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## Meetings

The Chapter 120 membership meeting and elections are tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Machinists Union Hall, 357 Main St., East Hartford.

The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, June 25 at 7:00pm. Call the Chapter office for any changes in schedule. Chapter members are welcomed to attend.

## Notice

If you have moved or changed your address, PLEASE notify us immediately. Call the Chapter office at (860) 568-9212, mail us at the address on the back of this newsletter or e-mail the Newsletter editor at [tchapter120@aol.com](mailto:tchapter120@aol.com).

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From IRS.gov (IR-2020-75)

## Veterans Affairs recipients will receive automatic Economic Impact Payments



The Internal Revenue Service, working in partnership with the Treasury Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs, announced on April 17 that recipients of VA benefits will automatically receive automatic Economic Impact Payments.

Veterans and their beneficiaries who receive Compensation and Pension (C&P) benefit payments from VA will receive a \$1,200 Economic Impact Payment with no further action needed on their part. Timing on the payments is still being determined.

Moving VA recipients into the automatic payment category follows weeks of extensive cooperative work between VA, Treasury, IRS as well as the Bureau of Fiscal Services.

The announcement came after lawmakers and veterans' organizations alerted the government that a "significant" number of disabled veterans and surviving family members may never receive the direct payments, which Congress approved in a \$2 trillion stimulus package March 27. Their concern was for disabled or low-income veterans and surviving family members who receive monthly compensation from the VA but don't file tax returns or benefit from Social Security.

## Notice to Chapter 120 Members

The membership meeting of May 7, 2020 is cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. At this time, we plan to hold the membership meeting and elections on June 4, 2020 unless further restrictions on social distancing and Connecticut government executive orders require us to cancel that meeting as well. We ask that you heed the safety guidelines prescribed by the Connecticut Governor and CDC, and please stay safe and well.

<b>CHAPTER 120 OFFICE</b>	<b>568-9212</b>
<b><u>Board of Directors</u></b>	
Paul Barry	569-3530
Bob Burgess	646-0205
William Chiodo	688-2518
Peter Galgano	828-1999
Frank Zizzamia	569-0705
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Frank J. Mello, Jr., President	604-3879
Phil Morneault, Vice President	930-2122
Roger Anderson, Treasurer	528-4338
Peter Lund, Secretary	644-9770
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E-Mail: ctchapter120@aol.com	
<b><u>Notary Public</u></b>	
Gary Gazdzicki, Sr.	812-5703
<b><u>Vet Centers</u></b>	
Hartford (Area Code 860)	563-8800
New Haven (Area Code 203)	932-9899
Norwich (Area Code 860)	887-1755
Danbury (Area Code 203)	790-4000
<b><i>All Telephone Numbers are Area Code 860 unless otherwise noted</i></b>	

## Chapter/State News

### Chapter Elections Postponed

Chapter elections for officers, directors and state council delegates are postponed until at least June 4, 2020. We again ask our members to offer their time and enthusiasm in order to continue the good works that Chapter 120 is known for in the veterans' community. We need our members to offer their support, expertise, their ideas and their leadership to guide our organization down the right path to attain our basic goals – and establish new goals for our future. We are asking you, our members, to seriously consider running for these important positions. We need your help – we need your leadership and ideas to guide Chapter 120 for the next two years.

Please contact our Election Committee (Leigh Lovering, Tim Siggia or Bill Chiodo) to submit your name for one of these positions. Help our Chapter continue our work to support all veterans and their families.

Positions open for candidacy:

**Officers:** President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

**Board of Directors:** Five positions

**State Council Delegates:** Five positions

**Elections Committee:** Three positions

Election Rules are posted here:

### Connecticut Chapter 120 Election Rules

Revised November 2, 2006

#### Section 1. Annual Elections

- A. The Chapter officers will be elected on even numbered years at the April meeting and will serve a two (2) year term in office. They are the following: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- B. The Board of Directors will be elected on even numbered years at the April meeting and will serve a two (2) year term of office.
- C. The State Council Delegates will be elected on even numbered years at the April meeting and will serve a two (2) year term of office.
- D. The Delegates to the National Convention will be elected on odd numbered years at the April meeting and will serve a two (2) year term in office.
- E. The three (3) member Nominating Committee will be elected at the April meeting and will serve a one (1) year term.

