



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Kokomo Reunion

See pages 8 and 13

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Homefront Staff

Tom Brown - Editor & Publisher
 Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
 Bob Dew - President & Columnist
 Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
 Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
 Nancy Dignan - Calendar
 Dave Banks - Photos

Distribution Staff

Jim Hodgson - Chief
 Ron King
 Dale Luebke

Welcome Home!

President's Corner

"Never Again Will One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another"

August has gone by very fast this year, and I am sure September will be no different with the upcoming Plymouth Fall Festival. Our chapter members are already involved with preparation for the RIB Dinner that will be held on Friday, September 6th, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, followed up by working the Fall Festival Beer Tent Friday and Saturday nights from 7:00 pm until 12:00 midnight. In addition, we are assisting the VFW in handling the parking lot behind E.G. Nicks during the weekend. We may need a couple more volunteers for the parking lot; if interested, please check with me before the Fall Festival weekend. We also have several of our members going to Kokomo for the Howard County Vietnam Veterans Reunion. If you are interested, it runs from September 19 to 22, 2024 or curious, come down for a day and check things out. I am aware of one room that is available for 2 and an opening for 1 in another room, if interested, let me know before I cancel the reservation. I spent Aug 19 - 23 at the VVA Leadership Conference in Reno and obtained some good information to present at our next General Membership Meeting on September 9, 2025. I have pre-sell tickets available for the RIB Dinner if you are interested in getting some to sell. The price of the dinner is \$18.00.



Bob Dew, Sgt.
 Marine Corps Supply
 H&MS II, MAGII,
 1st MAW
 DaNang Airbase 1969





Digger's Desk

LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Euchre continues on Thursday at 7:00PM until the Car Shows conclude on September 4, then switching to Wednesdays September 11.

Pinocle continues on Friday at 2:00PM right into 2025.

Car shows continue on Wednesdays at 4:00PM, running until September 4.

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 August 16 steak fry was a success, avoiding weather threats. Thanks to all the volunteers for making it happen.

Many things are happening in September, e.g., Plymouth Fall Festival, BBQ Rib Dinner behind E.G. Nicks, Howard County Veterans Reunion in Kokomo, Indiana and the Annual VFW Golf Outing at Hickory Creek.

The next general membership meeting will be on Monday September 9 at 7:00PM. See you there. It's a great time to be an American, Veteran and member of Chapter 528. Until Valhalla to all who have gone before us.



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



Lora and her son Luca Agazzi thoroughly enjoyed the Derby and received the award for the largest fish at last night's VVA General Membership Meeting. I passed the microphone on to Luca to answer questions, revealing his technique and equipment used.

Afterward, Lora shared a vacation photo of Luca standing next to a "baby" shark he caught fishing on a pier in Florida. The shark was longer than Luca is tall. Take care,

Pete Glasgow



The best VSO's in Reno, Nevada August 23, 2024. They are there for National's advanced training. Member Gary Estermyer is the third person from the right and Michigan VVA President and former Chapter 528 member John Riling is at the back and centered, and he's holding his index finger up because Michigan VSO's are number 1



Odds & Ends

Membership

There were 2 applications for membership this month. Charles Shipley, Navy, has joined the chapter and Deborah "Irish" Gallo has joined our associates. Welcome Chuck and Irish to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 315 VVA and 86 AVVA members. Of these, we have 79 life AVVA members.

Lapsed Members: As of August 25, 2024, the following individuals have not renewed their membership: John Stewart, Bill McCully

Dropped from Roster: none

September 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.

AVVA Life Membership

We have 7 associates who are still on a yearly membership. I encourage you to convert to a life membership when your renewal comes up. The cost is only \$100 and if you are committed to remaining a member it makes economic sense as it would be recovered in 5 years. Plus, it would be beneficial because your membership would never lapse and you would not have to worry about sending in your renewal fee.

National Membership Reports

The latest report shows VVA continues to grow with 211 new members this past month and is now at 91,804. AVVA stands at 11,175. Michigan remains the 5th largest state in total VVA membership with 4,904 members and is tied for 1st in AVVA membership with 898. Chapter 154 in Clinton Twp. is now the 4th largest in the country at 808. Our 315 members put us well behind the chapter in 25th place at 349. The average chapter size nationwide is 124.

VFW Golf Outing

The sign-up sheet is in the post lounge so get your foursome together and register for the outing at Hickory Creek Golf Course on Saturday, September 28. There are still spots available for teams and single players in the outing. There is a limit of 20 teams so don't delay. Cost is \$85 per person or \$340 per team, Payment must be made by September 15. Make all checks out to VFW 6695.

