



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Photo taken during the Vietnam Veterans Kokomo Reunion in 2011. If you never been you need to go and see why more than 50 of our members go each and every year! This year it takes place on September 15th - 17th. Check out "Digger's" Article on page 2.

Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
VVA/VFW Picnic	5
Calendar	6
Committees	7
Ads	8
Membership Form	10

Welcome Home!

Veteran's Honor

by Roger W Hancock

Veteran's service; **"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"**
Sacrifice for freedom's sake,
Honor to them all.

President's Corner

A big thank you to Mike Steffes and his team for putting on the annual VVA/VFW picnic. If you could not make it, you missed excellent food and fellowship.

There are several events in September: Plymouth Fall Festival the weekend after Labor Day and the Vietnam Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, Indiana the third week of September. More information is in this newsletter.

The 2017 Sportsmen's Raffle is being organized. This is the major fund raiser for our Chapter. Tickets will likely be available in December or January. I found the above short poem by Roger Hancock on:

<http://www.poetpatriot.com/poems-patriotic.htm>.



John Spencer, President

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



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Tom Brown - Editor & Photographer
Don Dignan - Assistant Editor & Columnist
John Spencer - President & Columnist
Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
Gary "Bear" Kubik - Columnist
Nancy Dignan - Calendar
Patty & Dennis Bielskis - Photos

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
Ron King
Dale Luebke



Digger's Desk

EUCHRE

Every Wednesday Euchre should commence on the first Wednesday in October.

MONDAY GOLF

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

KOKOMO

Next month, September 15-17, is our Kokomo Reunion which is attended by thousands of Veterans from across the country. Going to Kokomo is the most highly anticipated event of the year for more than 50 of our members. We have many of our members who have made this journey to the largest Vietnam Era Veteran Reunion in the Midwest for more than 20 years. If you have any questions concerning this event, contact me or any Chapter members who have attended. Take a look at the Chapter website for a look back at Kokomo over the last several years at <http://www.vva528.org/kokomohoward.html> If you anticipate going this year, contact Dale Luebke at dale45us@gmail.com or 248-403-4244. I'll be there for the 23rd year in a row.

UPCOMING

Coming up every Wednesday is our Car Show (last car show is September 7), Karaoke on the 1st and 3rd Friday. On the 2nd and 4th Friday, there is a new band performing. Plymouth Fall Fest is September 8 (set up)-11. Men's Auxiliary Annual Golf Outing is Saturday September 24.

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



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



Clyde Raines becomes our new Vice President. From left to right: Mike Steffes, John Riling, Clyde, and President John Spencer. *Photos courtesy of Patty & Dennis Bielskis.*



VVA & VFW Picnic



Odds & Ends

Membership

There were 2 applications for membership this past month. Robert Bieski, Army, has joined our chapter and Heather Mullen, Bill Browning's daughter, has joined our associates. Welcome Bob and Heather to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 273 individual and 77 associate members. Of these we have 221 life VVA and 38 life AVVA members.

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

VVA: Austin Bronson, Bob Cohen, Fred Hanna, Roger Ratkowski

AVVA: Sandy Bazman, Clint Dorey, John Nichols

Dropped from Roster: George Bruder, Marcel Loosbrock, Dale Wofford

September VVA Renewals: Norris Cutler, Sue Dorey, Charlie Kotcher, Dan Zedan

September AVVA Renewals: Richard Beach, Dave Randall, John Stewart

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). This change is a great opportunity for associates to become life members. The life membership fee for VVA members is \$100 regardless of age.

Wanted

If anyone has an old working 8mm video cassette recorder or player could you please contact me. I am working on a project and need one of these items to help me to transfer some tapes to DVD. You can contact me at: bob@vva528.org

Plymouth Fall Festival

This will be the last opportunity to sign-up for the Fall Festival. If you can help contact John Fleming at: john@flemingfinancialsvcs.com or myself at: bob@vva528.org Festival hours are as follows:

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



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



Cruz'n 528 Car Show 2016
Photo courtesy of Patty & Dennis Bielskis



Chaplain's Corner

Living Under Authority
TGIF (Today God Is First)
 by [Os Hillman](#)

"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be the king, as supreme, or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well (1 Peter 2:13,14).

God used government authority in the lives of many people in the Bible to accomplish His purposes in their lives. Scripture tells us that even the king's heart is in the hand of God (See Proverbs 21:1). God uses these authorities to continue the work that He has started in us and will continue to manifest His character in us through governmental authorities.

Moses and Pharaoh, Joseph and Potiphar, Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar, Esther and the king, Jesus and Pilate, and many others throughout the Bible became great men and women of God because they gave those in authority their rightful place.

If we find it difficult to live under the authorities in our life, we'll usually find it difficult to submit to the will of God in our lives too. Rebellion is reflected in our unwillingness to live under the authority placed over us. We may not have respect for the person who is the President of the United States, but we are still to honor and respect the position the presidency represents, and we are to recognize that God has placed him or her in authority over us. As long as we are not asked to violate a biblical commandment, we must recognize those in authority as God-given and that He is going to work through them on our behalf.

