



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Pear Harbor Remembrance Day

Pearl Harbor Day remembrance ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Plymouth. More photos on page 10.

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President's Corner

First let me wish everyone a Happy New Year. 2012 is winding down and by all measures can be considered a very successful year. We as a chapter can be proud of our achievements' this past year. It truly has been my pleasure to serve as President these past two years. We have accomplished so much while working as a team. So many have gotten active, that each project has gotten a little easier than in the past. My hope is we can take that team work forward into the new year and build on our success.

Many thanks to all who helped make the Christmas Party a huge success. Special thanks to my lovely wife Chris and her co-chair Patti Bielskis; they put in a lot of work so we could all enjoy ourselves.

We completed our mission at Kohl's for our homeless Vets in Detroit. Once again when we delivered the items we were greeted with smiles and so many thank you's it truly makes it all worthwhile. Special thanks to the 15 or so members who shopped and went downtown Detroit to deliver the items. As a special treat this year, those attending were permitted to pass out many of these items to the Vets. What a great feeling.

In closing, I want to remind everyone we open nominations at our February meeting, with elections at our April meeting. I encourage each and every one of you to consider running for a position of leadership in the chapter. Our continued success and growth are contingent on strong leadership and working together.

Looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.



Semper Fi!
Jay Roberts, President
1st Batttalion
3rd Marine Division



Welcome Home!

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



Digger's Desk

Be sure to sign in before the meeting and any day you happen to visit the Post. Members of all groups (VVA, AVVA, VFW, Men's and Ladies Auxiliary) are eligible. The current jackpot would total about \$150 to the winner. It's a win/win situation.

TROOP SUPPORT

On Thursday November 29 we packed up 23 boxes of comfort items and snack foods (aka pogie bait) for the troops of D/2/16, 303MP and the RSC-N Engineer Cell. On hand were Jim Hodgson, Dennis and Patty Bielskis, Jerry Thomason, Vic Lukasiak, Don McLane, Steve Retherford, Dennis Waling, Ron King, Al Kerbyson, Linda Mentink, Mike Hucal, Bob and Shirley Caldwell, Jay Roberts, Jim Kimball and Chairperson Nancy Dignan and her chief assistant. The total shipping costs came to \$309.35 which many people had contributed to recently and Nancy even had \$18 left for the next troop shipment. Seeing that our funds were getting low, we had a couple of replenishment contributions before we left...ready for the next shipment.

Several of the boxes were designated "female only" since there are FET's attached to D/2/16 and females on the 303MP roster.

Below is a note from my old Vietnam Company Commander concerning the support we've given D/2/16 and a note from 1SG Roy Clark of D/2/16.

Don, Please share:

I hadn't heard from Delta's (they go by "Demons" now). 1SG Roy Clark directly in awhile, but received the mail below this morning which he asked shared with all Delta vets and families. Delta wives and Ft Riley wives and soldiers I've know for several years from other 2-16 units had told me Delta company was quite busy, is remote from the HQ and other units (like we were in FSB's) and adapting to operations with the winter setting in....snow on ground and more at higher elevation for operations, highs in 30's and lows in low/mid-teens and wind. Big change from the hot and humid temps a few months ago. All often mention how grateful Delta Demons are to have such a strong base of

Delta veteran support and are in awe of our concern and care for their loved ones/our brothers-in-arms. **A hand salute to Delta VN Vets and Delta vet recruited organizations (VN Vets, Legions, VFW's and Auxiliaries, churches, schools, businesses and lodges)** supporting. We've even had several Delta Iraq vet families mailing to Delta as well. Best we can tell, Delta vets and families have as always led the way over others in spades, by the support, sincerity and concern we have for our brothers. Delta VN vets began our efforts with Delta, the first to support a 2-16 deployed unit, shortly after the company deployed last May. Items we've sent are also shared with the four-soldier Army Female Engagement Team (FET) and in some cases, other small units or individuals attached for a short period. This tremendous support is something all concerned can be most proud of. My personal thanks to everyone in and affiliated with Delta vets who has stepped up to set the standard. This is a great lesson in camaraderie and leadership to these young soldiers, the age of our children or grandchildren, including the 1SG, Plt Sgts, Plt Ldrs and company commander. One of my goals has been to keep the deployed military in the forefront. For a few years, I've heard far too many comments from troops they believe the American public has forgotten them. From what I know, the Delta guys troops have received over 115 boxes from us. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all,
Ron/Delta 6

1SG Roy Clark's message:

"We recently received 15 kicker boxes of mail. Much of that was from several D Co supporters. We have received the knitted beanie hats, several boxes of goodies, and hygiene stuff. All the dudes are extremely thankful for the items, especially since we do not have a BX/PX anywhere close to our location.

