

P.O. Box 1042
Janesville WI 53547-1042



September/October 2022 Vol. XXXV, No. IV

*** Mail Call ***

This bimonthly newsletter is the official publication of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Janesville, WI, Rock River Chapter #236. It is a chapter of the national organization, which is a non-profit veterans' organization recognized by the Veterans Administration as a service organization. Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the national organization of the VVA or its chapters.

APRIL 2019	OFFICERS	TELEPHONE
President	Bob Engstrom	(608) 931-5444
V. President	John Kettle	(608) 290-3201
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Treasurer	Tom Stehura	(608) 921-6223
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Bob Maves	(608) 752-7414
Tom Stehura	(608) 921-6223

The Bulletin Board

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

September	Event
4	Chapter Meeting 6 PM @ VFW
10	Street Flag Removal
16	POW/MIA Ceremony
23 & 24	Orange Blossom Sales

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

October	Event
2	Chapter Meeting 6 PM @ VFW
13	JPS Meeting 6 PM @ VFW

POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony

The POW/MIA Ceremony will be held at Veterans Plaza, Traxler Park, Janesville, WI on the evening of Friday, September 16, beginning at 6:00 P.M.

Patriotic Society Meeting

The Janesville Patriotic Society will be meeting at the Janesville VFW clubhouse at 6 P.M. on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

President's Report

The chapter president is on vacation.

In lieu of his message the Editorial Staff wishes to thank all those who participated in National Night Out on August 2, 2022. We had 250 children sign up for the drawing for the six bikes. Altogether about 400 children received prizes from playing the Penny Toss game. Thank you to all the members from the Patriotic Society who helped out.

Our sponsors were:

American Legion Post #205

Janesville Patriotic Society

V.F.W. Post #1621

V.F.W. Post #1621 Auxiliary

Vietnam Veterans of America and Associates Chapter #236

Walmart of Janesville.

August also saw us having our Annual Chapter Picnic. Thanks to Rosemarie Titus for preparing an excellent meal.

Don't forget to purchase your Raffle Tickets.

For :

Bob Engstrom

Chapter #236 President

2022 Orange Blossom Sales

Orange Blossom Sales Locations and Dates:

Friday, 9-23-22	Woodman's Liquor Store Door	9:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 9-23-22	Woodman's Bakery Store Door	9:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 9-23-22	Festival Foods Liquor Door	8:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 9-23-22	Blackhawk Community CU (West Court Street)	9:00am-5:00pm-
Saturday 9-24-22	Woodman's Liquor Store Door	9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday 9-24-22	Woodman's Bakery Store Door	9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday 9-24-22	Festival Foods Liquor Door	8:00am-5:00pm

New Locations This Year:

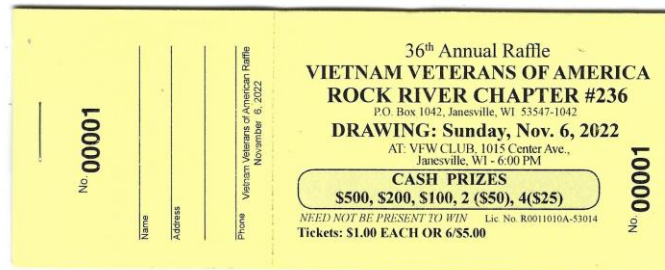
Friday, 9-16-22	Woodman's Beloit Store 1877 S. Madison RD., Beloit	9:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 9-16-22	Piggly Wiggly Beloit Store 1827 Prairie Ave., Beloit	9:00am-5:00pm

There will be Signup Sheets at September meetings.
If anyone wants to sign up early, Call Garry @ 1-608-752-0265.

If you have any questions call or email me at garry@nndesigns.com

Garry Meister

Make the 36th Annual Chapter Raffle a Success



Our chapter's 36th Annual Raffle is rapidly coming to an end. The drawing will take place at our November meeting. There is only two months remaining to sell tickets. To date we have barely raised enough money to pay out the prizes and cover the expenses for the Raffle License and printing the tickets. If you have not already purchased or sold tickets you can contact the people below or pick you a packet at the next chapter meetings. The funds raised by the raffle will govern what we can do to service our community. So please help make this a success.

Raffle Tickets are now available from Kevin & Cheri Abb, Raffle co-Chairpersons. You can pick up your tickets at any chapter meeting.

Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 60 for \$50. The drawing will be at the Nov. 6, 2022 chapter meeting. 5,000 tickets are available. To make this 36th Raffle a success, everyone needs to purchase and sell these tickets.

Wisconsin State Raffle Laws do not allow us to send you raffle tickets through the U.S. Mail. In order to sell tickets to our members who do not live in Janesville or cannot attend a chapter meeting we have the following procedure. At the end of this item, there is the home address of Tom Stehura, Chapter #236 Treasurer. Follow the steps below.

