



*Together We
Make A Difference*



*Charles S. Kettles
Michigan Chapter 310*

310 Dispatch

Newsletter

July 2019

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

From the Editor's Desk:

A hearty Thank You to the 310 Dispatch Newsletter team. It takes collaboration to do this work. Also, for any sensitive matter at the beginning of the month, we spotlight them in the previous month. But please keep an eye on the calendar at the VVA 310 website. Dave Draper and Vance McCrumb keep them totally current. Thank you to all contributors!



AVVA and VVA 310 members attended the Fisher House Groundbreaking on June 14th at the VA Ann Arbor. Sandy Wilson, Tim Driscoll, and Dave Draper were VVA 310 Chapter members with shovels at the ceremonial groundbreaking.

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**--> MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT - Friday July 19 — 9:00 am--3:30 pm
Dexter United Methodist Church — 7643 Huron Dr., Dexter, MI 48130
Contact: Beau Nelson: 734-780-5725; Clayton.Nelson2@VA.Gov.
Or Julie Boyd: jboyduw@comcast.net — 734-276-6295.**

President's Message

By Tim Driscoll

We honor and salute a deceased VVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 member.

Dick Knight:

August 2, 1929—June 22, 2019

To me, Dick was always an intelligent soul. Rather quiet and thoughtful, Dick was proud to be a chapter brother. We all know how much Dick loved his golf game. He



always told me he had intentions of having a great game, as he worked the golf course to bring the win to him.

With patience, he dug in and plotted that little white ball into the cup. Even when the weather changed for the worst, Dick would just stay out much longer than most. Never a quitter, Dick always toughed it out. He always made the VVA 310 meetings best he could. He loved the friends and AVVA food that was put out before the meetings.

The last time Kathleen and I were with him was at another VVA 310 member's funeral. Dick said he wished he could come to meetings more often but was always there in his heart. We got a warm handshake and a hug. By the way, Dick had played golf that morning.

God bless you, Dick Knight!

Tim Driscoll – 734-355-4897

Timaok032@gmail.com

Chaplain's Corner, July 2019

By Rev. Gordon Morore

July launches us into the heart of summer, if we ever see it this year. And with it, come vacations, camping out, picnics, fireworks,



and for us veterans and our families, liberty and the cost of its maintenance. The majority of Americans lack experience as to what it takes to maintain liberty.

Maintaining Liberty

What I find interesting is what people conceptualize when they use the term "Freedom" or "Liberty." In my discussions on this topic, I notice that many use this term to mean freedom to do what they want, and also the ability to limit what others can do or say.

I listen to the national, local, and social media and analyze the discussions around freedom, especially on the Fourth of July. I then meditate on what is said. I go back and analyze my own conversations and thoughts to see where I have made similar disconnects from logic.

Where I have failed is usually when I am involved in a group think conversation getting caught up in the emotion of the moment instead of challenging what is being said for accuracy. And I have failed on many

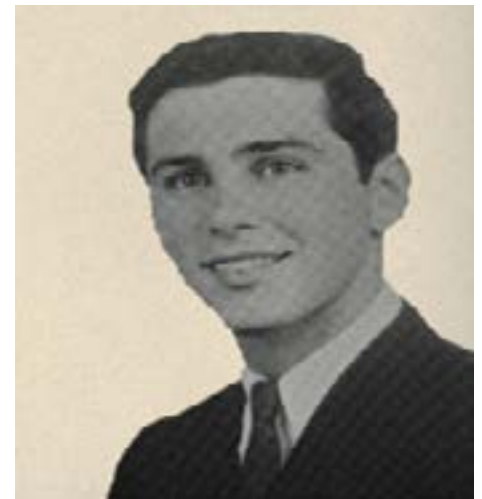
an occasion to maintain intellectual integrity.

I go back to the verse I often use as a reference point: "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Add to this one: "And you shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free." I find that, when I violate those instructions, I actually put myself in an intellectual jail, where I have to either rationalize my stand or admit that I am in error and free to move on.

I share this as my failure. But because it is shared by others, I offer this as a challenge for us to hold each other accountable for following clear thoughts and abiding by the truth so that we will be truly free as individuals and collectively as a group of veterans. Enjoying our freedom together,
Gordon

Honoring July's Anniversaries on the Wall

Private First Class Douglas Paul Atkins was born on September 14, 1950 in Ann Arbor to Mr. and Mrs. Variell L. Atkins. Douglas is a 1968 graduate of Ann Arbor Senior



High School in Ann Arbor. He also attended Washtenaw Community College prior to his entry into the Army August of 1969.

