

310 Dispatch

**Never again shall
a veteran coming
home from battle be
made to feel alone
and
unappreciated!**



*Together We Make
A Difference*

*Charles S. Kettles
Chapter 310*



Feb. 2021
Washtenaw Co.,
Michigan



Editor's Note: Vaccines are the big news of the moment. This issue of the newsletter contains all kinds of information about the vaccines. For those members and friends who receive the printed copy, remember that you have full access to the interactive version, which you find at vva310.org.

Be well and filled with joy!

-- Paulo-Juarez Pereira, Editor--and the Dispatch Team

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President's Message

By Stan Harrison

I say VVA 310 is doing a pretty good job of maintaining through this time of Covid-19. Our fiscal year budget looks like we will finish up only about \$200 in deficit below our forecast. It seemed like every time we had an unexpected expense, we had an unexpected donation to cover it.



Looking forward for this year, we have set up a committee to look into the feasibility of holding some kind of Pig Roast this fall. It wouldn't be like our usual Pig Roast, but we may be able to generate some funds and some fun.

Many of our members have already started getting their Covid-19 vaccinations through the Ann Arbor VA Hospital. If you want to be vaccinated, you can call the VA at 734-222-7100; be prepared for a little hold time. They will ask a few questions then schedule an appointment for your shot. If you have never registered with the VA, they can help you with that, too.

So, take care. Stay safe. Stay proud.

Chaplain's Corner

By Gordon Moore

And we thought 2020 was a weird year, only to turn the page to 2021 and right to the face we get hit with a haymaker, right cross and left hook.

I would like to counter that action with the Lord's instructions on proper actions amid conflict as found in **Romans 12: 9-21:**

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lies in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for

it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. Therefore, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink: for in so doing you shall heap blessings upon his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Rom. 12:9-21 King James Version)



There is not a lot of that instruction being followed in our nation and, unfortunately, in our churches, also. So, let's make a pact to believe in the Lord's instruction, to follow it, and to watch it bring a change to our nation, as together we allow the Lord to heal our land. Peace and blessings to each one.

Honoring February Anniversaries on the Wall

Specialist 4 Stanley James Thompson was born on December 2, 1942 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Mr. James B. and Mrs. Mildred Thompson. Stanley is a graduate of Ann Arbor High School and the Alexandra School of Cosmetology. He was also a former Washtenaw County Junior Deputy. He entered the Army and spent two years in Germany before re-enlisting in



1962. Specialist 4 Thompson began his tour of duty in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam on September 21, 1965 serving as

an infantryman with 3rd Platoon, A Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Stanley was killed on February 4, 1966 when he stepped on a Viet Cong land mine. Stanley James Thompson is survived by his parents and wife. He lived 23 years 2 months and 2 days. Stanley's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 05E Line 001.

—**—

Warrant Officer James Eugene Kirby

was born on October 27, 1941 to Mr. and Mrs. Grover P. Kirby of Ann Arbor, Michigan. James graduated from Ann Arbor



High School in 1958. James Kirby was a professional serviceman serving in the

Marine Corps for four years before enlisting in the Army in November of 1964. He attended jump school

at Fort Benning, Georgia, and later attended Air Force Flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Warrant Officer Kirby was assigned to the 203rd Aviation Company, 223rd Aviation Battalion, 17th Aviation Group of the First Aviation Brigade in Phu Hiep, Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam.

Warrant Officer James Eugene Kirby began his tour of duty in Vietnam on November 2, 1968. James was flying a mission on February 11, 1969 when his aircraft was hit by enemy antiaircraft fire and the aircraft crashed killing James instantly.

James Eugene Kirby is survived by his parents, his wife, a son, and a daughter. He lived 27 years, 3 months and 14 days. James is resting in the Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial located at the Ypsilanti Township Hall under Ann Arbor. He is also listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 32W Line 013.

—**—

Captain Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr.

was born on September 19, 1934 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Clark and Rose Woodworth, Sr. Clark graduated from Ann Arbor High School in 1952, and from Michigan State University in 1958. Captain Woodworth, Jr. began his career in the United States Army on January 2, 1959. He was assigned as the Drone Section Commander in the 503rd Aviation Company of the Third Armored Division, United States Army, Europe (Germany). He was based at Fliegerhorst Airfield, Hanau, Germany from September, 1961 to January, 1964.



He also commanded C Company Seventh Battalion, Third Training Brigade at Fort Gordon,

Georgia from December, 1964 to December of 1965.