Ron, I will say there is nothing generic about the thanks and appreciation from the Demon Soldiers. We are truly blessed to have as many supporters as we do. Please let everyone know that I am very sorry I do not express this enough. I am currently having some Soldiers clean a tent and build boxes to sort everything into. It will be a small Free-X and MWR. Please share with everyone they have my deepest gratitude for all they are doing."

Roy

(continued on page 3)

Keep bringing in troop support items. When we get enough, we'll make another shipment. We do good work.

Here is a partial list: ankle socks of various sizes, shampoo, body wash or Dial soap, tooth brushes, mouth wash is a biggie, tooth paste, toilet paper jerky, pringles, zingers, trail mix, slim jims, almonds and various nuts, all snacks except chocolate which will melt, 100 calorie packs are great, yogurt bars, fiber bars, gum (bubble packs, not sticks), Beef sticks, energy bars, powdered energy packets (Gatorade/Propel) for dehydration to put into water bottles, honey buns (especially like these), instant coffee, laundry soap (Tide tablets are good), fabric softener sheets, baby wipes, foot powder. Keep these and all our troops in your daily prayers.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

There are many events around this time of year. On December 7, there was a Pearl Harbor Day remembrance ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Plymouth followed by lunch at the Post. On December 8, the Chapter rang the bell for the Salvation Army. December 15 was our annual all organization Christmas party to include VVA, AVVA, VFW and Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries. The food and camaraderie was great. December 17 we went shopping at Kohl's department store for our visit to the Michigan Veterans Foundation-Detroit Veterans Center. It was a very sobering time, actually handing out clothes to the recipients who acted as though we had just handed them a bar of gold. If you have never visited this facility, it is eye opening. December 18 was our annual visit to the Ann Arbor VAMC, which about 20 members attended, to visit with the patients.

THANK YOU

Nancy and I would like to thank everyone who shared in our sorrow over the passing of Nancy's Mom. Whether it was a visit, donation, phone call, card, prayer, e-mail, or simply a sympathetic glance or nod of the head, we know you were thinking of our family and we appreciate everyone and all of you.

I hope to see you at the January meeting. Happy New Year. It's a great time to be a Veteran.



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



Kokomo

Paper work will be processed to Howard County at the end of January just as in the past. I've been trying to contact them to see how best to handle all of it in a proper manner and get some name changes for the Lots.



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



Burger School Christmas Carnival





Odds & Ends

Membership

We had 1 individual submit an application this past month. Mark Shemanski, Navy, has joined the chapter. Art Sawyer, Navy, is transferring his membership from Chapter 494, Bay City. Welcome Home Mark and Art and welcome to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 243 individual and 59 associate members.

Lapsed Members: As of December 22, 2012 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: Julius Passeri, John Phelps, John Stillman, Carmen Torchia, Bob Walkowiak

AVVA: none

Dropped From Roster: Steve Parkinson, , Donna Postula, Amy Rector

January VVA Renewals: Don McLane, Dan Newberry, Robert Taylor, Dale Wofford

January AVVA Renewals: Mike Karath
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.

Color Guard

The color guard performed an honor volley and Taps at the Pearl Harbor Day ceremony on December 7th at the Plymouth Veteran's Park. Nothing else to report for December and nothing at this time scheduled for January.

