



In Service to America

THE OUTPOST

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 787, Tampa Fl.



**NATIONAL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2001, FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL,
CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
FOR INFORMATION CALL BOB SILMSER (813) 220-7246 OR (813) 685-3483.
WEB SITE: WWW.VVA787.COM**



Submitted By: Jon Mueller

Veterans Memorial Park, Tampa Fl. January 13 2007

Hillsborough County Veterans Council placed 309 additional American Flags in the Field of Honor today. Those Flags represent the deaths of American service men and women who have lost their lives during October, November and December 2006, while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Chapter Officers

President: Jim LaGarde
Vice President: Carl Harris
Secretary: Bob Silmsers
Treasurer: Bob Silmsers

Board of Directors:

Ron Schott
Tom Hall
Kevin Ruhl
Jon Mueller

State Council Delegate:

Kevin Ruhl

Newsletter Editor: Jon Mueller, E-mail: ParaSF68@aol.com

Meetings

Chapter Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month.

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Brandon Veterans Hall, 115 W. Clay Brandon Fl. 33510. See Map on last page. **Mailing address: P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404.**

Pictured top L-R, Hillsborough County School Teacher (Freedom High School) **Tiffany Carr**, and Mr. **Walt Raysick** of the Brandon American Legion Post 278, who volunteered to read the names of the KIA's. **Bud Ortel** (not pictured) also read some of the names. Next is Hillsborough County Veterans Council President and chapter member, **Dave Braun**.

New Chapter Member

Paul Steven Williams (goes by the name Steve). Steve joined Chapter 787 in October 2006 and served as a combat Infantryman with the U.S. Army's 9th I.D. (3rd Brigade). He was discharged in 1973. His wife's name is Penny.



Dignity Moving Wall items buried with Respect

Submitted By Jon Mueller



January 27 2007, a number of people including veterans gathered at Hillsborough Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Brandon Fl, to pay their respects to the time capsule burial of items left at the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall which was held back in October 2006. Just like The Wall in Washington DC, individuals who came to view The Wall, left mementos behind representing something meaningful only to them. and to those who's names were on The Wall. Pictured above L-R, **Mike Howell**, who's brother **Robert** was KIA in Vietnam, stands next to the Monument which acts as a headstone for the grave site. Chapter member **Ron Murray** is on the other side. Chapter member **Linda Pugsley** gives the opening remarks. Second row L-R, Chapter Member **Ron Murray** reads heart felt poems about our sacrifice. Lastly the site is opened in preparation for the event.

Continued on the next page.....



Pictured top row L-R, Chapter member and Veterans Council President **Dave Braun** puts the first dirt on the buried time capsule, next it's chapter Secretary and Treasurer, **Bob Silmsler's** turn. All Chapter 787 members present, **Linda Pugsley**, **Ron Murray** and Jon Mueller, did the same. Second row L-R, **Mike and Sherry, Howell** stand next to the 9/11 monument at the time capsule site. Mike's Harley showing his brothers memorial. Bottom row L-R, Mike and Sherry have a mini Vietnam Wall memorial in their back yard once again to honor the memorial of Mike's brother, **Robert** who was with Charlie Co. 2nd Bn. 7th Inf, 1st Calvary Division. Mike also had another brother who served in Vietnam and came home safe. In addition, both Mike and Sherry's fathers both served in the military. Mikes dad served in WWII (US Army) and Sherry's dad served in Vietnam with the USAF. Quite a military family! Next, Bill Hartgrove (suit & tie) stands among Chapter 787 members. Bill is the General Manager for Hillsborough Memorial Funeral Home & Cemetery. Bill is a strong supporter of the military and has offered his services for any veteran. Thanks to **Ron Murray** for his input some of these pictures.

This Month during the War in Vietnam

February 1968 The North Vietnamese launched an attack on the U.S. Marine combat base at Khe Sanh on January 21st. On February 6th they attacked the nearby Lang Vei camp. The camp's 500 defenders included American Green Berets (one A-Team) and two companies of indigenous Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) troops.

The camp was subjected to an unusually intense mortar and artillery barrage beginning about 1800 on the 6th, and the defenders immediately responded with counter fire from the camp and supporting fire from the Khe Sanh Combat Base.

