



*Together We
Make A Difference*



*Charles S. Kettles
Michigan Chapter 310*



Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial in beautiful autumn collors.

Good work at the Memorial this month, with five volunteers doing trimming, raking, and cleaning. Thank you, volunteers!

Dispatch Newsletter, November 2018



From the Editor's Desk: Splendid articles in fall colors grace our Dispatch for November. Rev. Moore has picked two inspiring psalms for his articles; John Kinzinger has Halloween and upcoming Christmas programs.

On another note, I would like to thank all of you who have contributed articles to the current Dispatch. And for those of you who would like to receive the Dispatch in printed form, just make a contribution to "Dispatch Patron." It costs \$1.50 for printing. So, if you contribute \$30, you will receive the printed Dispatch for 20 months. Meanwhile, enjoy the changing seasons!

Paulo

President's Message

By Jon Luker

Veterans Day is coming soon. Based on our pledge not to allow one generation of veterans to abandon another, we perform our duties in honor and in support of U.S. military veterans and for the fallen servicemembers.

It may feel like we are paying back a favor. But there is something different. Fifty years ago, the Greatest Generation was welcomed home with ticker-tape parades and great jobs. At that time, nine percent of the U.S. population served in uniform, and civilians understood what military service meant.

Thirty years later, it came time to send troops to Vietnam, for reasons not well explained. In 1969, less than one percent of the U.S. population was in uniform. As is well known, Vietnam Veterans did not come home to ticker-tape and great jobs. They



returned in the middle of a cultural revolution that left Americans questioning everything, including America's leadership.

Patriotism took a back seat to loyalty to gender, ethnicity, religion, national origin, and so forth.

By 2004, in spite of being involved in two wars, government officials, on Veterans Day, would ignore Veterans and hold a second Memorial-Day service instead. Vietnam veterans' ceremonies tended to honor

service members who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Still, Vietnam Veterans worked to ensure that returning Sandbox veterans got better treatment than what the Vietnam veterans had received.

Welcome committees began to appear at airports and home stations. In 2008, Ann Arbor's Concordia University held an event that recognized that Veterans Day was about the living, while working to connect Veterans with resources they need. Concordia also got nonprofits serving veterans to become familiar with the services other organizations offered veterans. Thus, they raised awareness that the family rendered service to our nation as well.

These days, Veterans Day programs are celebrated at college campuses, high schools, charter schools, and even commercial establishments. There are concerts, plays, and art displays honoring living veterans. My experience also changed. First, I noticed the extra work and extra mental damage that come with service. But then, I started recognizing veterans in a crowd, mostly by their courtesy, decisiveness, bravery, and other things that show through. Thus, I realized that my military time was not just a service to my country, but also to myself. I am a better person today due to my experience as a member of the military-service family.

The veterans I know are people one can count on when the chips are down. They treat me with dignity, even in disagreement. They mean what they say and do

what they say.

It makes me wonder whether the military draft should return. Military service changes people for the better. Not that I'm advocating bringing back the draft, but I appreciate each and every veteran I've ever met. Bottom line: It is nice to see that civilians are also recognizing the good in veterans.

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Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Gordon Moore

The 2018 midterm elections should be over by the time this newsletter comes out. With the elections behind us, we now shift our focus to things that matter more . . . Thanksgiving and Christmas. And we have so much to be thankful for as men and women of faith.

A God who has redeemed us through the finished work of His Son is the best starting place. To understand that, wherever our nation and the world is headed, we have a secure future, for we worship the God who created the universe and set plans in motion to ensure His outcomes will be accomplished.

God speaks to us through the Psalms:

Unto You I lift up my eyes, O You, who dwell in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, As the eyes of a maid, to the hand of her mistress, So our eyes look to the Lord our God, Until He has mercy on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us! For we are exceedingly filled with contempt. Our soul is exceedingly filled. With the scorn

of those who are at ease, With the contempt of the proud.

(Psalm 123 New King James Version)

Another inspirational passage comes from **Psalm 91: Safety of Abiding in the Presence of God**

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; his truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall

call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation."

(Psalm 91:1-16)

Praise Him who is enthroned on high for His dwelling is secure throughout the ages.

