



# NEWS AND VIEWS

VVA # 223

THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER

Volume 15, Issue 10

October 2013

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH OTHER VETERANS

## City, County, State, and Federal Government stepping-up to house Homeless Veterans

By Michael Hart

No matter where you go, a certain contingent among us is on the move. We see them on the streets of Santa Rosa where they are figures moving amongst the shadows, pushing their carts full of funky old personal items, all the way down to the family dog. They camp under freeway bridges, along railroad tracks, creeks and trails of Sonoma County, mostly out of the glare of everyday living.



Mike Hart

Of course these are our homeless, who we are curious about and sympathetic towards, but don't want to be bothered with. Among our 'shadow community' are at least 400 veterans in the county and an estimated 19,000 on the move, maneuvering the tracks and byways between Yreka and Imperial Beach each day. This count can go as high as 50,000, since 25% of all homeless Vets in the United States are concentrated in the Golden State.

The introduction of the Sonoma County Housing Veteran's Campaign last month, with its first meeting in Santa Rosa, wants to eradicate Vets' homelessness by the end of 2015. This objective corresponds with federal and state goals, with the focus of getting Vets off the streets. The local group is made up of medical professionals, the VA, politicians (Supervisor Shirley Zane was present), lawyers, homeless advocate groups (VVA 223), city, county and interested individuals.



Kym Valadez (left) chaired the event, and Sherlee Zane represented the County.

The initial meeting of the Campaign focused on all the participants in the group and what roles they will play in the total effort. Also the issue of the day was on the problems of finding landlords or managers who are not afraid of accepting Federal vouchers. There is still a considerable amount of trepidation among landlords

concerning disorders related to military service.

The vouchers for eligible veterans is part of a combination HUD-VASH program (Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Administration). This means a Vet that qualifies for this program will be committed to mandatory services through the VA for such problems as PTSD, anger management etc.

'I think the fact that the VA will still be giving these



The "Campaign," as demonstrated by the community involvement at the first meeting, will insure that this program will be rewarding and successful.

folks mandatory services should make it more appealing to landlords. We need to make sure managers have this information,' said Jock McNeill, president of Alliance Property Management in Santa Rosa.

The group gave a 'Housing Patriot Award' to two landowners who overcame their fear of maladies (e.g. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, alcoholism) to provide homeless Vets with comfortable living space. One of the landlords, Joe Gonsalves of Santa Rosa, has provided most of his rentals to veteran homeless folks who now have formed a tight community among themselves.

'These are guys who just want to come back and have some peace and quiet, said Gonsalves. 'Some of the older Vets have been through hell and back. They like their new homes; they're very comfortable there.' Invitations were sent to 1400 landowners and managers to attend this meeting and learn of the benefits for them.

Another problem for homeless Vets is the general housing situation in Sonoma County. Average rent for a one-bedroom apartment now is \$1,151 per month, up from \$941 in 2005. "Rents will continue to rise with few new apartments being built in the face of rising demand,' continued McNeill. 'This has been fueled by short sales and foreclosures that force owners out of their homes and looking for rentals.'

Kym Valadez, a social worker at the Santa Rosa VA Clinic since 2004, and coordinator for the group, feels like it's overtime for veteran's housing.

'How can we let our veterans continue to be out there, she said. 'We can't shrug and turn our heads away. It's morally wrong to do that to our vets.'

As part of this movement the State of California is seeking support for AB639 the Veteran's Housing and Homeless Act presented by Assembly Speaker John A. Perez. The legislation would expand unused funds from another Farm and Home Loan program to this program specifically for Veteran's housing.

If you are a landowner or manager who would like to get more information concerning housing our veterans, please contact Ms. Valadez at the Santa Rosa VA Clinic; phone: 707-569-2390 or fax 707-569-2323. (see picture on page 3)



**VIETNAM VETERANS of AMERICA  
REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER 223  
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Charles Earthman

# President's Letter

Looking into the next month and beyond, there is a lot going on. A familiar theme in my reports lately, but that just shows how busy we are as a chapter. Starting in October the Wall is going to be in Petaluma. We have a lot of members volunteering to assist chapter 563 with this project. Some have asked about our involvement in the planning and presenting of the program, but I keep answering that we are providing volunteers to assist them where we can. John McGivney is our lead person on this. If you can help, contact John at 575-5261.