In the first use of enemy tanks against Americans in the Vietnam War, the North Vietnamese ground attack began before 0100 in the predawn darkness of the 7th, supported by some eleven Soviet PT-76 amphibious tanks. The first two to reach the protective wire around the camp perimeter were taken under fire and knocked out by 106mm recoilless rifles, but additional tanks maneuvered around the destroyed vehicles to overrun the defenders of the camp's southern sector.

The camp's defenders had been warned of a possible armored attack by earlier intelligence reports and were equipped with LAWS rockets. These, together with the camp's 106-mm. and 57-mm. recoilless rifles, destroyed another five tanks but were not able to stop the remainder. The defenders made a fighting retreat from the perimeter but were soon surrounded in pockets of resistance. Meanwhile, VPA forces ranged through the camp, using their tanks and explosive satchel charges to destroy fortifications and attack the tactical operations center (TOC) and other combat positions.

When dawn broke, the defenders in the operations center called in air strikes against the North Vietnamese and requested that the Marines at Khe Sanh to implement their contingency plan to reinforce Lang Vei. Fearing that the attack was part of a larger VPA ambush scheme, the Marines chose not to reinforce the camp. At noon, General William Westmoreland convinced the Marines to allow Special Forces recon men from the combat base to evacuate the surviving defenders and a reaction force was dispatched with tactical air support.

The extraction took place that afternoon and by nightfall the camp had been evacuated. The seriously wounded were evacuated by helicopter while the reaction force escorted the remaining survivors and many refugees in a foot march that reached the Khe Sanh on the morning of February 8th. Almost half of the defenders had been killed or were missing in action, but the attackers stopped at Lang Vei without attacking Khe Sanh.

With a limited staff and a lengthy list of collection requirements, (US Navy) NAVFORV intelligence personnel could expend only a small portion of their efforts seeking evidence of an unprecedented, coordinated, country-wide attack such as the Tet Offensive. In addition, U.S. Navy operational forces generally placed a low emphasis on intelligence collection, and it was only in isolated cases that operational boat skippers were successfully given intelligence briefs and then meaningfully debriefed after an operation. TF 115 and TF 116 failed to collect data on ports, boat identities, routes, cargoes and personnel. Analysis of such information would have assisted the Vietnamese government to control water traffic. Rather than utilizing their special warfare skills for intelligence purposes, operating forces often misused the SEALs as covert infantry units. Their abilities to conduct infiltration and reconnaissance, as well as to run agent nets, were often ignored in the rush to employ them in disrupting and destroying specific enemy targets.

Elsewhere in South Vietnam, the success of the Tet offensive was erratic. Many of the attacks on the provincial cities and US bases were easily beaten back within the first minutes or hours, but others involved bitter fighting. In the resort city of Dalat, the ARVN put up a spirited defense of the Vietnamese Military Academy against a determined VC battalion. Fighting raged over the Pasteur Institute - which changed hands several times-and the VC dug themselves in the central market. Fighting in Dalat went on until mid-February and left over 200 VC dead.



Submitted By: Jon Mueller

Quote

“The evidence is fairly clear, at least 200,000 years ago and quite possibly going back over a million years, certain men in various tribes in what is now Europe, were given the first pick of the food, animal hides, water etc, as compensation for successfully raiding other tribes and in defense of their own. These men were chosen for their strength and fighting abilities.

“Therefore I disagree with the phrase, The oldest profession is prostitution. Actually the oldest profession is **Soldiering**.”

W. J. Diossian, PhD Palo Anthropology

We need your help!

Now that you have signed up and confirmed your email address with VVA, we are asking that you **forward this message to your VVA and AVVA contacts**. We have more than 50,000 members but only 15,000 email addresses. We want to reach every member who has an email. **Only current members may sign-up.**

What is the VVA Opt-In Email campaign? It's a way for VVA to communicate with its members instantly.

What kind of email will VVA send me? We have a lot of things coming your way. We want you to know the new web site is about to be launched, that we are getting ready to start a marketing campaign on the web and already have sent out 90 white papers that have been picked up on 35,000 web sites.

In order to receive email from VVA, you need to sign up. There are three easy steps in the sign-up process:

Go to <http://www.vva.org/applications/emailsignupform.aspx>

1. Fill out the information

You must respond to the confirmation email when it arrives in your inbox .

Remember : Just check the box if you want to receive email from VVA. If you leave the box unchecked, you won't receive any email.

