



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Plymouth Memorial Day Parade

VVA 528 Chapter President Ron King getting ready to march for the Plymouth Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony.

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President's Corner

Ron King

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

Welcome Home!

A very warm greeting to all as we head into the Summer season. This Summer, as in Summers past, is no different when it comes to our members getting involved in all kind of projects and programs. First, we were out in great numbers to support the Memorial Day Parade. The membership turnout and involvement was nothing short of outstanding, and our superb Color Guard, led by Rick Ciaramitaro brought a great deal of honor and respect to our chapter, as evidenced by the outpouring of community support and clapping as we marched by the spectators. Moreover, the keynote speech given by Matt Berta was superbly delivered and capped off a near-perfect parade.

Second, thanks to the continued hard work and dedication of Dave and Peggy Henwood, Jim and Arlene Austin, and Bill Browning, as well as several key volunteers, who will be thanked individually at a later date, our weekly Wednesday car shows are drawing in huge crowds and continue to delight all who attend them. The Wednesday's June 26, car show is a benefit show to support a fellow chapter Vietnam veteran, Gordon Segal, whose family is in need of our help. All proceeds from this show will be given to the Segal family. Please attend, if possible.

July 4, 2013 is quickly approaching, and we will once again march in the parade. This event is always warmly received and well supported by our members. This year, thanks to Dick Waldecker, we will have transportation available to those members who would prefer not to march the rather long route.

After the parade, please come to the Post to eat a delicious BBQ chicken dinner. There are several other events occurring throughout the Summer, too numerous to mention here, however, the important gatherings will be highlighted as they approach.

As in previous letters, I want to personally thank all who support our chapter activities, and those who attend our monthly meetings. We are only as strong as the members who show up, help out, and continue to come back. I am overwhelmed by the generosity in our chapter, as well as the unselfish approach each member has to helping each other when needed. Thank You!



The Bear's Den

Welcome Home from the Bear's Den!

The biggest fish from the "FISHING DERBY" will be ready for the September meeting, from what I've been told. If you did not see it, be at the September general membership meeting.

Don't forget the Chicken Barbecue on the 4th of July. We will be ready to serve at noon at the VFW.

The tickets for the M1 Grand are going fast. There are only 1000 tickets that will be sold. We will be doing just a few gun shows and it would be nice to have one of our own win it.

Good times can be had in the lounge. However, if you have a complaint, please see me or put it in writing. There is no need to discuss problems when the majority are there for a good time.

If you are eligible to be a dual member, please consider the long term benefit in our future. Stop by and say hello, drink some "BLONDE BEER" and enjoy. We even have Doctor Pepper on the gun.

Thanks! Bear



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



Ron King, President
38th Air Rescue &
Recovery Squadron
Ton Son Nhut AB, RVN
1971-1972



Flag Retirement Ceremony



Digger's Desk

LOUNGE SIGN-IN RAFFLE

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 most recent jackpot winner pocketed over \$500. It's a win/win situation.

REGRETTO INFORM

On Thursday June 7, we shipped 10 packages to Joe Morabito of the 10th Mountain Division. On Friday Nancy received a note from Joe thanking us for our past support. On Sunday June 9, Joe was killed by an insurgent dressed like an ANA soldier. He was there training Afghans to be police officers. He was just short of 55 years old. May he rest in peace.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed time, talent and treasure in support of the troops.

If you have a son/daughter, grandson/grand daughter, niece/nephew who is deployed overseas and might like some stateside support, get us a name and address and we'll be sure to get a package sent to them. Remember what it was like getting a package from home back in the day? Keep all our troops in your daily prayers.

MEMORIAL DAY

The citizens of Plymouth gave us a very strong, patriotic response, likely topping any greeting you received upon returning to the States way back when. "Thank you, thank you" resonated through the crowd up and down the street. What a difference a couple of decades makes.

CONCERT

There will be a patriotic concert in Kellogg Park at 7:30PM on July 4th. You can march with us in the parade in the morning, enjoy a barbecued chicken dinner at the Post in the afternoon and attend the concert in the evening.