Amen,
Gordon

Honoring November Anniversaries on the Wall

Private First Class Daniel John Illi

was born on December 6, 1945 to Mr. and Mrs. Erwin G. Illi at St. Joseph's hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Daniel graduated from Ann Arbor High School in



1964 where he played football and was a member of the Troubleshooting Mechanics Team. Before entering

the Army on November 3, 1965, Daniel was a rental manager for Liberty Land Company affiliated with Butcher and Willits Building Company of Ann Arbor. He married Shirley (Smith-Lowery) on February 5, 1966. Daniel Illi completed his basic training at Fort Carson, Colorado and was stationed there until transferred to Vietnam on August 2, 1966. Daniel served with B Company, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division operating out of An Khe, Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam.

Daniel was killed by small arms fire on November 1, 1966.

Daniel John Illi is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife Shirley, parents, two brothers and a sister. He lived 20 years, 10 months and 25 days. Daniel is resting in Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Ann Arbor. He is also listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 12E Line 002.

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Sergeant Rickie D. Sparks was born on July 26, 1947 in Beecher City, Illinois to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sparks from Manchester, Michigan. Rickie is a 1965



graduate of Clinton High School in Clinton, Michigan where he played varsity basketball and football.

He entered the Army on September 1, 1965 and completed his Basic Training at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He completed his advanced training at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Sergeant Sparks began his tour of duty in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam on February 20, 1967 serving as an Armor Reconnaissance Specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Rickie was killed on November 18, 1967 as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds. Rickie D.

Sparks is survived by his parents, a wife, and three brothers. He is resting in the Riverside Cemetery in Clinton, Michigan. Rickie's name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial in Ypsilanti Township under Manchester. His name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 30E Line 019.

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Private First Class Robert Allen Albertson was born on January 1, 1947 in Ypsilanti, Michigan to Mr. and Mrs. Vern Albertson. Robert graduated from Ypsilanti High School in 1966. He worked at the Ypsilanti Plant of the Ford Motor Company prior to entering service in the Army on May 3, 1966.

Private First Class Robert Allen Albertson started his tour of duty in South Vietnam on October 11, 1967 serving as an infantryman with A Company, First Battalion, 8th Cavalry, First Cavalry Division. Robert died as a result of small arms fire on November 4, 1967 after being In-Country for only 23 days.

Robert Albertson is survived by his wife, parents and two brothers. Robert lived 20 years, 10 months and 3 days. He is resting in Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti, Michigan. His name is listed on the Vietnam Memorial located in Ypsilanti Township



under Ypsilanti. Robert's name also appears on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC on Panel 29E Line 018.

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Third Class Robert Edward Kushmaul, Jr. was born on August 9, 1948 in Adrian, Michigan to Mr. Robert E. and Mrs. Maxine De Verna Kushmaul. Robert is a 1966 graduate of Chelsea High School where he was the President of his Class, a Charter



Member of the Key Club, a member of the Student Council, and President of FFA. Engineman Third Class Kushmaul entered the Navy on February 2, 1967. He began his tour of duty in Kien Giang Province, South Vietnam on February 15, 1969 serving with Patrol Boat River 8131, Task Force 116, United States Naval Forces Vietnam. He was killed while on a river boat patrolling on the Song Hkau Giang River South of Siagon on November 16, 1969 from a rocket explosion.

Robert Edward Kushmaul, Jr. is survived by his parents, a brother and a sister. He lived 21 years, 3 months and 7 days. He is resting in Oak Grove Cemetery in Chelsea, Michigan. Robert'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 16W Line 084.

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Private First Class Donald Barrett Roddy was born on March 7, 1943 to Mr. William Roddy of Gloversville, New York and Mrs. Mary B. Woolfenden of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Donald is a 1962 graduate of Ann Arbor High School after attending Shaker High School in Latham, New York for his freshman and sophomore years. He also attended Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan where he was a member of the Chi Sigma Nu social fraternity. Donald entered the Army on January 13, 1965.

Private First Class Roddy began his tour of duty in South Vietnam on August 18, 1965 serving as an infantryman with B Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Donald was killed on November 15, 1965



as a result of enemy small arms fire during the Battle for the Ia Drang Valley. According to an Ann Arbor Newspaper article

written by Gary Lillie, "Taking part in the first battle of LZ X-Ray, was Pfc. Donald B. Roddy, a 1962 graduate of Ann Arbor High School. As a member of the 'Lost Patrol' of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, he lost his life along with the rest of his machine gun crew as they

fought to cover the withdrawal of their fellow troopers to safer ground. The account can be found on Page 87 (*We Were Soldiers Once...and Young* by Joseph L. Galloway and Lt. Gen. Harold G. Moore). Donald was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal.



