



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Plymouth Fall Festival 2018

Photo Courtesy of Dennis & Patty Bielskis

Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
POW/MIA Ceremony	5
Fall Festival Photos	6-7
Calendar	8
Committees	9
Ads	10
Membership Form	12

Homefront Staff

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

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

Welcome Home! Thank you for your service! It is great to hear these words from people we meet, especially from the children. It shows that their parents are instilling respect and patriotism in them as they grow.

The POW/MIA ceremony at Bova VFW was well attended. Our Sportsman's raffle is being prepared. See Bob Dew if you wish to help.

The next Chapter meeting is at 7:00 pm Monday October 8th. Board meeting is at 7:00 pm Tuesday Oct 23rd. Donation requests should be submitted to Secretary Ron King ten days before the Board meeting to allow time to research the organization.

Thanks!

Kokomo 2018



Photo courtesy of "Bear"

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



John Spencer, President
 U S Army 1965-67
 123rd Transportation
 Company (Longshoremen)
 Cam Ranh Bay, RVN





Digger's Desk

LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Don't forget Karaoke on the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 8:00PM and Euchre every Wednesday at 7:00PM.

GOLF OUTING

Saturday September 22 was our annual scrambles golf outing at Hickory Creek. A great time was had by all 84 golfers who participated. Thanks to Darrell Bazman, Bill Grisamer and all their elves who put this on.

KOKOMO

On the weekend of September 13-16, Chapter and Post members traveled just east of Kokomo, Indiana for our annual campout with 3000 other Veterans. We had a few casualties this year but what would you expect from a pack of Veterans. We're already looking forward to 2019.

UPCOMING

The VVA/VFW bowling league starts September 30, Casserole Night coming up on October 6, Kids Trunk or Treat on October 27 and on into the holidays.

I'll see you at the October meeting. It's a great time to be a Veteran and member of Chapter 528.



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



Photos courtesy of Gary "Bear" Kubik



Odds & Ends

Membership

It was recently discovered that life member Ray Plesiewicz passed away in December, 2015. We had 6 VVA and 1 AVVA applications for membership this past month. Mark Gallo, Dale Bosetti, Billy Ray Arm, Tom Moricz and Gerald Dodson, all Army, have joined the chapter. Lew Agius, Joe's brother has rejoined the chapter after a lengthy absence. Dina Martin has joined our associates. Welcome all to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 289 individual and 83 associate members. Of these we have 239 life VVA and 52 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of September 22, 2018 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

VVA: Dan Dreger

AVVA: Tom Moscardelli,

Dropped from Roster: John Peterson

October VVA Renewals: Ralph Auge, Tim Curtis, Mack Gaut, David Schisler

October AVVA Renewals: Todd Busick, Jeff Rousseau

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.

Fall Festival

Despite the cool weather, power outage Saturday night and the rain on Sunday it was another successful event for the chapter. Sales of pop, water, dog tags and chapter merchandise totaled \$1,469. There were expenses of \$477 leaving us a profit of \$992. In addition we received donations of \$633 and in the beer tent we collected a whopping \$2,548 for a total income of \$4,173. I would like to personally thank all those who came out and helped make this year's event a truly profitable one. If any of you are VFW members please report your work hours to Joe

Tebor so they can be included in the community service report.

VFW Golf Outing

The weather was cool and breezy but that didn't stop 84 golfers from participating in this year's outing. Everyone enjoyed the competition and the dinner afterward at the post. The winning team was -7 and the last place team +10. We want to try and make it bigger and better next year. Thanks to all the chapter members who played and help make it a success.

National Membership Notes

Charlie Hobbs, National Membership Affairs Committee chair was recently notified by the National Membership Department that during the VVA Directory phone calls asking for updated member information, that over 1,200 members were reported by families as being deceased. The deceased have been entered into the national database. There were 27 in Michigan and one in our chapter, Ray Plesiewicz. On a positive note Chapter 528 retains its spot as the 25th largest chapter in the country.



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



Photo courtesy of Gary "Bear" Kubik



Chaplain's Corner

See Your City

From Our Daily Bread,
Author: Mart DeHaan

"See your city the way we do". A Detroit, Michigan urban development group used that slogan to launch its vision for the city's future. But the project came to a sudden stop when members of the community noticed something missing in the campaign. African Americans make up a large majority of the city's population and workforce. Yet people of color were absent from the crowd of white faces that showed up on signs, banners, and billboards urging all to see the city as they did.

