

Vietnam Veterans
of America
Arizona State Council
Phoenix, AZ 85067

Points of Interest

- Loss of our former VVA President
- 50th Commemorative Events in Arizona and throughout the USA.
- Vietnam Cuisine
- VVA Is GROWING
- MPC
- Europe in the NEAR FUTURE.
- Safeguard Your Medals and Ribbons

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“The AZ-LZ”

Year 2022 Is Coming To An **END**

Can you really believe how fast time flies? Us Vietnam Veterans can certainly realize that. And let me ask this question, “[Have you done all that you desire to or that your should?](#)” This is not the season to be negative, but to be positive in accomplishing those things or tasks in life what I will call important tasks that are meaningful to you and your family.

When we were in our 50's age bracket, we likely had a task or two that we really, really wanted to get done. Well, it is September 2022 and maybe, just maybe you are looking for something special to go your family for Christmas or a special birthday. Don't think too long, think hard for how you can be a blessing for that son or daughter or grandchild to “[make their day](#)”.

Fast Forecasts For 2023

-The United Nations delivers a climate plan to reduce emissions by global shipping industry.

-The first big world government to replace its census with big-data technologies.

-10% of reading glasses will be connected to the internet.

-80% of people on earth will have a digital presence online.

-90% of the global population will have a supercomputer in their pocket.

-Acoustic earthquake shield developed to protect cities from earthquakes. begin seeing initial use.

-Modifying genes to renew all body issues to youthful versions.

-Cost of solar panels, per watt, equals \$1 US dollar.

-World population forecasted to reach 7,991,396,000.

-World sales of electric vehicles reaches 8,546,667.

-Predicted global mobile web traffic equals 66 exabytes.

-Global Internet traffic grows to 302 exabytes.

-Airline tickets will be extremely inexpensive.

-Food prices expected to drop somewhat.

-We are getting older and much older

-Our health is getting worse and worse.

-Love goes a long way with everyone.

Former VVA President Thomas Corey Passes



Thomas H. Corey, Vietnam Veteran, Activist, Dies at 77 (Washington, D.C.) — Vietnam Veterans of America mourns the passing of Thomas H. Corey, past National President of Vietnam Veterans of America and activist who dedicated his life to fighting for veterans of all generations and their families. Corey died on Monday, June 6, in Jupiter, Florida, due to complications from injuries sustained during war. He was 77. A native of Detroit, Corey was drafted into the U.S. Army and was sent to Vietnam in May 1967. He served as a combat infantryman and squad leader with the 1st Cavalry Division, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry. While engaged in an assault against enemy positions in Quang Tri Province on January 31, 1968, during the Tet Offense, he received an enemy round in the neck, which hit his spinal cord and left

him paralyzed and a quadriplegic. He was medically retired from the U.S. Army in May 1968. Corey is the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for Valor; two Purple Hearts; the Air Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; a Presidential Unit Citation; a Valorous Unit Citation; the Republic Vietnam Gallantry Cross; and the Combat Infantry Badge. After an extended hospitalization, Corey returned to his family in Detroit where he spent his time in and out of the local VA hospital. He relocated to West Palm Beach, Florida in 1972, where he became deeply involved in community affairs as a veteran leader and advocate. "It is a special kind of a person who can, when faced with such enormous disabling and physical challenges, have the strength and fortitude as Tom Corey has had for so many, many years," said VVA National President Jack McManus, longtime friend, and fellow advocate. "Veterans are truly fortunate to have had the benefit of Tom's advocacy for these past 42 years." Committed to overcoming institutional obstacles and improving the conditions he had encountered while a patient in the VA healthcare system, Corey joined Vietnam Veterans of America in 1980, two years after the organization's founding. In 1981, he started VVA Palm Beach County Chapter 25, which was renamed in his honor in 1991. His drive to care for his fellow veterans fueled his advocacy, and in 1985 he was elected to VVA's National Board of Directors. He never faltered from his promise "to speak up for those veterans without a voice." In 1987, he was elected to serve as VVA's National Secretary, a position he held for five consecutive two-year terms. In 1997, he Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA's founding principle is "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another." was elected VVA National Vice President, and again in 1999. In 2001, he was elected to serve as VVA National President; he was re-elected in 2003. Corey was known on Capitol Hill and within the VA for his dogged determination to address the barriers to care faced by his fellow veterans. He fought for mandatory funding for veterans healthcare and services, believing that to deny adequate funding for quality healthcare and other services is to violate a sacred trust with the nation. In his role as Ombudsman and Program Specialists at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center office, he assisted his fellow veterans, giving them a voice and helping them navigate hospital life. "Tom has been an example to multitudes of veterans, and all who have contact with him. He showed us that no matter the hardship, if you have the willpower, you can make changes for the better in people's lives," said McManus. "He did this every day, year after year, with commitment and compassion." In his commitment to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our nation's missing from the war, Corey made 16 trips to Vietnam with VVA's Veterans Initiative Task Force, where he met with the former enemy, sharing fate-clarifying information in search for the remains of Americans and Vietnamese who perished during the war, and discussing the effects of the thousands of tons of Agent Orange and other herbicides sprayed over much of Vietnam. As president of the Vietnam Veterans Peace Initiative, he spearheaded the building of a maternal health clinic in his efforts to provide medical support to the victims of Agent Orange. Corey is the first recipient of the Vietnam Veterans of America Commendation Medal, the organization's highest award for service. The citation accompanying his medal noted, "Corey is the benchmark criteria for future recipients of this award." His many awards include the Chapel of Four Chaplains Bronze Medallion and Humanitarian awards. "We have lost our guiding leader, and he can never be replaced," said McManus. "He will be greeted by so many grateful friends on the other side".

VVA National Leadership & Conference—2022

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9:00am – 10:30am

VA Benefits Q&A

Ballroom FGH

Veterans and their families are welcome to attend this open session to have their questions regarding any benefit administered by VA answered. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about benefits you may be entitled to.

Presenters:

Alec Ghezzi – Interim Director, Veterans Benefits Program
Claire Corsey – Managing Attorney, Veterans Benefits Program
Dani Fischer – Managing VSO, Veterans Benefits Program
Marc McCabe – Strategic Advisor to VVA President

9:00am – 10:30am

Membership: Info & News

Ballroom D/D2/E/E2

Providing history, metrics, news and updates regarding membership, Chapters and Members

Presenters:

Dick Southern – National Board Member, Membership Affairs Committee, Chair
Nicole Kennedy – Membership Affairs, Manager

9:00am – 10:30am

AVVA – The 3-Rs to Recovery: Rekindle • Refresh • Reactivate

Studio 220

AVVA's educational and informative programs lay dormant during the Pandemic. During this seminar we will revisit each of our programs to REKINDLE everyone's awareness and to REFRESH each person with a renewed understanding and appreciation. Lastly, we will REACTIVATE each program to its pre-pandemic status with the help of our membership.

Presenters:

Sharon Hobbs - National President, AVVA
Kathy Andras - National Vice President, AVVA
Nina Schloffel - National Secretary, AVVA
Nancy Switzer - Past President, AVVA, Toxic Exposure Chair
Bobbie Morris - National Incorporation Chair
Jennifer Ellis - National Spousal & Survivor Benefits Chair

This is **ONE** page out of the entire agenda for Leadership Conference.

If you have NEVER to one, this is the time to go as it is very well worth it.

By the time you see this newsletter, you should have signed up for it already, but you will have a very worthwhile time and will learn a lot.

The reception and banquet is very nice and superb food.

Although it is all the way across the country, it will be worth the trip to see some of the city and the state and have some good memories of it.

A "Starbucks 50th Commemoration"

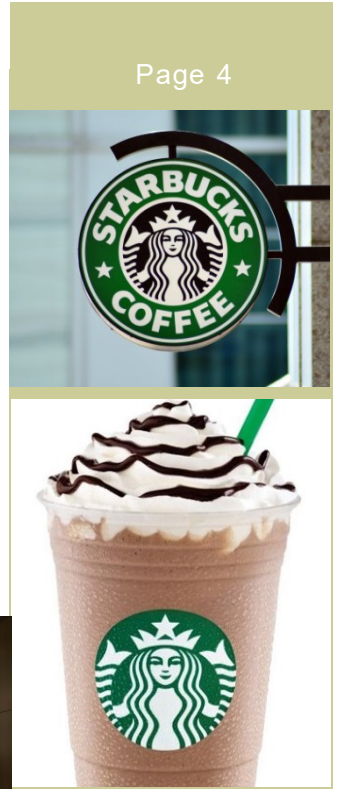
When a Vietnam Veteran has an opportunity to honor someone else that served with him in Vietnam, we should take that opportunity. However when a civilian honors a Vietnam Veteran over and over, then it is up to us to truly **"THANK THEM"** for ALL they have done for us. We are talking about two young ladies that have made a difference for this Vietnam Veteran and many, many others that go to this STARBUCKS Store in Yuma, Arizona.

For many months, these two Starbucks servers have gone out of their way to take an order, (right or wrong and fix it), prepare a superb drink, provide a refill of a coffee or tea and ensure that their service and product is simply, well I'll say **STARBUCKS-worthy**. And it always is. Therefore, from this Vietnam Veteran, they are worthy of a challenge coin to **"challenge them to keep up the good work"**. And knowing them, how I have, I know they will.



It costs \$-Nothing do something **nice** for someone. It costs \$-nothing to **compliment** someone who does **something for YOU** and people like you who served America for all of these years.

In closing thank you goes to **Emily Hahn** (r) and **Madysen Andrewson** for all you do on a daily basis for this Vietnam Veteran and the scores that pass through the doors of your Starbucks stores. We compliment you both in all you do for us in the Armed Services.



Vietnam Veterans of America
State Council - Phoenix, AZ
50th Vietnam Commemoration
Presents to
Madysen Andrewson

For your company "STARBUCKS" service and dedication in honoring all of the Vietnam Veterans that were part of the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Merchant Marines, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Air Force that fought in the Vietnam War from 1955 to 1975. We so appreciate all that you do for the Vietnam Veterans that fought in the twenty-year war in the attempt to free all of Vietnam from Communism. Your efforts within this STARBUCKS store has always made Veterans from any conflict including those from World War II, Korea, the Global War on Terror (GWOT) and of course Vietnam "VERY, VERY APPRECIATED AND WELCOME" when you and your employees serve a delicious beverage or food item. We so appreciate you overseeing the operation and being the representative for this store and your devotion to Vietnam Veterans.

Walt M. Schumacher
Commemorative Chairman
Dated: 20 June 2022

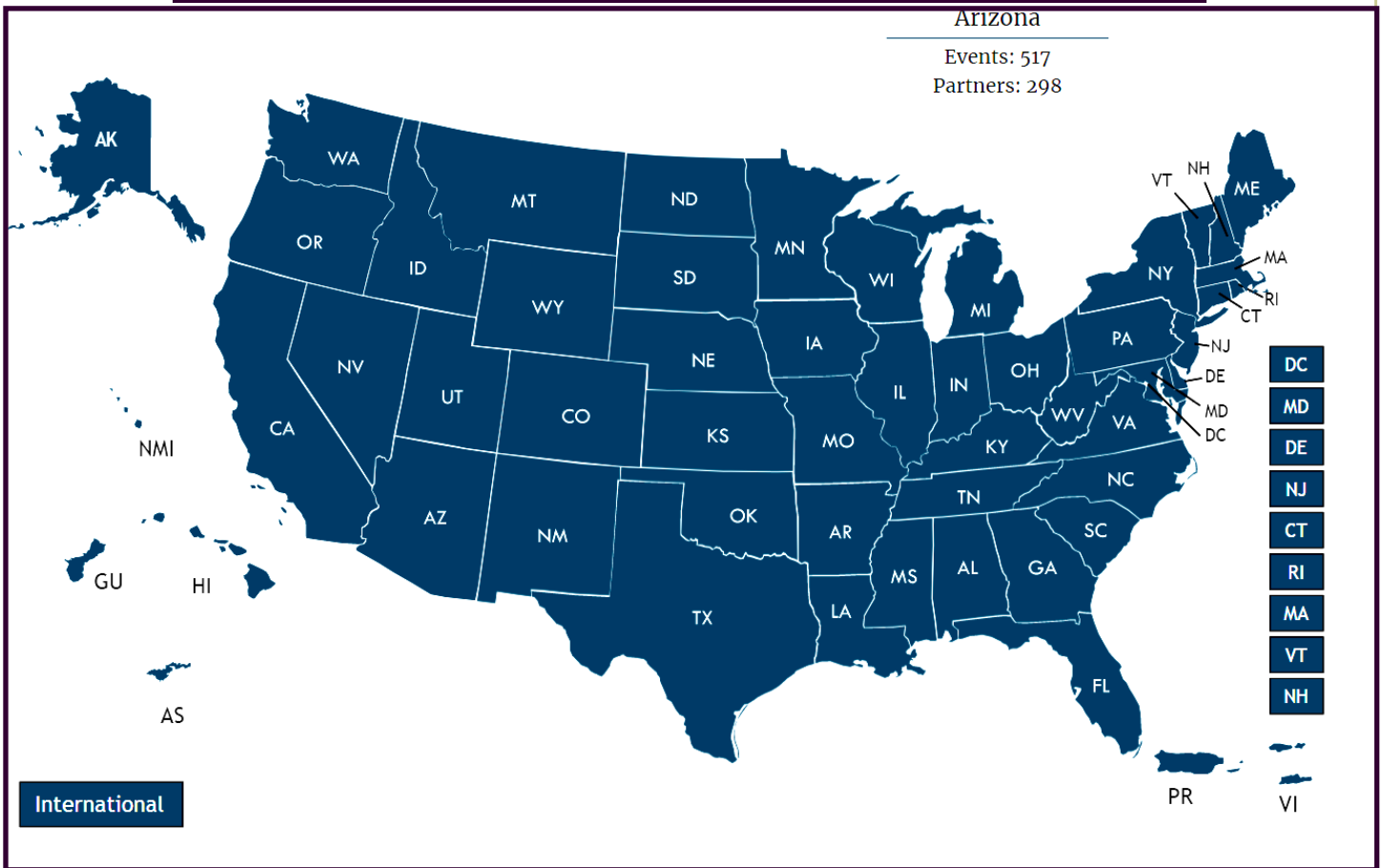
Vietnam Veterans of America
State Council - Phoenix, AZ
50th Vietnam Commemoration
Presents to
Emily Hahn

