



Listening Post

Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.

P.O. Box 3218

Ventura, CA 93006-3218

December, 2019

Officers

Dave Wilson, President
(805) 469-0281

Howard Tench, Vice President
(805) 312-1977

Joe Richardson, Secretary
(805) 659-2387

Brenda Seguin, Treasurer
(805) 320-4115

Ron Fitzgarrald, Public Affairs
(805) 218-3489

Board of Directors

Debora Ehrich
(805) 775-9987

David Ha
(805) 482-3772

Joe Reyes
(805) 415-2521

Louis Morris
(805) 207-8692

Committees

Chaplain/Housing Improvements

David Ha
(805) 482-3772

POW/MIA

Ron Fitzgarrald
(805) 218-3489

Listening Post

Laurie Ann Richardson
(805) 659-2387

James Ray Scholarship

Joe Richardson
(805) 659-2387

Membership

Joe Richardson
(805) 659-2387

Parades/Work Party

Fundraising

Manny Gonzales
(805) 988-4462

President's Message:

December 2019

According to Wikipedia, Since and including the American Revolution, the U.S Military has been involved in 78 wars or conflicts. These produced over 57 million veterans and over 2,852,900 casualties with over 40,917 missing. In total, less than 10% of our nations population has served in the military and currently only 1.4 million are serving in the active military and 1.4 million are in the reserves. That is 0.5% of our current population.

I believe the greatest injury that can be suffered by any veteran is to be forgotten. The same can be said for the families of our fallen heroes. I am grateful that on Veterans Day we resolve to Remember to Remember all who served our nation honorably. All veterans have sacrificed a part of themselves for the better of others. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe Reyes & Manuel Gonzales for working so hard on the Oxnard parade and for all of our members who attended.

Just a reminder, at Decembers' meeting we will be holding our elections. I hope all our members will be able to attend.

David Wilson
President

(continued from page 1)

September began our Nomination process for our Executive Board. Presently our Officers and Directors are:

President: David H. Wilson
Vice-President: Howard Tench
Secretary: Joe Richardson
Treasurer: Brenda Seguin

The five Directors are: Dale Dean, Debra Erich, David Ha, Louis Morris and Joe Reyes.

Nominations from the September 21, 2019 meeting, the October 19, 2019 and the November 20, 2019 meetings are:

President: David H. Wilson
Vice-President: Howard Tench
Secretary: Joe Richardson
Treasurer: Toni Morris
Public Affairs: Ron Fitzgarrald

Directors: (there is no limit on how many may be nominated. The top 5 vote getters in December will be elected)

Directors: Robert Buckley, James Connor, Debra Erich, Jess Eschavarria, Louis Morris Joe Reyes, and Frank Lopez.

Nominations will continue in October and November in our General Meeting. **Proxy nominations need to be in by November 6** so that a nominee can be contacted as to their willingness to serve.

Please note these excerpts from our by-laws concerning the nomination and election process:

Article VIII. Election of Executive Board

Section 1. Nominations and Salutations for Votes

- (A) All nominations of qualified candidates for election to the Executive Board shall be taken from the floor of the general meeting at least 90 days before the date of any election.
- (B) Nominees must confirm willingness to serve.
- (C) Subject to the time frame established in Article VII, Section 1 (A), any member, in person or by proxy, may place names in nomination.

Section 2. Election Committee

The Election Committee will consist of three (3) non-nominated members. The committee will be responsible for setting up the election procedures, preparing the election materials, counting the ballots, preserving the ballots for possible re-count, preparing ballots for storage per retention schedule and presenting the results to the President for announcement.

Section 3. Vote Required to Elect Executive Board Members

Candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected in accordance with Article VII, Section 1 (B).

Article IX. Executive Board

Executive Board shall consist of five (5) Directors and the following Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Public Affairs. A member of the Executive Board can hold only one (1) elected office.

Section 1. Qualifications

- (A) Must be a current member of the corporation in good standing.
- (B) Must present a professional attitude and positive image at all times when representing the corporation.
- (C) Other special membership requirements are as follows:
 - (1) Up to, but not to exceed 40% of the Executive Board may be informal members.
 - (2) A minimum of 60% of the Executive Board shall be Formal members.
 - (a) The President must be a War Zone Veteran.

