



**Veterans of the Vietnam War**  
P.O. Box 2113, Middletown, Connecticut 06457-2113



**"PEOPLE WHO CARE"**

Volume 20, Issue 6

NEWSLETTER

June 2006

## MEMORIAL DAY



On this day we honor the memory of those who have died while in the military service of the United States of America. It is also fitting that we remember all those who have died for the cause of freedom, whatever country they are from; for we are indeed all one family and we share each other's common destiny on this planet that God created for us all. Our thoughts turn to those who died defending the cause of truth and virtue.

Memorial Day is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. To many people, especially the nation's thousands of combat veterans, this day, which has a history stretching back all the way to the Civil War, is an important reminder of those who died in the service of their country.

Over the past century, more than 35 million men and women answered the call to arms in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and countless unnamed military engagements. More than half a million of them never came home. Some died in battle, others in captivity; all died too soon.

It is a chance to pause and remember the sacrifices -- remember the gallantry and bravery -- remember the fallen.

# YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

### MEMORIAL DAY

Parade is Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am.  
The staging area for Members to gather for the Parade will be on Rome Ave. around 10:00 a.m. after the wreath ceremony.

Vietnam Vets and friends meet on the Vet's green, Washington St. at 9 am for a brief ceremony and wreath presentation at the Vietnam monument.

### **CONNECTICUT VETERANS CEMETERY, BOW LANE, MIDDLETOWN**

The Vietnam Veterans will be placing flags on

the headstones at the Veteran's Cemetery for Memorial Day.

**Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Please plan on helping.**

Last year it was around six by the time we finished. We are looking for help from anyone who would like to come out

### **FLAG Removal**

**Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.  
Please plan on helping.**

---

Lance Corporal Thomas W. Fritsch



### GOLF TOURNAMENT

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, June 8, 2006

The **Thomas Fritsch** Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 2006 at the Portland Golf Course. We're looking for a good turnout again this year. We are looking for **TEE** Sponsors, Volunteers, prizes, raffle items; (Bottles of Cheer, Gift Certificates, Dinner for 2, etc.)

**Tee sponsors, prizes and donations are everyone's responsibility.**

### **This IS a group effort!!**

Volunteers are needed for the "Hole in One" holes and manning the prizes/raffle items.

TEE Sponsors needed for the Golf Tournament. Cost is \$100.00 each.

Members should contact those businesses that they deal with on a daily basis for Raffle items. Car Washes, Oil Changes, Haircuts, Liquor Stores, Lawn Care, etc.

If you want to volunteer to help out at the Tournament, please contact Joe Labbadia at 860-344-3242. Please leave your name, phone number, and a message if he is not there.

Players can sign in between 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Shotgun start at 10:00 a.m. sharp !!



## TAKING ORDERS



Jack and Frank at last years picnic

I am now taking orders for your own, personal, one of a kind Horseshoe set. These specially designed horseshoes will be the talk of your neighbors and friends. Easy to use and can be ordered in a multitude of Designer Colors. For only \$19.95 plus tax, shipping, and handling, you will be able to enjoy fun all summer long. **SPECIAL OFFER:** For the first 25 people who order, you will receive not one, but two sets for the same low price of \$19.95, plus your name will be engraved on each one. **DON'T LET THIS PASS YOU BY !!!** To order, contact Frank Martini @ P.O. Box 2113, Middletown or **come to the next meeting.**

---

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR MARCH MEETING**

This month's meeting is on Tuesday, June 6, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at the American Legion Hall in Middletown (Bernie O'Rourke Drive).

This is the regular Monthly Meeting.

### **PIZZA NIGHT !!!!**

That's right, PIZZA NIGHT, and because we have received just about everyone's dues, we are going to be able to have toppings on them this time.

Coke and Diet Coke plus ½ price beer will be available.

### **LUKE, did you notice this last part about the soda and beer??**

Come and join us at the Meeting to renew old friendships and enjoy the food.

Members and guests are always welcome.

### **Members Ill or Distressed**

**Jack Mayoros** had back surgery on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Volume 20, Issue 6

Page 4

**Paul Fazzino** is at home.

A quick and speedy recovery is wished by all.

NEWSLETTER

Our deepest sympathy and condolences are sent to **Rich Couture** and Family on the passing of his Sister-in-law Betsy DeFelice.

June 2006

## **NEWS OF INTEREST**

### **State Income Tax Exemption for Military Retirement Pay**

Starting with the 2008 tax year, 50% of federally taxable military retirement pay will be exempt from our state income tax. The exemption is available for retired members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Army and Air National Guard.

### **Service Ribbons and Medals**

The Veterans' Affairs Commissioner, in conjunction with the Adjutant General, is now required to award a ribbon and medal to wartime veterans who lived in Connecticut when they were called to active duty, or are domiciled here on the date of the award.

### **VA Reaches Medical Records Landmark**

WASHINGTON – The computerized patient record system of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), already a world leader among health care providers, has achieved a major milestone with the entry of its billionth “vital sign.”

