



## TWO TIME NATIONAL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR



Photo by Vance "Dogman" McCrumb

### Washtenaw County KIA's

<a href="#">Scott Smith</a>	17 September 1969
<a href="#">Hermon Fuller Jr.</a>	25 September 1966
<a href="#">Gary Shepperdson</a>	30 September 1968

### Michigan MIA's

Unaccounted for - 49  
Accounted for - 36



### Table of Contents

<a href="#">President's Message</a> .....	2-3
<a href="#">Pig Roast is Near</a> .....	4
<a href="#">More Than Names on the Wall</a> ....	5
<a href="#">We need your story!</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Forever GI Bill Became Law</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Appeals Modernization Law</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Dispatch Editor Retires</a> .....	7
<a href="#">Rosie the Riveter World Record</a> ...	8
<a href="#">From a letter sent home</a> .....	9
<a href="#">September's KIAs</a> .....	10-11
<a href="#">Calendar of Events</a> .....	12
<a href="#">Regular Meeting Minutes</a> .. ..	13-15
<a href="#">AVVA Meeting Minutes</a> .....	15-18
<a href="#">Chaplin's Corner</a> .....	19
<a href="#">First Recognition Dinner</a> ....	20
<a href="#">Officers &amp; Board Members</a> .. ..	17-20



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# President's Message:

VA Merchandise sales had a good performance again for August. Thanks to Don Miller and several volunteers, we were able to make pretty good sales. I believe we also acquired another member. Of course, who could resist Don's sales pitch?

As you probably already know, this month the VVA held its National Convention in New Orleans (Nawlins, as they say it). I have been to two Leadership Conferences but this was



the first National Convention for me, my wife, and for Jon Luker. Meni was the delegate representing our AVVA. Jon Luker, Sandie Wilson, Ken Rogge, and I were delegates representing our VVA Chapter. The temperature and humidity were in the low nineties almost every day. It rained two or three times a day. Needless to say, we tried to stay inside as much as possible during the day. Unfortunately, the Convention was split

between two hotels across the street from each other—the Marriott and Sheraton. Meni and I stayed at the Marriott. Everyone at the hotel was friendly and helpful, so our stay was pleasurable. We did get to see a few of the sites while we were there, although not as many as we would have liked. We were able to visit the World War II Museum. We both vowed to return because we did not have enough time to see every exhibit. It was an excellent place to visit. We highly recommend it. We also took a trip to Café Du Monde to try their world-renowned beignet donuts; strolled down Bourbon Street at night (wild!); and visited the French Quarters. A lot of my time was spent sitting and listening to all the resolutions being read and argued about and then, finally, voting on its passing or failing. Most were minor issues about which I will not go into detail here. You can go to the VVA National site and peruse them at your leisure. (<https://vva.org/2017-convention/>)



Elections for National officers and board members also took place. Our own Sandie Wilson retained her At-Large seat on the National Board of Directors. A 5th District caucus was held so we could listen to each of the candidates for VVA National Board membership. The caucus ran until 10:00 at night. That was done so we did not have to come back the next day to finish listening to the candidates. The AVVA also held a caucus which Meni attended as our Chapter AVVA delegate.



Several awards were given out during the Convention General Session:

- Achievement Award: John Riling, Michigan State Council President
- State Council of the Year: Ohio
- Commendation Award: Tom Reinhart, Michigan
- Member of the Year: John Burgess, Chapter 1087
- Chapter of the Year: Tennessee Chapter 1078
- Newsletter of the Year: Fresno Chapter 933
- E-Newsletter of the Year: Ann Arbor Chapter 310
- Website of the Year: Denver Chapter 1071



The Heritage Festival was a great success thanks to the many volunteers who came out to help sell raffle tickets and products. Several volunteers were there every day, all day. Thanks to Vance McCrumb and Don Miller for taking leadership on those efforts. We sold all 3,000 of our raffle tickets and had pretty good sales with Merchandise. The weather was very nice all three days. I also understand we picked up a new member or two—that being one of our missions for putting on these events. Vance reported that:

“Tom Fifield’s son, Steve, stopped and left with our 25th Anniversary Challenge coin. He reported that his dad is doing well and is scheduled for surgery in the near future.”

He continues:

Dennis Davies’ son, Benjamin, visited us Friday. Paul Dumsch’s daughter, besides Wendy, came by as well and Jerry Sim’s youngest daughter, Jerrylyn.

Jimmie Wade’s daughter, Laura, and, I believe they were either family or friends of Eddy Conrad stopped by to reminisce.

Sandy Martinez came by and spent some time visiting and reminiscing.

It was old home week at our booth and it’s great seeing our extended chapter family members. They do remember us!”

The Pig Roast is coming up on September 10. Two days later, on September 12, we have Merchandising sales at the VA Hospital. We could really use the help again to pull them both off.

Until next month, God bless, and keep our active military in your prayers along with the many emotionally and physically hurting members.

