

# MEMBERS



VVLP Luncheon - Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Oncenter from 11:30 to 1 p.m.

Veterans Day celebration - Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> -War Memorial Doors open at 8 a.m.

**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER #103**  
**P.O. BOX 675, Liverpool, New York 13088**  
**458-1323**

**2006**

**OFFICERS:**

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1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Ronald Fairbank	(451-5986)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Dick Madden	(635-2019)
Secretary	John Lamanna	(437-5890)
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**ONONDAGA COUNTY**  
**VETERANS COUNCIL**

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Awards	Steve VanCamp	(545-4792)
By-Laws/Constitution	Don Benack	(884-9504)
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Nominations	Bill Martin/Pete Bronstad	
POW/MIA	Bill Molloy	(492-3015)
VA/VVA Liason	Gordon Lane	(638-2827)
VVLP	Ron Fairbank	(451-5986)
Watchfire	Pete Bronstad	(636-8463)

**Visit our website @[www.cnyvva103.org](http://www.cnyvva103.org)**  
**SYRACUSE VET CENTER 478-7127**  
**BUFFALO VA REGIONAL OFFICE 1-800-827-1000**  
**<http://www.va.gov>**

We had our picnic on 14 October and while the turn out was not what we had hoped for, we had a great time.

In the past years we have complained that the Veterans Day ceremony at the War Memorial was not to our liking. This year we are changing that and our chapter has been involved in changing a lot of things. Also we are bringing back the Veterans Day Parade. The committee that is making the changes is made up of the Mayor's Veterans Advisory Board, the memorial committee, organized labor, City, County, and State governments, other members of the Veterans Community, and the private sector. We no longer can say we don't like something. We are in this Veterans Day up to our eye balls. We have arranged to get Trams from the State Fair for veterans to ride in if they can't make the march in the parade. We are asking all of our members and their family and friends to come to the ceremony and march behind our color guard. We are always looking for members to be in our color guard. If you don't want to be in the color guard, just come as you are and follow your color guard.

Doors at the War Memorial will open at 0830, 11 November 2006; the ceremony will start at 1000 hours. The parade will begin right after the ceremony from the War Memorial. The Parade route will be short. We hope that we will be able to show the public we care about ourselves and our follow veteran.

Remember we have the VVLP Luncheon coming up on Friday 10 November 2006 at 1130 to 1300 at the ON CENTER.

If you are having problems with the VA, you are welcomed to call me and I will do my best to get you the help you deserve. The VA has changed many times over in the last 10 years. Many changes that have been made through our Chapters direct involvement with Leadership at the VA and the whole VA Network. So take advantage of your chapter's hard work and get what you rightly deserve.

I am asking our members to support the WARM THEIR HEARTS program started be Barbara Maestri. This is a great program and gives those who can sew an opportunity to really help out veterans in need in a small, but important way. Please read the flyer in this newsletter. And Thanks to Barbara for all of her hard work.

In last months "AT Ease" there was a draft: August 12, 2006, An Agenda for New York State's Veterans, this document came from Elliot Spitzer. We are not endorsing anyone or any party, but do take the opportunity to speak to candidates before Election Day. At the last State Council Meeting we talked about the candidates in regards to veterans issues. We also have talked about them at our meetings .We don't care who you vote for, but please vote.

## November Notes

Our Chapter television program is on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. on public access channel 98. Our media effort is ably led by Ron Fairbank and his superlative staff in the quest to bring veterans issues to the public and inform our extensive veterans community. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, our program will highlight the eligibility requirements necessary for enrollment in the VA healthcare system, the future Polytrauma Center for Brain Injuries to be located at the VA Medical Center on Irving Ave., plus information that will be of use to our brothers and sisters returning from Afghanistan and Iraq. Please tune in for a most informative program.

In 1921, General John A. Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47, Series 1921. General Lejeune's order summarized the history, mission and tradition of the Corps. It further directed that the order be read to all Marines on November 10<sup>th</sup> of each year to honor the founding of the Marine Corps. From that day forward, November 10<sup>th</sup> became a unique day for all U.S. Marines. The first formal Birthday Ball took place in Philadelphia in 1925. In 1952, Commandant Lemuel C. Shepherd formalized the cake cutting ceremony, making it Marine Corps policy that the first piece of cake must be presented to the oldest Marine present and the second piece goes to the youngest Marine present. The Marine Corps Ball for this area will be held at the Holiday Inn on Electronics Parkway on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. According to the hotel staff, guests usually begin arriving around 6p.m. 231 years young and going strong - OORAH! Semper Fi.

