



# Listening Post

Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, Inc.

P.O. Box 3218

Ventura, CA 93006-3218

October, 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

Dale Dean  
(805) 263-0276

## 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

John Cabrera  
(805) 483-5139

### Fundraising

Manny Gonzales  
(805) 988-4462

## President's Message:

September was a busy month. Besides the number of Color Guard events, we celebrated our 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Piru Petroleum Club. Ron Fitzgarrald did a fantastic job organizing this event. Kudos to everyone who found the Club. DVs provided the food and it was really good. We had musicians to entertain us, door prizes and of course the 50/50 drawing.

I also had the honor to perform the Invocation for the Military Expo held at the Oxnard College. Over 200 were in attendance at this important Job Fair sponsored by Jacqui Erwin.

On POW/MIA Remembrance Day we had the opportunity again to perform the Missing Man Table at the Veterans Home. The Home's director Julian Bond read the declaration by Governor Newsom (a copy of which is in this issue). Those presenting the items on the table did a superlative job both at the home and again at the Ventura Government Center. Good job Ron Fitzgarrald organizing both events.

At the Government Center I was impressed by the Sea Cadets from Port Hueneme and as always, the outstanding students from Miss Abbe's eighth grade history class from Anacapa Middle School.

If all that was not enough, 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  
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The five Directors are: Dale Dean, Debra Erich, David Ha, Louis Morris and Joe Reyes.

Nominations from the September 21, 2019 meeting are:

President: David H. Wilson

Vice-President: Howard Tench

Secretary: Joe Richardson

Treasurer: Open (Brenda Seguin will not be able to serve another term)

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 and Joe Reyes.

Nominations will continue in October and November in our General Meeting. Proxy nominations need to be in by the November meeting as 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.

**David H. Wilson**



## **POW/MIA REPORT Sept – 2019**

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

### **World War II: 10**

**Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Raymond Warren**, killed during World War II, was accounted for June 10, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Tech. 5th Grade John E. Bainbridge**, 23, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, killed during World War II, was accounted for on June 24, 2019.

**Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Kenneth W. Likens**, 20, of Mt. Clemens, Michigan, killed during World War II, was accounted for on May 31, 2019.

**Army Air Corps Staff Sgt. Willard R. Best**, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. John F. McTigue**, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Marine Corps Pfc. Michael Kocopy**, killed during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 27, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Pfc. Jacob W. Givens**, 30, of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, was accounted for on June 17, 2019.  
**Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Steve Nagy**, killed during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**POW Army Air Corps Sgt. R.L. Tyler**, died in captivity during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**POW U.S. Coast Guard Lt. j.g. Thomas J.E. Crotty**, died while in captivity during World War II, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019.  
(Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

### **USS Oklahoma: 6**

**Navy Seaman 2nd Class Brady O. Prewitt**, was accounted for Aug. 9, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Navy Quartermaster 2nd Class Daryle E. Artley**, killed during World War II, was accounted for July 30, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Navy Chief Water Tender Francis D. Day**, killed during World War II, was accounted for July 29, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Navy Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Arnold M. Nielsen**, killed during World War II, was accounted for July 8, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Navy Fireman 1st Class James C. Webb**, killed during World War II, was accounted for July 29, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Navy Fireman 1st Class Lawrence E. Woods**, killed during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 29, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

### **USS West Virginia: 1**

**Navy Fireman 2nd Class Albert Renner**, was accounted for Aug. 19, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

### **USS Nelson: 1**

**Navy Seaman 1st Class Stewart Jordan**, killed during the D-Day invasion, was accounted for Aug. 27, 2019. (Official DoD)

**Currently there are 72,652 (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War II**  
(continued on page 4)



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## **Korean War: 20**

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Phillip C. Mendoza**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 9, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Marine Corps Pfc. Billy E. Johnson**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 7, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Pfc. Junior C. Evans**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 19, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Sgt. Gerald B. Raeymacker**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 9, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Charles H. Grubb**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 27, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Gudmund C. Johnson, Jr.**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 27, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Gerald N. Wilson**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 29, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army 1st Lt. Robert C. Styslinger**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 29, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Sgt. Vernon R. Judd**, 22, of Navarre, Ohio, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on June 24, 2019.