Because of you are and when it comes to "Customer Service and that Starbucks Freshness" you, Emily Hahn will always be remembered as to how you act when helping the customers that enter your store. Your company, STARBUCKS's service and dedication in honoring all of the Vietnam Veterans that were part of the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Merchant Marines, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Air Force that fought in the Vietnam War from 1955 to 1975 has always been fabulous. We so appreciate all that you do for the Vietnam Veterans that fought in the twenty-year war in the attempt to free all of Vietnam from Communism. Your efforts within this STARBUCKS's store has always made Veterans from any conflict including those from everyone of the wars in the 20th Century including Vietnam "VERY, VERY WELCOME AND APPRECIATED" when you and your fellow employees serve a delicious beverage or food item. We so appreciate you openness and friendliness and being the representative for this store and your devotion to Vietnam Veterans.

Walt M. Schumacher
Commemorative Chairman
Dated: 20 June 2022



VVA-AZ—Within The 50th Commemoration



Have you ever wondered how Arizona has been part of the 50th Commemoration? Well, we do pretty well, considering.

Vietnam Veterans of America has put on **517 “50th Vietnam War Commemorative Events”** with a total of 298 50th Partners. Keep in mind, this started around the year 2011 timeframe and has continued ever since.

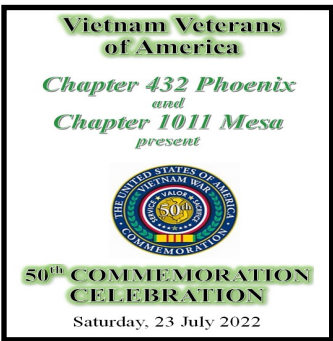
Vietnam Veterans of America within the state of Arizona has put on in the neighborhood of about fifty (50) events and they have all gone very well.

The process of putting on these events will end within one to three years, so all of us should make the most effort to put on the Commemoration Event for the sake of those Vietnam Veterans that did not get to attend one.

The \$5,000.00 grant is still available, but you have to fully justify everything you are going to do with the funds you obtain from the State of Arizona.



VVA-AZ Chapters 1011 - 432 Vietnam 50th Event



VVA-Arizona Chapter's Central Phoenix **432** and East Phoenix Chapter **1011** held a Vietnam Commemoration 50th Event consisting of a wonderful lunch, interesting speakers, coin awards and updating the Vietnam Veterans of what being part of the Vietnam War meant to them. This 23 July 2022 event was one of the best with many, many veterans attending this event.

50th Commemoration Program Page 3

Greeting, Registration	Sgt-at-Arms
Call to Order	Paul Reichenbach
Presenting of the Colors	Honor Guards
National Anthem	Maury Apfel
Native American Blessing	James Covarrubias
Welcome Address	Paul Reichenbach Dennis Gorman
Missing Man Table Observance	Randall Schriver
He's a Veteran Poem	Paul Reichenbach
Introduction of Chapter Officials	Chapter Presidents
Introduction of Distinguished Guests	Dennis Gorman
Introduction of Guest Speaker	Paul Reichenbach
Buffet Lunch	
Pinning of Veterans	Col. Wanda Wright
Awards Presentations	Presidents
Benediction	Chaplain
Retiring the Colors	Honor Guard
Sounding of Taps	Maury Apfel
Dismissal - Informational Vendors Available	



VVA-AZ Chapters 1011—432—Vietnam 50th Event



VVA-AZ Chapters 1011-432—Vietnam 50th Event

And so opened the 50th Commemoration Celebration of the Vietnam War, proudly presented by the combined Vietnam Veterans of America Arizona Chapters 432 Phoenix and 1011 East Valley. Co-hosted by 432 President Paul Reichenbach (USAF) and 1011 President Dennis Gorman (US Army), the three-hour event, which featured Colonel Wanda Wright, Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services as keynote Speaker, was offered on Saturday, 23 July 2022 in Phoenix to an audience of sixty-five veterans and distinguished guests. The ceremonial components of the program, designed to honor and respect the service of Vietnam Veterans, highlighted various elements dear to the assembled veterans. The venue was decorated by the combined AVVA members and offered informative and entertaining displays of memorabilia. The orchestrated program included presentation of the colors by the combined 432 and 1011 Honor Guards, the playing of the National Anthem by a noted local trumpeter, a Native American Blessing bestowed by VVA member and Native American James Covarrubias, welcoming addresses by the chapter presidents, a Missing Man Table observance by VVA Arizona State Council President Randy Schriver, a special poem entitled "He's a Veteran," introductions of chapter officials and distinguished guests, and a stirring keynote address by Colonel Wright that focused on the sacrifices of Vietnam Veterans and their families and friends and the legacy they have left behind. Following the keynote address a delicious and plentiful buffet luncheon was served by a local barbecue caterer. After enjoying a great buffet Colonel Wright conducted the pinning ceremony for veterans who had not previously received the 50th Commemorative Pin which was provided by the Commemoration Partner U.S. Department of Defense. A number of special recognition, achievement and appreciation certificates were awarded to chapters 432 and 1011 members. The event culminated with the retiring of the colors by the Honor Guards, the sounding of Taps by the bugler and the benediction offered by host Paul Reichenbach. Following the formal program events, representatives from the Veterans Administration Phoenix Health System, the Arizona Department of Veteran's Services, and the Chief Veteran Service Officer of the VVA Arizona State Council offered advice, counsel and information to veterans and family members on a many subjects related to veteran needs. The whole event was noted as a resounding success. **"Welcome Home"**



"Welcome Home"

Vietnam War “SITREP” - Issue 5



“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 5

Tuesday, April 5

Dear Commemorative Partners,

Today is [Gold Star Wives Day](#), a day for our nation to offer profound respect to those those who have borne unimaginable sorrow – to recognize the immense loss and honor individual sacrifices endured by spouses and families of our fallen warriors.

The term “Gold Star” dates back to World War I, when families hung banners with blue stars representing immediate family serving in the Armed Forces. If that service member died in combat, the star was changed from blue to gold. Governed by 10 U.S.C. § 1126, the [Gold Star Lapel Button](#) (above right) was established by Congress in 1947 as a symbol of their sacrifice and is presented to the service member’s next of kin. It is a 1/4-inch wide gold star embossed on a 3/4-inch purple sphere and is surrounded by gold laurel leaves in a 5/8-inch wreath. Its underside inscription reads “The United States of America Act of Congress August 1966” with space for the recipient’s engraved initials. Recognized initially in 2010, Congress began passing annual resolutions in 2013 that recognize 5 April as Gold Star Wives Day.



Above, Gen. David H. Berger, commandant, U.S. Marine Corps presents a commemorative lapel pin to Vietnam War Gold Star wife Mrs. Carol Ellinger.

On [National Vietnam War Veterans Day](#), during a national joint wreath-laying ceremony at the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#), Gen. David H. Berger, commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, presented a commemorative “*In Memory Of*” Lapel Pin to Vietnam War **Gold Star wife**, Mrs. Carol Ellinger. Her husband, U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Franklin Max Ellinger, was killed in action August 12, 1968. During that same ceremony, Adm. Michael M. Gilday, chief



Above, Adm. Michael M. Gilday, chief of naval operations, U.S. Navy, presents a commemorative lapel pin to Vietnam War Gold Star wife Mrs. Ann Smith.

naval operations, U.S. Navy, presented a commemorative “*In Memory Of*” Lapel Pin to Vietnam War **Gold Star wife**, Mrs. Ann Smith. Her husband, U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. James Andrew Smith, was killed in theater October 26, 1966. View that remarkable 29 March live-streamed ceremony [here](#).

[National Vietnam War Veterans Day](#) reverberated far and wide across America in 2022, as nearly **11 hundred events** took place on and around 29 March during which more than **100 thousand** Vietnam veterans and their families were honored! Remarkably, we discovered nearly **36 thousand** media mentions of 29 March last month, and more than **130 thousand** social media engagements! From the [White House](#) to notable veteran supporters such as **Mr. Gary Sinise**, who recorded [his own 29 March tribute](#) ... Vietnam veterans and their families are hearing “Welcome Home” and receiving recognition they so richly deserve.

We close, echoing the words of Gold Star wife Cindy Stancliff, who honored Vietnam veterans by saying, *You did not return to a welcoming committee or parade, however, you returned and continued to serve this Nation as Great Americans ... THANK YOU for your service and WELCOME HOME!*

~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!

vietnamwar50th.com



Vietnam War “SITREP” - Issue 6



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
**VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION**

50th

“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 6

Thursday, May 19

Dear Commemorative Partners,

Memorial Day—the last Monday in May—began in 1868 as “Decoration Day.” Founder **John A. Logan**, Grand Army of the Republic commander in chief, designated it “*for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.*” Originally established as a tribute to those lost in battle in our Civil War, this day has since been **expanded** to honor all who perished in service to our Nation, in peacetime or in war.



This year, we especially remember the **58,281** whose names are engraved on the **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**. We honor their service and sacrifice, and humbly recognize the immense loss and unimaginable sorrow borne by each of their **Gold Star families**. On Memorial Day, each and every year, America takes time to honor all its fallen service members with a **National Moment of Remembrance**. Join us and the rest of the Nation on **May 30 at 3 p.m. local time**—wherever you are—to pause in a moment of silence and remember those who gave their lives defending the freedoms we hold so dear.

Ten years ago—on Memorial Day—this national **Vietnam War Commemoration** was launched. Our primary objective—is to thank and honor all who served in the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty, regardless of location, from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975—and their families. **Your efforts** have ensured that **3.3 million** of these veterans have been recognized so far! With reduced COVID limitations in 2022, the number of commemorative events grew significantly. This year, more than **18 hundred** events have occurred, with more than **100 thousand Vietnam veterans honored** on and around **29 March** alone! Nearly 300 nationwide Honor Flights will take place this year, and 5,000 Vietnam veterans have already been recognized during those life-changing missions! So much has been done, but there is still more to do!

Start thinking about how you can inspire Americans to honor the remaining 2.7 million Vietnam veterans living in American and abroad, and their families, before this Commemoration ends in 2025! **Mark your calendars and join us May 11-13, 2023, in Washington, D.C.** as we host large-scale events on the National Mall, including ceremonies, exhibits and an outdoor multimedia celebration—all designed to honor Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of service! **Additional details** will be available soon on our **website** and social media platforms. Plan now, and be sure to invite everyone you know! **Vietnam veterans and their families have earned our gratitude!**



~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

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vietnamwar50th.com



Vietnam War “SITREP” - Issue 7



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
**VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION**



“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 7

Monday, June 13

Dear Commemorative Partners,

June marks *Army Heritage Month* and the **Tuesday, June 14** anniversary of our Nation’s longest-established Service, which also, notably, is [Flag Day!](#) **Happy 247th Birthday, United States Army!**

As its history unfolded, the U.S. Army was commonly associated with terms like infantry, artillery and armor. During the Vietnam War, however, the helicopter came of age, air mobility became the centerpiece of Army operations, and Vietnam was justifiably labeled as the “helicopter war.”



