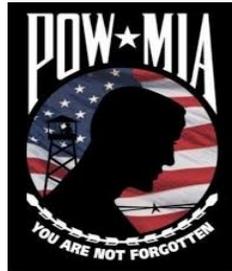


**"Never again will one generation of Veterans
abandon another."**



**634 Bowers Lane
Kaukauna WI 54130**

**March—April
2026**



**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 | Mike Weaver |
| Taps | Phil Moore |
| Retirement Home Visits | John VandenHeuvel |
| Webmaster | Jerry Clusen |
| Newsletter Editor | Dennis Bowman |

Contacts

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chapter | 920-205-1565 | info@vvawi351.org |
| 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@gmail.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 March—April. The names listed are three from the three county area and seven from the rest of the state.

January

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| ALLEN DARYL PAPPENFUS | ARMY | PFC | APPLETON | OUTAGAMIE | 3/15/1967 |
| ROBERT HARVEY REINKE | ARMY | CPL | APPLETON | OUTAGAMIE | 3/21/1967 |
| JAMES ALLEN COREY | MARINE | LCPL | KIMBERLY | OUTAGAMIE | 3/2/1968 |
| DOUGLAS RAY ROEST | ARMY | SGT | KENOSHA | KENOSHA | 3 /13/1970 |
| RICHARD ELMER JAECK | ARMY | 1LT | CUDAHY | MILWAUKEE | 3 /14/1964 |
| GERALD RICHARD HAUSWIRTH | ARMY | 1LT | GREENDALE | MILWAUKEE | 3 /14/1970 |
| LOUIS A PAVLACKY | ARMY | CPL | DELAVAN | WALWORTH | 3 /14/1970 |
| GARY WAYNE OLSON | USMC | CPL | MILWAUKEE | MILWAUKEE | 3 /15/1967 |
| PHILLIP DEAN MONSON | ARMY | SGT | GRATIOT | LAFAYETTE | 3 /15/1971 |
| RUSSELL OLE LEDEGAR | ARMY | PFC | LA CROSSE | LA CROSSE | 3 /16/1967 |

February

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| GENE JAY HOWARD | ARMY | SP5 | NEENAH | WINNEBAGO | 4/2/1968 |
| THOMAS FRANCIS DAZEY | ARMY | SP4 | NEENAH | WINNEBAGO | 4/9/1968 |
| JOHN R DAGOSTINO | ARMY | SGT | GREEN BAY | BROWN | 4/30/1968 |
| DAVID LEVERETT LEET | USMC | CAPT | KENOSHA | KENOSHA | 4 /13/1972 |
| LARRY SCOTT JENSEN | ARMY | SP4 | MILWAUKEE | MILWAUKEE | 4 /15/1967 |
| ROBERT ALLEN MCCARTNEY | ARMY | SGT | JANESVILLE | ROCK | 4 /15/1967 |
| DARRYL JAY KOCH | ARMY | PFC | HARTLAND | WAUKESHA | 4 /15/1967 |
| DENNIS LEE KLIMPKE | ARMY | SP4 | COLBY | CLARK | 4 /15/1968 |
| JERRY WAYNE HEUER | ARMY | PFC | SPARTA | MONROE | 4 /15/1968 |
| FREDERICK V SUCHOMEL | ARMY | SP4 | SUN PRAIRIE | DANE | 4 /15/1969 |

Chapter Tales

Hi, Everyone!

Another winter is nearly behind us and warmer weather is on the way. Soon we will be back in the area schools with our display and talking about our Vietnam experiences. I would encourage each of you to look at the upcoming schedule and make plans to help with as many EDU Presentations as you can. Everybody has something to add and the students enjoy hearing from us. If you are not comfortable speaking on stage that's okay. You can still help by standing by our display and talking with the students about your experiences. So, please, **STEP UP AND HELP OUT!** 2026 just might be the last year you get a chance to do this as our Chapter continues to discuss winding down the EDU Program. Age and various illnesses are taking a toll on our membership and it gets harder and harder for many of us to keep up the pace. I've said this over and over again, "Many hands make light work". But the majority of our Chapter has not taken this to heart and the few of us that continue to work hard at keeping our Chapter and, especially, our EDU Program going, are quickly wearing out.

