



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



VFW Fish Fry

Photo courtesy of Judy Thomason

Index

President's Corner	1
Digger's Desk	2
Odds & Ends	3
Chaplain's Corner	4
VVA Achievement Award	5
Plymouth Ice Festival	6
Photos of Fish Fry	6
VFW Fish Fry Flyer	7
Calendar	8
Blum's Landing	9
Committees	10
Ads	11
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
 Bob Dew - Article
 Mikey Smith - Photos
 Judy Thomason - 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,

As we get closer to our elections, it's important that you attend our meetings so you can vote on who is to lead this organization. Hopefully, we get some new blood to run for an office or board position.

At our last meeting, there was a motion on our floor to change our bylaw that says we must have 20% of our membership to have a quorum of 15%. I think this is a good move based on our average for last year's meetings, which was 51. According to our membership number of 310 members, that means 62 people would have to be present for a quorum, so you see, we are short of that number. By changing it to 15%, that means only 47 people would need to be present.

I had the privilege to give five individuals the Vietnam Veterans of America medal, Ron King, Bob Dew, Bob Lamoureux, Don Dignan, and Bryan Bentley, for all the outstanding work they have done for the VVA over the years. I know there are a lot more folks that do a lot, and without your help, things wouldn't get done. I, for one, am very grateful for how their membership steps up and volunteers for events.

Please stay safe, and I hope to see you at the next meeting on March 11th at 7 pm!



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

Euchre continues on Wednesday starting at 7:00PM. Pinochle continues on Monday at 2:00PM through the Lenten season until Fish Fries conclude.

Call in and come on down to the Post for a bite to eat and a beer. Specials vary weekly. Be wise, stay safe.

RECENTLY AND UPCOMING

The Chapter Committee regarding the dissolution of VVA National is ongoing, in an attempt to avoid surprises in the future at the National level.

The Biannual Poker Shootout took place in February, yielding net revenue of \$690. The next tourney will take place in October

Super Bowl Sunday at the Post was a great time. Even I got lucky. I plan on attending next year when maybe the Lions will make an appearance.

The Plymouth Ice Show was a success which meant that the Chapter's participation with E.G Nick's was a huge success.

Fish Fries have begun and the crowd is large. See you there.

St. Paddy's day at the Post next month means corned beef dinners and sandwiches.

The next general membership meeting will be on Monday March 11 at 7:00PM with continuing nominations for elective office. It's a great time to be an American, Veteran and member of Chapter 528. Until Valhalla to all who have gone before us.



VFW Fish Fry Friday, February 16, 2024
Photo courtesy of Mikey Smith



Plymouth Ice Show



Odds & Ends

Chapter Elections

The following members have accepted nominations for chapter office.

President	Bob Dew
1st Vice President	Ron King
	Rick Adis
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow
Secretary	Mike Kelly
Treasurer	John Fleming
Board Members (2 year term)	Darrell Bazman
	Don Dignan
	Gary Estermyer
	Gene Spurgess
State Council Delegate	John Heraghty
Alt. State Council Delegate	Ron King
	John Spencer
Election Committee (3)	Bob Bryan
	Al Dorey
	Bob Lamoureux
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley

Nominations for office will again be taken at the next meeting and in April before the elections. If you are considering running for office, please make your intentions known. You may nominate yourself if you so desire.

Membership

There were no applications for membership this past month. James Fortney has transferred his AVVA membership to Chapter 142. Our current membership stands at 310 individuals and 85 associate members. Of these, we have 76 AVVA life members.

Lapsed Members: As of February 25, 2024, the following associates have not renewed their membership: Troy Fisher, Tony Lipare

Dropped from Roster: none

March 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.

VFW Fish Fry

The Lenten fish fries started on February 16th. We served a modest 270 dinners the first night and jumped to 344 the second which caught everyone by surprise. But we have a great crew and could serve everyone without any delays. I want to thank them all for helping out. We will be doing a fish fry on March 15th even though it is only 2 days before St. Patrick's Day.