Donald Barrett Roddy is survived by his parents, his step-father, and a brother. He lived 22 years, 8 months and 8 days. Donald'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 03E Line 061.

MINUTES
Vietnam Veterans
of America Charles S.
Kettles Chapter 310
General Membership
Meeting - 11 October
2018

By Berryman L. Bourne,
 Acting Secretary

Call to Order by President Jon Luker at 1900 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance and 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!

Guests: Bonita Cowan-Tucker was in attendance. She has filed her application for membership. Special Presentation: Officers from the Sarah Caswell Angell Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution were present to thank and honor Vietnam Veterans in conjunction with the 50 Year Vietnam War Commemoration. In keeping with the DAR principles of service to God, Home, and Country, they presented each VVA member with an official Vietnam Veteran lapel pin as a lasting memento on behalf of a grateful nation. They mentioned they will attend future meetings to present pins to those not in attendance that evening. In closing they stated that on behalf of the daughters of the DAR, welcome home with our nation's deepest respect and gratitude. God bless you all. We shall never forget.

President's Report: Jon Luker stated that he is passing around a sympathy card for the Pete Belaire family. The new VVA Chapter 310 patch includes Charles S. Kettles' name, and he explained how to add Charles S. Kettles to the old patch. A **motion** was made by Marvin Rivers to accept the minutes from the 13 September 2018 meeting as printed in the Dispatch. Seconded by Dave Draper. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Berry reviewed the salient points in the Financial Report. He stated the big event in September was the Pig Roast which made over \$12K vs. a \$7.5K budget. A big thank you to Don Miller and Al Dyer.

Merchandise sales continued strong for the year at the AA VA plus the Clinton Festival in September. The Chapter has \$77K in cash and certificates of deposits with a \$64K unrestricted fund balance.e

AVVA Report: Membership roster lists 36 members. Kathy Driscoll expressed the need to raise funds for operating and special projects with \$611 current available balance. She stated their goal for Fisher House Michigan is \$10k. They have currently contributed over \$8K. **Motion** made by A. Dyer to send four delegates to Girls State at a total cost of \$1,200. Seconded by C. Sosa. Please see the attached full report on AVVA activities.

Food Pantry: No report

Merchandise Report: Larry St. Antoine stated that \$3,500 total September sales resulted from Pig Roast and Clinton Festival events with \$1,836 gross margin, or 52.5%. Gross margin YTD has been under 50%.

Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Report: Jon Luker stated that the Council recommends that veterans do not use the new appeals system (RAMP). The system is still evolving, so that advice may change in the future. Michigan State Council Report: National meeting is in Spokane next year. We are eligible to send five delegates. Chapters across the nation are expected to be voting on National's long-term strategic plan proposals I and II. Memorial Maintenance Report: Jon Luker stated that the contractor incurred over \$9k of charges and contributed

\$5k in kind towards the capital improvement project. Jon also stated that Tim Clarke, working with Al Merritt, purchased a lawn sweeper and new blades

Website Report: No report

Membership Report: Jon Luker stated that we have 213 members.

Newsletter: No report

VAAHS Report: Jon Luker reminded all of the two parties scheduled at the VA. Halloween party on Saturday, Oct. 27, and the Christmas party on Tuesday, December 18th. Meet in the lobby at 1730 hours for both events.

Old Business: Jon Luker stated that the Secretary position on the Board of Directors is open. He requested a volunteer or nominations to fill this position. None were submitted. Ken Rogge and Marty Cothorn volunteered to fill two open Board of Directors positions for the remain of the term.

New Business: Motion to respond to introduction of SB1042, a bill eliminating the property tax exemption for 100% disabled veterans and replacing it with an income tax credit that only a few will be able to use died for lack of a second.

Good of the Chapter: James Talbot will be 75 years old this Saturday; Smile Goods – Share a Smile in Saline is offering veterans dental services at a reduced rate or no costs; Meni Draper thanked all for thoughts and prayers regarding her brother in law; Doug Brinker, current VFW Commander is in the hospital recovering from a burst appendix; and a Salute to Veterans Nov. 1 in Lansing

where Women's veterans will be honored.

