



The Chapter 310

August
2017



**TWO TIME NATIONAL CHAPTER OF
THE YEAR**



Washtenaw County KIA's

[James Davis](#) 13 August 1969
[Kendal Benney](#) 20 August 1967

Michigan MIA's
Unaccounted for - 49
Accounted for - 36

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the left to view and
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President's Message:



Well, the month started out strong. As we have for many years, many of our Chapter members participated in the



Independence Day Parade in Ypsilanti. Many of us are getting to an age where it is getting harder to march in the parade, but for the last few years there has been transportation available for a few people to at least ride in the parade. The parade had many participants and it seemed to me like there were quite a few more people in the viewing crowd. Ypsi has always seemed to be a very patriotic town and the turnout was tremendous this year. The parade was also very long. We had finished the parade, stored all the flags, and started our way out and the parade was still going through the town near the water tower.



Shortly after the parade many of our Chapter members and members of Team Red White & Blue gathered at our Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Ypsi for our annual Veterans Picnic. I want to give thanks to several people. First to the Ypsilanti American Legion for allowing us to use their grill. It was the maker of some really great dogs and burgers. Thanks to all who brought food too. Al Merritt's wife made some really delicious potato salad, cole slaw, and pasta salad. Jane Kinzinger brought watermelon and an angel food cake with Happy Birthday Shirley written on it (Shirley Hitte was celebrating her birthday). Of course, there were soft drinks,



water, and beer to cap off the goodies, and several games that were available to play. The AVVA ladies also took time to pose by the new tree that was planted in Theresa Mullins' memory. Next a big thanks to Al Merritt and Jon Luker for putting this event together. With their coordination and help from some volunteers they had most of the equipment and tents set up the night before the event. And the same goes for the few that came out to take the tents down and clean up. It was a weekend!



We had another great month Merchandising at the VA Medical Center. Thanks



to Vance McCrumb to spearheading the event and to all those who came out to help. No one person can do it all—it takes us all to get the job done. As usual the sales were up and down during the day, but we still made a sizable profit! Vance McCrumb and Don Miller are working on some better placed advertising with the permission of the VAMC. I have been working on a better system of keeping track of inventory. I think in the near future we will be able cut our time tracking inventory by at least half.



Unfortunately, we had another death in our VVA “family”. Charter and Life Member of our Chapter, Edward “Eddy” Conrad, passed on Tuesday, July 18. His visitation was on Sunday, July 23 and funeral service in Ypsilanti on Monday July 24. He was an Air Force Veteran who served from October 1963 through 1967. Al Merritt opened our Chapter tradition of presenting poppies. Our Chapter members came forward to the casket one at a time, followed by the family and friends delivering the poppies to me and presenting the salute. After all had come forward, I twisted the poppies into a bouquet and laid them on Eddy’s chest. It was heartwarming that ten of our VVA members and three of the AVVA members were there to show their respects to one of our members. I was not able to attend the funeral the next day, but several members said they were planning to attend. Our Chaplain, Gordon Moore officiated the funeral service, and the Washtenaw County Veterans Honor Guard provided military honors. We extend our prayers to all his family and friends.



We have Merchandising Sales at the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center again on August 8. That’s conducted on the third floor of the Freedom Building. Don Miller has graciously accepted the responsibility of overseeing the event. Meni and I will not be around to help this time. I hope many of you will come out and help. This event has been a pretty good source of revenue for our Chapter.

Sandie Wilson, Ken Rogge, Jon Luker, Meni and I will be attending the Vietnam Veterans of America National Convention in New Orleans from August 7 to the 13th. We will be voting, on your behalf, for the issues that are before us from the National. We will also be voting for the National leadership, although most positions are uncontested. Blessings on you and yours.

Dave Draper
President
USAF C-130 Loadmaster



(Among those we won't abandon, the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Operation Enduring Freedom)

More Than Names On the Wall

Part Five, by Jane Kinzinger

I think of August as the month of reflection. Summer is quickly slipping away. What have I done to make the most of summertime. What were the milestones? What have I accomplished? This leads me to this month's focus on the awards and medals earned by the 76 young men listed on our Memorial. Unfortunately, the information available on each of the 76 young men on the Washtenaw County Vietnam Veterans Memorial is not complete. Awards might have been overlooked or not reported by their family.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an Armed Force or any civilian national of the United States who, while serving under competent authority in any capacity with one of the U. S. Armed Services after 5 April 1917, has been wounded or killed or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded (USMCVTA.org/phheart/phcriteria). While clearly an individual decoration, the Purple Heart differs from all other decorations in that an individual is not "recommended" for the decoration; rather he or she is entitled to it from meeting specific criteria. Considering this criteria, it would follow that the 76 men on our Memorial received the Purple Heart posthumously. One (Airey) has two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star, and one (C. Brown) has three Purple Hearts plus a Bronze Star. These young men answered their country's call. They made the supreme sacrifice. They were all outstanding men.



