



INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

CHAPTER 535



"It Feels Good to Get Involved"

Volume 23 Issue 1

In Service To America and the Gold Country

January 2013

President's Message

January Speaker – Sheriff Keith Royal

I am delighted that Sheriff Keith Royal will be our guest speaker at our chapter meeting on January 13th.

Sheriff Royal was initially elected Sheriff of Nevada County in June 1998, and is now serving his fourth term. He is also President of the California State Sheriffs Association. With more than 37 years in law enforcement, Sheriff Royal started his career as a Special Investigator with the California Department of Motor Vehicles' Division of Compliance. He spent many years with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office where, prior to moving to Nevada County, he served as the Administrative Lieutenant. Sheriff Royal earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento.

In addition to the California State Sheriffs Association, Sheriff Royal is a member of the Nevada County Search and Rescue, Grass Valley Rotary, Nevada City Elks and the Nevada County Law Enforcement and Fire Protection Council.

Sheriff Royal grew up in Sacramento where he attended Highlands High School. He was a Boy Scout as a teenager. Sheriff Royal has many family members in law enforcement. His hobbies include horseback riding, golf, scuba diving and fishing. He is married to Jeanette, has two married daughters and two granddaughters.

Vets Helping Vets – Fund Raiser

Last month I wrote at some length about a project to help a vet who lives off Tyler Foot Road who is suffering from Multiple Sclerosis. You will recall that Dale served with the Navy toward the end of the Vietnam War and later with the Marine Corps.

We've accomplished a lot on this project. Under the leadership of John Bynes, Dale's bathroom has been rebuilt and the floor in the living room has been replaced. His front door has also been replaced. Yet to be done is the repair of the floor in the bedroom and finish tiling and painting the bathroom. We also need to repair the drive-

way. In addition to the work John and his team have done, a dozen or so of us spent a day cleaning up around the outside of Dale's house. Junk-King donated a truck to remove all of the waste material. My guess is we have about another day's work on this part of the project. As mentioned last month, we need funds to help cover the cost of materials for repairing Dale's house. On January 7th Northridge Restaurant in Nevada City is hosting a fund raiser for Dale. Ten percent of sales that evening will be donated to this project. I hope you can join us at the Northridge on the 7th for a night of outstanding food with good companions, all in support of a great cause.

Victorian Christmas

Our booth had another good year at Victorian Christmas. Despite cold, rainy weather we opened the booth all three Wednesday sessions but only the first Sunday. With a wind advisory for the second Sunday forecasting winds of 30 to 40 mph it didn't make sense to open the booth. Most other vendors seemed to agree.

Thanks to Pete Burelle and his team of ten or eleven volunteers in the kitchen and Harold Graves and his team staffing the booth, our sales totaled \$2,900. Harold will provide net income after expenses at our January meet-

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ing. I expect it will come in better than \$ 2,000 net. These funds will be a big help in rebuilding our cash flow for the coming year.

The Vietnam War Revisited

Over the past ten years historians have started thinking about the Vietnam War in the context of the Cold War. In November Associate Professor of History at the University of Kentucky, Lien-Hang T. Nguyen, published her new book, *Hanoi's War: An International History of the War for Peace in Vietnam*. During her research the author had access not only to records of the U.S. Government, but also archives from the Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as other archives around the world. In her book, Nguyen explores the politics of war and peace not only from the perspective of the United States and South Vietnam, but also North Vietnam, the Soviet Union and China. It should be an interesting read.

Looking forward to 2013

We started the year with far less cash than we have had in the bank as far back as I can remember. A combination of our wood raffle and Victorian Christmas sales has generated sufficient funds so that we are now a tad more solvent. Over the past year we've changed our meeting format. Looking at chapter meeting attendance numbers, participation in our monthly meeting is up. At our Christmas pot luck in December we discussed whether we should have quarterly dinners, including wives or friends. There was a strong vote in favor. In January we'll discuss how best to do this. Of course, the board welcomes any thoughts you have on this or any other chapter matter.

Concerning the wood raffle, we still have one last chord. We've sold about 45 tickets, leaving 30 more tickets to sell. We can use your help to finish the wood raffle. Harold has raffle tickets.

Fred Buhler, President 265-4878

Naval Lingo: Bully Boy

Bully boys, a term prominent in Navy chancies and poems, means in its strictest sense, "beef eating Sailors." Sailors of the Colonial Navy had a daily menu of an amazingly elastic substance called bully beef, actually beef jerky. The term appeared so frequently on the messdeck that it naturally lent its name to the sailors who had to eat it. As an indication of the beef's texture and chewability, it was also called "salt junk," alluding to the rope yarn used for caulking the ship's seams.

