



# NEWS AND VIEWS

VVA-223 THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER



Volume 16, Issue 10

NOVEMBER 2014

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## Veterans to Ride Free on Sonoma County Buses

by Staff Writer Angela Hart

**Press Democrat**

*[The editor of this publication wishes to thank Ms. Hart and the Press Democrat. We plagiarized and excerpted this article for the veterans of Sonoma County.]*

Public transit advocates celebrated what they hailed as a major win Tuesday, October 1st, when Sonoma County supervisors unanimously approved a one-year pilot program that will allow college students and veterans to ride county buses free of charge.

Supervisors voiced overwhelming support for the initiative, which could provide fare subsidies for nearly 300,000 riders a year, based on county estimates. Students and veterans would just show a valid identification card to qualify.



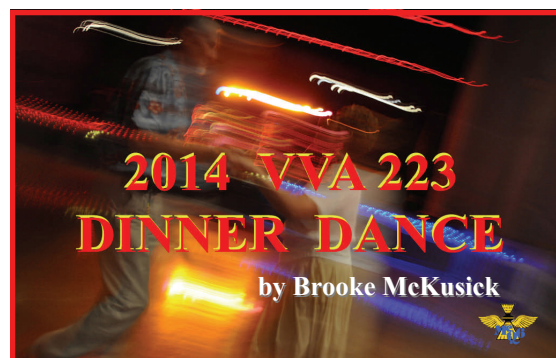
### SonomaCountyTransit

County officials hope the effort will boost ridership and increase access to college campuses countywide, including Sonoma State University and Santa Rosa Junior College, as well as eliminate hurdles veterans face in getting to medical appointments and other destinations.

About a dozen representatives from county veterans organizations showed up Tuesday to show support.

"This is one of the simplest solutions meeting the needs of veterans in our community," said John Logan, a commander with the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which assists veterans. "Transportation can help vets get what they need to become whole again — medical appointments, job interviews, even getting to the grocery store."

**This service, as part of the pilot program, will start on January 1, 2015. All of you veterans should make sure that you have a qualifying I.D. card to use this bus service.**



Party goers were greeted by Sonja and Melisa Holybee at the entrance to the Veterans Memorial Auditorium ballroom for the third annual Redwood Empire Chapter Dinner Dance. As tickets were registered for the door prize, Jil McGivney sold raffle tickets for a large quilt. (See Jil's story on page 7.)

The dinner, catered by "Vittles at the Vets", was laid out in a sumptuous fashion. Highlights of the dinner consisted of spaghetti served with either red sauce or a nice pesto sauce. Caesar and green salads were available with homemade garlic focaccia bread. Dessert was vanilla or chocolate cake.

Distinguished guests included Sonoma County Supervisor Efren Carrillo, Vet Clinic's Kym Valadez, and Augie Lerma and Lupe Aguilar from the American GI Forum of San Jose.

As lights were dimmed, "Medicine Man", a well known Northern California band, took the stage and really got the crowd warmed-up with great ol' rock'n'roll standards. There is no doubt that Jackie and Dave Richey would have won an award for the best dance couple. Sorry kids, we didn't have a blue ribbon.

Tony Rambonga won the Stars 'n' Stripes quilt door prize, and Judy Mullos won the large quilt raffle prize. The silent auction was extremely successful.

Lou Nunez and his band of merry makers put together a festive party. Lou thanks all of the guests at the Dinner Dance whose presence and contributions made for a wonderful event. And many thanks to Betty 'n' Ed Tuscano, and Angie Hand, who worked tirelessly to organize and manage a very important contribution: selling tickets.

Please enjoy the pictures on page 6.

