



PERIMETER REPORT

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard,
Inc.

www.vietnamandallveteransofbrevard.com



Together Then – Together Again

Volume 2014—Issue 1 Jul-Aug 2014

The Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc., established in 1986 in Brevard County, Florida is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of veterans, their families and supporters dedicated to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, service and remembrance to and for those who have served our nation honorably, risking life and status to insure its principles endure.

President's Message

Sorry for the delay of the first news letter but I have been traveling on the road, I'll try to get better at it Dave. Speaking of Dave a big thanks for taking over the news letter and once we get the first one done we'll set up a schedule for the rest of the year.

A lot has happened we had the reunion, I guess I'll write about that next, and we had our awards date to thank all of the people and organizations who help us through the year. And while were talking about people and helping we have a new director at the facility so stop in and say hi or at a meeting.

Again I have to say I'm sorry for getting behind with some other updates I need to get done but I'll get busy when I get back from the round of trips. Speaking of trips were in Mississippi and then home, after that it is Ohio, Minnesota, and Kansas so we'll be out for awhile.

I want to thank Big Al for running the meetings and keeping things going while I am gone, remember the Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard is our organization and we need to support it, so get involved and come to a meeting.

Greg

Florida's 27th Annual Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion Recap

Well as you all know we had a reunion again this year and I hope by now your dried out yes it was wet we could of redid Woodstock. All in all I want to thank all those that helped and worked the different jobs we needed filled. I know it is a lot of work but a lot of people enjoy it. If you know someone that does enjoy the reunion try to talk them in to coming out and helping. Anyway wet and all it was a good reunion and thanks to everyone who made it possible.

Greg

News from the Quartermasters

Hello everyone. First we want to thank everyone that helped us this year at the reunion, even with all the rain we had. Secondly we would like everyone to know that we still have T-Shirts, Tanks and Red shirts still available for sale. T-Shirts & Tanks are \$20.00 and Red Shirts are \$15.00. If you would like any please contact Linda Marhon at Paco1674@yahoo.com or Donna Rogers at Candy1540@yahoo.com and we will get them for you (if we have them in stock). Again thank you all for your help and hope to see you next year and this time someone please do the non rain dance so it doesn't rain almost ever day.

Thanks, Linda Marhon & Donna Rogers.

CONTINUOUS POSITIVE AIRWAY PRESSURE MACHINE

Ted Whitlock has 2 CPAP machines to give to a veteran in need. These are used by people with obstructive sleep apnea. Both are in excellent condition. Please have the veteran contact Tony or Betty Sabuda, 321-610-7166 or Ted Whitlock at 321-243-8919. Or Ted can give them both to you and you can give them to the needy vet.

VA in the news

There have been many horror stories coming out about the treatment of veterans at VA hospitals. They have been covered on TV, the radio and we see through Donna's emails, they are well covered by other veteran organizations. Personally I found that **FOX NEWS** and in particular their morning show **FOX and Friends** to be highly supportive of the plight of veterans. The following is a lesser known article, also from FOX News. It received my ire, how about you? - Editor

VA Treats Al Qaeda Detainees Better Than Vets

Here's another secret the White House doesn't want you to know about the VA. Al Qaeda detainees get better medical treatment than our veterans. Say what?

Yes, it's true. I know because I served as a Pentagon spokesman from 2005-2009 and visited Guantanamo Bay Naval Base over 30 times during those years.

Despite the fact that Al Qaeda terrorists carried out the Sept. 11 terror attacks, killing 3,000 people in America, the admitted co-conspirators and their roughly 150 fellow jihadists at Gitmo have approximately 100 doctors, nurses and health care personnel assigned to them. Doctors and medical personnel are at their beck and call. Got a cold, a fever, a toothache, a tumor, chest or back pain, mental health issues, PTSD? [No problem, come right on in](#). Military doctors are waiting to see you.

The VA and Gitmo eligible patient-to-health care provider ratios speak volumes. While the Gitmo ratio is [1.5 to 1](#), for America's [9 million veterans receiving VA health care](#) and [267,930 VA employees](#), the ratio is 35 to 1.

But beyond the Gitmo numbers, the situation at the VA is also a bright, shining example of misguided priorities and terrible mismanagement. In late 2008, when Obama was president-elect, he and his staff were [warned](#) not to trust the wait times reported by VA health care facilities. But instead of fixing the problem, their focus was closing Guantanamo and improving the comfort of detainees. Even though they already lived under some of the best prison conditions ever seen.

While some who see "2008" may reflexively say, "blame Bush, not Obama" the fact is that the VA's health system has been fatally flawed for years, regardless of who has been the president.

