

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 324 - PO Box 18631 - Milwaukee, WI 53218

In Service to America

Chapter Officers

President: Pat Ciofani rezmel(at)sbcglobal.net

414-702-7734

Vice Pres: Oliver Williams w.oliver96(at)yahoo.com

414-358-4416

Secretary: Dennis Symanski dski06(at)hotmail.com

414-453-3600

Treasuer: Pat Moore irishpatat(at)sbcglobal.net

414-354-2533 Cell: 414-731-6029

Director: Paul Balge

414-212-3993

Director: David Titter d.titterat(at)sbcglobal.net

414-870-7012

Director: Mike Ducette miducette(at)aol.com

262-968-5508

Director: John Morgan asa600(at)aol.com

414-871-9274

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

Meeting Notice

16 November '16

Elks Lodge 5555 W. Good Hope Rd.

Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Chapter Meeting 7 - 8 p.m.

Future Meetings 2016

21 December

2017

18 January, 15 February, 15 March, 19 April, 17 May

Chapter web page: www.vietnamvetschapter324.com

National web page: www.vva.org

You are invited:

Veterans Day Parade - November 5, 2016 - Step off at 11 a.m. 4th & State.

Armistice Day Program - November 11, 2016 - 7 p.m. in City Hall Rotunda

Check for other events in your neighborhood



Chapter 324 Christmas Party

Join chapter members and their guests for dinner and camaraderie.

6 p.m. December 21, 2016 at the Elks Lodge, 5555 W. Good Hope Rd.

Please RSVP by December 15 to Pat Moore:

irishpatat(at)sbcglobal.net 414-354-2533 Cell: 414-731-6029

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Milwaukee Chapter 324
October 19, 2016

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

USO Presentation – Tim Flatley

Attendance – Dennis Szymanski, Oliver Williams, Pat Ciofani, Paul Balge, Ron Girard, David Titter, Jeff Landowski, John Morgan, John Zutz, Joe Herbert, Pat Moore

Minutes of September 21, 2016 meeting reviewed and accepted

Treasurer's Report – Pat Moore - \$4191.90 balance in our checking account

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VVA Membership – Joe Herbert

Allied Veterans Meeting Update – Pat Ciofani

Fund Raising – 2017 Miller Park fund raising dates are August 12th & 13th

Website – Paid up for next year – See Pat Moore to post items of interest

OLD BUSINESS

Americanism Awards Breakfast – October 30th – We have purchased a table – Oliver Williams and Jeff Dentine will be honored by our chapter

NEW BUSINESS

Milwaukee Vietnam Veterans Memorial 25th Anniversary Celebration – October 20th – 5:00 pm

Veterans Day Parade – November 5, 2015 – 11:00 am – Assemble at 4th and State at 9:00 am – Free parking and shuttle bus at the Summerfest parking lot – Moved and passed to purchase center piece for the dinner for \$45

Christmas with the Vets at the VA – December 10th – Moved and passed to donate \$100 for event

Chapter Christmas Party – December 21st – 6:00 pm – We will have our annual Christmas party instead of our regular meeting – Details in November

Ideas on Donating – Brief discussion on who to make future donations to

Adjournment – 7:37 pm



Chapter 324 Christmas Party past

–Veterans Day Freebies –

Flyer distributed at Zablocki VAMC

Free Food

Applebee's: Free meal from special menu

Bar Louie: Free appetizer or entrée

Bob Evans: All you can eat hotcakes

California Pizza Kitchen: Free any pizza and non-alcoholic beverage

Carrabba's: Free appetizer

Chili's: Free meal

Denny's: Free build your own grand slam 5a.m – noon

Golden Corral: Free dinner with drinks 5p.m – 9p.m.

IHOP: Free stack of red, white and blue pancakes. Some may include eggs, bacon and hash browns

Krispy Kreme: Free doughnut and small coffee.

Longhorn Steakhouse: Free Texas onion and non-alcoholic beverage

Olive Garden: Free meal from special menu

Orange Leaf: Free cup of frozen yogurt up to 11 oz.