#### Section 2. Candidates

- A. Candidates must have been a member for a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the election.
- B. Candidates must have on file with the Chapter, or present to the Nominating Committee their DD-214, or other proof of qualification for membership.
- C. Candidates may be nominated from the floor on the night of the election. Candidates must be present to accept the nomination or have submitted a letter of intent to the Nominating Committee.
- D. Candidates will be allowed space in the newsletter to campaign but not to defame or slander the other candidates. Space allowable will be at the discretion of the Newsletter Editor.
- E. Candidates will be allowed five (5) minutes to speak at the April meeting if desired.

## Birthday Wishes

Birthday wishes go to our members born in May. May you have many more!

<i>John P. Burns</i>	<i>Michael J. Coyne</i>
<i>John R. Cutler</i>	<i>Robert N. DeRosa</i>
<i>William S. Ehlert</i>	<i>Robert Fulco</i>
<i>Peter Galgano</i>	<i>Normand R. Girardin</i>
<i>Frank T. Jodaitis</i>	<i>James V. Laviana III</i>
<i>Kipp O. Miller</i>	<i>Raymond R. Samolis, Jr.</i>
<i>James Stevenson</i>	<i>David Taylor</i>
<i>Roland Wolf</i>	

## Happy Birthday!

- F. Candidates may use the membership list for a mailing pursuant to the Chapter rules and Federal laws governing the membership list.

**Section 3. Voters**

- A. To be eligible to vote, you must have been a member for fifteen (15) days prior to the election. This would include new members or reinstated members that are not paid up for the prior year.
- B. Voting members must have on file with the Chapter, or present to the Nominating Committee, their DD-214 or proof of qualification for membership.
- C. Voting members must have paid their dues for the current fiscal year. Membership may be renewed the night of the election, but must be paid prior to casting their vote.

**Section 4. Election Procedures**

- A. The voting period will be from the close of nominations until 8:00 PM.
- B. The quorum required to hold the election should be 10 members.
- C. A candidate can request a recount of the ballots for his or her office if the margin between the candidates running for that office is 10% or less based on the number of total votes cast.
- D. The ballots will be kept for one (1) year in a sealed envelope signed by the Nominating Committee or their appointees.
- E. Results will be announced the night of the election.
- F. If a Nominating Committee member is running for an elected position, they shall appoint a volunteer vote counter from the floor.
- G. The vote will be taken by a secret paper ballot.

**Leave NO Veteran Behind**

**Chapter 120 Outreach to Members**

The Chapter 120 Board of Directors contacted Chapter members as part of an outreach project to ensure all members were safe and well during the COVID-19 crisis. The Directors offered financial help and/or assistance in providing any services if not available from local, state or federal programs. One of the members' request was the need for face masks at the Rocky Hill Veterans' Home (See below).

**Masks donated to Veterans Home**

A group of volunteers from the Apostolic Christian Church in Ellington CT prepare face mask kits that are then taken home to be sewn by other volunteers.

The Church group donated 100 face masks to the residents of the Connecticut Veterans Home and Hospital in Rocky Hill CT. Another 40 masks were fabricated by Chapter 120 AVVA member Kathryn Lechause and a friend. Thank you Kathie for making the masks and delivering all 140 to Rocky Hill.

The request for the masks for the residents was a result of the outreach effort that we made by making calls to Chapter 120 members.

*Thank you letter to The Apostolic Christian Church:*

Apostolic Christian Church  
 C/O Sharon Kloter  
 24 Raisch Drive  
 Tolland, CT 06084

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Chapter 120 of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), I want to express our deepest appreciation for the donation of 100 face masks that were donated to the residents of the Connecticut Veterans Home and Hospital in Rocky Hill. The masks were appreciated by the residents and met a critical need in adding protection from the COVID-19 virus.

Our thanks go out to the women and men and other volunteers who prepared the mask kits, sewed the masks, and arranged the distribution. The masks are of excellent quality and reflect the care and concern of the church's community.

With Respect and Gratitude,

Phil Morneault  
 President  
 VVA Chapter 120

**POW/MIA News**



**National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum Act of 2019**

This bill designates the memorial and museum that is being constructed on an approximately 26-acre area on the POW-MIA Memorial Parkway in Jacksonville, Florida, as the "National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum."