Next Chapter Breakfast (11/9/18): Bomber Restaurant, 306 East Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti MI, at 0900 hours.

Closing: Prayer given by Tim Driscoll. President Luker led the group in a salute to the flag to close the meeting at 2015 hours.

Memorial Work

By Al "Fredo" Merritt and Jon Luker

We had a work half-day scheduled for Saturday afternoon, October 28th, at 1300. This was to be our annual fall cleanup. Members came with tree-trimming tools to cut suckers off the back line of trees, trim back deadfall from behind the memorial grounds and clip some low-hanging branches. We also cleaned up the weeds and pinecones in the wood chips, raked the leaves and whatever else needed to be done. .

Thank you to all of you who came. Your help most appreciated.

Community News

Brent Richards, Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, has been nominated by Nathaniel L. Powell for the Graf O'Hara VFW Post 423 Teacher of the Year Award for 2018–2019.

No teacher is more deserving to be recognized as the VFW outstanding teacher of the year than Brent Richards. Brent joined the faculty at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 2002, and is a member of the Social Science department. He has taught a variety of courses

including American and current history, world history and philosophy. He is an outstanding teacher, the best of the best, and is one of the finest and most extraordinary teachers that I have had the pleasure to work with in my 25 years of teaching. Brent goes above and beyond teaching the curriculum to his students. He is not the type of teacher who stands in front of his class and lectures them. Brent engages his students, giving them the opportunity to experience life-long lessons by bringing history to life, and making the subject matter relevant to their daily lives.

Brent taught a unit on the Vietnam War. He approached this subject with candor and objectivity. As one of the most significant events in American history, he had his students examine what really happened from a variety of points of view. He gave his students the opportunity to explore what went wrong and what went right. He used primary and secondary resources including popular films and documentaries for his students to study and draw information. Brent invited Vietnam veterans to his classroom where they sat on a panel and shared their experiences and points of view on the Vietnam War with his students. As a result of one-on-one interviews of the veterans, his students are writing a book of memoirs that is currently being published about what they have learned on this topic.

Brent does not shy away from controversial and emotionally-charged topics, but uses these

issues to teach important life-long lessons about patriotism and American democracy. Brent teaches all of his classes with the same zeal and tenacity as the example above. Each lesson promotes American traditions, ideals and patriotism while helping our students develop into outstanding civic minded and proud American citizens.

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Jack McClary's 100th Birthday Party

Jack McClary will turn 100 on November 7th. Graf-Ohara Post 423 is hosting a party for Jack on Sunday, **November 18th** from 2-4 pm. Spaghetti dinner will be served by the Post Auxiliary. Please RSVP soonest to Vance McCrumb at dogman2@reagan.com.

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MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER

By George Perrault

When Larry's Mower service went out of business on Jackson Rd., they donated a golf bag for a fundraiser for the Memorial. To see the bag, search online: Burton USA Staff Bag. For those viewing this online, click

the following link: <http://bit.ly/2Om40be>.

Hover over it to get all the features. It is brand-new, NEVER

used. What a great idea for the special golfer, for the upcoming holidays or for birthday, etc. If desired, your purchase will include free storage until that special occasion arrives. First



come, first serve; cash or check only. All proceeds will go to the Washtenaw County Vietnam Veterans Memorial maintenance



fund. The price is firm, with a great value of \$150.00 (the original price was \$279.99).

C o n t a c t

George Perrault for any further details: geolois@umich.edu; 734 429 1246.

Disabled Vets can fly military hops. More information, click on this link: <http://bit.ly/2yMIE1M>.

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"Eat and Donate": Fisher House Michigan

Holiday's Restaurant, located at 2080 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI, will be donating 10% of the day's sales to the Fisher House Michigan through the AVVA Chapter 310. *Holiday's* has been a supporter of military events for many years. Pass this around to



all your family and friends. Dine more than once! Visit them at <http://holidaysrestaurant.com/> A new Fisher House will be built next to the Ann Arbor VA Medical Hospital scheduled to break

ground in 2019.

What's a Fisher House? A Fisher House is a "home away



from home," where military and Veterans' families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment, similar to the Ronald McDonald House. Visit the website at www.fisherhousemichigan.org.

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Life Membership \$50

If you are not yet a VVA life member, there is good news: The cost for a life membership has been lowered to \$50. Please contact Membership Director Vance McCrumb, email: dogman2@reagan.com. Welcome home!

