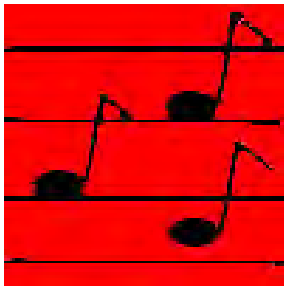




The Bugle

*The Newsletter of Chapter 702
Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Yountville, CA
Sep/Oct 2011*



Good Morning Vietnam!

AFVN

Do you remember AFVN? Armed Forces Radio, Vietnam?
Courtesy of Jim Donaldson, we have two CD's available for a very reasonable price that were recorded on scene, in Vietnam in 69 and 70. The music, the banter, the instructions on water purification tablets, the Malaria pill, dry socks and all that are included in these recordings. Fidelity isn't the best, but the programming is the real thing direct from the hootch to you. Two CD's for \$5.00. All the money goes to 702 to help defray the cost of publishing the newsletter. Contact Ross Hall at 707-252-7537 or rossisvva@sbcglobal.net for more information or to order your copies of these nostalgic CD's

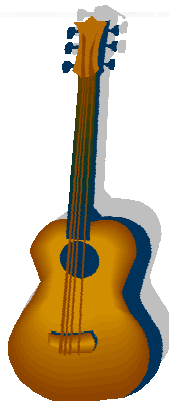
ALL STAR GUITARS

Dan Howard
Owner

2522 Jefferson Street
Napa, CA 94558

(707) 224-6577

allstargtr@comcast.net



Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 702

Yountville, California

Officers:

President	Almon Bundy	944-2431
VP	Larry Glenn	224-8903
Secretary	John Mellquist	337-6407
Treasurer	Ross Hall	252-7537

Board of Directors:

Paul Batto
Grover Totman

Standing Committee Chairs

POW/MIA	Vacant
POS/MIA Day	Vacant
Finance	Chris Hall
4th of July	John Mellquist
Membership	Ross Hall
Watch Fire	Vacant

Veterans Benefits Grover Tottman

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs:

Social Events	Chris Hall
Delegate, CSC	Almon Bundy/Ross Hall
Army/Navy Game	Larry Glenn
Newsletter	Ross Hall
Delegates, National Convention:	Almon Bundy/Larry Glenn
Veterans Home Liaison:	Almon Bundy
Veterans Home Volunteer Coordinator:	Ross Hall
Welcome Home VV Day:	Almon Bundy
Yountville Days' Parade :	Almon Bundy

702 NEWSLETTER is published in compliance with all State, Federal, VVA and 702 constitutions, laws and by-laws. Photographs, articles of interest and opinions from and of Chapter members are encouraged and if appropriate will be published. Some editing may be required for space consideration. For info on the Newsletter, contact Ross Hall @ 252-7537

Membership and Business Meetings

1st Tuesday of each month

1900, **Lee Lounge** in the Members Service Center


All members and guests welcome. Members can participate in the Chapter via voting on issues that determine policy.

Board of Director's Meetings

Held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1830, immediately preceding the Membership Meeting, in the **Lee Lounge** of the Members Service Center.

All members welcome. Participate/comment on issues, let us know what you think - but, only BOD members can vote.

All our members are welcome at all of our meetings. Member participation is encouraged. This is your chapter. Help your officers help you by taking an active part in our meetings. Through participation at meetings, you become an integral part of our chapter's management.

 **MVDC** Military and Veterans Discount Center

Join MVDC to find businesses that thank you for your service and appreciate the sacrifices you and your family have made for America. But you don't have to join. Just go to www.militaryandveteransdiscounts.com, pick a category, enter your zip code, and up pops a list of all the participating businesses in your area.

Apparel, Home improvement, tools, restaurants, auto repair and parts, entertainment, insurance, pets, etc. And the list goes on.

Check it out and save yourself a few \$\$\$'s.

VVA Chapter 702 Minutes of Meetings 7/5/11

Board of Directors' Meeting 1805-1900

BOD members present: Grover Totman, Larry Glenn, Al Bundy, John Mellquist, Ross Hall, Paul Batto

Members present: Daryl Baker, Tom Tilton, David Harris
Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in The Bugle

Items: George's status discussed. He has moved to Lake County and will Transfer to 951, needs to be replaced on BOD. Nominees sought to replace George on BOD.