St. Patrick's Day

On Sunday, March 17th we will be serving corned beef and cabbage dinners and sandwiches starting at noon until they are gone. You can dine in or get a carry out order. This is a very popular event so come early and come hungry.



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





Chaplain's Corner

FELLOWSHIP IN JESUS

Author: Dave Brandon of 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



I'm not sure who's responsible for turning out the lights and locking up the church after our Sunday morning service, but I know one thing about that person: Sunday dinner is going to be delayed. That's because so many people love to hang around after church and talk about life decisions, hear about issues and struggles, and more. It's a joy to look around twenty minutes after the service and see so many people still enjoying each other's company. Fellowship is a key component of the Christlike life. Without the connectivity that comes from spending time with fellow believers, we'd miss out on many benefits of being a believer.

For instance, Paul says we can "encourage one another and build each other up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). The author of Hebrews agrees, telling us not to neglect getting together, because we need to be "encouraging one another". And the writer also says that when we're together, we spur one another on toward love and good deeds".

As people dedicated to living for Jesus, we prepare ourselves for faithfulness and service as we "encourage the disheartened" and are "patient with everyone" (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Living that way, as He helps us, allows us to enjoy true fellowship and "to do what is good for each other and everyone else".

Chaplain's Corner: Prayers for Don "Digger" and Nancy as they have decisions to make regarding Don's health issues!



VFW Fish Fry February 16, 2024

Photos courtesy of Judy Thomason



Vietnam Veterans of America Achievement Award



During the February 2024 General Membership Meeting, President John Heraghty made a presentation to 4 Chapter Members and 1 AVVA Member of the Vietnam Veterans of America Achievement Award. Pictured above are Ron King, Bryan Bentley, Don Dignan, Bob Lamoureux and Bob Dew. After seeing many Achievement Awards being given out during the last National Convention John did some investigation and submitted write ups on each of the individuals requesting Achievement Awards which he presented during our last meeting.



Plymouth Ice Festival

We had a great weekend during the Plymouth Ice Festival working at the Veterans Beer Tent located behind E. G. Nicks. Frank and Tony were there Friday and Saturday nights moving from the Ice Bar through the Restaurant to the Veterans Tent and back visiting with customers. We had an excellent work crew of 9 volunteers each night covering ID verification, collecting the entrance fee, fitting wristbands, and covering rear and side emergency exits. Considerable Thank You goes out to Frank and Tony for allowing us the opportunity to assist with the festival Veterans beer tent.



Volunteers helping out at the beer tent at Plymouth Ice Festival



Bob Dew, Sgt.
Marine Corps
Supply
H&MS II, MAGII,
1st MAW DaNang



Fish Fry February 16, 2024
Photo courtesy of Judy Thomason



VFW Fish Fry Friday February 16, 2024
Photo courtesy of Mikey Smith



VFW Fish Fry Friday, February 16, 2024
Photo courtesy of Judy Thomason

VFW FISH FRY

FEBRUARY 16, 2024 - MARCH 29, 2024



FROM 4:30 - 7:00 P.M.

1426 Mill St., Plymouth

734-459-6700



MENU



4 PC. FISH	\$14.00
3 PC. FISH	\$13.00
2 PC. CHILD/SENIOR	\$11.00
6 PC. SHRIMP DINNER	\$13.00
WALLEYE DINNER	\$17.00
4 PC. CHICKEN TENDERS	\$14.00
2 PC. CHICKEN TENDER	\$11.00

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



Don't forget your yummy desserts for \$1.00





March



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



Calendar by
Nancy Dignan

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, Albert King, James Kish, Thomas Markowski, Mike Patten, Bob Paul, Bill Petrere, Joseph Radachy, Stephen Radachy, Mike Schlott, Don Schnettler, Larry Snowden, Virgil Speaks, Thomas Tabin, Ronald Thomey, Stanley Truskowski, Paul Yeagy, Jeff Yoshikawa

