



INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



CHAPTER 535

"It Feels Good to Get Involved"

Volume 22 Issue 2

In Service To America and the Gold Country

February 2012

President's Message

January was a dry month. We had a bunch of guys who made it to the log cutting and stacking party. Patricia had all the fixes for lunch some of the guys brought out the drinks.

I would like to thank, Harold, Dick, Chris, Pete, Dave, Bob, Dan and Ralph.

We were able to cut and stack all the wood. Maybe at the meeting we get involved in selling the tickets.

It looks like we may talk a little bit more on a parking lot sale at the V.A. building for this spring summer.

See you all at the meeting

Once again, thank you all

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

Contents	Page
Message from the President	1
E-Waste Event	1
Funeral Honors.....	2
USO.....	2
Chapter Information	3
Upcoming Dates & Events.....	4
Vacant Committee Chairs	4
Membership Facts.....	4
Military History.....	5
Vet License Plates CA.....	5
Military History Continued.....	6
Calendar	7
VVA Application Form.....	8

2nd E-WASTE EVENT

The Nevada County Consolidated Veterans' Council (NCCVC) is planning a 2nd E-Waste Event on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at the Grass Valley Veterans Memorial Building. The event will be held in the parking lot from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Electronic/electrical items that are not usable, not wanted, unsellable, or are damaged, the NCCVC will be happy to dispose of them for you. Check your garage, attic or basement and bring them to the NCCVC Event. We will unload the items for you. Veterans unable to deliver items to the Veterans Building on February 18, may call Margie (VVA) at 265-878 or Jim (DAV) at 263-0702 to make arrangements for pick-up within the Grass Valley/ Nevada City area. The September, 2011 E-Waste netted \$926.55. (Including a donation of \$30). Below is a list of those items that CEAR (916) 388-1777 or (recycling@cearinc.com) can accept:

We accept the following:

Monitors, television, desktop and notebook PCs, VCRs, stereo equipment, speakers, keyboards, mice, PDAs, digital cameras, zip drives, telephones, cell phones, printers, copiers, toasters, blenders, microwaves, laser and multifunction scanners and fax machines. **ALL HARD DRIVES ARE PHYSICALLY DESTROYED.**

We cannot accept: Household appliances such as refrigerators, washers/dryers, furniture, hazardous household waste, including fluorescent light bulbs, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies, tires, water heaters, etc.

Margie Buhler

VVA Delegate to the NCCVC



Funeral Honors

The volunteer rifle squad at Fort Snelling National Cemetery has provided military honors at almost 60,000 burials. But now it's in danger of losing its guns because the Army wants them back. The Army wants to replace the honor guard's 1903 Springfield bolt-action rifles, a model that predated World War I, with a somewhat more modern weapon, the World War II vintage M-1 Garand semiautomatic. But the volunteers with the Fort Snelling squad hope to stick to their old guns. U.S. Rep. John Kline (R-MN) a retired Marine who serves on the House Armed Services Committee, wrote to Army Secretary John McHugh 16 DEC asking the service to reconsider. On 21 DEC, he said the Army will look into the matter.

Vietnam-era machine gunner John Sobaski told Minnesota Public Radio the Springfield's mechanism is part of the weapon's allure. "I like the action that it makes, the sound that it makes," he said. "It sounds a little more traditional." Bob Nelson, a Vietnam vet who commands the squad, which formed in 1979, said the Springfield's shots have a distinct ring as well. "They sound the best. M-1's, they have a mellower sound. And we think it's really a nice tribute to our veterans that we are having the honors for that they go out in style and class," Nelson said. The Garand is also heavier, with a tricky reloading mechanism that could spell potential trouble for the volunteers, many of whom are in their 70s, 80s and even 90s. Howard Tellin, the armorer and bugler for the squad, calls it "The M1 thumb. If you don't watch it, you're going to have the prettiest black-and-blue thumb you've ever seen. It hurts for about a week," Tellin said.

The Army wants the Springfields back under a new policy that also limits the squad to 15 rifles, down from 50 that are now shared among the five details working different days. Combined, the details serve an average of 45 to 50 burials a week. The reason for the changes remains unclear, at least to the rifle squad members who blame the Pentagon bureaucracy. A Pentagon spokesman contacted by the Star Tribune said he did not have a ready answer.

