



Listening Post

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

May 2019

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Listening Post

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Joe Richardson
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Parades/Work Party

John Cabrera
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Fundraising

Manny Gonzales
(805) 988-4462

President's Message:

I just got home from officiating the memorial service for Gloria C. Foote, Charles Foote's wife for two months shy of 28 years. I was impressed with the turn out for the service. Charlie is the commander for DAV post 24 and a member of the VVVC. There were members of the DAV and the VFW present but what impressed me the most was how the VVVC showed up in support of Charlie. There were more members of the VVVC than all the other veterans' organizations combined. I never tire appreciating the VVVC members for their faithful support of one another. There also were many of Gloria's friends in attendance as well.

I have officiated more funerals and memorial service than I can count. Usually these services have a sad and mournful atmosphere. Not this service. It really was a celebration of the life of Gloria Foote. There were more laughs than tears, more joy than sadness. I mentioned that even in death Gloria gave life, being an organ donor, which in itself speaks to her unselfish character.

Even though the service is over, we need to continue to demonstrate our love and support for our brother, our friend Charlie. It is easy for us to get on with our lives, but for those who have lost loved ones it is far more difficult. And it is not just Charlie we need to support. Richard Camacho lost his mother, there is the wife of Michael Capone, Kathy, just to mention two.

(Continued on page 2)

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Please don't forget Jim Hensley still recovering from his heart attack, Laurie Richardson and all the others on "sick call".

The Bible states, "There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24 I can truly say that I have found such friends in the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County.

Dave Wilson

POW/MIA REPORT April – 2019

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

World War II: 9

Army Pfc. Clifford M. Mills, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 29, 2019.

Army Air Forces Tech. Sgt. Alfred R. Sandini, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 12, 2019.

Army Sgt. Cread E. Shuey, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 26, 2019.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Walter B. Stone, 24, of Andalusia, Alabama, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 20, 2019.

Army Air Corps S/Sgt. Vincent J. Rogers Jr., killed during World War II, was accounted for on Mar. 28, 2019.

Army Pfc. Raymond H. Middlekauff, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Apr. 12, 2019.

Army Pfc. John W. Hayes, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Apr. 17, 2019.

Army Pfc. Dale W. Ross, killed during World War II, was accounted for on Apr. 17, 2019.

***Navy Fireman 3rd class Harold K. Costilla**, killed during the attack on the USS W. Virginia in World War II, was accounted for Apr. 18, 2019

USS Oklahoma: 13

Navy Baker 2nd Class David L. Kesler, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 17, 2019.

Navy Seaman 1st Class Frank A. Hygienics, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 28, 2019.

Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. Ted Hall, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Jan. 16, 2019.

Marine Corps Pvt. Walden Black, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Dec. 13, 2018.

Navy Seaman 1st Class Orris V. Brandt, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 20, 2019.

Navy Fire Controlman 3rd Class Victor P. Tomlinson, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 8, 2019.

Navy Fireman 1st Class Billy J. Johnson, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 26, 2019. (200th service member identified from USS Oklahoma)

Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class William A. Classing, 19, of Trenton, Illinois, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Feb. 4, 2019.

Navy Seaman 1st class Ernest R. West, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Mar. 6, 2019.

Navy Seaman 2nd Class Richard J. Thomson, 19, of League City, Texas, killed during World War II, was accounted for on March 14, 2019.

Navy Seaman 2nd class Wilfred D. Palmer, killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma in World War II, was accounted for on Mar. 21, 2019.
(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Currently there are 72,736 (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War II

Korean War: 6

Army Pvt. Winfred L. Reynolds, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Jan. 16, 2019.

Army Sgt. George R. Schipani, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Jan. 30, 2019.

Army Cpl. James C. Rix, 18, of Alamo, Georgia, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Feb. 8, 2019.

Army Capt. Rufus J. Hyman, 23, of Memphis, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Feb. 20, 2019.

Army Cpl. Benjamin W. Scott, 19, of Alamo, Mississippi, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Feb. 20, 2019.

Army Pfc. Herschel M. Riggs, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on Mar. 25, 2019.

Vietnam: 1

Navy Reserve Journalist 3rd Class Raul A. Guerra, 24, of Montebello, California, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for on Feb. 20, 2019. He will be buried April 25, 2019, in Whittier, California.

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

VVVC April 2019 Membership Report

Annual members	63
Life members	110
Total members	173

Memberships expiring in May 2019:

Ron Perkovich 5/2
Walter Knaus 5/19
Heidi Cermak 5/9
Joe Guevare 5/9
Sam Lacomis 5/9
Victor Contreras 5/9
Joe Garcia 5/9
Jingo Dimalanta 5/9
Anthony Vega 5/9
Ameriao Copon 5/9
Dennis Sauvagean 5/9
Daniel Miller 5/9
Norberto Abundo 5/19
Gregory Sipe 5/9
Hector Irigoyen 5/9
Albert Galindo 5/9
Charie Hanlon 5/9

Sec/Membership Chair
Joe Richardson

Sick Call.....

