

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"

December 2020

HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAYS TO ALL

HOMELESS SHELTER TOY AND CHILDREN CLOTHING DRIVE LAGS!

The Holiday Party and the December meeting cancellation due to the virus appears to be endangering the chapter's Holiday Cheer program for the Bridges to Independence Homeless Family Shelter. This community outreach is not a budget item and its success relies entirely on direct member participation.

Bill and Leslie Lynch volunteered as the toy gift and new children winter clothing collectors for this community outreach. Wrapped toys with a tag that lists the toy's gender and age and children winter clothing can be delivered to the Lynch's home at 5328 Taney Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22304. Place the items under the blue tarp inside the screened carport. An online purchase needs to be wrapped with a note listing the child's gender and age. Mail to the Lynch's home. Donations are collected from now thru December 13, 2020. Cash donations are accepted. Mail check to Chuck Harris, 44020 Pandora Ct., Ashburn, Va. 20147. Check payable to VVA Chapter 227 and on the memo line: *Toys Collection*. Cash donations will be given to the shelter for holiday use. The project is not a budget item and relies on direct member participation. ***Let's keep this tradition alive!***

SEASON OF GIVING

Members are being solicited for a cash grant to support the chapter's programs and administrative needs. The national Household Goods income is still recovering from the virus shutdown. One viable donation is a direct contribution from your IRA as a one-time donation which has a tax deduction benefit. Consult with your financial institution or accountant on this option. Cash donations are accepted too. Due to the virus, mail checks and IRA donations to VVA Chapter 227, Attn: Chuck Harris, 44020 Pandora Ct., Ashburn, Va. 20147. Make check payable to VVA Chapter 227.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The board voted to conduct postponed chapter elections at the April 15, 2021 membership meeting. All twenty board positions and officers for a two year term are on the ballot. If you are interested in fulfilling our mission, *"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"*, consider being a candidate for one of the leadership positions. This election is the virus delayed 2020 election. Two members are needed for the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, contact Jay Kalner at 703-346-2013.



HOLIDAY CHEER FOR VASH VETERANS AND FAMILIES

For the eleventh consecutive year, the Chapter provided gift cards in value from \$75 for a single veteran to \$225 for a married veteran with children for the Holidays who are in the Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) program. This VA program for veterans and their families provide the foundation for their successful transition from homelessness. This year's amount of \$ 6,675 benefited 56 veterans and their families, an increase of 13 recipients from last year. Despite the higher need, a \$25 increase for each need category was approved due to recent benefactor financial support. Many thanks to these two ardent and generous patrons.

The Holiday Cheer gift program wraps up another successful VASH support effort for a total of \$9,125 which includes our Back-to-School gift card program of \$2,450 in September 2020. The program provided a \$50 gift card for every VASH veteran and children student.

Len Ignatowski, Chapter VP, presented the gift cards to Jasmine O. Wilson, Northern Virginia Case Manager Leader, at the DC VA Medical Center on December 1st.

Vietnam Veterans of America

Send to: Bill Lynch, Attn: VVA Chapter 227, 5328 Taney Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22304-2039

Name _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

H () _____ C () _____ Email _____

Chapter No. **227**

• Eligibility: Vietnam and Vietnam-era veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. military (for other than training purposes) between February 28, 1961 - 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.

Life Membership: \$50

• Payment Option: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Credit Card (Amex, Discover, MasterCard, Visa)

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

☐ I am a spouse/family member or friend of a Vietnam Vet and would like to join Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA).

Signature: _____ Date: _____



WE WANT YOU

QUESTIONS

CONTACT

BILL LYNCH

AT 703-474-4891

CHAPTER TIDBITS AND CASH GRANTS!

- **The VVA Veteran, Nov/Dec 2020 (Online):** The front page and feature story is of the Coast Guard service in the Vietnam War. Bob Leggett, chapter member and CG veteran, wrote the story. Congratulations Bob. Go to https://vvaveteran.org/40-6/40-6_coastguard.html
- **Membership Meeting Speakers for 2021:** If you want to speak or know someone who could provide a relevant topic, contact Jay Kalner at 703-346-2013.
- **Cash Grants (All grants are properly vetted for veteran eligibility and need due to unexpected financial crisis. The program targets a one-time financial need, not repetitive need):**
 - \$300 Partner with other VSO's for a late home mortgage payment due to multiple financial needs.
 - \$500 Car payment to allow disabled veteran's wife to continue working

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ® INC.

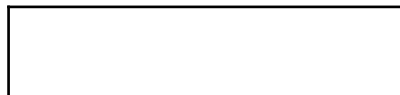
CHAPTER 227

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*