The countrymen of Jesus also had a blind spot in their vision for the future. As children of Abraham, they were primarily concerned about the future of Jewish people. They couldn't understand Jesus's concern for Samaritans, Roman soldiers, or anyone else who didn't share their family roots, rabbis, or temple worship.

I relate to the blind spots of Detroit and Jerusalem. I too tend to see only people whose life experience I understand. Yet God has a way of bringing about His unity amid our diversity. We're more alike than we realize.

Our God chose a desert nomad by the name of Abram to bring blessing to all the people of the world. (Genesis 12:1-3). Jesus knows and loves everyone we don't yet know or love. Together we live by the grace and mercy of One who can help us see one another, our cities, and His kingdom – as He does!

Chaplains notes: As most of you know by now, Leo Ksiazek broke a hip and the same wrist he broke about three months ago, while down in Kokomo. He has a very positive attitude and we're hoping he will be back on our golf circuit next year! Bob Bryan has been in the Ann Arbor VA with breathing difficulties and was missed at the Kokomo Reunion. Our own pastor and member of our chapter, Bill Kren is putting up one heck of a fight against brain and lung

cancer. Al Kerbyson was able to leave the Ann Arbor VA but ended up in St. Mary's Hospital, and is now at Heartland Rehab, on Lilley Road just south of Warren Road in Canton. Please pray for the above for their recovery.



Rich Whipple

Chaplain (Certified)
(A sinner saved by God's Grace)

Cell: 734-751-2992
rekjwhipple@yahoo.com
HHC/2/503rd Infantry
173rd Airborne Brigade
1968 - 1969



Michigan's POW/MIA Ceremony 2018

The POW/MIA Ceremony was held at the Oakland Hills Cemetery in Novi. President Debbie Pineau McClain of the POW Committee of Michigan was the Moderator. Presentation of the Colors was presented by VFW Post 1008 followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the playing of the Star Spangled Banner.

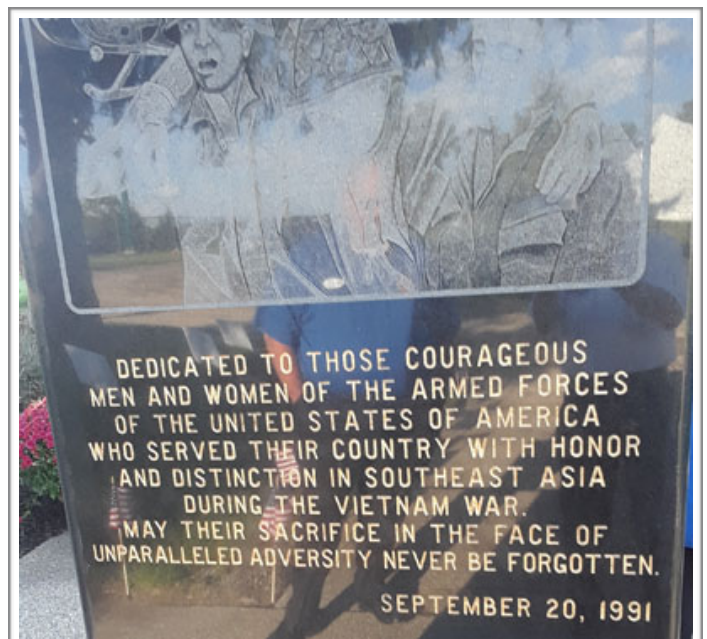
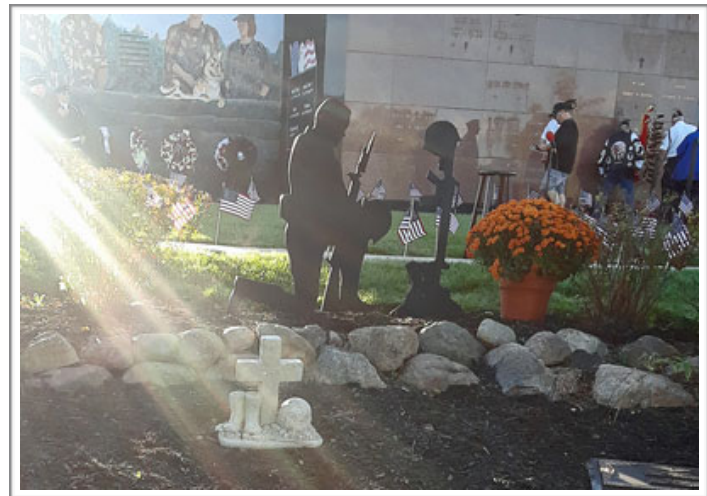
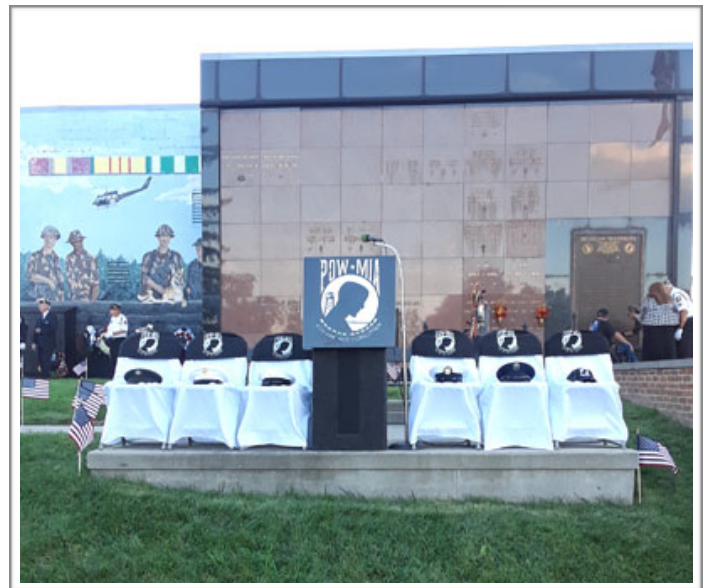
The Invocation was given by Chaplain Raymond Rodriguez of American Legion Post 32 and remarks were made by Jerry Gorski, past State Commander of the VFW, James Redford, Director of Veterans Affairs for the State of Michigan and Marty Eddy, Michigan State Coordinator, National League of Families.

The Keynote Speaker was MSGT Jeff Rector, U.S. Army, retired. The Roll Call of Michigan POW and Missing in Action was read by Pat Daniels, Vietnam 1970-1971, 4th Infantry Div/101st Airborne Div. Carrying out the Rifle Salute was VFW Post 1008. Taps was performed by Alan Opra, Cpl, USMC 1981-1986, Beirut, 1983.

The closing Benediction was performed by Chaplain Raymond Rodriguez of American Legion Post 32. This has been my 7th year attending this ceremony. It has always been a somber and solemn event to honor our dead and missing.



Dennis Waling



Photos courtesy of Dennis Waling

Plymouth Fall Festival 2018

6

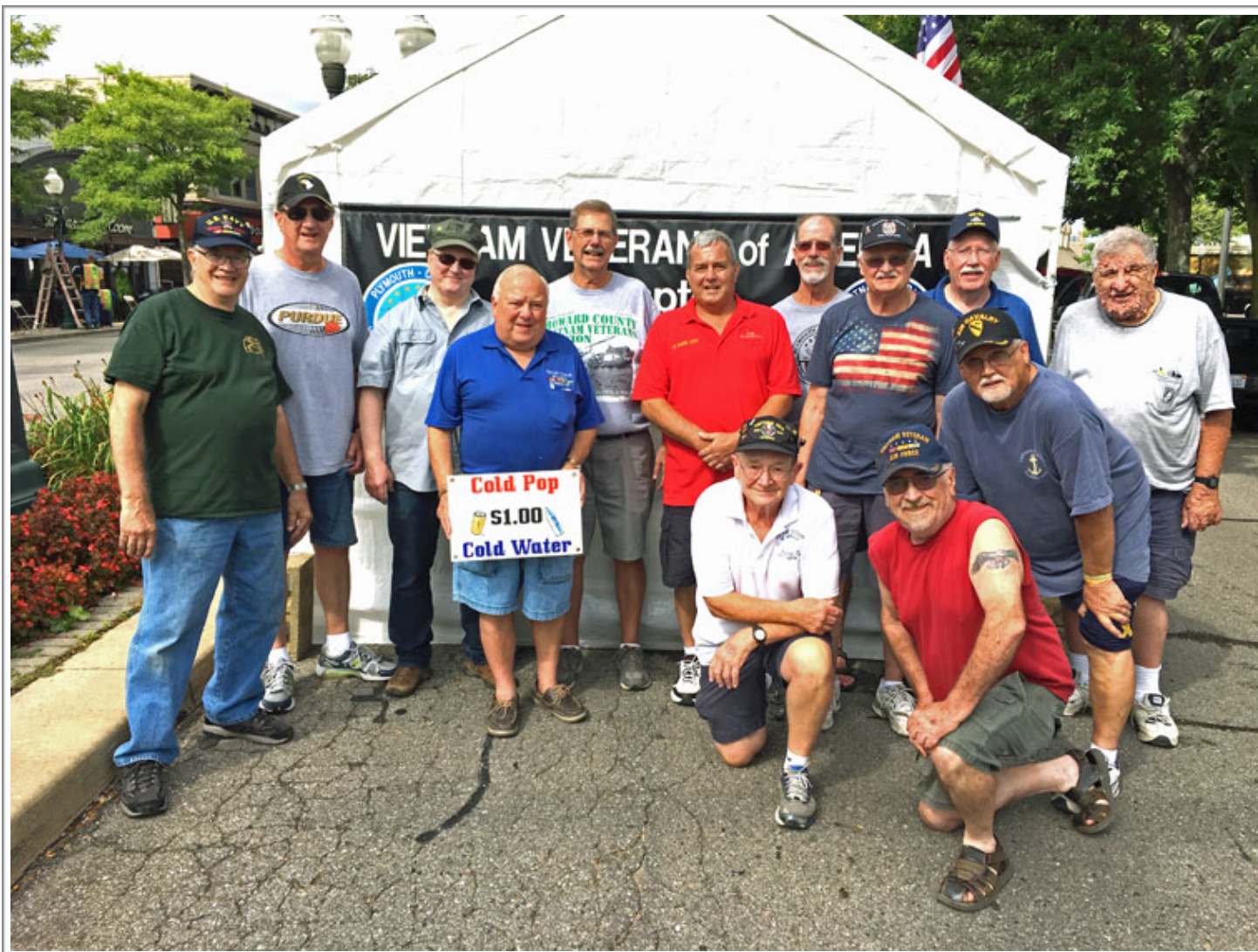


Photo courtesy of Tom Trestler



Photos courtesy of Dennis & Patty Bielskis

Plymouth Fall Festival 2018



Photos courtesy of Tom Trestler



OCTOBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 GOLF	2 VFW AUX MEETING 6:30	3 EUCHRE 7:00	4	5 KARAOKE 8:00	6 CASSEROLE DINNER 5-7
7 MAIN STREET CAR WASH 9-5	8 GOLF VVA MEETING 7:00	9 VFW MEETING 7:00	10 EUCHRE 7:00	11	12	13
14 BOWLING 1:30	15 GOLF	16 VFW HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING 7:00	17 EUCHRE 7:00	18	19 KARAOKE 8:00	20
21	22 GOLF	23 VVA BOARD MEETING 7:00	24 EUCHRE 7:00	25	26	27 TRUNK & TREAT NOON ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY 7:00
28 BOWLING 1:30	29 GOLF	30	31 HALLOWEEN EUCHRE 7:00			



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan
The Auxiliary

OCTOBER 2018 BIRTHDAYS