General Membership Meeting 1900-2000

Officers and BOD present: Grover Totman, Larry Glenn, Al Bundy, John Mellquist, Ross Hall, Paul Batto

Members present: Daryl Baker, Tom Tilton, David Harris
Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in The Bugle

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Poor response to requests for email addresses. 9 members signed up for emailed newsletter.

Treasure: Fund Raiser Acct:\$4545.38; General Fund: \$1709.37; Troop Support: \$100.38

4th of July: Deferred to Old Business

Honor Guard: Participated on Vets Home 4th of July parade and Napa parade w/American Legion 113.

Old Business: Glenn suggested thank you letter to DAR for their help at Watch Fire. Letter and certificate of appreciation approved. John prepare letter, Ross prepare certificate.

New Business: 4th of July recap: Bids = \$2915; 50/50 Raffle; \$82; hat sales = \$60; donations = \$22. Problems with 50/50 raffle: announcements were discussed: a megaphone for next year was suggested. Al Bundy thanked participants for their efforts and recapped the day's events and auction results. 702 Assisted Home's Women Veterans Association setup and breakdown. Multi VVA Chapter's picnic discussed, with concerns over lack of coordination and planning to date. No chapter has come forward to take lead. May not be able to accomplish this year. Another round-table discussion about fundraising ensued, and again without any resolution being arrived at.

Good of the Order: Walt Kirby's memorial service will be held 14 July at 1000 at the Veterans Home chapel. He passed away 17 June at the Vets Home. Due to Walt's support of 702, participation by 702 members is encouraged. Possibly new mailing addresses for Home residents will be established in the near future. Ross to discuss with the Home's Yountville station's postal clerk.

Meeting adjourned: 2005

VVA Chapter 702 Minutes of Meetings 8/3/11

Board of Directors' Meeting 1801-1900

BOD members present: Almon Bundy, Grover Totman, Paul Batto, Ross Hall, Larry Glenn and John Mellquist.

Members present: Mike Besvoda, Tom Tilton, Rick Hegner and Jim Vye.

There being no formal agenda the following information was discussed: Upcoming events - Yountville Days' parade in October - Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in Yountville for 2012 - Army/Navy game at the Vets Home - Moved, 2nd and approved, Chapter will pay \$225 for travel cost to Reno for delegates - Al Bundy proposed a chapter project to organize a single point of contact for veterans of Napa county, Veterans Ombudsman, the idea has merit but the mechanic's require further discussion and planning.

General Membership Meeting 1855-2005

Officers present: Almon Bundy, Ross Hall, Larry Glenn and John Mellquist.

Members present: Grover Totman, Paul Batto, Mike Besvoda, Tom Tilton, Rick Hegner, Jim Vye, Jim Beatty and Stan Jones.

Being a rather rambling meeting the following gleaned information was considered pertinent:

Finance - Fund Raiser Account has \$6554.94, Troop Support Fund has \$100.35, General Account has \$2002.37
Ross Hall brought everyone's attention to the silent auction follow up effort by Al Bundy. Al received a round of applause from all present. Al's efforts to chase down money owed the Chapter from the July 4th auction fund raiser was a critical element in the auctions success.

New Business Yountville Parade Committee: The Chapter's participation in the 2 Oct 2011 parade was discussed.

VVA's placement in the line of march deemed important.

Fundraising: Jim Beatty suggested placing monetary donation boxes at places of business around Napa. No serious discussion ensued. Logistic support pointed out as a problem.

Newsletter: Members encouraged to submit articles for publication. Again!

Good of the Order

Vietnam Veterans R&R Group is planning an outing to Calistoga from the Vets Home on 17Aug 2011. Bus leaving blue tarp at 1100.

Los Angeles National Veterans Home picnic scheduled for 6Aug 2011 in Los Angeles.

Chapter participation in National POW/MIA day briefly discussed. George Stinson's improved condition was mentioned, as was James Abbott's. Larry Glenn put forward the idea of purchasing VVA 702 logo'd t-shirts for sale to members. Cost to members for purchase of a t-shirt would be over \$20. Ross Hall objected to purchase without some idea of members interest in the product. Minimum purchase for the Chapter would be 24 shirts, requiring an outlay of almost \$400 with no guarantee of recovery. Ross stated sale price would be too high.

