



Volume 18• Issue 01/02

VVA Chapter 12 ♦ Newsletter

January / February 2018



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12

PO Box 276, Allenhurst, NJ 07711

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Mike Quilty, Delegate	Carmelo Burgaretta, Alternate Delegate
Dan Higgins, Delegate	

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President's Message

Looking at the date in the lower right corner of my lap top I notice that it is January 29 2018, a day before Tet 2018. It is hard to believe that this January 30th marks the 50th anniversary of Tet a day that all Vietnam Veterans will never forget.

As we enter a new year of 2018 we will face new challenges that we will overcome by adapting to each situation that we are faced. As a team we will continue to be a lead Chapter in the State of New Jersey with our programs and continuing support to Vietnam Veterans of America New Jersey State Council and our Vietnam Memorial in Holmdel.

This year's annual dinner dance is schedule for April 28, 2018 please mark your calendar so that you my support this annual fund raiser.

The Colonel

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 17, RIN 2900-AQ08

Reimbursement for Emergency Treatment

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs

ACTION: Interim final rule

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) revises its regulations concerning payment or reimbursement for emergency treatment for non-service-connected conditions at non-VA facilities to implement the requirements of a recent court decision. Specifically, this rulemaking expands eligibility for payment or reimbursement to include veterans who receive partial payment from a health-plan contract for non-VA emergency treatment and establishes a corresponding reimbursement methodology. This rulemaking also expands the eligibility criteria for veterans to receive payment or reimbursement for emergency transportation associated with the emergency treatment, in order to ensure that veterans are adequately covered when emergency transportation is a necessary part of their non-VA emergency treatment.

DATES:

Effective Date: This rule is effective on January 9, 2018.

Comment Date: Comments must be received on or before March 12, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted by email through <http://www.regulations.gov>; by mail or hand-delivery to Director, Regulations Management (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Room 1063B, Washington, DC 20420; or by fax to (202) 273-9026. (This is not a toll-free number.) Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to "RIN 2900-AQ08, Reimbursement for Emergency Treatment." Copies of comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Room 1063B, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (except holidays). Please call (202) 461-4902 for an appointment. (This is not a toll-free number.) In addition, during the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Duran, Director, Policy and Planning VHA Office of Community Care (10D1A1), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (303-370-1637). (This is not a toll-free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 38 U.S.C. 1725 authorizes VA to reimburse veterans for the reasonable value of emergency treatment for non-service connected conditions furnished in a non-VA facility, if certain criteria are met. One requirement is that the veteran must be personally liable for the emergency treatment. As originally enacted in 1999, the statute provided that a veteran is personally liable if the veteran "has no entitlement to care or services under a health-plan contract," and "no other contractual or legal recourse against a third party that would, in part or in whole, extinguish such liability

to the provider." 38 U.S.C. 1725(b)(3)(B) and (C) (1999). VA interpreted that version of the statute as barring reimbursement for veterans with any coverage from either a health-plan contract or a third party because those veterans did not satisfy the requirement to have "no entitlement . . . under a health-plan contract" and "no other . . . recourse against a third party."



NOTES FROM CHAPTER 12

- ⇒ Please remember our fellow Chapter members, and their families in your prayers, as they continue to face very serious medical conditions
- ⇒ Please visit and “like” our Facebook page, “Vietnam Veterans NJ Shore Area Chapter 12” for info on what we are doing.
- ⇒ Please visit our CHAPTER WEBSITE—www.vvachapter12.net for photo albums, news letter archives, Chapter history.
- ⇒ Anyone needing a ride to the VA, please contact Ernie Dorio for assistance. If you are able to provide transportation, please let Ernie know so the same people aren’t doing it all the time.
- ⇒ If you are looking for a fellow vet that you lost track of, or someone that you served with that might have information you need, please send it to us and we’ll put it in the monthly newsletter.
- ⇒ Check this link out if you need help with an appeal, or know a Vet that does. Keep it moving, pass it on to other Vets you know: <http://www.vetsprobono.org/index.htm>
- ⇒ Anyone wanting to submit an article, picture , or story, please send it to VVA12p@verizon.net or nivva12@gmail.com by the 25th of each month. Anything received after that will be placed in the following month’s newsletter. (Make sure your article can be verified.
- ⇒ We have been informed that in lieu of specific items to send to troops on deployment, gift cards to the PX would be appreciated. The troops can get almost anything in the PX, but could use help via gift card. This is also a money and effort saver on our part. Donations to the PX gift care fund are being accepted. **We are also switching from actual food to gift cards for our food bank as this will better serve our veter-**



Cremains Project Report

As of today we are currently working on 35 active eligible remains. Of the original 43, 8 have been picked up by family members.

