



Listening Post

Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.

P.O. Box 3218

Ventura, CA 93006-3218

August, 2018

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(805) 312-1977

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Listening Post

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John Cabrera
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Manny Gonzales
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President's Message:

One thing the world is not short of is critics. I find that no matter what "good" I may do, there is always someone who will tell me I did it wrong or I didn't do enough or ask "What were you thinking?" I am certain that we have all been criticized one or another, especially if you are in a position of leadership. As a pastor and CEO of five corporations I have had my share of criticism. I have found the following one method of handling criticism. I hope these suggestions will help you when being criticized.

When criticized:

Consider the source:

A friend?

A foe?

Someone who always criticizes everyone else beside you?

Someone trying to make themselves taller while making others smaller?

[People who think they know it all really upset those of us who do].

Consider the motivation:

To harm?

To heal?

To improve?

To make oneself appear better and wiser than they really are?

Is there some kind of emotional hurt and the critic is just lashing out? *I'm hurt so I will hurt someone else?*

Is someone feeling guilt and are trying to dissipate it by putting their guilt on to others?

Is the fault they are finding really their own?

Consider the criticism:

Based on fact or feeling?

Is there a "plan of action" to bring correction or improvement?

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Anonymous Communication:

Before reading any mail, e-mail or text messages; if the letter is not signed, or if I do not recognize the sender, I do not read it. If a letter: I throw it out without reading it, if an e-mail or text: I immediately delete it without reading it. Too much criticism comes from cowards who like to set traps or act as emotional snipers.

Earmarks of constructive criticism:

- The author identifies themselves.
- The author establishes motivation.
- The author is not interested in how you think or feel about them, rather that you have your life in proper alignment.
- The fault is defined without a sense of hopelessness and corrective measures are set forth.
- That is true "constructive criticism".

Dave Wilson

POW/MIA REPORT July – 2018

22 brothers-in-arms have returned home & 6 remain MIA

World War II: 12

Tech Sgt. John F. Brady, 26, of Taunton, Massachusetts;

Tech Sgt. Allen A. Chandler, Jr., 23, of Fletcher, Oklahoma;

1st Lt. John H. Liekhus, 29, of Anaheim, California; Staff Sgt/ **Robert O. Shoemaker**, 23, of McKinney, Texas, all U.S. Army Air Forces, accounted for on Aug. 10, 2017. These men were buried as a group June 27 in Arlington National Cemetery
Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Percy C. Mathews, 25, of Andalusia, Alabama, accounted for on March 26, was buried June 28 in Pensacola, Florida.

Army Pvt. **Kenneth D. Farris**, 19, of Dodson, Texas, accounted for on April 23, was buried July 9 in Dallas.
Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. **John H. Canty**, 22, of Winsted, Connecticut, accounted for on Dec. 12, 2017, was buried July 10 in Arlington
Army Air Forces Sgt. **Charles H. Daman**, 21, of De Smet, Idaho, accounted for on Aug. 28, 2017, was buried July 11 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Army Air Forces 1st Lt. **William W. Shank**, 24, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, accounted for on March 5, was buried July 14 in his hometown.
Army Staff Sgt. **David Rosenkrantz**, 28, of Los Angeles, accounted for on March 7, was buried June 20 in Riverside, California.
Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. **Vincent L. Politte**, 19, of Leavenworth, Kansas, accounted for on April 11, will be buried July 30 in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

USS Oklahoma: 6

Navy Pharmacist's Mate 1st Class **John H. Schoonover**, 39, of Port Edwards, Wisconsin, accounted for on Aug. 14, 2017, was buried June 26 in Pensacola, Florida.
Navy Seaman 1st Class **Leon Arickx**, 22, of Mitchell, Iowa, accounted for on January 30, was buried July 7 in Osage, Iowa.
Navy Seaman 1st Class **Joseph M. Johnson**, 22, of Rushford, Minnesota, accounted for on Aug. 28, 2017, was buried July 7 in his hometown.
Navy Fireman 2nd Class **Lowell E. Valley**, 19, of Ontonagon, Michigan, accounted for on January 11, was buried July 14 in his hometown.
Navy Seaman 1st Class **James C. Solomon**, 23, of Forestburg, Texas, accounted for on Sept. 26, 2017, was buried July 14, in his hometown.

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Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class George H. Gibson, 20, of Winchester, Kansas, accounted for on February 12, will be buried July 21 in Inglewood, California.

Currently there are 72,900 (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War II

Korean War: 4

Army Sgt. John W. Hall, 23, of Jennings, Louisiana, accounted for on June 6, 2017, was buried July 6 Houston.

