

# — 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*

MAY 2012

## Memorial Remembrance

Every spring, we start the warm season with the Memorial Day holiday. I have printed this poem several times before, but it strikes home for me and I hope you take the time to remember those who have gone before us.....

### *Bury Me With Soldiers*

*I've played a lot of roles in life*

*I've met a lot of men*

*I've done some things I'd like to think*

*I would not do again*

*And though I'm young, I'm old enough*

*To know someday I'll die*

*And to think about what lies beyond*

*Beside whom I would lie*

*Perhaps it doesn't matter much*

*Still, if I had my choice*

*I want grave 'monst soldiers when*

*At last death quell my voice*

*I'm sick of the hypocrisy*

*The lectures of the wise*

*I'd take the man with all faults*

*Who goes though scared and dies*

*The troops I knew were commonplace*

*They didn't want the war*

*They fought because their fathers and*

*Their fathers did before*

*They cursed and killed and wept*

*God knows*

*They're easy to deride...but bury me*

*With men like these*

*They faced the guns and died*

*It's funny when you think of it*

*The way we got along*

*We'd come from different worlds*

*To live in one no one belongs*

*I didn't even like them all*

*I'm sure they'd all agree*

*Yet I would give my life for them*

*I know some did for me*

*So bury me, with soldiers please,*

*Though much maligned they be*

*Yes, bury me with soldiers for...*

*I miss their company*

*We'll not see their likes again;*

*We've had our fill of war*

*So bury me with men like them*

*'Til someone else does more*

*Unknown*

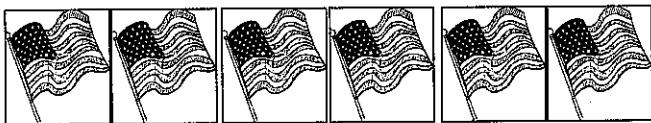


## Heritage Days

Volunteers are needed for helping with selling products during Heritage Days, Saturday, June 9th, 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 10th, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. weather permitting. Shifts will be 2 hours with the first shift being set up and the last shift being clean-up. Sign up sheets will be in the Chapter Office and in the Social Quarters. It's a lot of fun so come volunteer! Please, only 4 people per shift.

## Family Picnic

Mark your calendars, the time is getting close for the family picnic. The date is Saturday, June 23rd, starting at noon at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club. Bring a little extra cash for product sales and gambling. Bring the whole damn family and enjoy the great food... the train will be running....



## Memorial Day Program

On Monday, May 28th, at 2:00 p.m., Rocky Gap Veterans Cemetery will hold their annual Memorial Day Program. Keynote speaker will be member, John Bambacus. The Color Guard will be participating in the presentation of colors again this year. Bring your lawn chairs for seating comfort. Light refreshments will be available prior to the service.

## From the Sky Pilot.....

*All Day with God*  
*I Thessalonians 5: 12-18*

“Now we ask you, brothers to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this God’s will for you in Jesus Christ”.

“Always keep the prayer lines open  
Knowing God is always there  
For we upon His name may call  
Anytime and anywhere”

Please keep the following people in your prayers,

Liz Powell, Steve Parsons, Allan and Donna Lewis, Dave Humbertson, and Carl Garlitz

*Chaplain , Rodger Long*

Hi Steve

Hear is what I talked to you about.

The local news media has recently published an article advising the passage of several bill by the State Legislature. They include the extension of the sales tax exemptions to veteran groups and the distribution of slots revenue. Also veterans will be offered the opportunity to detail their service time on their drivers licenses. Retail discount for veterans will become available after proper identification. The Veterans ID Law becomes effective January 1st 2013.

Another law extends the sales tax exemption offered to groups. The exemptions will extend for another 6 years for any purchases. How the exemption law directly affects the veteran is not yet clear. This is the way it was worded in my local legion news letter. I hope you can find out more about this .

Keep me advised  
Jerry Gumpman

### Some Old Friends Need Your Help

There is a copy of a flyer in this issue showing the plight of some native tribesmen who helped us in Vietnam. Please take some time to read it and if you can lend a hand, please do, and if nothing else, think a good thought for them.

### From the President.....

I want to take this opportunity to thank the membership for their support in re-electing me as your President of Chapter 172 for yet another year. It is a privilege and honor that I take very seriously and will preside with dignity on behalf of the Officers, Directors, and most importantly the Membership. This chapter and its members also have the responsibility to move forward with honor as well. There is zero tolerance for conduct injurious to this organization and its purposes. The officers and board will ensure respect and continuity among the membership. We have provided many services and events for our members and will continue to do so under my tenure. We should be proud as a chapter of what we have accomplished in this community and within V.V.A. Again I thank you for your service.

*Bob Cook, President, Chapter 172*

### Office News from Barb and Sue

Since Memorial Day and Flay Day are upon us, you may need to replace your American Flag. So for May and June, American Flags will be on sale for \$20.00 . Also, below are some new tee shirts that will be arriving this month.



**CHAPTER 172 OFFICERS AND BOARD  
FOR  
2012-2013**

**President, Bob Cook  
First Vice-Pres., Steve Parsons  
Second Vice-Pres., Bob Peck  
Secretary, Bill Lange  
Treasurer, Stanley Kline**

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Social Committee.....Bill Lange  
Veterans Benefits.....Bob Cook  
Veterans Affairs.....Jim Williams  
Veterans Assistance.....Bill Lange  
Web Site.....Nelson Lindeman  
Women Veterans.....Harlan Smith**

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### **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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