Elections will take place at the December Meeting.

David H. Wilson

POW/MIA REPORT Nov – 2019

20 Brothers-in-arms have been accounted for and/or returned home & 6 remain MIA

World War II: 8

Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. Joseph F. Boschetti, 23, of Philadelphia, was accounted for on July 8, 2019.

Army Pvt. William D. Hedtke, 28, of Iola, Wisconsin, was accounted for Oct. 17, 2019.

(Official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. Channing R. Whitaker, 18, of Granger, Iowa, was accounted for on May 29, 2019.

POW Army Pvt. Porfirio C. Franco, Jr., 22, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, who was captured and died in captivity and buried at Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery, in common grave number 312, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.

Marine Corps Sgt. Jerome B. Morris, 22, of Paragould, Arkansas, was accounted for on Sept. 27, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Army Pvt. and a Merrill's Marauders, Horace H. Middleton, 20, of Northumberland, Pennsylvania, was accounted for on Oct. 31, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Marine Corps Cpl. Thomas H. Cooper, 22, of Omaha, was accounted for Aug. 9, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Army Air Corps Tech. Sgt. Max. W. Lower, 23, of Lewiston, Utah, was accounted for Oct. 9, 2019.

USS West Virginia: 1

Navy Fireman 1st Class Bethel E. Walters, 25, of Dallas, was accounted for on Sep. 23, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updates following the primary next of kin briefing.)

USS West Virginia: 1

Navy Fireman 1st Class Bethel E. Walters, 25, of Dallas, was accounted for on Sep. 23, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updates following the primary next of kin briefing.)

USS Oklahoma: 6

Navy Coxswain Layton T. Banks, 20, of Dallas, was accounted for on Oct. 8, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Navy Seaman 2nd Class Everett G. Windle, 20, of Kansas City, Missouri, was accounted for Oct. 1, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Naval Reserve Ensign Frances C. Flaherty, 22, of Detroit, was accounted for Sept. 30, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Navy Seaman 2nd Class Lloyd R. Timm, 19, of Minneapolis, was accounted for Sept. 27, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Naval Reserve Machinist's Mate 1st Class Paul H. Gebser, 39, of San Diego, was accounted for Sept. 30, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Navy Fireman 3rd Class Herbert B. Jacobson, 21, of Chicago, was accounted for on Oct. 17, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Currently there are 72,626 (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War II

Korean War: 5

Army Sgt. James E. Smith, Jr., 21, of Sedgwick, Kansas, was accounted for August 19, 2019.

Army Cpl. William L. Brown, 18, of Benton, Illinois, was accounted for Oct. 17, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

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Army Cpl. Earl W. Duncan, 23, of McAdenville, North Carolina, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.

Army Cpl. Leon E. Clevenger, 21, of Durham, North Carolina, was accounted for Sept. 9, 2019.

***Army Cpl. Jackey D. Blosser**, 21, was accounted for Nov. 12, 2019. (The official DoD release will be updated following the primary next of kin briefing.)

Currently there are 7,591 Americans remaining unaccounted for from the Korean War.

Vietnam: 0

Currently there are 1,574 American servicemen and civilians remaining unaccounted for from the Vietnam War

Iraq Theater & Other Conflicts: 6

Operation El Dorado Canyon, 1986 MIA: 1

Capt. Paul F. Lorence, of San Francisco, U.S. Air Force, was lost on April 15, 1986, 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, in the Persian Gulf.

Lt. Robert J. Dwyer, of Worthington, Ohio, U.S. Navy, was lost on Feb. 5, 1991, 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

Sick Call....

Please continue to think about and/or say a prayer for our members:

John Smiley recovering from a bad fall, He is at the Victoria Care Center Room 83, and he would love to have some visitors!

David Wilson back surgery in December,
Brenda Seguin recovering from hip replacement.
Sharon Cabrera surgery for dislocated shoulder.
Simon Camarillo

Laurie Richardson back surgery on November 22nd.

Everyone – please stay safe and healthy out there!

