



THE OUTPOST

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 787, Tampa Fl.

In Service to America

**NATIONAL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2001, FLORIDA STATE COUNCIL,
CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005
FOR INFORMATION CALL (813) 597-1326, FAX: (813) 737-4929.
WEB SITE: MEMBERS.AOL.COM/VVA787/INDEX.HTML**



Submitted By: Bob Silmser

Chapter 787 & The 4th of July Parade



The annual 4th of July Parade in Brandon, was well represented again this year by your chapter. Pictured above: Top, all our marching members, family and friends. Second row L-R, chapter Secretary and Treasurer, Bob Silmser stands in front of the finished float while the next two pictures show it in different stages of completion.

Chapter Officers

President: Jim LaGarde
Vice President: Tom Hall
Secretary: Bob Silmser
Treasurer: Bob Silmser

Board of Directors:

Ron Schott
Carl Harris
Tom Hall
Herman Rainey
Jon Mueller

State Council Delegate:

Kevin Ruhl

OUTPOST Publisher & Editor: Jon Mueller, E-mail: JonMue@aol.com

Meetings

Chapter Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month.

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Brandon Veterans Hall, 115 W. Clay Brandon Fl. 33510. See Map on last page. **Mailing address: P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404 . Food will be served prior to the meeting.**

Do you have a family member currently serving in the US Military. We want to hear about them. Please send their name, rank, branch of service, duty station, etc., to Jon Mueller. E-mail: JonMue@aol.com. Please include pictures.

New bumper sticker created by Bob Silmsers!

Shown below, it is now available for only \$4.00. To get yours, contact Bob by phone at 813-220-7246 or by e-mail at Rafkirk64@tampabay.rr.com.



**PROUD TO BE A
VIETNAM
VETERAN**

V.V.A. Chapter 787 T-shirts for sale, very cool!



Chapter T-Shirts

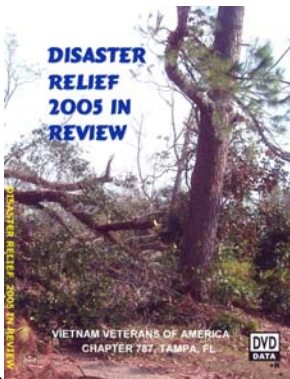
\$15.00 for size Large & X-Large, 4 in stock now. \$17.00 for size XX-Large

We can mail the shirts to your home for an additional \$4.00,

Or pick them up at the next chapter meeting, and save the \$4.00.

Contact Bob Silmsers by e-mail: rafkirk64@tampabay.rr.com or phone: 813-220-7246, to order, or if you have questions.

3-1/2" Iron on Patches and window decals \$3.00 (shown at right).



At Left: Disaster Relief DVD. Created by chapter Secretary, Bob Silmsers, this DVD shows how chapter 787 assisted victims in the states of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana during the disastrous hurricane season of 2005. The DVD shows how chapter members made multiple trips with supplies and other assistance to the affected regions.

The DVD is well worth the small \$10 cost. Contact Bob Silmsers at (813) 685-3483 for copies.

More Pictures from the July 4th Parade



Veterans Nursing Home Needs your Old VHS tapes & DVD's



Please look under your bed and sofa for any old movies on VHS or DVD which you may not care to watch for the 25th time. Our Nursing Home Vet's need more entertainment. Please bring them to the next chapter meeting or contact Kevin Ruhl 863-956-8207, or e-mail him at MSgtMCRet@aol.com. No War Movies, Please!

Financial Status of Chapter 787 as of July 13 2006

Checking Account.....\$6,757.72	Moving Wall Fund.....\$4,043.00	Holiday Meals Fund.....\$907.74
Household Goods.....\$ 211.59	Convention Fund.....\$2,244.36	Petty Cash.....\$ 76.70

Grand Total: \$14,241.11

Thanks to our Treasurer Bob Silmsr

Chapter Breakfast, Everyone's Invited

Each month, Chapter 787 members and family, should plan to attend a morning breakfast at the FLYING "J" restaurant which is located at the intersection of Hwy 579 North and I-4. The intersection is near the Lazy Days RV dealership.