Douglas Appleyard, Richard Balish, Darrell Bazman, Richard Blandina, John Bresnahan, Anthony Brinza, Michael Cloar, Patrick Colbeck, Danny Cook, William Cottrell, Doyle "Skip" Davison, Betty Durham, Paul Enderle, James "Jack" Fortney, Robert Genna, Donald Green, Michael Hoben, Robert Humphrey, Drew Koet, John Krawcke, Earl Madison, Brian Metzger, Tom Moscardelli, Ron Michalak, Dennis Northrop, Margot Parr, Douglas Patterson, Jerry Pazdan, Vincent Petrasky, Roy Pistor, Stephan Retherford, Loren Roberts, Debra Schnettler, Glen Sedam, Gerald Stesiak, Patrick Sullivan, Arthur Surdu, William Taylor and Raymond Thomas.



Chapter Officers

President	John Spencer	734-716-0619
1st Vice President	Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257
2nd Vice President	Gary Bush	734-718-2301
Secretary	Ron King	734-679-6424
Treasurer	Bob Dew	734-421-1805

Board of Directors

Mike Dicker 734-425-3414	Darrel Bazman 734-207-9734
Don Dignan 734-525-0157	Frank Barkovich 734-397-9734
Pete Glasgow 734-454-9663	Gene Spurgess 248-887-6212
Don Petrere 734-595-1422	Rich Whipple 734-751-2992

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Chaplain	Rich Whipple	734-751-2992
Chapter Historian	Gary Pritchard	734-522-2033
Fundraising	Bob Dew	734-421-1805
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming	734-421-0149
Membership	Bob Lamoureux	734-397-8389

Homefront Newsletter

Editor & Publisher	Tom Brown	313-336-0192
Assistant Editor	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Distribution Chief	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Assistant Chief	Ron King	734-679-6424
Assistant Chief	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244