Dave Draper  
President  
USAF C-130 Loadmaster

The POW Committee of Michigan will be holding its 31st annual National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the "Michigan Remembers" POW/MIA Memorial in Novi, Michigan on Friday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. The "Michigan Remembers" POW/MIA Memorial is located at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens on the northeast corner of 12 Mile Rd. at Novi Rd. in Novi, MI.



## Washtenaw County VVA Chapter 310 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pig Roast



**When:** Sunday, September 10, Noon to 4PM  
**Where:** VFW Post 423, 3230 S. Wagner Rd. Ann Arbor

Enjoy A Wonderful Pork Dinner, Have Fun and Help Raise Funds for:

- Caring for our County Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Parties for local hospitalized veterans
- Mailing Care Packages to troops overseas
- Thanksgiving Dinner for Dawn Farm residents
- And many other projects of our National Award-winning Chapter

### **Pig Roast Activities:**

- Live Musical Entertainment:
- Children's Face Painting
- Huey Helicopter and Military Vehicles
- Bucket drawings for many wonderful items
- Military Merchandise Sales

### **Ticket prices:**

**Adults \$10.00, Ages 6-12 \$5.00, under 6 FREE**

Tickets will be available at the gate

For more information please call:

Don Miller: 734-864-2819 or Al Dyer: 734-223-4544

***Note: All motorcycle and other clubs are invited to make this a destination day***

“Never Again Shall A Veteran Come Home  
Alone And Unappreciated”



# More Than Names On the Wall

Part Six, by Jane Kinzinger

As we think about back-to-school, we know there are students returning with determination for success, heightened expectations for the ensuing school year, and specific goals in scholastic and athletic endeavors. Many of the 76 young men on our Vietnam Memorial distinguished themselves in their high school years before joining the military and being sent to Vietnam. They excelled in the classroom and on the field. Though information is not complete, here are examples of their leadership and talents.

Three were Senior Class President (Arvin, Fulton and Kushmaul). Kushmaul was also President of Future Farmers of America. Fulton was also named Lincoln High School Outstanding Scholar. Arvin was Class President, Valedictorian and Student Council President. Several were members of Student Council. Parks was Vice President of Honor Society, while four were members of Honor Society, receiving Honors in Math and Science. McIntire was Vice President of a Junior Achievement Company.

In athletics, McKenzie was Captain of St. Thomas High School Football Team and member of the All City and All Southwest Football Team. Lamey was Co-Captain and MVP of Milan Football Team Senior Year. Palmer was Co-Captain of the Ypsilanti Roosevelt High School Swim Team. Spencer was on the 1963 State Champion Ypsilanti Football Team. Scott Smith held a long-standing record (1:59.2) at Chelsea High School for the ½ Mile. Arvin was the 1961 State Wrestling Champion. Many held Varsity Letters in several different sports (basketball, football, baseball, track, golf, and tennis).

Several were recognized for excellence outside of school. Crane was named Newsboy of the Year several times. Spencer attended Wolverine Boys State, and Arvin was an Eagle Scout. Some were recognized for 4H accomplishments. First place for 4H State Public Speaking Contest went to Parks. Kushmaul was awarded Top Showman at Chelsea Fair. A Sweepstake Showmanship Contest for Top Showman at the Chelsea 4H Fair has been awarded each year since his death.

Beyond high school, there were other distinctions. Parks received State Honors as Champion Debater at Kellogg Community College. Boss was a winner at the Milan Dragway. Kirby pursued and received his GED while in the service. Valencich was awarded a Medal for Highest Score on the Army Proficiency Test.

These young men leave other legacies, including the fact that Albertson was the first child born in the community on January 1, 1947. Two young men had nephews named after them.

There were undoubtedly many other areas of excellence and proficiency that were not recorded or mentioned. And, perhaps some were happy just to achieve a passing grade in a class or have enough credits to graduate. Whether outstanding or not, they are all heroes and earn our highest honor for their service and great sacrifice.



# It is important to Capture Your Story

By Bill Vollano

I remember how relieved I was in high school when I found out I could take Government, instead of U.S. History, to satisfy graduation requirements. Obviously, I avoided history courses as much as possible. And, in college there was not a hard-and-fast requirement to take any history courses. It wasn't until I talked to my uncle who had landed in Normandy that I got a sense of why it was so difficult and, at the same time, important that Veterans share their stories.

I had four uncles and a cousin who saw combat in WW II. Two uncles received wounds that qualified them for 100% disability. At the 50th anniversary of D-Day, I asked my uncle if he planned to go to France to celebrate D-Day. He said, "There is nothing about that experience that I want to remember."

Why did I get involved with the Veteran's History Project? To make sure that Veterans are encouraged to tell their stories. Now I know that not all Veterans have "exciting" stories to tell, but they are all important. I served two years in the Army in the late 1950s in San Antonio, Texas, at Brooke Army Hospital. I have captured my story.