Show time is 8:00 AM the 4th Saturday of each month (first Saturday after the chapter meetings). Wear your colors. The chapter wants to continue to support events that can bring together members and their families who may not be able to attend other functions.

This Month during the War in Vietnam

August 1954: Marine Corps involvement in the nation's longest war began on 2 August 1954 with the arrival of Lieutenant Colonel Victor J. Croizat as a liaison officer with the newly established United States Military Assistance and Advisory Group to the Republic of Vietnam. For the next eight years, Marine activities in Vietnam consisted mainly of advisory and staff responsibilities. This began to change in mid-April 1962 when Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 362 (HMM-362), commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Archie Clapp, deployed to South Vietnam to provide combat service support for the fledgling South Vietnamese army. In the spring of 1964, Marine Detachment, Advisory Team One, commanded by Major Alfred M. Gray Jr., arrived to collect signals intelligence, thereby becoming the first Marine ground unit to arrive in the country.



USS Maddox (DD-731), 1944-1972 --

Actions in the Gulf of Tonkin, August 1964



Amid steadily rising tensions over North Vietnam's activities in Laos and South Vietnam, at the end of July 1964 USS *Maddox* entered the Gulf of Tonkin for a cruise along the North Vietnamese coast. As part of a general U.S. effort to collect intelligence in potential Far Eastern hot spots, this "Desoto Patrol" was particularly focused on obtaining information that would support South Vietnamese coastal raids against North Vietnam. One of these had just taken place as *Maddox* began her mission.



On the afternoon of 2 August 1964, while steaming well offshore in international waters, *Maddox* was attacked by three North Vietnamese motor torpedo boats. The destroyer maneuvered to avoid torpedoes and used her guns against her fast-moving opponents, hitting them all. In turn, she was struck in the after gun director by a single 14.5-millimeter machine gun bullet. *Maddox* called for air support from the carrier [Ticonderoga](#), whose planes strafed the three boats, leaving one dead in the water and burning. Both sides then separated.

Maddox was soon ordered to resume her patrol, this time accompanied by the larger and newer destroyer [Turner Joy](#). On 3 August, the South Vietnamese conducted another coastal raid. Intelligence indicated that the North Vietnamese were planning to again attack the U.S. ships operating off their shores, although this interpretation was incorrect. During the night of 4 August, while they were underway in the middle of the Tonkin Gulf, *Maddox* and *Turner Joy* detected speedy craft closing in. For some two hours the ships fired on radar targets and maneuvered vigorously amid electronic and visual reports of torpedoes.

Though information obtained well after the fact indicates that there was actually no North Vietnamese attack that night, U.S. authorities were convinced at the time that one had taken place, and reacted by sending planes from the carriers *Ticonderoga* and *Constellation* to hit North Vietnamese torpedo boat bases and fuel facilities. A few days later, the U.S. Congress passed the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, which gave the Government authorization for what eventually became a full-scale war in Southeast Asia.

August 1965: The US Army's 4th Transportation Command arrived in Vietnam on 12 August 1965. Its first assigned mission was to operate water terminals at Saigon, Nha Be, Cat Lai, Cam Ranh Bay, Vung Tau, Qui Nhon, Nha Trang, Phan Rang and other locations as directed. The Command was further charged to furnish direct motor transport in support of port and beach clearance, to support tactical requirements and to establish an Air Cargo terminal in Saigon. Initially, the Command had approximately 7,500 troops under its direction to accomplish these missions. Most U.S. Army divisional size units, some smaller units (both U.S. and Allied) and an estimated 70 percent of all supplies for United States and Allied forces in Vietnam have been landed at ports operated by the Command.



Submitted By: Jon Mueller

Quote

"We are noted for being at once most adventurous in action and most reflective beforehand. Other men are bold in ignorance, while reflection will stop their onset, but the bravest are surly those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet, notwithstanding, go out to meet it.

For the whole earth is a sepulcher of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone over their native earth but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the hearts and minds of other men's lives"

Shop At Sears?

