



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

www.vva920.org

March 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 (2018-2019)

Gary Steele-President
Dan Washburn-Vice President
Secretary-Eric Harmon
Treasurer-Enrique Nater
Director-Sharon Balsley
Director-Randy Grizzle
Director-Robbie Roberts

Committees

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

Nominating- Alan Lessard, Jim Polozeck,
Kurt Hyde

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

Picture of the Month



Spc. Ernie Dallas, Jr – Funeral
08-31-2005
VVA 920 received casket at DFW.

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



Membership Update: (March 2019)
VVA-196 AVVA-28 Total-224

Welcome – President

Kudos this Month:

Northwest Lineman School.



Kudos this month goes to the Northwest Lineman School.

The school sent out about 12 students to help on March 8th for our work session.

The linemen did the road cleanup and harvested over 20 bags of trash for the two mile stretch on FM 2153, that VVA 920 is responsible for. Then they spread over 20 yards of gravel and helped clean out the little conex behind the barn.

Special thanks to the following members that came out and helped. Jerry Anderson, Alan Lessard, Al Moreno, Leo Perez, Bob Creamier, Mark Hanna, Ron Swain, Larry Purcell, Horst Poethke and Randy Grizzle.

Scholarship News

Mathew W. Freeman Memorial Scholarship Application

Applications are being accepted for the Mathew W. Freeman Memorial Scholarship.

Each year VVA Chapter 920 offers one or more scholarships of **\$500**.

The applicant must be a dependent or relative of a member of VVA Chapter 920 (immediate family member of Honorably Discharged Vietnam or Vietnam Era Veterans {e.g. spouse, children (including foster or step children) and grandchildren).

Application deadline is April 1st.

(Application and supporting documents).

Applications received after **April 1st** will not be considered.

Application forms for the Mathew W. Freeman Memorial Scholarship are available: on the **VVA 920 website** (www.vva920.org), from any **VVA 920 Officer**, or **Lloyd Kinnison, Scholarship Chairperson** (lkinnison5@msn.com or 940 368 2041)



May 18, 2005

Original Scholarship established by “passing the hat” at Stated Meeting.

VVA 920 Events

March 2019

- 16th – Veterans Car Show (GVS)
@ Denton Cycle Center
- 20th – VVA 920 Board Meeting
- 26th – VVA Stated Meeting
- 29^h – Welcome Home Breakfast
0900-1100 @ GVS

April 2019

1st - Scholarship Application Deadline

- 17th – VVA 920 Board Meeting
- 23nd – VVA Stated Meeting
- 29th – VVA Annual Golf Tournament

May 2019

- 22nd - VVA 920 Board Meeting
- 28th – VVA Stated Meeting
- 29th – VVA Annual Golf Tournament

Welcome Home!
16 years
of Camaraderie

Honor Guard Activities:

Alan Lessard, SOG since 2006

March 11, 2019 – 17:45 Hrs, Monday
Honor Guard meeting at GVS

April 8, 2019 – 17:45 Hrs, Monday
Honor Guard meeting at GVS

May 13, 2019 – 17:45 Hrs, Monday
Honor Guard meeting at GVS.

1st Honor Guard Practice 2006



10 M-1 Rifles were loaned to VVA 920 by the US Government. Received June 2006.

VVA 920 Honor Guard established.



Together Always®

AVVA (Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America) Corner:

Our AVVA team supports VVA 920 activities & members.

AVVA attends VVA stated meetings:
March 26 – April 23 – May 28

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>

VVA 920
Welcome Home
Breakfast
Friday 3/29/2019
0900-1100

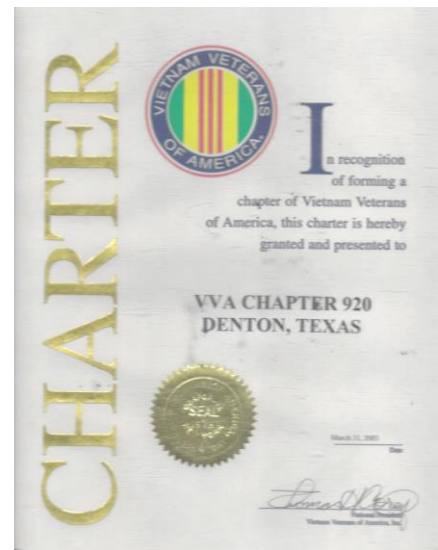
Cathy Poethke is lead.
Please contact her regarding
food list & to RSVP.

