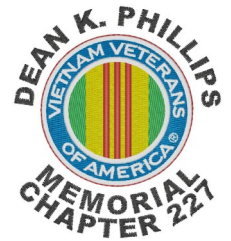


THE JOURNEY

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"

June 2023



Chapter members stand tall at The Wall.

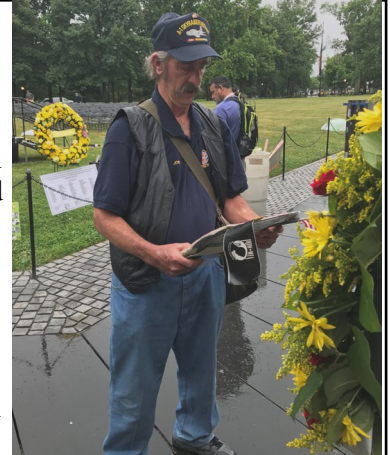
AT THE WALL

The chapter's traditional memorial service at The Wall on Memorial Day was fulfilled on Memorial Day 2023.

Len Ignatowski and PJ Dermer placed the wreath at The Wall apex. Len Funk recited the poem, "In Flanders Fields", which is a tradition. A new discovery is the chapter's unknown poet, Joe Celesnik. Over the years, Joe was the silent one, but his poem, "We, Brothers", revealed a person with a hidden talent. Thank you, Joe and Len for your contributions. A roll-call of remembrance showed a wide array of friends and fellow soldiers whose names are on The Wall.

After the service, members and spouses retreated to the Metro 29 Diner for our

traditional breakfast. The event offered great food and renewed our veteran camaraderie. To our surprise, an unknown customer paid for everyone's meal. The final touch to a solemn and pleasing tradition.



Joe Celesnik reads his Memorial Day poem, "We, Brothers".

JUNE MEETING: THE RACE FOR NAVY DIGITAL SUPREMACY

The June 15th meeting guest speaker is Andrew Hartigan of Innovative Defense Technologies. He will discuss his firm's mission of accelerating the deployment of new digital technology to Navy aviators. He will discuss the successful transition in the last decade.

The meeting includes a buffet dinner of salmon and cordon bleu 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 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, June 13th.** 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!

TO THE MOON AND MARS

At the May 19th meeting, James Schier, a NASA Program Chief, spoke on Project Artemis, our new effort to revisit the moon to develop the skills and technology for flights to Mars. The 1967 Space Treaty signers agree not to claim land on the moon and planets. The presentation revealed a wide range of known and unknown issues for this U.S. technological goal. The distance to the space station of 250 miles, to the moon of 250,000 miles, and to Mars of 250,000,000 miles demonstrates the magnitude of the challenge. The moon orbit creates a communications issue with earth that requires relay satellites at the moon. The moon exploration relies on finding of ice at the south pole. The water provides hydrogen fuel, oxygen, and drinking water. The greatest danger is the impact of radiation on space suits which are several inches thick. The entire program relies on a new procurement approach, buying the needed items from private industry. Contracts have already been awarded for the moon rocket. One major concern is program funding. China plans to send people to the moon too.

WE REMEMBER!

- \$468 Veteran Rent Assistance
- \$233 Homeless Veteran Moving Expense
- \$166 Homeless Veteran Property Storage Fee

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

CALENDAR

JUNE

15: Membership Meeting 7:30: Speaker: Andrew Hartigan, "The Race for Navy Digital Supremacy".

24: State Council Meeting: Williamsburg, Va.

NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING and NEWSLETTER FOR JULY AND AUGUST

BOARD MEETINGS ON JULY 6th AND AUGUST 3rd

AUG

08-12: VVA National Convention

SEPT

07: Board Meeting 7:30 AM via Zoom format

21: Membership Meeting: "Where do we go from here?" A town hall meeting to discuss the chapter's future

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ® INC.

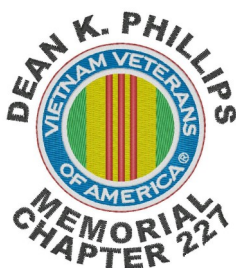
CHAPTER 227

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***