

MAIL CALL



PO Box 23405
Chattanooga, TN 37422

September 2011

Meeting:

Monday,

September 19th

Dinner at 6pm

Meeting at 7pm

American

Legion

Post 95

3329 Ringgold Rd

East Ridge, TN



VVA Chapter 203 Delegates (with other fellow Delegates), Chapter President Don Hays and Tennessee State President Charlie Hobbs at the National Convention in Reno, Nevada

(For Additional Photos, see page #7 of this Mail Call issue)

Note: To all of the members that have signed up to bring food to the business meeting on September 19th, please remember. We need your contributions in order to have enough food to feed everyone.

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*Officers
and Board
of
Directors*

Officers:

President: Don Hays 706-866-4890
1st VP: Stan Brown 423-658-2417
2nd VP: Tommy Hickey 423-240-7767
Secretary: Don Hill 423-886-3875
Treasurer: Dan Lovin 423-238-5128
AVVA: Karen Carnes 423-260-9736

Board of Directors

Charlie Crowe 423-509-2690
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 423-991-5628
Chaplain: Paul Williams 706-866-2034
Historian: Ken Starry 423-875-6936
Honor Guard Coordinator: Tom Sloan 423-762-2522
Armory Sergeant: Vacant
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
Vice-President: C J Cox 423-847-1299
Chaplain: Donna Sparks 423-843-3637
Sec/Treasurer: Sandi Johnson 423-309-2703

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

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

August, a hot month, setting all kinds of records, with no relief in site. Even this month's meeting will come 2 days short of the season of fall. But we must soldier on.

Thanks go out to all the troops that helped make the two collections at Walmart successful. With our "coffers" full, it made our trip to the National Convention in Reno, Nevada less of a burden on the Chapter's bank account.

Eleven delegates from the chapter attended this convention, and I must report, each and every one of these guys and gals worked hard to make VVA Chapter 203, in everyone's eyes there, say that Tennessee was on the job. **Way to go Chapter delegates!!!**

For the last quarter of this 2011 year, Chapter 203 will have plenty to achieve. There will be more collection's in October and our big push at Walmart starting with "Black Friday" and running

from November 25th until December 3rd. Chapter 203 troops, we will need every one's best foot forward.

"...203's people make this a Chapter to be proud of."

Then, it's on to the Christmas party on Friday, December 16th, at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo's Imperial Ballroom. This event has already been set on the calendar. There will be, I am sure, more to come.

Chapter 203's people make this a Chapter to be proud of. Let's keep it that way. With each and every one taking a part, we will continue to grow.

Thank you, Chapter 203!!!

Now let's **Turn and Burn!!!**

Don

Chaplain's Corner: A brief Story of My Faith



Chaplain, Paul Williams

On two occasions I have presented a borrowed devotion written by my daughter, Susan Allison. Susan frequently writes devotions for her Church's quarterly newsletter. Some times my plate is full and then I proudly borrow from Susan. Chaplain Paul Williams.

A brief Story of My Faith

My faith story began as a child. I was born into a Christian family. My father is a minister, and both sides of my family are strong believers. I have no memory of a time when I did not know about Jesus or His love for me, or a time when I did not love Him. As a child I remember learning Bible stories from my parents, being sung to sleep by my grandmother with hymns, and I do not recall ever receiving a letter from either grandmother that did not contain a scripture or a message of God's love.

I think my first struggle with faith was in the 1970's during the "Born Again" movement. I kept hearing people talk of finding their faith as if they were struck by lightning. This had never happened to me so did I really have faith? With a little time and some maturity I came to realize that, though I did not have the thunder-clap experience, I did have a memory of when (in the words of John Wesley) my "heart was strangely warmed." I knew it was then that I had truly accepted Jesus into my life.

Has my life been perfect since then? No--there have been a few deep valleys along the way, but no matter where life has taken me, I know God has been there every step of the way. Every day for me is another step in faith, another day of growth. I like to look back over the years and see where my steps in faith have taken me. I know I've come a long way, and I have a long way yet to go. Through good times and bad, God is leading me on, and every day I try to take Paul's advice to heart when he said in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." Written by Susan Allison, Daughter of Chaplain Paul Williams

**"...always
be thankful,
for this is
God's will
for you..."**

Membership Update and Renewals

As of September 10, 2011:

August

Jeff Alverson	Fred Ewton
Roy Avans	Dennis Puncoschar
William Barnett	Larry Stewart
Thomas Condra	Bill Vincent

September

Daryl Hinds	Mike Scoggins
Dennis Phillips	Bernard Sherman
Charlie Rawlins	Larry Taylor
Fred Richeson	Jackie Thompson

October

Donnie Bledsoe	David Lawrence
Johnny Burke LMT	Tommy Markum
Hubert Coffelt	Michael Meyer
Kelly Crownover	Buddy Mumpower
Jessie Dale	Paul Nealon
Gean Herzmann	Harold Nolan
Donnie Hill	Johnny Wallin
Johnny Hobbs	

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

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

Dan L. Taylor, Jr.

**(423) 991-5628
Membership Chair
VVA Chapter 203**

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 11th: Tennessee State Council Meeting - Murfreesboro, TN.

September 19th: Business Meeting - American Legion Post 95 - 3329 Ringgold Rd. - East Ridge, TN. - 18:00 Hrs.

November 25th thru December 3rd: Walmart collection - More details to come.

December 16th: Chapter 203's Annual Christmas Party - Chattanooga Choo-Choo's Imperial Ballroom - More details to come.

2012 Washington DC Trip

It has been four years since we made the trip to Washington DC on Veteran's Day. Next year, 2012, marks the 30th year anniversary of *The Vietnam Memorial Wall*. We are planning on making the journey one more time.



Don Hays has asked me to coordinate the trip and I accepted. I will begin planning and scheduling the trip very soon. Several people mentioned to me that they would like to stay an additional day for sightseeing. If the cost isn't prohibitive, then we will certainly do that. We will also offer a payment plan for those who prefer that method.

This trip has always proven to be a lot of fun; I don't foresee next year to be any different. This trip is intended for members and families of VVA and AVVA in Chapter 203. They will have the first opportunity to sign-up. If there is seating left, then non-members and other Chapters in TN will be invited to join us.

Mark your calendar now! Start saving your pennies!

Later.....


Sharon Hobbs
423-495-0202
blondyhobbs@aol.com






VVA Chapter 203 Delegates attend the National Convention in Reno, Nevada





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



**We're on the web!
www.vva203.org**

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