214-763-9514
poethke@yahoo.com

History of our Chapter

VVA Chapter 920 **Chartered March 31, 2003.**

1st Organizing meeting 11-25-2002
2nd Organizing meeting 1-28-2003
3rd Organizing meeting 2-11-2004
Founding & Interim President:
Col. Jim Wheeler.



Chapter 920 Chartered March 31, 2003

First Official Meeting
July 22, 2003

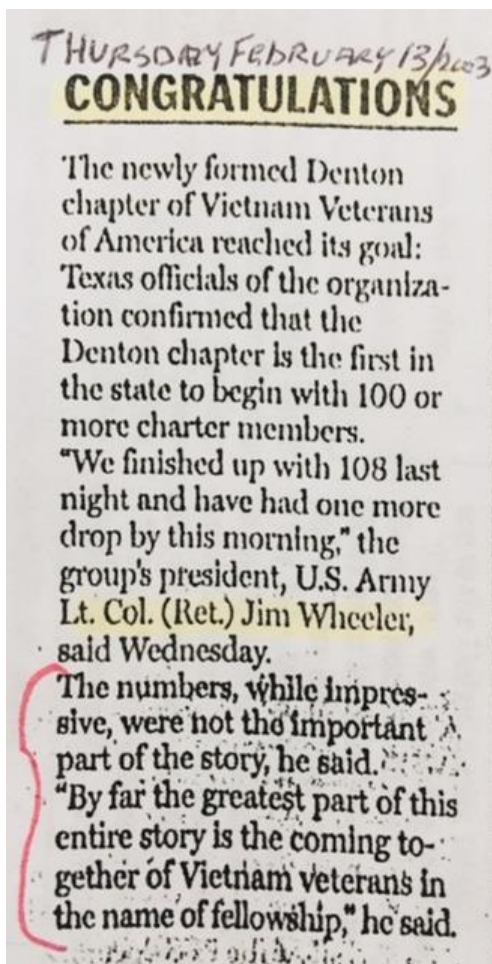
Elected Officers 2003-2004

David Zellers – President
Larry Vess – Vice President
Thomas Klinck – Treasurer
Virgil Aldag – Secretary
Don Yout – Sergeant-at-Arms

Please, take a few moments to read the 2006 VVA 920 Pamphlet which highlights the amazing accomplishments of VVA 920 2003-2006.

“May we repeat our positive history!”

VVA 920 History



From the beginning, the “worker bees” have understood the mission, dedication and benefits of VVA 920 membership.

“When this chapter was formed, people joined to see what they could get out of it. Now, people join to see what they can give.” Jim McLeod 2006

“Service is its own Reward.”

“When we Meet, We Eat!” Mark Hannah 2004

On-Going Annual Events:

- Medal of Honor Parade – Gainesville, TX
- National Day of Prayer
- Memorial Day
- Fourth of July – Yankee Doodle Parade
- Veterans Day on the Square
- Krum Christmas Parade

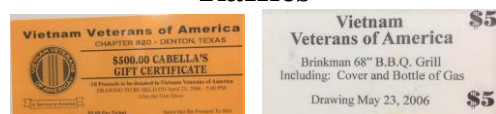
VVA 920 History

Early Fund Raisers

Turkey Fry & Brisket Sale 2005



Raffles



Gun Show Raffle



VVA 920 History

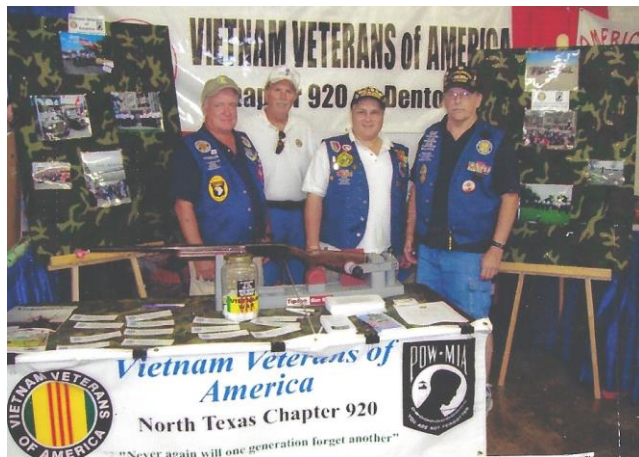
1st Golf Tournament – 2005
Northern Challenge in Sherman, TX
Jerry Alexander organized event.



