



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Henry "Hank" Giles

Feb. 22, 1933 - Feb. 19, 2018

Korean War Veteran

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Homefront Staff

Tom Brown - Editor & Publisher
 Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
 Rick Adis - President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar
 Bob Dew - Columnist
 Ted Enright - Photo

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

Thanks to everyone who has helped in any way with our functions. If you are not one of the people who did help this past month, you do not know what you are missing. Volunteering gives a great deal of satisfaction, and the added benefit is you get out and meet new people. Upcoming functions that you might want to help with or attend are: Fish Fry every Friday in Lent, St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17, a big pool tournament on March 18, spruce up of the Post on April 21, and our car shows will begin in May. There is always something going on at your Post.

I would like to thank our auxiliaries for all that they do. We would not be what we are today without their unwavering support. Thanks to Nancy Dignan and her crew who did a super job of the Chili Cook Off despite the bad weather. If you were not there, you missed some very good food.

Do you have new ideas? Are you disappointed with some of our activities? Do you think that there is a new direction that our organization should be heading? Then get involved and run for office. Try it, you might like it. We ALWAYS welcome fresh faces and ideas.

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



Rick Adis

3rd Tac Fighter Wing

Bien Hoa R.V.N.

1966 - 1967





Digger's Desk

CHILI COOKOFF

Saturday February 10 was the date of our Annual very delicious and very competitive Chili Cookoff. There were 18 contestants to include Mikey Smith, Tom Pardikes and Kathy McCarthy, the top three finishers. For \$5 you got to cast three votes and try as many recipes as you like. I grabbed the smallest styrofoam cups I could find and managed to sample about 15 different entries. What a deal! There were all kinds of recipes to test your expert palate. Fun event!

LOUNGE EVENTS

Don't forget Karaoke on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 8:00PM, Sliders every Wednesday from 5:00PM-7:00PM followed by Euchre at 7:00PM which has drawn a lot of interest this year.

FISH FRIES

Fish Fries will begin on Friday February 23, continue every Friday during Lent and conclude on Good Friday March 30. This is the best Fish Fry around anywhere.

CASINO TRIP

There will be a bus leaving the VFW at 8:30AM, March 3 for Firekeepers Casino. Cost is \$35 with \$25 being returned for credit and food. Contact Ruth Barnhill for details at 734-233-8121.

MARCH 17-ST. PADDY'S DAY

Beginning at Noon on St. Patrick's Day, Post 6695's Annual Corn Beef & Cabbage dinner will be served until gone. Don't tarry long or it'll be gone. It is outstanding.

BLUM'S LANDING

On Saturday March 10 at 6:00PM, there will be a Euchre tournament at the Post to benefit Blum's Landing, headed up naturally by our very own Terry and Jan Blumberg.

A great event for an even greater cause. E-mail amarshall2327@gmail.com for details.

POOL TOURNEY/JUNIOR DIABETES DINNER

Sunday March 18 will be a two for one: Pool tourney beginning at Noon followed by a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for junior diabetes at 3:00PM. Start with one, stay for two.

ELECTIONS

The February membership meeting began nominations for your Chapter officers and board members. Elections will take place in April. How about it, i.e., are you in the game?

I'll see you at the March meeting. It's a great time to be a Veteran and member of Chapter 528.



Don Dignan
D/2/16 "Rangers"
1st Inf. Div.
1967-1968



Henry "Hank" Giles
Photo courtesy of Ted Enright



Odds & Ends

Chapter Elections

The following members have accepted nomination for chapter office.

President	Mike Steffes
1st Vice President	open
2nd Vice President	Gary Bush
Secretary	Ron King
Treasurer	Bob Dew
Board Members (4) (2-year term)	Frank Barkovich Darrell Bazman Don Dignan
State Council Delegate (2-year term)	Dennis Bielskis
Alternate S.C.D. (2-year term)	Gary Estermyer
Election Committee (3)	Dean Bell Bob Bryan John Fleming Bob Lamoureux

Nominations will again be taken in March and in April before the elections. If you want to run for office, please make your intentions known. You may nominate yourself if you choose. Note: You cannot run for office or vote in the elections if your membership is not current.

Membership

It is with great sadness we report the death of 2 of our associate members: Bill Blue and Hank Giles. Bill bowled in our league and played golf with us occasionally. Hank was one of the founding members of our chapter. Our thoughts and prayers go to Bill's and Hank's families. They will truly be missed. There was 1 application for membership this past month.

