

V.V.A. Clermont County Chapter 649

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2014



Sick-Bay:

- . Bob Wilms, who underwent knee replacement surgery in September reports his surgery was very successful. Although the knee is still very tender, he is able to be more active as each day passes.
- . Joann Gregory, who also underwent knee surgery, reports all is well with her health too. Be sure to attend our October membership meeting to watch Bob & Joann do a Can-Can dance !

Guest Speaker: Terence Harrison

Terence is the Assistant Director of the Veterans Upward Bound program at Cincinnati State.

* * * OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10 / 02- Alan J. Free	10 / 10- Stephen Workman	10 / 27- Judith Gustin
10 / 02- Joyce Newman- Avva	10 / 10- Ron Bratten	10 / 28- James Sadler
10 / 02- Vernon Barns	10 / 11- Gerald Haas	10 / 31- Howard Daugherty
10 / 03- Charles Hundley	10 / 11- Mary Ward - Avva	10 / 31- James McSorley
10 / 05- Michael Newman	10 / 11- Raymond Calhoun	
10 / 05- Robert Wilms	10 / 14- Ralph Bratten	
10 / 06- Wayne Gregory	10 / 18- Paul Halas	
10 / 07 Don Sheppard	10 / 20- James L. Farquer	
10 / 08- Joann Gregory- AVVA	10 / 22- Regina Herbolt - Avva	
10 / 08- Roy Wilson	10 / 23- James Johnson	

AUGUST 19th - Cliff Riley receives Distinguished Alumnus Award



The Clermont Northeastern High School Distinguished Alumnus Hall of Fame award is to honor graduates who have distinguished themselves in many different fields after graduating high school.

Presenting Cliff with the Clermont Northeastern Distinguished Alumnus Hall of Fame award is; John Long, right Read More: <http://local.cincinnati.com/share/story/217070>

SEPTEMBER 5th - Goshen High School Honors Local Area Veterans



Each year Goshen School District, (Darrell Edwards, Superintendent and Staff) invites all veterans to attend their yearly "Veterans Recognition Night" for a BBQ cook-out and a free ticket to attend the first football game of the season. During the half-time portion of the game, all veterans are given a balloon and escorted to the 50-yard line. The National Anthem is played by the Goshen High School Band, along with a guest singer.

After the completion of the singing of the nation anthem, all balloons were then released to the sky.

This 2014 event brought about 70 veterans, from many different organizations within Clermont County, with the bleachers filled with family members of the Goshen Warriors football team.

SEPTEMBER 6th - Chapter 649 Golf Fundraiser - Ken Williamson Chairperson

- . "Thank you all for your hard work on the ninth annual golf outing. Our net, after expenses, is just slightly over \$7,000. We still have a couple of sponsors who have pledged, but not paid, so I am unable to give you a final number. Thank you letters have been sent to all sponsors and golf teams.
- . Next year we will be back at Elks Run on September 12th. I will be having a golf committee meeting next month for the purpose of gathering ideas for improvement, reorganizing the committee and planning for contacting corporate sponsors before the end of the year. This year we had four corporate sponsors totaling \$2,200.
- . Thanks to everyone who helped make this event successful, and a special thanks to Jim Wilson who sold over \$1,000 in raffle tickets". . . . Ken

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday October 9

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

November Meeting Date
Thursday - November 13

AVVA Membership

Associates of Vietnam Veterans
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.



SEPTEMBER 6th - Ohio State Council Membership Meeting -Michael Newman Delegate,



While many of our chapter members were attending our yearly Golf Outing Fundraiser, Buckeye State Council also held its quarterly General Monthly Membership Meeting, (which requires a minimum of one delegate to attend). Although Michael Newman would have liked to have attended the golf event and watch his daughter, who supported Chapter 649 and played golf, Michael attended the State Council meeting held in Columbus, Ohio, providing Chapter 649 with much valuable information presented at this meeting. State Council Meeting, require all cell phones be placed on silence mode during all meetings, but with special permission, and his phone on silence, he was able to watch his daughter as she teed-off, seeking that elusive dream of scoring a Hole-In-One.

