



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Post Clean-up

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Tom Brown - Editor & Publisher
 Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
 Dennis Bielskis- President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar
 Patty Bielskis - Photos

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Jim Hodgson - Chief
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**"Never Again Will One Generation
 of Veterans Abandon Another!"**

Welcome Home!

President's Corner

I want to thank you folks for making it easy for my first meeting as the Prez. Everything was going along fine until someone stood up and told me I did not check for guest. I want to thank you for electing me as Chapter President. A big year is coming up with the 50th commemorative celebration in September, and the Sportsman's Raffle in October. We have just over 1000 tickets sold so far; with Gander Mountain going out of business it put us in a bad spot. The Sportsman's Committee decided that we will give Visa gift cards in lieu of the actual prizes there by giving the winners the chance to go anywhere and redeem the prize. It was tested by Gene Spurgess while selling tickets. He explained it to the people and they liked the idea. We will no longer be selling at Gander Mountain as the Liquidator will not allow it. I will be sending out an updated flyer and a paper to go over the signs that we have made up telling about the changes. Till next month!



Dennis Bielskis, President

Berlin Brigade, 11th Armored Cav
 2nd Squadron, F-Troop &
 Cam Ranh Bay A-Cav & Long Binh
 1969 - 1971





Digger's Desk

UPCOMING

Karaoke on the 1st and 3rd Friday. Car Shows will run every Wednesday from 5:00PM-8:00PM. Memorial Day will begin with the Plymouth Parade that should step off at 9:00AM on Monday May 29 with a ceremony following at Veterans Park followed by a luncheon at the Post.

FISHING DERBY

Saturday, June 10 will mark 25 years of working with Wayne County Parks & Recreation on the Annual Kids Fishing Derby. This is a sensational community service function that is enjoyed by hundreds of kids and parents every year. Contact Tom Brown for further information.

POPPY DAY SALES

Thanks to all individuals and groups who put in volunteer hours and helped to raise over \$13000 for the VFW Member Relief Fund. This was a great crossover effort that exemplifies our motto "Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another". This motto goes back in time as well as forward. Think about it.

SUPERCENTER CARWASH FUNDRAISER

We will continue our arrangement with Plymouth Super Center, 400 Ann Arbor Rd. (one block west of Lilley), on behalf of VFW Post 6695. For every silver or gold level carwash purchased, Post 6695 will receive one dollar; for every platinum carwash purchased, the Post will receive two dollars. To activate this donation, pull into the carwash up to the dial wash kiosk and select:

- 1)Charity Carwash
 - 2)Enter the code for the Post which is conveniently "6695"
 - 3)Choose the level of carwash desired, i.e., silver at \$7, gold at \$10 or platinum at \$14.
 - 4)Insert your bills and the appropriate amount of change will be returned.
 - 5)Enter carwash area as usual.
- This can also be coordinated with a gasoline purchase.

The Super Center owner, Drew Wolford, will cut a check to the Post once a month for the designated amount. This project will continue all year long. It doesn't get any easier than that. We have some great Veteran supporters in town.

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



Don Dignan
D/2/I6 "Rangers"
1st Inf. Div.
1967-1968



Wayne County Fishing Derby 2016



Odds & Ends

Membership

There was 1 application for membership this past month. Lawrence Willenborg, Army, joined our chapter after last month's meeting. Tom Moscardelli, lapsed AVVA member has rejoined our associates. Welcome Larry to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 281 individual and 83 associate members. Of these we have 240 life VVA and 48 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of May 22, 2017 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: Dan Dreger, Ed Hopkins

AVVA: Paul Tripp, Mohamed Ben Skander

Dropped from Roster: Dennis Shrewsbury

June VVA Renewals: Les Brookins, Brian Metzger, Paul Yeagy

June AVVA Renewals: Nancy Anderson, Chris Pope, Chris Roberts

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.

Life Memberships

Just a continuing reminder of the new AVVA 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). The life membership fee for VVA members is \$100 regardless of age.

Chapter Raffle

Congratulations to Roger Shanks, the 80th winner of the chapter raffle and winner of a life membership. There will be another drawing at the June membership meeting. Just a reminder when you come to the meeting, make sure you put your name on the sign-in sheet. Entries for the drawing are taken from that sheet each month.

Fall Festival

Although the Plymouth Fall Festival is still 4 months away our booth application had to be turned in last month. Since the festival made a profit last year our booth fee was cut in half and since we have our own liability insurance we don't have to purchase any for the festival. This saves the chapter \$450. We will again be selling pop, water and chapter merchandise.

Weekly Car Show

The Wednesday car shows resumed at the Post on May 10th. Come on out to enjoy some sweet rides, great oldies music, good food and cold refreshments all summer long. All proceeds will be going into the parking lot fund.