Chapter Raffle

There will be another drawing for a life membership at the next meeting. Entries are taken from the sign-in sheets at the monthly membership meetings and are limited to annual paid members only. Associate members are also eligible. The faster I replenish the fund from the 50/50 proceeds the more frequently we can have drawings. The last 2 months we have had 80+

members at our meetings. Come on out to the next meeting and see if you become our latest life member

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR



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



Life Touch Home Healthcare

My name is Joanna LaFleur, a current AVVA member who recently joined Chapter 528 to help educate our members on Veterans services and resources available. I work for Life Touch Home Healthcare, which is a skilled homecare located in Canton that specializes in serving Veterans and their spouses. We offer nursing care (including diabetes/blood pressure management, wound care, and medication management), physical and occupational therapy (which works on balance issues, difficulty walking, joint pain, and rehabilitation), home health aids to assist with personal care and light housekeeping, dietician, and medical social worker. These services are all covered 100% by Medicare, Tri-Care and many other insurances. We also work with you to see what other Veteran's resources we can assist with including: housekeeping, transportation, and other home help. Many people are unaware of the many services available to them in their home to help keep you independent and healthy. If you feel you may benefit from any of these services please call our office at [734-844-2100](tel:734-844-2100) and I would be happy to talk through your options and assist in any way possible.

Joanna LaFleur



Chaplain's Corner

A Message From God

(From Our Daily Bread daily devotional,
written by David McCasland)

In 1971, Ray Tomlinson was experimenting with ways people and computers could interact. When he sent a message from his computer through a network to a different unit in his office, he had sent the first e-mail. Now decades later, more than a billion e-mails are sent every day. Many contain important news from family and friends, but others may carry unwanted advertising or a destructive virus.

A basic rule governing e-mail use is: "Don't open it unless you trust the sender."

God has sent us a message in the Person of His Son, and we can trust the Sender. In the Old Testament, God spoke to His people through the prophets and many rejected God's Word. But it was all leading to this:

"God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds" (Hebrews 1:1-2). We may be awed by the inexplicable mystery of Almighty God entering our world as a baby, yet remain hesitant to embrace Christ fully and place our lives in His hands.

Christmas is the unforgettable message of love, redemption, and hope sent by God. Will you trust the Sender and open His message today?

Personal note: I am the Leader for the Western Wayne County Point Man (International) Outpost. On the Point Man website (www.pmim.org), this is what explains what we are about:

Outposts are led by Christian Vets who care deeply about veterans and their struggles. They fully understand the difficulties associated with returning home after a long and difficult deployment as well as the non-combat experiences. Outposts are places for veterans to talk, share and listen to others who have walked in their shoes. All Vets are welcomed regardless of what country they served with and

gender is irrelevant as both men and women have served and sacrificed for their respective countries.

I do want all of you to know, that if you ever need someone to talk to and there doesn't seem to be a neighbor, family member, etc. that you feel that would understand, please call me up and I will be available most any time to meet you for a beer, coffee, or whatever. I hope I have gained your confidence in keeping whatever is discussed, between you and me.



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



Ann Arbor VA Hospital 2012



State Council News

Gary Estermyer, delegate



The December 2, 2012 meeting was attended by 15 chapters with all the Officers present except for Treasurer Dennis Cohoon. President John Riling brought the meeting to order right at 10:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance and an opening prayer.

John welcomed everyone and spoke about the DC trip he took with members of Dearborn Chap. 267. He will contact Region 5 Director Sandie Wilson to inform her that we (Michigan State Council) will host the Region 5 meeting in June. John also reported we had received a \$3,000 check from the car program.

Vice President Tim Driscoll has service officer program DVD's available. We're asking for a \$5.00 donation for each. Tim also mentioned he had an incident with a deer recently which caused \$6,000 worth of damages to his car. Good thing he wasn't on a motorcycle!

Secretary Ray "Doc" Essenmacher reported the IRS is conducting an online survey for some chapters. The survey should be completed and returned.

Dudley Cogburn reported that Agent Orange related illnesses continue to affect the children of veterans. Agent Orange informational town hall seminars are encouraged throughout the state.

I reported that amendments and resolutions are now being accepted by National for the upcoming Jacksonville, FL convention in August. Mike Swift, VVA National Parliamentarian is also reviewing chapter bylaws. I think 528 opened the door on that subject.

Tim reported that he meets monthly with the Washtenaw County Veterans Council and many speakers have also attended to offer advice and services regarding education and employment opportunity. Over 5,000 veterans had been offered jobs following the Detroit Job Fair.