VETERANS GOLF DAY

As many of you know, we have begun playing golf on Mondays and will continue throughout the summer. We have golfers of all levels but equal things out by balancing the talent...or lack of, on the teams. If you would like to get out with other members and enjoy a day outdoors, let me know.

DEROS

June 29 will mark 45 years since I left Vietnam and headed home to the land of the big PX. 45 years and it is still the happiest day of my life. WELCOME HOME !

I hope to see you at the July meeting. It's a great time to be a Veteran.



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



Veterans Golf Day



Odds & Ends

Membership

We had 3 individuals submit application this past month. John Thierry, Navy, Dennis Leahy, Army, and Robert Vanderhoff, USMC, have joined our chapter. We also have 2 former members, Donald Perhogan and Robert Rood, rejoin the chapter. Welcome Home John, Dennis, Robert V, Donald and Robert R and welcome to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 257 individual and 62 associate members.

Lapsed Members: As of June 22, 2013 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: Cornell Osier

AVVA: Patty Brothers, Betty Burkacki, Mike Palmer

Dropped From Roster: Richard Newberry

July VVA Renewals: Bob Caldwell, Richard Mamayek, Phil Wertanen

July AVVA Renewals: Jan Spittler

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

In June the color guard led the Salem Flag Day parade, provided military honors for a deceased WWII veteran and participated in a flag retirement ceremony at the VFW. Upcoming in July we will participate in the July 4th parade in Plymouth. The parade starts at 9:00 and all are welcome to join us. There will be a flat bed trailer available for those who cannot walk. We will meet at 8:15 in Bode's Restaurant parking lot.

Chapter Raffle

Congratulations go to Dennis Mozdzen. Dennis was the latest winner of the chapter raffle and will receive a life membership. There will be another drawing at the August meeting. For our new members here is summary of how the raffle works. The purpose of the raffle is to help increase the number of life members in the chapter: both VVA and AVVA. The chapter's proceeds from the monthly 50/50 raffle are set aside and when enough

is collected a raffle is held. Usually a raffle is held every 1 – 3 months. Entries are taken from the monthly meeting sign-in sheets and is limited to those who are not currently life members.

Fall Festival

This year the festival runs from September 6 – 8 with setup on the 5th. Because a suitable alternative could not be found before our application had to be turned in it was decided that we sell corn again this year. Hopefully with a little better preparation there won't be a manpower problem as we had last year. I will be the chairman again this year but I will not be available on Saturday so I need a volunteer to take my place. If you can help please contact me.



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



Flag Retirement Ceremony

Members In Distress

Longtime Chapter member, **Eric Schwaller**, housed in the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans for the past several years, passed away June 7.



State Council News

Gary Estermyer, delegate

Alpena V.V.A. Chapter 583 hosted the June 2, 2013 meeting. This followed their June 1st Town Hall Meeting on Effects of Agent Orange on Children, a separate report is available on that meeting.

All the officers except Treasurer Dennis Cohoon were present and 12 chapters were represented.

President John Riling started the meeting at 10:00 AM with the pledge and a prayer. He thanked Alpena Chapter 583 for hosting the Town Hall and this State Council meeting. John spoke about the upcoming Region 5 Conference during the weekend of July 12 - 14, 2013. ALL members are invited and urged to attend all or part of this conference. Hospitality room (\$10 charge) will be open at the Detroit Double Tree by Hilton Hotel (Ford Road / Southfield) on Friday night. Registration fee of \$10 will get you in for the numerous workshops and seminars on Saturday the 13th. A \$40 banquet buffet dinner and entertainment is planned for Saturday night. On Sunday morning numerous National V.V.A. candidates will be introducing themselves and talking about their vision for the future of V.V.A..

John also announced that he would seek updates and information from the Agent Orange Riders group regarding the effects of Agent Orange to veterans and their children.