Heroic actions lead to LTC Charles S. Kettles' being awarded the Medal of Honor, which is the highest military decoration of the United States. It is awarded for "gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty." (See August 2016 Dispatch for full details or www.army.mil/medalofhonor/kettles.)



The Distinguished Service Cross is the second highest military award that can be given to a member of the United States Army (and previously the United States Air Forces and the United States Air Force) for extreme gallantry and risk of life in actual combat with an armed enemy force. Actions that merit the Distinguished Service Cross must be of such high degree that they are above those required for all other U. S. combat decorations but do not meet the criteria for Medal of Honor. The Distinguished Service Cross is equivalent to the Navy Cross (Navy and Marine Corps), the Air Force Cross (Air Force) and the Coast Guard Cross (Coast Guard) (The Institute of Heraldry). In 1968, then Major Charles Kettles received the Distinguished Service Cross for his gallant actions of July 17, 1967. On 18 July 2016, his DSC was upgraded to the Medal of Honor.



The Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded to three men on our Memorial - Adams, Vlisides, and Wagener, who distinguished themselves in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight" (DOD Manual 1348.33-V3).



The Silver Star is the United States military's third highest personal decoration for valor in combat. Valor – great courage in the face of danger, especially in battle – bravery, courage, fearlessness, boldness, heroism. The Silver Star Medal is awarded primarily to members of the Armed Forces for valor and gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force. Among the 76 young men killed in Vietnam from Washtenaw County, there were seven Silver Stars awarded: Arvin (2), Boss, Ferrell, Gougar, Jordan and Maki. This shows the character and dedication of these men.



The Bronze Star is the fourth highest award for military combat bravery is awarded to any person whom while serving in any way in or with the United States military after 6 December 1941, that distinguished himself or herself apart from his or her comrades by brave or praiseworthy achievement or service, that did not include participation in aerial flight. The act justifying award of the Bronze Star medal must be performed while fighting an enemy of the United States, or while involved in conflict with an opposing/foreign force. Heroism carried out under acts as described, which are of a lesser degree than those awarded of Silver Star, will justify the award of the Bronze Star. The Bronze Star was awarded to 21 of the young men on our Memorial: Airey, Atkins, Bird, Boss, Bousley (2), Branham, Brown, Eddy, Ferrell, Fulton, Gougar, Gray, Hoag, Jordan, Maki, Miller, Shambough, Suarez, Valencich, Vlisides, and Warren. The Bronze Star with "V" was awarded to Billy Ferrell, along with a Silver Star for Gallantry.

Other awards mentioned in the 76 write-ups include: Air Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Marksman Badge with the Automatic Bar, Parachute Badge, South Vietnam Government Military Merit Medal + Gallantry Cross with Palm, Army Commendation Medal for Heroism, Navy Commendation Medal, and South Vietnam Government's Armed Services Expeditionary Medal. Information on replacing medals can be found at <http://themilitarywallet.com/replace-military-medals-awards-decorations/>.





AUGUST'S KIA'S - MAY WE NEVER FORGET

DATA AND IMAGES ARE THE RESULT OF THE RESEARCH BY PETE (LEATHER NECK) BELAIRE



Private First Class **James William Davis** was born on March 24, 1947 in Erie, Pennsylvania to Mr. and Mrs. William A. and Gretchen Raub Davis. James grew up in Belleville, Michigan, but lived in Ypsilanti. He is a 1965 graduate of Belleville High School where he lettered in football and swimming. James attended Michigan State University and Cleary College. James was employed as a customer agent for Trans World Airlines at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport in Wayne, Michigan prior to his to entering the Marine Corps on December 13, 1968.

Private First Class Davis began his tour of duty in An Hoa, Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam on July 7, 1969 serving as a rifleman with I Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. James was killed on August 13, 1969 as a result of small arms fire just one month and six days into his tour of duty "In-Country".

