



August 2017 NEWSLETTER

From the Chapter President



"Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."

WELCOME HOME

Well we are over halfway through summer of 2017 and it has been a hot one. One of these days before summer ends I plan to spend a day on the beach.

You should have received a Poppy donation support request for \$10 donation to Chapter 1091. Please ask high volume traffic businesses permission to hand out poppy's and have donation jar on table - No hawking or requesting donations. To those that have donated - THANK YOU. To those that did not, please consider. Anyone that has fund-raising ideas and wants to help with that, please let me know. So far no input at all.

Our 3rd Annual picnic is on Saturday Sept. 16, 2017 1-5PM at Roxanna Moose Lodge. Pit beef, ham, corn on the cob, salads beer and more. Jack Hyle was elected fly compliant officer at last meeting. VVA and AVVA members free - non members \$10 and of course children no charge , what a deal. While this event is not open to the public, consideration will be given to members that have company that weekend.

We need head count by Sept. 4 meeting at the latest. Sign up at meeting or let me know.

Please help out Legion by signing up for Jeep raffle sales at the boardwalk booth. Sign up sheet is on bulletin board at Post or call Tina @ 301 643 9447 or tinaauxunit166@aol.com. Parking lot pass available close to booth.

We lost one of our charter members, Steve "Bulldog" Ingwersen. Chaplain Garlitz will update.

Bill Berry will be representing our Chapter at the National Convention in New Orleans. Bill is a long time VVA member and knowledgeable in Veterans Conventions. Thanks Bill. State Council is funding.

****Officers/ executive board meeting Monday Aug7, 2017 @ 4PM before membership meeting****

Hope to see everyone at membership meeting on Monday August 7, 2017. Social at 5PM meeting at 6PM.

Thanks and WELCOME HOME
Your Prez, Nelson Kelly

Service Officer

CHOICE PROGRAM

I think by now everyone has heard of the " VA Choice Program" that allowed Veterans to see civilian Doctors under certain conditions. It was scheduled to run out of Funding in 2018, but because of high usage it will run out of Funds this month (August). There is currently a bill before congress to extend the funding for the program and we are still waiting for Congressional Action on it. I understand that the President wants to replace the current "Choice Program" with a different program, but currently little has been heard of this program.

So it looks like if you were going to apply for the program, hurry up and do it before the money is all gone. Hopefully they will extend the program or come up with a new one so we don't have to run to Baltimore for the things the local clinics can't handle.

Bill Wolf

VVA VSO

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

As you all know by now, the National VVA has ceased giving Chapters HHG (House Hold Goods) money. We are on our own for raising funds and the VVA Poppy Program as outlined by our Prez is one way we can raise funds for our everyday expenses. But what do we do to fund programs? Well, one way is to apply for grants from Business and Government to support these programs. The only problem right now is we only have one specific program to support and that's Veterans Incarcerated.

If you go to the National Website at www.vva.org you will find a list of Outreach Programs that the VVA Supports. These Programs are: Agent Orange, Education, Homeless Veterans, Minority Affairs, PTSD & Substance Abuse, POW/MIA, Veterans Health Care, Veterans Incarcerated, Veterans Against Drugs and Women Veterans.

Quite a list of Programs but at our level a bit much for us to support locally. Right now the only Program we actively support is "Veterans Incarcerated". Our Committee headed By Bob Gilmore makes quarterly trips to Eastern Correctional Institute and meets with the Veterans there. We need to decide what other programs we want to support and then we can see how to fund them. The Executive Committee will be meeting to decide on additional Programs, let them know what you think!

A Note from the Chaplain

POST EVERLASTING FOR STEVEN J. INGWERSEN

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1091 member Steven "Bulldog" Ingwersen was given a Post Everlasting Service by Synepuxent Post #166 American Legion on Wednesday July 19th.

Chaplain Ben Dawson offered the opening prayer followed by the Draping of the Charter by Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely and the Lighting of the Memorial Candle by Adjutant Paul Hawkins.

Linda Rutter of Unit #166 American Legion Auxiliary placed the American Legion Poppies at the Memorial Table. This was followed by Post #166's 1st vice Commander Robert Smith who presented his comments.

The Color Guard of Post #166 which included Glen Reely, Johan Nykuist, and Earl Hewit presented the Slow Salute to "Comrade Bulldog". The Slow Salute was followed by Rosie Garlitz of Unit #166 reciting a poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson, "Crossing the Bar" and the Volley Salute of Rifles.

Bugler Joan Nykuist played TAPS and Post #166 1st Vice Commander Robert Smith presented the US flag to "Comrade Bulldog's " Son Tod and daughter Gretchen.

Steven was a US Army Veteran and a SP5 in the Infantry. He was decorated for his service in Vietnam which included the following: National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Combat Infantryman Badge; Army Commendation Medal W/Valor Device; Vietnam Campaign Medal W/60 Device; 2 Over Seas Bars; Air Medal; Sharpshooter Badge Rifle M14; Marksman Badge Rifle M16; Expert Badge M60 Machine Gun, Bronze Star Medal and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

He was a true Veteran and will never be forgotten,

Sarge Garlitz, Chaplain

Membership

VVA Chapter #1091 is currently 81 members strong. We recently lost three individual members because of failure to pay dues. Don't let that happen to you!

Renew as a Life Member and never have to remember or deal with future renewals.

RIP Steve Ingwersen

Bob Gilmore

VVA Apparel

VVA members, we still have the following apparel items:

Long Sleeve Black Shirts - L-1, XL-1

Black Sweat Shirts - XL-2, XXXL-3

Black Golf Shirts - L-1, XL-3

White Golf Shirts - L-4, XL-1

We have ordered new (6ea) VVA black hats and (6ea) VVA white hats. Should be in soon. Will keep you posted.

Thanks,

Bob Smith

Call Us

If you need to call one of your officers for any reason, please use our new Chapter 1091 telephone number 410-213-5228. This will give you a recorded message that tells how to get to our officers, "press 1 for President Nelson Kelly", "press 2 for VP Gerald Barrons", etc. It also has a "press 0 for information", when you press this you will get a choice of two recorded messages, one will give you information about our Chapter and when it meets and the other about upcoming events (this one should change monthly). How it works is that when you press a number for an officer it forwards your call to that officer's cell phone, so you only have to remember one number instead of 6. It also gives one point of contact for any callers, give it a try and let me know how you like it.

Remember you can email us at oceancityvva@gmail.com and please check the calendar on our website for upcoming activities at <http://www.vvachapter1091.org> and "like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/oceancityvva1091/>.

Please mark your calendars as our next Meeting will be August 7, 2017 at 5:00 PM