Also, we want to raise money for VVA, and you can help us by also checking the "Your partner organizations may contact me" box. This is an easy way for us to make some money at your inconvenience. What's more, these are like the advertisers in *The VVA Veteran*, and you just might find something useful or entertaining. It doesn't cost you a cent. Just hit submit.

For answers to some of the questions that have been asked, go to our [FAQ page](#).

Thank you.

Keith King
Chair, Public Affairs Committee



Open Letter From Chapter 787 President Jim LaGarde

My Fellow Members:

The last few years have been a real struggle to get participation from our chapter members for on-going activities like fund raisers and special events.

Our recent annual Christmas Diner held on December 14th 2006, had more guests in attendance than actual chapter members and as a consequence we paid for a lot of food that was left over and basically wasted.

It is important that each member search his or her motivation for being a chapter 787 member. If membership means just having your name on a Vet Groups mailing list, that is very unfortunate.

Chapter 787 needs active participation from all members. Each of you can give something to the many worthwhile projects we have throughout the coming year. Now is the time to step up and help the men and women who have been carrying the load for so long with our chapter.

Please contact me or Bob Silmser.

Jim (Rambo) LaGarde, President Chapter 787 (813) 758-4547

Bob Silmser, Secretary & Treasurer (813) 220-7246

Medal of Honor Winners of the Vietnam War.

The Bravest of the Brave



***ANDERSON, JAMES, JR.**

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, 2d Platoon, Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, 3d Marine Division. Place and date: Republic of Vietnam, 28 February 1967. Entered service at: Los Angeles, Calif. Born: 22 January 1947, Los Angeles, Calif. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Company F was advancing in dense jungle northwest of Cam Lo in an effort to extract a heavily besieged reconnaissance patrol. Pfc. Anderson's platoon was the lead element and had advanced only about 200 meters when they were brought under extremely intense enemy small-arms and automatic weapons fire. The platoon reacted swiftly, getting on line as best they could in the thick terrain, and began returning fire. Pfc. Anderson found himself tightly bunched together with the other members of the platoon only 20 meters from the enemy positions. As the fire fight continued several of the men were wounded by the deadly enemy assault. Suddenly, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the marines and rolled alongside Pfc. Anderson's head. Unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his personal safety, he reached out, grasped the grenade, pulled it to his chest and curled around it as it went off. Although several marines received shrapnel from the grenade, his body absorbed the major force of the explosion. In this singularly heroic act, Pfc. Anderson saved his comrades from serious injury and possible death. His personal heroism, extraordinary valor, and inspirational supreme self-sacrifice reflected great credit upon himself and the Marine Corps and upheld the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.



New CentCom Commander has Vietnam Connection



Admiral William Fallon, who will replace Army General John Abizaid as the Commander of Central Command at MacDill AFB Tampa Fl, began his Naval Aviation service flying in the RA-5C *Vigilante* with a combat deployment to Vietnam, transitioning to the A-6 *Intruder* in 1974. He served in flying assignments with Attack Squadrons and Carrier Air Wings for twenty-four years, deploying to the Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans embarked in *USS Saratoga*, *USS Ranger*, *USS Nimitz*, *USS Dwight D. Eisenhower* and *USS Theodore Roosevelt*. He has logged more than 1,300 carrier arrested landings and 4,800 flight hours in tactical jet aircraft.