**Very important:** On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be the largest Veterans Day celebration at the Onondaga County War Memorial in recent memory. Doors open at 8a.m. and the ceremonies will commence at 10 a.m. The wreath laying will be at 11:11 a.m. at the Korean/Vietnam Memorial, followed by a large parade to the Onondaga County War Memorial. Free coffee and doughnuts will be available for everybody courtesy of our friends at Dunkin' Doughnuts. Dave Holihan and the Mayor's Veterans Advisory Committee, the Onondaga County Veterans Council, VVA Chapter 103 and veterans organizations in the county and beyond have all worked extremely hard at making this solemn day a great success. Tell your friends and neighbors, too - they'll be glad they came to help honor the sacrifices of all veterans.

Sue Doan, our State Veterans Counselor, has the following address:

Sue Doan  
State Veteran Counselor  
State Office Bldg 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
333 E. Washington St.  
Syracuse, NY 13202



K. SUE DOAN  
State Veteran Counselor

NEW YORK STATE  
Division of Veterans' Affairs

sdoan@veterans.state.ny.us  
www.veterans.state.ny.us

County Office Building  
160 Genesee Street - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Auburn, NY 13021-3284  
(315) 253-1282  
FAX (315) 253-1154  
Tu, W & 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Th.

State Office Building  
333 E. Washington Street  
Room 430  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
(315) 428-4046  
FAX (315) 428-4047  
Mon, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Th<sup>rs</sup> Fri

If any veteran has a question or problem that needs to be addressed, give Sue a call at 428-4046 at the State Office Building.

We invite you to attend this year's luncheon at ONCENTER on Friday, November 10th, 2006 at 11:30 am. This annual event has consistently been attended by over 300 area business leaders and individuals. Each year the VVLP has been fortunate enough to have a keynote speaker whose accomplishments reflect favorably on Vietnam Veterans in general, especially those who never returned home. Please mark your calendar for this rare opportunity to see this year's keynote speaker, *former Commander-in Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command who served two combat tours in Vietnam as a junior infantry officer: General Wayne Downing.*

Editor's note: the second Thursday of each month is the cutoff for articles/information to be submitted for inclusion in the newsletter. My phone number is 635-2019; my e-mail address is maddog48@att.net. Comments, suggestions and constructive criticisms are always welcome.

## In Memory Of:

**Dominick Pollastro**, Lance Corporal, U.S. Marines of Syracuse, N.Y. KIA September 17, 1968 as a result of fragmentation wounds in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. He was 19 years old. Graduate of Henninger High School.

**Timothy F. Collins**, Colonel, U.S. Army Reserve (ret.), Marcellus, N.Y. of natural causes June 6, 2006. Veteran of both the Vietnam War, where he received the bronze Star for Valor, and the first Gulf War. Following his retirement from the Army Reserve, he became the owner of Lee's Feed Store in Syracuse. As a member of the business community, he continued service to the military members of our community as an Ombudsman for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Organization (E.S.G.R.). This organization acts as a liaison group between local employers and their employees who have been called up to serve active duty in the National Guard or Military Reserve Units. Timothy was recognized for his leadership and initiative in this role with the presentation of the "Seven Seals Award"-so named as it carries the seven official seals of each of the seven components of the National Guard and Reserve Forces. Memorialized by Chapter 103, Vietnam Veterans of Central N.Y.

**Hugh C. Thompson**, Reconnaissance Helicopter Pilot, U.S. Army. Known as the "Forgotten hero of My Lai", succumbed to cancer January 8, 2006. On the morning of March 16, 1968, Thompson, his door gunner, Lawrence Colburn and Crew Chief, Glenn Andreotta landed their helicopter in the line of fire between fleeing Vietnamese civilians and advancing U.S. soldiers and with great risk to themselves pointed their weapons at the U.S. troops as Thompson walked forward to confront the officer in charge and thus stopped the My Lai Massacre. For this action the men were later honored by the Pentagon with the prestigious Soldiers Medal. Andreotta's medal was awarded posthumously as he'd been KIA 3 weeks after My Lai. Mr. Thompson went on to further distinguish himself as a lecturer on battlefield ethics, and served as a Senior Counselor for Veterans Affairs in Louisiana. He was nominated in both 2000 and 2001 for the Noble Peace Prize. Mr. Thompson was our luncheon speaker in November, 1999.