Secretary Ray "Doc" Essenmacher reviewed the previous minutes and announced that his chapter, Bay City # 494, was conducting a gun raffle. First prize is an M-16 Vietnam Commemorative Rifle with display case, second prize is \$500 and third prize is \$200. Drawing date is December 1, tickets cost \$10 and I have 10 tickets available for sale. Doc also urged all delegates to ensure he gets a copy of their chapter election report as soon as possible. Chapter financial reports should be mailed to Treasurer Dennis Cohoon as well as to National.

I gave a brief Constitution report and reported on the upcoming Jacksonville, FL National Convention in August. A list of the proposed amendments and resolutions is available online at www.VVA.org. These proposals will be discussed at the Region 5 Conference in July. Brian Bobek, President of V.V.A. Chapter 154 spoke about their resolution to mandate National to provide PSA's informing veterans of their benefits. This resolution is not supported by National.

Sandie Wilson, Region 5 Director, also spoke about the Conference and workshops that are scheduled. She also plans to discuss issues such as where does National spend their money?

Sandie then reviewed the events of the Town Hall meeting with George Claxton reporting also. George promoted the use of their new A.O. bumper stickers to educate the public. Steve House, who also participated in the Town Hall meeting, spoke about his health problems due to his herbicide exposure during his Korea service and his trials and tribulations with the VA.

At this point I interrupted the meeting and led the delegates in a robust rendition of Happy Birthday for John Riling (63 on the 2nd) and Doc Essenmacher (64 on May 31st). Birthday cake was enjoyed by all.

Bob Erickson of Holland Chapter 73 reported he is seeing an increasing number of younger veterans seeking information on many subjects. As a certified service officer he assists them as well as he can, he noted that frequently he is told the VFW and American Legion are not available to help them.

Betty Pike, AVVA President reported they will be at the Region 5 Conference and she invited all chapter AVVA members to also attend. Betty also announced that Cheboygan AVVA is the first chapter in Michigan to incorporate.

John, Sandie and Brian all commented on the Veterans Court project throughout the state. Mentors are needed in those court areas. Each chapter in those court districts are encouraged to get involved and assist however they can.

The next two State Council meetings are tentatively scheduled at the Howell American Legion on Sunday, September 29th and Sunday, December 1st, 2013.



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



TOWN HALL MEETING - EFFECTS OF AGENT ORANGE ON CHILDREN

Saturday, June 1, 2013 10:30 A.M. **Gary Estermyer, V.V.A. 528 delegate**

Sponsored by: Agent Orange Riders - Alpena Chapter # 1, Alpena V.V.A. Chapter 583,
Cheboygan V.V.A. Chapter 274, V.F.W. Posts 2496 & 3890, A.L. Post 65

Hosted by: V.F.W. Post 2496, Alpena, MI

Speakers: Sandie Wilson – V.V.A. Region 5 Director / National V.V.A. Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee
George Claxton – National V.V.A. Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee
Steve House – Korea veteran
Jennifer Hardacre – daughter of Terry Lynch, 25 Inf., deceased Vietnam veteran
Tracy & Jamie Heath – Ojibwa Tribe members, offered Native American honoring & healing ceremony for all veterans and presented tribal staff

Special guests: Tony Davis and Kathy McGraw of the Odawa Tribe

Special Event: “Michigan Moving Wall” provided by V.V.A. Chapter 154, Roseville, MI

Welcome and opening remarks by Robert Cummings, A.O. Riders & V.V.A. 583 member

Sandie Wilson began her talk by reviewing the history of the use of defoliants and herbicides containing trace amounts of the toxic contaminant dioxin. Its two restricted purposes were to destroy crops and to destroy vegetation. Herbicides used in Vietnam include; Agent Purple, Agent Pink, Agent Green, Agent Orange, Agent White, Agent Blue, dinoxol, trinoxol and diquat. Agent Orange was used from 1965 – 1970 and made up 80% of all herbicides used in Vietnam.

