



Listening Post

Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.
P.O. Box 3218
Ventura, CA 93006-3218

September 2010

Officers

Dave Betti, President
(805) 649-3283

Richard Camacho, Vice President
(805) 384-9138

Diane Miller, Secretary
(805) 827-3753

Doug Temple, Treasurer
(805) 984-0489

David Ha, Chaplain
(805) 482-3772

Board of Directors

Fabio Allodoli
(805) 983-3686

Ron Beaman
(805) 212-0512

John Cabrera
(805) 483-5139

Bob Holmes
(805) 641-3880

Committees

POW/MIA – Dave Betti
(805) 649-3283

Listening Post – Jan Camacho
(805) 384-9138

James Ray Scholarship – David Ha
(805) 482-3772

Membership – Marie Pounds
(661) 297-2464

Parades – John Cabrera
(805) 483-5139

Presidents Column:

Hello all:

This time my message may be a little bit longer. Oh well.

I want to say first off, thanks to all of the support you all have given to bring the Vietnam Veterans Moving WALL back to Ventura County. I know a lot of you have really stepped up to the plate, and done so much that sometimes you probably feel it goes unnoticed, but it doesn't, trust me.

I want to thank all of the families who have put up with all of us being gone so much, meetings, after meetings, phone calls, emails, letters, more meetings, and so on. This Vietnam Veterans Moving WALL has probably taken up all of a lot of your husbands, and wives time, and children don't see daddy or grandpa much. I wanted to thank all of you for understanding how we are.

I know everyone in the VVVC is very proud of each other, and the bond we have is stronger than ever. I know sometimes we have been fit to be tied as we have been tired, cranky, and touchy towards other's feelings and we have probably tested the waters with some more than we know or can remember.

I have backed off some bit, and my dear friend and his wife have taken up so much of my slack that I could not thank them enough, and they know who they are! I respectfully want to thank each and every one of you on behalf of me, and from the bottom of my heart! There are so many people to mention here that I am going to have to ask the editor of our newsletter if I can have an extra page.

Now on to some news: I recently have been on the phone with Jean Ray and I have even spoken to husband Charlie recently, and he sounded great. I am letting all of you know that Jean Ray has sent the VVVC another box of JAMES M. RAY bracelets. We all wish to thank you very much.

I guess some may or may not have heard that one of your past presidents, and life member Mr. Frank Lindsey had recently passed away. He was recently cremated and we wish to send his family our condolences for their loss.

It was good to see Marie Pounds, our membership chair, at the August meeting. She has been under the weather and she is a sweetheart.

The recent Ventura fair parade here in Ventura County this past August 7th was a success, and the VVVC placed third in this parade, what a great time we had, and Ventura County again stepped up to the plate and gave us a very warm welcome. Great job all of the participants!

We have had tremendous success with our donations for the Vietnam Veterans Moving WALL, and the support has been very positive, and you should see all of the folks who have volunteered or have contributed, or have just given and given. It has been very successful.

(cont. pg. 2)

President's Message cont.

I cannot say enough about our little sister Terri Taylor-Gonzales, what a wonderful lady who has given so much, dedicated so much of her own time and money, and even stopped what she has been doing to attend the meetings, and offered her support, and her office, and even walked and talked to folks and made some very good decisions on behalf of all of us!

Thanks little sister.

One more bit of info before I get out of here; a very good friend to all of us was in town to attend his high school reunion at Nordhoff High school. I was going to have him stay with me here, but I went in to the hospital awhile back, so he booked himself a room at the Oak View Inn so he could have a place to stay while in town, sorry about that. He is a life member, and one of the founders of the VVVC, his name is Robert "FOX" Kueser. It's always great to see and speak to him; he has a lot of history.

Take care all, see you at the meetings, and thanks to all of you very much!

Respectfully:

Dave J. Betti

Veterans Service Officer:

In case some of you haven't heard, your CVSO (County Veterans Service Officer) Mike McManus is currently out of the office until late September 2010. This doesn't mean that you won't go unnoticed or not have your phone calls returned. I have been given plenty of contacts to make in case you have a question, or need to get in to see a representative.

I can tell you that Richard Camacho has been very instrumental in helping me out with my claims. He also he has taken the bull by the horns more than once and made the necessary contacts for a lot of us and has even stopped by with the necessary paperwork that the VA so desperately needs.

I am giving you contact info in the newsletter so you may continue on to ask the questions, file the claims, and more important, talk to your CVSO. Thanks for your continued support, and Mike will be back very soon, so let's keep those phones ringing over at the office.

Here is your info:

-John Jackson, Claims Officer II at 805- 477-5484

(CVSO-County Veterans Service Officer

-Marissa Mach (Sr Program Manager) at 805- 477-5325.

-Leslie DaKroob (Veteran Services Office Case Aide) at 477-5155.

-Mario Holquin/VA Clinic in Oxnard, Calif.:

805.604.6960.

(Mario works out of the VA office in Oxnard, Calif.)