**Army Sgt. Donald L. Murphy**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Pfc. Harold K. Knight**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army 1st Lt. George S. Crisp**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 3, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Joe T. Avant**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Autrey J. Betar**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. William J. McCollum**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 11, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Pfc. William J. Winchester**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Asa E. Vance**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Wilfred K. Hussey, Jr.**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 10, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Lloyd B. Odom**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 12, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Army Cpl. Henry L. Phillips**, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 17, 2019. (Official DoD release will be updated following Primary Next of Kin briefing.)

**Currently there are 7,602 Americans remaining unaccounted for from the Korean War.**

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**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**

**Color Guard for Many Mansions**

To all Members:

Many Mansions Ormond Beach Veterans Housing Project has requested us to provide a color guard for the opening ceremonies on Thursday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 9a. I won't be in town so Mr. John Cabrera has come to the rescue.

If you would like to help out, (I believe there is food involved too!), please contact John directly @ [juanmoticav@yahoo.com](mailto:juanmoticav@yahoo.com). Thank you John.

Thank you for your help and support.  
Ron Fitzgarrald

**Sick Call....**

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

John Smiley recovering from a bad fall,  
David Wilson back surgery in December,  
Brenda Seguin hip replacement surgery in October.  
Sharon Cabrera surgery for dislocated shoulder.  
Simon Camarillo  
Steve Weber suffering from severe cancer.  
Laurie Richardson back surgery in November.

Condolences to Ed & Renee Evan's for the recent lose of his brother in Arkansas – RIP

And on a happier note – Ethan William's mom, Rachel, is a recent cancer survivor.

Everyone – please stay safe and healthy out there!

**A Big THANK YOU To THE  
MONDAY CLUB for the BEAUTIFUL  
BUGEL You Donated to the VVVC .  
Thank you Helen!**



## Operation Anacapa

This past Friday, September 13th, Operation Anacapa was implemented. Mission Fish USA sponsored a salt water fishing trip to Anacapa Island free of charge for 100 plus veterans and first responders. The all expense paid trip included fishing gear, snacks, food, and fish cleaning followed by a terrific BBQ sponsored by the Ventura Lions club. Some of the swag included military towels, fishing towels, survival wristbands, jerky and a gift box from Operation Gratitude. It was a special time to be able to interact with my fellow veterans. Unfortunately, the same difficulties with the VA are the same as our fellow Vietnam Warriors endured when we returned. Many are suffering from nerve problems resulting from exposure to burn pits and of course PTSD. The fight continues! If some of my brothers and sisters wish to join the next sponsored fishing trip with mission fish USA, please visit the [missionfishusa.org](http://missionfishusa.org) web site or Brian Barber email at [missionfishusa@gmail.com](mailto:missionfishusa@gmail.com). I plan to personally donate to this worthy cause. Tight lines everyone!

Howard Tench



## Happenings – List of activities coming up:

Color Guard Many Mansions – 10/3 9-10a  
At the Ormand Beach Project

Funeral at Arroyo Verde Park – 10/6 3:30p

Expo - 10/24

Veteran's Parade in Las Vegas – 11/11

Operation Snowflake – 12/21

Also check the VVVC Events Calendar

## VVVC Sept 2019 Membership Report

Annual members	49
Life members	115
Gratis members	4
Total members	168

1 Annual membership renewed as LIFE

5 Annual memberships overdue

1439 Theresa Miller

1446 Jes Sandoval

1473 Mark Savala

1512 Sharonda Bolen

1517 Tom Dotson

2 Membership renewals due from Aug expired this month

Richard Carlander

Gary Kraft

4 Annual memberships due in Sept

1514 Refugio Hernandez

1515 Frank Lopez

1518 Dana Aten

1519 Rhonda Frye

**Sec/Membership Chair**

**Joe Richardson**

## Knights of Columbus

### Council #9969

**Free Veterans Pancake Breakfast**  
October 27, 2019

Donations Welcomed To Support  
Wheelchairs For Veterans!

Holy Cross Catholic Church  
Cosgrove Center  
13955 Peach Hill Rd,  
Moorpark, CA 93021  
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Armed Service Veterans Will  
Gladly Pose for Pictures!

AMERICAN  
WHEELCHAIR MISSION



## NOTES from the Sec. Joe Richardson

There is housing availability at both the CalVet home in Ventura and the Ormond Beach Villas by Manny Mansions in Oxnard. If you know ANYONE in need of housing veterans or low income please forward this info to them.