**Ken Holybee**

On October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM we are showing the documentary "Bravo" at the vets building. This film chronicles the actions of the Marines in Khe Sanh during the 77 day siege in 1968. Having seen the film, I can say it is very well done and tells a great story about what it took to survive the battle. I would recommend this film for family, friends and non veterans that are interested in our history. This film would be very helpful to our educational committee at their lectures. We will be serving snacks, coffee, water and soda. There is no charge to attend, and maybe there will be some of the veterans that served there attending. The producer and his wife will be there to speak about the film. We will have fliers out soon to advertise this.

November 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This year the state of California passed legislation that names this memorial as the official state Vietnam Veteran Memorial. They also passed legislation to allow us to add names to the memorial. We will have our product sales and the POW tower in Sacramento for the event. The event is still in the planning stage, but there is information on the CSC website [vva-calsc.com](http://vva-calsc.com). At this point the information is constantly being updated. There will be a motorcycle run to the memorial, a POW ceremony, and the anniversary ceremony followed by a banquet dinner. There will also be a no host reception on Friday night.

On December 4<sup>th</sup> we will be getting together to pack boxes to send to the 4<sup>th</sup> I D in Afghanistan. Mary St Clair has been sending them packages since her son deployed with them. He is now home and out of the service, but Mary being a mom has never given up on supporting the unit her son served with. The boxes will be going to a unit in the hills of Afghanistan. They are on a one year deployment with little contact with rear units.

Our Christmas party will be on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> in the main auditorium. If you would like to assist in decorating, let us know,

**NOTICE**

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To make a contribution to the News and Views, submit a story, or a photograph, please call or email: Brooke McKusick @ 537-9003, or [mcq6@vbbn.com](mailto:mcq6@vbbn.com). To make a complaint about the newsletter, please call: Ken Holybee @ 887-8891, or [holybee@comcast.net](mailto:holybee@comcast.net)

VVA Chapter 223 invites you to place an ad in the News and Views, please call: Lou Nunez @ 291-5314 or Brooke McKusick @ 537-9003

A business card size ad in our newsletter is \$100.00 for a full year... With a 100% Tax Credit!

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## Kate O'Hare-Palmer Appointed to Head National Committee



**Kate O'Hare-Palmer**, of Petaluma, has been named the National VVA Womens Veteran Committee Chair by John Rowan, President of Vietnam Veterans of America. Kate, a member of VVA-223 in Santa Rosa for over 17 years, has served in the same capacity with the VVA California State Council. Ms. O'Hare-Palmer was an Army OR/ER nurse at Chu Lai, Vietnam, and served as a Nursing Supervisor at the San Francisco VA hospital and at Kaiser here in Sonoma County.



**Young Soo Cho, Resident Manager of Whitesgate Apartments and Joe Gonsalves, owner of Cottages on E Street, center, are presented Housing Project Awards by Sean Hamill and Supervisor Shirlee Zane.**

### President's Letter Continued ...

or just show up after noon on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Richard Jones and his crew will be doing the cooking again this year. They always do a great job, and put out a great feast. They are asking that anyone that is able, please stay and assist with the kitchen clean up. Usually that is completed before we start the cleanup of the dining area. We can always use a little help there also. It seems like some of us are not able to do the twelve hour days anymore, but we keep trying. Don't feel bad if you need to leave early since we all understand the health issues we all face.

I will be working more in the next few months to set up town hall meetings on Agent Orange. I would like to set up one in Santa Rosa as well as one in Petaluma. We have been putting out more information and educating more people on the affects of chemical exposures in the military. I think our efforts are paying off with a better informed membership and a better informed public.

