

# INCOMING VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 535

Chapter 535

Website: www.vva535.org

Volume 28 Issue 2 February 2018

Dear fellow members,

Another year has raced by! I am still recovering from the Victorian Christmas and working on my house, as I am sure it is the same for everyone.

Between discussion at the general meeting and the board meeting we have had discussion on several things.

- 1) We have decided to continue the Victorian Christmas, mostly due to fundraising capabilities. We need to work on availability of volunteers.
- 2) Concert at the Center for the Arts. After viewing several artists and costs involved we have chosen John and Dee Price as Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline concert. They have a reasonable concert cost and are local which will save us other expenses. This should get us the most bang for the buck. We will need volunteers for ushers.
- 3) We have a good selection of officers that will be chosen at the next election. If you wish to be included, let us know at the next general meeting, or let Dick Corn know.
- 4) Ralph Remick has prepared a nice budget for the year.

Much more at the next meeting!

Chuck

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#### **Upcoming Events**

General Meeting .......Feb. 1, 2018
Director's Meeting .....Feb. 15, 2018
CSC Full Council - January 26-28, 2018, Fresno
- April 27–29,2018, Fresno
- August 24 – 26, 2018, Fresno
VVA Leadership Conference, Palm Springs, CA
July 22 – 30, 2018
NCCVC meeting. 10:00 a.m. Feb. 1, 2018

#### **Chapter 535 Officers**

#### **Directors**

Craig Johnson	575-3576
Dave Johnson	887-8297
Ralph Remick	559-7716
Ric Sheridan	274-1413
Dave Chaix	.269-1431
Bill Holman	265-8387
Bart Ruud	823-1368
Dale Epps	368-6156
Kent Hawley	432-3551
Harold Graves	470-8507
Chuck Holmes	478-1126

#### **Committee Chairs**

FinanceRalph Remick & Dave Johnson
Parade and Honor Guard Dick Corn
Membership AffairsRic Sheridan
Newsletter Interim editor Bart Ruud
Victorian Christmas Chuck Holmes
NominationsDick Corn
Christmas Year Round Harold Graves
NCCVC Dick Corn
Web Master Ralph Remick
Quartermaster Kent Hawley
Facebook Master Mike Laborico
Nevada County Fair Chuck Holmes
VSO Liaisons Don Bull & Gary Oliver
CA State Council Rep Chuck Holmes

#### Nevada County Veterans Affairs Rep.

### Matters of interest as outlined at Board Meeting of January 18, 2018

Given that Ken Farmer has assumed a leadership role with the American Legion, he has stepped back from being VVA-535's representative at the NCCVC meetings. Dick Corn has graciously assumed that responsibility.

Elections for Officers and Board Members are just around the corner, in April 2018. At the General Meeting of February 1, 2018, Nominations Chairman Dick Corn will seek interest from among our membership for members to step up and fill our Officer and Director positions. Strong leaders, working together, will carry VVA-535 into the future. Give this opportunity serious consideration between now and February.

The Board has developed an action plan to schedule a fundraiser concert on April 28, 2018 at the Center for the Arts Venue. The performing artists selected are the *Rhythm Riders*, a Johnny Cash/Patsy Cline tribute group.

The Nevada County Fair arrives in August and runs the 8<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>. A Project Chair and five Booth Captains are needed, one for each day of the fair. It is not too soon for us to check our calendars and align ourselves with available timeslots and positions of service and responsibility.

The Board found consensus in moving forward with a Victorian Christmas effort in December 2018.

#### **Guest Speaker February 1, 2018**

Our guest speaker at our General Meeting of Thursday, February 1, 2018 will be Lt. Col. David Moyer, LCSW. The Colonel will address matters related to mental health, an issue that is of broad concern in our complex world.

**Licensed Clinical Social Workers** work with clients in order to help them deal with issues involving mental and emotional health.

Thank you, Tom Woollard, for coordinating and arranging Col. Moyer's presentation.

### The U.S. Army Is Training to Explore, Fight in North Korea's Maze of Tunnels By Kyle Mizokami. Popular Mechanics. Dec 18, 2017

The secretive country would hide its leadership, weapons of mass destruction underground in war.



