



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



The North Wall Vietnam Memorial of Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Check out Pete Glasgow's article concerning this Memorial Service on page 5.

Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
The Bear's Den	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
Joy Road Pick-up	4
The North Wall	5
Our Monthly Meetings	6
Calendar	7
Cruz'n 528	8
Committees	9
Ads	10
Membership Form	12

Homefront Staff

Tom Brown - Editor & Photographer
 Don Dignan - Assistant Editor & Columnist
 John Spencer - President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Peter Glasgow - Columnist
 Gary "Bear" Kubik - Columnist
 Don Petrere - Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"

President's Corner

Second Vice President Jeff Yashikawa has resigned his position, so there will be a special election at the August General Membership Meeting to fill this position. The VVA/VFW Joint Picnic takes place on Saturday, August 13th starting at noon. Please, contact Mike Steffes if you want to help out at this annual event.

Pray for our members who suffer with Agent Orange health issues. Pray also for Al Kerbyson who is at the Ann Arbor VAMC CLC getting treatment for an open sore on his leg.



John Spencer, President
 U S Army 1965-67
 123rd Transportation
 Company (Longshoremen)
 Cam Ranh Bay, RVN
 1966 (01/05/66-01/05/67)





Digger's Desk

EUCHRE

Wednesday Euchre has concluded for the season but we will play on the first Saturday of each month for the summer, i.e., August 6. As always, it will be first come first served to get an even number of players so you should aim for a 6:30PM show up time. The cost is \$10 per person.

MONDAY GOLF

Our all member (VFW/Auxiliary/VVA/AVVA) Monday golf scramble is well underway and will continue through the Fall. If you are interested, let me know and I'll keep you on the weekly notification list.

JULY 4TH PARADE AND CHICKEN BBQ

The parade was sensational with absolutely perfect weather and thousands of residents lining the street and cheering while saying "Thank You". The BBQ turned out well with volunteers Bill Browning, Bob Garrett, Charlie Kotcher, Bryan Bentley and myself handling the outside functions and Amy O'Neill, Nancy Dignan, John Spencer and Frank Barkovich handling inside duties. I'm writing this from memory 18 days later so if I forgot to mention you, thanks for your help. The chicken was good with 99 dinners sold that day.

UPCOMING

Coming up every Wednesday is our Car Show, Karaoke on the 1st and 3rd Friday. On the 2nd and 4th Friday, there is a new band performing. August 13 is the combined picnic.

GIVER OR TAKER?

Insofar as the Chapter and Post activities are concerned, ask yourself which are you? Hopefully a bit of the former to go with all the latter. Try it, you'll like it.

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



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



CHICKEN BBQ





Odds & Ends

Membership

It is with great sadness I report the sudden passing of longtime member Don King. Don was Ron King's twin brother and although he lived in Maryland - he will be missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers go to the King families. There was 1 application for membership this past month. Thomas Crozier, Navy, has joined our Chapter. Welcome Tom to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 274 individual and 78 associate members. Of these we have 219 life VVA and 38 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of June 22, 2016 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: George Bruder, Bob Cohen, Marcel Loosbrock, Roger Ratkowski, Dale Wofford

AVVA: Sandy Bazman, John Nichols

Dropped from Roster: Scott Gaines, Vikki Plagens, Jeff Roussseau

August VVA Renewals: Ron Jones

August AVVA Renewals: Cass Swamba

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.

AVVA Life Memberships

Just a continuing reminder of the new membership fees. They are: age 60 and over - \$100 and 59 and under - \$175. Anyone over 60 who purchases a life membership must provide proof of age (copy of driver's license or birth certificate). This change is a great opportunity for associates to become life members.

Chapter Raffle

Congratulations to AVVA member Patty Bielskis the latest winner of the chapter raffle. There were only 9 names in this drawing so for those annual paid members who attend the monthly meetings your chances of winning a life membership are getting better and better. Attendance at last month's

meeting was on the low side and so was the 50/50 pot so there won't be a drawing until the September meeting.

