



SPOOKY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

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2022 Officers: **President** - Joseph Pollicino **Vice President** - Robert Allyn **Treasurer** - John Del Balso **Secretary** - George LaMora
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SPOOKY EDITOR is GENE LOPARCO

PUBLICATION: MARCH - APRIL 2022

UNTIL Further Notice - VIRUS could Cancel Events

- March 1 7 PM** TCCVEV's General Meeting, at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
2 ASH WEDNESDAY, Lent begins
6 7 PM Joseph E. Zaloga's General Meeting at their American Legion Post 1520
9 7 PM Capt. O'Brien USMC Gen'l Mtg at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
12 9 am St. Patrick's Mass at Blessed Sacrament at 627 Central Ave., Albany
12 1 pm Schenectady County's HAV Ceremony at St. Luke's (1241 State St.)
12 2 pm St. Patrick's Day Parade - Albany
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins
14 8:30 am Rensselaer County's HADV @ Troy's LOB (DMV Bldg)
15 10:30 am TCCVEV's Board Meeting will be held at Catherine St.'s Office
17 St. Patrick's Day
25 **Congressional Medal of Honor Day (11)** Thank You to: 2 WWI's Parker Dunn & Wm. Henry Johnson; 5 WW2's: Tomas Baker, Francis Currey, Peter D'Alessandro, Wm. O'Brien and Benjamin Salomon. Also, 4 Vietnam's: Bruce Carter, Stephen Doane, Frank Fratellenico and Peter Guenette.
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- March 29 7 pm** 50th Vietnam Anniversary Lapel Pin Ceremony, Saratoga Springs = see: Page 3 for more INFO
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- April 4 8:30 am** Albany Cty's HAV Ceremony at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
5 7 PM TCCVEV's General Meeting, at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
11 8:30 am Rensselaer County's HADV @ Troy's LOB (DMV Bldg)
12 7 PM Joseph E. Zaloga's General Meeting at their American Legion Post 1520
13 7 PM Capt. O'Brien USMC Gen'l Mtg at the Joseph E. Zaloga American Legion Post 1520
17 EASTER SUNDAY
19 10:30 am TCCVEV's Board Meeting will be held at Catherine St.'s Office
22 Earth Day AND on the 29th = Arbor Day
-
- April 29-May 1st** Gold Star Mothers Annual Convention

PRESIDENT Joe Pollicino's Column: Remember, (1) China Beach is our Primary Fundraiser - if, anyone would like to help TCCVEV sell China Beach tickets at work, organizations you belong to or even your friends & family = CALL Darlene Stanton at (518) 470-7310...WE appreciate your help. (2) When it comes time for our 40th Annv. Dinner; payments will be sent to our P.O. Box 11100; Albany, NY 12211 address. Future newsletters will have the COST. (3) Like to thank our members for their support in our events or for that matter...anything we do in the Capital Region. Super group, that makes this TEAM, "click"!



Photo made by Lexi Hannah for POW/MIA Chair Dedication at Capital Repertory Theater-Rolling Thunder 5 RTNY

Chaplain's Column

by

Rev. Charlene "Char" Robbins GSM

Memorial Day is approaching. That is our time to especially honor and express gratitude to the men and women who interrupt their lives to serve America. They have a code of honor and dedicated service to God & country, they take a knee to God alone or to aid a wounded or fallen soldier and they stand to salute the flag or sing our national anthem. For America's FINEST, to do anything less would be considered unworthy.

At the moment, respect seemingly continues to decline. Pause and reflect on the benefits and privileges that have been taken for granted. Then stand proud and stroung in honor of our veterans. They need our love, support and gratitude. They have worked diligently in their communities to ensure that NO returning veteran would experience the apathy and disrespect shown to the previous generations of veterans. Thank them, buy them a coffee and if permissible, give them a long overdue hug. They put their LIVES on the line for us and our way of life, now let's do everything we can to play it forward.

Stand tall and salute the flag, they served and died under, feel gratitude for the blessings America's constitution have ensured for us and find a way to contribute...even the smallest action can make a big difference for a veteran! God Bless them, EVERYONE.

"O Lord, I am your servant; yes, I am your servant, born into your household, you have freed me from my chains." Psalms 116:16 "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:22

Capital Region: ALBANY County's "Honor-A-Vet" Application: call (518) 447-7710 or mail: Albany Cty Veterans Svc. Bureau, 162 Washington Ave (7th Fl), Albany, NY 12210. You may CK the following internet LINK for ceremony information and applications, at: <http://www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/VeteransServicesBureau/ProgramsandServices/HonoraVeteran.aspx>

RENSSELAER County's "Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran" Application: call Lonnie (518) 270-2760 (Rensselaer County Vets Affairs' Committee Sec'ty) or email Lonnie at: LWarrington@rensko.com. View the following 2 internet Links for info:

1) http://www.rensco.com/vet_hav.asp and 2) <http://www.renselaercounty.org/Honor%20A%20Veteran%20Ceremony.htm>

SARATOGA County's monthly HAV Ceremony is held on the 3rd Tuesday at 40 McMaster St., Ballston Spa - in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room = Contact Frank McClement, County Veterans Director for any INFO pertaining to future steps @ (518) 884-4115 or email = veterans@saratogacountyny.com **SCHENECTADY** For INFO; contact County Veterans Director, Bill Frank at (518) 377-2423 or email Bill at: William.Frank@schenectadycounty.com NOTE: Every veteran is eligible to have this ceremony and family members may apply for the veteran at any of the 4 CAPITAL REGION Counties - call for any info, applications or general news.