James William Davis is survived by his wife, an 11 month old son, his parents, and two brothers. He lived 22 years, 4 months and 10 days. He is resting in Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan. James' 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 19W Line 029.

Lance Corporal **Kendal Lee Benney, Jr.** was born on February 22, 1948 to Mr. and Mrs. Kendal L. Benney of Ypsilanti. Kendal lived with his father and step-mother in Big Rapids, Michigan until September of 1965 where he attended Ypsilanti High School. He left Ypsilanti High School during his Junior year and enlisted in the Marine Corps in March of 1966.

Lance Corporal Kendal Lee Benney, Jr. began his tour of duty in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam in December of 1966 serving with C Company, First Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division as a machine gunner. Kendal was killed on August 20, 1967 while standing watch when he suffered multiple fragmentation wounds from a bomb.



Lance Corporal Kendal Lee Benney, Jr. is survived by his mother, father, step-mother, two sisters and one brother who was serving in South Vietnam when his brother was killed. Kendal's brother was discharged from the Army and escorted his brother back to the "World" for internment. Kendal lived 19



years, 5 months and 28 days. He is resting in the Altona Cemetery in Altona, Michigan. Kendal'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 25E Line 018.



**If you are a Chapter Patron, please check page 19 to see if you need to renew.

Thank you for your continued support of *The 310 Dispatch* and the Chapter!

*** Upcoming Events ***

Date	Time	Event
Saturdays	0930	Meet at end of southeast parking lot at Gallup Park for walk or run with Team Red White & Blue
8 Aug	0800	Merchandise Sales on third floor of VAAHS until midafternoon. Volunteers requested.
8-12 Aug		VVA and AVVA National Convention at the New Orleans Marriott
10 Aug	1800	AVVA Regular and VVA Board Meetings at VFW Post 423
10 Aug	1900	VVA Regular Chapter Meeting at VFW Post 423
22 Aug	1930	WCCV Meeting at VFW Post 423
2-4 Sep		Yankee Air Museum Air Show, Thunder over Michigan
10 Sep	1200-1600	Pig Roast — VVA fundraiser
14 Sep	1800	AVVA Regular and VVA Board Meetings at VFW Post 423
14 Sep	1900	VVA Regular Chapter Meeting at VFW Post 423
23 Sep		LZ Michigan Veterans Reunion, Fifth Third Ballpark.
14 Sep	1245-1400	Spirit of Caring Panel at VA hospital
14-16 Sep	1630	Kokomo 35th Veterans Reunion
18 Sep	1930	WCCV Meeting at TBD
26 Oct	1245-1400	Spirit of Caring Panel at VA hospital
28 Oct	1730	VAAHS Halloween Party. Meet in the lobby in costume.
19 Dec	1730	VAAHS Christmas Party. Meet in the lobby.



Regular Meeting Minutes

13 Jul 2017

Meeting called to order by President Dave Draper at 1903

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



Roll call: A quorum was established. Welcome Home Everyone. Guests: None

Motion made by Dave Draper to approve the 8 Jun 2017 general meeting minutes as printed in the Dispatch. Seconded by Tim Driscoll. Motion unanimously approved.

President's Report:

If any member desires to purchase a VVA 310 shirt, simply email Dave Draper with your name as desired on the shirt and size. Cost will be approximately \$30.00. Dave will follow up with Tom Mullins as to when payment will be required.

Next month Jon Luker, Secretary, and I will be attending the VVA National Convention in New Orleans. Al Merritt, Vice President, will officiate at the 10 Aug 2017 general meeting.

On July 4th the parade was well attended and the Veterans' Picnic which followed was well received and attended. A special note of thanks to Jon Luker and Al Merritt for organizing the picnic.

Merchandise sales under the direction of Vance McCrumb was held on Tuesday, 11 Jul 2017 at the VA Medical Center (VAMC). Total sales were around \$950.00 and \$190.00 or 20 per cent of that was remitted to the VAMC Canteen office. A special thanks to all those that assisted Vance in this effort. We need a volunteer to direct this sale next month.

Dave distributed get well cards for Eddy Conrad and Bruce Ross, two members who are recovering from recent illnesses.