Please keep the following members in your thoughts as they are going through some tough times right now.

Barry Jenkins – Serious health issues

Jim Hensley – heart issues – he is home but having a tough time recuperating.

Charlie Foote – he is up and at ‘em but still fighting health issues.

We are so sorry for the loss of Gloria Foote (Charlie’s wife).

Wayne Eusano

Richard Pico’s friend Jack

From the desk of Joe Richardson, Sec VVVC

I would like to say thank-you to all that attended the Open House on April 22cd.

With the authority of Congresswoman Julia Brownley’s office pushing, the VA had their TOP leadership personnel and staff set-up and provide an open-house forum on two subjects of prime interest to the veteran population of Ventura County.

The primary reason was to discuss and inform the locals of the current status and plans for the new VA run clinic to be built/established soon.

Secondly there would be discussions on the Oxnard CBOC.

As we gathered in Oxnard, I reminded her that the primary reason was the new clinic and to please leave the Oxnard CBOC for last as it would surely become nothing but an out-of-control bitch session.

She had the leadership do just that, and because that was the agenda used, we were able to receive LOTS of good information relative to what has occurred and what and when to expect in the future on our new VA run facility.

The room was filled beyond capacity and I again wish to thank all for the efforts made to get the word out creating such a visible crowd for the VA leadership to see how important these issues are
To us.

NCTC CM “A” School Change of Command

I am finally able to announce the complete NCTC CM "A" School Change of Command on 18 July 2019 information. Captain Rafael Miranda informed me yesterday, 4.8.2019, that the ceremony will be held in NCTC Grinder Building 1416 or 1417, on 18 July 2019, at 10:00 am. I hope to see you all there. It would be nice to have a large group present for a nice sendoff of Commander Miranda.

I was at the NCTC CM "A" School Graduation Ceremony of Class 19120. It consisted of eight graduates. The next ceremony will be on Monday, 15 April 2019, at 1:00 pm, in Seabee Museum. Hope to see you there.

DEBORA L. EHRICH, BA
CSU Channel Islands Alumni and Friends
Association Life Member
Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County Life
Member and Board of Directors Member

And on that same note I would like to bring to your attention that I have noticed that there has been a lack of attendance of VVVC Members at the NCTC CM "A" School Graduation Ceremonies. I was hoping to be able to encourage more of us attending these ceremonies.

Jesse, I know that you have been attempting to keep up with the latest information about the AFTS "TTAV" and "TTAA" Graduation Ceremonies and if they are following their schedule, such as time of ceremonies with the Senior Airman. Hopefully, we can encourage individuals with base access to participate in order for us to attend.

These young men and women need our encouragement and recognition at these events. They are our country’s future.

A few notes...

The Anglers Anonymous is putting together a group of vets to go out fishing. If interested please call Howard Tench 805-312-1977.

We will be having another Fundraiser sometime in July at Toppers.

Need Help?

Charlie Foote is now a certified DAV claims officer and has documents and forms for records if you need the assistance, he has paperwork and contacts to upgrade MyHealthyvet account. He can also help you getting your claim filed. His number is 805-649-3754.



THE WORKS OF SUTTON BETTI

"You should have a backup plan." This is the advice that Sutton Betti's grandmother gave him when he was young and wanted to be a musician. Sutton took her advice to heart and when he found that music wasn't what he really wanted to do, he turned to plan B...becoming an artist. After art school and a stint as an animator, Sutton took a job as an assistant to a sculptor. The artist, Mario Chiodo, would inspire Sutton to pursue this medium and twenty years later remains an influence to him. Betti went down the very bumpy road of a starving artist and it truly was a struggle. True grit kept him going until he got his first commission in 2008.

While he has sculpted many different themes, Sutton is drawn to military themes. This inspiration initially came from his father, who was a Vietnam veteran and heavily involved in veteran activities. His dad passed in 2015, but Sutton says he still feels his presence and guidance. He feels that creating these sculptures keeps a part of his dad alive and close. Sutton has also met many veterans through the years, often times in tears, who tell him how much his sculptures mean to them.

