

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

**June 2020** 

www.vva920.org

#### **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: Open

Treasurer: Enrique Nater
Director: Jerry Anderson
Director: Sharon Balsley
Director: Robbie Roberts

#### **Committee Leads**

Chaplains - Tom Silva and Bill Coburn

Honor Guard - Alan Lessard

Membership - Jerry Anderson

Motor Pool Sergeant - Bill Roberson

Newsletter Editor - Anita Washburn (AVVA)

Public Affairs - Frenchy Rheault

 $Quarter\ Master\ \textbf{-}\ Horst\ Poethke\ (AVVA)$ 

Sergeant at Arms - Randy Grizzle

Scholarship – Lloyd Kinnison (AVVA)

Steward – Leo Perez

Support Services - Sharon Balsley

Webmaster - Jim Polozeck

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Honor Guard joined by Denton Chief of Police & Annie Kay Palasota who sang the National Anthem.

### **Memorial Day Observance**

Denton Square 25 May 2020

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



#### **President's Corner**

Dear Chapter 920 VVA and AVVA members,

#### Light at the end of the tunnel. . .

On May 18, your board of directors met for the first time since February! I felt we needed to address three items: Scholarships, Honor Guard and our own TSC to be held in October and all board members came through with one joining via conference call, one with mask and all spread to individual tables while I led from the stage. We practiced all CDC safety measures and successfully got through the issues.

In the June newsletter you will learn who won our five - \$1,000 scholarships. I congratulate all five recipients and our scholarship committee as well for a job well done - Lloyd Kinnison, Gerard Balsley, Gary Steele and Anita Washburn. We heard Alan's proposal for firing up our honor guard, including safety precautions and agreed that we are ready to re-engage under his command. And we got an update on the Embassy Suites and Denton Convention Center and our Texas State Council scheduled for October 30-31. We are all on schedule and anticipating a great event which our chapter is hosting. Since the first of two annual TSC's was cancelled we will have the honor of hosting the only 2020 state event.

Our treasurer gave us our financial status and yes, we are still sound with funds. In fact, we have reason to believe we will still hold our annual raffle at the North Texas State Fair. Keep your fingers crossed on this one.

The bad news is we have lost three months and counting. The good news is our chapter's members appear to be weathering the pandemic and the state of Texas is coming out of its cocoon, albeit slowly.

There is indeed, light at the end of the tunnel.

Eric Harmon – President Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 920, Inc.

Eric's heart surgery was successful & he is recovering at home.

Per Mary, NO visitors till further notice.

## VVA 920 Events

Watch your email for event updates due to Covid-19 restrictions.

## June 2020 TBD – Covid-19 Guidelines

17<sup>th</sup> – VVA 920 Board Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> – VVA Stated Meeting

## **July 2020**

**TBD – Covid-19 Guidelines** 

4<sup>th</sup> – USA Independence Day 22<sup>nd</sup> – VVA 920 Board Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> – VVA Stated Meeting

## August 2020

TBD - Covid-19 Guidelines

North Texas State Fair – Denton 19<sup>th</sup> – VVA 920 Board Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> – VVA Stated Meeting

## **Honor Guard Activities:**

Alan Lessard, SOG

**Multiple Funeral Requests** 

Contact Alan for Details on each event.

#### **Honor Guard Activities:**



Friday, 22 May 2020 Green Valley Cemetery Placed flags on veterans gave sites.

#### May 2016



Left to right: Jerry Anderson, Mark Hannah, Lupe Martinez, Richard Handly, Congressman Burgess, Alan Lessard, Rick Ward, Tom Grizzle Robbie Roberts.

#### November 2009



Front Row. Robbie Roberts, Randy Grizzle, Jerry Anderson, Rick Ward, Bill Loader Back Row Mike Haynes, Alan Lessard, Steve Knox



## Mathew W. Freeman Memorial Scholarship

VVA 920 proudly announces the recipients of our five \$1,000.00 Scholarships in 2020.

**Jack Sheehan** University of Texas at Dallas (Richardson, Texas)

Computer Science Jerry Anderson

**Audrey Fink** Oklahoma State University (Stillwater, Oklahoma)

Business Leo Perez

Whitney Palasoto Texas A&M University (College Station, Texas)

Marketing Gary Raines

Gerald Balsley IV Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, Texas)

**Business** 

Sharon and Gerald Balsley

**Emily Almeida** Willamette University (Salem Oregon)

Public Policy, Law, and Ethics

Kurt Hyde

# CONGRATULATIONS!!

# Chapter ELECTIONS Date – TBD

(To Be Determined)

Positions Open:

President

**Vice President** 

**Secretary** 

**Treasure** 

Director

(3-year Term)

Nominating Committee: Ed Hall, Kurt Hyde & Bill Roberson

## **Support Services**

Card support continues & is appreciated.

Our Navigators are serving Veterans.

If you need assistance, please contact

Support Services.



## Venue - TSC October 2020

Randy, Eric & Dan met with **Embassy Suites** on 5/14/2020.





Ample room for Social Distancing!