



**Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter #920
Denton, TX**

www.vva920.org

May 2019

Meeting Information:

Date: Meet the **4th Tuesday** of Each Month
Location: 6900 FM 2153, Aubrey, TX 76227
Dinner: At **6:00PM**
Meeting Start Time: **6:45PM**

Officers (2019-2020)

President: Eric Harmon
Vice President: Dan Washburn
Secretary: Ron Swain
Treasurer: Enrique Nater
Director: Jerry Anderson
Director: Sharon Balsley
Director: Robbie Roberts

Committees

Chaplains - Tom Silva and Bill Coburn
Honor Guard - Alan Lessard
Membership - Jerry Anderson
Motor Pool Sergeant - Bill Roberson
Newsletter Editor - Anita Washburn
Quarter Master/Steward - Horst Poethke
Safety Officer - Ron Swain
Sergeant at Arms - Randy Grizzle
Support Services - Sharon Balsley
Webmaster - Jim Polozeck

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**Work Sessions at GVS
Every Thursday 8:30 – 11:30 AM
(Weather Permitting)**

Picture of the Month



Election/Installation April 23, 2019

**“Never Again Will One
Generation of Veterans
Abandon Another”**



Welcome – President

Kudos abound! Our chapter has been involved in several events since the publication of our April newsletter and each deserve recognition.

- Honor Guard – Two funerals (Justin and Eules), Lineman College graduation (posting colors), raising the flag at Lake Park in Lewisville for opening ceremonies at the mobile “Wall That Heals”, posting of colors and firing, taps and firing of rifles for Denton’s National Day of Prayer and posting colors at the Rancho De La Rocha resort in Aubrey.
- Medal Of Honor Caravan and MOH parade in Gainesville – Our honor guard did us proud but then we had support from several non HG VVA and AVVA members contributing their time to show great honor and respect to our nations ultimate living heroes.
- Installation of new officers – Eric Harmon, president; Dan Washburn, Vice President - Ron Swain, Secretary; Enrique Nater, Treasurer; and Jerry Anderson, Director. Sharon Balsley and Robbie Roberts remain as Directors serving three-year terms, officers other than directors serve one-year terms.
- Texas State Council – Our chapter was represented by delegates Eric Harmon and Randy Grizzle (our out-going director but still our Sergeant at Arms).
- Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 920 14th annual golf tournament – The golf committee including Eric Harmon, Gary Steele, Jerry Anderson, Leo Perez, Bill Robison, Grady Jones and Enrique Nater stepped up to the plate again with the addition of Grady overseeing door prizes and sponsors. Volunteers from our VVA and AVVA membership on the day of the event joined the committee in giving a premier event to our community and resulted in eleven teams and nearly \$5,000 in net donations.

All the above within the last month? Whew – but we accomplish our tasks through the selfless actions of our members such as Alan Lessard at the helm of the Honor Guard, Gary Steele, Gary Raines, Bill Roberson, Sharon Balsley, Horst and Cathy Poethke, Lloyd Kinnison, Tom Silva, Bill Coburn, Marvin Allen, Jim Polozeck, Dan and Anita Washburn and others (forgive me if I missed you this round) – all who are the lead of a committee, took charge when needed or otherwise displayed leadership and key contributions to the benefit of the chapter as a whole – and we Thank You.

VVA 920 Events

May 2019

22th – VVA 920 Board Meeting

25th – Car Show Aubrey

27th – Memorial Day

28th – VVA Stated Meeting

June 2019

19th – VVA 920 Board Meeting

25th – VVA Stated Meeting

July 2019

4th – Yankee Doodle Parade & VVA Picnic

17th – VVA 920 Board Meeting

23nd – VVA Stated Meeting

Honor Guard Activities:

Alan Lessard, SOG

May 2nd 08.00 am Raise Flags for the open ceremony of the **Vietnam Wall of Healing**. (Vietnam Veteran Wall)

May 2nd 11.30 am NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Denton Old Courthouse on the Square. Or Cross Timbers Church on McKinney St if rain.

May 2nd 18.30 hrs NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Rancho De La Roca 2459 Blackjack Rd W. Aubrey.

May 5th 13.00 Hrs at the **Vietnam Wall** in Lewisville for the closing.

May 13th 17.45 hrs Honor Guard practice at the school.

May 18th 17.30 hrs Post Colors – Reunion of 2/8th Cav of the 1st Cavalry Division (Angry Skipper Assoc) at Doubletree Hilton, 4441 John Carpenter Freeway, Irving

May 19th 13.00 Hrs Memorial Day Service at Rose Lawn Cemetery, Denton.

May 25th 08.00 am Car show Aubrey Main St. Bring uniform, wear work clothes to help set up then we will change in the firehouse

May 27th 08.15 am Denton Old Court House on the square for **Memorial Day** program of our own.

HG – Lineman College April 2019



James Wesley Mount Funeral –
March 28, 2019



Together Always®

AVVA (Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America) Corner:

Our AVVA team supports VVA 920 activities & members.

AVVA attends VVA stated meetings:
May 28 – June 25 – July 23

AVVA is open to anyone interested in supporting VVA 920 and other Veterans but is not eligible to join VVA. Please, consider joining this active team of workers.

<http://www.avva.org>



GOT PATCHES?

A few AVVA members will be available to sew patches onto your VVA vest before the May meeting. Machines will be set up at the back of the meeting room on **May 28, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.**

Questions: Cathy Poethke 214-763-9514

Around the Chapter

AVVA members Barbara Angel & Cathy Poethke presented outgoing President, Gary Steele with a **Quilt of Valor** from the Red White & Blue Bee, Denton Quilt Guild.

4-23-19.



Hal Reed received Award for Volunteer Hours



VVA 920 - Golf Tournament 2019

Teams ready to start.



Wildlife joined the fun.



Worker Bees



VVA 920 - Golf Tournament 2019

Worker Bees



Lunch



Quilt Raffle raised \$220 –
Thank You Cathy Poethke



Medal of Honor Welcome



Medal of Honor Welcome



We Meet – We Eat



Easter Bunny surprised VVA members at WAB



Note from the President:

Welcome - President

The ballots are in and the 2019-2020 officers of the VVA Chapter 920, Inc. are on the official slate. I thank you for your vote of confidence in electing me as your new chapter president. I also thank Gary Steele for stepping up this last year, giving Dan Washburn a much deserved reprieve after leading our chapter as president for five continuous years. These are two proven leaders who deserve adulations from us all. These two have also set the bar for me to meet or exceed as we go into our 17th year as a chapter.

I look towards this year with the same optimism I have carried through my past four years as a member of our board of directors. Titles change but for the most part we have the same cast of characters, some wounded and others a bit grayer – but mostly intact.

We welcome our new board member Ron Swain as our chapter secretary and the return of Jerry Anderson, past president and vice president during my time here, and now as a director.

We say goodbye to Randy Grizzle as director and board member for twelve years. Randy will remain as our sergeant at arms, posting and retiring colors – but also, at my request, as a facilitator to keep me somewhat focused and so that I leave some oxygen in the room for others to breath.

We also say goodbye to our president Gary Steele who took the position when the rest of us sat on our hands. Gary's involvement with the Green Valley School Historical Society as president, one of the leaders driving our state's first Texas Veterans Hall of Fame, and my right-hand with the golf committee – I don't see him slowing down.

Thank you Gary and Randy for all you do and have done.

Thank you to my board and to the members of the VVA and AVVA who make our chapter one of the strongest in the state of Texas.

Eric Harmon