Outback Steakhouse: Free bloomin' onion and non-alcoholic beverage

Perkins: Free magnificent seven meal (breakfast)

Red Lobster: Free appetizer from special menu through Thursday

Red Robin: Free Red's Tavern double burger with bottomless steak fries

Ruby Tuesday: Free appetizer

Texas Roadhouse: Free lunch including non-alcoholic drink from select menu from 11a.m – 2p.m

Travel Centers of America: Free meal for CDL holders (veterans only)

Free Drinks

Einsetein Bros Bagels: Free coffee

Rock Bottom: Free craft beer

Starbucks: Free tall (12 oz) brewed coffee, and one for your spouse

Free Services

Great Clips: Free haircut or a card for a free haircut redeemable till Dec. 31

Free Entertainment

JB's on 41 in Milwaukee: Free Bowling all day

Milwaukee County Parks: Free golf at Brown Deer, Dretzka, Whitnall, Oakwood, Currie, Grant and Lincoln.

National Park Service: Free entry at over 100 National Parks that require entry fees

Glendale iPic Theaters: Free movie ticket

Find a convenient location. All locations may not offer these specials. Call first to confirm their participation.

Be prepared to prove your veteran status. Reservations may help.

There may be others who offer free things. Search the internet.

Ranger Killed on 14th Deployment

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/army-ranger-dies-14th-deployment/story?id=14811227>

Sgt. First Class Kristoffer B. Domeij, 29, was killed Saturday when the assault force he was with triggered a hidden roadside bomb in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province.

Domeij served four deployments in Iraq and another nine stints in Afghanistan. During that time he was awarded two Bronze Stars. His third Bronze Star, earned during his final tour in Afghanistan, will be awarded posthumously, according to the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

His battalion commander, Lt. Col. David Hodne, described Domeij as "one of those men who was known by all as much for his humor, enthusiasm, and loyal friendship, as he was for his unparalleled skill and bravery under fire."

"This was a Ranger you wanted at your side when the chips were down... He is irreplaceable ... in our formation ... and in our hearts," Hodne said.

Domeij, who grew up in San Diego, Calif. and Colorado Springs, Colo., and lived in Lacey, Wash., was married and had two young daughters.

Rangers are some of the Army's most elite special operations forces and have seen almost continual combat in Afghanistan since October 2001 when they were part of the original airborne assault into the country.

Rangers serve three to four month tours of duty that are significantly shorter than the year-long deployments served by soldiers in conventional units. But during those short deployments they see

a constant churn of intense combat missions. On average, a Ranger battalion will conduct between 400 to 500 missions during a combat deployment.

Tracy Bailey, a spokesperson for the 75th Ranger Regiment, says Domeij had a combined total of 48 months deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Higher ranking enlisted Rangers, like Domeij, typically have between nine and 12 deployments if they were with the 75th Ranger Regiment prior to or shortly after Sept. 11, 2001. Domeij had enlisted in the Army in July 2001 and joined the 2nd battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in April 2002.

With his 14 deployments, Domeij becomes the Ranger with the most deployments to date killed in action. Just a year ago this month, fellow Ranger SFC Lance Vogeler was killed in Afghanistan during his 12th deployment, becoming at that time the Ranger with the most deployments killed in action.

Domeij had the distinction of being one of the first Rangers to be qualified as a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC), a position usually reserved for Air Force airmen who serve with ground combat units and call in airstrikes from fighters or bombers flying overhead.

Col. Mark W. Odom, commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment, called Domeij "the prototypical special operations NCO" whose abilities as a JTAC "made him a game changer on the battlefield—an operator who in real terms had the value of an entire strike force on the battlefield."

Mothballed Stratofortress Returns To Service

Gareth Jennings, IHS Jane's Defence Weekly, October 3, 2016

The US Air Force (USAF) has returned a Boeing B-52H Stratofortress strategic bomber aircraft to service that had been mothballed in the 'boneyard' at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona. It took approximately 45,000 man- hours to restore 'Ghost Rider' to full operating capability after six years in the boneyard. (US Air Force) It took approximately 45,000 man-hours to restore 'Ghost Rider' to full operating capability after six years in the boneyard.

The 55-year old aircraft, known as 'Ghost Rider' (tail number 61-007), was flown to its operating base at Minot in North Dakota on 27 SEP following a 19-month refurbishment by the 76th Aircraft Maintenance Group at Tinker Air Force Base (AFB) in Oklahoma. 'Ghost Rider' will now join the 5th Bomb Wing of the Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC).

The USAF announced its plans to restore 'Ghost Rider' to service in February 2015 to maintain its 76-strong B- 52H fleet following a mishap at Barksdale AFB in Louisiana in 2014 that left a B-52 severely damaged. Since work began, another B-52 was destroyed in an accident on the island of Guam. No announcement has been made as to whether the USAF will try to return another retired aircraft to service.

