



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



"PEOPLE WHO CARE"

Volume 20, Issue 7

NEWSLETTER

September 2006

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Chapter is pleased to announce the names of the 2006 Middletown Veterans of the Vietnam War Scholarship Awards. This year's recipients are:

Kate Castelli, Daughter of Member Dan Castelli

Nicole Dube, Granddaughter of Member Ron DeLisle

The Chapter is also pleased to announce some great news about the Thomas W. Fritsch Scholarship. This year we received the following from The Vietnam Veterans Foundation of Texas, Inc.:

"FOR TOM May 10, 2006

FROM HIS BROTHERS WITH DELTA 2/13, 1ST MARINE DIVISION. PLEASE ADD THIS \$500.00 TO YOUR \$750.00 SCHOLARSHIP THIS YEAR AND GIVE \$1250.00 TO A CULINARY ARTS SENIOR.

**SEMPER FI,
TIM BROWN AND JOHN COOK"**

The \$500.00 was sent to us in honor of the FIRST YEAR of Tommy's remains being back on American Soil.

Bill Fritsch, Tommy's brother, flew in from Texas to attend the June 6th ceremonies with Patricia, Tommy's sister, and also for the Golf Tournament that was held on June 8th.

The recipient of the Thomas W. Fritsch Scholarship at E. C. Goodwin Technical School this year was Veronica Rodriguez.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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FOR RENT



From all of my years in the Navy, I have been able to build this wonderful **House Boat** that I am now able to rent to those who would like to experience a joy of a lifetime. Be the Captain of your own ship on the High Seas of Crystal Lake or Millers Pond. Provide tours of the Engine Room, Mess Hall, Sleeping Quarters, and also the Bridge to your friends and family. Available from mid-September through mid-November. Contact Bill Willinsky @ P.O. Box 2113, Middletown, CT. 06457 or **come to the September 5th meeting.**

Speaking of the September 5th meeting,

MARK YOUR CALENDAR **SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Welcome back – Hope that you had a nice summer!

This Month's Meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 5th at 7:00 P.M. at the American Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive)

In accordance with tradition, being that this is the first meeting after the summer hiatus,

Welcome Back PIZZA and ½ price BEER Night!!! Coke and Diet Coke will be available.

Members and potential members welcome.

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10th ANNUAL THOMAS W. FRITSCH **GOLF TOURNAMENT**



Despite the fact that the weather wasn't the best with rain on and off June 8th, 114 golfers braved the elements and had a enjoyable day "chasing that damn little ball", spending time with friends, and feeling great to participate in a wonderful cause.

Thank you everyone who provided raffle prizes, sponsorships, and the many volunteers who made this a success.

NEWS & ITEMS OF INTEREST

Members Ill or Distressed

Word was received that **Ron DeLisle** was in a car vs. tractor trailer accident. He was in the car. Some bangs and bruises, but he is recovering at home. His SUV did not fare as well as he did.

Jack Mayoros is doing well after his recent back surgery. He must be feeling well, he is back to being a grouchy old bastard.....

STAND DOWN 2006

Stand Down 2006 will be held at the Veterans' Home in Rocky Hill on Friday, September 22, 2006 between 7am and 4pm.

New England's Largest Veterans Day Parade

The 2006 "Connecticut Veterans Day Parade" will be held in Hartford, Ct. on Sunday, November 5th. Parade organizers are seeking veterans groups and individual veterans, patriotic commissions, local municipalities, and middle and high school marching bands and drill teams from throughout the state. The procession will start at 1 p.m. and last approximately two hours.

Any Connecticut resident who is an active, retired, or honorably discharged member of the U.S. Armed Forces including commissioned officers, warrant officers and enlisted personnel of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserves are welcome to march in the parade.

All veterans groups and individual veterans; patriotic commissions; municipalities; and middle and high school marching bands and drill teams that want to march in the parade should visit www.ctveteransdayparade.org or call the Parade Information line at (860)724-2649 ext. 23. People

who want to volunteer to help at the event can register there as well.

Connecticut's Wartime Service Medal

Last year the legislature approved legislation which created a wartime service medal for any veteran who was a resident of the state when called to active duty or was a resident at the time of the award.

Eligible veterans may request awarding of the Wartime Service Medal by submitting an application form to the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, accompanied by a DD Form 214 or other documentation, to prove eligibility. Application forms and additional information are available from the department's website at www.ct.gov/ctva or by calling 1-866-928-8387 ext. 5915. Applications may also be obtained at the department's District and Satellite offices.

The names and mailing addresses of all veterans who submit applications for the Wartime Service Medal will also be added to the Connecticut Service Member and Veteran Registry. The registry is used to notify veterans about benefits and other important service-related information. The information contained in the registry is not subject to public disclosure.

Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption

This bill excludes veterans' disability payments when determining income for purpose of income-based property tax exemptions for veterans, the blind, and people with total disabilities. State-mandated exemptions are granted through two statutes; one requires towns to give all qualified applicants a basic \$1,000 property tax exemption, and the other requires towns to give veterans who

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(news & items of interest cont.)

get the basic exemption an additional exemption, the amount of which depends on their income. This legislation excludes the disability payments as a source of income when determining these exemptions. It also requires towns to give a \$1,000 property tax exemption to people who are totally disabled and people who are blind.

Lowering of the Flag

Currently, federal law provides that a governor may proclaim the national flag to be flown at half-

staff to honor the death of any official of that state or of the federal government. However, there is no specific mention in federal statute of lowering the national flag to honor fallen veterans. This legislation clearly articulates Connecticut state policy whenever the governor orders the national flag to be lowered in honor of a fallen veteran. It provides a simple, yet honorable, way for the State of Connecticut to pay respects to fallen members of the military by giving the governor the ability to lower both the state and national flags in their memory.

Chapter meetings

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive, off RT. 66.) Get involved and come to the meeting.

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MAIL TO:

