



*Officers  
and Board  
of  
Directors*

Officers:

President: Don Hays 706-866-4890  
1st VP: Tommy Hickey 423-240-7767  
2nd VP: Denney Miller 423-227-7182  
Secretary: Don Hill 423-886-3875  
Treasurer: Dan Lovin 423-238-5128  
AVVA: Karen Carnes 423-260-9736

Board of Directors

Waterdog Bunch 423-488-5613  
Vance Elliott: 423-332-5447  
Larry Johnson: 423-875-3949  
Ralph Price: 423-629-7242  
Rick Simpson: 423-902-1359

## Appointed Positions in Chapter 203

### VVA

*Membership Chair:* Dan Taylor 423-842-0461  
*Chaplain:* Paul Williams 706-866-2034  
*Historian:* Ken Starry 423-875-6936  
*Honor Guard Coordinator:* Tom Sloan 423-762-2522  
*Armory Sergeant:* Waterdog Bunch 423-488-5613  
*Website:* Sharon Hobbs 423-495-0202  
*Newsletter:* David Carne 423-413-0012  
*Social Director:* Joyce Simpson 423-987-6851

### AVVA

*Membership Chair:* Susan Price 423-629-7242  
*Chaplain:* Donna Sparks 423-843-3637  
*Secretary:* Bettye Selby 423-894-5743  
*Treasurer:* Sandi Johnson 423-309-2703

[www.vva203.org](http://www.vva203.org)

### Chapter 203 Point-of-Contacts

**Area #1:** Chief Tommy Hickey. 423-240-7767  
Team: James McLain, Stan Brown, Robert Johnson

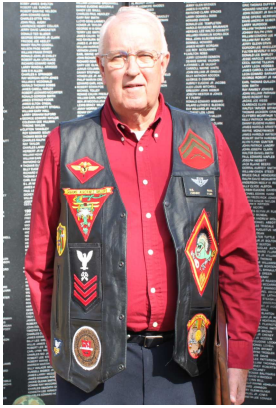
**Area #2:** Chief Ralph Price. 423-629-7242  
Team: Fred Huskey, Vernon Carbine

**Area #3:** Chief Larry Anderson. 706-673-3458  
Team: Larry Cooper, Rick Simpson, Lee Knight

**Area #4:** Chief Bill McClure. 423-476-5717  
Team: David Bell, Larry McGehee, Bob Merritt

**Area #5:** Chief Vance Elliott . 423-332-5447  
Team: Larry Johnson, Charles Ingle, Skip Broome

## President's Message



Brothers & Sisters:

Spring is a coming and it won't be long. By the next issue of the Mail Call, it will be well under way. But enough of this.

In April, at our business meeting, Chapter 203 will conduct an election of it's Officers and Board of Directors for the upcoming year of 2011 - 2012.

As President, I ask each Chapter 203 member to be there and show Mr. Fred Huskey that we appreciate the hard work he has done in order to come up with a slate of officers. **We must have a "Quorum" present to hold this election legally. This number for Chapter 203 is sixty five (65) members in "good standing".** Ladies and gentlemen, please be there!!!

Fred has candidates running for 1.) President, 2.) 1st Vice-President, 3.) 2nd Vice-President, 4.) Secretary, 5.) Treasurer & 6.) Three (3) Board of Directors for a two (2) year term and one (1) Board of Director for a one (1) year term. Call, email or "snake" mail Fred on any possible candidates (?).

Membership questions, contact your Chief Point of Contacts. They are:

1.) Tommy Hickey at (423) 240-7767 or any of his people for the North Dunlap, TN., South Pittsburg, TN., Whitwell, TN. & Jackson County, AL. areas. Some of his people - Stanley Brown at (423) 658-2417, Robert Johnson at (423) 596-4605, James McLain at (423) 949-3920 and Don Hill at (423) 313-3875.

2.) Ralph Price at (423) 580-9611 for the Chattanooga Proper area. Some of his people - Charlie

Hobbs at (423) 495-0202, Fred Huskey at (423) 883-9297 and Tom Sloane at (423) 762-2522.

3.) Larry Anderson at (706) 673-3458 for the North Georgia area. Some of his people - Lee

Knight at (706) 375-7804, Rick Simpson at (423) 902-1359, Don Hays at (706) 866-4890, Larry Cooper at (706) 694-2800, Anthony Bruschi at (706) 639-6551 and Dave Carne at (423) 413-0012.