Units of the U.S. Army are training to map out, and if necessary fight in, North Korea's underground complexes. Soldiers from the Army's 1st Cavalry Division are training in underground tunnels to prepare for the mission of securing North Korean tunnels in the event of war. North Korea is estimated to have thousands of tunnels and underground facilities that would shelter the regime leadership and possibly chemical and nuclear weapons, in the event of war with the United States and South Korea.

During the four day exercise described by *Stars* and *Stripes*, dubbed Warrior Strike IX, troops from the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry regiment, 1st Cavalry Division practiced breaching and entering tunnel complexes at the U.S. Army's Camp Stanley in South Korea. The soldiers conducted the exercise wearing chemical

protective suits and night vision goggles to see in the dark.

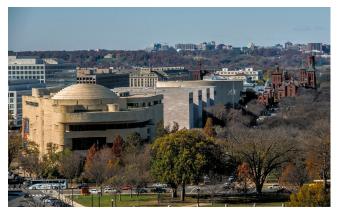
North Korea is estimated to have between 6,000 and 8,000 underground facilities. Meant to preserve the country's leadership and armed forces from air attack, the facilities are also thought to store stockpiles of chemical weapons. In 2012, South Korea estimated the North had between 2,500 and 5,000 metric tons of chemical arms, including mustard gas, hydrogen cyanide, and highly lethal nerve agents including sarin, soman, and VX. In 2017, North Korean agents assassinated leader Kim Jongun's half brother in Malaysia with a lethal dose of VX, making it seem even more likely the country might use such weapons in wartime.

Stars and Stripes, reporting on the exercise, says the soldiers negotiated a half mile long horseshoe-shaped tunnel equipped with the Mobile Ad Hoc Networking Unit system, or MPU5. Described by the manufacturer as the "World's First Smart Radio," it creates a peer-to-peer wireless relay network capable of relaying signals from deep underground to the surface. MPU5 is based on the Android OS and can handle voice, data, and video. The device also linked to trackers attached to soldiers' boots, like horseback riding spurs, allowing the Army to keep track of troops underground.

In the event of war on the Korean peninsula South Korean soldiers will do the bulk of the fighting, both above and underground. Still U.S. forces would likely do a considerable amount themselves, and must be ready to fight and communicate hundreds of feet underground in the dark. In the meantime, U.S. troops must train for every contingency.

### Native American veterans will be honored with memorial on National Mall

By Tara Bahrampour The Washington Post January 14, 2018



The National Museum of the American Indian is the planned site for the veterans memorial. (Bill O'Leary/The Washington Post)

The Mall is studded with monuments to iconic people and events, from presidents to wars to civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. Later this month, finalists will be announced for a memorial to a group with less name recognition: Native American veterans.

In the 20th century, Native Americans served in the United States military at a higher per capita rate than any other ethnic group, and their service stretches back to the Revolutionary War. This might sound surprising, given their fraught history with the U.S. government. Why would so many choose to fight and sacrifice for a country that has often treated native tribes so badly?

The answer lies in the way many see their patriotism, as inextricably connected with the land itself, said Rebecca Trautmann, project curator of the National Native American Veterans Memorial at the National Museum of the American Indian, upon whose land the memorial will be built.

"They have described an inherited responsibility to protect their homeland, their families, their communities and their traditional way of life," she said.

Or as Debra Kay Mooney, a Choctaw who is a veteran of the Iraq War, put it: "Our ancestors are the very groundwork of the United States because we died here first. It's our ancestors' bones and marrow that has degraded into the ground that is actually in the roots and the tops of the tallest trees. ... We needed to protect our ancestors' bones."

While Congress approved the erection of the memorial in 1994, it did not authorize fundraising for it until 2013. (It is scheduled to be unveiled on Veterans Day in 2020). Museum staff and members of an advisory committee traveled around the country, meeting with tribal leaders and veterans, and came back with a few directives: Be inclusive of all tribes and traditions; don't leave out women; remember the sacrifices of family members; and include an element of spirituality.

The design must be broad enough to encompass the vast array of tribes (567 are federally recognized) yet specific enough that veterans and their families will recognize themselves and their stories.