Dear Friends of Blum's Landing,

First of all, a cheerful 'HELLO!' To each one of you. Also, a most "Blessed and Happy New Year!" to one and all. 2023, perhaps you would not believe, was the 13th anniversary from the opening of Blum's Landing! Time truly went by quickly for us! With 'tongue in cheek' we began to notice the advent of 13-itis! In fact, everything that went against the grain was, in essence due to 13-it is!! We had our fingers crossed a lot!! Break downs with a lot of things... the tractor, motors, microwave, dishwasher, stove, etc. etc. etc. At first it was funny, then it just became a quandary of "What next?"

BUT... we survived. The weather was lovely and conducive to many families coming for a visit to our Blum's Landing. One of our charming moments was the privilege to have a RE-union of two of our families who visited the year before and who came back to share pleasant memories with each other and us. Families were busy exploring the area; so not much fishing appeared to get done. The most pleasant surprise was how special the cabin was received and enjoyed. We felt the need to possibly consider some visual entertainment (i.e. Screen for family movies); but were quickly deterred even thinking about it. One of the best compliments was that families enjoyed chatting and talking with each other for the first time or in a while. We were "SUPER LUCKY" to be adopted by the Onaway American Legion, Post 317 whose members graciously volunteered to help with spring (set up) and fall(winterize).

Each year we truly enjoy visits and particularly our dear friends and supporters from the Northville American Legion Chapter motorcycle riders. Also, our dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus (aka Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Brewer) visited to share the donations collected by many of the holiday parties/services they engage in. Other Fundraisers truly humbled us. The hard work and time to hold them is appreciated. The EZ Car Group/Hell on Wheels, the Detroit Hot Rod /Sport/and Custom Group, and the Metro Classic Cars held wonderful events thankfully on perfect sunny summer days. Knights of Columbus 2011 of Fenton, Huron State Bank, Harborside Bath and Body, and MMMA held fundraisers, as well.

There continue to be many dear folks who have unabashedly supported Blum's Landing for lots of years. The Martin family. The Beach Hall foundation. The Corrigan Family Fund, the Retherfords, the Hayley Rose Foundation, the Oldhams, the Burns Family, the Fina/Herstein Family, Post 389-Women's Auxiliary, American Legion, the Furdaks, the Mosers, and Expert Mechanical Services were among those. Our privilege and responsibility is humbled by any amount received from old and new friends who hear the story of Blum's Landing and wish to show belief in our philosophy. Even today after so many years, we choke up when we receive a small encouraging note and check. We hope you will share our story; and even if you could welcome home a Service person, invite them to contact us here at the Blum's Landing.

Sincerely,

Jan and Terry

Jan and Terry Blumberg, Managers, Blum's Landing



Chapter 528 Homefront

March 2024



10

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
Gene Spurgess	248-887-621	Tom Fedewa	734-404-6598
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	734-416-515
Chaplain	Rich Whipple	734-751-299
Chapter Historian		
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
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	Ron King	734-679-6424
	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244
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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	734-767-1654
State Alt. Delegate	Joe Tebor	734-502-8087
State Alt. Delegate	John Spencer	734-397-8975
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	313-320-5775

Chapter 528 VVA Service Officer (VSO)

Rich LeGault	734-800-9399
Canton CBOC (Tues. & Fri.)	
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



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Chapter 528 Homefront



March 2024



12

Vietnam Veterans of America

VVA membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (a minimum of 180 days) in the Republic of Vietnam between November 1, 1955 and May 7, 1975, or in any other 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 _____

_____ I am a Vietnam Era Veteran and would like to be a member. Enclosed is a copy of my DD 214 and \$50 Lifetime Membership fee _____

_____ I am not a Vietnam Era Veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member. One may become an Associate Member (AVVA) for _____ 1 year \$20 _____ Life membership (\$100). 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

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