

CDR Jack E. Carleton VFW Post 2111 Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States, 299 I Street, Chula Vista, Ca, 91910-5622

# Bugle Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 3

March 2010



Veterans of  
Foreign Wars  
CDR Jack E.  
Carleton  
Post 2111  
P.O. Box 93  
Chula Vista, CA  
91912-0093  
Phone: 619-422-  
1262  
Fax: 619-869-8672

**Daylight Saving Time**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

**Post Officer Nominations**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Chula Vista,  
California  
Permit No. 231

<b>Post Officers</b>		<b>Post Committees/Chairman</b>	
Commander	Larry Fuller	1 Year House	Audwin Matthews
Senior Vice Cdr	Rocky Clark	1 Year House	Randy Sollinger (Pro Temp)
Junior Vice Cdr	Richard Neitzelt	2 Year House	Ed Hamilton (Chairman)
Quartermaster	Richard Crouch	3 Year House	Joe Chewning
Judge Advocate	Bobby Price	3 Year House	Jose Alatorre
Chaplain	Rod McDougal		
Surgeon	Terry Jensen	OOD	Audwin Matthews
1 Year Trustee	Gerald Forbes		
2 Year Trustee	Paula Warden	Entertainment Chairman	Robert Cortez
3 Year Trustee	Vacant		
Adjutant	Willie Durazo	Color Guard Captain	Fred Medrano
<b>Ladies Auxiliary Officers</b>			
President	Beth Neitzelt	Americanism	Gerald Forbes
Senior Vice	Cheryl Sulier	Buddy Poppy	Richard Crouch
Junior Vice	Pamela Everett	Building	Gail Polk
Chaplain	Peggy Fischer	Flags Chairman	Joe Chewning
Conductress	Julia Price	Kitchen Committee Chair	Larry Fuller
Guard	Georgean Macias	Law Enforcement/FF	Louis Chiodo
Treasurer	Ellen Sherman	Legislative/PAC	Steve Arends
Secretary	Marianne Marroquin	Membership	Jim Bennett
Patriotic Instructor	Gail Williams	National Home	
1 Year Trustee	Debra Cravens	POW/MIA	Bobby Price
2 Year Trustee	Vicki Sprague	Reports	Bobby Price
3 Year Trustee	Ruth Adams	Service Officer	Terry Jensen
<b>Men's Auxiliary Officers</b>		Teacher's Award	Gerald Forbes
President	Neil Rayburn	VOD/Patriot's Pen	Gerald Forbes
Senior Vice	Wesley Childers	Veteran's Home	
Junior Vice	Donald Plant	Veteran's Walk	Jim Bennett
Secretary/Treasurer	Frank Sedlacek	Ways and Means	Rocky Clark
Chaplain/Service Officer	Richard C. Farrand		
1 Year Trustee	Sam Lopez		
2 Year Trustee	Leslie Webb		
3 Year Trustee	Cliff Linton		
<b>Canteen Hours</b>		<b>Meetings</b>	
Monday - Thursday	10 AM – 11 PM	Entertainment	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday 5 PM
Friday	10 AM – Midnight	House Committee	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday 5 PM
Saturday	9 AM – Midnight	Ladies Auxiliary	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday 6:30 PM
Sunday	8 AM – 10 PM	Men's Auxiliary	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7 PM
Club Manager	Jim Stephenson	Kitchen Committee	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 5 PM
Assistant Club Manager	Dottie Dusina	Post	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 6:30 PM
Bugle Editor	Russ Eseltine	reseltine@cox.net	619-585-9342
		We're on the web	www.vfwpost2111.org

## Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

Hello All,



I hope this finds everyone doing well. I would like to say THANK YOU to the all the ladies that help with the reception for John Smith. It was greatly appreciated. I wish we had more of you to volunteer to help or bring a dish. Remember, ladies one of our duties as auxiliary members is to help lay our veterans to rest. I want to extend a special thank you to Debra Cravens for all her help as well. Debra, you went above and beyond to help with the reception and I cannot thank you enough!

Ladies, we need to remind ourselves to be kind to one another and to lead by example. When we have people that are willing to volunteer their time freely over and over again, and we need to make sure that we let them know how thankful we are to have their help. It doesn't take much to say thank you and give them a hug and let them know how much they are appreciated. You are a wonderful group of ladies and we need to remind each other that as well.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE** – We are now over 95% in membership and need only about 8 more members to be 100%. Please be sure to renew your membership if you have not done so. I would love for us to be 100% by next month! I know we can do it!!!

