



# The Battlefield Dispatch

Vietnam Veterans of America – Battlefield Chapter #617 – Newsletter Spring - 2009

**Chapter PTSD Web Page, by - Desi Arnaiz:** Your Chapter has added an informational post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) page to the Chapter's web site – [www.vva617.org](http://www.vva617.org). We feel this page is a good starting point for anyone who would like to learn more about PTSD and how or were to find more help and treatment for PTSD.

This web page is part of your Chapter's commitment to help veterans and their families, not only of the Vietnam theater but also anyone who has served or is serving from World War II, Korean conflict, Persian Gulf, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan.

Please take some time to look over the information on this web page to learn how you maybe able to help a war-zone veteran and their family make the readjustment back to civilian life following deployment.

**Special Note:** If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help **RIGHT NOW**, call this toll-free number **1-800-273-8255**, available 24/7, and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.

**Chapter Membership Chair - Darrell Harvey:** Think about becoming a Life member when the time for your membership renewal comes up. Send a copy of your DD-214 into VVA-National with your Life membership renewal, even if you have sent one in so before.

**Life Membership Cost: At age 56-60 cost is \$200 - At age 61-65 cost is \$175 - At age 66- + cost is \$150.**

You can pay all at one time or use the optional payment plan of \$50 down and \$25 per month. You never need to think about renewal of your membership again!

For a renewal, it is best to send your renewal application and payment to VVA National at - **Vietnam Veterans of America | P.O. Box 64299 | Baltimore, MD 21264-4299.**

We still have the other membership options of one year for \$20 and three years for \$50.

Which every membership option you pick, again - Thank You for being a member of Chapter #617 and **Welcome Home!**

**Chapter Meetings:** We meet the **second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM** at the Prince William County Animal Shelter unless otherwise announced. The Animal Shelter is located across the road from the Prince William County Landfill (off of Rt. 234) at 14807 Bristow Road Manassas, VA 20112 Phone: 703-792-6465. If you need additional driving instructions, call Desi at **(703) (703) 330-8268** or email: [desi@vasi.com](mailto:desi@vasi.com).

**Membership List:** We would like to have your email address please. Email is the fastest and most economical way for your Chapter to keep you updated as to what is going on in the Chapter. Please forward your email address or any changes to Bob Pace at **(703) 680-1329** or email: [rpac261@aol.com](mailto:rpac261@aol.com).

**Keep Your Self-Updated by Visiting the Chapter's Web Site at – [www.vva617.org](http://www.vva617.org)**

**Chapter Scholarship Program (Brad Bradshaw):** The Chapter is offering one, \$500 Scholarship this year. Applications packets should have been returned and postmarked no later than **April 4, 2009** to be considered for this scholarship. If you need a copy of the Scholarship Application packet or other information about this program go to the Chapter's web site or contact Brad Bradshaw by phone at **(703) 393-0660** or by email [cjbradshaw7@aol.com](mailto:cjbradshaw7@aol.com).

**Chaplain's - Connection (Ron Knowles)** If you, or if you know of any Chapter member or family member who may be ill or need support in some way from the Chapter, please contact me by email - [rknowles703@comcast.net](mailto:rknowles703@comcast.net) or by phone at **(703)-368-4743**.

### **Some of the events we have started planning for this year are:**

Chapter's annual picnic for all members, family and friends, rain or shine starting at 12:00PM at Locust Shade Park located off of US #1 just South of Triangle, VA near Quantico USMC Base. We are trying to set this event up for **May 16, 2009**.

If you plan to attend the annual picnic please **RSVP** with the number in your party to Bob Pace at **(703) 680-1329** or email: [rp pace261@aol.com](mailto:rp pace261@aol.com) by **May 2, 2009**.

Chapter's members are working together on plans for a **Chapter hosted Virginia State Council** meeting **June 12 – 14, 2009** here in Manassas, VA. Saturday morning guest speaker and Saturday night entertainment are still in the planning stage. Call Desi at **(703) (703) 330-8268** or email: [desi@vasi.com](mailto:desi@vasi.com) for more information.

We are looking forward to again participate in this years Dale City 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

We still have our Adopt-a-Road Program, to keep Hillendale Drive in Dale City cleaned up throughout the year. Contact – Gordon Tassi by email - [gtassi22193@comcast.net](mailto:gtassi22193@comcast.net) for cleanup dates.

Chapter member Fred Tompkins and a number of other Chapter's members are to put together the first annual **"Greater Manassas Day Parade" to be held around Veterans Day**, starting this year **"2009"**. The focus for this year's parade will be around WWII veterans. A tentative date for the parade is November 7, 2009.

For more information about the November parade planning contact Fred by email at: [fgtompkins@verizon.net](mailto:fgtompkins@verizon.net).

**Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (Ginger Harvey):** Chapter AVVA members continue to support the Chapter in many ways as helping out with Chapter events. We also try to cover as many of the VVA-State meetings as we can to represent the Chapter.

We are working right now on planning the **Chapter hosted Virginia State Council** meeting **June 12 – 14, 2009**.

If you would like to help out on any Chapter events or need information about membership in AVVA, contact Ginger Harvey by phone at **(703) 754-9042** or by email [gch1130@aol.com](mailto:gch1130@aol.com).

### **Your Chapter Officers Are The Following:**

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