



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



March 2011

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Homefront Staff

Tom Brown - Editor & Publisher
 Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
 John Heraghty - President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



President's Corner

Greeting Comrade's,

I hope everyone is staying safe and being cautious. Like I said at the meeting, if you have not gotten the COVID shot yet and would like to, give the main number a call for the VA hospital and tell them you want to schedule an appointment to get the shot. Please do not wait for them to contact you or you may never receive the shot.

Point of information for people who did not know this yet, but at the end of last year as part of the National Defense Authorization Act there were three new illnesses to Agent Orange presumptive list, and they are bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinson-like symptoms. If you have any of these illnesses, you should file a claim.

In closing, I hope everyone stays safe and hope to see everyone at the March meeting which will be held on Monday, March 8, at 7:00pm.



John Heraghty E-5
 2nd Infantry Division 4th Sq.
 7th Cav.
 Army Nov. 1967 - June 1969





Digger's Desk

LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

The Post/Lounge is back open with 25% capacity. You must wear a mask to enter and get your temperature taken...no big deal; you may then remove your mask but maintain a six foot distance from those outside your party. All this is subject to change (for the better, we hope) when additional or altered rules are announced. Euchre and Pinochle are still on hold but should revive when COVID-19 vaccinations are more wide spread. Be wise, stay safe.

St. PATRICK'S DAY

Corned beef and cabbage dinners and sandwiches are scheduled for March 17. They're sure to be the top quality as always. Come on down for a Post 6695 tradition.

ELECTIONS

Nominations for officers and BOD members will continue to be taken at the March meeting. We have a lot of volunteers but those elected are the ones supposed to be leading the Chapter, e.g., come up with a fresh idea and chair that committee, volunteer when no one else does, promote the Chapter, wear your membership loudly and proudly. Enjoy the camaraderie of those who served as you served.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8 so stay tuned, i.e., a reminder will be sent out. I'll see you there. It's a great time to be an American, Veteran and member of Chapter 528.



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



Chaplain's Corner

Facing the Battles with God
From Our Daily Bread,
Author: Arthur Jackson

The heroic deeds of US Army soldier Desmond Doss are featured in 2016 movie Hacksaw Ridge. While Doss' convictions wouldn't allow him to take human life, as an army medic, he committed himself to preserving life even at the risk of his own. The citation read at Doss' Medal of Honor ceremony on October 12, 1945, included these words: "Private First Class Doss refused to seek cover and remained in the fire-swept area with the many stricken, carrying them one by one to the edge of the escarpment.....He unhesitatingly braved enemy shelling and small arms fire to assist an artillery officer."

In Psalm 11, David's conviction that his refuge was in God compelled him to resist suggestions to flee rather than face his foes (vv.2-3). Six simple words comprised his statement of faith: "In the Lord I take refuge" (v.1). That well-rooted conviction would guide his conduct.

David's words in verses 4-7 amplified God's greatness. Yes, life can sometimes be like a battlefield, and the hostile fire can send us scattering for cover when we're bombarded with health challenges or financial, relational, and spiritual stresses. So, what should we do? Acknowledge that God is the king of the universe (v.4); take delight in His amazing capacity to judge with precision (vv.5-6); and rest in His delight in what's right, fair, and equitable (v.7). We can run swiftly to God for shelter! Father, help me to see You more clearly than any force that opposes me and run to You for true safety and security.

Chaplains notes: Prayers for Al Kerbyson who is at the Ann Arbor VA Community Living Center for a spell as his leg heals (even though I am a certified chaplain, they would not let me in there, sighting they have VA chaplains to visit those that are in the CLC area for extended time). Karen and I will be down south most of March, however I am only a phone call away (my number is below).



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





Odds & Ends

Chapter Elections

The following members have accepted nomination for chapter office.

President	John Heraghty
1st Vice President	Bob Dew
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow
Secretary	Ron King
Treasurer	John Fleming

Board Members (4) (2-year term)	Bill Petrere
	Al Sneath
	Larry Eichstadt
	Don Petrere
	Mike Steffes
	Bruce Benyo
	Dale Luebke

Natl Convention Delegate (7)	Ron King
	John Heraghty
	Bob Dew
	Terry Wells
	Don Dignan

Election Committee	Bob Bryan
	Bob Lamoureux
	Al Dorey

Nominations will again be taken in March and in April before the elections. If you want to run for office, please make your intentions known. You may nominate yourself if you choose.

Membership

It is with sadness we report the passing of Mike Maattala. I became aware that he died when his newsletter came back from the P.O. marked "deceased". No other details are available at this time. There was 1 application for membership this past

month. Patrick McHenry, Army, has joined the chapter. Welcome Pat to 528. Our current membership stands at 307 VVA and 76 AVVA members. Of these we have 59 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of February 25, 2021 the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

AVVA: Patti Brothers

Dropped from Roster: Jeff Rousseau

March AVVA Renewals: Ruth Bryan, Judy Petrere, Dave Randall

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.

