



Listening Post

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

June, 2025

Officers

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Walter Terry, Vice President
(805) 650-1592
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Kay Gray, Treasurer
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Board of Directors

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Howard Tench
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Bud Gray
(805) 890-7645
Chris Sopko
(805) 907-8368

Committees

Chaplain/Housing Improvements

Luis Morris
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Merchandise

Howard Tench

Parades/Work Party

Open

Fundraising

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(805) 794-6243

POW/MIA

Ron Fitzgarrald
(805) 218-3489

Listening Post

Joe Richardson
(805) 207-1670

James Ray Scholarship

Joe Richardson
(805) 207-1670

Membership

Joe Richardson
(805) 207-1670

President's Message:

Note from LP Editor

As a cost saver and enhancement for those getting the LP by USPS, think about switching to email PLEASE

VVVC -June 2025 **Membership Report**

Annual Members: 22
Life Members: 1167
Total Members: 138

VP/Membership Chair
Joe Richardson

Sick Call...

Please continue to think about and say a prayer
for our brothers and sisters:

Barry Jenkins (myeloma)
Richard (Dickie) Pena (stroke, est. 3month
recovery at St. Johns in Oxnard

Big Shout-out to all - \$70,000 cost of statues PAID OFF

POW/MIA REPORT June – 2025



6 Brothers-in-arms have been accounted for and/or returned home

6 remain MIA and unaccounted for

European & Pacific Theaters: 4

U.S. Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Nicholas J. Governale, 22, was accounted for May 15, 2025. m). He was a member of 69th Bombardment Squadron, 42d Bombardment Group. He killed on July 10 when his North American B-25C-1 Mitchell medium bomber crashed on takeoff from Carney Field, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands.

This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Governales case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

U.S. Army Pfc. William E. Kutnock, 20, was accounted for May 16, 2025. In 1943, he was assigned to Company D, 4th Ranger Battalion, Rangers. He was killed on Sept. 19 during Operation AVALANCHE, the amphibious invasion of Italy.

This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Kutnocks case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

U.S. Army Technician Fifth Grade Daniel Wyatt, 39, was accounted for May 7, 2025. In the summer of 1944, he was assigned to Company E, 364th Engineer General Service Regiment, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. On July 7, he was one of eight service members killed in the Crisbecq Battery complex near Saint-Marcouf in Normandy, France.

This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Wyatts case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Junior J. Shelton, 24, was accounted for April 25, 2025. In 1944, he was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 115th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division. He was reportedly killed in action on Oct. 4 after his company encountered German enemy forces near Hatterath, Germany.

This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Sheltons case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

Total from World War II: 4

Currently there are 71,898 Americans (approximately 26,000 are assessed as possibly-recoverable) still unaccounted for from World War I

Korean War: 1

**** U.S. Army Pfc. Rodger E. Fields, 20, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for May 15, 2025. In December 1950, he was assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported killed in action on Dec. 1, during the Battle of Jangjin (Chosin) Reservoir.**

This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Fields case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

Total from Korean War: 1

Currently there are 7,410 Americans still unaccounted for from the Korean War.

Vietnam: 1

U.S. Army Master Sgt. Donald P. Gervais, 24, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for May 16, 2025. He was assigned to Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. On May 1, he was the door gunner on an OH-6A Cayuse helicopter on a reconnaissance mission over the A Shau Valley, Republic of Vietnam. This is an initial release. The complete accounting of Gervais case will be published once the family receives their full briefing.

Currently there are 1,571 American servicemen and civilians still 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

****To respect the next-of-kin, individuals are only displayed as "Accounted For" in the grids and case profiles when (1) DPAA has made the identification, and (2) the next-of-kin has been notified.**

Veteran Resources:



Federal Benefits: https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp

CalVet Benefits: https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Documents/Veteran%20Resource_%20Book.pdf

CalVet Benefits Checklist:

https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Documents/2012%20VeteransBenefits_Checklist.pdf#search=CHECKLIST%20FOR%20BENEFITS

Veterans Collaborative of Ventura County

<https://www.ventura.org/human-services-agency/veteran-collaborative-ventura-county-2/>

Veteran in crisis? Call 1 800 273-8255, press 1

<https://youtu.be/tgV60la0ui0> (veterans' mental health – you are not alone)

In Humble Service,

Tammy Bender

Veterans Program Coordinator

HMC, USN (Ret.)

(805) 477-5155 (main office)

(805) 477-5485 (desk number) (805) 477-5418 (fax)

Website: www.vchsa.org/veterans

Recent Events/Ceremonies

May 9, Color Guard, Ventura CBOC open house

May 17, Military Appreciation Month, Veteran & First Responder resource event. Royal High School

May 22, Color Guard, Flag retirement, New Flag Raising ceremony @ Many Mansions, Ormond Beach Villas

Mar 20 & May 30 Color Guard @ “We Remember” exhibit @ the John Spoor Broome CSUCI library

Through-out the month of May, Vietnam Experience presentations at our county High Schools

May 22, Robert Martinez, funeral @ WLA National Cemetery

May 23, Ventura CBOC, ‘Last Call’ ceremony (reading of names by service)

May 24, **40 Year Celebration BBQ** VVVC 1985 – 2025

May 30, David Ha brother funeral in Dixon Ca

May 26 Memorial Day, the Antelope Valley travelling Vietnam Veterans Wall on display Simi Valley (note: this will be the last display of this Wall due to lack of funds to maintain)

Upcoming/Ceremonies:

Susan Henson called and informed me her husband on Sat. June 7, 10:00am was being interred @ Pierce Bros. Valley Oaks Memorial Park, 5600 Lindero Canyon Rd. Westlake Village. She has announced that in place of flowers, that contributions go to the VVVC as he was a Vietnam Veteran ... so ... call for a color guard to honor our brother-in-arms (RSVP to Ron Fitzgarald)

July 3rd, Libbey bowl concert. Color Guard for opening ceremony. (time 5:30p)

July 4th, Color Guard for Lead-off Ojai 4th July parade. (time 8:00a) setup/decorate 10a Start of Parade

Aug 1, CBOC Stand down Color guard (time TBD)

Sept 27, Banana Festival, Port Hueneme (booth)

Ron and Joe, want to Thank everyone for all their help at these events



CSUCI We Remember



Antelope Valley
Traveling Wall
Simi Valley
Memorial Weekend
2025



VVVC 40yr
Anniversary



Latest
Vietnam Experience
@ Moorpark

Richard
38yrs
@
Moorpark
H.S.