The VA is a classic example of big government gone wild. It is America's [second largest cabinet agency](#) after the Defense Department. Since civil service promotions are traditionally based more on seniority than performance, and it's near impossible to fire anyone, there's a punch-the-clock mentality that's pervasive. Not surprisingly, there's little to no sense of urgency. So to instill incentives, the VA shells out high salaries and bonuses, deserved or not.

According to a Fox News report, Phoenix VA hospital [paid staff up to \\$357,000 for doctor executives and \\$147,000 for nursing staff](#). On average, doctors and nurses in Phoenix make just over half those figures. Meanwhile, the gardening budget at Phoenix VA hospital was over \$180,000 in 2013. The facility also spent \$211,000 on interior design over the past three years. If any government entity ever needed a complete overhaul, it's the VA. If it were in the private sector, it would have been shuttered long ago.

Today's VA has near zero accountability, while labor unions fight to protect employees who aren't doing their jobs. Shinseki and his senior staff should be the first to go. President Obama needs to refocus his priorities. There must be less time, effort and energy caring for Al Qaeda and Taliban detainees at Gitmo and much more attention put on caring for America's veterans.

Our veterans have served the nation proudly. In many cases they were gravely wounded during their service and now will require a lifetime of medical support. Every one of them deserves better.

J.D. Gordon is a retired Navy Commander who served as a Pentagon spokesman in the Office of the Secretary of Defense from 2005-09. He serves as senior adviser to several Washington-based think tanks.

EDITOR'S NOTE ON THE REUNION:

Our 27th Annual Reunion is in the history book. Terry Bartels (Crew Chief 69-70) from my old unit posted this comment on reunions in general. I thought it was worthwhile to pass it on:

“Here is an explanation as to why guys have military reunions. Not just to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not just to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once gave their best, men who suffered and sacrificed, men who were stripped raw, right down to their humanity. I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate, but I know them in a way I know no other person. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another. I cannot say where we are headed. Ours are not perfect friendships; those are the province of myth and legend. A few of my comrades have drifted far from from me now, only sending back an occasional word. I know that each day some of these fall silent. Some of the men will stay close, a couple perhaps always on hand. As long as I have a memory I will think of them all every day.”

State of Florida to Honor Vets

The Governor is getting ready to honor veterans through several ceremonies beginning June 30th called “Governor’s Veterans Service Awards”. There will be eight events occurring over the course of four days covering the entire state from Pensacola to Miami.

Vietnam and All Veterans Of Brevard, Inc.

July 2014

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|--|--|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS EST. 1926 | 3 | 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY | 5 |
| 6 | 7 Exec. Board meeting 7pm | 8 | 9 Brevard Veterans Council 9am | 10 General Membership Meeting 7pm | 11 Post 81- 7pm Pork Chop Dinner | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 VVOF Hospitality Night Wakulla, FL | 19 VVOF Meeting 10am Wakulla, FL |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 VAP Meeting 10am | 25 Pizza Night 6-8pm Post 22 in Cocoa | 26 |
| 27 KOREAN WAR ENDED (1953) | 28 WORLD WAR I BEGAN (1914) | 29 | 30 | 31 | NO REUNION MEETING UNTIL SEPT. PLEASE REMEMBER ART WORK & THEME FOR SHIRTS | |

Vietnam and All Veterans Of Brevard, Inc.

August 2014

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--|---------|---|--|--|--|
| | NO REUNION MEETING UNTIL SEPTEMBER. PLEASE REMEMBER ART WORK AND THEME FOR SHIRTS IS DUE AT THIS TIME | | | | 1 | 2 Operation Desert Storm 1990 |
| 3 | 4 Exec. Board meeting 7pm | 5 | 6 Atomic Bomb Dropped on Hiroshinia 1945 | 7 Purple Heart Established 1782 | 8 | 9 Atomic Bomb Dropped On Nagasaki 1945 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Brevard Veterans Council 9am | 14 General Meeting 7pm | 15 | 16 Thank You Luncheon 1pm Golden Corral |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 VAP Meeting 10am | 22 Pizza Night Post 22 in Cocoa 6 to 8pm | 23 |
| 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |



VVB Color Guard and Rifle Team

The rifle team was asked to do the rifle salute on Saturday May 31st @ the Veterans Memorial. This ceremony is to acknowledge 2 Medal of Honor recipients

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall

It will be a busy year but we will give a lot a people an opportunity to see the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall. Check our web site for more info www.travelingwall.us See ya on the road.

Greg

POW/MIA

Starting in 2012, recently accounted for service members will be listed in the chronological order that they are accounted for, which means that the families have been notified. In previous years, they were listed by the date of identification. The highlighted names are linked to a more detailed news release on that serviceman's identification.

