



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Ron King

President's Corner

Greetings,

Historically, February is a slow-activity month for the chapter. Fortunately, to help us get through Winter is our VFW Post 6695 with all of its functions. As you know, we have several dual members, i.e. both VVA and VFW members, therefore, we stay very busy with the Lenten Fish Fries for 7 intensive weeks until Good Friday. This event alone provides so many opportunities to volunteer and help our fellow veterans. Also, the VFW Ladies' Auxiliary has a splendid Soup & Salad event in February, which is always a huge hit on a cold Winter's day!

As I have continued to stress throughout the year is our chapter's mission and focus, which is to take care of fellow veterans and their health, quality of life and emotional issues. In that regard, I ask each of you to think of projects and events that we can help with. The money that we so diligently work to raise is shared with veterans in need, families of veterans in need, hospitalized, and homeless veterans. These are the reasons we exist as a chapter. It is our responsibility to look out for each other and to insure that each veteran maintains his or her dignity, pride, integrity and self-respect.

In closing, February is also your first opportunity to throw your hat in the ring for an elected board or committee position. The final election takes place at the April business meeting. Decide to make a difference.

All of you make a tremendous impact in our chapter, and in our community. There is not a finer, more benevolent and passionate group of veterans and their families anywhere!! We are truly blessed to belong to VVA Chapter 528! Thank You for your support.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



Ron King, President

38th Air Rescue &
Recovery Squadron
Ton Son Nhut AB, RVN

1971-1972



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Don Dignan - Assistant Editor & Columnist
Ron King- President & Columnist
Bob Lamoureux - Events & Columnist
Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
Dale Luebke - Kokomo 2014
Gary Estermyer - Calendar
Nancy Dignan - Columnist & photo
Bill Boudreau - Branch of Service B-days

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**"Never Again Will One Generation
of Veterans Abandon Another"**

Welcome Home!



Digger's Desk

ELECTIONS

Starting with the February meeting, the Nominating Committee will be taking nominations for all officer and BOD positions. If you have an urge to serve your Chapter in a close up, more intense and satisfying way, have someone nominate you, or nominate yourself, for one of these positions. I have been there and done that many times over 24 years...it is rewarding. If not an elected position, then get involved in any one of a number of other ways. You will enjoy it.

AGENT ORANGE TOWN HALL MEETING

Bob Dew, Dennis Waling and the rest of their committee have been working at a feverish pace to bring about an "Education of the Public Regarding Agent Orange". The event will take place on April 26 at Northville High School on Six Mile Road. Stay tuned for more details.

SPORTSMAN'S RAFFLE

The 2014 version of VVA's biennial sportsman's raffle is underway. The proceeds from this venture, as well as membership strength, allow us to pursue, implement and carry out all of the charitable works and deeds that we can all feel good about. Chairman Dennis Bielskis and crew will successfully complete this project but, it sure would lighten the load if you all came along for the ride. Carry around a few tickets and pen in your pocket. They practically sell themselves. Two years ago, John Iaquina and Gene Spurgess each sold over 500 tickets. Surely you can sell five or ten?

WANNABES

I generally address this issue about every other year because it is constantly in the news.

Ever talk to a Veteran (or think you're talking to one) and no sooner has the conversation started when they are telling you about their deeds as a SEAL,

Green Beret, Delta Force, POW, etc. ? These extraordinary people do exist but there is also the possibility you are talking to a Wannabe. I don't hate Wannabes but I do loathe and pity them. Their military service, or lack of, left them wanting the admiration and awe of the general public. If you are not a Veteran, don't tell people you are. If you are a Veteran and people inquire about your service background, don't spice it up. Be proud of who you are and what you did.

There are a lot of worthwhile things happening in the Chapter. I hope to see you at the February meeting. Don't forget to sign in. It's a great time to be a Veteran.



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



Members In Distress

Long time member **Gary "The Bear" Kubik** has been hospitalized and is slowly recovering.

Gary "Ouch" Boucher, long time member was taken by ambulance at our January General Membership Meeting. He did not suffer from a heart attack. Gary is scheduled to have an operation in February.

Zoltan Nagy is our last member (118th) to have his service photo added to our website. If you have a service photo either give to Tom Brown at one of our General Membership Meetings or send the photo to Tom Brown 17730 Snow Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124. I promise to return your photo.

www.vva528.org/members528.html



Odds & Ends

Membership

It is with sadness we say goodbye to longtime member Eldon Frank who passed away this past month. Our condolences go to his wife Lana and their family. We had 1 application for membership this past month. Michel Johnson has joined our associates. Welcome Mike to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 254 individual and 66 associate members. Of these we have 138 life VVA and 21 life AVVA members

Lapsed Members: As of January 22, 2014 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: Leon Carter, Dennis Darichuck, Charles Havens, John Ligner, Winiford Wilson

AVVA: Joanna Lafleur, Matthew Puchala, Dave Randall, Glenn Smith

Dropped From Roster: Ken Karp

February VVA Renewals: Danny Cook, Al Dorey, Pete Glasgow, Mike Williams

February AVVA Renewals: none

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.

