



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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



“PEOPLE WHO CARE”

Volume 27, Issue 6
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NEWSLETTER

June 2013

2013 Dues are overdue and payable now...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 3rd – Regular Meeting, 7pm

October 1st – Regular Meeting, 7pm

November 5th – Regular Meeting, 7pm

December 3rd – Regular Meeting, 7pm

DRAWING

Phil Pessina's name was drawn for the monthly drawing however he was not present so another name was drawn – **David Messer** was the winner of the \$30.00 prize. Congratulations! You must be present to win so come to the meetings and you may leave with \$\$\$\$ in your pocket!

POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

We had three guests at our meeting who were given a membership application and asked to join. **Tom Kittle**, USCG, of Colchester served in Vietnam in 1970. **Larry Rostoski**, USMC, of Haddam and **Bob Rosano**, USAF/CTANG are both potential new members as well. Let's welcome these three brothers home and into our chapter. **Tom Kelly** was introduced last month and is our newest member.

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

There was discussion about attendance by members of our chapter, or lack thereof, at funeral services for members of our chapter who have passed on. There was minimal representation at Ron Delise's funeral as well as Honorary member Bob Clayton. As an organization that boasts that we are "People Who Care", we need to collectively reflect on what it means to support the families of our members who have passed and have a more respectable representation at these services.

COMMITTEES

Rich Couture reported that we are ready for our June 6, 2013 annual Golf Outing at Portland Golf Course. We again asked for volunteers to assist with the tournament and several members did show up to help as needed. Rich reported that we have 130 players registered for the tournament. This should be an interesting, fun day!

Ron Lee noted again that our Chapter will be recognized at the Friday, June 14th New Britain Rock Cats Baseball game and that attendees from our chapter will be given the honor of presenting the large field flag to be displayed for the National Anthem. We will need a minimum of thirty (30) participates to hold this large flag. All members are asked to help the chapter by with ticket sales. Every member was asked to buy/sell a minimum of two (2) tickets each; however as of our meeting date only sixty (60) tickets had been sold...a poor showing from our membership.

The Trip Committee explained details of a Veterans Cruise, 5-7 days, out of Boston, NYC or Bayonne, NJ. Cost ranged from a low of \$686.00 per person to a high of \$1,063 per person for an outside deluxe stateroom with a balcony. After some discussion it was decided that we would not take the cruise option this year but rather would look into returning to Washington, DC. In mid-October, possibly the 17th through the 20th. Tentative cost would be estimated as approximately \$700.00 per couple. More details will be announced at our September meeting however this is a "short-use" timeframe and specific supplemental e-mails may go out earlier in order to give people enough time to plan.

PLACEMENT OF FLAGS AT VETERANS' CEMETERY

As usual, only a few members stepped forward to volunteer to install the flags at the gravestones in the Bow Lane Veterans' cemetery on **Friday, May 24th**, in preparation of Memorial Day. Worse yet, almost no one showed up to remove the flags. Again, this is our chapter and members are asked to become more involved in the events we participate in so that we can have better representation... We can't be complacent and let 10% of our membership continue to do 90% of the work. Please, get involved!

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE – MIDDLETOWN

The Memorial Day Parade in Middletown was held on Monday, May 27th beginning at approximately 10:30am, with line-up beginning around 10:00am on Spring Street. Several members met at the Vietnam Memorial on the Washington Street green at 9:00am for a short service then moved to the parade staging area. This year Viet Nam era veterans were honored and our own Commander, Larry Riley, gave an outstanding speech at the south green following the parade, speaking from experience and the heart. Truly moving...Great job Larry!

**HAVE A GREAT, SAFE SUMMER!
HOPE TO SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**



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