"We can't get a truthful statement out of anyone," Nelson said. "I don't know anyone who really knows why they want to take them away." On 21 DEC, Kline announced the Army would launch an inquiry. In addition, an aide said Kline intends to introduce legislation early next year to ensure the squad can keep its Springfields. Kline said the issue is largely about recognizing the squad's sacrifices for their fellow soldiers, sailors and Marines. "As you talk to them you realize they're all guys in their 70s and 80s," he said. "They're out there in the winter when it's below zero. They're out there all the time.

USO

Through its history, the USO has brought Hollywood celebrities and volunteer entertainers to perform for the troops - including the beloved Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Ann Sheridan, James Cagney, Jimmy Stewart, Fred Astaire, the Andrews Sisters and more. At its high point in 1944, just three years after its founding, curtains were rising on USO shows 700 times a day. That popularity seemed almost unimaginable when the USO was founded Feb. 4, 1941, and opened its first center in a small storefront smack in the middle of New York's Times Square. The organization was founded at President Franklin D. Roosevelt's request with the solid mission of lifting the spirits of service members and their families. It was a unique experiment that brought together six service agencies that had been working independently to support the military. The six stars on the USO logo continue to pay tribute to these organizations: the Salvation Army, National Catholic Community Services, National Jewish Welfare Board, National Travelers Aid Association, and the YMCA and YWCA.

Ultimately growing to about 3,000 centers during World War II, the USO provided a "home away from home" for the military. USO centers hosted dances, social events, movies and music. They also offered quiet refuge where troops could write a letter home or enjoy a free cup of coffee and a snack. Now with operations consolidated into about 160 centers, the USO continues to serve its historic mission of caring for military members, their families, and especially forward-deployed troops according to Brian Whiting, president and CEO of the USO of Metropolitan New York, told American Forces Press Service. The tiny, initial USO facility has relocated to a larger space in the busy Port Authority Bus Terminal complex, he said, but remains focused like a laser beam on its original mission. "First and foremost, we are about making sure that we can provide any- and everything that we possibly can to troops and their families," he said, whether through the USO or another not-for-profit organization.

Like many USOs that now operate at airports to provide an oasis for and assist military travelers, the New York one keeps busy helping military tourists as they visit the Big Apple. In addition to information about places to go and sites to see, one of its most favorite offerings is free and reduced-price theater tickets. The New York USO provides nearly \$3 million in discounted and complementary tickets every year. In addition to providing tickets to nearly impossible-to-get-a-hold-of productions such as Phantom of the Opera, and thousands of tickets to Mary Poppins, the USO has arranged more than 16,000 troops to enjoy private showings of the Christmas spectacular at Radio City Music Hall.

Chapter 535 Information Center

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

Chapter 535 Officers & Board of Directors

Officers-Phone

President

Gary Tanaka garytanaka@att.net 272-2317

Vice-President

Kent Hawley 432-3551

Secretary

Pete Burelle howling_wolf28@yahoo.com..... 274-3787

Treasurer

Harold Graves haroldgraves@sbcglobal.net..... 470-8507

Past President

Pete Burelle howling_wolf28@yahoo.com..... 274-3787

Directors

Harold Graves haroldgraves@sbcglobal.net..... 470-8507

Ric Sheridan rfsheridan@sbcglobal.net 274-1413

Dan Davis 272-4110

Pete Burelle howling_wolf28@yahoo.com..... 274-3787

Jerry Molloy petem1947@sbcglobal.net 273-4804

Gary Tanaka garytanaka@att.net 272-2317

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

167 S. Auburn Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Dick Corn

Broker Associate
CA Lic. # 13235009
Certified Residential Specialist

(530) 271-3858 Office

(530) 272-8703 Fax

(800) 421-5130 Toll Free

dick@dickcorn.com

www.dickcorn.com



Chapter 535 Web Page

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

DAN'S PAINTING



RESIDENTIAL

COMMERCIAL

CABINETS

WATER BLAST

FAUX FINISHES

S.C.L. #394008

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.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters are hereby given permission to reproduce any locally produced articles published in this newsletter. Permission to reprint anything else must come from the original source.