A Huey flies low over soldiers from the 101st BDE, 101st ABN Div, near An Khe, 30 Aug, 1965. (Photo by Lyle V. Boggess, DASPO)

The helicopter first saw use in Vietnam for medical support as early as 1958. Eventually, the Army employed many helicopters in theater, but perhaps one of the most vivid and unmistakable sounds of the Vietnam War was that of the UH-1 Huey’s rotor blades upon approach. Officially named the UH-1 Iroquois, this “Utility Helicopter” received its “Huey” nickname from the pronunciation of its original “HU-1” designation.

In addition to aeromedical evacuation, the Army employed helicopters to establish and sustain fire support bases, carry soldiers to battle, supply its units, observe enemy troop movements, provide gunship support and conduct air assault missions. Learn more about the Huey and other helicopters, such as the AH-1 Cobra and CH-47 Chinook, as well as other Army air mobility platforms in our 3-part poster series featured at right, [U.S. Army Airmobility in the Vietnam War](#).



Sections of two Huey helicopters – one “medevac,” one “slick” (*below left*) – act as centerpieces in our [Pentagon Vietnam War Exhibit](#) (*at left*), recipient of a **2017 John Wesley Powell Prize**. Both helicopters were actually flown during the Vietnam War period. The Pentagon recently re-opened tours to the public on a limited basis. If you are in the Washington, D.C. area, and wish to tour a small portion of the **17.5 miles of corridor** in this national landmark, as well as visit our award-winning [exhibit](#) as part of your tour, you may submit a request directly to the Pentagon Tours Program [here](#). Stay tuned, as we work to release the first-ever virtual tour of a Pentagon space – our exhibit – in the near future!

Finally, please enjoy this [Birthday Tribute](#) celebrating the remarkable men and women of our U.S. Army!

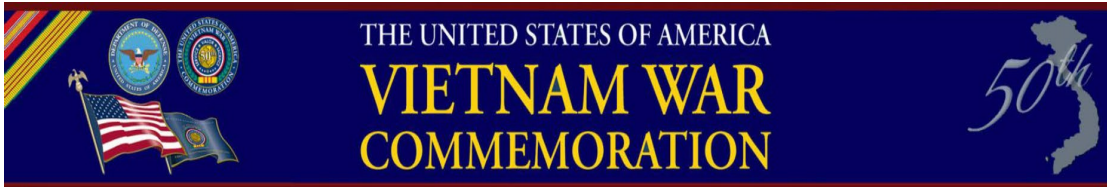
~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

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Vietnam War “SITREP” - Issue 8



“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 8

Dear Commemorative Partners,

~ Our Flag Does Not Fly Because The Wind Moves It...
It Flies With The Last Breath Of Each Soldier Who Died Protecting It ~

This quote (source unknown) is inscribed on the arch shown at right, surrounding the entrance to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Trumbull, Connecticut. Recently completed, the arch is a powerful tribute to all who gave their lives defending our Nation’s freedom in uniform, especially our Vietnam veterans.

Friday, July 1



Arch in Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Trumbull, CT.

Independence Day is an opportune time to think about America’s freedom. Each service member entering our Nation’s Armed Forces raises their right hand and takes an **oath** to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States.” Their collective sense of “service before self” reflects that of the 56 signers of our Declaration of Independence, who “mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.” As we gather together this year with family and friends in communities across America to celebrate **Independence Day**, please take time to remember the generations of warriors who paid the true cost of the freedoms and liberty we enjoy today!



Just before Memorial Day, in **Issue 6**, we announced a **Mark your Calendars** invitation to join us next **May 11-13, 2023 in Washington, D.C.**, where large-scale events will be hosted on the National Mall to honor Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of service! This once- in-a-lifetime **milestone event**, spread across three days is appropriately titled **“Welcome Home! A Nation Honors our Vietnam Veterans and their Families.”** This event will feature **Ceremonies** on the National Mall, an **Outdoor Multimedia Celebration**, and a **Walkable Avenue** of Military Equipment, Interactive Displays and Mini-Stages.

The **Ceremonies** will inspire Americans to embrace the sacred responsibility to honor our Vietnam veterans and their families, while the **Outdoor Multimedia Celebration** will portray the story of our Vietnam veterans and their enduring legacy of their service. The latter will also highlight the sacrifices of their families, and the contributions of individual citizens, our allies, the Services and nongovernmental organizations during the Vietnam War period. **The Walkable Avenue** will expand on the story of our Vietnam veterans, and contributions of individual citizens, our allies, the Services and nongovernmental organizations during the Vietnam War period. Additional details will be released on our **Welcome Home!** dedicated webpage and via social media in the coming months. **Enjoy a wonderful Independence Day celebration!**



Tribute video narrated by Mr. Sam Elliott, and “Welcome Home!” event webpage.

~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

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Vietnam War “SITREP” - Issue 9



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
**VIETNAM WAR
COMMEMORATION**

“SITREP” 2022 – Issue 9

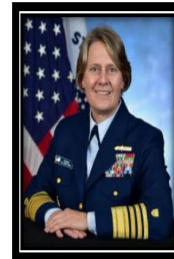
Wednesday, August 3

Dear Commemorative Partners,



Time has not diminished their astonishing bravery, their selflessness in putting the lives of others ahead of their own, and the gratitude that we as a Nation owe them. These are the recent words of our Commander-in-Chief, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., during The White House Medal of Honor ceremony July 5, 2022, recognizing the valor of four of our Nation’s Vietnam veterans: Retired Army veteran *Major John J. Duffy* and Army veterans *Staff Sergeant Edward N. Kaneshiro* (posthumous), *Specialist Five Dwight W. Birdwell* and *Specialist Five Dennis M. Fujii*. You can [view](#) the ceremony of these White House *Medal of Honor* presentations, or watch it from our [homepage](#) or [video gallery](#).

Tomorrow, August 4, we celebrate 232 years of the [United States Coast Guard’s](#) honorable service. Happy Birthday U.S. Coast Guard, we celebrate you with this [video tribute!](#) On June 1, 2022, the U.S. Coast Guard [formally transitioned](#) to new leadership. [Admiral Linda L. Fagan](#) (at right) was installed as its 27th Commandant, who notably, is also the first woman in history to oversee a United States Armed Forces service branch. Congratulations Admiral Fagan!



Admiral Linda L. Fagan,
27th Commandant,
U.S. Coast Guard

The U.S. Coast Guard’s contribution in Vietnam, began on April 29, 1965, when President Lyndon B. Johnson authorized their service under the operational control of the United States Navy. Amidst a myriad of duties, the U.S. Coast Guard’s primary efforts centered around coastal surveillance and counter insurgent operations. Read more about the Coast Guard’s service in Vietnam by checking out our 3-part poster series titled, [The Coast Guard in the Vietnam War](#), as well as discovering the [U.S. Coast Guard’s Pentagon Exhibit, Vietnam section](#). Finally, enjoy our [Coast Guard Service Patch Poster](#) as we pay tribute to the U.S. Coast Guard all this month.



Lastly, we mark another monumental day on *August 7, Purple Heart Day*. Originally introduced by our first president, George Washington while he was a still a General, this medal remains our country’s oldest military award, and is also presented to all ranks. The [Purple Heart Medal](#) (shown at left) is awarded to American service members wounded or killed as a result of enemy action. Of note, there have been approximately 351,000 of these distinguished medals conferred to Vietnam veterans. As we commemorate this day, remember the poignant words of our own [Secretary of Defense, Lloyd J. Austin III](#) who affirmed, “Purple Heart Day also reminds us of the high cost of war: the price to be paid by brave men and women and the burden that is laid at our feet, as a nation, to care for them and their families.” To our Nation’s Purple Heart Medal recipients, and especially our Vietnam veterans, we [salute](#) you!

~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~

Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!

vietnamwar50th.com



50th Commemoration Events “At The End”

The Vietnam Veteran 50th Commemoration is coming to an end, likely in our lifetime. However, there is A LOT that has to be planned for between “now and then”. First off, have of you prepared anything when it comes to your legacy? If not, may I recommend that you “COMMIT” to doing that now before you are unable to? It is not that hard; consider doing a video story of your life as you can site in front of a video camera and “talk about you” for hours and hours. But, don’t leave anything out. Tell it all, but only the good stuff, leave out the garbage, your bad mistakes, things you regret and only have the items, events, etc that you as a person are pleased with.

Now if, you readers still belong to a VVA State Council or Chapter within your state and you have taken the liberty to “archive” your council and/or chapter within your state; the possibilities of “where” to place the items in due time are mentioned below. Please understand none of these are firm, therefore, you will have to take the initiative to contact the following locations via the web, phone book, etc to fully determine “*where you might archive your Vietnam items*”. These mentioned below are in Washington DC.

1. National Archive
2. DOD History Program
3. Library of Congress
4. Folklife Center
5. Exchange of Service Museum

Allow me to give what I know at the moment. There will likely be changes, but this is all that I am familiar with at the moment. Within the Washington DC area, there will be around the date May 11-13, 2023 to 2025:

1. A VIETNAM Wall event
2. History Week
3. Static Displays
4. A Mega-Concert
5. Future and Current Ops Events
6. Commemorative Partners Program Event by 2025
7. A “March 29th Event”
8. DOD History Program
9. [Other events that will be developed later]

The main point of contact for this is:

Mark R. Franklin

mark.r.franklin.civ@mail.mil

703-409-7617

<https://www.vietnamwar50th.com>



Soba Noodles with Ginger-Sesame Dressing

A sweet-and-sour gingery dressing goes hand in hand with soft soba noodles, edamame and crunchy slaw. Add grilled shrimp or chicken for a protein-packed finish.

1/2 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce	Salad:
1/4 cup packed brown sugar	2 cups frozen shelled edamame, thawed
2 tablespoons rice vinegar	1/2 pound uncooked Japanese soba noodles or whole wheat linguini
2 tablespoons canola oil	1 package (14 ounces) coleslaw mix
2 tablespoons orange juice	1 cup shredded carrots
1 tablespoon minced fresh gingerroot	1 cup thinly sliced green onions
1 teaspoon sesame oil	3 tablespoons sesame seeds, toasted
1 garlic clove, minced	
1 teaspoon Sriracha chili sauce or 1/2 teaspoon hot pepper sauce	

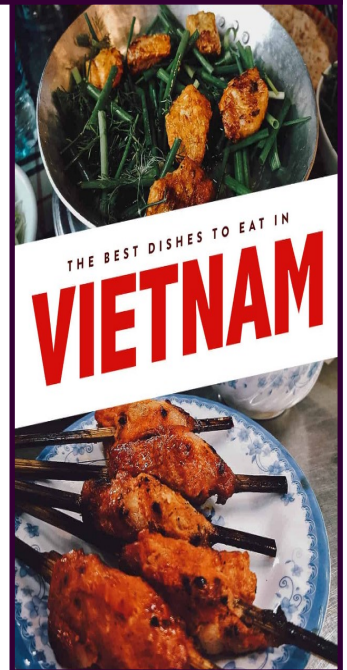


The Foods Of Vietnam



For us, Vietnam is one of the world's best countries for food. We've been to Vietnam several times now and Vietnamese cuisine always leaves us wanting for more. My most recent visit to Vietnam was a month-long stay in which I explored the country's diverse cuisine from north to south. I ate my way through Sapa, Hanoi, Hue, Hoi An, Saigon, and the Mekong Delta with the goal of writing a traditional Vietnamese food guide that showcased the best and most interesting dishes Vietnam had to offer. If you're wondering what to eat in Vietnam, then this Vietnamese food guide will be very useful to you. It lists 45 of the tastiest Vietnamese dishes you can have throughout the country. In trying these dishes, I hope you fall in love with traditional Vietnamese food as much as we have. Any Vietnamese food guide advises you on what dishes to eat, but if you're looking for the best Vietnamese restaurants and street food stalls in key cities throughout Vietnam, then be sure to check out recipes online that are from Hanoi, Saigon, Hue, and Hoi An. Try it before it is too late, it will be a real treat for you and the family.