Private First Class Atkins started his tour in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam on July 6, 1970 serving as a Medical Corpsman with Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade. Douglas' unit was operating in an area that was full of "booby-traps". Private First Class Douglas Paul Atkins was killed by a booby-trap explosion on July 27, 1970, just 23 days into his tour in Vietnam.

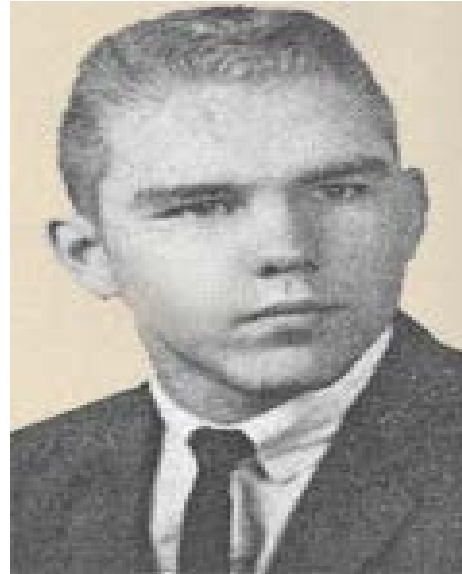
Douglas earned the National Defense Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Parachutist Badge, the Expert Badge with Automatic Rifle Bar, and the Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar prior to his death. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and the Combat Medical Badge.

Doug is survived by his parents, family and friends. He lived 19 years, 10 months and 13 days. Douglas Paul Atkins 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 08W Line 058.

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Lance Corporal David Dayle McKenzie was born on February 13, 1945 in Detroit, Michigan to Mr. and Mrs. David D. McKenzie of Ann Arbor, Michigan. David attended Mary Magdalene Parish School in Melvindale, Michigan until 1959. He attended St. Francis Xavier Parish School for one year. His family

moved to Ann Arbor where he attended St. Thomas High School. He was the captain of his football team, and was on the All-City and



All-Southwest football teams. He also lettered in basketball, baseball and track. David enlisted in the Marine Corps after graduating from High School.

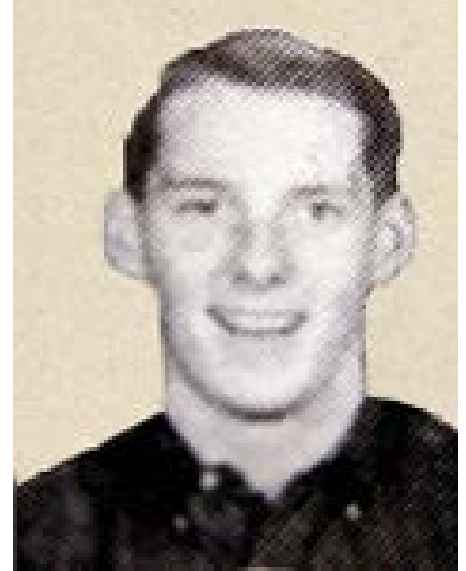
Lance Corporal McKenzie began his tour of duty in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam in June of 1965 serving as a rifleman with B Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Forces. David was killed early in his tour on July 12, 1965 when his unit was conducting a search and clear mission just south of Da Nang along the Song Cau Do River where mines were numerous.

David Dayle McKenzie is survived by his parents and four sisters. He lived 20 years, 4 months and 29 days. He is resting in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Michigan. David'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 02E Line 035.

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Airman Second Class Charles Frederick Boss was born on July 16, 1947 to Mr. and Mrs. John M. Boss of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Charles graduated from Ann Arbor High School in 1965. He was very proud of a First Place Trophy he



won at Milan Dragway for driving a 1959 VW to victory.

Airman Second Class Charles Frederick Boss entered the Air Force in August of 1965. He underwent basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Charles received specialist training as a fire protection specialist at Kincheloe Air Force Base in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Airman Second Class Charles Frederick Boss began his tour in Vietnam on December 15, 1966. He was stationed at the Da Nang Air Base in Da Nang, Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam with the 366th CE Squadron, 366th Combat Support Group, 366th Tactical Fighter Wing of the Seventh Air Force. Charles was killed during a rocket attack on July 15, 1967 along with seven others. One-

hundred-seventy-three men were also wounded during the attack and forty-two aircraft were damaged.

Charles Boss is survived by his parents, a brother and two sisters. He lived 19 years, 11 months and 29 days. Charles is resting in Forest Hills Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His name is located on the Vietnam Memorial located at the Ypsilanti Township Hall under Ann Arbor. His name is also listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 23E Line 073.

