



INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



CHAPTER 535

"It Feels Good to Get Involved"

Volume 21 Issue 11

In Service To America and the Gold Country

November 2011

President's Message

October is a month that brings us to fall season with wood cutting. Looks like about 6 guys made it to the chop down. Harold mentioned that it may take 1 more day to cut all the wood. Had some nice pizza and beer for the break. Thank you Harold, Patricia.

Just got an e-mail from Harold Graves about additional benefits from the Social Security System. Bring your DD-214 to the social security office for some extra monies.

Joe Sanders has been with us a long time with the monthly report on our membership and the different responsibilities he has given us. It looks like he will be retiring from this position in April of 2012. Please call if you would like to participate in this position. (272-2317)

If you haven't looked lately our book case has some memorabilia in it. We got all kinds of stuff in there. Some of it brings back the memories of the hardship that we all endured. Hats off to all of you that have made this country better.

Before we know it Victorian Christmas will be here and it will be hot cider, coffee and brownies. Can't help but feel good about all the people having a good time and we all played a very important part in it.

See you all at the meeting

Gary Tanaka, President
garytanaka@att.net 272-2317

Harold Graves

I got this email from Patricia Graves about a motorcycle accidents he was in volved in and whated to let the Chapter memebers know about this.

Bill Holmn

I just wanted to let you all know that Harold had a serious motorcycle accident yesterday afternoon, Friday 21, 2001. He was enjoying a wonderful ride on the bike (not the trike) when we think his bike hit gravel and he lost control and crashed. He was airlifted to Chico Enloe Hospital where he was stabilized. When I got to the hospital he was in the trauma center and in a lot a pain. The main injuries he sustained were to his neck and lower back. I was expecting a call from the surgeon after I got home this evening but have heard nothing so do not have any details of the type of surgery that will be necessary. The surgery will probably take place Monday or Tuesday but I will keep you all posted. Please hold some good thoughts for your friend...he will need all your prayers.

Fondly, Patricia

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B&Bs for VETS Program

Innkeepers want to say thank you to those who've served their country by inviting veterans to wake up on 11-11-11 in a B&B. Inns and B&Bs throughout North America will open their doors to active and retired military and vets and one guest by offering a free room to those who've served in the military on Thursday, November 10, 2011. While hundreds of inns and B&Bs have signed on to provide rooms, they will be reserved quickly, so review the list at <http://www.betterwaytostay.com/current-promotions/bbs-for-vets> for innkeepers in the U.S. who are participating in the program and reserve your room while space is available. For a complete list of Canadian inns and B&Bs participating in the B&Bs for Vets program, refer to the B&Bs for Vets page <http://www.bbcanada.com/bbforvets> and search by province. From the entire B&B industry, thank you to all those who are presently serving or have served to protect our freedom. Regarding reservations:

Vets should contact the inns and B&Bs directly to reserve a room.

Rooms are complimentary for Thursday, November 10, 2011 for vets and one guest; most rooms

Proof of veteran status may be requested.

No fees will be charged for a reserved one-night veteran's stay but a credit card may be required to book your stay. Credit card or cash may be accepted for add-ons and additional nights. While policies vary from inn to inn, the full rate may be charged if the complimentary room night is not occupied or not canceled in a timely manner according to the inn's standard reservation practices or cancellation period set for this special event. Be considerate if your plans change; most inns will have a waiting list for their complimentary rooms, and a proper cancellation will always be filled with a fellow deserving vet.

[Source: <http://www.betterwaytostay.com/current-promotions/bbs-for-vets>]

Have You Heard? Schwarzkopf on 9/11

In an recent interview, General Norman Schwarzkopf was asked if he thought there was room for forgiveness toward the people who have harbored and abetted the terrorists who perpetrated the 9/11 attacks on America. His answer was classic Schwarzkopf.

The General said, "I believe that forgiving them is God's function Our job is to arrange the meeting."

Military History

World War II was a devastating conflict, especially for Europe. German forces managed to overrun and occupy most of the continent. And destruction followed wherever they went. The Allied plan to retake Europe required massive manpower and exquisite timing. And it all hinged on establishing a beachhead on the Normandy coast. This first phase was codenamed Operation Overlord. June 6, 1944, was the launch date for Operation Overlord, or D-Day. It marked a major turning point in the war. Although successful, it cost thousands of lives. Operation Overlord was a much bigger undertaking than most people realize. It required cunning, deception, and amazing logistical organization. Learn more about everything that went into D-Day on this great Web Site. The landings were conducted in two phases: an airborne assault landing of 24,000 British, American, Canadian and Free French airborne troops shortly after midnight, and an amphibious landing of Allied infantry and armored divisions on the coast of France starting at 6:30 AM. There were also decoy operations under the codenames Operation Glimmer and Operation Taxable to distract the German forces from the real landing areas. To read more about the composition of the invading and defending forces plus the various phases of the invasion refer to this Bulletin's "Operation Overlord"

Veterans Day 2011

Each year, Veterans Day turns into a military reunion at **Applebee's** in neighborhoods across the country. Veterans and military from all generations enjoy great food as they share stories from their time serving our country. This year, Applebee's is offering a Veterans Day menu that includes some of its signature and favorite items. To locate a restaurant near you and review their menu refer to <http://www.applebees.com>. Here are the details:

All U.S. veterans and military personnel with proof of current or former military service will be treated to a free meal at all Applebee's in their respective neighborhoods on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11, 2011.