Treasurer's Report:

Paulo Pereira, Treasurer, presented and explained a Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances. There were several questions about the activity, receipts and expenses, in the Food Pantry and Memorial Maintenance funds. With only \$13,553 in the operating cash account how would we fund



the \$26,093 total in the designated funds if we had to close those funds. It was mentioned that we would simply liquidate the Certificate of Deposit – Non-Building.

There was considerable discussion on the merchandise inventory and when should a physical inventory be performed. Special thanks to Meni Draper for completing a physical inventory of everything except the pins as of 11 July 2017 to give us a starting point going forward. Dave Draper said he hoped the pins would be inventoried within the next couple of weeks. Paulo mentioned that we are working on a new procedure to properly control these assets. The group consensus was that a physical inventory as of fiscal year end should be performed to properly report this activity in our annual reports to National, State and the IRS.

AVVA Report:

Kathy Driscoll gave her report and stated that \$715 was raised in May at the Quartermania. She also stated that numerous contributions were made as follows: \$100 to AVVA Project Friendship in New Orleans; \$100 to Sons and Daughters in Touch; \$100 to Vietnam Memorial Education Fund; and \$1,000 to Fisher House Michigan. She also mentioned that the AVVA has fund-raised a total of \$3,500 so far for Fisher House Michigan. Kathy also noted that the new AVVA tree at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial will hopefully be dedicated sometime in September.

Committee Reports:

Food Pantry – Don Miller stated there was no activity

Merchandise – Vance McCrumb previously reported on the recent sales at the VAAAHS. Dave Draper requested a volunteer to coordinate the 8 Aug 2017 sales effort at the VAAAHS.

WCCV – No report

Memorial – No report

Website – Vance McCrumb stated that everything is operating as required. Dave Draper stated that he has had our web hosts re-install the Donate button and would like to see the DONATE button more prominently displayed on the website. Possible on the first page when the website is opened.

Membership – Vance McCrumb reported 196 members on the roster.

Newsletter – Dave Draper requested that any articles for the website are needed, as only a few people are participating.

VAMC – John Kinzinger stated that the Halloween Party at the VAMC is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017. He will report next month as to dates of the two Christmas events.

Old Business:

Fisher House – The new Fisher House in Ann Arbor, MI is required to provide military families housing close to a loved one during hospitalization at the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center, which is the largest VAMC in the state.



Elmer White stated that a Contribution Campaign needs to be developed to contact every VVA Chapter from Ann Arbor to the Mackinac Bridge. \$300,000 Capital is required. Sandie Wilson announced that \$27,000 was donated to the Fisher House from the sale of the veterans home she managed.

Townhall for Veterans – At 1730 hours on Monday 24 Jul 2017 a Townhall for Veterans will be held at Washtenaw Community College. Political representatives U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow and U.S. Congress representatives Debbie Dingell and Tim Walberg are expected to be in attendance.

Chapter Telephone Number – Paulo stated that the current chapter phone as listed is no longer working. There was discussion as to why we need a phone number. A vote was taken whether we should re-establish a phone number and the overwhelming majority of members present voted not to continue with phone service. An existing Contact Us button on the Chapter's website allows those individuals to contact us via email.

New Business:

Don Miller stated that he is passing around volunteer sign-up sheets for the Heritage Festival on Aug. 26, 27, and 28 and the Pig Roast on September 10th.

Sandy Wilson stated that she has done extensive work on PTS and PTSD issues. She has learned that the Ann Arbor VA claims that PTS has been cured in certain cases by approximately thirteen visits to a VA Center. However, PTSD can't be cured because it damages the white matter in brain which is irreversible. Sandy's point is that if you get involved with any veterans concerning PTSD make sure you seek professional consulting. It has been reported that certain VA doctors have overprescribed medication which has resulted in additional medical problems.

Good of the Chapter:

AVVA member, Marty Cothorn, has been appointed as a Representative to the Nursing Board at the Ann Arbor VAMC. Please feel free to contact her if you have any questions on concerns about a Veteran's treatment plan.

Several of the departments of the VAMC will be moving offsite in the upcoming months. Those include Comp & Pension and Audio going to 3800 Packard, and Dermatology and Sleep Clinic to 2500 Green Road.

Next Meeting: 1900 hours on Thursday, Aug 10th for general membership which follows the Board of Directors meeting at 1800 hours.

Next Chapter Breakfast: 0900 hours on Friday, July 14th, at Bomber Restaurant in Ypsilanti.