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Specialist 4 Philip Glenn Spencer was born on March 3, 1946 in Ypsilanti, Michigan to Mr. Glenn F. and Mrs. Jessie K. Spencer. Philip is a 1964 graduate of Willow Run High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan where he was on the 1963 State Championship Football Team. He also was on the wrestling team, student council, Varsity Club and attended Wolverine Boys' State in 1963. He was also in Scouting. Philip attended Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan



for a year before transferring to Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan majoring in mechanical engineering.

Specialist 4 Spencer enlisted in the Army on October 25, 1967 taking his Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky with further training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Philip began his tour of duty at Camp Carroll in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam on April 21, 1968 serving as a Field Artillery Surveyor with A Company, 2nd Battalion, 94th Artillery, 108th Artillery Group, XXIV Corps. He died of a very rare blood disease called agranulocytosis at the 108th General Hospital at Kishine Air Force Base in Japan on July 10, 1968.

Philip Glenn Spencer is survived by his parents and his wife. He lived 22 years, 4 months and 7 days. He is resting in Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Philip'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 52W Line 011.

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Lieutenant William Lennington Brown was born on on October 5, 1935 in Ypsilanti, Michigan to Mr. Robert S. and Mrs. Patricia Lennington Brown. William graduated from Roosevelt High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan. In June, 1955, he received a Congressional Appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He graduated from the Naval Academy on June 3, 1959. According to Captain John A. Standish, USN (Ret), "I met Bill Brown when I reported aboard my first ship, the Destroyer, USS Braine (DD-630)...in San Diego. I

was assigned as Gunnery Officer, Bill was the Weapons Department Head. Bill was a very conscientious, fun loving young officer, and quickly pulled me under his wing. He was a great mentor and coach, and much of my love for the Navy and its traditions were as a result of Bill's attitude and instruction...Bill also became a good friend...Bill was very religious and tempted me with pizza if I would go to evening services with him, which I did on occasion. At some point, Bill picked up the nickname, 'Squirrel's.'

Lieutenant Brown served with the 15th Republic of Vietnam Navy, River Assault Group, Naval Advisory



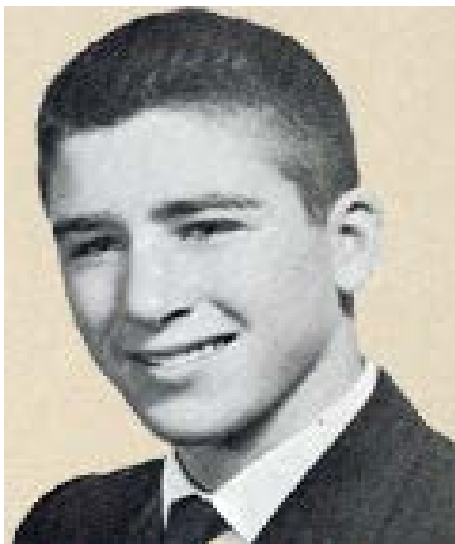
Group, MACV. He was acting as a Naval Advisor to the Marine Corps in Chu Lai, South Vietnam when the island of Ky Hoa was attacked by a large force of Viet Cong. Bill Brown was killed as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds on July 9, 1965 along with four other Americans.

Lieutenant William Lennington Brown is survived by his parents, two brothers and a sister. He lived for 29 years, 9 months and 4 days. He is resting at the Brookside Cemetery in Tecumseh, Michigan. According

to USNA Classmate Greg Nolan, "He (Bill) is remembered in Memorial Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy with other 1959 Classmates while serving our Country." Bill'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 02E Line 033.

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Hospitalman David Scott Palmer was born on October 6, 1945 to Mr. and Mrs. David E. Palmer of Ypsilanti, Michigan. David is a 1963 graduate of Roosevelt High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan where he received honors in math. He was



also the co-captain of the swimming team. David attended the University of Michigan before enlisting in the Navy in December of 1965.

Hospitalman Palmer began his tour of duty in Quang Nam Province with Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Battalion, III Marine Amphibious Forces. David was killed on July 5, 1967 due to an explosive device.

David Scott Palmer is survived by his parents, a sister and a brother. He lived 21 years 8 months and

29 days. David'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 23E Line 014.

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Thomas Leonard Cleland was born on November 5, 1941 to Mr. Leslie and Mrs. Coryell Cleland. His sister Andrea (Coron) remembered him as being very tall and thin. She writes, "To me it was like looking up at a very tall tree. He was very kind and protective of those he loved. He called me 'Honey'. He was well liked by everyone. He had lots of friends and loved to laugh."