We must not obey the government when it calls us to compromise God's Word. Issues that violate the Word of God may require civil disobedience. However, each person must evaluate these situations in light of what God's Word says and be

true to their own conscience. Pray for those in authority over you.

Chaplain's notes: The above topic I chose is a very difficult one for me, and probably most of us. The upcoming Presidential election has many of us upset. If our candidate doesn't win, we feel that the country will go down in smoke! However God commands us to get behind the President....to submit to the President's authority. Whew!!! Prayers badly needed for Tom and Cheryl Brown, with the recent loss of his father and his mother hanging on for life with her health deteriorating quickly; for full recovery of Gordy and Barbara Bardeleben from their accident up north a few months ago. Prayers of praise for Al Kerbyson now home, and his leg is healing; Dennis Waling now home and is using a special diet to combat the liver cancer; and continue to lift up our members who have lost spouses in the past year.



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



Rick "Senor" Popa receives gift card from a drawing from the nurses. Photo courtesy of Patty & Dennis Bielskis.

VVA & VFW Picnic



Photos courtesy of Patty & Dennis Bielskis



The Bear's Den

For those of you that came to the JOINT PICNIC, a good time was had by all. We had great hot dogs, sausages, and perfectly grilled burgers. (no charge) The beer and soft drinks were good and cold. (free) Out of a possible 3 or 4 hundred people, about forty five came. The volunteers that set up, cooked, tended bar and cleaned up did a great job. Everyone that brought a dish to pass, can't be thanked enough because it was all great, except one salad that had peas in it.

Hope to see a lot of you in KOKOMO soon. It is an experience!!!!!! We have lots of things going on, so watch the emails and enjoy what we have accomplished.



Gary "Bear" Kubik

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





SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 KARAOKE 8:00	3
4	5 Labor Day	6 VFW AUX MEETING 7:00	7 LAST CAR CRUZ 5-8	8 FALL FEST SET UP	9 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST BAND 8:00	10 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST
11 PLYMOUTH FALL FEST	12 GOLF VVA MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00	13 VFW MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:00	14	15 MENS AUX MEETING 6:30 KOKMO	16 KARAOKE 8:00 KOKOMO	17 KOKOMO
18	19 GOLF	20 VFW HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7:00	21	22	23 BAND 8:00	24 MEN'S AUX GOLF OUTING 8:00 CHECK IN
25 BOWLING LEAGUE BEGINS 1:30	26 GOLF	27 VVA BOARD MEETING 7:00		29	30	



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan
AVVA & Ladies
Auxiliary

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carl Allen, Roger Bebow, Daniel Bowe, Leon Carter, Clark Crain, Robert Denstedt, Thomas Forster, Peter Glasgow, Dominick Grake, David Henwood, Stewart Israel, William Kren, Rich Lewis, Ron Little, Victor Lukasiak, Charles Neal, Don Petrere, Dave Ramsey, Albert Sneath, Robert "Bobby" Sommerville and John Spencer.



Chapter Officers

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1st Vice President	Richard Waldecker
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Rich Mazurkiwicz	Rich Whipple

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Color/Honor Guard	Bob Lamoureux
	Rick Ciaramitaro
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Homeless Veterans	John Fleming
Membership	Bob Lamoureux

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Vietnam War 50th Com.	Ron King
Website	Tom Brown

VVA Service Officer - State of Michigan

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

Veterans Crisis Centers

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

Editor's Note and Disclaimer

Articles, event dates, and photos must be submitted by the **22nd** of the month in order to be considered for publication. Send the article or photo to Tom Brown 17730 Snow Ave Dearborn, MI 48124 or email Tom at tom@vva528.org. Except as otherwise noted, all published articles become the property of VVA Chapter 528 and may not be reprinted without the Chapter's permission. Chapter 528 reserves the right to edit for space. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Chapter, the editor, or the National VVA.

Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 (734-459-6700)

Chapter 528 Website: www.vva528.org

Chapter 528 Travel Site www.travelvva528.com

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

Service Photos Needed

VVA Chapter 528 has 125 members' service photos displayed on our website www.vva528.org/members528.html and in our display case. I'm sure most members have a photo of themselves laying around somewhere. When you find your photo you can either mail it to Tom Brown @ 17730 Snow Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124, scan it and send it to: tombrown1949@gmail.com, bring it to our general membership meetings or drop it off in "Bear's" Office. Longtime member and creator of our Service Photos Boards **Bill Boudreau** passed away on September 23, 2015. **Don Petrere** has graciously volunteered to take over our service photos in our display case.



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



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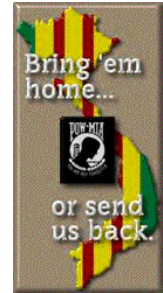


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 Date of Birth _____
 email _____
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 _____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member
 (Copy of your DD-214 Form or other proof of Service Enclosed)
 _____ I am not a Vietnam Era Veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member
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 Other _____
 New Member _____ Renewal _____ Membership Card
 No. _____
 Today's Date _____

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Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth, MI 48170-0473



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