



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

**October 2019**

[www.vva920.org](http://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 - Horst Poethke (AVVA)  
Safety Officer - Ron Swain  
Sergeant at Arms - Randy Grizzle  
Scholarship – Lloyd Kinnison (AVVA)  
Steward – Leo Perez  
Support Services - Sharon Balsley  
Webmaster - Jim Polozeck

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**HG – Defenders of Freedom 9-12-19**



Randy, Larry, Jerry, Alan, MOH Recipient  
David Bellavia, Dan & Burt.

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



### **President's Corner**

One last celebration!

Our chapter's year is coming to a close. We will pay tribute to our fallen brothers and sisters at our October gathering, and then we go dark until January 2020. But hold on! Mark your calendars for December 10. We will hold our annual Christmas party at the schoolhouse on this day and hold one last celebration before we head into next year. We had many good comments about last year's festivity and figure we should continue that theme into this December. The chapter will provide the meats (ham and brisket) and we members will bring all the rest. Keep a look-out for the sign-up sheet which Anita will soon route. We are asking each couple to bring stuffed animals for the Denton County First Responders to present to children in need. Due to occupancy restrictions we must request that each member be limited to one guest. We will have a limit of attendees so be certain to get your name on the signup list as soon as you can. We have maxed out the last two years.

As we move toward the end of this year, we can be grateful to all our members for the strength of our chapter. Our membership is in the top five in the state of Texas, we have strong assets, both liquid and in property, a great Honor Guard that has done much for our community, a Support Services committee that functions on an on-going basis to address the needs of our members, as well as veterans within the county of Denton and let's not forget how blessed we are to have two incredible chaplains in Bill Coburn and Tom Silva along with our many active volunteers. We should all be proud of our accomplishments and the many contributions and sacrifices each of you has made. As your president I could not be prouder of all y'all.

One last note – Did you catch that fantastic picture of Randy and me in this month's Vietnam Veterans Magazine. Actually, Randy is in there twice (he blocks me on one)!! Yes, it was a big year for all the VVA chapters as we voted to change our name sometime in the near future and transfer our national assets to an unnamed veteran organization who will continue our fight in Washington D.C. for veteran benefits and medical care. Our president, Rowan stated 1/3 of all our chapters today are struggling to maintain the requirements of incorporation. We are already seeing the slow dissolution of VVA chapters due to a lack of members being able to step in to vacant officer positions. We see it in our own chapter as well as our own honor guard. None of us know how much longer we will exist as an incorporated entity, but I know our chapter will do anything we can to be one of the last – at least so we can carry the VVA flag out with us as we lock the door behind us.

Yes, we have much to celebrate this December.

Eric

# VVA 920 Events

## October 2019

16<sup>th</sup> – VVA 920 Board Meeting

18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> – VVA Texas State Council Meeting – Allen, TX

22<sup>nd</sup> – VVA Stated Meeting & “Fallen Brothers Ceremony”

## November 2019

No Meeting

## December 2019

No Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> – **Annual Christmas Dinner**  
“Save the Date!”

## Honor Guard Activities:

Alan Lessard, SOG

October 05, 2019 Saturday - 9:30 am  
Aubrey Peanut Festival

October 10, 2019 Thursday – 10:45 am  
Hilton Garden Inn-Lewisville

October 14, 2019 Monday - No HG Meeting

October 24, 2019 Thursday 08:00 am  
Denton County Stand Down - Civic Center

November 2, 2019 Saturday – 8:45 am  
Walk for the Cure of Alzheimers  
2500 Hinkle Dr, Denton

November 2, 2019 Saturday – 9:30 am  
UNT Parade

November 11, 2019 Monday – Veterans Day  
9:30 Veterans Day on the Square - Denton  
18:30 Robson Ranch

Contact Alan for Details on each event.

## Honor Guard Activities:

Remember when....



Front row left to right Richard Handly, Randy Grizzle, Virgil Aldag, Rick Ward. Top left to right Doug Ebersole T.J, Steve Knox, Wayne Trevethan, Cici Trevethan, Alan Lessard, Mark Hanna, Bob Hunt, Back Row Left to right Robbie Robert's, John Whitley with WWII Vet.

### HG -Funeral 9-4-19



## Honor Guard Activities:

### Honor Guard Activities:

Defenders of Freedom 9/12/19



**Total 5 Funerals September 2019**

Alvord, Valley View, DFW National Cemetery, Little Elm & Roselawn-Denton.

**VVA 920 @ Texas Roadhouse 9-11-19**



**RWB Bee**

of Denton Quilt Guild & the  
Quilt of Valor Foundation

Presented two QOV quilts in September.

**Rex King** 9/13/19



Rex served 1965-1973, Reserve duty 1973-2000. Retired as Lt Commander.

**Bill Hill** 9/24/19



## TOP Outside Sales North Texas Fair Raffle 2019

Steve Knox & Robin Kain



Steve & Robin received Vietnam Veteran bags in appreciation for their hard work.

**THANK YOU!!**

### Complimentary Book:

To honor over half a million Texans who served in Vietnam, a special Texas limited edition **Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Commemoration book *A Time to Honor: Stories of Service, Duty, and Sacrifice*** is available to them, compliments of Governor Greg Abbott. The book is available at various Texas Veterans Commission offices around the state.

**Denton County Veterans Service Center  
400 S Carroll Blvd Ste 2000 Denton, TX  
76201 Office: 940-243-8234**



Together Always

**AVVA**

(Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America)

Our AVVA team supports VVA 920.

AVVA members may attend VVA stated meetings.

**AVVA is a separate national organization** open to anyone interested in supporting VVA 920 and other Veterans but is not eligible to join VVA. Please, consider joining this active group.

Dues: \$20 Annual – \$50 for 3 years  
Lifetime - \$150 under 65 / \$100 65 or over

<http://www.avva.org>

**“Save the Date!”**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**

**VVA 920**

**Annual Christmas Dinner**

Seating limited - Member + one guest.  
Members providing Sides & Desserts.

Collecting Stuffed Animals for  
Denton County First Responders.

For more information or to RSVP,  
contact Dan or Anita Washburn.

# Texas Veterans Hall of Fame

## Historic Induction Banquet



### **Date And Time**

Saturday, November 9, 2019  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM CST

### **Location**

Spring Hill Suites Marriott  
1434 Centre Place Drive, Denton, TX 76205

### **Description**

#### **Event:**

First Historic Induction - Honoring 20 Texas Medal of Honor Recipients

#### **Attire:**

Civilian-Coat and Tie/Cocktail Dress  
Military-Service Dress Appropriate

#### **Details:**

5:00 PM-Check in/Reception  
6:00 PM-Main Event Doors Open  
6:15 PM-Program/Banquet/Recognition Ceremony  
8:30PM-Closing Remarks

**Tickets:** \$50.00 Each

**Rooms for Overnight Stay**-Available through October 18, 2019  
at the Reduced rate of \$99.00

**More Information:** [www.tvhof.org](http://www.tvhof.org)