Sutton is presently finishing up on a project at American Veterans Park in West Point, Nebraska in which he will have eight life size statues and two large scale reliefs installed. Locally, he worked with the late Fredric Arnold to create a WWII themed monument

10 Remember and Honor

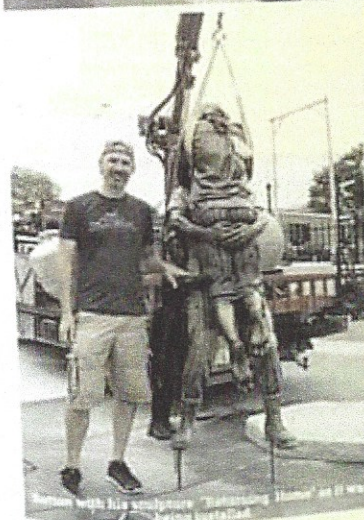
presently on loan at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum in Aurora which will eventually head to the National WWII Museum in New Orleans.

His gallery and studio is open to the public by appointment only at 2347 W 8th Street. To learn more about Sutton and his fascinating work, go to his website: www.suttonbetti.com

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- Discover your memories
- Discover your past

Contact: 709-514-7794
www.911memoryproject.net



Sutton with his sculpture "Remembering Honor" as it was being installed.



Remember and Honor 11

VVVC 2019 Event Calendar

APRIL		SEPTEMBER	
3	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation	3	NCTC "CM" Graduation
4	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	6	VCMC Free Legal Clinic
5	VCMC Free Legal Clinic	10	NCTC "CM" Graduation
8	NCTC "CM" Graduation	12	Collaborative Meeting
9	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation	16	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
11	Collaborative Meeting	17	NCTC "CM" Graduation
11	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	18	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
13 & 14	Color Guard at Pow Wow	21	VVVC Meeting
15	NCTC "CM" Graduation	OCTOBER	
17	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	4	VCMC Free Legal Clinic
18	By-Laws Meeting	4	NCTC "CM" Graduation
19	NCTC "CM" Graduation	8	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
20	Color Guard at funeral	10	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
20	VVVC Meeting	10	Collaborative Meeting
22	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation	11	NCTC "CM" Graduation
24	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation	19	VVVC Meeting
24	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	21	NCTC "CM" Graduation
26	NCTC "CM" Graduation	28	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
30	Fundraiser at Yolanda's Restaurant	28	NCTC "CM" Graduation
MAY		30	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
1	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	NOVEMBER	
3	Jim Somner of ASA 50 th Anniversary Troup Appreciation – Color Guard	1	VCMC Free Legal Clinic
4	VCMC Free Legal Clinic	4	NCTC "CM" Graduation
7	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	11	Color Guard at Oxnard Veteran's Ceremony
8	CBOC Open House	11	Las Vegas Veteran's Parade
9	Collaborative Meeting	12	NCTC "CM" Graduation
14	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation	12	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
14	AFTS "TTAV" Graduation	14	Collaborative Meeting
17	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation	15	VVVC Meeting
18	VVVC Meeting	19	NCTC "CM" Graduation
JUNE		26	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
7	VCMC Free Legal Clinic	29	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
13	Collaborative Meeting	DECEMBER	
15	VVVC Meeting	3	NCTC "CM" Graduation
21	NCTC "CM" Graduation	6	VCMC Free Legal Clinic
28	NCTC "CM" Graduation	7	Color Guard at Camarillo Christmas Parade
JULY		12	Collaborative Meeting
4	4 th of July Parade in Ojai	19	NCTC "CM" Graduation
4	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation	20	VVVC Meeting
5	VCMC Free Legal Clinic	20	AFTS "TTAA" Graduation
7	Color Guard at Oxnard Beach Park	23	AFTS "TTAC" Graduation
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		



THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF VENTURA COUNTY

Fundraiser



Invite your family and friends support our Veterans

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

11:am-9:00pm

2753 E. Main St., Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 643-2700



**Bring this flyer with you and Yolanda's Mexican Café
will donate 20% of the net sales to Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County**

vvvc.org

Please share this event



OPEN HOUSE



- JOB FAIR
- VETERANS BENEFITS INFORMATION
- GIVEAWAYS
- VBA & VET CENTER REPRESENTATIVES

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS ARE FROM 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
**SAN LUIS OBISPO @ CUESTA COLLEGE IS FROM 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FOR MORE
INFORMATION CONTACT
CHARLES GREEN
OPEN-HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIR
424.645.9865