Clark began his tour in Vietnam on January 3, 1966 serving as an advisor with the 10th ARVN Infantry Division, Advisory Team 87, HQ, MACV Advisors, MACV. Captain Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr. was killed on February 28, 1966 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds in Binh Thuy Province, South Vietnam. Captain Woodworth, Jr. is survived by his wife and a sister. He lived 31 years, 5 months and 9 days. A memorial fund was set up in Clark's honor. The Woodworth Library is a 40,000-volume library located inside the entrance at Fort Gordon, Georgia, which is named in honor of Clark. There is a portrait of Clark that is hung in the library that was painted by Norman Adams.

Clark Newell Woodworth, Jr. is at rest in Arlington National Cemetery. His name is located under Ann Arbor on the Vietnam Memorial located at the Ypsilanti Township Hall, and is located on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 05E Line 092.

—**—

Specialist 4 Larry Adams was born on May 3, 1949 in Detroit, Michigan to Foster Adams and Merlin



King. Larry attended Ypsilanti High School prior to enlisting in the Army on January 29, 1967.

Specialist

4 Adams went through Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood before attending a ten-week long helicopter maintenance course at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Larry started his tour of duty in An Kye, Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam on August 13, 1967. He served with B Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 11th Aviation Group, 1st Cavalry Division. Although trained as a helicopter mechanic, Larry was flying a mission on a helicopter as a gunner when the aircraft was struck by enemy small arms fire killing him instantly on February 23, 1968.

Specialist 4 Larry Adams lived 18 years, 9 months and 20 days. He left behind his parents, a brother and a sister. Larry is resting in United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth, Michigan. His name is located on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 40E Line 072.

—**—

Private Keith Arthur Stoddard was born on September 20, 1950 to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Stoddard of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Keith is a 1968 graduate of Ypsilanti High School. After graduation, he worked in the laboratory of the State Highway Department. He entered the Army in March of 1970.

Private Stoddard began his tour of duty in Bien Hoa Province, South Vietnam serving as an Armor Crewman with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Keith was killed on February 1, 1971 due to the accidental self-detonation of an



explosive device.

Keith Arthur Stoddard is survived by his parents, one brother

and five sisters. He lived 20 years, 4 months and 11 days. He is resting in Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Keith's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 05W Line 073.

—**—

Private First Class Roger Dean Bulifant

was born on April 6, 1947 to Mr. and Mrs. Forrest L. Bulifant, Jr. Roger attended Belleville High School in Belleville, Michigan. Private First Class Bulifant enlisted in the Marine Corps in July of 1965. Roger was serving with F



Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, 3rd Marine Division in the Hue - Phu Bai area of Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam as

a rifleman. He died as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds on February 28, 1966.

Roger Dean Bulifant is survived by his parents and one sister. He lived 18 years, 10 months and 22 days. Roger's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 05E Line 084.

—**—

Specialist 5 Kenneth Lige Fulton

was born on September 7, 1946 to Mr. and Mrs. Lige Fulton, Jr. of Willis, Michigan. Kenneth is a 1964 graduate of Lincoln High School where he was the senior class president and recipient of the Willie Heston Sports Hall of Fame Award



as the school's outstanding scholar-athlete. He played football,

basketball and track. He attended Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan prior to entering the Army in 1966.

Specialist 5 Fulton began his tour of duty in Tay Ninh Province, South Vietnam on February 28, 1967 serving as a Medical Non-commissioned Officer with B Company, 588th Engineering Battalion, 79th Engineering Group, 20th Engineering Brigade. Kenneth was on a convoy in the Mekong Delta when it was ambushed. He was killed on February 15, 1968 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds.

According to a posting from Jack

Engle, "a plea for help was made and SP5 Fulton answered the call without concern for himself, as he always had for the last year. 'Doc' did not have to be in the position he was in; he could and should have been in the rear until the area was secured. He had less than 15 days before going back to his earthly home, but yet chose to be where his 'duty' was. Instead, he went to his heavenly home. Going to the aid of a fellow soldier in need, he was killed in action." Kenneth Lige Fulton is survived by his wife, a daughter and his parents. He lived 21 years, 5 months and 8 days. He is resting in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan. Kenneth's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ypsilanti. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 39E Line 047.

—**—

Private First Class Ronald Lee Koch was born on December 17, 1947 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Koch of Lima Township, Michigan. Ronald is a 1966 graduate of Chelsea High School in Chelsea, Michigan.

