



# Listening Post

Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.

P.O. Box 3218

Ventura, CA 93006-3218

June 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

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(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

John Cabrera  
(805) 483-5139

### Fundraising

Manny Gonzales  
(805) 988-4462

## President's Message:

During our slide presentations at the schools we are honored to share our Vietnam Experiences at, I have a slide that states, "There is no such thing as an unwounded soldier". Not all wounds are that obvious or receive a Purple Heart but go deeper into us than any bullet or shrapnel can. Not all casualties are found listed on any monuments. Of course, I am referring to those of us suffering from PTSD those whose darkness leads them to suicide.

Most of us are already aware of the study made by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs that 20 Veterans a day commit suicide. That rate is higher among those returning from the "desert" wars.

On May 17th, Debra Erich, Manuel Gonzalez and I attended a class at the National University on Suicide Prevention. Mike Mc Manus, our VSO, arranged for this important training. One of the stats that was presented at the top of the training was that 70% of Veterans who commit suicide are not enrolled with the VA. 764 suicide attempts are made per month among those who are enrolled and are receiving recent VA health care services. (1)(2)

Our session was two hours long and easily could have gone on much longer. I will not attempt to share all we covered during the session but I wanted to share with you from the Veterans Crisis Line card we received some of the signs of Suicide Risk Thinking.

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Some of the signs of Suicide Risk Thinking:

- Thinking about hurting or killing yourself
- Looking for ways t kill yourself
- Talking about death, dying or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse, weapons, etc.
- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

If you or someone you know exhibits any of these signs, please call or have the person call  
1-800-273-8255 Press 1

- (1) Suicide Prevention Hand Out, May 17, 2019
- (2) VA Suicide Prevention Application Network

**Dave Wilson**

### VVVC May 2019 Membership Report

Annual members	63
Life members	110
Total members	173

Memberships expiring in June 2019:

Robert Calander 6/29  
Garry Kraft 6/25  
Roy Villa 6/29

**Sec/Membership Chair**  
**Joe Richardson**

### POW/MIA REPORT May – 2019

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

#### World War II: 7

Army Pfc. **Dewey W. Harris**, killed during World War II, was accounted for on April 16, 2019.

Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. **Vincent J. Rogers, Jr.**, 21, of Snyder, New York, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 21, 2019, and will be buried in Riverside, California

Army Cpl. **Ralph L. Bennett**, killed during World War II, was accounted for on April 29, 2019.

Marine Corps Platoon Sgt. **George E. Trotter**, killed during World War II, was accounted for April 16, 2019.

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. **Wesley L. Kroenung**, killed during World War II, was accounted for April 16, 2019.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. **Toney W. Gochnauer**, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 13, 2019.

Army Pvt. **Roy Brown, Jr.**, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 13, 2019.

#### USS Oklahoma: 2

Navy Fireman 3rd Class **Jasper L. Pue**, killed during World War II, was accounted for April 16, 2019.

Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. **Ted Hall**, 24, of Kansas City, Missouri, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 16, 2019.

**Currently there are 72,725 (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War I**

#### Korean War: 3

Army Pfc. **Sterling Geary, Jr.**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on April 8, 2019.

Army Sgt. 1st Class **Elden C. Justus**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on April 16, 2019.

(Continued on page 3)



**POW/MIAREPORT (Continued from page 2)**

Army Cpl. **Charles S. Lawler**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on May 13, 2019.

**There are 7,646 Americans remaining unaccounted for from the Korean War.**

**Vietnam: 0**

**There are 1,576 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**

**A Note from Theresa McKenrich  
Regarding The Battle of Midway ceremony on  
Naval Base Ventura County – June 6 at 10 a.m.**

I know in the past there was some difficulty getting thru the gate and I wanted to let you know we are able to provide a 12-passenger van to meet your group at the gate. Following the ceremony, we would love to provide a windshield tour of the base and a special meal at the galley.

I hope a few of the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County are able to join us as our special guests.

