



NEWS AND VIEWS

VVA # 223

THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER



Volume 16, Issue 6

JULY 2014

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH OTHER VETERANS

MEMORIAL DAY 2014 SANTA ROSA MEMORIAL PARK

By Charles Earthman



A beautiful sundrenched morning greeted citizens as they gathered to honor America's fallen. The ceremony at Santa Rosa Memorial Park has always been a moving and beautiful Memorial Day tribute with the Avenue of Flags. This year also featured an acknowledgement of Gold Star families from recent conflicts with a showing of the Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance. The Wall was on display from May 23 through the afternoon of the 26th.



Steve Bosshard, MLC

American Legion Post 21 and Marine Corps League Detachment 686 were the hosts of this year's event.

The ceremony was opened with a welcome from Post Commander Richard J. Romo and Steve Bosshard of MLC 686 was master of ceremonies. The invocation was given by Morella Staggs, a US Coast Guard WWII veteran and Chaplin of American Legion Post 21.

This year's Memorial Day gathering honored Jesse Love, a Pearl Harbor survivor and WWII vet, and Hattie Stone, a US Coast Guard WWII Wave. Both were highly regarded and well-loved by the veteran community. Hattie's burial flag was raised by the Marine Corps League Color Guard and a pair of P-51 Mustangs from the Pacific Coast Air Museum made two flyovers.



Jil McGivney, AVVA

The keynote speaker was Dennis Viglienzone, Gold Star Father of Caesar Viglienzone who was killed in Bagdad in 2006. Congressman Mike Thompson and Supervisor Shirlee Zane, both highly respected by the veteran community, also made speeches.

A tradition for this day is the presentation of memorial wreaths by veteran service organizations. Chapter 223's AVVA, represented by Jil McGivney, presented a wreath for the first time. This was followed by a fine rendition of patriotic songs from the Redwood Chordsmen.

The program concluded with a flag folding, Taps, a rifle salute, and closing remarks by Tim Maloney.

Memorial Day in our community has always been a beautiful and solemn event and shows the community's respect for its lost sons and daughters who gave their lives for freedom. Please see page 6 for many more pictures.

VIETNAM VETERANS of AMERICA - REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER 223

SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE: 707-526-4218 WEB: www.vva223.org



Officers

President: Ken Holybee - holybee@comcast.net - Phone: 707.887.8891
Vice President: John McGivney - mcgivney@pacbell.net - Phone: 707.575.5261
Secretary: Alan Dalton - papadal@sbcglobal.net - Phone: 707.538.0428
Treasurer: Bill Burke - bbburke@pacbell.net - Phone: 707.576.1218

Board of Directors

Charles Earthman - c.earthman173@gmail.com - Phone: 707.318.2837
Lou Nuñez - scso610ret@yahoo.com - Phone: 707.291.5314
Brooke McKusick - brookemckusick@gmail.com - Phone: 707.537.9003
Bruce Thomson - thomsonofsr@sbcglobal.net - Phone: 707.523.3278

Jil McGivney - AVVA Rep. - mcgivney@pacbell.net - Phone: 707.575.5261

Women Veteran Committee Chair

VVA-223, VVA National and
California State Council

Kate O'Hare-Palmer

koharepalmer@gmail.com

Phone: 707-775-4123



One of the many Bills working its way through the State Assembly is AB 2098 by Mark Levine, D-San Rafael: [It] Requires courts to consider a defendant's status as a veteran suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or other forms of trauma when making specified sentencing determinations. Pending in Senate Public Safety Committee.

As the News and Views pointed out in the April issue, it's high time our Sonoma County Court system moved into the 21st Century.