That will not be easy for the panel of experts tasked with selecting the design. For example, some tribes' history of service goes back longer than others; to some, horses were integral, while others never rode them.

"What an intriguing memorial this will ultimately be if it is able to encompass for the casual observer and for Native Americans the oddities of where we stand today as Native Americans in the 21st century," said Kevin Brown, chairman of the Mohegan tribe, who along with Mooney is on the advisory committee. "You have native scouts who were on both sides in the Indian Wars, you have the

first Native American to die in the defense of what would be called the U.S.A., in the Revolutionary War," a relative of Brown.

The placement of the memorial is significant, said Jefferson Keel, lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation, who is co-chair of the committee. "Anyone who goes out of the Capitol, down those steps, that will be the first thing they see. To me, that's exciting."

Keel acknowledged the contradictions inherent in serving a government that did not always serve its native population fairly. "I think it's in the warrior tradition to protect the freedoms that we have, even though we were not allowed to be citizens in general until [the 1920s]. Even before they were allowed to vote, they served." The memorial, he said, is "long overdue."

Many Americans don't know the extent of the more painful history of Native Americans, as well as many of their accomplishments, he said. "We're not what they learned about in public school systems."

Jefferson Keel, a Native American Vietnam vet, who was awarded a Bronze Star, said there's a lot to learn about his people's history. That history includes the forcible removal of native children from their families to be educated in boarding schools — which in some ways helped prepare them for service. "Students were taken from homes, their hair cut short, put into military uniforms and made to lead regimented lifestyles — so, often, the military recruited them," Trautmann said.

Among the best-known Native American veterans are the Choctaw, who passed messages in their own language during World Wars I and II — a code the enemy was unable to break. And Ira Hayes, one of six U.S. servicemen to raise the flag at Iwo Jima, became the subject of a Johnny Cash song.

Even among Native Americans there is a knowledge gap about their contributions, said Wayne Don, an Alaska Native who is a colonel in the National Guard. "I didn't know that my two grandfathers were Alaskan territorial guardsmen until I picked up a book," he said.

Over 31,000 Native American men and women are on active duty, and more than 140,000 veterans identify as Native Americans or Alaska Natives. Typically, they are celebrated in their own communities, with ceremonies and warrior societies that help them when they return from service. In 2004, a powwow was held in a combat zone near Fallujah, for which family members sent clothes and other items from the United States.

But despite the high status of warriors in many tribal traditions, Native Americans often have a harder time than the general population gaining access to veterans' benefits, Trautmann said. "On the one hand, they have this support from the community that other vets don't, and on the other hand, it can be harder for them to access medical and social services," she said. "Many of them turn to traditional healing to deal with some of the PTSD from combat."

An important aspect of the memorial is that "it's intended to welcome these vets and be a healing experience for them, whether it's for vets who served many years ago, vets just returning from service or families who lost members in service," Trautmann said. One of those is Allen Hoe, a Native Hawaiian and Vietnam veteran whose 27-year-old son Nainoa was killed in Iraq in 2005. "He was very proud of the fact that his ancestors for 100 generations were warriors," said Hoe, who has another son in the military. "He wanted to step forward and provide the gratitude to his ancestors and conduct himself the way they would want him to."



Woodrow Wilson Keeble (Eastern Sioux, 1917-1982) was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. For his actions in combat, he received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts and the Combat Infantryman Badge. (N/A/U.S. Army National Guard)

Hoe said he was originally shocked and disappointed to learn there was not already a memorial honoring Native American veterans. "I was puzzled as to why not," he said, adding that he has since become active in veterans' initiatives such as the memorial. "There's not a lot you can do to change the past, but you can do your best to set the way forward." While many served with distinction, recognition was not always accorded to them in their lifetime.

Master Sgt. Woodrow Wilson ("Woody") Keeble, a full-blooded Sioux, served in World War II and later in Korea. He was recommended for a Medal of Honor, but the paperwork was lost; he was finally given the award posthumously, in 2008.

"He would be very honored" to see the memorial, said Keeble's stepson, Russell Hawkins. "He comes from a warrior culture that epitomized all the values of honor and bravery, and he would want the story to be told."

