

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



**634 Bowers Lane
Kaukauna, WI 54130-1004**

**September—October
2025**



**Fox Valley's Only Chartered Vietnam Veterans
Organization Serving Area Veterans Since 1988**

CURRENT OFFICERS

Officers / Board of Directors

President	Glen Zimmerman
Vice President	Jerry Clusen
Secretary	Dave Verhagen
Treasurer	Phil Moore
Board of Directors-BOD	Dennis Bowman
Board of Directors-BOD	Wade Van Ryzin
Board of Directors-BOD	Mike Weaver

Committees / Administration

Adopt-A-Family	Phil Moore
Chaplain	Mike Weaver
Chapter Social Events	AVVA
Scholarship	Wade Van Ryzin
Reflections of Vietnam Coordinator	Jerry Clusen
FV Veterans Council & Recognition	Glen Zimmerman
Fundraising/Charity Drives	AVVA Chairperson
Membership	Joe Eiting
Nomination/Constitution	Board of Directors
POW/MIA	Mike Weaver
Toxic Chemical Issues	Joe Eiting
Sunshine	Bill Olcott
Taps	Phil Moore
Retirement Home Visits	John VandenHeuvel
Webmaster	Angie Coenen
Newsletter Editor	Dennis Bowman

Other

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Wade Van Ryzin	920-734-9638	wvanryzin@aol.com
Mike Weaver	920-470-4674	skipatroldoc@gmail.com
Glen Zimmerman	920-428-1229	glenz49@aol.com

Wisconsin Vietnam War Casualties

The casualty list contains the names of our brothers lost during the months from September—October. The names listed are three from the three county area and seven from the rest of the state.

September

ORLAND O. BEARWALD	PFC	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	9/8/1965
DAVID J. BULKLEY	SP4	CHILTON	CALUMET	9/8/1968
WILLIAM OTTO LANG	CPL	NEW HOLSTEIN	CALUMET	9/8/1968
LESTER O. BIEHL	CN	SHEBOYGAN	SHEBOYGAN	9 /2/1965
MERLIN C. STELPFLUG	CPL	DICKEYVILLE	GRANT	9 /21/1967
ROBERT W.M GREBBY	CW2	WALWORTH	WALWORTH	9 /21/1970
NICHOLAS LEE NATZKE	SGT	MERRILL	LINCOLN	9 /22/1967
WILLIAM W. VANMATER	SGT	FRIENDSHIP	ADAMS	9 /22/1968
EUGENE LEROY BURBEY	PFC	KENOSHA	KENOSHA	9 /22/1969
ELWOOD JOHN ROEHL	SP5	JANESVILLE	ROCK	9 /23/1969

October

TIMOTHY GEORGE ARENS	CPL	APPLETON	OUTAGAMIE	10/1/1968
TIMOTHY JAMES MURPHY	SSG	GREEN BAY	BROWN	10/17/1968
RICHARD M BANASZYNSKI	SP4	PULASKI	BROWN	10/25/1968
THOMAS RAY WEISS	SP4	GLENBEULAH	SHEBOYGAN	10 /20/1970
WILLIAM GEORGE MCCANN	1LT	GRANTSBURG	BURNETT	10 /21/1966
WILLIAM T. GRUDZINSKI	LCPL	EDGERTON	ROCK	10 /21/1966
RAYMOND REX BERGER	SP4	SHEBOYGAN	SHEBOYGAN	10 /23/1970
LAWRENCE CARL DOBRENZ	A1C	MEDFORD	TAYLOR	10 /24/1966
RUSSELL WESLEY MULDER	SGT	ADELL	SHEBOYGAN	10 /24/1970
CARL EVERETT OLDFIELD	PFC	JANESVILLE	ROCK	10 /25/1969

Chapter Tales

Fellow Members,

As Summer winds down and the flowers die off it is time to get ourselves back on track with our Chapter business. We will start scheduling our EDU visits at the various schools once again. If you know someone at any of the schools we have presented at in the past, please contact them and suggest they get on our schedule as soon as possible. And, along with that thought, my thanks to everyone who has helped to make our program so successful. We all appreciate that you were willing to STEP UP AND HELP OUT!!

We had a successful Fund Raiser in June and are looking forward to another one in September. Please mark your calendars for September 19-20 for our POW/MIA Fund Raiser. We can always use more funds to help our Veteran Brothers and Sisters have a better life. Again, please, STEP UP AND HELP OUT!

