



SPOOKY



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

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2020 Officers: President - Joseph Pollicino Vice President - Robert Allyn Treasurer - John Del Balso Secretary - George LaMora
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: DON AMOROSI - JERRY D'AMELIA - ADRIENNE DANIELS - BILL DAY - TOMMY MARINELLO -
Rev. Charlene Robbins, GSM - MARK ROSENZWEIG - BURT THORNE - TOM TRACY - LAWRENCE WIEST - CHUCK WRIGHT
SPOOKY EDITOR is GENE LOPARCO

PUBLICATION: JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021

JANUARY 2021

UNTIL Further Notice - VIRUS could Cancel Events thru 2021

- 1 HAPPY New Year.....Let's pray that 2021 will be a much Healthier & Safer Year.
- 5 7 PM TCCVEV's General Meeting, at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
- 9 National Law Enforcement Day
- 12 Remembering (Ret.) Charles Colonel Charles "Charlie" Johnson (2017)
- 19 10:30 am TCCVEV's Board Meeting will be held at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520

FEBRUARY 2021

UNTIL Further Notice - VIRUS could Cancel Events thru 2021

- 1 1968's South Vietnam's TET Offensive
- 2 7 PM TCCVEV's General Meeting, at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 19 10:30 am TCCVEV's Board Meeting will be held at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520 (could be at Catherine St.'s Ofc)

PRESIDENT Joe Pollicino's Column: He is optimistic that 2021 will be a safer and healthier year and getting back to normal. This season's "Toys for Tots" Program's figures was down, like many donations for organizations in the Capital Region. Hopefully, it will rebound next year. Also, anticipating an August 8, 2021 CHINA BEACH event.

The goal for TCCVEV and it's members, assisting Veterans and their families, projects; helping our Gold Star Mothers and Blue Star Mothers. TCCVEV is very grateful for the contributions that ShopRite has given, over the years. Because of our association with ShopRite, we are able to assist in many areas from the Capital Region - such as the College Endowments to Adirondack College, Hudson Valley CC, Russell Sage and Schenectady CC.

Many of our members have been volunteering since TCCVEV started in 1982: Color Guard/Firing Detail, VA Hospital, Vet Track (Court System), VMC (Veterans Miracle Center), NYS Labor Dept. and the McKenna Military Courtesy Room at Albany Airport. Our 40th Anniversary will be upon us, very quickly & YES, we WILL be doing something special - a Committee has been formed for that Important event.

Many of our members have received awards and accolades for their volunteer work for TCCVEV projects or in other programs. It doesn't matter what Branch of the Service they served our Country, it's what is in their hearts. We "Never Forget" our Veterans (Past or Present) OR our "Band of Brothers" --- we will be there!

Finally, our Vice-President, Bobby Allyn was named as Grand Marshal for 2020's Memorial Day Parade; but since the COVID-19 virus has cancelled that event & the Veterans Day Parade, we're hoping that Bobby will be marching down Central & Washington Avenues for the 2021 Memorial Day Parade - keep your fingers crossed.

PRESIDENT Joe Pollicino's MESSAGE for FREE Dental Service, REPEATED from the NOVEMBER & DECEMBER's Newsletter:

FREE Dental Cleanings for VETs at Hudson Valley Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic Services include:

1) Oral Evaluation, periodontal screening, patient education, dental prophylaxis (cleaning), polishing, fluoride treatment, 2) Radiographs for a low-cost including bitewings, full-mouth series, and Panorex

3) Sealants for a low-cost, 4) Dental Nutritional Counseling HVCC Dental Hygiene Clinic: (518) 629 -7400

(www.hvcc.edu/dept-academic/health/dhy-clinic)

Call now for Appointments Starting in January 2021

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: ALL "Honor-A-Veteran" ceremonies (Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga & Schenectady) have been cancelled UNTIL Further Notice due to the virus. March was the last ones, we attended Albany and Rensselaer Counties.....NO hand shakes - only "elbow to elbow" were used.....1st clue of what was to come. Also, many Veteran and Fraternal Organizations are just starting to start their General Meetings, that were postponed or cancelled, due to the virus. Even when it comes to worshipping...do you attend or watch service, on the laptop, with health priorities in place? Boredom, inactivity, working at home, etc. are the reasons to feel "down". This COVID-19 virus is the reason. If, you need to go out, you'll still need to use SOCIAL DISTANCING and WEARING of a Mask. Let's pray that this will change in 2021 for a SAFER and HEALTHIER year.

