

# THE JOURNEY

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. Chapter 227

*The Dean K. Phillips Memorial Chapter*

*“Serving Veterans and the Community in Northern Virginia”*



In Service to America

October 2008

## VACATIONS FOR VETS

The October 16<sup>th</sup> membership meeting features Chris Carr who will speak about the innovative Vacations for Vets program which provides a week of free vacation in a donated resort property. The program provides wounded veterans and their families an opportunity to relax and reconnect after the traumatic battlefield experience in a relaxing environment that is often unattainable and unaffordable.

The program functions on donated vacation homes from private citizens and on cash donations. If you cannot attend the meeting and wish to participate in the program with a resort property vacation or cash donation, you can contact the Vacations for Vets program at <http://www.vacationsforveterans.org> or 1-800-831-8803. It is another avenue in which we can support our wounded warriors and their families on their road to recovery and honor their service to our country.

You are invited to come early and enjoy a great dinner and renew our special camaraderie. See you there!

## BE A DC VETERANS HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER!

By Stephanie W. Burns, Chief, Voluntary Services and Recreation Therapy, Washington D.C. Medical Center

The Voluntary Service Office of the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center (DCVAMC) is deeply appreciative of the support the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) have provided over the years. Together, we form a team that has been very successful in raising the quality of life of those who wore the uniform. The VVA has continually honored its 30 year history by building a legacy of dedication to America's veterans. This dedication includes generous donations to VA Medical centers in the form of funds and volunteer hours, and aggressive advocacy for the well earned rights and benefits of veterans. The VVA exemplifies the spirit of comradeship through its volunteer activities to help comrades and their families at the DCVAMC. We take great pride in this service and continually strive to expand our umbrella of considerations and commitments available for our veterans.

DCVAMC's Voluntary Service has an immediate need for volunteer receptionists, drivers for the Volunteer Transportation Network as well as volunteers to assist in the Caring Spoons program. These opportunities do not require a significant time commitment. Even a small amount of devoted time will enrich the life of a veteran. There are many opportunities to continue to serve flag and country and to perpetuate the ideals and principles of Americanism. Help honor others who sacrificed for our nation by joining your DCVAMC Volunteer Service family. There is no greater expression of support than that of giving your time to extend brotherly love and relief. Please help us in our mission to provide comfort, care and companionship to America's veterans who are *now* battling enemies of health not easily defeated.

Please call the DC Voluntary Service Office at (202) 745-8320 to learn more about volunteering. We welcome your call. We need your help. If you are unable to volunteer and desire to participate, alternatives exist. Please consider a contribution to any of the many General Post Funds including: DCVAMC Fisher House (GPF 1189), Social Work Fund (GPF 1012), Coffee Program (1170), Patient Satisfaction (1040) and National Patient Sports Competition (1182).

We thank you for your dedication to our Nations Veterans.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual “DMZ TO Delta”<sup>®</sup> DANCE

It is not too early to purchase your dance tickets. Mail your ticket order or purchase them at the September 18<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. The dance is a chapter hallmark in providing R&R to visiting veterans with a great venue of dancing, food, cash bar, silent auction, and our unique veteran camaraderie. Free hotel parking is available.

**Volunteers are needed to make the dance a real success.** To offer your time while attending the dance, contact Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or at [grunt69@gmail.com](mailto:grunt69@gmail.com). Volunteers are especially needed for the final hour.

This year is extra special since it marks the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Women’s Memorial dedication. Information on this special celebration is located at <http://www.vietnamwomensmemorial.org/upcoming.php>. Special thanks to the Foundation for listing the dance in their recent newsletter.

**DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2008 TIME: 8:00 PM TO MIDNIGHT**

### DANCE & HOTEL INFORMATION

**HOLIDAY INN ROSSLYN at Key Bridge  
1900 N. Ft. Myer Dr., Arlington, Va.**

- Special room rate of \$ 100 plus tax for single/double occupancy.
- Reservation cut-off date is October 10, 2008
- For Hotel Reservations, call 1-800-368-3408, ask for Reservation Code: VIE
- Credit card is needed to guarantee the reservation.
- Free parking
- Ride Metro: Rosslyn METRO Subway Station is 1-1/2 blocks.

### DANCE TICKET ORDER FORM@ newsltr

I want to order \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$30 per person. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot attend, but I want to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ guest tickets  
(Gold Star Mother, guest veteran) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to make a donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail my tickets to the following address:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket orders received after October 25, 2008 will be held at the Will Call Desk, which opens at 7:00 pm. Questions, call 703-255-0353 or visit our website at [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org).

Please make your check payable to **Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. ® Chapter 227,**

and mail your ticket order to: Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.® Chapter 227  
P.O. Box 5653  
Arlington, Virginia 22205

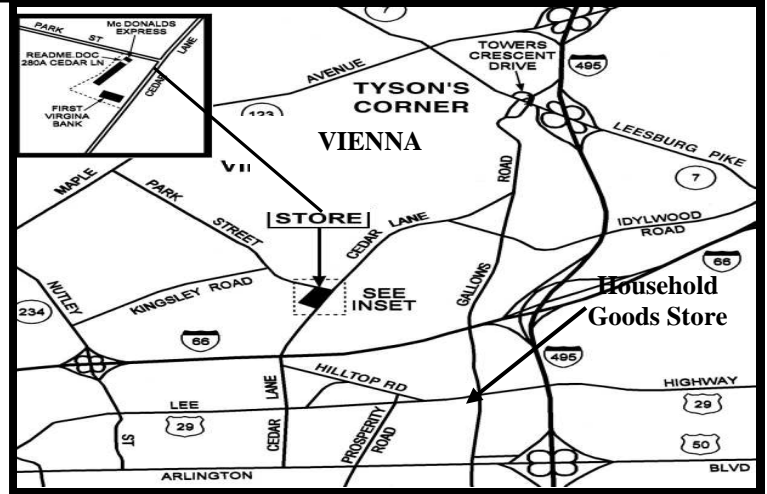
## CHAPTER 227 DOG TAGS

October 2008



### OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHAPTER 227

**President:** Bill Dumsick – 703-968-0686  
**Vice President:** Byron Sheldon – 703-471-5018  
**Secretary:** Bruce Waxman  
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**VVA Va. State Council POC:** Paul Stancliff  
**AVVA Representative:** Margaret Stern  
**Newsletter Editor:** Len Ignatowski 703-255-0353  
**Speaker's Panel:** Len Ignatowski  
**Meeting Guest Speaker:** Len Funk 703-820-8118  
**DMZ To Delta@Dance:** Len Ignatowski  
**Suits for Veterans:** Chuck Harris 703-729-5665



### MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane  
Vienna, Virginia (Park St. & Cedar Lane)  
**Pre-Meeting Dinner (Optional): 6:45 PM**  
**Meeting Time: 7:30 PM**      **Phone: 703-698-8010**

**CHAPTER INFORMATION: 703-968-0686**

**CHAPTER WEB SITE: [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org)**

## CHAPTER OPERATIONS PLAN

### Oct:

16: Membership Meeting: Speaker: Chris Carr, "Vacations for Veterans"

### Nov.

06: Board Meeting 7:30 pm: American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Rd., McLean, Va.

10: **DMZ to Delta®** Order your tickets now.

11: **Veterans Day and the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam Women's Memorial**

20: Membership Meeting: Speaker: Richard Mezo, "Rationalizing Waterboarding or Water Torture"

### Dec.

04: Board Meeting 7:30 pm: American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Rd., McLean, Va.

06: Holiday Party: Hosts: Bill and Cheryl Dumsick. Bring a wrapped child gift and winter clothing

12-14: Virginia State Council Meeting: POC: Paul Stancliff

18: No membership meeting

## VVA'S HOUSEHOLD GOODS STORE

*ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE STORE*

The Unique Thrift Store, retail store,  
at 2956 Gallows Road, (former Levitz store), Merrifield, Virginia.

**Call 1-800-459-8387 for a donation pick-up.**

**BUY YOUR**  
***DMZ To Delta® Dance Tickets***  
***NOW!***

**Tickets will be sold at the October 16<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

**Dance volunteers are needed.**

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ® INC.  
CHAPTER 227  
DEAN K. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL CHAPTER  
P.O. Box 5653  
Arlington, Virginia 22205-0653



**OUR MISSION**

**To “Serve Vietnam Veterans, Their Families,  
Our Community, and Our Country”.**