Cpl. Lucio R. Aguilar, U.S. Army, Company M, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was lost on Nov. 28, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on May 6, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Sgt. Richard John Archambeault, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 29, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors. The date and location of the funeral are to be determined.

Cpl. Harold W. Reed, U.S. Marine Corps, Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was lost on Nov. 29, 1950. He was accounted for on April 22, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors on May 24, 2014, in Toledo, Ohio.

VVB Transitional Facility

We welcome our new Director, Desmond Cook. He is a Marine and has hit the beach hard. We are grateful to have him on board. The facility has a new look thanks to the hard work of Ed Butchrine and others who spiffed up the outside with new white gravel. The facility continues to look for children's clothing donations.

Members Ill and Distressed

Please keep our members and friends on your mind and your prayers: Michael J. Martin, Sue Merckle, Bob Brekke, Wendy's daughter & grandson, Jack Jackson, Ranaie's husband, Frank Marhon, Chuck Kossack and Ann Tuck.

Stand Down

We served 191 Veterans and had 250 volunteers.

Editor's Note: I technically qualify as a homeless vet. I took part both as vet and a volunteer. I personally thank you for your help.

Who is your new editor?

Dave Miller, U.S. Army (RA-3 years) Spec-5, Helicopter Armament Repairmen, 188th Assault Helicopter Company. Vietnam Apr. 1967 – Apr. 1968. Air Medal w/2 Oak Leaf Clusters, VSM w/3 Bronze Service Stars. No place in Nam I haven't been. Pic below in skinnier days.



Perimeter Report is published monthly by the Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc.

We welcome submissions from members and others interested in the VVB. Please note our website address on the front page where you will find back issues and links to other relevant sites

All submissions, comments, delivery problems or other matters related to this publication should be forwarded to Dave Miller at daveduck@outlook.com. All submissions are subject to editing.

Deadlines will be the Friday prior to the General Membership meeting (2nd Monday of the Month). This means that any event scheduled for the first two weeks of any month must be submitted **four weeks before the event**. The mailings go out on the day of the General Membership meeting. Net posting should be one week later.

Editor: Dave Miller 321-327-3224; Publication Assistant: Donna Rogers;

2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc.

P. O. Box 237225

Cocoa, FL 32923-7225

Membership in the VVB is open to veterans, family and supporters at annual dues of \$15.00 on the calendar year. New member dues after July is \$10.00. Veterans should include a copy of your DD-214. Non-refundable Life Memberships are: Age 54 and under, \$175.00; 55-64, \$125.00; 65 and up, \$75.00.

New Member: ___ Renewal: ___ Change Address: ___ Enclosed: Life: ___ \$ _____ Annual: ___ \$15.00/\$10.00

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone # (H, W, C): _____ e-mail: _____

Service Branch: _____ Rank: _____

Dates: _____

Units/Duty stations: _____

Birth date: _____ Spouse: _____

Kids: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Anniversary: _____ Sponsored by: _____ (ID#): _____

___ I'd like some literature on the VVB sent to the above address before I make a decision to join.

2014 VVB Officers

President: Greg Welsh 321-501-6896 **Vice Pres.:** Al Diaz 321-863-0575

Treasurer: Karen Templeton 321-501-0412 **Secretary:** Donna Rogers 321-208-8859

Sgt. @ Arms: Ken Wakefield 321-693-4762 **Quartermaster:** Linda Marhon 321-453-9824

Membership Chair: Billy Valashinas 321-323-6475

Membership Reps.: Rod Smith 321-632-6702 and Jim Tuck 321-458-4479

WebMistress: Suzanne Russo mommadukesny@icloud.com

Perimeter Report Editor: Dave Miller daveduck@outlook.com

Contacts and Locations

VVB Bunker: (Veterans Assistance Program)- Ph. 321 690 0805 - Fax 321 690 0106

VVB Transitional Housing Facility: 700 Fee Ave., Melbourne 32901 321 409 8167

Veterans Memorial Center : 400 S. Sykes Creek Pkwy., Merritt Island 32953; 321 453 1776

Legal Services: Shelly Campbell: 386 255 6573 X 2441; shellyc@clsmf.org

Melbourne Vet Center: 2098 Sarno Rd., Melbourne 32935; 321 254 3410

VVB Annual Reunion: Wickham Park, Melbourne; Ralph Earrusso 321 453 7498; Daydrmr333@aol.com

Brevard County Veteran Services Team: 321 633 2012

Veterans Administration, Viera: Benefits Info: 321 637 3693; Patient Advocate: 321 637 3788 X 3534

Rifle Team/Color guard : Bob Bodine; 321 242 1904 kbob4wic@juno.com

School Speaker Program: Rod Smith 321 632 6702 rsmith2580@bellsouth.net;

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc.
P. O. Box 237225
Cocoa, FL 32923-7225

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