

VETERANS OF VIETNAM WAR

PO Box 2113
Middletown, CT 06457-2113
"People Who Care"

Middletown, Connecticut

September 2004 Volume XXXV

www.vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. @ the Legion Hall

Welcome back—Hope that you had a nice summer!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
September MEETING

This Months Meeting is on Tuesday, Sep 6, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. at the American Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive).
Welcome Back PIZZA and 1/2 price BEER Night!
Members and potential members welcome.

DONE!

8th Annual (2004) Golf Tournament 06/03/2004
GREAT SUCCESS! Good job everyone!

July 2004'S
SPECIAL
MEETING:

For the Good of the Chapter:

The Veterans of the Vietnam War, Middletown Inc. collected various items to make up care packages for soldiers overseas.
We asked you to GIVE US A NAME
We asked you to BRING US SOME GOODS

We said: **EVERYONE CAN HELP!** Member Leon Brown coordinated the entire effort along with Jack's help and 75 pounds of CARE went out to some soldiers fighting in "Operation Iraqi Freedom" Packages were sent to SSG Keith B Clark Brian F Barkman, Christopher Shary and Spc. Matthew Bartolotta. Our instructions to them was to "Share with your buddies" "No matter what our opinion on the war, one thing is certain, no American soldier should ever feel forgotten."
Susan Saidel

A "SPECIAL " thank you and a job well done to Leon Brown and Jack Mayoros. Veterans helping Veterans(Soldiers)

NEEDED SOON:
For the Good of the Chapter:

2005 marks the 20th anniversary of the chapter. Party anyone? Come to a meeting and share your ideas.

The Veterans of the Vietnam War, Middletown Inc. have a new WEBSITE:

www.vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org Please take a few minutes of your time to "ADD IT TO YOUR FAVORITES", become familiar with its content and related links. We want your E-mail: The chapter would like all members who have a computer and consequently an email address to forward their address to the committee through the WEBMASTER@vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org

WE NEED MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES

So far, we have only 22 Email addresses out of 112 members.

Are we in the computer age or what!!!!!!

Scholarship 2004

Scholarship winners are Kate Castelli, daughter of member Dan Castelli and Alyssa Brown grand daughter Of member, Leon Brown. Goodwin Tech Amy Olchanowski was awarded a \$750.00 scholarship June 3rd at an awards ceremony. Amy will attend the New England Culinary Institute in Cromwell in the fall.

To do:

Dues Reminder

Dues are payable at the beginning of the year. \$12.00

per year or \$100.00 for life membership.

We are always looking for NEW MEMBERS

If you know anyone who would like to join the chapter let me know and the Commander will forward an application. Membership is open to any Vietnam-era vet. \$15.00 initially, includes first year's dues and then just \$12.00 per year.

POW-MIA DAY 2004

POW/MIA is always the 3rd Friday in September EXCEPT

that DoD changed it to Tues, September 14, this year due to a conflict with the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. **POW/MIA Day is Tuesday, September 14, 2004**

STANDDOWN 2004

Just found out Thursday from Mo Collins that there is going to be a mini stand-down on Friday, October 1st from 8:00-4:00 at the VFW in New Britain. I will be bringing it up at our Sept meeting. Volunteers are needed for the night before, directing parking on Friday and clean-up after.

I will be collecting names at the meeting if you can help.

October 2004 meeting will be on Tuesday 10/05/2004.

Regular business meeting. 7:00 p.m.

Members and potential members welcome!

NOTE: Sorry for the late Newsletter. Bad (Busy) days at work. Come to a meeting!!!!

Thought:

Operation USO Care Package

With thousands of U.S. troops deployed around the world, still actively engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom and the fight against terrorism, the United Service Organizations (USO) is offering a unique way for individuals and corporations to let our nation's defenders know we haven't forgotten them. "Operation USO Care Package," enables individuals to write a personal message and financially support care packages that will be delivered to service members participating in Operation Enduring Freedom.

<http://www.usocares.org/home.htm>

Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation - Operation Uplink

Operation Uplink is a unique program that keeps military personnel and hospitalized veterans in touch with their families and loved ones by providing them with a free phone card. Using contributions from supporters like you, *Operation Uplink* purchases phone cards and distributes them to servicemen and women who are separated from those they care about.

<http://www.operationuplink.org/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation - Other Programs

As part of the VFW's "Support the Troops" campaign the veteran organization's Military Assistance Program is partnering with the uniformed

services' Family Support representatives to provide patriotic "Thank You" packages to the families of deployed service members. You also can send a message to our troops, adopt a unit, download a printable flag poster or purchase a flag for your home.

<http://www.vfw.org/>

Gift of Groceries Program

Donations to buy grocery gift certificates for families of Guard and Reserve troops.

<http://commissaries.com/certifcheck/index.htm>

Send E-Mail Greetings

Send e-mail greeting through <http://anysevicemember.navy.mil>

Help for Families

Offer your time and resources as an individual, organization, or business to give families of deployed troops help with activities such as household repairs, spring cleanings, and yard work or specialized skills such as financial planning or legal advice. Volunteer by contacting a local chapter of any of the following organizations: [American Legion](#), [American Red Cross](#), [Boys & Girls Clubs of America](#), [BPO Elks of the USA](#), [Camp Fire USA](#), [National 4-H Headquarters](#), [National Fraternal Congress of America](#), [The Salvation Army](#), [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#), [Veterans of Foreign Wars](#), and [YMCA of the USA](#).

Volunteer with one of the youth serving organizations helping to tutor or take care of children while a parent or caregiver is stationed away from home. Some of these organizations include the [Boys and Girls Clubs of America](#), [Camp Fire USA](#), [National 4-H Headquarters](#), and [YMCA of the USA](#).

If you want to donate money, there are many organizations that help military families. Each of the branches of the armed services has a military relief society that offer low interest loans and other emergency financial assistance to military families:

[Army Emergency Relief](#), [Navy/Marine Relief Society](#), [Air Force Aid Society](#) and [Coast Guard Mutual Assistance](#).

Help for Educators

Teachers can find new resources on the [**U.S. Department of Education web site**](#) meant to help them work with students with a parent or other relative deployed in the military. The web site also offers information on effectively working with students generally who may have questions or ideas about war.

Help for Others

Think about sharing your time and compassion with a veteran at a [**Department of Veterans Affairs**](#) hospital or other facility.

Search for a way to help in your community through the [**USA Freedom Corps Volunteer Network**](#).

NEXT years Golf Tournament is: **Thursday, June 2, 2005**. SAVE THIS DATE!

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MAIL TO:
