



# SPOOKY



## OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

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**2025 Officers:** President - Joseph Pollicino Vice President - Robert Allyn Treasurer - John Del Balso Secretary - George LaMora  
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Publication of SPOOKY for January and February 2025

JAN	1		Happy Near Year, may we have a Safe and Peaceful 2025
	6	8:30 am	Albany Cty "Honor-A-Vet" - at N Albany Am Legion Post 1610
	7	7 pm	TCCVEV's Gen'l Mtg - Joseph E. Zaloga Am Leg Post 1520
	13	8:30 am	Honor-A-Deceased-Vet, 99 Troy Rd., Renss Cty.'s Ofc Bldg
	14	7 pm	General Mtg for Joseph E. Zaloga Am Leg at their Post 1520
	15	7 pm	Capt. Wm. D. O'Brien USMC Det 241's Gen'l Mtg @ Zaloga
	20		Inauguration Day for the Not Continuous 2nd Term President
	20		Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
	20		NCAA Championship Football Game
	21	10:30 am	TCCVEV's Board Meeting at Catherine St.'s Office
FEB	2		Groundhog's Day.....shadow or not, let's hope for the best
	3	8:30 am	Albany Cty "Honor-A-Vet" - TBD & announced
	4	7 pm	TCCVEV's Gen'l Mtg - Joseph E. Zaloga Am Leg Post 1520
	9		Super Bowl LIX (59)
	10	8:30 am	Honor-A-Deceased-Vet, 99 Troy Rd., Renss Cty.'s Ofc Bldg
	11	7 pm	General Mtg for Joseph E. Zaloga Am Leg at their Post 1520
	12	7 pm	Capt. Wm. D. O'Brien USMC Det 241's Gen'l Mtg @ Zaloga
	14		Valentine's Day - don't forget: Card, Flowers, Candy & Dinner
	17		Presidents Day
	18	10:30 am	TCCVEV's Board Meeting at Catherine St.'s Office

President Pollicino's Comments: Happy 2025! Stay Safe and Healthy. Hope, you had a Merry Blessed Christmas with the Family. Even though we are getting older, TCCVEV will do it's part to support the veterans, Gold Star and Blue Star Families. Our members are super and many members, volunteer for many events. Our 2 BIG Funraisers will be (1) China Beach, on August 10th - the 50th Anniversary of the VN War's End in 1975, TWO Raffle Tickets are enclosed in the stamped envelope - great for gifts: Birthday, Anniversary, Valentines, Mother and Fathers Day - money goes to the veterans. (2) NYS Dept of Labor's "Hot Dog Lunch" event, date TBD; they gave TCCVEV, a \$7,500 check.

NOTE: On Friday, Dec. 14th, Members placed 36 wreaths at Saratoga's Nat'l Cemetery.





Chaplain's Corner by Rev. Charlene "Char" Robbins, GSM.....

She read the following: a Marine Corps version of the poem at our DEC. 17th BD Mtg:  
 " 'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone, in a one-bedroom house made of plaster and stone. I had come down the chimney, with presents to give and to see just who in this house did live. As I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree. No stocking by the by the fire, just boots filled with sand. On the wall hung pictures of a far distant land. With medals and badges, awards of all kind, a sobering thought soon came to my mind. For this house was different, unlike any I'd seen. This was the home of a U.S. Marine. I'd heard stories about them, I had to see more, so I walked down the hall and pushed open the door. And there he lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor in his one-bedroom home. he seemed so gentle, his face so serene, Not how I pictured a U.S. Marine. Was this the hero, of whom I'd just read? Curled up in his poncho, a floor for his bed? His head was clean-shaven, his weathered face tan, I soon understood, this was more than a man. For I realized the families that I saw that night, owed their lives to these men, who were willing to fight. Soon around the Nation, the children would play & grown-ups would celebrate on a bright Christmas day. They all enjoyed freedom, each month and all year, because of Marines like this one lying here. I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas Eve, in a land far from home. Just the very thought brought a tear to my eye. I dropped to my knees and I started to cry. He must have awoken, for I heard a rough voice, "Santa, don't cry, this life is my choice, I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more My life is my God, my country, my Corps." With that he rolled over, drifted off into sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep. I watched him for hours, so silent and still. I noticed he shivered from the cold night's chill. So I took off my jacket, the one made of red and covered this Marine from his toes to his head. Then I put on his T-shirt of scarlet & gold, with an eagle, globe and anchor emblazoned so bold. And although it barely fit me, I began to swell with pride and for one shining moment, I was Marine Corps deep inside. I didn't want to leave him so quiet in the night, this guardian of honor so willing to fight. But half asleep he rolled over, and in a voice clean and pure, said "Carry on, Santa, It's Christmas Day, all secure." One look at my watch and I knew he was right, Merry Christmas my friend, Semper Fi and goodnight. .