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VVA310 Data
By Vance McCrumb

I am now able to gather some interesting data from our website. I've added some Google Analytics data so I can see from what state, city, and country

visited our site. Even the time can be tracked, if needed.

The data details listed below are from September 1st through October 29th, by Country. I can't look back beyond September because that is when the software was installed.

United States: 127 hits and 108 of them are new visitors;

China: 5 hits and all were new visitors;

S. Korea: 4 hits and all were new visitors;

India: 2 hits and all were new visitors;

Philippines: 2 hits and all were new visitors.

Below are countries with one hit and each were new visitors.

Argentina, Australia, Germany, Spain, UK, Ghana, Hungary, Kenya & New Zealand.

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VVA Halloween Event At The VA

By John Kinzinger

It was Saturday evening on October 27, 2018. We assembled in the VA lobby. We were about 18 of us strong, all in costumes. We again had several witches from the Michigan Military Moms Club, our local AVVA, and 310 members. We had many different costumes from a wolfman to a butterfly. Shirley and Steve Hitte can usually be counted on for great costumes. I am the same each year, a clown with army helmet, horn, big red nose, and a lousy color-coordinated outfit. We had many laughs just among ourselves, then with the patients too.

I cannot remember what year we began doing these Halloween

events. I am guessing it was about 1995. Back then, we could pass out donuts and cider to the



patients. Due to food restrictions, they do not allow us to do that now. What is great is that we have some members who have hardly missed one of them. You know who you are. Thank you for being so faithful.

Chapter 310 member Ron Henley, again this year, did his marvelous carving work on two large pumpkins. Great job Ron! If you have never seen his work on a pumpkin, you have missed something special. Thank you.

Ron puts a light in each of them and two of us push them around into the patient rooms in wheel chairs. Chapter member Al Dyer



and his daughter donated the pumpkins. Thank you for them for sure. They were great.

We brought great smiles to the patients, and that is what it is all

about. I would never be caught going around in public dressed like I am there. Only for brother and sister military comrades. It is just very rewarding. I thank all of you who participated with us this year and hope more of you decide to come out next year.

Afterwards each year we go over to the Sidetrack Bar and Grill for great food and more laughs with each other in conversation. Another year before we get to act like that again? Darn!

2018 VA Christmas by VVA 310

By John Kinzinger

Chapter 310 will be sponsoring our 32nd Christmas program at



the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center. Chapter 528 members joined us about 15 years ago. We have had other group members join us, like Rolling Thunder, Michigan Military Moms, DAR, and AVVA members. Our numbers reached 75.

Two years ago, because of how large our group had gotten, the VA told us we had to reduce our number because of the impact our large group was having in the hospital aisles. So, we had split the group and make two evening visits.

If you have not done these



room visits with our group, and are able to get around, you should join us. You will see their smiles and understand why we do this. We provide funds for the expenses of these two Christmas time evenings, plus: a large purchase of underwear (which is an item usually on the monthly Voluntary Services needs list for the patients), monthly coffee donations, items for other special events, and help for Iraq and Afghanistan combat warriors with PTSD (contributing to the motto of VVA). How do we raise the funds? Our VA Medical Center (VAMC) committee has a list of loyal donors who receive a request letter the first part of November. *(You can be added to our list by sending a note to our Chapter address, VVA 310, PO Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106).* Our loyal supporters send their donation in the provided return envelope. We keep those funds in a dedicated account. We wisely spend that money. In fact, we can proudly

proclaim that 100% of their gift, held in a Chapter dedicated account, goes to help Veterans receiving medical care at the Ann Arbor VA. Our supporters receive an acknowledgement letter, a photo page of images taken during the patient room visits, and a financial report explaining where the funds are spent. And we promise their information will not be sold, or used for any other purpose. Next is our our 2018 VVA VAMC Program. If you have a Santa hat, please wear that. Tuesday, -- **December 18th** - Plymouth Canton Chapter 528 members and others will be making room visits. They will be joined by Stacey Mason, former Miss Michigan and great entertainer (vocal and violin). She will be accompanied by Miss Washtenaw County, signing her photos for the patients. Meet in the lobby at 5:30 p.m. and move out to rooms at 6 p.m.