As the Assistant Historian for VVA 310, I've been fortunate to interview about a dozen Chapter 310 members. With a Chapter membership of more than 190, that's not even ten percent. Many of you feel that you did nothing important during your time in the military. If you served, you have a story that needs to be told, for your children and grandchildren, friends, and, my grandchildren.

Please contact me to arrange a taping. I have a camera and will travel. Whatever time and place is convenient for you is convenient for me, too. Call me at 734-973-2536, or email me at [wmjv@ymail.com](mailto:wmjv@ymail.com). Thank you, Bill Vollano



## PRESS RELEASE

Vietnam Veterans of America

### Forever GI Bill Now Law of the Land

(Washington, DC) - "Today military, veterans, and family service organizations have made history -- by having willed the *Forever GI Bill* into law," said John Rowan, President of Vietnam Veterans of America. "We are incredibly grateful for this unity, and an opportunity to leave future veterans with better benefits than we, ourselves, were afforded as we transitioned from service. As a community, we have changed the conversation on the GI Bill, from being a 'cost-of-war,' to being a part of every veteran's successful transition."

"Today, and in the future, service members are not choosing when they go to war, so the government shouldn't be able to tell veterans when they can use the GI Bill that they earned through service," continued Rowan. "Thank you to Congress, for your unanimous support of the *Forever GI Bill*, and to all of the advocates who have stood with us in fighting for the *Forever GI Bill*."





IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 25, 2017 No. 17-45

## Appeals Modernization Bill Falls Short

By Mokie Porter, 301-996-0901 [mporter@vva.org](mailto:mporter@vva.org)

(Washington, DC)—On August 23, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017, a bill which dramatically overhauls the claims and appeals process for veterans seeking disability compensation benefits to which they are entitled.

“While the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017 is touted as a means for veterans to receive ‘faster and more efficient decisions,’ we fear this new law limits due process protections and fails to address—much less fix—the fundamental problems with the broken claims system, the need for binding legal precedent,” said John Rowan, VVA National President.

“Under this new law, without a precedent-setting mechanism that actually works, veterans who have nearly identical records will continue to receive drastically different decisions, and the never-ending churn of cases between all levels of appeal will go on and on,” noted Rowan.

“Making a claims system more efficient at the expense of veterans is not justice for veterans. We know the job to fix the broken appeals system is far from over. Vietnam Veterans of America remains committed to working with the best legal minds in America—in Congress and elsewhere—to develop legislation that would establish an appeals system that works to address, first and foremost, the needs of veterans and not just the needs of VA,” continued Rowan.

“America’s veterans deserve a claims system that is just, consistent, and efficient. In the short term, it is up to VVA and our fellow veterans’ service organizations and stakeholders to ensure that the regulations promulgated to implement this law are consistent with a pro-veteran and non-adversarial claims system. We are confident that our colleagues will join in this effort to make the regulations as fair as possible, within the limits of this new statute,” said Rowan.

## Dispatch Editor Retires

After four years as Editor of VVA Chapter 310’s newsletter and e-newsletter, *Dispatch*, Luker announced his retirement. This will be his last issue. A new editor is needed right away. Luker will train the new editor, but the next issue depends on the membership. Volunteers should contact Luker at 734 260-2211 or via email at [jonluker9@outlook.com](mailto:jonluker9@outlook.com).

“What will Luker do with his “extra” time now?”, you ask. Grandkids and prematurely born twin great grandkids need his attention almost as much as his daughter, who is recovering from neighborhood flooding issues.



## REGISTER HERE FOR THE ROSIE WORLD RECORD!

Yankee Air Museum is bringing the Guinness World Record for Most Rosies back to Michigan and WE WANT YOU!



Date: Oct. 14, 2017 Cost: **FREE!**

Time: Please arrive by 11:00 am to be counted!

Place: Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center  
(799 N. Hewitt Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Costume Instructions: You need four items to be counted:

1. Red polkadot bandanna (not paisley)

Available at Joann Fabrics

2. Dark blue jumpsuit or dark blue work pants and work shirt

Jumpsuit available at Tractor Supply Co, online, and often in thrift stores. Pant/Shirt combo available in men's section of Meijer and Walmart

3. Red soccer socks

Available at any sporting goods store

4. Dark work shoes (no high heels or sandals)

← Example Picture (Lunchbox NOT necessary!)

Questions or comments?

[rosies@yankeeairmuseum.org](mailto:rosies@yankeeairmuseum.org)

[www.SaveTheBomberPlant.org/RosieRecord](http://www.SaveTheBomberPlant.org/RosieRecord)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this event:

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you an Original Rosie, or are you filling this out on behalf of an Original Rosie?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to help out as a volunteer on the day of the event? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Questions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





# From A Letter Sent Home

By John Kinzinger

Not long before I wrote the subject letter, I was operating my FM radio relay at a Landing Zone back to battalion. A patrol had been sent out to scout the immediate area. Not long after leaving the LZ the patrol was ambushed by a young VC with an automatic weapon. The patrol returned fire stopping the enemy fire. The shooter was a child of 13 or 14 who was brought back to the LZ. Two medics worked to try to save him until we could get a medivac chopper to come out and pick him up. I do not know if he made it or not. But, I was somewhat bewildered by all that. He was a young boy, but also our enemy.

