

VVA 788 NEWS

vva788.org

*HELPING VETERANS, COMMUNITIES,
AND THOSE SERVING IN HARMS WAY*



Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 788

April/May 2019

VVA'S COMMITMENT TO WOMEN VETERANS

WE RIGHTED THE WRONG

BY MARSHA

Let's go back in time.

A FEW
GOOD
WOMEN
♀

Prior to 1980, very little was said about military women and even less was known about them.

It was not until the 1980 U.S. Census that women were asked if they served in the military.

To the surprise of many, 1.2 million women were identified as veterans.

This startling discovery prompted Congress and the VA to begin concerted efforts to reach out to this virtually unknown population.

Although women had served honorably in every major American war since the founding of the nation, their mostly unofficial and inconspicuous roles contributed to their anonymity.

Read More > http://vvaveteran.org/39-1/39-1_werightedthewrong.html



Bev Stewart, President, Montana State Council

BEV STEWART

BY RICHARD CURREY

Bev Stewart joined the Army searching for opportunity. “My parents couldn’t afford to send their kids to college,” she said. “The Army offered possibilities for an education that I wouldn’t otherwise have a shot at.”

After training, she received orders for Vietnam, and was posted to the Central Finance and Accounting Office at Long Binh. “They didn’t know what to do with me when I first arrived,” Stewart said. Her initial work assignment reflected the prevailing attitudes toward women that were typical of that era: She was relegated to sitting by a door and directing people to where they needed to go in the building.

“I was like a restaurant hostess,” she said. “Smile, greet people, and steer them somewhere. It was ridiculous. I finally complained and told the powers-that-be that I’d been trained to do a job, so let me do it.”

Stewart was assigned a desk and allowed to do her job. “But it wasn’t an automatic thing,” she said. “As a woman, I had to raise some hell to get proper treatment.” Stewart ultimately served nearly six years in the Army.

Read More > http://vaveteran.org/39-1/39-1_bevstewart.html

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 788

Southwest Montana

Community Advocacy & Partnerships



Mental Health Local Advisory Council

The Gallatin County Mental Health Local Advisory Council (MHLAC) is a coalition of community members interested in assessing, planning and strengthening public mental health services in our community.

MHLAC meets on the 2nd Monday of every month from 2:00-1:00 p.m., at the Courthouse Community Room.

Learn More >

http://vva788.org/suicide_prevention/



Greater Gallatin Homeless Action Coalition

The Greater Gallatin Homeless Action Coalition (GGHAC) is a community network of concerned citizens and service providers working together to actively prevent and end homelessness in the Greater Gallatin Area.

GGHAC meets monthly at the Salvation Army in Bozeman on the second Thursday of each month from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Learn More >

<https://gghacmontana.wordpress.com/>

The strongest people find the courage and caring to help others, even if they are going through their own storm.

– Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart



19TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

July 15-20, 2019

Vietnam Veterans of America and Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America will hold their Biennial Convention to elect new leadership, review the organizational constitution and handle other organization business.

This year, the convention will visit scenic Spokane, Wash. Located at the eastern edge of the state on the Spokane River, the area's pristine natural beauty offers visitors lots of opportunities for recreation, as well as a host of cultural events and dining options.

The city is home to numerous craft breweries, art galleries and the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, which spotlights the region's history and Native American heritage. Gonzaga University and its basketball team are also based in Spokane.

More than 1,200 visitors are expected at the VVA & AVVA 2019 National Convention, with exhibitors representing commercial firms, government agencies, VVA state councils and VVA & AVVA chapters offering goods and services of interest to member veterans. Past exhibitors have included travel agencies, veterans' publications, insurance agencies, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and numerous VVA & AVVA chapters and state councils.

REGISTER > <https://vva.org/national-convention/2019/>

AGENDA > <https://vva.org/national-convention/2019/agenda/>