

Bits & Pieces #43

This is an email I received from Violet Smith of the St. Petersburg chapter: They do a really good job with this.

To Dottie for "Bits and Pieces"

Do not know if other chapters are doing this but we at the St Petersburg Area Chapter have been doing it for some time. It is not only helpful to know when our members die but it is also meaningful for the survivors to show them we care.

When an Obit appears in the local paper (one or two of our members are always on the lookout) or one of our members knows of a death they notify me, as Memorial Chair. I in turn contact the survivor with a telephone call of condolence from the chapter. As Personal Affairs Officer I offer them help if they are having difficulties with the necessary paper work etc. We also offer our Guard of Honor to participate in the services. Our Data Base Chair sends necessary information to National. The President of the Chapter sends a letter of condolence to the survivor spouse (if one) and invites him or her to come to our MOAA meetings. The surviving spouse is then an Auxiliary Member of our Chapter and a monetary donation is made to our HOT (Help Our Troops) project.

This system has worked very well for our chapter and we have had some good feedback from the survivors. It is important to make personal contact, especially after a death and it is amazing how many people have been helped when they just do not know what to do when a death occurs. The question comes up more than once: "What is a DD214?"

That brings up another subject that we need to get the word out to all our chapters and their members to educate them as to what paper work is necessary and to have it all written down before a death occurs.

Just some

Bits of Information which may help others.

I have found them most helpful and thanks for all the work you put into this!!

Sincerely,

Violet

Violet M. Smith

Personal Affairs Officer

St Petersburg Area Chapter (Lt.Col.USA ret Terry Carr, President)

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Bits and Pieces is a collection of odd items that I mostly glean from chapter newsletters. The idea is to pass those items along to other chapters, trading our useful bits and pieces around for everyone's benefit. If you have something your chapter has done that you think others might be able to use, please contact me at dccalusa@comcast.net or (239) 542-5627 and I'll pass it along.

Dottie Conner a.k.a. Kaufee Anon, on-call waitress for your Florida Council of Chapters President, Jim.



This is literally as far as I got with rock climbing. Took them 20 minutes to rig me up and there I hung, unable to go higher. Either it's not that easy or I'm a Super Wimp.