4.) Bill McClure at (423) 476-5717 for the Bradley County, Cleveland, TN., Ooltewah, TN. & TN Northeast areas. Some of his people - David Bell at (423) 476-2602, Gerald Sniff at (423) 326-3177 and Larry McGehee at (423) 472-1977'

5..) Vance Elliott at (423) 332-5447 for the North Chattanooga, Hixon, Soddy-Daisy, TN. and North areas. Some of his people - Larry Johnson at (423) 875-3949, Charles Ingle at (423) 332-2827, Denny Miller at (423) 227-7182, Cecil Rice at (423) 332-1978, Dan Taylor at (423) 991-5628 and Ken Starry at (423) 322-2905.

Troops, we need everyone to pitch in and help this years Elections. So **Turn & Burn!!!**

P.S. Be looking for you there, 18:00 P.M., Post 95.

Thanks,

Don

*"we need everyone to pitch in and help this years Elections"*

## Chaplain's Corner: In the Gardens of Life



Chaplain, Paul Williams

**"It is  
the time  
for new  
life."**

We are in the season of Spring in the northern hemisphere. It is the time for new life. Already there are many gardeners preparing the ground to burst forth with plants that will produce vegetables, tubers, herbs and flowers. Gardens have long been a part of life.

We first hear of a garden in the very beginning of our world. Our Creator climaxed his creation with mankind. First, he created man in His image and placed him in the magnificent Garden of Eden with dominion over all living beings. Then the Lord God said "it is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him" (Gen. 2:18--NKJV). This garden was a state of perfection. However, the fallen angel known as Satan was also in that garden. Soon, that perfection was shattered and God would have to provide One who could live without sin to be a sacrifice for the fallen human state.

Long after the events in the Garden of Eden, God sent his Son who would be named Jesus into this fallen world. He was born by a virgin named Mary who was "found with child of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:18--NKJV). He would live only about 33 years. Three of those years He would be moving about the Holy Land teaching, loving, healing, restoring life and preparing disciples to carry his message of salvation into all the world. In the course of his ministry he gained many

enemies. Many of these were religious leaders who could not and/or would not give up their positions of authority. A conspiracy developed.

In these final hours of His life Jesus spent time with his disciples in the Upper Room in which he served them "The Last Supper." After they went out. Jesus led them to the Garden of Gethsemane. Again, we find a garden playing an important part of the story. Jesus was in agony. He knew what He was about to endure (and let us not forget that although He was the Son of God, He was also human having been born of a woman). In the garden He selected three of His disciples and went further into the garden to pray while the three were to watch. Three times He came back to them and found them asleep. But during his time of praying He was in agony. Luke the physician tells us "He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44--NKJV). Then a multitude arrived being lead by Judas who betrayed his master with a kiss. Jesus was then taken before the High Priest and the Sanhedrin. He was declared to be a blasphemer. He then was tried by Roman authorities, found guilty, scourged and marched to the hill called Golgatha. He was crucified about 9 o'clock in the morning and died about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Jesus was taken down from the cross and was buried in

the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Again, He was in a garden. John tells us "Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jew's Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby" (19:41,42--NKJV).

A beautiful Hymn for this season:

### In the Garden

I come to the garden alone,  
while the dew is  
still on the roses; And the  
voice I hear, falling on my ear  
The Son of God discloses.

And He walks with me, and  
he talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His  
own, And the joy we  
share as we tarry there, None  
other has ever known.

Paul Williams,  
Chaplain

# Membership Update and Renewals

## March

Ronald E. Barnette	Lester E. Norton
Thomas D. Crow	Marguerite W. Sharp
Garry G. Gray, Sr.	Samuel D. Smith
Robert Greuter	Ronald E. Tatum, Sr.
John C. Higgins	Craig K. Tyndall
Monroe W. Jones	Don Vice
Jerry W. Lewis	Ed A. Winkelman
John T. Nichols	James Wyrick

Please send your renewal payments to:

**VVA Chapter 203**  
**P.O. Box 23405**  
**Chattanooga, TN 37422-3405**

**This will be a GREAT help  
in tracking the renewals.**



Dan Taylor,  
Membership Chair

## April

Edward D. Broome	Ronnie Long
Thomas W. Haman	Thomas McDowell
Stanley R. Hobbs	Jackie McGowan
John E. Jenkins	Stephen W. Neumann
Don Keith	Larry B. Palmer
Millard Lewallen	Robert N. Reed, II
Ron Lewis	Luther J. Vanhoosier

*Dan L. Taylor, Jr.*  
(423) 842-0461  
danjrann@bellsouth.net

## May

Ronald Barnes	William D. Elliott
Jackie Braley	Donnie Johnson
Roger Carnes	Johnny H. Jones
David Carpenter	Eddie McAfee
Charles Cooley	Richard Miles
Robert Cooley	James A. Sawvell
Ronnie Cox	Donnie Sisco
Benny Dewitt	James Wilkes

**We want to thank you if you  
have already paid your dues.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16th & 17th: Valley Fest - Dunlap, TN. Set up on April 15th.

April 18th: Business meeting - American Legion Post 95 - 3329 Ringgold Rd. - East Ridge, TN. Election of officers for the upcoming year. **It is very important that we have a "Quorum" of members in attendance to hold an election of officers. (At least 65 members "in good standing" must be present).**

May 6th: Chattanooga Military Parade - 10:30 A.M.

May 14th: R&R Picnic - Soddy Daisy, TN.

May 16th: Business meeting - American Legion Post 95 - 3329 Ringgold Rd. - East Ridge, TN.

May 24th: Thunder Creek - Run to the Wall

May 29th: POW/MIA Ceremony - Calvary Baptist Church

March 30, 2011

## VA President Warns: Don't Balance the Budget on Veterans, But Do Focus on How the VA Spends the Funding It Gets

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), told a congressional hearing today, "Just because veterans, and our families, have sacrificed, this does not mean that we are willing to sacrifice in this way again.

"While we understand the need to address the deficit," Rowan said, "We stand 100 percent behind this statement by Congressman Tim Walz: 'Attempting to balance the budget on the backs of veterans who have risked life and limb in service of our country is unacceptable.' "

At the same time, Rowan said at a joint hearing of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees, "A very bright light ought to be shined on the operations of the Department of Veterans Affairs to probe for redundant or duplicative services, poor acquisition management, and staffing inefficiencies. This synchs with one of VVA's overarching priorities: accountability."

The other "top priorities" for VVA, Rowan said, are expanding and enhancing the VA's outreach efforts to inform veterans and their families, not only of the benefits they have earned by virtue of their military service, but also of the potential long-term health effects of toxic exposures; the addition of questions about a veteran's military medical history in all electronic health records; and the creation of a Veterans Economic Opportunities Administration in the VA to "consolidate various currently separate yet interrelated programs whose mission is to assist veterans obtain and sustain meaningful work, or training, or education that will lead to a decent job at a living wage, and will enable veterans to achieve their American dream."

Of particular concern, Rowan said, is the lingering legacy of Agent Orange. "We are alarmed for our children and their children who present with birth defects or learning disabilities never before seen in the father's or the mother's family history," Rowan said. "We need research into the long-term effects of toxic exposures, and just as importantly, we need treatment and care for the progeny of veterans exposed to a toxic fog in a combat zone."

# *In Memory Plaque*

***Please help us:***

1. Raise and center the plaque;
2. Change the lettering on the plaque to bronze;
3. Stanchions of better quality with a lower fence;
4. Change the direction of the plaque to be in line with the apex of *The Wall*;
5. Visibility and location directions so people can find it;
6. Add the *In Memory Plaque* to the Parks Commission's website.

Inscription on the *In Memory* Plaque:

*"In memory of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service. We honor and remember their sacrifice."*


According to the *Veterans Memorial Foundation*, it will take approximately \$15,000 to \$25,000 to complete this project. Therefore, we are now asking everyone to please make donations to this project.

**Please make your check payable to: VVA or AVVA**


**Remit to: Joe Sternberg, CFO  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
8719 Colesville Rd Suite 100  
Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**Please note on your check: *"In Memory Plaque" donation***

**Together Always  
Nancy Switzer, AVVA National President**



**Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 203  
PO Box 23405  
Chattanooga, TN 37422**



**We're on the web!  
[www.vva203.org](http://www.vva203.org)**

*"Never again will one generation of  
veterans abandon another"*