

THE WARRIOR

VVA SAN JACINTO CHAPTER 343 NEWSLETTER

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August 1, 2014

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ARMY

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COAST GUARD

National Leadership Conference - 2014



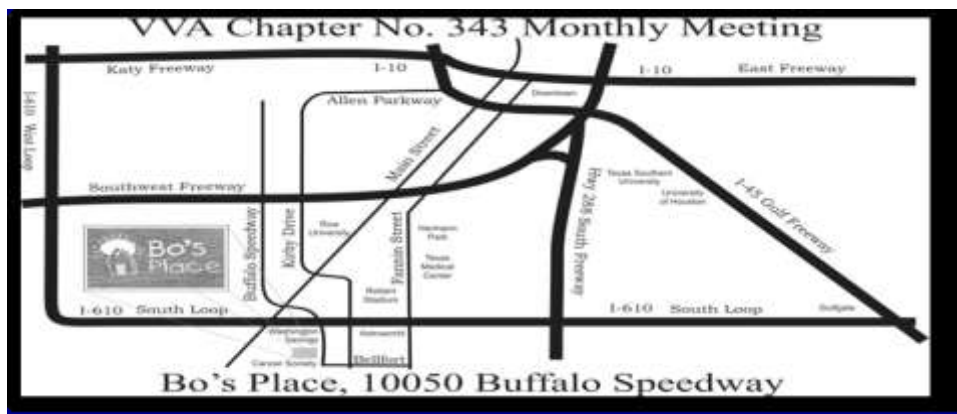
VVA and AVVA members from across the country will come together this upcoming week for the VVA National Leadership & Education Conference in Wichita, KS. Texas State Council Secretary Stephen Brady, Suzie Meeks and I will be attending the conference.

SPECIAL NOTICE: If you are a veteran in emotional crisis and need help RIGHT NOW, call this toll-free number 1-800-273-8255, available 24/7, and tell them you are a veteran. All calls are confidential.



The WARRIOR is published monthly by Vietnam Veterans of America San Jacinto Chapter No. 343, Inc. The content of this newsletter is solely the responsibility of the Editor. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Chapter, its Officers, Directors, Membership or Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Address correspondence and changes of address to: VVA Chapter No. 343, C/O Editor Bill Meeks, Jr., P.O. Box 310306, Houston, Texas 77231.

**Get Involved Today...By Attending the VVA Chapter No. 343's August 8th Meeting on Friday Night
7:30 PM at Bo's Place.....**



Good Members of VVA Chapter 343:

Our standing with the Randall's Good Neighbor Program has been reinstated, making us available as a charity to receive cash rewards. That is some really good news and hopefully will have a positive effect on our chapter's bank account. Remember that these cash rewards are based on shoppers spending money at Randalls and having our chapter pre-establish to be a recipient of them.

To do that, what we need from each of our members is to do the following:

- 1. check your personal Randalls account and ensure that 1610 (Chapter 343's GNP #) is setup.*
- 2. in 1610 is not setup as a charity on your Randalls card, fill out the attached form and take to your nearest Randalls store and turn in at the Services desk.*

VVA Texas State Council October Meeting

**Vietnam Veterans of America – Chapter 1013, P.O. Box 542046, Grand Prairie, TX
75054-2046**

ONE FORM TO BE FILLED OUT FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING

**Hotel Information: Arlington Hilton Hotel - 2401 E. Lamar Blvd. - Arlington, Texas - Phone (817)640-3322
ext. 6606 - Rate: \$119 per day, plus occupancy tax of 15%**

THE CUTOFF FOR ROOM REGISTRATION IS SEPTEMBER 19, 2014.

CHAPTER # _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

VVA Chapter Delegate ___ AVVA ___ Guest ___ (please check one)

Registration Fee: \$45 per person attending

**Meeting Registration Hours: Friday, October 3 – 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm and Saturday, October 4 – 8:00 am
to 12:00 pm**

TSC BANQUET: Saturday, October 4 – 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm

Dinner Menu Selection: (Please check your choice)

**— Hand Cut 8oz. Sirloin, Merlot Peppercorn Sauce, Bleu Cheese Mashed Potatoes, vegetables, salad
and fresh baked rolls, and dessert**

— Pan Seared Breast of Chicken Dusted with Pecans, Bourbon Reduction Drizzle,

Au Gratin Potatoes, vegetables, salad, fresh baked rolls, and dessert

Project A.M.I.G.O. recipient: Lifeline Shelter

Please make checks payable and mail with form to: VVA Chapter 1013 - P.O. Box 542046

Grand Prairie, TX 75054-2046

Contact: William Love, Secretary Chapter 1013

(817)470-5301 – email: VVA1013secretary@gmail.com



Editor's Update...

Due to my frequent travel I have to ask our members to volunteer their time when I get a request that I can't handle. Here is a request from Susan Wray Cook, Ph.D. and her response after Stephen Brady answered her request.