Elections

Chapter elections will take place at the April meeting. Nominations for office will begin at the February meeting and continue in March and before the elections in April. Any member in good standing can run for office. If you wish to run you can have a fellow member nominate you or you can nominate yourself. We will be taking nominations for: President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, Secretary, Treasurer, Nominating Committee (4), all 1- year terms. In addition we will take nominations for: Board of Directors (4) and State Council delegate, which are 2-year terms. We are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas in the leadership of the Chapter.

Color Guard

On a bitterly cold, snowy day the color guard combined with the VFW to provide a flag folding,

honor volley and Taps for our departed brother Eldon Frank. Thankfully the service was inside the funeral home so our outside exposure was brief. Eldon was not active for quite a while due to medical issues and had been residing at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Many may remember him from the Wednesday cars shows and his and Lana's involvement in the Leader Dog program. Rest in peace brother.



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





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

- Lana Frank, wife of chapter member Eldon, who passed away on January 3rd.



Chaplain's Corner

Words That Help and Heal

From Our Daily Bread

Author: David McCasland

On November 19, 1863, two well known men gave speeches at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The featured speaker, Edward Everett, was a former congressman, governor, and president of Harvard University.

Considered one of the greatest orators of his day, Mr. Everett delivered a formal address lasting 2 hours. He was followed by President Abraham Lincoln, whose speech lasted 2 minutes!

Today Lincoln's speech, the Gettysburg Address, is widely known and quoted, while Everett's words have almost been forgotten. It is not just Lincoln's eloquent brevity that accounts for this. On that occasion, his words touched the wounded spirit of a nation fractured by civil war, offering hope for the days to come.

Words do not have to be many to be meaningful. What we call the Lord's Prayer is among the shortest and most memorable of all the teachings of Jesus. It brings help and healing as it reminds us that God is our heavenly Father whose power is at work on earth, just as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:9-10). He provides food, forgiveness, and fortitude for each day (vv.11-13). And all honor and glory belong to Him (v.13). There is nothing in our past, present, and future that is not included in our Lord's brief words that help and heal.

"Kind words smooth, and quiet, and comfort the bearer"

Prayers are needed for:

- Barb Bresnahan and Barb Roberts for strength and healing in their fight with cancer.
- Ken Winkler completed 40 days of radiation, and rewarded himself by flying to Florida for two weeks. Way to go, Ken!!



Rich Whipple
Chapter Chaplain
HHC/2/503d Infantry
173d. Airborne Brigade
1968-1969



The Bear's Den

I hoped all members enjoyed the January Special in the lounge. We will try to have them more often now. The specials are enjoyed by quite a few of the members and Leslie puts a lot of work into them. I am recovering from another bout with congestive heart failure (too much sodium during the holidays). I hope to be back at my post just after the first of February. It was scary for a while, but I wasn't ready to quit yet.

I want to thank everyone for the visits, cards, prayers, and phone calls. They all made me feel better.

We have 5000 tickets to sell by October. It is not going to be as easy as before. There are a few of us that have gotten a little worn out. We need others to help out like never before. When I get back, I will have tickets to sign out to be sold and the money to be turned in at the Post. Please help out on this, the biggest fund raiser that Chapter 528 holds. When I get back, stop by and see me or call the Post @ [734 459 6700](tel:7344596700).



Gary "Bear" Kubik
TM2 (SS)
USS Gudgeon SS567
USS Diodon SS 349
Sub Sq. 5





Kokomo 2014

Our Lots are being requested as we speak, with February 01 being the date when we send in our requests and money to Howard County. The paperwork is finished and Ron King will be handling the next step following the Board meeting on Jan 28th.

From there we sit back and wait till the Reunion 7 1/2 months from now. We will still have our same 12 lots as last year..



Dale M. Luebke
355th Tac Fighter Wing
357th Tac Fighter Squadron



The Fallen Heroes of Plymouth-Canton



RICHARD A. LARRICK

Age 21
Race Caucasian
Sex Male
Date of Birth May 29, 1947
From Plymouth, MI
Religion Protestant
CPL - E4 - Army - Selective Service
11th Light Infantry Brigade
Length of service 1 years
His tour began on Jan 6, 1968
Casualty was on Sep 26, 1968
In Quang Tin, South Vietnam
Hostile, Ground Casualty
Gun, Small Arms Fire
Body was recovered
Panel 42W - Line 18

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Leroy Paige
RVN 69-70
1st Signal Brigade





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SOUP AND SALAD DINNER AT:

1426 S. MILL ST PLYMOUTH, MI

SATURDAY, February 22nd

5:00-7:00 p.m.