Jack Devine reported on the legislative front that many veteran related bills will die in committee if not brought out by December 13, 2012. A plan is moving forward to establish a state veteran's cemetery in the U.P.. Efforts are also moving forward to establish a third veteran's home in SE Michigan. Jack also is tracking the FY 2014 budget process for the VSO grants which could total \$2,900,000.00.

Duke Mayo reported VVA membership now stands at 4,314 and AVVA is at 590 in Michigan.

Bob Erickson reported 1,655 POW/MIA from RVN. Since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 it is reported that 928 Americans have been returned and identified.

John continues to scrounge for certain military pins and patches. If you have a specific request give him a shout. John also requested reports regarding the Holly, Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Doc reported on PTSD that military suicide attempts have resulted in adverse actions to the veteran. Those individuals can be disciplined and punished under USMJ – Article 134. The punishment can include a bad conduct discharge, thus a serious blow for benefit eligibility. Nearly 1 in 7 service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer from PTSD. Development of more effective treatment is a national priority and ethical obligation.

Tim reported that the Ann Arbor VA hospital continues to improve their services. They also have openings for volunteers to help run bingo on certain nights. There have been over ½ million visits to that facility during the past year.

Phil Smith, Service Director reported that due to the VA "transforming" its system delays in processing are occurring. Recently the Detroit VA completed 1,800 claims in a month, however 2,000 new claims were received. Phil has scheduled service coordinator training in January (Howell or Dearborn). This training is open to VVA and AVVA members.

I then spoke about the 3-digit raffle fundraiser for February. Help is needed to buy and sell these \$10.00 tickets. I have mailed tickets throughout the state.

February 17 will be the next meeting in Howell.



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



Christmas Activity Wrap-up

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Thank You to all of the members that came out on a great December Saturday to the Sam's Club in Canton. The results of our efforts were that we raised \$610.58 for this wonderful organization.

Burger Christmas Carnival

Another Thank You to everyone that showed up to visit with the students at the Burger School for Autistic Children. A special well-done to Bill Boudreau who once again brought his military hat collection. The children had a great time trying on the various hats and getting their pictures taken by Miss Bradley and other teachers.

Winter Clothing Drive

Our 7th Annual Winter Clothing Drive has been successfully completed. We had 17 members and Pete, a member of the First United Methodist Church of Garden City, at breakfast at Bob Evans!!! After breakfast we went down Ford Road to meet Karen who was a tremendous help in gathering all of the clothing items at Kohl's. Once again Lisa (the manager) and her staff made sure we got the best deals possible. Darrell and the President made a special trip during Thanksgiving week to purchase towels, bedding, etc. because Lisa told us about the special sale they had going at that time. We also sent a crew to Meijer's to make special purchases of soap, shaving items, etc. The retail value of the items that we took to the Detroit Veterans was just short of \$6,200!!! The group then separated to pick up items collected at the VFW Post in Plymouth and the clothing at the First United Methodist Church of Garden City. We then headed downtown to the Detroit Veterans Center to deliver the clothing. This year we were asked to hand out the items we brought to the Veterans, which was a first time for us. Where was Gordy when it was time to handout the underwear? As always the Veterans that work and live there were very appreciative. Tyrone Chatman pulled the troops together to give us a special thank you. On the way back from the Center, Pete remarked about how great the event is and how much he enjoyed himself. Thank you to all who helped in any way!!!

Our efforts added \$340 in Kohl-Kash and other donations that went toward the shopping trip for items purchased for the benefit of the Veterans at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital.

Through our efforts I am certain we brightened the lives of many people, thank you all!!!



John Fleming
92nd Finance Section
Cam Ranh Bay



Burger School

Helping out the students at Burger School are Bob Lamoureux, Greg Kremkow, Don Dignan, Joe Tebor, John Riling, Bill Boudreau and Art Sawyer. Below Frank Gilbo, John Fleming and Rico Ciaramitaro are shown with John, Bob and Bill.





