

# V.V.A. Clermont County Chapter 649

## JUNE NEWLETTER 2014



### Sick-Bay:

If you are aware of any chapter member who has been admitted to the hospital, or just needs a Get-Well card to cheer them up, please contact any one of our Board Members so we may purchase a Get-Well Card, and have all our members sign the card at our meeting. Chapter 649 will pay for the card and the postage.

### \* \* \* JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06 / 04 Mike Culbertson	06 / 15 Martin Webster	06 / 26 Paul Davies
06 / 07 Danny Miller	06 / 21 John Osterling	06 / 28 James Dahlheimer
06 / 07 Jeffery Jones	06 / 21 Lynn Burger	06 / 21 Lynn Burger
06 / 09 Michael Monahan	06 / 22 James Lasley	06 / 30 Dan Bowman
06 / 12 Gerald Bridges	06 / 23 William Carkeek	06 / 23 William Carkeek

### Guest Speaker: Karl Kessler ,

Mr.Kessler, is a Senior Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial. He will discuss strategies for investing one's retirement savings and some estate planning.

### May / V V A Ohio State Convention

May 9 / 10 / 11, Ohio State Council held its State Convention for V.V.A. Members who are members within Chapters which are within Buckeye State Council .

Opening Ceremonies began Saturday-May 10, 9:00 a.m.

Presentation of Colors : National Award Winner - Union Twp. Police Honor Guard followed by posting of the Colors.

Each flag bearer is a recruiter within the Cincinnati area, dressed in their Military Dress Uniform, carrying the flag which represents his branch of service.

The National Anthem was performed by; Siera Joehnk. (Granddaughter of Ben Joehnk (649)

Invocation by; Pastor Troy Ervin, followed by the POW / MIA Table, setting by, Ron Tucker. Each article placed upon the table was described by Pastor Ervin while the article was being placed upon the table.

After the opening ceremonies concluded, lunch was served, and the voting polls were opened for the election of officers. The below names are our 2014 Buckeye State Council, Board of Directors,

### Elected Officers

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Cliff Riley Chapter 649	<b>1st Vice</b> John Stoner Chapter 55	<b>2nd Vice</b> Ray Autenrieb Chapter 649	<b>Secretary</b> Paul Wilson Chapter 55	<b>Treasurer</b> Larry Frazee Chapter 55	<b>Administrator</b> Bradley Hoffman
--	--	---	---	--	---

### Elected District Directors

<b>District # 1</b> John Klein Chapter 55	<b>District # 2</b> Richard Nolte Chapter 35	<b>District # 3</b> Ken Williamson Chapter 649	<b>District # 4</b> Tim Velarde Chapter 810	<b>District # 5</b> Richard Arthur Chapter 199	<b>District # 6</b> Russell Davidson Chapter 717
---	--	--	---	--	--

### Appointed Positions

<b>Sgt. At - Arms</b> Howard Kern Chapter 55	<b>President Advisor</b> Tom Burke Chapter 857	<b>Ohio State Service Rep</b> Joe Jennings Chapter 670	<b>A.V. V. A. Liaison</b> Don Jones Chapter 55	<b>Women Vets Liaison</b> Ardis Howell Chapter 1045
<b>State Council Webmaster</b> Wayne Gregory Chapter 649				

### May / A V V A Ohio State Convention Elections

A V V A Elections were also held May 10, to elect an AVVA Ohio State Representative  
The Newly Elected AVVA State Of Ohio, Representative - Jerry Eversman

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Thursday June 12**

### 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**

**July Meeting Date**  
**Thursday - July 10**

### 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 you can become a member, and help further VVA programs.

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

**WELCOME HOME**



**MAY 10 / 11**

**\*\*\* Chapter 649 Meet and Greet**

*Chapter 649 also held our quarterly Meet & Greet at Sam's Club, (East Gate) informing Veterans, and the families of veterans, of the military benefits they may not be aware of, encouraging them to visit the Veterans Service Office located in Batavia, Ohio. Over \$ 600. in donations were received within the two day period. Thank you to all who visited our booth and for your support of VVA Chapter 649*

**MAY 11**

**\*\*\* V. V. A. OHIO - 2014 STATE CONVENTION**

*Chapter 649 combined with Chapter 10 (Reading, Ohio) and speakers from VVA Nation, Michigan, and other states, to have an Agent Orange, Town Hall Meeting, inviting all Veterans and their family members to attend. On the Question and Answer panel were, Dr. Tom Berger (Silver Spring, Maryland) Sandy Wilson and George Claxton (Michigan) speaking to a crowd of 300 visitors who attended the meeting to learn more about, not only how Agent Orange affected the husbands & wives who served in Vietnam, but also the effect it will have on their children and their grandchildren, which is now being recognized as affecting the third generation of family members.*

**MAY 15**

**\*\*\* Armed Forces Luncheon Fundraiser**

*May 15, members from chapter 649 traveled to Columbus to attend the annual Armed Forces Day luncheon Fundraiser. The fundraiser is held each year to support the Milvets Organization*

**MAY 26**

**\*\*\* Chapter 649 Memorial Day Observance 6:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.**

*Each year VVA Chapter 649 pays honor to our Vietnam War Fallen Comrades, by creating a field of crosses for each of the Vietnam Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. A small flag with a tag showing the name of this veteran is then placed atop each cross,*

*Our ceremony began promptly at 6:00 a.m. with the lowering of the USA Flag to half -mast, and the reading of 579 names of our fallen Veterans began. ( 12:00 Noon - USA Flag raised to full -mast )*