Hawkins also hopes the memorial, by highlighting Native Americans' service and sacrifice, will do something else. "I think the most bigoted white supremacist, when he reads what Woody did, saving the lives of his fellow soldiers, he'll say, 'Gee, maybe these guys aren't so bad after all. Maybe they deserve a little bit more understanding, a little bit more compassion.' "I think even the hardest heart will soften."

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#### Navy Finds Plane That Crashed Into Philippine Sea In November, Killing 3 Sailors

By TYLER HLAVAC, STARS AND STRIPES on January 6, 2018

The Navy has located the C-2A Greyhound that crashed into the Philippine Sea in November, killing three sailors.

Deepwater-salvage experts operating out of a contracted salvage vessel found the aircraft Dec. 29 using a system to hone in on the downed plane's emergency relocation pinger, said a Navy statement issued Friday.

The Greyhound is about 18,500 feet down, which would make the aircraft recovering operation the deepest ever attempted, the statement said. In the coming weeks, salvage teams will begin mapping the debris field and attaching heavy lines to the ship to bring the aircraft to the surface. "Despite very challenging

conditions, every effort will be made to recover the aircraft and our fallen sailors," the statement said.

The Greyhound was carrying 11 passengers and cargo from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni to the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan when it crashed on Nov. 22. It was assigned to Carrier Air Wing 5, the aviation component of carrier's strike group.

The Yokosuka-based Ronald Reagan was conducting an annual bilateral maritime field-training exercise with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force at the time of the incident.

Shortly after the crash, eight people were rescued by Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 12. U.S. and Japanese ships and aircraft spent two days searching for the three missing sailors — Lt. Steven Combs, Seaman Matthew Chialastri and Seaman Apprentice Bryan Grosso — over an area of nearly 1,000 square nautical miles.

The Navy is considering a posthumous award for Combs, whose flying has been credited with possibly saving the lives of the other passengers. "Lt. Combs' co-pilot was effusive in his praise. He said, 'He flew the hell out of that plane,'" Navy Cmdr. Ronald Flanders, a spokesman for Naval Air Forces, told Stars and Stripes. "It was heroic. A remarkable piece of flying that was instrumental in saving eight lives."

The Navy has yet to announce the official cause of the crash. It appears the Greyhound suffered a rare double engine failure, two Navy officials previously told Stars and Stripes on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation. The officials said it was unclear what would have caused the engines to fail.

The crash capped off a deadly year for the

Navy's Japan-based 7th Fleet that included a series of high-profile accidents and mishaps. In January, the USS Antietam ran aground and spilled roughly 1,100 gallons of hydraulic fluid into Tokyo Bay; in June, a collision between the USS Fitzgerald and a merchant ship killed seven sailors; and in August, the USS John S. McCain ran into an oil tanker, killing 10 more.

#### **Writing Your Story for INCOMING**

(Ongoing repeat solicitation)

Ideas for your story:

- Think about what you appreciated about the Vietnam experience. There is surely a means to segue into that with very little reflection on the negative aspects of war
- What did you appreciate about the Vietnamese people during your deployment?
- Can you steer away from the bad stuff and \reflect on the best experience you had in the Nam?
- Surely you had a close buddy and you supported each other. Maybe there is a story in that.
- What really got you through the day-to-day anxieties and fears? There might be a positive recollection in that regard.
- How did your experience instill in you a sense of patriotism that you possibly express every day of your life.

So far we have heard from Ruud, Epps, Chaix, Hamer, current Marine LCpl. Jesse Hernandez, Kent Hawley, and Mike Laborico. (Thank you!)

No writer needs to dwell on the negatives of war Each of us who was there lived the negatives, and all of us are better people for having served, especially when we look at how we matured as a result of our experiences. Each of us has derived a sense of being and an energy that is different from

what it might have been had we not been sent across the pond.

Do share with us, in your own words, something of that chapter of your life. And, thank you for your service.

Forward your story to Bart Ruud at bruud45@gmail.com or hand deliver to Bart.