Plymouth Fall Festival

There will be a sign-up sheet at the next meeting. Lots of help is still needed although it is not as labor intensive since we no longer have corn. Festival hours are as follows:

Thursday, Sept. 8	5:00pm (set-up on Main Street)
Friday, Sept. 9	noon - 11:00pm
Saturday, Sept 10	10:00am - 11:00pm
Sunday, Sept. 11	10:00am - 6:00pm



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



Vietnam North Wall of Canada





Chaplain's Corner

Hoo-ah

From Our Daily Bread
by David Roper

The US Army's expression "hoo-ah" is a guttural response barked when troops voice approval. Its original mean is lost to history, but some say it is derived from an old acronym HUA - Heard, Understood, and Acknowledged. I first heard the word in basic training.

Many years later it found its way into my vocabulary again when I began to meet on Wednesday mornings with a group of men to study the Scriptures. One morning one of the men, a former member of the 82nd Airborne Division, was reading one of the psalms and came to the notation *selah* that occurs throughout the psalms. Instead of reading "*selah*," however, he growled "*hoo-ah*," and that became our word for *selah* ever after.

No one knows for certain what *selah* actually means. Some say it is only a musical notation. It often appears after a truth that calls for a deep-seated, emotional response. In that sense *hoo-ah* works for me.

This morning I read Psalm 68:19: "*Blessed be the Lord, who daily loads us with benefits, the God of our salvation! Selah.*"

Imagine that! Every single morning God loads us up on His shoulders and carries us through the day. He is our salvation. Thus safe and secure in Him, we've no cause for worry or for fear. "Hoo-ah!" I say.

Chaplain's notes: Ron King's twin brother Donald King (member of Chapter 528) passed away this month. Keep Don and his family in your prayers. Please pray for healing and recovery for Gordy and Barb Bardeleben from their automobile accident in upper Michigan earlier this month, for Dennis Waling who is dealing with Liver Cancer but is recovering from the removal of his prostate (a huge praise that the prostate was cancer free after being diagnosed with prostate cancer several months ago), for Art Ohanian and Jack Massarello recovering from minor operations and Al Kerbyson just spoke with me this afternoon and said the doctors told him he will not need skin grafts to close his wound because it is healing (slow process). Al unfortunately will be at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital for several more weeks, so please visit him when you're there for appointments!



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



Wayne County Adopt-A-Road Clean Up



On Saturday, July 23, our chapter participated in the second of three Clean Ups for 2016. It was already quite warm when we assembled at the UAW Hall parking lot where donuts were awaiting the volunteers as they arrived. We had sixteen brave souls that participated and once we were out on the road picking up the weather wasn't as bad as we had thought it would be.

Those who volunteered (picture) from left to right back row: Doug "Fox man" Fox, Bob "R amalam" Lamoureux, Pat "All World" Doherty, Gary "Ouch" Boucher, Don "Digger" Dignan, Gregg "Double G" Kremkow, and Denny "Fill 'er up" Fuelling.

Front row: Phil "Hawaii 5-o" Cabrerros, Rich "Airborne" Whipple, Al "1st. Cav rocks" Sneath, Larry "Gore man" Kilgore, Bobby "Go Blue" Somerville, Louie "Convertible man" Dorka, Terry "Not Mary" Wells, and Skip "Rope" Davison. Charlie "Ooh Ra" Kotcher caught up with us after the picture was taken and finished up strong.

Our next and last pick up of the year will be Saturday, October 1.

Thanks to all of you who came out, got some exercise, and experienced much camaraderie. Our chapter couldn't keep doing this since 1997 if it weren't for you gung ho volunteers to come out and get the job done!

