



FLORISSANT VALLEY VVA CONNECTION

a quarterly newsletter for members of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 794

THE COMMANDANT'S COLUMN:

I can't believe it is time for another newsletter.

Hopefully all the snow is over and Spring is right around the corner.

Six members and a couple of wives represented the Chapter at a Trivia Night at VFW Post 4105 on Saturday, February 19th. One of the chapter's tables took first place making the Chapter a winner for the second time in a row at the Post's trivia event.

We have been busy planning this year's schedule. Here are a few of the activities we will be doing this year.

- Boot and Helmet on Saturday, March 19th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Schnucks at Mullanphy and Shackelford in Florissant. Sign-up sheets will be at the March meeting.
- Vietnam Veteran Recognition Day - The evening of March 19th at 6:00 p.m. there will be a ceremony at January-Wabash Park in Ferguson. This will be on the corner of January and Florissant Road at the monument. There will be food after the ceremony back at the VFW Post.
- Root Beer Float Event at the Missouri Veterans' Home, Sunday, April 17, on Highway 367 at 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheet will be at the March meeting.
- Valley of Flowers Parade, Sunday, May 8th. More information available as we get it.
- Boot and Helmet in June, date and place to be determined.
- Men's Night Out - We need to pick a restaurant.

Don't forget canned and paper goods for TEAM.

Semper Fi,
Rich Otten

Florissant Valley
Vietnam Veterans of
America Chapter 794
www.vva794.org

Chapter President
RICH OTTEN

Vice President
FRANK DEMOS

Secretary
KIM OGLESBY

Treasurer
GORDON (SKIP) BROWN

Calendar of Events

Mayoral Candidates' Forum -1900, John F. Kennedy Ctr. Mar 9, 2011
 Chapter Board Mtg. - 900, Denny's, McDonnell Blvd. March 12, 2011
 Chapter Meeting - 1900, VFW Post 4105 March 15, 2011
 Boot and Helmet - 900, Schnucks,
 1160 Shackelford Rd. at Mullanphy. March 19, 2011
 Vietnam Veterans' Recognition Day - 1800, Ferguson . . Mar 19, 2011
 Root Beer Float Event at Veterans' Home - 1400 April 17, 2011
 Chapter Meeting - 1900, VFW Post 4105. April 19, 2011
 Valley of Flowers Parade. May 8, 2011
 Chapter Meeting - 1900, VFW Post 4105 May 17, 2011
 Birds on the Wire, James J. Eagan Center July 29, 2011
 Relay for Life, Hazelwood Central High School . . . August 5 - 6, 2011
 National Convention, Reno, Nevada August 17 - 20, 2011
 Chapter Picnic, Sunset Park August 28, 2011

MEMBER NEWS

Condolences are extended to Robert and Sylviane Hughes on the death of their daughter Wendy L. Knop on December 27, 2010 at the age of 31.

Congratulations to Kim Olgesby on the birth of a granddaughter, 6 lb. 9 oz. This makes a full house with 17 grandchildren.

SAFE DRIVING COURSE

AARP is sponsoring a Safe Driving Course. The class will be held March 8th between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Bellefontaine Neighbors Recreation Center.

For more information contact Walter Kaiser.

VIETNAM VETERANS' RECOGNITION DAY

A ceremony marking Vietnam Veterans' Recognition Day will be held Saturday, March 19th, at 6:00 p.m. in January-Wabash Park by the monument at the corner of New Florissant Road and January Avenue in Ferguson.

After the ceremony, the group will gather at VFW Post 4105. Be sure to attend and remember your fellow comrades.