We have two more Fund Drives again this year. June 26th and 27th are the dates for the first one and September 18th and 19th for the second one. Clear your calendars now so you can sign up to help us out. These fund drives are what help us continue to support our Chapter and other Veteran causes throughout the Valley. **STEP UP AND JOIN IN!**

My thanks to Dennis Bowman for doing a great job in getting our Newsletter out to everyone in a timely manner. He is always looking for photos and other Veteran info that he can incorporate in our Chapter Newsletter, so if you have any ideas or stories, pass them on to Dennis at dbowmanvva@gmail.com.

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

Good day, members of **Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 351**,

It is an honor to stand among men and women who answered our nation's call during a difficult and defining time in history. Your courage, sacrifice, and perseverance reflect a deep love of country and a commitment to one another that continues long after your military service ended.

Vietnam veterans faced challenges both overseas and upon returning home. Yet you have transformed those experiences into a continued mission of service—supporting fellow veterans, strengthening families, and serving our community with dedication and compassion.

On behalf of a grateful community, thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your ongoing leadership. You have not only defended freedom—you continue to model integrity, resilience, and brotherhood.

This newsletter is a bit lighter than usual, as our schedule has been less active recently. However, as you will see below, our EDU unit will soon be getting underway, and we look forward to renewed activity and engagement.

If you have information, announcements, or updates that would benefit our members, please send them to me at DBowmanvva@gmail.com.

Dennis

EDU Schedule 2026

| | | | | | | |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 25-Mar | Fox Valley Lutheran H.S | Appleton | Glen Zimmerman | Dave Grossman | 08:30—1430 | Shawn Hill |
| 24-Apr | Little Chute H.S. | Little Chute | Marty Huss | Jerry Clusen | 0700—1300 | Nathan Klein |
| 1-May | Hilbert H.S. | Hilbert | Marty Huss | Larry Cavanaugh | 0615—1200 | Taylor Grissman |
| 6-May | St. Ignatius Cath. School | Kaukauna | Mike Weaver | No Display | 0900— 1200 | Timothy Humm |
| 15-May | Hortonville H.S. | Hortonville | Jerry Clusen | | | Zach Ashauer |
| 18-May | Appleton West H.S. | Appleton | Jerry Clusen | | 0700—1530 | Mitch Ashauer |
| 21-May | Neenah H.S. | Neenah | Mike Weaver | | 0700— 1300 | Deb Gauthier |

Next Meetings

VVA 351 will be meeting at:

**BOD March 3rd at Veteran's Village
2919 W Glenpark Dr, Appleton**

**March 12th for
General Membership Meeting at
American Legion Club**

Both at 1100 hours

Thank You Notes

We would also like to share our sincere appreciation for the thoughtful thank-you notes we recently received.

A special thank you to **Good Shepherd Services** for their kind words and continued partnership in serving our community. It is always encouraging to know that our efforts are making a meaningful difference.

We are also grateful to students **Nick Matiash** and **Nathan Hilbert** for their heartfelt notes of appreciation. Hearing from young people reminds us that the story of service and sacrifice continues to be remembered and valued by the next generation.

These expressions of gratitude mean a great deal to our members and reaffirm the importance of what we do together.

VVA Chapter 351 + associates.

We thank you for your continued support for our Veteran's here at Good Shepherd Services, and for the lives you touch in so many other communities. Your efforts + generosity does not go unnoticed. Thank you for making a difference.

-Your friends at Good Shepherd Services.

To: Mr. Van Ryzin and the Scholarship Committee

Thank you for selecting me as the recipient for the Richard Poukey Memorial Scholarship. I appreciate the award and I enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about my grandfather. This scholarship helps me a lot with my pursuit of a college education. Thank you again for this; I am very grateful. -Elias Matias

Dear Vietnam Veterans of America Appleton Area chapter 351,

Thank you for your generosity through the Scholarship fund. I am honored to be awarded the Richard Pokey Memorial Scholarship. Although one thank you is not enough for what all of you have done for our country.

I wish you all the very best,

Nathan Hilbert