In April will be the election of new officers. Nominations will be taken from the floor and will be voting for the candidate at the same meeting. All of the positions are open and every member in good standing is eligible to run for office. In addition to the officer positions, the 3<sup>rd</sup> year trustee position is also available. The meeting starts at 6:30 P.M. and I look forward to seeing everyone there.

I wish everyone a very Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Take Care and God Bless,

Beth Neitzelt  
Ladies Auxiliary President

## Men's Auxiliary President's Message

Greetings All



**An item of pressing interest.** Elections for the Officer Cycle of 2011 are to be conducted in April 2010. This is for the Calendar Year 1 July 2010 thru 30 June 2011. Come to the March Meeting, 16 March 2010, prepared to discuss current positions that may be opening up. There are two key positions that we may need to fill to keep the Auxiliary active. If you are waiting in the wings with good ideas of a need of or for change, please come forward and volunteer your services.

The VFW Showcase now has MAUX Polo Shirts and BBHawg T-Shirts on display. \$25.00 for the Embroidered Polo and \$15.00 for the T-Shirt. If we are out of your size please drop a note in the MAUX Internal Mail Box and we will contact you regarding ordering and out time for delivery.

All Bar Staff and selected members of the MAUX are holding tickets for the Mini-Chopper to be raffled off at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration being held at our home Post. The drawing will be conducted at 3:00 PM. The Winner need not be present to win. Those members holding tickets: Neil Rayburn, Wes Chandler, Don Plant, Frank Sedlacek, Greg Sedlacek, Cliff Linton, Sunny Farrand, Larry Fuller, John Hamilton, Bernardo Galvez and Rick Seymour. Contact Frank at 619 213-6507 should you have any questions regarding tickets or availability of same. Just like the CA Lottery, you can't win if you don't play. Thank you and good luck with your 'wining ticket'.

During the Month of February MAUX members have contributed in excess of 400 hours of volunteer service supporting Hero's to Hometown, Wounded Warrior and retired military care giving.

MAUX Member Dave Snyder is continuing to do a bang up business with his ID Card Size Lamination Service. The donation for his service is \$1.00 per article. If you need such service, be it VFW, school, etc cards; please contact Dave at (C) 994-4029 to set up a rendezvous.

## Men's Auxiliary President's Message Continued

**Membership:** We have apparently stabilized at 138 Members as of this writing. 76% (105 Members) current thru 31 December 2010. The remaining membership (33 Members) is still being carried as 'delinquent'. A 'delinquent roster' has been provided to the Bar Staff. Should you be in an arrears status, we encourage you to upgrade your status if you are enjoying the benefits of the Post and or the Post Canteen. Dues can be reinstated by simply submitting a dues Renewal Application along with Dues Fee (\$25.00) to Frank Sedlacek.

Once again – If you have email and would like to receive the Bugle and MAUX updates: Contact Frank Sedlacek (619) 213-6507 or [fsedla699@cox.net](mailto:fsedla699@cox.net) and enter MAUX Member in the Subject Line. If you are not able to attend the meetings however have comments you'd like to have discussed, either phone or email Frank Sedlacek and we will entertain your Issues/Concerns/Suggestions at the next 'regularly' scheduled meeting. To keep all in perspective your attendance would be required at said meeting. If you are geographically displaced, we'll work together to clear that hurdle. Your ideas, as mentioned numerous times, are important and welcomed.

Sincerely,

Neil Rayburn, 2010 MAUX President.

## GOVERNOR WANTS VETS TO TAKE ONLINE SURVEY

SACRAMENTO—Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger wants to take the pulse of veterans—online.

Veterans and family members can go to [www.veterans.ca.gov](http://www.veterans.ca.gov) to take the survey designed to help the state set priorities for services.

Providing names and other personal information are voluntary and none of the data gathered will be shared outside of state agencies.

The survey is estimated to take less than 15 minutes. It will be on the Internet until May 1.

Associated Press

## Entertainment Committee

Greetings from the Entertainment Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to say now that the New Year is here, we are moving forward in Entertainment fun for our post, but I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that there have been a lot of false statements running wild in our Post. These false statements are not true and have never been true, which have been pertained to me. I volunteered to become the Chairman of the Entertainment Committee and to try and do the best for our club. I have NOT and will NOT bankrupt our Post as has been said that I have. Rumors and false statements hurt people knowing that it is not true. I just want to move on and help in making our post the best post throughout our State.

Our first Post Hop was held on 27 Feb10, where our Post visited VFW Posts Alpine, Santee and Encanto. I would like to thank Rich and Beth Nietzelt for an outstanding job in setting up this Post Hop. The Post Hop theme was Madi Gra.