He worked for the Larowe Feed Company in Chelsea before entering the Army on March 2, 1967. He received his Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky and Advanced



Training at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Private First Class Koch began his tour of duty in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam on July

27, 1967 serving as an infantryman with A Company, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Ronald was killed on February 6, 1968 from shrapnel wounds sustained in an explosion. Ronald Lee Koch is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister. He lived 20 years 1 month and 19 days. He is resting in Oak Grove Cemetery in Chelsea, Michigan. Ronald's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Chelsea. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 37E Line 060.

—**—

Lieutenant Robert Clarence

Marvin was born on February 10, 1940 in Boone, Iowa to Mr. and



Mrs. Clarence R. Marvin of Dexter, Michigan.

Robert is a 1958 graduate of Greenville High School in Boone, Iowa. Bob earned a Navy Scholarship and attended the

University of Michigan where he was a member of the Naval ROTC program. He was commissioned upon graduating in 1962. Lieutenant Marvin flew 111 missions from the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk before going to the U.S.S. Hancock with VA-115, Task Force 77, 7th Fleet operating in the Gulf of Tonkin, North Vietnam. According to a synopsis written on the POW Network, "On February 14, 1967, Marvin flew an A1H (Skyraider) from the Hancock on a mission. His plane developed trouble shortly after takeoff. He

and his wingman turned to return to the carrier, but Bob's engine stalled and cut off all electrical power, so no radio messages were received from him. His wingman tried to set a glide path to conform to the powerless glide Marvin's plane would be in, but never caught sight of Marvin's plane. The day was overcast. The Navy searched the area for two days but did not find any debris or sign of Marvin or his plane."

Robert Clarence Marvin is survived by his parents, wife, a son, and a brother. He lived 27 years, 3 months and 14 days. He was awarded 10 Air Medals, the National Defense Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and the South Vietnamese Government's Armed Services Expeditionary Medal. Robert's body was never recovered, but his name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial as "Missing In Action (MIA). His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 15E Line 028.

—**—

Specialist 4 Jimmie Sherrill

Warren was born on December 30, 1948 to Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill Warren of Milan, Michigan. Jimmie is a 1967 graduate of Dundee High School in Dundee, Michigan. He entered the Army in January



of 1968, completing his Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Specialist 4 Warren began his tour of duty in

Cu Chi, Tay Ninh Province on August 16, 1968 serving as a Radio Operator with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Jimmie was killed on February 23, 1969 as a result of enemy small arms fire.

Jimmie Sherrill Warren is survived by his parents. He lived 20 years, 1 month and 23 days. He is resting in Shephard Memorial Park in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Jimmie's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Milan. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 31W Line 029.

—**—

Specialist 4 William David Gouger, Jr. was born on May 3, 1949 to Mr. and Mrs William D. Gouger, Sr. of Ypsilanti, Michigan. William is a 1967 graduate of Lincoln High School. He attended Eastern Michigan University before entering the Army.

Specialist 4 Gouger began his tour of duty in Long An Province, South Vietnam on October 26, 1968 serving as an infantryman with E Company, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division. William was killed on February 11, 1969 from enemy small arms fire.



According to a posting by Joseph Bogucki, "I served in Nam with Bill Gouger with Recon 2nd/60th Inf. 9th Inf Div. We

called him 'Big G'. An avid hunter and outdoorsman, Bill was our platoon's unofficial armorer. 'G' was a big man, but as kind and gentle as any you would ever meet. Rest in Peace, Big G."

William David Gouger, Jr. is survived by his parents and a brother. He lived 19 years, 9 months and 8 days. He is resting in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan. William's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Milan. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 32W Line 012.

VVA 310 Chapter Meeting Minutes

By Jon Luker, Secretary

Vietnam Veterans of America Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 Regular Membership Meeting Minutes

14 January 2021

Call to Order by President Harrison at 1905 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer: Robert Bull
Moment of Silence for POW/ MIA'S, their families and those who are serving in hazardous places around the world.

Roll Call: A quorum was established. Everyone attended via Zoom. Welcome Home Everyone!

New Members: None.

Guests: None.

Motion to approve the December Minutes as published in the Dispatch. Merritt/Driscoll. Approved.

President's Report: I recommend that you stop by the

Resource Center at the VFW that Bob Bull has set up on Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30 to 5:00.

Treasurer's Report: Reports were emailed to officers and board members. Printed reports or emailed reports were available for those members who wanted them. Our year-end non-restricted operating results are projected at a budget deficit of \$240, which is much better than the \$2,266 amended budget deficit we approved last spring. The improvement over budget is primarily due to the VAAHS Christmas Program donations projected at \$14,380 compared to \$10,000 budgeted. The non-restricted operating budget for next year is not much different that this year's. You can get a copy of the budget by emailing me. Members will vote on the final version of the budget at the February meeting.

AVVA Report: The report is printed in the Dispatch. We are collecting sample size toiletries and facial tissues for Fisher House. They are put in gift bags for the guests there.

Merchandise: No report.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans: Bull. The council meeting was canceled due to MDHHS restrictions.

Michigan State Council: Luker. No report.

Memorial Maintenance: Merritt. I am starting to put grass cutting teams together for next year. I am happy that most of this year's crews are coming back next year, but there are some vacant slots. Also, please let me know if you would be willing to help as a backup person or to help with special projects. Building

construction will have to wait for spring.

Website: McCrumb. Another 9,000 or so hits this month for a total around 250,000. We added pictures from the VA events (underwear delivery and the delivery of the embroidered shirts).

Membership: The official number went down to 208 after Jim Graham passed away.

Newsletter: Pereira. No report.

Healthcare: Wilson. The VA is now giving Covid-19 vaccine shots by appointment to people aged 65 or older. I was able to get in and out in about 22 minutes. You need to call the VA at 734-222-7100 to get two appointments (because it takes two shots to be effective).

VAAHHS: Kinzinger. We have given about \$9,000 worth of underwear and embroidered shirts to VA patients. I was happy to have help moving all the stuff.

Thank you very much for being there, also. I'm doing better after my surgery, but I couldn't move anything when it needed to be done.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Motion by Bull, seconded by Luker, to approve the attached resolution calling for Michigan to adopt the Green Alert system and directing the President to lobby as needed for its adoption by the State.

Approved.

Good of the Order:

Bourne: A proposed budget has been developed for next year that predicts a deficit of about \$2,762. You may email me to request a copy of it. We will vote on it at the February meeting. We don't have much we can do with this budget, given that much of it involves fixed expenses. If we

can do any fundraising this year, we will happily adjust the budget accordingly.

Bourne: I still have a lot of cards for Holiday's Restaurant. We gave 4 to Fisher House, who could not accept them for reasons they didn't share. We gave 4 to Bob Bull for the Resource Center. He has used only one. We need to find people who need these.

Bull: Perhaps we could take a page from other organizations that ask members to contribute \$2 a month into an endowment fund. Interest earned on the funds is used to help with unbudgeted program expenses.

Kinzinger: Volunteered to chair a small committee to study the feasibility of doing a simpler Pig Roast, perhaps with prepared pork and without the raffles and auctions. Perhaps it could be set up as a drive-through event or socially distanced outdoor event, if restrictions are still in place. Sandie Wilson and Tim Driscoll volunteered to help. We hope to have a result by the February meeting.

Bull: The next open house for organizations using the VFW building will be on 20 March from 1000 to 1700, MDHHS regulations permitting.

Luker: The President vetoed the National Defense Authorization Act; but, since the House and the Senate voted to override the veto, it became law anyway. That means that bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism are now included on the list of diseases presumed to be caused by toxic exposure in Vietnam (and other places). Although the VA has 100 days to implement the law, you should file your claim now (or file

your notice of intent to file a claim) if you want your retro check to be larger than it will be if you wait to file.

Closing Prayer Bob Bull

Flag Salute

Meeting Adjourned at 2000 hrs.

Chapter Breakfast: Friday (12 Feb) — TBD. However, you can get breakfast on Saturday at the Resource Center. Lunch also. Doors open at 0930 and close at 1700. Breakfast will be served until noon. Then lunch until 1700.

The Attached Resolution:

Resolution: To adopt the Green Alert System for finding missing veterans in the State of Michigan
Whereas: Over half of the veterans in Michigan are over 65 years of age, and

Whereas: Dementia is becoming a growing concern among these older veterans, many of them just walking away from their homes or nursing facilities, and

Whereas: Many of our veterans also go missing because of stress and trauma associated with their military service to this country, and
Whereas: The Amber and Silver Alerts have been so effective in helping to find missing children and seniors, and

Whereas: Like the Amber Alert System, the Green Alert System is activated immediately after notice is given of a missing veteran, not having to wait 24 hours to file a missing persons report, and

Whereas: 39 other states have voted, ratified, and put into action a Green Alert System, and

Whereas: An attempt to pass a bill in the US Senate, S699 the National Green Alert Act to help create a National System, has been stuck in committee since mid-2019.