Proof of service includes the following: U.S. Uniform Services Identification Card, U.S. Uniform Services Retired Identification Card, Current Leave and Earnings Statement, Veterans Organization Card, photograph in uniform or wearing uniform, DD214, Citation or Commendation.

Expiration: Oct 11, 2012 *This deal requires valid military ID in order to redeem

Chapter 535 Information Center

Web Page www.nccn.net/~vvanc/welcome.htm

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CA State Council Delegates

Pete Burelle, alternate Wayne Simonson

Chapter 535 Committees Chairs

Constitution/Bylaws Vacant

Finance Review Bill Holman (chair) and
Nick deZaparkanszky

4th of July/Constitution Day..... Dick Corn

Product Sales Pete Burelle

Victorian Christmas Jose Gonzales

Membership Affairs Joe Sanders

Newsletter... bholman@succeed.net, 265-8387 Bill Holman

Nominations Vacant

Public Relations Vacant

Nevada County Fair Harold Graves, Jerry Molloy

Christmas Year Round Harold Graves

Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Bill Holman

Entertainment..... Jose Gonzales

Veterans Benefits Refer to VSO Officer

NCCVC Pete Burelle

Nevada County Veterans Affairs Rep.

Eric (530)

273-3396.....



Network Real Estate
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Grass Valley, CA 95945



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Chapter 535 Web Page
www.nccn.net/~vvanc/welcome.htm

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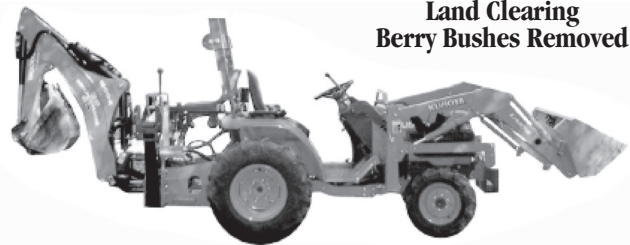
Dan Davis
(530) 272-4110 eves.

P.O. Box 651
Grass Valley, CA 95945

TRACTOR WORK

Bill Holman 265-8387

Backhoe
Rototilling
Roads Graded
Land Clearing
Berry Bushes Removed



Not licensed by the contractors state license board

Your Ad Could Be Here
\$25 for One Year

The Vinh Son Orphanage, has a new web site
www.friendsofvso.org

Veterans Directory

Congress

Senate - Veterans Affairs Committee202-224-9126
 House - Veterans Affairs Committee.....202-225-3527

Department of Veterans Affairs

Board of Veterans Appeals202-233-3001
 Central Office202-233-4000
 Freedom of Information/Privacy Act202-233-3616
 Personnel Locator.....202-233-4000
 Public Information202-233-3056
 Veterans Health Administration202-535-7010
 VA Telephone Care Program800-733-0502
 Cemetery, Burial, & Headstone Info.....800-697-6947

Agencies

Department of Defense703-545-6700
 DEERS Information (California).....800-334-4162
 CHAMPUS (California).....800-741-5048
 Office of Management and Budget Veterans Affairs.202-395-4500
 Small Business Administration Office of Veterans
 Affairs202-205-6773

Locator & Reunion Services

Army Worldwide Locator.....317-542-4211
 Navy Times Locator Services703-750-8636
 Service Reunions703-998-7035
 Vietnam Veterans Locator.....319-388-9023
 Veteran's Locator Service 800-449-VETS

Miscellaneous

Vietnam Women's Memorial Project202-328-7253
 Sons & Daughters In Touch CA805-872-4035
 Retired Pay - Cleveland DFAS.....800-321-1080
 Navy Lodging..... 800-NAVY INN
 Army Lodging 800-GO ARMY

Newsletter Submissions

Please ensure that submissions for the newsletter reach us no-later-than the 15th of the month before the meeting. They may be mailed to:

VVA Chapter 535

Attn: Newsletter Editor
 18455 Augustine Rd, Nevada City, CA 95959
 e-mail to bholman@succeed.net or
 call Bill Holman at (530) 265-8387

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of Vietnam Veterans of America National, State Council, or Chapter 535 or the newsletter editor, but those of the author of the comments.

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Has Your Address Changed?

Please let us know before the Post office quits forwarding your newsletters. If you find your not receiving your newsletter's or hearing from us, please contact Bill Holman at 265-8387.

Vacant Committee Chairs

There are four vacant committee chairs that need to be filled and the position of secretary for the Chapter. This is a good opportunity for a member to become more active in the Chapter. Anyone interested should contact: Pete Burelle (howling_wolf28@yahoo.com) 274-3787.
 Chapter Secretary..... Vacant

Chairs

Constitution/Bylaws Vacant
 Nominations Vacant
 Public Relations Vacant

Membership Facts Chapter 535

VVA	
Individual members	34
Applications waiting for (DD214)	
Life members	34
AVVA	
Individual members	2
Life member	1
Total	71



Upcoming Dates and Events

September 1 Chapter 535 Meeting 6 pm



Vietnam Veterans Memorial Update

Some interesting and sobering items about the Vietnam Wall.