DR. BOB'S FILES:

Bob Paul, USMC
1st MAW, MAG-12, VMA-225
Chu Lai 1965



LINEBACKER II, THE CHRISTMAS BOMBINGS

The first day of Linebacker II was December 18, 1972, five days after the Paris peace talks broke down. At 2:41 p.m., 129 B-52s took off in three waves from Anderson Air Force Base in Guam. The waves were made up of cells—groups of three B-52s that flew together for electronic countermeasure (ECM) integrity and targeting purposes. They had a large escort: the 7th Air Force and U.S. Navy: KC-135 refueling planes, F-4 fighter escorts, F-105 Wild Weasels (to attack surface-to-air missile, or SAM, sites), Navy EA-6 and EB-66 radar-jamming planes, search and rescue teams, and F-4 chaff planes. (Chaff planes are planes that release "chaff," strips of metal that are dropped to confuse radar.) On the first night, three B-52s were shot down. But 94 percent of the bombs were released over their targets. Because of the operation's size and the lengthy flights, the last planes from Day One were landing back at Guam as the first planes for Day Two were taking off. Crew debriefings were analyzed as quickly as possible but not quickly enough to incorporate changes for the second day's plans. So Day Two proceeded along the same lines as Day One. Targets included rail yards, power plants, and storage areas. And because of the low number of casualties on Day Two, operations for Day Three continued in the same way. This was to prove a fatal mistake. The American crews were learning the pattern, and were becoming complacent. Unfortunately, the North Vietnamese were also learning the pattern. On the third day, the waves of B-52s approaching Hanoi saw North Vietnam's MiGs in the distance. But rather than attack, the MiGs reported the Americans' heading, altitude, and air speed to ground forces. Heavy SAM activity and anti-aircraft artillery firing directly into the planes' paths resulted in the deadliest day of the operation: six B-52s were shot down. With the loss of the \$8-million bombers leading to congressional and public anger and calls to end the bombings, it began to look as though Hanoi might be able to hold off peace negotiations until Congress returned in January. Nixon, however, still extended the three-day action to an operation of "indefinite" length. Military planners had to find a way to succeed, and there were many problems to fix. The bomber waves were each 70 miles (113 kilometers) long. Nicknamed the "elephant walk," the long line was slow, predictable, and an easy target. The "chaff corridor" showed where the bombers would be headed. It was like the "Yellow Brick Road" for SAM operators. And after dropping their bombs, the B-52s left their targets in a steep 180-degree turn that made a large, bright flash on the enemy's radar screens. Although bomber cells date from World War II, they became essential to survival with electronic warfare. B-52s' ECM worked only when the cell remained together and retained their integrity. Commanders threatened court-martials for anyone who knowingly compromised cell integrity. This tough measure proved justified when two planes, lost on Day Three, had been without full ECM capabilities because they were missing the third plane in their cells (they had aborted for technical reasons). Evasive maneuvers, the best way to avoid SAMs but also a destruction of cell integrity, were forbidden. Evasive maneuvers also threatened to cause bombing mistakes, leading to civilian casualties. Bomb targeting needed bombs to be released at a certain altitude and location. If any components were changed, the bomb would be off target and might land on civilians. Radar navigators were also ordered to bring their bombs back if they were less than 100 percent sure they were on target, and all maps showed schools, hospitals and prisoner-of-war camps clearly marked.



In light of the 20,000 tons of bombs that were dropped on the citizens of Hanoi and Haiphong, there were relatively few casualties. Only 1,318 people were killed in Hanoi and 306 in Haiphong, a truly remarkable number. By comparison, during nine days of bombing on Hamburg, Germany, in 1944, less than 10,000 tons were dropped and 30,000 people died. North Vietnam spent the 36-hour Christmas stand down restocking their SAM arsenals. They hoped that if they shot down enough bombers and could hold strong until January, the U.S. Congress would reconvene and legislate the end of the war. U.S. Air Force planners spent the holiday completing plans for the next phase of the operation—the targets were airfields and SAM storage and assembly sites. By knocking out the air defenses, B-52 losses would be reduced. And the United States would have freedom of the skies, able to attack at will. December 26, 1972, was the day the new tactics were put into action. Crews were now allowed to take evasive maneuvers against SAMs except during the bomb run itself. The sharp post-target turns were changed to long, shallow ones. And most importantly, in place of the elephant walk, crews were given multiple flight paths they could follow to the targets that would still get them there at roughly the same time. The corridors of chaff became clouds—the chaff was dropped in large formations around the target, which were less likely to lead the enemy to the bombers. Day Eight was a success—Hanoi blinked and contacted Washington about resuming talks. But Nixon would not call off the bombings until talks had actually resumed. The final two days of Linebacker II encountered only one problem: a lack of suitable targets. Linebacker ended on December 30. On January 23, 1973, the cease-fire was signed, to take effect four days later. Many in the air force erroneously believed that if they had been allowed to run a similar bombing mission in 1965, the war would have ended sooner. They failed to recognize that in 1972, the war was winding to an end and the bombing was only the final push. Also, U.S. relations with China and the Soviet Union had changed in the intervening years, and bombing in 1965 would have encouraged them to join the fight, which perhaps would have escalated into a nuclear conflict. The terms of peace had also changed as the United States went from wanting victory to settling for an easy exit. The success of Linebacker II was part tactic, but mostly timing.