**MIA/POWS** In honor of the approximately 1,300 soldiers and airmen who served and remain missing and unaccounted for in the Vietnam War. Memorialized by Vince Morrison, (U.S.M.C. Recon; Vietnam 1965-1967). Mr. Morrison is President of Veterans Fasteners of Syracuse, N.Y.

**Walking Wounded** To remember all those who return home from war less than 100% either because of physical wounds or emotional trauma.

## **Scholarship Recipients**

**Jill Menikheim**, will graduate in June 2007, from North Syracuse High School. Daughter of James C. Menikheim (deceased). U.S.Army. Served in Vietnam. (Scholarship and Essay award winner)

**Lisabeth Larkin**, will graduate in June 2007, from Bishop Ludden High School. Daughter of Vincent Larkin. U.S.Army. Served in Vietnam. Will attend John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

**Dominique Scarantino**, graduated in June 2005 from Westhill High school. Now attending Crouse Hospital School of Nursing. Daughter of Vincent A. Scarantino. U.S. Air Force. Served in Vietnam.

**Christopher W. Piering**, Graduated in June 2006 from Westhill high School. Attending Cazenovia College. Grandson of Howard Walter Headley. U.S.Army. Served in Vietnam.

**Marion Ryan**, will graduate in June 2007, from Westhill High School. Daughter of Patrick J. Ryan. U.S. Marine Corps. Served in Vietnam.

## Wendy Collins

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**From:** Wendy Collins  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 01, 2006 8:53 AM  
**To:** Wendy Collins  
**Subject:** FW: I thought this was interesting..

- > > Subject: Captain Kangaroo
- > You might Never Guess
- > Captain Kangaroo passed away on January 23, 2004 at age 76 ,  
which is odd, because he always looked to be 76. (DOB:6/27/27.)
- > His death reminded me of the following story. Some people have been a bit  
offended that the actor, Lee Marvin, is buried in a grave alongside 3 and 4 star  
generals at Arlington National Cemetery. His marker gives his name, rank (PVT)  
and service (USMC). Nothing else.
- > Here's a guy who was only a famous movie star who served his time, why the heck  
does  
he rate burial with these guys? Well, following is the amazing answer: I always  
liked  
Lee Marvin, but didn't know the extent of his Corps experiences.
- > In a time when many Hollywood stars served their country in the armed forces  
often  
in rear-echelon posts where they were carefully protected, only to be trotted out  
to  
perform for the cameras in war bond promotions, Lee Marvin was a genuine hero. He  
won  
the Navy Cross at Iwo Jima. There is only one higher Naval award...the Medal Of  
Honor.
- > If that is a surprising comment on the true character of the man, he credits his  
sergeant with an even greater show of bravery.
- > Dialog from "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson": His guest was Lee Marvin.  
Johnny said, "Lee, I'll bet a lot of people are unaware that you were a Marine in  
the  
initial landing at Iwo Jima...and that during the course of that action you earned  
the  
Navy Cross and were severely wounded."
- > "Yeah, yeah... I got shot square in the bottom and they gave me the Cross for  
securing  
a hot spot about halfway up Suribachi. Bad thing about getting shot up on a  
mountain is  
guys getting shot hauling you down. But, Johnny, at Iwo I served under the bravest  
man I  
ever knew...
- > We both got the cross the same day, but what he did for his Cross made mine look  
cheap  
in comparison. That dumb guy actually stood up on Red beach and directed his  
troops to  
move forward and get the hell off the beach. Bullets flying by, with mortar  
rounds

6/2/2006

landing everywhere and he stood there as the main target of gunfire so that he could get

his men to safety. He did this on more than one occasion because his men's safety was

more important than his own life. That Sergeant and I have been lifelong friends.

When they brought me off Suribachi, we passed the Sergeant and he lit a smoke and passed

it to me, lying on my belly on the litter and said, 'Where'd they get you Lee?'

I said, 'Well Bob... if you make it home before me, tell Mom to sell the outhouse!'

Johnny, I'm not lying, Sergeant Keeshan was the bravest man I ever knew.

The Sergeant's name is Bob Keeshan. You and the world know him as "Captain Kangaroo."