In-country veterans may be eligible for disability compensation and health care benefits for diseases that the VA has recognized as associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides. Veteran's children and spouse may also be eligible for benefits from the VA.

The growing list of presumptive diseases include: amyloidosis, chronic B-cell leukemia's, chloracne, diabetes type 2, Hodgkins's Disease, Non-Hodgkins's lymphoma, multiple myeloma, Parkinson's, Peripheral neuropathy, porphyria cutanea tarda, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers and soft tissue sarcomas. Please check out : www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/diseases.asp for further information. Spina bifida, cleft palate, congenital heart defects and hypospadias are some of the many common illnesses women veterans children suffer from. More information on VA presumptions for children and Korean veterans can be found at: www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/birth_defects.asp.

George Claxton has been involved in the study of the effects of Agent Orange/dioxin for over 30 years. He is V.V.A.'s expert in the field. He shared a lot of technical information regarding his studies and he vowed to continue his studies and advocate for veterans and their children.

Steve House, U.S. Army, is a Korea veteran who served in-country in the late 1970's. He was a heavy equipment operator who actually buried full and empty herbicide containers. He now suffers from multiple dioxin ailments. He is one of the few living comrades he served with in his company in Korea. He has been fighting with the VA to prove his case regarding that toxic exposure duty. He vowed to continue his mission also.

Jennifer Hardacre also suffers from multiple illnesses due to her father's service in Vietnam. Three of her children are also affected with birth defects. She is proud of her deceased fathers' service but extremely disappointed with the governments' handling of veterans and their children regarding their health problems.

In my opinion the Alpena group did an outstanding job in hosting this meeting. Wayne Trapp, Bill Walton, Ed Dahn and many others deserve a loud “At-A-Boy” for their assistance in making this meeting a success. The 80 – 90 people in attendance gained a lot of information about the effects of Agent Orange exposure. Hopefully they will do their part to promote awareness of this issue to help not only the veteran but future generations as well.



Chaplain's Corner

Listening to the Father's Heart

I was reading a devotional a few mornings ago, and came upon something I'd like to share with you.

I have been reading Os Hillman's book "Listening to the Father's Heart" and what I was reading really "tugged" at my heart.

Os writes in his Introduction: Every human being wants to know that he is known by His creator. If we are fatherless, we are orphans. If we know we have a father, we are sons and daughters. God told his own Son, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Even Jesus had to know that He was loved by His Father.

What would our Heavenly Father say to you if you met with him each morning? Well, I believe He would express His heart toward you. We know from the scripture that God delights in His sons and daughters. *"The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing". (Zephaniah 3:17)*

The following is the devotional for June 18. Os uses the word "Son" as God speaking to us, since we are His sons!

"Son, isn't it a great feeling to have a buddy who is willing to cover your back? Someone who will defend you when others wrongfully judge you? In war, you must have cover when entering enemy lines. We all need brothers and sisters who will walk with us on our journey and stand with us through tough times.

Treasure these friendships. But above all else, know that there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

My Son Jesus and I are that friend for you. I no longer call you a servant, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have

called you friend, for all things that my Son heard from me he has made known to You (John 15:15). So my son, remember that we've got your back. Be confident in our friendship."

Proverbs 18:24

"A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

John 15:13-14

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."



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



Plymouth Memorial Day Ceremony Photo Courtesy of Dennis Bielskis



DR. BOB'S FILES:

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

Since we're in the heat of summer I
thought some information about our
favorite libation was in order:
EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW
ABOUT BEER AND DIDN'T.
Stay Thirsty My Friends



Beer: is produced through the alcoholic fermentation of a malted cereal, usually barley malt, with or without other starchy materials, to which hops have been added. Beer or "liquid bread" was known to many ancient civilizations (such as the Egyptians), dating back to 4,000 BC.