Cell Phones For Soldiers

As a proud sponsor of Cell Phones for Soldiers for 5 Years now, you have done such a commendable job collecting donations for our drive. Today, we shipped **1,054** cell phones and boxes and boxes of recyclable accessories to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Those 1,054 cell phones equate to **63,240** minutes of talk time to our troops. Altogether, the grand total of our efforts have reached **15,465** cell phones collected and donated totaling **927,900** minutes of talk time. We've almost hit the million mark in minutes donated! From Kuwait and Afghanistan and Iraq, that 927,900 minutes of talk time equals **\$6,495,300!** You are reading that correctly – **Six Million, Four Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Three Hundred Dollars!** **5,044 of the total phones shipped have come from Chapter 528's effort to support the program.** It's amazing to think that each and every one of the phones we have collected can make such a difference. Cell Phones for Soldiers and the Helping Heroes Home program just wanted to send along a note of thanks to all of you at Chapter 528 for your efforts and to let you know what you do is so appreciated by our troops and their families. Thanks to all of you that have participated in helping the cause and making someone's life special just sharing a phone call.

Hope you had a wonderful Holiday and with lots of treasures and simple pleasures ...

PS ... Don't forget if you have any veterans in need, they may be able to acquire some assistance through the Helping Heroes Home program. This program is for all veterans no matter what conflict they were in.

During the hustle and bustle of the holidays, Cell Phones for Soldiers wants to take a minute to let you know how much we appreciate your support and dedication to the charity's mission. Cell Phones for Soldiers could not assist the number of active duty military members and veterans without your help.

Thanks to you and your company's support, the charity has provided more than 168 million minutes of free talk time to our servicemen and women since 2004. And in just six months, Helping Heroes Home has assisted more than 150 veterans and their families with emergency needs. Since the beginning of November, Helping Heroes Home prevented eight veterans and their families from being evicted from their homes.

We look forward to a prosperous partnership in 2013 and welcome new and exciting ways to support our military men and women. Thank you again for helping our troops call home and for assisting veterans in need.

Have a great holiday season!

Lynn Dery
 Director of Realtor
 Services & Career Development
 RE/MAX Classic Office
 734-459-1010
 Fax 734-459-4411
ldery@remax.net



Ann Arbor VA Hospital - Dec. 18, 2012

Christy, Stacey, Mason Miss Michigan 1993 and Kirsten Haglund Miss Michigan and Miss America of 2008.

Bear's Den

A new year is here and surprise, so are all of us. It is a good thing. I hope to see all the members and their friends in the lounge in 2013. Let's recruit friends and neighbors. There are a lot of vets out there that could belong that do not even know about us.

Lounge Special for January will be Tacos for only a BUCK. Come in early to enjoy. We will have enough to go around since we learned from the last time. Leslie really likes to have a TACO BAR!!!

After this batch of flags, six hundred sixty flags will have gone out my office door. We like to get one and give one from an individual address. This can include businesses that have tattered 3 x 5 flags that you see each day during your travels. Let them know what we do. I hope everyone got a chance to see the walk of trees in Kellogg Park. Our trees looked great and many people were able to see that we are part of the community.

We now have a suggestion box in the lounge. All suggestions are welcome and will be considered. You do not have to sign them since we have a hand writing expert.

Thanks,
Bear



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



Burger School Christmas Carnival



Miss Michigan 1993, Miss Michigan 2012 and
Miss Washtenaw County

Members In Distress

Nancy Dignan's mother Genevieve Schoen passed away on November 27th.

