

Landing Zone X-Ray



March 2018

Volume 02

Issue Number 03



Mailing Address

*PO Box 860151
St. Augustine
Florida 32086*

Meeting Info

*4th Tuesday of
Month
1130-1400
Jaybird's
Restaurant
2600 N US 1
St. Augustine, FL
32084*



***Vietnam Veterans of America
Leo C. Chase Chapter 1084
St. Johns County, Florida***

"Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

March is upon us, and it is a very busy month for VVA-1084, so I am publishing this issue a bit early to get the word out to our readership as soon as possible.

- **March is Military Women History Month** (see page 4).
- **03 March (Saturday)** – Active Boomers & Seniors Expo, 1000-1430 at the St. Augustine Outlets. We will have a display and information table. Come on by our table as you tour the Veterans Row of numerous other Veteran organizations represented (see page 8).
- **11 March (Sunday)** – Daylight Savings Time begins.
- **13 March (Tuesday)** – Governor's Veterans Service Award, pre-registration 1:30 – 3:00pm, Ceremony commences at 3:00pm (See page 6). Links are provided below the event flyer.
- **17 March (Saturday)** – Fund Raiser parking cars at the Ameris Bank (US-1 at the Francis Field events ground) for the annual Lions Seafood Festival. We will need volunteers to help.
- **24 March (Saturday)** – 50-Year Vietnam War Commemoration Pin Ceremony with Congressman John Rutherford at a place still to be selected. **CANCELLED!**
- **27 March (Tuesday)** - VVA-1084 Monthly Meeting, 1130-1330, Jaybird's Restaurant
- **30 March (Friday)** – 2018 Vietnam Memorial Service at the St Augustine National Cemetery at 10:00am, to include a wreath laying ceremony. More details to come later as we work with the Veterans Council of St Johns County and others. A similar ceremony will occur at the Jacksonville National Cemetery on 29 March 2018. More to come via separate correspondence.

NOTE: The 24 March ceremony that was still in planning stages was cancelled when the VA directed all National Cemeteries to conduct a 2018 Vietnam Memorial Services on or about 29 March 2018.

GONE WEST

One of our members, Richard “Dick” Remieres, passed away on 01 February 2018. Dick was one of our permanently hospitalized veterans residing in the Clyde E Lassen State Veterans’ Nursing Home on State Road 16. Dick was a veteran of the US Navy and served in Vietnam as a Corpsman assigned to USMC units. His obituary is copied below:



RICHARD REMIERES

Richard Alan Remieres, 79, passed away at the Bailey Family Center for Caring on Feb. 1, 2018. Dick was born on Oct. 22, 1938, to the late William and Muriel Hinds Remieres in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

Following high school, Mr. Remieres joined the US Navy where he saw service as a corpsman with the US Marine Corps, 1st Battalion in Vietnam. Dick will be remembered for his loving spirit, singing in the Big Orange Chorus, playing Santa Claus in the Orange Park Mall, and his willingness to help others.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Muriel Hinds Remieres, and his brother, Russell W. Remieres. Survivors include his sister, Sandra (Dick) Glessner of St. Augustine.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. on Feb. 23, 2018, at Jacksonville National Cemetery with Navy Honors.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST IN THIS ISSUE

Do you need, or are you interested in available advice and/or training on issues pertaining to Seniors and to Veterans? Plenty of help is available in Northeast Florida

1. See **page 9** for information concerning the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) *In Memory*. This is a wonderful program, and we can assist any families wishing to apply.
2. **Go to this link** for a “Complete Guide for Veteran Seniors” helping you navigate your Veteran Benefit options <http://www.aging.com/complete-guide-for-veteran-seniors/>
3. Remember that we now have an Oral History Program in concert with the national *Veterans History Project*. We are looking for volunteers to tell their story, on their terms. Contact John Leslie at john_leslie15@yahoo.com. For a sample of how the interview goes, click on the following link and listen. **History should be told from our perspective, through our eyes, with our thoughts and experiences.** <http://www.vhpfirstcoast.org/interviews/148>
4. See **pages 10 and 11** for copies of our VVA and AVVA Application forms. Print them if able or pick some up at our next membership meeting and keep them handy. You are hereby deputized as official VVA-1084 and AVVA Recruiters!

