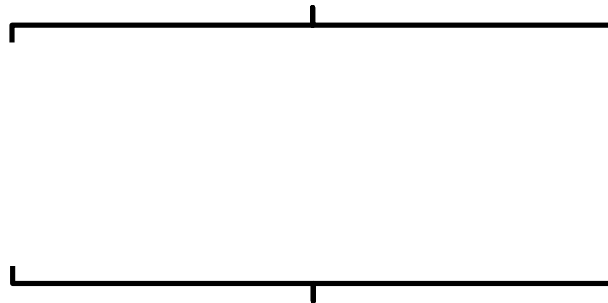


VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA THOMAS J TORI CHAPTER 421



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VVA CHAPTER 421
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STATEN ISLAND, NY 10310
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

General Membership Chapter meetings are held at
The Elks Lodge
3250 Richmod Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10312 at 7:30pm
every 4th Monday of each month

Board Meetings held at
645 Forest Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10310 at 7:30pm
every 3rd Thursday of each month

Comments and contributions are encouraged.

Send contributions to:
VVA Chapter 421
PO Box 100097
Staten Island, NY 10310

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of this organization. Individuals with different viewpoints and opinions are invited to submit them to the Chapter by the deadline described in the newsletter at the Chapter meetings.

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[CALENDAR OF EVENTS]

November 8th [8:15AM] St. Adalbert's Veterans Appreciation Breakfast
ALL ARE INVITED! Please remember to wear your colors!

November 11th [10AM] Veteran's Day Ceremony at Oceanview

November 12th [7 PM] Tunnel to Towers Dinner at Hilton

November 15th **NO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING!**

November 26th [7:30PM] VVA421 General Meeting

December 9th [10AM] Tree Trimming at Vietnam Memorial Park

December 20th [7:30PM] VVA421 Executive Board Meeting

December 24th **NO MEETING!**



[PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE]

Hi everybody! I thought it was important to get this newsletter out before the holidays in order to prepare you for what the new year has in store for us. First and foremost I would like to explain why newsletters are few and far between; our postal system has gotten much more expensive and they keep adding regulations, making a simple thing much too complicated.

We now have a new website, so make a note or bookmark it in your browser. Our new website is <http://www.vva421.org> – the only change made was the omission of the word “chapter”. Our new webmaster is Frank Russo and he has the site up and running, allowing us to be more focused on chapter news and dates. There will be other veteran-related topics available, but we want to keep our focus local. If you want to stay informed our website will be right at your fingertips and a lot more convenient – the newsletter will still be in production, just not as often as it used to be.

For all of you that are out of reach, our chapter meeting place has changed. We now meet at the Elks Lodge on Richmond Ave. We have sent out notices, I hope you have received yours. The reason for this was simple – a larger hall with kitchen access, a large parking lot right on the premises, and it is handicapped accessible. The only slight drawback is we had to change the meetings to the 4th Monday of every month.

Now for **2013** news – this marks the 25th year of our memorial on Manor Road and Martling Avenue. We will be commemorating on the second Sunday in June at our Day of Remembrance. Over 200 people attended the service last year, I can only imagine how many will be there to share that special day. Our Chapter will also be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2013; we have already set a date and place for this great occasion. We've planned a dinner dance at the Staaten on Forest Ave; the celebration will include a cocktail hour and Nick Castoro's band *Midnight Hour*. For more information on both these events please follow our website.

Before I close I want to bring attention to all the great work Danny Ingellis and his band of brothers did on the golf outing. It was a great success and we could not have accomplished it without him. **KUDOS** to DANNY and the BOYS!

**Your Brother
Gene**

[VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE]

On Wednesday October 3, 2012 our Chapter held its annual golf outing at LaTourette Golf Course on Staten Island. Once again the outing was a success! A special thanks to all the golfers, hold sponsors, and gift donors which certainly contributed to the outing's success. Thanks to Gene DiGiacomo and Al Helfenger for their assistance as part of the golf committee. Kudos goes out to all the volunteers (Al Paolucci, Joe Coppolo, John Stanley, Glen Hall, Tony DeNatale, Terry Scott, and Nick Mazzella) who woke up bright and early to assist in registering the golfers, selling raffles, and handing out shirts/gift bags.

Everyone who was at the golf outing will agree that CJ (the manager at LaTourette) and her staff did an excellent job seeing that everything ran smoothly. Although the golfers had to dodge fog and cloudy weather, it turned out to be a great day.

Congratulations to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers with low scores at the outing as well as those who won a prize in the raffle. We registered 58 golfers for the outing and we had a grand total of 83 hole sponsors. It is the hole sponsors who truly make the outing a monetary success. Thanks to each and every member who either sponsored a hole or solicited hole sponsors.

In closing, Greg Perillo asked me to pass on his heartfelt thanks to all of our chapter members who attended his Vietnam Paintings Exhibit at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Museum and Education Center on Friday October 7, 2012. It too was a huge success!

**Stay well and safe,
Danny Ingellis**





Preparing for 2013..

On **June 9th**, during our Day of Remembrance Ceremony, we will also be commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park

On **September 21st**, we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of our chapter with a dinner dance at *Li Greci's Staaten*, complete with a cocktail hour and live entertainment by **Midnight Hour**

Tickets will be sold at a price of **\$65** per person

For further information, please contact
Gene DiGiacomo at (917) 693-7834 or Frank Sansone at (917) 747-3044

Please mark your calendars, we hope to see you there!