Nancy Dignan's brother and only sibling, Paul, is home now after being hospitalized at Henry Ford in West Bloomfield and having a cancerous tumor removed from his colon.

Patti Brothers had to have gastric by-pass surgery on November 28th and then an additional surgery on December 12th for a hernia.

Walt Gluvna's daughter-in-law, Patricia Gluvna passed away on December 18, 2012.



WINTER WARMUP CHILI COOK-OFF

THE VFW AND THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE MAYFLOWER/LT. GAMBLE VFW POST 6695 ARE HOSTING A Chili Cook off at:

1426 S. MILL ST PLYMOUTH, MI
SATURDAY, January 12th from
5pm until 7pm.

ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI AND 3
VOTES FOR \$5 PER PERSON.



Contact Nancy Dignan at
734-525-0157 or email at
njd600@sbcglobal.net



WINTER WARMUP CHILI COOK-OFF



The VFW Ladies Aux. will be
hosting a Chili Cook off on
January 12th from 5pm-7pm.

Dust off those favorite chili
recipes and enter to win \$25,
\$15 & \$10. All are eligible to
enter the cook-off. There is
no fee to enter (\$5 all you
can eat chili and 3 votes).
We need every chili to be in
a crockpot.

VFW
Mayflower/Lt Gamble post 6695
1426 Mill St
Plymouth

To enter contact Nancy Dignan at
njd600@sbcglobal.net or call
734-525-0157



Burger School Winter Carnival

Photos courtesy of Debbie Bradley



 No. 213208
 


Great Lakes

TROPHIES & ENGRAVING

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HOMETOWN III

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Salvation Army Bell Ringing 2012



Photos courtesy of Ted Enright and Tom Brown.

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

January 2013

**A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 General Membership Mtg. 7 pm	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Board of Directors Mtg. 7 pm	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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



Calendar by Gary Estermyer

**VVA 528 Membership Meeting Monday, January 14, 2013 1426 South Mill St.
VFW Plymouth, MI Come on and join us! 7:00 p.m. (1900 hours)**

VFW Calendar For January

4th - Karaoke Night - 8:00 pm
7th - Ladies Auxiliary - 7:00 pm
8th - General Membership - 7:00 pm
12th - Chili Cook-Off - 5:00 to 7:00 pm
15th - Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
16th - Men's Auxiliary - 7:30 pm
18th - Steak Dinner - 5:00 to 7:00 pm
18th - Karaoke Night - 8:00 pm



January Birthdays

Richard Adis, Ronald Bator, Charles Bilyk, Patricia Brothers, Mike Bush, Lee Camileri, Bob Cheatham, Steve Cunningham, Patrick Doherty, Jim Dorey, Susan Dorey, Thomas Dorey, Art Esper, Bill Gravett, Johnnie Johnson, Larry Kijorski, Don King, Ronald King, Pat Klopschinsky, Aggie Little, Dick O'Hare, Raymond Pleisiewicz, Rick Popa, Michael Potochick, Phil Pursell, Don Shannon, Robert Spaw, Eugene Spurgess, Mike Steffes, Joseph Tebor, Dennis Waling, John Wallace, Walter Weber, Michael Wisinski, Dale Worcester, and J.R. Yarbrough



January 2013



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Chapter 528 Web Site: www.vva528.org

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President	Jay Roberts
1st Vice President	Rick Ciaramitaro
2nd Vice President	Bob Paul
Secretary	Ron King
Treasurer	Bob Dew

Board of Directors

Darrell Bazman	Gary Boucher
Bill Browning	Gary Pritchard
Don Dignan	Mike Steffes
Gary Kubik	Richard Waldecker

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AVVA Representative	Norma Demerly
By-Laws	Bob Paul
Chaplain	Rich Whipple
Chapter Historian	Dick Waldecker
Color/Honor Guard	Bob Lamoureux

Constitution	Rick Ciaramitaro
ETABO	Gary Estermyer
Fundraising	Gordon Dorey
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Homeless Veterans	John Fleming
Membership	Bob Lamoureux
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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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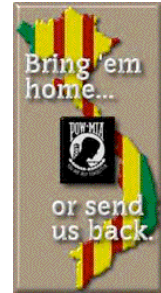
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