I assume you have all seen the reports about how Sears is treating its reservist employees who are called up? By law, they are required to hold their jobs open and available, but nothing more. Usually, people take a big pay cut and lose benefits as a result of being called up...Sears is voluntarily paying the difference in salaries and maintaining all benefits, including medical insurance and bonus programs, for all called up reservist employees for up to two years. I submit that Sears is an exemplary corporate citizen and should be recognized for its contribution.

Suggest we all shop at S ears, and be sure to find a manager to tell them why we are there so the company gets the positive reinforcement it well deserves.

Pass it on.

So I decided to check it out before I sent it forward. I sent the following email to the Sears Customer Service Department:

I received this email and I would like to know if it is true. If it is, the Internet may have just become one very good source of advertisement for your store. I know I would go out of my way to buy products from Sears instead of another store for a like item even if it was cheaper at the other store.

Her e is their answer to my email.....

Dear Customer:

Thank you for contacting Sears

The information is factual. We appreciate your positive feedback. Sears regards service to our country as one of greatest sacrifices our young men and women can make. We are happy to do our part to lessen the burden they bear at this time.

Bill Thorn

*Sears Customer Care *

webcenter@sears.com

800-349-4358

Hi Guys...FYI.I checked this out at [Snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) myself and it looks legit.. Way to go Sears! <http://www.snopes.com/politics/military/sears.asp>

Daniel Cullen

P.S. One caveat about SEARS. Chapter President Jim LaGarde, gives a note of caution if you are seeking a 1 5/8" drill bit. Contact Rambo for details.

Medal of Honor Winners of the Vietnam War.



BENNETT, STEVEN L.

Captain, U.S. Air Force. 20th Tactical Air Support Squadron, Pacific Air Forces. Place and date: Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam, 29 June 1972. Entered service at: Lafayette, La. Born: 22 April 1946, Palestine, Tex. Citation: Capt. Bennett was the pilot of a light aircraft



flying an artillery adjustment mission along a heavily defended segment of route structure. A large concentration of enemy troops was massing for an attack on a friendly unit. Capt. Bennett requested tactical air support but was advised that none was available. He also requested artillery support but this too was denied due to the close proximity of friendly troops to the target. Capt. Bennett was determined to aid the endangered unit and elected to strafe the hostile positions. After 4 such passes, the enemy force began to retreat. Capt. Bennett continued the attack, but, as he completed his fifth strafing pass, his aircraft was struck by a surface-to-air missile, which severely damaged the left engine and the left main landing gear. As fire spread in the left engine, Capt. Bennett realized that recovery at a friendly airfield was impossible. He instructed his observer to prepare for an ejection, but was informed by the observer that his parachute had been shredded by the force of the impacting missile. Although Capt. Bennett had a good parachute, he knew that if he ejected, the observer would have no chance of survival. With complete disregard for his own life, Capt. Bennett elected to ditch the aircraft into the



Gulf of Tonkin, even though he realized that a pilot of this type aircraft had never survived a ditching. The ensuing impact upon the water caused the aircraft to cartwheel and severely damaged the front cockpit, making escape for Capt. Bennett impossible. The observer successfully made his way out of the aircraft and was rescued. Capt. Bennett's unparalleled concern for his companion, extraordinary heroism and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty, at the cost of his life, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the U.S. Air Force.



Submitted By: Jon Mueller

If the training doesn't kill you, the final exam just might!

Most men deployed to the Republic of South Vietnam had already gone through a degree of training to prepare them for the conditions they will face in the war zone. Given that, many Marine and Army units put their newly arrived "FNG's" through a week or more of additional "jungle training" to bring them up to speed with lessons learned that their stateside training did not cover.

Men who wanted to go a lot further in jungle warfare techniques applied for the **RECONDO** course run by "Green Beret's" of the US Army's 5th Special Forces Group, in Nha Trang. It was originally an extension of Project **DELTA**.

While the school was open to all Allied military units, the classes were mostly made up of Marine Recon, Army Ranger, Navy SEAL and Long Range Patrol teams.

