • Saturday P.M. VIP Meet & Greet \$50

XAVIER FINE ARTS THEATRE
1600 W PROSPECT AVE
APPLETON, WI 54914

A program of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic School System



"SALUTE TO VETERANS"

As a special "Salute to Veterans", 500 tickets have been donated for veterans and a guest to attend the Saturday, September 14 1:00 p.m. performance completely free of charge!

Our thanks to the
GREG AND JULIE PAWLAK FAMILY
 for their donation to make this salute possible!

To receive your complimentary ticket(s) to the Saturday 1:00 p.m. matinee, please call the Xavier Box Office at (920) 733-8840 or visit the Box Office* at Xavier High School. Tickets are first come, first served, so reserve your tickets early. The final deadline is September 9, 2019. This offer is valid for new ticket purchases only. No exchanges, refunds or discounts on previously purchased tickets. You will be asked via which group you learned of this opportunity.

If special seating accommodations are needed for vision, mobility or wheelchair accessibility, please notify the box office in advance.

*Xavier Box Office: 1600 W Prospect Ave, Appleton; hours: Sept. 3-13, noon – 3:00 p.m.

Pulling for Honor

On August 10, 2019, the Pulling for Honor event took place at Appleton International Airport. The event helps raise funds for Old Glory Honor Flight. The day started with the setting up of the Educational Display Unit for the public to view and ask questions.

Beginning at 11:00 am teams began trying to pull a 200,000# FedEx airplane. The goal was to pull the plane 12' in the shortest amount of time. Each team was allowed 5 minutes to get the job done. There were 34 teams entered—teams could have up to 20 members. Except for the VVA whose number was limitless, therefore, we were not eligible for prizes. The entry fee was \$1,500, however, teams were encouraged to raise over that amount. VVA Chapter 351 was able to donate a check for \$4,500.

The first to pull was Green Bay Rugby (American Legion Post 230), DePere. They set the bar very high by pulling the plane 12' in 9.3 seconds, setting a new record, and also was the best pull of the day. Chapter 351 was the last to pull. Once we were announced, all Vietnam vets and friends were asked to join us. All the vets were quite surprised at how easy it was to pull the plane until they noticed that they were being assisted by the football team from Appleton North High School. As a team, Appleton North legitimately finished with the second-best time of the day.

It was announced at the end of the event that a new record was set with over \$103,000 being raised.

What a great day of fun and fellowship for a great cause!

Chapter VVA 351 Pictures

Pulling for Honor Photos



Veterans Day At the Timber Rattler Game



Meeting with General Hang



John Koehler and Dave Grossman met with Special Guerrilla Unit, General Nelson Hang. General Hang will be joining



THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA & MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER

A PROGRAM OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND
FOUNDERS OF THE WALL



Coming to The Manitowoc County Expo Center September 12 - 15, 2019

Presented by Vietnam Veterans of America-Chapter #731 Manitowoc County, WI

General Information:

Terry T.J. Johnson (920) 545-3556
Cathy Kerr (920) 920-4699

Volunteer Information:

Wendy Decker (920) 920-4699

Motorcycle Escort Information:

Dale Schaefer (920) 920-4699

Schedule School or Group Tours:

Tom Hoffman (920) 920-4699

Gold Star Family and In Memory Information:

John Jacobs (815) 404-9103

Motorcycle Escort - Sept. 10 - Two Rivers to Manitowoc 4:00pm

Open 24 hours / Free to All

Thursday, Sept. 12 - "Welcome Home Ceremony" 6:30pm

Friday, Sept. 13 - "Candlelight Vigil" 7:30pm

Saturday, Sept. 14 - "Remembrance Ceremony" 1:00pm

Sunday, Sept. 15 - "Closing Ceremony" 2:00pm

The Wall That Heals is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The exhibit consists of the Wall replica and the mobile Education Center featuring a timeline of "The War and The Wall" and includes: Hometown Heroes, In Memory Honor Roll, The Gold Star Book and more!

For more information: www.VetsOfAmerica.org or by email: VVA731@att.net

Facebook: Vietnam Veterans of America #731 or any number on left

VVA Chapter 351 will be bringing its 100 foot mobile museum of Vietnam artifacts to Manitowoc for this event. Several of our members will be participating in this mission. Please come if you can to this interesting, educational and important event.

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Appleton Area
410 W. Franklin St Unit 1862
Appleton WI 54191-1862**