CHAPTER 1084 ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our annual **Election of Officers** will occur during our 24 April 2018 Membership Meeting. Our Nominating Committee is looking for members in good standing who might be interested in running for any of our Officer positions. We will need to elect a chairman for our Nomination Committee, a one-year term. If you are interested in joining our leadership, contact John Leslie or Bob Dinkins and put your name in the hat.

THIS MONTH IN MILITARY HISTORY

March 1931 - Congress approved “The Star-Spangled Banner” as the official national anthem. Unofficially, Americans had been singing Francis Scott Key’s song since the War of 1812.

March 2, 1946 – Ho Chi Minh was elected president of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam

March 2, 1965 - Operation Rolling Thunder begins with more than 100 United States Air Force jet bombers striking an ammunition depot at Xom Bang, 10 miles inside North Vietnam.

March 2, 1968 – The siege of Khe Sanh ended in Vietnam, the U.S. Marines stationed there were still in control of the mountain top.

March 3, 2018 - Navy Reserve 103rd Birthday - The Navy Reserve was officially established March 3, 1915, by combining 17 state naval militias into a single federal force.

March 5, 2018 – Seabee 76th Birthday - The Seabees were officially founded on **5 March 1942** and are known throughout the military for their capability to travel the seas as Sailors, build as Constructionmen, and fight alongside the Marines.

March 13, 2018 – U.S. K9 Corps 76th Birthday - March 13, 1942 is the official birthday of the *United States K9 Corps*. They served to save, and they deserve to be remembered.

March 15, 1973 - US Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) closed in Saigon. Southeast Asia Operations would transfer to Thailand.

March 16, 1802 - The United States Military Academy founded by Congress for educating and training young men in the theory and practice of military science.

March 29, 1973 - Meeting the deadline set by the Paris Peace Talks, the last of the 2500 American servicemen left Saigon’s Ton Son Nhut Air Base for home. Also on this day, Hanoi releases the last 67 of its acknowledged American prisoners of war, bringing the total number released to 591. There are still 1601 unaccounted for American POW/MIA, for whom the search still continues.

March 29, 2018 - Vietnam Veterans Day - A day set aside to show honor and respect to our Vietnam Veterans.

March 31, 1968 - President Lyndon Johnson made a surprise announcement that he would not seek re-election as a result of the Vietnam conflict.

*It is the function of the Navy to carry
the war to the enemy so that it is not
fought on U.S. soil.*

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

MARCH IS MILITARY WOMEN HISTORY MONTH



Transitioning from the military to civilian life can be a daunting task for women service members. From the time a woman veteran is discharged, she is preparing and planning for an unknown and inexperienced transition. Her priority shifts from a military focused mindset to securing a new permanent living situation, registering children for new schools and securing employment – employment being the glue that binds the transition process. Unfortunately, many women veterans have a difficult time finding employment after exiting the military; to this end, many are becoming homeless with their children. In fact, women veterans are the fastest growing segment within the homeless population.

Women Veterans Interactive (WVI) is working with Amazon to optimize the use of their Women Veterans Transition Space (WVTS) program. The WVTS program is designed to address the workforce and career readiness needs of women who transition out of the military. This new relationship will provide virtual career development sessions and in-person career workshops, and hiring events. Women Veterans Transition Space attendees will have the opportunity to have their resumes reviewed and revised, participate in mock interviews, learn about the corporate culture and employment opportunities available at Amazon. Attendees will also have the opportunity to interact and network with women veterans employed by Amazon.

It is crucial that women veterans receive the support that they need and deserve to make a smooth transition from active duty to the civilian workforce.

Stay connected and like the Women Veterans Transition Space (WVTS) Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/womenveteranstransitionspace> and follow the WVTS on Twitter @WVTSmobile.

NEW ITEMS FOR SALE

We are taking orders for the following two items we will soon receive from our new vendor, Sports Corner. These items are for sale by the Chapter and may not be purchased directly from Sports Corner.

The T-Shirts come in Medium, Large, XL, and 2XL. The Medium to XL are \$15 for members, and the 2XL are \$17. The logo is a single-color screen application. Our plans are to sell these shirts to non-members for \$20 and \$22 based on the size of shirt purchased.