A class of 60 students began training every two weeks. The courses were:

Reconnaissance, Commando, High Speed "Burst" Commo & Repelling techniques.....3 weeks

Escape, Evasion & Survival.....1 week

Parachute techniques for Reconnaissance/Commando's, LALO & HALO.....1 week (students had to be Airborne qualified).

Combat Diver/Scuba for S.E. Asian environments.....1 week (students had to be combat diver qualified).

During the last phase of training, the final exam, you took what you learned and made a number of patrols into the "deep bush". The instructors wanted everyone to actively seek out the enemy, not to necessarily make contact, but to generate intelligence. During these final exam missions, in spite of using small teams and employing much stealth, fire fights did occur and men died.

One SF instructor said "the final exam is not a stateside like simulation, this is Real....Real, Boom.... Boom, Bang..... Bang"!



BY: John Stark of the Bellingham Herald

The Moving Wall

As city residents lined Interstate 5 overpasses to wave flags in welcome, the traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial cruised into Memorial Park Wednesday, escorted by hundreds of motorcycles.

Close to a half-hour before the American Veterans Traveling Tribute procession's arrival, the overpasses closest to the park were already crowded with veterans, their sons and daughters, their grandchildren, and others who felt it was the right thing to do.

Bellingham resident Alice Eide brought her 13-year-old grandson, Chris Smith, who was literally wrapped in the flag for the event. Eide said she hoped he would get some sense of history.

"I grew up in the Vietnam era and a lot of my friends, once they graduated, had to sign up for the draft," said Eide, 49, as she stood on the Alabama Street overpass. "I'm just here to show support."

Brenda Causey, 39, works as a medical technician at Summit Place, an assisted living center that is home to a number of Vietnam vets.

"I'm pretty much here to support them," Causey said. "They lived it. I didn't."

On the pedestrian overpass leading into the park, 36-year-old Erika Morgan said she wanted to honor those who served.

"They've given up a lot," Morgan said. "They deserve that support, whether you agree with war or not."

Ben Vaughn, 59, who served in an amphibious U.S. Navy unit in Vietnam from 1966 to 1969, had trouble finding the words to express his emotions as he waited on the pedestrian overpass, wearing a veteran's cap and jacket. Vaughn said his wartime duties had included retrieving the bodies of the dead.

"I never knew their names," he said.

While some stood quietly waiting, others hooted and waved at passing trucks, who answered with horn blasts. But the mood turned more reverent at about 7:22 p.m., as the long line of northbound motorcycles came into view, escorted by police motorcycles flashing red and blue lights. Some of the bikers waved both hands to show their appreciation for the welcoming turnout. The procession took close to five minutes to pass, before exiting the freeway at Sunset Drive.

Some of the black-leather-clad bikers parked their elaborate machines on the Sunnyland Elementary School grounds adjacent to the park, where groups of boys gathered to admire both the bikes and their riders. Many of the riders wore insignia identifying themselves as Vietnam vets.

Biker Wayne Footh, 41, of Everett, said he and his wife, Gina, were determined to join in the event after seeing it elsewhere in Washington state last year.

"We just wanted to lend our support so the vets know we appreciate them and so we don't repeat the history of not welcoming them home," Footh said.

"I just think it's great to see everyone come together and support the veterans and be one nation under God," 39-year-old Gina Footh added. "It's nice to see some unity ... It's a powerful thing, the thunderous sounds of the bikes going down the road. It's a wonderful feeling."

Many people finished their evening with a stroll through the park to gaze at the brown granite slabs that bear the names of 387 county residents who lost their lives in all the nation's conflicts since World War I. The total includes 28 who died in Vietnam.

The daylong downpour, which had stopped just in time for the procession's arrival, started again just enough to light up a rainbow.



Noted Vietnam Photo Journalist Dies

Catherine Leroy 1946 to 2006

Catherine Leroy, the French-born photo-journalist whose stark images of battle helped tell the story of the Vietnam war in the pages of Life magazine and other publications, has died. She was 60. Leroy died of cancer in Santa Monica, California on July 8.