**APRIL
03**

VA Bakersfield Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

1801 Westwind Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 632-1888

**APRIL
17**

VA Santa Maria Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

1550 East Main Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 354-6000

**MAY
04**

VA East Los Angeles Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

5426 E. Olympic Boulevard
City of Commerce, CA 90040
(323) 725-7372

**MAY
08**

VA Oxnard Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

1690 Universe Cir,
Oxnard, CA 93033
(805) 604-6960

**MAY
10**

VA Lancaster Community-Based Outpatient Clinic

340 E. Avenue I Suite 108
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 729-8655

**MAY
17**

VA Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center

16111 Plummer Street
North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 891-7711

**JUNE
01**

VA San Luis Obispo CBOC @ Cuesta College **

CA-1,
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
(805) 543 1233



WWW.LOSANGELES.VA.GOV

VA

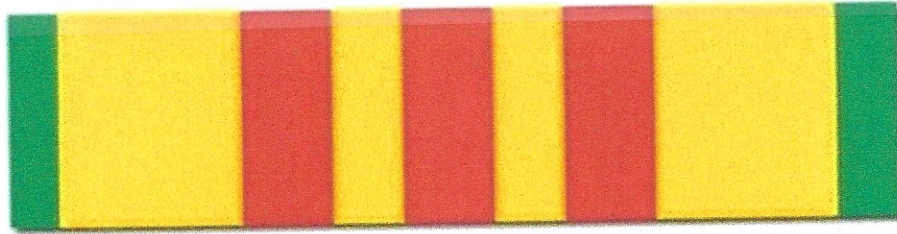


U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System



Oxnard Native American PowWow





REMEMBER WHAT OUR MEDAL STANDS FOR:

- RED:** REPRESENTS THE THREE ANCIENT VIETNAMESE EMPIRES OF TONKIN, ANNAM AND COCHIN.
- YELLOW:** THE IMPERIAL COLOR OF VIET NAM.
- GREEN:** SURROUNDED BY EXPANSIVE JUNGLE.



Appeals Modernization Act

The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017 (AMA) was signed into law on August 23, 2017 and became effective on February 19, 2019

- **What does this law change?**
 - VBA's claims and appeals processes
 - VBA's decision notification requirements
- **Who does this law impact?**
 - All VA administrations
 - VBA
 - VHA
 - NCA
 - All VBA claimants (Veterans, survivors, and other beneficiaries)

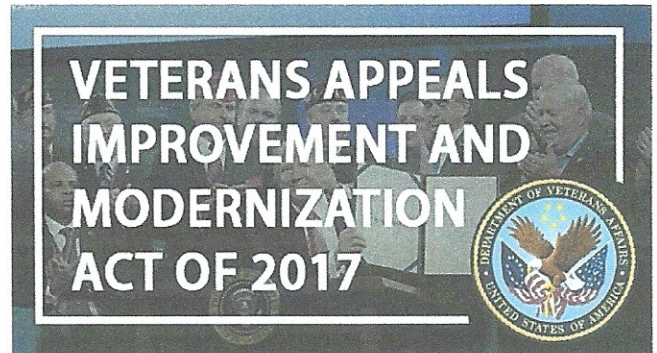


Image Source: Vantage Point blog
<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/51696/va-marks-one-year-since-signing-historic-appeals-modernization-act/>

New AMA Application Forms

VBA will include **VA Form 20-0998, Your Rights to Seek Further Review of Our Decision**, with all decision notices sent on or after February 19, 2019.

Claimants will use new enterprise wide VA forms to file under one of the new review options:

- **VA Form 20-0995** Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim
- **VA Form 20-0996** Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review
- **VA Form 10182** Decision Review Request: Board Appeal

Important: VA will no longer send claimants VA Form 4107 and VA Form 21-0958, Notice of Disagreement.

Our Patient Advocates & the Veteran Experience Program

The Patient Advocate and Veteran Experience Program is established to promote positive experiences for all our Veterans. A fundamental value in VHA is for all our Veterans and their families, who are served in or through VHA facilities and clinics, to have their priorities and needs addressed in a proactive, convenient, and timely manner.



Kevin L. Wright
Veteran Experience Officer
West Los Angeles
310.268.4141



VA | U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System



WLA

Bill Hamilton
Veteran Experience Specialist
310.478.3711 x-44653



WLA

Harry Corre
Former Prisoner of War Advocate
Veteran Experience Specialist
310.478.3711 x-43325



WLA

Deandros Long
Veteran Experience Assistant
310.478.3711
x-41037



LAACC

Willie Jean Brister
Veteran Experience Specialist
213.253.2677 x-24111



Sepulveda

Lillian C. Chambers
Veteran Experience Specialist
818.895.9564

*Simi Valley Senior Center
Simi Valley Council On Aging*

Wellness Expo 2019



For the Health of It!

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Free Screenings

Carotid Artery • Glucose • Hearing
Blood Pressure • Balance • and more ...

Call the **Simi Valley Senior Center** at 805.583.6363 for more information

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Simi Valley

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Breakfast
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CAMARILLO, C.A. in Old Town 987-2167

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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