



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

www.vva920.org

February 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)**

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



Picture of the Month



Funeral - Aubrey

Membership Update: (February 2019)

VVA-196 AVVA-28 Total-224

Welcome – President

Kudos this Month:

Our **Chaplains** were very busy visiting and following up on our membership that were sick or had surgery. It seems the more we age, the more health issues we have. **Tom** and **Bill** are at the hospital from the early hours and stay until late in the day. They not only visit our members, but our spouses as well.

Jerry Anderson for his work and dedication in seeing that our PA system was procured and installed. Thanks for staying on top of it and I know the system will be the best thing that we have put in the building. Look for it to be there at our February meeting.

Eric Harmon for chairing the 2019 Golf Tournament. The tournament is set for April 29th. If you want to volunteer, please let him know. I've never seen anyone as proficient as Eric. Most of the time, he will have the minutes from the general meeting in my email box before I get home after that night's meeting. Great job Mr. Secretary!

Dan Washburn for spending a lot of his time over the holidays painting the meeting room and getting rid of the bugs and rodents that find their way into the building.

Johnny Jackson for repairing the siding on the building.

Leo Perez for filling in for Horst while he recovers from surgery.

Alan Lessard and the Honor Guard who continue to be the “go to” team when it comes to memorial services and flag presentations. Sometimes it's just around the corner and other times it may be 40 miles away. Great job everyone!

Anita Washburn for her work on the Newsletter and for the extra work and research to fill the newsletter with valuable information and updates. I wish TSC had a category for their annual awards. No doubt hers would be a winner.

Our Support Services Group for their ongoing work to help our Veterans.

Ron Swain for putting together our safety training for the February meeting.

Alan Lessard, Jim Polozeck and Kurt Hyde for being the Nominating committee for the upcoming election in April.

Finally, to all those that continue to invite people to our meetings. We had three visitors and one who joined at the last meeting.

Welcome to **Bill Hill** as a new member of our group. Thanks for jumping right in and joining our support services team.

VVA 920 Events

February 2019

20th – VVA 920 Board Meeting

26th – VVA Stated Meeting

March 2019

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

Honor Guard Activities:

Alan Lessard, SOG

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

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

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

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)





Together Always®

AVVA (Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America) Corner:

Our AVVA team supports VVA 920 activities & members.

AVVA attends VVA stated meetings:
February 26 - March 26 – April 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>

*Special Thanks to Beth Hillis.
You ROCK!*



Around the Chapter

FOCUS on HEALTH & SAFETY



Use the Ramp for easy access.



