

# 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

*“Never Again Shall One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another”*

November 2012

## COME TO THE DANCE

The 2012 DMZ to Delta® Dance is on November 10th. The dance is the chapter's veteran outreach program to provide an enjoyable evening for visiting veterans, their families, and chapter members. See the dance announcement on the next page.

If you cannot attend the dance, you can buy a ticket for a Gold Star Mother or just make a donation for the dance. Call Len Ignatowski (703-255-0353) to offer your services to work at the dance.

## HOLIDAY VETERAN FAMILY OUTREACH

The AVVA members are conducting an Adopt A VASH Family for the holidays. The families are in transition from homelessness to normalcy. The program is to complete a family's holiday list from groceries to children toys. You can sponsor a family or make a contribution. If sponsoring a family, you are being asked to do the shopping. The VASH case managers will select the families based on financial need. Contact Diane Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 if you want to help or mail your contribution to Diane Ignatowski, 2408 Oak Vale Ct. NW, Vienna, Va. 22181. Make checks payable to VVA Chapter 227. The program is open to non-members and to other veteran or community organizations. Don't wait, time is short!

## WWII VETERAN TO SPEAK

The November 15 membership meeting features Richard Kirkland, a WW II fighter pilot and a Korean War helicopter pilot, who will share his military experiences. He has written several fiction books based on his military service. His appearance is a fulfillment of our goal to recognize our local WWII and Korean War veteran services.

Come early to enjoy a great meal and meet fellow members! Better yet, bring a fellow veteran with you.

## HOLIDAY PARTY: *Make Charlie Ride the Hood!*

Bill and Cheryl Dumsick are hosting the Holiday Party on December 15, 2012, at 6:00 pm in their home at 13606 White Stone Court, Clifton, Virginia. Beverages and meat dishes are provided, while members bring a covered dish. Call Cheryl (703-968-0686) for a dish selection. Bill asks that the starting time be observed. **No early arrivals please!**

A Holiday Party tradition is to bring a wrapped child's gift with the gift's gender and age marked on it, and a child's winter clothing item from gloves to jackets. The gifts and clothing serve as an emergency supply for the Sullivan House in Arlington County. Jonathan Olson and Charlie Klein deliver the gifts and clothing. Our goal is to completely fill Jonathan's car with our generosity so that Charlie has to ride on the hood. Please attend and bring those gifts so Charlie will have to ride on the car hood. If you can't attend the party, gifts can be dropped off at Len Ignatowski's home at 2408 Oak Vale Court, N.W., Vienna. Call for a delivery time at 703-255-0353.

The Holiday Party replaces the December membership meeting. Let's make this tradition the greatest one yet by making the holidays a little more joyful for the less fortunate.

## FAIRFAX CITY FAIR OUTREACH

Joe and Sharon Celesnik managed our information booth at the Fairfax City Fall Festival on October 13th. Len Ignatowski and Max Knouse along with Joe answered questions. Mark Ingutti of the Alexandria Vet Center answered veteran benefit questions. Diane Ignatowski and Fran Knouse, AVVA members, assisted too. The cookie jar collected \$56.55 for the Suits for Vets. Overall, the day was a complete success with over twenty membership and newsletters being distributed. Special thanks to Joe and Sharon for their time and effort.

## “DMZ TO Delta”<sup>®</sup> DANCE – BE THERE!

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. ® Chapter 227

**DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2012**

**TIME: 8:00 PM TO MIDNIGHT**

### HOLIDAY INN ROSSLYN at Key Bridge

**1900 N. Ft. Myer Dr., Arlington, Va.**

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 since I can't attend \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Ticket order will be at the Will Call Desk which opens at 7:00 P.M.

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

Email for future mailings: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Questions, call 703-255-0353.

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  
2408 Oak Vale Court NW, Vienna, Virginia 22181

## 27<sup>th</sup> CHAPTER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The chapter celebrated its 27th Birthday at the October 18th membership meeting. The official chapter charter date is October 11, 1985.

A glitch in the speaker's schedule prevented his appearance, but he agreed to speak at the January 2013 meeting. The lack of a speaker did not diminish the anniversary celebration which was enhanced with a great cake and ice cream and a broad discussion on chapter past and future events. The large turnout included several Vietnam veterans, their spouses, and a Donut Dolly who are considering joining the chapter. Special thanks to Diane Ignatowski for providing the refreshments.

## VETERAN OUTREACH:

- **GOLD STAR MOTHERS:** Bruce (Chapter VP) and Sarah (AVVA member) Waxman presented the chapter's \$500 gift to the Gold Stars Mother at their annual banquet on June 24th.
- **MITRE PARTNERSHIP:** The two military partnerships with the Mitre Corporations continue to thrive.
  - **Care Package for U.S. Troops:** The September fund drive raised \$2,700 for 203 packages to be sent to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The box contains snacks, personal comfort and hygiene items, and other goodies. Special packages are prepared for women. 1 in 7 military personnel are women. Although the package is addressed to an individual, the contents are shared under the time honor "buddy" tradition.
  - **Suits for Vets:** The Veteran's Day fund drive is in full swing. Make a donation by mailing it to the chapter address and check payable to VVA Chapter 227.
- **AMERICA'S ADOPT A SOLDIER GOLF TOURNAMENT:** A \$150 golf hole sponsorship was made for their fund-raising tournament on October 19th. The organization has responded to the chapter's Minuteman Alert appeals for help.
- **VVA LEADERSHIP ATTENDANCE:** Byron Sheldon and Bruce Waxman, chapter officers, attended the 2012 VVA Leadership Conference. They reported learning a great deal of useful information and networking with chapter and national officers. Their informal meeting with VVA VP Fred Elliott at the conference resulted in his September meeting attendance.