Please contact your congressional representative to request they co-sponsor the bill. Presently, there are 10 cosponsors, all from Florida. This is truly an opportunity to educate our fellow Americans of our nation's greatest tragedy.

This is a wonderful opportunity to honor our repatriated POWs and MIAs - those for whom there has finally been an accounting years later and those for whom there has yet to be an accounting.

We must provide the historical documentation to tell the stories of these brave Americans for our future generations. As time continues to pass without answers for so many POW/MIA families, it is important to have places where our nation can honor these individuals and to have museums where family

members can provide memorabilia and documents to enlighten others and preserve the stories of these individuals so they are not forgotten.

- Representative John B.Larson (202) 225-2265
- Representative Joe Courtney (202) 225-2076
- Representative Rosa L.DeLauro (202) 225-3661
- Representative Jahana Hayes (202) 225-4476
- Representative James A.Himes (202) 225-5541

**On The Hill**



**Congress won't be back until May at the earliest**

The Senate will not return to Washington for regular legislative action before May 4, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell announced Tuesday. The move follows a Monday announcement that the House will also push back its expected return date until May.

“As the country continues working together to flatten the curve, following the advice of health experts, the full Senate is not expected to travel back to Washington D.C. sooner than Monday, May 4th. All members will receive at least 24 hours’ notice if

this changes,” McConnell said in a statement.

The Senate was scheduled to return for regular legislative business on April 20, with the nomination of Robert J. Feitel to be inspector general of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as its first agenda item. McConnell said Senate leaders in both parties were part of the decision and emphasized that senators are continuing to work in their home states, despite not being able to meet on Capitol Hill.

The Senate has been in recess since March when it passed a multi-trillion-dollar economic aid bill to counter the coronavirus.

**Receive “The Connection” by E-Mail**

The monthly Chapter 120 newsletter, *The Connection*, is available by e-mail. Currently, 100 members receive the newsletter by e-mail, saving the Chapter over \$1,600 in printing and postal fees annually. The newsletter is available in Adobe format (.pdf), attached to your e-mail. If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail the newsletter editor at [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

**Veterans Affairs News**



*From National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP)*

**Federal Court Orders VA to Begin on April 13, 2020 to Send Corrective Notices to 1 Million Veterans**

On April 6, 2020, the U.S. Court of

Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) granted the Motion for Enforcement of the Court’s Sept. 9, 2019 decision in *Wolfe v. Wilkie* filed by the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP), which serves as counsel for the class of veterans who have applied to the VA for reimbursement of their emergency medical expenses incurred at non-VA facilities that are not covered by the veteran’s private insurance.

The April 6th Order requires the VA to begin one week later, on April 13th, to mail more than 1 million corrective notices to veterans who had applied for reimbursement, but whom VA had misinformed about what emergency medical expenses the VA can reimburse.

VA had admitted earlier in the *Wolfe* case that these inaccurate notices could have deterred the veterans from pursuing their reimbursement claims. The Court rejected VA’s argument that it should not send any of the corrective notices until the appeal VA contemplates filing is finally decided by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

The April 6th Order also requires VA to begin, no later than May 28, 2020, to re-decide the more than 72,000 VA decisions denying reimbursement that were invalidated by the Veterans Court because they violated the statute that governs VA reimbursement of the emergency medical expenses incurred by veterans at non-VA facilities.

The Veterans Court rejected VA’s plea that it should not have to re-decide these cases or make payments until the appeal VA contemplates filing is finally decided by the Federal Circuit.

The Veterans Court granted NVLSP’s enforcement motion as part of the ongoing class action filed by NVLSP on behalf of veterans Amanda Wolfe and Peter Boerschinger. NVLSP filed its motion with the assistance of pro bono counsel Sidley Austin LLP to enforce the CAVC ruling of September 9, 2019 that the VA’s 2018 reimbursement regulation violates the Emergency Care Fairness Act of 2010 (ECFA).

The September 9th ruling also invalidated all VA decisions denying VA reimbursement for deductibles and coinsurance that were not covered by the veteran’s private insurance for the emergency medical expenses they incurred at non-VA facilities.