We were honored to have Tom Phillips of G Street Productions show an interest in our work and create a documentary for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation. The finished product was released last month.

On December 13, 2017 our Cremains Committee gave a presentation about our program to the VFW 2179 Auxiliary. We also debuted our new video and it was well received.

Also on December 13, Dan Higgins and I met with Cyndi Dzurisin at DMAVA to deliver 5 applications and to discuss the possibility of our ceremonies including more than 8 cremains. We have agreed that we can increase the number of cremains for our ceremony to about 15 but they would have to be interred over a 3 day period as manpower allowed.

Received an interest in the Cremains Project from Maynard Kaderlik of the Minnesota State VVA Council as a result of our video. They are interested in starting a program similar to ours in Minnesota.

For the Committee

Rich Gough

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

NEW JERSEY SHORE AREA CHAPTER # 12



1 /4/2018

VFW 2179 Auxiliary
1 Veterans Lane
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758

Dear President Peterson

Our Cremains committee was honor that you had invited us to give you a presentation of our program during your December meeting.

We were overwhelmed with your most generous donation of \$800.00 to our program and learning of your program of selling military bracelets and proceeds from this, will be donate to us. This will ease our cost and allow us to continue to put our Veterans to rest at General Doyle Cemetery and not on a shelf of a Funeral home.

At our January meeting it was reported that we received confirm from General Doyle Cemetery to bury twenty one cremains at one time.

It was also decided that Chapter 12 will have Flags display boxes built by our friends at Covered Bridge and be presented to any family member that attend memorial service.

In Loyalty to Veterans

Dennis Beauregard
President

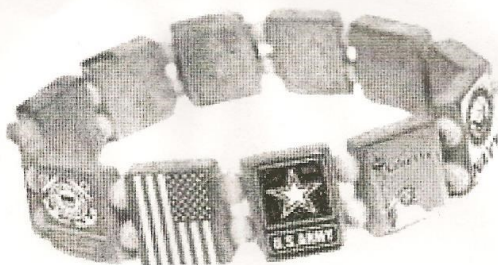
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PO BOX # 276, ALLENHURST, NJ 07711 ■ ■ E-mail: VVA12P@VERIZON.NET

VFW 2179 Auxiliary Fundraiser

AMERICAN VETERAN

..... 12 TILE



The auxiliary is running a fundraiser for the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12 Cremains Project.

This project enables the Vietnam Veterans Association to take the cremated remains of unclaimed veterans and give them a decent burial at Brigadier General Boyle Cemetery. Some of these remains have been on a shelf in a funeral home for 20 years or more.

Please help us by buying a bracelet for \$5 to help bury those who deserved it.

BRACELETS \$5.00 EACH



State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury

— Division of Taxation —

Income Tax Exemption for Veterans

New for Tax Year 2017. You are eligible for a \$3,000 exemption on your Income Tax return if you are a military veteran who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States by the last day of the tax year. Your spouse (or civil union partner) is also eligible for an exemption if he/she is a veteran who was honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances and you are filing a joint return. This exemption is in addition to any other exemptions you are entitled to claim and is available on both the resident and nonresident returns. You cannot claim this exemption for a domestic partner or for your dependents.

Providing Documentation

You must provide a copy of Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, the first time you claim the exemption. **This form does not need to be provided each year.** The [United States National Archives and Records Administration](#) can assist with obtaining a copy of your DD-214.

