

V.V.A. Clermont County Chapter 649

FEBRUARY NEWLETTER 2014

Page 1 of 3



* * * Sick-Bay : Report —

Please remember the Curtis Patchell Family, in your prayers. Cliff Riley informs us, Curt is now at home recovering from 2-way-bypass, surgery and an aortic valve replacement. *looking forward to seeing you soon ,Curt"*

* * * FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02 / 04 Clifford Findley	02 / 14 Gary Sears	02 / 21 Robert Biglow
02 / 05 William Barker	02 / 14 Joseph George	02 / 24 Kenneth Ellis
02 / 13 Joe Hutchinson	02 / 16 Richard Noyes	02 / 29 Jack Reeves
02 / 13 Rod Osborne	02 / 17 Joseph Moore	
02 / 14 ** Valentine's Day	02 / 18 Claudius Barger	

* * * Guest Speaker : George Fels

George is a former Marine captain who served in Vietnam. He is also a CPA who directs his own practice in Blue Ash. George will discuss relevant tax issues and will answer any general tax questions members may have.

* * * February 649 Visits VA Hospital

February 26th chapter members will travel to Cincinnati V A Hospital to visit with patients. Each night the VA hospital has BINGO night, Horse Races, a movie or some other activity to help relieve the monotony of hospital life. Jo Ann Norton, Recreation Specialist at the VA Medical Center and our July 2013 speaker, has offered us the opportunity to host Bingo or Horse Races. The activities start @ 6:30 P.M. and finish by 7 P.M.

This will allow our veterans group to be home no later than 8 P.M. Specific details will be forthcoming at our February monthly meeting.

If you are interested in participating in this event, please attend our February 13, meeting, and inform us, so we may all caravan together to this event.



David M. Bradley 1940—2014

David M. Bradley, Sr., U.S. Army Retired, died January 18, 2014 at the age of 73. He was born April 27, 1940 in Ashland, Kentucky, and lived a life of integrity and dedication. He served 2 tours in Vietnam

In 1983 David retired after 22.5 years as 1st Sgt.-E8 from the U.S. Army; his last post was Personnel Station NCO at the Military entrance Processing Center. David was dedicated to the service of Military Veterans in Franklin Co. and Ohio throughout his civilian career. He worked on state and national levels with Viet Nam Veterans of America and advocated for Veterans with local and state politicians in support of, Chalmers P. Wylie Columbus V.A. medical clinics.

David retired in 2005 as Executive Director, Franklin County Veterans Services Commission 1991-2005; also Executive Director, Viet Nam Veterans of America, Ohio State Council 1983-1991; Franklin County Veterans Services Commissioner. He was a member of Viet Nam Veterans of America, Capital City Chapter 670, Amvets Chapter 300; First Squadron First Cavalry Assn., VFW Post #8794; Milvets; Americal Division Veterans Assn., Disabled American Veterans Chapter 142; Non-Commissioned Officers Assn., Viet Nam Veterans Leadership Program. He was Chairman, Columbus Veterans Advisory Council 1987-1989 where he helped to erect and dedicate the Veterans Park at Port Columbus.

He was instrumental in working to fund grants for various veterans programs.

David was an honorary Statehouse cannoner on Aug. 7, 1998, inducted to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels; nominated for the 1997 President's Service Award; Dept. of Veterans Affairs Community Support Aware 1997; Columbus Dispatch Community Service Award 1986, 1988; received Dept. of Defense Certificate of Appreciation, Armed Forces Examining and Entrance Station 1981 and United Service Organization-Certificate of Appreciation.

NEXT MEETING
Thursday February 13

LOCATION

Union Twp. Civic Center
4350 Aicholtz Road
Clermont County, Ohio
Food @ 7:00 PM
Business @ 7:30

Guest Speaker immediately
after the pledge of allegiance

March Meeting Date
Thursday - March 13

AVVA Membership

Associates of Vietnam Veterans of Am. Members actively participate and work in supporting VVA .
If you have a friend or relative who is not eligible to join VVA, talk to them about joining AVVA.

For a \$20.00 annual dues fee they can become a member, and help further VVA programs.

Applications are available on Chapter 649 website or see Joann at the meeting.

WELCOME HOME



*** * * Clermont County 20 / 20 Awards**

The Clermont County 20/20 awards will be held in March 2014 (date to announced soon)
Chapter 649 member Cliff Riley has been nominated as a candidate for the Veterans award.

Cliff is an avid member with many Veterans Organizations within the county, Charter Member of Chapter- 649, District Director with Buckeye State Council District 3, consisting of Chapter 649-Clermont Co.-Batavia, OH / Chapter 97-Montgomery Co.-Dayton, OH / Chapter 930-Green Co.-Xenia, OH / Member of Clermont Co. Veterans Service Office / Member of Clermont Co. DAV / Member of Clermont Co. VFW Post # 3954.

