

310 Dispatch

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



*Together We Make
A Difference*

*Charles S. Kettles
Chapter 310*



**April 2022,
Washtenaw County,
Michigan**



Editor's Note: I have requested and received productive and helpful suggestions from the Dispatch Team on how to improve the look and and feel of the *310 Dispatch*. So, with the start of the Chapter fiscal year, we hope to make our newsletter even more productive and helpful to Veterans. Meanwhile, on behalf of the Dispatch Team, I express our thanks to all contributors of articles, news, photos, and financial support. Greatly appreciated!
-- Paulo-Juarez Pereira, Dispatch Editor

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VVA 310 Officers: 2022-2023
 President: Stan Harrison
 Vice President: Vance McCrumb
 Treasurer: Berry Bourne
 Secretary: Jon Luker



President's Message

By Stan Harrison

Last December, we lost a well-loved original Chapter member, Lloyd Lee. Lloyd was a genuine war hero. He was awarded a Silver Star, three Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts. He served two years on active duty in the Army and came



home an E6. Our Chapter member General Henderson teased him: "E6

in two years? One more hitch, and you would have been Sergeant Major of the Army!"

It was quite an impressive service record—and yet, when Lloyd got home, he suffered society's disrespect. He was made to feel unwellcome by Veterans' organizations. He was even called "baby killer" by an older Veteran in a Veteran's bar! That is probably why he loved the VVA 310 so much.

Lloyd was an active member of our Chapter. He supported us with time, effort, and money. He founded "The Liars' Club," a Wednesday morning coffee group that has been responsible for several Veterans joining the Chapter.

During the last months of his life, Lloyd was under home hospice care. I saw him almost every day during that time, and he always wanted to know what the Chapter was up to and how our projects and events were coming along. When he passed, the family had

envelopes available at the funeral home so that mourners could donate to Chapter 310.

Lloyd Lee left many good examples for us to follow.

Courage: Not only his gallantry and leadership in war but the way he faced life and death during those last months.

Loyalty: He was my good friend for 59 years, and I was just one of many. We all knew that we could always count on Lloyd.

Generosity: He gave time and treasure to many charities. He even found a way to support our Chapter in death.

We should all remember how Lloyd was treated on his return from Vietnam. Let's rededicate ourselves to our Chapter motto and make sure all Veterans get the respect that they deserve.

Stay safe and stay proud.

Chaplain's Corner — April 2022

By Rev. Gordon Moore

The soap opera titled "As the World Turns" certainly has taken on new meaning in our turbulent times.

So much anger, so much evil,

and so much chaos abound. What does it all mean?

Jesus spoke to the issue in Mark chapter 13 as the recorded conversation between Jesus and his disciples renders meaning:



Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!" And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down." Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?" And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many. But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles. These are the beginnings of sorrows. But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate

what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved." Mark goes on to capture even more detail of the end times and concludes with the following words of warning:

So, when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter. For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days. Then if anyone says to

you, "Look, here is the Christ!" or, "Look, He is there!" do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

(Mark 13:1-33 New King James

Version)

Let us not be concerned about world troubles that are coming upon us, but instead, let us watch, pray and trust in the Words of Scripture and the leading of God's Spirit to direct our activities and thoughts.

Peace be upon us all.

VVA 310 Chapter Meeting Minutes

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

10 March 2022

Call to Order by Harrison at 1900 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

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

New Members: None.

Guests: Bill Stuart who flew combat assault in II core is a potential member. He flies the Yankee Air Museum Huey. 15-minute flights cost \$99.

Motion by Merritt/Bull to approve the January and February minutes as published in the Dispatch approved.

