



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
Vietnam Vets Memorial New York	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
Veteran's Assistance	4
December Activities Update	5
Calendar	6
Children's Christmas Party	7
Soup & Salad Flyer	8
Committees	9
Ads	10
Membership Form	12

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
 John Fleming - Articles

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

President's Corner

“Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another”

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, it sure was a beautiful day. It's the start of the holiday season so everyone, stay safe and calm!

The Defense Department is planning to phase out the existing military ID cards for retirees and dependents. Even if your ID card has no expiration date, you will still need to get a replacement by 2026! In the meantime, cards with expiration dates are required to be replaced within 90 days of elapsing. The Defense Department began the effort to update all those IDs to the new format in July 2020, but the changeover hit delays due to the pandemic.

All veterans will benefit from a new act signed into law recently. It will give free lifetime access to National Parks. To use the benefit veterans will need to present a form of valid identification, which may include DoD ID card, Veteran Health Identification card, Veteran ID card, or state-issued card displaying veteran status.

In closing, I just wanted to let you know that there will be a Pearl Harbor memorial on December 7 at 1pm in downtown Plymouth by the Veterans Memorial. Also, I hope to see you all at the next meeting on December 12 at 7pm. In the meantime, stay safe and warm!



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





Digger's Desk

LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Euchre is now on Wednesdays at 7:00PM and Pinochle has resumed on Fridays at 2:00PM. Sliders are available any day. Specials vary weekly. Call in and come on down to the Post for a bite to eat and a beer. Be wise, stay safe.

RECENTLY AND UPCOMING

If you missed the annual Meat Raffle on Saturday November 12, you missed a hilarious and successful event. There were over 100 participants and I think almost everyone in the room won something. Kudos to the organizers and volunteers for a job well done.

Veterans Day started with a solemn event at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Plymouth. Speakers reverently kept their speeches short and to the point. Afterward, SOS was served at the Post followed by many restaurants and other businesses offering generous Veteran Thank You's.

A memorial service was held for Jim Kimball on November 5. The funeral home personnel remarked on the large amount of people present at the service which goes to acknowledge Jim's value to the Chapter, Post and Community. Rest in peace Jim.

When do you throw a birthday party...when it is your 80th. Bob Dew had many of his friends and former co-workers at the Post to celebrate this memorable event. Thanks, Bob, and congratulations.

The November membership meeting started with a pig roast prior to official Chapter business. It was sort of a practice event for a possible fundraiser next year. This pig roast was a freebie and I understand was a satisfying event as I was missing due to flu.

Monday, November 21, was a huge shopping day for the Chapter at Kohl's Department Store. With all the discounts afforded the Chapter, several thousands of dollars in clothing were purchased and will be distributed to Love a Michigan Vet, Veterans Haven and Michigan Veterans Center in December.

November 26 was a huge celebration at the Post as the University of Michigan thumped favorite Ohio State in their annual meeting, this year in Columbus.

A children's Christmas Party will be held at the Post on Saturday December 10. Be sure to alert Jennifer DeLong with the number and ages of youngsters who will attend.

December 7, Pearl Harbor Day, will be remembered with a brief ceremony at 1:00PM at Plymouth Memorial Park, followed by a snack at the Post.

The next general membership meeting will be on Monday December 12 at 7:00PM. 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



Special Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, kind words, and flowers with my wife's passing. Also, to those who made the long trip to attend her Funeral Mass. You have no idea how much this has helped me at this horrible time.
Gene Spurgess BOD



Odds & Ends

Membership

There were 3 applications for membership this past month. Gary Estermyer and Joe Tebor have joined the AVVA as dual members and Joe's wife, Cynthia has also joined our associates. Welcome Cindy to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 310 VVA and 80 AVVA members. Of these we have 71 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of November 25, 2022, the following individuals have not renewed their membership: none

Dropped from Roster: none

December AVVA Renewals: none

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.

Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree is up in the post lounge. It is white and decorated with a military theme. If you have an ornament or small picture in a frame of a loved one who served, please bring it to the post and place it on the tree.

Pearl Harbor Day

There will be a ceremony on Wednesday, December 7 at the Plymouth Veterans Park in Plymouth at 1:00. This service is to commemorate the attack on Pearl Harbor, "a day that will live in infamy". The event will be followed by a lunch of chili at the VFW post. Everyone is invited to attend.