You can certify for the exemption by sending a copy of your DD-214 and [Veteran Exemption Submission Form](#) to the Division **before** you file, which may help process your return faster. To certify:

Use our secure document [upload](#) feature to submit your DD-214 and [Veteran Exemption Submission Form](#). Enter the notice code VET and select PO Box 440; or

Mail a copy of your DD-214 and [Veteran Exemption Submission Form](#) to: The New Jersey Division of Taxation, Veteran Exemption, PO Box 440, Trenton, NJ 08646-0440; or

Fax your DD-214 and [Veteran Exemption Submission Form](#) to 609-633-8427.

If you do not certify before you file for the exemption, you will need to submit a copy of your DD-214 when you file using:

- *A Paper Return.* Enclose a copy of your DD-214 with your return;
- *NJ Fill'nFile.* Upload your DD-214, along with all of your other documentation, into the repository;

Other Electronic Filing Methods. If you file your return using NJ WebFile, third-party software (such as TurboTax), or you have a tax professional who electronically submits your return, you can send a copy of your DD-214 and [Veteran Exemption Submission Form](#) using one of the three certification methods listed above.



Veteran Exemption Submission Form

You Must Send Form DD-214 Along With This Document.

Personal Information

Name: _____
Last *First*

Social Security Number: _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Spouse Name: _____
Last *First*

Spouse Social Security Number: _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

City *State* *ZIP Code*

Home Phone: () _____ **Daytime Phone:** () _____

Signature

E-mail Address: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Spouse Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Where to Send the Completed Form

- **Online**, use our secure document [upload](#) feature.
Enter the notice code **VET** and select **PO Box 440**; *or*
- **Mail**, with a copy of your DD-214 to:
The New Jersey Division of Taxation
Veteran Exemption
PO Box 440
Trenton, NJ 08646-0440; *or*
- **Fax** with a copy of your DD-214 to: **609-633-8427**.

VETERANS AFFAIRS



VA News Release

New Online Tool Will Provide Veterans With Customized Instructions for Discharge Upgrade Process

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense (DOD), through a joint initiative with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has launched a new [web-based tool](#) that will provide customized guidance to Veterans who desire to upgrade or change the conditions of their military discharge. By answering a few short questions, Veterans will receive information on the specific armed services board to contact, the form/s to fill out, special guidance applicable to their case, where to send their application and helpful tips for appealing their discharge.

“This new tool and partnership with DOD is one of many VA initiatives offered to Veterans who believe they may have been unfairly discharged or received an unfair discharge characterization,” said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. “Veterans who believe their discharge was unjust, erroneous or warrants an upgrade are encouraged to use the tool and then apply for review.”

DOD officials also praised the new innovative tool.

“We are thrilled to have partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs in developing this wonderful and easily accessible tool,” said Mr. Robert Wilkie, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. “We support our Veterans, whether they served recently or long ago, and we are excited to introduce a tool that will individualize the guidance for those who desire an upgrade or change in their military discharge.”

The military has estimated that tens of thousands of Veterans with less than honorable discharges are especially likely to have unjust discharges deserving of upgrades. These are Veterans who were discharged due to incidents relating to post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury or sexual orientation. Fragmented and confusing information has historically deterred Veterans from obtaining crucial information and — in many cases — necessary benefits.

The discharge upgrade tool is available at <https://www.vets.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions>.

**From "Robert E. McNulty, Sr." VVA State Council:
Proposed DMAVA Split**

I was originally working on the basis of the DMAVA split proposal being proposed in October 2017. Turns out it was first proposed in July 2016. That begs the question as to why during all that time no one saw fit to reach out to the veteran community for our input. Here is some info for your review going forward.

I have been communicating with a staff member of the 1st lady and a policy advisor to the Governor's transition effort. I have reviewed some of the statements from Col. Cantor, both written and spoken. I spoke with the Colonel personally.

Regardless of how one describes what I have heard, using terms such as but not limited to, a proclivity for lying, verbal larceny, truth shading or prevaricating, we as veterans deserve better. George Costanza famously said, "It's not a lie if you believe it." That is not where I am however.

What is the impetus for suggesting such a change? It was clear back in 2016 who was behind this, however when I inquired no one wanted to take ownership of the proposal.

No cost estimates for increased manpower and office space. This would seem to be a first step requirement.

No breakdown as to how many new positions would be created. This too should be established before launching any changes.

Where would additional offices be located? Is the requisite space available?