Thomas played baseball for Lincoln High School. His statement for his class yearbook was, "One today is worth two tomorrows." He loved to go fishing and swimming. There was a gravel pit behind his street. It was very deep and, even though Thomas was a good swimmer, his mother was always worried about him when we went swimming in the pit. Thomas, his brother Dale and his friends went to the pit often.

Andrea continued, "Tom really liked to eat, and loved most foods. Mom used to say he had two hollow legs because she couldn't seem to fill him up. Dad had a garden and Tom and Dale would often help their father. If Dad needed help and couldn't find Tom, he'd always go to the Ford Lake Dam and find Tom there fishing. When he was in the 11th grade, he got a job on a farm that had milking cows. Tom would have to get up and milk the cows by 5 A.M. each morning. Mr. and Mrs. Maleski who owned the farm, invited Tom to stay with them during the week to make the milking easier. He would take the school

bus from the farm. Tom worked at the farm until he graduated from Lincoln Consolidated High School 1959".



The Fulton family lived across from the Maleski's farm. Ken Fulton was Tom's best friend. Ken was killed in Vietnam a couple months after Tom was killed. They both are listed on the Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial.

After graduating from high school, Tom joined the Army, and while in the service he married a former class mate, Sharon Hubbard. Following Basic he was sent to Korea. His brother Dale enlisted the following year and was also sent to Korea. Dale discovered that Tom was only two miles away. They were always close so this reunion was an especially happy time. When Tom's time was up, he reenlisted for four more years. When he came home on leave, he told his family that he had volunteered to go to Vietnam. He had a choice to go to Korea as General Westmoreland's driver, or go to Vietnam. He chose Vietnam because he told his family that he would rather go back than for a seventeen year old to be sent there. "The last time we heard from him was through a radio phone patch from Vietnam", reports Andrea. "We talked and teased a little and

then he spoke to mom. She was so happy to hear his voice. Since his unit was ready to move out, he said it might be a while before we heard from him again. Two months later they got the news he had been killed."

Thomas began his tour of duty in Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam on May 7, 1966 serving as an Antenna Installer Specialist with Headquarters, Headquarters Company, First Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. He was killed on July 11, 1967 after serving "In-country" for one year, two months and four days. Tom's commanding officer wrote to the family saying that he needed someone to take a message to the front lines. Tom was killed while returning to his unit by someone from his unit. His commanding officer wrote the family that he had told Tom the pass word and to go in the back way, but Tom went in the wrong way. A soldier on the perimeter asked for the password and Tom did not respond and crouched down. The soldier asked again and again and Tom crouched down more and the soldier fired and hit Tom. His sister Andrea stated, "I hope he reads this, to know that no one in our family resents or blames him. Our tears are for him too! I wish I knew him. I would love to be able to tell him, so he could look in my eyes and see how sincere I am and hug him. I am so sorry for him too."

After he was killed, "we received what turned out to be a prank Red Cross call. The person said that it was a mistake and it wasn't Tom who was killed. They said they would come out the next day and explain everything. Three days later they had not come. You can imagine how we were feeling. So dad called

the Red Cross. They told him that they would not have called, but would have come out to the house to tell them. It was a terrible dirty prank that someone played. At the funeral his casket was open, or to this day I would not have believed it. He will always be remembered with laughter, tears and a lot of pride for a very gentle man. These many years later the healing goes on for all of us."

Specialist 4 Thomas Leonard Cleland was survived by his parents, his wife Sharon, two brothers (Dale and Terry) and a sister (Andrea Coron). He lived 25 years, 8 months and 6 days. He is resting in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Whittaker, Michigan. Thomas' 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 23E Line 049.

VVA 310 Chapter Meeting Minutes 13 June 2019

Call to order by President Driscoll at 1903

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence for POW/MIA's, their families and those who are serving in hazardous places around the world.

Opening Prayer: Cothorn

Roll call: A quorum was established.

Welcome Home Everyone!

New Members: None

Guests:

Motion to Approve the May Minutes by Brooks-Miller/Rogge. **Approved.**

President's Report:

Ground breaking for Fisher House.

Had a meeting where a speaker spoke about today's young

veterans. They don't want to go to college, they don't want to go to Vet Centers. They spend time on devices. Average age 26. Their war was different and difficult. They don't mix with other students. Most have at least one job. They have people. They have most of what they need, and they have a map. They don't join. They are reverent. They are not looking for older people's support. So, don't be upset that they are not trying to join you yet. They will in their good time.

