



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



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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!

President's Corner

Greetings comrades,

First off I would like to thank all the people who helped with the Ice Festival beer tent to make it a very successful fundraiser. Also, I'd like to thank the membership for approving to give money to the VFW to help them in need, I know they were very appreciative.

It was interesting to read about how the national folks of the VVA were exploring the idea of AVVA being our VVA legacy group. This was a vision that was actually created back in the late 1990s. No specific direction for them, just the concept that AVVA would be the home now and in the future for individuals other than Vietnam war veterans, including veterans from other eras and non-veterans who were children and family members of vets. AVVA itself would determine if, and which, programs it would carry into the future when VVA was gone.

This is probably the best way to keep the VVA legacy going. It's important for us VVA vets to help AVVA as our partner, to assist them in growing their organization to be successful as they gradually move into the future with VVA as just a memory, of course, this would have to be a concept of the VVA membership and approved by them for this to happen. This isn't a bad idea.

As always, stay safe and see you at the next meeting on March 14th. It will be the second opportunity for nominations of officers.

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"



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 fully open...at least according to state rules. If you have not been vaccinated, we are asking that you wear a mask to enter and get your temperature taken...no big deal; you may then remove your mask when seated with those within your party. Euchre has resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00PM. Pinochle has returned on Fridays at 2:00PM but switches to Noon during Fish Fry Fridays. Come on down to the Post for a weekly special and a beer. Be wise, stay safe.

RECENTLY AND UPCOMING

There was the Annual Chili Cookoff on Saturday February 12 chaired by Nancy Dignan. There were 15 different chili recipes but when the smoke cleared and dust settled, Ruth Bryan was the 1st place winner. Beginning March 4, fish fries will resume after nearly two years. This endeavor requires many volunteers. We'll skip the March 18 fish fry date due to the St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner the day before but resume on March 25.



Ice Festival Fundraiser

Bob Dew, Pete Glasgow, Ron King, John Fleming and Al Sneath.



POKER SHOOTOUT

Our biannual Poker Shootout was held Friday February 25 with results tabulated after submission of this article for this newsletter.

MEMORIES

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 14 at 7:00PM so stay tuned, i.e., a reminder will be sent out. Nominations for officers and BOD members will resume. I'll see you there. It's a great time to be an American, Veteran and member of Chapter 528. Until Valhalla to all members who have gone before us.





Odds & Ends

Chapter Elections

The following members have accepted nomination for chapter office. If this slate looks familiar it's because they all currently hold the same position. No one new has yet stepped forward to run for office. While these are all good people, we would like someone new to run to bring some fresh ideas to the chapter.

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)	Darrell Bazman Don Dignan Tom McMullen Gene Spurgess
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State Council Delegate (select one)	Dennis Bielskis
--	-----------------

Alt. State Council Delegate (unlimited)	John Spencer Joe Tebor
--	---------------------------

Election Committee (3)	Bob Bryan Al Dorey Bob Lamoureux
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AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley
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Nominations for office will again be taken at the next meeting. If you are considering running for office, please make your intentions known. You may nominate yourself if you so desire.

Membership

We have lost another chapter member. Richard Stidham passed away in November. Rich had only been a member for 2 years and not much was known about him. There were no funeral arrangements announced.

There were no applications for membership this past month. Our current membership stands at 309 individual and 77 associate members. Of these we have 66 AVVA life members.

Lapsed Members: As of February 25, 2022, the following associates have not renewed their membership: Kurt Smith

Dropped from Roster: none

March AVVA Renewals: Ruth Bryan

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

The pandemic has hit the post hard the last 2 years and continues to negatively impact our finances. Our 2 kitchen renters are gone as are the court vans that used our parking lot. Business in the lounge is slow and as of right now there is only 1 hall rental until August., Successful fundraisers are necessary for the survival of the post and the chapter's home. Over the next few months, we have the Lenten fish fry's, St Paddy's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner, a Night at the Races in April and the summer car shows. Help is needed at all these events as well as a good turnout. Please do what you can to assist



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





Chaplain's Corner

His Amazing Help

Author - Patricia Raybon
from Our Daily Bread



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



The sheriff marveled at the prayers, estimating “hundreds of thousands or maybe millions of prayers” were lifted to God for help as the East Troublesome Fire raged through the mountains of Colorado in the fall of 2020. Living up to its name, the blaze consumed 100,000 acres in twelve hours, roaring through tinder-dry forests, burning three hundred homes to the ground, and threatening entire towns in its path. Then came “the Godsend,” as one meteorologist called it. No, not rain. A timely snowfall! It fell across the fire zone, arriving early for that time of year.... dropping up to a foot or more of wet snow, slowing the fire and, in some places, stopping it.

Such merciful help seemed too amazing to explain. Does God hear our prayers for snow? And rain too? The Bible records His many answers, including Elijah's hope for rain (1 Kings 18:41-46). A servant of great faith, Elijah understood God's sovereignty, including over the weather. As Psalm 147 says of God, “He supplies the earth with rain” (V.8). “He spreads the snow like wool.... Who can withstand his icy blast?” (VV. 16-17).

Elijah could hear “the sound of a heavy rain” before clouds even formed (1 Kings 18:41). Is our faith in His power that strong? God invites our trust, no matter His answer. We can look to Him for His amazing help.