Army Cpl. Thomas W. Reagan, 18, of Lebanon, Indiana, and accounted for on March 30, was buried July 6 in Pensacola, Florida.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Elmore B. Goodwin, 25, of Norfolk, Virginia, accounted for Aug. 18, 2017, was buried July 9 in Arlington

Army Pfc. Walter W. Green, 18, of Zanesville, Ohio, accounted for on Aug. 8, 2017, was buried July 20 in Arlington

There are 7,691 Americans remaining unaccounted for from the Korean War.

Vietnam: 0

There are 1,595 American servicemen and civilians remaining unaccounted for from the Vietnam War

Iraq Theater & Other Conflicts:

Operation El Dorado Canyon, 1986 MIA: 1

Capt. Paul F. Lorence, of San Francisco, U.S. Air Force, was lost on April 15, 1986, when his F-111 aircraft went down during a strike over Libya.

Operation Desert Storm, 1991 MIA: 2

Lt. Cmdr. Barry T. Cooke, of Austin, Texas, U.S. Navy, was lost on Feb. 2, 1991, when his A-6 aircraft went down in the Persian Gulf.

Lt. Robert J. Dwyer, of Worthington, Ohio, U.S. Navy, was lost on Feb. 5, 1991, when his FA-18 aircraft went down in the Persian Gulf.

Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2003-2010 MIA: 3

Mr. Kirk Von Ackermann, of Albuquerque, N.M., DoD contractor, was lost on Oct. 9, 2003, while working in Forward Operating Base Pacesetter, Iraq.

Mr. Timothy E. Bell, of Mobile, Ala., DoD contractor, was lost on April 9, 2004, while working in Baghdad, Iraq.

Mr. Adnan al-Hilawi, of Orlando, Fla., DoD contractor, was lost on March 3, 2007, while working in Baghdad, Iraq.

Ron Fitzgarrald
POW/MIA Chairman

Thanks for your support,

My family and I cannot express in words the heartfelt thanks and of all the support you have given us in the past month. To those who called, just hearing your voice made me choke up and get emotional. I wished I didn't have to limit visitors to just my wife and son. But I'm sure you all understand that I needed rest and seeing you there in the hospital, realizing you took time out of your own busy schedules to stop by to see me was really, really emotional to me. Knowing that you cared about me that much.

The VVVC is the true definition of FAMILY.

See you all at the next meeting,
Ron

VVVC July 2018 Membership Report

Annual members	104
Life members	62
Total members	166

Memberships expiring in August 2018:

Diane Miller August 19, 2018
Joseph Catrambone August 19, 2018
Theresa Miller August 30, 2018
Richard Carlander August 3, 2018
Salvador Sandoval August 14, 2018
Mark Savalla August 14, 2018
Harold Shapiro August 19, 2018
David Gomez August 19, 2018
Michael Buirge August 20, 2018
Carl Gregory August 20, 2018

Marie Pounds
Membership Chairman



Michelle Rogers shared a post.

July 19 at 3:09 PM

Congratulations! The quiet 80-year-old Marine nominated for heroism during the Vietnam War said the news came in a direct conversation a week ago Monday with Trump, the same day Trump announced his pick for the U.S. Supreme Court. The conversation's message was confirmed this week by the office of U.S. Rep. Julia Brownley, D-Westlake Village.



Ventura County Star

July 19 at 9:00 AM

Like Page

He was nominated for his heroism in the first days of the Tet Offensive during the Vietnam War.



VCSTAR.COM

50 years later, Oxnard Marine will get his Medal of Honor

Retired Sgt. Maj. John Canley, Oxnard, learned in a call from Presiden...

TO THE VIETNAM VETERAN

TO THOSE WHO RETURNED WITH NO ONE TO GREET THEM.
TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TOLD PTSD WOULD GO AWAY
IN TIME.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN TOLD THANK YOU OR
WELCOME HOME.

TO THOSE WHO RETURNED BUT ARE STILL HAUNTED BY
THE NIGHTMARES OF WAR.

TO THOSE WHO STILL REACT TO A BACKFIRE AND
BREAK A SWEAT AT THE SOUND OF A CHOPPER.

TO THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE
AND ARE STILL FIGHTING THE LAST BATTLE.

TO THOSE WHO FOUGHT BATTLES IN THE JUNGLES OF
VIETNAM AND HERE AT HOME.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE MORE FRIENDS ON THE
VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL THAN ALIVE TODAY.