Closing Prayer: John Kinzinger gave the closing prayer.

Meeting Adjourned: President Draper adjourned the meeting at 2022 hours.

Respectively submitted,

Berryman L. Bourne, Acting Secretary



AVVA Minutes:



It is official! AVVA 310 is the newest member of Washtenaw County Council of Veterans. We joined on Monday, July 18th. I received the following updates from the WCCV at the meeting:

Camp Lejeune Exposure 8/1/1953 to 12/31/1987. Reference 38 CFR 3.307 & 3.309(f) The following are areas of exposure that are considered within Camp Lejeune:

Air Station New River, Camp Geiger, Camp Johnson, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, Tarawa Terrace, Camp Knox, Montford Point, Stone Bay Rifle Range, Holcomb Boulevard, Hadnot Point. MCAS Cherry Point is **NOT** included in Camp Lejeune exposure.

Presumptive conditions for Camp Lejeune exposure are: Adult Leukemia, Aplastic and other myelodysplastic syndromes, Bladder Cancer, Kidney Cancer, Liver Cancer, Multiple Myeloma, Hon-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Parkinson's Disease.

- US Department of State has a Virtual Student Foreign Service Internship Program (VSFS). Apply now through July 26th. Students can apply between July 2 – 26 on USAJOBS to their top three projects.
- The Department of Homeland Security is committed to hiring Veterans. More information can be found at www.dhs.gov/recruitment or www.dhs.gov/careers
- Camp Liberty Open House Saturday, July 29, 2017 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, 13400 Austin Road, Brooklyn, MI. More information at <https://camp-liberty.org/venue/camp-liberty-open-house-2/>
- If you are on Facebook, you can join the AVVA Michigan closed group. Just send a Friend Request to Marilyn and she 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 members have been very busy in July volunteering and supporting AVVA and VVA projects:
 - Members supported VVA Merchandise Sales at Ann Arbor VA
 - Members marched or drove in the Ypsilanti 4th of July Parade
 - Members attended the picnic at the Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial on July 4th.
 - Kathy attended the Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Meeting, AVVA 310 was accepted as member. Next meeting is August 21 at 7:00 pm at VFW Post 423.

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.



Please let Don Miller know if you can volunteer at the September 10th VVA Pig Roast and the Heritage Festival on August 25 – 27 at Riverside Park, Ypsilanti, MI.

AVVA 310 will have a basket raffle at the Pig Roast. We need items for the basket raffle. Contact Kathy to donate an item.

I hope to see all of you at our August 10th meeting.

New Friends' Tree at the Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial



"Never Again Shall a Veteran Coming Home From Battle Be Made to Feel Alone and Unappreciated!"

"Together Always"

AVVA July 13, 2017 Minutes. Eight Members were present. Kathy Driscoll was meeting leader.

Financial Report Kathy distributed the Financial Report.

Membership Report:

- AVVA 310 has 36 members. New members include Jackie McManus and Libby Price one year memberships, and Carol Talbot a Lifetime membership.
- Kathy mailed out 18 letters to all non-AVVA Friends of VVA 310 members. Eight non-AVVA Friends of VVA 310 members joined AVVA 310. Hopefully the remaining twelve members will join AVVA 310. If you are joining or



renewing as a Life Member, please send a proof of age with your application. A copy of your driver's license will suffice. Please contact Kathy for an application form.

AVVA 310 VISTA Report:

Kathy is collecting and emailing Jeri Wallis the VISTA hours for AVVA Chapter 310 members. Please email Kathy at dkathyr16@gmail.com your hours for June and July 2017. Remember all non-VAVS hours supporting Veterans are reported on the V.I.S.T.A. report.

Fundraising Report:

- Fisher House Michigan Fundraisers raised \$1,000 .
 - Scrapbooking - raised \$32.55 in May 2017
 - \$50.00 donation from M. Draper
 - \$100.00 donation from Pat Childers
 - Veterans Wrist Story Bracelets raised \$550 total to date (there are only 10 left)
 - 22 May 2017 Quartermania raised \$715.00!
- Our 3rd Annual AVVA 310 No-Bake Sale fundraising letters will be mailed out in August. Please consider increasing your donation. We will split the donations this year equally between the Operating Fund and the Special Project lines. This is our main yearly fundraiser. It allows us to fund our annual donations to AVVA Project Friendship, Sons and Daughters in Touch, all Memorial donations in-lieu of Flowers, Military Moms United, Warriors and Caregivers United and the Grand Rapids Veterans Home to name a few of our past donations from 2015 and 2016.
- AVVA 310 Quartermania to benefit Fisher House Michigan will resume in September. We will need the help of all AVVA and VVA 310 members to ensure we are successful. We have a new goal: To raise an additional \$1,000 for Fisher House Michigan. AVVA will have a basket raffle, 50/50 and sell food. All proceeds including the Mystery Gift rounds will benefit Fisher House Michigan. If you would like to donate an item for the basket raffle, please contact Kathy. Hopefully we will meet or surpass our goal. This will be the third AVVA Quartermania to benefit Fisher House Michigan.
- We will have a Basket raffle at the VVA 310 Pig Roast. Please contact Kathy to make a donation. Last year's AVVA 310 Pig Roast raffle raised \$110. This fundraiser benefits our Operating Funds.

Donations were voted on as follows:



- \$1,000 Fisher House Michigan – Motion Carol Talbot, second Kate Fitzpatrick -Motion Approved.
- \$100.00 AVVA Project Friendship Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans – Meni Draper second Shirley Hitte - Motion Approved.
- \$100.00 SDIT – Motion Carla Sosa, second Corrine Gignac – Motion Approved.
- \$100.00 Vietnam Memorial Education Fund Project – Motion Jane Kinzinger, second Ann Dempsey - Motion Approved

WCCV

- AVVA 310 invited to join, \$25 Yearly Membership fee. Operating Fund
- This will make us more visible to the other Veterans Service Organizations. This is a great way to show everyone what we accomplish and do for the Veterans of Washtenaw County.
- Members voted to pay the \$25 yearly dues at the WCCV July 17th meeting.
- Motion approved to join WCCV. Kathy will attend July 17th meeting at VFW Post 423.

Veterans Wrist Bracelets

- We have 10 Veterans Wrist bracelets left. Four bracelets sold at meeting. We now have six bracelets left. All proceeds go to FHM.

AVVA Michigan State Association:

- Meni Draper attended The Region 5 convention in Columbus, OH.

AVVA National News:

- AVVA National Convention, August 8th - 12th in New Orleans. Meni Draper will attend as AVVA 310's Delegate.

Old Business:

- Turner's Greenhouse planted the Friends of VVA 310 replacement tree at the Memorial.
- AVVA Flag and Agent Orange Flag found and are on display behind the VVA 310 Officers table. Thank you, George Perrault for finding our flags.

New Business:

- Kathy has Purple AVVA T-Shirts and Navy AVVA Ball Caps. The embroidered T-Shirts are \$23 and the embroidered Ball Caps are \$15. Purple is AVVA Region 5 color, but you can order a T-Shirt in any color. AVVA Ball Caps are Navy, but Kathy can get Black Ball Caps made. Please contact Kathy to place your order. Members at the meeting placed their orders for Purple, Green and Red shirts and black hats.



- AVVA and VVA will dedicate the new Friends Tree in September. Date to be announced. Sandy Martinez has the Friends plaque.

Other / Ongoing Concerns:

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund Balance: \$2,208.25

Next meeting August 10, 2017 at 6 pm.

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310

AVVA Michigan State Association Vice President

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897



Chaplain's Corner:

734-277-3528

glmoore@umich.edu

Compassion was on display this past week as our members worked with the current war veterans at Wilwin near Custer, Michigan. I also saw it on display as we said our earthly goodbye to Eddy Conrad on Monday. And talking to several of the members I could see the softness in their hearts for several of our suffering Chapter members.

It reminded me of our Savior who, on several occasions the Scripture reveals, was moved with compassion when he saw suffering. His command to "go into all the world and make disciples teaching them to follow His example" has been well on display within the ranks of 310. A job well done ladies and gentlemen.

As I watch us grow more mature (read older), I see the signs of our aging in how we walk and navigate obstacles. I also see it in our suffering and feel compelled to spend more time before the throne of grace on behalf of those suffering.

A simple message this month as we celebrate the "dog days of summer" is to remain faithful in the good works we are doing: By this will all people know that you are My disciples if you have love for each other (John 13:35) ... let others see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven (Matthew 5:16) ...it is impossible for a bad tree to produce good fruit and for a good tree to produce bad fruit, by our fruits we will be known (Matthew 7:16-20) ...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law (Galatians 5:22-23).