James Grant, Marines, has joined our chapter. Welcome James to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 287 individual and 83 associate members. Of these we have 241 life VVA and 50 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of February 22, 2018 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: none

AVVA: Shirley Caldwell, Jim Pappas

Dropped from Roster: Richard Suchan

March VVA Renewals: Richard Bouchard

March AVVA Renewals: Stephen Boucher, Ruth Bryan

If you have already renewed thank you. If you have not, please do so before the end of the month to keep your membership current.

Chapter Raffle

Congratulations go to Gary Bush, the winner of a life membership at last month's meeting. There will be another drawing at the March meeting. There are 5 names in this month's drawing. If you are an annual paid member this is an excellent opportunity for you to win a life membership. All you have to do is attend the monthly meeting and put your name on the sign-in sheet. That is where I get the names for the drawing.

VFW Fish Fry

The Lenten fish fry got off to a rocky start this year. The first night had to be rescheduled due to a hall rental conflict and the rescheduled day was cancelled due to excessive snow. They finally got started February 23 and will continue each Friday through March 30. If you want an excellent fish dinner that is reasonably priced give the VFW a try. They run from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.



Bob Lamoureux
Co. C, 3/47, 9th Inf. Div.
"Mobile Riverines"





No Greater Love

I came across a good true story from Our Daily Bread, a daily devotional, that I thought was appropriate for the Lenten Season (Lent is taken to run from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday)).

“Bill and his wife were driving through the Rocky Mountains when a near-miss with a truck caused their car to swerve off the road and plunge into the Colorado River. After scrambling out of one’s sinking vehicle, they frantically treaded water in the swift current. A truck driver, who had seen the accident, ran ahead along the shore and threw a rope to them. Bill swam behind his wife and pushed her to where she could grab the rope, and the man pulled her out. Bill, however, was carried downstream and didn’t survive. He had given his life for the woman he loved. To give your life so another person can live is the ultimate proof of love. During the night that Jesus was betrayed, he told His disciples of His intention to give His life in exchange for mankind. He told them: “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13). And then He set the ultimate example of self-sacrifice by going to the cross.”

Jesus Christ, under God the Father’s master plan, accepted the Father’s plan to suffer death, a very horrific way of dying, on the cross. This was the ultimate sacrifice to allow all of us to conquer death and escape Satan’s plans to keep us captive here on earth, as well as in eternal damnation. Through Jesus’ suffering on the cross and letting mere men kill Him, His death allows you and me to have the opportunity to, instead of living in eternal damnation (“hell”), instead to live with our Creator when our body expires on this earth!

I imagine some of you fellow veterans remember one of your friends who died in Nam, whom may have saved the life of you or several of your fellow troopers before he was killed. When I visit “The Wall” in D.C. and see all the names of those that

didn’t come back on that wall, I can imagine there were lives saved because of actions these men took before they paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Let us, during this Lent season, ponder how fortunate we are, to have a God that loves us so much, that He gave up His son, so that we can all live with Him someday.

However, let me not finish this article, without emphasizing that though Jesus did indeed die on the cross, He also was resurrected, and now “sits at the right hand of God the Father”. He is the “King of kings, and Lord of lords”, and is victorious! And He reigns over the earth!! He lives!!!!

Chaplain Notes: Prayers for healing for Pat Doherty (broke leg from a fall), Gene Spurgess on his foot surgery, Dale Luebke in Ann Arbor VA Hospital until March 5 receiving antibiotics, Gary Pritchard and his stomach issues, Bill Kren and his courageous fight with stage 4 cancer. Prayers for Bob and Nancy Anderson in the loss of her father, and for Karen Blue and family in the loss of her husband and AVVA member Bill Blue. Prayers also for Hank Giles’ family. Hank passed away on February 19, 2018. He was a Korean War Veteran and a AVVA member.



Rich Whipple
Chaplain (Certified)
(A sinner saved by God’s Grace)
Cell: 734-751-2992
rekjwhipple@yahoo.com
HHC/2/503rd Infantry
173rd Airborne Brigade
1968 - 1969



Medal of Honor Recipient Charles S. Kettles

Ron King, Mike Dicker, and myself were visiting Dale Luebke on February 14, and to our surprise VVA Chapter 310 (Washtenaw County) escorted Lt. Colonel Charles Kettles (Ypsilanti resident) to the lunch room.

The four of us were excited to meet him and get our picture with him. Unfortunately, we don't have a "group" shot of the four of us with the Lt. Colonel.

He is a very humble and down to earth man, and well fit for an 88 year old. What an honor to shake his hand and hear him speak.

