

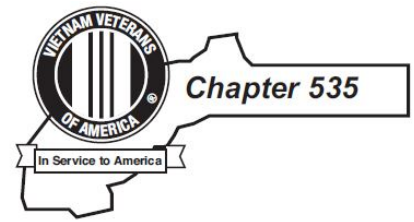


INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

CHAPTER 535

Website: www.vva535.org



Volume 28 Issue 12

December 2018

Gentleman and Ladies,

Everyone is aware to the catastrophic fires in CA, particularly the so-called Camp Fire that has burned at least 153,000 acres in Butte County and the surrounding area. With more than 13,000 homes lost, there is massive displacement of humankind, pets, livestock, and sadly, loss of at least 84 lives. For many survivors, the only hope is that prayers for their welfare will ease their anguish.

Many tangible things can be replaced, but recovery will take years, and it is fair to say life will never be the same for the majority of those who've lost their businesses, homes, loved ones pets and livestock.

So, what can we do? This could be a matter of discussion at our December 6 meeting. In the meantime, one might individually consider the purchase of gift cards for use at Safeway, Walmart, ARCO gasoline, and similar. No doubt these could be distributed to fellow veterans through Chico area veterans organizations like VVA Chapter 582, which was centered in Paradise, CA but meets in Chico, CA.

Past VVA-535 President Fred Buhler has learned from Dick Southern that something around \$10 K has so far been raised for Chapter 582. Needs will be ongoing and it would seem we could somehow lend a hand a little later in time.

Were we to walk in the shoes of those who have sustained losses, I suspect we would be very grateful for even a \$10 gift card. Think about it, and thank you. **We could collect such at our Christmas Dinner.**

VVA Chapter 535 Mission Statement

To foster camaraderie among members and assist those with disabling mental and physical injuries, to promote the welfare of our brethren affected by the war, and to engender public understanding of the sacrifice, patriotism and bravery of those who served, those who gave all, and those left behind.

The **50:50 Raffle** initiated on May 3, 2018 currently has \$257 in the can. If you choose to participate, the Raffle will continue at the meeting of December 6, 2018. At the current \$257 enticement, if you drew the Black Marble you would pocket \$128. Surely that sum will grow on December 6th. The odds are getting better as only five marbles, including the Black Marble, remain in the sock. I plan to buy in and take my chances!

Potluck Christmas December 6, 2018

Ric Sheridan has been working hard to coordinate our annual Christmas potluck dinner, which will be staged in lieu of a General Meeting on Dec. 6th. Social hour begins at 5:00 with Dinner likely to happen

at 6:00 p.m. Thank you, Ric, and **Frances**, for again stepping up to make this happen. We have volunteers who will provide the traditional ham and turkey. Thank you, **Ric**, for prepping ham, and thank you **Jose Gonzales** for prepping the turkey. Jose might also bring along some of his famous hors d'oeuvres. As for the rest of us, bring along a dish, salad or dessert that will serve a half dozen or so. Hopefully things balance out! We expect 40 – 50 to attend.

At this juncture, **Tom Woollard** is investigating having a high school choir join

us to sing traditional Christmas carols. Final outcome yet unknown. Thank you, Tom, for carrying this torch.

If you choose to, bring an unwrapped toy for *Toys for Tots*.

A very brief General Meeting will precede dinner.

Guest Speaker for December 6, 2018

No guest speaker this month.

Attention

If you do not drive and need a ride to a meeting or any VVA-535 function, please contact Bart Ruud or any local VVA -535 member and we will do our best to arrange transportation for you.

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Upcoming Events

- General Meeting December 6 1, 2018
- Director’s Meeting December 6, 2018
- NCCVC meeting: December 6, 2018
- VVA CSC Fresno – Oct. 26-28, 2018
- VVA-535 Christmas Dinner December 6, 2018
- Victorian Christmas... Dec. 9, 12, 16, 19, 2018
- General Meeting – January 3, 2019
- Directors Meeting – January 3, 2019

Chapter 535 Officers

- President Bart Ruud bruud45@gmail.com
(H) 530-823-1368; (C) 530-305-0493
- Vice-President
Dale Epps 368-6156
- Treasurer
Ralph Remick559-7716
- Secretary
Dave Johnson 887-8297