Committees

Chaplain	Bob Cheadle
Clinic Coffee Cart	Lou Nunez
Color Guard	Dave Phillips
Dinner/Dance	Lou Nunez
Education	Bruce Thomson
Finance	Pat Christen
Food Give-A-Way	John McGivney
Homeless Outreach	Dave Phillips
Legislation	Ken Holybee
Membership	Charles Earthman
Newsletter:	Brooke McKusick
Product Sales	Bruce Thomson
Scholarship Fund	Sunny Campbell
UVC	Ken Holybee
Veteran's Building	John Crooker
Website	Charles Earthman

News and Views

Publisher	Ken Holybee
Editor-in-Chief	Brooke McKusick
Associate Editor	Charles Earthman
Copy Editor	Nancy Schafer
Staff Writer	Kate O'Hare-Palmer
	Michael Hart
Advertising	Lou Nunez
Photos by	"McQ6"
Jil & John McGivney	Dave & Jackie Richey

NOTICE

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of VVA, Inc., National, State, Chapter 223, or the newsletter staff, but of the corresponding party. All articles by the Chapter have permission for reprint in all Vietnam Veterans of America newsletters. Anything else must come from the original source.

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@vbn.com. To make a complaint about the newsletter, please call: Ken Holybee @ 887-8891, or 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!

VVA Chapter 223

Phone number is 526-4218

Email address is: vets@vva223.org

President's Letter



Ken Holybee

Where are we hiding?

Looking at all of our chapter pictures in the newsletter and on the web site one might ask where are all of our chapter members. I have been asking that question myself.

Whenever I attend chapter functions or go out to a veterans event, I wear a chapter, or at least a VVA shirt and hat. At the Memorial

Day ceremony, I was looking to see how many shirts and hats I could see. I saw a lot of our members, but only a few hats and shirts. The members that sell the ducks and hats always show up in their "uniform" with the VVA logo as well as enough to get people curious about what they are doing. The general population in Santa Rosa can spot them at a distance.

I remember years ago when it was not popular to be a veteran and a crime to be a Vietnam veteran. We, as an organization, have worked very hard to change the image of the Vietnam veteran. It is now okay to be a veteran and so overwhelmingly okay to be a Vietnam veteran that our numbers have soared to over 15 million people claiming to have served in Vietnam. Actually there were only about 2.6 million that served in theater, and if you read some of the reports most of us are dead. Just over 9 million served during the Vietnam era. I do know that our numbers are dropping rapidly, but not at the 300 a day that I have heard. Our average age is 66 so if you know any real young veterans they probably were not there.

* * *

We are having a lot of fun talking to people at the Wednesday night market. Come on down to see us or volunteer to spend an evening at our booth. We also have the air show coming up in September so look for information on it and think about working our booth.

We normally have two booths, one for selling and one for talking. The talking booth is the one we can use the assistance at. It is easy to talk to people since they speak the same as we do. They usually ask questions about how to get their son, daughter or other family member to seek assistance in something. We just speak honestly and tell them the places we have and what is available. We have lots of handouts and reference material. We are not professionals, so we only give them our opinions and information that has assisted us. You would be surprised at the amount on knowledge you have. Come on down and help out...

Rep. Mike Honda Introduces H.R. 4816: Toxic Exposure Research and Military Family Support Act of 2014

(Washington, DC)— "We applaud Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA17) and his colleagues in the House of Representatives for introducing H.R. 4816, the Toxic Exposure Research and Military Family Support Act of 2014," said VVA National President John Rowan. "Among the so-called invisible wounds of war are those brought home by troops that may not manifest for a decade, or more. And most tragically, they may pass on genetically to the children and grandchildren of our nation's warriors. Our children are the innocent victims of our military service."

This bill, like S.1602, introduced by Sen. Blumenthal (D-CT), instructs the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a national center for the diagnosis, treatment, and research of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxins during service in the Armed Forces and to provide certain services to those descendants. Toxins, such as Agent Orange, have been shown to cause birth defects in the children of military personnel who came into contact with them, either during the Vietnam War, in the storage and transportation of them, or by riding in aircraft that had been previous used to transport the toxins. H.R. 4816 would also require the Department of Veterans Affairs to coordinate with the National Birth Defects Registry and create a central research facility dedicated to studying and chronicling the incidence of birth defects caused by toxins like Agent Orange.