What would be the extent of splitting shared services? What stays and what goes?

What timetable would this change involve? When would it start and when would the changes take effect? Will there be a major disruption of services?

With the budget set until June 30, 2018, from where would the required funding be derived? Will existing programs be short-changed to provide the needed funding for the proposed changes?

Now many of us in the veteran community fully appreciate that the new positions are subject to the incoming Governor's discretion. Having said that, we would like to be assured the individuals being selected have experience interacting with the veteran community. That has not always been the case in the past and we would like to think that we do not revert back to patronage jobs for ill-qualified individuals. The veteran community has a vested interest in the success of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and we have partnered with DMAVA in a successful manner that we would like to continue.

"No trees were killed in the making of this email.....however, a large number of electrons were diverted from where they originally wanted to go." Bob



Charlie Hobbs (TN), Chair Steve Mackey (CA), Vice Chair

<u>VVA</u>				<u>AWVA</u>			
Yearly Growth:	Dec '16	Dec '17	% +/-	Yearly Growth:	Dec '16	Dec '17	% +/-
	80,662	82,197	+ 1.9%		9,163	9,406	+ 2.6%

<u>VVA</u>				<u>AWVA</u>			
Monthly Growth:	Nov '17	Dec '17	% +/-	Monthly Growth:	Nov '17	Dec '17	% +/-
	82,107	82,197	+ .2%		9,340	9,406	+ .7%

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	ST	Chapter #	Total Members		ST	Chapter #	Total Members
1.	MD	0172	1,044	14.	IL	0299	421
2.	TN	0203	869	15.	MO	0317	417
3.	PA	0862	784	16.	OK	0751	384
4.	MI	0154	774	17.	WV	0628	360
5.	NY	0077	677	18.	ND	0941	333
6.	NY	0020	627	19.	NJ	0012	330
7.	MD	0451	588	20.	NY	0082	327
8.	CA	0391	549	21.	NY	0049	309
9.	FL	1036	526	22.	MI	0267	301
10.	AL	1067	524	23.	CA	0047	294
11.	NY	0011	467		VA	0227	294
12.	TX	0137	446	24.	CA	0223	291
13.	SD	1054	437	25.	MI	0528	284



VA Announces Rollout and Application Process for New Veterans ID Card

--- Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that the application process for the national Veterans Identification Card (VIC) is now available for Veterans --- yet another action honoring their service.

This has been mandated through legislation since 2015 to honor Veterans, and today's rollout of the ID card fulfills that overdue promise.

Only those Veterans with honorable service will be able to apply for the ID card, which will provide proof of military service, and may be accepted by retailers in lieu of the standard DD-214 form to obtain promotional discounts and other services where offered to Veterans.

"The new Veterans Identification Card provides a safer and more convenient and efficient way for most Veterans to show proof of service," said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin.

"With the card, Veterans with honorable service to our nation will no longer need to carry around their paper DD-214s to obtain Veteran discounts and other services."

The VIC provides a more portable and secure alternative for those who served the minimum obligated time in service, but did not meet the retirement or medical discharge threshold. Veterans who served in the armed forces, including the reserve components, and who have a discharge of honorable or general (under honorable conditions) can request a VIC.

To request a VIC, Veterans must visit vets.gov, click on "Apply for Printed Veteran ID Card" on the bottom left of the page and sign in or create an account.

Veterans who apply for a card should receive it within 60 days and can check delivery status of their cards at vets.gov. A digital version of the VIC will be available online by mid-December.



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Time to get out your Aran sweater, your paddy cap, and your shille-lagh and join us for the annual St. Patrick's parade in Belmar. This year's parade is set for Sunday, March 4. Step off is at 12:30. We need to be in the form-up area, on the north side of Lake Como, no later than noon.

For those who wish to join up for breakfast, we'll be at the Princess Maria Diner, 2044 Route 35, Wall, N.J. 07719, at 10 am.

There is no set dress code. Fatigues and/or Chapter jackets are the usual dress, but wear what you want, especially if it is cold.

Hope to see as many of you at the parade as possible.

Any questions, call me at 732-531-2574.

*VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
NEW JERSEY SHORE AREA - CHAPTER 12*



24th ANNUAL INSTALLATION & DINNER DANCE
CELEBRATING 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
VETERANS AND COMMUNITY

Our Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday,

April 28, 2018 - 6:00 pm at VFW 2179, One Veterans Lane, Port Monmouth, NJ 07758. Tickets are \$45.00 per person. To reserve tickets, please contact, Ernie Diorio at 732-245-5552 or Tony Ponzo 972-979-0142 We hope to see some more familiar faces there this year.

Featuring entertainment by ROCK N RHYTHM

ELECTION NOTICE

As required by the Constitution and By Laws of Vietnam Veterans of America, the New Jersey State Council, and VVA Chapter 12, this is notice that the Annual Election of Officers, Board of Directors, Nominations Committee, and State Council Delegates will take place at the Annual Meeting of Chapter 12 on Wednesday, April 4, 2018, which meeting will commence at 7:30 P.M.

The Offices of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are for a term of one (1) year. The open positions for Board of Directors, five (5), are for a term of two (2) years. Positions for State Council Delegates, three (3), and Alternate Delegates, two (2), are for a term of two (2) years. Positions for the Nominations Committee are three (3) in number and are for a term of one (1) year.

Any regular member, in good standing, is eligible to nominate another member for any position, run for a position, and vote on April 4. Good standing is defined as a paid up membership and a copy of a DD214, or other proof of service, during the Vietnam War. Proof of service must be on file with the Chapter or National Office. To run for an office, or nominate someone in good standing for a position, contact one of the members of the Nominations Committee.

Rich Gough – rpg3706@aol.com

Bob Hopkins – herc3000@aol.com

Jay Vaughn – jv4910@gmail.com

“Play HOOK-e” From PTSD

By Greg Kucharewski

HANGAR LZ-64 IS HELPING PTSD VETS

What is hangar LZ-64? It's a place for veterans with PTSD to interact with one another, experience aviation opportunities and get connected with the outdoors. Veterans can participate in healthy outdoor activities and also learn new hobbies that help them “Play HOOK-e” from PTSD. It's like taking a mini-vacation from PTSD. Let's face it, PTSD symptoms never really go away. Medications offer some relief and help control episodes but it's really up to the person with PTSD to look for other solutions that can offer relief as part of a proactive approach to their overall health.

I received some documents about coping with PTSD from Joe Leone, VVA Chapter 12 PTSD Committee, that stated the following: Assisted Psychotherapy for PTSD - Animal assisted therapy including therapy dogs and the Equine Therapy has shown evidence based efficacy in patients including war veterans with PTSD, depression, anxiety, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, dissociative disorders, and other chronic illnesses. Practice relaxation exercises - muscle relaxation, breathing exercises, meditation, prayer, outdoor physical exercise such as walking, running, swimming, fishing, scuba diving, and yoga are all very helpful. Volunteering your time to a worthwhile charity, veteran organization or hospital can be very helpful. As you know, Joe provides a lot of information about PTSD health updates at our VVA Chapter 12 meetings and his volunteerism has helped him too.

Eco-therapy (exposure to nature and the outdoors) also helps limit PTSD symptoms. If you are able to get outside daily or focus on a hobby such as fishing and exploring new activities that bring you closer to nature, eco-therapy might be an option for you. We can connect you to free programs for PTSD veterans. LZ-64 and Vietnam Veterans of America Shore Area Chapter 12 is all about sharing information, teaming up, volunteering, getting well, and having fun outdoors. You can learn more by attending a VVA Chapter 12 meeting or registering at a “Play HOOK-e” from PTSD LZ -64 gathering. Remember we are here to help you, all these positive coping methods and activities takes practice like any other skill. Come out and join us, take your time and don't be discouraged.

During January, Steve Biggar, Pilot & Paws and Don Davison, VVA12 volunteered to help bring 7 puppies and their mother from Federick, Maryland via small aircraft. The purpose of the trip was to bring the mother and pups to New Jersey families that adopted the dogs and will give them a safe home. This is a perfect example of volunteering to help save animals and give PTSD veterans volunteer opportunities to





Combat Veteran John Bentham, participating at Hoof Prints on the Heart Equine Therapy Stables.
Photos by: Hoof Prints on the Heart

PLAY HOOK-e TAKE A VETERAN FISHING AT A PRIVATE POND

On Sunday, April 29, 2018, 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12, Jersey Coast Anglers Association, and Cardinale Enterprises will host the second annual "Play HOOK-e" Take a Disabled Veteran Fishing at the Ponderosa Estate Farm, Lake Julianna Millstone Township, NJ.