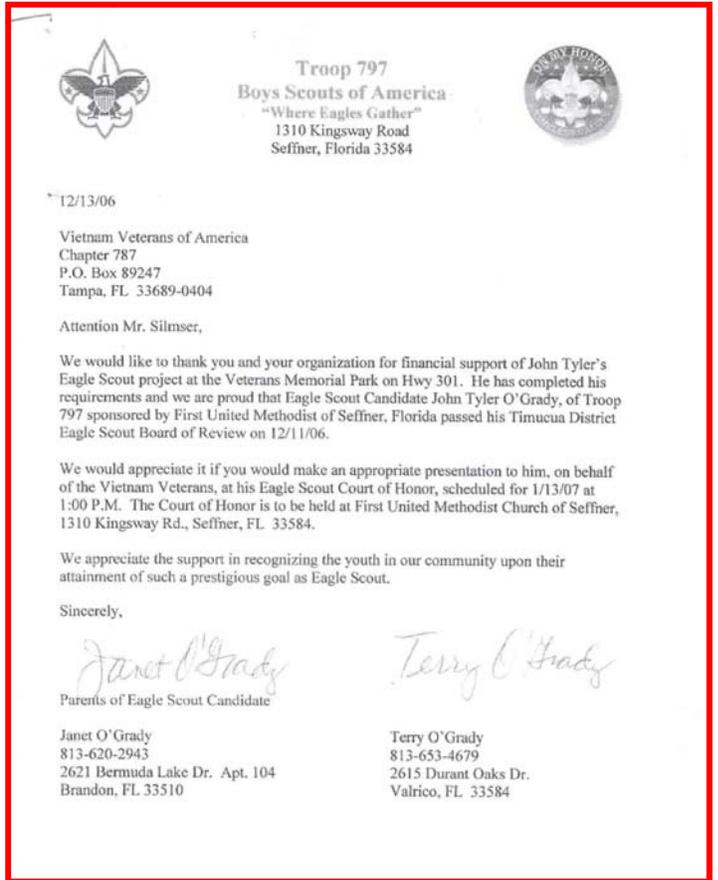
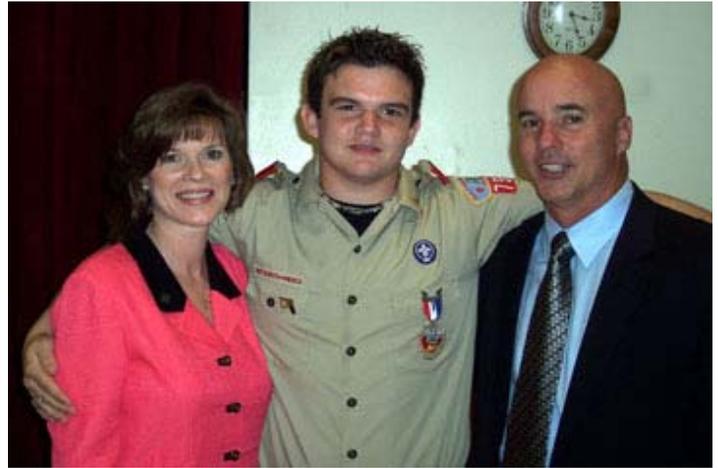


Submitted By: Jon Mueller

Social Security Income and your DD-214

When a veteran applies for Social Security benefits, they should take their DD-214 with them. Social Security then computes the extra benefit and it is added to the monthly payments. In many cases, the Social Security office asks for a DD-214 and this benefit is computed automatically. But, not always. If you are a veteran who is collecting Social Security and you're not sure whether you are receiving this benefit, call your local Social Security office and ask them to check your account. If you are not getting the benefit, take your DD-214 to your local Social Security office and apply. They will compute your new benefit and you will receive a larger monthly check plus retroactive benefits computed from the time you started collecting Social Security. Remember, military retirees and government retirees who use military time to compute "time in service" do not qualify for this benefit. For more information, visit <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>.

Chapter 787 Honors New Eagle Scout



Pictured above, L-R, Chapter 787 President **Jim LaGarde**, Janet O'Grady and her son, Tyler O'Grady, the new Eagle Scout of Troop 797. Next, Mrs Terry O'Grady (step Mom) with Tyler and his Father Terry O'Grady. Next, Terry O'Grady, Tyler and Hillsborough Veterans Council President and chapter member, **Dave Braun**. Dave also presented Tyler with an award from the Veterans Council.

Chapter President **Jim LaGarde** presented Tyler with a Certificate of Appreciation and a POW-MIA pin with Wings to signify Eagle Scout.

Submitted By: Jon Mueller

New National Purple Heart Hall of Honor

VA Secretary Jim Nicholson visited the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor on Friday, January 12, in New Windsor, New York. The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor was dedicated on November 10, 2006, and serves as a permanent remembrance of those awarded the Purple Heart as a result of combat wounds received in service to our country. It is the only institution in the nation dedicated solely to Purple Heart recipients. For more information, visit the [National Purple Heart Hall of Honor website](http://www.purpleheart.org).

POW/MIA**Soldiers Missing in Action from Vietnam War are Identified**

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of two U.S. servicemen, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

They are Maj. Frederick J. Ransbottom, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Staff Sgt. William E. Skivington Jr.; of Las Vegas, Nev.; both U.S. Army. Ransbottom will be buried in Edmond, Okla. on Jan. 13, and Skivington will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C., on Jan. 23.