**VIETNAM VETERANS of AMERICA - REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER 223  
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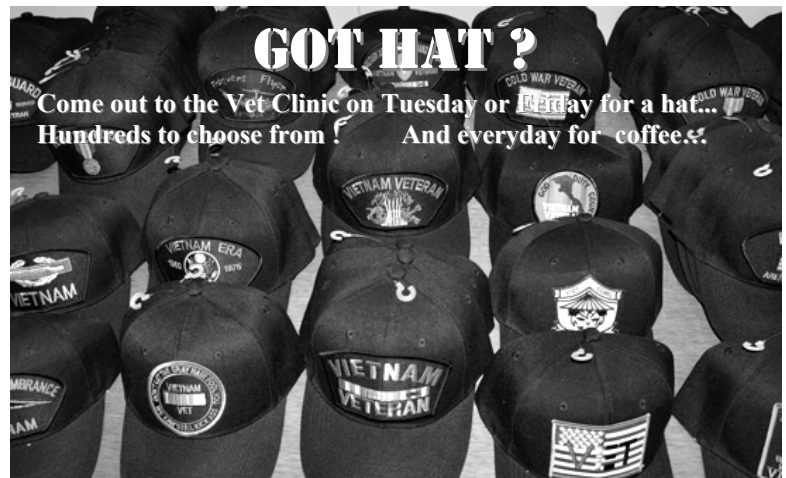
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Dinner/Dance	Lou Nunez
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# President's Letter



Ken Holybee

The chapter is now preparing for the Veterans Day activities and then the chapter Christmas party. Our Veterans Day event at the Santa Rosa City Hall will begin at 10:30 with the flag rising at 11. Some attendees have said they are having trouble getting to Petaluma for the parade if we run too long. If weather and traffic is on our side we will not have any problems. The

only issue I think is that arriving around noon it is hard to find parking within easy walking to Walnut Park.

The Christmas party is the day before our monthly poker tournament so I hope a few of us don't over eat or run out of energy before the weekend is over.

I have been getting mixed reviews on our dinner dance fundraiser. I was out of town at the national board meeting this year so I was not able to attend. From what I have heard we either need to support it by attending or by selling tickets. If the chapter members do not see a need to raise funds this way let us know and we will put our efforts into something else. Lou Nunez puts a lot of time, energy and money into this event. Most of the work is done by him and his family to support us. I really appreciate the time and energy they all contribute and would hate to lose their support.

I spend a lot of time away from the chapter lately speaking about Agent Orange and the effects that Toxins have on our families. We have worked for many years at the national level to get legislation to have the effects on our families studied and treated when possible. We have two bills in congress at this time, S 2738 and HR 5484. These bills are both bipartisan and have no new money attached to them. They are to create in the VA a hospital to have the children of veterans tested and examined for possible problems for their parent's exposures in the military. This covers all veterans of all eras regardless of where and when they served. These bills should be passed before the legislative session ends this year when congress gets back from recess.

In our town hall meetings around the country we are encouraging people to get a commitment from their legislators to support this legislation before the elections. To me this is one of the most important pieces of legislation we have worked on in years. We are still working on the Blue Water Navy legislation, but congress has said they will pass nothing that costs money regardless of who it hurts. *I do not consider that congress is doing the job that they were sent there to do!*

On the state level, the Governor has signed legislation that will benefit our communities and our veterans by assisting veterans before and when they get out of jail by getting them into programs that will help them.

(Cont'd on page 10)

## KOREAN WAR VET

By Dave Richey



Dave Richey

On July 24<sup>th</sup>, I had an appointment at Fort Miley (VA Hospital in San Francisco). This was also Jackie's birthday, so after the appointment, we took a walk around to the "ocean" side of the facility to see the view, which was gorgeous that day. As we were taking pictures, a young woman (younger than us, anyway) asked us if we wanted to be in the picture together.

We ended up having a very nice conversation with her and her husband, Kandie & Jeff. They were from Clovis, and he was here for an appointment that could not be taken care of at the Fresno clinic. They have a Christian motorcycle ministry.

During the conversation, we found out that Kandie's father was a Korean War veteran. Since I had a couple extra copies of the book that was published by the South Korean government and donated to be distributed to this era of vets, I told her that we would send her Dad a copy. After he received it, I got an e-mail from Kandie stating how pleased and excited he was to receive it. Jackie and I plan to try to see them when we are in Clovis in October for the Department Executive Committee meeting.

I have given copies of this book to some other Korean War vets, and the feedback from them has been phenomenal. This is one of the reasons that I am proud to be a member of VVA 223, and in a position to serve these deserving veterans.