Thanks:

Dave Betti

Vice President's Message:

First of all I would like to acknowledge the actions of one of our members. On Sunday August 8, 2010, Jan and I went to the Point Mugu Air Show to pass out as many of the Moving Wall post cards as we could. As we were walking around, we bumped into Richard Lev, who was doing the same thing. As hard as it is for him to walk, he was very busy passing out Wall post cards to anyone and everyone. Great job Richard!!

As this newsletter goes to print, the Moving Wall has left us and moved on to Sacramento. I can't thank enough the many members and volunteers who assisted with the planning since January to make this a reality. I want to especially thank our little sister Terri Taylor-Gonzales, who gave us so much of her time and talent to make sure this event went off well.

The Moving Wall helped make one of my wishes come true, the planning and working an event with Terri. There were many time I left a Memorial Day or Veteran's Day program at Ivy Lawn, thinking to myself, we could have done that better, how hard can that be? Only to find out first hand that it's not that easy. The many different personalities you have to work with and around are amazing. This was my sixth Moving Wall that I've worked, and it was Jan's 10th, it never gets any easier. The emotions only get stronger each time we face those who paid the ultimate price.

For Jan and me, we are now focusing on San Antonio, Texas in October for my 1st Battalion 4th Marine reunion and getting together with my brothers that I served with in Vietnam.

Again, to all who made this Moving Wall experience so great, a job well done.

Until next month,
Semper Fi
Richard Camacho



Thursday 8/26 – The Moving Wall arrives at Ivy Lawn.

Scholarship Chair's Message:

The winners of the 2010 James M. Ray Scholarship are:
Brianna S. Deyling
Diana T. Engle

The scholarship will be presented to the winners at the September 18th general membership meeting.

David Ha,
Scholarship Chair

Treasurer's Message:

By the time this article is printed, the Moving Wall will have come and gone. Respect and honor will have been paid and our hearts will feel good. Thanks to all for all of the hard work and to our friends for their support in making our financial obligations.

It is now time to reflect on what has passed our way and know that we did well. It is now time to rest.

Doug Temple,
Treasurer

Congratulations to:

David Ha and his wife Marilyn on the birth of their first grandchild. Little Ethan was born on 20 Aug 2010, weighed 9 lbs. 12 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Mother and baby are doing well and to quote David, the grandparents "are hanging in there".



Important Dates:

Monday, 9/6 – Labor Day

Saturday, 9/11 – Patriot Day

Friday, 9/17 – POW/MIA Recognition Day

Government Center – 7:00 p.m.

Candlelight Vigil & reading of names of 170 still Missing in Action from California.

Saturday, 9/18 – Oxnard Family Circle Veteran Seminars

500 So. G St.

Oxnard, CA

Sessions will be held at 12:00 & 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, 9/18 – VVVC Meetings

Veterans Home

10900 Telephone Road

Ventura, CA

Board Mtg. – 5:30 p.m.

General Mtg. – 6:00 p.m.

Potluck, bring your favorite dish.

Monday – 10/11 – Columbus Day

Saturday, 10/16 – VVVC Meetings

Veterans Home

10900 Telephone Road

Ventura, CA

Board Mtg. – 5:30 p.m.

General Mtg. – 6:00 p.m.

Potluck, bring your favorite dish

Sunday, 10/31 - Halloween



POW/MIA Recognition Day

Friday, Sept. 17th – 7:00 p.m.

Candlelight Vigil & Balloon Release

Veterans Memorial, Government Ctr.

THE MOVING WALL



Mail completed application and fees to:
Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.
P.O. Box 3218, Ventura, CA 93006-3218

Application for Membership

Membership Type (Please check one):

- Annual Member** => \$20.00 (Check this line if you are a NEW member)
- Renewing Member** => \$15.00 (Check this line if you are renewing your membership)
- Lifetime Member** => \$150.00 (May also be paid in three monthly installments of \$50.00)

Membership Class (Please check one):

Formal: Check this line if you were on active duty between **January 1, 1959** and **May 7, 1975**. ALL new Formal applications require a copy of your DD-214. ALL current Formal Members must have their DD-214's on file with the Membership Chair, or they will be listed as Informal Members.

Informal: Check this line if you did not serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, or did not serve during the time specified for Formal Membership. If you did serve at any time, we also ask for a copy of your DD-214.

NOTE: One applicant and fee per application, please. Renewal requires completion of this form.
=> Please type or print <=

NAME: _____
Last First Middle Initial

ADDRESS: _____
Street & Number Apt. # City State

PHONE NUMBER: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
(Area Code + phone number)

"I hereby certify that I am at least 18 years of age, of good moral character, and I am dedicated to the purposes and goals of the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc. I agree to abide by the By-Laws and amendments in all respects. My word is my bond. If I do so ever fail this pledge, I am aware that my membership in the VVVC may be forfeited."

Signature of applicant Date

**General Membership Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. the 3rd Saturday of each month at:
The Veterans Home
10900 Telephone Road
Ventura, CA 93004**

Treasurer: _____ Date: _____

Membership Chair: _____ DD-214: Yes No On File

Sponsor: _____

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