Draught/Draft: is a beer that has been served from, or conditioned in a cask (barrel). The term has been used misleadingly on "canned" and "bottled" beer, to suggest the taste is similar to beer from a cask. Draught beer is usually unpasteurized and suffers no loss of taste due to boiling. It should be consumed after being "tapped" and is generally truer to the flavors of the ingredients, as pasteurization exposes the beer to heat and changes the flavor profile. Draught beer should be refrigerated between 35°F and 40°F. Above this temperature, beer may become wild or turn sour and cloudy in a few days. A keg of draft beer should last 20-30 days before it loses its fresh brewery taste and aroma.

Ingredients: Typically, beer is made from water, hops and fermented by bitterness that balances the sweetness of the malt and has a mild antibiotic effect that favors the activity of the brewer's yeast over less desirable organisms. Enzymes in yeast, in a process called fermentation, metabolize the sugars extracted from the grains, producing many compounds including alcohol and carbon dioxide. Dozens of strains of natural or cultured yeasts are used by brewers, roughly sorted into three kinds: 1. Ale (Top Fermenting), 2. Lager (Bottom Fermenting), 3. Wild Yeasts

*** * * Types of Beer * * ***

Mild is generally a dark beer developed in the mid-19th century as a cheaper and sweeter alternative to the dark ales and porters present at the time. For this reason, mild was the most popular draught beer of this period. Once commonly found on tap, mild has almost completely disappeared from British pubs.

Bitter is a type of ale, originally derived from pale ale. A stronger version has become a popular bottled beer. The main ingredient is malted barley, with hops only added to improve the keeping properties and give a distinctive smell and taste. Bitter covers a wide variety of taste, aroma and appearance. These include copper, malty, dry and sweet, while some have the aroma of hops.

Pale Ale is generally a light beer, similar to a light mild ale, only drier and with a distinctive hoppy taste. English pale ales are golden or copper colored rather than pale. The term pale is used to distinguish them from dark porters.

Porter is a type of ale which has a malting aroma and hop bitterness. It is generally strong and dark and brewed with soft rather than hard water. It is often said that the precursor of today's porter was made by Ralph Harwood, a publican in East London in 1722. Tired of blending various beers from different casks to suit patron's tastes, Harwood produced an ale that reduced serving time, decreased the dependence on various beer stocks and increased profits. This variation was known initially as the "Entire" and was embraced by London's working class, particularly porters (hence the common name). An influx of German immigrants and breweries to the eastern United States, produced a bottom-fermented erosion of Porter as part of their portfolio throughout the 1800's. Pennsylvania had many offerings of Porter including Yuengling, Stegmaier, Neuweiler's, Esslinger's and Valley Forge (to name a few). Extra-strong porters called Stout-Porter and eventually became stout. During the first world war in Britain, shortages of coal led to restrictions on the production of dark malt and hence stout and porter. This allowed Irish brewers such as Guinness to fill the market need and gain market dominance, a position that they continue to enjoy to this day.

Stout is a dark beer made using roasted malts and is a variant of porter beer. Porter was first recorded as being made and sold in London in the 1730's. It became very popular across Britain and Ireland. The first use of the word Stout was the Stout-Porter brewed by Guinness of Ireland in 1820, although Guinness had been brewing porters since 1759. Stout differs from porter in being darker and richer through the use of more roasted malt. As such, the two beers are considered distinct. There are several kinds of stout including Irish (Dry), Imperial, Sweet and Oatmeal.



records request online through [eVetRecs](#). You must still print and sign a signature verification form (and mail or fax it), because federal law requires a signature on all records request. However, completing the application online can be easier and faster than completing SF Form 180.

It's not the amount of supporting documentation that's important, but whether that documentation supports your claim. The best supporting evidence is:

Specific: Your documentation and witness statements should relate directly to the benefit you're claiming and contain as much specific information as possible. Exact dates and times are more persuasive than "sometime around March of 1976." A doctor's report that says, "The patient is suffering from a wound that was caused by shrapnel injury, consistent with wounds often received in combat zones," is a whole lot better than, "The patient hurt his knee."