From my letter of May 23, 1966, to my parents I wrote the following:

"The other day I was in the village near our battalion base camp. I'm ashamed to admit, I came to a great conclusion. That is that the majority of the ordinary people, can't stand us being over here for some reason and don't actually appreciate what we are doing. As long as we are buying from them fine. Putting food in their mouths and money in their pockets is as far as we rate! I mean they would rather have us than the VC's but not by a whole lot. I do not know what Americans have to do to really win people to them. But look at all the appreciation we got from the countries we've helped like France, England and so forth down the line."

It is Christmas evening and I had had such a remarkably day that I have to write it down & send it to someone. So, I decided to write you a letter since, for some reason, I feel closer to you than anyone else. I think there is a connection between us stronger than I realized. Well, here's Christmas day, 1977.

I awoke before dawn beneath a patch of swaying palm trees amidst falling palm fronds and coconuts. The ocean caressed my ears with the eternal murmur of sea meeting land. Upon arising I walked up the nearby village (1/2 mile) and drew water from the well above. The horizon was cloudy and the wind continued to blow (I'd had been blowing now for 3 days since since I set foot on this island, and the clouds have been cloudy during that same period). Still, I continued to wait for a sunny Christmas day something I had been wishing for for a month or more - miraculously, as I returned with the water, the clouds dispersed, the wind settled to a gentle breeze, and the sun shone brightly & beautifully all day. That was my Christmas gift from Nature.

"Now, I said 'the better majority of the average people.' They don't have much for intelligence. For instance, when I first got here, I went out on relay to this ARVN compound. Near where we were set up, an ARVN stepped on something and cut his foot, so one of his buddies grabbed a rock and started pounding the cut and they actually thought it was helping it. Since then, I've seen a lot of things similar to that, people packing cuts with tobacco from a cigarette and such. Not too long ago a Cholera epidemic hit Phan Thiet (the village near our battalion base camp) and 40 people died in about 4 or 5 days before a U.S. medical team could stop it. A lot of things like that make me realize how great it is to be lucky enough to be an American. I believe this year over here will sure mean a lot more to me than I'll ever know."

I just wanted to share those words when I was 20 years old from that fifty year old letter and my thoughts then. I would think most Vietnam Veterans experienced similar. That year over there did have quite an impact on my life, as I know it did with others who served there. John K



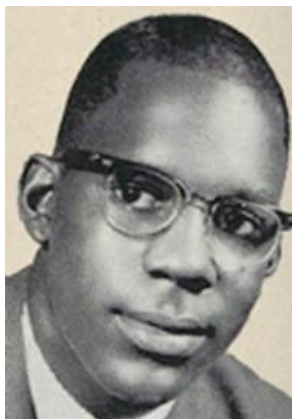
## SEPTEMBER'S KIA'S - MAY WE NEVER FORGET

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

Hospital Corpsman Third Class **Gary Robert Shepperdson** was born on July 13, 1946 to Mr. John and Mrs. Margaret Shepperdson of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Gary is a 1965 graduate of St. Thomas High School in Ann Arbor. He also attended Eastern Michigan University before enlisting in the Navy in September of 1966.



Hospital Corpsman Third Class Shepperdson began his tour of duty in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam on July 10, 1968 serving as a Hospital Corpsman with Headquarters and Service Company, 2nd Battalion, III Marine Amphibious Forces. Gary was killed on September 30, 1968 as a result of a gunshot wound from enemy rifle fire while participating in Operation Mameluke Thrust. Gary Robert Shepperdson is survived by his mother, a sister and three brothers. His father preceded him in death in 1957. He lived 22 years, 3 months and 17 days. He is resting in Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Gary'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 42W Line 050.



Lance Corporal **Hermon Eugene Fuller, Jr.** was born on March 9, 1947 in Ypsilanti, Michigan, to Mr. Hermon E. and Mrs. Eugenia Fuller of Ypsilanti. Hermon is a 1965 graduate of Ypsilanti High School where he ran cross country and played football. He gained a nickname in High School of "Flea" because there was a flea on the Soupy Sales Show named Herman. He also was a member of the Boy Scouts, and he worked on the stage crew for High School plays.



Lance Corporal Fuller enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 27, 1965 and received his infantry training at Camp Pendleton, California. Hermon was stationed in Okinawa before being deployed to Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam serving as a rifleman with G Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Forces. He died on September 25, 1966 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds from a mortar attack.

Hermon Eugene Fuller, Jr. is survived by his parents, a brother and three sisters. He lived 19 years, 6 months and 16 days. Hermon'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 11E Line 014.