FINAL U.S. SURVIVOR OF WORLD WAR I DIES AT 110

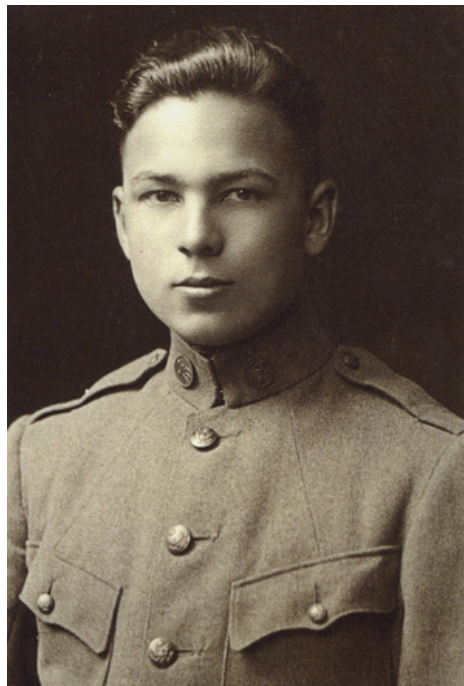
*The Associated Press
March 1*

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — He didn't seek the spotlight, but when Frank Buckles outlived every other American who'd served in World War I, he became what his biographer called "the humble patriot" and final torchbearer for the memory of that fading conflict.

Buckles enlisted in World War I at 16 after lying about his age. He died Sunday on his farm in Charles Town, nearly a month after his 110th birthday. He had devoted the last years of his life to



In 2008, World War I veteran Frank Buckles received an American flag on Memorial Day at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Mo.



Frank Buckles' 1917 enlistment photo. He lied about his age in order to enlist.

campaigning for greater recognition for his former comrades, prodding politicians to support a national memorial in Washington and working with friend and family spokesman David DeJonge on a biography.

"We were always asking ourselves: How can we represent this story to the world?" DeJonge

said Monday. "How can we make sure World War I isn't forgotten?" Buckles asked his daughter, Susannah Flanagan, about progress toward a national memorial every week, sometimes daily.

"He was sad it's not completed," DeJonge said. "It's a simple straightforward thing to do, to honor Americans."

When asked in February 2008 how it felt to be the last survivor, Buckles said simply, "I realized that somebody had to be, and it was me."

Only two known veterans remain, according to the Order of the First World War, a Florida group whose members are descendants of World War I veterans and include Buckles' daughter. The survivors are Florence Green in Britain and Claude Choules in Australia, said Robert Carroon, the group's senior vice commander. Choules, who served in Britain's Royal Navy, was born in that country but now lives in Australia.

Green turned 110 on Feb. 19, and Choules turns 110 in March, Carroon said.

Born in Missouri in 1901 and raised in Oklahoma, Buckles visited a string of military recruiters after the United States in April 1917 entered what was called "the war to end all wars." He was repeatedly rejected before convincing an Army captain he was 18.

More than 4.7 million people joined the U.S. military from 1917-18. By 2007, only three survived. Buckles went to Washington that year to serve as grand marshal of the national Memorial Day parade.

Unlike Buckles, the other two survivors were still in basic training in the United States when the war ended, and they did not make it overseas. When they died in late 2007 and 2008, Buckles became the last so-called Doughboy -- and a soft-spoken celebrity.

He got fan mail almost every day, DeJonge said, and had enough birthday cards to fill several bushel baskets.

DeJonge visited Buckles late last week and was driving back to Michigan with about 5,000 letters to organize and answer when he got the call telling him his friend had died.

"The letters are so heartfelt," he said. "Each night, Susannah would go in and sit at Papa's bedside and read them to Frank. That kept him going."

Buckles had been battling colds and other minor ailments this winter, but he was not ill at the time of his death.

The day before he died was warm, DeJonge said, and he spent three hours sitting in the sunshine on the porch of his farmhouse, talking with his daughter.

She worked diligently to keep Buckles in his own home, even though it exhausted his life savings. DeJonge said home health nurses and other medical care cost about \$120,000 a year.

Details for services and arrangements will be announced later this week, but the family is planning a burial in Arlington National Cemetery. In 2008, friends persuaded the federal government to make an exception to its rules for who can be interred there.

Buckles had already been eligible to have his cremated remains housed at the cemetery. Burial, however, normally requires meeting several criteria, including earning one of five medals, such as a Purple Heart.

Buckles never saw combat but once joked, "Didn't I make every effort?"

U.S. Rep. Shelley Moore Capito and the rest of West Virginia's congressional delegation were

also working Monday on a plan to allow Buckles to lie in repose in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol.

According to the Architect of the Capitol's website, the last person to do so was President Gerald Ford.

The honor is reserved mostly for elected and military officials, but others have included civil rights activist Rosa Parks and unknown soldiers from both world wars and the Korean War.