New Year's Eve

We are planning an informal get-together at the VFW on December 31 starting at 8:00. It is open to anyone who wants to attend and help ring in the new year. We will have snacks and hors d'oeuvres so please bring a dish to share with your friends. For those who

can make to midnight, we will have a toast to welcome in 2023.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL!**



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



"The hauntingly beautiful Vietnam Veterans Memorial of Greater Rochester, New York commemorates the 280 Rochester natives who perished in Vietnam. It also represents American military personnel who succumbed to illnesses linked to the Army's use of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. Vietnam veterans with illnesses caused by Agent Orange, continue to march into the Vietnam Wall to join their fallen brothers. These men and women will not be remembered as fatalities of the Vietnam War. Their names will not be engraved into the Vietnam Wall...yet they are still victims of the Vietnam War. These veterans have died slow painful deaths because of their country and will not be remembered as dying for their country. This is truly a gripping photograph of the Vietnam Memorial in Rochester, New York. This Vietnam Veterans Memorial is located in Highland Park, Rochester, New York. The bronze figure was carved by Wayne Williams, installed in 1996."

Additional photos: <https://weburbanist.com/2017/05/28/memorable-memorials-10-extraordinary-war-monuments/3/>

Article by Steve from the Web Urbanist
Courtesy of Tom Brown



Chaplain's Corner

Getting What We Want

From Our Daily Bread
Author: Tim Gustafson

Aaron Burr anxiously awaited the result of the tie-breaking vote from the US House of Representatives. Deadlocked with Thomas Jefferson in the 1800 race for the presidency, Burr had reason to believe that the House would declare the winner. However, he lost, and bitterness gnawed at his soul. Nurturing grievances against Alexander Hamilton for not supporting his candidacy, Burr killed Hamilton in a gun duel less than four years later. Outraged by the killing, his country turned its back on him, and Burr died a dour old man.

Political power plays are a tragic part of history. When King David was nearing death, his son Adonijah recruited David's commander and leading priest to make him king (1 KINGS 1:5-8). But David had chosen Solomon as king (V.17.) With the help of the prophet Nathan, the rebellion was put down (VV.11-53). Despite his reprieve, Adonijah plotted a second time to steal the throne, and Solomon had him executed (2:13-25).

How human of us to want what's not rightfully ours! No matter how hard we pursue power, prestige, or possessions, it's never quite enough. We always want something more. How unlike Jesus, who "humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross"! (PHILIPPIANS 2:8).

Ironically, selfishly pursuing our own ambitions never brings us our truest, deepest longings. The outcome to God is the only path to peace and joy!

Chaplain's Corner: I am here on this earth to glorify God and share His Word with the world! I am studying the Book of Revelation in the Bible. This can be quite frightening, however I believe the Bible that Jesus finally goes after Satan, and puts him down for good. Justice is served!

Our church, Trinity, located at Ann Arbor Road and Gottfredson, will be hosting "A Christmas

Cantata, Joy Has Dawned" with an orchestra and a 50 member choir, on December 3rd at 5:00 pm and also at 7 pm. The cost is \$8/person, and it would last roughly 45 minutes. A few years ago we had several of our VVA members in attendance. After the 7 pm performance, we can meet up at the post for some refreshments!



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

Cell: 734-751-2992
rekjwhipple@yahoo.com
HHC/2503rd Infantry
173rd Airborne Brigade
1968 - 1969



Veteran Assistance

If you know of a veteran is down on their luck and need financial assistance in Wayne County, there are two different sources that might be able to help: Soldiers and Sailors Relief Fund Michigan Veteran Trust Fund. These funds can provide financial assistance to indigent veterans, their spouse, their widow/widower, or their minor children.

To be eligible you must:

1. Have recognized wartime service
2. Be Honorably Discharged
3. Be unable to provide basic necessities of life

To apply, you will need to visit the Veterans Service Center, 400 Monroe, Suite 405, Detroit. The phone number is 313-224-5045. You will need to bring a number of documents including Military Discharge, verification of income and expenses, etc. You should contact the Center first to make sure you have everything you need. A counselor will review your application and determine if you meet the eligibility requirements.

John Fleming

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Salvation Army Bell Ringing will be on Saturday, December 17 at the Holiday Market in Canton. All of the ringing slots have been filled but there are a few "On Call" slots that need to be filled. To the right is the Ringing List. Please let me know if you can be "On Call".

17th Annual Winter Clothing Drive

We will be donating clothing to the three charities once again this year, the Michigan Veterans Foundation, Love a Michigan Vet Project and Veterans Haven.

Ron King, Don Dignan, Bob Dew and I have been out to Kohl's to purchase and pick up the requested items and we will asking for help in delivering these items. We will be doing this the week of December 12.

Once again, our friend Lisa from Kohl's (Sheldon and Ford Roads in Canton) has been very helpful in purchasing these items. We were authorized to spend \$6000 spread among the three charities and we spent \$5925 (regular price - \$15,300) and still have \$2100 in Kohl's Cash to use for additional items and the Ann Arbor VA.

This year the Goodman Acker Law Firm in Southfield is joining us in collecting items to be taken to the Michigan Veterans Foundation.

