



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



"PEOPLE WHO CARE"

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NEWSLETTER

November 2012

2013 Dues are payable now...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS 2011 SCHEDULE

December 4 – Meeting Night, 7pm - Election of Officers for 2012

December 14 - Christmas Party – American Legion Hall, 6pm - ???

DRAWING

There was no drawing this month as someone forgot the "Bag-O-Names". Next month we will conduct two drawings. The first for \$30.00 will be for November and the winner, if there is one, will be from the November sign-in roster. The second will be for December and will be for either \$30.00 or \$40.00 depending upon if there is a November winner. Confused? So are we!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Chapter will conduct the annual Christmas Holiday Party at the American Legion Hall again this year on Friday evening, December 14th, beginning at 6:00pm. Vin Labbadia, USN, has once again agreed to prepare the prime rib meal. Anyone attending is asked to bring in canned goods to be donated to the Amazing Grace Food pantry and/or a raffle prize. Cost is a very reasonable \$15.00 per person with a maximum capacity of 50 people. Ice will be provided but you must byob and set-ups. Please advise if you plan to attend so Vinny can have an idea how much food will be needed. Payment must be received in full no later than the December 4th regular meeting. Hope to see you there!

2012 TRIP TO GETTYSBURG AND PHILADELPHIA

Our chapter's annual visit this year was to Gettysburg and Philadelphia in order to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Members reported having a great time. Hotel was remarkable as were the meals. Tour of the battlefield area was very informational.

VETERAN'S APPRECIATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BREAKFAST

On Monday, November 5th several members from our chapter attended the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce "Support the Troops – Honor the Veterans" breakfast at which members of the Armed Forces were recognized and thanked for their service. Attendees included veterans from all branches with the oldest being a local WWII vet who was wearing his original Army uniform. The keynote speaker was Paul "Buddy" Bucha, former U.S. Army Captain and Medal of Honor recipient during the Viet Nam War. Unfortunately there was a gas leak in the building which required evacuation just as the program was about to get underway which resulted in cancellation of the speaker and all other recognition. Hopefully next year will be better.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

We will participate in the Wreaths Across America again this year by purchasing Christmas wreaths to be placed at the graves at the State Veterans Cemetary. Our chapter will purchase wreaths for our deceased members. Anyone can purchase additional wreaths for family or friends. Contact Jack at jmayoros@stfranciscare.org or (860) 559-7025 for more details.

SICK CALL

No members reported as sick or injured.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Rich Couture reported that he met with Craig Taft, son of our deceased member Peter Taft, and discussed the Peter Taft Memorial Scholarship. Rich said that Craig is going to develop a biography of his father and give it to the chapter so the scholarship can include details of his life, military, and police department service.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee made up of Commander Larry Riley, Vinny Labbadia, and Lou Warzecha should be contacted if anyone wants to run for one of the executive board positions or for the soon-to-be-vacated trustee position. Anyone interested in the Sgt-At-Arms or Chaplain position should also contact a committee member. Elections for 2013 will be held at the December 4th meeting.

WELCOME BACK NICK!

We were happy to see Nick Cordone, Life member, at our November meeting. Nick stated that he has recently retired and hopes to have time to attend more of our meetings and events. Welcome Back!

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

The question was asked as to whether or not our Chapter was going to participate in the Salvation Army Bell Ringing fundraiser this year. Commander Larry will contact the Salvation Army. December 8th from 8:00am-3:00pm will be our proposed date and time. Contact Commander Larry at lriley1947@aol.com or (860) 638-0891 for more information or to sign up for a shift to help out.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

The question was raised if there will be or could be a memorial honoring the Viet Nam Veterans at the Veteran's Memorial Park refurbishment that will be getting underway when funds are raised. Mike Rogalsky explained that the memorial at the park is strictly for veterans of the Iraq/Afghanistan conflicts and that others will not be represented. As you may know, the park was originally dedicated to World War II veterans thus the name. It was asked if our chapter could place a Viet Nam Veterans memorial in another location within the park away from the main area and it was stated that there is already the memorial on the Washington Street green for Korea/Viet Nam and that another would be a redundant, unnecessary expense. The Chapter will be recognized via the walkway brick purchased as part of the fundraiser. No further discussion at this time.

ED MARCHINKOWSKI

The October newsletter that was mailed to Life Member Ed Marchinkowski came back "Return to Sender...Address Unknown". If anyone knows Ed or has contact with him please attempt to obtain an updated mailing address for him or an e-mail address if he has one. Once received we will update the roster. Likewise, if any members have a new or different e-mail address please let us know so we can send the newsletter and other correspondence out electronically so you will receive it in a more timely manner.

ROCKY HILL VETERAN'S HOME BINGO

The next R.H Veteran's Home BINGO will be on Wednesday, December 12th. If you can assist please be at the Legion Hall at 6:00pm and we will convoy up there. Usually over before 8:00pm.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU IN DECEMBER!
EVERYONE HAVE A....**



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