#### Battle of Khe Sanh - Was America Duped?

Source: The New York Times | John Mason Glen | January 1, 2018

At the time, he seemed like the perfect fit: a tall, articulate, handsome paladin. His posture was always ramrod straight, his uniform constantly and precisely starched. He had punched all the right tickets: Eagle Scout, first captain of the West Point class of 1936, commander of both the elite 504th Parachute Infantry of the 82nd Airborne Division and later the 101st Airborne Division, superintendent of West Point and honorary member of the Society of Cincinnati. So when Lyndon Johnson went looking for someone to command the overall anti-Communist crusade in Vietnam in 1964, Gen. William Westmoreland's name was at the top of a shortlist.

Johnson had taken over the presidency, and the challenges in Southeast Asia, from John Kennedy in November 1963. Kennedy's plan to contain Communism in that part of the world had been to supply aid — both monetary and in the form of American military advisers — to the anti-Communist regime of President Nho Dinh Diem of South Vietnam. By the time of Kennedy's death, the United States had more than 16,000 soldiers advising the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, and it wasn't working. At the Battle of Ap Bac, in January 1963, a force of 1,500 South Vietnamese, despite superior firepower, was decimated by a few hundred Vietcong. Johnson's top aides offered two solutions to the American president: get in or get out. Clad in the panoply of American exceptionalism, Johnson opted for the former and turned to Westmoreland to lead the charge at the head of the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam — MACV for short.

In the first major engagement under Westmoreland's leadership, the Battle of the Ia Drang Valley in November 1965, American forces killed 10 enemy soldiers for every one of their own lost. The hard-fought victory persuaded Westmoreland to adopt a strategy of attrition — if American troops killed enough North Vietnamese and Viet Cong, the enemy would have to sue for peace. Westmoreland explained his plan to an old friend, Senator Fritz Hollings of South Carolina. "Westy," Hollings explained, "the American people don't care about the 10, they care about the one."

Westmoreland's opposite number in North Vietnam, Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, had also punched the right tickets. A former history teacher and a self-taught military strategist, he had led the Viet Minh resistance against the Japanese during World War II and later commanded the Viet Minh troops who defeated the French forces at Dien Bien Phu in 1953. Considered one of the greatest military strategists of the 20th century, Giap had as his goal not a classic military victory, but rather, as he wrote later, "to break the will of the American government" — just as he had done against the French.

In late 1967, Giap concentrated some 40,000 soldiers in the hills of northwest South Vietnam and orchestrated a series of assaults on a string of American combat bases in the highlands, not far from a Marine base called Khe Sanh, which the North besieged in January 1968. Giap later called these attacks a "diversion" to trick the Americans into moving forces from the populated areas to defensive positions in the hinterland. Most American leaders fell for it; one of the few who didn't, Adm. U. S. Grant Sharp,

Westmoreland's nominal superior, presciently argued that "the Communist strategy continued to reflect an effort to draw Allied forces into remote areas," therefore "leaving the populated areas unprotected."

To Westmoreland, the North Vietnamese gambit looked more like the beginning of the end for the North. Called home that fall to convince America that the war was close to being won, he famously claimed, "I begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel" — coincidentally, nearly the same language used by his French predecessor, Gen. Henry Navarre, not long before Dien Bien Phu. For "the light" to glow full orbed, it was essential that the Marine position at Khe Sanh be held.

Both Westmoreland and Johnson quickly became obsessed with Khe Sanh; the president even had a scale model of the outpost built in the Situation Room of the White House so that he could track the course of the

battle daily. He also demanded a signed affirmation from the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the base could and would be successfully defended. For both men, the landmark French defeat — likewise a siege against a hilly outpost far to the north — hung over them heavily. "I don't want any damn Dien Bien Phu," Johnson told his staff in 1967, while Westmoreland requested a thorough analysis of the 1954 battle "to ascertain that we are taking all countering actions possible in relationship to the analogous Khe Sanh situation," according to a MACV memo. Khe Sanh likewise took hold of the American public, which bought into the notion of a pivotal battle that would leave one side sprawling and the other limping to final defeat.