September 11th,- After giving his Delegate report at our September meeting , Michael informed us that no hole-in-one was achieved.

SEPTEMBER 11th - Chapter 649 Monthly Meeting

Chapter 649 held it's monthly membership meeting at Union Twp. Civic Center - East Gate

Food was served by AVVA members Joann Gregory and Donna Beckstedt, who served a spaghetti dinner, salad and desert, to approximately 70 members in attendance.

Guest Speaker, Ohio Second District US Congressman Brad Wenstrup spoke of his experiences while serving in Iraq, and various veterans issues in congress.

- . Chapter 649 Delegate - VVA Michael Newman / AVVA- Joann Gregory, provided our members with information obtained from meetings they attended, pertaining to; VVA State and National and AVVA National.
 - . Chapter 649 voted to assist VA Clermont County- Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) with funds needed to maintain local area cable TV access viewing, for those patients while awaiting their scheduled appointments.
 - . **V.V.A.** Chapter 649 obtained two new members; Richard Rubson-U.S Army / Steven Workman- U.S. Army From Chapter 649, we wish to say; Welcome Home
 - . **A.V.V.A.** Obtained one new member - George James.
- Chapter 649, thanks you for supporting Clermont County - Vietnam Veterans Of America.

SEPTEMBER 15th - Vietnam Veterans Receive Belated Medal Of Honor



The extraordinary valor of now-retired Cmd. Sgt. Maj. [Bennie Adkins](#) and Spc. [Donald Sloat](#), killed in 1970, were belatedly recognized after a painstaking search of files going back to World War II, says Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nate Christensen, a Pentagon spokesman.

"You served with valor," President Obama said of the recipients at the ceremonies Monday, Sept 15.

"You made us proud. And your service is with us for eternity. So no matter how long it takes, no matter how many years go by, we'll continue to appreciate your service to the country.

"Both men fought in Vietnam.

- . **Bennie Adkins** was a Green Beret wounded 18 times who killed an estimated 135-175 enemy soldiers during a 38-hour battle in March of 1966.
- . **Donald Sloat** threw himself on a grenade to save his comrades, sacrificing his life on Jan. 17, 1970.

SEPTEMBER 19th - Meet & Greet

Friday September 19 Chapter 649 held a Meet & Greet outside the entrance of Sam's Club (East-Gate), to inform all visitors who are veterans, or may have a relative, friend ,or neighbor, who may have served in the military, of the benefits available to Veterans, through the VA Hospital.

Also providing information to all veterans who may wish to become a member of Chapter 649, or purchase a Commemorative Brick, to be placed at our Memorial. Union Twp. Veterans Park - AKA - Helicopter Park

Chapter 649 wishes to "Thank" All families who visited our booth, for your generous donations.

and all chapter members who were there providing this information to inform the public of the benefits available, specifically, Mark Brandon, Bill Graybill, Michael and Joyce Newman, Don Sheppard, Guy Ford, Joann Gregory, Donna Beckstedt, and Dan Schulte .



SEPTEMBER 19th - Kokomo, Indiana

Members of Chapter 649 traveled to Kokomo, Indiana to visit the annual "Veterans Reunion" held each year in Kokomo. Although the Caravan-To-Kokomo was never officially organized for the trip, a few of our members took it upon themselves to make the trip. Good Times were had by all attending, and arrangements to return next year have been scheduled.

ADVANCE NOTICE INFORMATION

Sign-Up Sheets will be distributed at our October AND November general membership meeting for members to submit information as to; Will You Be Attending Our Christmas Dinner ?

What type of covered dish you wish to provide at our 2014 Christmas Dinner.

Chapter 649 needs this information well in advance allowing us to calculate the amount of food needed, for the amount of people who plan to attend.

For our new members who may not be aware, each year Chapter 649 provides 10 to 12 "Food Baskets" to be given to, Clermont County Veterans in Need. We provide each family with empty banana boxes containing canned food, & staples, thus providing not only Christmas Dinner, but many meals thereafter.

Honey Baked Ham donates a ham for each family. Chapter 649 provides all other food, plus a Gift-Card to each family.

Items needed, Canned; Corn / Beans of all kinds / Spinach / Tomato's etc.

