



VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2016

The BUZZ WORD



WWII Veteran, Willis Knight proudly
displays his medals.

THE BUZZ WORD

Three ways for you to receive the Vermont Veterans' Home monthly newsletter:

- ♦ Vermont Veterans' Home website:
www.vvh.vermont.gov
Click on About Our Home
Click on Newsletters
- ♦ Email
- ♦ Mailing List

Please contact:

The Buzz Word Editor
Vermont Veterans' Home
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 447-6510

Email: Barbara.Fitzgerald@vermont.gov



VVH WISH LIST

CD Players
CD's of any type of music
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Envelopes, Stamps, Pens, Writing Paper
Men's Caps
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Word Search Books
Universal TV Remotes
Earphones for TV and Music
Trivia Books
DVD Players
Outdoor Benches
Monetary Donation to Members' Assistance Fund

Your donations are gratefully accepted. Please make check for monetary donations out to Vermont Veterans' Home:

**Vermont Veterans' Home
Business Office
325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

THANK YOU



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Sponsored By: The USS Bennington Association Auxiliary



Chaplain's Corner...



Howdy Folks,

Only nine days until Christmas. By the time you read this, we will all have acknowledged the greatest gift God ever gave to the world. He wrapped himself up and gave Himself to everyone on earth, the Son of God, Jesus Christ. In Isaiah, we read: for a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us, and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Might God. I am inclined to say that God cloned himself and Jesus the Son became God on earth, while the Father remained in Heaven.

Hope everyone enjoyed the celebration of Christmas and in their hearts accepted the Lord Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Another event in our Christian year is Epiphany. The word Epiphany is from the Greek word epiphonia, which means "manifestation". On the Day of Epiphany, January 6, we celebrate Christ being revealed to the world with the visit of the wise men, the first Gentiles to whom he was made known. The bible doesn't tell how many wise men came to Bethlehem. Various sources claim two to twelve, however, because three gifts (Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh) are mentioned we believe there are at least three. We visualize each of the three wise men carrying one of the gifts. The Latin American Countries celebrate what they call Three Kings Day with special songs and skits. Children put straw under their beds for the camels and look for gifts from the kings.

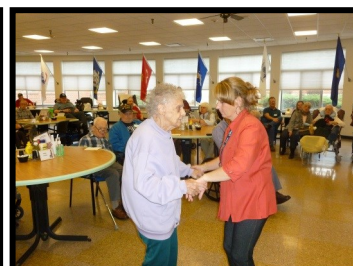
Happy New Year everyone!

God Bless and don't forget to prayer for our troops.

Ken Coonradt, Chaplain



District 1 VFW Department of VT Holiday Party





VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

Fulfilling the Promise

**325 North Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

The Vermont Veterans' Home was established in Bennington in 1884. It is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The VVH offers a complete range of specialized care services for its residents. VVH goals focus on insuring the dignity, independence, and the highest possible care and quality of life for each resident.

VVH is licensed to meet all levels of care for its residents and the VVH's departments and staff work together to provide those levels of care.

For any Further Questions Please Contact:

**Mary Ryan, Executive Assistant
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802-447-6523**



<http://vvh.vermont.gov>

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***From the Administrator...
Melissa Jackson***

Happy New Year!!

As I write this it looks more like early spring than the end of December outside but rest assured winter will make its presence known sooner or later.

As we start 2016 the staff has identified several Quality Assurance Performance Improvement Projects (QAPI) that they will be working on. The one thing missing from these project is you!! We are inviting our Veterans, Members and their family members to be active participants in these projects which we call Performance Improvement Projects or PIPs.

If you are interested in participating in a PIP or attending our QAPI meeting please contact Karen Divis at karen.divis@vermont.gov or at 802-447-2888. Karen can provide you with a list of current PIPs and the date and time of our next QAPI meeting.

Working together we can continually improve the care and services we provide to our Veterans and Members. I look forward to seeing you at our QAPI or PIP meetings.

Take Care,

Melissa



The Lion's Club Holiday Dinner

Patricia Babcock, helps Santa deliver gifts out to the attendees at the Lion's Club Christmas Dinner.



L to R: Audrey Jones, Brother Robert and Jackie Sullivan

Board of Trustees Employee Appreciation

The Board of Trustees gave turkeys to all the employees to show appreciation for all of the hard work and dedication they have shown to the Veterans over the last year.

L to R: Col. Joe Krawczyk, President of the Board of Trustees, Bob Welch, LNA and Mike diMonda, member of the Board of Trustees.



Employees from the Dietary Department receive their turkeys from the Board of Trustees.

Donations

On behalf of the Veterans/Members, we sincerely thank the following for their generous donations.

