

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"

May 2023

MAY MEETING: RETURN TO THE MOON

The May 18th meeting guest speaker is James Schier, the Chief Architect for NASA's Space Communications and Navigation Program. He will discuss Project Artemis, our new effort to return to the moon and to develop the skills and systems for flights to Mars.

The meeting includes a buffet dinner of two entrée selections of salmon and chicken parmesan for \$20 each at the American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax, Va. The meeting starts with a cash bar from 6:00 PM to 7:15 PM. The buffet dinner is served at 6:45 PM. Mask wearing is optional. 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. **RSVP to Melissa Kalner at mkalner77@gmail.com or call/text her at 703-819-1480 by noon, Tuesday, May 16th.** A meal purchase is not required, but **if you order a meal and don't show, please mail payment since the chapter pays for the set number of meals.** Meet your fellow veterans and maybe a friend from the past. Do It Now!

NEW BOARD MEMBER

John Gill was elected and sworn in as the chapter's twentieth board member at the May 4th meeting. John is a relatively new member, but is an active participant in many chapter activities.

WELCOME HOME!

A salute to Vietnam War veterans will be celebrated on The National Mall on May 11 to 13, 2023. The festival's location is between the Potomac River and the Reflecting Pool near The Wall. The three-day celebration includes static displays, exhibits, veteran service hubs, military bands, drill teams, flyovers, and parachute drops and more. A musical show is set for Saturday at 1:00 PM. For details go to www.vietnamwar50th.com.

WALL WASHING—JUNE 3rd—6:30 AM @ FLAGPOLE

CHAPTER BBQ — JUNE 11th SEE CALENDAR PAGE 2

WE REMEMBER! \$198 and \$160 Partnered with other organizations for two veterans utility expenses.

WHAT IS DARPA?

At the April 20th meeting, Col. Trent Mills, USA, discussed the role of the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA) in current and future wars and other government activities. The Agency role revolves around the question, "What if?" Future conflicts will be fought with technology for both defense and offense. Its accomplishments and ongoing projects are:

- **SELF-FLYING BLACKHAWKS:** By 2030, a new Army helicopter will be in service. The current 1,200 Blackhaws will be modified to fly remotely and low to supply troops and evacuate wounded troops without risking the lives of helicopter crews.
- **SELF-DRIVING GROUND VEHICLES:** A program is underway to implement a remote ground supply vehicle for a mechanized ground attack. The vehicle speed is now 15 mph with a goal of 30 mph and higher to match the Abrams tank speed. The program reduces need for truck drivers.
- **NO GPS:** The military recognizes that our satellites are the first targets that might be attacked in a major conflict. New technology will rely less on satellite assistance.
- **LOGISTICS:** Positioning robot ships in the Pacific Ocean to respond to a conflict. The ships carry weapon systems or logistical supplies for ground troops. The fleet would frustrate our enemy efforts.
- **COMBAT RATION:** Develop an edible meal from one's body microbes and air as emergency combat rations.
- **DEFENSE:** The agency constantly develops countermeasures to our adversary technological weapons.

His presentation revealed that our government is not waiting to respond to the next threat, but intends to deter any adversary from attacking us because of our advanced military hardware and a trained force to use them. What is more interesting is what we are not being told that is being developed and deployed to the field.

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 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.

Special 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

703-474-4891

CHAPTER BBQ on JUNE 11, 2023

- Stan and Merrie Rose are hosting the chapter BBQ with all the trimmings. Time: 4:00 to 8:00 PM
- **RSVP: June 1st** Call: 703-278-9322 or email: sderr5410@gmail.com
- **LOCATION:** 5410 Colchester Meadows Lane, Fairfax. Off of Fairfax County Parkway and near Pope Head Road

CALENDAR

MAY

11-13: Welcome Home! The Nation Mall, Washington, D.C.

18: Membership Meeting 7:30: Spkr: Jim Schier, NASA Chief Architect, "Project Artemis: Moon to Mars".

29: **Memorial Day Wreath Laying** and Breakfast: Meet by the flagpole at 8:00 AM & breakfast at the Metro 29 Diner

JUNE

03: Wall Washing @ 6:30 AM by the flagpole.

11: Chapter BBQ 4—8 PM: See above for details

15: Membership Meeting 7:30: Last meeting before summer break. Speaker: To be announced

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ® INC.

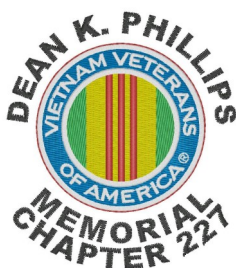
CHAPTER 227

DEAN K. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL CHAPTER

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Address Service Requested



OUR MISSION

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