Our next casino trip will be held in Las Vegas. Our trip to Vegas will be from 25-27 Apr 10. I have been setting up the arrangements for our stay at the Golden Nugget Hotel and for the bus company. At the Golden Nugget, each night will be \$29.99 plus tax and baggage handling fee. There will be complementary breakfast and dinner buffets. Schedule and sign up sheet to follow. As of right now total cost to each member will approximately be \$92.00.



Dept President Sue Wells poses for a picture with Auxiliary Pres Beth Neitzelt, Sr. Vice Cheryl Sulier and Jr Vice Pam Everett. A "Breakfast on the Bay" was planned for President Sue but due to a rain storm plan "B" was implemented. "Breakfast on the Bay" soon became Breakfast in President Rosanna's Suite!! Beth, Cheryl and Pam prepared the breakfast fair at home and brought it to the hotel. 2111 Sisters ROCK!

# You are invited to the Rededication of VFW Post 2111



**Sunday, March 21, 2010**

**12 noon - 4:00 pm**

**299 I Street**

**Chula Vista, CA 91910**

**619-422-1262**

**Renaming in honor of:**



*Reception following immediately after ceremony*

## Buddy Poppy News



We have plenty of Buddy Poppy boards for you to donate for. We have the following available opportunities:

Memorial Boards \$ 10.00  
Personal Boards \$ 5.00  
Business Supporters \$ 4.00  
Booster Posters \$ 3.00

Don't forget the cans on the tables!

Drop your request in the quartermaster box and you will see your board/poster added to our walls.

Richard C. Crouch  
Buddy Poppy Chairman  
[vfw2111qm@yahoo.com](mailto:vfw2111qm@yahoo.com)

## Post/LAUX Color Guard News

Upcoming scheduled events:

<u>Detail</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Location</u>
District	20 Mar	Memorial/Post 5867 Lakeside
Post/LAUX	21 Mar	Renaming Ceremony/Post 2111
District	15 May	Kiwanis Parade/Post 5554
District	6 June	District 1 Convention/Post 2111

Color Guard Captain



## Membership Information



Comrades:

Our current membership is at 95.90%.

If you have not paid by December 31, 2009 you are no longer a member of the VFW.

Membership fee for continuous members is \$30.00. For reinstate members also \$30.00. For all those new annual members \$35.00, a one time initiation fee of \$5.00 is included.

Please make an effort to pay your dues promptly. Thank you.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jim Bennett  
VFW POST 2111  
Membership Chairman.  
Phone (619) 977-0869

## VFW 2111 Pool Shooters



The annual Cal-Diego Paralyzed Veterans Association 9 Ball Pool Tournament was held Sunday 2/21/2010 at the Hungry Stick on Clairemont Mesa Blvd. The turnout was a little smaller than anticipated, but still managed to raise \$1,000.00 for the cause. All proceeds are to benefit the Cal-Diego PVA Sports/Recreation programs. One of our own (Randy Sollinger) was awarded a second place trophy. Cudo's to him for his participation and donation and well earned trophy.



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

CDR Jack E. Carleton VFW Post 2111  
299 I Street, Chula Vista, CA. 91910



*"Honor the Dead by Helping the Living"*

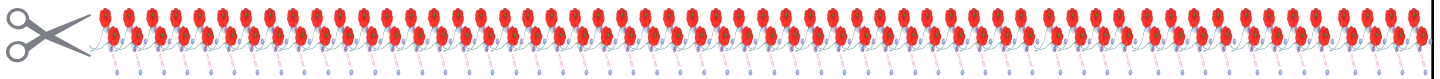
Dear Comrades, Sisters and Brothers;

It's **Buddy Poppy** time again! We are gladly anticipating your donations for this very important program. As you may already be aware, the annual distribution of **Buddy Poppies** is the only public fundraiser conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars where all proceeds are restricted to the relief of needy Veterans and their dependents. Additionally, we must be reminded that each Buddy Poppy is assembled by a disabled veteran and for each \$0.10 we pay, he or she receives \$0.06. This is the hallmark of our motto "Honoring the dead by helping the living."

As a member of your Post or Auxiliary we know you are anxious to help meet our obligation to assisting those noble, brave men and women currently in harms way, those in hospitals, nursing homes, lonely hotel rooms or shelters. There are and will be Veterans valiantly trying to pick up the threads of lives altered by war and service to their country. There are literally tens of thousands of men and women who need our heartfelt assistance—to which our debt will never be fully repaid.