# CHAPTER 227 DOG TAGS

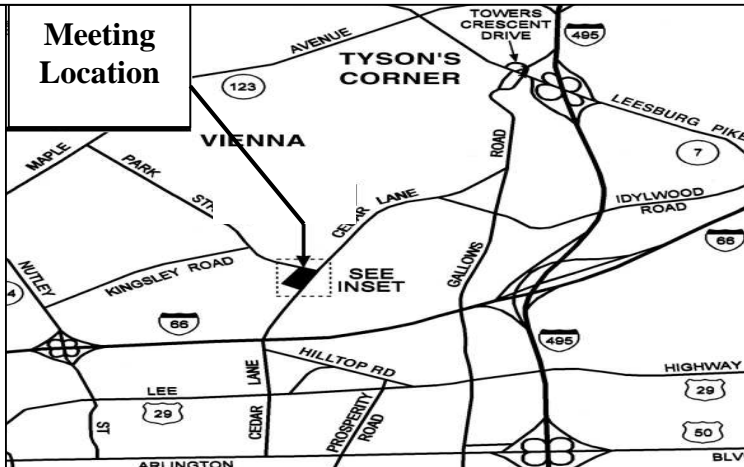
November 2012



## OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHAPTER 227

**President:** Byron Sheldon – 703-850-3498  
**Vice President:** Bruce Waxman – 703-323-0269  
**Secretary:** Ron Ball  
**Treasurer:** Chuck Harris  
**Sergeant at Arms:** Jonathan Olson  
**Board of Directors:** Paul Stancliff, Len Ignatowski, Bill Dumsick, Charlie Klein, Joe Celesnik, Max Knouse, Bill Lynch, Chris Beverley, and Tom Stryer.  
**AVVA Representative:** Diane Ignatowski 703-255-0353  
**Newsletter Editor:** Len Ignatowski 703-255-0353  
**School Speaker’s Panel:** Tom Stryer 703-323-9032  
**Meeting Guest Speaker:** Len Funk 703-820-8118  
**DMZ To Delta@Dance:** Len Ignatowski  
**Suits for Veterans:** Chuck Harris 703-729-5665  
**Lyons PTSD Visit:** Ben Buckley 703-978-9179

### Meeting Location



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

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

### 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 OPERATIONS PLAN

### November 2012

- 10: DMZ to Delta @ Dance: Buy your tickets NOW!
- 11: Veterans Day and 30th Anniversary of The Wall
- 15: Membership Meeting: Speaker: Richard Kirkland, “Fighter Pilot and One of First Combat Helicopter Pilots of WW II”.

### December 2012

- 01: State Council Meeting
- 06: Board Meeting 7:30 PM: American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street, N., Vienna, Va.
- 12: Lyons Combat PTSD Class Visit: Meet at the flagpole by The Wall at 11:00 AM. Ben Buckley 703-978-9179
- 15: Holiday Party 6:00 PM: Host: Bill and Cheryl Dumsick, 13606 Whitestone Court, Clifton, Va.
- 20: No membership meeting
- 25: Merry Christmas: Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

### VETERAN’S HOTLINE 1-800-273-8255

**24 HOURS/ 7 DAYS A WEEK  
 DON’T HESITATE! CALL NOW**

### VVA CAR DONATION PROGRAM

**1-800-Help Vets**

## **NEW HOUSEHOLD GOODS STORE - POTOMAC MILLS**

*“It Works for Us!”*

- The quarterly Household Goods rebate check of \$ 723 was received on September 29th.
- SAVERS Thrift Store has opened a store at 14427 Potomac Mills Road. Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 9 pm and Sunday 10 am to 6 pm.
- The second store is Unique Thrift Store at 2956 Gallows Road (the old Levitz Store)
- To schedule a pickup, call, 1-800-459-8387 or deliver the items at either store.
- Shop at the store which offers an excellent source for home furniture and decorations for children’s new apartments or your second home. Clothing and other items are like new, and some items even have the original sales tag attached.

# DMZ to Delta® Dance

November 10, 2012

*Buy you tickets now!*

# WWII FIGHTER PILOT

November 15, 2012

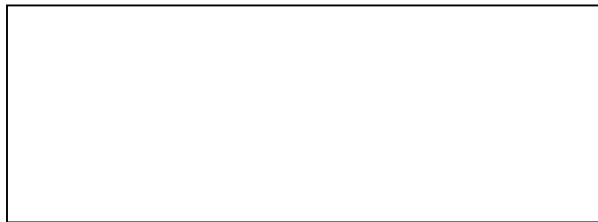
*MEMBERSHIP MEETING*

# VETERANS DAY -30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WALL

November 11, 2012 – Time: 1:00 PM

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 Veterans, Their Families,  
Our Community and Our Country”