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

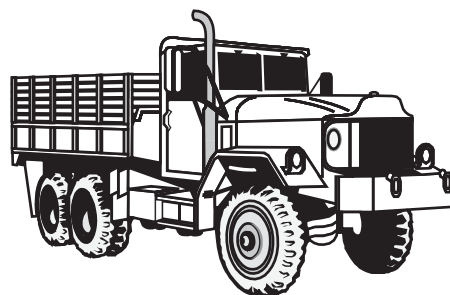
Membership Facts Chapter 535

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



Upcoming Dates and Events

February 2 Chapter Meeting 6 pm
 February 19 Mardi Gras Parade Color Guard 2 pm



Vet License Plates CA

The State of California also offers special license plates to honor Gold Star Families plus the service of the following categories of veterans:

- 100% Service-connected disabled veterans
- Medal of Honor recipients
- Recipients of other high decorations
- Former American Prisoners of War
- Pearl Harbor survivors
- 1 Purple Heart recipients

Plates may be ordered with the armed force or veterans service organization logo/emblem of your choice. Over 100 insignias are available, and your logo will be prominently displayed to the left of a six number/letter combination. Sequential plates are \$30 per year. The available logos and emblems are on display at the California Association of Veterans Service Officers, Inc. web site <http://www.cacvso.org/page/2011-1-19-59-license-plate-logos/>. You can also “personalize” your Vets Plates (your choice of up to 6 characters) for an additional one-time fee of \$10. All proceeds from the sale of vets plates are used to expand veteran services statewide. Information on how to obtain Veterans plates can be obtained from your local County Veterans Service Office which can be determined at <http://www.cacvso.org/page/2011-1-22-13-52-31/>, DMV office or by calling the CalVet at (916) 653-2573. You may also visit the DMV License Plate website <http://dmv.ca.gov/ipp2/welcome.do?localeName=en> or download information and an application form at http://www.calvet.ca.gov/Files/VetServices/License_Plate_Application.pdf. Additional information on each plate category along with pictures or in the attachment this Bulletins titled, Vet License Plates - CA . [Source: <http://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/LicensePlates.aspx> Dec 2011 ++]



Military History Anniversaries

Significant January events in U.S. Military History are:

Jan 16 1944 - WWII: The U.S. First and Third armies link up at Houffalize, effectively ending the Battle of the Bulge.

Jan 17 1781 - Revolutionary War : Battle of Cowpens. The militia's defeat of a battle-hardened force of British regulars was the turning point of the war in the south.

Jan 17 1991 - Persian Gulf War: Allies start Operation Desert Storm with air attacks on Iraq. The coalition flew over 100,000 sorties dropping 88,500 tons of bombs.

Jan 18 1911 - Naval Lieutenant Eugene Ely became the first man ever to land an airplane on the deck of a ship, the converted cruiser USS Pennsylvania, in San Francisco Bay.

Jan 18 1942 - WWII: General MacArthur repels the Japanese in Bataan. The United States took the lead in the Far East war criminal trials.

Jan 18 1962 - Vietnam: The United States begins spraying foliage with herbicides in South Vietnam, in order to reveal the whereabouts of Vietcong guerrillas.

Jan 20 1887 - The United States Senate allows the Navy to lease Pearl Harbor as a naval base.

Jan 20 1944 - WWII: Allied forces in Italy begin unsuccessful operations to cross the Rapido River and seize Cassino.

Jan 21 1954 - The first nuclear-powered submarine (USS Nautilus) was launched in Groton CT by Mamie Eisenhower.

Jan 21 1968 - Vietnam: Siege of Khe Sanh begins as North Vietnamese units surround U.S. Marines based on the hill-top headquarters.

Jan 21 1977 - President Jimmy Carter pardons nearly all American Vietnam War draft evaders inclusive of those who had immigrated to Canada.

Jan 22 1944 - WWII: Operation Shingle. U.S. troops under Major General John P. Lucas make an amphibious landing behind German lines at Anzio, Italy, just south of Rome.

