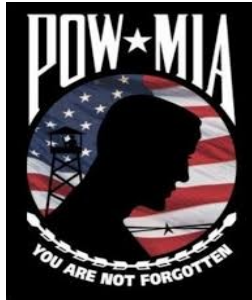


**"Never again will one generation of Veterans
abandon another."**



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

**November—December
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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Dennis Bowman	920-858-2551	dbowmanvva@gmail.com
Jerry Clusen	920-205-4494	jerry.clusen@gmail.com
Joe Eiting	920-205-1565	capteiting@aol.com
Phil Moore	920-750-4110	prespanther@att.net
Bill Olcott	920-250-0112	papaolcott@outlook.com
Dave Verhagen	920-725-6896	mopar1974@aol.com
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 November—December. The names listed are three from the three county area and seven from the rest of the state.

November

JOHN K. MARSHALL	USMC	LCPL	GREEN BAY	BROWN	11/17/1968
DAVID J. WATSON	ARMY	SP4	OSHKOSH	WINNEBAGO	11/9/1971
RICHARD JENSEN	NAVY	HN	BRILLION	CALUMET	11/23/1965
DENNIS E. STECKER	ARMY	SP4	MANITOWOC	MANITOWOC	11 /17/1970
WILLIAM T. ARNOLD	NAVY	LCDR	WEST ALLIS	MILWAUKEE	11 /18/1966
PAUL W. WAHLER JR	ARMY	1LT	RACINE	RACINE	11 /18/1967
ANDREW G. KIRCHMAYER	ARMY	CPT	FT ATKINSON	JEFFERSON	11 /18/1969
JOHN D. FITZPATRICK	ARMY	PFC	FRANKLIN	MILWAUKEE	11 /19/1966
WILLIAM H. MURPHY III	NAVY	LTJG	MADISON	DANE	11 /19/1967
RICHARD K. CARTER	ARMY	SGT	MILWAUKEE	MILWAUKEE	11 /19/1967

December

JOHN P. PAULSON JR	ARMY	SP4	NEENAH	WINNEBAGO	12/11/1967
WINFIELD A. SPOEHR JR	ARMY	CPL	NEW LONDON	WAUPACA	12/19/1967
RONALD J. STRECKERT	USMC	PFC	CHILTON	CALUMET	12/28/1967
DONALD LAVERN SMITH	ARMY	SSG	FENNIMORE	GRANT	12/21/1967
THOMAS L. ANDERSON	ARMY	SP4	LA CROSSE	LA CROSSE	12/21/1969
EDWARD A. MORRISON	ARMY	PFC	KENOSHA	KENOSHA	12/22/1968
DUANE A.. VOGEL	USMC	CPL	SHEBOYGAN	SHEBOYGAN	12/23/1966
NICHOLAS G. WALZ	NAVY	PO3	STEUBEN	CRAWFORD	12/23/1967
KENNETH E. THRESHER	USMC	LCPL	MILWAUKEE	MILWAUKEE	12/23/1967
JAMES R. HAGEN	ARMY	LTC	STANLEY	CHIPPEWA	12/24/1964

Chapter Tales

Fellow Members,

A chill is in the air as Fall seems determined to push its way in here! We had a pretty nice Summer this year and I wish it would hang around but I don't see that happening. I hope most of you were able to enjoy some time outdoors with your family and friends during the warm weather. Now it's time to get back to business with our EDU Program and Nursing Home visits. As always, we can use all the help we can get so STEP UP AND HELP OUT!!

We had our second Fund Raiser in September and it was very successful raising over \$9,200.00. That really makes a difference for our Chapter and the things we can do to help other Veterans in need. My thanks to our Fundraising Captains, Mike Weaver and Chris Van Ryzin. They did a great job and we appreciate their efforts! Way to STEP UP AND HELP OUT!

Just a quick reminder that we only have one meeting left in 2025 and that will take place on November 13th. Put it on your calendar now so you can join us and help our Chapter make decisions on how to distribute some of the funds we have taken in this year. Certain items are always a given such as storage unit rental, vehicle maintenance, etc. But we still have some funds that we can use to help other groups or individuals. So come to the meeting and voice your opinion.

The 2025 Pulling for Honor Plane Pull ending up being somewhat of a bust this year due to the inclement weather that blew in. We did get some exposure before things were called off. "You can't fight Mother Nature" as they say so we'll try again next year. Thanks to everyone who took some time to help out that day.

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

Members of our Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter recently gathered for a warm and enjoyable get-together at Pullman's Restaurant. The evening was filled with good food, lively conversation, and the kind of camaraderie that reminds us why these moments together are so special.