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VVA Is STILL Growing (Cont'd)

MEMBERSHIP AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MONTHLY REPORT May 2022

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS AND VARIANCES BY STATE

ST	VVA	±	AVVA	±	ST	VVA	±	AVVA	±
AK	208	0	25	0	MT	694	-2	95	-1
AL	2,053	+3	133	+2	NC	2,485	+6	216	+2
AR	417	0	37	0	ND	813	+3	154	+3
AZ	1,438	-2	119	+1	NE	439	0	27	+1
CA	5,479	+1	845	+7	NH	443	0	44	0
CN	6	0	0	0	NJ	3487	-15	448	-5
CO	781	+4	100	0	NM	650	+2	22	0
CT	687	0	49	+1	NV	1,239	+1	152	+4
DC	94	0	8	0	NY	6,261	+1	691	-6
DE	630	+4	34	0	OH	3,654	-5	241	0
FL	5,443	+28	537	+2	OK	1,137	-1	93	-1
GA	1,733	+5	248	+3	OR	1,399	+4	152	0
GU	124	0	31	0	OS	69	0	8	0
HI	263	0	29	0	PA	4,534	+3	636	+2
IA	1,247	-1	68	0	PI	100	0	9	0
ID	399	+2	22	0	PR	294	0	10	0
IL	2,142	-1	178	0	RI	406	0	33	+1
IN	1,408	+1	86	-2	SC	1,080	+1	86	0
KS	642	-1	57	0	SD	821	0	78	0
KY	874	0	117	0	TN	4,060	+4	570	+8
LA	1,401	+5	357	+1	TX	5,060	+11	556	+9
MA	1,588	-1	76	+1	UT	361	-1	64	0
MD	3,206	0	250	0	VA	2,419	+3	300	-1
ME	358	0	34	0	VI	20	0	0	0
MI	4,909	+2	791	+8	VT	576	0	42	0
MN	1,460	+1	65	-1	WA	1,466	+3	123	+2
MO	1,869	+7	223	+10	WI	2,610	-5	339	-2
MS	445	-1	39	+1	WV	1,645	+3	320	-2
					WY	85	-1	2	0

May 2022 TOP STATES IN MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

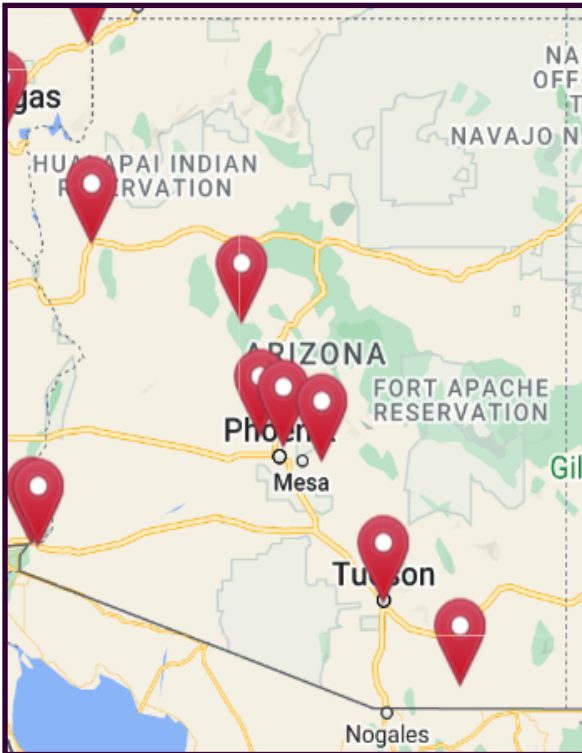
	# 1	# 2	# 3	#4
VVA:	FL +28	NJ +15	TX +11	MO +7
AVVA:	MO +10	TX +9	MT +8	CA +7

The tide has turned and we are gaining new members each month. Membership in VVA has topped 89,000. The key is that we are getting new members. Direct your efforts on the chapter level and the personal level to recruit new people. Joining VVA is a bargain at just \$50 for a Life membership.

We have received the go-ahead to accept veterans who served in Vietnam from November 1, 1955, to February 28, 1961, as full VVA members. The Membership Department is working on updating the membership requirement on all documents with the new dates. Membership staffers are accepting membership applications for the 1955-61 time period with the registration fee and a DD-214.

The Membership Affairs Committee issues a monthly report with statistics on total membership, membership totals by state and region, and the top 25 chapters in membership. The report also highlights new chapters when their charters are issued. The Membership Department at VVA national headquarters in Silver Spring continues to do an outstanding job under difficult conditions. We should all be checking on our members to be sure they are staying safe and staying well. Just do some outreach. If I can help you in anything that deals with membership, contact me at dsouthern@vva.org

VVA-Arizona History

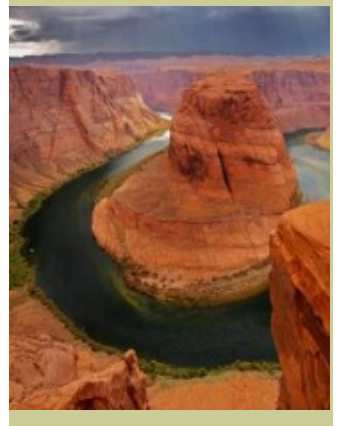
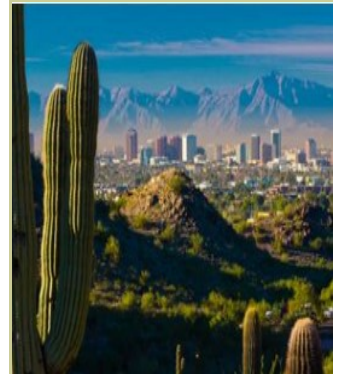


During the Mexican Revolution from 1910 to 1920, several battles were fought in the Mexican towns just across the border from Arizona settlements. Throughout the revolution, many Arizonans enlisted in one of the several armies fighting in Mexico. Only two significant engagements took place on U.S. soil between U.S. and Mexican forces: Poncho Villa's 1916 Columbus Raid in New Mexico, and the Battle of Ambos Nogales in 1918 in Arizona. The Mexicans won the first battle and the Americans won the latter. After Mexican federal troops fired on U.S. soldiers, the American garrison launched an assault into Nogales, Mexico. The Mexicans eventually surrendered after both sides sustained heavy casualties. A few months earlier, just west of

Nogales, an Indian War battle had occurred, considered the last engagement in the American Indian Wars, which lasted from 1775 to 1918. U.S. soldiers stationed on the border confronted Yaqui Indians who were using Arizona as a base to raid the nearby Mexican settlements, as part of their wars against Mexico. Arizona became a U.S. state on February 14, 1912. Arizona was the 48th state admitted to the U.S. and the last of the contiguous states to be admitted.

Cotton farming and copper mining, two of Arizona's most important statewide industries, suffered heavily during the Great Depression. But during the 1920s and even the 1930s, tourism began to develop as the important Arizonan industry it is today. Dude ranches, such as the K L Bar and Remuda in Wickenburg, along with the Flying V and Tanque Verde in Tucson, gave tourists the chance to take part in the flavor and activities of the "Old West". Several upscale hotels and resorts opened during this period, some of which are still top tourist draws. They include the Arizona Biltmore Hotel in central Phoenix (opened 1929) and the Wigwam Resort on the west side of the Phoenix area (opened 1936). Arizona was the site of German prisoner of war camps during World War II and the Japanese American internment camps. Because of wartime fears of a Japanese invasion of the U.S. West Coast (which in fact materialized in the Aleutian Islands Campaign in June 1942). From 1942 to 1945, they were forced to reside in internment camps built in the interior of the country. Many lost their homes and businesses. The camps were abolished after World War II.

In case you are wondering about the "**ANGLE**" in the left hand side of the state, it means that the United States "**GAVE**" Mexico that portion of the state to the Mexican Government as a gesture from the people of this country.



Chapter 106 — "NAM-JAM"

NAM TO SAND JAM

NEVER ABANDON ME JUST ACCEPT ME



OCTOBER 8, 2022 · RILLITO DOWNS PARK
FREE CONCERT 10 AM - 6 PM

- Military Displays • Veteran Resources • Camaraderie
- 9 AM Pancake Breakfast • Cold Drinks • Food • Music

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Accepting new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots



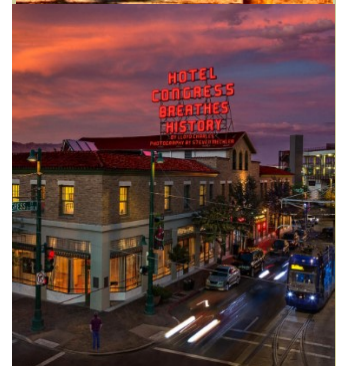
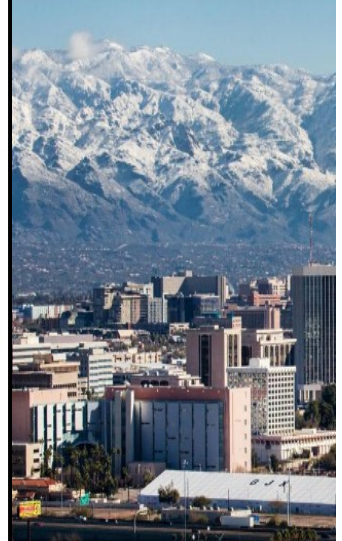
DESERT DIAMOND CASINOS

Every Detail Remembered | Dignity

Like us on Facebook • www.NamJamTucson.org • www.VVA106.org



Seriously consider coming to Tucson Arizona in October for the VVA-AZ Tucson Chapter 106 "NAM JAM" It is quite the event and we need to seriously support this event. Every year we are ALL getting older and it would be great for each of to see it one more time. Butch Morgan and his crew did a lot to make this a reality for the entire city of Tucson, not to mention the veterans that are involved in setting it all up. And believe me, it takes months to do it, so let's ALL support Chapter 106 with attendance, finances (if we can), see what we can possibly purchase for our selves or our family or that grandchild that will hopefully join the military and this might be a nice gift from YOU to THEM.



NAM JAM — “In The Sand” in Tucson

NAM TO SAND JAM

NEVER ABANDON ME JUST ACCEPT ME



OCTOBER 8, 2022 · RILLITO DOWNS PARK
FREE CONCERT 10 AM - 6 PM

1st Prize
\$500
GIFT CARD



2nd Prize
\$300
GIFT CARD

3rd Prize
\$100 CASH

1st 2nd & 3rd Grand Prizes

Other prizes: Various Gift Cards and more!

Tickets \$1 each
or 25 Tickets for \$20.00

Drawing at **NAM to SAND JAM®** • October 8, 2022 • 5:00 PM • Rillito Downs Park • Need Not Be Present To Win



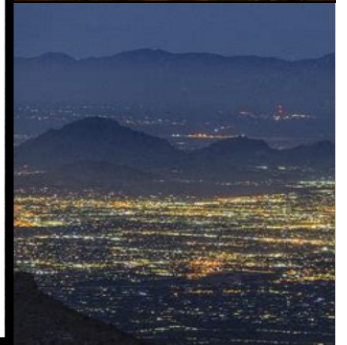
HELP SUPPORT OUR BENEFIT. ALL PROCEEDS ASSIST MANY
VETERAN PROGRAMS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

www.vva106.org • www.namjamtucson.org • vva106@live.com

Butch Morgan, Chapter President



TUCSON
Arizona



“NAM JAM” In Tucson



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106

2022 Car Show

@ Chuy's 22nd & Kolb

SATURDAY September 17 10AM – 2PM

Trophies at 1:30 pm

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS & raise money for

NAM TO SAND



NAMJAM® CELEBRATING 34 YEARS • October 8 at Rillito Downs Park

Food & Drink Specials @ Chuy's

Directions: 22ND STREET AND KOLB in the big parking lot behind Chuy's.

Pre-registration online or mail.

SPECIAL AWARDS INCLUDE:

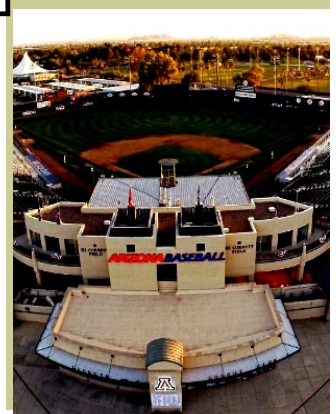
CHUY'S MANAGER'S CHOICE AWARD & CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S BEST IN SHOW

Trophies, 50/50, Door Prizes, Music by DJ John and Fun!