When you add this to all of the weekly things we do, we are a very active group. If you would like to assist on any of these tasks or have time to give, we can still use some volunteers at the coffee cart at the VA clinic. You can stop by on Tuesday morning at the Vet Connect and hang out to see the impact that we are having on the community and our veterans.

Sincerely, Ken Holybee

## The Santa Rosa VA Clinic Coffee Cart By Jil McGivney

Have you heard about the coffee cart at the Santa Rosa VA Clinic? Monday thru Friday from 7am to noon. We get there at 7am so that we can try and have coffee and donuts ready before the bus leaves for Fort Miley.

There is no charge for coffee and pastries. Any donations go towards replacing our coffee supplies and the rest is used to purchase county bus tickets for the Veterans unable to drive themselves. The Santa Rosa VA Clinic is just off Airport Boulevard, not too far from the Santa Rosa airport.

Each day has different volunteers and different ideas. On Monday Nick Power sets up the coffee service alone, and believe me that is no easy task. On Tuesday, Earl Walters, also, is by himself, but along with the coffee and donuts he sells rubber duckys. The proceeds go to the Wounded Warriors Project.

Wednesday there are 3 Veterans helping at the cart, J.J. Wheeler, Steve Hauptman, and Jerry Kromer. On Thursday it's Bob Evans, John McGivney and me. I can say that I feel so guilty offering only sweets, so we always provide some kind of fruit alternative, like cantaloupe or watermelon. Some days John and I bring fresh blackberries or cherry tomatoes we pick ourselves. Finally on Friday Bill Schaffer also has to set up the table and chairs plus make the coffee by himself. Maybe you can see my point is we could use more volunteers.



Serendipitously, on a Thursday at the clinic, a nice woman donated \$50.00 to the coffee fund. She overheard me tell Lou that we all agreed that we needed new coffee pots. In an extraordinary gesture, she handed Lou another \$100.00, and told him where he could get the pots. Lou Nunez took a picture of Mary Ann Cardiff-Vossbrink, Bob Evans, John and Jil McGivney.

I also want to mention that Joe Cholewa, Steve Wiegert, Dave and Jackie Ritchey, and Walt Smith do come down and help out when they can.

We all agree we get so much more back than what we give. We talk to Veterans from all eras. They seem to hang around the coffee cart to talk and meet with other Veterans. The bottom line is if we can help point these Veterans in need in the right direction or give any helpful advice that is our real purpose and reward for being there in the first place.

If anyone would like to come out and see just what's going on in the mornings at the VA Clinic, we'd be glad to see you. If you would like to volunteer once in a while call Lou Nunez at 707-291-5341.

## REUNIONS

### LOOKING BACK, 45 YEARS LATER

By Charles Earthman

Every year veterans from conflicts, going back to WWII and all branches of service, gather for reunions. These gatherings happen for many military organizations throughout the US. This past August I attended my first military unit reunion, and I was left with a range of emotions.



**Charles Earthman**

Veterans who attend these events regularly are, to some degree, more prepared for the stories and remembrances that come at these events. But as I found out, by talking to a combat veteran in our chapter, each year can present new revelations about things you thought you knew or did not know. And each year the ranks of people you knew when you were young are thinned by death and illness.

I had not seen anyone from my unit, E Troop (Recon), 17 Cav., 173rd Airborne Brigade for 45 years, although I have had some communications with others through social media and the Association website. I had talked by phone and letter to my best friend at that time, Stanley Mack. We had long conversations remembering those days in Vietnam and other times in the army. I had not been face to face with anyone who shared the same time and space with me in the Vietnam War so many years ago.

Seeing Mack again was wonderful; it was like no time had passed. He had made a career of the army, doing 30 years, and retiring as a Sergeant Major. I could not wait to get out of the service. We were best friends then, and remain so today. Talking with others from the Cav. was very enlightening; old stories were told evoking good times and things that happened in the rear or on the trail. Some things that I thought happened one way, were told a different way by others-- the same events seen through others' eyes. However, some conjured up dark memories of fear and trials of nerve. They also reminded me of those who did not make it. Nineteen and twenty-year-olds who would be in their sixties now--with all the pains and ills we have, but also with families and friends still loving them. Instead, they will be forever young, memorialized on the Wall. May they never be forgotten.