Directors

- Dave Chaix269-1431
- Dale Epps 368-6156
- Kent Hawley 432-3551
- Bill Holman 265-8387
- Chuck Holmes 478-1126
- Dave Johnson 887-8297
- Dave Middleton 205-9375
- Ralph Remick 559-7716
- Bart Ruud 823-1368
- Ric Sheridan 274-1413
- Tom Woollard 432-1212

Committee Chairs

FinanceRalph Remick & Dave Johnson
Parade and Honor Guard Dick Corn
Membership AffairsRic Sheridan
Newsletter Interim editor Bart Ruud
Victorian Christmas Jose Gonzales
Nominations Dick Corn
Veterans Assistance Bart Ruud
NCCVC Dick Corn
Speakers Bureau Tom Woollard
Web Master Ralph Remick
Quartermaster Kent Hawley
Facebook Master Mike Laborico
Nevada County Fair Bart Ruud
VSO Liaisons (Open opportunity)
CA State Council Rep. Vacant

Nevada County Veterans Service Officer

VSO Officer -David West (530) 273-3396 office
(530) 913-5046 cell
988 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley 95949
ncvso@co.nevada.ca.us
Thursday, 9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 – 4:00 is a
“Walk-In” day.

Placer County Veterans Service Officer

Suzi Vinci 916-780-3290.
1000 Sunset Blvd, Suite 115, Rocklin, CA
Monday – Friday, 8:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 5:00
p.m.

Matters of interest as outlined at Board Meeting of November 1, 2018

The Board heard input from Dave Chaix regarding a desire on the part of **Patricia Graves** that the \$3,750 realized as donations in memory of Past-President Harold Graves be utilized annually for a period of years to fund the proposed Harold K. Graves Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship would be awarded to a student whose long-term goal will be career military service to our country. Patricia is working with local high school staff to develop parameters.

The Board continues to seek a VVA-535 member who will willingly represent us at California State Council meetings in Fresno, CA.

Victorian Christmas is Near !

Jose Gonzales assumed leadership for this project and is actively planning for its rollout. Thank you Jose. Many supplies have been purchased and numerous volunteers have signed up to assist the preparation of the goods and for manning the booth. (See attachment.) The event will be staged on Sundays, Dec. 9, 16 & 23 from 1:30 – 5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays, December 12 & 19, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Former NFL star leading the charge for the Army’s new helmet system

By: J.D. Simkins and Todd South August 8, 2018.
Army Times.

Crash Cloud Technology

Open the following in your browser:

https://dq0mmww6n9gqf.cloudfront.net/mco/2018/08/07/5b69fb28e4b0b3066e45db53/5b69fb39e4b09e74a57698f0_t1533672255292_master.m3u8https://dq0mmww6n9gqf.cloudfront.net/mco/2018/08/07/5b69fb28e4b0b3066e45db53/

Windpact and its innovative Crash Cloud technology hope to revolutionize the way helmet systems are made.

A company founded by a former Washington Redskins all-pro has been tasked with designing next-level padding technology to protect troops from impacts and blasts that can cause brain trauma.

The Army recently announced a \$600,000 contract award for a new combat helmet padding system to Windpact, an impact

technology company founded by former Redskins cornerback Shawn Springs. The contract falls under the Army's Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center program to improve soldier equipment.

With the contract, Windpact aims to replace existing combat helmet impact systems with its patented Crash Cloud technology, an impact pad that uses a combination of foam and controlled air flow to provide enhanced protection at varying impact rates, according to a release.

"I'm excited, because obviously when you're talking about the military, you're wanting to do something better for these soldiers who are suffering from traumatic brain injuries, concussions and any other forceful impacts ranging from bomb blasts to Humvee accidents," Springs told Military Times.



This lighter, stronger combat helmet is headed to soldiers

Developers expect the helmet to be ready in a year.

Springs' connection to the military runs deep — his mother is a retired Army master sergeant. With his dad, Ron Springs, having also played professional football for eight seasons, the components of Shawn's background weaved together to build a focus on improving padding to protect the body and brain.

But before his company begins putting padding in actual helmets, Springs and other researchers are finding out how to efficiently build the best padding system in a tech-based approach by

testing structural impacts and putting the helmet through theoretical scenarios, similar to how car safety is studied, Springs said.

