

Jerold A. Klein

Jerold A. “Jerry “Klein **serves as Treasurer of the Board of Director for the Fisher House on the grounds of the West Palm Beach VA Hospital.** I have served on the Board of Directors of the Fisher House in West Palm Beach Florida since 2005.

I was born in the Bronx New York but grew up on Long Island. I entered the Army on March 8,1967 and served with A Company 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry 1<sup>st</sup> Division from August 8,1967 to August 8,1968. I was awarded the Silver Star ( for Gallantry in Action) on 5/1/1968, the Air Medal and the Combat Infantryman’s Badge during my service in Vietnam.

I am a graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook with a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the Long Island University C.W. Post College.

I am a charter member of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter # 11 in Suffolk County New York. I have held elective positions on the chapter level as President, Vice President, and Treasurer. I have held elective Office with the New York State Council as Treasurer and was appointed as State Council Legislative Coordinator serving in that position for ten years. I retired from employment with Suffolk County New York as a Veterans Service Officer on August 31,2002.

In June 2004 I was elected as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Florida State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America and chaired the State Council Veterans Benefits Committee from 2003 to 2011. On June 10, 2006 I was elected as President of the Florida State Council of Vietnam Veterans of America at the State Council meeting in Tallahassee Florida and served in that position until June 2012.

I belong to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans and the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Association.

In 2002 I received an award as the American Legion Department of New York Service Officer of the Year at the American Legion State Convention in Albany New York. I was awarded the Vietnam Veterans of America Service Officer of the Year in 1995.

I have held National Office in Vietnam Veterans of America for 5 terms as a Director at Large. Currently, and I hold elective office as a member of the Board of Directors of VVA Chapter # 25 Palm Beach County Florida. I am also the President of Friends of Veterans.

In 2010 I was one of the local Palm Beach County volunteers who were instrumental in bringing to Palm Beach County, the Veterans Court program. My contacts through my affiliation with VVA acquainted me with

the individuals from Buffalo New York who established the Veterans Court in 2008. The Palm Beach County Veterans Court was established in November 2010 and is the model program for the State of Florida.

I am currently volunteering as a Veterans Benefits Counselor at the Palm Beach Veterans Administration Readjustment Counseling Center located in Greenacres two mornings a week.

I currently serve as the Service Officer for the 11<sup>th</sup> District and Southern Area for the American Legion in Florida.

I reside in Wellington Florida with his wife Joy.