Chapter 310 is now called "Charles S Kettles Chapter, and each we received a challenge coin from the chapter.



Rich Whipple, Charles S. Kettles & Ron King



Charles S. Kettles & Dale Luebke



Sportman's Raffle 2017

We recently found out that one of the Gift Cards given out as raffle prizes had been scanned in the store before the card was purchased. If anyone has heard back from a winner about their card having been used by someone else showing suspicious purchases, there is a number on the back of each card where you can call and get assistance. Action has been taken on the card we are aware was scanned and illegally charged. If someone has had that happen to one's winning gift card, please let us know so we can correct and discuss options on how to avoid such occurrence in the future.

Bob Dew, Fund Raising Committee
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528
Plymouth/Canton, Michigan



Mike Decker & Charles S. Kettles



MARCH 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 FISH FRY 5-7 KARAOKE 8:00	3 FIREKEEPERS CASINO TRIP
4	5	6 AUX MEETING 6:30	7 SLIDERS 5-7 EUCHRE 7:00	8	9 FISH FRY 5-7	10 BLUMS LANDNG EUCHRE TOURN. 6:00
11	12 VVA MEETING 7:00	13 VFW MEETING 7:00	14 SLIDERS 5-7 EUCHRE 7:00	15	16 FISH FRY 5-7 KARAOKE 8:00	17 ST PADDYS DAY CORN BEEF DINNER 12-?
18 JR DIABETES SPAGHETTI DINNER 3-7 POOL TOURNEY 12	19	20 VFW HOUSE COMMITTEE 7:00	21 SLIDERS 5-7 EUCHRE 7:00	22	23 FISH FRY 5-7	24
25	26	27 VVA BOARD MEETING 7:00	28 SLIDERS 5-7 EUCHRE 7:00	29	30 FISH FRY 5-7 GOOD FRIDAY	31



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan
The Auxiliary

Nancy Anderson, Sharon Cabrerros, Ron Dillingham, Don Dignan, Al Dorey, Daniel Dreger, Patrick Gibbons, Micheal Goldstein, Ellen Howington, John Itsell, Kathy Jarvis, Albert King, James Kish, Thomas Markowski, Mike Patten, Bob Paul, Bill Petrere, Joseph Radachy, Stephen Radachy, Michael Schlott, Don Schnettler, Kurt Smith, Larry Snowden, Stanley Truskowski, Paul Yeagy and Jeff Yoshikawa.



BLUM's Landing

Proudly presents its

1st Annual Euchre Party

Saturday March 10, 2018

VFW Hall

1426 S. Mill St, Plymouth

Doors open at 6pm

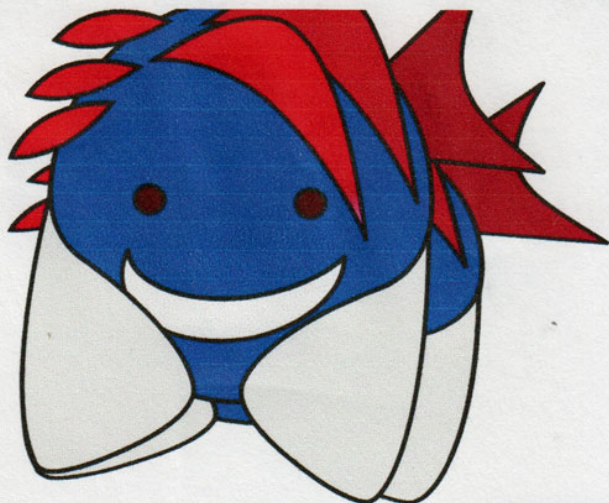
Admission is \$30 at door/ \$25 if you pre-register
includes food and prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Cash Bar

50/50 & Basket Raffles

To register please email

amarshall2327@gmail.com



VFW Post 6695
1426 S. Mill Street
Plymouth, MI 48165
Ph# 734.459.6700

2018 Fish Fry

Friday, February 9th, **skip February 16**, then
February 23 through March 30, 2018

5 pm to 7 pm

FISH FRY MENU

Fish Dinners - Fried or Baked Fish

<u>3pc. Fish</u>	<u>\$9.00</u>
<u>4 pc. Fish</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>
<u>2 pc. Child/Senior Citizen</u>	<u>\$7.00</u>
<u>6 pc. Shrimp Dinner</u>	<u>\$9.00</u>
<u>Canadian Walleye Dinner</u>	<u>\$11.00</u>

All dinners served with choice of Fries, Baked Potato or Mac & Cheese, and Slaw, Roll
& Butter and Coffee

