# VVA Clermont County Chapter 649 September 2017 Newsletter

## Our Next Meeting - Thursday, September 14th 7:30 PM

**Our guest Speaker will be** Dr. Brian Treon, Clermont County Coroner. Dr. Treon has served as Clermont County Coroner since 2002. He has overseen the conversion of the Coroner's Office to a computerized system and is in the process of archiving paper records dating back to the 1950s.

## VVA Fund Raiser

Our primary fundraiser this year is the rifle/pistol raffle. First winner gets choice of an AR-15 rifle or a Sig Sauer 1911 .45 caliber pistol; second winner receives the other firearm. Tickets are $5.00 each, or five for $20.00. We need more sales of raffle tickets in order to meet our goal of $12,000 this year.

Members interested in selling raffle tickets should contact Michael Newman at 513-607-9309. If you are interested in purchasing tickets for yourself, there are several members selling tickets at our meetings. If you cannot make the meeting, call Michael at 513-607-9309 and he will arrange to get tickets to you.

## VVA 649 Meetings

VVA 649 meets the second Thursday of every month.

**NEXT MEETING: Sept 14th**

**LOCATION**

Union Township Civic Center
4350 Aicholtz Road
Eastgate Exit of I-275
Food served at 7:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Guest speaker immediately following the pledge of allegiance.

**AVVA Membership**

Associates of Vietnam Veterans
Members actively participate
And work in supporting VVA.

## Chapter Secretary Resigns

The Chapter Secretary, Dan Schulte, has found it necessary to resign that position for personal reasons. Dan has been doing an excellent job as secretary for the past two years. We will miss his work. Persons interested in stepping up to this position please contact Michael Newman at 513-607-9309.

## VVA Receives National Award

Chapter 649 received the 2017 National Membership Growth Award in the 201-300 Member category. I believe this is the first National recognition for Chapter 649. Congratulations to VVA 649 Membership Chair Cliff Riley and Joann Gregory.

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VVA 649 presented the Eastgate Walmart with its monthly Business of the Month award for July. The certificate was presented to the store for its support of VVA 649 Meet and Greets for local veterans. VVA 649 Community Service Committee Chairman Mark Brandon presented the award to employee Alicia Wilson who accepted it on behalf of vacationing store manager Dennis Phillips. The Business of the Month award recognizes local businesses for their support of VVA 649's mission.

## POW - MIA Bengals Football Day

**Cincinnati Bengals vs Baltimore Ravens.** Buckeye State Council Director Bob Coy has arranged for Ohio veterans to attend the Bengals - Baltimore game for $75.00 per ticket. There are plenty of tickets still available. If interested in attending contact Michael Newman before September 7th. 513-607-9309

## Michael Newman VVA President Reports On The National Convention

The national convention was held in New Orleans from August 8 – 11. The chapter had six delegates attending. Region 5, which includes Ohio, had the second highest number – 137. The total number of delegates attending was 811.

Delegates attended various committee hearings on resolutions. I was able to attend hearings on Agent Orange, Membership Affairs, and Government Affairs. The Agent Orange committee's main efforts at this time is for passage of HR-299 and S-422, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans act of 2017.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Charles Figley of Florida State University. Dr. Figley is a professor in the fields of psychology, social work, traumatology and mental health, among others, and spoke to the value of homecoming and its effect on the return of troops from various wars, noting especially the deleterious effect on Vietnam veterans.

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## Convention Report Continued

**ELECTIONS:** The four top officers elected: President – John Rowan, Vice-President – Marsha Four, Secretary – Bill Meeks, and Treasurer – Wayne Reynolds, all ran unopposed and were re-elected, as was our Region 5 Director, Tom Burke. Twenty-one members ran for the ten At-Large National Board of Director's slots. Elected were Dottie Barickman - IA, Felix "Pete" Peterson - OK, Dan Stenvold - ND, Sandie Wilson - MI, Kerwin Stone – TX, John Margoswski – WI, Gumersindo Gomez – MA, Charlie Montgomery, Richard DeLong – LA, and Dave Simons – WV.

## Buckeye State Receives National Award

State Council of the Year Award was presented to Buckeye State Council, headed by our own Cliff Riley, President, and Ray Autenrieb, First Vice President. Congratulations to Cliff and Ray for their state leadership. I understand that this is also a first national recognition for Buckeye State Council.

## VVA 649 Annual Golf Outing - September 9th

This year's outing is being held at Elks Run. We still have openings for teams and hole sponsors. Call Ken Williamson at 513-260-6501 to reserve your team, donate a door prize or make a donation by sponsoring a hole for $50.

## September Birthdays

09 / 01- Cliff Riley
09 / 01- Tom Hesler
09 / 04- James Brath
09 / 05- Herstle Bridges
09 / 05- Robert L. Barger
09 / 06- Bruce Nutley
09 / 06- Robert Ireton
09 / 06- Wayne Waligorski
09 / 06- James "Peanut" Kahles
09 / 07- John Pane
09 / 07- John Swigert
09 / 07- Phillip Tussey
09 / 08- Connie Lillis AVVA
09 / 10- Tom Fecher
09 / 12- Ray Miller Jr
09 / 13- Kim Bredenbeck
09 / 13- Richard Day
09 / 14- Danny Sims
09 / 14- Tim Long
09 / 14- Walter Shipley
09 / 15- Robert Derr
09 / 15- Ronald Sirabry
09 / 16- James Bell
09 / 17- Walter Ruther
09 / 20- David Loving
09 / 20- David Watkins
09 / 20- Lannie Cornell
09 / 21- Darryl Trace
09 / 22- Luther Perry
09 / 22- Peter Wendell
09 / 23- Stephen De Hass
09 / 25- David Drake
09 / 25- Frank Brisker
09 / 25- James Ohsenhirt
09 / 26- George Anderson Jr
09 / 26- John D. Rudolph
09 / 27- Cindy Smith AVVA
09 / 27- Robert Bell
09 / 28- Samuel Bray
09 / 30- Dennis Waler