



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
Calendar	5
In Memoriam	6-8
Joy Road Pick-up	9
National Vietnam War Veterans Day	9
Michele Anderson	9
Cruzn' 528 Car Show	10
Committees	11
Ads	12
Membership Form	14

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
 Pete Glasgow - Article & Photo

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"

President's Corner

Greeting Comrades,

I want to express my appreciation for everyone who turned out for our previous meeting so we could have out elections. I would also like to congratulate everyone who was elected. I also want to thank our membership for reelecting me for another term as your President. I am honored to lead this great chapter and will do the best of my ability to lead you all.

There are a couple of bills that have been submitted to Congress on behalf of veterans; one being a bill to make sure US Troops who faced the same poisons while deployed to nearby containers receive similar help as Vietnam vets. As for Vietnam vets, they are expanding the presumption of exposure to Agent Orange for disability benefits to veterans who served in Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia during the conflict, we can all hope Congress to pass this bill. Another bill is to end the unfair offset of retirement pay and disability benefits under the current law. Current veterans who receive military pay from the DOD take a dollar-for-dollar pay reduction for any disability compensation they receive from the VA. This bill will eliminate the current offset that prevents veterans with less than a 50% disability rating from receiving benefits from both agencies. We should hope this bill to pass through congress as well.

Well everyone, stay safe and hope to see you all at the next meeting in May!



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





Digger's Desk



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



LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

The Post/Lounge is back open with 50% capacity...at least according to state rules.. 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 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. Come on down to the Post for a weekly special and a beer. Be wise, stay safe.

ELECTIONS

Congratulations to our newly elected officers and BOD members. President John Heraghty will sling the gavel for another year, Bob Dew-1st Vice, Pete Glasgow-2nd Vice, Ron King-Secretary, John Fleming-Treasurer. There are 8 BOD members-4 newly elected or reelected and 4 carryover. Thanks to all who stepped forward and were on the ballot.

POPPIES

There are still a few slots open for poppy sales on May 6, 7, 8. Contact Jim Tillman to volunteer. This is to support Veterans in need and goes into the relief fund.

CAR SHOWS

The car shows will begin on May 12 from 5-8PM and continue every Wednesday until September 1. Great vehicles, burgers and beer will be highlighted every week.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 10 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.



Fish On For Freedom June 2017. Folks of Ludington lining up on the pier to welcome Veterans and thank them for their service to our country. This annual great event was cancelled last year and is cancelled again this year because of Covid 19. Hopefully, next year the people of Ludington will once again invite veterans to this fun event. *Photos courtesy of Gene Spurgess*



Rich Whipple, Ted Enright and Doug Fox accidentally meeting up at Ann Arbor VA.



Odds & Ends

Chapter Elections

The results are in and here are your new elected officials for the upcoming year.

President	John Heraghty
1st Vice President	Bob Dew
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow
Secretary	Ron King
Treasurer	John Flemong
Board Members (2 year)	Larry Eichstadt
	Don Petrere
	Al Sneath
	Jerry Thomason
(1year)	Darrell Bazman
	Don Dignan
	Gene Spurgess
	Tom McMullen
Natl Convention Delegates	Dennis Bielskis
	Bob Dew
	Ted Enright
	Gary Estermyer
	John Heraghty
	Ron King
	Terry Wells
Election Committee	Bob Bryan
	Al Dorey
	Bob Lamoureux

Let's take a moment to thank all those who stepped up to the plate and ran for office and to thank our outgoing officers for the great job they did this past year.

Membership

We had 1 application for membership this past month. Thomas Winiesdorffer, navy, has joined the chapter. Welcome Tom to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 308 individual and 76 associate members. Of these we have 62 AVVA life members.

Dropped From Roster: none

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

May AVVA Renewals: John Itsell

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

As of this writing the Plymouth Fall Festival is still planning to take place. A decision will be made in July whether the festival will go on or not. Canton and Livonia have already cancelled their festivals. Because we did not request a refund of our lot fee last year there is no cost this year. If the festival is cancelled this year I will ask for a refund and this will probably be our swan song to having a booth at the festival. More to come.

VFW Car Show

The weekly Wednesday classic car shows will begin on May 12 and run through the end of August. There is a new small pavilion being built over an enlarged cement slab where the food was cooked in the past. This enlarged area will accommodate the food cooking and sales, beverage sales and the Auxiliary dessert table under one roof. We are also getting a gas fryer so we can add french fries to the menu. Come and check it out.