Friday, December 21st - VVA Chapter 310 members, Military Moms Club, DAR, AVVA members, and others will be there. They will be joined by the Saline Fiddlers and by 2018-2019 Miss Michigan. Also, they will be passing out especially embroidered shirts to each patient. VAMC member Sandra Martinez will have special candy trays for every nursing station. Meet in the lobby at 5:30 p.m. and move out to rooms at 6 p.m. All remaining shirts will be given to the Oncology office to be given to cancer patients.

AVVA Newsletter
November 2018
 By Kathy Driscoll

If you are on Facebook, you can join the AVVA Michigan closed group. Just send a Join Group request and the admin will accept you as a member of the AVVA Michigan closed group. This is how our AVVA Michigan State Association communicates between the bi-monthly meetings. AVVA 310 raised an additional \$1,000.00 for Fisher House Michigan. This donation will be "In Memory of Pete Belaire." AVVA received \$650 from VVA and AVVA members "In Memory of Pete Belaire." We will be presenting our donation to Fisher House Michigan the week of November 11th. If you want to make a donation in Pete's Memory, please bring you donation to our November 8th meeting. If paying by check, please make your check payable to VVA 310 with AVVA FHM on the

Memo Line. AVVA 310 forwarded another \$150 from 6 members in Pete's Memory directly to Fisher House Michigan. You can mail your donation to me.

Kathy Driscoll
AVVA 310 Chapter Rep
172 Oakwood
Saline, MI 48176

AVVA Members were busy volunteering and supporting AVVA and VVA projects in October.

Members supported VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

Members supported VVA Merchandising Sales at the Applelumpkin Festival

Members volunteered or shopped at AVVA 310 1st Vendor Fair. We raised \$400 at the vendor fair.

Kathy attended Washtenaw County Council of Veterans Meeting

Members cleaned up the flower beds at the Washtenaw County Vietnam Memorial

Next VVA 310 VA Merchandising sales is Tuesday, November 13th, VVA 310 needs our help! Please consider volunteering one or two hours assisting VVA 310 merchandise team at the Ann Arbor VA!

Keep up to date with our chapter: All AVVA and VVA 310 events are posted on our chapter's webpage, www.vva310.org in the VVA News Flash section on the right column on the homepage.

AVVA 310 Fundraising Report
We raised \$1,000 for Fisher House Michigan "In Memory of Pete Belaire.". This brings AVVA 310 total donation to Fisher House Michigan to \$9,000.00.

AVVA 310 Chapter Special Projects & Operating Funds

Everyone should have received an email for our No Bake / Bakeless Sale to benefit AVVA 310 Operating and Special Projects Funds. We raised \$100 to date.

Lois Perrault Memorial Fund – 2019 Girls' State Update!

This year we will be sponsoring three delegates to Girl State. We fund this project from our Lois Perrault Memorial Fund. AVVA 310 received \$1,000 in October for the Lois Perrault Memorial Fund. Thank you, Anonymous donors! If you would like to donate to our Lois Perrault Memorial fund, please write your check payable to VVA 310 with AVVA LPM on memo line.

The American Legion Auxiliary Post 322, Saline, MI thanks us for our support in sponsoring three delegates to the 2019 Girl State.

AVVA Michigan State Association News

Next meeting is Sunday, December 2nd in Port Huron, MI. VVA / AVVA Chapter 1083 is hosting this meeting.

AVVA Michigan will have their 2nd annual Gift Card Envelope Pull at our Christmas. AVVA 310 members donated 2 Gift Cards. If you would like to donate a gift card between \$10 - \$25, please bring it to our November 8th meeting.

AVVA Michigan Fundraising Report

AVVA Michigan Association Challenge Coins \$10 are sold out! Thank you, AVVA and VVA 310 for supporting this fundraiser!

AVVA Michigan Association has

two fundraisers to benefit AVVA Michigan Association.

2nd Annual Gift Card Envelope Draw. AVVA Michigan is requesting donations of Gift Cards between \$10 - \$25 for our 2nd Annual Mystery Gift Card Raffle at the December 2nd Christmas meeting. AVVA Michigan State Association is requesting members donate a gift card for the Envelope Draw fundraiser raffle at the VVA Council / AVVA State Association December 2nd, 2018 delegate meeting. We are planning to place each donated gift card in an envelope and ask for donations of \$10 for each envelope. Suggested gift cards: Tim Horton's, Starbucks, Meijers, Restaurants, Fuel Cards, etc. Please bring your donated Gift Card to our AVVA 310 November meeting. AVVA 310 has donated two gift cards.