H.R. 4816 has been referred to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Armed Services.



VVA thanks our fellow veterans of the American Legion and AMVETS for standing with us in support of this critical bill, as well as the following H.R. 4816 co-sponsors: Rep. Conyers (D-MI13), Rep. Grijalva (D-AZ3), Rep. Napolitano (D-CA32), Rep. Higgins (D-NY26), Rep. Bordallo (D-GUAM), Rep. Keating (D-MA9), Rep. Kirkpatrick (D-AZ1), Rep. Lee (D-CA13), and Rep. Welch (D-VT At-Large).

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

VVA-223 HELPS CELEBRATE FLAG DAY

Words misappropriated from
Chris Smith, Press Democrat
Photos by Jil McGivney



Healdsburg celebrated Flag Day, Saturday, June 14th, by raising the Stars and Stripes sent by grateful soldiers in Afghanistan. The flag flew on Christmas Day, 2013, over 4th Infantry Division headquarters in Kandahar. Also that day, 500 troops tore into deluxe care packages from Healdsburg SOS, or Supporting our Soldiers. SOS founder Mary St. Clair was at the town Plaza for the raising of the flag at 9 a.m.

Santa Rosa Memorial Park was the backdrop for the dedication of a Blue Star By-Way Marker at 10 a.m. the same day. Sponsoring the new Blue Star marker at Franklin Avenue cemetery was the Santa Rosa Garden Club.

The concept of the Blue Star Memorial program, a tribute to all who serve, have served or will serve in the armed forces, was born in 1944 with the planting of 8,000 highway-side dogwood trees by New Jersey's Council of Garden Clubs.

July 4th in "Nam"

By Charles Earthman

Someone was tapping my foot as I awakened. It was Kirkland, the team leader; he whispered "get your shit together--we're moving out". I gathered my ammo and stuff and got ready to move. It was the rainy season in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam and we had been sneaking around this AO for a couple of days and nights. We had not seen the NVA and he had not seen us.

Our LRRP team moved down from the hill we had bivouacked on the night before. Cochran was on point, Kirkland behind him carrying the radio, Chavez was next, and I brought up the rear. We moved with our usual stealth, but we were not looking for the enemy, we had a destination this day.

After moving for about an hour Kirkland began talking on the radio to someone; we were about to make contact with friendlies. We could smell them first and then we could hear them as they approached. I saw the lead man first as he came over the hill. He was laden with equipment and had an OD towel around his neck. Beneath his steel pot was a boyish face, smeared with a snarl made permanent by humping the boonies for months; he was a "dog face," a real grunt.

It was a company from the Fourth Infantry Division. They had about a hundred men and we fell in with the lead platoon. It was good to see other Americans, but I was not comfortable with such a large group in the bush. I felt like we made a large and noisy target as we moved towards our destination, wherever that was.

We moved for about two hours without incident. As we walked up this hill I could see the sand-bagged bunkers on the perimeter of a fire support base. This was our destination: a forward artillery base located somewhere between Dak To and the Laotian border.

As we walked into the perimeter a guy on the bunker shouted "Hey brother, we got hot chow comin' today, I'm gonna eat till I shit". Everyone on the bunker fell out laughing; I was slightly amused. We took a position further down the line and Kirkland went to pow wow with the people in charge. It had not rained all day and the sun was shining; I started to relax and feel at ease.

When Kirkland returned from his briefing he told us we would be here for a couple of days until we got another mission. That was alright with me and I lay out in the sun to take a nap. This was a good day in Vietnam.

Later that afternoon there was activity in the center of the compound; I heard the sound of an approaching chopper. A CH-47 Chinook was approaching and someone popped yellow smoke; this must be the hot chow. The Chinook sat down in a flurry of dust and yellow smoke and dropped its tailgate.