Treasure's Report: Bourne. Year to date financials reported. Cash position explained. No Questions.

AVVA Report: Driscoll. Please see attached report.

Food Pantry: Miller. No Activity.

Calendar Committee: Draper. Nobody is reporting any events.

Merchandise Report: St Antoine. Thank you to those of you who help us load in and out of the VA on the second Tuesday's of the month. But we could use more help at 1400 when we load out. Show up early and buy something or talk to veterans. You'll be amazed. In April we grossed \$1,283 of which \$800 is profit. May was \$1,415 gross and about \$900 profit. Also, we will be at Ann Arbor Arms from 1000 to 1800 on 7 September. Please come out to purchase or to help. We also still need help at the VA, especially for loading and unloading the merchandise. Our next sale at the VA is 9 July.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Report: Luker. The new appeal process is in place and is no longer optional.

Michigan State Council: The State Council and Region 5 believe that no matter what National does in July, Michigan and the other states in Region 5 will adopt whatever

changes are necessary to carry out the mission, including what it takes to bring the younger generations on board with the mission.

Memorial Committee Report: Merritt. Only three people out of the entire Chapter showed up to get the Memorial ready for Memorial Day. It is the same dozen people doing all the work. Ladies, the committee would welcome any of you volunteering. It doesn't have to be just the guys. Based on a show of hands, there will be no 4th of July picnic sponsored by VVA.

Website Committee Report: McCrumb. No report.

Membership Report: McCrumb. No report.

Newsletter: Pereira. No report.

Health Care: Wilson. Ground Breaking 14 June 1000.

VAAHS Report: Kinzinger. VVA volunteer hours might not be getting properly accounted for at VVA National. Our next VA event will be the Halloween Party, at 1730 on Saturday 26 October. As always, it is a costume event and we will spend some time together at the Sidetrack afterward. 17 December will be the Christmas Party.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Order:

White (as representative of Ann Arbor Post 46): Post 46 elected Dave Draper as its commander. I'm a cancer survivor due to early detection.

Wilson: Spoke with medical students about taking military medical history. Student doctors were open to the idea and appreciated the suggestions.

Brooks-Miller: 1 October, the entire VA campus will be smoke free. No vaping. Enforced by \$50 ticket you can challenge the Federal District

Court in Detroit. You can smoke on the sidewalk.

Kinzinger: 23 June 1700 is our next packing party. There will be the usual potluck afterward. If you want to contribute items for the boxes, show up at 1500.

Megara: Union contracts coming up for UAW. One bargain point is the request to put a VSO in each local.

Merritt: Stop by and contact Jon Luker to make sure he has your correct email address so you get email notices from our Chapter.

Cothorn: Woman's Veteran Day 12 June. Michigan is the 5th state to recognize it.

Miller: What about covers for the wood benches at the Memorial?

Merritt: Suitable material that would allow the bench to be used has not yet been found.

Throneberry: Veterans Radio is sponsoring an Open Mike Night, 17 July, for veterans. Possible locations are the Sidetrack or the Corner Brewery. If it goes well, it could be done every third Wednesday from 1800 until 2000. We give each veteran 10 minutes to tell their story or one of their stories. The idea is to expose the public to the stories to make them aware. The stories will be recorded and available as podcasts as well. The hope is that if the older veterans start to tell their stories in public, the younger veterans will hear the stories and come forward to tell theirs as well.

St. Antoine: Brewed Awakenings has a Pay-It-Forward night. This year, on 16 July, from 0900 to 2100, Brewed Awakenings will donate 20% of what they make to the Washtenaw County Honor Guard. Brewed Awakenings does this every month for some group.

Clarke: The Saline Community Fair has a special program to honor veterans on 31 Aug at the Washtenaw Farm Council grounds. On this day, veterans get in free and get a free lunch ticket. The ABC sisters will do a tribute performance of the Andrews Sisters performance. (The fair runs from 28 August through 1 September 2019).

Meni: Next-door neighbor needs a ramp. Go fund me page was started by the granddaughter. VVA and Legion members have contributed.

Driscoll: Chapter Breakfast: Friday, July 12th, 0900 hours, Holiday's Restaurant, 2080 W. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Closing Prayer: Kinzinger

Salute the Flag

Adjourned 2016.

Respectfully Submitted, Jon Luker

Good Friends and Humorous Moments

By Vance McCrumb

This is a cartoon that Dave "Doc" Martinez drew decades ago,



depicting an event at the Memorial grounds. Doc captured the moment well. The cartoon appeared in the newsletter of January 2006. John Kinzinger was president at that time.