Soups of all kinds, / Navy Beans / Corn-Bread mix / Spaghetti / Macaroni / Mac & Cheese / Stuffing, etc.

Sauces; Spaghetti / Apple, / Jell-O, Kool-Aid, Peanut-Butter, Jelly, Lunch Cakes / etc.

Soap; Bath / Dish / Hand / Laundry / Paper Towels / Bathroom Tissue / etc.

Personal-Care-Items / Razors / Shaving Cream / Kleenex / etc.

NOTE * Any of the items mentioned above can **NOW** be presented to chapter 649 at our monthly meetings, held in **October - November**, and also **December 11**, during our Chapter Meeting at the Owensville Fair Grounds.

Basically, any non-perishable food or Food Staple you yourself, would serve or be served, if fixing a meal for your family.

PLEASE CHECK ALL DONATIONS FOR EXPIRATION DATES

Please, No Food Expirations Before 2015

ATTENTION ALL NEW VVA & AVVA MEMBERS

If you have recently became a member of Chapter 649, I would like to take a photo of you !

I use this photo to place upon our slide show which is presented prior to the beginning of each monthly meeting.

If you served in the military, I also would like **YOU**, to provide me with a photo of yourself, taken while serving in the military, so I may portray a photograph of you while serving (Then) and a current day photo of you (Now), which is also shown upon our website. <http://www.vva649.org/thenandnow/index44.htm>

To complete the current-day photo I must take your photo with you standing in front of a Green-Screen background, allow me to delete the green background, and replace the green with a photo of you standing in front of the American Flag.

Please refrain from wearing any clothing containing the color GREEN !

A.V.V.A. Members: I also would like to take a current-day photo of you to place with our other AVVA members photos. Thank you for any help you may provide,

Wayne Gregory,
Chapter 649 Treasurer,
Chapter 649 Webmaster,
Chapter 649 Newsletter



OCTOBER

October 3- 5 - Pumpkin Run - Clermont Co Fairgrounds - Man Booth At Fairgrounds

- **We still need volunteers for all 3 days. Please contact Cliff Riley (513. 509. 6271) to get an admissions pass if you are going to work our booth.**

Meet & Greet - Providing V A Benefits Information To Other Veterans

OCTOBER

Buckeye State Council - District Director 3 - Ken Wiliamson

District 3 Director's Fall Meeting, Will Be Held On October 4 / Time 10:00 a.m.

Location: Union Twp. Civic Center - District 3 Chapters; VVA 10, VVA 97, VVA 649, VVA 930

NOVEMBER

- **November - Food Drive For "Vets In Need"**

Collection Of Can-Goods and other Staples to help provide Veterans In Need, during the Christmas Holidays, will begin November 1, 2014 !

All donations of Can-Goods, Paper Products, etc. etc. will be delivered to the Veterans Family in need, Dec. 12 or 13.

If you have donations of any kind, or are seeking more information as to what to provide, please contact;

Chapter 649 AVVA Representative - Joann Gregory at Our General Membership Meeting, held on the

Second Thursday of Each Month - Union Twp. Civic Center Food @ 7:00 PM - Business begins @ 7:30 PM

(2013 - 11 Veterans received three banana boxes full of Food & other staples).

Honey Baked Ham also donated Honey Baked Hams to each veteran.

- **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**

DECEMBER 11 - Chapter 649 December Monthly Meeting - - OWENSVILLE FAIRGROUNDS

Chapter 649 will conduct the December Monthly General Membership Meeting, to be held prior to our 2014 - Christmas Dinner.

Doors Open @ 6:00 pm / Monthly Meeting Begins @ 6:45 pm / Monthly Meeting Ends @ 7:00 pm / Dinner Served @ 7:00 pm

All Donations for "Veterans In Need" *Not Yet Received*, Will Also Be Collected for Distribution To Veterans

Cost Of Dinner : Each Attending Member Please Provide A Covered Dish Suitable For Those Attending

Please Contact: AVVA Joann to coordinate Covered - Dishes needed & Serving Size.

(Eliminating Everyone Bringing the same Covered Dish)