Recess for nominations (Round Two):

The only nomination on the second round was for Dale Throneberry for two-year Board. He declined. The outcome is as follows:

Officers:

President: McCrumb (declined),
Harrison (accepted)

Vice President: McCrumb (accepted),
Treasurer: Bourne (accepted)
Secretary: Luker (accepted)
Sergeant at Arms: Clarke (declined)
Nominations for two-year Board:
Accepted: Merritt, Bull, Wilson, Hitte
Declined: Wetzler, St. Antoine, Throneberry
Two-year Board members moving to 1-year positions are:
Bauder, Bayha, Hall, Kinzinger, and Driscoll.
State Council Delegate, Driscoll, Wilson, accepted, Luker declined
Regular meeting recalled to order.

Officer Reports:

President's Report:

The apartment we are furnishing is still under construction. They expect we will move our furnishings in on 8 or 9 April, starting at 0900. Joe Palazzolo has everything we need. He is recruiting help to move, but there is a moving company that would be willing to move the stuff for us. Our planning for the 12 June Flag Day celebration is going well. It will be a catered family picnic. Fredo and I will be at the Memorial at 1100 on 29 March to mark Vietnam Veterans Day. There will be no program, but there will be coffee and donuts. Remember that there will be a short meeting here on 3 April and then election voting will be available until 1600. There will be no meeting on the second Thursday of April. Plans for the 23 April Recognition Dinner are coming along. That will be catered by the same people that did it last year. We are charging \$15 per person. Tickets will be available at the door at UAW 898, located at 8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

We need more people to show up. The Pig Roast is set for 28 August.
Treasurer's Report: Berry Bourne. Reports were emailed to the Board. Reports are also available to members and others via email on request. I just finished our annual report. We had an excellent year compared to what our first budget predicted. Looking at restricted and unrestricted funds combined, we expected our total assets to decrease by \$2,000. Instead, our total assets increased by \$18,000. Much of the difference was the record-breaking donations received from the Christmas letter the Committee sends out every year. We also received more merchandising revenue than expected. Our past treasurer, Luker, will review the IRS Form 990 before we submit it. The Finance Committee is going to move our operating account to Bank of Ann Arbor. We are still looking at how best to invest our surplus cash. No questions.

AVVA Report: Driscoll. Please see report in the Dispatch. We are doing our \$5 wrist bracelet fund raiser for Fisher House. We are sending 4 Girls to Girls' State in honor of Lois Perrault. The no-bake bake sale for Fisher House is still in progress. Please make your donations now.

Committee Reports:

Merchandise: Larry St. Antione went to a CB "swarm." He sold 9 hats – all he had. We will be selling at the Open House here on 26 March 1000 to 1600.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans: The Council's next meeting will be at the Ypsilanti American Legion Post 282 on 21 March.

Michigan State Council: Luker. The next meeting is sponsored by and will be held at the Plymouth-Canton

Chapter 528 on March 27

Memorial Maintenance: Merritt. Our crews are waiting for spring. There is a chance we have found somebody to build our maintenance building. We are thinking about doing our spring cleaning on Saturday, 2 April (the day before our annual elections). Please let us know if you can help.

Website: McCrumb. 341,449 hits.

Membership: McCrumb. When Jim Robinett's application was approved, our number went to 210 members.

Newsletter: No report.

Healthcare: Wilson. I participated in one of these conference calls about women veterans, but nobody said anything new. VVA National wants to know if they should press to have liver flukes be a presumptive disease of Vietnam service. The burn pit legislation did add 8 presumptive diseases for post 9/11 sandbox veterans. Leadership training seminar will be in Greenville, SC in August. I think Linda Bernbaum is going to be there to speak about Agent Orange.

LTCCSKMC: Kinzinger. Thank you to all who donated to Christmas Program. I was totally flabbergasted by some of the checks that came in. We acknowledged each one. The Committee is looking to make another donation to Fisher House the next time the donations are doubled. We are also looking for more opportunities to upgrade the meals for VA hospital patients.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Good of the Order:

Harrison: Thanks to George for taking over for our Sergeant at Arms who is ill.