I am still looking for donations of new golf balls or other small items I can put in the goody bags. Please get them to me ASAP.



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



VFW Golf Outing Fundraiser Saturday, September 28, 2024



Where: Hickory Creek Golf Course

When: 8:00 Check-in,

9:00 shotgun start

Cost: \$85 per person/ \$340 team

Included: golf/w cart, coffee & donuts before golf, hot dog, chips & drink at the turn, dinner at the post after golf

Prizes will be awarded for low scores, closest to the pin and closest to the squiggly line

Silent auction will be held during dinner

Sign-up sheet available in the lounge. All money must be paid by September 15th.

Limit of 20 teams.



Chaplain's Corner

Courage From the Shepherd

Author Lisa Samoa
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 nearly 107,000 people in the stadium stood in anticipation as Texas A&M college football kicker Seth Small took the field with only two seconds left in the game. With A&M tied 38-38 against the best team in the country, a perennial football powerhouse, a successful field goal would seal an epic upset victory. Looking calm, Small lined up to take the kick. The Stadium erupted in pandemonium after the ball sailed through the uprights for the winning score.

When asked by reporters how he prepared for such an intense moment, Small said he kept repeating to himself the first verse of Psalm 23, "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." When Small needed strength and reassurance, he drew on the deeply personal metaphor of God as a shepherd.

Psalm 32 is beloved because it assures us that we can be at peace, or comforted because we have a loving and trustworthy shepherd who actively cares for us. David testified both to the reality of fear in intense or difficult situations, as well as the comfort God provides (V.4). The word translated "comfort" conveys assurance, or the confidence and courage to keep going because of His guiding presence.

When walking into challenging circumstances, not knowing what the outcome will be, we can take courage as we repeat the gentle reminder that the Good Shepherd walks with us.

Chaplain's Corner: Thank you for all your prayers for John Krueger. John was released from the Hospital this past Thursday. We haven't seen Roger Shanks, as he is still in his home. We hope he will be back with us at our meetings. As always, if you are aware of any of our guys that are having issues, please let me know!

Steak Dinner at the Post Friday, August 16, 2024



Photos courtesy of Dave Banks



September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 LABOR DAY	3 AUX MEET 6:30	4 LAST CAR SHOW 4-7	5 EUCHRE 7:00 FALL FEST	6 PINOCHLE 2:00 FALL FEST RIB DINNER EJ NICKS	7 FALL FEST
8	9 GOLF VVA MEET 7:00	10 VFW MEET 7:00	11 EUCHRE 7:00	12	13 PINOCHLE 2:00	14
15	16 GOLF	17 HOUSE COMM MEET 7:00	18 EUCHRE 7:00	19 KOKOMO	20 PINOCHLE 2:00 KOKOMO	21 KOKOMO
22	23 GOLF	24 VVA BOARD MEET 7:00	25 EUCHRE 7:00	26	27 PINOCHLE 2:00	28 VFW GOLF OUTING
29	30 GOLF					



September Birthdays

David Baringer, Roger Bebow, Daniel Bowe, Leon Carter, Kenneth Currie, Timothy Dunatchik, Thomas Forster, Peter Glasgow, James Grant, David Henwood, John Heraghty, Stewart Israel, Donald Koehler, Ron Little, Victor Lukasiak, Timothy Moore, Charles Neal, Don Petrere, Al Sneath, Bobby Somerville, John Spencer

**Calendar by
Nancy Dignan**



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 S. Mill St. Plymouth



Plymouth Fall Festival—RIB Dinners

Advance Tickets Available from VVA members



BBQ Spare Ribs

Cole Slaw

Mac & Cheeze

Roll & Butter

Cookie

Plastic Ware



FRIDAY: September 6th, 2024

Cost: \$18.00 (pre-sale tickets Available)

Location: Behind E.G. Nicks

Time: 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Dine Inside the E. G. Nicks Beer Tent

Carry outs Available (Pick-up outside tent)



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VFW AUXILIARY DEPT. PRESIDENT JANE DADY



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, FROM 6:00-11:00PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30**



PRE-SALE TICKETS \$25.00 EA.

TICKETS PURCHASED AT DOOR \$30.00 EA.