>>>>

The crew chief came out in a flight helmet tethered by a long cord, followed by five or six guys carrying back packs and other gear. A bunch of guys ran aboard the chopper and started unloading the hot chow, mail, and other stuff. One guy was shaking hands and giving high fives and hugs before he got on the chopper; this was the first of his freedom birds that would take him to the world. What a day to go home on.

We ate hot chow and settled down for the night--we would not have to stand watch--the grunts were on the wire that night. As I sat on a bunker watching a stream of red tracers from Puff firing on a target far away, I realized this was all the July fourth fireworks I would need. That was a good night.

GEDUNK



Jerry Kromer

Jimmy Wheeler

In the Navy, we called a snack bar the gedunk, and at the Vet Clinic it's called the Coffee Cart. Much to the chagrin of the management at the clinic, the veterans and clinic workers really enjoy its services. With a dedicated group of volunteers and expanded offerings, the coffee cart has become a very successful endeavor.

You can become a volunteer and join the team to serve our fellow vets. Call Lou Nunez at 291-5314.

NEWSLETTER FOLDING



Kudos to every one of you unsung heroes. I thank you; the readers thank you!

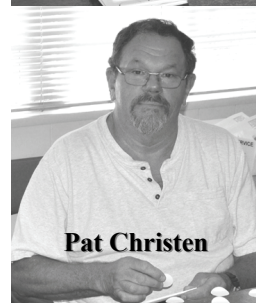
Once a month a dedicated group of chapter members help fold the newsletter. The pictures here can't even begin to tell the story, as these gentle folks rotate in and out of the line-up every month.

Even these pictures don't include all of the folks who participated on Monday, June 2, 2014.

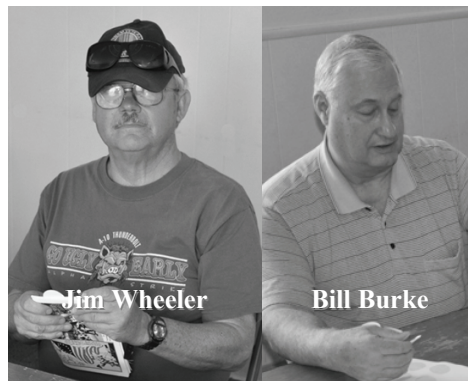
Each and every volunteer meets the extremely high standards of showing up and knocking out the job.



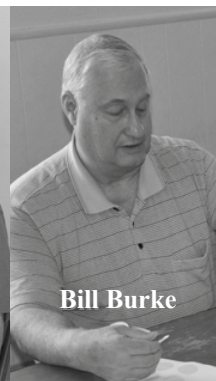
Jackie Richey



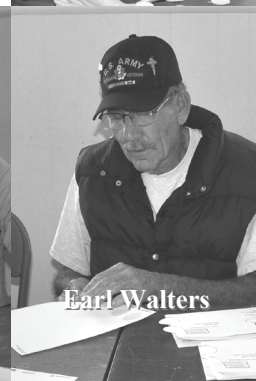
Pat Christen



Jim Wheeler



Bill Burke



Earl Walters

On May 25th, the Good Ol' Boys Motorcycle Club gathered at the Wall of Remembrance during their 3rd annual Veteran's Run. They generously made a very sizable donation to several veterans organizations, including VVA-223.



Wednesday Night Market



by Charles Earthman

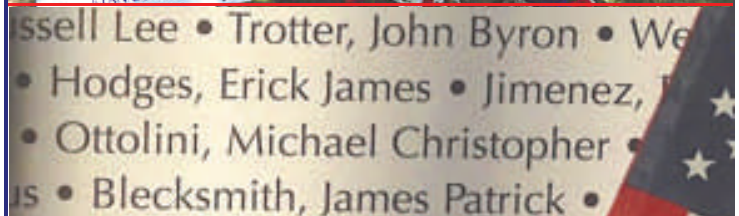
The Wednesday Night Farmers' Market in downtown Santa Rosa is a popular summertime event for Sonoma County residents. The Wednesday night market brings together vendors selling a large array of products including foods from Sonoma County restaurants, fresh local produce, and all kinds of others goods--all in one location.