Disabled veterans and their guest are invited to fish at a private lake to catch and release big fish and then join Mr. Vito Cardinale, Cardinale Enterprises and his staff of volunteers, that will provide soft drinks, hamburgers & hotdogs and all the fixin's.

Veterans with mobility challenges will have the use of 4 x 4 transportation around the lake, along with fishing assistance if needed. Freshwater fishing license is not needed because this is a private lake.

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Jersey Shore Chapter will provide fly fishing instruction and their members are also welcome to join in and catch some big fish on a fly rod. To Register please phone 732-785-9278 or email Gkucharews@jcaa.org

Below Left: Heriberto Vidro and Harold Eckett - NJ Salt Water Flies caught and released a Large Mouth Bass caught on a fly rod. Right: John Rahill, VVA 12, caught and released a nice size Channel Catfish.



PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Jersey Shore Chapter offers all Veterans with disabilities an opportunity to participate in and learn all facets of fly fishing. Meetings are held monthly and include presentations by fly fishing experts, fly tying sessions and fishing excursions to local waters. During February and March PHWFF Jersey Shore Chapter will meet on the first Sunday of each month, 10:00 – 1200 Noon at VFW POST 2226, 212 Norwood Ave, (Hwy 71) Oakhurst, NJ. For information about the Jersey Shore Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing contact: Raoul Cordeaux at jerseyshorephwff@gmail.com



Left, Raoul Cordeaux , PPHWFF coaches Afghanistan veteran Anne Maker about adding deer tail hair to create a saltwater fly. Right, Harold Eckett teaches Laslo Hasko, VVA 12 how to tie a clouser minnow fly.

ARMED FORCED DAY CELEBRATION FLY-IN

Veteran men and women will have an opportunity to experience flying in small aircraft and helicopters for FREE from participating airfields in the tri-state area and gather at Monmouth Executive Airport (KBLM) for an Armed Forces Day Celebration and BBQ. The Fly-IN event is Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 19, 2018 11:00 am till 7:00 pm. at Monmouth Executive Airport (KBLM), Wall Township, NJ.

Hangar LZ 64 will feature live entertainment by veteran oldies bands, military memorabilia, aviation displays, and BBQ for veteran men and women. Veterans can enjoy short flights to witness a WELCOME HOME airfield ground display. The event host is Monmouth Executive Airport and sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12 "Play HOOK-e from PTSD. Heroes on the Water, Operation Beachhead, M2 Deuce Deuce-Ruck It, Team Rubicon, Warhorse Scuba, and Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Jersey Shore Chapter are just a few organizations that signed on to support the event.

This is an effort to reconnect veterans with military friends at a centralized location utilizing private aviation pilots and provide a fun Armed Forces Day Celebration for veterans struggling with PTSD. The main goal is to gather veterans who want to spend quality time together," said *Rich Thomas*, representing *Monmouth Executive Airport, Hangar LZ 64*. "Armed Forces Day Celebration Fly-IN is a great way for veterans to experience the thrill of flying in small aircraft firsthand and connect with a military friend." We will keep you informed about how to register online, volunteer, contribute and link-up with a pilot and airfield near you. If you do not want to fly you can register and select the no fly option and join in the fun.

GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT DISABLED ACCESS

Get ready to enter the largest surf-fishing tournament along the Jersey Shore. This year, it will be bigger and better than ever. The 27th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament will be on Sunday, May 20, 2018. Don't miss a day of family fun! Pick up a brochure about the tournament at Island Beach State Park or at your favorite tackle dealer or download a copy at: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/2018/gsft18.pdf>

Remember admission to the park is FREE for the tournament. We would like to remind our physically challenged anglers that there is an area at OBA 1 with beach wheelchairs available. The JCAA Youth Education Committee is helping novice and physically challenged anglers at the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. World Jeep – Chrysler – Dodge - Ram, Shrewsbury, NJ will assist physically challenged anglers with a NEW 4x4 VIP vehicle to transport anglers that will be fishing the reserved area in front of OBA 1.



Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12) and volunteer anglers from various fishing clubs will assist physically challenged anglers. If you know a disabled veteran or angler that would like to fish the tournament please phone Greg K at 732-785-9278 or email Gkucharews@jcaa.org

TAKE A VETERAN FISHING BOAT CHALLENGE AND BBQ

Our friends Mike and Debbie Bennett, Boating Education and Rescue, are helping us organize a Take a Veteran Fishing Boat Challenge and BBQ. We will leave from Point Pleasant, NJ in May or early June. Look for more information about this in the next VVA 12, BITW Newsletter.

On January 20, 2018 Chapter 12 members and other veterans met at Hangar LZ-64 at Allaire Airport in Wall Township, NJ. Thanks to Richard Thomas for his support and rap session with the veterans who attended. Also, for providing us with a great lunch and very enjoyable day.



PATIENT AIRLIFT SERVICES

Great piece of information passed along, courtesy of brother Marine and fellow Vietnam veteran Tony Costa of the Salem County Detachment, Marine Corps League, here in New Jersey.

FYI,

Maybe some of you know of this free flight service for those with financial need or assistance.

My daughters boy friend used this this past week. They had driven three times already to Duke Medical in North Carolina and he has no steady income so he applied for this and was accepted. They had to leave out of New Castle and had a small jet on the way down and a newer prop on the way back. Also had to get from Raleigh to Duke and hotel and food on their own.

My daughter is a nurse so she did fly down with him. He had brain surgery there, procedure had been on 60 minutes, where they put a polio virus into the brain.

BUT, if you know any Vets, or anyone else, who might need this to get to medical help and are in financial need, check it out.

Patient Airlift Services, www.palservices.org .

Congratulations!



On January 6, 2018, Jack McNaboe, who is a AVVA member, was sworn in as Mayor of Manalapan Township, NJ by Lt. Kim Guadagno. Congratulations. We wish him well.

Happy New Year!

The Colonel, Bob Hopkins, Tony Corbella , Tommy Milmoie and Bobby Lopez at American Legion Post 346 Irish New Years Party It was a great time for all! The Colonel won last prize for the post raffle: \$80.00. Great way to start a new year!



Fallen, But Not Forgotten: Search and Recovery of MIAs



**Sat, March 3, 2018
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM EST
Light Refreshments**

**Chapel of the Four Chaplains
[1201 Constitution Avenue](#)
Philadelphia Navy Yard (Conveniently off I-95)
Philadelphia**

FREE, FREE, FREE REGISTRATION AT:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fallen-but-not-forgotten-mia-recovery-from-all-wars-tickets-42465899649?aff=eivtefrnd>

The **presentation** will provide an update on the Nation's search and recovery operations to bring home the skeletal remains of those service members who remain "unaccounted for" from Southeast Asia, Korea and World War II.

Through the use of colored slides, the audience will be able to see actual recovery missions, and will be exposed to some of the scientific processes (including DNA) used to identify the recovered remains and return them to the service member's family. Included in the presentation will be an update on recovery missions into North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) and a very significant recovery of WWII Marines from the South Pacific.

There are more than 1,600 service members who remain "unaccounted for" from Southeast Asia; almost 7,700 from the Korean War; and almost 73,000 from WWII. The audience will gain an understanding and appreciation for our Nation's commitment and the dedication of the soldiers and civilians who conduct this arduous duty to achieve the fullest possible accounting.

Invitation for Vietnam Veterans Monument Dedication in Barnegat

You are cordially invited to the dedication ceremony of Barnegat, NJ's monument for Vietnam veterans. Our invitation is also extended to anyone you think would be interested in showing support for our Vietnam veterans.

Perhaps the first Vietnam veterans monument in the country to be paid for completely by a Vietnamese refugee individual and her husband and not an organization or group, our hope is for other towns and communities across America to be inspired by this, and to do the same for their own Vietnam veterans. No donations towards this monument have been or will be accepted.