Do NOT Block Handicap Access to Ramp

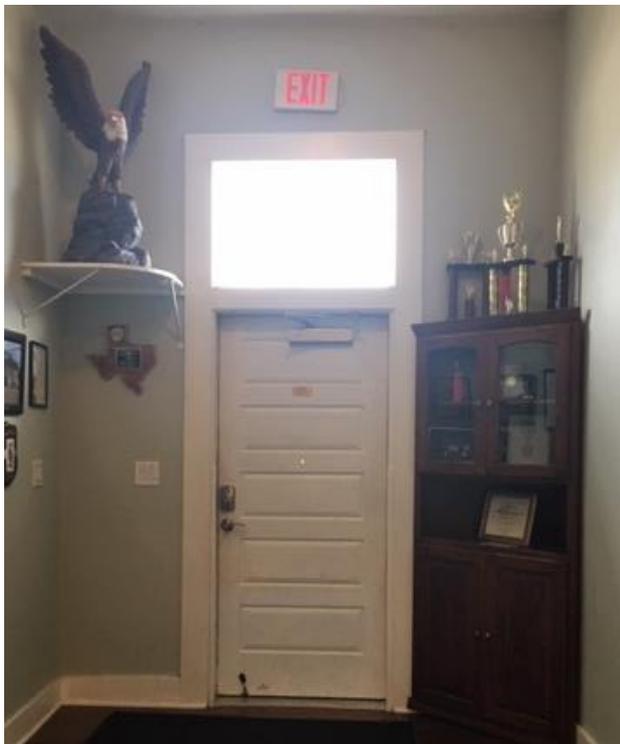
VVA / GVS Safety

Know the location of
EXITs & Fire Extinguishers



Front ↑

Back ↓



Front = Ramp / Back = Stairs

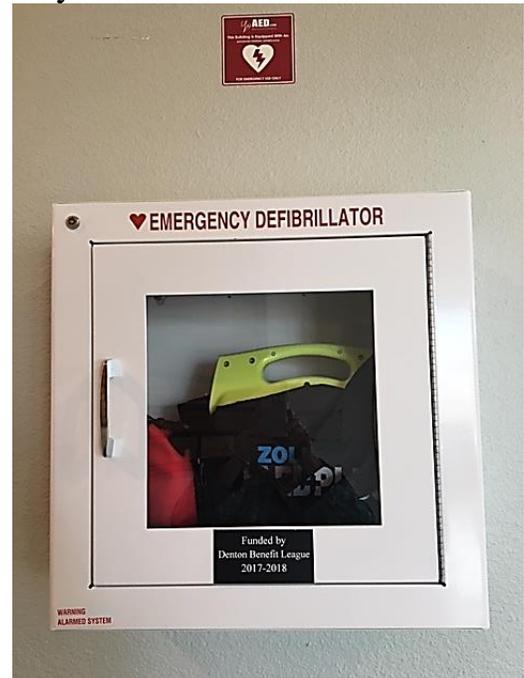
VVA / GVS Safety

Which seat and **EXIT** should you choose?



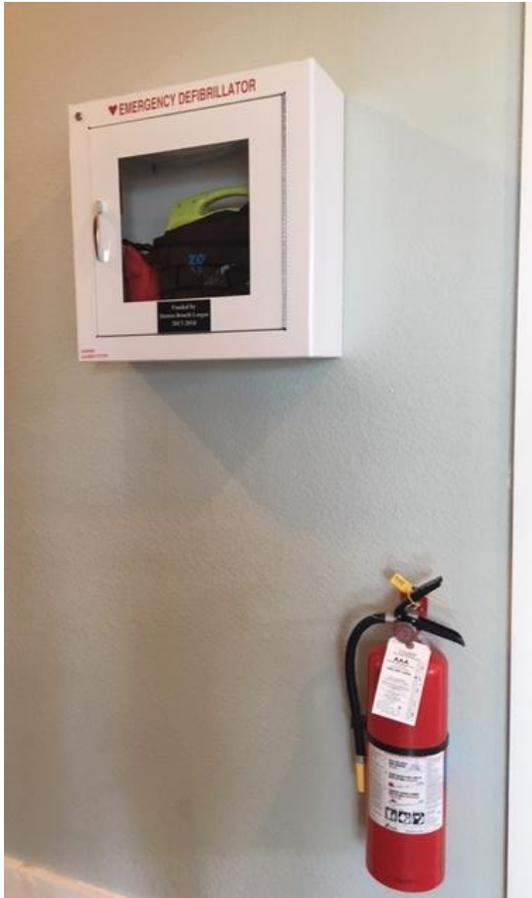
Front = Ramp / Back = Stairs

Do you know how to use the **AED**?



AED = Automatic Emergency Defibrillator

VVA / GVS Safety



Did you notice the 2nd Fire Extinguisher next to the Kitchen?