Chaplain's Column

by

Rev. Charlene "Char" Robbins GSM

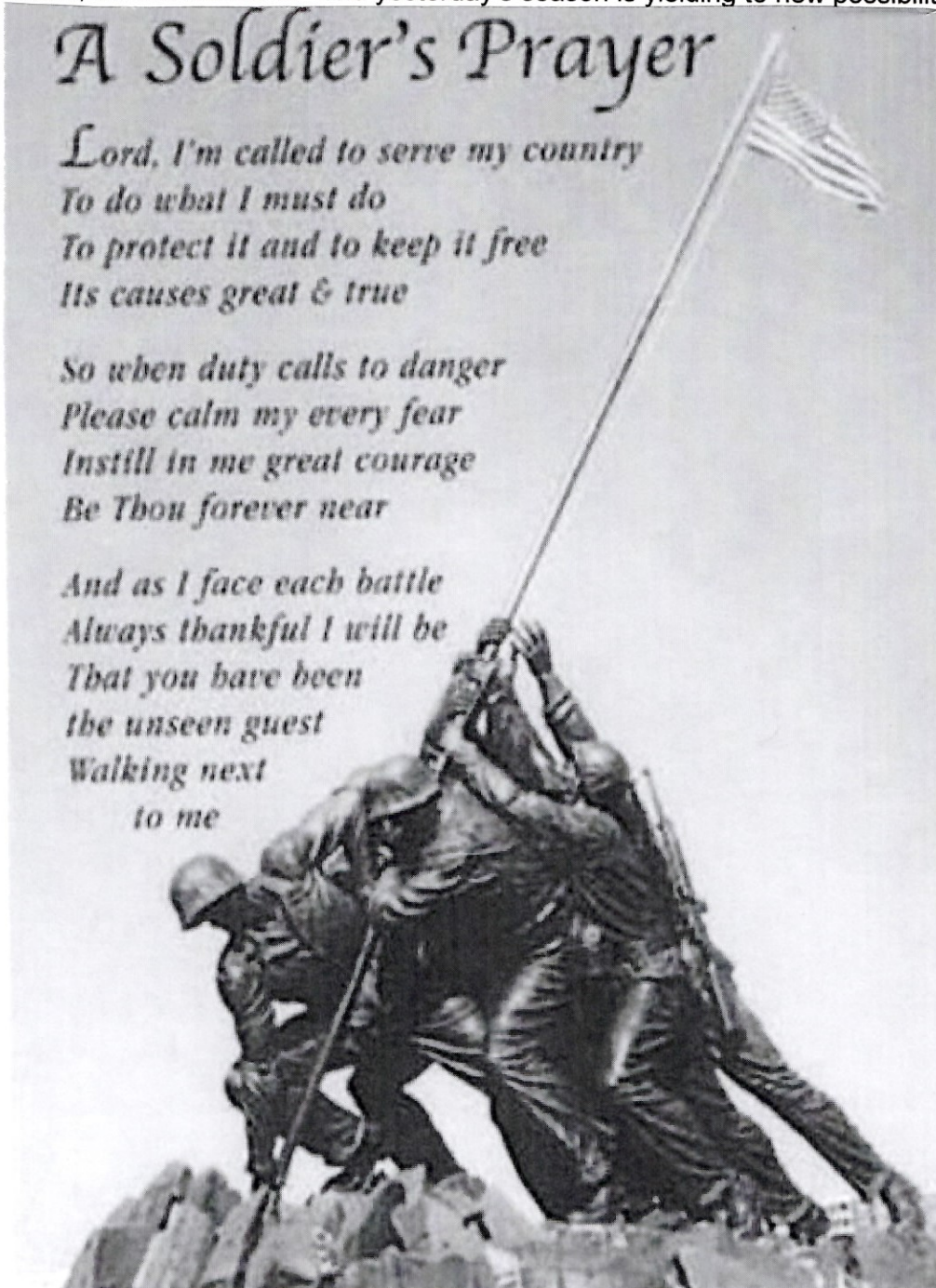
Remember, we are not alone - and yesterday's season is yielding to new possibilities...

A Soldier's Prayer

*Lord, I'm called to serve my country
To do what I must do
To protect it and to keep it free
Its causes great & true*

*So when duty calls to danger
Please calm my every fear
Instill in me great courage
Be Thou forever near*

*And as I face each battle
Always thankful I will be
That you have been
the unseen guest
Walking next
to me*



John 1:5 "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has NOT overcome it"

2020's TCCVEV Winners

Monthly 50/50 Raffle: Jan - Darlene Staton, Feb = Joanne Martin, March - Edward Changa, April - Joanne Martin, May - Rose Bland, June - Charles Renker, July + Aug. - John Kawola, Sept. = Dan Primett, Oct. - Edward Changa, November - Bob Allyn and December - Dan Primett. (These WINNERS received a Combined \$1,000+ in winnings).

China Beach Raffle Winners: 1st Prize = \$5,000 - Dolly Morley; 2nd Prize = \$2,500 - Rich & George Patton (split); 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Prizes for \$500 each = Greg Psinos, Walter Bogdonowicz, Darlene Stanton & Michael Pastore. Congratulations Winners and many THANKS to ALL, for supporting TCCVEV during this very difficult 2020 year.

TCCVEV meetings at the Zaloga Post are continuing in the Hall (1st Tuesday at 7 PM, for General) & in the side room for the Board (3rd Tuesday at 10:30 AM - for now). MANDATORY = Social Distancing & Wearing of a Mask. NOTE: check out our TCCVEV's Facebook and Internet's (www.tccvev.com) sites. Also, if you view my photos on both sites; remember that we have a few that contribute their skills to TCCVEV - thanks Mike Joyce.