McCrum: I was authorized to seek honorary memberships for Phil Pham's dad and Bill Vollano. National approved both memberships. On Sunday 13 March and Sunday 20 March at 1400 at Saline City Hall, Phil Pham will tell the story of his dad's escape.

Hall: I'd like to thank John and Jane for all the work they did this year on the Christmas fund and on Chapter events.

Horace: I want to thank Dave and Meni Draper for cleaning and reorganizing the storage area and putting in new lights.

Throneberry: Next weekend, 18-20 March, is Military Appreciation Day at USA hockey in Plymouth. Everything will be free for veterans. The event is sponsored by VCAT 9 this year. Go to <https://veteransradio.net/> to sign up for the event. I'll be there live from 1500 to 2100 on the 20th for a live broadcast.

Bull: Our all-unit Open House will be from 1000 to 1600 on 26 March. We will have food, Blue Star Service Dogs, Guitars for Vets, National Cemetery representatives, a lawyer who specializes in cancer cases, an estate planning lawyer, and Michigan Ability Partners.

Draper: Remember that on Saturday, 19 March we are having our food drive for Food Gatherers. This year you can drop canned and boxed goods in barrels we have set up. We also accept sample size personal hygiene items. There will also be a secure box there for your cash and check donations. Food Gatherers will distribute everything to those in need.

Bull: I was able to contact Rolling Thunder about coming to our Flag Day event.

Harrison: We still need items for the Recognition Dinner bucket raf-

fle. Please give them to Roy Hall.

Hall: Please keep my sister in your prayers. She has suffered a death in the family.

Bull: This Saturday is a food give-a-way here. We have lots of food, including meat and we have individual meals as well. This food is for anybody with difficulty getting enough food, not just veterans.

Hitte: Also, please keep Shirley in your prayers. She lost her brother on 4 March.

Merritt: Breakfast at 0900 on Friday, 15 April: Holiday's Restaurant, 2080 W Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, (734) 668-1292.

Closing Prayer Robert Bull
Flag Salute

Meeting Adjourned at 1958 hrs.

Honoring April Anniversaries on the Wall

Corporal William Henry Johnson was born on December 9, 1943 in Union City, Tennessee to Jewell and Johnnie Johnson of Ann Arbor, Michigan. William is a 1961 graduate of Ann Arbor High School. A caption in the Ann Arbor High School Yearbook for 1961 states, "Willie came to Ann Arbor High from Slauson. While at the High School, he participated in all intramural sports. He also likes to swim. His plans for after graduation are not as yet definite. He will either work or join the Army." William enlisted in the Marine Corps in August of 1963 going through Marine Corps Boot Camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California. He received further training at Camp Pendleton, California before going to Okinawa. Corporal Johnson began his tour



of duty near Danang, Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam serving as a rifleman with E Company, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Division, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine

Amphibious Forces. William was killed on April 17, 1966 as a result of small arms fire from a sniper while manning a defensive position.

William Henry Johnson is survived by his parents, a sister and a brother. He lived 22 years, 4 months and 8 days. William'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 06E Line 119.

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Private First Class Clive Vere Mosier was born on January 3, 1943 in Campbell, Missouri to Mr. and Mrs. John Mosier of Chelsea, Michigan. Clive was employed as a foreman with Seller's Construction Company before entering the Army on September 1, 1966. According to his wife, "he was known as "Buster" by all his family and friends. Clive loved baseball. His favorite foods were chocolate chip cookies and fried chicken. He sent a picture of him holding a little Vietnamese girl. He said in his letter, 'Honey, I miss you greatly, but these people need us. No one else will help them. We have to.'" Private First Class Mosier began his tour of duty in Military Region 3, South Vietnam on February 16, 1967 serving as an infantryman with B Company, 5th Battalion,

7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. Clive was killed on April 24, 1967 as a result of an explosive device. Clive Vere Mosier is survived by his wife, parents, and four brothers. He lived 24 years, 3 months and



21 days. He is resting in Arborcrest Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Clive'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 18E Line 080.