Leroy was 21 years old in 1966 when she took a Leica camera and a one-way ticket to Saigon, so that she could document American troops in Vietnam. One year later she became the only accredited journalist to participate in a combat parachute jump, joining the 173rd Airborne in Operation Junction City. In two years she had established herself as one of the most regularly published photographers in the conflict.

In 1968, during the Tet Offensive, Leroy was captured by the North Vietnamese Army. She managed to talk her way out and emerged with images of the North Vietnamese Army in action that were used for a Life magazine cover.

"She was tiny and totally fearless," said Jonathan Randal, a long-serving Washington Post correspondent who met Leroy in late 1965 and worked with her for many years. "Like many young war photographers, she was probably braver than she was talented in the beginning. But she went on to become a very fine photographer."

A famous 1967 photo, Corpsman In Anguish, portrays a young Marine, his face wrenched in torment, hunched over the dead body of his friend, while smoke from the battle rises behind them.

Leroy worked for the Gamma and Sipa photo agencies and later sold her work to the Associated Press and United Press International. Her photos appeared in publications worldwide.

In 1972, Leroy shot and directed Operation Last Patrol, a film about Ron Kovic and the anti-war Vietnam veterans. Kovic wrote of his experiences in the 1976 book Born on the Fourth of July, which was the basis for the 1989 movie of the same name starring Tom Cruise as Kovic. After Vietnam, Leroy covered conflicts in several countries, including Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq, Iran and Libya. With Tony Clifton, she co-authored the book God Cried about the siege of West Beirut by the Israeli army in 1982.

Among Leroy's many honors are the George Polk award for Best Reporting Requiring Exceptional Courage and Enterprise Abroad. She was the first woman to receive the Robert Capa Award for her coverage of the civil war in Lebanon in 1976.

Apart from her talent and bravery, Leroy had another claim to fame. Randal remembers being struck by her foul mouth. "She spoke the most disgusting English. I asked her where she learned it from and she said, 'The Marines'."

She is survived by her 91-year-old mother, who lives in France.



Submitted By: Jon Mueller

TB drug could hold key to PTSD therapy

By: Gayle S. Putrich, Times Staff Writer

Two doctors on opposite sides of the country are on the brink of the same mental health breakthrough, one that they say will help troops afflicted with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Dr. Barbara Rothbaum at Emory University in Atlanta and Dr. Charles Marmar at the University of California, San Francisco, are researching the possibility of using a tuberculosis drug called D-cycloserine, or DCS, as a "fear inhibitor" for combat veterans with PTSD.

Veterans from Iraq & Afghanistan who have PTSD symptoms, are given a 50-milligram capsule of DCS half an hour before going into cognitive behavioral therapy sessions, which focus on confronting a traumatic event using relaxation techniques and visualization. Another group will receive only therapy.

At Emory, patients will undergo virtual-reality exposure therapy, in which a helmet display with sound effects will put them back in Iraq in one of three scenarios: a solo Humvee ride, a convoy or urban warfare.

Each Emory patient will go through five total sessions—four with the DCS and virtual reality and one preliminary therapy session. The study is expected to take five years and include about 150 patients, although the number could expand. Rothbaum, who has worked on new PTSD treatments since 1986, said she ultimately would like to see virtual-reality exposure therapy and brain imaging used in post-deployment screenings to help determine whether troops are going to develop mental health problems down the road.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time
<u>August 2006</u>		
10th Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting, Jon's House	6:30 PM
24th Thursday	Chapter Meeting, Brandon Veterans Hall	7:00 PM
26th Saturday	Chapter Breakfast get together, at the Flying "J" Restaurant Plant City	8:00 AM
<u>September 2006</u>		
1st & 2nd—Friday & Saturday	Tampa Convention Home Show Fund Raiser	11:00 AM to 8:00 PM
3rd & 4th—Sunday & Monday	Tampa Convention Home Show Fund Raiser	11:00 AM to 6:00 PM
7th Thursday	Board of Directors Meeting, Jon's House	6:30 PM
8th to 11th	Florida State Council Meeting, Miami	
28th Thursday	Chapter Meeting, Brandon Veterans Hall	7:00 PM
30th Saturday	Chapter Breakfast get together, at the Flying "J" Restaurant Plant City	8:00 AM

Submitted By: Bob Silmsr

FLORIDA'S LARGEST HOME SHOW IS COMING TO THE TAMPA

CONVENTION CENTER AND WE WILL BE THERE BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP. We need a minimum of 3 people per day to man our booth at the Home Show. You get free admission to the show on the days that your there.