Representatives from the Army met with the next-of-kin of these men to explain the recovery and identification process, and to coordinate interment with military honors on behalf of the Secretary of the Army.

On May 12, 1968, North Vietnamese forces overran the Kham Duc Special Forces camp and its surrounding observation posts in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province (formerly Quang Tin Province), South Vietnam. Ransbottom and Skivington were two of the 17 U.S. servicemen unaccounted-for after the survivors evacuated the camp. Search and recovery efforts at the site in 1970 succeeded in recovering remains of five of the 17 men. A sixth man was returned alive during Operation Homecoming in 1973 after having been captured and held prisoner of war by the North Vietnamese.



Between 1993 and 2006, joint U.S./Socialist Republic of Vietnam teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), conducted eight investigations and four excavations in the vicinity of the camp site. The team interviewed former North Vietnamese officers and soldiers who participated in the battle. Some recalled seeing the bodies of U.S. servicemen near one of the observation posts, and U.S. eyewitness accounts placed Ransbottom and Skivington near the post.

During an excavation conducted in 1998, two U.S. servicemen who survived the battle accompanied JPAC to help locate the observation posts, but found no evidence of human remains. Later excavations conducted in the area yielded human remains, identification media and personal effects for Ransbottom, Skivington and several other soldiers.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC also used dental comparisons in the identification of the remains.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO Web site at www.dtic.mil/dpmo or call (703) 699-1169.

Submitted By: Jon Mueller

Deal of the Week

Send the freshest flowers and thoughtful gifts to your loved ones this Valentines Day. Shop 1-800-FLOWERS.COM and SAVE 15%*. Simply use Promotion Code MAC42 at check out.

Chapter Membership Rewards

Any member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 787, in good standing, who sponsors a new V.V.A. or A.V.V.A member to Chapter 787 will be rewarded with his or her yearly dues paid for up to a maximum of three years.

Therefore, if you know of any Vietnam Vet, Era Vet, or any other person (non-vet) who may be interested in joining our select group under the General Membership or A.V.V. A. program, now is the time to contact them and save some money on your next annual due's payment.



Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time
<u>February 2007</u>		
2nd Friday	Fund Raiser, Publix Causeway Blvd. & Lumsden Rd.	11:00 AM to 7:00 PM
3rd Saturday	Fund Raiser, Publix Causeway Blvd. & Lumsden Rd.	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
8th Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting, Jon's House	6:30 PM
22nd Thursday	Chapter Meeting, Veterans Hall, Brandon Fl.	7:00 PM
24th Saturday	Fund Raiser, WalMart, Bloomingdale & Bell Shoals	
25th Sunday	Fund Raiser, WalMart, Bloomingdale & Bell Shoals	
<u>March 2007</u>		
8th Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting, Jon's House	6:30 PM
9th Friday	Fund Raiser, Publix Bloomingdale & Lithia Pinecrest Rd.	
10th Saturday	Fund Raiser, Publix Bloomingdale & Lithia Pinecrest Rd.	
22nd Thursday	Chapter Meeting, Veterans Hall, Brandon Fl.	7:00 PM

Submitted By: Jon Mueller

President Signs Veterans Benefits Bill

Week of January 01, 2007

President Bush recently signed legislation that will improve benefits and health care for America's veterans and their families along a broad front. The legislation, [S. 3421](#), the Veterans Benefits, Healthcare, and Information Technology Act of 2006, includes \$3.2 billion in funding to enhance veterans' benefits and health care, secure sensitive personal information, authorize VA health care facility construction nationwide, \$65 million to increase the number of clinicians treating post traumatic stress disorder ([PTSD](#)), expands tele-health initiatives invaluable to rural veterans, increases the number of community-based outpatient clinics able to treat mental illnesses.

Learn more about Veteran's Health Care by visiting www.military.com/benefits/veterans-health-care.

Financial Status of Chapter 787 as of January 11 2007

Checking Account.....\$5,259.57 (Moving Wall Fund..\$3,743.00, Merch/Misc..\$1160.57, Holiday Meals Fund...\$356.00)

Household Goods.....\$2781.34 (Convention Fund.....\$2114.54 Household.....\$ 666.80)

All Accounts Total: \$8,117.61

Thanks to our Treasurer Bob Silmsr

PTSD may Raise Heart Attack Risk

Associated Press | January 02, 2007

CHICAGO - A groundbreaking study of 1,946 male veterans of World War II and Korea suggests that vets with symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder are at greater risk of heart attacks as they age.