NOTE: due to COVID, all EVENTS could be postponed or cancelled; check with the county Directors OR veteran organizations for changes.

Important Notice: Many returning GI's are seeking a connection with local organizations and if, YOU have the opportunity to assist ANYONE - please, do so. Here's some (518) Capital District organization's INFO:

- 1) AMERICAN LEGION Posts: a) #1520 Zaloga = 459-1520; b) #1040 Blanchard-Currey (Delmar) = 439-9819;
- c) Melvin Roads #1231 (Rensselaer) = 462-7006; d) Bucci-McTague #1530 = 463-1475 & e) N Albany #1610 = 465-4800
- 3) AMVETS (American Veterans) - Post 35 in Rotterdam = contact = Doug Van Iderstyne = 356-1474
- 6) TCCVEV (Tri-County Council Vietnam Era Veterans) - see: SPOOKY's Front page for ALL the information
- 7) USMC Detachments: a) Albany (Capt. O'Brien) = 237-1712; b) Schenectady (Electric City) = 355-2746 c) Troy 728-6494
- 8) VFW Area Posts: a) #6776 Sheehy-Palmer = 465-9349; b) #7062 Boyd Hilton (Altamont) = 861-8323; c) #8444 Wm. F. Wigand = 465-6992; and d) #8692 Robert L. Weininger (Colonie) = 456-7794.

NOTE: As many of you know, we have many who support the vets; Post Cmdr. Paul Todd (518) 649-0024 of Sharon Springs Post 1269 - will assist any veteran - whether, in the Schoharie County or not - to find a post to join or needed assistance.

Editor's Opinions-Comments: Hope all enjoy SPOOKY! I try to keep it interesting besides informative. Also, my challenge is the selection of the right photos. Email me (loparco8888@yahoo.com) for any comments. Thank you to Jerry D'Amelia for doing the labeling, & to my wife, Linda for folding 350 newsletters with me. What a TEAM!

China Beach LZ-29



For Tickets Call
 Darlene - (518) 470-7310
 Al - (518) 466-8771



To benefit returning Veterans & Veterans of all eras and their families

Drawing held Sunday - August 14, 2022 at the Polish American Citizens Club of America

110 Commerce Avenue, Albany, New York - 12 Noon - 5 PM (Rain or Shine)

Tickets \$25.00, (Kids 6-12) \$13.00, Kids 5 and under free (includes food and beverages)

Food Served from 1pm to 4pm

\$10.00 Per Raffle Ticket - Only 4,000 Tickets Available

1st Prize - \$5,000.00 2nd Prize \$2,500.00 5-3rd Prizes \$500.00 ea.



China Beach - AUGUST 14, 2022.....12 Noon to 5 pm (Rain or Shine)....\$25 Adults & \$13 (kids = 6-12) = 5 & under - Free

REMINDER : Tri-County Council Vietnam Era Veterans' 40th Anniversary Dinner - will be celebrated on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022.....at Latham's Century House. **MUST PAY IN ADVANCE - NO PAYING AT THE DOOR.** (Verified INFO will be forthcoming in future SPOOKY Newsletters for COST, cocktail & dinner times and menu selections.)

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration

Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

"A Lasting Memento of the Nation's Thanks!"

Front Back

The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin is presented on behalf of a grateful nation to living United States veterans who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service. Each veteran is eligible to receive one lapel pin.

Symbols:

- Eagle** - The eagle represents courage, honor, and dedicated service in our Nation. As one of the most recognizable and notable American symbols, it is emblazoned with distinction on numerous military insignia.
- Blue Circle** - The color blue matches the canton of the American flag and signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice. The circle shape and blue color also match the official seal of the Commemoration.
- Laurel Wreath** - A time-honored symbol representing victory, integrity, and strength.
- Stripes** - The stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.
- Stars** - The six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed, and fought alongside one another: Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, and the United States.
- Message** - "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" is embossed on the back, close to the heart of the wearer. Also, the official name of the Commemoration is included to remind each veteran that this is a national initiative, and this lapel pin is the Nation's lasting memento of thanks.

Published: September 2019 www.vietnamwar50th.com



50th Annv. Lapel VN Pin

SAVE the Date (9-16-22) @ Century House

On Tuesday, March 29th, at 7 pm - at Saratoga-Wilton Elks Lodge # 161 (1 Elks Lane, Saratoga Springs) - VN War Commemoration Ceremony, will be conducted by the Capital District of NY Chapter of the Association of the US Army (AUSA), in conjunction with the friends of the NYS Military Museum. CONTACT: Bob Van Pelt at (518) 210-2868 or Email = bvpcsm@aol.com to REGISTER for this event by - no later than MARCH 25, 2022.



TAPS: Our sympathy to the families of **LIFE MEMBERS:** Robert Kraft, Glenn J. Linneman, Jim Pratt and Al Whitney. Also, sympathy to the families of **MEMBERS:** Richard DiCaprio and Claude W. Smith, Jr. God Bless them and may ALL Rest in Peace and may their families find comfort.

Memembership News:

Your 2022 DUES are presently DUE! Re-Up or JOIN***** 29 Members have already pad for 2022 and this is a good start. It would be great to have a strong year after what we've been through during the past 2 years. Life Membership is now 187. Remember, one \$150 payment and YOU are done with dues....FOREVER!.

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: # 21-1234; the PREFIX #, 21, indicates the LAST YEAR (2021), you paid your dues). Also, any "Dues" or "Life Membership" status - contact JERRY D'Amelia (Membership Chairman), at: gdameli1@nycap.rr.com or CALL him at: (518) 281-3885. < 2022 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!