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



VFW Post 6695 Cleanup



Chaplain's Corner

From Our Daily Bread
 Author: Randy Kilgore

I've always been impressed by the solemn, magnificent simplicity of the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. The carefully choreographed event is a moving tribute to soldiers whose names, and sacrifice, are "known but to God." Equally moving are the private moments of steady pacing when the crowds are gone: back and forth, hour after hour, day by day, in even the worst weather.

In September 2003, Hurricane Isabel was bearing down on Washington, DC, and the guards were told they could seek shelter during the worst of the storm. Surprising almost no one, the guards refused! They unselfishly stood their post to honor their fallen comrades even in the face of a hurricane. Underlying Jesus's teaching in Matthew 6:1-6, I believe, is His desire for us to live with an unrelenting, selfless devotion to Him. The Bible calls us to good deeds and holy living, but these are to be acts of worship and obedience (vv.4-6), not orchestrated acts for self-glorification (v.2). The Apostle Paul endorses this whole-life faithfulness when he pleads with us to make our bodies "a living sacrifice" (Romans 12:1).

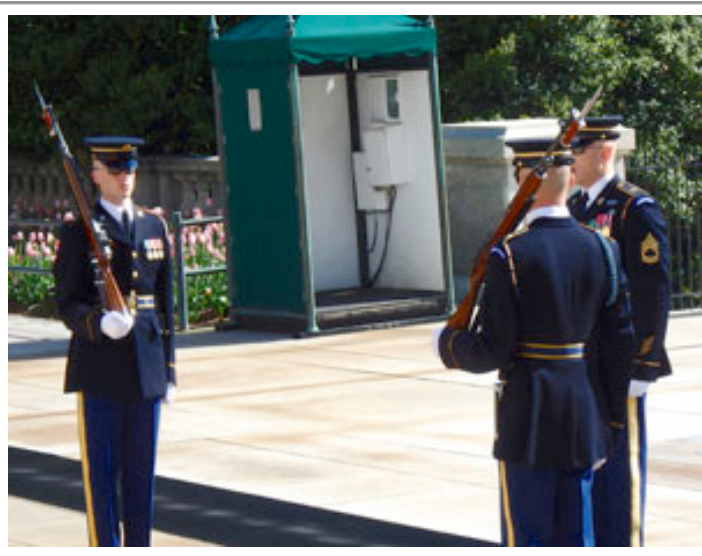
May our private and public moments speak of our devotion and wholehearted commitment to You, Lord!

The more we serve Christ, the less we will serve self.

Chaplain's notes: Let's all remember Bruce Benyo in our prayers, still in the Ann Arbor VA Hospital recovering from surgery. Make it a point to visit when you have an appointment at this VA. Prayers for Al Sneath and his family in the passing of his mother earlier in May. Let it be known that Larry has suffered a stroke on May 23, and that he'll most likely be in St. Joe's for a few weeks. Prayers for a speedy recovery.



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



Changing of the Guard taken April 26, 2015 during VVA Chapter 528 Trip to Washington D.C.

Photo courtesy of Tom Brown

Plymouth Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony







In Service to America



Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528



2017 Sportsman's Raffle

40 Prizes To Be Awarded - Winning Tickets Go Back Into Hopper!

WWW.VVA528.ORG

Armalite Eagle-15 Centerfire Rifle	Tenpoint Titan SS Crossbow package
Marlin Model 336 Bl Centerfire Rifle	Wicked Ridge Warrior HL ACU-52 Crossbow package
Ruger American Rifle Copper	Shimano Fishing Package
Camping Package	CVA Apex Muzzleloader Black Powder 50-Cal interchangeable Barrel Rifle
Mossberg Patriot Rifle Package	Rossi R92 Centerfire Rifle
Ruger American Rifle Copper	LG 55" 1080 P Smart LED TV
Mossberg Patriot Centerfire Rifle Package	LG 55" 1080 P Smart LED TV
Bear Threat Ready-to-Hunt Bow Package 60-70 lbs	Remote controlled Phantom 3 Standard Drone
Ruger American Rifle Compact Rifle	LG 55" 1080P Smart LED TV
Shimano Fishing Package	All in one HP PC W/integrated 23" Display
Browning AB3 Hunter Centerfire Rifle	LG55" 1080 P Smart LED TV
DPMS Panther Arms Oracle Rifle	HP 17.3" notebook PC W/AMD Quadcore A8-7410
Savage Model 11/111 Hunter XP Rifle Package	LG55" 1080 P Smart LED TV
Camping Package	Canon 18 MP CMOS APS-C DSLR Kit
Mossberg Flex 500 Hunting Shotgun	LG 55" 1080P Smart LED TV
Remington Model 870 Express Shotgun Combo	Canon 18MP CMOS APS-C DSLR Kit
Benelli Supernova Comfortech Shotgun	LG 55" 1080P Smart LED TV
Weatherby SA-08 Synthetic Shotgun	Remote Controlled Abrams M1A2 Tank & Samsung Tablet
Mossberg all purpose shotgun	LG 55" 1080P Smart LED TV
Bear Archery Finesse Ready-to-hunt Bow Package	LG 55" 1080P Smart LED TV

Additional in-house raffles will be available.

