

— THE POINT —

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

Chapter 172

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

FEBRUARY 2012

How About Some Breakfast?

Breakfast will be served at the Chapter Saturday, March 10th starting around 10AM until it's over. This is open to members in good standing only.

Meeting Time Change

Starting with the March 1, 2012 meetings, the Board of Directors meeting will start at **7PM** followed by the Membership meeting at **8PM**. If the BOD runs over the membership meeting may be delayed.

Picnic Date Change

The annual family picnic date has been changed to June 23rd. As usual it will be at the Ali Ghan Shrine Picnic grounds starting around noon and ending around 1800 hours.

Deal Me In

Saturday, March 3rd at 4PM, the *Chapter 172 Winter Poker Tourney* will be played at the Chapter Home. The contest is open to Chapter 172 members only. The buy in will be \$30. There will also be a \$5 admission donation for all spectators.

Chapter Elections

April 5th, 2012

Board of Directors Meeting

1900 Hours



Election Meeting



2000 Hours

Combat/War Zone Group Meetings

The *Combat/War Zone* group continues to meet the *first* and *third* Wednesday of each month at 10a.m. The *Spouse/Significant Other* group meets every Wednesday at 11 a.m. These groups are held at the clinic, 200 Glenn St. Cumberland, MD. For inclement weather, follow Allegany County School policies.

If you have any questions, please call me at 304-433-6662, or email wanda.barnes@va.gov

Thanks to all of you who made the recent support groups possible at the outpatient clinic in Cumberland. It was a pleasure to meet you, and I look forward to getting to know you better in the future.

Wanda M. Barnes, MSW, LCSW,

Readjustment Counselor

I Claim Foul, Or Rodent

February second I had an early appointment at Martinsburg. So I was in my Ford F-150 (the Cadillac of trucks) making about 85 or 90 down I-68. I was drinking a Sheetz coffee and digging on the Radio. The weather was overcast with heavy fog and I had my fog lamps on. Now like I was saying visibility was low it was a very dark morning. So what do I hear on the radio? They are playing the live feed from Pennsylvania of "Punxsutawney Phil" the prognosticating groundhog predicting 6 more weeks of winter because he did see his shadow. There is no way that Phil saw his shadow. Now, I am not blaming Phil he was still sleepy and they jerked him out of his den and held him up high in front of a bunch of cheering (maybe even drinking) humans. Meanwhile Phil must be thinking what the Hell is going on. Are they going to eat me? "Just tell me what you want me to say, I'll cooperate just don't eat me." Just ask anybody, groundhog can be tasty when prepared properly. So Phil told them that he had seen his shadow and that there will be six more weeks of winter. Now here's where it gets bad. I know Phil was lying, so I tuned into the Cumberland radio and they have some

"Phil" wannabe named "Mountain Morgan" or something like that and this guy says the same thing that he saw his shadow. I think that there is some kind of a scandal brewing here. I had just left Cumberland and I know for sure that MM did not see his shadow and I'm claiming fraud. Somebody is leaning on these fine rodents to give out a false forecast. I say follow the money and it will probably lead you to the RNC.

Attention Women Veterans

The Chapter now has "Sourcebook: Women Veterans in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA)" Volume I. If anyone needs to reference this book, please feel free to come in and borrow it.

A Special Thanks to Members

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of Chapter 172 for the visits, cards, flowers, well wishes and prayers during my 2 stays in the hospital. It means so much to me to have such special people in my life.

Susan Knisley



Office News from Barb and Sue



During the month of March, stop by the Chapter Office, make a purchase and enter to win one of the five following prizes:

- “Reflections” Plaque
- Brightest Star Print
- Any Tee Shirt
- Any Garden Flag
- Any Hat

You can enter the drawing more than once as long as you make a purchase during the month of March. Keep your prize or give it to that special someone at Easter. Also March 30th is “*Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day*”, which marks the 39th year that American combat support and combat units withdrew from South Vietnam.



From the Sky Pilot Consider the Source

I love Cinnamon. I love it on toast, sticky buns, apples, pretzels, and in candy. Cinnamon is one of those spices that makes other things taste delicious.

It had never crossed my mind to think about where it came from. Ninety percent of cinnamon in the world comes from Sri Lanka, an island nation located in the Indian Ocean. For all the Cinnamon I’ve enjoyed over the years, I never stopped to consider its source. Sadly my walk with Christ is sometimes like that. God has blessed me with such a wonderful life with my family and friends. However, in the midst of my enjoyment, I fail to consider the source of those blessings. James put it like this: “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow turning”. How ungrateful we would be to enjoy the rich blessings of life including cinnamon, without thanking the Father who is the source of all creation.

“Gratitude is a God-honoring attitude”

From whom all blessings flow

Most precious gifts dost Thou bestow

So truly faithful may I be

As thou art gracious unto me

Bible Reading: James 1:12-18

Rodger Long, Chaplain

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FOR
2010-2011**

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Email the editor Steve Parsons s-parsons@atlanticbb.net

Disclaimer

The newsletter The Point is a monthly publication of chapter 172. The viewpoints or opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the writer and are meant only for informational and entertainment purposes. These opinions do not represent the official policy of VVA National or Chapter 172. All unsigned articles are by the editor; All other submissions will have the contributor's name as a byline.

Chapter Meetings

Chapter meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 2000 hours at the Chapter Home 17 North Liberty Street, Cumberland, Maryland. Boards of Directors meetings are the first Thursday beginning at 1900 hours. All members are encouraged to attend both the membership and Board of Directors meetings.



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