"[Automotive safety researchers] don't crash 100 cars. They run [safety features] through modeling and simulation before they put it in a car on a test track," he said.

Simulation with the Crash Cloud technology shows that it can automatically adjust to accommodate a wide range of impacts, from soft bumps to hard impacts, according to company officials.

And while Springs says the lessons learned from designing protective sports equipment influence elements of protective gear for service members, certain factors have to be tailored specifically for the battlefield.

"We also have to address human factors to solve for soldiers wearing it, with weight or temperature, for example," he said. "Temperatures and conditions can be extreme at times, so you have to address everything a soldier might be dealing with."

Though Windpact's focus remains on interior padding of the helmet and other protective gear, the company also works with techs designing helmet shells to assist that research as needed, Springs said. The company also works in sports equipment, protective motorcycle gear and car padding systems. "Anything you can think of that requires protective gear, we do," Springs said. "And the reason we can do that is because we're not focused on one product, but we research the science behind the moment of impact."

And the technology Windpact has developed for those moments of impact is an absorption design, similar to the compression and expansion of a mattress, which means it can take more than one impact.

While products produced by Windpact are designed to protect people in all kinds of environments, the potential improvements help a population that Springs insists is central to the company's motivation.

"We play a game and make millions of dollars, but some of these soldiers are risking their lives for our freedom and the country," he said. "So, if I can do my part to make a helmet safer — or any protective equipment for that matter — to protect them better while they protect us, I'm all for that."

Military scientists have discovered a new malaria drug that could help eradicate the disease — and it's hitting shelves soon

By: Karen Jowers August 27, 2018. Army Times



A new malaria drug that could help eradicate that disease has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration and will be considered for the Defense Department's use.

Two different forms of the new drug Tafenoquine have been approved by the FDA for the prevention and treatment of malaria, which is the top infectious disease threat to military members deployed overseas, according to the Army Medical Materiel Development Activity. Malaria is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito.

Despite the use of preventive drugs and personal protective equipment, malaria remains a significant threat to the warfighter, officials said.

The new Tafenoquine drugs are:

- Krintafel, a single dose treatment for the cure of the Plasmodium vivax form of malaria, approved July 20. The current drug must be taken for 14 days to be effective.
- Arakoda is a preventive malaria drug taken for the three days before travel, then weekly, during time in areas known to have mosquitoes infected with the malaria parasite. It was approved Aug. 8. It protects against all malaria, including Plasmodium falciparum, which is a serious, deadly form of malaria.

Tafenoquine has the potential to help eradicate malaria, according to officials with the Army Medical Materiel Development Activity. It is "highly effective" in the prevention of malaria, because it attacks the malaria parasite during multiple stages of its life cycle. No other FDA-approved anti-malaria drug can provide this protection, so it's a substantial improvement over current therapies, officials said. It kills parasites in both the blood and the liver. Most of the currently used drugs don't kill the liver form of the parasite, which can sleep in the liver and bring a relapse of malaria months or years later.

Tafenoquine was originally discovered by scientists at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and is the first new FDA-approved anti-malaria drug in more than 18 years.

The malaria drugs that are currently used primarily are those that require daily doses, including doses afterward for further protection. Instead, Tafenoquine (Arakoda) requires weekly doses for prevention, and a single dose following return from an area with malaria.

A big advantage to Arakoda over current drugs is the weekly dose, said Army Col. Andrew Wiesen, director of preventive medicine in the DoD office of health readiness policy and

oversight. For the drugs that are taken daily, within a required tight time frame, "if you miss a dose, you could expose yourself to risk. We like these drugs because of their infrequent dosing interval.

"Primarily right now, it will be most important for troops deploying to specific areas where this kind of malaria, falciparum malaria, exists, and where there's known resistance to other types of prophylactic agents that we could use instead."



Cpl. Timothy Dobson takes doxycycline once per day to prevent the spread of malaria while deployed to Africa.

A spokeswoman for 60 Degrees Pharmaceuticals said officials expect Arakoda will be available in the first quarter of 2019. A spokesman for GlaxoSmithKline pharmaceutical company said officials "plan to make Krintafel available in the U.S. as soon as possible."