The Chapter Ballcap sells for \$25. There was not enough room on the front side to include our Chapter name and number, but they will be embroidered in a double arc on the back side. These hats will only be sold to members of VVA-1084 and our affiliated AVVA members.

Please make your orders by emailing John Leslie at john_leslie15@yahoo.com.



NOTICE OF VENDOR CHANGE

We **no longer** procure our VVA-1084 shirts and other logo services from Logomotion. **We are now affiliated with the Sports Corner**, at 2 Pacific St, St Augustine, FL 32084. It is at the corner of Pacific and San Marco, about two blocks south of SR-16, phone number (904) 824-5818.

The basic cost for member Polo Shirts are \$35 for sizes up to and including XL with Logo on one side and name on the other. 2X and larger shirts are \$37. If you add additional writing under your name, they will most likely charge extra, approximately 30 cents per letter/number. If you pay yourself, you will also be charged Sales Tax. If we buy it for you with our Chapter Debit Card no Sales Tax is included – your choice.



Governor's Veterans Service Award You're Invited!

Duval County ceremony honoring Florida's Veterans

Veterans & Military Personnel are strongly encouraged to RSVP online:

If you would like to attend please click the link to RSVP: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GVSA> AND fill out the attached form and bring it with you to complete your registration.
http://floridavets.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/GVSA_Veterans-Form.pdf#new_tab

Questions:

(727) 518-3202, Ext. 5572
or (850) 487-1533



To honor the Sunshine State's more than 1.5 million honorably discharged veterans.

Jacksonville

WHERE: National Guard Armory
9900 Normandy Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32221

WHEN: Tuesday, March 13, 2018
3:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION: 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Note: Veterans must provide some form of identification that validates their veteran status.

Includes: DD-214, VA ID Card, Retirement ID, Military ID, Veteran designation on your Florida Driver License, etc...

Honorably discharged Veterans of all ages are welcome to attend. Wearing of Veteran-related headgear is encouraged.

www.FloridaVets.org/gvsa

Editor's Advice: Use this link to the survey monkey website as this form must be filled out on the computer, and they will have that info when you arrive. You can go to the Governors page, but that is a downloaded form you fill out and take with you to the event. Print page 12 of this Newsletter instead and fill it out – don't forget to take it with you! [Survey Monkey](#)

[Governors Registration Form](#)

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ANYONE WITNESSING OR EXPERIENCING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

How Can We Help?

24-Hour Veteran Crisis Hotline	1-800-273-8255 Option 1
Veteran Crisis Chat	VeteransCrisisLine.net
Veteran Crisis Text	838255
24-Hour Homeless Vets Hotline	1-877-424-3838
White House VA Hotline	1-855-948-2311
VA Health Care Info	1-877-222-8387
VA Benefits Info	1-800-827-1000
Veteran (Vet) Center Info	1-877-927-8387
Women Veteran Support	1-855-829-6636
Al-Anon	www.al-anon.org
alateen	www.alateen.org
Alcoholics Anonymous	www.aa.org
Narcotics Anonymous	www.na.org

VVA 1084 OFFICER AND STAFF CONTACT INFO

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
President	John Leslie	904-233-4712	john_leslie15@yahoo.com
1 ST Vice President	Ken Hahn	904-342-7716	fchief443@gmail.com
2 ND Vice President	John McGinty	904-679-1947	macvva1949@gmail.com
Secretary	Shawn Prentiss	904-217-4535	bandaidgirl56@gmail.com
Treasurer	George April	904-826-6098	geoapril1@gmail.com
Chaplain & Director	Bob Dinkins	904-540-1898	bobdinkins@bellsouth.net
Director	Joan Whitfield	904-339-1544	jlwbeach@bellsouth.net
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe "TyeDye" Tillman	850-559-8011	tillyinthehome@gmail.com
AVVA Rep	Judy Davis	904-814-4284	udc2232@att.net
Newsletter Editor/Publisher	John Leslie	904-233-4712	john_leslie15@yahoo.com
Newsletter Advisor	Michael Rothfeld	904-829-0381	mrothfeld@anyveteran.org