This year we will resume the tradition of hanging the Buddy Poppy Boards and Posters in our post home. So please join us and give generously as we are finding more veterans than ever in need of our assistance due to the war on terrorism and these very unstable financial times. Thank you again for your service to you country and to this great organization.

Richard Crouch  
Buddy Poppy Chairman



Enclosed is my donation for the Buddy Poppy Program in the amount of. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like the following: # \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial listings @ \$10.00 ea. (Deceased Person)  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Personal listings @ \$4.00 ea (Living Person)  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Business listings @ \$5.00 ea (Owned Business)



Please Print Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Print Clearly**

In the name of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Please make your check or money order payable to VFW Post 2111, enter "Buddy Poppy Program" in the memo section. Detach this lower portion and enclose check or money order in an envelope and mail it to; Quartermaster Post 2111, PO Box 93, Chula Vista, CA 91912-0093 or drop it off in the Quartermaster's box at the post.

## Memorial



### Post Members

None

### Ladies Auxiliary Member

None

### Men's Auxiliary Member

None

Our Heavenly Father, the march of our comrades and sisters is over and they loath down in the house appointed for all the living. The Master saith, Thy brother shall rise again, for I am the resurrection and the Life, and he that believeth in me, though he was dead, yet shall he live. We beseech Thee to look in mercy on their bereaved families and to Thy name shall be praise forever and ever. Amen.



## NATIONAL PROGRAMS

VFW Posts and Auxiliaries reported donating over 4.9 million volunteer hours and over \$27 million towards community service work from May 1 to October 31, 2009. The total value of our volunteers' efforts is valued at over \$127 million.

NEW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY AND PATRIOT'S PEN THEMES. The 2010–2011 themes have been chosen by Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Eubank. The Voice of Democracy theme will be "Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future?" and the Patriot's Pen theme will be "Does Patriotism Still Matter?" This information will be posted on the VFW website.

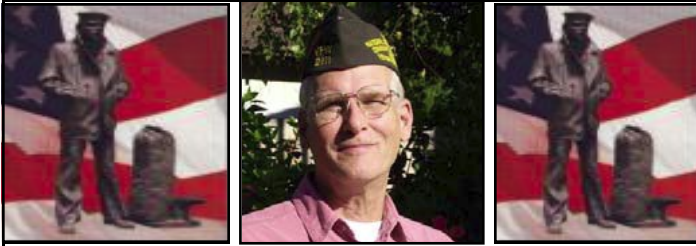
SPECIAL NOTE: VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOT'S PEN CHANGES. Effective January 1, 2010, Posts will be allowed to advance only one (1) winner for each program to District. At the request of many, the purpose of this change is to diminish the confusion at the Post level and ease pressure on the District judging.

Finally, issues have recently arisen that force me to state that the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen are VFW programs supported by the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. It is inappropriate for the Ladies Auxiliary to conduct a separate judging at any level.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S MANUAL CHANGE. By popular request, the program chairman's manual (formerly "It's About Service") is being changed. Shortly, there will be individual program chairman's manuals available online at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and [www.vfwdepartmentresources.org](http://www.vfwdepartmentresources.org). The individual manuals will include VFW Scholarship Programs, Safety & Recognition, Community Service, Youth Activities and Buddy Poppy. This will enable chairman (and any member) to more quickly download and print the manual for their individual program area.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM. This program is designed to provide recognition and awards to VFW members who volunteer their time to outside organizations. Recognition is in the form of certificates and/or lapel pins which are given to volunteers who have completed the number of hours prescribed for those awards. For more information, see the 2010 – 2011 VFW Community Service Chairmen's Guide or contact the VFW Community Service department at 816-968-1148 for a nomination form.

## Veteran's Corner by Steve Arends



**Thank You, Post 2111 & Auxiliary.** Our comrade and close friend, John Smith, passed away suddenly on January 31st. Thank you to all the VFW Post 2111 comrades and Auxiliary members who did so much to prepare for the post-funeral and memorial service reception held at our Post for John's family and friends on February 9th. John's legacy of service to our local and national veterans' community will live on. We've lost a heroic combat Army medic and true "veterans' Veteran" who was always an advocate for veterans and their families. The City of Chula Vista memorialized John during its City Council meeting on February 2, 2010. And the San Diego County Board of Supervisors paid tribute to John during their meeting on February 9th. Both meetings adjourned in memory of John A. Smith. The San Diego County Television Network (CTN) will be re-broadcasting a special half hour documentary originally produced and broadcast for Veterans Day 2003 later this year. This CTN program featured in-depth interviews of local veterans' wartime experiences in combat, including the on-camera interview of John Smith about his experiences as an Army combat medic in Vietnam in 1968. CTN has been re-broadcasting this program annually during Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and will be updating the program as a tribute to comrade John Smith.

