



VVA Chapter 528

Plymouth-Canton, MI

1426 Mill St. Plymouth, MI 48170



Veterans Day Ceremony 2024

Photo by Cathy Brya-Rotta

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Don Dignan - Editor & Columnist
Bob Dew - President & Columnist
Bob Lamoureux - Membership & Columnist
Rich Whipple - Chaplain & Columnist
Nancy Dignan - Calendar
Cathy Brya-Rotta - Photos
Karen Whipple - Photo
Dave Banks - Photos

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Welcome Home!



**"Never Again Will One Generation of
Veterans Abandon Another"**

President's Corner

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and you didn't have to undo your belt very far. It is always great to enjoy a great dinner, sit back, and watch football before falling asleep. I want to thank Bryan Bentley, Dave Henwood, Mackie Reeves, Terry Wasalaski, and Jim Tillman for helping me with spreading the topsoil around the new cement for Leon Suchorski Memorial area. The grass seed has also been spread, and we will add more in the spring. We are also adding two new signs identifying the area. Hopefully, I have not missed anyone who helped. We have the Winter Clothing Project helping our Michigan Veterans Foundation, Veterans Haven, and Downriver Veterans. We will be looking at helping any Veteran and their family during the Christmas Holiday that may need assistance. Please let us know if anyone needs assistance. I am wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



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





Digger's Desk



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



LOUNGE & AREA EVENTS

Euchre continues on Thursday at 7:00PM.

Pinochle continues on Friday at 2:00PM well into 2025 until fish fries begin during Lent.

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 Meat Raffle was a total success according to the Auxiliary.

The final VVA/VFW Golf Day concluded in November with kudos from all participants.

The children's Christmas party is coming up on December 7 at 1:00PM.

Pearl Harbor Day will be celebrated at Plymouth Memorial Park.

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.

The next general membership meeting will be on Monday December 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.



Veterans Day

Photo courtesy of Dave Banks





Odds & Ends

Membership

There was 1 application for membership this past month. Dennis Ridolfi, Army, has joined the chapter. Welcome Dennis to Chapter 528. Our current membership stands at 313 VVA and 85 AVVA members. Of these, we have 80 life AVVA members.

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

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.

VA ID Card

Many of you might not be aware that your VA card has an expiration date on it. I became aware of this while in Kokomo. The VA had a booth there where I was able to renew mine which had expired that same day. It is an easy process to renew your card either in person at the VA or online at: eauth.va.gov/accessva and just follow the instructions.

Pearl Harbor Day

There will be a ceremony on Saturday, December 7 at the Plymouth Veterans Park in downtown 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 it to midnight, we will have a toast to welcome in the new year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



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



Photo by Cathy Brya-Rotta



Chaplain's Corner

Reflecting God's Mercy

Winn Collier, of Our Daily Bread

A Finnish soldier in the three-month Winter War with Russia (1939-40) lay wounded on the battlefield. A Russian soldier walked his way, pointing his rifle. The Finn was certain he'd met his end. However, the Russian handed him a medic kit, and then kept moving. Remarkably, the Finn later found himself in a similar situation, only the roles were reversed – a Russian soldier lay wounded and helpless on the battlefield. The Finn handed him medical supplies and walked on.

Jesus gave us a central, guiding principle for our lives: "In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12). Can you imagine how different our world would be if believers kept this one simple principle? Can we calculate how much oppression would end if we collectively obeyed Jesus' wisdom? If only, as He guides us, we would give others the same compassion and mercy we'd hope to receive ourselves. As we "give good gifts," we reflect the heart of our "Father in heaven {who gives} good gifts to those" He loves (v.11).

We must see others as not merely enemies or strangers or people with whom we compete for resources or opportunities. Instead, we should see their need for mercy and kindness just as we need it. And as we do, our posture and perspective will change. Then, as God provides, we can freely offer them the love He's freely offered to us.

Chaplain's Corner: Roger Shanks is still at home and his daughter and son are taking care of him. Ted Enright is at home and his wife is taking good care of him as he slims down! Prayers for Joe Agius as his wife, Dayle, passed away on November 23rd. Please send a card to him at 3801 Stillson Rd., Stockbridge, MI 49285-9491.



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 Plymouth Charter Academy Veterans Day Ceremony is an annual tradition. Rich Whipple's grandsons Beckham and Graham participated in their school's ceremony. Students explained the Pledge of Allegiance and the Star-Spangled Banner and recognized their veteran relatives.

Photo courtesy of Karen Whipple



Mike Bush 1966-1969 Navy

Mike is the first person in a very long time to turn in his service photo. We have 175 service photos on our display board. Let Mike's photo start a new wave of members' service photos. Please send your photo to my address or email listed on page 9, "Our Service Photos"



December 2024



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



**Calendar by
Nancy Dignan**

December Birthdays

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



VFW AUXILIARY 6695



IS INVITING CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER TO THIS YEARS:

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN ON DECEMBER 7TH 2024, 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 7, 2024

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 29, 2024

Text or call: 734-664-7627



Veterans Day Ceremony Veterans Day Service at Plymouth Veterans Memorial Park by VVA Plymouth-Canton 528, VFW 6695, VFW Aux, American Legion, DAR, and Elks. Thank you for your Service. SOS served afterward at VFW 6695. Thank you to Debbie Dingall for visiting and Waltonwood for busing veterans to the park and Post 6695.

Photos courtesy of Cathy Brya-Rotta





**SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING
HOLIDAY MARKET
520 S LILLEY ROAD
CANTON
SATURDAY DECEMBER 14, 2024**

Time

Bell Ringer

On Call Backup

I WILL BE DELIVERING THE KETTLE TO THIS SITE

9:00am to 10:00am	Name	Ron King	Tom Trestler
		Bob Dew	XXXXXXXXXX
10:00am to 11:00am	Name	Pete Glasgow	Gary Estermyer
		Rich Whipple	XXXXXXXXXX
11:00am to 12:00pm	Name	Jim Hodgson	
		Gary Meier	XXXXXXXXXX
12:00pm to 1:00pm	Name	Dominic Grunas	
		Bob Cohen	XXXXXXXXXX
1:00pm to 2:00pm	Name	Dale Roeseler	
		Elaine Roeseler	XXXXXXXXXX
2:00pm to 3:00pm	Name	Roger Riddell	Terry Wells
		Denny Fuelling	XXXXXXXXXX

AT THE END OF YOUR SHIFT, THE SALVATION ARMY WILL PICK UP THE KETTLE



2012



2011



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	Tom Fedewa	734-404-6598

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

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	Ron King	734-679-6424
	Dale Luebke	248-403-4244
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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 172 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 lying around somewhere. You can mail your photo to Tom Brown, 17730 Snow Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124, or scan it and send it to tombrown1949@gmail.com as a GIF or a JPG. 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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Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248 626 2000 office

Member FINRA/SIPC



Chapter 528 Homefront



August 2024



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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

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