*In Memoriam*

**Jesse Love**

**1922 - 2013**

**Pearl Harbor Survivor**

**A very fine gentleman!**

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*\* Motorcycle Escort Arrival Wed., October 9th @ 1700H. NOTE: 3:00pm Pre-ride ceremonies: Honor Guard, blessing of bikes. Location: Petaluma Elks Club, 2105 South McDowell Blvd. Petaluma*

*\*Opening Ceremonies, Thursday, October 10th @ 1300H: City Proclamation, Veterans Presentations, Performance by Air Force Band of the Golden West.*

Sponsored by Petaluma VVA Chapter 563, Petaluma Fire Department, McDowell Drug Task Force, Clover Stornetta, Steve Kemerlee, Plaza North, Santa Rosa, VVA 223, Marin VVA 547, Petaluma Downtown Association, RIP City Riders and many more.



# MESOTHELIOMA

*By Kate O'Hare-Palmer  
Women Veteran Committee Chair  
VVA 223 and VVACSC*

**Mesothelioma** (or, more precisely, **malignant mesothelioma**) is a rare form of cancer that develops from cells of the mesothelium, the protective lining that covers many of the internal organs of the body. Mesothelioma is most commonly caused by exposure to asbestos.

The most common anatomical site for mesothelioma is the pleura (the outer lining of the lungs and internal chest wall), but it can also arise in the peritoneum (the lining of the abdominal cavity), the pericardium (the sac that surrounds the heart), or the tunica vaginalis (a sac that surrounds the testis).

Most people who develop mesothelioma have worked in jobs where they inhaled or ingested asbestos fibers, or were exposed to airborne asbestos dust and fibers in other ways. Washing clothes of a family member who worked with asbestos also creates a risk for developing mesothelioma. Unlike lung cancer, there seems to be no association between mesothelioma and tobacco smoking, but smoking greatly increases the risk of other asbestos-induced cancers.

Signs and symptoms of mesothelioma include shortness of breath due to pleural effusion (fluid between the lung and the chest wall), chest wall pain, and constitutional signs such as unexplained weight loss. The diagnosis may be suspected based on chest x-ray and CT scan findings, but must be confirmed either by examining serous effusion cytology or with a biopsy (removing a sample of the suspicious tissue).

At the last VVA California State Council Meeting, guest speaker, Mike Mandelbrot, came from the asbestos legal center to talk to the group about this disease. He has been working as an attorney for 20 years and over 80% of his clients are veterans. Many of the areas that veterans worked in held insulation and fire retardants that had asbestos in it. This is especially true for those that served in the Navy. The exposure to this asbestos could be a minimum of 15 years to 40 years before the symptoms begin to show.

There are three to five thousand cases diagnosed per year. The problem is that many of the diagnosis go undetected because people are misdiagnosed with adult onset asthma or COPD not related to smoking.

There have been trust funds set aside for victims of asbestos via insurance funds for people that file with workers compensation. Mr. Mandelbrot's office helps with the review of x-rays and diagnostic tests that are not commonly done at your regular MD office. There is a statute of limitations on cases for families of deceased members who have the diagnosis. Mr. Mandelbrot urges veterans that have been diagnosed, or may have the symptoms, to look into this. Timing is of the essence.



**Kate  
O'Hare-Palmer**

## VVA 223 PHOTOGRAPHS

on SHUTTERFLY

Address: <http://vva223photographs.shutterfly.com>

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**P.S. If you are having trouble viewing the pictures, your computer may not have enough memory or speed to handle the task.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Dinner/Dance  
photos are now up on  
Shutterfly. I installed them  
in a smaller file size for  
your ease of viewing.**

**Check 'em out...**



## Purple Heart and Legion of Valor License Plates



**New Information:** Recipients of the Purple Heart or Legion of Valor recognition awards may obtain multiple Purple Heart or Legion of Valor license plates (one set for each vehicle the recipient owns or co-owns). The Purple Heart or Legion of Valor award recipient is not required to have more than one award to order more than one set of license plates.