### SONOMA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

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***Please call to schedule an appointment.***

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

# Where Does It All Go?

by Bill Burke, VVA 223 Treasurer

It is a question I get asked periodically and I thought I would let you know where the Chapters' funds go. Things get broken down into 3 major categories – Operations, Direct Assistance, and Indirect Assistance. Then we have our Community Based programs that further our outreach to the community at large.



William Burke

## Operations:

From an operations perspective we spend about \$1220 per month just to keep the Chapter operating. This includes things like property tax, insurance, copier lease, postage, newsletter and bank charges. We also spend about \$2680 for our annual Christmas party.

## Direct Assistance:

These are the items where we supply direct assistance to individuals and organizations to further assistance to veterans. We did direct assistance to individuals to the tune of over \$2000 in the last twelve months. We also provided assistance to

other organizations that also help veterans as well. We donated to Vet Connect (\$1400), Amvets (\$600), and North Bay Veterans Resource Center (\$200).

Late last year we also worked with Healdsburg SOS to send "care packages" to troops of the 4th Infantry Division stationed in Afghanistan. Chapter 223 paid the postage (\$4100) on over 230 packages which were warmly received and greatly appreciated.

## Indirect Assistance:

These are items that indirectly benefit individuals and organizations. We participate in a couple of events as part of our veterans outreach programs. We have booths at the Santa Rosa Wednesday Market (\$830) during the summer months along with the Pacific Coast Air Museum air show (\$560) event.

One of our biggest items in this category is the Coffee Cart out at the VA Clinic. Just since December 2013 we have expended over \$8700 in support of the program. The good news is that the Coffee Cart has been virtually self-sufficient from day one.

We have reimbursed the local VSO's expenses (\$315) associated with coming out to the Santa Rosa Vets Building to assist with Vet Connect. We also paid for the travel expenses (\$945) of the producers of the documentary movie "Bravo! Common Men, Uncommon Valor" we showed last October. Coming up in another month and a half we will be hosting a presentation on military suicide prevention where we again will be paying for the presenters' travel expenses.

We also do smaller \$50 donations throughout the year such as the CA Veterans Benefit Fund and sponsoring the Tuesday night yoga class at the SR Vets Building.

## Community Based:

These are the items that do not necessarily assist veterans but demonstrate our commitment to community service or outreach.

We give education scholarships to deserving students each year (\$3000). Sometimes these scholarships are given to veterans but most years they go to building our future generations – children. We also sponsor a food giveaway program each month partnering with the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

The food bank supplies the food and we supply the rest (\$348) serving about 135 families representing 400 individuals each month.

We also participate in the City of Santa Rosa Rose Parade (\$1500) each year to keep our brand in the public eye and to say thank you for their support throughout the year.

## New Ideas:

We also have a couple of ideas that are looking for a project leader. If you want to spend some time and take the lead on one of these contact any of the Chapter officers or board members.

1. Granite bench at the Santa Rosa Cemetery on Franklin Ave. The board of directors has been discussing the feasibility of having a black granite bench

installed at the cemetery to honor our local fallen comrades from the Vietnam War. We think the project would cost between \$4000 - \$6000 to implement. The project leader would need to:

- a. Contact and work with cemetery on the feasibility of the project
- b. Determine the costs of purchase, engraving, installation, etc.
- c. Determine what the bench should look like – the design.
- d. Determine what should be engraved on the bench.
- e. Source and purchase the bench and have it constructed.
- f. Research and present potential funding sources/programs to pay for the project along with the development of a final budget.