Sen. Jay Rockefeller called Buckles "a wonderfully plain-spoken man and an icon for the World War I generation" and said he will continue fighting for the memorial Buckles wanted.

"He lived a long and rich life as a true American patriot," said Sen. Joe Manchin, "and I hope that his family's loss is lightened with the knowledge that he was loved and will be missed by so many."

The family asked that donations be made to the National World War One Legacy Project. The project is managed by the nonprofit Survivor Quest and will educate students about Buckles and World War I through a documentary and traveling educational exhibition.

"We have lost a living link to an important era in our nation's history," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. "But we have also lost a man of quiet dignity, who dedicated his final years to ensuring the sacrifices of his fellow 'Doughboys' are appropriately commemorated." In spring 2007, Buckles told of the trouble he went through to get into the military.

"I went to the state fair up in Wichita, Kansas, and while there, went to the recruiting station for the Marine Corps," he said. "The nice Marine sergeant said I was too young when I gave my age as 18, said I had to be 21."

Buckles returned a week later. "I went back to the recruiting sergeant, and this time I was 21," he said with a grin. "I passed the inspection ... but he told me I just wasn't heavy enough."

Then he tried the Navy, whose recruiter told Buckles he was flat-footed.

Buckles wouldn't quit. In Oklahoma City, an Army captain demanded a birth certificate.

"I told him birth certificates were not made in Missouri when I was born, that the record was in a family Bible. I said, 'You don't want me to bring the family Bible down, do you?' "Buckles said with a laugh. "He said, 'OK, we'll take you.' "

FLORISSANT MAYORAL CANDIDATES' FORUM

The Greater North County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a candidates' forum for those who are seeking the Florissant mayoral seat in the April 5th election. The League of Women Voters will moderate the forum at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9th, at the John F. Kennedy Community Center, 315 Howdershell Road in Florissant.

Six candidates will appear on the ballot for mayor: Ward 3 City Councilman Tom Schneider, Hazelwood School Board member Mark Behlmann, Ward 6 City Councilman Andrew Podleski, former Ward 1 City Councilwoman Susan Geerling, former state Rep. Michael Spreng and former Ward 6 City Councilman Robert Garrett. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Space is limited.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT

The chapter members are planning a guys' night out. Attend the next meeting to give them your input on when and where it should be.

WAR OF 1812 SYMPOSIUM

History buffs may be interested in the 21st Annual War of 1812 In The West Symposium which will be held on Saturday, March 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 27, from 9:00 a.m. until Noon at the Daniel Bissell House, 10225 Bellefontaine Road. The Symposium is held yearly and rotates between the Bissell House, Fort Osage, near Kansas City, MO and Arrow Rock, near Columbia, MO. The event is well attended by historians from all over the country.

The Symposium is free and open to the public with no registration required. This program is hosted by the 1st Infantry Regiment and Friends of Fort Belle Fontaine Park. Exhibits of Original War of 1812 artifacts will be on display.

VA'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM EXPANDING

*Release from Veterans Affairs
March 1, 2011*

REACH Program Improves Quality of Life for Caregivers and Veterans
WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans (VA) is expanding support nationally to caregivers of Veterans with Alzheimer's disease. A pilot program of the REACH VA (Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health in VA) program showed great success in reducing stress on caregivers while improving care outcomes for the Veterans.

"The REACH VA model exemplifies the many different kinds of support VA offers to the caregivers of Veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "This program has been proven to provide the right resources, training and a renewed focus on personal health that can make a world of difference to those caregivers and their Veterans."

"Caregivers step up every day to serve Veterans they love who sacrificed to defend our Nation," Shinseki added. "To them, caregiving is a labor of love and devotion, but that alone does not ease the burden and personal stress placed on those who provide daily care for the disabled."

REACH VA involved 127 caregivers connected to 24 VA medical centers. The median age for the caregiver was 72 and the majority of the participants were spouses.

Typical issues caregivers face when caring for Veterans with Alzheimer's disease and dementia include memory problems, behavior problems and the need to provide basic attendance such as grooming assistance. Caregivers typically reported feeling overwhelmed, frustrated, cut off from family and friends, lonely, prone to bouts of crying and having worse physical health than the year before.