Product Sales	Bill Petrere	313-706-4247
POW/MIA	Al Kerbyson	734-612-9757
Public Affairs	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming	734-525-0456
Service Representative	Aggie Little	734-722-9535
Sportsmen's Raffle	John Spencer	734-716-0619
State Delegate	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943
State A. Delegate	Dennis Bielskis	248-486-0001
State VVA Product Sales	John Riling	734-776-2239
VAVS Deputy	Ron King	734-454-4522
Vietnam War 50th Com.	Ron King	734-454-4522
Website & Newsletter	Tom Brown	313-336-0192

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

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

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

Service Photos Needed

VVA Chapter 528 has 144 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 as a jpg or jpeg, bring it to our general membership meetings and give it to Tom or bring it to the VFW. Be sure to include your name, branch of service and the year the photo was taken. **Don Petrere** will place the copied service photo in our display case.



Tom Brown, Editor/Publisher
2nd Missile Battalion
44th Artillery Pershing 1st yr
HHD III Corps 2nd yr
Ft. Sill, OK



AGI
No. 213208

Great Lakes
TROPHIES & ENGRAVING

Ed Duprey
Owner

32635 Ford Road
Garden City, MI 48135
(Between Venoy & Merriman Roads)
Hours: 9 - 6 Weekdays / 9 - Noon Sat.

Phone: (734) 266 - 1815
Fax: (734) 266 - 1817
www.greatlaketrophies.com
E-mail: sales@greatlaketrophies.com

ARA
American
Recognition Association

Fleming Financial Services, Inc.

John A. Fleming National Association of Tax Professionals

29217 Ford Road, Suite 119
Garden City, MI 48135

phone 734 525-4560
toll free 888 240-1550

fax 734 525-5280
john@flemingfinancialsvcs.com

DONATE YOUR CAR TO

CHARITY MOTORS
Helping Those Who Help Others

- Where you can still claim Fair Market Blue Book Value
- Car donation is 100% tax deductible and pick up is free
- Assisted over 2,000 worthy organizations in our community

CALL TODAY: (313) 255-1000
or donate online at charitymotors.org

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

WWW.MYLIFEFORCE.NET/RT

RON & THERESA

1 248 677 2280

PRODUCTS THAT MAKE
PEOPLE HEALTHIER

www.mylifeforce.net/rt

BVD Catering
Be a guest at your own party
From a simple backyard party, to an elegant affair

734-776-1827
734-729-9338
dilittlebit3@aol.com

Main Street Auto Wash
"the freshwater wash"

1191 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170

Phil Pursell
(734) 455-9685

alphagraphics®

DESIGN ■ COPY ■ PRINT ► COMMUNICATE

7994 Lilley Road • Canton, Michigan 48187
Phone 734.455.6550 • Fax 734.455-3740
Email us336@alphagraphics.com
www.us336.alphagraphics.com

AGI
MEMBER

LPL Financial

Bob Carris
Registered Principal

40400 Ann Arbor Rd
Suite 204-B
Plymouth, MI 48170
734 453 7304 office
734 453 7461 fax
bob.carris@lpl.com
www.lpl.com/bob.carris

OSJ Branch: 31700 Middlebelt Rd
Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248 626 2000 office

Member FINRA/SIPC

Frank S. Barkovich
Accounting & Tax Service

- * Individual / Business Taxes
- * Small Business Specialists
- * Business Coaching
- * Veteran Owned

P.O. 871831
Canton, MI 48187-7531

734-397-9734
frabar@comcast.net

- landscape design & installation
- lawn & landscape maintenance
- snow & ice management

Matthew Gorski
President

Your Way
PROPERTY SERVICES

(248) 676.8508 office
(248) 676.8557 fax
yourwaypropertyservices@comcast.net



Chapter 528 Homefront



October 2018



12

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 _____ (\$50 - 3 years _____) \$100 Lifetime _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member

(Copy of your DD-214 Form Enclosed). One must have served a minimum of 180 days of active service.

_____ I am not a Vietnam Era Veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member AVVA

Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 _____ 1 year \$50.00 3 years _____

AVVA Life under 60 - \$175 _____ - Life over 60 \$100 _____

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Membership Card

No. _____

Today's Date _____

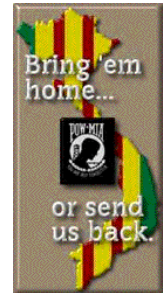
Return this form to:

Vietnam Veterans of America

Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528

P.O. Box 6319

Plymouth, MI 48170-0473



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Plymouth MI 48170-0473

P.O. Box 6319

Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528

Vietnam Veterans of America

Homefront