At the height of its strength, the USAF B-52 forces comprised some 744 aircraft, although this number has been cut to just 76 (with 75 now in operation) in accordance with the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.

VA Health Care Utilization - Lead by Example Act

Leo Shane, Military Times, September 14, 2016

An Ohio congressman wants to force all Capitol Hill lawmakers and their staff to receive health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure they have incentive to improve the system.

But the top Democrat on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee is blasting the idea as little more than a publicity stunt. On 13 SEP, Rep. Warren Davidson (R-OH) introduced his "Lead by Example" act (H.R.6005), which would require all members of Congress and several thousand staffers to enroll in VA medical care "instead of under the Federal Health Benefits Program or other health care exchanges."

"Providing our veterans with the highest quality care is a bipartisan issue, one which nearly all the presidential candidates ran on," he said in a statement. "Overhauling the VA is no easy task and will require consistent and intentional Congressional oversight for years to come. My bill will ensure

members of Congress have stakes in improving the failing program."

He also co-authored an editorial with Fox News contributor and veterans advocate Pete Hegseth on the issue in Tuesday's National Review, noting that "once members of Congress have to wait months for routine checkups or common surgical procedures, I'm guessing it won't take long for them to see the desperate need to fix the problem."

About 9 million veterans receive VA health care services each year. VA officials have said that more than 90 percent of veterans seeking care this year have been able to schedule an appointment within 30 days. The average wait time across the system as of May was fewer than seven days for primary care and fewer than five days for mental health appointments. But department data released this summer showed more than 600,000 patients still faced appointment wait times of more than a month

Who Dies for America?

By Marc Dion August 8, 2016

The young man on whose grave the nation dances had the last name Khan. Not Cohen or Cohan.

Cohen is a Jewish name. Cohan is Irish. Jewish boys named Cohen, unable to get into some American colleges, called "Christ killers" in the streets, went ashore at Normandy. Irish boys named Cohan, the Gaelic still thick on their lips, bled to death from belly wounds at Shiloh. Back home in New York, they still faced "No Irish Need Apply" signs.

The despised hillbillies of Appalachia left their blood on Iwo Jima. Georgia's crackers, never out of their home county before, died screaming at Khe Sanh.

Black men who had seen their uncles hanging from trees joined and fought the Kaiser. Their sons, still likely to be lynched for looking too long at a white woman, fought in World War II. Japanese-American boys left families in American concentration camps to fight as a World War II outfit they called "The Purple Heart Regiment."

Despised "Redskins" baffled the Japanese with their code talk. Mexican-Americans used to being called "greasers" came out of Texas to fight in Korea.

Chink. Jap. Kike. Wop. Mick. Polack. Spic. Coon. Redneck. They heard it all on the streets of their hometowns, in their schools, at their jobs, from people who called themselves leaders.

It's still going on. The ugly names. Camel jockey. Rag head. White trash. Homo. Project rat. But they'll go, some of them will.

They are the ones America likes least. They are jokes, locked out of every promise, laughed at, hated as casually as you hate the cockroach you see in your kitchen.

But they'll go, some of them will.

Pushed away by people who mouth the word "democracy" in a leer of bigotry, they'll go, they'll join, they'll take up the gun. They'll die.

They're beautiful, these last-ditch American boys and girls, who, turned away at so many doors, find the door open at the recruiting station.

For the very poor among them, the uniform is the best suit of clothes they've ever owned and the food in basic training is better and more plentiful than what they had at home. The army will fix your teeth, give you eyeglasses.

Who knows why they join, these boys and girls who have more reason to hate America than they do to love America.

But they'll go, some of them will.

It used to be they'd be hated until they joined, then hated in the dusty little town around their army base, then sent off to fight and at least they'd be heroes if they died.



Vietnam Veterans of America #324
PO Box 18631
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Sign Up Now With Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 324

Anyone can join! Membership Options:

Vietnam Veterans (A copy of your DD214 must be included):

- Individual Member - 1 year \$20 • Individual Member 3 year \$50 • Life Member \$250
- Life Member Installment Plan (\$50 Deposit; \$25 per month for 8 Months)

Anyone Else:

- Associate Member - 1 year \$20 • Associate Member 3 year \$50 • Associate Life Member \$250
- Associate Life Member Installment Plan (\$50 Deposit; \$25 per month for 8 Months)

Please Print

Name _____ Membership # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

I would like to help Chapter 324 by donating \$ _____

Make checks payable to VVA324 and mail with this completed application to:
VVA Chapter 324 - Membership, PO Box 18631, Milwaukee, WI 53218