

# THE POINT

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

Chapter 172

17 N. Liberty Street

Cumberland, MD 21502-2316

Fax: 301-777-7042

Phone: 301-777-7001

1-800-482-VETS

Email: [vva172@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:vva172@atlanticbbn.net)

*The First VVA Chapter in the State of Maryland - The Gold Standard*

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## By The Time.....

you get this newsletter most of the chapter officers will be back from Florida and the big VVA convention. Shortly after that I will be in the land of "boardwalk fries, steamed crabs, fresh popcorn and salt water taffy. While I am gone Chuck will be in charge of my concession and I expect you to give him the same adoration that you give moi.

The next big event coming up for the chapter will be the steak feed at the Mt. Sausage Fire hall. The date for that is September 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 18:00. The cost this year is \$10.00 per person, and that is still a deal. As always there will be games, music, and raffles. This is always a great time and there are rumors going around about some kind of soup.

## Thinking About Christmas Yet??

The annual Chapter Christmas party will be November 30<sup>th</sup> this year and will be held at the Cumberland Outdoor Club. The admission price is \$25 per person. Those of you coming in from out of town and planning to spend the night may want to make a reservation at the new "Fairfield Inn and Suites" which is very close to the party site.

## Taps

Recently we lost another member to time. Bobby Divelbliss (Little Bobby) got his final orders. To say Bobby was cantankerous is at the very least putting it mildly. He had a tough life and a lot of it he brought on himself, or so he told me. But he found respect and brotherhood as a member of Chapter 172.

Those of us who knew and loved him will miss his worldly presence.

*"When it comes your time to die, be not like those whose hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for a little more time to live their lives again in a different way.*

*Sing your death song and die like a hero going home."*

*Chief Tecumseh, Shawnee Nation (1768 - 1813)*

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## From the Sky Pilot....

### The Life We'd Like to See

As I was reading my "Daily Bread" devotional, I felt that the Lord was telling me that this was a good message to bring to you...

The annual Texas Book Festival in Austin draws thousands of people who enjoy browsing for books, attending discussions led by acclaimed authors, and gleaning advice from professional writers. At one such festival, an author of young fiction told aspiring writer, "write the book that you want to find on the shelf". That a powerful recommendation for writing and for living. What if we decided to live the way we want everyone else to live?

In Luke 6:27-36, Jesus urged his followers to pursue a lifestyle that demonstrates God's mercy to all:

'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you'. He also said that generosity and a lack of retaliation should characterize our reaction to unreasonable treatment. Jesus concluded 'Just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them like wise'. Impossible, Yes if we rely on our own strength and resolve. The strength comes from the Spirit. And the resolve comes from remembering how God has treated us for he is kind to the faithful and the evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your father also is merciful. That's a life we all long to see.

All the way my Savior Leads me

What have I to ask beside

Can I doubt his tender mercy

Who through life has been my Guide

Christianity is not just Christ in you, but Christ living his life through you

May God Bless you and Keep You, Chaplain Rodger Long.

## **Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange and Other Herbicides:**

A Veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, is presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange and other herbicides used in support of military operations. Fourteen illnesses are presumed by VA to be service-connected for such Veterans: AL amyloidosis, chloracne or other acne form disease similar to chloracne, porphyria cutanea tarda, soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma), Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx, trachea), non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, prostate cancer, acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy, diabetes mellitus (Type 2), all chronic B-cell leukemias (including, but not limited to, hairy-cell leukemia and chronic lymphocytic leukemia), Parkinson's disease, and ischemic heart disease.

To apply for VA Benefits for disabilities relative to the presumed illnesses above veterans are required to complete certain VA Forms. To assist in this application process, a Disabled American Veteran (DAV) Service Officer will be at the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Chapter 172, 17 N. Liberty Street, Cumberland, MD, the Second Thursday of each month. The dates for the monthly visits are August 8th, September 12th, October 10th, November 14th and December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 9:30 am until 3:00 pm. The Service Officer will be available to provide information and prepare VA claims for veterans, their spouse or family members to obtain VA benefits.

Please bring a copy of your Military Discharge, DD 214 or other service record, VA Claim Number if one was issued and any correspondence or rating decision information. If you have questions or wish to schedule an appointment call VVA Chapter 172 (301) 777 7001 or (301) 842 2562. Appointments preferred, Walk-ins also welcomed in time available between appointments. This is a free service provided to all veterans by the DAV.

### **CHAPTER OFFICE NEWS FROM BARB AND SUE**

Time is flying by and fall is right around the corner. During the month of September we will be having the following sales: 20% off all in stock tee shirts and Reflections sweatshirts, 15% off all Clearance Merchandise and all hats \$13.00. Stop by for these great savings. If you don't know the office hours they are Monday thru Friday 8am till 5pm. See you soon.

### **Wrong Film**

While at family picnic I gave a roll a film to a chapter member (whom I know but now cannot remember his name), thinking it was a new roll. It was an already used roll....that I had put back in plastic container....and I would like it back to get it developed. So if you have it, please call chapter so we can make arrangements to get film back....Thanks...Charlie P.