

# HARVARD VETERANS ALUMNI ORGANIZATION

## CONCEPT PROPOSAL

The inspiration for the formation of the Harvard Veterans Alumni Organization is found, literally, on the walls of Memorial Church, located at the epicenter of The Yard. Thereon, one gazes at the names of more than 1,100 men and women of Harvard who lost their lives in uniform, from World War I up to, and including, the 22 dead in Vietnam. Others, of earlier wars, are memorialized elsewhere at Harvard.

### Purposes

- \* Initiate programs to honor and perpetuate the memory of Harvard Veterans;
- \* Develop and maintain a network of living Harvard Veterans, to promote a sense of community, friendship, and mutual activities;
- \* Grow membership through promotion of the Organization and its purposes;
- \* Build and maintain an enhanced, interactive website at [www.harvardveterans.org](http://www.harvardveterans.org) ;
- \* Research, gather, organize and publish historical information relating to Harvard Veterans, perhaps with the Harvard University Library;
- \* Provide links to those on active duty; to related organizations and programs; to appropriate information; to our personal stories and history;

### ACTIVITIES

For 2007, we hope to accomplish the following:

- \* Sponsor the annual Veterans' Day Service at Memorial Church;
- \* Complete the Incorporation of HVAO and approval as a tax exempt 501(c)(19);
- \* Organize a few informal gatherings of members, to discuss information and goals, and select additional officers and directors;

### MEMBERSHIP

We encourage the registration, and participation, of all members of the Harvard University Community -students, alumni, faculty and staff- who are serving, or have served, in the various branches of the US Military. There is no dues anticipated.

## GOVERNANCE

The Harvard Veterans Alumni Organization will be duly organized and run in accordance with the attached Articles of Organization, By-Laws, and Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501. In addition, while independent, HVAO will abide by the Operating Principles, as established by the Harvard Alumni Association for Shared Interest Groups, and the SIG Trademark Policy.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Harvard Veterans Alumni Organization intends to be apolitical in purpose and action. We have been in contact with the Advocates for Harvard ROTC, and the Harvard ROTC Alumni Fund and, while we support them, and our website may include a link to those organizations, their membership, mission and purpose is different from ours.

HVAO is intended to be donor driven, with the anticipation of a gift or grant to support a program of research or education, consistent with its purposes.

Current membership, as of the date of application for acceptance as a Shared Interest Group, ranges from Harvard graduates of the 1940's to Harvard ROTC candidates; graduates of HBS, HLS, KSG, RES, and the staff of HSPH. We believe that there are many thousands of members of the Harvard University Community who have served in the US Military, and hope and expect that a good number of them will support the mission and purposes of HVAO.