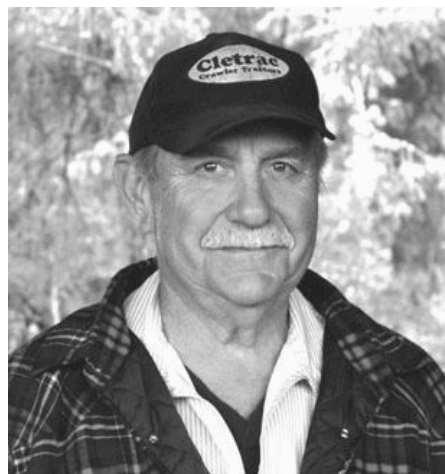
2. Military War Dogs (MWD) left behind in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our military trains and supplies dogs to sniff out IED's in war zones and partners them with a U.S. soldier. Once the dog has completed their service life they are discharged from the military making them ineligible for military transport back to the U.S. As a result they get left behind as a "civilian". They are turned over to the civilian population for their care and well being. Obviously this works out very badly for the dogs as most of them wind up dying. There are a couple of humane societies that have successfully reunited these MWD's with their former military handlers. These organizations indicate that it costs \$2000 to bring a MWD home from Iraq and \$3000 to bring one home from Afghanistan. The costs are so high because the humane society must send a worker to the war zone to actually pick the dog up. The project leader for this would need to:

- a. Contact the appropriate organizations to determine the need, availability, etc. of bringing a MWD home.
- b. Determine or refine the costs for the project.
- c. Research and present potential funding sources/programs to pay for the project along with development of a final budget.

## *Concert for Valor*

Rihanna, Bruce Springsteen and Carrie Underwood are among the headliners for a free Veterans' Day concert on the National Mall in Washington, to be aired on HBO in an unusual partnership with Starbucks. The concert, **Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT**, is aimed at raising awareness for veterans' support groups. Local cable systems will make the concert available to non-HBO subscribers, and the event marks the pay-cable network's first programming partnership.

## *In Memoriam*



### **Joseph E. Mengali**

Joe, 67, fought his agent-orange related cancer for three years, but he succumbed October 15th 2014. He was a member of VVA 223.

#### ***VETERANS TO GET FREE ENTRY INTO COUNTY PARKS***

Sonoma County Parks, between Nov. 7 and Nov. 10, will allow military veterans and their dependents to get free access to more than 50 county parks and regional trails with a military identification card or service records known as a DD 214.

Visit the VVA 223 Website often for timely updates and chapter information...

<http://www.vva-223.org>







**2014 VVA 223  
DINNER DANCE**





## ***CHRISTMAS ALWAYS COMES EARLY TO THE FAMILIES and FRIENDS OF VVA CHAPTER 223***

It's time to give thanks and say goodbye to another year. Making this a celebration of all the good things that happen to us throughout the year, let's gather for the (free) **Chapter 223 Christmas Party on Friday, December 5, 2014 at the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. The doors will open at 5:00 PM and dinner service will start up around 6:00 PM.**

Santa will be on hand to pass out gifts to all the children in the evening after dinner.



Many things that need to be done such as trimming the tree, which is always fun (how can it not be?) and decorating the ballroom, making it all Christmas-like in preparation for Santa and wide-eyed children full of awe. Decorating gets started around noon. Kate leads the decorating crew. Call Kate at 775-4123 to sign up or you can just drop by and help. This year the party will be in the main ballroom again and there will be a lot to do, both setting up and taking down.

Jil McGivney will be in charge of gathering gifts for the children. She did a great job last year with her North Pole Connections. You can volunteer to help Jil, give her a call at 575-5261.

The turkeys and Christmas dinner are purchased with the help of generous donations from Chapter members and the community. Donations for the raffle and silent auction also come from the community and are coordinated by Jerry Shimmel who does a great job for this popular event every year.

The Christmas Party is the Chapter's annual get together and a nice addition to your holiday season.

## **AVVA REPORT**

*by Jil McGivney*

Well, the 3rd Annual VVA Dinner/Dance is over. The music was great dance music, and if I do say so myself, the decorations were fabulous. Thanks mostly to Jeanne Aven, Jackie Richey, Francis Ramirez, Kathy Kistenmacher, and of course J.J. Wheeler. We didn't have a very good Veteran turn-out, but those that were there seemed to have a great time. We sold almost \$400.00 in raffle tickets for the beautiful red, white and blue quilt. Carlton Smirni's friend, Judy Mullos, was the big winner!



Now, on to the Christmas Party... which is the first Friday in December on the 5th. It starts at 6pm. If anyone would like to drop off a toy to be wrapped, you could either bring it to the November VVA General Meeting, or you could also drop something off at the coffee cart at the VA Clinic, Monday through Friday 8am to 12 noon. We'll be having a gift wrapping 'party' sometime the last week of November, I'll let you all know exactly when at the General Meeting. We have a lot of stuffed animals already. The age group we aim for is 0 – 12 years old.