Therefore: We do hereby resolve that to protect our aging veterans, to prevent any additional harm coming to them, and To give their families peace of mind knowing that there is an additional system in place to protect their loved one, in the event that it is needed, a Statewide Green Alert System must be adopted for our over 550,000 veterans, now and for their future.



AVVA Newsletter February 2021

By Kathy Driscoll, AVVA
President

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are approved, and Michigan residents over 65 are being vaccinated. The Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System is now vaccinating veterans and their volunteers. U of M and St Joseph (IHA) are rolling out their vaccinations. You can also apply to Washtenaw County Health Department to get your shots. Vaccine supply is very limited. You will get a message via email or on the portals. As soon as you receive your invitation, schedule your vaccination. Please check with your primary physician, if you have concerns regarding the vaccination and your health. Here are the websites to request a vaccination:

- washtenaw.org
- uofmhealth.org
- stjoeshealth.org
- ihacares.com

Please let me know if you need anything. AVVA and VVA 310 have resources available to assist you. We have an anonymous AVVA member willing to deliver cereal and drinks on Wednesdays and a hot meal on Fridays to any AVVA or VVA family in the Dexter, Ann Arbor, Saline, Chelsea, Whitmore Lake, or Pinckney area. Our Zoom meeting on January 14th went well. Six members attended. I upgraded my personal Zoom account. This way we can have longer meetings. We need more than 40 minutes for our meetings.

Fundraising Projects

- Wrist Story Bracelets are available for \$5 donation. We have 50 available. Proceeds will benefit Fisher House Michigan. Please contact me.



- Agent Orange Masks \$10 donation. Please make your check payable to "Birth Defects Research for Children." I have a few, but Sandie Wilson is the main contact for this fundraiser for Birth Defects Research for Children. <https://birthdefects.org/> Please contact me for a mask.



- "No Bake/Bakeless" Fundraiser mailings going out this week. Proceeds will benefit our specified line items, Operating, Special Projects, Fisher House Michigan or Lois Perrault Memorial Fund. There will be a check box to select which specified line item for your donation. This will be our main fundraiser for 2021. We will not have our raffle tables at the Recognition Dinner or Pig Roast. Please consider increasing your donation and adding \$10 to your donation in lieu of the 6/\$5 raffle tickets at the Recognition Dinner and Pig Roast.

Paper Safes

We have AVVA Paper Safes from Nancy Switzer. Please let me know if anyone would like a Paper Safe.

Service Projects

- Fisher House Michigan is requesting travel size items of shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, body wash, etc., as well as pocket size tissues. They would like volunteers to make stress balls using large loop yarn in Red, White and Blue. I will forward the pattern from Meni from her Church Member, who is the spouse of a VVA 310 member. You can drop off your donations to me or Meni. We will get your donations to Fisher House Michigan.
- Meni needs volunteers to assist the Veteran Resource Center on Wednesdays or Saturdays at the VFW Post 423. The center is open from 09:30 am to 5:00 pm. You will assist in keeping Post 423 clean and sanitary. Please consider volunteering an hour or two.

Breakfast and lunch provided by Rev Bob Bull, VVA 310 member. For more information, please contact Meni at 734-214-0664.

- Please consider donating food to your local community food banks. There is an increase in food insecurity in Washtenaw County.

Legislation Action!

Representatives Dingell and Walberg, Senators Peters and Stabenow applauded Passage of Bill to Rename Ann Arbor VA Facility after Lt. Colonel Charles S. Kettles. President Trump signed the bill in January 2021.

H.R. 2568 Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act

The last movement of this bill was on May 29, 2019. This bill was referred to the Subcommittee of Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. As of today, Thursday, December 17, 2020, there are 17 co-sponsors to this bill. Tim Walberg (R-17) is the only Michigan US Congressman to co-sign this bill. If you live in another congressional district, please contact your representative to have him or her co-sign this bill. Our AVVA 310 has widows whose Veteran husbands suffered and died from Liver Cancer. Please consider writing your US Congressional Representative to support this bill in honor and memory of them.