**Procedures:** Continue to follow procedures in the *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §§21.110 and 21.165.

**Background:** The *California Code of Regulations*, Title 13, §173.06(a) allows recipients of Purple Heart or Legion of Valor recognition awards to obtain multiple license plates, bearing different configurations for each vehicle the recipient owns or co-owns, regardless of the number of awards earned.

**Contact:** Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo.







## 2nd Annual VVA 223 Dinner-Dance By Charles Earthman

The 2013 Dinner and Dance Fundraiser took place on Saturday, September 14, at the Veterans Memorial. This was the second year the Chapter held this event and the experience showed. There was a fun atmosphere as members and friends of Chapter 223 turned out for a night of dining and dancing to support the Chapter's community service programs. In addition to tickets sales, there was a silent auction and a door prize raffle that also contributed to the fundraiser.







Lou Nunez and a group of volunteers from the Chapter and the community worked overtime to make this an entertaining and successful night, and they got it right. With cuisine catered by Agave Mexican Restaurant of Healdsburg and the musical sounds provided by Los Rimicos, everyone had a great time. Although this is only the second year of this dinner and dance experiment, the idea is starting to catch on. Attendance increased this year and lots of people had a good time. Word is spreading and it can only get better from here.

Both this year and last year there were businesses and individuals who stepped forward with contributions and sponsorships to help fund this event. The Chapter, and indeed the entire veteran community, wants to thank each and every one of them. Hopefully, the veteran community and Chapter 223 members will support these businesses throughout the year as they have supported us.

Events like the Dinner and Dance, and other social events, serve as a bridge between Sonoma County and the veteran community. This helps to foster an understanding of the problems veterans face every day in returning to civilian life. Let's keep them going and continue to give them our full support.







## THE GRAPEVINE

### Talk Around Redwood Empire Chapter

By Charles Earthman

September--the days grow shorter as summer ends, we get ready for autumn leaves and the holidays. This summer the coffee cart was started at the Santa Rosa VA Clinic. It was a big success, and provided enough revenue to make it self-sustaining. It will also provide money for bus tickets for needy vets. This is another fundraising effort led by Lou Nunez. Thanks, Lou, for your work at the coffee cart and the dinner and dance.

Jessie Love, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Survivor, & Chaplain Emeritus of Post 21, passed away on September 25, 2013. I've been told that this year's Pearl Harbor remembrance on December 7th will be the last one. With the passing of Jesse Love, there may be only five or six survivors left in Sonoma County.

There are several events of note scheduled for October. The Traveling Wall is coming to Petaluma (Oct. 10 thru 13) and on October 12 the City of Petaluma will have a ceremony proclaiming Petaluma a Purple Heart City. All this is to take place at Lucchesi Park.

On Oct. 30th, at 6pm, the Chapter will host a showing of the combat documentary "Bravo, *common men, uncommon valor*," a film by Ken and Betty Rodgers who will be on hand to introduce the film and answer questions afterwards. The movie chronicles the 77-day siege of Khe



Charles  
Earthman

Sanh. It's open to the public at the Vets Building. Refreshments will be served, and donations accepted. Please arrive early...

I had surgery a few weeks ago at the VA hospital in San Francisco. It turned out to be a little more complicated than expected. I had to spend a little time in the ICU and a few extra days in the hospital. My overall recovery has also been slower than expected, but I am almost back. With the average age of our members well north of 65, this is no big story, but I thought I would mention it anyway.

That's it for now. If you would like to contribute anything to the Grapevine or the newsletter, contact Brooke McKusick at 707.537.9003 or Charles Earthman at 707.778.6598 or 707.318.2837.



Are you aware of the VA's Veterans Canteen Service - Your Retail Exchange Store. Established in 1946, Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) was created to provide articles of merchandise and services at reasonable prices to Veterans enrolled in VA healthcare system, caregivers, and visitors. Since its conception, the mission continues as VCS provides retail, food, vending and other services, at great value, in VA hospitals and out-patients clinics across the country. Also, if you're enrolled in the VA healthcare system you are eligible to shop VCS Patriot Store Direct 1-800 Special Order program offering over 40 name brand vendors including tires, Craftsman tools, brand name large appliances and mattresses.