Nevada County Consolidated Veterans Council

The check for the October 13, 2012 E-Waste event for the NCCVC came in the mail just as CEAR promised. The \$956.55 that our e-waste collection event brought our total to \$3,775.75. We hope to get the estimates finalized for the windows at the January 3, 2013 meeting, if the weather cooperates. Also if the weather cooperates, on February 16, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the NCCVC is planning the fifth e-waste event. We are constantly asked when the Veterans are having another event. We ask if you have any e-waste - computers, tvs, monitors, cables, CDs, etc., please consider donating them to us for the event. If you have difficulties in delivering the items to the Grass Valley Veterans Memorial Building at 255 South Auburn Street, call Margie at 265-4878 or email her at <mailto:margie95959@earthlink.net>margie95959@earthlink.net to make arrangements and for any further information as to which items are acceptable and which cannot be accepted. Thanks for your help in making this event a success.

If you would like to attend any of the NCCVC meetings, the NCCVC meets the first Thursday of the month, at 10:00 a.m. in the Dining Hall at the GV Veterans Memorial Building. These are open meetings.

Margie Buhler
Delegate to NCCVC



Chapter 535 Information Center

Chapter 535 Officers & Board of Directors

Officers-Phone

President	
Fred Buhler	265-4878
Vice-President	
Pete Burelle	274-3787
Secretary	
Dave Johnson	885-1230
Treasurer	
Harold Graves haroldgraves@sbcglobal.net.....	470-8507

Past President

Kent Hawley.....	432-3551
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Dan Davis	272-4110
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Jerry Molloy petem1947@sbcglobal.net	273-4804
Bill Holman bholman@succeed.nett	265-8387
Fred Buhler	265-4878
Kent Hawley.....	432-3551
Dave Johnson	885-1230
Dick Corn.....	272-5922

CA State Council Delegates

Pete Burelle, Fred Buhler (alternate)	265-4878
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Chapter 535 Committees Chairs

Finance	Jose Gonzales (Chair) Ric Sheridan
Parade and Honor Guard.....	Pete Burelle
Product Sales	Pete Burelle
Food Sales.....	Jose Gonzales (Chair), Jerry Molloy, Dan Davis
Membership Affairs	Margie Buhler
Newsletter ...	bholman@succeed.net, 265-8387 Bill Holman
Nominations	Dick Corn
Christmas Year Round	Harold Graves
Chapter Events	Jose Gonzales
Shredding Program.....	Dan Davis
NCCVC	Margie Buhler, Pete Burelle
Web Master.....	Ralph Remick

Nevada County Veterans Affairs Rep.

Eric	(530) 273-3396
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Network Real Estate

167 S. Auburn Street
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Chapter 535 Web Page

www.vva535.org

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Membership Facts Chapter 535

VVA	
Individual members	28
Life members	37
AVVA	
Individual members	1
Life member	2
Total	68



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 newsletters or hearing from us, please contact Bill Holman at 265-8387.



Agent Orange Exposed Ships

To submit a claim to the VA for an Agent Orange related medical condition you must be able meet the prerequisites of the feet on the ground policy or prove that you were aboard a ship that had exposure. To assist you, the VA provides a list of naval vessels that have been confirmed as having been exposed to Agent Orange. If your vessel is not included in the Mobile Riverine Force, ISF Division 93 or listed designations at <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/index.asp#find>, check the alphabetized list of ships at either <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/list.asp#B>

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Ships will be regularly added to the list based on information confirmed in official records of ship operations. Currently there are 244 ships on this list.

Refer to <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/not-on-list.asp> for instructions on how to add a ship to this list. For questions about your eligibility for disability compensation refer to <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/disability-compensation.asp>. For contact information on your nearest VA benefits office refer to <http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/division.asp?dnum=3>. [Source: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist/list.asp#B>

Vet Drivers License

It can be difficult for military veterans to prove they served in the military. The only federally issued military ID cards are military retiree ID cards, veterans ID cards issued by the VA for eligible veterans, and other veterans on a limited basis. Veterans who are ineligible for one of these ID cards are often left without an official ID card that proves they served in the military. Some veterans get around this by carrying around a copy of their DD form 214, but this presents several issues: it is not a photo ID, so many places won't accept it, it is bulky and difficult to carry in one's wallet, and it has the veteran's Social Security number on it, which presents an identity theft risk if it is stolen. Thankfully, many states are taking notice of this and are including a veterans designation on drivers licenses and state issued ID cards. Some states, such as Virginia, are issuing a separate photo ID that identifies veterans.