AVVA Chapter 310 Fundraising Report

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2021 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$3,283.25. **We will not be sponsoring delegates to Girl State 2021, as it is unclear if this program will be held this**

year. We plan to sponsor delegates next year. (Girl State 2022)

AVVA Michigan State Association News

Next meeting is scheduled for February. Location to be determined. I will only attend a Zoom meeting.

AVVA National

- 2021- National Convention - Virtual Convention, more information to follow
- 2022 – Leadership Conference – Hyatt Hotel, Greenville, SC
- 2023 - National Convention – Orlando, FL

WCCV

Next meeting is Monday, January 18th is cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Upcoming Events!

Currently all indoor events are canceled or postponed due to Michigan **Covid-19** restrictions.

Keep up to date with our Chapter:

All AVVA and VVA 310 events are posted on our Chapter's webpage, www.vva310.org in the VVA News Flash section on the right column on the homepage.

AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 proudly supports the AVVA Mission and Vision Statements.

AVVA Mission Statement:

To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education.

AVVA Vision Statement:

To create a better everyday life for Veterans and their families.

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310

Past President, AVVA Michigan Association

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira

27 Jan: Vietnam Cease-Fire (1973)
11 Feb: AVVA 310 Meeting, 1800 hrs; VVA 310 Board Mtg, 1730 hrs; VVA 310 General Mtg, 1900 hrs (All may be Zoom meetings)
12 Feb: Chapter Breakfast, 0900 hrs, Location TBD
15 Feb: WCCV Meeting, Location TBD
15 Feb: President's Day (1885)
19 Feb: Coast Guard Reserve Birthday (1941)
Team Red, White & Blue: Saturdays @ 0930 meet at the Southeast parking lot of Gallup Park for their walk and run
** Visit Veterans Radio online (click here: veteransradio.net) and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

Important for Veterans

All About Vaccines at the VA: Here is a video that contains important information about flu shots for the 2021 season:

<https://www.youtube.com/>.

Important information from the Health Department, Washtenaw County, Michigan. This will ensure our members, especially AVVA and other non-VA eligible, are registered with Washtenaw County: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3269/COVID-19-Vaccination>

How to Schedule a Covid-19 Vaccine Appointment

(From Vance McCrumb):

Call the VA on 734-222-7100, be prepared to be on hold for a bit. They will ask four questions and then schedule you for both shots.

Note also: If you are one of the more than one million Tricare for Life beneficiaries who are age 75 and older, you are now eligible for the Covid-19 vaccination. Read more about this at [MilitaryTimes.com](https://www.militarytimes.com).

Being There for Hospitalized Veterans

By John Kinzinger

In December 2020, our VVA 310 members delivered the annual Christmas gift for hospitalized Veterans. The gift was a beautifully embroidered shirt with the phrase "Proud Veteran, Freedom is Not Free" around a U.S. Flag. On January 8, 2021, Chapter members delivered about 185 packages each of underwear, t-shirts and shorts (\$5,598.00), to Voluntary Services personnel



Volunteers: Because of our masks, from left to right above are Jane and John Kinzinger, Chapter President Stan Harrison, Bonnie and Roy Hall.

to have available for hospitalized Veterans in need of such items. Covid-19 did not keep us from helping our local hospitalized Veterans. They know there are local Veterans and Friends who care about them. Many Chapter

members and Friends are donors to the VA Medical Center committee fundraising, which provides these items for the hospitalized Veterans. We had a few new donors this year, including members of the Charles S. Kettles family, and we are proud to have them join us. Many thanks for making this program continue on for this, the 33rd year. People often ask, "Why underwear?" That is always near the top of the "wish" list from the VA Voluntary Services Office. And I often respond, "Who does not like new underwear?" We also provide pajamas and slippers for the female patients.

We certainly missed making the room visits to personally thank the Veterans for their service and having the Miss Michigans and the Saline Fiddlers there performing too. Hopefully, 2021 Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, and we can go back to how we love to do our room visits.

Dispatch Recipients

VVA 310 award winning newsletter reaches approximately 516 people each month with 115 mailed USPS, 52 hits off the website (www.vva310.org), and 349 emailed. With good stewardship and networking, the cost to print the Dispatch approximates \$1,380 per year. If a VVA 310 member or others receiving the Dispatch via USPS desire to assist with the printing cost, a suggested donation would be: one year at \$12.00, two years at \$22.00, and three years at \$30.00. Payment can be made payable to VVA 310 and mailed to P.O. Box

3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221 indicating Dispatch on the memo line.

