



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



"PEOPLE WHO CARE"

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NEWSLETTER

December 2013

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 7th – Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm
January 2014, Date TBD – Installation Dinner
February - Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm
March - Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm

DRAWING

As there was no drawing at the November meeting, we held two drawing at the December meeting. The first name drawn was **Al San Souci** who was not present (he lives in Florida) thus the \$50.00 prize was forfeited. The second drawing for \$60.00 went to **Louie Warzecha**. Lucky Guy! You must be present to win so come to the meetings and you may leave with \$\$\$\$ in your pocket!

MEMBERS and GUESTS

The Chapter presently has 110 members (40 Regular members, 65 Life Members, and 5 Honorary members). We had one new member, **Bob Ferris**. Bob is a US Air Force Vietnam veteran and just joined our Chapter. If you know of any veteran who meets our membership criteria invite them to attend a meeting with you and to enjoy the camaraderie.

MEMBERS ILL OR IN DISTRESS

Paul Fazzino is still in Aurora Senior Living of New Britain, 400 Brittany Farms Road, New Britain, CT. Please consider going to visit and support Paul. Keep Paul and his wife, Jeanette, in your prayers during the upcoming Holidays.

COMMITTEES

Rocky Hill Veteran's Home BINGO was conducted on **December 11th** sponsored by our Chapter. Commander Larry Riley, Vice Commander Ron Lee, and Trustee Mike Rogalsky represented the chapter and awarded the monetary prizes as well as the much sought-after donuts.



The **Golf Committee** will soon begin working on the 2014 Golf Outing. The Committee will be sending out "Save the Date" postcards to those who played last year.

The **Baseball Committee** confirmed that our Chapter will be recognized at the New Britain Rock Cats game on April 18th. Tickets are \$10.00 each.

Commander Larry announced that the proposed Cherry Blossom trip to Washington, DC next spring has been cancelled due to lack of interest/participation as was the a trip to Radio City Music Hall, NYC, for the Christmas Show.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2014

The Nominating Committee posted the slate of **Officers for 2014: Commander: Jerry Augustine; Vice Commander: Nick Cordone; Secretary: Joe Labbadia; Treasurer: Jack Mayoros; 3 year trustee: Larry Riley.** There were no other members nominated thus the Secretary cast one vote for the unopposed nominees. Congratulations to the new Officers who will be formally installed in January 2014. Date, place, and time of the Installation Dinner to be announced at a later date.

HOLIDAY PARTY

This year's Holiday Party was held on Friday night, December 6th, at the American Legion Hall on Bernie O'Rourke Drive. The Friendship & Cocktail hour was be from 6-7:00pm (BYOB & Appetizers) followed by dinner catered by Public Market.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

The Chapter purchased 30 wreaths from T. Goglia (New Image Landscaping). Some were placed at the headstones of our Members interned at the Veterans Cemetery on Bow Lane. The Chapter met at Bow Lane on December 14th at 11:00 AM to place the wreaths.

CHAPTER NEWS

Phil Cacciola pointed out that the Middletown Home Depot had committed to helping out any needy veteran who might need assistance in their home such as an access ramp, plumbing or electrical repair, etc., or other projects that will aid them in their quality of life activities. If you need assistance, or know of any other veteran who does, contact the Middletown Home Depot manager and/or Phil. Phil also reported that DCF has a **Wilderness Program** that will provide yard work to any veteran in need. If any Member knows of a veteran in need please contact the Chapter.

The Chapter participated in the **Salvation Army Bell Ringing** on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM at Stop & Shop on East Main Street. The Salvation Army states that they will inform the Chapter the amount taken within a few days of the collection.

The Middletown Police Department Benefit Association Bagpipes and Drums will be conducting a fundraiser, "*Celtic Fling*", at Mezzo Grille, 106 Court Street, Middletown on Monday, January 20, 2014 with doors opening at 5pm. Entry Tickets are \$10.00 each. There will be music by the band and by the band "Driven", food, raffles, silent auction and lots of fun. For tickets or more information contact Ron Lee at (860) 803-9858 or by return e-mail to [vwnewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:vvwnewsletter@hotmail.com).

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual breakfast meeting on January 3, 2014. The guest of honor will be Sergeant First Class Joe Kapacziewski who has served several tours in Iraq/Afganistan. SFC Kapacziewski was born in Durham and raised in Bristol and has served the United States with distinction. Chapter discussion was held regarding if the Chapter acknowledge him and his service. The Executive Board will look at presenting him with a donation, amount and type to be determined later.

OVERDUE DUES

As we approach the end of 2013 there are fifteen (15) members who have still not paid their dues for this past year. You know who you are...if you have not paid your dues or have financial problems that are preventing you from paying them please contact a Board member to discuss this issue and to prevent becoming removed from the active roster and forfeiting any potential benefits accorded to active members.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Regardless of your faith or beliefs, the Chapter wishes Happy Holidays to all of our members and their families. Have a pleasant and safe holiday season. We hope to see you next year!



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