A list of all states and their current status on this issue is shown below. At present 27 states offer a military service or veterans designation on drivers licenses and their state issued ID cards. Some of the 27 states recently passed legislation and haven't yet begun issuing the veterans IDs at the state or county level. These cards can often be used for military and veterans discounts, or to prove you served in the military. However, it's important to note that these ID cards are not official military ID cards in the sense that they will allow you to enter a military post or receive military benefits. You will need to show your DD Form 214 or other official military documents to receive military benefits. Legislation to add a military service designation on state issued ID cards is currently pending in 13 states, and 10 states currently don't have any pending legislation to add a military service or veterans designation to drivers licenses (12 if you count Washington D.C among those without pending legislation):

- Alabama - None
- Alaska - Pending Legislation (HB 180)
- Arizona - Pending Legislation
- Arkansas - Drivers License Designation
- California - Pending Legislation (SB 1355)
- Colorado - Drivers License Designation (more info)
- Connecticut - Drivers License Designation
- Delaware - Drivers License Designation
- Florida - Drivers License Designation
- Georgia - Drivers License Designation
- Hawaii - None
- Idaho - None
- Illinois - Drivers License Designation (beginning July 2015)
- Indiana - Drivers License Designation
- Iowa - Drivers License Designation (starting 2013)

- Kansas - None
- Kentucky - Drivers License Designation
- Louisiana - Drivers License Designation
- Maine - Drivers License Designation
- Maryland - Drivers License Designation
- Massachusetts - Drivers License Designation
- Michigan - Pending Legislation (House Bill 4127)
- Minnesota - Drivers License Designation
- Mississippi - Drivers License Designation
- Missouri - Drivers License Designation
- Montana - None
- Nebraska - None
- Nevada - Pending Proposal in 2013
- New Hampshire - Pending Legislation (SB 313)
- New Jersey - Veterans ID Cards Available at County Level
- New Mexico - None
- New York - Pending Legislation (S6453-2011)
- North Carolina - Drivers License Designation (law passed; not yet available).
- North Dakota - Drivers License Designation
- Ohio - Drivers License Designation
- 15
- Oklahoma - Pending Governor's Signature (SB 138)
- Oregon - Drivers License Designation
- Puerto Rico - Drivers License Designation
- Pennsylvania - Drivers License Legislation (HB 2428)
- Rhode Island - Pending Legislation
- South Carolina - Drivers License Designation
- South Dakota - Drivers License Designation
- Tennessee - Drivers License Designation (fall 2012)
- Texas - Drivers License Designation
- Utah - Drivers License Designation
- Vermont - None
- Virginia - Separate Veterans ID Card
- Washington - Pending Legislation (House Bill 2378)
- Washington D.C. - None
- West Virginia - Pending Legislation (HB 4082)
- Wisconsin - Pending Legislation
- Wyoming - None



Pictures From Chapter 535 Victorian Christmas December 2012



Number of veterans in Congress since 1975, according to the American Legion

	CONGRESS HOUSE (435 Members)	SENATE (100 Members)
94th (1975-1976)	306	73
95th (1977-1978)	347	65
96th (1979-1980)	242	58
97th (1981-1982)	269	73
98th (1983-1984)	248	56
99th (1985-1986)	181	57
100th (1987-1988)	175	52
101st (1989-1990)	202	49
102nd (1991-1992)	161	51
103rd (1993-1994)	126	44
104th (1995-1996)	154	55
105th (1997-1998)	141	48
106th (1999-2000)	135	44
107th (2001-2002)	130	38
108th (2003-2004)	114	35
109th (2005-2006)	107	29
110th (2007-2008)	97	28
111th (2009-2010)	96	28
112th (2011-2012)	91	25
113th (2013)	85	18



January - 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				General Membership Meeting 6:00 pm 🏛️ Dale Hubka		
	1		2	3	4	5
	🏛️ Gary Wright					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		🏛️ Dave Fleuti				
		15	16	17	18	19
13	14			🏛️ William Snyder		🏛️ Andrew Hill
		22	23	24	25	26
	21					
20						
27	28	29	30	31		

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