Meeting adjourned at 2000.

10th Anniversary of September 11th 2001



Do you remember September 11th 2001? This September 11th 2011 is the 10th anniversary of that terrible day. Do you remember September 12th 2001? Remember practically everyone flying the American Flag? On their cars, pickup trucks, boats and their homes? Look around now. How many American Flags do you see displayed now, other than on government facilities or business enterprises? Do you see them on cars, pickup trucks or homes now? There are a few, but nowhere near do you see as many displayed now as you did in the aftermath of 9/11/2001.

What happened? Why did we take down the flags? Where has our patriotism gone? Did we forget what happened on 9/11/2001? Aren't we still fighting the terrorists? Is it now no longer as important an event as it was then? We still support our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, but are we still the passionate patriots of 9/12/2001?

I don't know the answers, and I'm afraid to find out!

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

SEPTEMBER 16TH 2011



Each year the President of the United States issues a proclamation designating the third Friday of September National POW/MIA Recognition Day. All military installations of all branches of the service and all Navy ships in port or at sea are ordered to fly the POW/MIA flag and conduct appropriate ceremonies to honor this nation's POW's and memorialize those who are MIA. Though not required or obligated to, many communities throughout the country also hold

observances of our National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Many states now have officially recognized this day and require the POW/MIA flag to be flown at state government facilities. Also, most veterans' organizations, locally and nationally, observe this day in various ways. Some sponsor and staff elaborate events complete with parades, celebrity and dignitary speeches and appearances, and performances by local or nationally known performers. Each year, National POW/MIA recognition day is more widely observed, receives more media coverage and attracts more attention.

Since it's founding, American youth and treasure has fought and died protecting our freedoms and way of life and preventing the expansion of totalitarian and evil regimes. Our country suffered tremendous casualties in our Civil War and two World Wars. In each of our wars, our men and woman have been killed, wounded, taken prisoner or have become missing. But it has only been recently that the sacrifices of those taken prisoner or those that were declared Missing in Action have been officially recognized.

It is appropriate that this country, this nation, honor and pay tribute to those who endured the hardship, torture and anguish of being a POW and recognize the story without end of those who are MIA. We can only begin to imagine the anxiety and anguish of the families of those MIA who are often left to wonder and speculate on the fate of their loved ones forever, with no closure possible.

HISTORY of the POW/MIA FLAG

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of Families, recognized the need for a symbol of our POW/MIAs. Prompted by an article in the Jacksonville, Florida Times-Union, Mrs. Hoff contacted Norman Rivkees, Vice President of Annin & Company which had made a banner for the newest member of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China, as a part of their policy to provide flags to all United Nations members states. Mrs. Hoff found Mr. Rivkees very sympathetic to the POW/MIA issue, and he, along with Annin's advertising agency, designed a flag to represent our missing men. Following League approval, the flags were manufactured for distribution.

On March 9, 1989, an official League flag, which flew over the White House on 1988 National POW/MIA Recognition Day, was installed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda as a result of legislation passed overwhelmingly during the 100th Congress. In a demonstration of bipartisan Congressional support, the leadership of both Houses hosted the installation ceremony.

The League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda where it will stand as a powerful symbol of national commitment to America's POW/MIAs until the fullest possible accounting has been achieved for U.S. personnel still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

On August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, which recognized the League's POW/MIA flag and designated it "as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation". The importance of the League's POW/MIA flag lies in its continued visibility, a constant reminder of the plight of America's POW/MIAs.

Other than "Old Glory", the League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever to fly over the White House, having been displayed in this place of honor on National POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1982.

With passage of Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act during the first term of the 105th Congress, the League's POW/MIA flag will fly each year on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day on the grounds or in the public lobbies of major military installations as designated by the Secretary of the Defense, all Federal national cemeteries, the national Korean War Veterans Memorial, the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the White House, the United States Postal Service post offices and at the official offices of the Secretaries of State, Defense and Veteran's Affairs, and Director of the Selective Service System.



National POW/MIA Recognition Day

The President issues a proclamation commemorating the observances and reminding the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country.

Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag.

POW/MIA Table Ceremony

The POW/MIA Table Ceremony is highly symbolic and is performed reverently at a table set with very specific items symbolizing the ordeal of POW's and paying tribute to those who are MIA. The script for the ceremony is somewhat flexible to allow for local circumstances and the formalized list of table items can also vary depending on local circumstances, the organization performing the ceremony and people available to conduct it.



AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

COMPONENT	COUNTRY OF LOSS					TOTALS
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	10	422	76	27	0	535
NAVY	258	84	18	0	7	367
MARINE CORPS	22	165	17	8	0	212
AIR FORCE	184	129	211	17	0	541
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIVILIANS	1	19	6	6	0	32
TOTALS	475	819	328	58	7	1,687
PURSUIT STATUS						
FURTHER PURSUIT	172	436	298	52	4	962
DEFERRED	43	56	5	1	0	105
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	260	327	25	5	3	620
TOTALS	475	819	328	58	7	1,687

VN North Vietnam, VS South Vietnam, LA Laos, CB Cambodia, CH China





Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office

Progress in Vietnam as of June 10, 2011

Current Status of Unaccounted-for Americans Lost in the Vietnam War

	<u>Vietnam</u>	<u>Laos</u>	<u>Cambodia</u>	<u>China</u>	<u>Total</u>
Original Missing	1,971	575	90	10	2,646
Repatriated and Identified	<u>677</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>959¹</u>
Remaining Missing	1,294	328	58	7	1,687

Current Status of Unaccounted-for Americans Lost in the Vietnam War

Of the remaining 1,294 Americans still unaccounted for in Vietnam, 587 are in a “no further pursuit” category. This means that as a result of rigorous investigation, we have conclusive evidence the individual perished, but do not believe it possible to recover the remains.

Repatriating and Identifying Remains

- The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) plans to conduct four Joint Field Activities (JFAs) this fiscal year in Vietnam. Each JFA involves approximately 95 U.S. personnel plus their Vietnamese counterparts. Together, they work on investigations and excavations throughout the country for a period of approximately 30 days.
- American remains are transferred to JPAC’s Central Identification Lab in Hawaii for positive identification by forensic anthropologists.
- The 103rd JFA began May 9 and will continue through June 22, 2011. Recovery teams are excavating sites in Quang Binh and Quang Tri Provinces, as well as off the coast of Thua Thien-Hue and Thanh Hoa/Nghe An Provinces.
- The 104th JFA is schedule to begin August 5 and continue through September 7, 2011. Recovery teams are scheduled to excavate sites in Quang Ngai and Quang Nam Provinces.

CFL’s—They Create More Problems than they Solve!

Did you know?: CFL’s take more glass to manufacture than Edison’s regular old incandescent bulb, which requires more use of energy, about 5 times as much energy, as manufacturing the glass for the incandescent bulb. CFL’s contain Mercury (Hg) which is a hazardous and highly volatile atmospheric pollutant which requires strict cleanup procedures if you drop and break one. Used CFL’s will cause serious land fill contamination problems when disposed of. All CFL’s are manufactured in China, increasing our already staggering indebtedness to that country’s communist regime. They cost almost 5 times as much to purchase as incandescent bulbs. They give off a harsh white light that creates a home atmosphere more like an office or train station than a home.



VVA Chapter 702 Sponsors'
Healing the Wounded Heart



Healing the Wounded Heart Workshop #6 holds Completion Celebration
Members of all the Previous Workshops Throw a Baby Shower for a Woman Member of
the Band of Brothers

On Thursday July 14th HTWH Workshop #6 celebrated the completion of their eight week journey to a place of another choice. Five Vietnam Veterans and one Iraq Veteran shared how the Workshop and the other participants helped them find their inner resources to begin the healing that they thought might never come. As regular readers of this column are aware, these workshops have demonstrated excellent results. Several members of Chapter 702 that are workshops alumni were there to witness the changes and progress they have made. Workshop #7 is due to start sometime in August. Our Chapter can be proud of the role we have played in sponsoring and supporting these Workshops. Workshop #7 is the forth this year!

About two months ago the former participants of the Workshops learned that one of our Band of Brothers, as we call ourselves, was expecting her first child in October. Jamie was a member of the 82 Airborne and was deployed three times to Iraq. She completed her workshop last November. When we learned about the pending arrival of her baby girl, we decided to throw her a baby shower. Last Friday, August 5th, about fourteen members of all the previous workshops hosted the shower at the Concord Vets Center. Jamie was there with her husband, her mother and grandmother. We had lots of gifts for her. Some were from her registry and others were beautiful handmade blanket and a handmade shelf shaped like a rabbit. It was terrific. The local Blue Star Mothers provided a beautiful pink and white cake, punch and sandwiches. It was a first for all of us. It was Jamie's first baby shower and none of the male veterans had ever attended a baby shower. There were certainly a lot of pink and other pastel colors around.

