



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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“PEOPLE WHO CARE”

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NEWSLETTER

October 2011



Welcome to Fall in New England!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS 2011 SCHEDULE

- November 1 – Meeting Night, 7pm**
- November 3-6 – Washington DC Trip**
- November 11 – Veterans Day** (Think about it...we recognize Veterans Day on the eleventh month, eleventh day, eleventh hour, eleventh minute...this year is 11-11-11-11. Do you believe Al Qaeda isn't thinking about this?)
- December 6 – Meeting Night, 7pm - Election of Officers for 2012**
- December 11 - Christmas Party**

DRAWING

Ron Cannatta's name was drawn at the October meeting with a prize of \$30.00. He was not present so the November drawing will be for \$40.00 and may go to you if you are at the meeting.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Our monthly VVW Newsletter is being sent out to 61 members via e-mail and 45 members by US Postal Service regular mail. If you are receiving this newsletter through the mail and have an e-mail address where you can receive it electronically, please advise us of the address so we can save \$\$\$ on postage, paper, printing, etc. If you supply your e-mail address it will not be given out to anyone else and will be used strictly for VVW business.

Also, if you have any photos, short stories, or VVW-related articles that you want to include in the newsletter please send them to our website, vvwnewsletter@hotmail.com.

We have no address or e-mail address for 4 members.

PORTLAND AMERICAN LEGION “SOS” BRTEAKFAST

American Legion Post #69 located at 10 Freestone Avenue, Portland will be hosting their annual “SOS” breakfast on Saturday, November 5th from 7:30-10:30am. All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast includes “SOS”, scrambled eggs, bacon, coffee and OJ for the low price of \$ 5.00 per person **SEE YOU THERE!**. Contact Bill Willinsky, (860) 342-0638, for tickets or buy them at the door.

2011 TRIP TO “THE WALL” AND THE WASHINGTON DC AREA

This year’s trip to visit The VietNam Veterans Memorial (“The Wall”) and other attractions and points of interest in and around Washington, DC leaving on **Thursday, November 3rd and returning on Sunday, November 6th**. The committee has chosen the Carlyle Suites Hotel (a 100% SMOKE FREE hotel) located at 1731 New Hampshire Ave. NW, close to Dupont Circle. Presently there are 50 people signed up to attend with room for 5 more. Tentative plans include a free day to sightsee on your own on Thursday after arrival with a trip to the monuments at night, an escorted tour of the Capitol and the Pentagon (being arranged by Senator Liebermann) on Friday morning with free time in the afternoon and evening, a tour to the Naval Academy and Annapolis, MD on Saturday, and Church at the National Cathedral and return home Sunday with a possible stop at Baltimore Harbor for lunch and sightseeing and a stop for dinner along the way.

2011 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Board is beginning to plan this year’s Christmas Party that will be held on Friday night, December 9th. Interest was shown for either keeping the party at the American Legion Hall with Vinny Labbadia doing the cooking. Please think about attending and let us know your ideas on where the party should be held.

VETERAN’S APPRECIATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BREAKFAST

This years Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce Veterans Appreciation breakfast will be held at the Lord Cromwell Inn beginning at 0700 on Tuesday, November 8th. Our chapter is looking at possibly reserving a table if we have enough members who want to attend. Wear of your uniform is optional but preferred (if it still fits!). Let Jack or Larry know if you are interested in attending. Cost is \$18.00 pp.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

This year we will once again participate in the Wreaths Across America by purchasing Christmas wreaths to be placed at the graves of our members (Bud Martin & Tony Labbadia) as well as other Middletown veterans at the State Veterans Cemetary. If you would like to purchase one or more wreaths personally to recognize family or friends buried at this cemetary youi can buy them individually for \$15 each, family of 4 wreaths for \$60, or small business of 10 wreaths for \$150. We have a special code that will entitle you to a 3rd wreath free for every 2 ordered if you wish to buy them through the VVW. **Purchases must be made no later than November 21st**. Contact Jack for more details.

SICK CALL

Jack Mayoros is recovering well from his recent back surgery. Louie Tosto is in the hospital recovering from another stroke. Tom Goglia is recovering from surgery. Richard Young is on sick call as is Robert Clayton, Sr. If you know of any other members who are sick or injured please pass the word along so we can advise the membership to allow them to keep our members in their thoughts and prayers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2012

Nominations are being accepted for the slate of officers for 2012. If you would like to serve on the board or would like to nominate another member in good standing (with their approval of course) please forward that information to Secretary Joe Labbadia as soon as possible. Elections will be held at our December meeting.

TREASURY SPEND-DOWN IDEAS

At the last meeting several suggestions were made as to the charitable donations that the chapter may wish to consider including the Urban Forestry Commission Plant-A-Tree campaign on Veteran's Way; the Idella Howell Youth Center; the Middletown Veteran's Museum; the Dogs-for-Vets Project, two Sponsoring two Bingo's at the Rocky Hill Veterans Home; as well as local scholarships. If you wish to nominate a worthy cause to receive a donation please bring it up at the Nov. 1 meeting or let someone on the Executive Board know.

AARP SAFE DRIVER DISCOUNT PROGRAM

On Saturday, November 19th from 8:30AM – 12:30PM Glenn Tewksbury from AARP will present the AARP Safe Driver Program at the American Legion Hall on Bernie O'Rourke Drive. This program is free to veterans and their dependant spouses and will entitle participants who complete the program to receive a 5% discount off of their automobile liability coverage for the next two years. If you plan to participate in the program you must register with our chapter no later than the November 1st meeting. So your name can be forwarded and your discount certificate prepared.



If you can't afford a doctor,
go to an airport - you'll get a
free x-ray and a breast exam,
and; if you mention Al Qaeda,
you'll get a free colonoscopy.

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