



Veterans of the Vietnam War

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“PEOPLE WHO CARE”

Volume 29, Issue 11

NEWSLETTER

November 2015

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 1st – Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm

January 5th – Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm

January 2015 - Installation Dinner, Date TBD

February 2nd - Regular Chapter Meeting, 7pm

DRAWING

Lou Urso's name was drawn however he was not present to win the monthly drawing. Next drawing will be at the December meeting. You must be present to win so come to the meetings and you may leave with \$\$\$\$\$ in your pocket!

NEW MEMBERS and GUESTS

The Chapter now has a total of 199 members (31 Annual, 83 Life, and 5 Honorary). 20 members were present at the November meeting.

MEMBERS ILL OR IN DISTRESS

Bill Willinsky recently had hip replacement surgery. He is home and recovering well.

COMMITTEES

Christmas Party: The members decided that the Chapter would not hold a Christmas party this year. Instead the Chapter is donating \$300.00 to purchase clothing for needy veterans. John DiMauro will purchase the clothing and drop it off at Moe's Locker.

Nomination Committee: The slant for the 2016 Officers was not announced in the November meeting minutes.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Chapter voted to and approved the purchase of seven wreaths for \$10.00 each. Wreaths will be placed on veteran's grave at the Bow Lane State Cemetery. Anyone wishing to purchase their own wreaths for family members should contact Tom Goglia.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...



In case you missed it, we do indeed seem to be in a “cold war” with Russia – or at the very least, it appears the Russians are getting ready for it.

We reported earlier about Russia building large military installations just 300 miles from our shores in Alaska, and now we learn of something even more ominous.

The New York Times reports “*Russian submarines and spy ships are aggressively operating near the vital undersea cables that carry almost all global Internet communications, raising concerns among some American military and intelligence officials that the Russians might be planning to attack those lines in times of conflict.*”

*The issue goes beyond old Cold War worries that the Russians would tap into the cables — a task American intelligence agencies also mastered decades ago. The alarm today is deeper: In times of tension or conflict, **the ultimate Russian hack on the United States could involve severing the fiber-optic cables at some of their hardest-to-access locations to halt the instant communications on which the West’s governments, economies and citizens have grown dependent.***

Adm. Mark Ferguson, commander of American naval forces in Europe, speaking in Washington said the proficiency and operational tempo of the Russian submarine force was increasing.

The intensity of Russian submarine patrols had risen by almost 50 percent over the last year. Russian Arctic bases and their \$2.4 billion investment in the Black Sea Fleet expansion by 2020 demonstrate their commitment to develop their military infrastructure on the flanks, he said.

Admiral Ferguson said that as part of Russia’s emerging doctrine of so-called hybrid warfare, it is increasingly using a mix of conventional force, Special Operations mission, and new weapons in the 21st-century battlefield.”

Meanwhile, in the United States, as we reported earlier this week, President Obama vetoed the National Defense Authorization Act, which means there is clearly no commitment to develop our own military infrastructure.

*As Col. West has written here, “Back in the days of President Ronald Reagan and his national security imperative of “peace through strength,” the U.S. Navy was at 575 combat vessels. Today, our venerable U.S. Navy — “a global force for good” — is down to around 283 surface combatant vessels on the way to 230. **We will have the smallest Navy since 1917** under the astute vision of President Barack Hussein Obama.*

Those who have served in the military and have studied military history know a nation’s power is projected not by its army — but rather by its navy. That has been the rule since the days of the Phoenicians. The Spartans

were a powerful land force but what made the Athenians more potent was their navy. The Roman fleet, the Portuguese, Dutch, Spanish, British and Japanese all knew the power of a navy and its ability to project national presence — as well as secure the sea lanes of commerce for trade and economic growth.”

And apparently, the Russians have also learned that lesson well. I hope we learn it before it’s too late. Clock is ticking...

Written by Michele Hickford, Editor-in-Chief on October 25, 2015

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As we approach the upcoming Holiday Season let us keep in mind all of those who are less fortunate than us. Say a prayer for all veterans and for those who are still serving, especially those who are in harm’s way in the Middle East.

Let us remember those lives lost to the terrorist attacks in France and remain vigilant, praying that we do not have this type of senseless violence here in our Country.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS!



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