I am sure this will bring back memories for members of that era. While Dick (Geezer) Knight was

mowing the lawn at the Memorial, the rider caught fire, or maybe it was Dick's tennis shoes. In any case, there was smoke. The following dialogue ensued:



—**Jay Baxter:** “Hey Dick, get off the mower! It’s on fire and smoking pretty bad.”

Geezer: “Are you going to tell Doc we didn’t get the Memorial done because the tractor caught on fire? I’ve got a little bit to go; then we are done.”

AVVA Newsletter July 2019

By Kathy Driscoll

Phil Hecker, past president of VVA 310, is very ill. Please keep him and Gena in your prayers. You can send a Get-Well card to Phil:

Phil Hecker
3309 Derby Crossing Ct SW
Grandville, MI 48418.

If you are on Facebook, you can join the AVVA Michigan closed group. Just send a **Join Group** request and the admin will accept you as a member of the AVVA Michigan closed group. This is how our AVVA Michigan State Association communicates between the bi-monthly meetings.

AVVA 310 Members were busy volunteering and supporting AVVA and VVA projects in May.

- Wendy St. Antoine, Shirley Hitte and Kathy supported VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System
- Shirley, Meni, Jane, Kate, Carol and Kathy attended the Fisher House Groundbreaking on June 14th at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. VVA 310 members attending were Sandie Wilson, Marty Cothorn, John Kinzinger, Steve Hitte and Tim Driscoll
- Photos courtesy of American Legion Post 46:
- Photos from Kathy: Sandie



Wilson and Tim Driscoll from Vietnam Veterans of Michigan groundbreaking shovel at the Fisher House Michigan Groundbreaking.

- Kathy attended the AVVA



Region 5 Conference held in Indianapolis, IN.

Next VVA 310 VA Merchandising sales is Tuesday, July 9th, VVA 310 needs our help. Please consider volunteering one or two hours assisting VVA 310 merchandise team at the Ann Arbor VA.

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 Chapter 310 Fundraising Report

Veteran Wrist Story Bracelets

- AVVA 310 has Veteran Wrist Story Bracelets for a \$5 donation. Please contact Kathy Driscoll if you would like one. We have 10 left! To date we raised \$450.00, which was donated to Fisher House Michigan in May.

- We will have a basket raffle



at the VVA 310 Pig Roast on September 8th. Please consider donating an item for our raffle table. Last year we raised \$110.00.

Fisher House Michigan Project

- AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter donated \$11,000 to Fisher House Michigan. We are now looking for fundraising ideas for Fisher House Michigan.
- Meni is working on a Creative Memories Fundraiser for Fisher House Michigan in October. More information at our July 11th meeting.

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2019 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$2,283.25. We sponsored three delegates to Girl State 2019.

AVVA Michigan State Association News

- You can view the AVVA Strategic Plan at <http://vvamsc.org/associate/>
- AVVA Michigan Association next meeting is Sunday, August 18th in Battle Creek, MI.

AVVA Michigan Association Fundraising Report

- AVVA MI Association is looking for fundraising ideas for 2019.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage is launched! The Association has tab on the new VVA Michigan State Council webpage: <http://avvamsc.org/associates/> It is still being updated. The About US, Contacts, Events, Chapter

Locator has current content. More to be uploaded in the near future!

AVVA National

Wendy Hibbitts will attend the AVVA National Convention in Spokane, WA. She will cast the AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 vote for the National elections as our alternate chapter delegate. Thank you, Wendy for attending the AVVA 20th Anniversary Celebration at the 2019 convention in Spokane.

Upcoming Events!

4 July Ypsilanti, MI 90th Fourth of July Parade

9 July VVA 310 Merchandising 3rd Floor VA Ann arbor Freedom Building

11 Jul AVVA Membership Meeting 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

President, AVVA Michigan State Association

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira

04 Jul: Ypsilanti Parade, Line Up at 0930/ Step Off at 1030 on Cross Street

11 Jul: Monthly VVA/AVVA 310 Meetings: VVA Board 1730 hrs; AVVA 1800 hrs; VVA Member Meeting 1900 hrs

12 Jul: Chapter Breakfast

16 Jul: Veterans Honor Guard of Washtenaw County Fundraiser, Brewed Awakenings, 0900-2100 hrs. 20% of Brewed Awakenings Sales is Donated

NEED TO KNOW

04 Jul: Independence Day (1776)

16 Jul: Veterans Honor Guard of Washtenaw County fundraiser, Brewed Awakenings, 0900- 2100 hrs

07 Jul: Purple Heart Day

22 Jul: Walk & Roll for the 22 Event, VA Hospital front parking lot, 1000 hrs. Event benefits WACU

19- 21 Sept: Kokomo Reunion

Saturdays @ 0930: Meet at Southeast parking lot of Gallup Park for walk or run with Team Red White & Blue

** Visit Veterans Radio online (Click here: veteransradio.net) and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

Volunteers needed for the 2019 Pig Roast!