Hospital Corpsman Third Class **Scott Philip Smith** was born on May 30, 1947 in Ann Arbor to Mr. Philip H. of Grass Lake, Michigan and Mrs. Ralph (Jeane) Foreman, Jr. of Northville, Michigan. Scott is a 1965 graduate of Chelsea High School where he was on the track team and the High School Band. He also attended Grand Valley Junior College in Grand Rapids, Michigan before he entered the Navy on March 17, 1967.

Hospital Corpsman Third Class Smith began his tour of duty in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam on June 3, 1969 serving as a Corpsman with Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, III Marine Amphibious Forces. Scott was killed on September 17, 1969 as a result of an explosive device.

Scott Phillip Smith is survived by his parents, a half-brother and a half-sister. He lived 22 years, 3 months and 17 days. Scott'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 18W Line 106.





\*\*If you are a Chapter Patron, please check page 23 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
2-4 Sep		Yankee Air Museum Air Show, Thunder over Michigan
10 Sep	1200-1600	Pig Roast – VVA fundraiser
12 Sep	0800	Merchandise Sales on third floor of VAAHS until midafternoon. Volunteers requested.
14-16 Sep	1630	Kokomo 35th Veterans Reunion
14 Sep	1245-1400	Spirit of Caring Panel at VA hospital
14 Sep	1800	AVVA Regular and VVA Board Meetings at VFW Post 423
14 Sep	1900	VVA Regular Chapter Meeting at VFW Post 423
15 Sep	1830	National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens on the northeast corner of 12 Mile Rd and Novi Rd in Novi, MI
18 Sep	1200-1400	Veterans Resource Fair with Representatives Tim Walberg and Debbie Dingell at VFW Post 423, 3230 S Wagner Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
18 Sep	1730-1930	Townhall meeting with Representatives Tim Walberg and Debbie Dingell at the Morris Lawrence Building at Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48105
18 Sep	1930	WCCV Meeting at Glass Conference Room in the Morris Lawrence Building at Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48105
23 Sep	1000-1600	Scrapbooking fundraiser for AVVA
23 Sep		LZ Michigan Veterans Reunion, Fifth Third Ballpark.
30 Sep		VVA Chapter 528 is hosting a 50th Vietnam Commemoration Picnic at the Plymouth VFW Hall. All Vietnam veterans and their families are invited.
10 Oct	0800	Merchandise Sales on third floor of VAAHS until midafternoon. Volunteers requested.
12 Oct	1800	AVVA Regular and VVA Board Meetings at VFW Post 423
12 Oct	1900	VVA Regular Chapter Meeting at VFW Post 423
16 Oct	1930	WCCV Meeting at VFW Post 423
26 Oct	1245-1400	Spirit of Caring Panel at VA hospital
28 Oct	1730	VAAHS Halloween Party. Meet in the lobby in costume.
14 Nov	0800	Merchandise Sales on third floor of VAAHS until midafternoon. Volunteers requested.
19 Dec	1730	VAAHS Christmas Party. Meet in the lobby.



# Regular Meeting Minutes

10 Aug 2017

Meeting called to order by Vice-President Al Merritt at 1903 hours.

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 was made by Berry Bourne to approve the 13 Jul 2017 general meeting minutes as printed in the *Dispatch*. Motion seconded by Don Miller and unanimously approved.

## President's Report:

Al Merritt, Vice-President, chaired the meeting because Dave Draper, President, and Jon Luker, Secretary, are attending the VVA National Convention in New Orleans.

Al Merritt has been informed by Dave Draper that our VVA chapter won the National e-newsletter of the year award. Nice job everyone, especially Jon Luker.

## Treasurer's Report:

Paulo Pereira, Treasurer, presented and explained a Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balances. There being no questions, Paulo concluded his report.

## AVVA Report:

Kathy Driscoll gave this report and stated that AVVA 310 is the newest member of the Washtenaw County Council of Veterans. A \$25 annual membership fee was paid to WCCA. Members supported the VVA Merchandise Sale at Ann Arbor VA on August 8th and attended the July 4th picnic at the Washtenaw County Veteran Memorial. Fisher House Michigan fundraiser totaled \$1,000 with the largest single amount being \$715 from the May 22, 2017 Quartermania. They have planned a basket raffle at the VVA 310 Pig Roast on September 10.

## Committee Reports:

Food Pantry - Don Miller stated there was no activity

Merchandise - Don Miller reported that sales were \$1,091.50 for the August 8th sales at the VAAHS



- WCCV - No report
- Memorial - Al Merritt reported that the teams were continuing to maintain the Memorial grounds even though the grass isn't growing much.
- Website - Don Miller stated that the Donate button is prominently displayed on page one of the home page and every page one within the website.
- Membership - Don Miller reported that we have a new member which raises the total membership to 197. Al Cardenas, new member, was introduced at the meeting.
- Newsletter - It was mentioned that VVA 310 has recently joined the Saline Chamber of Commerce.
- VAAHS - No report

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Merchandise Trailer - A motion was made and amended after discussion by Don Miller and properly seconded that effective January 1, 2017 a \$20 fee be paid to the individual that moves the trailer from the VFW site to an event site and a \$20 fee be paid to the individual that returns the trailer from the event site to the VFW site. Motion was passed.