This venue gives veteran service organizations an excellent opportunity to get the word out to veterans and answer questions about programs and services that are available to them and their families. In 2013, VVA Chapter 223 and MOPH Chapter 78 set up booths at the market to do just that. It was experimental and we did not know what to expect. VVA Chapter President Ken Holybee, Board member Lou Nunez, and I discussed what our hopes were for the booth at the market and we decided, if we could help just one veteran or a family member, it would be worth it.

(Cont'd on page 8)



Photographs here; story on page 8.



Photos by Jackie Richey



By Charles Earthman

A ceremony honoring the veterans and victims of the war on terror was held on May 24 at Santa Rosa Memorial Park. AMVETS Michael Ottolini Post 40 of Sonoma County brought the Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance to Santa Rosa and hosted the opening ceremony.

The US Coast Guard Honor Guard, along with the Post 40 Color Guard, opened the ceremony and posted the colors. The National Anthem was sung by Sharie Collins and an opening prayer was given by Tim Maloney. Vince Marengo, Vice Commander of Post 40, emceed the event.

Gold Star Families from the area were honored. Members of four of these families were present and Jay Matthews of AMVETS Post 40 gave them commemorative AMVET Challenge Coins. They each also received a bouquet of flowers from M.O.M.S. to honor their sacrifice. This was a moving part of the ceremony that honored these families that lost so much.



Charles Earthman

The guest speakers were Derek Hendershot, a US Marine who served in Iraq and also tours with the wall; Gary Greenough of American Legion Post 111, a US Navy Vietnam veteran; Paul Hoffman of the Patrick McCaffrey Foundation and a combat-wounded veteran; and Matthew Smith, Vice Commandant of MCL Detachment 686. All talked of their times and experiences in and out of the military and what this monument means to them.

There were closing remarks from Vince Marango and the benediction was given by Chaplain Tim Maloney.

The Wall of Remembrance is a Vision2Victory project and was inspired by the hopes of active duty military for a memorial. The Memorial was designed, built, and funded by United States Marine David Brown and founder Richard (JR) Nichols in 2011 for the 10-year remembrance of 9/11.

Through local fundraising efforts and AMVETS of California, JR and US Marine Derek Hendershot tour and display the Monument around the country. On one side of the Monument are the names of the victims of the 9/11 terror attacks and names of those who have died in uniform fighting against terror. On the other side of the Wall is the Global War on Terror timeline that starts in 1983.



(Cont'd from page 7) **WEDNESDAY NIGHT MARKET**

These information booths at the market were a success and we were able to reach many people, giving information and answering questions on a range of topics.

This year we are back at the market along with MOPH Chapter 78 and we are better prepared to help veterans and their families and to answer questions from the public at large. Our presence at the market has helped us raise our profile and enhance our status as a non-profit organization helping those in need in our community. We have developed new and better information materials and each week we learn more about how to improve our outreach and meet the needs of the veteran community.

Keeping this effort going at the Wednesday Night Farmers' Market requires commitment and dedication. There is always a need for volunteers to help us keep up this important work. The market takes place during the summer when there are many other activities going on in the veteran community and our participation at the farmers' market is important and needs to continue.

**3725 Westwind Blvd
Suite 101
Santa Rosa CA 95409**

**SONOMA COUNTY VETERANS
SERVICE OFFICE
(707) 565.5960**

Westwind Boulevard is located near the Main Terminal at the Charles M. Schulz (Sonoma County) Airport. From Highway 101: Exit Airport Boulevard, left on Westwind Blvd. and right into the parking lot. Check Sonoma County Transit Airport route 62 & 64 for bus schedule.