ACTIVE BOOMERS & SENIORS EXPO

3rd ANNUAL

Active Boomers & Seniors Expo

Sat., March 3, 2018
10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Presented by
The Sold Sisters

island DOCTORS

ST. AUGUSTINE OUTLETS
500 Outlet Mall Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32084



SHOWCASE YOUR BUSINESS

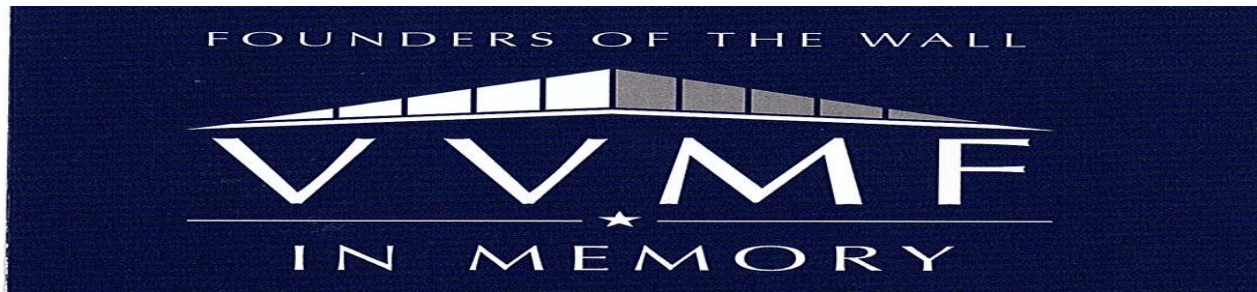
EXHIBITOR & SPONSOR CATEGORIES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50+ Employment Services • Assisted Living Communities • Automobiles for Boomers • Fashion & Beauty Salon • Caregiver Services • Clubs & Social Groups • Community Volunteers • Computers & Technology • Counseling & Advice • Daily Living Aids • Dental Services • Disability & Accessibility • Educational Resources • Elder Law Services • Financial Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness for Healthy Living • Health Screenings • Hearing Aid Centers • Home & Garden • Home Repairs & Improvements • Hospice Care • Humor Therapy • Independent Living for 50+ • In-Home Care Assistance • Insurance Services • Lifelong Learning Programs • Live Entertainment • Medical Equipment & Supplies • Medical Practices • Medicare/Health Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memory Care Services • Nutrition & Diet • Personal Care Products • Pet Adoption & Pet Therapy • Pharmaceuticals • Real Estate for 50+ Market • Retirement Services • Reverse Mortgages • Safety & Personal Protection • Seniors Organizations & Services • Spas & Saunas • Transportation Services • Travel, Leisure & Recreation • Veterans Services
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RESERVE YOUR SPACE AT THE AREA'S LARGEST BOOMER & SENIOR EXPO

Come on down and check us out, and benefit from the scores of other tables and displays as represented from the list provided above. There will be a "Silent Auction" in the Veterans Row, and all proceeds go to local Veteran causes.

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND "IN MEMORY" PROGRAM



The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that founded the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C. in 1982. They partner with the National Park Service to maintain and care for The Wall, The Three Servicemen statue, flagpole, and the *In Memory* plaque.

So, what is the *In Memory* program? VVMF's *In Memory* program honors Vietnam veterans whose lives were cut short as a result of their service in Vietnam but are not eligible for inscription on The Wall under DoD guidelines. *In Memory* is a way that all Vietnam veterans can be honored on the National Mall.

Examples of causes of death that fit the criteria for inclusion in the program include:

- Exposure to Agent Orange
- PTSD/suicide
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Heart Disease
- Parkinson's Disease

In Memory began in 1999 and has since honored more than 3200 veterans. The In Memory Honor Roll has a remembrance page for each veteran and can be seen online at: www.vvmf.org/honor-roll

How to apply to the Program?

The application process is simple. To have a loved one honored in the *In Memory* program, please visit VVMF online at: www.VVMF.org/InMemory_Apply


All you need to do is fill out the simple form, but you will need the following materials:

- Military Records that show proof of service in Vietnam (DD214)
- A copy of the death certificate
- Two clear photographs of the honoree. The VVMF recommends that one photo be from when the honoree was serving in the military and on photo that is more recent.