PRICE INCLUDES:



**MUSIC, DANCING, APPETIZERS, POP, COFFEE,
PIZZA & DESSERT BAR SERVED AT 8:00PM
1 FREE RAFFLE TICKET FOR GIFT BASKETS**

(ADDITIONAL RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE)



DRESS TO IMPRESS: PRIZE FOR BEST COSTUME



CASH BAR



BEER, WINE & COCKTAILS

**TICKETS PURCHASED IN ADVANCE ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
TABLE RESERVATIONS ARE AVAILABLE WITH PURCHASE OF 8 TICKETS IN ADVANCE**



TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT:



RUTH BARNHILL: PH#(734) 233-8121 OR EMAIL: Ruthbarnhill@att.net

IRISH RYAN-GALLO: PH#(734) 507-1619 OR EMAIL: irishprincess317@live.com

CASH OR CHECK (MAKE PAYABLE TO VFW AUXILIARY POST 6695)

Howard County Vietnam Veterans Org PROUDLY PRESENTS



42nd Reunion SEPTEMBER 15 – 22 2024

Food
Live Music



Vendors
Displays

Speakers

PUBLIC IS INVITED

Gate entry armband prices – \$5.00 a day for Monday or Tuesday or Wednesday
\$15.00 for Reunion Site or entire week, - \$15.00 for Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Monday September 16, 2024

Honoring our Past

1100 Opening ceremony and special program for
WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Cold War Vets

Tuesday September 17, 2024

Honoring our Hope

Various Speakers

Wednesday September 18, 2024

Honoring our Diversity

Miami Indians Ceremony

Thursday September 19, 2024

Honoring Our Fallen

Mental Health briefing

4-5:30 Strait Jack

6:00-7:30 Moon Cats

8:00-9:30 Tightrope

10:00-12:00 The 90's Band

Friday September 20, 2024

Honoring our Forgotten

2:00-4:00 Russ Chandler

4:30-6:00 Reformatory Road

6:30-8:30 Sherwood Club

8:30-9:30 S.R.A.

10:00-12:00 Jambox

Saturday September 21, 2024

Honoring our Supporters

2:00-3:30 Cecily Turhune

4:00-5:30 Alan Kaye & Tricycle

6:00-7:30 Outlaw Nation

8:00-9:30 Blind Side

10:00-12:00 Hippies and Cowboys

September 22, 2024

Honoring God and Country

10:00 Church



Thank you for attending – Welcome Home

Howard County Vietnam and all Veterans – 8313 E. 400 S. Greentown, IN 46936

National

POW/MIA

RECOGNITION DAY

Honoring their **sacrifice**.
Earnestly **searching** for those still missing.



SEPTEMBER 20, 2024 | [#OURPROMISE](#) | WWW.DPAA.MIL



WALLS OF HONOR - HAMBURG

A Promise to NEVER forget

4 days of reflection and remembrance for our fallen heroes in Hamburg, MI

September 12 - 15, 2024

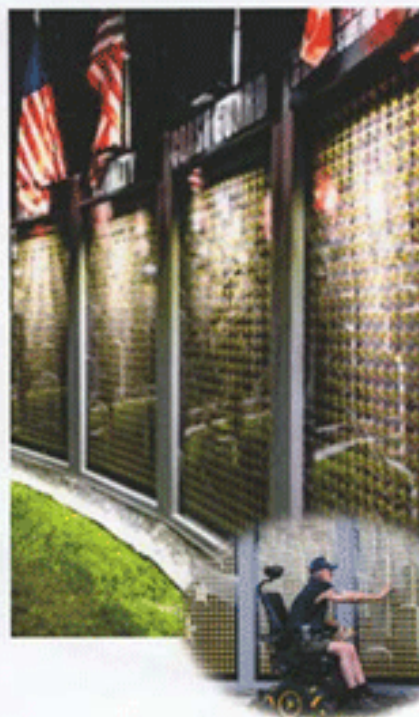
Manly Bennett Park - 10405 Merrill Road, Hamburg Twp



Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall



GoldStars Tribute Wall



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RIB DINNER
BEHIND E G NICKS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5

1PM UNTIL 4PM - PREP WORK

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
BATH THE RIBS	Don Dignan	734-525-0157	Mike Kelly	248-974-8695
	John Heraghty	734-845-7444	Al Sneath	734-377-5337

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6

1PM UNTIL 4PM

BOX MAKERS	Ruth Lamoureux	not available	Sue McMullen	not available
	Irish Gallo	734-547-1619		