Honor and blessing to all,

Gordon



Memorial Grounds Report

After all these years, the boxwood bushes are finally big enough that branches from one bush are touching branches from another. Even the newest bushes put in this year are showing signs of growth. It looks like we might get that hedge we were looking for after all.



Thanks to all five of the crews who have been working to keep the Memorial in good condition. Each team has had its share of illness and injury, yet you keep getting that good work done. It is a truly great thing you are doing.



The Veterans Family 4th of July Celebration was a hit again this year. This time, we worked with Ann Arbor Team Red White & Blue and with Ypsilanti American Legion Post 282 to pull it off. It was a fun, safe way to both have fun in community while remembering the great things the Colonists did for us in designing and bringing fourth this great new nation. God bless America!

We do still have several projects in various stages of completion. I will tell you more as they get closer to being ready.

Is it just me, or is this summer going by faster than most?

Until next time,

Fredo



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
WASHTENAW COUNTY CHAPTER 310
P.O. BOX 3221 ANN ARBOR, MI 48106

AGENT ORANGE: 800.225.4712

WASHTENAW COUNTY VETERANS
SERVICES:
NEW NUMBER 734.973.4540

CHAPTER TELEPHONE:
TOLL FREE NUMBER ~ 1-866-824-4VVA

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT BILL OF
RIGHTS: 800.455.5228

WEB:
www.vva310.org

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA:
800.882.1316

MEETING DATE & TIME:
2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 1800 HRS
OPEN GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: 1900 HRS
SOCIAL GATHERING AFTERWARDS

SUICIDE PREVENTION HOT LINE:
1.800.273.TALK (8255) Option 1
[WWW.SUICIDEPREVENTIONSLIFELINE.ORG/
VETERANS](http://WWW.SUICIDEPREVENTIONSLIFELINE.ORG/VETERANS)

LOCATION:
VFW GRAF-O'HARA POST 423
3230 S. WAGNER RD., ANN ARBOR
BETWEEN ELLSWORTH & WATERS RDS.,
(ACROSS FROM TOWN & COUNTRY AUTO
RECYCLING)

2016/17 Officers & Board Members

NOTE: THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS
NEWSLETTER BY THE WRITERS AND
CARTOONISTS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT
NECESSARILY THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF
CHAPTER 310.

President
David Draper

Vice President
Al Merritt

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER. PLEASE
CONTRIBUTE WITH AN ARTICLE OR
BIOGRAPHY. IF REQUESTED, WRITING HELP
IS AVAILABLE.

Secretary
Jon Luker

THE SLIGHT VARIATIONS IN SPELLING AND
GRAMMAR ENHANCE ITS INDIVIDUAL
CHARACTER AND AESTHETICS AND IN NO
WAY ARE TO BE CONSIDERED FLAWS OR
DEFECTS. BUT THANKS FOR NOTICING.

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Sgt-at-Arms
Tim Clarke

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Vance McCrumb

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Board Of Directors

Two Year
Roy Hall
Vance McCrumb
Don Miller
Elmer White
Sandie Wilson



Board of Directors, con't
One Year

Bill Ballou
George Perrault
Marv Rivers
Ken Rogge
Larry St. Antoine

State Delegate

Jon Luker
Tim Driscoll

County Delegates:

Al (Fredo) Merritt
Wendy Hibbits
Jon Luker

VA Service Rep

(Vacant)

VVA 310

WebMaster

Vance McCrumb
David Draper

www.vva310.org

AVVA

Kathy Driscoll

Agent Orange

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Bylaws

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Community Service

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(Vacant)

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Ken Rogge
Jon Luker
Chris Wetzler

Food Pantry

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Historian

William Vollano

David Ney

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Memorial Grounds

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(Vacant)

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Helena Prince in Memory of Tom Prince, deceased member ~ April 2023
*Linda Lamey-Leonard In memory of *Lavern Lamey ~ March 2018*

*NAME LISTED ON THE WASHTENAW COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

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VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Washtenaw County Chapter 310
P.O. Box 3221
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HERE COMES YOUR FOUR TIME WINNER, NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR

Next Regular Meeting: 1900 hours 10 August 2017 at GRAF-O'HARA VFW POST 423 3230 S. Wagner Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Wagner road might be closed at Scio Church Road. Take Waters Road or Ellsworth Road instead.