If you do not have or cannot find the required military service records they can be obtained from the National Archives Veterans Service Records. Visit www.archives.gov and click on "Veterans' Service Records"

VVA APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

As of 31 December 2017, we were at 80 VVA Members, which is up from 65 at mid-year 2017. Growth means more talent, more ideas, more boots on the ground, and a stronger financial base to run our programs and assist those Veterans most in need of help. Print copies of this page or pick them up at our monthly membership meetings, and keep in your vehicle – Recruit, Recruit, Recruit!

		<h1>Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc</h1> <h2>Application for Membership</h2>	
<p>Welcome to all Veterans who served during the Vietnam Era</p> <p>Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, or in <u>any duty location</u> between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975.</p>			
Name: _____		Date of Birth: _____	
Mailing Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____	Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____		Cell Phone: _____	
Email Address: _____		Gender: _____	
(OPTIONAL) Chapter Number: _____		Sponsor: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am already a VVA member and want to become a Life Member. My VVA member number is _____			
Type of Membership:		<u>Life Membership:</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member 1yr: \$20		<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member 3yrs: \$50			
<p>ATTENTION New members and new life members:</p> <p>You must submit a copy of your DD- 214 form along with this application and dues payment.</p>			
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover)			
Credit Card Number: _____		Exp. Date: _____	
Signature: _____			
<p>Return your completed application, payment, and a copy of your DD-214 to:</p>			
Vietnam Veterans of America PO Box 64299 · Baltimore · MD · 21264		Add Local Chapter information here	
Revised: Jan 2016			

AVVA MISSION STATEMENT AND APPLICATION

“To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education to help create a better everyday life for Veterans and their families.” As of 31 December 2017, we were at four (4) AVVA members, which is up from one (1) at mid-year 2017. Print copies of this page, and keep in your vehicle –Remember, AVVA members do not have to be Veterans.



Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.



Application for Membership

Mail Applications to: Monument Bank | AVVA Lock Box
8602 Colesville Rd | Silver Spring, MD 20910

State/Chapter: _____ At-Large? _____

Check here if you are a veteran: ☐ Are you a Vietnam Era Veteran? ☐

New Member: ☐ Renewal: ☐ Membership #, if known: _____

Name: _____ Sex: M ☐ F ☐

Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Home): _____ Phone (Cell): _____

Email: (please print clearly) _____

Yearly Membership Dues: (Choose 1 year member or 3 year member)

1 year: \$20.00 ☐

3 Year: \$50.00 (saves \$10) ☐

Life Membership Options: (Check all that apply)

NOTE: Paying less than \$175.00 requires proof of age

Paid in Full ☐

Payment Plan: (requires \$50 down, and \$25 per month until paid in full.)

Life Member Dues Schedule:

Age 59 years and under \$175

Age 60 and above \$100

DO NOT SEND CASH

Payment Method

<input type="checkbox"/> Check	<input type="checkbox"/> Money Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> American Express	<input type="checkbox"/> Master Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Discover
Card #: _____			Expiration Date: _____		
Cardholder Signature: _____					

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AVVA, AND MAIL WITH APPLICATION TO:

Monument Bank, AVVA Lock Box | 8602 Colesville Road | Silver Spring, MD 20910

GOVERNOR'S VETERANS SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Honoring those who served U.S.

Governor's Veterans Service Award Presentation

I certify that I am a legal Florida resident who is either serving honorably as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Florida National Guard, or the U.S. Reserve Forces or that I have been honorably discharged or retired from active duty as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Florida National Guard, the U.S. Reserve Forces, or Merchant Mariners with veteran status.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Rank _____ Branch of Service _____

Served from _____ to _____
Date Date

Address _____ City _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Would you like to be contacted about federal and state benefits you may be entitled to as a result of your military service? Yes ☐ No ☐

I certify that the information I have provided above is, to the best of my knowledge, true, correct and complete. I understand that any untruthful statement, misrepresentation, or false claim concerning my military service is a crime punishable by Florida and Federal law.

Signature _____

Staff use only

Proof of veteran's status provided:

DD 214 ☐ VA ID Card ☐ FL Driver License with "V" Designation ☐Veterans' Service Organization Membership Card ☐ _____Retired ID Card ☐ Other ☐ _____

Reviewed by (staff member's name): _____

Signature: _____

Pursuant to Executive Order of the Governor #14-88