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First Lieutenant Robert John Crabbe was born on June 12, 1941. First Lieutenant Crabbe began his tour of duty in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam on January 11, 1966 serving as a Field Artillery Unit Commander with Headquarters, Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division. According to a posting by fellow Field Artillery Officer Candidate School Alumni from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Randy Dunham, "First Lieutenant Crabbe served as an Aerial Observer with the First Cavalry Division. He was in a UH-1C Helicopter Gunship from Troop A, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry that was shot down while making a rocket run on a Viet Cong position. All five men on Board the aircraft died in the incident." He was killed on April 18, 1967 after serving one year, three months and seven days "In-Country." Robert John Crabbe lived 25 years, 10 months and 6 days. He is

resting in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, Section 4, Site 2969-C. Robert'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 18E Line 045.

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Sergeant First Class Michael Jon Wallace was born on November 21, 1939 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Sergeant First Class Wallace began his tour of duty in Thua Thien Province, South Vietnam at Camp Evans serving as a CH-47 Helicopter Repairer with B Company, 228th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 11th Aviation Group, 1st Cavalry Division. On April 19, 1968 three Army helicopters were shot down in the A Shau Valley of South Vietnam. All three were making supply runs to Landing Zone Tiger in Quang Tri Province. Five men survived the three crashes, and nine men remain missing. On April 19, 1968, Michael was a crew chief on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flying a mid-day supply mission. The helicopter was descending through an overcast sky and was on its final approach to Landing Zone Tiger in Quang Tri Province when it was struck by enemy .50 cal and 37mm ground fire, caught fire and began to burn. The gunner witnessed Michael and the flight engineer, Anthony Housh, jump from the helicopter when it was about 100

feet off of the ground. The aircraft crash landed and the remainder of the crew was rescued. Michael's body was never recovered and he was listed as Missing In Action (MIA). On February 6, 1974, Michael's status was



changed to "Died While Missing In Action."

Michael Jon Wallace is survived by his wife and two children, and a sister. He lived 28 years, 4 months and 28 days. He is remembered with a Military Marker in East Oak Grove Cemetery in Chelsea, Michigan. Michael's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township as MIA. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 51E Line 002.

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Private First Class James Roy Bihlmeyer was born on November 12, 1946 in Manchester, Michigan



to Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Bihlmeyer. James is a 1965 graduate of Manchester High School. He worked at the Saline Plant for Ford

Motor Company prior to entering the Army on May 16, 1966. Private First Class Bihlmeyer went through Basic Training at Fort Riley, Kansas. James began his tour of duty in Long An Province, South

Vietnam on December 1, 1966 serving with A Company, Second Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division as an infantryman. He died as a result of enemy small arms fire on April 15, 1967.

Private First Class James Roy Bihlmeyer is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister. He lived for 20 years, 5 months and 3 days. He is resting at the Bethel Church Cemetery in Manchester, Michigan. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Manchester. James Roy Bihlmeyer also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 18E Line 028.

Dispatch Recipients

VVA 310 award-winning newsletter reaches approximately 500 people each month with 100 mailed USPS, 50 hits off the website (www.vva310.org), and 350 emailed. With good stewardship and networking, the cost to print the Dispatch approximates \$1,250 per year.

If VVA 310 members or others receiving the Dispatch via USPS desire to assist with the printing cost, a suggested donation would be: one year at \$12.00, two years at \$22.00, and three years at \$30.00. Payment can be made payable to VVA 310 and mailed to P.O. Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221 indicating Dispatch on the memo line.