\$5 PER PERSON

CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

Bake Sale \$1.00



Thanks to all who donated chili for our Chili Cook-Off and who helped with the preparations and clean up. The winners are:
1st place Barb Bardeleben
2nd place Patti Brothers
3rd place Nancy Dignan



Agent Orange Town Hall Meeting

Northville High School Auditorium

Saturday, April 26, 2014

Agenda:

- 08:00 AM Registration - Breakfast Snack
- 09:15 AM Opening Ceremony
- 12:15 PM Break For Lunch
- 1:45 PM Questions and Answers
- 3:30 PM Meeting Closing



House Painting - Interior - Exterior -
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Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 528 Plymouth-Canton

2014

BRANCH

Branch of Service Birthdays

CHAPTER MEETING



U.S. ARMY- JUNE 14TH 1775

JUNE 9TH 2014



U.S. COAST GUARD - AUGUST 4TH 1790

AUGUST 11TH 2014



U.S. AIR FORCE -SEPTEMBER 18TH 1947

SEPTEMBER 8TH 2014



CHAPTER 528 -SEPTEMBER 13TH 1990

SEPTEMBER 8TH 2014



U.S. NAVY - OCTOBER 18TH 1775

OCTOBER 13TH 2014



U.S. MARINES - NOVEMBER 10TH 1775

NOVEMBER 10TH 2014

Thanks, Bill Boudreau for this List

"Never again shall one generation of veterans abandon another"



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www.vva528.org

Check out our Travel Site at:

www.travelvva528.com

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.
Plymouth—Canton, MI Chapter 528

February 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 State Council Mtg Howell 10A	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 General Membership Mtg. 7PM	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 President's Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Board of Directors Mtg. 7PM	26	27	28	



USARV
58th Field Depot
Qui Nhon
May 68 - May 69



Calendar by Gary Estermyer

Our active online calendar
www.vva528.org/ourevents.html

**VVA 528 Membership Meeting Monday, February 10, 2014 1426 South Mill St.
VFW Plymouth, MI Come on and join us! 7:00 p.m. (1900 hours)**

VFW Calendar For February

4th - Ladies Auxiliary - 7 pm
7th - Karaoke Night - 8 pm
11th - General Membership Meeting - 7 pm
18th - Board Meeting - 7 pm
20th - Men's Auxiliary - 6:30 pm
21st - Karaoke Night - 8 pm



February Birthdays

Barbara Atkins, Tom Brown, Bob Bryan, Tony Everett, Charles Fannin, Steve Frazer, Hank Giles, Mark Grzesiek, Ron Jones, Larry Kilgore, John Krueger, Gary "Bear" Kubik, Dale Luebke, Donald Perhogan, Robert Rood, Jerry Thomason and Richard Waldecker



February 2014



Chapter 528 Web Site: www.vva528.org

Chapter Officers

President	Ron King
1st Vice President	Bob Paul
2nd Vice President	Leroy Paige
Secretary	Richard Waldecker
Treasurer	Bob Dew

Board of Directors

Bill Browning	Mike Steffes
Mike Dicker	Ben Tallman
Gary "Bear" Kubik	Joe Tebor
Gary Pritchard	Jerry Thomason

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Vaughn Hull
AVVA Representative	Dennis Waling
By-Laws	Bob Paul
Chaplain	Rich Whipple
Chapter Historian	Dick Waldecker
Color/Honor Guard	Bob Lamoureux
	Rick Ciaramitaro
Constitution	Gary Estermyer
ETABO	Gordon Dorey
Fundraising	Bob Dew

Government Affairs	John Fleming
Homeless Veterans	Bob Lamoureux
Membership	

Homefront Newsletter	
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	Bill Browning
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	Ron Wroblewski

POW/MIA	Al Kerbyson
Public Affairs	Don Dignan
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming
Scholarship	Dean Bell
	Don Dignan
	Ron King
Service Rep.	Aggie Little
Sportsman's Raffle	Dennis Bielskis
State Delegate	Gary Estermyer
State VVA Product Sales	John Riling
VAVS Deputy	Vaughn Hull
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 21st 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 or email Bill Boudreau at wboudreau@comcast.net. 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)**

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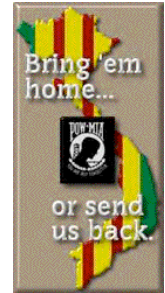
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