Registration Fee: \$30.00 advanced (by September 12); \$35.00 at the show. Registration 0800–1000 hrs
Accepting New Unwrapped Toys and Non-perishable Food Donations

Contact Terry Byron 520-982-0023, VVA106@live.com

Registration forms at www.VVA106.org or See our ad on CruiseAZ.com



If you have not been to a Chapter 106 Tucson Car Show, you should make the effort to do just that. The VVA-AZ Chapter 106 Chapter is one of our most active chapters and puts on a lot of events with very active members within its chapter. Yes, they are older just like the rest of us in our 70's and 80's, but they are ACTIVE, just like the rest of us should be and do something for your local chapter. Therefore, let's make the most of it and give something to the chapter in the way of finances and maybe help them out by spending a weekend down in Tucson. After all, when WAS the last time you were in Tucson to see the "Cowboy Town"?

The NEWEST and the OLDEST



The United States **Space Force** is the newest service branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, one of the eight U.S. uniformed services, and currently the world's only independent space force. Along with its sister-branch, the U.S. Air Force, the Space Force is part of the Department of the Air Force, one of the three civilian-led military departments within the Department of Defense. The Space Force, through the Dept of the Air Force, is overseen by the secretary of the Air Force, a civilian political appointee who reports to the secretary of defense, and is appointed by the president with Senate confirmation. The military head of the Space Force is the chief of space operations who is typically the most senior Space Force officer. The chief of space operations exercises supervision over the Space Force's units and serves as one of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



The United States **Merchant Marine** is the fleet of merchant vessels that are registered in a specific country. On merchant vessels, seafarers of various ranks and sometimes members of maritime trade unions are required by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers (STCW) to carry Merchant Mariner's Documents. They were created in 1775 and have been in every US conflict and have been the mainstay of that conflict carrying supplies, troops, equipment, planes, armor vehicles, parts, etc. The Merchant Marines are the “forgotten service”, but the USA would not won many battles with the use of the Merchant Marines.



Veterans Crisis Line

If you're a Veteran having thoughts of suicide or concerned about one, reach 24/7 crisis support through the new Veterans Crisis Line (VCL) number: Dial 988, then Press 1.

This shorter, three-digit number provides an easier-to-remember way to access the VCL. We're working to make sure all Veterans and their supporters know about the new number. Below are answers to some questions you might have about this change.

Why did the VCL get a new number?

The change is a result of the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act. The law authorized 988 as the new three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline). Under the law, all telephone service providers in the U.S. had to activate the number by July 16, 2022. Because VA administers the VCL through the Lifeline's national network, the service was affected by this transition.

What does the new number mean for me?

Since 2007, the VCL has supported millions of Veterans in crisis. This new, shorter number increases ease of access and clarity in times of crisis for both Veterans and supporters.

Like the current number, to reach the VCL, Veterans will press 1 after dialing to connect with VCL responders. Though the number is new, the Veterans Crisis Line dedicated service is still the same. And, you don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect.

Is the old VCL phone number going away?

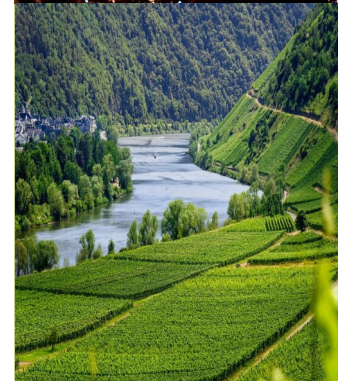
No. Veterans will still be able to call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to connect with responders. The VCL will also still be available by chat (VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat) and text (838255).

What happens if I'm overseas?

The VCL's 800 number is a continental United States (CONUS)-based toll-free number that remains active. Some international calls may incur a charge, depending on the caller's location and network provider. Veterans overseas may contact the VCL through chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat. If you prefer a phone call, you can request this within the chat venue. A responder will call you at the number you provide at no charge. Be prepared and save the new number in your phone: Dial 988, then Press 1.

Remember, you're not alone. Day or night, the Veterans Crisis Line is here for you. Always keep your friends and family close to you knowing they will be there for you and you for them.

Make the most of your time left on Earth because it may be over with sooner than we all think, so take that special vacation with them and spoil them for the last time and make it worth while. That special trip to Paris, France or Edinburgh, Scotland or Barcelona, Spain or Munich, Germany or Salzburg, Austria or somewhere else that YOU and HER desire could mean a lot to both of you in our last days. We only have only life to live, so live it



The Global War On Terror Medal Is Gone

The end of a 21-year era, the Department of Defense has told all of the military services to sharply restrict the award of the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal beginning Sept. 11th 2022.

DoD's undersecretary for personnel and readiness, Gilbert Cisneros, also limits award of the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal to just troops who serve on the ground in Syria or operate within 12 nautical miles of its coast or airspace. The policy went into effect July 1st 2022.

The GWOT service medal has been a virtually automatic award for troops since its introduction in 2003.

The Army, for example, determined in March 2004 that all active duty troops who served after Sept. 11, 2001, merited the award because they'd all "served in some way in support of GWOT," according to the Human Resources Command website.

And while blanket eligibility was later amended to require that members serve thirty (30) consecutive or sixty (60) non-consecutive days "in support of" a GWOT operation, units have loosely interpreted the "support" criteria and awarded the medal regardless of actual connection to the ongoing conflict. Units have argued that even thirty (30) days in garrison counted as part of the broader GWOT-focused deployment readiness cycle.

But after Sept. 11, 2001, "the service member must have directly served in a designated military [counter-terrorism] operation" for at least thirty (30) days.

It clarifies that direct service doesn't include the previous "support" loophole as well. The memo describes direct service as someone who "deployed on orders for a designated CT operation [or] directly supported a [designated] CT operation on a full-time basis while assigned to an organization conducting a CT operation."

According to a DoD list last updated in:

Operation Noble Eagle, a North American airspace patrol mission.

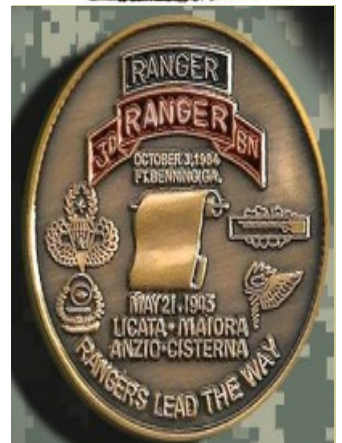
Operation Enduring Freedom, which continues in East Africa.

Operation Enduring Sentinel, the over-the-horizon CT mission focused on potential threats in post-withdrawal Afghanistan.

Operation Inherent Resolve, the long-running fight against ISIS in Syria and Iraq.

Operation Pacific Eagle — Philippines, a dormant CT operation that has not had a new inspector general oversight report since November 2020.

Despite the changes to the GWOT and Inherent Resolve campaign medals, the memo doesn't address whether there will be any changes to National Defense Service Medal eligibility.



Giving Is The Way To Go

Everyone in the United States has seen homeless people on the streets asking for money and food. Sometimes we have to be careful as to what we do,, however it is imperative that we at least help them out with a meal now and then. After all, we all have to eat.

Specifically speaking, there was this homeless man out in the heat of Yuma, Arizona ask for the slightest of anything and someone went into the local Apples-Bee's restaurant and asked them to provide a small meal of their choice and that person would pay for half of it along with the restaurant itself.



The kitchen manager Jarrett took it upon himself to prepare a delicious hamburger with lettuce and tomato's along with a nice amount of French fries and three glasses of cold iced water to drink. Keep in mind, it was 105° outside with about 50% of humidity.

We all need to be there for the poor and homeless as we too **“could be in that same situation one day without even knowing it”**.

Within eight or so minutes Jarrett brought the meal to the person asking for it and he took it outside to him in a blistering heat that no one would ever want to be in. The homeless man was still sitting there and was so thankful to have it. He was needless to say starving and dying of thirst and was extremely thankful that **SOMEONE** took it upon themselves to help him out.

The Bible says in: **John 12:8** For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

What it is really saying is **For the poor ye have always with you**. You will always have opportunity of doing to them, as to representatives of me, what is in your heart of compassion. **But me**, as an object of personal, tangible regard and visible attention, deserving thus and ever the affluence and exuberance of your love, **ye have not always**; and, though I shall be with you always in my Divine power and Spirit, even unto the end of the world, and though I shall always be with you in the person of the poor and needy, yet in the sense in which this expression of love can be made.



We are ALL the same from the neck down, but all different from the neck up and we ALL need to be there for people who have NOTHING. We should ALWAYS remember that we are ALL one-step away from being homeless. NONE of us can take ANYTHING with us when we pass on and therefore, we need to use in accordance with God's will not ours. If someone needs a meal, we should be there for them, If they need something else, help them out with the money that God gave you in the first place. The man did enjoy his meal and was thankful. Thanks Jarrett.



MPC—Military Payment Certificate



MPC or Military Payment Certificates have been around for a very long. Actually, right before World War II, they became part of the soldiers lives to spend money and keep the US dollars within the United States. Military payment certificates, or MPC, were a form of currency used to pay U.S. military personnel in certain foreign countries. They were used in one area or another from a few months after the end of World War II until a few months after the end of U.S. participation in the Vietnam War from 1946 until 1973. MPC utilized layers of line lithography to create colorful banknotes that could be produced cheaply. Fifteen series of MPCs were created. However, only 13 series were issued. The remaining two were largely destroyed, although some examples remain. Among the 13 released series a total of 94 notes are recognized.

To reduce profiteering from currency arbitrage, the U.S. military devised the MPC program. MPC were paper money initially denominated in amounts of 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1, \$5, and \$10; a \$20 note was added in 1968. Unlike US currency, these certificates were issued under the authority of the Department of War (later Department of Defense) rather than the Department of the Treasury. Consequently, they do not bear the US Treasury seal found on virtually every example of US civilian currency. MPCs were fully convertible to U.S. dollars upon leaving a designated MPC zone.



Who is this lady a picture of?



And this lady?

Who do you think she might be?

Think hard!

It's a logical answer!

Rare Photos Of The World From WAY Back



Construction of Eiffel Tower (1889)



Flatiron Building, New York. The Manhattan landmark under construction. 1902



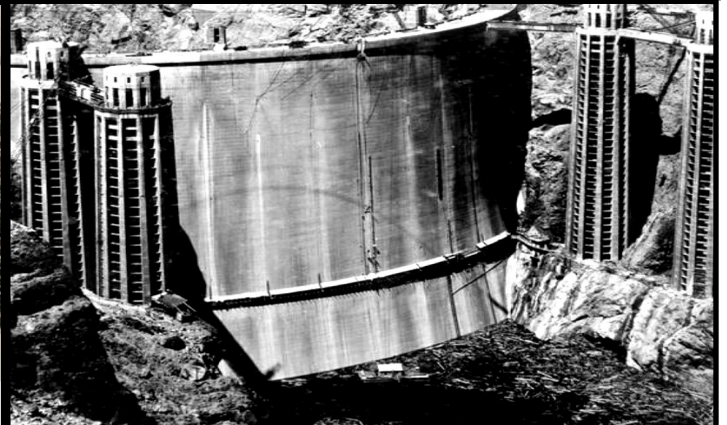
Chicago Rush Hour, 1909



Grand Canyon, 1914



View from the top on the opening day of the Empire State Building, 1931



The rarely seen back of the Hoover Dam before it filled with water 1936



Golden Gate bridge construction, 1937



Oranges for 1 cent, 1942

WWII History at Normandy—The 9,000

A large percentage of our country doesn't know of about the Normandy Beach invasion, so, here is some history for you all to read.

This year, British artist Jamie, accompanied by numerous volunteers, took to the beaches of Normandy with rakes and stencils in hand to etch 9,000 silhouettes representing fallen people into the sand.

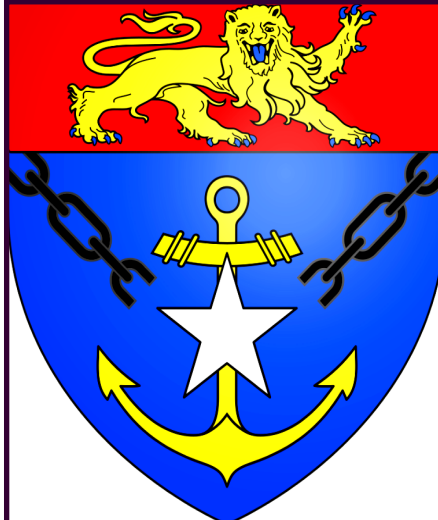
Titled **The Fallen 9000**, the piece is meant as a stark visual reminder of those who died during the D-Day beach landings at **Arromanches** on June 6th, 1944 during WWII.

The original team consisted of 60 volunteers but as word spread nearly 500 additional local residents arrived to help with the temporary installation that lasted only a few hours before being washed away by the tide.

9,000 Fallen Soldiers Etched into the Sand on Normandy Beach to the new holiday called Commemorate **Peace Day**.