For six months, the REACH VA caregivers were provided 12 individual in-home and telephone counseling sessions; five telephone support group sessions; a caregiver quick guide with 48 behavioral and stress topics; education on safety and patient behavior management; and training for their individual health and well being.

Caregivers saw their burden reduced; drops in depressive symptoms and their related daily impacts; fewer frustrations, including those that have clinical potential for abuse; and decreases in dementia-related behaviors from the Veterans they cared for. Caregivers also reported they were able to spend fewer hours per day devoted to caregiving duties.

"Dementia caregiving is such an all encompassing task," said Dr. Linda Nichols from the VA medical

center in Memphis, Tenn., and co-author of a recent study on the program. "The intervention provided time for themselves, which caregivers never have enough of. REACH VA improved our caregivers' knowledge to manage care, made them feel more confident and competent as they formed bonds with the VA staff supporting them, and decreased the inevitable feelings of isolation and loneliness that come from a selfless, but very sacrificial duty of care."

VA will roll out REACH VA on a national basis through home-based primary care programs across the country. In addition, the program will be modified to assist caregivers of Veterans with other diagnoses like spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury.

"Providing support to caregivers who sacrifice so much to allow Veterans to remain at home surrounded by loved ones is the right thing for VA to do," said Dr. Robert Petzel, VA's under secretary for health.

An article on the REACH VA program is being published in the Feb. 28 issue of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*. Nichols and Dr. Jennifer Martindale-Adams, also from VA's Memphis facility, are the lead authors and based the VA pilot on the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute for Nursing Research funded REACH II study. REACH VA is the first national clinical implementation of a proven behavioral intervention for stressed and burdened dementia caregivers.

Local caregiver support coordinators are available to assist Veterans of all eras and their caregivers in understanding and applying for VA's many caregiver benefits. VA also features a website, www.caregiver.va.gov, with general information on REACH VA and other caregiver

support programs available through VA and the community.

NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO VA COMMITTEE ON MINORITY VETERANS

*Release from Veterans Affairs
March 2, 2011*

WASHINGTON - The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has announced the appointment of eight new members to VA's Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans, an expert panel that advises him on issues involving minority veterans.

"The new members of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans will bring their expertise to help guide VA's efforts in serving minority Veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA welcomes these new members."

Chartered on January 30, 1995, the committee makes recommendations for administrative and legislative changes. The committee members are appointed to one, two, or three-year terms.

The eight new committee members include: Clara L. Adams-Ender, Woodbridge, Va.; **Allie Braswell Jr.**, Orlando, Fla.; Amanda Heidenreiter, Ellicott City, Md.; Oscar B. Hilman, Tacoma, Wash.; Pedro Molina, Fresno, Calif.; Wayne Nickens, Honolulu, Hawaii; Celia Renteria Szelwach, Arden, N.C., and Joseph Wynn, Washington, D.C.

There are approximately 4.1 million minority Veterans in the United States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and territories. They comprise approximately nearly 15 percent of the total Veteran population today.

CONGRESSIONAL VOTES

The following is information provided through emails dated

December 6th, 13th, 20th, 23rd, January 10th, 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, and 22nd by vva.org "MegaVote, How is Congress Voting".

Recent Senate Votes

• **FDA Food Safety Modernization Act** - Vote Passed (73-25, 2 Not Voting) The Senate passed this bill to overhaul the nation's food safety rules. Shortly after passage, it was pointed out the bill contains revenue raising provisions and the constitution requires bills that raise revenue to originate in the House. At this time, the strategy to move the bill forward was unclear.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **Not Voting**

Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Cloture Motion, Defense Authorization Act** - Vote Rejected (57-40, 3 Not Voting) The Senate fell short of the 60 votes needed to move forward on this bill authorizing defense expenditures for the 2011 fiscal year. The bill included a provision that would have repealed the "don't ask, don't tell" law. The bill is unlikely to move forward if it includes the "don't ask" provision. This will be the first time in 49 years a defense authorization bill has not been cleared.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **NO**
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010** - Vote Agreed to (81-19) The Senate approved this bill extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts that were due to expire at the end of 2010 for another two years. The bill also extends unemployment benefits for 13 months. The House gave final approval to the measure several days later. The president signed the bill into law shortly after House passage.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **YES**

Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Cloture Motion; DREAM Act** - Vote Rejected (55-41, 4 Not Voting) The Senate fell short of the votes needed to move forward on this bill that would provide a path to legal status for certain undocumented children brought into the U.S. illegally by their parents. The measure is unlikely to be brought up again in the 111th Congress.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **NO**
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010** - Vote Agreed to (65-31, 4 Not Voting) The Senate gave final approval to this bill repealing a 1993 law prohibiting homosexuals from serving openly in the military. The president lobbied for repeal and is expected to sign the bill into law.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **NO**
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011** - Vote Agreed to (79-16, 5 Not Voting) Congress agreed to this short-term spending bill that funds government operations at 2010 levels through March 4, 2011. The president signed the bill into law on December 22, 2010.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **Not Voting**

Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **START Treaty Ratification** - Vote Agreed to (71-26, 3 Not Voting) The Senate ratified this treaty with Russia that would reduce the size of each country's nuclear arsenal by 30 percent.

Sen. Christopher Bond voted **Not Voting**

Sen. Claire McCaskill voted **YES**

• **Secret Holds Elimination** - Vote Agreed to (92-4, 4 Not Voting) The Senate spent much of the week debating procedural rules. One of the rule changes the chamber passed was this one that ends the practice of "secret holds," where a senator anonymously blocks legislation or a nomination. The rule change

requires a senator to notify his or her party leader within 2 days of placing a hold.

Sen. Roy Blunt voted YES
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted YES

- **Health Care Repeal** - Vote Rejected (47-51, 2 Not Voting) During the debate over the Federal Aviation Administration bill, the Senate rejected this amendment that would have repealed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The text was similar to the bill the House passed on January 19, 2011.

Sen. Roy Blunt voted YES
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted NO

- **FISA Sunsets Extension Act of 2011** - Vote Passed (86-12, 2 Not Voting) The Senate passed this bill extending some expiring provisions of the Patriot Act for 90 days. The extension allows both chambers more time to work on long-term bills. The House cleared the measure for the president two days later.

Sen. Roy Blunt voted YES
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted YES

- **FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act** - Vote Passed (87-8, 5 Not Voting) This \$34.6 billion bill reauthorizes the Federal Aviation Administration for two years and sets aviation policies. The House is working on its own version of the bill that would cover four years.

Sen. Roy Blunt voted YES
Sen. Claire McCaskill voted YES

Recent House Votes

- **Continuing Resolution** - Vote Passed (239-178, 16 Not Voting) The House passed a continuing resolution that funds government operations through December 18, 2010. This is the second CR since the 2011 fiscal year began on October 1, 2010. None of the annual spending bills have been completed yet. The Senate gave final approval to the resolution on December 2, 2010.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010** - Vote Passed (264-157, 13 Not Voting) The House gave final approval to this ten year, \$4.5 billion bill that would increase spending on child nutrition programs. The bill now goes to the president.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **Censure of Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-NY)** - Vote Passed (333-79, 21 Not Voting) The House voted to censure Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-NY) for violating House ethics rules.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted NO

- **Continuing Resolution** - Vote Passed (212-206, 16 Not Voting) The House passed a long-term continuing resolution to fund government operations through the end of fiscal year 2011 at fiscal year 2010 levels. The overall funding would remain \$1.09 trillion, but billions of dollars in program funding would shift. The bill would also include an overhaul of food safety laws and expand Food and Drug Administration enforcement powers. It is unclear at this time whether the Senate will take up this measure. The current continuing resolution expires December 18, 2010.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **DREAM Act** - Vote Passed (216-198, 20 Not Voting) The House passed this measure that would provide a path to legal status for certain undocumented children brought into the U.S. illegally by their parents. Shortly before the vote, the House voted to replace the language of a bill further along in the legislative process with the language of the DREAM Act. The Senate may take up the bill the week of December 13.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010** - Vote Passed (250-175, 9 Not Voting) The House passed this bill repealing a 1993 law prohibiting homosexuals from serving openly in the military. The Senate passed the

bill several days later, clearing it for the president's signature.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010** - Vote Passed (277-148, 8 Not Voting) The House gave final approval to this bill extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts that were due to expire at the end of 2010 for another two years. The bill also extends unemployment benefits for 13 months. The president signed the bill into law later in the day.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **FDA Food Safety Modernization Act** - Vote Passed (215-144, 74 Not Voting) The House gave final approval to this bill overhauling the Food and Drug Administration's regulatory authority. The Senate passed the bill by voice vote on December 19, 2010. The president is expected to sign the bill into law.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted YES