John Fleming – john.fleming0149@comcast.net 734-604-0227



John Fleming
92nd Finance Section
Cam Ranh Bay



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING
HOLIDAY MARKET
520 S LILLEY ROAD
CANTON
SATURDAY DECEMBER 17

This year we would like to have just two Bell Ringers at each sign up time with one other person signing up as "On Call"

<u>Time</u>	<u>Bell Ringer</u>	<u>On Call Backup</u>
<u>I WILL BE DELIVERING THE KETTLE TO THIS SITE</u>		
10:00am to 11:00am Name	Tom Trestler	Rick Popa 734-637-1995
	Frank Barkovich	XXXXXXXXXX
11:00am to 12:00pm Name	Bob Dew	_____
	Denny Fuelling	XXXXXXXXXX
12:00pm to 1:00pm Name	Mike Panich	Patrick Doherty 248-912-5674
	Mike Steffes	XXXXXXXXXX
1:00pm to 2:00pm Name	Mike Kelly	_____
	Gary Estermyer	XXXXXXXXXX
2:00pm to 3:00pm Name	Jim Tillman	_____
	Dale Roeseler	XXXXXXXXXX
3:00pm to 4:00pm Name	Larry Eichstadt	Tim Makins 734-891-4719
	Ron King	XXXXXXXXXX

If there are any problems, please contact Sandy of Salvation Army - 734-453-5464, ext 6234 or John Fleming - 734-604-0227

Thank you for helping and here's hoping that you have the Merriest of Holiday Seasons - John



December 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 PINOCHLE 2:00	3
4 FIREKEEPERS BUS TRIP 8:00	5	6 AUX MEET 6:30	7 PEARL HARBOR DAY EUCHRE 7:00	8	9 PINOCHLE 2:00	10 KIDS XMAS PARTY 1-3 ADULT PARTY 7:00
11	12 VVA MEET 7:00	13 VFW MEET 7:00	14 EUCHRE 7:00	15	16 PINOCHLE 2:00	17 SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING
18	19 BLOOD DRIVE 1-8	20 HOUSE COMM MEET 7:00	21 EUCHRE 7:00	22	23 PINOCHLE 2:00	24
25 	26	27	28 EUCHRE 7:00	29	30 PINOCHLE 2:00	31 NEW YEARS EVE DROP IN PARTY



December Birthdays

Dennis Berent, Bryan Bentley, Ruth Bryan, Mike Crittenden, Gerald Dodson, John Erickson, Thomas Fedewa, Doug Fox, Mark Gallo, Lonnie Hampton, David Kaliszewski, Steve Kozmor, Robert Marsico, Patrick McHenry, Dan Michael, Michael Panich, James Perkins, Pete Reckinger, Dale Roeseler, Roger Shanks, Dave Stenrose, James Tillman, Ray Vincent, Michael Williams, Robert Williams, Thomas Winniesdorffer and Richard Wurtzel.

Calendar by
Nancy Dignan



VFW AUXILIARY 6695



IS INVITING CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER TO THIS YEARS:

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN ON DECEMBER 10TH BETWEEN 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M. TO VISIT ALL THE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF POST 6695 VFW, AUXILIARY, VVA AND AVVA MEMBERS. PLEASE JOIN US FOR

- SANTA
- GAMES
- CRAFTS
- TREATS

DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2022

TIME: 1 PM TO 3 PM

WHERE: 1426 S. MILL ST., PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

WHO: CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF POST 6695 VFW, AUXILIARY, VVA AND AVVA MEMBERS AGES 12 AND UNDER.

Must RSVP each child attending

with their name & age

RSVP's or questions please
contact:

Jen DeLong by November 23, 2022

Text or call: 734-502-7871



COME JOIN US

SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2023

THE MAYFLOWER/LT. GAMBLE POST 6695

AUX IS HOSTING A SOUP AND SALAD



DINNER AT

1426 MILL ST., PLYMOUTH, MI

5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

\$10.00 PER PERSON

CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

Contact Judy Thomason (734) 545-0184
judythomason@gmail.com



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
RLEGAULT.VSO@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).**

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 168 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 Dean Bell 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



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, *Enrolled Agent*

29217 Ford Road, Suite 106
Garden City, MI 48135

phone 734 838-1232 fax 734 525-5280
cell 734 604-0227

www.FlemingFinancialSvcs.com
Email: 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

Insured Free Estimates

**SUNRISE
TREE SERVICE
INCORPORATED**

Specializing in:
Trimming & Pruning
Tree, Shrub & Stump Removal

Harry Yaremchuk
(734) 522-6215



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
- * Business Coaching
- * Small Business Specialists
- * Veteran Owned

P.O. 871831
Canton, MI 48187-7531

734-748-5168
frabar2136@gmail.co

- 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

Vietnam Veterans of America



December 2022



12

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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 6319
Plymouth MI 48170-0473