

# THE JOURNEY

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. Chapter 227

The Dean K. Phillips Memorial Chapter

# "Just In Time"

"Never Again Shall One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



October 2024



### ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The October 17<sup>th</sup> membership meeting will celebrate our 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of fulfilling our founding principle, "*Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another*." The guest speaker is General David M. Rodriguez, a 40 year Army veteran. His exceptional military career included company and senior level command and staff positions include Senior Military Advisor to the Secretary of Defense. He will discuss today's current national events.

The FREE buffet dinner includes a salad, entrees, vegetables, an anniversary cake and beverage. The event starts with a cash bar from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM, and dinner served at 6:15 PM. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Drinking alcoholic beverages ceases a 7:00 PM. RSVP to Melissa Kalner at mkalner77@gmail.com or call/text her at 703-819-1480 by noon, Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. A definitive headcount is needed to ensure adequate



food. Come to the celebration. Do it NOW! AVVA is collecting cash donations for The Lamb Center, our successful community homeless outreach. For questions about The Lamb Center's activities, call Diane Ignatowski at 703-772-5303.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING WRAP-UP by Dan Moore

At the chapter meeting on 19 September Dan Moore discussed his memoir, *Whatever Cause We Have*. He described the impact of growing up in a Navy family and how his father's WWII experience influenced his own decision to serve his country and become a Marine officer while serving in the Vietnam War as an artillery officer. He discussed the Lessons Learned as he wrote, including the positive esprit de corps among Marine infantry units; the humor in war; the devastating casualties which over time eroded his initial optimism that the war could be won. His memoir was written for Vietnam War veterans and the Vietnam War generation at large. Moore described the writing process and the evolution of how the book was published, noting that service as a volunteer at The Wall and in the intelligence community had a clear bearing on the book. The membership in attendance was attentive.

#### THE NEEDS CONTINUE

Veteran assistance continued into the early fall. With the approaching Holiday Season of Thanksgiving and the December holidays, the chapter seeks cash contributions. The VASH homeless veteran holiday gift card is a major chapter expense. Mail your donation to VVA Chapter 227, Attn: Chuck Harris, 44020 Pandora Ct., Ashburn, VA. 20147-3844. Checks payable to VVA Chapter 227. The chapter plans to establish an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit to facilitate donations to the chapter's programs in the future.

- \$ 1,000 Veteran delinquent rent grant.
- \$ 500 Partnered with other VSOs for delinquent rent.
- \$ 234 Veteran car repairs
- \$1,100 Veteran delinquent rent
- \$ 692 Veteran delinquent automobile payment
- \$ 1,000 Partnered with other VSOs for delinquent rent
- \$ 275 Veteran delinquent cell phone payment
- \$ 257 Veteran delinquent cell phone payment

#### **Vietnam Veterans of America** Send to: Bill Lynch, Attn: VVA Chapter 227, 5328 Taney Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22304-2039 State **QUESTIONS** Eligibility: Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. military (for other than training purposes) between November 1, 1955 - May 7, 1975 (in-country Vietnam), or between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975, for Vietnam-era veterans. Return this application along with a copy of your DD Form-214. CONTACT Special Life Membership: \$50 • Payment Option: Check Money Order Credit Card (Amex, Discover, MasterCard, Visa) BILL LYNCH Credit Card # Exp. Date / ☐ I am a spouse/family member or friend of a Vietnam Vet 703-474-4891 and would like to join Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA). **CALENDAR OCTOBER** 03: Board Meeting 7:30 PM. Zoom format 17: CHAPTER ANNIVERSARY DINNER 7:00 PM and FREE DINNER: Guest Speaker: General David M. Rodriguez, U.S. Army (Ret.), "A Discussion on Current National Affairs." 26: VVA Virginia State Council Meeting, Richmond Va. **NOVEMBER** 07: Board Meeting 7:30 PM. Zoom format 21: Membership Meeting 7:00 PM: Guest Speaker: To Be Announced **DECEMBER** 05: Board Meeting 7:30 PM. Zoom format 14: HOLIDAY PARTY 5:00 TO 9:00 PM at American Legion Post 199.

HAVE A MERRY AND SAFE HOLIDAYS!

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 Military Veterans, Their Families, Our Community and Our Country" Since October 11, 1985