**Vietnam Wall.** The Dignity Memorial's 3/4 scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial from Washington, DC will be on display at the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center in Balboa Park from Friday, April 9, 2010 through Sunday, April 11th. This exact replica of the Vietnam Wall stands 8' tall, and is 240' long. It is inscribed with the names of over 58,000 service men and women who died or are still missing in Vietnam. This traveling replica is sponsored by Dignity Memorial which owns Glenn Abbey Memorial park and Mortuary in Bonita, and is dedicated to all Vietnam veterans. The Vietnam Wall exhibit will be open 24 hours per day during the three days it is on exhibit in San Diego.

**New Vet Center in South County.** Previously I've reported on the plans to open a 2nd San Diego County Vet Center in southern San Diego County. On February 12,

## Veteran's Corner by Steve Arends Continued

2010 a contract was signed for the new Vet Center to lease office space in Bonita. The office complex is located on Otay Lakes Road, just south of the intersection with Bonita Road. Al Juarez is the Team Leader for our new Vet Center. The County's other Vet Center is located at Liberty Station near Point Loma. That's the land that was previously NTC, the Naval Training Center.

**Veterans Wing at Chula Vista Library.** Planning is continuing and renovations are occurring to transform a portion of the main Chula Vista Library at the corner of 4th Avenue and F Street to become the veterans section. An office area is being created to allow veterans service personnel to conduct outreach efforts to local veterans on a wide range of veterans assistance. A formal grand opening for this Veterans Wing at the Library is set for 3:00 PM on Friday, June 4, 2010.

**Veterans Home Golf Classic.** The 10th annual Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation's golf tourney and charity auction will be at Eastlake Country Club on Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Noon shotgun start. Details and registration forms are available from Dee Diaz at the Veterans Home at (619) 205-1410, or via e-mail at: [Dorothy.Diaz@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:Dorothy.Diaz@cdva.ca.gov).

**VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC.** Comrades Bobby Price and Steve Arends will be in Washington, DC for the VFW's Legislative Conference during March 6-10, 2010. While in DC, they will be meeting with many California legislators serving in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. There are currently a total of five members of this national VFW committee from California. Comrade John Smith had succeeded Steve Arends as a member of this committee in late 2008, and Steve has agreed to rejoin the committee as a tribute to John Smith. This legislative conference in March includes a VFW Legislative Reception that'll be held at the VFW's building near the Capitol on March 9th which many members of Congress will attend. The VFW's top legislative goals for 2010 will be advocated by the members of our VFW National Legislative Committee. So, our Post's views will be conveyed to our legislators.

**San Diego's "One VA" Community Advisory Board.** Formed almost 20 years ago as an avenue to convey veterans' concerns directly to the Directors of the VA Healthcare System, the VA Regional Office, and Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, VFW Post 2111 comrades John Smith and Steve Arends have served on this board

## Veteran's Corner by Steve Arends Continued

for many years. During the monthly One VA meeting on February 17, 2010 at the VA's Regional Office in Mission Valley, Steve Arends volunteered to succeed John Smith as the Co-Chair of the One VA Community Advisory Board. This board meets monthly with the three VA Directors in our County, and their top staff to discuss veterans' concerns. Representatives from all five of the local members of the U.S. House from our County also attend these monthly meetings that occur the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

**VA Update.** Our San Diego VA Regional Office now has only a 10-15 day turnaround time on enrollment processing for veterans using the new Post 9/11 GI Bill. Although there were some unexpected delays in getting enrollment started, and educational benefits checks distributed quickly when the program began last year, the process has continually improved. That is despite the workload increasing over 20% for disability claims at our San Diego Regional Office. Veterans filing a disability claim can now expect to be scheduled for a physical within less than 30 days after filing the claim, and processing of the claim is less than 100 days total. The San Diego VA Healthcare System's call center for making appointments has improved its operation by hiring more employees. A new 400 vehicle parking structure has been approved for construction at the main entrance of the VA Medical Center in La Jolla. Once construction begins, the parking lot will lose hundreds of spaces. Free valet parking will continue to be provided for patients, and VA employees will be parking off-site while the parking garage is being built. The new VA Clinic on Oceanside should be open to better serve the needs of north County veterans by May 2010. First in-ground casket burial at the new Miramar National Cemetery is still slated to occur in September 2010. The official ground-breaking for our County's new VA cemetery at MCAS Miramar happened on January 30, 2010. The largest nationwide expansion of national VA cemeteries since the Civil War is occurring now, with new cemeteries being constructed in Omaha, Denver, and in Florida.