**Good of the Chapter:**

Pig Roast - Don Miller stated that Thursday, Sept. 7 at 1000 hours will begin the yard clean-up. Then, at 1000 hours on Saturday the site will be setup for the next day. At 0900 hours on Sunday final preparations will be made prior to meeting with the Health Inspector later that morning.

Heritage Festival - Scheduled for August 25th in Ypsilanti. Vance McCrumb is in charge of this festival.

Clinton and Tecumseh Festivals - Clinton Festival is scheduled for late September with the Tecumseh Festival a week later. Signup sheets were passed around to volunteer for specific functions.

An issue was raised that women veterans are not receiving the same treatment as men veterans at the VAAHS. After some discussion, Marty Cothorn stated that Cheryl Allen is the Women's Veterans Representative at the AAVAHS. Marty stated she is on a women's committee at the VAAHS and that she will talk with Cheryl Allen at their next meeting on September 25th.

Jane Kinzinger stated that the Chapter has experienced two deaths since the last meeting. She appreciated the Chapter's support at the two services.

Saline Fair - The Saline Community Fair is August 30 - September 4 with Saturday, Sept. 2 as Heroes' Day whereby all military, law enforcement, and fire fighters are admitted free.





LPGA - The recent Ladies Professional Golf Tournament at Travis Pointe had an arrangement whereby all military were admitted free as well as a they received a free lunch on the course.

Thunder Over Michigan - This event will be held September 2-4 featuring the US Navy Blue Angels at Willow Run Airport.

**Next Meeting:** 1900 hours on Thursday, September 14th for general membership which follows the Board of Directors meeting at 1800 hours.

**Next Chapter Breakfast:**

0900 hours on Friday, August 11th, at Bomber Restaurant in Ypsilanti.

**Closing Prayer:**

Tim Driscoll gave the closing prayer.

**Close Meeting:**

Vice President Al Merritt led the group in Present Arms/Order Arms to the flag to close the meeting at 2002 hours.

Respectively submitted,

Berry

Berryman L. Bourne  
Acting Secretary



## AVVA Newsletter:

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 August.:

- Members supported VVA Merchandise Sales at Ann Arbor VA
- Members supported VVA Merchandise Sales completing inventory counts
- Kathy attended the Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Meeting
- Members volunteered at the Heritage Festival



**Keep up to date with our chapter:** All AVVA and VVA 310 events are posted on our chapter's webpage, [www.vva310.org](http://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.

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 the Pig roast and our September 14th meeting.

### **AVVA Michigan State Association News**

Our AVVA Michigan State Association has two new fundraisers this fall.

The first one is very simple. Do you recycle your bottles and cans? If so, please consider donating the deposits from your Bottle and Can returns from now until you come to the September AVVA meeting. I will take your donation to the October 2nd State Council meeting

The second fundraiser is almost as simple. The AVVA Michigan State Association is asking you to donate a gift card to them. The Association will then place them in an envelop and offer them to people at the Christmas meeting in December asking a \$10 donation. They request that your gift card be worth somewhere between \$10 and \$25 and come from such places as: Tim Horton's, Starbucks, Meijers, Restaurants, Fuel Cards, etc. Please consider donating a gift card by our November 9th meeting.

The following is an excerpt from a message posted on [facebook.com/AVVA](https://facebook.com/AVVA) Michigan by Marilyn Lash:

“Target areas to donate to were discussed.

So far, our efforts include:

1. Veterans Welcome Center at Metro
2. Volunteer Services at the 5 VA Hospitals in Michigan.
3. Fisher House for Military & Veterans families.

Our members will be donating the money from their can and bottle deposits to the AVVA State Association. We would greatly appreciate your help with this ongoing fundraiser.”

Please consider participating in one or both of these fundraisers to benefit the AVVA Michigan State Association.

**“Never Again Shall a Veteran Coming Home From Battle**

**Be Made to Feel Alone and Unappreciated!”**

**"Together Always"**



(Among those we won't abandon, the 107th Air Refuler Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, OEF, OIF, OND, OIR)



## **AVVA August 10, 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 Lifetime membership.
- Hopefully, the remaining twelve Friends of VVA 310 members will join AVVA 310. If you are joining or renewing as a Life Member, please send 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](mailto:dkathyr16@gmail.com) with your hours for June and July 2017. Remember all non-VAVS hours supporting Veterans are reported on the VISTA report.

### **Fundraising Report:**

- \$1,000 raised at May Quartermania for Fisher House Michigan
- Our 3rd Annual AVVA 310 No-Bake Sale fundraising letters will be mailed out in August. Kathy passed out No-Bake Sale letters to all members present. Please consider increasing your donation. We will split the donations this year equally between both Operating Fund and Special Project specified 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.
- 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.
- AVVA 310 Quartermania to benefit Fisher House Michigan will be held on October 2, 2017 at the Milan American Legion, Post 268. 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.