> >

> On another note, there was this wimpy little man (who recently passed away) on PBS,

gentle and quiet. Mr. Rogers is another of those you would least suspect of being anything but what he now portrays to our youth. But Mr. Rogers was a U.S. Navy Seal,

combat-proven in Vietnam with over twenty-five confirmed kills to his name. He wore

a long-sleeved sweater on TV, to cover the many tattoos on his forearm and biceps.

He was a master in small arms and hand-to-hand combat, able to disarm or kill in a heartbeat.

> After the war, Mr. Rogers became an ordained Presbyterian minister and therefore a pacifist. vowing to never harm another human being and also dedicating the rest of his

life to trying to help lead children on the right path in life, he hid away the tattoos

and his past life and won our hearts with his quiet wit and charm. America's real heroes

don't flaunt what they did; they go quietly about their day-to-day lives, doing what

they do best. They earned our respect and the freedoms that we all enjoy. Look around

and see if you can find one of those heroes in your midst. Often, they are the ones

you'd least suspect, but would most like to have on your side if anything ever happened.

Take the time to thank anyone that has fought for our freedom. With encouragement they could be the next Captain Kangaroo or Mr. Rogers.

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No virus found in this outgoing message.  
Checked by AVG Free Edition.

6/2/2006

## **GENERAL WAYNE A. DOWNING**

*US Army (Retired)*

General Wayne Downing served in a variety of command assignments in infantry, armored, special operations, and joint units, culminating in his appointment as the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command. He served two combat tours in Vietnam as a junior infantry officer. As a general officer, he commanded the special operations of all services during the 1989 invasion of Panama and commanded a joint special operations task force operating deep behind the Iraqi lines during Operation DESERT STORM.

Following retirement, General Downing was appointed by the President to assess the 1996 terrorist attack on the U.S. base at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, and to make recommendations on how to protect Americans and U.S. facilities worldwide from terrorist attack.

From 1999-2000, General Downing was a member of the Congressionally mandated National Commission on Terrorism (the Bremer Commission) charged with examining the terrorist threat to the US, evaluating America's laws, policies, and practices for preventing and punishing terrorism directed at US citizens, and recommending corrective actions.

General Downing most recently served in the White House as National Director and Deputy National Security Advisor for Combating Terrorism. As the President's principal advisor on matters related to combating terrorism, he was responsible for the close coordination among the military, diplomatic, intelligence, law enforcement, information, and financial operations of our war on terror, and for developing and executing a strategy that integrated all elements of national power.

General Downing is the Chairman of the Combating Terrorism Center at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The Center seeks to better understand foreign and domestic terrorism threats, to educate future leaders, and to provide political analysis and advice to counter future terrorist activities. He serves on two boards in the private sector and has served on three government advisory panels. General Downing is a visiting faculty member at the University of Michigan Business School conducting seminars on leadership and transformation management

His awards include twelve decorations for valor on the battlefield and the Purple Heart. General Downing has earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He is a Military Free Fall Jumpmaster, a Master Parachutist, and an Army Ranger. General Downing is a Commander in the French Legion of Honor.

General Downing has a B.S. degree from the U.S. Military Academy and a Masters degree in Business Administration from Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.

05/04 EW



Subj: **FW: Bush Administration Shortchanging Veterans' Mental Health Funding**  
Date: 9/28/2006 2:03:23 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: tberger@mchsi.com  
To: ryane@katewwdb.com, Reyndoc@aol.com, randy@forgottenheroes.us, mary.yeomans@dca.state.fl.us, gabby1369@sbcglobal.net, troy@polarcomm.com, dghagge@yahoo.com, spd179ret@aol.com, n9140y@comcast.net, jshott1967@aol.com, ebcannon@cox.net, rnv4@aol.com, mporter@vva.org, switzer3@frontiernet.net, vvapbessig@aol.com, XUANLOC@aol.com, JRANDYBARNES@aol.com, Rm2wave@aol.com, antflee@aol.com  
CC: rweidman@vva.org, shodge@vva.org

Are you surprised that the VA screwed up again? tom

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**From:** Bennett, Linda [mailto:Linda.Bennett@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2006 12:11 PM  
**To:** 'thomas berger'  
**Subject:** Bush Administration Shortchanging Veterans' Mental Health Funding

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 28, 2006

CONTACT: Linda Bennett @ 202-225-9756

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<http://veterans.house.gov/democratic/welcome.htm>

## **Bush Administration Shortchanging Veterans' Mental Health Funding**

Washington, D.C. - The Bush Administration failed to fully fund its promised \$300 million to address gaps in access and quality of mental health services for veterans over the last two years, according to Government Accountability Office (GAO) findings delivered to a House committee today.