By Pres. Tim Driscoll

Save the Date to Volunteer!

Sunday, September 8, 2019 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sunday, September 8th is the 17th Annual Pig Roast. We need every member of VVA 310 and AVVA to volunteer an hour or two to make



this Pig Roast successful.

If you are in the area, please plan to help out. We need volunteers to assist with setup, ticket sales at front gate, parking, cooking, ticket

takers at the beginning of food line, food servers for food and dessert, and most of all cleanup at 4 pm. We need separate volunteers for cleanup!

Setup and cleanup of the hall will be Saturday, September 7th at 10:00 am.

Cooking setup will begin at 8:00 pm with the actual overnight cooking beginning at 11:00 pm.

Raffle and silent auction items for both VVA and AVVA should be dropped off on Saturday, September 7th.

Please consider making a donation either monetary, gift cards, or an item for the bucket and silent raffles to either VVA or AVVA or both.

We need volunteers to contact our past donors in Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Dexter, Milan, Scio Twp., Saline and Ypsilanti. We would like teams of two to contact our past donors in



each city.

Please let us know how you can assist our Pig Roast. This is the main source of income to run our yearly projects.

Please plan to attend our July 11th membership meeting and signup to make this 17th Annual Pig Roast a great success and pleasant to everyone attending and volunteering.

Your Pig Roast committee cochairs.

Chapter/Dispatch Patrons

Please check your dates to see if you are current!

*NAME LISTED ON THE WASHTENAW COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

The following have made a contribution in a continuing effort to support our Chapter by offsetting the cost of printing and postage. The month and year are when the patron subscription expires. You may also consider a "In Memory Of." Our Chapter retains only \$9.00 of your yearly \$20.00 dues and it costs about \$12.00 a year for printing and postage. If you would like to support your newsletter please make a check payable to VVA 310. We will credit 1 month for every \$1.50 donated. Note on the Memo Line Dispatch Patron. Please mail your check to: VVA 310, P.O. Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

George F Boone ~ October 2021
Berryman Bourne ~ August 2020
Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2020
William Christophersen ~ October 2019
Edward Fuller ~ March 2020
Gary Couture ~ July 2019
Joseph Flint ~ January 2021
James Graham ~ February 2019
Phil and Gena Hecker ~ Feb 2021
Ralph Henry ~ November 2020
Steve and Shirley Hitte ~ June 2024
Dorothy & Donald Kepler ~ June 2020
Jane and John Kinzinger ~ October 2019
Kate Kirkpatrick ~ January 2020
Sandy Martinez ~ September 2021
Dell Mayes ~ December 2019
Al (Fredo) Merritt ~ May 2018

Ron Oliver ~ February 2019
Paulo-Juarez Pereira ~ January 2020
George Perrault ~ October 2022
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Chris Wetzler ~ October 2019
Elizabeth Wong ~ November 2019
Bob Kurtz ~ December 2019
Larry St. Antoine ~ March 2020
Linda Lamey-Leonard in memory of **Lavern Lamey*** ~ July 2021
Patricia Beechem in memory of her brother, **David S. Palmer*** ~ October 2018
Helena Prince in memory of deceased member **Tom Prince** ~ April 2023
Corrine Gignac in memory of Vietnam Vet Marine **Gary L West** ~ January 2020
Bonnie Woods in memory of her VN vet husband **Gary Woods** ~ December 2018.

WALK AND ROLL FOR 22!
Saturday, July 6
2215 Fuller Rd
Ann Arbor MI 48105
JOIN US IN OUR FIGHT TO END VETERAN SUICIDE!
Check in: 10:00 AM;
Walk begins: 11:00 AM.



“Sacrifices Not Forgotten”

by John Kinzinger

In 1989 a group of six of us VVA 310 members started a two-year journey with our goal of erecting a memorial to honor the ultimate sacrifices our local brothers made in Vietnam. Dennis Davie, Milton Davis, Paul Dumsch, Tom Fifield,

on our Memorial than just having their names engraved in the granite. Along with their stories, I wished to tell the history of the Memorial: the Ann Arbor Parks Commission’s rejection, fund raising, construction, and that special dedication day for the Memorial.