The new study is the first to document a link between PTSD symptoms and future heart disease, and joins existing evidence that vets with PTSD also have more autoimmune diseases such as arthritis and psoriasis.

A second study, funded by the Army, found that Soldiers returning from combat in Iraq with post-traumatic stress disorder reported worse physical health, more doctor visits and more missed workdays. The Army study is based on a survey of 2,863 Soldiers one year after combat.

"The burden of war may be even greater than people think," said the first study's lead author, Laura Kubzansky of the Harvard School of Public Health, who studies anxiety, depression and anger as risk factors for heart disease. Her work, with colleagues from Harvard and Boston University, appears in Monday's Archives of General Psychiatry.

Their study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Army study appears in Monday's American Journal of Psychiatry.

The possible link with heart disease didn't surprise one Iraq veteran diagnosed with PTSD.

"It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out," said John Oliveira of New Bedford, Mass., a former Navy public affairs officer and veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan. "It should also be a wake-up call that the cost to treat those of us suffering from PTSD could dramatically increase as we age."

Medical authorities first accepted post-traumatic stress disorder as a psychiatric condition in 1980 at the urging of Vietnam veterans.

In PTSD, the body's normal hormonal response to stress becomes trigger-happy, scientists believe. Long after traumatic events, people remain edgy, fearful and prone to nightmares and flashbacks. The continual release of adrenaline prompted by these symptoms may wear down the cardiovascular system, Kubzansky said.

"It's not enough to simply welcome them home and do some immediate evaluation or help with reintegration," she said. "They need to be tracked and watched carefully."

The Harvard and Boston University researchers analyzed data from the Veterans Administration Normative Aging Study, a long-term research project tracking Boston-area vets.

They looked at health records of men who completed either a 46-item questionnaire measuring PTSD symptoms in 1986, or a different 35-item PTSD assessment in 1990. Both questionnaires are recognized tools for diagnosing PTSD and ask about symptoms such as sleep problems, nightmares, numbness, a heightened sense of being on guard and intrusive memories of traumatic events.

Over the 10 to 15 years after completing the questionnaires, the vets with more PTSD symptoms were more likely to have heart attacks. For each level increase in symptoms on the 1990 assessment, the risk of heart attack or chest pain rose 18 percent - even after the researchers took into account known heart disease risk factors such as smoking, alcohol use and high blood pressure.

Although the men had different levels of PTSD symptoms, very few had enough symptoms for a true diagnosis, Kubzansky said. The study needs to be repeated to see if the findings hold true for PTSD-diagnosed veterans, and for women, she said.

The data also didn't track how frequently the men exercised, so researchers couldn't tell if the men with PTSD symptoms were getting more or less exercise than other veterans.

Dr. Gary J. Kennedy, director of geriatric psychiatry at Montefiore Medical Center, called the study "impressive." He said one symptom of PTSD is avoiding activity, which could account for some of the effect on the heart.

Kennedy, who was not involved in the study, said treatment options for PTSD include drugs, talk therapy and behavioral changes such as getting more exercise and taking action to solve small problems in life rather than shutting down emotionally.

"We've got a whole generation of veterans coming back (from Iraq and Afghanistan) and their health needs are just going to be tremendous," Kennedy said.

Membership Application

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 28th 1961 and May 7, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

Vietnam Veterans of America

Send to: VVA Chapter 787, P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404



Name: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Apt. # _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work or Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Chapter #787 Sponsor _____

Membership Type:

Individual: 1 year _____ \$20 3 years _____ \$50. Associate: 1 year _____ \$20 3 years _____ \$50

Life Member Options: _____ Life Member Ages 49 and Under: \$250, _____ Life Member Ages 50-55: \$225, _____ Life

Member Ages 56-60: \$200, _____ Life Member Ages 61-65: \$175, _____ Life Member Ages 66 +: \$150

_____ I am already a V.V.A. member and want to become a life member. My V.V.A. Member number is _____.

Optional Time Payment plan: \$50 down, and \$25 per month until paid in full.

Payment Method: Check _____

Money Order _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ If using a credit card: Card

Exp. Date: _____ Signature _____

This newsletter is not the official publication of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 787, Tampa Bay Florida. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of Chapter 787, the VVA State Council, the VVA National or the Chapter members.