- **Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011** - Vote Passed (193-165, 75 Not Voting) Congress agreed to this short-term spending bill that funds government operations at 2010 levels through March 4, 2011. The president signed the bill into law on December 22, 2010.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted Not Voting

- **James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act** - Vote Passed (206-60, 168 Not Voting) Congress cleared this \$4.2 billion measure for the president that will reopen the Victim Compensation Fund and make payments to people exposed to toxic material at Ground Zero. The Senate passed the measure by voice vote earlier in the day. The president is expected to sign the bill into law.

Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay voted Not Voting

- **Health Care Repeal Rule** - Vote Passed (236-181, 2 Present, 15 Not Voting) The House approved the rules for debating

H.R.2, the bill to repeal the 2010 health care law. The rules provide for seven hours of floor debate. The vote on H.R.2, which was scheduled for Jan. 12, was postponed following Saturday's shootings in Tucson, AZ.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **Reducing the amount authorized for salaries and expenses** - Vote Passed (408-13, 11 Not Voting)

The House voted to reduce operating expenses for lawmakers and committee offices. Budgets for House salaries and office expenses in 2011 and 2012 will be 5 percent less than the 2010 level.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **YES**

- **Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act** - Vote Passed (245-189, 1 Not Voting) The House voted to repeal the 2010 health care law. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has vowed to block the bill in the Senate.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **Non-Security Discretionary Spending Limit** - Vote Passed (256-165, 13 Not Voting) The House approved this resolution directing the chair of the Budget Committee to reduce non-security spending to 2008 levels for the remainder of the 2011 fiscal year.

The Budget Committee sets spending levels but does not appropriate funds. The continuing resolution currently funding government operations expires on March 4, 2011.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **Presidential Campaign Fund Termination** - Vote Passed (239-160, 35 Not Voting) The House voted to end a program put in place in 1976 that provides taxpayer funds to presidential candidates and the major parties for their nominating conventions. The bill's future in the Senate is unclear.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **Patriot Act Extensions** - Vote Failed (277-148, 9 Not Voting) Under a vote that required a two-thirds majority, the House failed to pass this bill that would extend through Dec. 8, 2011, three provisions of the anti-terrorism law known as the Patriot Act. The bill is likely to be voted on this week under regular voting procedures.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **United Nations Tax Equalization Refund Act** - Vote Failed (259-169, 6 Not Voting) Under a vote that required a two-thirds majority, the House failed to pass this bill

that would establish as United States policy that the United Nations should return \$179 million overpaid into the U.N. Tax Equalization Fund as of Dec. 31, 2009, and that the U.S. should press the U.N. to change its fund assessment procedures to reduce discrepancies. The future of the bill is unclear.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **Continuing Resolution, FY2011** - Vote **Passed** (235-189, 9 Not Voting) The House passed this long-term CR that would fund government operations through September 30, 2011, the end of the current fiscal year. The bill includes \$61.5 billion in spending cuts. The current funding expires on March 4, 2011. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **NO**

- **FISA Sunsets Extension Act of 2011** - Vote **Passed** (279-143, 11 Not Voting) The House gave final approval to this bill extending some expiring provisions of the Patriot Act for 90 days. The original House bill would have extended the provisions to December 8, 2011, but the Senate approved the short-term bill on February 15. Both chambers are working on long-term bills. The president is expected to sign the bill into law.

Rep. William Lacy Clay voted **Not Voting**

SAFE Enterprises

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In Service to America

VVA Chapter 794
P.O. Box 2700
Florissant, MO 63032

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 794



Chapter meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month.

Location:

*VFW Post 4105
410 Rue St. Francois
Florissant, MO 63031
314-831-6121*