Preliminary findings of the GAO study, requested by Rep. Michael Michaud (D-ME) and Rep. Lane Evans (D-IL), show that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) actually budgeted only half (approximately \$53 million) of the \$100 million it had committed to mental health care initiatives in fiscal year 2005. VA also claimed to allocate another \$35 million in FY 2005 through a general fund, but GAO found "VA did not notify networks that these funds were to be used for [mental health] plan initiatives" and that medical center officials "were unaware that any portion of their general allocation was to be specifically used for mental health strategic plan initiatives." VA did not distribute the remaining \$12 million of the promised \$100 million because VA officials claimed there was not enough time to distribute the monies, GAO said.

Monday, October 23, 2006 America Online: SPD179RET

For fiscal year 2006, GAO found that VA failed to distribute all of the promised \$200 million for additional mental health care staff, allocating only \$92 million for new initiatives and \$66 million to continue efforts from FY 2005. GAO reported that it is unclear whether VA medical centers will actually spend all of the FY 2006 mental health care strategic plan funds.

"GAO's preliminary findings reveal that, contrary to the Administration's claims, there is no accountability for spending the resources required to fulfill VA's own mental health plan and to address the mental health care needs of veterans. The Administration has critically shortchanged veterans by failing to spend needed funds to address gaps in access and quality of mental health care, instead offering false claims that VA is ready and able to provide these services," said Michaud, Ranking Member of the Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health. "Clearly, our oversight of the VA's implementation and delivery of mental health services will have to be more vigorous."

One in three veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who come to the VA has mental health care concerns.

A copy of GAO's testimony regarding its findings is available at <http://veterans.house.gov/democratic/press/109th/pdf/9-28-06gao.pdf>

The full report will be released later this fall.

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"Although we applaud the VA for adding three new centers this fall and for announcing that they have hired 100 recently separated war veterans to serve in temporary positions at Vet Centers as outreach specialists and peer counselors, that is simply not enough in the face of the growing, well-documented needs of our veterans and their families.


"We cannot wait until the next budget cycle," Rowan concluded. "Additional money, specifically restricted in a line-item appropriation that can be used only for the Vet Centers and for additional mental health professional staff in the VA Medical Centers, needs to be added promptly to the

FY 2007 VA appropriations when Congress returns in November. This should not be a partisan issue. When returning veterans need mental health services, they should be able to get the quality and quantity of care needed without delay or bureaucratic excuses."

###

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the nation's only congressionally chartered veterans service organization dedicated to the needs of Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA's founding principle is "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."

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Subj: **Effective Dec 1, 2006 veterans receive 3.3 percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)**  
Date: 10/23/2006 5:06:33 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: govtrrelations@vva.org  
To: spd179ret@aol.com

# News Flash

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## **Effective Dec 1, 2006 veterans receive 3.3 percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)**

News From The  
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
Steve Buyer, Chairman, 335 Cannon House Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20515

For Immediate Release: October 18, 2006, Contact Brooke Adams 202-225-3664

Veterans to receive annual cost-of-living adjustment

S. 2562, as amended, the Veterans' Compensation Cost- of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006


Washington, D.C. - On October 16, 2006, the President signed into law S. 2562, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006. S. 2562 passed the House on September 30, 2006. The law provides, effective December 1, 2006, a 3.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation paid to the survivors of certain service-disabled veterans. The COLA is based on the rise in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) and is equal to the COLA applied to Social Security Benefits.

"I am pleased that we are able to provide for this important cost-of-living adjustment to the benefits provided to our nation's disabled veterans and their survivors," said Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind.).

Please visit our website at <http://veterans.house.gov>

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# WARM THEIR HEARTS

**Warm Their Hearts is a program designed to help Veterans with gently used, handmade, and donated items such as:**

Lap Blankets

Walker Totes

Wheelchair Totes

Stoma (Trach) Bibs

Colostomy Bag Covers

Winter Hats

Baseball Caps

New Tee Shirts

12-18" Throw Pillows

Our goal is to gain the support of volunteers in helping to make or donate these items for Veterans. We are appealing to schools, knitting/crocheting groups, senior citizen groups, public service organizations and anyone who would like to lend a hand. This is a great project for Family & Consumer Sciences classes to be involved in. Any of these items can be gently used, crocheted, knitted or sewn. All items will be donated to the Vets currently in the VA Medical Center, families of Veterans as well as homeless Vets located throughout the area.