*Included in the reading of our " 579" Tri-State fallen; 508 - Vietnam War Tri State Casualties /*

*8 - Vietnam War Nurses / 7 - Vietnam War POW / MIA / 1 - Korean POW / MIA /*

*34 - Operation Iraqi Freedom / Enduring Freedom / 1 - Firefighter - 911 /*

*20 - Passing of VVA Members within Chapter 649. ( Charter began in 1993 )*

*Slightly larger crosses were also placed, representing those fallen veterans, while serving their country during, W.W. I / W.W. II / Korean War*

*Also the placing of a 6 foot cross, dedicated to ALL VETERANS who have served our country.*

*Chapter 649 Event Chairmen: Ray Autenrieb / George Kinnaird wishes to thank all visitors who participated during our 8 hour ceremony and also recognize all who contributed in making our 2014 event a huge success.*

*. Boy Scout Troop 452 and Families, Participation in the placing of the cross's and flags.*

*. Community Volunteers, Participation in the placing of the crosses and flags.*

*. Union Twp. Police Honor Guard / Union Twp. Trustees / Clermont County Commissioner*

*. Guest Speaker, Ohio Senator, Joe Uecker / Singing of National Anthem, Miss Siera Joehnk,*

*. Recognition of Ohio State Council President, Cliff Riley / Current and Past, VVA 649 Presidents*

*. Music Selection, Darryl Trace / Pastor, William Graybill / POW / MIA Table / Taps, Ron Tucker*

*. Clermont County Equipment, Donation of Golf Cart / Ralph Walters, Golf Cart Shuttle Driver*

*. The entire Walters Family consisting of, Clermont County residents, and St. Louis Missouri residents*



## JUNE 8

### **\* \* \* Chapter 649 - Retirement of U.S.A. Flags**

*Don't miss this special event. VVA 649 has teamed up with Boy Scout Troop 745 to demonstrate the proper retirement of the Stars and Stripes. Over 3000 flags were collected and retired last year.*

*Bring your family, bring your friends and bring your old tattered flags.*

*This is a great educational opportunity for your children and grandchildren to learn about flag etiquette.*

*Brian Thomas of 55 WKRC will be the master of ceremonies and Boy Scout Troop 742 will be conducting the ceremony.*

*Call Steve Tam, committee chairman, for details – 513-515-5448*

## JULY 20 - 26

### **\* \* \* Clermont County Fair**

*Chapter 649 will work the VVA booth at the Clermont Co. Fairgrounds.*

*Our Chapter will share a twin-size booth with our Clermont County "Veterans Service Office" (V.S.O.)*

*The location of this booth is yet to be determined, allowing the fair to choose a prime location within a high-traffic area, so the VSO and VVA, may communicate with all fair visitors.*

*Our Chapter will be soliciting "Sign-Up" Sheets at our June and July monthly meetings, asking for volunteers to work in our booth during the hours the fair will be open during the week.*

*Please consider volunteering for a few hours per day, if possible, so we may keep the booth open for the entire week.*

*All Veterans in Uniform or providing Military ID will enter the fairgrounds at no cost.*

### **\* \* \* DAV Wants to Hear from All Caregivers of Veterans**

*Joe Johnston, DAV National Commander" [lboogle@dav.org](mailto:lboogle@dav.org)*

*DAV recognizes that taking care of family caregivers is one of the most critical aspects of serving our nation's injured and ill veterans. While we supported enacting legislation for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide comprehensive caregiver support for veterans severely ill or injured on or after September 11, 2001, DAV believes now is the time to end the inequity and allow severely disabled veterans from all wars to participate in the VA Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers program.*

*To do this, we must help Congress recognize the sacrifice of all our wartime ill and injured veterans and their family caregivers. Sharing your personal experience is one of the most compelling ways to influence changes that can improve the existing program and help expand it to other veterans and their caregivers, so we encourage you to take time to tell us your story.*

*If you are the caregiver of a veteran who is receiving these benefits, we want to know how the program is working for you. Is it helping you adequately provide care and maintain your personal wellbeing? Are there elements that could work better or more efficiently? If you are the caregiver of a post-9/11 veteran, please [click here](#) to take a brief survey.*

*If you are the caregiver of a pre-9/11 veteran not receiving these benefits, we would like to hear how quality of life for you and your veteran would be improved if the eligibility was expanded. If you are the caregiver of a pre-9/11 veteran, please [click here](#) to take a brief survey.*

*Click the link below to view this message on the web:*

<https://www.votervoice.net/link/target/dav/479R2y74i.aspx>



## UPCOMING CHAPTER 649 EVENTS

### JUNE

- June 8 - Flag Retirement Ceremony - Union Township Civic Center 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
- June 25 - V A Hospital - Cincinnati - Bingo Night - Time: TBA

### JULY

- July 20 - 26 - Clermont County Fair - Man Booth At Fairgrounds

### AUGUST

- AUGUST 5 - 9 - Leadership Conference - Wichita, Kansas

### SEPTEMBER

- SEPTEMBER 6 - Golf Outing - Fundraiser - Elk's Run Golf Club - Batavia

### OCTOBER

### NOVEMBER

- November 11 - Veterans Day - Ceremony At Our Memorial
- November ? - Date TBA - Veterans Speak At Local Area Schools
- November 11 - Veterans Day Parade Time & Place TBA

### DECEMBER

- DECEMBER 2 - Chapter 649 - Bingo Night- V A Hospital