Buddy Poppies

Poppy sales will be held May 6-8. We have many distribution points and help is needed. If you can spare a few hours it would be greatly appreciated. Contact chairman Jim Tillman (734) 354-6918.



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





Chaplain's Corner

Jury Duty... Guilty or Not?!

Author: Rich Whipple

The summons came in the mail about a month ago. I was to report to the Frank Murphy Building in downtown Detroit for jury duty. Why me, haven't I done this enough....what about the other 2 million or so that live in Wayne County...what about them? Needless to say, I not only made the trip downtown, but was also selected as a jurist for a case involving sexual abuse from an uncle, to his 13 year old niece. My thoughts were, "Wow, this is going to be some case to witness and be an integral part of the trial!"

After the prosecuting and defense attorneys gave their last plea to the jury, it was time for us to decide who was telling the truth and who wasn't. On top of this, I was nominated and elected to be the jury foreman, who would have to stand up in court and read off each of the five counts against the uncle as to whether we found him guilty, or not guilty.

As I reflect on the privilege of being a jurist, I was glad I was a part of that trial. However, what if the niece was lying all along, and her uncle was framed for something he didn't do? It's happened before. According to the evidence presented, our jury was unanimous in our decision.

I also reflected on the fact that when we breathe our last breath on this earth, and we will face our Creator, we won't be able to lie about anything to Him should he ask us to give an account of ourselves and our life on earth. God knows the truth, and when he decides who lives with him in eternal life, or who gets expelled from heaven and must live separated from Him in hell, that is His final decision.

The Bible is our guide to living a life that would allow us to be chosen for heaven. If we read this and heed what it instructs us to do, we are golden. However if we ignore the instruction in the Bible,

then we are indeed going to be lost, and won't have the privilege of living eternally in His presence. Jesus called this place "paradise" when He was dying on the cross, to the thief that asked Jesus to remember him when Jesus would come into His kingdom. Conversely, hell doesn't sound like a place I'd like to spend any time in!

In the New Testament book of Hebrews, God's Word says.. "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." (Hebrews 4: 12-13)

God is the creator of the world, who reaches down to man to have a relationship with Him, which is very clear in the Bible. He loves us, forgives us if we ask for forgiveness, and is our Heavenly Father. He is also a jealous God. If you ignore His love and relationship, He also happens to be the judge at the end of our life. Make it happen!!!!

Chaplain's notes: Bob Dew let us know that Al Kerbyson is now at the VA in Saginaw. For those of us that know him, please phone him and keep his spirits up (734-612-9757). John Ligner is in Bickford Assisted Living and would love to hear from you (734-891-7576). Walt Weber is now home (734-277-3766).



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





May 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 GOLF	4 AUX MEETING 6:30	5	6 POPPY SALES	7 POPPY SALES	8 POPPY SALES
9 MOTHER'S Day	10 GOLF VVA MEETING 7:00	11 VFW MEETING 7:00	12 CAR SHOW 5-8	13	14	15 ARMED FORCES DAY
16	17 GOLF	18 VFW HOUSE COMM MEET 7:00	19 CAR SHOW 5-8	20	21	22
23 3 0	24 GOLF Memori al Day 31	25 VVA BOARD MEET 7:00	26 CAR SHOW 5-8	27	28	29



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan

May Birthdays

Terry Blumberg, Marvin Booth, Dale Bosetti, Les Brookins, Robert Caldwell, Shirley Caldwell, Guido Capaldi, Ernest Costantino, Irma Dorey, Danny Droz, Jerry Galda, Mack Gaut, Frank Gilbo, Gary Grant, Jim Hodgson, Daniel Jason, Jurgen Juziuk, George Klepack, Gregory Kremkow, Leo Ksiazek, George Lalinsky, Richard Mamayek, Thomas McMullen, Scott Olson, Gary Paver, Judy Petrere, Dave Randall, Roger Riddell, Ronald Wilson and John Zielke.



“In Memoriam” May We Never Forget!