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

RECIPIENTS

Berryman Bourne ~ August 2023
Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2023

Gary L. Couture ~ April 2024
Joseph Flint ~ January 2023
Edward Fuller ~ September 2023
Sarah and Brent Gephart, Sr. ~ March 2031
Corrine Gignac, in memory of her uncle Neil R. Gignac, CMSAF ~ April 2024
Ralph Henry ~ November 2023
Steve and Shirley Hitte ~ June 2024
Darlene Imus ~ January 2027
Jane and John Kinzinger ~ June 2024
Mary Kate Kirkpatrick ~ December 2023
Rudy and Jane Kozal ~ May 2022
Linda Lamey-Leonard, in memory of Lavern Lamey ~ July 2024

This KIA person is listed on our Memorial Wall.

Lloyd Lee ~ March 2031
David Marshall ~ June 2022
Sandy Martinez ~ November 2024
Del Mayes ~ March 2025
Alfred (Fredo) Merritt ~ January 2023
Ronald Oliver ~ August 2027
Paulo and Ann Dempsey Pereira ~ October 2024
George Perrault ~ October 2022
Helena Prince, in memory of deceased member Tom Prince ~ April 2023
Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026
Edith L. Semark ~ September 2023
Jim Sharp ~ April 2031
Chris Wetzler ~ July 2023
Elizabeth Wong ~ September 2023

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey Pereira

03 Apr: Short Meeting, then Officer and Board Elections, 1200-1600 hrs
08-09 Apr: Hilltop View Apartment

Furniture Move-in, around 0900 hrs, 7651 Dan Hoey Rd, Dexter
14 Apr: NO MEETING
8 Apr: Chapter Monthly Breakfast, 0900 hrs, at Holiday's Restaurant.
18 Apr: WCCV Meeting, 1930 hrs
23 Apr: Awards Dinner, 1800 hrs, UAW Local 898, 8975 Textile Rd, Ypsilanti
12 Jun: Flag Day Celebration, 1100 hrs, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Ypsilanti
** Visit Veterans Radio online (veteransradio.net - click here) and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

Of Interest to Veterans

Veterans History Project

By Vance McCrumb

At our last membership meeting, I mentioned the Veterans History Project, which Bill Vollano has been involved in for many years. Bill has done video interviews of several Chapter members, including John K., Chuck Kettles, Bill Henderson, Gary Lillie, and myself. He would like to interview more members. Bill's email address is wmjv@gmail.com.

If you are interested—or have questions about the project—drop him a note. It's something your children and grandchildren can view and learn from. It's painless, too :>— and it doesn't take long.

— ** —

Walls That Heal Submitted by Dave Draper

We are happy to announce that our traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial replica and mobile Education

Center, The Wall That Heals, is hitting the road! In 2022 we do a special tour to celebrate The Wall's 40th anniversary in 29 communities. Our ¾ scale replica of The Wall will first be on display in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi from March 24th to March 27th.

Here is the site we'll be visiting in Michigan during the 2022 The Wall That Heals Tour:
7/14/2022 to 7/17/2022 - Battle Creek, MI

For more details on the schedule, visit our website: <https://www.vvmf.org/The-Wall-That-Heals/2022-The-Wall-That-Heals-Tour-Schedule/>.

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Mental Health Concerns for Vietnam Veterans

As Posted by Michigan Veterans News

Veterans who served in Vietnam, Cambodia, or Laos during the Vietnam War have a higher prevalence of mental health issues, compared with non-theater Veterans. The source is the first nationwide survey of both the physical and mental health of Vietnam War veterans in more than 30 years, involving nearly 19,000 veterans. Compared with non-theater veterans, they had four times the risk of PTSD, nearly double the risk for depression, and more than two times the risk of psychological distress. Veterans experiencing a mental health emergency can contact the Veteran Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and select option 1 for a VA staffer.