We all shared how special this day was for us and how much the HTWH Workshops meant and made this day possible. There were laughs and tears and the warm feeling of veterans connected to veterans. Iraq, Vietnam, and Korean veterans were represented. It was special.

If you would like to be more involved in supporting this project of veterans helping veterans or know a veteran that might benefit from attending a workshop please call VVA Chapter member Almon Bundy at 707-944-2431.



Members of all the
Previous Workshops

Photograph taken at the recent workshop of alumni participating in the celebration and baby shower.

Workshop alumni refer to their group as the "Band of Brothers." The workshops have been highly praised by attendees as the most helpful experience they have ever had in helping them cope with the impact of PTSD in their daily lives.

From the President



The first item I want to address in this month's message is how proud I am of our members. Our July Forth fund raiser was a success. Not only because we raised the money we need to run Chapter 702 but because again everyone that signed up, showed up.

Just like the Watch Fire and our Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event, the turnout of members to help, participate and enjoy being with their fellow veterans was outstanding. Many of our newest members are getting involved. Speaking of new members we have three new members in the past two months and at about twelve in the past year. Our membership and enthusiasm is growing.

One of our veterans service projects this past year is the Healing the Wounded Heart Workshops. You can read the latest on these terrific Workshops elsewhere in this newsletter. At our last meeting we discussed an additional new project: To work to establish and sponsor a **Napa Valley Veterans Resource Center** to provide all Napa Valley Veterans with a means to locate all the services available to Valley veterans.

This would include the Veterans Administration, Napa County Services, the Red Cross, Queen of the Valley Community Outreach Care Network, the Yountville Veterans Home, The Veterans Support Foundation and VSO's like Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 702 and American Legion Posts 113, 199 and 489. There are more. I bet you didn't know about some of these organizations. I didn't. Well a lot of the people that operate these resources don't know much about each other either.

So that is the challenge: to make sure everyone involved in supporting veterans and supplying services knows what each other can and will do for veterans and to keep that info up to date. Chapter 702 is leading the way in this effort. I would like to have a couple of volunteers to work with me on this project. If you are able to help, please give me a call at 944-2431.

The last thing I would like to mention is the opportunity we have every day to help and support our veteran brothers and sisters. While I was researching resources for this new project I was

privileged to accompany two outreach workers on a visit to a semi-homeless, disabled Vietnam Veteran here in Napa.

Let's call him Bill (not his real name). It was inspiring to see the medical and social attention being given to Bill by these outreach workers. I also was able to have a conversation with Bill. It turns out we were both Military Advisors with MACV and served in country about the same time. Bill is fiercely independent and sharp as a tack. As we were leaving Bill made his way to my car and invited me to visit him sometime.

The outreach workers were surprised because Bill has always been a "loner". I was touched and told Bill that I would come by to see him. And I have and will continue to do so. There are other veterans in our Valley that need some company once in a while and some connection to the veteran community. We can all do that. So be on the lookout for the opportunities. It is really the small everyday things that we can do that can make a difference in the lives of veterans. You will be blessed.

If you are a member that has not been active, this is a great time to come back. If you know other Vietnam Era Vets in our community, let's invite them to check out Chapter 702 now.

Peace
Almon

WARNING!

Don't be a victim. Don't give any personal information to anyone, ever, on the phone! Let's say it again. Don't ever give any personal information to anyone over the phone, regardless of who they claim to be. Identity thieves often use the telephone to obtain personal information. If you divulge your Social Security Number and address to a caller, he has all he needs to steal your identity.

NEVER, EVER, give your SSN, credit card number (Unless you called to place an order), bank account number, driver's license number or address to anyone over the phone! Callers posing as an IRS agent, Social Security official, jury or court manager, DMV or VA officers, estate attorneys, will seek to obtain your personal information over the phone. NO legitimate agency of the government or legitimate business will ever ask for personal info on the phone.

"What Do You Know About Agent Orange?"