The Court’s April 6th Order also required that every 45 days after the Secretary has begun re-deciding the 72,000 wrongly denied reimbursement claims, the VA must submit a status report to NVLSP with an update on VA’s readjudication of those 72,000 claims. The Court also determined that it would

enter judgment within two days of receiving notification from the VA that the notice process has begun, thereby allowing VA to appeal the Court’s decision to the Federal Circuit.

“We appreciate the CAVC’s prompt response to our enforcement motion to require the VA to quickly send corrective notices to veterans whom VA had misinformed and to re-adjudicate the reimbursement claims of veterans whose reimbursement claims were wrongly denied,” said NVLSP Executive Director Bart Stichman.

“Hundreds of thousands of veterans affected by this class action have suffered far too long and endured severe financial hardships due to VA’s wrongful handling of their reimbursement claims.”

Based on the VA’s past estimates, compliance with Wolfe v. Wilke decision will require VA to pay from \$1.8 billion to \$6.5 billion in reimbursements to hundreds of thousands of veterans who have filed or will file reimbursement claims during the period from 2016-2025.

*From NPR.org - Apr. 20, 2020*

### **VA Head Acknowledges Challenges for Health Care Workers Battling Coronavirus**

The Department of Veterans Affairs is the country's largest health care network with 300 hospitals, clinics and nursing homes nationwide. More than 9 million American veterans get care from the VA, and today VA doctors and nurses serve on the frontlines of the pandemic crisis.

In March, VA Secretary Robert Wilkie told NPR's All Things Considered that his department was well-prepared for the outbreak of COVID-19, and had good supplies of masks and testing kits. The reality is different today, he said.

“Since then, as the national emergency kicked in since I did that interview, the normal supply chains have dried up,” said Wilkie.

Wilkie insists the VA did sufficient planning, with “war games” of the outbreak earlier this year. And he said the VA had replenished its national emergency cache of health supplies before the virus hit. That planning has not measured up to the crisis. No VA hospital has run out, but that’s because the VA has been forced to carefully ration equipment.

“For those who are on the front lines in the emergency rooms, in the COVID wards, who are in the nursing homes, they have the normal supply of equipment. It’s those who do not have that direct contact with patients that we’ve asked to follow CDC guidelines,” he said.

Wilkie admits the Centers for Disease Control guidelines are based more on adapting to the crisis than on ideal medical practices.

“We are ensuring that those on the front lines have what they need,” he said. “Does everyone in a hospital have all of the changes in gear that we would have in a normal situation? No.”

VA health care workers across the country have been protesting the lack of protective gear. Last week they claimed victory when the VA changed its rules to allow a greater number of staff to use one mask per day instead of one per week. That was also the first time the VA publicly acknowledged it was rationing gear.

Wilkie said the VA is adjusting to the crisis as fast possible with some 400,000 employees.

“We try to move as quickly as possible,” he said. “We know people are making sacrifices and they are worthy of praise from the entire country.”

According to the VA’s most recent tally, 5,505 veteran patients have tested positive — and 339 of them have died. More than 1,500 VA staff members are infected and at least 14 have died. It’s hard to judge whether the veterans’ mortality rate is high because their average age and health conditions make them one of the most vulnerable populations in the country.

*From Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.*



### **An Open Letter to Health Care Providers from Vietnam Veterans**

We recognize the hardships and challenges our healthcare providers are facing in the midst of the Covid-19 health crisis. We applaud the brave, lifesaving work being done on the front lines. In the midst of this pandemic, the likes of which our generation has never before seen, we are reminded of our service during the Vietnam War.



Although our environment and circumstances are not precisely the same as those facing you, there is, we believe, a correlation to the experiences, conditions, and fallout from our wartime experiences with death and human struggle. We served on the front lines of a protracted mass casualty event, and we learned to pace ourselves, as you must for the marathon you now are in.

What we know, firsthand, is this: as our national mitigation efforts continue, and when the curve of infection wanes, your curve will begin. You will, no doubt, suffer some kind of fallout—from having faced the deaths of colleagues and strangers alike; from the social isolation and the lack of contact with family; or from the anxiety arising from fear of personal

harm. You may find yourself questioning triage decisions made in the face of mounting casualties, and you will face your fury at the lack of needed equipment and personal safety items.

There may be times when you feel numb to the daily chaos confronting you—that robotic feeling that takes over as you go from person to person may leave you feeling separated emotionally from the grief before you. These mental devices are often the result of the psychological need to protect ourselves from the pain in front of us. All this helps us focus our ability to cope and work effectively during the intensity of such a crisis.