**San Diego Veterans Community Action Coalition (VCAC).** A number of VFW comrades are members of the San Diego VCAC which began in February 2009 to help serve the needs of San Diego County veterans and their families. San Diego was chosen, along with San Antonio, Texas, to create a model veterans program to encourage collaboration among all the many agencies that provide services to military veterans. The San Diego VCAC hosted its first Veterans Leadership Forum on October 2, 2010. Its goal is to advocate for veterans, and

## Veteran's Corner by Steve Arends Continued

improve the communications and dialogue between all veterans and service providers. During the VCAC's meeting in January, past San Diego VA Healthcare CEO Gary Rossio was elected as the VCAC Co-Chair, sharing responsibility with the San Diego CVSO (County Veteran Service Officer), Dr. Tom Splitgerber. The San Diego VCAC has committees addressing these issues: leadership development, basic needs & services, access & outreach, plus seamless transition for soon-to-be-discharged veterans.

**Cities' Veterans Hiring Preference.** The San Diego County Veterans Advisory Council began a study in 2005 to research the established hiring programs in all 18 cities in San Diego County. Many of the cities have, as a result of this study and report that was sent to all 18 mayors, reviewed their city's veterans hiring programs. The City of San Diego, the largest city in our County, had an outdated veteran's preference program that had not been updated since the Vietnam War, and only addressed the hiring of draftees. On February 1, 2010 the 8 member San Diego City Council unanimously approved the change to the City Charter that addresses the hiring of military veterans. That City Charter change will need to be approved by the voters of San Diego during the upcoming June 2010 primary election. Chula Vista already has a model veterans hiring program which was updated in the 1990's, and was able to be approved by the vote of the City Council.

**AB-1088.** ASM Nathan Fletcher (R, 75th, San Diego) introduced AB-1088 that's similar to what past ASM Shirley Horton (R, 78th, Lemon Grove) had authored (AB-357) which created the original taxpayer contribution "Veterans Quality of Life Fund" on the California state income tax forms in 2005 for tax years 2006 & 2007. That fund was deleted from the tax forms, and replaced for the 2007 tax year by the CA Sea Otter Fund. Over \$330K had been donated by California taxpayers during those two tax years. ASM Fletcher initiated the new quality of living donation fund, called the "**California Veterans Home Fund,**" to help the veterans who reside at our state's Veterans Homes. Nathan, a past member of our San Diego County VAC, introduced AB-1088 on 2/27/09. On 1/11/10 the Assembly's Revenue & Taxation Committee voted 5-0 to approve AB-1088. On 1/13/10 the Assembly's VA Committee chaired by ASM Mary Salas (D, 79th, Chula Vista) voted 8-0 to approve AB-1088. And the Assembly's Committee on Appropriations voted 17-0 to approve AB-1088. On 1/27/10 the Assembly unanimously voted 77-0 to approve AB-1088. It was read the first time in the Senate on 1/28/10

## Veteran's Corner by Steve Arends Continued

and was assigned to the VA and the Revenue & Taxation Committees. Locally, ASM Marty Block (D, 78th, Lemon Grove) is also a co-author and sponsor for AB-1088. Unanimous and prompt approval of AB-1088 is expected by the Senate, and signing by the Governor, with this new Fund appearing on the California state income tax forms as early as next year for the 2010 tax year. The San Diego U-T featured a front page story about this legislative effort and the new "California Veterans Home Fund" on Monday, 2/8/10. That U-T article is on-line at: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/feb/08/donations-to-veterans-on-the-line/>

VFW's Annual Legislative Day at the Capitol in Sacramento will be on April 20, 2010.

## VA to reopen files of Gulf War vets

WASHINGTON - The Veterans Affairs Department will re-examine the disability claims of what could be thousands of Gulf War veterans suffering from ailments they blame on their war service, the first step toward potentially compensating them nearly two decades after the war ended.

VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said the decision is part of a "fresh, bold look" his department is taking to help veterans who have what's commonly called "Gulf War illness" and have long felt the government did little to help them. The VA says it also plans to improve training for medical staff who work with Gulf War vets, to make sure they do not simply tell vets that their symptoms are imaginary — as has happened too many over the years.

"I'm hoping they'll be enthused by the fact that this ... challenges all the assumptions that have been there for 20 years," Shinseki told The Associated Press in an exclusive interview.

The changes reflect a significant shift in how the VA may ultimately care for some 700,000 veterans who served in the Gulf War. It also could change how the department handles war-related illness suffered by future veterans, as Shinseki said he wants standards put in place that don't leave veterans waiting decades for answers to what ails them.