Westmoreland threw everything he could at Khe Sanh. During the 77-day siege, American jets flew more than 24,000 sorties, dropping 110,000 tons of bombs on the enemy positions. At one point, Westmoreland even considered the use of tactical nuclear weapons to defend the Marine garrison. But Khe Sanh was only a prelude to an even bigger campaign: an all-out and unexpected assault on the more densely populated areas in the South, which, Hanoi hoped, would trigger a general uprising against the South Vietnamese government and the Americans. The attack, during the cease-fire for the lunar new year, known as Tet, involved close to 80,000 North Vietnamese and Vietcong fighters who had sneaked into nearly 100 hamlets, villages, cities and towns across South Vietnam.

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Though caught off guard, the Americans and their allies reacted quickly and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy force, an estimated 37,000 in the first few weeks of fighting (separate phases of the offensive, which ran into the summer, brought their losses above 100,000). But it came at great cost: The South Vietnamese lost 21,000 men; the Americans and other allies lost nearly 24,000; and tens of thousands of civilians were killed or wounded. A suicide squad of 19 Vietcong sappers breached the American Embassy grounds in Saigon — allegedly one of the most secure locations in South Vietnam. Many of the buildings in the ancient capital of Hue were totally razed during a month long battle, resulting in thousands of deaths and tens of thousands of refugees.

American forces broke the siege of Khe Sanh in April 1968 but withdrew a few months later. Afterward, North Vietnamese forces moved into the area, unopposed, and held it until the end of the war. Was Westmoreland duped? Was the attack on the Marines at Khe Sanh simply a ruse to beguile the sclerotic Americans, and especially their obdurate leadership, into believing that Giap was attempting a repeat of the Dien Bien Phu victory? Or were they two separate campaigns? After all, Giap was skeptical of the Tet offensive and paid meticulous attention to Khe Sanh (and, conveniently, was sent to Hungary for medical treatment in the fall of 1967, as the planners behind Tet put the final touches on their offensive).

Duped or not, Westmoreland was replaced soon after the Tet offensive ended. The well-respected CBS newsman Walter Cronkite — a former supporter of the war — now thought the best that the United States could hope for was a "draw." Johnson chose not to run for a second term as president, and Richard Nixon was elected that fall primarily because of his promise to end the fighting. Whether Khe Sanh and Tet were part of the same campaign, they contributed equally to the emotional collapse of American support for the war, and for their leaders. [Source: The New York Times | John Mason Glen | January 1, 2018 ++]

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#### **Application For Membership**

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC., CHAPTER 535 P.O. Box 37, Grass Valley, CA 95945

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

Name:	Date of Birth:
Mailing Address:	<del>-</del>
City:	State: Zip:
Home Phone: ()	Cell Phone: ()
Email Address:	Gender:
(Optional) Chapter Number:	Sponsor:
I am already a VVA member and I w	vant to become a Life Member. My VVA Number is
<b>Type of Membership</b> : Individua Life Membership:\$100. (Cl	al 1 year @ \$20. Individual3 years @ \$50. heck type of membership)
<b>ATTENTION New members and</b> DD-214 form along with this app	d new life members: You must submit a copy of your plication and dues payment.
Payment Method:CheckM	Ioney OrderCredit Card (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover)
Credit Card Number	Exp. Date
Signature	<del></del>
Return your completed application, paym	ent and a copy of your DD-214 to:
Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. P.O. Box 37	., Chapter 535

Revised: January 201

Grass Valley, CA 95945

### January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	New Year's Day	2	3	4 VVA General Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	Operation Desert Storm began 1991	VVA Board Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord 1973
28	29	30	31			

## **February**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 VVA General Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Boy Scouts of America founded 1910	9	10
11	Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	VVA Board Meeting	16	17
18	19 President's Day US Marines Landed on Iwo Jima 1945	20	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23	Operation Desert Storm ground campaign began 1991
25	26	27	28			

### March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 VVA General Meeting	2	3 Star Spangled Banner made US National Anthem (1931)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Daylight Savings Time begins	12	13	14	VVA Board Meeting	16	17
18	Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003)	20 First day of Spring	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	Good Friday	31

## **April**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday	2	3	4	VVA General Meeting VVA-535	6	7
8	9	10	Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire (1991)	Elections 12	13	14
15 Income Tax Day	16	17	18	VVA Board Meeting	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	27				