Call 1-800-664-8258 M-F 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. to shop VCS special order. For enrolled Veterans who prefer to shop online, the All Services Exchange Online Store offers thousands of items at an excellent value. Shop online at [www.vacanteen.va.gov/OnlineCatalog.php](http://www.vacanteen.va.gov/OnlineCatalog.php) or call 1-800-745-9707.

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## SONOMA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE (707) 565.5960

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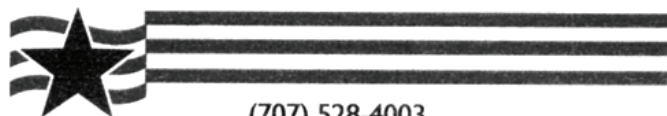
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## Social Security Representative

*Former Social Security Expert*

**Dan McCaskell Ph.D.**

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## **Military Justice Improvement Act 2013-S.967**

*by Kate O'Hare-Palmer  
Women Veterans Committee, Chair.*

This bill has passed the House and is now coming against a divided Senate. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) has been working hard to get the 51 or more votes for her amendment, but getting the filibuster-breaking 60 votes is not a sure thing. The core of this bill is to remove the Pentagon's chain of command for prosecutions of Military Sexual Assault Crimes.



**Kate  
O'Hare-Palmer**

The Jag offices would be given final control over these trials. This would mirror private sectors handling of sexual assault crimes. This is the largest overhaul to the military's modern-day justice system since its creation in the 50's.

This change is needed to assure victims assurances that they'll get justice after reporting an alleged crime. VVA, Service Women's Action Network (SWAN), and Iraq Afghanistan Veterans Association (IAVA) support this bill.

VVA National voted on a resolution to support this bill in Jacksonville, Fla. at our convention. We are one of the few veteran service organizations to make a stand on this bill. At this moment there are 46 senators supporting this bill. I would urge all of you to follow this bill's progress and contact your area's senator's office.

## **20th Anniversary Celebration**

**Veteran's Day Weekend —  
November 9-11, 2013**



**Join the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation as we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. Plans are underway for a series of events to commemorate this extraordinary landmark event. The weekend before Veterans Day is a perfect time to gather with friends and to hold reunions.**

**Official events begin on Saturday the 9th of November. The Embassy Suites, Downtown on 22nd street between M and N will be the host hotel and suites will be available at a reduced rate (202-857-3388). Check back for news of even more plans and events that may appear for the 8th and 9th.**

**WEBSITE: [www.womensmemorial.org](http://www.womensmemorial.org) for a full list of the calendar of events throughout the Veterans Day week.**

## **SONOMA COUNTY VET CONNECT**



### **Veterans Drop In Center for FREE Resources & Services Every Tuesday - 9 am to noon**

**Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building - 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa  
(Across from the Fair Grounds)**

**Information, Assistance and Referrals**

**VA Health Care, Veterans Benefits - Counseling for Veterans  
and their Families, Housing -- And Employment Counseling**

These services are, also, available at the Veterans Memorial Buildings in **Guerneville** on the 2nd Thursday, **Sonoma** on the 3rd Thursday, and **Petaluma** on the 4th Thursday of every month. Please note the time schedule for these resource and service meetings is: Noon to 3 pm

# **ALL VETERANS ARE WELCOME NO SERVICE CHARGE**





## **CHAPTER 223**

### **GENERAL MEETING**

### **OCTOBER 15, 2013**

### **BE THERE EARLY!!!**

#### **HAPPY HOUR @ THE VET CLINIC**

Weekday mornings coffee and donuts are served to all vets at the Vet Clinic 8am to noon. See page 8 for the address & directions.

#### **SONOMA COUNTY VET CONNECT -**

Every Tuesday morning, 9:00 am to noon @ the VETS building. Vets helping vets solve problems. Coffee and donuts served. See page 7.