The decision comes four months after Shinseki opened the door for as many as 200,000 Vietnam veterans to receive service-related compensation for three illnesses stemming from exposure to the Agent Orange herbicide.

## VA to reopen files of Gulf War vets Continued

### Unanswered questions

About 175,000 to 210,000 Gulf War veterans have come down with a pattern of symptoms that include rashes, joint and muscle pain, sleep issues and gastrointestinal problems, according to a 2008 congressionally mandated committee that based the estimate on earlier studies.

But what exactly caused the symptoms has long been unanswered. Independent scientists have pointed to pesticide and pyridostigmine bromide pills, given to protect troops from nerve agents, as probable culprits. The 2008 report noted that since 1994, \$340 million has been spent on government research into the illness, but little has focused on treatments.

Last week, Shinseki and Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs committee, met privately in Charleston, W.Va., with several Gulf War veterans. In an interview after the meeting, Rockefeller told the AP that Shinseki's background as a former Army chief of staff made the changes possible. He said either the military has been reluctant over the years to release paperwork related to the war or kept poor records about exposures in the war zone, which made it harder for the veterans to prove they needed help.


"The paperwork isn't very accurate, but the pain is very real," Rockefeller said.

Shinseki has publicly wondered why today there are still so many unanswered questions about Gulf War illness, as stricken veterans' conditions have only worsened with age.

Last fall, he appointed a task force led by his chief of staff, John Gingrich, a retired Army colonel who commanded a field artillery battalion in the 1991 war, to review benefits and care for Gulf War veterans. The changes stem from the task force's work.

The VA doesn't have an estimate of the number of veterans who may be affected, but it could be in the thousands.

Of those who deployed in the Gulf War, 300,000 submitted claims, according to the VA. About 14 percent were rejected, while the rest received compensation for at least one condition.

 Associated Press

Updated 9:38 p.m. PT, Thurs., Feb. 25, 2010

# Veterans Home Golf Classic

**Presented by:** The Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation



WEDNESDAY – MAY 5, 2010 - EAST LAKE COUNTRY CLUB  
2375 CLUBHOUSE DRIVE, CHULA VISTA CA, 91915

**Come support the residents of the Veterans Home in Chula Vista and enjoy a day of golf and camaraderie with your friends and fellow-supporters of the San Diego military and veteran communities**

The registration table and practice tee will open at 11:00am. There will be a Shotgun start at noon.

A box lunch will be provided before the round, at 11:00am. There will also be a barbeque dinner and awards ceremony in the Clubhouse following the round.

Prizes will include a 2010 car to the first player to make the “hole in one”.

*Thank you for your support*



**Sponsor and Player Registration: Please indicate your commitment, clip and return with registration**

<input type="checkbox"/> Patriot Sponsorship (one foursome and hole signage)	\$700.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Foursome Sponsorship (four players)	\$600.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hole Sponsorship	\$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Entries	\$150.00

Players 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this Registration form with your check payable to:

The Chula Vista Veterans Home Support Foundation or (CVVHSF)

2009 Golf Tournament

700 East Naples Court

Chula Vista, CA 91911

For more information contact: Dee Diaz (619) 205-1410 or email [Dorothy.Diaz@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:Dorothy.Diaz@cdva.ca.gov)