Chaplain's Corner: Prayers are needed for the following: Ron King's wife, Robin, who is still at St. Joe., and Gary Pritchard on his fight with cancer. Wonderful to see Bob Caldwell getting around again. I just got the letter from Wayne County for the Joy Road Pickup dates for this year. April 29, July 22, and September 23. Please put in your calendars!



BLUM'S LANDING UPDATE

Happy NEW YEAR! Happy January! Welcome to February! Starting the third year of Covid and Terry and I have been blessed thus far in staying healthy.

SO... We can safely say we have survived COVID 19: CHECK,

DELTA: CHECK

OMICRON: CHECK

FLU BUG: (SO FAR) CHECK

Obviously. The pandemic took its toll on visits to our Blum's Landing in terms of the numbers of guests...AGAIN! We really thought 2021 was going to be positive and a new beginning. Visits started off awesome; then began to cancel out due to illness. So, here we are again beginning with some optimism. 5 families are scheduled; but let's wait and see. If you know of any veteran and family that might enjoy a time away from the craziness that is life and could enjoy the Northern woods and water with family for a spell, let them know about us! Or. tell us and we can invite them!!

With all that is crazy about this chaotic world of ours, it was hard pressed to consider what to share with you. So many readers in the past indicated appreciation for hearing about the goings and comings of Blum's Landing. So, giving some thought, it made good sense to just focus on BLESSINGS-ALL the big and little moments that keep us going.

The first one is EACH ONE OF YOU that believe and care so much in our young veterans that you still sent donations to keep the foundation of this mission going. We honor that and guard that trust. Fundraisers were an afterthought through this pandemic. Word of mouth seems to have been a guiding force this year. As well. there was an increase in folks using matching grants.

We are blessed to have a most caring and supportive Board that cares about us and keeps us confident never to give up. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus have joined us on the board and have done a lot of their visits to families while including us in their charitable efforts.

Blessings are for being allowed to be the vessel for remembering and memorializing the treasured names of honored veterans who had passed away in families.

Blessings were to be able to complete the dream of having a cabin that is handicap accessible. When we were unsure about finishing the cabin with furnishings, figuring it would take a while, angels appeared to take complete care of that matter and to do the foot work. God works his wonders in mysterious and wondrous ways.

OH! And. by the way, you need to be updated that Terry actually finished the boat he started ump-teen years ago!

So, now we pray each of you remain healthy and have wonderful days ahead. We cross our fingers for a great spring, a high water level (Terry is always worried about this), a less weedy garden(definitely we do not have a green thumb), and finally beautiful faces crossing our threshold. If ever you are in the area, give us a call and stop in for a cup of coffee!

Regards,

Jan and Terry Blumberg

Blum's Landing



VFW FISH FRY

MARCH 4, 11, 25

APRIL 1, 8, 15 2022

SKIPPING MARCH 18

FOR SAINT PATRICK DAY

FROM 5-7 P.M.

1426 Mill St., Plymouth

734-459-6700



MENU

4PC. FISH \$12.00

3 PC. FISH \$11.00

2 PC. CHILD/SENIOR \$10.00

6 PC. SHRIMP DINNER \$11.00

WALLEYE DINNER \$15.00

4PC. CHICKEN TENDERS \$12.00

2 PC. CHICKEN TENDERS \$10.00



ALL DINNERS INCLUDE COLE SLAW, DINNER ROLL, CHOICE OF FRENCH FRY, BAKED POTATO, OR MAC AND CHEESE.



Extra sides



Baked potato, mac and cheese, or French fries



\$2.00 each



March 2022



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 AUX MEET 6:30	2 ASH WED EUCHRE 7:00	3	4 PINOCHLE NOON FISH FRY 5-7	5
6	7	8 VFW MEET 7:00	9 EUCHRE 7:00	10	11 PINOCHLE NOON FISH FRY 5-7	12
13	14 VVA MEET 7:00	15 HOUSE COMM MEET 7:00	16 EUCHRE 7:00	17 ST PATRICKS DAY DINNER NOON-?	18 PINOCHLE NOON	19
20 SPRING	21	22 VVA BOARD MEET 7:00	23 EUCHRE 7:00	24	25 PINOCHLE NOON FISH FRY 5-7	26
27	28	29	30 EUCHRE 7:00	31		

March Birthdays



Sharon Cabrerros, "Skip" Dahlman, Don Dignan, Ron Dillingham, Al Dorey, Patrick Gibbons, Mike Goldstein, Dominic Grunas, Marty Heikkinen, Ellen Howington, John Itsell, Kathy Jarvis, Al King, James Kish, Tom Markowski, Mike Patten, Bob Paul, Bill Petrere, Joe Radachy, Steve Radachy, Mike Schlott, Doñ Schnettler, Kurt Smith, Larry Snowden, Virgil Speaks, Tom Tabin, Ron Thomey, Stanley Truskowski, Paul Yeagy and Jeff Yoshikawa.

Calendar by
Nancy Dignan



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

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POW/MIA		
Public Affairs	Don Dignan	734-525-0157
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Fleming	734-525-0456
State Delegate	Dennis Bielskis	248-486-0001
State A.Delegate	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943
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 Officer (VSO)

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 editors, or the National VVA. **Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 (734-459-6700).**

March 2022



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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 160 VVA members' service photos and 3 AVVA members' service photos displayed on our website and in our display case at the Post. 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
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44th Artillery Pershing
Ft. Sill, OK 1st year
HHD III Corps
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Chapter 528 Homefront

Vietnam Veterans of America



March 2022



IO

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