- Friday September 1st 11:00am to 8:00 pm
- Saturday September 2nd 11:00am to 8:00pm
- Sunday September 3rd 11:00am to 6:00pm
- Monday September 4th 11:00am to 6:00pm

Please contact Bob Silmsr to schedule
 813-220-7246 or Rafkirk64@Tampabay.rr.com



FLORIDA'S LARGEST HOME SHOW IS COMING TO THE FAIR- GROUNDS

AND WE WILL BE THERE BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP We need a minimum of 3 people per day to man our booth at the fall Home Show. You get free admission to the show on the days that your there.

- Friday November 3rd 11:00am to 8:00 pm
- Saturday November 4th 11:00am to 8:00pm
- Sunday November 5th 11:00am to 6:00pm

Please contact Bob Silmsr to schedule
 813-220-7246 or Rafkirk64@Tampabay.rr.com



V.V.A. Chapter 787 Hurricane Quick Response Team



In the past few years with the heightened Hurricane activity in the Gulf and south Atlantic areas, your chapter has donated a great deal of time, effort, supplies and money to help victims of these storms from South Florida to the Northern Gulf of Mexico region.

Your chapter officers and Board of Directors want to make all members aware that should a hurricane strike the Tampa Bay area, we are here to help local members who may be in need.

While no one can predict what damage may occur to any of our property or persons, should any of you in the Tampa Bay area need help with food, water, clothing or just removing downed trees or debris (that may be of some hazard to you or your family) , please contact one or more of the following individuals. Please remember that we cannot guarantee our services since everyone listed could also be in a damaged state of affairs, but we are all committed to do our best to help our fellow veterans and chapter members if we have the ability to do so.

Help Contact Phone List: Jim LaGarde: 758-4547, Tom Hall: 655-7129, Bob Silmser: 685-3483, c-220-7246, Kevin Ruhl: (863) 956-8207, c-695-6203, Carl Harris: 752-6634, Jon Mueller: 684-3951, c-417-4818.

All phone numbers are in area code 813 unless otherwise noted. "c" stands for cell phone.

Military Humor

Rotor Wing Kamikaze



When nature calls, sometimes you need blast protection



Membership Application

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



Viet nam Veterans of America

Send to: VVA Chapter 787, P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404

Name: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Apt. # _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work or Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Chapter #787 Sponsor _____

Membership Type:

Individual: 1 year _____ \$20 3 years _____ \$50. Associate: 1 year _____ \$20 3 years _____ \$50

Life Member Options: _____ Life Member Ages 49 and Under: \$250, _____ Life Member Ages 50-55: \$225, _____ Life

Member Ages 56-60: \$200, _____ Life Member Ages 61-65: \$175, _____ Life Member Ages 66 +: \$150

_____ I am already a V.V.A. member and want to become a life member. My V.V.A. Member number is

_____.

Optional Time Payment plan: \$50 down, and \$25 per month until paid in full.

Payment Method: Check _____

Money Order _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ If using a credit card: Card

Exp. Date: _____ **Signature** _____

This newsletter is not the official publication of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 787, Tampa Bay Florida. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of Chapter 787, the VVA State Council, the VVA National or the Chapter members.

You can receive a copy of the OUTPOST each month at no cost. Contact Jon Mueller via e-mail at JonMue@aol.com and provide your e-mail address. You will need to have an Adobe Acrobat Reader on your PC to open the newsletter . You can also receive it by US mail . The cost is \$12 per year. Make your check payable to V.V.A. Chapter 787 and mail it to P.O. Box 89247, Tampa Fl. 33689-0404. Make sure you identify the payment for the OUTPOST.