1. Send Tom a note:
 - stating the number of tickets you wish to purchase,
 - return address labels to put on **each** of your tickets,
 - your telephone number for contacting you with questions,
 - and a check made payable to **Ton Stehura, VVA Chapter #236 Treasurer**
2. Tom will:
 - deposit your check in the Raffle account
 - put your mailing label each of the tickets you purchase
 - place your ticket stubs in the drawing drum
 - keep the tickets on file for future reference, if needed.

Tom will send you your ticket numbers, by e-Mail or a Text Message if you include that information in your letter. If you wish to be notified by U.S. Mail include an extra label.

**Tom Stehura
VVA 236 Treasurer
1309 Manor Drive
Janesville, WI 53548-1416**



Congressional Medal of Honor Society

STORIES OF SACRIFICE

Vietnam War - U.S. Army

LESLIE ALLEN BELLRICHARD

DETAILS

RANK: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

CONFLICT/ERA: VIETNAM WAR

UNIT/COMMAND:

**COMPANY C, 1ST BATTALION, 8TH INFANTRY,
4TH INFANTRY DIVISION**

MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. ARMY

MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: MAY 20, 1967

**MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: PLEIKU PROVINCE,
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Acting as a fire-team leader with Company C during combat operations Pfc. Bellrichard was with four fellow soldiers in a foxhole on their unit's perimeter when the position came under a massive enemy attack. Following a 30-minute mortar barrage, the enemy launched a strong ground assault. Pfc. Bellrichard rose in face of a group of charging enemy soldiers and threw hand grenades into their midst, eliminating several of the foe and



**MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT LESLIE A.
BELLRICHARD**

forcing the remainder to withdraw. Failing in their initial attack, the enemy repeated the mortar and rocket bombardment of the friendly perimeter, then once again charged against the defenders in a concerted effort to overrun the position. Pfc. Bellrichard resumed throwing hand grenades at the onrushing attackers. As he was about to hurl a grenade, a mortar round exploded just in front of his position, knocking him into the foxhole and causing him to lose his grip on the already armed grenade. Recovering instantly, Pfc. Bellrichard recognized the threat to the lives of his four comrades and threw himself upon the grenade, shielding his companions from the blast that followed. Although seriously wounded, Pfc. Bellrichard struggled into an upright position in the foxhole and fired his rifle at the enemy until he succumbed to his wounds. His selfless heroism contributed greatly to the successful defense of the position, and he was directly responsible for saving the lives of several of his comrades. His acts are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the U.S. Army.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

ACCREDITED TO: OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY: YES

PRESENTATION DATE & DETAILS: JULY 10, 1969

THE WHITE HOUSE, PRESENTED BY PRES. RICHARD M. NIXON TO HIS FAMILY

BORN: DECEMBER 4, 1941, JANESVILLE, ROCK COUNTY, WI, UNITED STATES

DIED: MAY 20, 1967, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

BURIED: OAKHILL CEMETERY (MH) (311-15-7), JANESVILLE, WI, UNITED STATES

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Submitted by Bob Maves.

The Janesville Patriotic Society

Veterans Plaza Memorial Walkway, Traxler Park

You can honor a veteran by purchasing a brick in the Medal of Honor Walkway at Veterans Plaza in Janesville's Traxler Park. Information on how to order a brick is below.



Honoring veterans with their name on a brick on the walkway.

For more information or to order a brick honoring your veteran,
send your request to:

Janesville Patriotic Society
Brick Order
P.O. Box 2414
Janesville, WI 53547-2414

Include your
mailing address

Name
Address
City, State Zip
e-mail & Phone No

or e-Mail: toms27@charter.net to receive an Order Form

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SERVING WISCONSIN FOR OVER 128 YEARS

VVA Life Membership for \$50 (AVVA for \$100)

At the December meeting the chapter voted to pay the Life Membership Fee for all NEW members. If you are interested in becoming a member of V.V.A. Chapter #236 complete the application below and mail it, with a copy of your DD-214, to Tom Stehura at the chapter address on the bottom right corner of the form. Send no money.

AVVA Membership Applications are available on line at the **AVVA.Org** websites in the Forms tab. Contact Rosemarie Titus if you have questions or need assistance.



Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc

Application for Membership

Welcome to all Veterans who served during the Vietnam Era

Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between **February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975**, or in any duty location between **August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975**.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Gender: _____

(OPTIONAL) Chapter Number: 236 Sponsor: _____

VVA has only one category of membership:

☒ **Life Membership: \$50**

ATTENTION New members:

You must submit a copy of your DD- 214 form along with this application and dues payment.

Payment Method: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover)

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return the required documents and payment to:

Vietnam Veterans of America
PO Box 64299 · Baltimore · MD · 21264

Vietnam Veterans of America
Rock River Chapter #236
P.O. Box 1042
Janesville, WI 53547-1042