Officials are focused on adding it to the tri-service formulary, which is a list of brand name and generic drugs and supplies that Tricare covers; and evaluating it for use as a force protection medication, according to Defense Health Affairs officials.

Once Tafenoquine is available commercially, it would be up to the individual health care provider as to whether to prescribe it. In some cases it could be used as an alternative when the patient can't take other malaria drugs for some

reason. If it's added to the repertoire of drugs for force protection medication as a potential malaria drug, the exact choice could also be up to the command or individual health care providers.

Malaria drug causes brain damage that mimics PTSD: case study

By: Patricia Kime

A service member was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder but instead was found to have brain damage caused by a malaria drug.

The FDA approval came after more than 25 clinical trials involving more than 3,000 trial subjects, with the Army Medical Materiel Development Activity and 60 Degrees Pharmaceuticals.

There have been a variety of issues with certain antimalarial drugs in the past, including mefloquine, also known as Lariam, once widely used by the military. In 2013, the Defense Department designated mefloquine as the antimalarial drug of last resort after the FDA required a black box warning on its label, noting it can cause permanent psychiatric and neurological side effects.

According to 60P, tafenoquine should not be given to people with a history of psychotic disorders or current psychotic symptoms. Testing for G6PD deficiency must be performed before tafenoquine, because of the risk of hemolytic anemia. 60P has committed to do safety surveillance studies to continue to gather data.

Veterans Receive Free Dental Care

Dr. Erik Matson – Rock Creek Dental, Auburn, CA., organized a dental clinic to serve eligible veterans at no charge on November 9th and 10th. Nearly 200 veterans were examined and

assisted by 22 local dentists, more than one dozen dental hygienists and a plethora of volunteers to help with logistics. Grateful recipients from at least Placer, Nevada, Sacramento and Amador counties received cleanings, fillings, extractions and bridges, as needed. Bart Ruud was there both days to lend a hand with setup and registration, and he shares that the dentists plan for a repeat performance in 2019.

Writing Your Story for INCOMING

(Ongoing repeat solicitation)

Ideas for your story:

- Think about what you appreciated about the Vietnam experience. There is surely a means to segue into that with very little reflection on the negative aspects of war.
- What did you appreciate about the Vietnamese people during your deployment?
- Can you steer away from the bad stuff and reflect on the best experience you had in the Nam?
- Surely you had a close buddy and you supported each other. Maybe there is a

story in that.

- What really got you through the day-to-day anxieties and fears? There might be a positive recollection in that regard.
- How did your experience instill in you a sense of patriotism that you possibly express every day of your life.

So far we have heard from Ruud, Epps, Chaix, Hamer, Chuck Holmes, current Marine LCpl. Jesse Hernandez, Kent Hawley, and Mike Laborico. (Thank you!)

No writer needs to dwell on the negatives of war. Each of us who was there lived the negatives, and all of us are better people for having served, especially when we look at how we matured as a result of our experiences. Each of us has derived a sense of being and an energy that is different from what it might have been had we not been sent across the pond.

Do share with us, in your own words, something of that chapter of your life. And, thank you for your service.

Forward your story to Bart Ruud at bruud45@gmail.com or hand deliver to Bart.

A Link to the Friends of Vinh Son Orphanage website:

<https://www.friendsofvso.org>

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

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

Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, or in **any duty location** between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____ Gender: _____

(Optional) Chapter Number: _____ Sponsor: _____

_____ I am already a VVA member and I want to become a Life Member. My VVA Number is _____.

Type of Membership: Individual _____ 1 year @ \$20. Individual _____ 3 years @ \$50.
Life Membership: _____ \$100. (Check type of membership)

ATTENTION New members and new life members: You must submit a copy of your DD-214 form along with this application and dues payment.