Rich Whipple
Adopt-A-Road Coordinator



Peter Glasgow The North Wall

On July 3rd, 2016, Patti and I travelled to the "North Wall" in Windsor, Ontario, Canada to honor the Canadian veterans who died in Vietnam. The Memorial Service was profound and the Canadian hospitality and friendship was as good as ever. I'm always amazed and feel so grateful for the lives that were sacrificed and the honor they receive from both Canada and the USA.
Semper Fi,



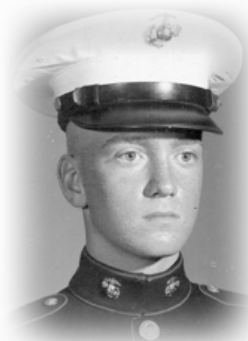
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The North Wall, also known as the **Canadian Vietnam Veterans' Memorial**, is a [war memorial](#) located in [Windsor, Ontario, Canada](#). The monument was erected on July 2, 1995 in honour of the Canadian veterans who were [killed in action](#), made [prisoners of war](#), or declared [missing in action](#) during the [Vietnam War](#).

There are 103 names of casualties of known Canadian origin on the North Wall, with 7 listed as MIA/BNR. The monument is 14 ft. wide, 11 ft. tall, and weighs 3 tons. The inscription reads:

"As long as we live, you shall live. As long as we live, you shall be remembered. As long as we live, you shall be loved."

The monument is located in [Assumption Park](#) directly across from [Detroit, Michigan](#) under the [Ambassador Bridge](#), which spans from Detroit to Windsor.



Peter Glasgow

Alpha 2 Charlie
1st Bn, 1st Marine Reg
1st Marine Division



The Bear's Den

I get calls to supply a color guard for funerals or flag presentations. Our regular color guard has been disbanded except for a few ceremonies. I believe that there are members that could help out. Bob and Frank cover a lot more than members know about. Bob is a very good teacher in playing taps. Something to think about.

We still accept cell phones and trade flags. We could use some help cutting the grommets off the flags and setting aside some stars for Ouch to work with.

Watch your e-mail for a notice about a car wash. Hopefully, it will take place in August. Call or stop by, same place any day.



Gary "Bear" Kubik

TM2 (SS)
USS Gudgeon SS567
USS Diodon SS 349
Sub Sq. 5





Don Petrere

Our Monthly Meetings

The Gravel is swung and comes down. The meeting will come to order. !!!

That's how we start the monthly meeting and I have a few comments and thoughts about June and July's gathering and other need additions and improvements.

Lets start with Junes for it does come first. At this meeting a simple question was asked and a very simple answer was given, but after this exchange the person was almost dismissed for asking a question for the meeting was running just over an hour. Does the beer in the lounge cease getting cold after an hour? Why? I'll bet he really wants to ask another question or might not even come to another meeting if this continues. I know for a fact he never stayed for cake for fear he had the fork in the wrong hand or he may eat it too slow.

Now skip to July. Also at this meeting a simple question was asked and the reply to him was just short of a confrontation from the responder. The look on the person that asked was chilling to say the least. He didn't deserve that. Are members not to ask questions and get involved and then be treated like this. We have over 260 members and could this be why some restrict coming because this is a common occurrence and they gave up.

Approval on expenditures. The membership votes on this as it's presented by the President. Are we voting on the merit of this expense and the receivers of the money. We need an explanation of just who these requests are going to. Or are we voting as it's been said many a time, "we've done this in the past." Well things may have changed and this comment is not warranted and a vote just because shouldn't be applicable and stricken.

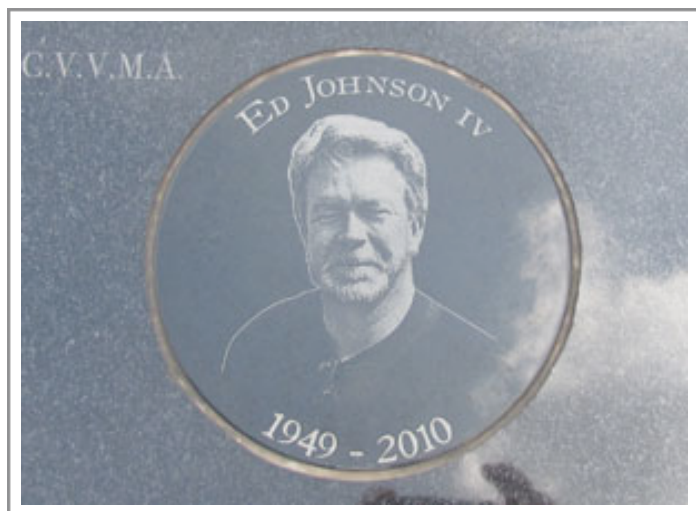
Asked questions. Questions and the answers should part of the minutes. So why aren't these included in the minutes for the membership to review and for those that didn't attend to see. We vote on to accept the minutes but not the Q/A. Let it contain everything so it's a complete vote. Let's get them in for all.