THE OUTPOST

Help Your Chapter Grow

Bring a New Member to the Next Chapter Meeting.

Come and Join Us. Give us your Ideas.

Chapter meetings are held at the Brandon Veterans Hall. 115 W. Clay Ave, Brandon Fl. See map below.

Contact E-mail Addresses:

President Jim LaGarde:

cLaGarde@tampabay.rr.com

Secretary & Treasurer Bob Silmsr:

Rafkirk64@tampabay.rr.com

State Council Delegate Kevin Ruhl:

MSgtMCRet@aol.com

Board of Directors

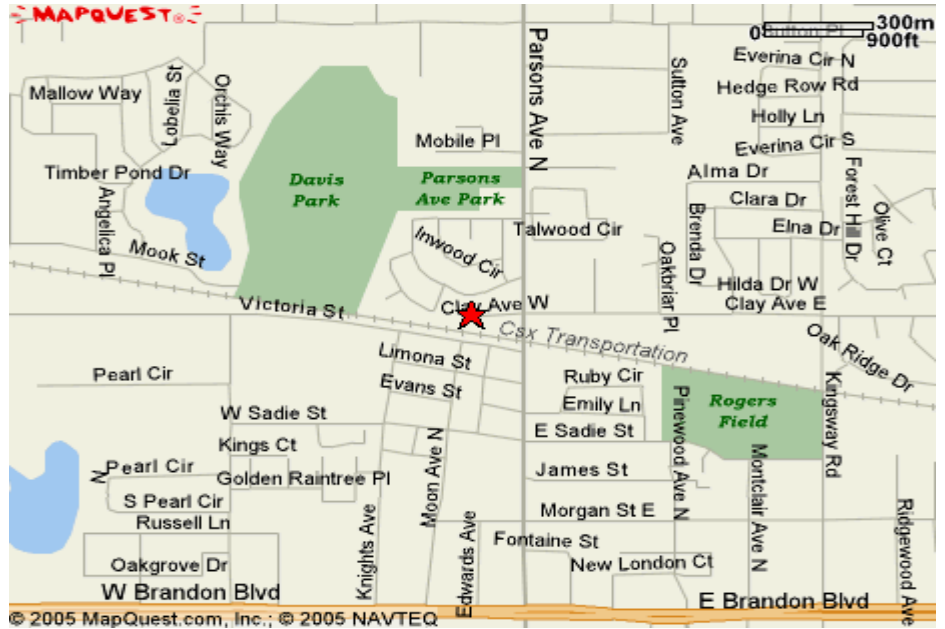
Ron Schott: RonD1120@aol.com

Tom Hall: MarineDI@aol.com

Carl Harris: c_e_harris@ij.net

Herman Rainey: (No E-mail)

Jon Mueller: JonMue@aol.com



Important Web Sites

Vietnam Veterans of American, Chapter 787, Tampa Bay Florida.....	http://members.aol.com/vva787/
Vietnam War Statistics.....	http://my.eiis.net/cmart/vietwarstats.html
Vietnam, Yesterday & Today.....	http://servercc.oakton.edu/~wittman/chronol.htm
Vietnam Veterans Legacy Foundation.....	www.vvlf.org
National League of Families of American POW's/MIA's.....	www.pow-miafamilies.org
V.V.A. National Office on the World Wide Web.....	www.vva.org
U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs.....	www.va.gov
OPM Veterans Hiring Preference.....	www.opm.gov/veterans
Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP).....	www.usfhp.com
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.....	www.vetapp.uscourts.gov
Children of Vietnam Vets.....	www.geocities.com/pentagon/9125
The Center for Women Veterans.....	www.va.gov/womenvet
Vietnam Women Memorial Foundation, Inc (formerly "Project").....	www.vietnamwomensmemorial.org
The Moving Wall—Vietnam Combat Veterans LTD.....	www.themovingwall.org
The Virtual Wall.....	www.virtualwall.org
Get a Copy of your DD-214 on-line.....	http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html