1st Shotgun Raffle – North TX Fair 2006
(Shotgun purchased by charter members –
Boots, Hannah, Knox & McLeod)
Proceeds \$2900 – Estab. Motor Pool Fund



2nd Shotgun Raffle – N TX Fair 2007
Indoor Booth



VVA 920 History

4th of July 2006



GREETING THE SOLDIERS
RETURNING FOR R&R FROM IRAQ



Special Thanks to Historian Alan Lessard and to Mark Hannah for their assistance in creating this newsletter.

The list below may be incomplete as newspaper articles indicated 114 Chartering Members.

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 920, Inc., P.O. Box 241

Denton, TX 76202

Chartered March 31, 2003

Chartering Members

Donald Abbe
Edward E. Adcock
Virgil D. Aldag
Emmett D. Allcorn III
Charles G. Anderson
Fletcher Armstrong
Pat (Sieracki) Armstrong
Joseph W. Ayers
Charles M. Barnes
Richard C. Bartz
Tim Bellan
Jim Bonkowski
Dennis Boots
Earl Boughton
Steve Burkett
Larry L. Bussey
Foster Byrd
Reuben Cagle
George E. Carr
George K. Carroll
Paul Chandler
Richard E. Clark
Wayne Collins
Ramon Corona Jr.
Vincent T. "Barney" Cosimo
Dennis E. Cox
Lawrence S. Crossman
Alex Daniels
Charles T. Davis
Richard Deggans
Wallace L. Duvall
John R. Edmondson
Richard Freeman
Fred Garcia
Terry Garland
Clifford Garrett Jr.
Larry J. Gilbreath
David L. Grider
Edward Hall
Mark Hannah Jr.

Michael L. Haynes
Eldon Hawes
J. Douglas Hill
Kenneth E. Horn
Kurt Hyde
Alvin C. James Jr.
Harold G. Johnson
Marion S. Johnson
Rick Johnson
Louis F. Jones
Robert S. Kay



Gaylon L. King
Thomas W. Klinck
Stephen B. Knox
Frank Krawiec
William R. Krueger
Peter B. Lane
Donald W. Langa
Melvin Lusk
Michael Marzett
Jimmy D. McLeod
John E. McRay
Bobby W. Miles
Billy Miller
Wesley H. Moore
Ellis R. Mulanax
Ronnie L. Newland
Lanhon Odom

Gene Paulus
Jeffrey J. Peplow
Larry Piltingsrud
Jim D. Polozeck
Danny L. Prins
Larry Purcell
Larry Ragland
Gerald Reynolds
George E. Roach
Ray Roberts
William C. Roberts
Billy Robinson
Raul Rodriguez
Kim Romskog
Hank Scheible
William D. Sellers
Ferrell A. Shelton
Donald Sherwood
Tom Silva
William Smith
James H. Stevens
Ernest Stocker
Otis Taylor
Roy W. Taylor
Marion G. Twiford
Thomas Vaughn
Larry Vess
Charlie Wagstaff
Les Watland
Delbert J. Weiss
Johnny Welborn
James P. Wheeler
Dennis Whitson
Larry B. Womble
Richard D. Yancey
Carl G. Young Sr.
Don Yount
David Zellers

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Note from the President.

Greetings...

March begins a very important time for our Chapter. At our March meeting we will be finalizing our slate of officers for the upcoming 2019 year. We have all slots open except for two Directors slots. Robbie Roberts and Sharon Balsley will be staying on as Directors. Robbie has one year and Sharon has two years left.

Serving as an officer on this board is an exciting and rewarding experience. You get to be part of making the decision for the overall operation of the Chapter. A Chapter that is composed of over 200 members (the 3rd or 4th largest in the State). You get the opportunity and responsibility to make decisions that can have an impact on the Chapter, the lives of Veterans and spouses of Veterans in need.

VVA 920 is starting its 16th year and has done a lot of neat and good things over these years. The success is not only from the membership, but those at the helm of running the Chapter. The short time that I've been on the Board, I've been impressed with the talent and leadership of all the officers and directors. They have a job to do and they do it well. We've been blessed to have or had good officers and directors during the life of the Chapter. We need to make sure this continues and fill the vacancies with more good members. Whether you are a long-term member or just joined, we need your talent and expertise. Here is a chance to give back to the Chapter and at the same time keep VVA 920 at the top as one of the best Chapters of the Vietnam Veterans of America. If there is an interest, please let me or our nomination committee know. Upcoming slots.

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Director

“A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader; but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent.” – General of the Army, Douglas MacArthur

Gary