On the other side of our combat experiences, we discovered the importance of taking a deep dive into our feelings. We examined our worth, and we struggled to identify how our experiences had shaped us. We learned the importance of shedding any superhero mindset that we may have adopted to fortify ourselves for the most intense experience of our young selves.



We spent too many years living with our own denial and anger, until eventually, we were able to understand the impact our service in a combat zone had on us and on our families. We had to wait years before we allowed our positive feelings and emotions be turned back on.

One of the legacies of the Vietnam War is that society now accepts Post-Traumatic Stress as a natural reaction to unnatural events. By finally accepting support, we were able to get a handle on forgiveness, and we learned to forgive ourselves for not doing everything to save those in our care.

We write this not to simply offer you empathy. Rather, to share our experience and how we dealt—mostly belatedly, because we didn't know any better—with the fallout from the injury, death, guilt, grief, anger, and fear with which we were confronted during our tour of duty.

Our message to you is that you do not need to wait. We have learned that it is important to talk about what one is going through emotionally and psychologically while still going through it. We have learned to seek out and find those who understood us and could listen to our venting without thinking there was something to fix.

This pandemic will eventually recede, and when you are ready, we are here to support you in your journey forward. We have a commonality of experience, of traumatic experience; hence, we have common ground to offer our help to you as all of us come to terms with an altered national reality.

*Stay strong.*

## VVA Calls on President to Reverse the VA's Removal of the "48-Hour Review Policy"



On April 7, the Department of Veterans Affairs informed Veterans Service Organizations of an April 1 policy change ending the "48-hour review policy." The discontinued 48-hour review policy allowed for a window of two days for the veteran service officers to review the veteran's disability claim for accuracy prior to sending it to the veteran.

"While every other governmental body in the nation is working hard to ensure that Americans are spared undue hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Veterans Affairs is doing just the opposite, making this damaging policy decision amid the chaos of the pandemic" said John Rowan, Vietnam Veterans of America National President.

"That's why we're asking for President Trump's immediate intervention to reverse this recent VA decision that could severely impact the mental health and financial security of disabled veterans while they're being asked to stay home."

"Our Veteran Service Officers routinely find errors during this 48-hour window, which allows them to work with the VA to make corrections so that the veterans do not receive improper claims decisions," noted Rowan. "Errors range from the VA's failure to acknowledge documented combat experience to its failure to recognize the veteran experiences suicidal thoughts."

"Correcting an improper negative decision before it is received by the veteran protects the veteran from having to file an appeal—which results in an extended delay in receiving benefits and adds to the backlog of claims—as well as saving the veteran from the emotional distress of feeling like their service and sacrifice are not recognized and valued by the country they served."

"The President said last week at his daily COVID-19 Taskforce press conference 'We're making every effort to provide relief to our great veterans,' but since then, the VA has told veterans that it's doing just the opposite," continued Rowan. "Please, President Trump, step in now and direct the VA to preserve the 48-hour review policy."



**THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE!**

From the Service Rep's Desk



## Disruption of Mail Service at Veterans Benefits Administration

*Notice of exception to date of receipt rule, posted in the Federal Register on April 20, 2020.*

In response to the declaration of national emergency, announced on March 13, 2020 due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) is instituting temporary provisions for determining the acceptable dates for the receipt of correspondence through postal mail and other mail delivery systems.

While United States Postal Service operations have continued, limited physical staffing at VBA regional offices could lead to delays in the ability of these regional offices to receive mail and process it timely. At several VBA regional office locations, processing of correspondence – containing claims, pertinent beneficiary information, or related evidence – sent to VA during this period could be significantly interrupted due to VA's involvement in the Federal Government's effort to combat the spread of COVID-19.

VBA is instituting temporary provisions for determining the acceptable dates for the receipt of correspondence through postal mail and other mail delivery systems.

