



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



"PEOPLE WHO CARE" NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 11

September 2010

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAPTER

MARK YOUR CALENDAR **September 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, Sept. 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.** at the American Legion Hall in Middletown. (Bernie O'Rourke Drive)

REST OF THE YEAR SCHEDULE

2010

September meeting, September 7th
October meeting, October 5th
November meeting, November 2nd
November D.C. Trip, November 5 - 7
December meeting, December 7th
December BELL RINGING Salvation Army **TBD**
December Christmas Party **TBD**

WASHINGTON D. C. TRIP

Thank you to everyone who signed up for our upcoming trip to Washington D. C.

We have a full bus. Only those who have paid in full are guaranteed a seat. Payment is due in full by October 1, 2010.

If you are interested in being placed on a waiting list because of a possible cancellation, contact Jack Mayoros at 860-347-8843.

Deluxe motor coach from Middletown to Washington, DC
Depart Middletown 0600 Friday, Return approximately 2200 Sunday

Two night's accommodations at a full service Holiday Inn, downtown DC

Friday After Dark motor coach tour of key monuments in DC
Saturday White House Tour
Saturday Arlington Cemetery Wreath Laying Ceremony 3:15pm.
Sunday Morning TBD – Lunch at Baltimore Harbor on the way home
(All programs are optional)

Single \$379.00

Double \$495.00

Triple \$630.00*

***Special rates for children accompanying adult in same room**

Be sure to bring your camera along on this trip so you can take a picture of a once in a lifetime moment when the Veterans of the Vietnam War, Middletown, place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is an honor that few Veterans' groups ever get the chance to participate in.

This is especially an honor for the Chapter with it being our 25th Anniversary this year.



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



"PEOPLE WHO CARE" NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 11
Page 2

September 2010

Veterans, Save the Date!

Stand Down 2010

Friday September 10, 2010

At the

Connecticut Veterans Home, 287 West St, Rocky Hill, CT

7am to 3pm

Registration for Services closes at 1pm

Rock Cat's baseball game was a winner for us. We were able to sell about 160 tickets to the game, which proved to be a fun night out with family and friends, and we received a portion of the ticket price for the chapter as a fund raiser. Those that were there said it was a good time and we should do it again next year.

NEWS LETTER

Someone will be needed to step up and take over the newsletter starting January 2011 if the members still want to receive one. I have been doing this for the past six years or so and it is time for someone else to take it over.

Due to the rising cost of stamps and printing the newsletter to be sent out, the person taking over the newsletter might want to consider just having the newsletter available on line at our web site along with sending it out through e-mail. After all this is now the 21st Century and it is time to follow what everyone else is doing. For those who do not have a computer, the public library has computers that you can use or you must know someone that has a computer and would be willing to print it out for you.



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



“PEOPLE WHO CARE” NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 11
Page 3

September 2010

Agent Orange & Graves Disease: Medical researchers have long realized that severe long-term health effects were caused by the U.S. military's use of Agent Orange chemical defoliant during the Vietnam War, both within the Vietnamese civilian population as well as among American veterans. However, research announced in 2010 added one more item to the list: exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam also seems to have increased veterans' (and presumably civilians') risk of contracting a thyroid condition called Graves' disease. A State University of New York at Buffalo study found in 2010 that Agent Orange was linked to an increased risk of Graves' disease. The research indicates that one of the chemicals found in the Agent Orange defoliant binds with cells in the body's immune system and may cause abnormal growth there. Overall, American veterans of the Vietnam War who were exposed to Agent Orange were three times more likely to develop Graves' disease than the general population.

Graves' disease is an autoimmune condition caused by overproduction of hormones in the thyroid. Normally it is an inherited condition, and is several times more likely among women than men. Untreated, it leads to a wide range of serious complications in the body, including weakened bones, heart damage, eye problems, and thyroid storms (a rare condition in which the thyroid becomes so overactive that the effects become life-threatening and require urgent treatment). Neurological symptoms are also common, including serious mood swings. Proper therapy can reduce the symptoms, depending upon how far the disease has progressed, but the most effective option available to today's medicine may be surgery to remove part of the thyroid gland (a thyroidectomy).

Military Stolen Valor: A Marine Corps veteran, who faked a chestful of medals, posed with Mayor Thomas M. Menino, and accepted an award from Toys for Tots soon may be changing bedpans at a veteran's hospital to pay society back for the shameful charade after he was sentenced 4 AUG in federal court. —I accept full responsibility for my actions, Michael Frisoli, 46, told a U.S. District Court judge in Boston during sentencing. —I'd like to put this behind me and do what I can for my boys. Prosecutors said Frisoli, 46, of Millbury posed for pictures and accepted awards dressed as a first sergeant pinned with the Purple Heart, a Bronze Star, Navy Commendation and Army Commendation - all with Vs for valor. He also gussied up a Navy/Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon with two gold stars. Prosecutor Anthony Fuller - who asked Judge Timothy Hilman to sentence Frisoli to four months in jail - recommended that Frisoli, —clean bed pans at the VA hospital. Such service to disabled vets would, Fuller said, —force him to confront the people who are earning these medals.

VA Claims Backlog: As part of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki's effort to streamline access to benefits, VA officials have removed the signature requirement for veterans who electronically submit an online 10-10EZ Application for Health Benefits. "This singular action will reduce days, if not weeks, for veterans who apply online to access their hard-earned medical benefits and upholds the promise to reduce access barriers to needed care for this nation's veterans," Secretary Shinseki said. Previously, veterans filling out the online application were required to print a copy, sign it and send to their local medical center or wait for a copy to be mailed to them for signature and mailing before enrollment into the VA health care system could occur. For additional information, go to this VA website or call VA's toll-free number at (877) 222-8387. The online form can be accessed at www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez.



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



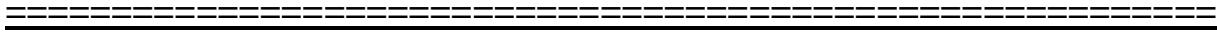
"PEOPLE WHO CARE" NEWSLETTER

Volume 25, Issue 11
Page 4

September 2010

Connecticut veterans in need will have access to dozens of vital social outreach services during "Stand Down 2010" on Friday, September 10, at the State Veterans Home campus on West Street in Rocky Hill.

**September 7th @ 7:00pm first meeting after the summer off
hope to see you at the meeting.**



**VETERANS of the VIETNAM WAR, Middletown
P.O. Box 2113
Middletown, CT. 06457-2113
www.vietnamvetsmiddletownct.org**

MAIL TO:

