



Listening Post

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

March, 2018

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(805) 469-0281

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Richard Camacho, Treasurer
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Ron Fitzgarrald, Public Affairs
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Listening Post

Laurie Ann Richardson
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James Ray Scholarship

Joe Richardson
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Membership

Marie Pounds
(661) 297-2464

Parades/Work Party

John Cabrera
(805) 483-5139

Fundraising

Larry Seguin
(805) 320-4116
Manny Gonzales
(805) 988-4462

President's Message:

As by now you may have heard that Kim Evans is resigning from the Ventura County Military Collaborative. As it now stands, after May 2018 there will be no more Collaborative. Kim has gone over and above the "call of duty" in reaching out to all veterans and active military personnel. The Collaborative itself has 200 agencies and organization that interface through the Collaborative. Major events such as the Military Expo and Operation Snowflake will no longer be occurring. The Collaborative has been a sort of clearing house for veterans and active military personnel putting them in contact with the various agencies to assist them with their needs. Kim's absence will leave a huge vacuum in our veteran's community. I am certain the Veteran's Service Office is going to get inundated with the calls that Kim used to field.

As a service organization, the VVVC needs to be aware and in contact with other agencies which help our veterans. I hope that we will be able to maintain a relationship with these agencies in our endeavor to assist all our veterans.

A more immediate need for the VVVC is the presentation of the Moving Wall June 21-25, 2018 at the County Government Center. In the February general meeting I passed out sign-up sheets. Those volunteers who signed up to be Docents need to attend the training Joe Richardson will be having June 5, 2018 at National University. Right now we are scheduled to have two training sessions that day. Joe is also attempting to secure another date for the 9th for those who won't be able to make the training on the 5th. This training is mandatory for the Docent volunteers.

(Continued on page 2)

(President's Message continued)

We are also going to need as many as can to participate in our fundraisers. Handing out fliers, attending the events will all help meet the many budget needs we have, not only for the Wall, but our Scholarships and other miscellaneous needs which help our veterans in need.

I don't know if there is anyone who could fill Kim Evan's shoes, but I at least hope there will be someone to follow in her footsteps.

Dave Wilson

POW/MIA REPORT Feb – 2018

The following 8 brothers-in-arms have returned home:

World War II: 2

POW Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers, 27, of DeFuniak Springs, Florida, was buried January 27 in his hometown.

POW Army Pfc. Lloyd J. Lobdell, 23, of Elkhorn, Wisconsin, who died in Cabanatuan Prison Camp Hospital, was buried February 2, in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

USS Oklahoma: 3

Navy Reserve Chief Water Tender Paul R. Wright, 41, of Meadville, Missouri, was buried January 25 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (NMCP) in Honolulu

Navy Seaman 1st Class John E. Savidge, 20, of Linden, New Jersey, was buried January 26 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (NMCP) in Honolulu

Navy Fireman 1st Class Charles R. Ogle, 20, of Mountain View, Missouri, was buried February 12 in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri.

(continued on next column)

(POW/MIA Report continued)

Korean War: 3

POW Army Sgt. 1st Class Richard G. Cushman, 18, of Springville, Utah, was buried February 3, in Cypress, California.

Army Sgt. Ollie E. Shepard, 22, of Hugo, Oklahoma, was buried February 7 in Bradley, Oklahoma.

POW Army Sgt. 1st Class Alfred G. Bensinger, Jr., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was buried February 16 in the Fort Sill National Cemetery, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Vietnam:

Ron Fitzgarrald
POW/MIA Chairman

Membership Chairperson's Message:

VVVC February 2018 Membership Report

Annual members	48
Life members	102
Total members	150

Marie Pounds
Membership Chair



“The Vietnam War: What it Means for Us Today”

On Saturday, February 10, 2018, the City of Camarillo, hosted a panel discussion titled “The Vietnam War: What it Means for Us Today”. The panelists included Captain Charlie Plumber, former Navy fighter pilot; Larry Hadley, U.S. Army Combat Veteran; Janet Krause Richards, U.S. Army Nurse and P. Scott Corbett, PhD, historian at CSU Channel Islands.

Captain Plumber, call sign Plumber 1, shared his torture treatments during his captivity and described his friendship with now Senator McCain. Larry Hawley, Army Veteran, told us of his surprise encounter with state side protesters upon his return and discharge from the Service.

Nurse Janet Richards described her tour in the hospital in Pleiku. When asked if she was “Hot Lips” during her tour, referring to the character on the TV show “M.A.S.H.,” she responded “that’s a story for another time.”□ Dr Corbett revealed there was a direct correlation with the conflict in Vietnam and the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union many years later.

It was a very informative discussion. Members, Barry Jenkins and I found the different perspectives very enlightening. If they have another discussion of this type, I would definitely recommend attending.

Howard Tench,
VP, VVVC

Sick Call....

Please keep the following members and families in your thoughts and prayers:

Charlie Foote
Barry Jenkins
Larry’s son Daniel
Joe Richardson
Joe Catrambone
Vic Shuey
Bobbi Vickroy-Mills
Simon Camarillo
Dwayne Usanio
John Smiley
Jean Ray

CBOC VA Clinic Scheduling

On January 19th, after a visit with Dr. “K” in mental health, I stopped by to say hi to the CBOC Administrator, Laurie Berry.

While we were visiting I asked Laurie to check my file and see when I was due for a call back to see my Primary Physician.

My last appointment was in September 2017.

The reason I asked about this was that in the past, I was always notified to call for an appointment after 6 months.

However, in the last year or so, it’s been a year before I’m notified.

Laurie checked my files and stated that the doctor’s notes reflected 6 months.

On February 21st, I stopped by the CBOC to make an appointment with my primary, and was told that I wasn’t due until September.

I asked the clerk to check the doctor’s notes, because when I had met with the Administrator, she told me 6 months.

The clerk read the notes and agreed, six months, and scheduled my appointments for March.

After she made my appointments, she informed me that when the checkout forms are turned in, they reflect a 1 year call back.

No one reviews the doctor’s notes.

The next time you see your primary, ask when your next appointment should be scheduled before you leave, don’t rely on them.

Richard Camacho

We have also learned of some of our members who have recently passed away. They are:

Dennis Foley
Robert Cruz
Ken Duropy
Ron Count

May you rest in peace.

VVVC Fundraisers

Don't forget we have some fundraisers coming up very soon. The first one is on February 28 at Toppers Pizza Night Family Fundraiser from 3:30 to 9:00 pm. The address is Toppers Pizza Place, 2701 Peninsula Rd., Oxnard. Toppers will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group! You must have a flyer for this deal which is included in the Listening Post.

The next one coming up is VVVC California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser. It will be happening on April 18, 2018. More information and flyers will be in the next LP.

Parades/Color Guards

March 17th we will be in the Ventura's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Meet at the Plaza Park at 8:30 am.

ALSO PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE VVVC 2018 EVENT CALENDAR AS THERE ARE SEVERAL MEETINGS THAT WILL BE TAKING PLACE.



Time Change

March 12

Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour before you go to bed on March 11

A Story Re David Ha's Brothers

While at the Seabee graduation ceremony, Deborah Ehrich was looking around the Seabee Museum and in front of the museum is bricks dedicated to veterans. Two of these bricks happen to be for David Ha's brothers. These bricks represent his older brothers both Vietnam Veterans. CE1 Melvin Ha was a Construction Electrician serving approximately 26 years. His other brother EOC Gilbert Ha was an Equipment Operator Chief serving for 22 years. They both served together in DaNang (Naval Support Activity) he believes. Both returned home with issues as you know. My older brothers are my heroes and my reason why I also served in the Navy Seabees.



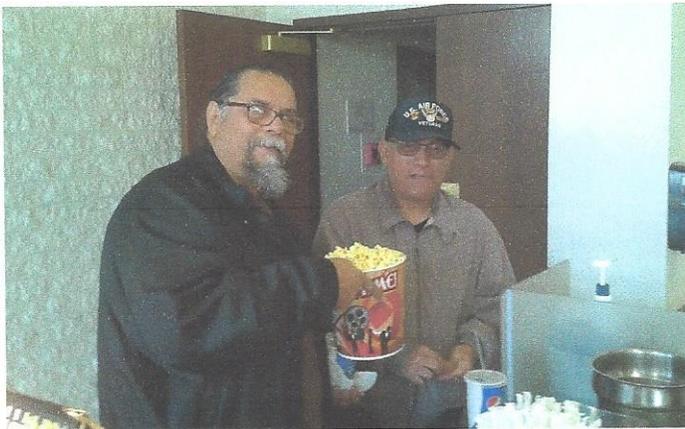
David Ha

At the African-American History lunch at NBVC Galley on 2-16-18



Here are two of the 'Three Musketeers' enjoying their food. The third Musketeer took this picture.

Running Head: 12 Strong 9movie) at NBVC Theater 2-18-18



Already tp find a good seat.

Swearing-in of 2018 VVVC Officers and Board Members

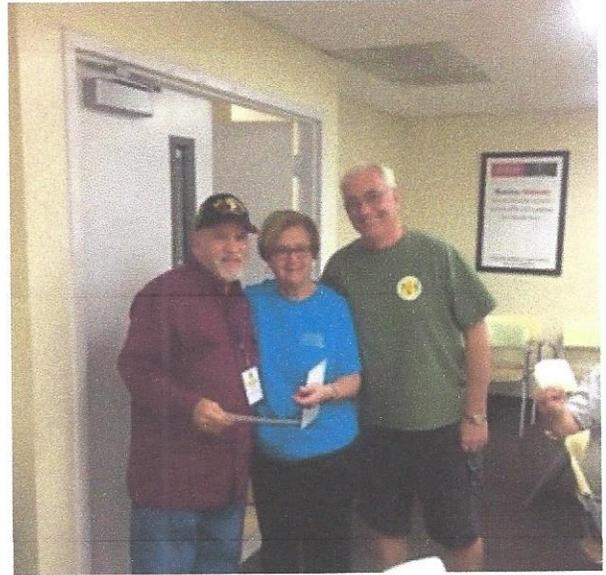


*Wednesday, 21 February 2018 – Ormond Beach
Villas for Veterans Apartments by Many Mansions
Groundbreaking Ceremony*

VVVC Color Guard



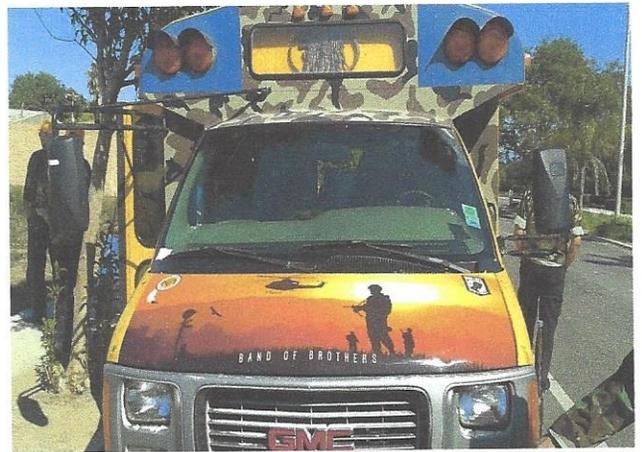
Monday Club Donation to VVVC



Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County with officials
pose for photo by America Barroso



A great picture of the front of the VVVC bus!



VVVC 2018 Event Calendar

FEBRUARY

28 VVVC's Toppers Pizza Fundraiser

MARCH

1 Wall Meeting – 11 am – Main Street Café
2 VCMiLC Free Legal Clinic
8 VCMiLC Meeting
8 Veteran Book Club
15 VVVC Board Meeting – 11 am – Marie Calendars
17 VVVC Meeting
17 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ventura

APRIL

6 VCMiLC Free Legal Clinic
11 VCMiLC Meeting
12 Veteran Book Club
18 VVVC California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser
19 VVVC Board Meeting
21 VVVC Meeting

MAY

4 VCMiLC Free Legal Clinic
9 CBOC Open House
10 VCMiLC Meeting
10 Veteran Book Club
17 VVVC Board Meeting
19 VVVC Meeting
28 Memorial Day
30 5th Wednesday Dinner at American Legion in Oak View

JUNE

5 Docent Training
9 Docent Training
14 VVVC Board Meeting
16 VVVC Meeting
20 Set up Wall
20-25 Moving Wall
26 Break Down Wall

JULY

4 4th of July Parade in Ojai
19 VVVC Board Meeting
21 VVVC Meeting

AUGUST

16 VVVC Board Meeting
18 VVVC Meeting
29 5th Wednesday Dinner at American Legion in Oak View
? Ventura County Fair Parade

SEPTEMBER

13 VVVC Board Meeting
15 VVVC Meeting
21 POW/MIA Remembrance

OCTOBER

18 VVVC Board Meeting
20 VVVC Meeting
31 5th Wednesday Dinner at American Legion in Oak View

NOVEMBER

11 Veteran's Day
15 VVVC Board Meeting
17 VVVC Meeting

DECEMBER

13 VVVC Board Meeting
15 VVVC Meeting
? Santa Paula Christmas Parade



Support the Vietnam Veterans
of Ventura County

Pizza Night Family Fundraiser

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

3:30 p.m to 9:00 p.m.

Where: Toppers Pizza Place
2701 Peninsula Rd.
Oxnard
385•4444 or 495•4444



What: Toppers Pizza will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group!

How to Help: Just follow these steps to help raise funds!

- 1) Bring the whole family to Toppers during the above period for a great pizza!
- 2) Show this flyer to the cashier **when you place your order** (or tell operator for phone orders).
- 3) No coupons or other discounts will be honored in conjunction with this fundraiser.
- 4) No flyers may be handed out in or around the restaurant during the event.
- 5) Online Orders are not included.



Proud to be part of the community!



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System
11301 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90073

In Reply Refer To: 691/

Fee Basis Claims

Please review the following order for medical claims to be processed by the VA.

The veteran must call the billing facility and request the following medical record/proper medical bills to be one of the following Clinics of jurisdiction. (See Below)

Emergency Room Visits

- UB 04 (Hospital Bill)
- HFCA 1500 (Other Providers/Ancillary Services Bill)
- Emergency Room Report
- Physician's Emergency Room Notes

Inpatient Services

- UB 04 (Hospital Bill)
- HFCA 1500 (Other Providers/Ancillary Services Bill)
- Itemized Bill for Hospital
- Emergency Room or Admit History & Physical
- Physician's Progress Notes
- Discharge Summary
- History & Physical

Bakersfield Community
Based Outpatient Clinic
1801 Westwind Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 632-1800

Los Angeles Ambulatory
Care Center
351 E. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 253-2677

Santa Barbara Community
Based Outpatient Clinic
4440 Calle Real
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
(805) 683-1491

Sepulveda Ambulatory
Care Center and Nursing
Home
16111 Plummer Street
North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 891-7711

West Los Angeles
Healthcare Center
11301 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90073
(310) 478-3711

*** ALL PROPER MEDICAL BILLS (UB 04, HAFCA 1500) MUST
BE SUBMITTED TO VA WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DISCHARGE
TO MEET TIMELY FILING.

*** PLEASE FORWARD MEDICAL RECORDS/BILLS TO
HIGHLIGHTED

Attn: Fee Basis 136C
Sepulveda Ambulatory Care
Center and Nursing Home
16111 Plummer Street
North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 891-7711 Ext. 38100

Attn: Fee Bases (60004-F
VA Medical Center Long Beach
5901 E 7th Street
Long Beach, CA 98022
(562) 826-800 Ext. 2995

Attn: Fee Bases
(605-11 FEE)
VA Medical CTR
11201 Benton St.
Loma Linda, CA
92357
(909) 801-5930



VA
HEALTH
CARE

Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

Non-VA Emergency Care Fact Sheet

At some time in your life, you may need emergency care. This document explains what VA might be able to do for you. When it is not possible for you to go to a VA Medical Center, you should go to the nearest hospital that has an emergency room. If you are in an ambulance, the paramedics will usually take you to the closest emergency room.

What is an emergency?

A medical emergency is an injury or illness that is so severe that without immediate treatment, it threatens your life or health.

How do I know my situation is an emergency?

Your situation is an emergency if you believe your life or health is in danger.

If I believe my life or health is in danger, do I need to call the VA before I call for an ambulance or go to an emergency room?

No. Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room right away.

When should I contact the VA regarding an emergency room visit?

You, your family, friends or hospital staff should contact the nearest VA medical center as soon as possible, preferably within 72 hours of your emergency, so you are better aware of what services VA may or may not cover. Provide VA with information about your emergency and what services are being provided to you. Ask VA for guidance on what emergency charges may or may not be covered so you can plan accordingly.

If the doctor then wants to admit me to the hospital, must I obtain advance approval from the VA?

- If the admission is an emergency—**NO**, although prompt notification of the VA is necessary.
- If the admission is not an emergency—**YES**

If a VA bed is available and I can be safely transferred, do I have to move to the VA hospital?

YES. If you want VA to continue to pay for your care. If you refuse to be transferred, VA will not pay for any further care.

If I am admitted to the hospital as a result of an emergency, how much will VA pay?

This depends on your VA eligibility. VA may pay all, some, or none of the charges. Some highlights are listed in the next column.

For service-connected conditions, here are some of the criteria that must be met:

1. Care or services were provided in a medical emergency, and
2. VA or another federal facility were not feasibly available, and
3. VA was notified within 72 hours of the admission.
4. Ask your local VA Medical Center's Non-VA (Fee) Care Office for further eligibility guidance.

For non-service-connected conditions, here are some of the criteria that must be met:

1. Veteran is enrolled in the VA Health Care System, and
2. Veteran has received health care services from VA within the previous 24 months, and
3. Veteran has no other health insurance coverage.
4. Ask your local VA Medical Center's Non-VA (Fee) Care Office for further eligibility guidance.

How do I know if I have a service-connected condition?

A service-connected condition refers to an illness or injury that was incurred in or aggravated by military service and has a rating assigned by the Veterans Benefits Administration.

How long do I have to file a claim for reimbursement for emergency medical care?

File your claim with the nearest VA Medical Center quickly because time limits usually apply. For non-service-connected care, the time limit is 90 days. Again, consult your local VA Medical Center for more information.

Will VA pay for emergency care received outside the United States?

VA will only pay for emergency care outside the U.S. if your emergency is related to a service-connected condition. For more information about care provided outside the U.S., contact the Foreign Medical Program (FMP) at (877) 345-8179, or go to the FMP website at: <http://www.va.gov/hac/forbeneficiaries/fmp>



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 VVC Post editor