



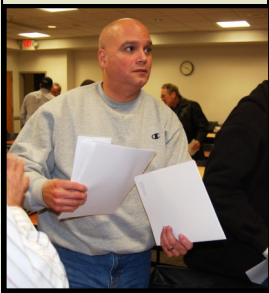
Vietnam Veterans of America Lehigh Valley Chapter 415

March 2012 Newsletter

A C O N G R E S S I O N A L L Y C H A R T E R E D O R G A N I Z A T I O N

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Status of Nominations For 2012
- Freddie Ramirez Attends a Chapter 415 Meeting in March



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SECRET ARMY DRUG TESTS AT EDGEWOOD ARSENAL

Vietnam Veterans of America is a plaintiff in a lawsuit investigating any long-term harm done to service members who “volunteered” for testing of chemical and biological agents at Edgewood Arsenal, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and other sites. Testing was done at several other locations including Fort Detrick, Maryland, Utah, Fort Benning, Georgia, Fort Ord and San Jose Island.

From 1955 to 1975, military researchers were using not only animals but human subjects to test drugs and chemicals. They ranged from potentially lethal nerve gases like VX and Sarin to incapacitating agents like BZ

An 18-year-old Army Pvt.

(Tim Josephs) arrived at Edgewood Arsenal in 1968 and



Dr. Sanjay Gupta Reported This Story On CNN

knew immediately there was something different about the place. Lured by three-day weekends, he volunteered for a two month assignment closer to home. When he went to fill out paperwork the

morning after his arrival, the base personnel were wearing white lab coats and Josephs has second thoughts. An officer took him aside and said, “You volunteered for this and you’re going to do it. If you don’t you’re going to jail. You’re going to Vietnam either way—before or after.”

Tim Josephs was told he would be testing gas masks, boots and other clothing, he said. The secret (now declassified) Army document reveals that BZ tests were done on soldiers. The military also tested tear gas, barbiturates, tranquilizers, narcotics and other hallucinogens like LSD on soldiers.

(VVA—Web Weekly March 2, 2012 Issue on VVA.ORG)

ECHOES FROM STATE COUNSEL

John Rowan’s message was loud and clear this weekend. We need to stand united and take care of our own. **It is never too late to file a claim for PTSD or Agent Orange!**

With that said, AVVA is

now offering Service-Officer training on-line. The cost is \$150 to be reimbursed upon successful completion of the course.

In addition, **Larry Holman** announced that he will not seek another term as President. Nominations are now being

accepted for State Counsel President.

Paul Sutton is the expert to contact with any questions regarding Agent Orange. His knowledge and experience have identified him as the “Go To” guy for questions on that issue.

What 's Happening in Nominatonville!

Position of President:

Barry Willever; **Position of Vice President:** Rusty Wolfe and Rich Hudzinski; **Treasurer:** Duane Cerino; **Secretary:** Lynn McMillen.

Directors At Large: Pete Hermany, Mike Regrut, Chris McAtee, Dave Begley, Ken Howard, Rich Hudzinski, Jo Roseberry, George Hrymack, Sam Sanguinito and Paul Ciemiecki. In the Committee Department we have:

Finance Committee: Duane Cerino and Chuck Snyder,

Membership Committee:

Ken Howard, Pete Hermany, Jo Roseberry, Mike Regrut and George Puzio; **By Laws:** Rich Hudzinski; **Government Affairs:** Dave Begley; **PTSD and Substance Abuse:** Jo Roseberry, George Puzio, Pat Roxberry, Rich Hudzinski and George Hrymack, **Special Events:** Richard Kromer and Chris McAtee; **Public Affairs:**

George Puzio, **Incarcerated**

Vets: Jeff Chewning; **POW/MIA:** Sam Borso, **Agent Orange:** Paul Ciemiecki and Mike Regrut; **Veteran Affairs:** Howard Shaneberger and Tom Kent; **Homeless Veterans:** Jo Roseberry and John Shields.

Delegates to State Council are Lynn McMillen, Rich Hudzinski and George Puzio. Alternates Barry Willever,



Chapter 415 President Willever at State Council in March Giving A Report During Sunday's General Assembly Meeting

"There are a million ways to lose a work day; But not even a single way to get one back"

Tom DeMarco

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

The Battleship New Jersey will hold her 2nd Annual Vietnam War Living History Day on Saturday, April 7, 2012. Vietnam War-Era re-enactors will be on the Battleship. Artifacts from that time will be on display, military vehicles will be parked on the ship's pier, veteran interviews will take place in the war room and they will even have

1960's music playing over the ship's PA system. Please contact George at our April meeting if you are interested in going. We can carpool and have a great time going down for the day's activities.

Iron Pigs Baseball

April 5th

Heroes Night and a canvas print to the first 3,000 adults.

April 15th

Dog Day (Bring your dog to the park).

April 24th

Winter Cap Give-a-way to the first 3,000 adults to the park.



