

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 324 - PO Box 18631 - Milwaukee, WI 53218



Meeting Notice

15 May, 2024

5555 W. Good Hope Rd.
Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Chapter Meeting 7 - 8 p.m.

15 May, 2024

Future Meetings
2024

June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18
Chapter web page: www.vietnamvetschapter324.com
National web page: www.vva.org

Chapter Officers

President: Pat Ciofani [rezmel\(at\)sbcglobal.net](mailto:rezmel(at)sbcglobal.net)
414-702-7734

Vice Pres: Treasurer: Pat Moore [irishpatat\(at\)sbcglobal.net](mailto:irishpatat(at)sbcglobal.net)
414-354-2533 Cell: 414-731-6029

Secretary: Dennis Symanski [dski06\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:dski06(at)hotmail.com)
414-453-3600

Director: John Morgan [asa600\(at\)aol.com](mailto:asa600(at)aol.com)
414-871-9274

Director: Bob Rugg
414-323-4852

Newsletter: John Zutz [john\(at\)zutz.org](mailto:john(at)zutz.org)

John is listed in the phone book - good luck finding one

VVA-324 Fundraising

Distribute Orange Blossoms at American Family Field

Save the dates: June 30th and September 29th

More info to come.

“You can
always get
married, but
you can’t
always pilot a
B-25.”
Lilly Yomaly



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Milwaukee Chapter 324

March 20, 2024

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

Attendance – Pat Moore, John Morgan, Richard Muras, Pat Ciofani, Ed Boyes, Lavern Martin, Dennis Szymanski

Minutes of February 21, 2024 meeting reviewed and approved

Treasurer’s Report – Pat Moore - \$3987.86 in our checking account

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Allied Veterans Meeting Update – Pat Ciofani - \$49.24 spent for snacks

Fund Raising – Our Brewer dates are June 30th and September 29th - We will also share date with American Legion Post 474 on July 28th and September 8th

Website – Contact Pat Moore with items of interest to post on our website

OLD BUSINESS

The bank mistake in our checking account has been corrected and \$200 has been restored to our account

NEW BUSINESS

State VVA Meeting Update – Pat Ciofani

April Elections – It is not necessary to hold elections this year as all officers and directors were elected to 2 year terms in 2023

Milwaukee County Veterans Assoc. Inc (War Memorial) - Moved and passed to donate \$100 to help with their work

Adjournment – 7:30

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Milwaukee Chapter 324

April 17, 2024

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

Attendance – Pat Moore, John Morgan, Richard Muras, Lavern Martin, Ed Boyes, Pat Ciofani, Dennis Szymanski

Minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting reviewed and accepted

Treasurer’s Report – Pat Moore - \$3821.41 balance in our checking account

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Allied Veterans Meeting Report – Pat Ciofani

Fund Raising – June 30th is our first Brewer’s date

Website – Contact Pat Moore with items of interest to the chapter

NEW BUSINESS

Allied Veterans Meeting – April is our month to provide snacks

Fund Raising Dates – June 30th and September 29th are our Brewer’s dates. We will also share dates with American Legion Post 474 on July 28th and September 8th

Adjournment – 7:30 pm

BEETLE BAILEY



4 Things to Remember Every Memorial Day

By Blake Stilwell, Military.com

Traditions are important. They're a form of living history passed down from generation to generation.

Even so far removed from Memorial Day's earnest beginnings as a way of honoring the scores of dead from the Civil War, we still recognize our honored dead by taking the time to visit and spruce up their final resting places.

Aside from a nationwide surge in parades, burger and beer sales and visits to veterans cemeteries, there are certain traditions that happen every Memorial Day. Even if you aren't planting flags at a cemetery or you don't know anyone who fell in service to their country, there are still things you can learn, observe and even teach to others.

1. The Moment of Silence

Every Memorial Day at 3 p.m. local time, whether you're at home, at a parade or in the middle of a speech, please take a moment to observe the National Moment of Remembrance. For just one full minute, Americans everywhere should pause to remember all the men and women who died in service to our country.

The idea is to keep Memorial Day from becoming just another holiday, one that Americans use to get an extra day of swilling beer in the sun.