Ann Peters
 Tony Sacco
 Alfred Kaptein
 Brattleboro Chapter D.A.R.
 4th and 5th graders from Bennington Elementary
 Liz Putnam
 Linda Moxley
 James Brady
 Mrs. Moore's Class—SHS
 The Praetorius Family
 The Haverstock Family
 Rhonda Roberts
 Phyllis Roberts
 Dawn Black
 Sharon Corey
 Gertude Oles
 Constance Radziejewski
 Craig and Amy Cowan
 Paul Leon
 Rene McIntyre and MAUHS' SOS class
 Ms. Patricia LaCroix
 Ms. Dolores Malmgren
 Jim Donnelly
 Stacey New and Friends
 Gail Beauregard
 Nancy and Roger Miller
 Linda and David Willey
 Judy Barrows
 Betty and Alan Rogers
 Katherine Williams

Doris Pratt
 Joanne Harrington
 Donald Keelan, CPA
 The Pharmacy
 Blue Spruce Grange #574
 The Quiet Valley Quilters Guild
 Fidel Moreno/Pow Wow
 The Clover Kids and Critters Club
 St. John the Evangelist School
 The Beatrice Forrest Foundation
 Ken Russell, President of Christian Motorcycle Assoc.
 Green Mountain Bulldawgs Antique Truck Club
 The Red Mountain Chapter order of the Easter Star
 VFW Post 1332 Auxiliary Color Guard
 Bennington Rotary International Club
 Sons of American Legion
 VFW Post 793 Men's Auxiliary
 USS Bennington Association Auxiliary
 Bennington VFW Post 1332
 Ann Story Chapter DAR
 American Legion Post 9
 Blue Star Mothers of Vermont 1
 American legion-The 49R's, Fair Haven
In Memory of Frank Baldwin
 Ruth Macy
 Gail Barrett
In Memory of Alan Gibney
 David Yentzer
In Memory of Dr. Thomas McGrory
 Beverly Little

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays at 2:30 pm

Located in the Chapel at the Vermont Veterans' Home

For adults living with loss due to a death. Find comfort, coping skills and support Confidentiality is always respected. No fee to attend this group.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 1:00-2:00

A. Luke Crispe Room

If you have questions, please contact: Bill MacMillan at 802-447-6524

ALS SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 1:00 pm

Namaste Room on American Way

Please contact Christina Cosgrove, 802-447-2792, for more information.



From Deputy Administrator... Colonel Al Faxon



We may not have received abundant amounts of snow thus far this winter, but we know it is coming. I have learned that several of our Veterans are fellow cold weather warriors....and we all know those that fought in the Korean War intimately know the effects of this weather on both people and equipment in combat.



I attended Mountain Warfare School and participated in several exercises in Northern Norway, 250 miles above the Arctic Circle. The weather is always harsh and unforgiving. We were staying in three-man tents or snow caves....believe it or not the snow caves are much warmer.



When you dig a good snow cave the interior temperature remains at 32 degrees, much better than the minus20 outside. You then light a 7 hour candle and before you know it, you're wearing a sweater and no jacket. Small luxuries.....

Fortunately we don't have to build snow caves here at VVH...however when you do go outside, remember to keep warm and maintain your body heat. Wear the proper clothing....and above all....enjoy the season!

Semper Fi"

AF

Silvia Boulger Retires after 22 years at VVH



Silvia at her retirement luncheon.

Silvia was an asset to VVH
and she is greatly missed!!



L to R: Tina Norman, Finance Dept.,
Silvia Boulger, Retiree, Melinda
Crowl, Finance and Joyce Santacross,
Human Resource Dept.



L to R: Col. Joe Krawczyk, Board of
Trustees President recognizes Silvia
for her 22 years of service to the
Veterans and VVHs' employees.



Rolling Thunder Vermont 1 presented Col. Al Faxon, COO with a donation while visiting the Home.



Wreathes Across America is a national organization with over 900 participating locations, focused on remembering, honoring and teaching about fallen soldiers.



District 1 VFW Department of Vermont presents Col. Al Faxon, COO with a donation.

Thank you all for your continued support



The VFW Post 1332 Auxiliary Color Guard dropped by to present Col. Al Faxon COO with some donations.



L to R: Steve McClafferty, Financial Director, Cody Casey and Rodger Preuss. Cody and his Grandfather brought the Home a donation from Equinox Valley Nursery.



Rodger Preuss donated squash to the Home. The squash is from Equinox Valley Nursery.



Donation from Jeffery S. Holmes Post 84, White River Jct. (L to R) Larry Greene, Col. Al Faxon, COO and Charlie Patch.



The Veterans' were able to shop for their loved ones with help from the American Legion Auxiliary Gift Program.



(R to L) Phyllis and Rhonda Roberts presented Col. Al Faxon, COO with a wonderful donation.

Dust Of Snow
By: Robert Frost

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.



Deck The Halls



Everywhere you turned, there were trees, garland, lights, bulbs, and even holiday music. The Home's Activity Department did an excellent job making sure the holiday spirit was everywhere in the building.

A Christmas Carol: Readers Theatre Style
By: Shakespeare on Main Street



Coming in February



Valentines Day Dance

More
information
will be in the
February's Issue



Volunteers Needed

Shopping Trip Companion
(with our transportation)

Bingo Helper

Off Campus Event Companion

In House Event Helper

And More!

If you have a skill you would like to share with our Veterans, please let us know.

For more information about our Volunteer Program, please call :

Patricia Babcock at 447-6467

Holiday Tree Donation



L to R: Col. Al Faxon, COO, Melissa Jackson, CEO.
Don Keelan, Jim White, Dick Frantz, Phil Young and
Dave Zsivo (not in the picture).

The tree was absolutely beautiful and admired by
many.

Just For Laughs.....

Letters to Soldiers from Children

Students are great about sending our troops letters,
and the troops love'em. You can see why:

“Dear Soldier, if you’re having a rough day,
remember the most important thing in life is to be
yourself. Unless you can be Batman.”

“Dear Veterans, You rock more than AC/DC or
Metallica or Red Hot Chili Peppers.”

“I am so happy you are risking your life for the
USA! My grandpa Bob was in the Navy. Now he
likes peanuts.”

Source: Uniformstories.com