Last but not least, our quilters have made and given us over 400 quilts since January. We handed them out to Veterans at the Air Show, also the Hearn House and Rocha House have received many quilts and fleece blankets. We have also given a few to the M.O.M.S. (Suzette Joseph), in Healdsburg, the VA clinic gives out quite a few. I also will sit outside the clinic on a Monday and Thursday morning and give them to some very grateful Veterans. The look on their face when I tell them they were made specifically for Sonoma County Veterans in thanks for their service is heartwarming and sometimes it can get a little teary.

I also have bags and bags of knitted scarves and hats just waiting for some cold weather to settle in. This year the AVVA donated \$100.00 toward material and one beautiful spring day we took all 6 ladies out to lunch, which I would like to do again after the Holidays.

It's going to be a busy next couple of months, I hope everyone is going to be in the holiday spirit, and in that spirit maybe we can all get together joyously.

# VETERANS

## Reparations Demand List

### Veterans Park Conservancy

*On August 29, 2013, U.S. District Judge S. James Otero entered a Federal Judgment against the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Eric K. Shinseki, and his Los Angeles VA executive director, Donna M. Beiter, for engaging in nine separate illegal real estate dealings under the subterfuge of "Enhanced Sharing Agreements" between non-Veteran entities that involved Federal VA property deeded exclusively for disabled and homeless Veterans.*

*Judge Otero ruled that the nine so-called "Enhanced Sharing Agreements" are "unauthorized by law and therefore void."*

It is common knowledge that unauthorized by law is unlawful, and unlawful is illegal, and Illegal activity is criminal activity.

One of the nine illegal agreements is between the VA and Veterans Park Conservancy (VPC), signed on August 24, 2007.

Correspondingly and on behalf of disabled and disadvantaged homeless Veterans, the Fellow Veterans hereby makes the following Reparation Demands upon VPC.

□ VPC shall immediately withdraw and unconditionally abandon all plans, strategies and intentions, whether now known or unknown, regarding any park of any nature, including but not necessarily limited to, an amphitheater, entertainment, recreational, heritage museums, lodging, restaurants, tourism, etc., on the sacred grounds of the Los Angeles National Veterans Home, aka VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (National Home).

□ VPC shall immediately and fully reimburse the VA for the one million dollar (\$1,000,000 plus interest) "matching donation" contributed toward VPC's wrought iron fence project along the north side of Wilshire Boulevard and east side of San Vicente Boulevard surrounding the National Home to beautify the entryway into Brentwood, dedicated on March 28, 2006 at an "invitation-only" ceremony. (Reimbursement to go to the Homeless Veteran Humanitarian Relief Project at the VA grounds)

□ At this same invitation-only ceremony, Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky presented VPC with a Proclamation signed by the five members of the Board of Supervisors at that time, declaring that the plaza and fenced area was to "Hereafter be known as the Los Angeles National Veterans Park."

□ Los Angeles County has no jurisdiction or authority whatsoever to make such a claim, and VPC shall immediately cease and desist from referring to any property anywhere at the National Home as a national park or otherwise, and said LA County Proclamation violates the moral and legal Deed of 1888, and is unauthorized by law, and therefore void.

□ At its own expense, VPC shall immediately remove the word "PARK" on the front wall of the wrought iron fence at the northeast corner Wilshire and San Vicente Boulevards and replace it with "HOME."

□ At its own expense, VPC shall immediately remove the word "PARK" on the plaques attached to the columns of the wrought iron fence at the northeast corner Wilshire and San Vicente Boulevards and replace them with "HOME."

□ At its own expense, VPC shall immediately and unconditionally repair the concrete wall where they brazenly plagiarized and desecrated West Point's "Duty, Honor, Country" creed and engraved "Beauty Honor Country as their self-serving "mission" to beautify the entryway into their adjacent community.

□ At its own expense, VPC shall immediately remove the name Veterans Park Conservancy anywhere and everywhere on VA federal property at the National Home.