Some shares from our DAV member Charlie Foote (links forwarded by me)

Introduction to Mission Act 2019 ... list of four steps to use these benefits

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5264>

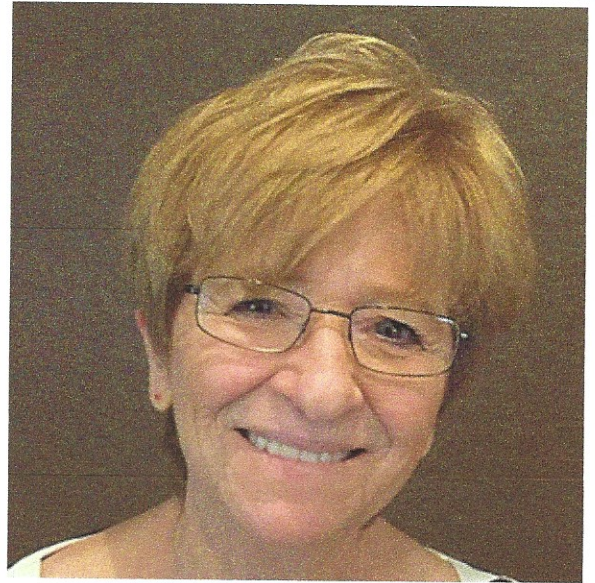
Application for VA Healthcare  
<https://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/>

Google Link to use to download the full Mission Act of 2018 [PDF]

[https://www.google.com/search?q=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.va.gov+%E2%80%BA+docs+%E2%80%BA+pubfiles+%E2%80%BA+factsheets+%E2%80%BA+VHA-FS\\_MISSION-Act&oq=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.va.gov+%E2%80%BA+docs+%E2%80%BA+pubfiles+%E2%80%BA+factsheets+%E2%80%BA+VHA-FS\\_MISSION-Act&aqs=chrome..69i57j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.va.gov+%E2%80%BA+docs+%E2%80%BA+pubfiles+%E2%80%BA+factsheets+%E2%80%BA+VHA-FS_MISSION-Act&oq=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.va.gov+%E2%80%BA+docs+%E2%80%BA+pubfiles+%E2%80%BA+factsheets+%E2%80%BA+VHA-FS_MISSION-Act&aqs=chrome..69i57j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

Link to the California Advance Directive download site

[https://yourcaringhouse.org/no-frills-advance-health-care-directive/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI8IWwrqjy5AIVC9NkCh3FFA-gEAAYASAAEgJgA\\_D\\_BwE](https://yourcaringhouse.org/no-frills-advance-health-care-directive/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI8IWwrqjy5AIVC9NkCh3FFA-gEAAYASAAEgJgA_D_BwE)



## IN MEMORY

**JAN CAMACHO**  
**aka Den Mother**

Jan passed away on September 28, 2019  
She was loved by all and will be missed by all.  
RIP

# VVVC 2019 Event Calendar

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## OCTOBER

- 3 Color Guard Many Mansions at Ormond Project – 9-10a
- 4 VCMC Free Legal Clinic
- 4 NCTC “CM” Graduation
- 6 Funeral at Arroyo Verde Park – 3:30p
- 8 AFTS “TTAC” Graduation
- 10 AFTS “TTAA” Graduation
- 10 Collaborative Meeting
- 11 NCTC “CM” Graduation
- 19 VVVC Meeting
- 21 NCTC “CM” Graduation
- 24 Latino Business Expo
- 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
- 16 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
- 21 VVVC Meeting
- 21 Operation Snowflake
- 20 AFTS “TTAA” Graduation
- 23 AFTS “TTAC” Graduation







For those of you that missed it, we had a HOT time in Piru! 95\*+ (but it was a dry heat)  
I want to thank everyone who showed up for the picnic,  
to all of those that donated the door prizes,  
and to the people that helped setup and clean up afterwards.