Please help us get the word out about Agent Orange by asking everyone you know to watch this short, informative video.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/facesofagentorange#p/a/u/0/uV2OybAd3IY>



The "Operation Ranch Hand" unit patch. Designed in 1962, its meaning was: Red letters on a yellow field represents the colors of Vietnam. The encircling green ring, combined with the red and yellow, represents the Vietnam Service Medal. The center green field represents the jungles of Vietnam and the brown swath through the middle represents a defoliated area. The white characters in the center of the brown swath are the Chinese characters for the color purple, the color code for the first defoliant used in Vietnam. The black 55 gal drums were painted with a wide colored band at the top, with the colors indicating the type of defoliant contained in the drum.

The defoliant most used in Vietnam had a colored band of orange, thus the term, "agent orange". Other defoliants were coded with purple, blue, red and green bands on the drums, and were referred to as agent blue, agent orange, etc. Of all the defoliants used in Vietnam, the most effective at defoliating the heavy jungle growth was, you guessed it, agent orange. Unfortunately, it contained high amounts of an impurity we now know was "dioxin".



MORE FROM

California Department of Veterans Affairs

Sacramento— A new program initiated by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) will help connect veterans in California with the services and benefits they have earned through their prior or current service in the U.S. Military.

When a Californian applies for a new driver's license or renewal, or if they apply for an identification card, they will notice on the new application forms a check-off box that will permit the DMV to share the applicants contact information with CalVet. The veterans will then be sent information that gives a brief outline of services and benefits and includes a postage-paid reply card that the veteran fills out and returns to CalVet. Once the card is received the veteran will automatically begin receiving information about services like education benefits, employment assistance, disability and compensation payments, health care benefits and much more.

"The most challenging thing we have to do in this department is to ensure that veterans in California are educated about the benefits and services that they have earned through their honorable service in the military," said CalVet Secretary Peter J. Gravett. "This partnership has the potential to help our department connect with nearly every one of the nearly 2 million veterans living in this state." Under the program initiated on July 1, U.S. veterans residing in California can simply check a box on the form to approve having benefit information sent to them by CalVet.

CalVet Services, through its "CalVet Connect" initiative has as its guiding philosophy that programs of benefits to veterans fulfill necessary, proper, and valid public purposes by promoting patriotism, by recognizing and rewarding sacrifice and service to country and by providing needed readjustment assistance to returning veterans and their families, whose lives were interrupted when they responded to their country's call to military service.

This program offers CalVet the opportunity to inform veterans and their dependents about veterans benefits and how to obtain these benefits through the process of application and representations of claims. CalVet's partnership with DMV augments this program by allowing many military and service members the opportunity to share their contact information with CalVet so that appropriate benefits information can be provided to them.

4th of July
A successful 702
Fund Raising event!

702's 4th of July Silent Auction was a very successful fund raising endeavor, netting the Chapter around \$2,000. And, it was real easy to do. We didn't have the hassle of prepping, cooking and selling any food or beverages. No ice and ice chests to worry about, no Costco trips for all the ancillary items associated with food sales, no "undercooked or overcooked" food complaints and no pre-investment in food, condiments, paper and plastic products. We just sat there and answered questions.

Members that committed to the 3 hour shifts and to help setup and breakdown all showed as scheduled, and many stayed over their shifts helping out wherever they could.

We had new rules in place on conducting the 50/50 raffle which reduced our bottom line for it somewhat, but we still made some coins with it. We've adjusted to the new rules (imposed by the Vets Home to enhance the patriotic aspects of the days celebrations and entertainment.) and will do much better next year.

All-in-all, it was a great day for 702. We also signed up 2 new members, complete with cash and DD-214's. With the enthusiasm of our new members, we're taking on some meaningful projects and finding new ways to help out at the Vets Home and help our communities veterans. We've got a contingent of committed officers and members, led by our new President, Al Bundy. Our members are willing to chip in and help with the many tasks we encounter helping veterans and keeping the Chapter viable and growing.

Chapter 702 is on the move, and for those of us involved, it's a good feeling.



Democrats warned that if the debt ceiling isn't raised, the government would cease to function. How would you be able to tell?

Lady Gaga complained that the U.S. is allowing Iran and North Korea to get nukes and we have to stop them. Before the White House makes any decision, they're waiting to hear from Britney Spears.