For more information, patterns, or to have donations picked up, please call Barbara Maestri at (315) 484-9948, 558-2915 or email me at: [Warmtheirhearts@yahoo.com](mailto:Warmtheirhearts@yahoo.com).



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Syracuse VA Medical Center  
800 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210

**Team Blue Phone: (315) 425-6515**  
**Team Red Phone: (315) 425-4828**

**VA Medical Center: (315) 425-4400**

<u>Department</u>	<u>Extension:</u>
<b>DAV Transportation:</b>	<b>54352</b>
Emergency Room:	52894
Eye Clinic:	53281
Mental Health Clinic	53463
Patient Representative:	54345
Pharmacy extension:	52119 or (315) 425-2491
<b>Pharmacy Automated Refills:</b>	<b>425-6505</b>
Prosthetics:	54660
Rehab Medicine:	52684
Social Work (Team Blue)	54333
Social Work (Team Red)	54682
Specialty Clinic (2E):	52611
Specialty Clinic (2W):	52604
Specialty Clinic (4W):	52316
Telecare:	1-888-838-7890
<b>Veterans Service Center (Customer Service):</b>	<b>54337 / 53217</b>
Women's Health Clinic:	54652

*Team Blue Fax: (315) 425-2489*  
*Team Red Fax: (315) 425-4827*  
*VAMC Toll Free#: 1-800-221-2883*



# Syracuse VA Medical Center

\*Donald J. Mitchell VA Outpatient Clinic Rome

\*VA Outpatient Clinic Binghamton

**Have Switched to a  
New/Expanded Telephone System!  
All Phone Numbers Have Changed!**

\*\* (exceptions noted)

## Syracuse VA Medical Center (Area Code 315)

	<u>Direct Dial</u>
Veterans Service Center	425-4400
Pharmacy Refill	425-6505
DAV Transportation	425-4352
Team Blue	425-6515
Team Red	425-6527
Human Resources	425-2446
Community Care Center (1031 E. Fayette St. Syracuse)	425-4405
**VET Center (716 E. Washington St., Syracuse)	478-7127
Military Order of the Purple Heart	425-4685
Donald J. Mitchell	
VA Outpatient Clinic Rome	(315) 334-7100
**VA Outpatient Clinic Binghamton	(607) 732-9100

## Dial Main Number: 425-4400 + Extension

	<u>Extension</u>
Home Based Primary Care	54302
Minority Affairs Program Manager	54829
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	52634
Prosthetics	54659
Transitional Care Unit	53720
Voluntary Service	54517
Women's Health Center	54652

TELCARE (Toll-Free)

VA Information Hotline/24 Hours-a-Day/7 Days-a-Week!

1-888-838-7890

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA  
CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER #103  
P.O. BOX 675  
LIVERPOOL, NY 13088

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Veterans must provide evidence of service (DD214 or Equivalent)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran (Y) \_\_\_\_\_ (N) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Vietnam-Era Vet? (Y) \_\_\_\_\_ (N) \_\_\_\_\_

In-Country Vet? (Y) \_\_\_\_\_ (N) \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES** for Veterans is \$20.00/year. We accept checks, credit cards or money orders.  
Please do not send cash.

Type of Membership: ( )New ( )Renewal Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

When you need help....  
Medical Problems? Medical Concerns? Eligibility Questions?  
Call VA Telecare  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
1-888-838-7890 (toll free)

VA Medical Professionals are as close as your telephone.  
VA Telecare, a service of the Syracuse VA Medical Center.

"Putting Veterans First"

To purchase hats, T-shirts, stickers, pins, etc. Go to:  
Westvale Gardens  
2400 West Genesee Street  
Syracuse, NY 13209

And say "Hi" to Bill Martin!

Central New York Chapter 103  
P.O. Box 675  
Liverpool, NY 13088

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**AT EASE**



VVA Chapter 103 holds its meetings at American Legion Post 188,  
205 Cypress St, Liverpool, NY on the 3rd Thursday of each month  
at 7:00 p.m.

Directions: From Heids Corner, follow signs to Rt 370 (2nd Street).  
Take first left past Washington Park. The post is on your right side,  
across from the park.