VA regulation, 38 Code of Federal Regulations 3.1(r), allows the Under Secretary for Benefits to establish exceptions to VA's rule on the date of receipt of claims, information, or evidence by notice published in the Federal Register. Ordinarily, "date of receipt" means the date on which a claim, information, or evidence was received in a VA office. This regulation states that exceptions may be established when a natural or man-made interference with the normal channels through which VBA ordinarily receives correspondence has resulted in one or more VBA regional offices to experience extended delays in the receipt of claims, information, or evidence to an extent that, if not addressed, the delay would adversely affect such claimants, through no fault of their own.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak interrupted operations at all VBA regional offices. Correspondence containing claims, information, or evidence sent to VA during this period was likely delayed due to interrupted operations of VBA regional offices. Because VBA regional office mail systems were impacted, VA has established the following exceptions to the standard rule on date of receipt.

### *Exceptions to Date of Receipt Rule for Claimants Affected by the COVID-19 Outbreak:*

VA hereby gives notice that, for purposes of determining entitlement to benefits, any correspondence that is received by VA from any claimant, during the period March 1, 2020,

through 60 calendar days from the date the President ends the national state of emergency, that contains claims, information, or evidence, will be considered received on the date of postmark. In the event there is no mail postmark or date stamp by the United States Postal Service, VA will consider the correspondence as received no later than February 29, 2020.

Due to the global nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, this guidance applies to correspondence received during the designated period from all domestic ZIP codes and foreign mail codes.

*From Vietnam Magazine*

## A Perfect Weapon? The M109 Self-Propelled 155 mm Howitzer



In the summer and fall of 1967, the 4th Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, equipped with the M109 howitzer, was firing almost daily at North Vietnamese artillery positions on the other side of the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Vietnams. The M109 155 mm self-propelled (tracked) howitzer was almost the perfect weapon for counterbattery missions because of its thick armor protection. During the communists' 1968 Tet Offensive, the 4th Battalion provided critical fire support for the Marines fighting in Hue in northern South Vietnam.

Intended to replace all M114 towed 155 mm howitzers, the M109 was born from a 1952 Army requirement for a self-propelled howitzer capable of rapid mobility to keep up with armored and mechanized units. It entered production in 1962. The vehicle's General Motors Detroit Diesel engine provided greater range than that of its predecessor, the M44 howitzer. About an inch of armor protected the chassis and turret.

The M109 used the same firing table as the M114 towed howitzer for calculating the gun's angle during targeting. Its M126 155 mm gun could handle nuclear shells. Each M109 howitzer was paired with an M548 tracked ammunition carrier.

The largely road bound M109 was often restricted to base camps and direct support missions for mechanized units because of Vietnam's rough terrain, the vehicle's limited river crossing capability and the U.S. emphasis on helicopter operations. Although not helo-transportable, Army and Marine M109s were in virtually every battle in northern and central South Vietnam,

defending bases and providing counterbattery fire against North Vietnamese threats.

Since the initial production model's service in Vietnam, the M109 has undergone many improvements, acquiring a longer-barreled howitzer with more range and improved projectiles. It is the world's most widely used self-propelled howitzer, with variants expected to remain in service into the 2030s.

### Helping Hands for Our Fellow Veterans



#### Won't You Please Give a Helping Hand to a Brother or Sister Veteran?

Several veterans have contacted Chapter 120 asking for help in paying the most basic of needs for themselves and their families. These veterans are those who do not qualify for regular federal, state or local assistance – they fall into that financial category where they make too much to qualify for assistance, but not enough to afford basic needs for their families, like food, fuel for heat, or clothing for their children.

Chapter 120 has decided to ask you – our members – to lend a helping hand to your fellow veterans and their families. Even a small amount of \$5 can make a difference – or more if you can afford to help a fellow veteran and his or her family.

Please send your generous gift, made out to Connecticut Chapter 120, to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.  
Connecticut Chapter 120  
Attention: Helping Hands for Veterans  
P.O. Box 4136  
Hartford, CT 06145

*And don't forget, your donations are tax deductible.*

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

**STAND BY THEM**

Confidential help for Veterans and their families

### Newsletter articles/ stories/photos

Any articles, stories and/or photos submitted for the newsletter must be received by the "cut off" date for any given month. Photos must be accompanied by text which describes the event, names, dates and any other pertinent facts so our readers understand the story behind the photo(s). The newsletter editor will announce the "cut off" dates at each Chapter meeting. The "cut off" date for our June 2020 newsletter is 22 May 2020. Due to space availability, the editor reserves the right to include or not include photos for a given month.

### This newsletter printed by



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