*"Cliff; For all your time & efforts put forth in helping other Veterans and their families, you truly deserve this award "
Comrades of Chapter 649*

*** * * Traumatic Brain Injury - Taking care of yourself with VA support**

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) can occur when something outside the body hits the head with significant force. Whether it is a head hitting the windshield during a car accident, an impact from a fall, head injuries received during sports or other recreational activities , or trauma from a nearby blast or explosion, TBI can cause changes in a person’s ability to think, control emotions, walk, or speak, and can also affect sense of sight or hearing. TBI can be mild to severe. Mild traumatic brain injury refers to brief changes in or loss of consciousness. Severe traumatic brain injury refers to longer periods of unconsciousness and memory loss around the event. While it may be easier to diagnose moderate to severe TBI, changes caused by any TBI could significantly affect many areas of a person’s life.

TBI can result in changes in a person’s physical functioning, thinking abilities or cognitive function, and behavioral effects and they are often interrelated. These effects sometimes cause other difficulties such as sleeping problems, depression, and anxiety. *more TBI information- Page 3*

Review Of January Happenings

*** * * January 16, 2014**

Chapter 649 members met with Buckeye St. Council President, Tom Burke & Staff. to discuss the agenda lay-out for the upcoming V.V.A. State Council Convention, to be held at Holiday Inn East-Gate May 8—11. Chapter 649 was well represented with VVA members, and AVVA members in attendance.

During the meeting all were invited to place orders for an evening dinner meal.

To all who attended, "Thank You" for supporting our chapter.

More information will be provided at our February 13 Monthly meeting, The agenda for the four-day State Convention will be available soon. *If you are interested in participating on one of the various committees, please attend our monthly meetings and speak with our Chapter President Mark Brandon.*

*** * * Buy A Commemorative Brick to place at our Memorial -**

Order a brick now so it is ready for placing at our memorial when spring weather arrives.

Below are various local area businesses who support Chapter 649 by having Commemorative Brick Forms available for you.

Amelia Amelia Florist Wine & Gift 1401 Ohio Pike	Amelia PC – ER (Inside Wal-mart) 1815 E. Ohio Pike	Amelia Campbell's Barn 1852 State Route 125	Amelia Joe Kidd Automotive 1065 Ohio Pike
Milford Recreations Outlet 885 St. Rt. 28, 513. 383. 7837	Milford Olde Milford Barber Shoppe 726 Lila Ave. 513. 248. 8223	Goshen LCNB National Bank 6726 Dick Flynn Rd.	Goshen Skyline Chili 1877 State Rt. 28
Batavia Clermont Co. Veterans Service Office 3rd Floor	Union Twp. Civic Center 4350 Aicholtz Road Suite 220 East– Gate Area	Day Heights Milford Cliff Riley / Am. Heritage Ins. 1120 St. Rt. 131	East - Gate Area Harley Davidson Of East- Gate 699 Old St. Rt. 74



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2013

VA to Expand Benefits for TBI Injury—Adds Five Illnesses Related to Service-Connected TBI

WASHINGTON – Some Veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI) who are diagnosed with any of five other ailments will have an easier path to receive additional disability pay under new regulations developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The new regulation, which takes effect 30 days from today, impacts some Veterans living with TBI who also have Parkinson's disease, certain types of dementia, depression, unprovoked seizures or certain diseases of the hypothalamus and pituitary glands.

"We decide Veterans' disability claims based on the best science available," said Secretary of Veterans' Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "As scientific knowledge advances, VA will expand its programs to ensure Veterans receive the care and benefits they've earned and deserve."

This regulation stems from a report of the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine (IOM) regarding the association between TBI and the five diagnosable illnesses. The IOM report, *Gulf War and Health, Volume 7: Long-Term Consequences of Traumatic Brain Injury*, found "sufficient evidence" to link moderate or severe levels of TBI with the five ailments.

The new regulations, printed in the *Federal Register*, say that if certain Veterans with service-connected TBI also have one of the five illnesses, then the second illness will also be considered as service connected for the calculation of VA disability compensation.

Eligibility for expanded benefits will depend upon the severity of the TBI and the time between the injury causing the TBI and the onset of the second illness. However, Veterans can still file a claim to establish direct service-connection for these ailments even if they do not meet the time and severity standards in the new regulation.

Veterans who have questions or who wish to file new disability claims may use the eBenefits website, available at www.eBenefits.va.gov/ebenefits.

Service members who are within 180 days of discharge may also file a pre-discharge claim for TBI online through the VA-DoD eBenefits portal at www.eBenefits.va.gov/ebenefits.

The published final rule will be available Dec. 17 at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Information about VA and DoD programs for brain injury and related research is available www.dvbic.org.

Information about VA's programs for Gulf War Veterans is available at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/hazardous_exposures.asp.



*** * * Just A Reminder**

Friday-February 14th is Valentine's Day.

Don't forget that Sweetheart in your life who has been there for you all these years doing the cooking, cleaning, laundry, paying the bills, and countless other chores. Go ahead, . . . buy her that Lamborghini. (We're not getting any younger, and you can't take your money with you !)

**** Note:** Before you buy; You may want to drop some un-suspecting hints, making sure she has not already planned on buying the same gift for you ! She'll be the Talk of the Town when going grocery shopping !