THE STARS AND STRIPES IS WORRIED ABOUT MOVING TO A MILITARY BASE!

The Military newspaper Stars and Stripes, a hometown daily for many troops has been ordered to vacate its headquarters and move to a military base 30 miles away. It is a cost-cutting effort that has outraged staff members worried that they will lose their journalistic independence. The news is attract-

ing high-level attention from Congress. Leon Panetta answered the order to find significant budget cuts and he saw a way to cut \$1 million a year in rent by relocating the newspaper from the national Press Building, a prestigious downtown address, to Fort Meade, MD, where it would

be housed at no cost alongside the agency that oversees official Pentagon and military media operations. So.....the question really is can they be a news organization subsidized by the Defense Department and still be editorially independent? You Can Decide!



Stripes.com

EASTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL



Sam Sanguinito, Sandy Lombardo, Bonnie Pullo and Chuck Snyder.

The Easton H.S. drafting teacher

stands very proud of his entire class! Seven groups of drafting and design students taught by Mr. Kast competed to design the memorial. The winning design includes 17 plaques with red and black panels. One of the students said, "It was a good solid three days of just brainstorming."

Thus far, there are approximately 115 names for the memorial, not including the servicemen who were killed in the line of duty, according to Chuck Snyder (President). This was an opportunity for

architectural students at Easton High School to experience a project from beginning to end and actually see the memorial being built. One of the stumbling blocks here is identifying and actually locating Easton Area Veterans. To help with the location process or make a donation to the Memorial, please contact Sam Sanguinito through Chapter 415, or Sandy Lombardo at sll47@hotmail.com for more information. Everyone's help is needed in making this Monument a reality.



WEBWeekly
what's new on vva.org



WHAT'S NEW ON VVA.ORG

Larry Holman attended the White House Community Partnership Summit, an all-day event held at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. This is a summit to connect senior Obama Administration officials with community leaders to generate a dialogue on critical issues. Holman attended two which dealt di-

rectly with Women Veterans and Veterans Education.

Montgomery Commission on Veteran Affairs is hosting its 3rd Annual Welcome home Vietnam Veterans Event on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at the Silver Spring Building at Veterans' Plaza from 6 to 8:30 p.m.. For GPS, the address is 8525 Fenton Street, Silver

Spring, MD.

Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day, with a ceremonial observation will be held Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 12 Noon to 4 p.m. in New York City. This will be a rain/shine event.

For more info VVA.org

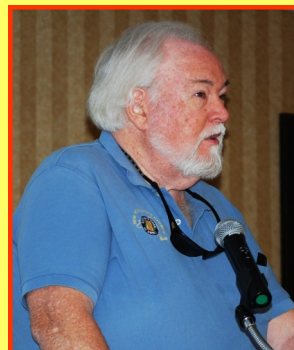


John Rowan Attended PA's State Council

Chapter 415 Delegates were in attendance at the State Council Meeting this past March 10th and 11th. Chapter 415's Resolution to urge lawmakers to create a separate veterans agency in Pennsylvania was approved by the Government Affairs Sub Committee and went on to get the endorsement of the State

Council. In addition, "**The Faces of Agent Orange**" topic featured on our VVA National Website and Veterans Magazine is looking for individual testimony to publish and bring to Congress to help champion legislation at the Federal level.

(Pictured Right are John Rowan & Pat Roxberry)





**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
LEHIGH VALLEY
CHAPTER 415**

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VVA Lehigh Valley Chapter 415
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All submissions are considered!

Meetings: First Thursday of each month
at the Banko Building, Muhlenberg
Hospital off Schoenersville Road. Turn
onto Westgate Drive until you can make a
right; then enter the hospital and bear left
to the Banko Building. The meeting is
open for everyone to attend.



Pictured left is Vietnam Veterans of America Pennsylvania State President Larry D. Holman talking with Duane Cerino

after the meeting in March. Larry urged the Chapter to address economic opportunities for veterans and shared his insight into the internal affairs of the Veterans Administration. Our Chapter Delegates will meet with Larry at State Council held at Penn State University. National President John Rowan will be in attendance. Remember, while only delegates can vote on issues, everyone is welcomed to attend a State Council meeting held in March, June and October of 2012.

TRANSFER YOUR 35MM SLIDES FROM VIETNAM TO A CD! (FREE)

My Grandma once said to me, "When something is free, take it then worry about what you're going to do with it."

A wise woman she was! So I will make this offer to members of Chapter 415. If you have any 35mm slides that you took during the War, I will take those slides and digitize them for you. I have the equipment to transfer them to a CD at no cost to you. My personal slides are already deteriorating and I can visibly see the resolution fading. By transferring them to CD you will be able to insert the CD into your computer and view as many times as you want. You can then make a back-up copy for your family. Two examples show the remarkable quality (Right) Your 35mm slides have a limited life so no more need for the Carousel Projector!



A Variety of Hats are available through product sales!! This one cost only \$10.00 (See Barry to Purchase One)