#### **VETERANS DROP-IN GROUP -**

Every Tuesday @ high noon in the North Room of the VETS building. All veterans are welcome.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING -**

Second Tuesday of the month, 1:00 pm @ the VETS building. Look for the guys looking for the room...

#### **NAMI -**

First Thursday, 9:30 am @ 1300 North Dutton Avenue.

#### **VVA-223 GENERAL MEETING -**

Third Tuesday of the month. POTLUCK @ SIX. Meeting starts at 7 PM. See above...

#### **FOOD-GIVE-AWAY PROGRAM -**

Fourth Tuesday of the month. Volunteers will please check in with **John McGivney** @ 570-9201 for time and station.

#### **REDWOOD GOSPEL MISSION -**

**HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM -** Every Monday evening @ 5:30 pm. **101 6th Street, Santa Rosa.**

#### **POKER SCHEDULE -**

Cards in the air at 6:00 pm. Check-in and pizza 5:00 to 5:55 pm... Usually the first Saturday of the month...

**October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th, and January 4th, 2014...**

# **COMIC'S CORNER**

Putin in his anti-American-exceptionalism op-ed in the NY Times: "We are all different, but when we ask for the Lord's blessings, we must not forget that God created us equal. Unless you are female, Chechen or gay. -- Janice Hough

Actor Steven Seagal is now in Russia. He is meeting with Vladimir Putin. Is this what American foreign policy has come down to? Dennis Rodman is in North Korea. Steven Seagal is in Russia. What's next? Are we air dropping Gary Busey into Syria? Maybe Snooki goes to Iraq? -- Jay Leno

Bradley Manning is going to make a great woman. He's already terrible at keeping secrets. - Tom Stewart

"On Sunday, more than 1,500 people set a world record by holding the largest gathering of redheads in history - marking the first event that nearly got canceled due to sun." -- Jimmy Fallon

"The owner of an ice cream truck named Snow Cone Joe was arrested for allegedly stalking his rival truck, called Mr. Ding-a-Ling. It's being called the saddest turf war ever." -- Conan O'Brien

"A company in California has started selling a new cologne that smells like whiskey. I think my dad's been wearing that cologne for 40 years." -- Jimmy Fallon

"There's a movie called 'Elysium.' In the movie, earth has been overrun with crime, disease, and pollution. Basically, the entire world is Los Angeles." -- Craig Ferguson

"There's a new cable channel of entirely dog-based programming called Dog TV. In a related story, there's also an entirely cat-based channel called YouTube." -- Conan O'Brien

A few years ago the economy melted down and many banks were stuck carrying "bad paper." This is a disease more commonly known as "asset reflux." -- Gary Hallock

"A scientist has figured out a way to turn coffee grounds into alcohol. He is not so much a scientist as he is an alcoholic." -- Conan O'Brien

Right Neighborly....*Cops: Would-Be Robbers Nabbed after Restaurant Owner Says 'Come Back', and They Do* -- Chicago Tribune headline

Of all the blonde jokes, this one has to be the best -- because it makes football make sense! - A guy took his blonde girlfriend to her first football game. They had great seats right behind their team's bench. After the game, he asked her how she liked it. "Oh, I really liked it," she replied, "especially the tight pants and all the big muscles, but I just couldn't understand why they were killing each other over 25 cents." Dumbfounded, her boyfriend asked, "What do you mean?" "Well, they flipped a coin, one team got it and then for the rest of the game, all they kept screaming was... 'Get the quarterback! Get the quarterback!' I'm like...Helloooooo? It's only 25 cents!!!"



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## News and Views

Volume 15, Issue 10 OCTOBER 2013

A Publication of:  
**Vietnam Veterans of America**  
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## VVA 223 EXTENDS OUR GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO OUR SPONSORS OF THE 2013 DINNER-DANCE



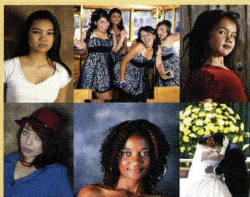
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