No Bake / Bake-less Sale Fundraiser for AVVA Michigan Association is Raising funds for the AVVA Michigan Association Operating Funds. Suggested Donation: \$1 from each of all AVVA Michigan Association Members. AVVA 310 members donated \$36 to the AVVA Michigan Association No Bake / Bakeless Sale. Thank you to all of our members, who donated.

AVVA Michigan Association Webpage.

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

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

Upcoming Events!

5 November Fisher House Stories of Service, Hill Auditorium, University of Michigan

13 November VVA 310 Merchandise Sales at Ann Arbor VA

Next meeting is Thursday, November 8th.

Kathy Driscoll

Chapter Representative, AVVA Chapter 310

AVVA Michigan State Association Vice President

dkathyr16@gmail.com

734-355-4897

Current Events

By Ann Dempsey-Pereira

04 Nov: VVA 310 Packing Party, VFW Post 423, 1430 hours.

05 Nov: Stories of Service, Fisher House Fundraiser, Hill Auditorium, 19:00 hrs

09 Nov: VVA 310 Chapter Breakfast, Bomber Restaurant, Ypsilanti

10 Nov: U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (1775)

11 Nov: Veterans Day (1918)

13 Nov: Merchandise sale, VA Hospital, Ann Arbor

13 Nov: Veteran Hiring Event, WCC- Morris Lawrence Bldg, 10:00- 12:00

07 Dec: Pearl Harbor Day (1941)

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

13 Dec: AVVA Meeting, VVA 310 Board Meeting, 18:00, VFW Post 423

13 Dec: VVA 310 General Membership Meeting,

19:00, VFW Post 423

18 Dec: VVA 528 Christmas Patient Room Visits, VA Medical Center.

21 Dec: VVA 310 Christmas Patient Room Visit, VA Medical Center. Arrive by 1730 hours.

NEED TO KNOW: Visit Veterans Radio online (veteransradio.net - click here) and make a contribution to help keep this vital program on the air.

Chapter/Dispatch Patrons

Please check your dates to see if you are current

*NAME LISTED ON THE WASHTENAW COUNTY VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

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

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

George F Boone ~ October 2021

Berryman Bourne ~ August 2020

Cynthia Calhoun ~ April 2019

William Christophersen ~ October 2019

Edward Fuller ~ March 2020

Gary Couture ~ July 2019

Joseph Flint ~ January 2021

James Graham ~ February 2019

Phil and Gena Hecker ~ Feb 2021

Dorothy & Donald Kepler ~ June 2020

Dick Knight ~ May 2018

Jane and John Kinzinger ~ October 2019

Kate Kirkpatrick ~ January 2020

Sandy Martinez ~ September 2021

Dell Mayes ~ May 2019

Al (Fredo) Merritt ~ May 2018

Ron Oliver ~ February 2019

Paulo-Juarez Pereira ~ January 2020

George Perrault ~ October 2022

Mira & Bob Pierson ~ October 2021

Ken Rogge ~ May 2019

Glenn Sakcriska ~ November 2026

Ron and Marina Silverberg ~ March 2019

Tom & Sandi Sorensen ~ October 2017

Chris Wetzler ~ April 2019

Elizabeth Wong ~ November 2019

Bob Kurtz ~ December 2019

Larry St. Antoine ~ March 2020

Linda Lamey-Leonard In memory of **Lavern Lamey*** ~ July 2021

Patricia Beechem in memory of her brother, **David S. Palmer** ~ October 2018

Helena Prince in memory of deceased member **Tom Prince**, ~ April 2023

Corrine Gignac in Memory of Vietnam Vet Marine **Gary L West** ~ December 2018

Bonnie Woods in memory of her VN vet husband **Gary Woods**, ~ December 2018.

Thank you!

If You Wish to Contact Us

Website: <http://vva310.org/>

General Information: (734) 994-0444

President: Jon Luker

Vice President: Al (Fredo) Merritt

Secretary: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

Treasurer: Berry Bourne

Membership: Vance McCrumb

Dispatch Editor: Paulo-Juarez Pereira

Chapter Mailing Address:

VVA 310, PO Box 3221, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3221

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday of the Month, 1900 hours.

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