VVVC November 2019 Membership Report

Annual members	44
Life members	117
Free members	5
Total members	166

One annual moved to life Theresa McKendrick

2 Annual members moved to expired

1520 Joe Morris

1403 Ralph Gonzales

Annual membership overdue

1479 Ken Price

3 Annual memberships due

1428 Robert Johnson

1452 Anthony Gonzales

1521 Rollen Burns

Sec/Membership Chair

Joe Richardson

Thanks to all who "held down the fort" on Veterans Day here at home.

Joe Reyes
Debra Erich
David Wilson

The Parade at Las Vegas on Veterans Day was great as always. Everyone who went had a terrific time and the crowd was terrific! And this year we had David Ha attend with his daughter. They were part of the Color Guard.

A few more schools being added to the school presentations next year are EO Green and Christian School.

Also THANK YOU to everyone who showed up to the "work day" at the home.



VVVC 2019 Event Calendar

DECEMBER

- 3 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 6 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 7 Color Guard at Camarillo Christmas Parade
- 12 Collaborative Meeting
- 14 Snowflake meeting
- 19 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 21 VVVC Meeting
- 21 Operation Snowflake
- 20 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
- 23 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation

E.O. Green School

Take a Vet to School Day



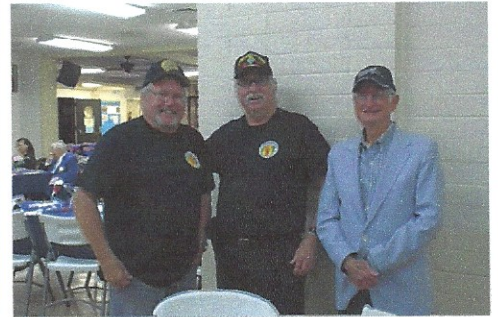
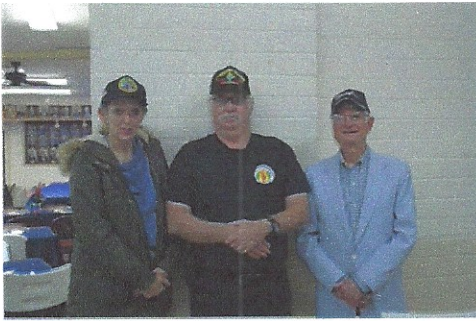
**Ventura County
Board
of
Supervisors
Veterans day Proclamation**



Operation Snowflake no-sew blankets and gift box work party

Political and member supporters of veterans





Marine Corp Birthday

**Oxnard Plaza Park
Veterans Day**



Gold Coast Veterans Day Flag Ceremony



2019 Veterans Day Parade in downtown Las Vegas



**Las Vegas Veterans Day Parade
VVVC Color Guard**



the [Deborah Sampson Act](#) passed the U.S. House of Representatives with a vote of 399 to 11.



*Congresswoman Brownley delivers remarks on the Floor of the
U.S. House of
Representatives on the Deborah Sampson
Act.*

By passing this bill in the House with such strong bipartisan support, we are sending the message to America's women veterans that "we see you, and we thank you for your service."

Two WOMEN that have shown and given support to our veterans in Ventura County

Veterans Court named in honor of retired judge

Megan Diskin
Ventura County Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ventura County's 9-year-old Veterans Court program has been renamed in honor of the now-retired judge involved in creating it.

In a ceremony Thursday at the courthouse in Ventura, the Ventura County Veterans Intervention Court became the Judge Colleen Toy White Veterans Treatment Court.



White

The court hears criminal cases of veterans who may be suffering some physical or psychological trauma, such as post-traumatic stress disorder. White was part of the program from its start in November 2010 until her retirement in October 2017, according to a news release from the court.

During that time, she heard cases in the court and made decisions about which defendants could be placed in the program.

See JUDGE
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At a ceremony, the county's Veterans Court was renamed for now-retired Judge Colleen Toy White.

Home Style
Breakfast &

Lunch
Mexican Food
Breakfast

New
Burger
Menu

Dorothy's Cafe

Open
7 Days
Mon-Fri
6am-2pm
Sat-Sun
7am-1pm

2344 VENTURA
BLVD. 987-2167
CAMARILLO, C.A. in Old Town

• TRY OUR
OMELETS!

• HOT
LUNCH
SPECIALS

• DAILY
SPECIALS

• TAKE-
OUT
ORDERS!





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 | |

Your 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