Payment Method: ___ Check ___ Money Order ___ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover)

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Return your completed application, payment and a copy of your DD-214 to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Chapter 535
P.O. Box 37
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Revised: January 2017

November

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 VVA General Meeting & Board Meeting	2	3
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends	5	6 Election Day	7	8	9 Free Dental Clinic	10 U.S. Marine Corps established (1775) Free Dental Clinic
11 Veterans Day. Signing of WWI Armistice (1918)	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Gettysburg Address (1863)	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Advent	3 Hanukkah	4	5	6 VVA General Meeting /Potluck & Board Meeting	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8
9 Victorian Christmas	10 Human Rights Day	11	12 Victorian Christmas	13	14	15 Bill of Rights Day <i>Wreaths Across America</i>
16 Victorian Christmas Battle of the Bulge began (1944)	17	18	19 Victorian Christmas	20	21 First Day of Winter Pilgrims Landed (1620)	22
23 Victorian Christmas	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31 Official end of WW II (1946)					

January

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2	3 VVA General Meeting	4	5
6 Epiphany	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Operation Desert Storm began (1991)	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Day	22	23	24	25 VVA CSC meeting	26 VVA CSC meeting
27 VVA CSC meeting Vietnam Peace Accord signed (1973)	28	29	30	31		

**Victorian Christmas 2018
Shift Sign-Up**

**Event Hours: Sunday – 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday- 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Sunday, December 9th Kitchen Manager: Jose Gonzales

Individual responsible for obtaining \$300 cash for cash box change: Jose Gonzales

Kitchen: 10:00 a.m. Phone #	Booth: 1:00 p.m. Phone #
<u>Bart Ruud/530-305-0493</u>	<u>Bart Ruud/530-305-0493</u>
<u>Dave Chaix/530-269-1431</u>	<u>Dave Chaix/530-269-1431</u>
<u>Dick Corn/530-277-8856</u>	<u>Tom Woollard/530-432-1212</u>
<u>Dale Epps/530-368-6156</u>	<u>Jose Gonzales/530-277-8758</u>

Wednesday, December 12th Kitchen Manager: Jose Gonzales

Individual responsible for obtaining \$300 for cash box change: Jose Gonzales

Kitchen: 1:30 p.m. Phone #	Booth: 4:30 p.m. Phone #
<u>Dick Corn/530-277-8856</u>	<u>Tom Woollard/530-432-1212</u>
<u>Dale Epps/530-368-6156</u>	<u>Jose Gonzales/530-277-8758</u>
<u>Kelly Quin/530-913-4102</u>	<u>Mike Laborico/530-272-5252</u>
<u>Keith Grueneberg/916-425-1121</u>	<u>Keith Grueneberg/916-425-1121</u>

Sunday, December 16th Kitchen Manager: Jose Gonzales

Individual responsible for obtaining \$300 for cash box change: Jose Gonzales

Kitchen: 10:00 a.m. Phone #	Booth:1:00 p.m. Phone #
<u>Dave Middleton/925-890-6791</u>	<u>Ralph Remick/530-559-7716</u>
<u>Dick Corn/530-277-8856</u>	<u>Jose Gonzales/530-277-8758</u>
<u>Dale Epps/530-368-6156</u>	<u>Tom Eberlein/269-405-3311</u>
<u>Bart Ruud/530-305-0493</u>	<u>Gary Barnes/530-333-7391</u>

Wednesday, December 19th Kitchen Manager: Jose Gonzales

Individual responsible for obtaining \$300 for cash box change: Jose Gonzales

Kitchen: 1:30 p.m. Phone #	Booth: 4:30 p.m. Phone #
<u>Dick Corn/530-277-8856</u>	<u>Jose Gonzales/530-277-8758</u>
<u>Dale Epps/530-368-6156</u>	<u>Dave Johnson/916-849-8702</u>
<u>Mike Laborico/530-272-5252</u>	<u>Ric Sheridan/530-277-7425</u>
<u>Keith Grueneberg/916-425-1121</u>	<u>Dale Ferguson/530-320-9523</u>

Sunday, December 23rd Kitchen Manager: Jose Gonzales

Individual responsible for obtaining \$300 for cash box change: Jose Gonzales

Kitchen: 10:00 a.m. Phone #	Booth:1:00 p.m. Phone #
<u>Dick Corn/530-277-8856</u>	<u>Ralph Remick/530-559-7716</u>
<u>Dale Epps/530-368-6156</u>	<u>Jose Gonzales/530-277-8758</u>
<u>Keith Grueneberg/916-425-1121</u>	<u>Dale Ferguson/530-320-9523</u>
<u>Bart Ruud/530-305-0493</u>	<u>Bart Ruud/530-305-0493</u>