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The VRC Open House

David Draper

The VRC Open House was a great success today with almost no room to add more vendors. In checking with all the organizations that came out, they all had visitors stopping at their tables. They had anywhere from 6 visitors to many having twenty inquiring about their products or services. The American Legion had six people stop by and talk to us, with three of them signing up for membership. The VFW did not give us a report, but someone said they thought they had four new members sign up. The Veteran Service Officers were the busiest with many veterans stopping by to get signed up for benefits. The VVA had sales of 16 items and the AVVA sold three of their bracelets. All the vets I talked with said they were very glad that they stopped out and were pleased with the help they received from the various organizations they visited.

Thanks to the 21 organizations that participated in this event, to Bob Kurtz and Bruce Lowrey for cooking the lunch grub, and thanks certainly to Bob Bull for organizing this event.

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Special Thanks

By Dave Draper

Every day we thank our Veterans for their service to our Nation, but



today we give thanks to those who were exemplary in their service. Today is **Congressional Medal of Honor Day**. We extend a special "thank you for your service" to all those who were awarded the Medal of Honor. We had one in our ranks until a couple of years ago, and there are quite a few who reside in Michigan. Thank you in Memoriam to LTC Charles S. Kettles. If you know someone that was presented this high honor, shake their hand and thank them.

Jocosity

Submitted by George Perrault: Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman: "And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?"—the reporter asked. She simply replied, "No peer pressure."

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Submitted by Ken Rogge
You might be from Michigan IF:

1. You define summer as three months of bad sledding.
2. You think Alkaline batteries were named for a Tiger outfielder.
3. Your idea of a 7-course meal is a 6-pack and a bucket of smelt.
4. Owning a Japanese car was a hanging offense in your hometown.
5. You know how to play (and pronounce) Euchre.
6. The Big Mac is something that you drive across.
7. You bake with soda and drink pop.
8. Your Little League baseball game was snowed out.
9. You know how to pronounce "Mackinac."
10. You have experienced frostbite and sunburn in the same week.

11. You expect Vernor's when you order ginger ale.
12. You know that Kalamazoo not only exists, but that it isn't far from Hell.
13. Your favorite holidays are Christmas, Thanksgiving, the opening of deer season, and Devil's Night.
14. At least one person in your family disowns you for the week of the Michigan/Michigan State football game.
15. Your year has two seasons: Winter and construction.
16. Half the change in your pocket is Canadian, eh.
17. You show people where you grew up by pointing to a spot on your left hand.

AVVA Newsletter April 2022

By Kathy Driscoll

Sunday, April 3, 2022 is our AVVA 310 elections. We will meet at noon and elections will begin after our meeting and end at 4 pm.

2022 Chapter Recognition Dinner
The VVA AVVA 2022 Recognition Dinner will be Saturday, April 23rd. We will have a raffle table to benefit Fisher House Michigan. Please consider donating an item for our raffle. Tickets are \$15; please RSVP to me or Stan Harrison by April 10th. We need a total count for the caterers. Last year the attendance was low. We would like to avoid an over estimated count. AVVA invited our three Girls' State Delegates and their parents to attend. We want to honor them at this year's dinner. Please let me know who in addition to our delegates should be recognized.

On Sunday, March 13th I presented Phil Pham his certificate from last year's Recognition Dinner. Picture shows Phil's presentation.



Covid-19 Update from Health Department Washtenaw County Michigan **Washtenaw County Transmission level is LOW!**

<https://www.washtenaw.org/3108/Cases>

Chapter Happenings!

We have 90 donated Wrist Story Bracelets left. They are \$5. When we sellout, we will donate an additional \$600 to Fisher House Michigan. To date we have \$235 specified to Fisher House Michigan. Contact Kathy Driscoll if you would like one. All proceeds will go to Fisher House Michigan. Our total donation to Fisher House Michigan to date is \$12,300.00. Our next donation will be in May 2022 during the 2022 Fisher House Michigan Memorial Day Match. We have a goal to donate \$500 to Fisher House Michigan in May 2022. Our annual No Bake / Bakeless Fundraiser letters were emailed to all AVVA members by February 1st. I mailed our fundraiser letter to our members who do not have an email address. Please make your donation payable to VVA 310 with AVVA No Bake on the memo line. The donation form has a check box for you to decide which specified line you want to dedicate your donation. The total to date is \$290. \$265 from AVVA 310 members

and \$25 from VVA 310 members. Please consider a \$20 minimum donation. This is our main fundraiser that funds our projects and operating expenses. Last year we raised \$450.00:

Our March meeting was in person and on ZOOM meeting. Jane, Meni, Bonnie, Shirley, and I attended. We will meet in person on Sunday, April 3rd. I will set up a ZOOM link for our members who are not in the Ann Arbor area and unable to attend in person.

Members are making Stress Balls for Fisher House Michigan. Email me or call me if you need the pattern.

We are collecting trial-size shampoo, soap, tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc., for Fisher House Michigan. You can drop off your donations to me or directly at the Fisher House.

Paper Safes

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

Service Projects

Rev. Bob Bull needs volunteers to assist the Veteran Resource Center on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays at the VFW Post 423. The center is open from 09:30 am to 5:00 pm. You will assist in keeping Post 423 clean and sanitary. Please consider volunteering an hour or two. Breakfast and lunch provided by Rev. Bob Bull, VVA 310 member. For information on volunteering, please contact Rev. Bob Bull at 734-664-7878.

Please consider donating food to your local community food banks.

Our communities still have families who are food insecure due to Covid-19.

Links to local Food Banks:

Saline Social Services:

<https://www.salinesocialservice.com/ways-to-give/donate/>

Food Gatherers of Ann Arbor: <https://www.foodgatherers.org/?module=Page&slD=donate-funds>

SOS Community Services Ypsilanti, MI: <https://soscs.org/ways-to-give/>

Catholic Social Services <https://csswashtenaw.org/family-children/cssw-food-pantry/>

Google Search for Food Banks in Washtenaw County:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=washtenaw+county+food+banks>

Legislation Action!

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

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

died from liver cancer. Please consider writing your US Congressional Representative to support this bill in honor and memory of them.

AVVA Chapter 310 Fundraising Report

When I toured the Ann Arbor Fisher House in October 2021, their staff mentioned that they needed gift cards for Kroger or Sam's Club for weekly food shopping. We would like to take up a collection to purchase a \$250.00 gift card to be sent to April LaRock, manager of FHM Ann Arbor. Please consider a \$5 or \$10 donation at our next meeting. I will purchase the gift card. Please mail your donation directly to me. Please make your check payable to VVA 310 with AVVA FHM Gift Card on the memo line.

Kathy Driscoll
172 Oakwood
Saline, MI 48176

Excerpt from email from April LaRock:
"Highest need for gift cards is for groceries: Kroger and Sam's Club (they accept Walmart gift cards too). That's where we shop the most. The larger the quantities too (each trip runs us about \$250-300) and we go at least twice a week. It takes a lot of time to process multiple \$25 gift cards for one trip (if that makes sense just from a donation tracking system)."

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2022 Girls' State Update!

The fund balance is \$3,028.25. We sponsored four delegates to the Girls' State 2022, which is \$820. The American Legion Auxiliary Post 322 returned our original donation check as Girls' State 2022

is virtual.

We have three dedicated delegates. Girls' State 2022 is virtual this year and all three delegates are committed to attend virtually.

AVVA National and AVVA Michigan State Association News

The next AVVA Michigan Association meeting is Sunday, March 27th hosted by the Plymouth Canton AVVA / VVA. I plan to attend

- 2022 Leadership Conference – Hyatt Hotel, Greenville, SC
- 2023 National Convention- Orlando, FL

WCCV

I attended the WCCV February 21st meeting held at the VFW Post 423 hosted by VVA 310. I paid \$25 delegate dues for 2022-2023. I plan to attend the March 21st meeting, which will be at the Ypsilanti American Legion.