### **WCCV**

WCCV is requesting all units donate \$25.00 earmarked to Fish House Michigan November 8, 2017 Fundraiser at UM Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, MI.



This donation will raise \$300 which would mean that WCCV will be listed as a "Battle Buddy" in the Fundraiser's program book. Motion passed to donate \$25 to WCCV.

### **Veterans Wrist Bracelets**

All Veterans Wrist bracelets are sold. This fundraiser raised \$600 for Fisher House Michigan.

### **AVVA Michigan State Association:**

Kathy will attend AVVA Michigan State Association meeting on Sunday, August 20th in Howell, MI.

### **AVVA National News:**

Meni Draper is at the AVVA National Convention in New Orleans, LA.

### **Old Business:**

Scrapbooking fundraiser is Saturday, September 23rd from 10 am to 4 pm. Please support this fundraiser. This fundraiser raised \$77.50 for Fisher House Michigan in February and May. Bring your photos and enjoy creating your photo scrapbook. Please contact Mary Gantt at [www.creativememories.com/user/marygantt](http://www.creativememories.com/user/marygantt) to order supplies or contact Mary directly at [ganttme@yahoo.com](mailto:ganttme@yahoo.com) or 248-348-5359.

### **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 the official 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 orders for purple, green and red shirts and black hats.

AVVA and VVA will dedicate the new Friends Tree on a date to be determined at the September 14 meeting. Sandy Martinez has the Friends plaque. More information will be available at the September meeting.

### **Other / Ongoing Concerns:**

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund Balance: \$2,208.25

### **Upcoming Events:**

Please see page 12 of the Dispatch for the Calendar of Events. Be sure to check out the Sep 23 scrapbooking fundraiser.

**Next meeting** September 14, 2017 at 6 pm.

Kathy Driscoll  
Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310  
AVVA Michigan State Association Vice President  
[dkathyr16@gmail.com](mailto:dkathyr16@gmail.com)  
734-355-4897



## Chaplain's Corner:

734-277-3528

[glmoore@umich.edu](mailto:glmoore@umich.edu)

I have been observing the world's situations with great interest. In this observational mode I have heard a few times the phrase: "The world is going nuts!" We have set aside our civility and replaced it with our accentuated differences, as if there was no longer a need for reason. People claim that whatever side they represent, that side has the answers to life's problems, yet, when tested with a truth standard, many of their solutions line up with falsity...not supported by the truth. When the application to those solutions are tested, they come up short.

I thoroughly enjoyed the rigorous course of study for my major in seminary: Systematic Theology. It taught me how to test for truth and how to compare Scripture with Scripture so that I would not be guilty of presuppositional interpretation, a.k.a., reading into Scripture what we want it to say. That process puts us in danger of God's judgement by adding to or taking away from what God intended.

*Weltanschauung*, or its English usage today, World View, means a way a person looks at the phenomenon of life as a whole. Some people (particularly those who have not lived very long) have not formed any broad (inclusive, even "sophisticated") view of life. Younger people are more easily swayed without this "view." And yet, I hear many people talking like young people, easily swayed by the world phenomenon swirling about these days. This results in a lack of reason, or as some have labeled it, "utter madness."

It takes listening to what people say to determine their world view or lack thereof. As Jesus said in Matthew 24:37; "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man [Jesus' return to establish God's Kingdom on earth]."

So, the logical question is, "how was it in the days of Noah?" Genesis 6:5, "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and the very intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Or, as Christ said in Luke 6:45, "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

Let those who claim godliness observe the world scenes and instead of taking a conservative or moderate or liberal side, take a side for truth. It is far more important to be on the side of truth than the side of popularity, especially if that popularity is irrational and evil.

Let us promote truth and love at a time where both seem lacking.

Gordon



# "Chapter 310's First Recognition Dinner Summary 1988"

MARCH 5, 1988 RECOGNITION SPAGHETTI DINNER

TIME: 7:30PM

LOCATION: UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Road  
Pat Shephard is contact (482-8320)

CATERER: Mrs. Beverly Eichold  
41677 Riggs Road, Belleville, MI 48111  
Telephone 697-0406

DINNER: Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Pie, Coffee  
\$3.50 per person, children under 3 free  
Excellent catering job and price

ATTENDANCE: 80

DISC JOCKEY: Lynn Emery (\$250 for four hours)  
38287 Greenwood, Westland, MI 48185  
Telephone 721-8578

SPECIAL RECOGNIZED GUESTS: Jim King, Canton Jaycees  
(Framed Certificates) Jack Gould, Golf Outing  
Jim Adams, Heritage Bob Wilson, Chapter Help  
Printers, Dexter, MI Jim & Paul O'Sullivan, Food  
& Drug Mart  
Mike Kabat, Haab's  
Linda Heppe, Ypsilanti Press

CHAPTER RECOGNITION:  
(Framed Certificates  
Marie Davie Nancee Hay Julie Smith  
Kristen Conrad Daryl & Kim Shephard  
Jodi & Joelle Armentrout  
Kristen and Laura Wade  
Mary Jo, Wendy, Barbara, Laura and Jill Dumsch

1987 OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE YEAR:  
Jack McManus and John Kinzinger

HOST: John Kinzinger

WORKERS: Pat & Jim Shephard Al Merritt Hank Woods  
Paul Dumsch Norm Marko Hank Koski  
Jane Kinzinger Jim & Barb Wade

Pat & Jim Shephard arranged for Hall and had special banners made.