(See flyer attached)

**Vet 40<sup>th</sup>  
Center ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**

**Open House Invite**

*Veterans, Active Duty & Military Families:  
Please join us in celebrating 40 years of  
Keeping the Promise*

DATE: Friday, 6/14/2019  
TIME: 12:30PM - 3:00PM

Ventura Vet Center  
790 E Santa Clara St., #100  
Ventura, CA 93001  
(805) 585 - 1860





# 77th Anniversary *Battle of Midway*



## *Welcome to the Celebration*

Thursday, June 6, 2019 ★ NBVC Point Mugu Bldg. 1 ★ Ceremony begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Uniform of the Day or Civilian Equivalent ★ Special Meal at the Galley following Ceremony



The Oxnard Ambassadors are hosting the USMC 1st Marine Division Concert Band on Sunday, June 2nd at 3pm in the Auditorium of the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. This will be a wonderful event in a beautiful, acoustically perfect venue. Attached you will find posters for the event and I ask you post them in your social media outlets or web sites. We can hold 1604 audience members and hope to pack the house. The concert is FREE to the public and we are asking that they get a ticket in advance at any of our distribution sites or online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/united-states-marine-corps-1st-marine-division-band-of-camp-pendleton-tickets-46833295648>

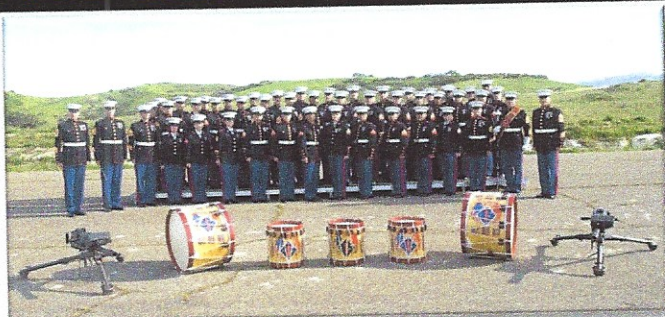


# USMC 1st Marine Division Concert Band

[www.1stmardiv.marines.mil/Units/1ST-DIV-BAND](http://www.1stmardiv.marines.mil/Units/1ST-DIV-BAND)



## FREE GENERAL ADMISSION



## SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019 3:00 P.M.

Oxnard Performing Arts Center  
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA 93030

[www.oxnardambassadors.org](http://www.oxnardambassadors.org)

Hosted by: **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**  
Oxnard

*Ambassadors*

**Tickets Available at:**

- ★ Oxnard Performing Arts Center  
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA 93030
- ★ St Johns Hospital Gift Shop,  
1600 N Rose Ave, Oxnard, CA 93030
- ★ American Drive In Cleaners  
535 S C St, Oxnard, CA 93030

Sponsors:





## Free haircut at CBOC Open House

Marne Valeros, Program Manager, Clinical Operations receiving a free haircut at the CBOC Open House.



To All,  
Ventura Downtown Lions Club is asking for support in assisting the El Rio Lions Club with a Fundraiser for this small Community. I am now asking you if possible to join me in giving back to the organizations that support us the VVVC. \$10 for a BBQ Tri-tip, Chicken and trimmings is a great meal for the price. Good fun for the entire Family, prizes, raffle or you may run into people you may know or have something in common. For some of you that are not familiar with the community when the call came for the Vietnam War no less than 30 young men answered the call. If you plan to attend please wear VVVC t-shirts and caps. For tickets PLEASE call me I have 25 for sale or let your friends or relatives know.