A toddler in China fell 10 stories out of a window and was caught by a woman walking by. The kid was fine. He didn't even miss a day of work.

Two fleas were walking out of the cinema when they discovered it was raining hard. "Shall we walk?" said one flea. "No," said the other, "lets take a dog."

President Obama's staff got raises of 8 percent, more than double the average for regular Americans, which is 3 percent. But it's not a serious problem as most of them will be unemployed next November.

According to a survey by Charles Schwab, 16 percent of teenagers expect their parents to help them financially forever. I believe they're called "philosophy or liberal arts majors."

Mitt Romney is so boring, he introduced his own fragrance called "Unscented."

Hey, this week was Spain's annual running of the bulls. Or as bulls are reporting it, "This week was Spain's annual chasing of the idiots."

The Treasury Department is shifting from paper to electronic savings bonds next year. But don't worry — the electronic bonds will be just as worthless as the paper ones.

Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly, and for the same reason.

OUR 4TH OF JULY SUPPORTERS



The following is a list of the businesses that supported our 4th of July auction by generously donated products and/or services. If you have the opportunity, please support them with your business. It's the best way to say "thank you."

Artesa Wenery
Vineyard Country Inn
Go Fish Restaurant
Cindy's Back Street Kitchen Restaurant
Mustards Grill restaurant
Red Hen Cantina restaurant
Trancus Steak House restaurant
Calistoga Inn restaurant
Compadres restaurant
Chardonnay Golf Club
Synergy Medical Fitness Center
Culinary Institute of America
Café Serafornia restaurant
Kobalt Wines
Embassy Suites restaurant & hotel
Gillwoods restaurant
Cakebread Cellars winery
Cuvaision Cellars winery
Turley Vineyards and restaurant
Villagio luxury hotel and spa
Vintage Inn luxury hotel
Round Table pizza
Roman Spa and Baths
Somerton Estate Winery
High Flyer Wines
Crown Limousine Services
Yountville Delli
La Belle Spa & Beauty Salon
Swanson Vineyards and Winery

VETERANS PROTESTS CONTINUE

Fellow Veterans and Friends of Veterans:

Sunday, July 3rd, was our 173rd consecutive Sunday Rally to "Save Our Veterans Land," and to "Bring Our Homeless Veterans home."



Through our dedicated and peaceful demonstrations opposing the abuse and misappropriation of Veterans property, the Old Veterans Guard has achieved significant victories over the opponent, i.e., the largest VA in the nation, wealthy special interest groups and corrupt politicians that have collectively perpetrated the greatest land fraud scam in American history.

These victories include winning a recent judgment in U.S. Federal Court against VA executive director Donna Beiter and her chief of police, Ron Mathis. Both were defendants in a lawsuit filed by the ACLU of Southern California, and were adjudicated by a Federal Judge for violating the Constitutional Rights of an individual, which is a federal crime. This victory led to another lawsuit filed by the ACLU of Southern California against the largest VA in the nation for misusing Veterans land and mistreating Veterans.

The defendants are General Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and once again ... Donna Beiter, the executive director of the West Los Angeles Healthcare System.

Vietnam Veterans of America, one of our many loyal allies, is a plaintiff in this historic lawsuit.

Join the Veterans Revolution and become a Citizen Soldier in this historic "David vs. Goliath" battle against the largest VA in the nation and its criminal regime; against wealthy special interest groups — including an elitist homeowner group operating under the ruse of a Veterans organization; and against the most powerful political machine in the nation that aided and abetted in the greatest land-fraud scam in American history, forcing 20,000 disabled and disadvantaged Veterans to be homeless and hungry on the dangerous streets of Los Angeles.

You are invited to attend any Sunday's Rally, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, at the Northeast corner of Wilshire and San Vicente Boulevards, West of the 405 Freeway, adjacent to the community of Brentwood.

Though the rank and file membership of the American Legion supports our efforts to stop the VA and moneyed special interest groups from denying homeless veterans their land, the "official position" of the American Legion shamefully supports the VA and its criminal usurpation of our homeless veterans land! The American Legion has sided with the defendants and has openly refused to support the veterans groups and ACLU in their efforts. All the other major Veterans Service Organization's support the suite.

chapter 702
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SEPTEMBER 16TH

***National POW/MIA
Recognition Day***

