

# We Honor Veterans Newsletter



## January 2020 Edition

### Welcome!

**Welcome to the inaugural issue of Gilchrist's We Honor Veterans Newsletter.** Through Gilchrist's We Honor Veterans Program, we strive to meet the unique needs of veterans in our care which include initiatives that honor and thank them for their sacrifice and service. The focus of this quarterly newsletter will be on providing information for and about veterans. We hope you will find this newsletter of interest and will share it with other veterans. We would also appreciate your input on information you would like to see in this newsletter.

## Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day 2020

### Gilchrist's Third Annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration

Gilchrist's third annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration is a day to honor and thank the men and women in our community who served during the Vietnam War. This Welcome Home celebration honors the veterans in our care as well as all of the veterans and their loved ones in our community. This celebration is one of the many ways Gilchrist recognizes the unique needs of veterans and thanks them for their sacrifice and service to our state and our country.

[Register Now](#)

The Welcome Home event is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, 2020. The event will again be held at Martin's West, 6817 Dogwood Rd, Windsor Mill, MD 21244. The times are as follows:

- **12:00 p.m.:** Doors Open
- **12:00 – 1:00 p.m.:** Brunch Served
- **12:00 – 1:00 p.m.:** Resource Fair
- **1:00 – 2:30 p.m.:** Program
- **2:30 – 3:00 p.m.:** Resource Fair

One of our guest speakers this year is **Joseph Lee Galloway**. Mr. Galloway is an American newspaper correspondent and columnist. Since 2013, he has worked as a special consultant for the Vietnam War 50th anniversary Commemoration project run out of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and has also served as consultant to Ken Burns' production of a documentary history of the Vietnam War broadcast in

the fall of 2017 by PBS. During the Vietnam War, he often worked alongside the American troops he covered and was awarded a Bronze Star Medal in 1998, for carrying a badly wounded man to safety while he was under very heavy enemy fire in 1965.

Another speaker is **Kimberly Mitchell**. Ms. Mitchell is the President and CEO of Veterans Village of San Diego, however, she started life in Vietnam. Having been adopted by an Airman from an orphanage in Da’Nang Vietnam at the height of the Vietnam War, she is also recognized as an advocate for our Vietnam Veterans and Vietnam era veterans. She was the official spokesperson for the Department of Defense 50 Year Vietnam War Commemoration Committee for 3 years, and over the past 5 years has participated in various Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund events, Vietnam Veteran Honor flights and other events recognizing and honoring the service of our Vietnam Veterans. Kim served in the United States Navy for 17 years as a Surface Warfare Officer serving onboard surface ships and at shore commands.

**While there is no cost to register and attend, space is limited so that we ask that you let us know if you register and then are unable to attend.** We want to accommodate as many Vietnam Veterans as possible, so please take that into consideration when including family members in your registration.

Recently Gilchrist sent out an email invitation to register for this event. In the event you did not receive the email, or have not yet registered, you can register by clicking the link below. Please do not register more than once.

[Register Now](#)

We are proud to honor those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. We look forward to seeing you at the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration.

## Veterans Day 2019

This past Veterans Day, Gilchrist military veteran volunteers, ROTC cadets from the program at Loyola University/Towson University as well as Gilchrist staff **celebrated over 500 veterans and their families** across 5 days in 13 residential care communities. The ceremonies included the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of the Star-Spangled Banner and God Bless America, Veterans Day readings, recognition and pinning of veterans, military and patriotic music, and a formal salute presented by the military veteran volunteers and ROTC cadets.



Albert DeFelice joined the Army and trained as a machine gunner. He left the Army after three years and enlisted in the Marine Corps. The Marines put his musical talent to good use and placed him in the Marine Corps Band. Albert was honored for his military service on Veterans Day. Here he is receiving a veteran’s pin and certificate from Vietnam veteran Paul Sullivan.

Andrea Trimmingham enlisted in the Army back in the 1960s. She trained as an Army Medic and spent her time taking care of soldiers at Fort Hood. Andrea was honored for her military service on Veterans Day. Here she is

receiving a veteran's pin and certificate from a representative of the ROTC program at Loyola University/Towson University and Vietnam veteran Tim Price.

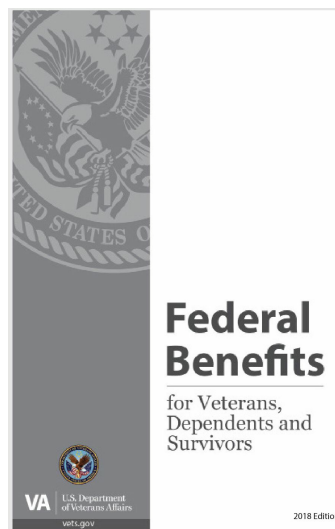


## Veterans Affairs

Veterans of the United States armed forces may be eligible for a broad range of benefits and services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These benefits are codified in Title 38 of the United States Code. **The VA provides a booklet that contains a brief overview of the most commonly sought information concerning Veterans benefits and services.**

For the most accurate information, Veterans and family members should visit the websites provided within this publication as regulations, payments, and eligibility requirements are subject to change.

To download a copy of this important booklet, go to:  
[https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits\\_book.asp](https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp)



## Military Records

**Have you ever wondered what is in your military records? Need a copy of your DD 214? Do you need replacement medals? Want to see your medical and health records?** Veterans, or their next of kin, can easily order these and other documents from the National Archives and Records Administration.

Generally, there is no charge for basic military personnel and medical record information provided to veterans, next of kin and authorized representatives from Federal (non-archival) records.

Some companies advertise DD Form 214 research services and will charge a fee for obtaining copies. **Avoid using these companies** as this is provided as a free service by the National Archives and Records Administration.

Here is the link where you can **order your records**:  
<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

## Uniform Smiles

As a group of soldiers stood in formation at an Army Base, the Drill Sergeant said, "All right! All you idiots fall out!"

As the rest of the squad wandered away, one soldier remained at attention.

The Drill Instructor walked over until he was eye-to-eye with the solitary soldier, and raised a single eyebrow at him. The soldier smiled and said, "Sure was a lot of 'em, huh, sir?"

## Looking For a Few Good Volunteers

**Would you like to be a Gilchrist volunteer?** We are always looking for volunteers – especially those who have military experience. Our military veteran volunteers are involved in Salute to Service Tributes for veterans under hospice care, visiting public schools to talk about military service, meeting with veterans to talk about their military service, supporting our annual Welcome Home event for Vietnam Veterans, and many other activities.

If you would like to learn how to become a volunteer, contact Gilchrist at [wehonorveterans@gilchristcares.org](mailto:wehonorveterans@gilchristcares.org).

## We Want Your Input

If you have suggestions for content you would like to see in future issues of the Gilchrist We Honor Veterans Newsletter, please contact us at [wehonorveterans@gilchristcares.org](mailto:wehonorveterans@gilchristcares.org).

The logo for Gilchrist features the word "gilchrist" in a bold, green, lowercase sans-serif font. A stylized green leaf icon is positioned above the letter "i".

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