



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



**“PEOPLE WHO CARE”**

Volume 23, Issue 2

NEWSLETTER

February 2009

## \$150.00 DRAWING NIGHT

On **Tuesday, February 3, 2009**, at our monthly meeting, we will be drawing the name of someone who could go home with \$150.00, and we won't even tell your better half. All you have to do is come to the meeting and have your dues up-to-date to be everyone's best buddy. That's right, have everyone follow you around asking you to lend them some money.

If you would like, you could take the lump sum of \$36.14 instead of \$1.00 for the next 150 years or take the whole thing and **RUN...**

To make a night of this milestone drawing, we will also be having **PIZZA** and refreshments. Hats and noise makers are optional.

**Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month 7:00 p.m. at the Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive, off Rt. 66.)**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Tuesday, February 3, 2009**

**Veterans of the Vietnam War meeting. 7:00 p.m. @ Legion Hall.**

### **DUES**

Dues are payable at the beginning of the year. It is still \$12.00 per year or \$100.00 for life membership.

It also makes you eligible for the monthly drawing. You must be a current paid up member to be entered in our monthly drawings.

If your dues are not received, your name will not be in the drawing.

Make Checks out to:  
**V V W MIDDLETOWN**

Mail your Checks to:  
**VVW MIDDLETOWN  
P.O. BOX 2113  
MIDDLETOWN, CT.  
06457-2113**

### **DRAWING**

The name drawn at the January 2009 meeting was

**Leon Brown.** Unfortunately, Leon was not at the meeting, so the \$150.00 goes back into the kitty.

There were only **3 regular members** who have paid their dues who were eligible along with the life members for the drawing.

Don't be left out, if you are not a life member and have to pay your dues each year, you better get it in so you can win.

You may want to think about becoming a life member so you won't have to worry about being eligible for the drawing and won't be hounded each and every year to pay your dues.



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**What it looks like when a Vietnam Veteran retires and moves to Arizona or Florida**

### MEMBERS ILL OR DISTRESSED

**LOU WARZECHA** had back surgery the beginning of December.

Everyone in the Chapter wishes you a quick and speedy recovery.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to member **Richard Riebold** and his wife **Anna** for their loss of **Anna's mother, Tera Durinick**, this past week.

I would also like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers that were expressed to me and my Family on the loss of my mother, **Barbara Rogalsky**, last week.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

It may seem early, but it's time to start thinking about our **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Thomas W. Fritsch Golf**

**Tournament.** This year the tournament will be on **June 4, 2009**. We will be forming the Golf Committee and will be looking for any and all volunteers to help out again this year. If you are interested in assisting, please come to the February meeting and let us know.

As the time gets near, we will be looking for Tee Sponsors so start thinking about who you can approach to help support us.

### **Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day is Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Guys,, If you know what's good for you,

**DON'T FORGET THIS DAY!!!!**  
It's a Saturday this year, a nice dinner and a movie might be an idea. (Guys, remember to get a card, that's more important than anything else you've ever done.)



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#### **VA To Offer Health Care to Previously Ineligible Veterans**

WASHINGTON -- The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today plans to re-open enrollment in its health care system by July 2009 to about 265,000 veterans whose incomes exceed current limits.

"We're pleased to be able to offer what has been called 'the best care anywhere' to many more new veterans," said Dr. James B. Peake, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "We'll be able to provide these newly enrolled veterans with the kind of timely, high quality health care veterans who already use our system are accustomed to."

The change affects veterans whose incomes exceed the current VA means test and geographic means test income thresholds by 10 percent or less. Congress provided funds in VA's fiscal year 2009 budget to support the new enrollment.

In 1996, Congress established a priority-based enrollment system for VA and a uniform package of medical benefits for all enrollees. The legislation opened enrollment in VA's health care system to all eligible veterans and required that each year the Secretary of Veterans Affairs assess veterans' demand for services and determine if the necessary resources are available to provide timely, quality care to all enrollees.

Enrollment for the lowest priority of the eight groups--veterans who are not being compensated for a military-related disability and who have incomes above a set threshold--was suspended on January 18, 2003, although veterans in that priority group who were already enrolled for care were permitted to remain enrolled.

VA originally suspended enrollment for [Priority 8 veterans](#) because it was unable to provide all enrolled veterans with timely access to its health care due to a tremendous growth in the number of veterans then seeking enrollment. VA now plans to reopen enrollment for a portion of these veterans without compromising the Department's ability to provide high quality health care services to all enrolled veterans who are eligible for care.

VA's computer systems are being modified to accommodate the changes, and the Department is preparing communication and education materials to ensure that Congress, veterans service organizations, and the public are aware of the coming changes. "The rule will take effect by June 30, 2009, if the regulatory process proceeds smoothly," Peake said. "We look forward to welcoming these newly eligible veterans into the VA system. VA will continue to monitor wait times to ensure the quality of care is not adversely affected."



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**DON'T FORGET THE MEETING ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**PIZZA, REFRESHMENTS, AND DRAWING**

MARCH MEETING WILL BE MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>  
Mark your Calendar

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

**MAIL TO:**

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