 **THANK YOU!** 

From the desk of the Secretary Joe Richardson:

Attached is the flyer from the funeral of
Marshall Tall Eagle Serna – these are my
comments:

The VVVC had the distinct honor to provide
colors and rifle volley at the recent burial of
Marshall 'Tall Eagle' Serna. What only a few in
attendance realized is, The Native American
Nations of the United States of America
"Warriors Medal of Honor" that many of us
were honored to receive and wear proudly was
originally designed by this man.

MARSHALL TALL EAGLE SERNA

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

APRIL 17TH 1938 ~ MAY 19TH 2018



NEVER
FORGOTTEN



MARSHALL TALL EAGLE SERNA

Marshall Tall Eagle Serna 80, transitioned peacefully surrounded by loved ones on May 19th 2018. Marshall was born April 17th 1938 in Los Angeles, California. to Don and Carman Serna. He spent his formative years in Southern California until joining the Air Force at the ripe age of 16.

Marshall Tall Eagle was a loving, devoted husband to his wife Lauretta Serna of 48 years. He was a caring, nurturing father to his 8 children as well as a fun loving, adventurous grandfather to his many grand and great grandchildren.

He was a proud, decorated Native American Veteran of the United States Air Force, the United States Army, as well as the Oregon Army National Guard.

In 2002 Marshall became the creator of the Warriors Medal of Valor, the first medal from the American Indian Nations honoring all American military personnel. He also with the help of his granddaughter Elissa Alvarado designed the Native American Mothers Medal of Honor. Along with his wife Lauretta WhiteSparrow and many others along the way, they presented thousands of these medals honoring both active and veteran military.

Marshall Tall Eagle Serna was a longtime resident of Woodburn, Oregon.

Marshall is predeceased by his parents Don and Carman Serna as well as his sons Paul Serna, Richard Serna, and Michael Serna.

Marshall Tall Eagle is survived by his wife Lauretta Zay WhiteSparrow Serna, his son Marshall Scott Serna, and his daughters Elizabeth Ann Sees Beyond Serna, Lorena WindFeather Bull, Izabella Rebecca Zay LoGiudice, and the beautiful Trisha Joy Serna. He also leaves behind his brothers John Paco Serna, and Ernie Serna, as well as a sister in love Kathryn Deeds. In addition Marshall also leaves behind a large tribe of many wonderful grandchildren and great grandchildren to many in fact to list although he was extremely proud of each of them.

Marshall Tall Eagle Serna will forever be remembered as a man full of love, life, laughter, and of course a bit of orneriness thrown in there.

At our July Meeting;.....

Kiernan Rickard, our 3rd Place Scholarship Winner presented his Essay on Patriotism and was a \$1,000 check along with a Certificate from VVVC. He was also presented with a Certificate from Julia Brownley, Congresswoman.

Steve Fox of the U.S. Vets explained they would be the operator at the Veteran Facility when built, but the Community of Friends would be the builders.

'The Wall' slideshow by Jess didn't happen - no projector cables. Sorry!

At the end of the meeting, Dave went around the table and asked if anyone had any comments about The Wall.

Richard Pico stood up and said -

From The Wall I came
And for awhile I lived once again.

But now the shadows grow long,
Night descends and once again
I rest with my Brothers.

Sick Call...

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers:

Ron Fitzarrald
Laurie Richardson



NEW GUEST EXPERIENCE

38TH ANNUAL WINGS OVER CAMARILLO
AIR SHOW • CAR SHOW • FESTIVAL
PRESENTED BY CALIFORNIA AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

SAT AND SUN AUGUST 18 & 19 2018
CAMARILLO AIRPORT

Featuring: Jerry Catlett and the Ventura Drift 'n' Roll

Arrivals by: Vicky Manning, Jerry Catlett, Sonny Nelson and Tom Jett

WOTC Bandstand and Performers including: John Coltrane

Classic Cars, Motorcycles & Car Parade

Heavy Aircraft: Experimental & UAV

NEW

All Day Entertainment: Sonny Nelson & The Jetties

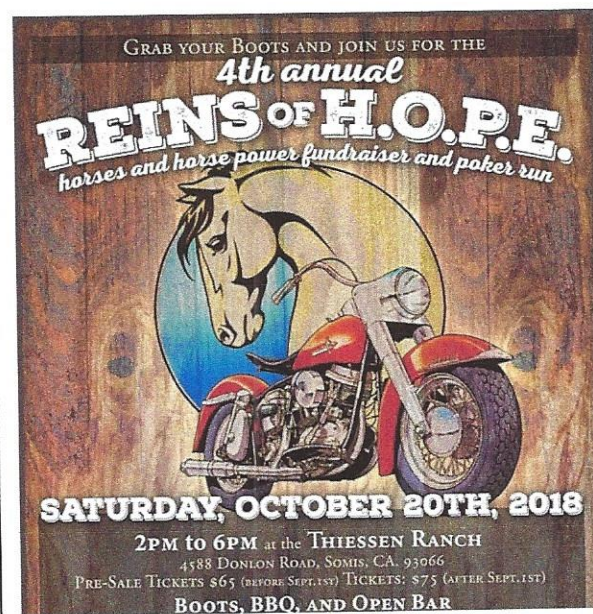
Food: Experience Restaurant, Burger & Chili Bar & more