What is surprising is that nothing about this was seen here in the USA, or much of the world, so let's make it public. Someone from overseas had a friend that sent it with a note of gratitude for what the USA started there.

Let's always remember!!



The Beauty of Arizona



Living in Arizona will bring you different pictures to your mind as you look at the colors of the sunrises and sunsets within the state.



As you look at these pictures, you see a lot of color and the reds and yellows and blues of the sky.

Question: Why do you see the "red" in the sky within the sunset? Think on the answer!!



God has made us a wonderful and very beautiful world and unfortunately mankind has destroyed a lot of it as a result of pride.

While most of us are in our late 70's, let's make the most of our world that is left over and take our children and grandchildren and those sweet great-grandchildren on a trip in this world that we know about and show them what it is all about.



What Is And Was Germany?

Germany was for a long time a politically not united nation, it was mostly split in many greater and smaller states, which emerged from the old Germanic tribes of the Saxons, Bavarians, Franks, Swabians, Thuringians and Frisians. During the middle ages the "Holy Roman Empire" was founded in 962 AD, the German emperors felt as the heirs of the old Roman Empire. When the Italian states were lost it was named "holy roman empire of German nation".

This empire lasted until 1806, when Napoleon's success forced the last Kaiser Franz II of Austria, a member of the Habsburg family that ruled the German states for nearly 500 years, to abolish the 1st Reich. After Napoleon was defeated in 1815, the German Federation has been created, and patriotic movements forced the kings and princes to think about an united German fatherland. This nation shall stretch all over the German language and culture area from South Tyrol to Schleswig and from Alsace to East Prussia.

It took until 1871, when Otto von Bismarck helped Prussia uniting most of the German states after three short wars against Denmark, Austria and France. The German Empire was born and Wilhelm I king of Prussia, became the new Kaiser of Germany and thus, the 2nd Reich. The German Empire is famous for brilliant scientists, inventions, advanced culture and a strong military. But the German Empire ended after the awful first world war, a war caused by the nationalism and arrogance of every European empire or nation. The treaty of Versailles threw the young German republic after 1918 into such a deadly crisis, that radical political powers could rise, like the Communists and the Nazis.

In 1933, Hitler founded the 3rd Reich. The people trusted him, because he wanted to reverse the Versailles dictate, get back the lost territories, unite Austria with Germany and give the people food and jobs. He showed his real face in 1939 and killed millions of people in the worst war Europe has ever seen. After the war in 1945, Germany was bombed down, split in two and ruined from 1945 to 1991 during the Cold War years.

But it was not the end of Germany. The Germans didn't give up and with financial help in the west from the USA it could rise again as a new republic, that united with the communist part in 1990, and now dominates the EU economically.

That's a very short overview, of the German history. So what and who can we call German and Germans? The German patriots who never had a political united nation before said: Germany is, where the German language and culture exists. This contains today all regions and people from South Tyrol in the Alps to the North Sea and all people from the Rhine to the Oder river. It's often controversial with Austria, but Austrians are not an own ethnicity. They have the Austrian nationality, but they are ethnical Germans living in their own state. The same works for Swiss-Germans, Luxembourger, Liechtensteiners, Germans in Belgium and the people in Alsace Lorraine. The Dutch left the Empire in 1648 and followed their own historical path and not the high German language standardization, so they can't be considered to be part of the German ethnicity at the moment.



Germany—The 4th Reich May Be Coming



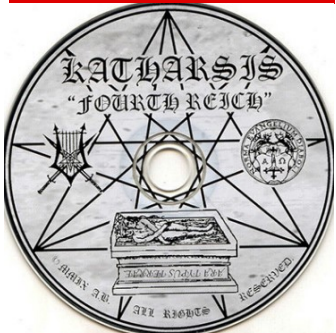
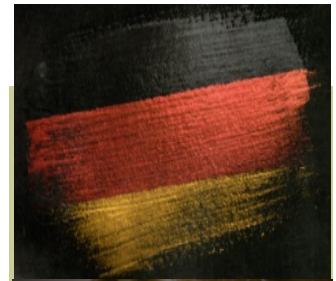
Germany has made astounding strides since the end of World War II. In 1945, the entire nation broken into East and West—lay prostrate in defeat, its dreams of world conquest foiled, its economy ravaged and its cities reduced to rubble.

Six decades later, the German economy has rebounded. Again joined into one powerful nation, it is among the world's largest and strongest. Its wages and standard of living are among the world's highest. Its former militarism appears to have been replaced by peaceful democracy—which 60 years ago would have been unthinkable. However, suspicions and even fears of Germany still linger in many countries as to "what" Germany is doing and "how" they are doing it.

There was and is an abundance of Pro-Nazi thinking right after World War II and now that Germany has gone through the Cold War from 1945 to 1991 and finally Germany was restored from East and West Germany to Germany or Deutschland (by the Germans). The capital was moved from Bonn back to Berlin where it started.

The term "Reich" is a German word that means "nation" or "realm." They can refer to three major German empires that have existed. The Third Reich was a time period in Germany when the Nazi regime dominated the country under Hitler's rule. It began in 1933 and ended in 1945.

But are fears of Germany justified as the 21st century unfolds? Will a "Fourth Reich" rise? Will we see a "Europeanized" Germany blend into the fabric of a united continent, or will Germany try again to dominate Europe and exert its influence on the world? While many assume it is impossible to predict the future in the complex field of international relations, that simply is not true! The Bible outlines the future course of world history by predicting the actions of specific nations. One key to understanding Bible prophecy is to be able to identify the nations involved. Historical records provide important clues as to national origins, and national characteristics that remain consistent over the centuries also provide important clues. As we will see, Germany can be identified in the prophecies of the Bible, and its future course of action can be known. That identity is surprising and the future is sobering—in the short run—but exciting in the ultimate outcome of God's plan for humanity.



Germany—The 4th Reich May Be Coming (Cont'd)

Just what is the significance of the striking parallels between ancient Assyria and Germany? Numerous Bible prophecies clearly indicate that at the end of this age, just before the return of Jesus Christ, Assyria will once again play a pivotal role in world affairs (see Isaiah 10;11). Yet, when the Medes, Babylonians and Scythians conquered Assyria in 612 BC, its ruling class scattered to the north, east and west, leaving behind the conquered peoples the Assyrians had imported to work as laborers. Some of those polyglot peoples are found today in Iraq, Syria and the Caucasus. The Assyrian nation ceased to exist, but history and prophecy confirm that its cultural heritage can be traced to the modern nation of Germany. When the Bible speaks of Assyria in the end times, it is speaking of Germany. No other modern nation fits the description so completely.



Germany's return to power in the years since World War II is no accident. God prophesied more than 2,500 years ago that He would bring certain events to pass to accomplish His purpose ([Isaiah 46:9-10](#); [Revelation 17:17](#)). Germany is again the leading player in the effort to unite the nations of Europe. Events now underway in Europe will lead to the long-prophesied ten-nation beast power that will again rise out of the ashes of the Roman Empire ([Revelation 17:9-14](#)). It says:

Revelation 17:9 And here [is] the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, [and] the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

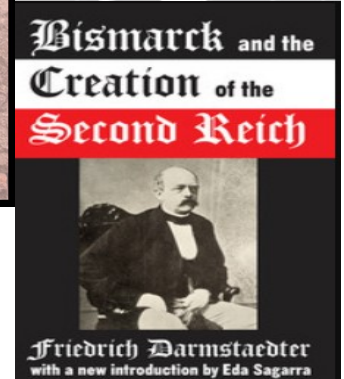
14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful.

The Bible shows that Germany will again use religion to help forge a unified European power ([Revelation 13](#); [17:1-7](#)), much as was done under Charlemagne. This emerging configuration will become a global economic power ([Revelation 18:2-3, 9-14](#)) and will use that power for political purposes. It will appear peaceful at first, but will be transformed into a devouring, war-making beast ([Daniel 11:21](#); [Revelation 13:2-3](#); [Revelation 17:12-14](#)). Daniel describes this end-time kingdom as a strong and ferocious beast with "iron teeth," which Christ will conquer and punish at His return ([Daniel 2:40-45](#); [7:7, 19-23](#)).

Yet, amazing as it may seem, Bible prophecy also indicates that God will eventually use Assyria, the remarkable German people as a leading nation for peace in the coming Kingdom of God ([Isaiah 19:23-25](#)). God will use the outstanding intellectual and cultural strengths of the German people to help enrich the world during the coming millennial rule of Jesus Christ. As do all peoples of the earth, the Germans have in their national character both strengths and weaknesses. Just as God will use the modern descendants of Assyria to fulfill end-time prophecy in the world to come.

Germany—1st and 2nd Reich

The **First Reich** was the Holy Roman Empire (the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, Heiliges Römisches Reich Deutscher Nation, not the ancient Roman Empire), 800-1806 when Charlemagne (Charles the Great) was crowned emperor by Pope Leo III in Rome on Christmas Day 800, this is normally seen as the founding of the Empire, but sometimes the year of 962 is used, that was when Otto I (Otto the Great) was crowned. The Empire existed almost in name only following the Peace of Westphalia at the end of the Thirty Years' War in 1648, but was not formally dissolved until August 6th 1806 when Emperor Francis II (Franz II) abdicated. The position of Emperor continued to be held by the Germans until Napoleon and the French gained control over the empire and abolished it in 1806. The territory was split up and was given to countries that Napoleon thought weren't a threat to France. Germany did not have another functional government until 1871 when the Second Reich was formed.



The **Second Reich** was the Hohenzollern Germany, from the unification of Germany following the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871) and crowning of Wilhelm I as German Emperor at the Palace of Versailles, with Otto von Bismarck as the First Reichskanzler, to the abdication of Wilhelm II in 1919 following the German defeat in the First World War. It is often referred to as the German Empire was formed in 1871 when Germany separated themselves from the unification of Germany. Germany named Wilhelm I (William Frederick Louis) Emperor on January 18, 1871, marking the beginning of the Second Reich. Wilhelm being his German name. Throughout the 1880's and 1890's Germany quickly industrialized and the economy rapidly grew and their army becoming the worlds strongest. When World War I broke out Germany's armies were strong but considering that their only allies were the weak Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian Empires, the Germans had only the slightest change of winning against the Allied Powers. After the World War I, the German Empire ended in 1918 and was replaced with the Weimar Republic.



Germany—3rd and 4th Reich



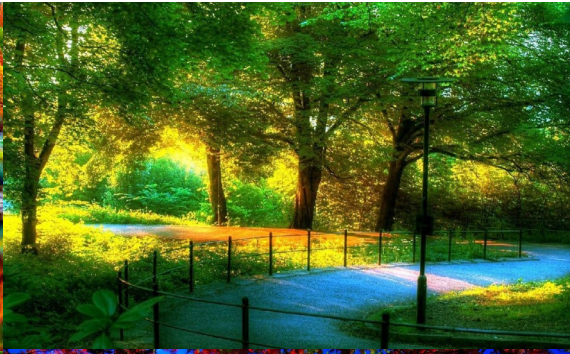
In the early 1930s, the **Third Reich** formed as the wide-spread economic depression hit Germany especially hard. Germany's government, known as the Weimar Republic, became weak and many people were out of work. The poor conditions of the country opened up an opportunity for a new leader, Adolf Hitler, and his party, the National Socialist German Workers' Party, or Nazi party for short, to rise to power. Hitler's eloquent speaking skills, ability to spread propaganda, and commanding personality led to his political success. Hitler's ability to attract followers was caused by the bitterness Germans felt for their defeat in WWI, resentment of the treaty of Versailles, weakness of Weimar Republic, economic Depression,

extreme nationalism in Germany. Hyperinflation in Germany: After their defeat, in 1918. the German mark became worthless. In 1914, \$1 was equal to 4 marks; by 1923 \$1 was equal to 17,792 marks; by 1933, \$1 was equal to 4.2 billion marks. Hitler's used the country's economic problems to his advantage. Economic uncertainty and fear of communism was a good opportunity for him to spread fascism. At the end of World War I, the Weimar Republic weakened Germany's ruler, the Kaiser, fled to Holland as the government was blamed for their defeat in World War I.