Tim Armentrout said Grace before dinner.

CORRESPONDENCE: Sent postcard reminders to all members 7-10 days before event.

Sent Thank You Letters to:  
UAW Council  
Mrs. Beverly Eichold





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

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT BILL OF RIGHTS:  
800.455.5228

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA:  
800.882.1316

**WEB:**  
[www.vva310.org](http://www.vva310.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
(VACANT)

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**OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:**

POW/MIA HOTLINE: 202.659.0133

AGENT ORANGE: 800.225.4712

WASHTENAW COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES:  
734.973.4540

**2016/17 Officers & Board Members**

**President**  
David Draper

**Vice President**  
Al Merritt

**Secretary**  
Jon Luker

**Treasurer**  
Paulo Pereira

**Sgt-at-Arms**  
Tim Clarke

**Nominating Committee**  
Marv Rivers  
Vance McCrumb

**Chaplain**  
Rev. Gordon Moore

**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 Hibbitts  
Jon Luker

**VA Service Rep**

(Vacant)

**VVA 310**

**WebMaster**

Vance McCrumb  
David Draper

[www.vva310.org](http://www.vva310.org)

**AVVA**

Kathy Driscoll

**Agent Orange**

Sandie Wilson

**Bylaws**

Gordon Moore

**Community Service**

John Kinzinger

**Constitution**

Tom Fifield

**Economic Affairs (Vacant)**

**Finance**

Paulo Pereira  
Berryman Bourne  
Ken Rogge  
Jon Luker  
Chris Wetzler

**Food Pantry**

Don Miller

**Historian**

William Vollano  
David Ney

**Legal Affairs**

Elmer White

**Legislative**

(Vacant)

**Librarian**

(Vacant)

**Membership**

Vance McCrumb

**Memorial**

John Kinzinger

**Memorial Grounds**

Al (Fredo) Merritt

**Minority Affairs**

Horace Frazier

**POW/MIA**

Richard Price

**Product Sales**

(Vacant)

**Pig Roast**

Don Miller  
Al Dyer

**PTSD**

Joe Palazzolo

**Service Officer**

(Vacant)

(Assists Chapter Members)

**VAMC Rep.**

John Kinzinger

**Veterans Justice**

Jon Luker



Chapter/Dispatch Patrons - Please check your dates to see if you are current

George F Boone ~ October 2021  
 Berryman Bourne ~ August 2020  
 Cynthia Calhoun ~ February 2018  
 Gary Couture ~ November 2017  
 Joseph Flint ~ January 2021  
 James Graham ~ February 2019  
 Phil and Gena Hecker ~ Feb 2021  
 Dorothy & Donald Kepler ~ October 2018  
 Dick Knight ~ May 2018  
 Jane and John Kinzinger ~ September 2018  
 Sandy Martinez ~ September 2021  
 Dell Mayes ~ April 2018  
 Al (Fredo) Merritt ~ May 2018  
 Ron Oliver ~ February 2019  
 Paulo-Juarez Pereira ~ August 2018  
 George Perrault ~ October 2022  
 Mira & Bob Pierson ~ October 2021  
 Ken Rogge ~ April 2018

Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026  
 Edith Semark ~ December 2017  
 Ron and Marina Silverberg ~ March 2019  
 Tom & Sandi Sorensen ~ October 2017  
 Chris Wetzler ~ December 2017  
 Elizabeth Wong ~ June 2018

*Linda Lamey-Leonard In memory of*

*Lavern Lamey\* ~ March 2018*

*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 ~ December 2018*

*Bonnie Woods in memory of her VN vet husband*

*Gary Woods, ~ December 2018*

*\*NAME LISTED ON THE WASHTENAW COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL*

The above 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!**



**CHARLES S. KETTLES, VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**

Washtenaw County Chapter 310

P.O. Box 3221

Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Please forward. Thank You.

**"NEVER AGAIN, SHALL A VET COMING HOME FROM BATTLE, BE MADE TO FEEL ALONE AND UNAPPRECIATED"**

**HERE COMES YOUR FIVE TIME WINNER, NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR**

Next Regular Meeting: 1900 hours 14 September 2017 at GRAF-O'HARA VFW POST 423 3230 S. Wagner Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103