FROM THE COMMANDER

Spring 2022



We're pleased and excited to announce In-Country has been awarded a Veterans' Donations Fund (VDF) grant by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services in support of Vietnam Remembrance Day 2022. The grant will enable us to restart VRD and support activities and fundraising efforts eliminated by the pandemic the past two years. Thank you to ADVS VDF Grant Program Manager Jennifer Harris' Small Grant Review Committee and Director Wanda Wright.

Oorah! Hooah! Hooyah! We are forging ahead with plans to host Vietnam Remembrance Day for the first time since 2019. Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 24 at the Arizona Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Arizona Gives Day is April 22, your one-time and best opportunity to make a contribution to In-Country. You can simply log onto ArizonaGives.com, select In-Country Vietnam Veterans as the organization you want to support and make a gift. We've set a \$1,000 goal this year; in our first year of participation in 2021 we received gifts totaling \$210.40.

And our thanks go out to Shirley and Fred Terrell of Laveen again this year for their donation of \$250 from proceeds of their Crafty Pony sales during 2021.

2022 Tucson StandDown

2022 Maricopa County StandDown

Grand Luxe Hotel 1365 W Grant Tucson, AZ 85745 Friday, March 16, 2022 9am - 2pm Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum 1826 W McDowell Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85007 Thursday, March 17th, 2022 – 8am - 4pm

Since their beginning, In-Country has supported StandDowns as a service provider with volunteers, transportation and contributions to allow veterans and their families who are experiencing housing instability and homelessness to get and stay connected to supportive services. In 2022 we are again donating to help defray the costs of increased demand for housing assistance, clothing, meals, haircuts, and more to homeless or at-risk veterans.

If you want to receive this newsletter only by email to save postage, text just your name and email address to (602) 316-5658

	Membership: New Member	Renewal Annual Li	fe	
Name			-	
Mailing Address			City	State
Zip	Email Address		Phone Number	
Date of Birth	Service Branch	Enlistment Date	Date of separation	
DD214	Copy on File			
I hereby apply for	or membership in In-Country Vietnam	Veterans. I understand my eligibil	ity is based on my DD214 re	cord of award of the Vietnam Service
	d Forces Expeditionary Medal for servic not support the principles of any grou		•	-

In-Country Vietnam Veterans

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Thursday 7:00 pm	In-Country Executive Board Meeting - All Welcome		
March 10, 2022	On Skype and/or Location TBD		
Tuesday 11:00 am March 29, 2022	National Vietnam War Veterans Day Anniversary of March 29, 1973 when the U.S. Military Assistance Command (MACV) was disestablished and the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. Honoring Vietnam Veterans - Vietnam Veterans Memorial - Phoenix		
Thursday 7:00 pm	In-Country Executive Board Meeting - All Welcome		
April 14, 2022	On Skype and/or Location TBD		
Saturday 8-11:00 am	Arizona Vietnam Veterans Memorial Clean-Up Day		
April 16, 2022	Volunteer detail to prepare/maintain memorial for VRD		
Sunday 9:30 am April 24, 2022	Vietnam Remembrance Day (VRD) Anniversary of April 30, 1975 when the combat war in Vietnam ended with the invasion of Saigon. Honoring U.S. & South Vietnamese Veterans -Vietnam Veterans Memorial		
Thursday 7:00 pm	In-Country Executive Board Meeting - All Welcome		
May 12, 2022	Location TBD		
Monday	Memorial Day -National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona		
May 30, 2022	23029 N. Cave Creek Rd Phoenix		
Thursday 7:00 pm	In-Country Executive Board Meeting - All Welcome		
September 8, 2022	Location TBD		
Thursday 7:00 pm	In-Country Executive Board Meeting - All Welcome		
October 13, 2022	Location TBD		
Thursday November 10, 2022	United States Marine Corps 247 th birthday		
Friday November 11, 2022	Veterans Day		

Agent Orange Update

Agent Orange exposure and VA disability compensation

Agent Orange was a tactical herbicide the US military used to clear leaves and vegetation for military operations during the Vietnam War. It is estimated that millions of US and Vietnamese Veterans and Vietnamese civilians may have been exposed to Agent Orange from 1961 to 1971 resulting in major health problems and an increase in the rate of birth defects of their children. Nearly 12,000 square miles of forest were defoliated including in Laos and Cambodia because forests near the border with Vietnam were used by the Viet Cong. Over 21 million gallons of Agent Orange mixture containing traces of dioxin were sprayed leading directly to the contamination of farm soil and to the destruction of forests and many domestic and wild animals, birds, fish and insects.

Requirements for Agent Orange presumptive diseases. When sound medical and scientific evidence shows that an illness is caused by Agent Orange exposure, it's added to VA's list of presumptive diseases. If you've been diagnosed with one of these illnesses, you don't need to prove that it started during—or got worse because of—your military service.

Cancers and other illnesses caused by Agent Orange exposure

Added 2021: Bladder cancer Chronic B-cell leukemia Hodgkin's disease Multiple myeloma Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma Prostate cancer Respiratory cancers (including lung cancer) Some soft tissue sarcomas AL amyloidosis Chloracne (or other types of acneiform disease like it) Diabetes mellitus type 2 Added 2021: Hypothyroidism Ischemic heart disease Added 2021: Parkinsonism Parkinson's disease Peripheral neuropathy, early onset

Porphyria cutanea tarda

What's an Agent Orange Registry exam, and how do I request one?

This is a free health exam for Vietnam Veterans who meet the service requirements for presumption of contact. Even if you don't have a known illness, the exam could alert you to illnesses that may be related to contact with herbicides. By being part of this registry, you're also helping your fellow Veterans by giving information so VA can better understand and serve those affected by Agent Orange–related illnesses. The exam isn't a VA claim exam (also known as a C&P exam). And you don't need to have this exam to get other VA benefits. To get disability benefits, you'll need to file a claim.



In-Country Vietnam Veterans

Officers:

Commander – Kent Bradt US Army

Vice-Commander – Roy F Martin Jr US Air Force

Treasurer – Tony Arlotta US Marines

Communications Officer – George Fronski US Navy Seabees

Events Coordinator – Midge Munro Women's Royal Naval Service

Membership-- George Notarpole US Air Force

Commander Emeritus – Oscar Urrea US Army

Mission:

To perpetuate the positive image of the Vietnam theatre veteran through community and public service, educating/informing the public on issues relating to the military history of the Vietnam War, advocating for veterans' benefits eligibility, recognizing and honoring the Vietnam veteran's service and sacrifice, and providing comradery for Vietnam veterans and their supporters.

P.O. Box 10626 Phoenix, Arizona 85064-0626 incountryvietnamveterans.org 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Arizona corporation Mailing address change? mhairi1@cox.net