Chicken Strip Dinners

<u>4 pc. Chicken</u>	<u>\$9.00</u>
<u>2 pc Child/Senior Citizen</u>	<u>\$6.00</u>

Side Orders

<u>Regular fries</u>	<u>\$1.50</u>
<u>Mac & Cheese</u>	<u>\$1.50</u>
<u>Baked Potato</u>	<u>\$1.50</u>



Chapter Officers

President	Rick Adis	734-737-9077
1st Vice President	Gary Pritchard	734-522-2033
2nd Vice President	Mike Steffes	734-421-7790
Secretary	Ron King	734-679-6424
Treasurer	Bob Dew	734-421-1805

Board of Directors

Mike Dicker 734-425-3414	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Don Dignan 734-525-0157	Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257
Pete Glasgow 734-454-9663	Gene Spurgess	248-887-6212
Don Petrere 734-595-1422	Terry Wells	734-776-1891

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Chaplain	Rich Whipple	734-751-2992
Chapter Historian	Gary Pritchard	734-522-2033
Fundraising	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming	734-421-0149
Membership	Bob Lamoureux	734-397-8389

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Editor & Publisher	Tom Brown	313-336-0192
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Distribution Chief	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Assistant Chief	Ron King	734-679-6424
Assistant Chief	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244

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POW/MIA	Al Kerbyson	734-612-9757
Public Affairs	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming	734-525-04560
Service Representative	Aggie Little	734-722-9535
Sportsmen's Raffle	John Spencer	734-716-0619
State Delegate	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943
State A. Delegate	Dennis Bielskis	248-486-0001
State VVA Product Sales	John Riling	734-776-2239
VAVS Deputy	Ron King	734-454-4522
Vietnam War 50th Com.	Ron King	734-454-4522
Website & Newsletter	Tom Brown	313-336-0192

VVA Service Officer - State of Michigan

Phillip Smith - Director Toll Free-1-844-885-6424

Veterans Crisis Centers

Veterans Center	313-381-1370
Dearborn Crisis Center	313-584-7800
VA Medical Center Detroit	313-576-1000
VA Ann Arbor Health Care System	734-769-7100

Editor's Note and Disclaimer

Articles, event dates, and photos must be submitted by the **22nd** of the month in order to be considered for publication. Send the article or photo to Tom Brown 17730 Snow Ave Dearborn, MI 48124 or email Tom at tom@vva528.org. Except as otherwise noted, all published articles become the property of VVA Chapter 528 and may not be reprinted without the Chapter's permission. Chapter 528 reserves the right to edit for space. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Chapter, the editor, or the National VVA. **Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 (734-459-6700).**

Chapter 528 Website: www.vva528.org

Chapter 528 Travel Site www.travelvva528.com

Advertising Rates: 1 year \$60; 6 mos. \$45; 1 issue \$15

Service Photos Needed

VVA Chapter 528 has 141 members' service photos displayed on our website www.vva528.org/members528.html and in our display case. I'm sure most members have a photo of themselves laying around somewhere. When you find your photo you can either mail it to **Tom Brown** @ 17730 Snow Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124, scan it and send it to: tombrown1949@gmail.com as a jpg or jpeg, bring it to our general membership meetings and give it to Tom or bring it to the VFW. Be sure to include your name, branch of service and the year the photo was taken. **Don Petrere** will place the copied service photo in our display case.



Tom Brown, Editor/Publisher
2nd Missile Battalion
44th Artillery Pershing 1st yr
HHD III Corps 2nd yr
Ft. Sill, OK



Tom Testler 1971

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Chapter 528 Homefront



March 2018



12

Vietnam Veterans of America

Membership in Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. is open to Vietnam Era Veterans as well as Associate Members of the Public at Large.

Name _____

Phone _____

Present Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Branch of Service _____

Date of Birth _____

email _____

\$20.00 Annual Dues Enclosed _____ (\$50 - 3 years _____) \$100 Lifetime _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member

(Copy of your DD-214 Form Enclosed). One must have served a minimum of 180 days of active service.

_____ I am not a Vietnam Era Veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member AVVA

Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 _____ 1 year \$50.00 3 years _____

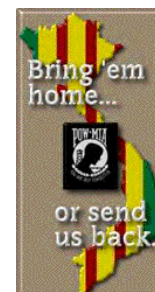
AVVA Life under 60 - \$175 _____ - Life over 60 \$100 _____

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Membership Card

No. _____

Today's Date _____

Return this form to:
Vietnam Veterans of America
Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth, MI 48170-0473



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Homefront
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