Deceased VVA Chapter 528 Members		Service	Dates of Service
Richard Diveto	1944 - 1994	Air Force	
Jeffery Stewart	1949 - 1995		
Gary Smith	1943 - 1996		
Delbert Haddock	1948 - 1996	Army	January 68 - August 70
Marvin Schultz	1947 - 1999	Army	April 69 - December 71
Bryan Tubbs	1945 - 1999	Army	June 66 - May 68
Charles Sperry III	1951 - 2000	Navy	February 72 - September 76
Thomas Labowitch	1947 - 2000	Army	November 66 - August 68
John Hinman	1947 - 2001	Navy	June 70 - September 71
Edward Cafruny	1940 - 2002	Army	January 68 - October 70
Jerry Gibbons	1941 - 2002	Marines	November 59 - November 68
Robert Cicotte	1947 - 2003	Marines	February 64 - February 68
T. Joseph Dorey	1943 - 2004	Navy	October 61 - September 65
John Macik	1943 - 2005	Army	September 61 - September 64
Basilio Rivera	1953 - 2005	Air Force	June 73 - June 77
Chris Busse	1947 - 2005	Army	August 66 - August 69
Thomas Butterfield	1947 - 2006	Army	February 67 - January 70
Dennis Lowry	1948 - 2006	Army	June 67 - April 70
Michael Ramsey	1945 - 2007	Navy	June 65 - February 69
George Troell	1943 - 2007	Army	November 66 - September 68
Larry Jarvis	1948 - 2007	Marines	April 65 - March 69
Joseph Kato Jr.	1945 - 2007	Navy	March 65 - March 68
Tom Snell	1946 - 2008	Air Force	March 64 - March 68
Kris (KC) Brimer	1948 - 2008	Army	October 67 - July 69
Cornelius McGowan	1947 - 2009	Navy	July 66 - May 68
Harry Bryant	1948 - 2009	Army	January 67 - 1970
Richard Torossian	1941 - 2010	Army	February 67 - February 69
Franz Brenner	1941 - 2010	Army	June 64 - November 66
Tim Klopschinsky	1945 - 2011	Navy	September 65 - September 69
Michael Weaver	1949 - 2011	Army	June 68 - January 71
Wade Rotthoff	1946 - 2011	Army	Army June 66 - July 67
Carl Shefferd	1947 - 2011	Army	Army August 65 - October 69
Rolland Anderson	1948 - 2012	Army	December 68 - December 70
Bernard Burkacki	1947 - 2012	Air Force	July 66 - February 70
Eric Schwaller	1950 - 2013	Marines	February 68 - January 71
Robert Valeri	1950 - 2013	Marines	October 67 - July 71
Eldon Frank	1946 - 2014	Marines	January 68 - August 69
Larry Luceus	1942 - 2014	Army	December 60 - February 65
Melvin “Moe” Swope	1949 - 2014	Army	January 69 - January 71
Arnold “Gene” Roberts	1949 - 2015	Army	August 67 - August 70
Vaughn Hull	1950 - 2015	Air Force	November 70 - November 71
William Tackett	1950 - 2015	Army	October 67 - October 71

William Boudreau	1948 - 2015	Marines	January 68 - November 70
Tim Devlin	1947 - 2015	Army	April 66 - April 68
Ken Winkler	1949 - 2015	Marines	1967 - 1970
Ray Plesiewicz	1947 - 2015	Army	1966 - 1968
David Wilder	1948 - 2016	Navy	September 67 - June 1971
Donald King	1945 - 2016	Air Force	June 67 - September 98
Dennis Shrewsbury	1941 - 2017	Coastguard	June 61 - July 65
Dominick Grake	1941 - 2017	Army	May 66 - March 68
Max Bandy	1949 - 2017	Army	August 67 - August 70
Ben Tallman	1943 - 2017	Air Force	June 61 - June 65
Edward Florence Jr.	1945 - 2017	Army	September 65 - August 69
Roger Schlee	1948 - 2017	Navy	February 68 - December 71
Larry Backucz	1951 - 2017	Army	July 70 - March 72
Larry Kilgore	1945 - 2018	Navy	December 63 - September 67
Bill Hayes	1948 - 2018	Marines	1966 - 1970
Art Sawyer	1949 - 2019	Navy	December 1969 - September 1971
Fred Sattler, Jr.	1942 - 2013	Army	November 1960 - 1963
Wallace G. Dixon	1944 - 2018	Marines	August 1966 - June 1969
James Peterson	1939 - 2018	Navy	August 1958 - August 1962
Thomas Dorey	1949 - 2019	Marines	June 1967 - April 1969
Brian Metzger	1944 - 2019	Army	July 1969 - October 1978
Mike Dicker	1948 - 2019	Marines	January 1965 - January 1969
Glen Heinrich	1947 - 2019	Army	February 1967 - February 1969
Gary Kubik	1947 - 2019	Navy	September 1967 - August 1971
Leon Suchorski	1944 - 2019	Marines	?
William Kren	1946 - 2019	Army	January 1965 - January 1968
Don Shannon	1943 - 2019	Army	May 1966 - February 1968
Gary Boucher	1941 - 2020	Army	October 1965 - October 1967
Robert Anderson	1946 - 2020	Navy	May 1966 - February 1970
Anthony Brinza III	1947 - 2020	Navy	February 1970 - April 1975
Ed Dziadzio	1947 - 2020	Navy	September 1966 - September 1969
David Codd	1949 - 2020	Marines	October 1967 - December 1971
Clark Crain	1951 - 2020	Air Force	1973 - 1977
Bill Browning	1953 - 2020	Marines	1969 - 1970
Dennis Mozdzeń	1948 - 2020	Navy	1966 - 1970
Roger Kehrier	1945 - 2020	Army	July 1965 - June 1968
Mike Kennedy	1946 - 2020	Army	February 1966 - February 1969
Frank Stecker	1946 - 2020	Army	May 1966 - May 1969
Les Brookins	1944 - 2020	Army	November 1954 - November 1961