Jan 23 1943 - WWII: The Battle of Mount Austen, the Galloping Horse, and the Sea Horse on Guadalcanal during the Guadalcanal campaign ends.

Jan 23 1943 - WWII: Australian and American forces finally defeat the Japanese army in Papua. This turning point in the Pacific War marks the beginning of the end of Japanese aggression.

History From Page 5

Jan 23 1968 - North Korea seizes the USS Pueblo, claiming the ship had violated their territorial waters while spying.

Jan 23 1973 - Vietnam: President Richard Nixon claims that Vietnam peace has been reached in Paris and that the POWs would be home in 60 days.

Jan 24 1982 - Vietnam: A draft of Air Force history reports that the U.S. secretly sprayed herbicides on Laos during the war.

Jan 24 1917 - WWI: Zimmerman telegram sent to the Mexican government by the German foreign minister intercepted. Promised Mexico that the lands taken from it by the U.S. during the 1846-1848 war would be returned if Mexico entered on Germany's side and the Germans won.

Jan 24 1961 - Cold War: A B-52 bomber carrying two H-bombs breaks up in mid-air over North Carolina. The uranium core of one weapon remains lost.

Jan 25 1942 - WWII: Thailand declares war on the United States and United Kingdom.

Jan 25 1949 - WWII: Axis Sally, who broadcasted Nazi propaganda to U.S. troops in Europe, stands trial in the United States for war crimes.

Jan 25 1951 - Korea: The U.S. Eighth Army in Korea launches Operation Thunderbolt, a counter attack to push the Chinese Army north of the Han River.

Jan 26 1856 - First Battle of Seattle. Marines from the USS Decatur drive off American Indian attackers after all day battle with settlers.

Jan 26 1942 - WW II: The first United States forces arrive in Europe landing in Northern Ireland.

Jan 27 1862 - Civil War: President Lincoln issues General War Order No. 1, setting in motion the Union armies.

Jan 27 1943 - WWII: The first U.S. raids on the Reich blast the German Wilhelmshaven base U-Boat construction yards

Jan 27 1951 - Cold War: Nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site begins with a one-kiloton bomb dropped on Frenchman Flat.

Jan 28 1909 - United States troops leave Cuba with the exception of Guantanamo Bay Naval Base after being there since the Spanish-American War.

Jan 28 1915 - The U.S. Coast Guard is founded to fight contraband trade and aid distressed vessels at sea.

Jan 28 1945 - WW II: Supplies begin to reach the Republic of China over the newly reopened Burma Road.

Jan 28 1966 - Vietnam: Operation White Wing, a search and destroy mission, begins.

Jan 29 1943 - WWII: Battle of Rennell Island Guadalcanal. The last major naval engagement with Japan. The cruiser Chicago is torpedoed and heavily damaged by Japanese bombers.

Jan 29 1991 - Gulf War: Iraqi forces attack into Saudi Arabian town of Kafji, but are turned back by Coalition forces.

Jan 30 1944 - WWII: The Battle of Cisterna takes place in central Italy with a clear German victory.

Jan 31 1917 - WWI: Germany announces its U-boats will engage in unrestricted submarine warfare.

Jan 31 1942 - WWII: Allied forces are defeated by the Japanese at the Battle of Malaya and retreat to the island of Singapore.

Jan 31 1944 - WWII: During Anzio campaign 1st Ranger Battalion (Darby's Rangers) is destroyed behind enemy lines in a heavily outnumbered encounter at Battle of Cisterna, Italy.

Jan 31 1944 - WWII: U.S. troops under Vice Adm. Spruance land on Kwajalien atoll in the Marshall Islands.

Jan 31 1968 - Vietnam: Tet Offensive begins as Viet Cong and North Vietnamese soldiers attack strategic and civilian locations throughout the South including the ancient imperial capital of Hue.

Jan 31 1968 - Vietnam: Battle of Hue begins



February - 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				General Membership Meeting 6 pm		
		John Spencer		Dennis Sanders		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	James Brown	Valentines Day				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Presidents Day					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Alfred Meyers		Pete Burrelle				
26	27	28	29			

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