2PM UNTIL 3PM - SET UP TABLES AND CHAIRS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
SET UP	JOHN FLEMING	734-604-0227	Tom McMullen	734-658-6070
	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943	Bob Lamoureux	734-756-5170

2PM UNTIL 6PM - VARIOUS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
FOOD CONSOLIDATION & BOX LOADERS	Bob Cohen	734-347-7496	Ruth Barnhill	not available
	Ruth Lamoureux	not available		
ORDER TAKERS	Dave Banks	734-765-2145	Terri Nicosia	not available
COOKS	BOB DEW	See above	AL SNEATH	See above
	Ron Bator	734-732-3240	Shirley Jallad	
	Bob Nicosia	not available		

6PM UNTIL 7PM - CLEANUP

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
CLEANUP	Mark Gallo	734-748-9638	Al Dorey	313-330-1649
	John Heraghty	See above		

TO VOLUNTEER - CONTACT JOHN FLEMING - JOHN.FLEMING0149@COMCAST.NET

**BEER TENT SIGNUP
BEHIND E G NICKS**

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6

6PM TIL MIDNIGHT

<u>-</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
	John Heraghty	734-845-7444	Mark Gallo	734-748-9638
	Al Sneath	734-377-5337	Ron King	734-679-6424
	Bob Dew	734-968-3267	Charles Kovalik	734-892-7611

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7

6PM TIL MIDNIGHT

<u>-</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
	Darrel Bazman	734-262-1668	Bob Lamoureux	734-397-8389
	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244	Bob Dew	see above
	Rick Waling	425-591-6153	Harley Waling	not available

TO VOLUNTEER - CONTACT JOHN FLEMING AT JOHN.FLEMING0149@COMCAST.NET

PARKING LOT SIGNUP

**BEHIND E G NICKS
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
11:00am to 2:00pm	John Fleming	734-604-0227	Walt Munie	734-756-9501
	Don Dignan	734-525-0157	Don McLane	734-751-7281
2:00pm to 5:00pm	George Mason	734-762-0094	Tom Fedewa	419-356-4383
	Larry Eichstadt	734-353-0343	John Heraghty	734-845-7444
5:00pm to 8:00pm	Susie Wagner	734-934-6867	Pete Glasgow	734-454-9663
	Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7

<u>Time</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
8am to 11am	Walt Munie	see above	Don McLane	see above
	Al Sneath	734-377-5337	John Heraghty	734-845-7444
11:00am to 2:00pm	John McLure	904-993-1521	Bob Cohen	734-347-7496
	Bob Bryan	734-892-4717	Mark Gallo	734-748-9638
2:00pm to 5:00pm	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943	Mike Kelly	248-974-8695
	Irish Gallo	not available	Ruth Barnhill	not available
5:00pm to 8:00pm	Bryan Bentley	see above	Drew Koet	248-465-6063
	Cathy Briota	not available		

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8

<u>Time</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
10am to 1pm	Walt Munie	see above	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
	Ron King	734-679-6424	Mike Kelly	see above
1pm to 5pm	John McClure	see above	Bryan Bentley	see above
	Bob Dew	see above	Tim Dunatchik	248-514-8009

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN FLEMING - JOHN.FLEMING0149@COMCAST.NET TO VOLUNTEER

Kokomo Reunion 2010



Kokomo Reunion 2009





Chapter Officers

President	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
1st Vice President	Ron King	734-679-6424
2nd Vice President	Pete Glasgow	734-454-9663
Secretary	Mike Kelly	248-974-8695
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	Gary Estermyer	313-283-6943
Jerry Thomason	734-895-5257	Larry Eichstadt	734-353-0343

Committees

A.O./Health Care	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
Agent Orange Events	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
AVVA Representative	Bryan Bentley	734-604-6066
By-Laws	Jim Hodgson	734-416-5159
Chaplain	Rich Whipple	734-751-2992
Chapter Historian	Dave Banks	734-765-2145
Fundraising	Bob Dew	734-968-3267
Homeless Veterans	John Fleming	734-421-0149
Membership	Bob Lamoureux	734-397-8389

Homefront Newsletter

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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	734-421-0149
State Delegate	John Heraghty	734-845-7444
State Alt. Delegate	John Spencer	734-397-8975
State Alt. Delegate	Terry Wells	734-776-1891
State Alt. Delegate	Ron King	734-454-4522
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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734-748-5168
frabar2136@gmail.co



Chapter 528 Homefront



September 2024



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