VVA / GVS Safety & Health

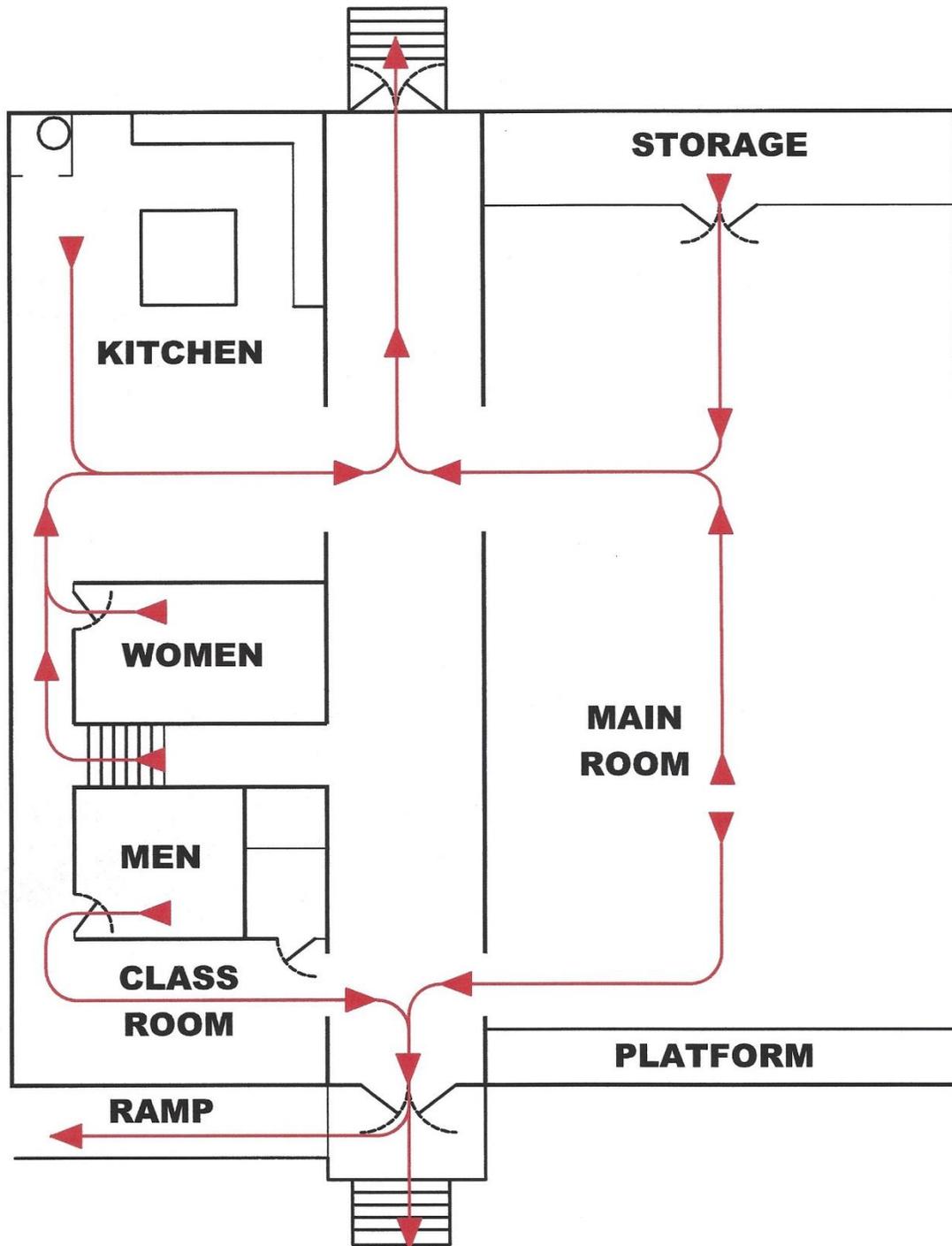
First Aid Kit



Protect yourself & others.
Use the Hand Sanitizer



EVACUATION PLAN



Note from the President.

One day last week, I received a call from our Support Services group while I was in the middle of writing an article for the National Veterans Magazine. The call was informing me that the Support Services Group had approved monetary support for a homeless Navy Korean Veteran. He was in need of a place to stay for four days until he could get permanent housing through the Catholic Charities. This was on a Thursday and it was for four nights at a motel in Lewisville. I was the only one available to go pay for the rooms. As I stopped what I was doing, I was a little put out that I had stop working on a very important project and drive to Lewisville and pay for living arrangements for a fellow Veteran.

As I got in my truck, the rain started to fall, it was cold and I knew I would be caught not only in the rain, but in the north bound traffic on my way home. On my way south bound toward Lewisville, dodging crazy drivers and that stupid beaver that was causing a lot of traffic problems, a different attitude came into my little brain. Here I was stuck in slow traffic, with rain falling and listen to the sound of horns expressing their displeasure of being on I35 as well. I was feeling sorry for myself for having to go take care of something that was part of my job.

By the time I got to the hotel, my attitude had changed. Here this Veteran didn't have a pot to whiz in and in need of a little help. I soon realized that I was blessed and didn't have to worry about my next meal or where I would be sleeping that night. Most of us have it pretty darn good.

Besides, my brothers and sisters in our Chapter spend many hours raising the funds and then give it back to those in need as charged in our mission. If they can raise the funds, then I should be honored to help our brothers and sisters in need. I never met the Veteran; but paid for the rooms as required.

As I drove off not looking forward to seeing that stupid beaver, a tremendous feeling of pride and satisfaction came over me, knowing that we were able to help another Veteran in need. My heart swelled up with happiness, especially how proud I felt when I saw that the receipt said: **“Paid in full by the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #920.”** To all of you, thank you for what you do. We are making a difference.

Lastly, I'm reminded of a special charge in part of Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural speech when he said:

To care for him who shall have
Borne the battle,
And for his widow,
And his orphan...

This day we did...thank you 920.

Gary