VFW Fish Fry & St. Patty's Day

The weekly Lenten fish fries have been cancelled due to dining restrictions imposed by the governor. The plan is to move them to late spring or early summer where diners can eat either inside or outside under the pavilion. Stay tuned for more information.

The post will be open and serving corned beef dinners and sandwiches on Wednesday, March 17. Serving starts at noon and continues until sold out. A decision has not yet been made whether it will be carry-out only since capacity in the lounge is limited to 25 people.



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





March 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 VFW AUX MEETING 6:30	3	4	5	6
7	8 VVA MEETING 7:00	9 VFW MEETING 7:00	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 HOUSE COMM MEETING 7:00	17  CORN BEEF DINNER NOON-TILL GONE	18	19	20
21	22	23 VVA BOARD MEETING 7:00	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan

March Birthdays

William Adams, Sharon Cabrerros, Bernard "Skip" Dahlman, Don Dignan, Ronald Dillingham, Al Dorey, Patrick Gibbons, Micheal Goldstein, Dominic Grunas, Iver (Marty) Heikkinen, Ellen Howington, John Itsell, Kathy Jarvis, Albert King, James Kish, Thomas Markowski, Mike Patten, Bob Paul, Bill Petrere, Joseph Radachy, Stephen Radachy, Michael Schlott, Don Schnettler, Kurt Smith, Larry Snowden, Virgil Speaks, Thomas Tabin, Stanley Truskowski, Paul Yeagy and Jeff Yoshikawa.



Chapter 528 Homefront

Chapter Officers

President	John Heraghty	734-845-7444
1st Vice President	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow	734-454-9663
Secretary	Ron King	734-679-6424
Treasurer	John Fleming	734-421-0149

Board of Directors

Darrel Bazman 734-207-3197	Don Dignan 734-525-0157
Tom McMullin 734-658-6070	Larry Eichstadt 734-353-0343
Gene Spurgess 248-887-6212	Bruce Benyo 734-326-0867
Don Petrere 734-595-1422	Al Sneath 734-377-5337

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
Editor	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Distribution Chief	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Assistant	Ron King	734-679-6424
Assistant	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244

Product Sales	Rick Demeester	248-486-9981
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	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
State Delegate	Dennis Bielskis	248-486-0001
State A. Delegate	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943
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	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
	John Spencer	734-716-0619
	Dennis Bielskis	248-767-1654
	Tom Brown	313-336-0192

Chapter 528 VVA Service Officers (VSO)

Dennis Bielskis - 810-623-8002
Gary Estermyer - 313-961-9568

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, flyers, calendar, event dates and photos must be submitted by the 25th of the month in order to be considered for publication. Send the article, flyer or photo to Tom Brown 17730 Snow Ave Dearborn, MI 48124 or email Tom at tombrown1949@gmail.com. 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).**

March 2021

Chapter 528 Website: www.vva528.org

Chapter 528 Travel Site www.travelvva528.com

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

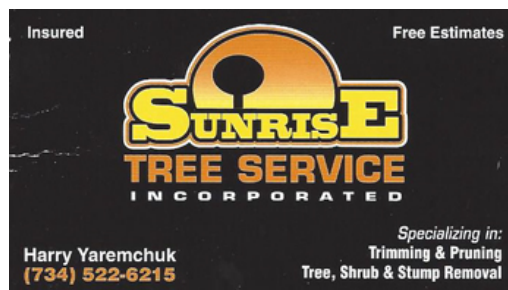


Our Service Photos

VVA Chapter 528 has 159 VVA members' service photos displayed and 3 AVVA members' service photos 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
Ft. Sill, OK 1st yr.
HHD III Corps
Ft. Sill, OK 2nd yr.



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President

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Chapter 528 Homefront

Vietnam Veterans of America



March 2021



8

VVA membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961 and May 22, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975

Name _____ email _____

Phone _____

Present Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Branch of Service _____

Date of Birth _____ Today's Date _____

\$50.00 Lifetime Membership Enclosed _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member. Enclosed is a copy of my DD 214 Form. 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

One may become an Associate Member (AVVA). _____ 1 year (\$20), _____ 3 year (\$50), _____ Life membership ages 59 and under (\$175), _____ 60 and above (\$100). When purchasing a life membership proof of age must also be submitted. The easiest form of proof is a copy of your driver's license. There is one new AVVA option available. Current VVA members can support the AVVA by purchasing a life membership in AVVA for only \$50.

Return this form to:
Vietnam Veterans of America
Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth, MI 48170-0473



With a little creativity we were able to have a meeting and hold our elections last month. The meeting was held outside in the pavilion area behind the post. All

Chapter Elections