



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



VFW

"Buddy" Poppy

May 5, 6, 7 2022

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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
 Jim Tillman - Article
 Ted Enright - Photos

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"

President's Corner

Greetings Comrades,

We have elections coming up during the April meeting, so it is important to try attending. We will be having some pizza, as is the tradition. There is still time to nominate someone for a particular office or even nominate yourself.

It is healthy to have new people to get involved, it brings new ideas to the table. I know I feel very proud to serve this great organization.

Just some information, we have 89,113 VVA members nationally with 1,417 being women! Also, we are the 3rd largest region in the country at 12,064 and 1,297 AVVA members.

Hope to see everyone at the April 11th meeting. Until then, stay safe!



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





Digger's Desk

LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Euchre has resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00PM. Pinochle has moved to Mondays at 2:00PM during Lent to accommodate the Fish Fries. Come on down to the Post for a weekly special and a beer. Be wise, stay safe.

RECENTLY AND UPCOMING

Fish fries will continue on the Fridays during Lent beginning at 5:00PM; the first two Fridays seemed like we just stepped back two years in time averaging just under 300 customers. The St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner was a great success, selling out by 5:00PM. Thanks to Bill and Denny Donahue and Bob Monteith for their usual culinary skills. We have a night at the races coming up on April 23 which is always a grand event.

POKER SHOOTOUT

Our biannual Poker Shootout was held Friday February 25 with a bottom line of \$540.90 in net revenue.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

When I joined the Chapter in 1990, it renewed my patriotism and honor to be an American Veteran....other than family, when you concluded your military service in the 60's or 70's, you weren't exactly treated to a ticker tape parade. Because of that, our monthly meetings have always begun with a hearty "WELCOME HOME" to any new members. It was, and still is, an honor to serve the Chapter as an officer or BOD member. When I ran for President in 1992, we had 50% of the entire membership at the meeting and there were three people vying for that one seat. What has happened, i.e., we seem content to leave the Chapter in the same hands every year with no two people contending for any position. Please nominate

yourself or any one of a number of members for a position.

The annual general membership meeting and election is scheduled for Monday April 11 so stay tuned, i.e., a reminder will be sent out. Nominations for officers and BOD members will continue. We must have a minimum of 20% of our individual VVA members (62) present to conduct the election. 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.



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



Photos courtesy of Ted Enright 2016





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 (2-year term)	(4) Darrell Bazman Don Dignan Glen Jewell Tom McMullen Gene Spurgess
State Council Delegate (2-year term)	Dennis Bielskis
Alternate S.C.D. (2-year term)	John Spencer Joe Tebor
Election Committee (3)	Bob Bryan Al Dorey Bob Lamoureux

Nominations will again be taken at the April meeting before the elections. If you want to run for office, please make your intentions known. You may nominate yourself if you choose. As a little enticement to attend the membership meeting and participate in our chapter elections, pizza and pop will be provided at the meeting. Please try to come and vote for the candidate of your choice. Per our by-laws, to have a valid election we must have at least 20% of our total VVA membership present which is 62 members.

The associate members will also be electing a chapter representative. Currently nominated is Bryan Bentley.

Membership

Our current membership stands at 309 individual and 76 associate members. Of these we have 67 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of March 25, 2022, the following individuals have not renewed their membership:

AVVA: Kurt Smith

Dropped from Roster: none

April AVVA Renewals: Steve Boucher

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 Activities

The fish fries are going very well with an average of 289 diners served the first 2 weeks. The corned beef and cabbage dinners on St. Paddy's Day were sold out by 5:00, Thanks to all who have come out to work and/or dine at these events. On April 23rd we are having a "Night at the Races". This is a fun event where you will be able to wager on actual horse races using monopoly money. Races are projected on the wall in the hall are there will be food and drinks available.



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





Chaplain's Corner

"And Seven Others"

Author - Dave Branon
from Our Daily Bread

Tragedy struck near Los Angeles in January 2020, when nine people died in a helicopter crash. Most news stories began something like this, "NBA superstar Kobe Brant, his daughter Gianna ("Gigi"), and seven others lost their lives in the accident."

It's natural and understandable to focus on the well-known people involved in a horrible situation like this – and the deaths of Kobe and his precious teenager Gigi are heartbreaking beyond description. But we must keep in mind that in life's big picture there's no dividing line that makes the "seven others" (Payton, Sarah, Cristina, Alyssa, John, Keri, and Ara) any less significant.