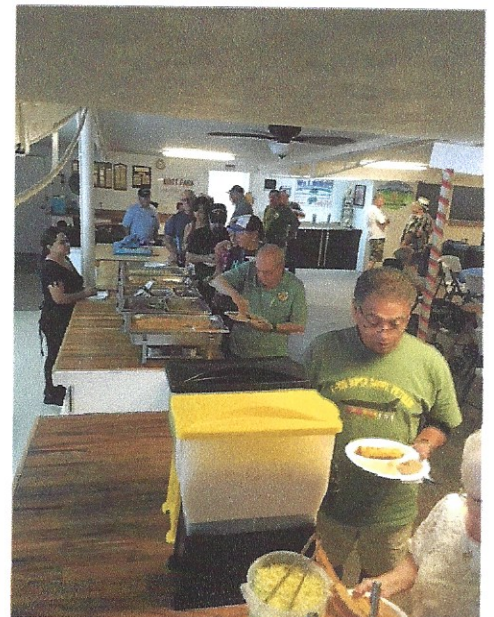
A good time was had by all.

Even Joe and his wife Laurie got into the "swing" of things on the dance floor.

Everyone went home stuffed and happy. Great food and great company.

Thanks to the 3 musicians, Don Smith and Joe Boles and his brother.

And last but not least, thank you to DV's Mexican Grill in Ventura for catering our party.





Rafael Stoneman and his dog Leo



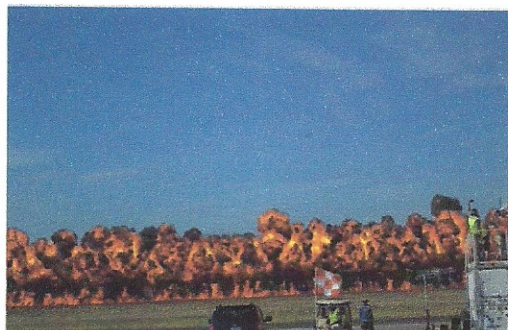
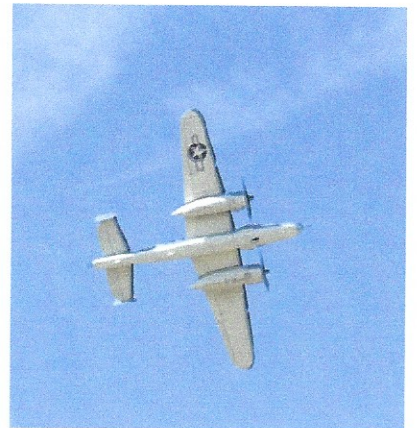
## Every good dog has its day

**RIGHTFUL RECOGNITION**—At right, Nancy Frawley, a representative from State Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin's office, presents Rafael Stoneman, and his Alaskan malamute, Leo, with a certificate of recognition for their work with local homeless people during a ceremony at the Gold Coast Veterans Foundation in Camarillo on Sept. 12. Above, Dennis Murphy, chairman of the Gold Coast Veterans Foundation, presents Stoneman, a columnist with the Acorn Newspapers and an Army veteran, with a \$5,000 check to cover Leo's upcoming leg surgery. The money was raised by members of the foundation, who surprised the veteran and his dog with the check.

Photos by DIANNE AVERY/Acorn Newspapers









Free Veterans concert



## U.S. VETERANS CONCERT

A rousing afternoon of rock, pop, country western and original songs performed by U.S. Military Veterans

**Saturday, November 9, 2019 2 to 4 pm**

**Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum**

**1419 N Topanga Canyon Blvd, Topanga, CA**

**FREE tickets for Veterans, Military & Immediate Family\***

**General Tickets \$20 - VIP Reserved Seating \$40**

**Live Video Stream \$50**

**visit [vnew.org](http://vnew.org) or call 310.261.4712**

VNEW is a nonprofit 501c3 helping veterans cope with stress, substance abuse and find community through music. Limited seating. Register early. \*Up to 6 tickets per vet. Must show ID.

### U.S. VETERANS CONCERT



VETERANS SINGING TO PREVENT PTSD,  
ADDICTION AND HOMELESSNESS

**Free Tickets for Veterans**  
**Tickets at [vnew.org](http://vnew.org)**



**Saturday, November 9 2 to 4 pm**  
**Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum**  
**1419 N Topanga Canyon Blvd, Topanga, CA**



Veterans National Entertainment Workshop is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All proceeds from the concert will be used to support our mission. For more information, visit [vnew.org](http://vnew.org).

