

# Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 324 - PO Box 18631 - Milwaukee, WI 53218

*In Service to America*



## Meeting Notice

18 September, 2019

**Elks Lodge 5555 W. Good Hope Rd.**

**Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.**

**Chapter Meeting 7 - 8 p.m.**

**Future Meetings: 2019**

16 October, 20 November, 18 December

Chapter web page: [www.vietnamvetschapter324.com](http://www.vietnamvetschapter324.com)

National web page: [www.vva.org](http://www.vva.org)

## Chapter Officers

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Membership: Joe Herbert Joe's a Luddite  
414-873-7341  
Newsletter: John Zutz john(at)zutz.org  
John is listed in the phone book - good luck finding one

**Join Us September 14**

# VA BEATS & EATS

**MILWAUKEE 2019**

- Run-Walk-Roll**
- Historical Tours**
- VA Enrollment & Health Information**
- Farmers Market**
- Car Show**
- Yoga**
- Veteran Art Show**
- Kids Activities**
- Food/Concessions**
- Music by Cold Sweat DJ Wigglez**

More information at:

[https://www.milwaukee.va.gov/VA\\_Beats\\_Eats.asp?fbclid=IwAR2iZG\\_j6t-dI\\_\\_mSZrZFhbpN3PNt\\_QHv0QZxH0gJBh64hZu\\_Grg6YsmHnU](https://www.milwaukee.va.gov/VA_Beats_Eats.asp?fbclid=IwAR2iZG_j6t-dI__mSZrZFhbpN3PNt_QHv0QZxH0gJBh64hZu_Grg6YsmHnU)

## VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

### Milwaukee Chapter 324

July 17, 2019

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 pm by President Pat Ciofani

A Moment of Silence was observed for our brothers and sisters no longer with us, for all POW/MIA's and their families and for all serving our country

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance – Dennis Szymanski, David Titter, John Morgan, Paul Balge, Joe Herbert, Milan Mursec, Dale Darrow, John Zutz, Pat Moore, Pat Ciofani, Janice Dahlke

Minutes of the June 19th meeting were reviewed and accepted

Treasurer's Report – Pat Moore - \$3688.41 balance in our checking account

Communications

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

VVA Membership Update – Joe Herbert – Names were read of city of Milwaukee fallen through 1969 –

Discussion on recruiting new members

Fund Raising – Miller Park review - \$903.59 was raised on Friday and \$1086.45 was raised on a storm shortened Sunday – Thanks to all who participated  
Website – Contact Pat Moore to post items of interest on our website

#### NEW BUSINESS

South Milwaukee Parade – Saturday July 27th

Stand Down – Moved and passed to donate \$300 to the September Stand Down

#### NO AUGUST MEETING

Adjournment – 7:40

## DoD Caregiver Resource Directory

Vantage Point, August 28, 2019

The Department of Defense has released the 2019 Caregiver Resource Directory (CRD), and it is ready for download! The annual update includes 114 pages of information on resources and programs, including those that assist caregivers of wounded, ill and injured Veterans and service members. The CRD is an enriched source of information. It addresses everything from childcare, education and training, healthcare needs, legal assistance, rest and relaxation, to peer support, mentoring, and so much more. The Directory is essentially a one stop shop for questions and concerns for those who are new to being caregivers.

The resources provided in the CRD have gone through a rigorous review and vetting process so that Veterans, service members and caregivers receive accurate, timely, and pertinent information. The simple

guide is available online 24/7 in both English and Spanish. The guide uses icons to assist with quickly accessing VA and DoD programs and non-profit organizations. The CRD is also a good source for info on self-care programs and for respite assistance. “With many organizations offering support and services, it can be difficult to sort out the specific type of resource or program best suited for your needs. Therefore, this directory is compiled for you — the caregiver — as its primary focus.” – DOD Military Caregiver Support

To access it online copy go to <https://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/files/2019/08/Caregiver-Directory-2019-Edition.pdf>. To download a digital copy of the CRD or to request a hard copy go to <https://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/caregiver-resources>. For information about VA resources, visit VA Caregiver Support.

## How to Tell a Joke in Combat

by MARC LEVY JUNE 14, 2019

We start with the basics. Your base is being overrun. Or you have walked into the perfect ambush. Or mortars are raining down and there is nowhere to hide. Or you have run out of ammo and your commo is gone. In each case, each scenario, it is the perfect time for a well told joke.