Sometimes we need to be reminded that each human is important in God's eyes. Society shines bright lights on the rich and famous. Yet fame doesn't make a person any more important than your next-door neighbor, the noisy kids who play in your street, the down-on-his-luck guy at the city mission, or you!

Every person on earth is created in God's image (Genesis 1:27), whether rich or poor (Proverbs 22:2). No one is favored more than another in His eyes (Romans 2:11), and each is in need of a Savior (3:23).

We glorify our great God when we refuse to show favoritism—whether in the church (James 2:1-4) or in society at large.

Chaplain's notes: Ron King's wife (Robin) is still in St. Joe Hospital, recovering from her wound. Bob Denstedt is living up in St. Ignace and has been getting chemo twice a week, still very alert and fighting his Stage 4 cancer from his time in Vietnam. Bob is a fighter and a wonderful fellow vet and misses the fish fries and the camaraderie at the Post. Gary Pritchard is doing

well at this time, and once every three weeks he has chemo all day long. Hang in there Gary, and it is good to see you at the meetings!



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



VFW "Buddy" Poppy Days

It is Spring, which means that the "Buddy" Poppy drive is just around the corner, and we are looking for volunteers to assist in this endeavor.

The "Buddy" Poppy has been the official memorial flower of the VFW since 1922. At first, they were assembled by disabled and needy veterans who would be paid for their work, to provide them financial assistance.

On May 20, 1924, the VFW was granted the trademark rights in the name "Buddy" under the classification of artificial flowers.

All proceeds received benefit the veterans in the Plymouth/Canton area that are in need and require some assistance.

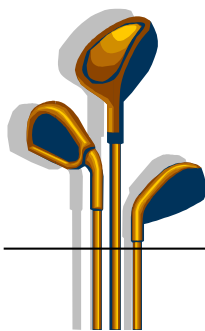
The Plymouth VFW Post #6695 will be holding their Poppy distribution this year on May 5, 6 & 7 with the locations still being determined. A sign-up sheet will be available at the April VFW, VVA and AUX meetings. So dust off your TV tray, your lawn chair or stool and donate a few hours of your time for a good cause.

Please show your support for VFW veterans on "Buddy" Poppy Days. Thank you.

Jim Tillman

Post #6695, Jr. Vice Commander





10th ANNUAL GARY BATES MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Event Location:

Links at Gateway
33290 Gateway Drive
Romulus, MI

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, May 21
9am Tee Time
Lunch & Awards Ceremony to
follow at the Gateway Clubhouse

Registration:

\$95 per golfer
Due by May 14
Make Checks Payable To:
John Fleming

Proceeds of the Event:

The American Diabetes Association
The American Cancer Society

Send Payment & Registration

to:

ADA/ACS Golf Outing
PO Box 819
Garden City, MI 48136

Event Highlights:

18 Holes of Golf
Shotgun Start, Four Person Scramble

For more information,

contact:

John Fleming - 734-604-0227
John.Fleming0149@comcast.net

PLEASE NOTE – ANY PGA MEMBERS AND THEIR TEAMS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES

Player: _____

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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



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

April Birthdays



Danny Aulidge, Carl Andersen, Ralph Auge, Gordon Bardeleben, Michael Barnowski, Robert Bieske, Earl Burgis, Robert Couturier, Thomas Crozier, Tom Curry, Norris Cutler, Richard Demeester, Henry Eichner, Gerald Grzesik, Michael Hughes, Glen Jewell, Larry Jones, Robert Leshan, John Lindsay, Barbara Little, Rich Mazurkiewicz, Joseph McCarthy, John McClure, Gary Meier, Chris Pope, Gary Pritchard, Jay Roberts, Gordon Segal, Dale Sirkle and Mark Tomasaitis.

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

Homefront Newsletter

Editor & Publisher	Tom Brown	313-320-5775
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		
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)

Richard LeGault 734-800-9399
RLEGAULTVSO@outlook.com

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).**

April 2022

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
2nd Missile Battalion
44th Artillery Pershing
Ft. Sill, OK 1st year
HHD III Corps
Ft. Sill, OK 2nd year



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Chapter 528 Homefront

Vietnam Veterans of America



April 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