## Veterans National Entertainment Workshop

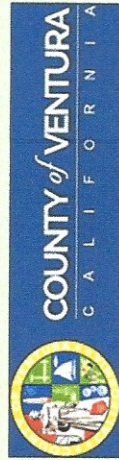
[www.vnew.org](http://www.vnew.org)

**Ted Abenheim**  
**(310) 403-9458**  
**[ted@vnew.org](mailto:ted@vnew.org)**



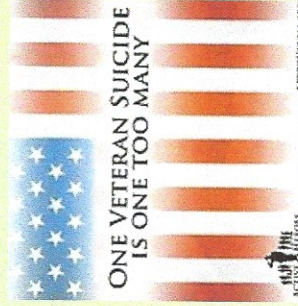
# Honoring our Veterans

Board of Supervisors' recognition of  
Veterans Day 2019,  
calling attention to veteran mental health



November 5 at 10 am

Hall of Administration  
BOS chambers  
800 S. Victoria Ave  
Ventura





VENTURA COUNTY MILITARY COLLABORATIVE PRESENTS

# OPERATION SNOWFLAKE

AN EVENT TO HELP VENTURA COUNTY MILITARY AND VETERANS IN NEED

SATURDAY DEC 21, 2019 11 - 2PM

## WAYS TO HELP:

MONETARY DONATIONS

GIFT CARDS

TOYS

FOOD

VOLUNTEER

DONATION STATION

TOY DRIVE

SPONSOR

[INFO@VCMILC.ORG](mailto:INFO@VCMILC.ORG)

## MILITARY OR VETERAN IN NEED?

REGISTER FOR OPERATION SNOWFLAKE:

[INFO@VCMILC.ORG](mailto:INFO@VCMILC.ORG)

805-229-1404

[VCMILC.ORG](http://VCMILC.ORG)



[VCMILC.ORG](http://VCMILC.ORG) - 501C3 NON PROFIT - 805-229-1404 - [INFO@VCMILC.ORG](mailto:INFO@VCMILC.ORG)



# Basic Eligibility for VA Health Care

If you served in the active military, naval or air service and are separated under any condition other than dishonorable, you may qualify for VA health care benefits. Current and former members of the Reserves or National Guard who were called to active duty (other than for training only) by a federal order and completed the full period for which they were called or ordered to active duty also may be eligible for VA health care.

## Minimum Duty Requirements

Most Veterans who enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty to be eligible. This minimum duty requirement may not apply to Veterans who were discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, were discharged for a hardship or received an "early out." Since there are a number of other exceptions to the minimum duty requirements, VA encourages all Veterans to apply to determine their enrollment eligibility.

## Returning Servicemembers (OEF/OIF/OND)

Every VA medical center has a team ready to welcome OEF/OIF/OND Servicemembers and help coordinate their health care and other services. For more information about the various programs available for recently returned Servicemembers, log on to the Returning Servicemembers website at [www.oefoif.va.gov](http://www.oefoif.va.gov).

Veterans who served in a theater of operations after November 11, 1998, are eligible for an extended period of eligibility for health care for five years after their discharge. In the case of multiple call-ups, the five-year enrollment period begins on the most recent discharge date. This special eligibility includes cost-free health care services and nursing home care for conditions possibly related to military service and enrollment in PG 6 or higher for five years from their date of discharge or release from active duty, unless they are eligible for enrollment in a higher priority group.

Combat Veterans who enroll with VA under this enhanced Combat Veteran authority will continue to be enrolled even after their enhanced eligibility period ends, although they may be shifted to a lower Priority Group, depending on their income level, and be required to make applicable copayments. Additionally, for care not related to combat service, copayments may be required, depending on their financial assessment and other special eligibility factors.

## New Enrollees Will Receive a Welcome to My VA Call and a Personalized Veterans Health Benefits Handbook

Once you are enrolled, you can begin enjoying your VA health care benefits. You will receive a "Welcome to My VA" telephone call from VA staff. During that call, we can answer many of your initial questions, provide information regarding your health benefits and other services provided through VA and schedule your initial VA health care appointment. You also will receive a personalized letter and a Veterans Health Benefits Handbook in the mail. The handbook will detail your VA health care benefit information, based on your specific eligibility factors, in an organized, easy-to-read format. It also includes information on your preferred facility, copayment responsibilities, how to schedule appointments, ways to communicate treatment needs and more. For more information, visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhbmh](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhbmh).



\*\*\*  
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.  
CAMARILLO, C.A. in Old Town 987-2167

• 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