And to close. How about some respect to the head table, guests and members (Q/A) speaking. When that gravel is struck it's time to come to order. Not for a hamburger and fries. You just may miss some needed information by talking about just how green your lawn is. So if next meeting two or three members don't come you just may have good reasons right in your hands.

Gavel down....Adjourned.



Sgt. Don Petrere
1st Armored Division
1/81st 1966-1967



The North Wall Vietnam Memorial
Photo by Pete Glasgow



AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 GOLF	2 VFW AUX MEETING 7:00	3 CAR CRUZ 5-8	4	5 KARAOKE 8:00	6 EUCHRE 7:00
7	8 GOLF VVA MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00	9 VFW MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00	10 CAR CRUZ 5-8	11	12 BAND 8:00	13 POST PICNIC NOON
14	15 GOLF	16 VFW HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7:00	17 CAR CRUZ 5-8	18 MENS AUX MEETING 6:30	19 KARAOKE 8:00	20
21	22 GOLF POST BLOOD DR	23 VVA BOD MEETING 7:00	24 CAR CRUZ 5-8	25	26 BAND 8:00	27
28	29 GOLF	30	31 CAR CRUZ 5-8			



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan
AVVA & Ladies
Auxiliary

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Joe Agius, Frank Barkovich, Dennis Bielskis, Patty Bielskis, Gary "Ouch" Boucher, Robert Carris, Rick Ciaramitaro, Kevin Demsky, Nancy Dignan, Wayne Duering, Michael Dupuis, Richard Gebstadt, Darrel (Tom) Gibson, Bob Hallmark, Peter Horning, John Kish, Micahel Kokoszka, Donald Macrae, Brenda Menendez, Linda Mentink, John Nichols, Cindy Northrop, Leroy Paige, Raymond Pasquantonio, Clinton (Russ) Sanford, Mike Smith, Alice Thomas and John Vincenti.

CRUZ'N 528

The Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW 6695 working in conjunction with "Hell on Wheels" car club.

Presents its weekly car cruises.

Starting May 11th from 5p-8 and every Wednesday till the end of September.



Come join us for good music and great food.

We are located at 1426 S. Mill (Lilley) St. Plymouth, MI
48170 Ph# 734.459.6700



Chapter Officers

President	John Spencer
1st Vice President	Richard Waldecker
2nd Vice President	Mike Steffes
Secretary	Dennis Bielskis
Treasurer	Bob Dew

Board of Directors

Bill Browning	Gene Spurgess
Mike Dicker	Pete Glasgow
Don Dignan	Joe Tebor
Rich Mazurkiwicz	Rich Whipple

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Bob Dew
Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson
Chaplain	Rich Whipple
Chapter Historian	Rich Waldecker
Color/Honor Guard	Bob Lamoureux
	Rick Ciaramitaro
Fundraising	Bob Dew
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming
Membership	Bob Lamoureux

Homefront Newsletter

Editor & Publisher	Tom Brown
Assistant Editor	Don Dignan
Distribution Chief	Jim Hodgson
Assistant Chief	Ron King
Assistant Chief	Dale Luebke

Product Sales Bill Browning

POW/MIA Al Kerbyson

Public Affairs	Don Dignan
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming
Service Representative	Aggie Little
Sportsmen's Raffle	John Spencer
State Delegate	Gary Estermyer
State A. Delegate	Dennis Bielskis
State VVA Product Sales	John Riling
VAVS Deputy	Ron King
Vietnam War 50th Com.	Ron King
Website	Tom Brown

VVA Service Officer - State of Michigan

Phillip Smith - Director 313-961-9568 313-226-4181

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

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

Service Photos Needed

VVA Chapter 528 has 125 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, bring it to our general membership meetings or drop it off in "Bear's" Office. Longtime member and creator of our Service Photos Boards **Bill Boudreau** passed away on September 23, 2015. **Don Petrere** has graciously volunteered to take over our service photos in our display case.