Since 2000, Public Law 106-579 has asked that we shut our burgerholes for 60 seconds and "pay tribute to individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States and their families."

2. It's Not Veterans Day

As much as we enjoy the extra attention afforded to vets on Veterans Day, this is not the time for that sort of thing. Memorial Day is about honoring the fallen men and women who died in service to their country -- not just anyone. A lot of people will confuse the day, conflate the day or worse, forget the day.

Most veterans will not expect to be thanked for their service, but this especially true on Memorial Day. Instead of smiling and saying whatever it is we say when someone thanks you, vets can take the time to explain the meaning of Memorial Day to them like we're Linus explaining the true meaning of Christmas.

3. When to Raise and Lower the Flag

The rules for where and when the American flag is raised and lowered are different for Memorial Day. We may collectively remember to render proper salutes while the flag is being raised and lowered. We might even remember to raise the flag "briskly" and lower it slowly and ceremoniously. But if you're the emcee of a Memorial Day event, you should be sure to observe the proper timing for where Old Glory should be throughout the day.

The Stars and Stripes should of course be raised briskly first thing in the morning. But on Memorial Day, the flag is raised only to half-staff. At noon, the flag should be raised to full-staff until it's taken down at sunset. Memorial Day is the only day that observes both positions on the flagpole. If you fly a flag from the porch of your house and can't lower it, simply attach a black mourning streamer to the top for when it's supposed to be lowered.

4. What Day Memorial Day Is On

Memorial Day started as a good idea from an organization made up of Union Civil War veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic. These veterans lobbied state and local governments across the former union to recognize May 30 as a day of remembrance, originally known as "Decoration Day."

They chose May 30 because no battles happened on that day.

Over the next 100 years, Decoration Day morphed into Memorial Day. By 1968, all of the Civil War vets had died, and Memorial Day belonged to the fallen veterans of all eras.

Congress eventually changed the observance to the last Monday in May as a way to give federal employees a set of standard three-day weekends -- and widen the observance of the day.

The Wall That Heals

Event by [Hartland Chamber of Commerce](#)

175 E Park Ave, Hartland, WI 53029, United States

The Wall That Heals exhibit is coming to Nixon Park in Hartland WI. This is the only host site in the state of Wisconsin in 2024. The Wall That Heals honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. Name rubbings will be offered.

The Wall That Heals is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., and includes a mobile Education Center. The Wall That Heals will be escorted into Hartland on Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Once assembled, it will be open 24 hours a day and free to the public beginning May 30th until Sunday, June 2nd at 2:00 p.m. Our goal is for each visitor to come away with an exceptional overall experience and an understanding of the Vietnam War and its impact on the men and women who served, along with the impact to their families, friends and our country. All Veterans are encouraged to visit.

Volunteer Opportunities are Available.

More information can be found at <https://hartland-wi.org/events/the-wall-that-heals/>.

Sponsors: Bravo Company USA, Inc; Town Bank; American Legion Post #294; Bank Five Nine; Dave Droegkamp Heating; Big Fish Contracting; The Tribute Companies; WI Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1

Homeless veteran has new home thanks to Milwaukee VA program

Milwaukee VA Medical Center's goal for 2024 is to house 406 veterans in Wisconsin

Diana Gutierrez WISN Anchor/Reporter, Apr 12, 2024

MILWAUKEE — More than 300 homeless veterans in Wisconsin now have a place to call home. This is thanks to the Homeless Prevention Program at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center and its community-based outpatient clinics.

WISN 12 News spoke to a veteran who was helped through this program. He hit rock bottom but is rebuilding his life.

In 1976, at the age of 17, Glen Hauser was a recovery specialist with the U.S. Army. "I went out and recovered vehicles," Hauser said. "Anything with wheels that broke down, we went and got."

Throughout the years, Hauser became a father of four. He had a good job as a courier with U.S. Bank and bought a house. "I lived in a 4,000-square-foot house. I was making in the six-figure marks," he said. Then, things started to spiral. He got a divorce and had a heart attack at the age of 48.

"They just did the 14th stent. And like I said, I'm clogged up and really clogged," Hauser said.

Before long, he was alone and renting a room in a mobile home from a stranger. And when things couldn't get any worse, he was homeless.