Upcoming Events!

CHAPTER ELECTIONS: Sunday, April 3, 2022 Meeting at 12:00 NOON. Elections begin after meeting and end at 4:00 pm.

Chapter Recognition Dinner, Saturday, April 23, 2022 at the UAW 898 Hall, Corner of Textile Rd and Tuttle Hill. Tickets \$15. Please RSVP to me or Stan Harrison by April 10th.

Keep up to date with our Chapter: All AVVA and VVA 310 events are posted on our chapter's webpage,

www.vva310.org in the VVA News Flash section on the right column on the homepage.

AVVA Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310 proudly supports the AVVA Mission and Vision Statements. AVVA Mission Statement: To provide support to Veterans and their families through programs, projects, and education.

AVVA Vision Statement:

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

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310
Past President, AVVA Michigan Association
dkathyr16@gmail.com
734-355-4897

Recognition Dinners

By John Kinzinger

Our 310 Chapter was presented our Charter from VVA National on Memorial Day 1987. In the spring of 1988, we held our first Recognition Dinner. Our goal was to recognize and thank community supporters of our Chapter, as well as to enjoy a good meal, music, and refreshments. The dinners in the early years would not end until around midnight. I will mention no names, but some of us overdid the good time a bit!

Every year it has been held at the UAW Local 898 Union Hall in Ypsilanti. We had several members who were union members. It was free, and by then, we had witnessed great patriotic support from the Ypsilanti-area populace. John Thompson was the first

Chapter member to die. In 1988 he was killed. He was our parade sergeant leader. He looked the absolute best in his tailored uniform as he led us in cadence as we proudly marched along. We would throw out our chests with pride as we quite loudly reported back his cadence. The bystanders loved it, and so did we. Our parades were never the same after he died. So, in remembrance of John, we named our "Member of the Year" award after him. Each year the Chapter officers select one of our members who has shown that extra effort for the good of the Chapter as the "John Thompson Member of the Year."

A real backbone of the Chapter, who was always there to get whatever needed done, was Jerry Sims. Jerry died in 2003, and in 2004 we started recognizing members who did like Jerry. That is how the "Jerry Sims Always There" Award began.

The President's Award began in 2011. Our beloved Doc Martinez, three-time Chapter President, died in 2016. Since 2017 the award is named "Doc Martinez President's Award."

The dinner has had changes over the years. First, we had children attending, with a piñata and things for the children. Now it is mostly us older folks who attend. In the early years, we had 75-90 attendees. The last few years we have had 40-55 attend.

We used to serve some great spaghetti, led by Gary Lillie. The dinner became known for years as the Gary Lillie Spaghetti Recognition Dinner. He and his group of helpers would make the very best hand-made meat balls and great sauce.

They would cook all day. Gary was killed and the spaghetti dinner eventually faded.

Some years we felt the members should not have to buy tickets, and some years members bought tickets. Roy Hall and others hold "bucket raffles" for many different items, and we have a 50-50 raffle also to offset some of the dinner costs.

AVVA also holds "bucket raffles" each dinner to raise funds for their projects and expenses. AVVA presents an "AVVA Member of the Year Award." Before AVVA became active in our Chapter, the Friends group presented awards to Friends and honorary awards to others who supported the Friends. This year will be our 34th Annual Dinner (minus one due to Covid-19). Join us this year for a delicious meal, recognition, and laughs. And newer members may wish to give Wendy a break at the refreshment bar. "Welcome Home" to all! *****



All About VVA 310

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Charles S. Kettles Chapter 310
National Chapter of the Year:
1999 & 2007
Newsletter of the Year:
2007, 09, 11, & 15
E-Newsletter of the Year 2017

Chapter President: Stan Harrison
Vice President: Vance McCrumb
Secretary: Jon Luker
Treasurer: Berry Bourne
Chapter Membership: Vance McCrumb
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Please forward. Thank you!