As a Vietnamese refugee who escaped Saigon on April 30, 1975, I recently founded a movement in our town of Barnegat, NJ, that focuses on thanking Vietnam veterans in our community in 2 ways - by building a monument for our town's Vietnam veterans, and by hosting a recurring series of "Thank You" dinners for small groups of Vietnam veterans in our town (also funded completely by me and my husband), until we're able to reach and thank all of them.

The monument is currently being built, with the dedication ceremony happening on the 1st nationally recognized Vietnam Veterans Day, which is Thursday, March 29, 2018. The dedication ceremony will occur at 12 noon at Barnegat's Gazebo Park (Rte 9 and West Bay Ave), with a celebration immediately following that will be hosted by and at the Barnegat American Legion Post # 232. All are welcome.

We would love for as many people to attend as possible, to show our Vietnam veterans how much they're supported and appreciated. They are the true VIPs of our event, although we are hoping to get guests from very high positions to underscore the intent of showing our Vietnam vets how special they are. We already have some high dignitaries from political positions and veterans groups attending, with one of our speakers being a celebrity with an impressive military background as a Navy SEAL, FBI Agent, Federal Air Marshal, and DHS security contractor/advisor, with many appearances on Fox News, CNN, and many other networks. Our national anthem singer is an east coast legend, having performed with Stevie Wonder & Bruce Springsteen. He is also the first double amputee Eagle Scout, a representative of George H. W. Bush's a thousand "Points of Light", and no stranger to singing the national anthem at packed venues for the NBA and NHL.

Saigon Broadcasting Television Network, the first Vietnamese 24/7 TV channel in the US with affiliates all over the globe, will be sending a crew up from Washington, DC, to cover our event. We are working with our township's officials and police force to aid with parking and traffic control in anticipation of a large turnout.

Please respond and let us know if you'll be attending, and feel free to invite others, since we are only going by the emails that are listed on the NJ VVA site. Those on the State Council who have coincidentally already been invited from a different email sent out to all chapter email contacts listed on the VVA site are in copy.

Thy ("Tee") and Jimmy Cavagnaro, Barnegat, NJ

908-461-8409

New Pilot VAVS Program

“Courtesy Transportation”

VA New Jersey Health Care System is seeking contributions of Uber gift cards for Veterans in need of transportation assistance.



Uber services will be offered to Veterans that are not eligible for beneficiary travel and have no means of transportation home.

Uber gift cards are now available nationwide.

Any questions regarding this special need, please contact Voluntary Service at 908-604-5814.

**ARE YOU HAVING AN ACTIVITY IN THE PTSD UNIT ?
BOTTLED WATER, SODA, PAPER PLATES, 16 OZ. PLASTIC CUPS
AND
PLASTIC UTENSILS ARE NEEDED**



Young people have theirs, Now Seniors have their own texting codes:

ATD- At the Doctor's

* **BFF** - Best Friends Funeral

* **BTW**- Bring the Wheelchair

* **BYOT** - Bring Your Own Teeth

* **CBM**- Covered by Medicare

* **CUATSC**- See You at the Senior Center

* **DWI**- Driving While Incontinent

* **FWIW** - Forgot Where I Was

* **GGPBL**- Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low

* **GHA** - Got Heartburn Again

* **HGBM** - Had Good Bowel Movement

* **LMDO**- Laughing My Dentures Out

* **LOL**- Living on Lipitor

* **OMSG** - Oh My! Sorry, Gas

* **TOT**- Texting on Toilet

* **WAITT** - Who Am I Talking To?

* **GGLKI** (Gotta Go, Laxative Kicking in!)

TAPS

Shore Area Vietnam Vets Called Home By The Lord

ROBERT SCHERER ARMY

JOSEPH WILLIAMS ARMY

STEPHEN KOWALSKI ARMY

LOUIS S. SANISLO ARMY

LUTHER CRUSE JR. ARMY

EMIL L. ARGENTINO NAVY

MICHAEL E. SNYDER NAVY

WALTER J. SOWUL MARINES

ANTHONY PONZO MARINES



Our last picture of Tony "Boo-Boo" Ponzo May you rest in peace MY BROTHER. You will be not be forgotten, we will meet again .

The Colonel