The Chula Vista Veterans Foundation is a IRS 501(c) 3 ID Number 93-1213658

<b>March 2010 Calendar of Events</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Time</b>
Monday March 1	Entertainment Committee Mtg	Nerat Hall	5 PM
Tuesday March 2	House Committee Meeting	Nerat Hall	5 PM
Friday March 5	Karaoke by CiCi Gonzales	Polk Cantina	7 PM–11 PM
Saturday March 6	<b>Post Clean Up</b>	Polk Cantina	7 AM-9 AM
Saturday March 6	Bubba Burgers	Polk Cantina	11 AM–2 PM
Saturday March 6	Post Dinner	Polk Cantina	5:30–7:30 PM
Saturday March 6	Karaoke by Carmen Cortez	Polk Cantina	7 PM–11 PM
Sunday March 7	Breakfast by Roland Post	Polk Cantina	8 AM–1 PM
Sunday March 7	Music by the Big Band	Nerat Hall	2 PM–5 PM
Thursday March 11	Ladies Aux Committee Mtg	Nerat Hall	5 PM
Thursday March 11	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting	Nerat Hall	6:30 PM
Saturday March 13	<b>Ladies Auxiliary Steak Dinner</b> By Ed & Jeannine Hamilton	Polk Cantina	5:30–7 PM
Saturday March 13	Karaoke by CiCi Gonzales	Polk Cantina	7 PM–11 PM
Sunday March 14	Daylight Saving Time Begins	Turn Clocks ahead 1 Hour	2 AM
Sunday March 14	Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast by the Morning Glories	Polk Cantina	9 AM–1 PM
Sunday March 14	Music by Picking Time	Nerat Hall	12 PM–5 PM
Tuesday March 16	Men's Auxiliary Meeting	Nerat Hall	7 PM
Tuesday March 16	District 1 Membership Meeting	VFW Post 5867 Lakeside Post	6 PM Meal 7 PM Meeting
Wednesday March 17	<b>St. Patrick's Day</b> <b>Corned Beef &amp; Cabbage</b> Post	Polk Cantina	2:30 PM–7 PM
Thursday March 18	Kitchen Committee Meeting	Nerat Hall	5 PM
Thursday March 18	<b>Post Meeting (Nominations)</b> <b>(Bugle Articles Due to Russ)</b>	Nerat Hall	6:30 PM
Saturday March 20	Ladies Auxiliary Mexican Dinner by the <i>Salsa Señoritas</i>	Polk Cantina	5:30–7:30 PM
Saturday March 20	Karaoke by George James	Polk Cantina	7 PM–11 PM
Sunday March 21	Breakfast by Roland	Polk Cantina	8 AM–1 PM
Sunday March 21	<b>CDR Jack E. Carleton</b> <b>Post 2111 Rededication Ceremony</b>	Nerat Hall	12 PM-4 PM
Tuesday March 23	District 1 Ladies Auxiliary Membership Meeting	VFW Post 4630 National City	7 PM
Friday March 26	Karaoke by Carmen Cortez	Polk Cantina	7 PM–11 PM
Saturday March 27	Men's Auxiliary Rib Dinner	Polk Cantina	5:30–7:30 PM
Saturday March 27	Karaoke by Bernard Gonzales	Polk Cantina	7 PM-11 PM
Sunday March 28	Breakfast by Roland	Polk Cantina	8 AM–1 PM
Sunday March 28	Music by the Big Band	Nerat Hall	2 PM–5 PM
<b>April 2010 Calendar of Events</b>			
Saturday April 3	District 1 President's Homecoming	VFW Post 7420	2-6 PM
Fri 9th thru Fri 16th	Vietnam Wall Replica	Veterans Museum Balboa	All Day
Saturday April 7	District 1 Commander's Home- coming	TBD	TBD
Saturday April 24	Loyalty Day Picnic	TBD	TBD

## March Meals

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b><u>BUBBA BURGERS;</u></b> Saturday 6th of March. 11 AM to 2 PM	1	2 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	3 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Tacos 6-8 PM	4 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	5 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Surf & Turf Noon – 7 PM	6 Bubba Burgers 11 AM—2 PM  Post Dinner 5:30-7:30 PM
7 Breakfast by Roland Post 8 AM – 1 PM	8	9 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	10 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Tacos 6-8 PM	11 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	12 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Spaghetti 5:30 – 7 PM	13 Ladies Auxiliary Steak Dinner by Ed & Jeannine 5:30-7 PM
14 Ladies Auxiliary Breakfast 9 AM – 1 PM	15	16 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	17 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Corned Beef 2:30-7 PM	18 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	19 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Chicken Fried Steak Seafood Noon – 7 PM	20 Ladies Auxiliary Mexican Dinner 5:30-7:30 PM
21 Breakfast by Roland 8 AM – 1 PM	22	23 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	24 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Tacos 6-8 PM	25 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	26 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Potato Bar 5—7 PM	27 Men's Auxiliary Country Rib Dinner 5:30-7:30 PM
28 Breakfast by Roland 8 AM – 1 PM	29	30 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM	31 Breakfast & Lunch by Roland 9 AM—2 PM  Tacos 6-8 PM			
<b><u>BURGERS &amp; BEANS;</u></b> Saturday 13th, 20th, and 27th of March. 11 AM to 2 PM	<b><u>WEDNESDAY NIGHT TACOS;</u></b> 3rd, 10th, 24th and 31st of March. New Grande Taco Shells. Tacos are \$2.50 per Taco. By Brigitte and Crew.		<b><u>FRIDAY NIGHT IS ITALIAN NIGHT;</u></b> 12th of March.		<b><u>FRIDAY NIGHT POTATO BAR;</u></b> 26th of March. For \$5.00 you will get the largest potato we can find and an assortment of toppings you pile on yourself. Prepared by Richard Crouch & Richard Neitzelt.	