So, I started writing and writing, then editing, and more writing. It took me a while to understand that

did not do it all myself. I hope I can remember all of my support folks. There was Tom Prince, Lynda Gladstone, Bill Vollano, Laura Moehrle, Ron Greiner, Jane Kinzinger, and Serbin Publishers. The late Pete Belaire provided all the obituary information.

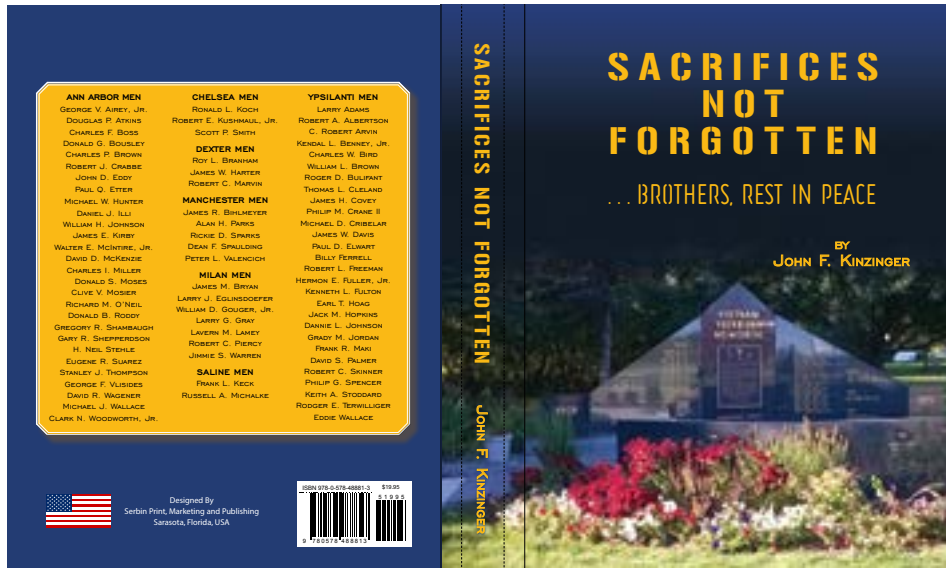
I believe we have brought a breath of life to the names listed on our Memorial. You must read their character sketches to understand. Initial feedback from recipients indicates the book has been well received and loved.

Jane and I are giving the books away. There is an envelope in each book so you can contribute to the perpetual care of our Memorial. The time for us to turn the Memorial’s care and maintenance over to Ypsilanti Township is not too many years ahead of us.

We had the 99-year lease we have with Ypsilanti Township amended. When we decide to turn the care of the Memorial over to them, from the perpetual care fund within the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, the Township will be able to submit bills for maintenance up to \$4,000 per year. So, your donation will help keep that perpetual fund active.

If you would like a copy of the book, please send \$3.00 to John Kinzinger, 1717 W. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Our Brothers’ sacrifices will not be forgotten.



Jack McManus, and I, later joined by Tom Smith, began with no experience in design, fundraising, or anything else related to what our goal was. But the passion for our mission and some divine intervention carried us along as we met every week for two years until the dedication.

All during this period I had 76 folders, one for each KIA on our Memorial. Then for the next nearly twenty years, I would add notes to the folders as someone would tell me a story about one of the KIAs. These stories and comments came from family members, classmates, friends, and battle buddies.

Almost ten years ago, I got the idea of maybe writing a book that would tell more about the 76 men

the real need for the book was to complement our Memorial. The sacrifices of these 76 men and their loved ones cannot be forgotten. My first versions focused too much on my anger with the Ann Arbor Parks Commission. Then I realized the book is not about us and our efforts to erect the Memorial. That is when I changed the focus to the character sketches of our fallen brothers.

There were some lengthy breaks in my writing for family, church, and other things. Years passed by. Jane would nudge me to keep going and get it finished before I died!

Well the past couple of winters I worked diligently on it. This past winter we got the book over the finish line. I had much help with editing and suggestions from those reading the first drafts. I certainly

All About VVA 310

Never Again Shall A Veteran Coming Home From Battle Be Made To Feel Alone And Unappreciated!

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: Stan Harrison
Secretary: Jon Luker
Treasurer: Berry Bourne
Chapter Membership: Vance McCrumb
310 Dispatch Editor: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

**VVA 310 Dispatch
July 2019**

Vietnam Veterans of America
Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310
P.O. Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106
Please Forward. Thank You!