**All Prizes are awarded through Gander Mountain, Novi, MI.,
ABC Warehouse Canton, MI and Excel Drones Garden City, MI.**

***** FREE FOOD AND DRINK - RAFFLE TICKET REQUIRED FOR ENTRY *****

Drawing: Sunday, October 8, 2017 - 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.

\$20.00 (US) per Ticket - Need Not Be Present To Win.

(Must Be 18 Years Old to Purchase Tickets)

*Prize winners responsible for taxes and all pertinent regulations.

\$20.00

\$20.00

******* Support Your Local Veterans and their Projects *******

Proceeds to benefit hospitalized veterans, community, veteran projects and the general fund of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528. If 1500 tickets are not sold, the Sportsman's Raffle will revert to a 50/50 Raffle with a minimum prize of \$5,000.

License No. R39172



VVA 528 & VFW Post 6695 2017 Sportsman's Raffle Selling Events



This is a list of the locations that we will be selling our raffle tickets. Please, contact Dennis Bielskis and SIGN-UP to help the chapter sell tickets at one or more of the events. Our online website sportsman-raffle.weebly.com

SHOW	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
Birch Run	11600 S. Beyer Rd.	Birch Run	48415
Lansing/Mason	700 E. Ash St.	Mason	48854
Flint	3501 Lapeer Rd.	Flint	48503
ABC Warehouse	41690 Ford Rd.	Canton	48184
GTC - Mt. Clemens	237 North River Rd.	Mt. Clemens	48043
Novi	46100 Grand River	Novi	48374
Monroe	3775 S. Custer Rd.	Monroe	48161

Date	Day	Time	Location
6/3/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Novi
6/4/2017	Sunday	1000-1500	Novi
6/30/2017	Friday	1200-1700	Lansing/Mason
7/1/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Lansing/Mason
7/2/2017	Sunday	1000-1500	Lansing/Mason
7/22/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Novi
7/23/2017	Sunday	1000-1500	Novi
7/29/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Jackson
7/30/2017	Saturday	1000-1500	Jackson
8/5/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Birch Run
8/6/2017	Sunday	1000-1500	Birch Run
8/19/2017	Saturday	0900-1700	Monroe
8/20/2017	Sunday	1000-1500	Monroe



JUNE 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 KARAOKE 8:00	3
4	5 GOLF	6 VFW AUX MEETING 7:00	7 CAR SHOW 5-8	8	9	10 FISHING DERBY 7:00 am
11	12 GOLF VVA MEETING 7:00	13 VFW MEETING 7:00	14 CAR SHOW 5-8 FLAG DAY	15	16 KARAOKE 8:00	17
18 FATHERS DAY	19 GOLF	20 VFW HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7:00	21 CAR SHOW 5-8	22	23	24
25	26 GOLF	27 VVA BOARD MEETING 7:00	28 CAR SHOW 5-8	29 SALUTE TO VETERANS KELLOGG PARK 7:30	30	



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan
The Auxiliary

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Max Bandy, David Banks, John Bertorello, Richard Bouchard, Thomas Brishbin, Bill Browning, Roger Buelow, Thomas Carey, David Codd, Gary Estermyer, Dennis Fago, Robert Garrett, Harold Hachigian, Frank Jaskula, Roger Kehrier, Gary Lane, Anthony LiPare, Michael Maattala, Jack Massarello, Donald McLane, Dennis Mozdzen, John Peterson, Zoltan Nagy, William Power, Dave Randall, John Riling, Richard Sander, Art Sawyer, Mark Shemanski, Jared Thomas, Casmer Zarosley and Daniel Zedan.



Chapter Officers

President	Dennis Bielskis
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2nd Vice President	Gary Pritchard
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Don Dignan	Joe Tebor
Pete Glasgow	Gene Spurgess
Don Petrere	Terry Wells

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Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson
Chaplain	Rich Whipple
Chapter Historian	Rich Waldecker
Fundraising	Bob Dew
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming
Membership	Bob Lamoureux

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State VVA Product Sales	John Riling
VAVS Deputy	Ron KiVietnam War 50th Com.
Website	Tom Brown

VVA Service Officer - State of Michigan

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

Veterans Crisis Centers

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

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



Louie Dorka Army 1969

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)

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Chapter 528 Homefront



June 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 _____

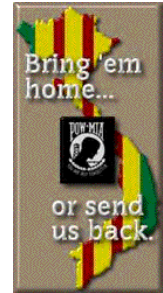
Other _____

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



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