Verifiable: Anyone can write something on a piece of paper and sign it. That doesn't necessarily mean it's true. The evidence you provide should be verifiable. That means you should be able to support it from other sources. If you claim you were injured during a combat operation in Afghanistan, you should be able to provide evidence that you were actually deployed to Afghanistan (deployment orders, unit rosters, and so forth).

Authoritative: A witness statement signed by your commanding officer or platoon leader is going to carry more weight than a witness statement signed by your best combat buddy. Statements signed by medical corpsmen or doctors about treatment received in the combat zone are similarly effective. For example, if you submit a sworn statement from your former commanding officer that says, "On July 17, 2003, my unit was undergoing simulated combat training at Dicklehead Army Post. I personally witnessed a tank run over Private Hurtsalot's foot. I immediately summoned medical care, and he was transported to the medical facility with a crushed foot," that would be acceptable documentation. On the other hand, if you submit 20 sworn witness statements, which all state something along the lines of, "We were practicing war games a few years ago, and tanks were running around everywhere. I didn't actually see his foot get run over, but I remember hearing him scream, and the next day I noticed a bandage on his

Continued on next page



Ted's View from the Backroom

Military medical records and veterans benefits eligibility

Anyone who has ever spent even one day in the military has a military medical record. The first entry in your medical record is the details of the physical examination you underwent as part of the process of joining the military. After that, every single time you received medical care from a military medical facility, the details were entered into your military medical record. The VA relies heavily on military medical records when making determinations as to whether you have a medical condition that was caused or aggravated by military service.

You can request a copy of your military medical record by sending a written request to the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100.

If you plan to file a claim for medical benefits or disability compensation with the VA, you don't need to request a copy of your military medical record. When you file a claim, the VA will request the record automatically as part of the claims process. Likewise, if you've ever filed a claim for disability benefits from the VA, it already has a copy of your medical records. You can request a copy from the VA regional office having jurisdiction over your claim.

Get replacement copies of your veterans benefits service eligibility

The National Personnel Records Center maintains copies of all active-duty and reserve military records. You can request a copy of any portion of your military records, including your DD Form 214/215, by submitting a signed copy of SF Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records. You can download this form from the [National Archives website](#). Mail the completed form to the National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Ave., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. You can now complete a

foot,” that probably wouldn’t be very helpful to your case.

Asking the VA to assist in proving your eligibility

Under the law, the burden of proof for benefit eligibility falls directly on your shoulders. However, you don’t have to do it all alone. In the year 2000, the thoughtful folks who roam the halls of Capitol Hill got together and passed a new law, obligating the VA to assist you in gathering supporting documentation. This is referred to as the VA’s duty to assist.

First and foremost, the law requires the VA to tell you, in simple words, exactly what evidence is required to support your claim. That’s a big help in itself.

The law also requires the VA to make a “reasonable effort” to obtain the evidence for you. The standard by which the VA must apply this is slightly different depending on the sources of the records.

- **Federal records:** The VA must make a continued reasonable effort to try to obtain those records. The VA can stop pursuing the records only after it is reasonably sure the records don’t exist or that a continued effort to get the records would be futile. If the VA comes to this determination, the law requires the agency to notify you and inform you of possible alternatives.
- **Nonfederal records:** The VA must make a reasonable effort to get records such as private doctor records or sworn witness statements. The law requires the VA to send a request for such documents, and if it doesn’t receive them within two months, it must make another request. If there is still no response, the VA must continue to request the records, unless it has reason to believe that the records are unobtainable.