We extend a heartfelt *thank you* and *congratulations* to all who volunteered at **Woodman's** and **Festival Foods** during our **Semi-Annual Fundraising Events**. Your dedication and time make a real difference in supporting the programs and outreach efforts of our chapter. Each volunteer hour helps us continue serving our veterans and community in meaningful ways.

It was wonderful to share stories, laughter, and fellowship at Pullman's—and to celebrate the ongoing spirit of service that defines our members. Well done, and thank you to everyone who continues to keep our mission strong!

As Glen wrote that there will not be a Membership Meeting in December, the next meeting will be Jan. 8, 2026.

Blessings,

Dennis

2025 Fall

12/??/2025

Hortonville HS

Hortonville

J. Clusen

0700-1300 Zach Aschauer

Spring

5/??/2026

Hortonville HS

Hortonville

J. Clusen

0700-1300 Zach Aschauer

5/18/2026

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 November 4th at Veteran's Village
2919 W Glenpark Dr, Appleton**

**November 13th for
General Membership Meeting at
American Legion Club**

Both at 1100 hours

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.



RAWHIDE YOUTH SERVICES

EDU MISSION



Members of **Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351** recently visited **Rawhide Youth Services** in New London for an afternoon of conversation and encouragement with the young men at the facility.

Chapter members shared stories from their military service, emphasizing lessons of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance. The youth responded with thoughtful questions and genuine interest in the veterans' experiences.



The event concluded with a tour of the facility and informal fellowship between the veterans and residents.

VVA Chapter 351 extends thanks to the staff of **Rawhide Youth Services** for their warm hospitality and dedication to helping young men build brighter futures.



KAUKAUNA HIGH SCHOOL

EDU MISSION



VVA Chapter 351, based in the Appleton area, has a long history of visiting Kaukauna High School to educate students about the Vietnam War. Through its "Reflections of Vietnam" educational program, the chapter brings veterans and a traveling museum to local schools to provide students with a firsthand understanding of the conflict.

The program is a key part of the VVA 351's mission to educate a younger generation and change the public's perception of Vietnam veterans.

The visit typically includes:

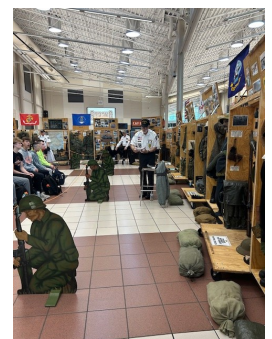
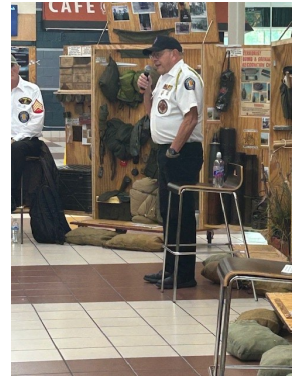
Personal stories: Veterans speak to students, sharing their personal experiences from their time in Vietnam. This provides a perspective not found in history books and helps students connect with history on a personal level.

A traveling museum: The chapter travels with a trailer filled with uniforms, artifacts, and memorabilia related to the war, offering a hands-on and visual learning experience.

Impact on students

The VVA 351's visits have left a lasting impression on students at Kaukauna High School and other Fox Valley schools. These educational experiences offer a unique opportunity to:

- Understand history through the eyes of those who lived it, which has been shown to hold students' attention.
- Gain a deeper appreciation for veterans and their sacrifices, providing a richer understanding than what a textbook alone can offer.



POW/MIA FUND DRIVE WOODMAN MARKET

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351 held a successful **POW/MIA Fund Drive** this past month, with members volunteering at local **Woodman's** and **Festival Foods** locations to raise awareness and support for veterans' programs.

Shoppers responded generously throughout the weekend, contributing to the Chapter's ongoing efforts to honor and assist veterans, promote patriotism, and remember those still missing in action. Funds raised will help support **veteran outreach programs, school presentations, and community service projects** sponsored by Chapter 351.

Chapter members reported strong community engagement and appreciation from the public. Many shoppers took time to thank the veterans for their service and to share their own family connections to military service.

The Chapter extends heartfelt thanks to all who donated, to the management of Woodman's and Festival Foods for their continued support, and to the dedicated volunteers who made the event a success.



ANNUAL FALL GET-TOGETHER PULLMAN'S RESTAURANT



Members of **Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351** and the **Associates of VVA (AVVA)** gathered for their **Annual Fall Get-Together** at **Pullman's Restaurant** in Appleton. The evening offered a chance for members, spouses, and friends to relax, share stories, and enjoy good food and fellowship.



Chapter President thanked everyone for their ongoing support and volunteer work throughout the year, including the successful POW/MIA Fund Drive and community outreach visits. Laughter and conversation filled the room as old friends reconnected and new members were warmly welcomed.



The event was a reminder of the strong bonds formed through shared service and dedication to veterans and their families.