You can receive a copy of the OUTPOST each month at no cost. Contact Jon Mueller via e-mail at JonMue@aol.com and provide your e-mail address. You will need to have an Adobe Acrobat Reader on your PC to open the newsletter. You can also receive it by US mail. The cost is \$12 per year. Make your check payable to V.V.A. Chapter 787 and mail it to P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404. Make sure you identify the payment for the OUTPOST.

THE OUTPOST

Help Your Chapter Grow

Bring a New Member to the Next Chapter Meeting.

Come and Join Us. Give us your Ideas.

Chapter meetings are held at the Brandon Veterans Hall. 115 W. Clay Ave, Brandon Fl. See map below.

Contact E-mail Addresses:

President Jim LaGarde:

cLaGarde@tampabay.rr.com

VP Carl Harris: c-e-harris@tampabay.rr.com

Secretary & Treasurer Bob Silmsner:

Rafkirk64@tampabay.rr.com

State Council Delegate Kevin Ruhl:

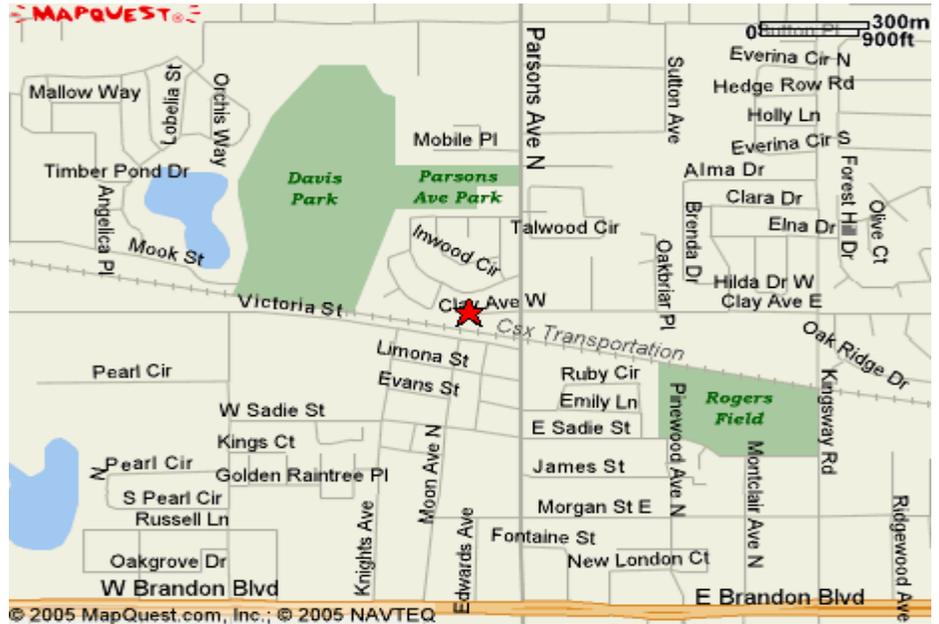
MSgtMCRet@aol.com

Board of Directors

Ron Schott: RonD1120@aol.com

Kevin Ruhl: MSgtMCRet@aol.com

Jon Mueller: ParaSF68@aol.com



Important Web Sites

- Vietnam Veterans of American, Chapter 787, Tampa Bay Florida..... <http://www.vva787.com>
- Vietnam War Statistics.....<http://my.eiis.net/cmart/vietwarstats.html>
- Vietnam, Yesterday & Today.....<http://servercc.oakton.edu/~wittman/chronol.htm>
- Vietnam Veterans Legacy Foundation.....www.vvlf.org
- National League of Families of American POW's/MIA's.....www.pow-miafamilies.org
- V.V.A. National Office on the World Wide Web.....www.vva.org
- U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs.....www.va.gov
- OPM Veterans Hiring Preference.....www.opm.gov/veterans
- Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP).....www.usfhp.com
- U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.....www.vetapp.uscourts.gov
- Children of Vietnam Vets.....www.geocities.com/pentagon/9125
- The Center for Women Veterans.....www.va.gov/womenvet
- Vietnam Women Memorial Foundation, Inc (formerly "Project").....www.vietnamwomensmemorial.org
- The Moving Wall—Vietnam Combat Veterans LTD.....www.themovingwall.org
- The Virtual Wall.....www.virtualwall.org
- Get a Copy of your DD-214 on-line.....<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>