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SUBJECT: Vietnam Round Table - July, 2020 Speaker

The Central Pennsylvania Vietnam Round Table will meet on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at Vietnam Veterans of America, Michael J. Novosel MOH Chapter 542, 8000 Derry Street, Harrisburg, Pa. at 7:30pm.

Following a brief business meeting, Ralph Addams and Jerry Graham, both from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, will discuss their experiences in Vietnam. Mr Addams served first with the 292nd Finance Section at Long Bien, then was assigned to the 91st Finance Group at Bien Hoa and Vung Tau. Although he worked mainly in finance, he also had guard and CQ duties plus sandbag and latrine duties. Mr. Addams grew up in Mechanicsburg, graduating from Mechanicsburg High School in 1966. He enlisted in the Army after graduation, going to basic training at Ft. Gordon, Georgia, then on to Administration School at Ft. Dix and Finance School at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. He served in Vietnam from March, 1967 to April, 1968. After Vietnam he was assigned to the 27th finance section in Belgium. After leaving the Army, he worked for Weis, Food Fair and Kmart before working for IBM for 22 and 1/2 years. He then worked for Walmart for 20 years. He married his wife, Sandy, in 1971 and they have two sons, Brian, who plays reggae music, and David, who graduated from West Point in 1998. They also have two grandsons, Oliver and Elliot. For fun he likes to work with 027 gauge trains, trike riding, scroll sawing and wood projects. Mr Graham served as a company clerk with the 537th and 520th Personnel Company, stationed at Bien Hoa from May, 1967 to May, 1968. He was there during the Tet Offensive, out near his bunkers for a week dodging the VC's 120mm

rockets. He had to frisk people who worked at the mess hall every evening. He also rode shotgun to Saigon several times. Mr. Graham was an Army brat and he went to schools in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Alaska, graduating from East Anchorage, Alaska High School in 1964. His family moved back to Pennsylvania in 1965 where he received his draft notice and enlisted in the Army in November, 1965. He served in the Army till November, 1968 when he was discharged. He worked for the Mechanicsburg Post Office for 34 years and did house painting, on the side, for 16 years. He has been married to his wife, Donna, for 50 years and they have three daughters and six grandsons. For fun he likes bow hunting and working in his yard.

The meeting is open to the public, and, as a volunteer organization, we pass a Vietnam veterans hat. All persons interested in the history of the Vietnam War are invited to attend. For additional information, contact Richard Burton, 717-545-2336, email:

centralpavietnamrt@verizon.net. The website is: www.centralpavietnamroundtable.com.