All other donations may be made payable to VVA 310 at the same mailing address by indicating Donation on the memo line.

RECIPIENTS

George F Boone ~ October 2021
Berryman Bourne ~ August 2023
Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2023
Tim Clarke ~ March 2022
Joseph Flint ~ January 2022
Edward Fuller ~ September 2023
Phil and Gena Hecker ~ Feb 2021
Steve and Shirley Hitte ~ June 2024
Darlene Imus ~ July 2024
Jane and John Kinzinger ~ June 2021
Mary Kate Kirkpatrick ~ September 2021
Rudy and Jane Kozal ~ May 2022
Linda Lamey-Leonard in memory of Lavern Lamey ~ July 2021
--> (This KIA person is listed on our Memorial Wall.)
David Marshall ~ June 2022
Sandy Martinez ~ September 2021
Del Mayes ~ March 2022
David L. Ney ~ April 2021
Ronald Oliver ~ November 2021
Paulo and Ann Dempsey Pereira ~ October 2021
George Perrault ~ October 2022
Mira and Bob Pierson ~ October 2021
Helena Prince in memory of deceased member Tom Prince ~ April 2023
Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026
Edith L. Semark ~ June 2021
Larry St. Antoine ~ March 2022
Chris Wetzler ~ February 2021
Elizabeth Wong ~ September 2023



An Aging Hero

By John Kinzinger

On January 16th, several of us attended the 100th birthday celebration of Jerome Bies in Saline. Mr. Bies served in the Army Air Corps in WWII in the South Pacific. He lives by himself; his wife died several years ago. His children stop in each day to check on him, and his condo community friends are there for him, too. They are the ones who planned the celebration, put the word out, and had balloons along the street. The Mayor of Saline was there and spoke—and they had a group of Saline High School band members perform some songs for him. Mr. Bies stayed near his garage within a marked-off area for Covid-19 reasons. There was a fire engine drive-by, and a nice group of us, Veterans, showed up. We formed up and gave him a special salute, which he crisply and proudly returned. I first met Mr. Bies about 50 years ago. One of his daughters married a good friend of mine. For the past several years, Mr. Bies has attended our VVA Pig Roast and Sidetrack fundraisers. He's truly proud of his military service. I have been involved in the local Veterans arena of things for about

34 years, and I have never had the opportunity to attend an event like that. May Veteran Jerome Bies live on!



--> The photo shows me on the left (John K), Mr. Bies in the center, and VVA 310 President Stan Harrison on the right.



Jocosity

By Ken Rogge

A new camp commander was appointed. While inspecting the place, the new Commander saw two soldiers guarding a bench—an aging bench with faded paint. He went over and asked the soldiers why they were guarding that bench. “We don’t know,, Sir”—said one of them. “The last Commander told

us to do so, and so we did. It is some sort of regimental tradition!” The Commander searched for the former Commander’s phone number and called him. He asked the former Commander why he wanted guards on the bench. “I don’t know,” he replied. “The previous Commander had guards, and I kept the tradition going!” Going back another three commanders, he found an aging, retired General. “Excuse me, Sir. I’m now the Commander of the camp you commanded 60 years ago. I’ve found two men assigned to guard a bench. Could you tell me more about the bench?” “What?” the startled General asked. Is the paint still wet?”

Kettles Honored

Legislation has been officially signed to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Ann Arbor after Lt. Col. Charles S. Kettles. Here is a summary of the heroic deeds carried out by Lt. Col. Kettles: In May of 1967, Lt. Col. Kettles led three rescue flights into enemy territory to deliver supplies and to evacuate soldiers caught in an ambush. In the middle of the final flight, Kettles was informed that eight soldiers remained on the ground. Without hesitation, Kettles turned around and proceeded to rescue the remaining men. His actions saved the lives of 40 soldiers and four crewmembers. In retirement, Kettles was a mentor, a friend, and a fellow veteran in the community. May he be remembered!

All About VVA 310

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310

National Chapter of the Year - 1999 & 2007

Newsletter of the Year 2007, 09, 11, & 15

E-Newsletter of the Year 2017

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Vice President: Marv Rivers

Secretary: Jon Luker

Treasurer: Berry Bourne

Chapter Membership: Vance McCrumb

Sergeant at Arms: Tim Clarke

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**VVA 310 Dispatch
February 2021**

Vietnam Veterans of America

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Please Forward. Thank You!