Pinball & Digital Art: Experience Dining Gallery

Live! Perform with Reptiles: Compton and Peter Camp and more

VIP Skybox Sponsored by Vist Camarillo

CAU



GRAB YOUR BOOTS AND JOIN US FOR THE

4th annual REINS of H.O.P.E.
horses and horse power fundraiser and poker run

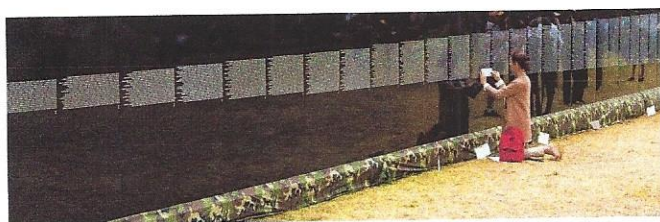
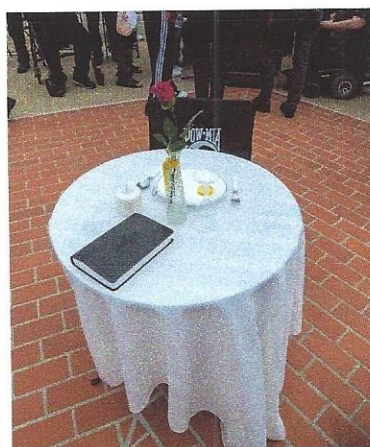
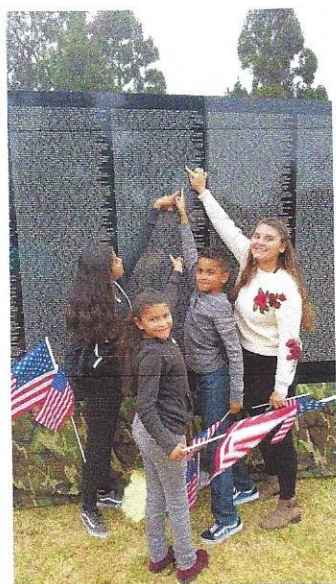
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 2018

2PM to 6PM at the THIESSEN RANCH
4588 DONLON ROAD, SOMIS, CA. 93066

PRE-SALE TICKETS \$65 (BEFORE SEPT. 1ST) TICKETS: \$75 (AFTER SEPT. 1ST)

BOOTS, BBQ, AND OPEN BAR

Remembering Our Fallen ceremony on July 21, 2018





Jess Echavarria, of Santa Paula, a veteran with the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, finds the name of his friend from high school, Max Vasquez III, on "The Moving Wall" at the Ventura County Government Center. The display will be up through 4 p.m. Monday.

JUAN CARLO/THE STAR



FOURTYH OF JULY PARADE IN OJAI



City of Camarillo

601 Carmen Drive • P.O. Box 248 • Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Office of the Mayor
(805) 388-5307
FAX (805) 388-5318

July 10, 2018

Save the Date: Saturday, November 10
Veterans Memorial Monument Dedication Ceremony
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Constitution Park in Camarillo



Dear Camarillo-area Veterans,

It is our great honor and pleasure to invite you, your family members and friends to the City's sixth and last event as a Commemorative Partner in the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration program sponsored by the Department of Defense on Saturday, November 10.

The City of Camarillo has partnered with our local American Legion Post 741 to expand the Camarillo Veterans Memorial to include a monument with several plaques listing the names of all fallen service members from Camarillo/Somis from WW II to present. There will be a dedication ceremony from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., followed by refreshments in the park and a chance to visit informally.