□ VPC shall immediately remove all plaques on benches and signs in the "Rose Garden" at the National Home that honors VPC's members and / or their family members.

□ VPC shall immediately and fully reimburse the VA for the Wilshire frontage advertising billboard on property at the National Home, plus interest. Said sign was on Veterans property for several years before being removed – approximately 2005 through 2010. (Reimbursement to go to the Homeless Veteran Humanitarian Relief Project at the VA grounds)

□ VPC shall immediately and fully reimburse the VA for its fraudulent "rent free" control of 16 acres of property at the National Home, and said reimbursement must be payable at the highest comparable market lease rate (two acres in Century City sold for \$55 million per acre), plus interest, from the date of their signed illegal agreement of August 24, 2007, through the date VPC fully vacates these sacred grounds. (Reimbursement to go to the Homeless Veteran Humanitarian Relief Project at the VA grounds)

□ VPC shall make an immediate and unconditional public apology and full reimbursement to every donor who unknowingly contributed toward this illegal public park arrangement, including the wrought iron fence plaza and Rose Garden.

□ VPC shall make an immediate and unconditional public apology to every disabled and homeless Veteran that has been deprived of full use of these grounds that have been illegally controlled since August 24, 2007.

□ VPC shall make an immediate and unconditional public apology for engaging one of the world's largest law firms in the world, Hogan Lovells US LLP, to falsely accuse Robert Rosebrock and the Old Veterans Guard of their factual claims about VPC's illegal sharing agreement.

□ VPC shall make an immediate and unconditional public apology to the Old Veterans Guard and Vietnam Veterans of America, Region 9, for falsely advertising on its website the "100 Flag Memorial" is a partnership with VPC, the VA and the County of Los Angeles. This is called the Veterans Grand Old Flag Memorial and Vietnam Veterans of America, Region 9, is the sole presenting sponsor.

□ VPC shall immediately remove any all reference to the "Veterans Park" at the National Home from its website on the Internet and VPC shall further be permanently barred from holding, hosting, representing, etc., any events of any nature on any property at the Los Angeles National Veterans Home.

(Cont'd on page 10)





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## Reparations Demand List

☐ Los Angeles County shall remove VPC's logo along the so-called Veterans Parkway.

☐ VPC shall immediately cease all construction of an "open air amphitheater" on VA property which is illegal and in full violation of the Federal Judgment, and VPC shall also immediately remove all construction of any all nature and fully restore these sacred grounds as they were before they began their unlawful scheme.

☐ Los Angeles County and the VA entered into a 50-year "License" agreement signed by the VA on January 31, 2014 for a "slither" of land on the north side of Wilshire Boulevard to move the existing sidewalk over so they can create a bus lane on the south side of Wilshire. This License agreement includes a protection clause for VPC and the VA to quiet enjoyment with their public park sharing agreement, which is illegal. This nullifies the License agreement and the proposed \$6 million landscape project that was designated to beautify the entryway into Brentwood. Instead, the \$6 million must be used to build special bus-lane ramps off of Wilshire into the VA so that handicap and elderly Veterans do not have to walk a long distance uphill and downhill from the current Wilshire/VA bus stops. This will then offer a direct route to the VA Wadsworth Hospital with convenient on-loading and off-loading of Veteran bus passengers directly in front of the Hospital.

In addition:

IRS Investigation:

Request that the IRS shall investigate Veterans Park Conservancy's non-profit status

VPC has a 501.c 3 non-profit corporation status and the National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) Classification System assigns codes to non-profits based on an organization's primary functions.

In VPC's case, the group was assigned the following NTEE Codes and Classifications:

- ☐ S Community Improvement, Capacity Building
- ☐ S20 Community, Neighborhood Development, Improvement W Public, Society Benefit
- ☐ W30 Military/Veterans' Organizations
- ☐ C Environmental Quality Protection, Beautification
- ☐ C30 Natural Resource Conservation and Protection

Clearly, VPC is not a Veterans organization, nor is it a health-care facility or a health-care provider, yet they entered into an illegal agreement with the VA alleging to be a health-care provider.