As many of you know, I had back surgery on July 9th and have been in "sick bay" since trying to "nurse" myself back to full strength. The surgery went well and I thought my recovery was going great until this past weekend when I took several steps backwards. I suddenly developed severe pain in my lower back and side which has laid me up for over a week now. The doctor said that this is normal, he does not seem too concerned at this point and I should just be patient. So, I am taking lots of Tylenol and trying my best to bear with it! It is much too painful to walk so I spend a lot of time sitting or lying around. I don't feel very productive doing that, however. I'm sure the good Lord will get me through this just like he did Vietnam. I am really thankful that I have a "live-in" nurse to help take care of me. And many "thanks" to everyone who sent cards, emails, texts, etc. with well wishes for me. I truly appreciated all your thoughts and prayers.

One last "Thank you" goes out to everyone who stepped up to help out with the June 20th and 21st Fund Raiser. Please remember to sign up for our POW/MIA Fundraiser in September. Without these donation drives we cannot operate.

My thanks to all of our Chapter and AVVA Board members who continue to do a fantastic job of keeping our Chapter running smoothly. I'm sure all of you could find other things to do with your time but it likely wouldn't be as rewarding as knowing you are the backbone of the fourth largest VVA Chapter in Wisconsin.

By the time you read this the 2025 Pulling For Honor Plane Pull will be in the history books. I just want to say "Thanks" to everyone that took time to help out working that event for us. We get great outside exposure there every year. If you hear of any of our members in "Sick Bay", please let someone on the Board know. We will pass that information along and get a card out to them. Feel free to send me any ideas you might have on how we can get more members involved in any of our activities. Or any changes you would like to see in the future from your Chapter at glenz49@aol.com or call me at 920-428-1229 and leave a message if I'm not available.

Glen Zimmerman, President

Editor Musings

I know this note is coming a bit late, but I wanted to share an update with you. I'm finally getting back on my feet after my recent bout with prostate cancer. The radiation treatments themselves weren't too difficult, but they certainly take a toll on the body. The fatigue was tough, and it affected my concentration quite a bit. It's taken me a while to get back into the swing of things, but I'm finally getting there.

I realize the next newsletter will be out soon, but I still wanted to share a few photos from our **Rawhide Fish Fry** and the **EDU Team** at the Plane Pull — which, unfortunately, was cut short due to a heavy rainstorm that rolled through.

Now that fall has arrived, we can enjoy the beautiful colors of the season — though I'm not sure I'm quite as excited about what follows next! (That might just be me!)

I hope to see many of you on the **7th** and **14th**.

Blessings,

Dennis

2025 Fall

14-Oct-2025	Kaukauna HS	Kaukauna	Mike Weaver	D. Grossman	0700-1530 Aaron Herm
10/??/2025	Rawhide	New London	J. Clusen	J. Clusen	1000-1500 Issac Kemp
12/??/2025	Hortonville HS	Hortonville	J. Clusen		0700-1300 Zach Aschauer

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5/??/2026	Hortonville HS	Hortonville	J. Clusen		0700-1300 Zach Aschauer
18-May-2026	Appleton West HS	Appleton	J. Clusen		0700-1530 Mitch Krug
5/??/2026	Neenah HS	Neenah	M. Weaver		0700-1300 Deb Gauthier

Next Meetings

VVA 351 will be meeting at:

**BOD October 7th at Veteran's Village
2919 W Glenpark Dr, Appleton**

**October 14th for
General Membership Meeting at
American Legion Club**

Both at 1100 hours

Fellowship and Fun at the Rawhide Fish Fry



On **Thursday, July 18th**, members and friends of our chapter gathered for a wonderful afternoon of fellowship and good food at the **annual Rawhide Fish Fry**, held at the beautiful **Rawhide Ranch in rural New London**.



The event was a chance for comrades, spouses, and supporters to relax, share stories, and enjoy each other's company in a welcoming and scenic setting. The staff at Rawhide once again served up a delicious meal, and the conversations around the tables were just as warm and satisfying as the food itself.



As the photos show, everyone had a great time reconnecting with familiar faces, meeting new friends, and reflecting on the camaraderie that unites us. Events like this remind us that our chapter is more than meetings and fundraisers — it's a community built on shared service, support, and friendship.



We're already looking forward to next year's gathering and hope even more of you will be able to join us!



Retirement Home Committee visits Appleton Retirement Community



Members of our **Retirement Home Committee** recently visited the **Appleton Retirement Community** for a special educational and outreach program focused on the history and meaning of the **United States flag**. During the visit, the committee spoke with residents about the origins of the flag, its symbolism, and the respect and care it deserves as a powerful emblem of our nation's freedom and unity.

One of the highlights of the visit was a hands-on demonstration of the **proper way to fold the American flag** — including the significance behind each of the traditional thirteen folds. Residents enjoyed the opportunity to learn, ask questions, and even participate in the demonstration, making the event both informative and interactive.



As the photos show, the afternoon was filled with engaging conversation, shared stories, and heartfelt appreciation for the flag that represents the country we love and have served. Visits like these strengthen our connection with the veteran community and ensure that patriotic traditions continue to be passed on to future generations.