"I came home," Hauser explained. "My stuff was outside or what was left of it. And so, I was living

in my vehicle. In my case, it's just circumstances. It wasn't an addiction issue or anything like that. You know, it was just circumstances. I came home, and I was homeless."

After spending some time at tiny homes for vets in Racine, Hauser landed an apartment in West Allis through a rental assistance program for homeless veterans. The program is called HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, HUD-VASH for short.

"HUD-VASH allows veterans to get rent assistance and helps provide them access to affordable housing," said Melissa Wiese, the acting program manager for the Homeless Prevention Program. "And also coordination services from the VA to help them maintain that housing."

It can take up to 10 months on a waiting list.

"I got way lucky. I got a nice place. I'm really happy about it," Hauser said. "Veterans deserve a home," Wiese said. "There should be no stigma associated with that struggle."

The Milwaukee VA Medical Center's goal for 2024 is to house 406 veterans in Wisconsin. As for Hauser, he is encouraging any vet out there to go to the Milwaukee VA and ask for help.

Veterans experiencing homelessness or those who are at risk can call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-424-3838, or visit the VA Homeless Program website

Sunday, June 30, 2024



9:30 am - 5 pm

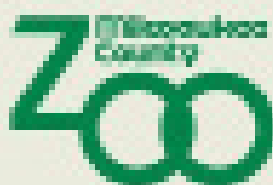
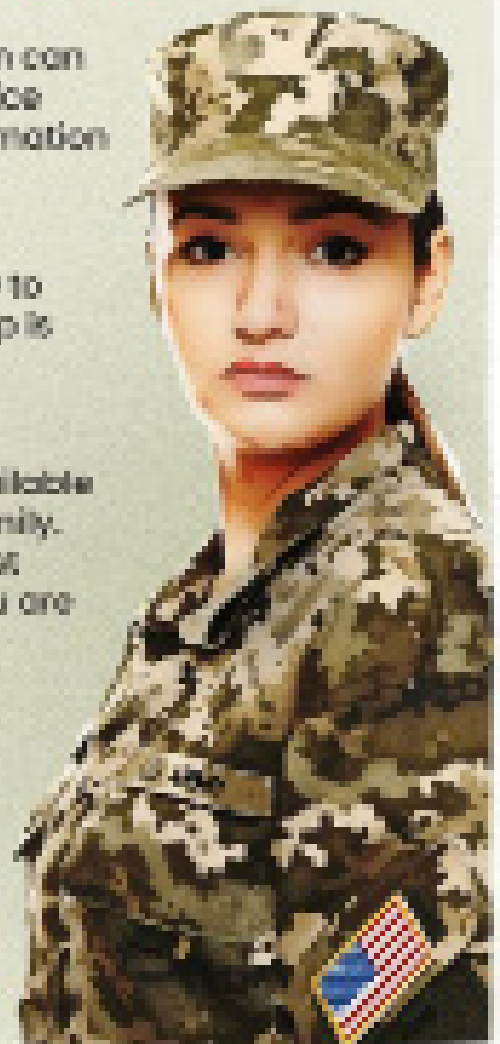
MILITARY & VETERANS FAMILY DAY

Milwaukee County Zoo

Enjoy free Zoo admission and parking

Tickets available May 28 - June 28

- ★ Active military and veterans residing in Wisconsin can pick up tickets at their local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO). Contact your local CVSO for information on obtaining tickets.
- ★ Don't miss the Veterans Benefit Expo from **9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.** where veterans can learn how to get the benefits they deserve. This one-stop-shop is presented by the Milwaukee County Veteran Service Office.
- ★ **Important:** Tickets are required for entry and available for immediate family only. Limit 10 tickets per family. Tickets are limited and will be distributed on a first come first service basis. Only obtain tickets if you are sure you will be visiting the Zoo on June 30.



Milwaukee County Zoo
1000 W. Bluemound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53200



Vietnam Veterans of America #324
PO Box 18631
Milwaukee, WI 53218



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Sign Up Now With Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 324

Anyone can join! Membership Options:

Veterans:

Life Membership for all veterans \$50 (with a DD214 submitted).

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, **P O Box 240552, Milwaukee WI. 53224**