For nonfederal records, you should make every attempt to obtain them yourself, especially medical records. It’s not uncommon for medical facilities to ignore such requests unless they come from the patient. Additionally, some of these facilities charge a

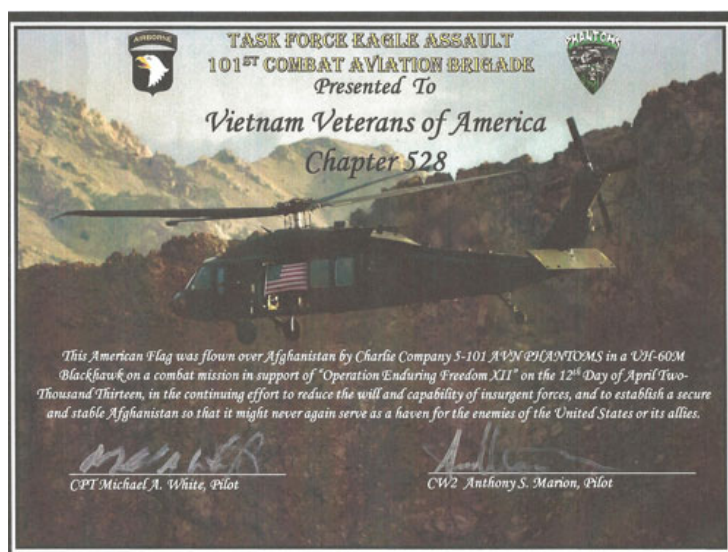
fee to copy the records, and the VA isn’t allowed to pay such fees.

I hope anyone of you can use this information, and don't be afraid to file a claim. I waited till I felt I had a good claim, come to find out I could of received compensation 10 years ago at minimum.



Ted Enright

Apache Troop "Scouts"
7th/1st Air Cav Sqdn
1st Aviation Brigade
Vinh Long 1971 / 72



101st Combat Aviation Brigade



Dennis Bielskis throwing tattered flags into the fire as Al Kerbyson watches.



DALAT L.D. #4, Sir

Welcome Home Chapter 528!

It's almost time for the 4th of July and summer is in full swing. I'm hoping everyone will have a great 4th of July as I will be in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for the 4th. We will be doing a bike trip. I'm going to cross off an item from my Bucket List by flying through the trees on a zipline at Dollywood and checking out one of my favorite Gospel groups, the Kingdom Heirs Quartet who works there during the summer. Probably the most important thing about going there is to reunite with my Mess Hall cook, Buffalo Bill Bailey, from Clarksville, Tennessee. He served at the same time that I did in Vietnam on Lang Bian Mountain. He is only 1 of 2 people that I have been able to make contact with after 42 years that was on the Mountain in "69" and "70". I am looking to having a great time and enjoying the ride there and back.

I don't have any more to share with you at this time so have a great 4th of July weekend and a great day everyday.

BTW, keep doing what you all are good at and stand tall together as proud members of Chapter 528.

Golfers Against Diabetes and Cancer



Leroy Paige
RVN 69-70
1st Signal Brigade



John Fleming
92nd Finance Section
Cam Ranh Bay



MEMORIAL DAY 2013



Bob Lamoureux, Commander and Rick "Rico" Ciaramitaro, Deputy Commander /Drill Sergeant led our Chapter during the Plymouth Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. *Photos courtesy of Tom Brown.*



Gary "Ouch" Boucher brought his Jeep for the parade. The Ladies Auxiliary are pictured with Gary's Jeep.



Canton Memorial Ceremony

Bill Bresler | staff photographer Canton Observer

The Canton Memorial Ceremony took place on Memorial Day. VVA Chapter 528 member and veteran John Spencer led the Ceremony. Chapter 528's Color Guard took part in the Ceremony.

Flag Retirement Ceremony



Dennis Bielskis leading the Flag Retirement Ceremony with members from the Boy Scouts.