Deceased AVVA Members / Spouses

Henry "Bob" Smith	1923 - 1995	Army	April 1952 - January 1954
Robert Nelson	1929 - 1995		
Cynthia Estermyer	1951 - 1998		
George Salhaney	1931 - 1998		
Stanley Jenkins	1924 - 2000		
Judith LaGrow	1949 - 2003		
Carol Luebke	1947 - 2003		
William Jakobic	1943 - 2003		
Dorothy Dorey	1924 - 2004		
Floyd Riley	1933 - 2004		
Lynn Wallace	1961 - 2005		
Denise Cain	1953 - 2005		
Patricia Hull	1946 - 2006		
James St. Holmes	1969 - 2007		
Anna Smith	1923 - 2008		
Adam Hays	1930 - 2010		
Karen Ligner	1950 - 2010		
Katherine Boucher	1939 - 2011		
Dorothy Wallace	- 2011		
Nancy E. Spencer	1947 - 2012		
Robert W. Irwin	1935 - 2014		
Barbara Bresnahan	1948 - 2014		
Harold Messer	1935 - 2015		
Barbara Jean Roberts	1953 - 2016		
Ann Rains	2016		
Sue Willim	2016		
Cheri Schlott	1947 - 2017		
Bill Blue	1946 - 2018		
Henry "Hank" Giles	1933 - 2018		
Ann Doherty	1944 - 2019		
Cynthia Dziadzio	1953 - 2020		
Sue Dodson	1944 - 2020		
Lucy Stern	1946 - 2021		
Maureen Estermyer	1952 - 2021		

Joy Road Cleanup on Friday, April 23, 2021

It was a cold morning, yet we had 15 VVA members to pick up the trash along Joy Road. After the donuts were consumed, we ventured out along both sides of Joy Road. Since there was no clean up since last September, we ended up packing 15 bags of trash. After tying up the bags, most of us ended up at Zack's for some fabulous chow.



From left to right: Jim Tillman Tom Fedewa, Tom Trestler, Dale Luebke, Roger Riddell, Ron King, Greg Rowe, Harry Hachigian, Joe Tebor, Terry Wells, "Captain" Whipple, Denny Fuelling, Dennis Waling, and Larry Eichstadt. Our next Joy Road Cleanup will be Friday, July 23.



Michele Anderson has retired from John Glenn (2019) and is currently working at Concordia or EMU. She ran the student interviews at John Glenn, gave us copies, and submitted them to the National Archives. We bought the coin to honor Michele for all her work with helping our Chapter member's stories from Viet Nam get into the National Archives. *Photo & story courtesy of Pete Glasgow.*



Michele Anderson



Mario Impemba's Salute To Those Who Served - Comerica Park Monday, April 2, 2018 *Photo courtesy of Gene Spurgess*

National Vietnam War Veterans Day



Leroy Paige and Ron King at the Plymouth Veterans Memorial saluting and honoring our veterans on March 29th, National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW 6695 working in conjunction with
“Hell on Wheels” car club.

Presents it's weekly car cruises

Starting May 12th, 2021 from 5pm-8pm every Wednesday

Until the end of September

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734-459-6700

Car Shows end on September 1

CRUZ'N 528





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

Darrell Bazman	734-207-3197	Don Petrere	734-595-1422
Don Dignan	734-525-0157	Al Sneath	734-377-5337
Larry Eichstadt	734-353-0343	Gene Spurgess	248-887-6212
Tom McMullen	734-658-6070	Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257

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).**

May 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



II

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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Chapter 528 Homefront

Vietnam Veterans of America



May 2021



14

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