Dear Sir,

My name is Susan Cook. I am the Vice Regent of a DAR chapter here in Houston. I just left a phone message and also send an email to Mr. Meeks. But, I am also trying this email address that was on your website. My chapter of the DAR (Lady Washington, Daughters of the American Revolution) would be very proud to have a Viet Nam Veteran come and speak to our chapter on Nov 11, 2014. It would be the program for our November meeting. We meet at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 11am in the morning (second Tuesday of the month). The speaker would need to have a 20 minute presentation and answer questions for 5 to 10 minutes. If there is someone in your chapter that could do this for us, we would be very grateful. We would be happy to make a donation to your chapter or make an honorarium to the speaker.

If this would be possible, please contact me. Thank you so much for considering this.

Susan Wray Cook, Ph.D. First Vice Regent – Lady Washington Chapter - DAR

Mr. Meeks,

Thank you so much for your response. I do hope that someone from your chapter would agree to share their experiences in the Viet Nam conflict with our members. Naturally, our ladies are sympathetic to all issues concerning veterans and volunteer time and gifts with the VA Hospital here in Houston. I am sorry that you cannot be the speaker. It is Veteran's Day, so I understand that many people would have other commitments. I look forward to hearing from someone that might be willing to talk to us.

Yours truly,

Susan Wray Cook, Ph.D. - Lady Washington Chapter, NSDAR

Mr. Meeks,

Wow – that was a very impressive response! Mr. Stephen Brady, a wonderful gentleman, contacted me within minutes and has volunteered to speak to the ladies in our chapter. **Thank you so very much.**

Susan Wray Cook, Ph.D.

**Professor of Biology
Joint Admission Medical Program Faculty Director
Alpha Epsilon Delta, National Director of Communications**



Kerwin Stone – President VVA Chapter # 292

Kerwin is at Michael DeBakey VA Hospital - Houston, had a tumor (non malignant) removed from near his brain stem.

Received the following update from Andy (Kerwin's son).

BTW- if you want to send cards to Kerwin, please use the following address:

Mr. Kerwin Stone
P.O. Box 3891
Beaumont, TX 77704-3891

Our thoughts and prayers are with Kerwin (and his family) as he recovers.

Stephen Brady

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Andrew Stone**

Date: Sat, Aug 2, 2014 at 11:39 AM

Subject: Re: Medical Update on Kerwin Stone

To All:

We visited Kerwin late last night and have arrived at the ICU again this morning. There is a remarkable improvement in the past 12 hours. He is much more alert/awake as you'd expect, though it was rough overnight due to the nausea. The nausea seems to be subsiding this morning--probably a combination of the anti-nausea medications and the normal metabolism of those drugs in his system--and they fact they gave him a fluffier pillow. Kerwin is cracking a few jokes, but is still unable to open his eyes for more than a second or two due the dizziness--normal for the first few days, according to the doctors.

We expect Kerwin to remain in the ICU through today; the docs say it is likely they will move him to the step-down recovery area tomorrow at some time. We're still a few days or more from him being released to go home. I'll pass along those details/ room# as soon as I can.

Again, thank you all for your thoughts and prayers.

Cheers
Andy

Sgt Major Jon Cavaiani, Medal of Honor Recipient Passed Away!

The following tribute is from Bill Mimiaga of Chapter 785 in Orange County, CA.

Dick

Aloha All.....today we lost another American Hero, Sgt Major Jon Cavaiani, Medal of Honor recipient while serving with MACV-SOG, 5th Special Forces Group, Vietnam 1971. Jon was also a POW and was held for two years by the North Vietnamese. Jon had a great sense of humour and was a highly recognized and noted "Master Chef" who was in demand by the rich and famous for his outstanding cuisine. Jon was most proud of his "Eagle, Globe and Anchor" that he cherished and wore on th...e top right lapel of his uniform. Our Marine Corps Commandant, CMC, recognized Jon as an "Honorary Marine" of which Jon was most proud as only a handful have received this distinguished "Honor." Jon was born

in England but proud when he became a naturalized citizen in 1968. Jon resided in Columbia, California but will be laid to rest with Full Military Honors at Arlington National Cemetery. He will be missed and prayers airborne to bring comfort to his wife and family. "Fair Winds and Following Sea's" on your journey to Valhalla my brother Marine for you are now cradled in the Lord's arms. **Ooorah and Semper Fi Monsoon**

APPLICATION FOR VVA MEMBERSHIP

(Return to: Vietnam Veterans of America San Jacinto Chapter No. 343, P.O. Box 310306, Houston, Texas 77231)

Name _____ **Sex** _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Chapter No. 343**

Home Phone () _____ **Work Phone ()** _____

E-mail _____

Type: ___ Individual member – 1 year @ \$20 ___ Individual member – 3 years @ \$50

Life member: ___ \$200 (ages 56-60) ___ \$175 (ages 61-65) ___ \$150 (ages 66-71) ___ \$100 (ages 72+)

___ Optional Life member time payment plan - \$50 down, \$25/month

___ Incarcerated Veterans (IVI) \$0: TDCJ # _____ or ___ Incarcerated Veteran Associate (IVA) \$7: TDCJ # _____

___ Associate member – 1 year @ \$20

Payment Method: ___ Check ___ Money Order ___ Credit Card (Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover)

Credit Card Number _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Signature _____

Eligibility: Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

New members and new life members must submit a copy of their DD-214 along with this application and dues payment.



The End!