Thank You,

Name (Please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_

**Taste a Better Pizzal**

**TOPPERS PIZZA PLACE**

**\$2.00 Off**  
**Any Large Pizza**

With this coupon  
Please mention coupon when ordering  
Limit one coupon per pizza  
Not valid with any other offer  
No photocopied coupons accepted

**Call 385-4444**  
Dine-In • Delivery • Take-Out  
Expires 7/28/2019 CPN 126025

**El Rio Lions Club**  
**Annual BBQ Fundraiser**

**Sunday • June 9, 2019**  
**12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**  
**Roger Jones Community Center**  
**2864 Jourdan St., Oxnard**

**Join the Fun!**  
**Raffle Prizes • Good Food • Live Mariachi Music**  
Tickets courtesy of  
TOPPERS PIZZA PLACE  
**Price: \$10.00 Per Plate**

349  
No

Manuel Gonzales 805) 988-4462



# Save the Date!

*Laughter is the best medicine...*

*Come self-medicate with Comedy Hour by Denise Carter and Friends*

**Food, Drinks, Laughter, Raffles, Trivia, Palm Readers,  
Chair Massages and More!**

**Thursday, June 20th  
4:30-7:00pm**

**Oxnard Family Circle  
2100 Outlets Center Drive, Suite 380, Oxnard**

**805.385.4180 for more information**

## EVENT SPONSORED BY:





# VVVC 2019 Event Calendar

## JUNE

- 2 USMC 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Concert Band
- 6 Battle of Midway ceremony
- 7 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 9 El Rio Lion's BBQ Fundraiser at Toppers
- 13 Collaborative Meeting
- 14 Vet Center 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Open House
- 15 VVVC Meeting
- 20 Comedy Hour by Oxnard Family Circle
- 21 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 28 NCTC "CM" Graduation

## JULY

- 4 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Ojai
- 4 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 5 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 7 Color Guard at Oxnard Beach Park
- 9 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
- 11 Collaborative Meeting
- 16 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 18 NCTC CM "A" School – Change of Command 10 am
- 20 VVVC Meeting
- 29 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 30 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 31 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation

## AUGUST

- 2 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 6 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 8 Collaborative Meeting
- 13 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 17 & 18 Booth at Wings Over Camarillo
- 17 VVVC Meeting
- 23 NCTC "CM" Graduation

## SEPTEMBER

- 3 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 6 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 10 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 12 Collaborative Meeting
- 16 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 17 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 18 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 21 VVVC Meeting

## OCTOBER

- 4 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 4 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 8 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 10 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
- 10 Collaborative Meeting
- 11 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 19 VVVC Meeting
- 21 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 28 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 28 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 30 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation

## NOVEMBER

- 1 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 4 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 11 Color Guard at Oxnard Veteran's Ceremony
- 11 Las Vegas Veteran's Parade
- 12 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 12 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 14 Collaborative Meeting
- 15 VVVC Meeting
- 19 NCTC "CM" Graduation
- 26 AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
- 29 AFTS "TTAA" Graduation

## DECEMBER

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



I HAVE DONE THINGS  
THAT HAUNT ME AT NIGHT  
SO YOU CAN SLEEP IN PEACE

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I HAVE BEEN AWAY  
FROM MY FAMILY A LONG TIME  
SO THAT YOURS CAN BE SAFE

---

I HAVE SACRIFICED  
A LOT IN MY LIFE  
SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE FREE

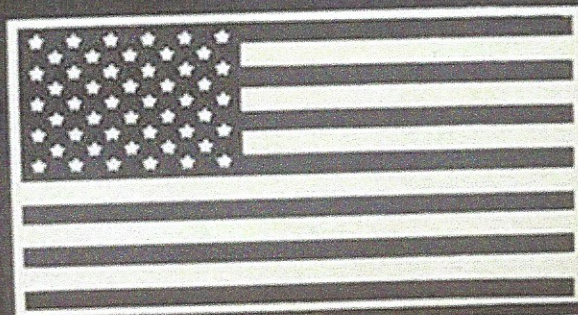
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I HAVE DONE THESE THINGS  
BECAUSE I HAVE SWORN AN OATH  
TO MY COUNTRY

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AND I WILL LIVE BY THIS OATH  
UNTIL THE DAY I DIE  
BECAUSE I AM AND ALWAYS WILL BE A

U.S. VETERAN





\*\*\*  
Home Style  
Breakfast &

Lunch  
Mexican Food  
Breakfast  
★ New ★  
Burger  
Menu

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

# Dorothy's Cafe

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 |          |

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