Wreaths Across America: Bill Schaaf, Ray Sestak and the rest of the Patriot Guard Riders, have been in full swing to arrange the placing of the wreaths, at time intervals, at the Saratoga National Cemetery. TCCVEV, had to re-schedule our members' participation, due to the 2+ Feet of snow on Dec. 17th. If, by chance some of our community residents haven't been to the National Cemetery to view the site of over 12,500+ wreaths - what a site to see - for that matter, local cemeteries have their wreaths up, as well.

2020 INSIGHTS: First off, the start of the year was promising - we set our SIGHTS on 2020 with hope and enthusiasm with thoughts that this was going to be a special year. WHAM! BAM! WOW! Pandemic throughout our Capital Region - NY State - North America - the world. Changes galore! Schools, sports (even the Pro's), events, theaters, restaurants, "Mom & Pop" businesses, barbers, markets, Vet Posts, "all walks of life", etc. Ten months & many deaths, LATER; we still hold out for promise. Less than a few weeks from now; it'll be a Happy New Year celebration for 2021. Again, it arrives with anticipation and promise. Let's hope that(YOU fill in).

COVID-19 Virus Vaccine NEWS: has been manufactured by many companies & once approved will be sent throughout the country. The VA will send out notices via Email or the news media and it'll be up to whomever is eligible to receive the vaccine, will have to make the decision of getting the shot, NOW or later.

Editor's Opinions-Comments: Hope all the readers enjoy SPOOKY and all the changes of the newsletter, over the years. I try to keep it interesting besides informative. Also, my challenge is the selection of the right photos. You may Email me (loparco8888@yahoo.com) for any comments on issues, articles, etc. NOTE: a thank you to Membership Chairman, Jerry D'Amelia for doing the Labeling of envelopes & delivering them to our home; and to my wife, Linda for the many hours of folding & enclosing approximately 340 SPOOKY newsletters with me. What a TEAM!

NOTE: I wanted to send out the SPOOKY newsletters due to the Holiday Season "Rush" of cards & packages that will take some time to receive. So, with this being said, hope you and yours had a Blessed Holiday. Mankind can use prayers for Peace on Earth and a VirusLESS world. To our Service Men & Women who protect the world and to those who are stationed, stateside - thank you for your service. May God watch over you, ALL the time.

Congratulations: To America's 46th U.S. President-Elect and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Services, Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (DE). Also, the 49th and First Woman Vice President- Elect, Kamala D. Harris (CA). May they be Healthy, Wise & Succeed in making America connected. The 59th U.S. Presidential Inauguration will be on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Rembering Those Who Passed Away in 2020: Our TCCVEV members (Thomas J. Sidoti & Leo J. Hines); Family members of Mark Blank, Bill Day, John LaFalce, Gene Loparco, Tom Marinello and Tom Tracey. Also, Veterans, Friends, Clergy, Elected Officials, etc. - those members that we missed Robert F. Delaney & Glen P. Passino. It's been a very "tough" year for those we hold dear in our hearts. We send sympathy and prayers for all the families.



God Bless them and Rest in Peace!



TAPS: Saddened to report the passing of a NON-Member and Iwo Jima Survivor that was a good friend & TCCVEV Members have seen him at many, many Veteran Events at the Zaloga Post & elsewhere - USMC, Tom Lemme - Rest in Peace!

Membership News:

Your 2021 DUES are presently DUE! Re-Up or JOIN....Our year ends with 2020 Paid Membership of 54 MBRS. Considering what we are all going through, I think this is good. We begin 2021, a New Year - so, FILL out the form below and send in your dues (15 Members have already paid their 2021 dues). Life Membership stands at 185 members (one \$150 payment and your done with dues....FOREVER!). NOTE: Our newest Life Member is David Bernardi - Congratulations and Welcome!

NOTE: Check your address LABEL on this newsletter. After your name, if your #, starts with a number, less than # 21 - you are **NOT** paid for 2021. (Example: # 20-1234; the PREFIX #, 20, indicates the LAST YEAR (2020), you paid your dues). Also, any "DUES" or "Life Membership" status - please contact JERRY D'Amelia (Membership Chairman), at: gdameli1@nycap.rr.com or CALL him at: (518) 281-3885. < 2020 Regular **DUES** are \$15, Annually -- OEF & OIF Veterans are Welcomed! >

Membership is opened to Vietnam Era Veterans (1 May 1957 - 7 May 1975). ALSO.
anyone who served *SINCE*, 7 May 1975 or is still serving on Active Duty in the US Military.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS are **NOT** Required to have Served in the Military

CIRCLE ONE: NEW RENEWAL ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$150

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (Home) _____ (Work) _____ DATE _____

Branch & Period of Service _____

Military Unit Served With _____

MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) _____

Date & Type of Discharge (Include DD214) _____

Referred By _____

COMMENTS _____

Email Address _____

Complete & MAIL the above application; along, with your **DD214** (not for Associate Members)

AND your \$15 or \$150 check, to: **TCCVEV**, P.O. Box 11100, Albany, NY 12211

NOTE: Any questions or comments; concerning "SPOOKY"? Email: Gene (Editor): Loparco8888@yahoo.com

God Bless America!

Remember OUR Veteran!