Tom Brown, Editor
2nd Missile Battalion
44th Artillery Pershing
HHD III Corps
Ft. Sill, OK



Plymouth July 4th Parade

ASI
No. 213208

Great Lakes
TROPHIES & ENGRAVING

Ed Duprey
Owner

32635 Ford Road
Garden City, MI 48135
(Between Venoy & Merriman Roads)
Hours: 9 - 6 Weekdays / 9 - Noon Sat.

Phone: (734) 266 - 1815
Fax: (734) 266 - 1817
www.greatlaketrophies.com
E-mail: sales@greatlaketrophies.com

ARA
Associated Retailers Association

Fleming Financial Services, Inc.

John A. Fleming National Association of Tax Professionals

29217 Ford Road, Suite 119
Garden City, MI 48135

phone 734 525-4560 fax 734 525-5280
toll free 888 240-1550 john@flemingfinancialsvcs.com

DONATE YOUR CAR TO

CHARITY MOTORS
Helping Those Who Help Others

- Where you can still claim Fair Market Blue Book Value
- Car donation is 100% tax deductible and pick up is free
- Assisted over 2,000 worthy organizations in our community

CALL TODAY: (313) 255-1000
or donate online at charitymotors.org

**Be sure to designate VVA Chapter 528
when turning in your vehicle.**

WWW.MYLIFEFORCE.NET/RT

RON & THERESA

1 248 677 2280

PRODUCTS THAT MAKE
PEOPLE HEALTHIER

www.mylifeforce.net/rt

C & D CATERING
BE A GUEST AT YOUR OWN PARTY

From a simple backyard party, to an elegant affair

204 SOUTH WAYNE RD
WESTLAND, MI 48186

734-729-9338
fax 734-729-1314

WWW.C-D-CATERING.COM

Main Street Auto Wash
"the freshwater wash"

1191 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170

Phil Pursell
(734) 455-9685

alphagraphics®

DESIGN ■ COPY ■ PRINT ► COMMUNICATE

7994 Lilley Road • Canton, Michigan 48187
Phone 734.455.6550 • Fax 734.455-3740
Email us336@alphagraphics.com
www.us336.alphagraphics.com

ASI
MEMBER

LPL Financial

Bob Carris
Registered Principal

40400 Ann Arbor Rd
Suite 204-B
Plymouth, MI 48170
734 453 7304 office
734 453 7461 fax
bob.carris@lpl.com
www.lpl.com/bob.carris

OSJ Branch: 31700 Middlebelt Rd
Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248 626 2000 office

Member FINRA/SIPC

Frank S. Barkovich

Accounting & Tax Service

- * Individual / Business Taxes
- * Business Coaching
- * Small Business Specialists
- * Veteran Owned

P.O. 871831 734-397-9734
Canton, MI 48187-7531 frabar@comcast.net

- landscape design & installation
- lawn & landscape maintenance
- snow & ice management

Matthew Gorski
President

Your Way
PROPERTY SERVICES

(248) 676.8508 office
(248) 676.8557 fax
yourwaypropertyservices@comcast.net



Chapter 528 Homefront



August 2016



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 _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member
(Copy of your DD-214 Form or other proof of Service Enclosed)

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

I want to give more. Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 _____ \$50.00 _____

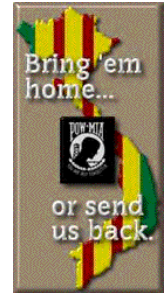
Other _____

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

Vietnam Veterans of America
 Homefront
 Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528
 P.O. Box 6319
 Plymouth MI 48170-0473