The first thing you must do is to know your audience. Are they civilians who are shooting at you? Are they uniformed troops? Have they had breakfast?

If your joke contains profanity, are they over twenty-one?

All good jokes provide a satisfying punch line. For example: why did the chicken cross the road? Answer: because the first sergeant said, “Move out, or I will skull fuck you ten thousand times!”

Clearly, a chicken outranks a first sergeant, and thus the joke amuses both the enemy, the first sergeant, and the chicken, who is a lieutenant.

Singer/actress Chris Noel hosted her own radio show for the Vietnam GIs.

*Source: Reddit*

Chris Noel was a Hollywood sex symbol who became a Vietnam War icon. She was a model who turned actress - who then turned to entertaining the troops in Vietnam. Noel worked on the Armed

Forces Radio And Television Service. Her program "A Date With Chris" made her fondly known by vets as "the voice of a California dream girl" by many Viet vets - while her pin up pics were very popular with the troops.

Noel entertained four tours of Vietnam and her helicopter was shot down twice. For her work, she received the Distinguished Vietnam Veteran award in 1984 from the Veterans Network.

(Photo 1966)



## **B-1 Bomber**

Only six of the Air Force's 61 B-1 bombers are fully mission-capable Sen. Mike Rounds (R- SD) said during a Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing on 30 JUL.

# Build Those Walls!

By Marc Dion, August 5, 2019

<https://www.creators.com/read/marc-dion/08/19/build-those-walls>

The city where I live, an undistinguished place in Massachusetts, is getting ready to build a replica of the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C. It is a thing keenly desired by the population, most of whom make less than \$30,000 a year, which is a hell of a lot less in Massachusetts than it is in Georgia.

It's an old city. We have a monument to every war this country's ever fought, including a monument to the boys who fought the Spanish-American War. It's a bronze statue on a traffic island. The junkies stand on the traffic island and ask drivers stopped at the light for change. Nearly everyone I've ever spoken to believes the Spanish-American War monument is a World War I monument. I was born here, and I believed that until I was 50.

No matter. The Spanish-American boys are gone like the nickel beer.

We as a nation currently feel bad about Vietnam vets, who, we endlessly say, were never "welcomed home." So we build walls and monuments. We rename traffic islands, and the junkies, some of them Afghanistan vets with poison raging in their blood, stand and ask us for change.

And no matter how many statues and walls we erect for the brave heroes of the lost war in Vietnam, we keep electing men who ducked the draft like you duck a punch, or ran like you run from the ball in a game of dodgeball.

Bill Clinton was no soldier. They came to get him, and he rabbitied. Trump? Bone spurs. Trump didn't go to Vietnam until the shooting had been over for a long time.

What are we telling that older Vietnam vet with the grind of shrapnel in his knee, with the fire-bright, frightening dreams?

We're telling him (and her) that concrete is easier to get your hand on than honor. We're telling that state Rep. McRunfort, who still remembers the thrill of that fourth college deferment, is a better man than some paddy-slogging fool who came home from 'Nam and drove a truck for the next 40 years, unheralded, unwelcome-ed and

never having the money or the time to run for office.

All these years, and we still don't know how to feel about that war, except that we don't blame anyone for not going, but we want to honor those who did with concrete, because concrete is cheaper than a lot of other things.

In Dollar Store America, we don't want to do anything, but we want to "respect the flag," and "support our troops," because those things, like concrete monuments, are cheap.

Cheap slogans we can chant. Cheap Chinese-made banners. Cheap monuments. Cheap flags on a stick. Give a half-buck to the veteran on the traffic island. It's cheap! If he gets 10 sports like you to give him a half-buck each, he can buy a bag of heroin. Heroin is awfully cheap these days. The foreign cars get more expensive every year, but the price of heroin always goes down.

Every time I see a new monument go up, I think of Rome and her statues of triumphant emperors, carved with words in a language no one speaks, victors over countries that don't exist anymore.

They built a hell of a monument, those Romans. They carved them out of marble, too, meant to last the ages. Didn't matter.

I'll see you when they dedicate the new Vietnam Memorial. And they'll release doves, who'll wheel into the sky, not sure of why they were in the cage, and not sure about why they've been released.





*"Beautiful view! Is there one for the enlisted men?"*