Al Kerbyson watches Bob Lamoureux tossing in an old, tattered "Old Glory"



Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695

1426 S. Mill St., Plymouth, MI 48170

734-459-6700

~DRAWING~



1st Prize: Commemorative M-1 Garand #WW0147

2nd Prize: SKS 7.62X39

3rd Prize: \$100.00

DRAWING 11/11/2013 ~ 12:30 PM @ POST

If 300 tickets are not sold, will revert to a 50/50 drawing

Winner is responsible for all taxes

1000 Tickets were printed

Ticket Price: \$10.00

License #R21530



VFW Post 6695 and VVA 528's American Flag Exchange Program: This program has been very successful since 2009. We replace old, tattered flags throughout the community with new ones. Each year we have a ceremonial flag burning event with community Boy Scout troops to dispose of the old flags properly. *Photos courtesy of Patty and Dennis Bielskis*

50/50

**Cruz'n 528 2013**DOOR
PRIZES

Trailer Trash Car Club

Presents:

**Car Shows on Wednesdays
starting May 1, 2013 through
October from 5PM to 8PM**

**Location: VFW Post 6695
1426 S. Mill St. (Lilley Rd.)
in Plymouth, MI
(Northwest corner of Ann Arbor Rd & Mill St)**

**Bring the family out and have fun
Cool Classic Rides, Good Food & Cold Refreshments
will be on hand as well**



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Music courtesy of DJ Koz



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528



"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

July 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Cruz'n 528 VFW pk lot 5-8 pm	4 Independence Day Plymouth Parade	5	6
7	8 General Membership Mtg. 7 pm	9	10 Cruz'n 528 VFW pk lot 5-8 pm	11	12 Mich council Region 5 Con. Double Tree	13 Mich council Region 5 Con. Double Tree
14 Mich council Region 5 Con. Double Tree	15	16	17 Cruz'n 528 VFW pk lot 5-8 pm	18	19	20 Joy Rd Pickup 0830 hours Meet at UAW Hall
21	22	23 Board of Directors Mtg. 7 pm	24 Cruz'n 528 VFW pk lot 5-8 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Cruz'n 528 VFW pk lot 5-8 pm			



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



Calendar by Gary Estermyer

**VVA 528 Membership Meeting Monday, July 8, 2013 1426 South Mill St.
VFW Plymouth, MI Come on and join us! 7:00 p.m. (1900 hours)**

VFW Calendar For July

2nd - Ladies Auxiliary - 7:30 pm
4th - Chicken BBQ
5th - Karaoke Night - 8:00 pm
9th - General Membership Mtg. - 7:00 pm
16th - Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
18th - Men's Auxiliary - 7:30 pm
19th - Karaoke Night - 8:00 pm



July Birthdays

Dennis Aten, Terry Atkins, William Brisbois, Dave Cole, Richard Corrow, Mike Dicker, Wallace Dixon, Gordon Dorey, James Harvey, Edward Hopkins, Mike Hucal, Giovanni Iaquina, Ken Karp, James Kimball, Stephanie Krawcke, Timothy LaGrow, Bob Lamoureux, Victor Mamayek, Phil Menendez, Stephen Olson, James Pawlukiewicz, William Ray, Richard Schmidt, William Tackett, Robert Taylor, Ken Tregar.

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Kokomo

Kokomo - Lots 239E- 244E and 339E- 344E. We no longer hold the lot #'s 720 & 721E it less than 3 months till the Reunion, so I need to know if you are going this year. If you are new to going to this event. I need to know ASAP! On Aug 10th, I will be making and selling dog tags at the "Car Show for Veterans" which will be at the Plymouth VFW from 9 am to 3 pm. All Proceeds made that day will be donated to the Veterans as Dave Henwood sees fit.



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



Editor's Message

I am asking all members who are currently receiving their newsletter by postal mail and who have access to internet service, to please choose not to have our newsletter mailed to you. Each newsletter costs us nearly \$1.00 per issue to publish and mail. Please, help save us money for our chapter. The money saved can be spent on more important matters. Also, our online version of our newsletter is in color. One may contact Dale Luebke either by emailing or calling him and let Dale know of your new choice.

Dale Luebke" dale68us@yahoo.com or 734-395-5144



Tom Brown, Editor
HDG III Corps
2nd & 44th Pershing
Ft. Sill, OK





July 2013



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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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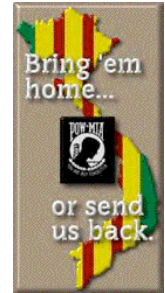
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