The term **Fourth Reich** has been used in a variety of different ways. Neo-Nazis have used it to describe their envisioned revival of an ethnically pure state, mostly in reference to, but not limited to, Nazi Germany. Others have used the term derogatorily, such as conspiracy theorists to perceive as a covert continuation of Nazi ideals. Neo-Nazis envision the Fourth Reich as featuring Aryan supremacy, anti-Semitism, aggressive militarism and totalitarianism. Upon the establishment of the Fourth Reich, German neo-Nazis propose that Germany should acquire nuclear weapons and use the threat of their use as a form of nuclear blackmail to re-expand to Germany's former boundaries as of 1937. Today, the idea of the Fourth Reich is synonymous with resurgent Nazism, but it is more ominous than 'neo-Nazi', as it designates something actual rather than merely aspirational. The Fourth Reich suggests that right-wing extremists are on the brink of power, or have already attained it. Ironically, the term actually had a very different meaning. The Fourth Reich was first used as a rallying cry in the late-1930's by German opponents of the Nazi regime. The groups who employed the term spanned a broad political spectrum: from left-wing German exiles in Paris. So, how much of this is true? Maybe all of it, maybe some it, but Germany may play a major role in the end times when it comes.



The Color Of The World



When you think about our world, it really is a beautiful place and unfortunately mankind has destroyed a lot of it as a result of PRIDE.

Everyone of us reading this newsletter has family to include children, grandchildren and likely great-grandchildren and we need to do ALL we can to preserve this world for them.

They are so innocent when they were first born and somewhere along the line they know that is going on but, we need to help them keep that innocence and be grateful for what God has done for us in the world that He created for us.

Maybe consider your taking them on a trip in the beautiful parts of the world and literally show them just how beautiful it really is.

Self Compassion and Compassion

We can all have [COMPASSION](#) and [SELF COMPASSION](#), but we to know when and where and how we act within ourselves

To be real honest, all of us can be real jerks when we do one thing and that is when we **OPEN OUR MOUTH**. Our **tongue** is the most dangerous part of our person and we always should watch what we say no matter what. The older we get, it is impossible to take back what comes out, but, we can avoid doing it again and again. All we have to do is be careful before we answer and always know and comprehend that the #1 of mankind is "PRIDE" and therefore "*we think we can say what we want to whomever we want*". That is not a true statement at all, because we are all the same when it comes to being a human being and we should ALWAYS watch what comes out.

SELF-COMPASSION

Comfort your body. Eat something healthy. Lie down and rest your body. Massage your own neck, feet, or hands. Take a walk. Anything you can do to improve how you feel physically gives you a dose of self-compassion.

Write a letter to yourself. Describe a situation that caused you to feel pain (a breakup with a lover, a job loss, a poorly received presentation). Write a letter to yourself describing the situation without blaming anyone. Acknowledge your feelings.

Give yourself encouragement. If something bad or painful happens to you, think of what you would say to a good friend if the same thing happened to him or her. Direct these compassionate responses toward yourself.

Practice mindfulness. This is the nonjudgmental observation of your own thoughts, feelings, and actions, without trying to suppress or deny them. When you look in the mirror and don't like what you see, accept the bad with the good with a compassionate attitude.

COMPASSION

Think twice before you open your mouth and realize there are always two perspectives about any topic, yours and theirs. They may be right and your could be wrong or incorrect on a given topic.

Listen to it all before you say anything as there many ways to address something with 50% coming you and 50% coming from someone else.

Be positive in your response as whatever comes from them, it might just be a better method or response to whatever is going on.

Forgiving and nurturing yourself can set the stage for better health, relationships, and general sweet well-being.

Self-compassion yields a number of benefits, including lower levels of anxiety and depression. Self-compassionate people recognize when they are suffering and are kind to themselves at these times, which reduces their anxiety and related depression.

It can truly make YOU think about what you say, how you think, when you react, keeping a friend as a friend, loving onto everyone you run across.

We are all the same, yet different and lets express our love and kindness to all that we can.

We all only have ONE life to live on Earth and then we have an ETERNAL live to live as well, but where will that be? Think on it.

A German Dessert

Heidelbeer Streusel Kuchen aus Roggenmehl is a wonderful German dessert which anyone would enjoy. Tens of thousands of us were stationed in Germany either before or after Vietnam and to and enjoy the German foods of your city in Deutschland would be a real treat for you.

Basic Ingredients

- 1 cup German rye flour
- 1/4 cup rolled oats
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp fine grain salt
- 4 tbsps unsalted butter room temperature
- 1/3 cup maple syrup
- 1 egg large
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1.3 cups blueberries fresh or frozen

Streusel Topping

- 1/2 cup German rye flour
- 1/8 tsp fine grain salt
- 4 tbsps unsalted butter cold, cut 1/4 in. cubes
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cups chopped pecans

How To Do It

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F, middle rack
2. Butter a 9 in. rectangular loaf pan, line with parchment paper
3. Mix together flour, oats, baking powder, baking soda, salt in medium bowl
4. Beat butter with electric mixer in large bowl until light and fluffy. Drizzle in maple syrup and mix until completely incorporated. Scrape sides
5. Beat in egg, buttermilk and vanilla extract. Scrape sides.
6. Take half of the flour mix, stir for 2 sec, add a splash of batter mix, mix slowly for 5 sec, add the rest of the flour mix, mix for 5 sec and then add the rest of the batter mix and mix for 5 sec until both just come together (don't mix too long).
7. Fold in 1 cup of blueberries and pour batter evenly into loaf pan, using spatula to scrape the walls of the bowl,

Streusel Topping Instructions

1. Place the flour, butter and brown sugar and pecans in a food processor. Pulse 20-30 times or until the topping is just beyond sandy and crumbly (but before becoming doughy).
2. Crumble 2/3 of the streusel mix over the cake batter, sprinkle 1/3 cup of blueberries on top and then add the last crumble. Pat streusel cover into place with fingers.
3. Bake for 40-50 min. or until top is golden brown. Insert a toothpick into the center to see if it comes out clean. Let cake cool for 5 minutes, remove from pan and let cool further on a rack

GERMANY QUESTIONS:

- How many states in Germany?
- What is the money called?
- The most favorite meal?
- The name of the Walt Disney castle?



Using Your Gifts And Talents



The material we use, our whole life, and the lovely nature, all are God gifted! It should be one of our top priorities that we should keep our living environments clean and should not let the natural resource go wasted! The most vital step we can in this respect is recycling! Recycle everything that comes in touch and has some potential to be reused!

So why not recycle the pallets which are surrounding you and have amazing recycling potential and excellent workable shapes! If you have a source of free pallets that are ready to do pallet projects, then check out these few DIY pallet furniture ideas that are all about the refinement and betterment of your home and outdoor spaces where you most like to spend your spare time like garden and patio! The ideas are all about how you can decorate your home with pallets, how you can reclaim the pallets for furniture pieces, and also how you can just target them for home, or outdoor and workspace improvements. Most of us at our age have done a lot of woodwork and it might be nice that YOU woodworkers create some furniture and give to a family that does not have much furniture available for them to live with.

Using our gifts and talents for those that have little or nothing is something we should do for them as it does not take much to bless people or a family that has little to nothing.

When we see someone without anything, we should **ALWAYS** remember that could be **US**. No one always has everything and **NONE** of us can take it with us when we pass on.

If you have a special gift or talent that you can use to help someone, put it to use **BEFORE** you cannot any longer as time goes by very [faaaaaaassssstttttttttt](#).

The next time you see a homeless man or woman, buy them a meal, a good one and get them a gift card for them to enjoy for their next meal, they need it.



Military Awards and Decorations

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) does not issue service medals; that is a function of each military service department. Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served. However, for cases involving Air Force and Army personnel the NPRC will verify the awards to which a veteran is entitled and forward the request along with the records verification to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals. **For the Veteran:** in general, the military services will work replacement medal requests for the veteran at no cost. This includes family members with the signed authorization of the veteran. **For the Next-of-Kin:** the process and cost, for replacement medals requests differ among the service branches and is dependent upon who is requesting the medal, particularly if the request involves an archival record, see below for details.

ARMY	
Where to write for medals	National Personnel Records Center 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138 or REQUEST MEDALS ONLINE!
Where medals are mailed from	U.S. Army TACOM Clothing and Heraldry (PSID) P.O. Box 57997 Philadelphia, PA 19111-7997
Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal	U.S. Army Human Resources Command Soldier Program and Services Division - Awards and Decorations Branch ATTN: AHRC-PDP-A 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Dept 480 Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408



Display Your Medals For Family



At this point in time, it might be a good idea to display your medals as a legacy and reminder to your children and grandchildren as to what you obtained by being in the service. As a rule, most people, not having been in the service would not know what is what when it comes to medals, therefore, consider a display such as the one to the left and display the names and place some information on the back of the case so people in the family know the names and history of them. These are nice memories for EVERYONE to enjoy while we still have breath in our body.

A Christmas For Homeless Vietnam Veterans

Background

-With most Vietnam Veterans in their 70's-and-80's, life will become shorter and shorter as the next few years go by and at the rate of the losses, it would be extremely comforting to remember as many as we can within the next five (5) months. The purpose of this document is to give every homeless Vietnam Veteran the most joyous Christmas of the year 2022.

-Knowing there are a lot of homeless veterans of all types, there are approximately forty-thousand (40,000) Vietnam Veterans as of July 2022 all over the United States that live in a homeless state. Year after year these homeless veterans have nothing to count on day-after-day and they spend their life doing nothing, no work, no income, no family, no veteran activity and no holiday celebration to list the countless of other life-giving entities. Below are some of the reasons for that: Poverty, unaffordable housing, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, maladjustment to civilian life, unemployment after discharge, drug or alcohol abuse, military sexual trauma and partner violence.

-In short, veterans are homeless due to scores of general causes and reasons for homelessness. But, they are also homeless due to serving their country, so the next time we see a homeless man with a camouflage hat begging for change, think poverty expensive housing, unfortunate circumstances and serving the country of the United States of America and always, always think that that could be me.

Future Thinking

-From this date forward, Christmas will be here in around four (4) months and most of us will be with family and friends and we should all be thinking about what WE can do for the homeless Vietnam Veterans within this country. With putting some thought to this thinking, all of VVA the Chapters and State Councils within VVA National should seriously consider "What that we can do to make the veterans have a truly nice time during the holiday season"? There are two words to make anything work and they are MONEY and EF-FORT.

-As mentioned above, most of the Vietnam Veterans are in their 70's and 80's and one day we will pass on and will most likely leave, family, and a lot of close-at-hand friends behind. We came into this world with nothing and all of us will leave with nothing. This is the time to invest in someone you do not know and that is a poor, meager or deprived or even an unfortunate veteran that has nothing and will most likely not have any Christmas or any form of a life from that point forward at all.

-A lot of us do not enjoy Christmas because of various things that have happened in our lives over time with PTSD, and other mental and physical situations in our lives, but, it would be so nice if we "semi-normal" people would recognize that and truly HELP those in true need. Often times, it might be hard to see it, but if you look hard enough, you can and will see it, so make it a point to go to the various locations where you will find Vietnam Veterans and "MAKE THEIR CHRISTMAS GREAT". It will mean A LOT to you.



A Christmas For Homeless Vietnam Veterans (Cont'd)

What Would You Do?

-There are always a lot options as to what you could do to help a veteran on the street with nowhere to sleep or enjoy a nice day or get clean clothes, a nice meal, some minimal work for a minimal salary or anything.

1. Give them a meal
2. Buy them clothes
3. Get them a hotel
4. Give them money
5. Take them home to clean up
6. Hire them for a while
7. Get them an apartment
8. Have them move in with you
9. Buy them the minimal of things needed to live
10. Purchase useful Christmas gift(s) for them.

This is What You Can Do

-Each person within Vietnam Veterans of America–Arizona to donate to their chapters an amount of money to truly make a huge difference in the lives of these Vietnam Veterans, possibly for the rest of this year and perhaps maybe in year 2023.

-It is with a doubt that we **ALL** of waste money as we spend it on:

1. Over shopping.
2. Wasting money on this and that.
3. Starbucks (need I say more).
4. Saving more than we need.
5. Giving it to less needed means.
6. Buying things, “we are sorry we bought”.
7. Going out to eat and drinking more than we should.

-Please seriously consider that every VVA-AZ member to give to your Chapter or your State Council:

One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)

for making the lives of the homeless Vietnam veterans to have a nice holiday season that will consist of:

1. Multiple holiday style meals over the holiday season for them to enjoy.
2. A cleaned-up person with a haircut, shave, shower, etc. a few times.
3. A few “practical gifts” that they can use in the next few months practical to their living on the street in a homeless situation.
4. Try to find them a semi-permanent or permanent place to live.
5. Attempt to find them a job where they earn some money
6. Purchase food that they can use during this time during the holidays to enjoy.
7. Help them with the VA on medical help or a claim.
8. Purchase some gift cards for them to use to fast-food restaurants.
9. Help them in any way you can to get back a “normal” life.



A Christmas For Homeless Vietnam Veterans (Cont'd)

Not A Member Of A Chapter?

-If you are an **AT-LARGE member**, send your \$100.00 to the State Council in your state and they will equally **divide the funds between all of the chapters** within the state council itself, keeping **none** for itself. The State Treasurer will write a check and mail it to each Chapter Treasurer to provide extra funds for that particular chapter.

How To Obtain The Funds?

-There is not a lot of time left to let your chapter know what is going on and allow them to donate this special \$100.00 for Christmas.

- Put out an email now.
- Write about in your chapter newsletter.
- Call them and tell them as soon as possible.
- Visit them within your city.

-Set up a **SAVINGS ACCOUNT** just for this effort **NOT** to get the funds mixed up and use this account for this type of projects you can utilize.

Food, Help and Location

-There will a lot to do to get this "operation underway", but given some thought to it, it may not be that difficult to perform.

- You will need a **location** or building to put this effort on for serving meals.
- You will also need **personnel** to help making meals, serving them, et al.
- You will also need **food** to make these various and multiple meals.

Location

- Some VVA Chapters have their own buildings, therefore utilize your own.
- Borrow a church, dining room and kitchen to make and serve the meals.
- Ask an organization if you could borrow their location and at the same time, merge "food-location-personnel" between yours and theirs to make it a combined effort.

Personnel

- Utilize personnel from the chapter, church, spouses, friends, etc. to help do whatever.
- Ask for volunteers to lend a hand.

Food

- Go to Wal-Mart, SAMS Club and other local grocery stores and speak to the store manager to see if they would and could donate food to this effort.
- Ensure you come with up with a menu of what you are planning on doing when it comes to the menu.
- Each member to donate some food from their own pantry within their home.
- Utilize some of that \$100.00 to purchase food. Be sure you utilize coupons, specials to purchase and make smart choices in this shopping.
- Go to stores that sell damaged goods, but still usable to cook and serve the food to Vietnam Veterans.



A Christmas For Homeless Vietnam Veterans (Cont'd)

Chapter Master Plan

-In light of this being within several months, you Chapter Officers are to start how you are going to create a plan of creating the best Christmas for the Vietnam Veterans in your area.

Follow the directions mentioned above and fully write out the **WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, HOW and WHY** of your making this one of the best Christmas's for the Vietnam Veterans in your area.

-Recommend you create a committee of at least 3-4 members including at least one officer to develop all of the initial details of what you need to start with and keep creating and updating the plan so nothing is forgotten. Utilize personnel that have a possible influence in knowing the best places to shop, personnel to use and locations to hold the event.

-Chapter Presidents, keep this program at the **top of your list** and utilize your smartest personnel, those that have the most time, the ones with the most "**thinking and writing abilities**" to keep the ball rolling in making this event the best ever.

Media to Advertise

-You will not reach every Vietnam Veteran thru the measures mentioned above, thus you may need to reach them thru the following methods:

1. Radio
2. Television
3. Newspaper
4. Letters
5. Cards
6. Newsletters
7. Word-of-Mouth

The End Result

1. Ensure you document and archive the events as much as you can.
2. Ask a photographer to volunteer to take pictures for you.
3. Ask personnel to take video clips during as many events as possible.
4. Document them by day, event, etc. with a date and "what is going on".
5. Have a videographer film 1 or 2 events and create a movie for you.
6. Take individual pictures of the veterans and create a picture book for them.

Write An "After Action Report: for VVA-AZ State Council

-As this may be the #1 event for your chapter for the year 2022, please be sure you write a report for the next State Council meeting and report on the event which will hopefully be the event of the year.

1. Include the good of the event
2. Include what you should have done
3. Include what you should leave out next time
4. Include what changes might need to be changed.
5. Plan on doing it in year 2023.



Calmness and Coolness

Sometimes we need to just smell the roses, but in this case any type of flower might just be the one.

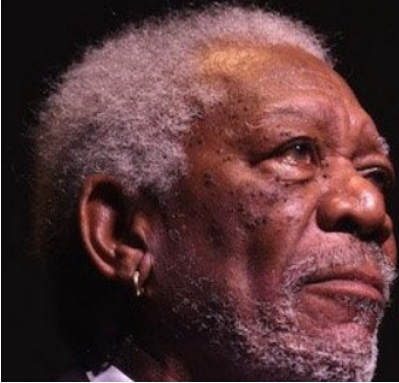
At our tender age of 70±, we often times try to “*See what we can get done*” before we pass on or “*Are not able to get much done because we are not able to anymore*”.

Regardless of that, we sometimes, just need to “*smell the beautiful flowers of this world and let the rest of it go*”. Enjoy life as it is REALLY short as of this moment, **NONE** of us knows the time when it will be gone. Live it to the fullest.



Is There A Monster In Your Home?

TELEVISION is the
MONSTER in your home.
And it's called a PROGRAM for a reason.
Your television is nothing more than
an electronic mind altering device.
It has been designed to psychologically
change the ways you view reality.



Television can be a monster in your home. And it's called a **program** for a reason. Many times your television is nothing more than an electronic mind-altering device. It has been designed to change the ways you view reality.

Did you know that when you (and me) watch enough television news from any of the stations on line (ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, etc.) the news is somewhat identical, but sometimes different too and it gets engrained into our mental system, our body, our brain as to what *"might be going on and what might not be going on"*.

America seems to be falling apart with so many thing happening in our country, with the killings, the robberies, the everything-rated programs.

And what is worse is our children are **genuinely living on the internet**, the television, the iPhone, Android, this box and that box and gosh know what they are seeing that we (as parents and grandparents) have no clue about.

Look carefully at the statistics about the health of them and maybe us too and seeing where it is going and it is not up-hill, but down-hill. Let's protect them and ourselves from too of this and that and have conversations with family, have them over for dinner, take them on a vacation, create remembrances for them and you as time flies by so fast. That is one thing I am sure you know of and we will not be here any longer unless we do **SOMETHING**.

Happy Thanksgiving - This 2022

Thanksgiving is one of the best times of the year when we get together with friends and family and maybe, I say maybe with that family or single men or women who have absolutely nothing. You know we all see the homeless in every city in every state and I have mentioned this before, but *I always think of myself being homeless*, when I see a homeless person asking for help. Keep in mind, that could be you.

Whenever you have family over for your special meal, dress it to the hilt and maybe make another meal for the homeless shelters in your city, as you know they too will need as much food as they can get.

When you are enjoying your meal, always think of the good times in your life and be thankful for all that you have when it comes to Mom and Dad, your sisters, your brothers, your cousins, your aunts and uncles and those closest friends that you consider family. Keep in mind as you enjoy your meal, take a look around the table about all of the good things that have occurred with you and that special person throughout the year 2022 and illustrate to them how thankful you are for their friendship and love that they have portrayed to you over the year.

It never hurts at all to highly compliment to the various cooks and preparers of the meal "***what a great meal it is***". Compliments cost nothing and everyone now and then can receive a sweet and very thankful compliment because they did bless you with a delicious meal for the best day of the year. And lastly, remember the Lord Jesus Christ in all that we, say, do and think. He has given us life and will provide us eternal life and we need to be thankful to Him for **EVERYTHING** we have in life.



2 CORINTHIANS 4:15
ALL THIS IS FOR YOUR BENEFIT,
SO THAT THE GRACE THAT IS REACHING MORE
AND MORE PEOPLE MAY CAUSE
THANKSGIVING TO OVERFLOW
TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

Merry Christmas—This 2022



Personally, I am one who thinks of Christmas giving and the gift portion of the day way early. As a remembrance person, I always am thinking of “how can I remember someone special with this or that?”

We all have a lot of good things to recall over our lifetime, but then some of them disappear over time, or they packed away into a “shoebox” or stuck in some other box or something else. And pretty with memory going out on us, There are pictures, certificates, 35mm slides, or something from yesteryear that might just be that special gift for those in your life.

I typically take old pictures and make a 12”x12” picture book of someone’s life from birth-to-current day and it is usually a hit with them as “**you the author, recreates their life in photos**”.

Be thinking of what you can do for the special people in your life and then maybe remember those that you have not been in touch with for a while and think of them as you are running Christmas in your mind.

Back to the homeless for a moment, might be a gift card or two to a fast food place, or even a hotel for a night or two would be a real blessing for them. We are to always for the poor and homeless and in our world there are plenty of them. Keep in mind there are a lot of Vietnam Veterans that are also homeless and they too need some help.

Earlier in this issue of the “AZ-LZ” is a master plan for you in a VVA Chapter in any USA state is to make a huge difference in the lives of the homeless Vietnam Veterans in giving them a superb Christmas with gifts, meals, place to stay and that is to donate \$100.00 to your chapter or state council and in general during the month of December provide “gifts-food-housing” for those men and women that don’t have anything in their life.

In closing, be a blessing to those that you know and those you don’t know. Give to those with something and those without anything. Be thankful for what you have and enjoy the Christmas holidays to the maximum and be a real blessing to everyone in your path as you and they will truly enjoy it.

Happy New Year—This 2023

Well, by the time you read this article, New Year 2023 will be a few months away. So, what are you doing for New Year Eve? Many of us just sit around and watch the various programs on television that are only on during that time such as the Macy's Day Parade on January 1st 2023.

How about for starters, you think about what the year 2023 will bring you and yours. What plans do you have this next year? I know very, very few of us think of that at this point of time, but you might, I say "*I might want to consider something*" as it will be here before you know and it might be too late.

How about a "*gathering of family and close friends to come over and everyone brings their favorite dish of snacks and you all play a game where everyone participates*" in it. Or secondly, how about "*you asking everyone to give a five minute talk about what 2022 meant to them and what they are thinking what about the years 2023 will be like*". Such as travel, job change, moving, etc, etc.

Everyone always have "mental plans" about the new year and things we'd "*like to do, prefer to do*", but that does not always mean too much as circumstances in our lives change.

Here is good one, thirdly, "*tell the family you'd like to have an UNBIRTHDAY celebration*" for the entire family where you all meet and have a birthday for everyone even though it is not their day to turn another year.

And maybe last, but not least, pray for a good new year. The last few years have been a nightmare for everyone in this world, with COVID, now monkeypox, the war in the Ukraine, inflation, too many jobs, and so many other things we can't name. Ask God to help America in doing what we should do for others and that is to be there for them, after all we are all the same.



Vietnam Veterans of
America
Arizona State Council
Phoenix, Arizona

VVA Chapter 95
P.O. Box 1343
Prescott, AZ 86302

VVA Chapter 106
P.O. Box 40903
Tucson, AZ 85713

VVA Chapter 432
P.O. Box 10363
Phoenix, AZ 85064

VVA Chapter 975
P.O. Box 184
Kingman, AZ 86402

VVA Chapter 1011
1042 N. Higley
P.O. Box 402
Mesa, AZ 85205

VVA Chapter 1093
2871 Palmer Dr
Sierra Vista, AZ
85650

VVA-Arizona State Council - Phoenix, Arizona—THE AZ-LZ—Sep-Dec 2022



This is a good place to end this multi-page newsletter and tell you that 2022 has been a relatively good year. Oh yes, it has been somewhat COVID-19, but then Monkeypox has crept in as well. And now there may be some other likely diseases about to float around, but there will be little that any of you can do about it. The year 2023 is coming sooner than you think, so start planning on what you and the family might do beforehand or during that time. This might be the time you, (Vietnam Veteran) can spoil your family and grandchildren for a nice trip some where overseas or somewhere in the United States and show them something they may never get the opportunity to see again. You can make that difference in their lives. Or maybe spoil your loved one with a trip to Paris France. Who would not like that? She WOULD.



A NICE Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year

You know, let's all **REMEMBER** what Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's was all about many decades ago. The one word I prefer to use is **FAMILY**. This whole world is all about one thing and that is PEOPLE and within people is FAMILY. Be a real blessing to your family and do something special for them this holiday season. For **THANKSGIVING**, buy an big meal for the neighbor's that live near you that don't have as much as you do. They deserve it as well. Then, for **CHRISTMAS** spend a little bit more on a Christmas gifts for your grandchildren. Why? First off, don't they deserve a nice extra gift once in a while? Get something you think they might really like. And be sure you write down those gifts, take a picture of them as they open it and always recall what this Christmas is really like. Possibly take them on a Christmas trip, somewhere you've always wanted to take them, but years ago could not have afforded to, but **NOW** you can. And then, there is the **NEW YEAR** coming up after December 31st 2022. A lot of the younger generation may not remember or even know what New Year's was like way back when., but maybe you can take a memorable trip somewhere of your choice to surprise them as you take in the new year 2023. Or have a large family event and have everyone write out their new year wishes and have a blessed time on that night.

