



Veterans of the Vietnam War

P.O. Box 2113, Middletown, Connecticut 06457-2113



"PEOPLE WHO CARE"

NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 8

May 2010

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAPTER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR **MAY MEETING**

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

This Month's Meeting is on **Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** at the American Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive)

REST OF THE YEAR SCHEDULE

2010

May meeting, May 4th
May 28th, Place flags at Veterans Cemetery **
May 31st. Memorial Day (Washington Green 9:00 am, Parade 10:30 am, Veterans Cemetery 2:00 pm)
June meeting, June 1st
June 3rd Vietnam Veteran's Golf Tournament

** This year the flags are being allowed to remain in place from Memorial Day weekend through the 4th of July weekend.

July & August no meetings for the Summer
September meeting, September 7th
October meeting, October 5th
November meeting, November 2nd
November D.C. Trip, November 5 - 7

NEW JACKETS

It has been many years since Chapter Jackets were ordered and due to the numerous inquiries and requests, new jackets are being ordered.

At the April meeting, orders were taken from those who wanted to purchase a new jacket. The cost is \$70.00 which will include your name on the front along with where you served in country with the dates. On the back, our Chapter Logo will be placed. Any other patches that you would like on your jacket will be your responsibility to acquire and have sewn on.

It is still not too late to order a jacket. Final call on jacket orders will be the May 4th meeting. We have been told that once the orders are received, it will be about 2 weeks for them to be ready. Orders will be taken to the company on May 5th so we can have them for the Memorial Day Parade or whatever else you may have planned.

MEMORIAL DAY

Will there be more than 5 people from the Chapter participating in the Parade this year ??????

If so, let us know so maybe we might start looking like a Veterans group again.



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Hope n' Change

HopeNChangeCartoons.com / ©2010 by Stilton Jarlsberg



Following the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the United States rushed in to help – with money, medicine and manpower. To date, we've already given over **\$179 million in humanitarian aid**...but Barack Obama has just ordered all U.S. installations to **take down their American flags**, least we be seen as an "occupying army" rather than "international partners".

It is patently appalling that a President of the United States would consider our flag to be a symbol of militaristic takeovers and colonialism, *especially* when serving (to a greater degree than *any other nation on Earth*) a humanitarian purpose.

Additionally, who would think we'd *want* to occupy Haiti!

No other country giving aid in Haiti has lowered its flag. But then again, no other country has a leader who is *offended* by their own flag.

http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2010-03-14-haiti-flag-flap_N.htm



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VA Claim Error Rate: A new report from the Veterans Affairs Department inspector general will help fuel complaints about an error-filled disability claims process in need of a complete overhaul. Investigators looking at claims processing at the VA regional office in Roanoke, Va., found that 25% of the case files they closely studied had serious mistakes. Some veterans were denied benefits they deserved, and disability compensation was given to others who were not eligible. Many errors involved Vietnam veterans with disability claims related to exposure to the defoliant Agent Orange. In one case, a veteran was underpaid \$21,857 because the claims staff did not properly consider a physician's opinion that coronary artery disease was a complication of service-connected diabetes. In another, a veteran was overpaid \$15,640 for a diabetes-related amputation below the knee that he said was related to exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam. His claims folder contained no evidence that he had served in Vietnam, the IG report says. The report, released in mid-JAN, found similar problems with claims involving traumatic brain injuries. In addition to reviewing claims, investigators looked at the work stations of claims employees to determine if they were following strict rules to protect veterans' personal information, and they also looked at mail handling procedures. Problems were discovered in both areas, the report says. Thirty percent of the desks inspected contained information that should not have been left unsecured. Investigators found six boxes of unsecured returned mail, about 4,200 pieces in all, containing personal information on veterans. In response to the report, VA officials provided refresher training on handling personal information and stepped up inspections of work stations to make sure policies are followed. More training also is being arranged for claims processors, the report says

DRAWING

Lou Warzecha walked away with \$50.00 after the April meeting because he was at the meeting when his name was drawn.

This month's drawing will start over at \$30.00 and will continue to grow each month until someone at the meeting has their name drawn.

Who knows, it could be you.....

WASHINGTON D. C. TRIP

Be sure to get your reservations for the D.C. trip to Jack as soon as possible. The bus is over half full and it will be open to anyone interested shortly.

We would like to have our members get the first chance to go.

Arlington Wreath laying ceremony and a tour of the White House are planned, DON'T MISS IT !!



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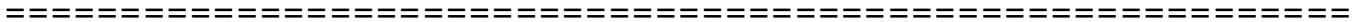
SICK CALL: Ron Nanfite

RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR THE D. C. TRIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DON'T MISS OUT!!!!

MAY 9TH IS MOTHER'S DAY

FRIDAY MAY 28TH FLAG PLACEMENT AT VETERANS CEMETARY

**MEMORIAL DAY MAY 31st 9:00 a.m. CEREMONY WASHINGTON GREEN
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE MAY 31st 10:00 a.m. DOWNTOWN MIDDLETOWN
MEMORIAL DAY MAY 31st VETERANS CEMETARY 2:00 p.m. CEREMONY**



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