“This latest achievement attests to the capability and reliability of VA’s electronic health records,” said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. “VA sets the standard for patient record systems, and the ultimate winners are the veterans we serve.”

Vital signs – data such as temperature, blood pressure, pulse, weight or pain levels are routinely recorded for all VA patients. The nationwide system, known as VistA, collects more than 80,000 vital signs per hour during busy times, and the 995 vital signs entered in one minute during the morning of April 19 pushed the total over 1 billion. VA began consistently storing that information electronically on August 13, 1990.

“No matter where or when a patient receives care within VA, complete records are available to health care providers throughout the system,” said Dr. Jonathan B. Perlin, VA’s Under Secretary for Health. “This ensures that the veterans we are privileged to serve receive the high-quality, comprehensive care they need when they need it.”

VistA was developed by VA’s health care professionals and information technology experts. It is available free-of-charge to health care professionals in the United States. VA operates the nation’s largest integrated health care system, treating 5.3 million veterans last year at more than 1,400 sites of care, including hospitals, clinics and nursing homes.

### **Support the Veterans at the State Veterans Home in Rocky Hill**

Ray Soucy of Council 4 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees was looking for money to refurbish the athletic field at the State Veterans' Home in Rocky Hill, CT and came up with the idea of approaching Orange County Choppers to build a custom motorcycle for a raffle to raise money.

The Teutul family agreed to build a veterans bike for Council 4's raffle. All money raised will go to benefit the veterans of Rocky Hill. There will only be 2000 tickets sold. The cost of a ticket is \$50.00. The drawing will be at 3pm on 27 May 2006 at the State Veterans Home in Rocky Hill, CT.

Volume 20, Issue 6  
Page 5

NEWSLETTER

June 2006

(News of Interest continued)

### **SUPPORT OUR TROUPS**

Items have started to come in to be sent to Charlie Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 25<sup>th</sup> Marines from Connecticut who was deployed to Iraq recently.

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Granger sent this updated list via email:

**AA batteries for our gear**

**Toys and candy for the kids**

**Little Debbie's**, breakfast bars, or granola type bars for our pockets

**Chips and Pringles**

**Cookies**

**Ramen Noodles**

**Beef jerky**

**Slim Jims**

**Stick ups / air fresheners** – Yea if you smelled us you would send a lot

**Baby Wipes / sanitizing wipes**

**Mouth wash**

**Our Chapter is collecting items needed by these men, to be shipped over to them, so their time spent away from home can be as comfortable as possible. They did a great service for us for Tommy's Funeral and it is a way that we can show them our thanks and support.**

Please bring items to be sent to them to our next meeting, June 6<sup>th</sup>, so we can get them boxed and shipped.

Remember what it was like when you received a package from home? It was those little things that made being away from family and friends just a little bit better during trying times. **PLEASE**, if you haven't been to a meeting for a long time,

Raffle tickets can be purchased by calling the council at 860-224-4000, the AFL-CIO at 860-571-6191 or the State Veterans Home at 860-721-5832.

(Continued next page)

come to the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and bring something, no matter how small, so we can show them that we SUPPORT them and give them the little things that they can use.

### **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

There are still some openings left for the golf tournament. If you would like to participate or if you and a friend or if you know of a foursome that would like to play in this year's tournament, there is still some room.

Please contact Jack Mayoros at 860-347-8843 or Joe Labbadia at 860-344-3242.

There is always more room for Tee Sponsors. We have a good showing of sponsors this year and would like to make it even better. There is still time for you to contact your business friends and places that you utilize to ask them to help us with our Scholarship Fund and get some great advertising for a great cause.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to The Vietnam Veterans Federation of Texas, Inc., "FROM HIS BROTHERS WITH DELTA 2/13, 1ST MARINE DIVISION". There will be an announcement about this at the Golf Tournament and in the next newsletter.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**



Congratulations go to Joe Labbadia for being promoted to the rank of Captain in the Middletown Police Department on Friday, May 19, 2006.

Volume 20, Issue 6  
Page 6

NEWSLETTER

June 2006

We now have a storage facility and would like to get all of our belongings in one location. If you have **Old Records, Flags, T Shirts, Sweat Shirts, Caps**, or anything belonging to the chapter, bring it to the next meeting or contact the Commander for pick up.

You can also use this e-mail address ([VWV-Middletown@hotmail.com](mailto:VWV-Middletown@hotmail.com)) to send in items that you want to see in the newsletter or even pictures of what you look like now if you have moved away.

---

The **June 6<sup>th</sup>** meeting will be the last meeting for the summer months. There will be no meetings during July or August. All items collected for the troops in Iraq **MUST** be brought to the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting for shipment.

**REMEMBER** that we will be having **PIZZA , BEER, and SODA** at our next meeting. **Come and enjoy the food and congratulate Joe on his promotion to Captain.**

**See you at the next meeting, June 6, 2006  
7:00 p.m.**

**VETERANS of the VIETNAM WAR, Middletown  
P.O. Box 2113  
Middletown, CT. 06457-2113  
[www.vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org](http://www.vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org)**

**MAIL TO:**

---

---

---