It's quite obvious that VPC is a homeowner association interested solely in how they can benefit from using Veterans property to enhance and beautify their community, and therefore its non-profit status must be terminated.

On behalf of and for the benefit of all disabled and homeless Veteran, the aforementioned Reparations Demands placed upon Veterans Park Conservancy shall be implemented and enforced as a necessary stipulation in any settlement or negotiations regarding the Federal Judgment and the Congressional Act of 1887 and legal Deed of 1888.

This Reparations Demand List was Adopted on February 21, 2010 and updated through August 23,

2014

Agreed: Old Veterans Guard

## President's Letter

As many of you may know, without support or the right programs people fall right back into their bad habits that got them in trouble to start with. He also signed legislation to add "Veteran" to your driver's license, and to make sure veterans can attend college. That is an area that we need to work on locally. The veteran students are not getting the assistance they need to deal with their TBI, MST and PTSD in a setting that is safe. Some of the students leave school for the safety of others and neglect themselves.

The veterans have been asking for a veteran lounge and the JC gave them a flag pole. *The old pole had a bad rope and pulley, the new pole cost \$35,000 from the veteran education budget.*

### NORTH BAY VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

200 Montgomery Drive, Suite "C"

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Phone 707-578-8387

**NBVRC provides supportive services to very low-income veteran families living in, or transitioning into, permanent housing. The employment workshop is free. Veterans can obtain career training.**

**NBVRC operates Hearn House, a behavioral health treatment program that provides comprehensive treatment and housing for male veterans.**

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather, not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

## 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

**Phone 707-387-5623**

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 CHARGE SERVICE**





## **CHAPTER 223 GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2014 BE THERE EARLY!!!**

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

**SONOMA COUNTY VET CONNECT -**  
Every Tuesday morning, 9:00 am to noon @ the  
VETS building. Vets helping vets solve problems.

**VETERANS DROP-IN GROUP** - Every  
Tuesday @ high noon in the North Room of the VETS  
building. All veterans are welcome.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING -  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 1:00 pm @** the  
VETS building. **SPECIAL ONE TIME ONLY** Look  
for the guys looking for the room...

**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 @ 575.5261** for time and sta-  
tion.

**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... **November  
1st, December 6th. (2015) January 3rd, February 7th,  
March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 11th,  
August 15th, September 5th...**

### **VVA 223 PHOTOGRAPHS**

on SHUTTERFLY

<http://vva223photographs.shutterfly.com>

# **COMIC'S CORNER**

"I have a new philosophy. I am only going to dread one  
day at a time." - Charlie Brown

"Here at First National, you're not just a number -  
you're two numbers, a dash, three more numbers, another  
dash, and another number." -- Unknown

"Maybe, just once, someone will call me 'sir' without  
adding, 'you're making a scene.' -- Homer Simpson, modern  
day prophet.

"A professor from U.C. Berkeley said we are on track  
for having the worst drought in 500 years. You can tell this  
drought is getting really bad. Today at lunch, my waiter asked  
if I wanted a glass of water or a future for my children. I took  
the water." -- Conan O'Brien

"A company in the U.K. is making news for developing  
a new vegetable called Brussel-Kale, which is a hybrid of  
Brussels sprouts and kale. They said, 'We got the idea from a  
child's nightmare.'" -- Jimmy Fallon

"LinkedIn has agreed to pay a \$6 million settlement to  
employees. Unfortunately, the employees haven't heard about  
it because like everyone else they automatically delete all  
emails from LinkedIn." -- Conan O'Brien

"Today is National Middle Child Day. And appropri-  
ately, it won't get any attention." -- Seth Meyers

Congress is now criticizing NFL Commissioner Roger  
Goodell for not acting swiftly enough. You know you're slow  
if you are being criticized by Congress for not acting swiftly  
enough. -- David Letterman



### **FLAG CEREMONY AT CITY HALL**

Tuesday, November 11, 2014 @ 10:30 am.

### **PETALUMA VETERANS DAY PARADE**

**November 11th at 1:00PM**

For those participating in the parade, street monitors will  
be on hand to give out assigned numbers. Staging begins at 11:00  
am on 4th Street, from D Street south to I Street.



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