P. O. Box 4059, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-4059

Please call to schedule an appointment.



Construction Company, Inc.

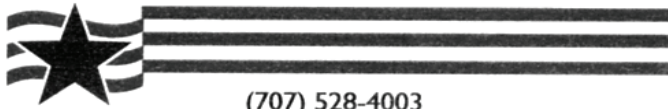
3510 Brooks Avenue (707) 586-0500
Santa Rosa, CA 95407 Fax (707) 586-0900
General Engineering License # 479227

Social Security Representative

Former Social Security Expert

Dan McCaskell Ph.D.

CVE, CRC, CCM



(707) 528-4003

529 Davis Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

dangmccaskell@aol.com

5-14

CHEAP SMOG TEST

STAR CERTIFIED TEST ONLY



1205 Petaluma Hill Rd.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404



We can do any Smog Test
for any reason and issue
the required Smog Certificate

Edmundo Feria

(707) 573-0900

Monday - Friday

7AM to 7PM

Hablamos Espanol

TRI★STAR AUTOMOTIVE

484 KENWOOD COURT
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95407

JIM DADAOS

jim@tristarautomotive.com

707 571-8866

www.tristarautomotive.com

Stripe 'N' Seal, Inc. dba Aaron Paving

Contractor's License No. 308128

Engineering Solutions To Pavement Since 1971

Paving ♦ Asphalt Repair ♦ Grinding ♦ Overlays
37-2 Slurry Seal ♦ Asphalt Base Seal Coat ♦ Cracksealing
Striping ♦ Signs ♦ Bumpers

(707) 528-3377 (707) 224-3377 (415) 499-9060
Santa Rosa, CA Napa, CA San Rafael, CA
P.O. Box 7347 • Santa Rosa, CA 95407

FINE DONUTS & PASTRIES, GOURMET COFFEE DRINKS



Frank & Champa
(707) 326-9181
fwhigham@hotmail.com

4275 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 539-2416

VVA 223 PHOTOGRAPHS

on SHUTTERFLY



<http://vva223photographs.shutterfly.com>

707-584-8401
MON.-SAT. 8:30AM-5:30PM

BATAEFF SALVAGE CO.

WE BUY SCRAP METAL
COPPER • BRASS • ALUMINUM • STAINLESS STEEL

GEORGE BATAEFF, JR.
CORY BRIANS

250 Mountain View Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

THINKING ABOUT BUYING OR SELLING?

Now may be the perfect time!

Team up with skilled VA financing and Real Estate
professionals to help make the process go as
smoothly as possible.

Jim O'Neil

REALTOR® Associate

CalBRE# 01906170

(707) 494-9699

jim.oneil@cbnocal.com

jimoneilrealestate.com

Jennifer Landrus

Senior Loan Officer

NMLS #284665

(707) 535-2421

jenniferlandrus@princetoncap.com

www.princetoncap.com/jenniferlandrus



©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01906304. Princeton Capital is a Residential Mortgage Lender, and an RMR Financial company, licensed by the California Department of Business Oversight under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act, license #415-0027. For informational purposes only. Your real estate professional is not a mortgage lender. Please contact your Mortgage Advisor for information about mortgage products and your eligibility for home financing.





THE GRAPEVINE

Health Talk Around Redwood Empire Chapter

By Charles Earthman

Many health issues for Vietnam vets are similar to those of other seniors. We have a higher rate of chemical exposure than other aging demographics, but many other health issues come from just getting old.

There is a health topic that can affect Vietnam vets, their families, friends, and people of all ages: the emergency medical crisis. It can happen when we least expect it. As a matter of fact, we seldom, if ever, expect it to happen to us or someone close to us. An emergency medical crisis and our response to it is the subject of this month's Grapevine.