- There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.
- The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 36 years since the last casualties.
- The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass., listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.
- There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.
- 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.
- The largest age group, 8,283 were just 19 years old 33,103 were 18 years old.
- 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.
- 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.
- One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.
- 997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.
- 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last scheduled day in Vietnam.
- 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.
- Thirty one sets of parents lost two of their sons.
- 54 soldiers on the Wall attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia.
- 8 Women are on the Wall - nursing the wounded.
- 244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.
- Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.
- West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

■ The Marines of Morenci AZ - In the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

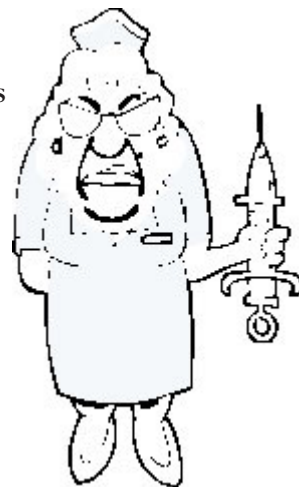
■ The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

■ The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

■ The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 ~ 2,415 casualties were incurred.

Flu Shots

Free flu shots are now available at the VA Sierra Foothills Outpatient Clinic, 11985 Heritage Oaks Place, Suite #100, Auburn, CA. Phone number is 1-88-227-5404



Email Forwarded by From Jose Gonzales

I would like to Thank everyone from the VVA 535 that was involved with putting on the breakfast for the Stand Down on Oct 7th. This was something that really was appreciated not only by myself, but everyone that went through the line. If there is ever anything that I can be of help to you or the organization, please get a hold of me at anytime.

Chaplain Dennis Fruzza

Military History

Wake Island was annexed as empty territory by the United States on January 17, 1899. Referring to the atoll as an island is the result of a pre-World War II desire by the United States Navy to distinguish Wake from other atolls, most of which were Japanese territory. In 1935, Pan American Airways constructed a small village, nicknamed "PAAville", to service flights on its U.S.-China route. The village was the first human settlement on the island, and relied upon the U.S. mainland for much of its food and water supplies. However, Wake Island is credited as being one of the early successes of hydroponics, which enabled Pan American Airways to grow vegetables for its passengers, as it was prohibitively expensive to airlift in fresh vegetables and the island lacked natural soil. PAAville remained in operation up to the day of the first Japanese air raid in World War II. In January 1941, the United States Navy constructed a military base on the atoll. On August 19, the first permanent military garrison, elements of the 1st Marine Defense Battalion totaling 449 officers and men, were stationed on the island, commanded by Navy Commander Winfield

Scott Cunningham. Also on the island were 68 U.S. Naval personnel and about 1,221 civilian workers. They were armed with six used 5 inch/51 cal (127 mm) cannons, removed from a scrapped battleship; twelve 3 inch/50 cal (76.2 mm) M3 anti-aircraft guns (with only a single working anti-aircraft director among them); eighteen Browning M2 .50 caliber heavy machine guns; and thirty heavy, medium, and light, water or air-cooled Browning M1917 .30 caliber machine guns in various conditions but all operational. On December 8, 1941, the day after the Attack on Pearl Harbor on the opposite side of the International Date Line, at least 27 Japanese Mitsubishi G3M medium "Nell" bombers flown from bases on Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands attacked Wake Island, destroying eight of the 12 F4F Wildcat fighter aircraft belonging to United States Marine Corps fighter squadron VMF-211 on the ground. The Marine garrison's defensive emplacements were left intact by the raid, which primarily targeted the aircraft. To read about the subsequent invasion of Wake Island, its occupation, and eventual handover to U.S. forces refer to the attachment to this Bulletin entitled, "Wake Island". [Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Wake_Island#History Oct 2011 ++]



Application For Membership
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC., CHAPTER 535

P.O. Box 37, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Individual membership is open to all Vietnam-era veterans who served on active duty for other than training purposes between August 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975 and In-Country Veterans: February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975.

Name _____ Sex _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Email _____
Marital Status _____ Spouse's Name _____
Chapter No. **535** Sponsor _____ ID No. _____

◆ **Membership Type:** Individual – 1 year @ \$20 annual Individual – 3 years @ \$50
(select one) Life Member **Payment Plan** \$50 down, 8 monthly payments of \$25
Select Age Group Ages 49 and under \$250 Ages 50-55 \$225
 Ages 56-60 \$200 Ages 61-65 \$175 Ages 66 and over \$150

◆ **Payment Method:** Check Money Order Visa MasterCard
(select one)

◆ **Card Number** _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____

Individual members **must** submit a copy of their DD-214 along with this application and dues payment. Associate participation is open to family, friends, all veterans, and other interested persons.

In Service To America

Address Correction Requested