**HELP!** Every Veteran is eligible to be honored with a HAV Ceremony, at these locations. Capital Region needs YOU to register Family or VET Friends and to keep active, The

"Honor-A-Veteran" programs in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga & Schenectady Counties'

- A > Albany County's Monthly "Honor-A-Veteran" (Posthumous) Program: DIR., Scott Leslie; <1st Monday of the Month > (518) 447-7710 veteransbureau@albanycountyny.gov
- B > Rensselaer County's Monthly "Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran" (Posthumous) Program: <2nd Monday of the Month> (518) 270-2760 DIR. = Christopher Albert <https://www.rensco.com/374/Honor-A-Deceased-Veteran-Ceremony>
- C > Saratoga Cty Vets Service Agency's Monthly "Honor-A-Veteran" (Deceased or Living) Director, Frank McClement (518) 884-4115 < 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2 PM > <https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/departments/veterans-service-agency/>
- D > Schenectady County Vets Service Agency Director, Cheyenne Lovell "Honor-A-Veteran" Quarterly (Deceased or Living) Program: (518) 377-2423 <https://www.schenectadycountyny.gov/veterans>
- E > East Greenbush (Town) - John Conway, Town Supervisor (518) 477-4775 "Honor-A-Veteran" (Deceased or Living) <Periodic> Program:

## TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL VIETNAM ERA VETERANS

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ RAFFLE \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$



1st Prize \$5,000.00  
 2nd Prize \$2,500.00  
 5 - 3rd Prizes \$500.00 ea.  
 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY \$10,000

Drawing Sunday, August 10, 2025 at CHINA BEACH XXXI

Ticket Info: Al @ 518-466-8771

All Proceeds Will Benefit Veterans and Their Families of All Conflicts

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P.O. Box 11100 • Albany, NY 12211 • (518) 465-6829

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DONATION  
**\$10.00**

LIMITED TO 4000 TICKETS \* WINNER RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES \* NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!

NAME:

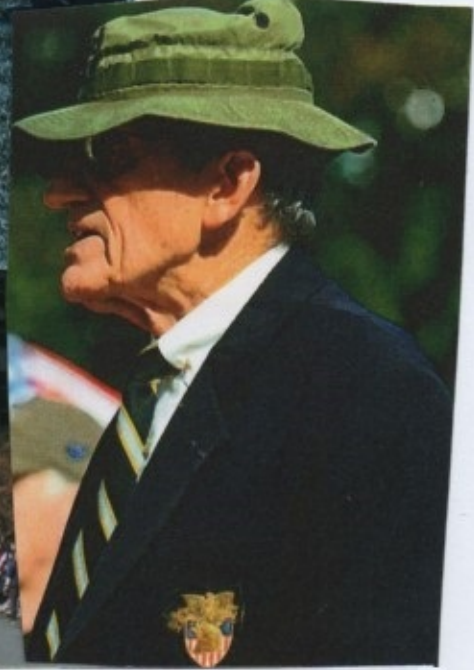
ADDRESS:

PHONE #:



Spooky (Jan-Feb 2025 Page 3) "Happy New Year - Stay Safe, Healthy & Wise"

Quote: As Fathers of Sons = YOU have the responsibility to teach them to LOVE their Mothers and to show RESPECT to her & to all other women they come in contact with. As Fathers of Daughters = YOU have to remember that you are the FIRST man she will fall in LOVE with, YOU are the yardstick by which she judges every other man in her life....SET the standard HIGH.





Spooky (J-F '25 Pg 4) "Many have died for the Red, White, Blue-be proud, Fly "Old Glory"

Dues for 2025 are now due. Thanks to 8 Mbrs that have. LIFE Mbrship stands at 182, this shows the strength of TCCVEV & the dedication of our members. Please, think of becoming a LIFE Mbr, just 1 payment of \$150 & no more dues, forever. (Nice reasons: Fathers' Day, Anniversary or Birthday. Any questions regarding Membership, Change of Addresses or Dues status, Please call Jerry, at (518) 281 - 3885 or E-mail Jerry, at: dameliamarilyn@gmail.com

NOTE: if you moved, we've had "Mail Returns" & it's costly - need to update your info!

TAPS: A Veterans' friend, Tom Walsh, Sr. died on Christmas, Ret. Army Col. He was very involved with Renss. County's "Honor-A-Deceased-Vet" program. RIP and our sympathy.

SICK CALL: Several of our members are sick, please remember them in your prayers: Jim Brown, Al Diacitis, John LaFalce, Ray Lindh, Frank Loparco and Tom Regan..

2024 Regular Dues are \$15 Annually - Join or RE-Up now! OEF & OIF Vets are welcomed! Membership is opened to Vietnam Era Veterans (from 1 May 1957 to 7 May 1975) Anyone who served SINCE, 7 May 1975 or is still serving on Active Duty in the US Military ASSOCIATE MEMBERS are NOT Requested to have Served in the Military

CIRCLE ONE: NEW RENEWAL ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$150

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH & PERIOD OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_

MILITARY UNIT Served With \_\_\_\_\_

MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Type of Discharge (Include DD214) \_\_\_\_\_

Referred By \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the APP, mail with your DD214 (not for Assoc. Mbrs) & your \$15 or \$150 CK, to: TCCVEV, PO Box 11100; Albany, NY 12211 "We few, We Happy few, We Band of Brothers" Questions for Editor, Gene? Call: (518) 265 - 0242 or Email: loparco88888@yahoo.com Remember our Veterans. Home & Abroad! God Bless America! God Bless the Veterans!

# China Beach



For Tickets Call

Al - (518) 466-8771