The death of a participant at our monthly poker tournament and the immediate response from those around at the time prompted us to ask, "How prepared are we?" And the answer was, "not enough."

Jerry Shimmel, Director of the Chapter's poker tournament, came up with the idea of CPR training for Chapter members. If having someone on hand that was trained in CPR could keep someone alive for a few crucial minutes before paramedics arrive, it would all be worth it.

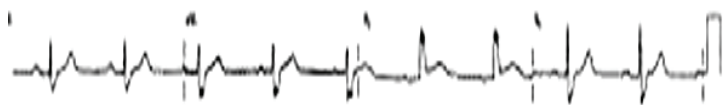


Charles Earthman

So, on June 22, a CPR-AED class was held for Chapter 223 members who wanted to learn these important lifesaving techniques. Many of the members who attended had prior lifesaving training, but were in need of updating, and some of us who had certified training were in need of recertification.

Stacy Jardine of Express Safety Training conducted the classes. Her teaching style was straight and to the point. She emphasized the important things to remember in those moments of high stress; what to do during CPR and also how to operate an automated external defibrillator (AED). Stacy's class was pertinent and informative and we all left more knowledgeable and confident in our emergency handling skills.

Training like CPR-AED is helpful for Chapter members who help host the many public events that the Chapter conducts or attends. The success of this training will probably lead to more first aid training in the future. You can never be too prepared.



VVA To Hold National Leadership & Education Conference August 5-9 in Wichita, Kansas

Vietnam Veterans of America will hold its Biennial National Leadership & Education Conference in Wichita, Kansas, August 5-9, 2014. Hundreds of Vietnam veteran leaders will come together at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita to take part in seminars, meetings, and other activities, including the Saturday Awards Banquet. Interested parties should talk to Ken Holybee.

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 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
JULY 19, 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.
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...

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 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... **July 5th,**
August 16th, September 6th, October 4th, November
1st, December 6th.

Wings Over
Wine Country

2014

SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21

COMICS CORNER

**This months Comics Corner is dedicated to
VVA-223 member Gary Casassa, a very punny man.**

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got mar-
ried. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was ex-
cellent.

A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says,
"I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.
A dyslexic man walked into a bra.

A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his
arm, and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the
other: "Does this taste funny to you?"

"Doc, I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of
Home."

"That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome."

"Is it common?"

"Well, It's Not Unusual."

Two cows are standing next to each other in a field. "I
was artificially inseminated this morning," Daisy says to
Dolly. "I don't believe you," says Dolly. "It's true; no bull!"
exclaims Daisy.

An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The
kids were nothing to look at either.

Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull be-
fore.

I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day,
but I couldn't find any.

I went to a seafood disco last week, and pulled a mus-
sel.

What is a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to
the other and says, "Dam!!!!!"

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit
a fire in the craft. Not surprisingly it sank, proving once again
that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel, and
were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament
victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the
office, and asked them to disperse. "But why," they asked, as
they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts
boasting in an open foyer."

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most
of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on
his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail
and, with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This
made him a super-calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.



NON PROFIT ORG
NON PROFIT
U S POSTAGE PAID
Santa Rosa CA 95402
Permit # 679

Address Service Requested

News and Views

Volume 16, Issue 6 JULY 2014

A Publication of:
Vietnam Veterans of America
The Redwood Empire Chapter 223
1351 Maple Avenue
PO Box 1583
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

OFFICE: 707-526-4218

Crews working on the cleanup at Ground Zero flew an American flag on a burned-out building adjacent to the Twin Towers... Never Forget.



Two hundred years ago, America was a young nation battling the British Empire in a conflict known as the War of 1812. By late summer 1814, the fate of the entire country hung in the balance. Washington was in flames. The President and Congress had fled the city, the American army had collapsed, and conquering troops were burning the nation's capital. But out of this catastrophic time was born an inspiration and rallying song recognized by every: The Star-Spangled Banner.