We hope you will be able to join us. Veterans and their families from all branches and all eras of service, as well as the general public, are welcome. Additional details will be sent to you when we are closer to the event date. Please contact Kathy Talley at (805) 388-5312 or ktalley@cityofcamarillo.org with questions.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Craven
Mayor

VVVC 2018 Event Calendar

AUGUST

- 3 VCVC Free Legal Clinic
- 9 Collaborative Meeting
- 10 2nd Friday Free Lunch at Goleta Elk's Club – 10:30 am
- 18 VVVC Meeting
- 25 Job Fair
- 29 5th Wednesday Dinner at American Legion in Oak View
- ? Ventura County Fair Parade

SEPTEMBER

- 7 VCVC Free Legal Clinic
- 13 Collaborative Meeting
- 14 2nd Friday Free Lunch at Goleta Elk's Club – 10:30 am
- 15 VVVC Meeting
- 21 POW/MIA Remembrance

OCTOBER

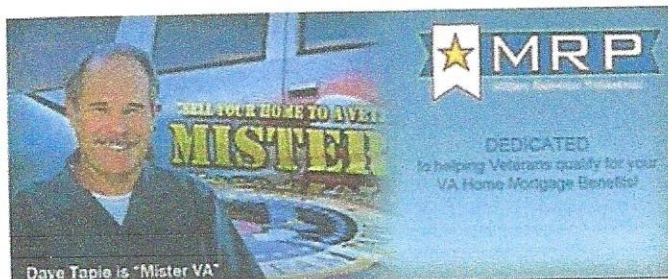
- 5 VCVC Free Legal Clinic
- 11 Collaborative Meeting
- 12 2nd Friday Free Lunch at Goleta Elk's Club – 10:30 am
- 20 VVVC Meeting
- 31 5th Wednesday Dinner at American Legion in Oak View

NOVEMBER

- 2 VCVC Free Legal Clinic
- 8 Collaborative Meeting
- 9 2nd Friday Free Lunch at Goleta Elk's Club – 10:30 am
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 17 VVVC Meeting

DECEMBER

- 7 VCVC Free Legal Clinic
- 13 Collaborative Meeting
- 14 2nd Friday Free Lunch at Goleta Elk's Club – 10:30 am
- 15 VVVC Meeting
- ? Santa Paula Christmas Parade



Veteran Homes & Home Loans

**Veterans may I help you with any lending
or real estate benefit questions?**

Free: Credit Report for any VVVC Member

Free: Pre-Home Loan approval

Free: Certificate of Eligibility

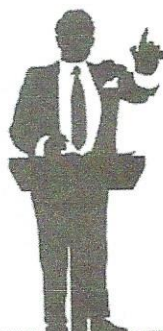
Call to learn how Mister V.A. will pay for your
Appraisal up to \$600.00

*Veteran Loans for purchase & Refi

*Reverse Mortgages Purchase or Refi

*Conventional Purchase or Refinance

<http://www.misterva.com>



The Money Market
1627 Edgemont Dr.
Camarillo, Ca. 93010

Phone: 805-389-0505
Fax: 805-914-0780
E-mail: mrtapie@gmail.com
forms@veteranforms.net

Dave Tapie Broker Owner MLO
Life member VVVC US Army 66-68

BRE 00689045 NMLS 323020

805-389-0505 office 805-797-8510 Cell



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

This letter is intended to be used to introduce us, the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, and to assist us in our effort to solicit subscription/donations to our organization in the form of advertising in our monthly newsletter.

First the legal issues of proper identification.

- IRS, 501(c)(19) Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County Inc. id#93-0966053

State of California Franchise Tax Board

- 501(c)(19) Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, tax exemption, Revenue and taxation Section 23701f

Our organization represents all veterans (not just Vietnam Veterans) in the 805.

Our organizations primary function is to act as a 'service' group providing all manner of assistance to our veteran population. We are active in the education of our youth in our local schools by speaking at the schools to the students. We support and provide college scholarships every year. We have been the organization responsible for bringing the 'Traveling Wall' Vietnam Memorial to Ventura six times in the last 30 years and are planning on doing so again in 2018. We provide full military honor and color guards in parades and at funerals. We work closely with literally hundreds of other organizations and our elected officials both State and Federal in the county to see veterans' needs are met.

Our group runs around 130 strong, most living in Ventura, but some as far away as Australia and Canada. We are asking for donations to our cause, by selling advertising space in our newsletter.

We plan on starting with a full page with fees broke down in the following manner:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| • Business Card | \$10/mo. | \$100/yr |
| • ¼ page | \$15/mo | \$150/yr |
| • ½ page | \$25/mo | \$200/yr |
| • Full page | \$30 each | |

You consideration of donating to our causes, gaining some advertising in the deal, is fully deductible by virtue of our legally acquired non-profit status as a veterans service organization.

We look forward to establishing a relationship beneficial to us both.

Larry Seguin, fund raising chair

Joe Richardson, secretary - Laurie Richardson VVVC Post editor