



Vietnam Veterans of America | Chapter 218 | Santa Barbara **RECON REPORT**

“Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another”

OCTOBER 2015

**“Together then,
Together now”**



Chapter 218

P.O. Box 4862
Santa Barbara, CA 93140
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Officers & Board Of Directors

President: Peter Bie
1st Vice President: John Blankenship
2nd Vice President: Hap DeSimone
Recording Secretary: Tom Elliott
Treasurer: Mike Mauro
Chris Galbraith
Pat Rumpza
John Selfridge

CA State Council Rep: Hap DeSimone
Membership Director: John Selfridge
Chaplain: Pattie Murdy
Memorabilia: Cathy Matter

Vance Memorial Fund

The Chapter's Vance Committee distributes funds to qualified disabled American veterans.
Fred Golin (Chair) Don Matter
Madeline Moreaux Mike Mauro
Pattie Murdy

Next Chapter Meeting

Oct. 14 2015 | 6:00 pm
Santa Barbara Elks Lodge
150 N. Kellogg Ave., Goleta
Dinner Available
\$8.00 per person

President's Message...

I'm pleased to formally announce that we will be presenting the “The Moving Wall”—the beautiful 236-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.—on October 13-17, 2016 at Chase Palm Park in Santa Barbara!

It will be five years since our last showing of “The Wall” and it comes at a time when Vietnam Veterans across the country are looking back and reflecting on the war that began 50 years ago—if you can believe that!

Details will soon follow and I look forward to the participation of all our members, their families and friends as we proudly display “The Wall” and conduct our various ceremonies surrounding its exhibition.

Our November 11 meeting date happens to fall on Veterans Day proper this year and instead of holding just a “meeting”, I'm thinking we need a more social type gathering that night with food, drink and music provided by the chapter. I realize this a “school night” but I can't think of a more appropriate time to gather as Veterans, with family and friends invited. I'll keep you posted.

Our annual Holiday Dinner/Meeting is set for Wednesday, December 9 at the Goodland Hotel (not far from the Elks Lodge); full details inside.

I'm looking forward to finishing 2015 with a flourish and heading into 2016 with a renewed sense of commitment to our chapter and to Veterans everywhere. I'm always reachable by e-mail: peterbie@cox.net or cell: (805) 259-9779.

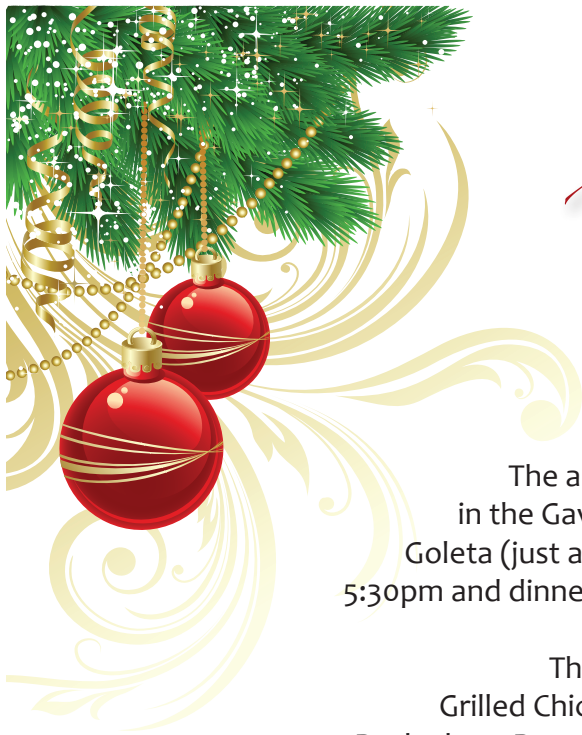
See you at the meeting on Wednesday, October 14 at 6pm at the Elks Lodge.

Welcome Home,

Peter
Peter Bie
President



The colorful Thomas Towing truck hitched to the olive drab VVA 218 Huey Helicopter on display at Fess Parker's Double Tree Resort, Santa Barbara on September 9 for “Vietnam: The War and Its Veterans 50 Years On” presentation by the Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation. (Photo courtesy of Rick Carter).



VVA Chapter 218 Annual Christmas Holiday Dinner and Awards Presentation

You Are Invited!

The annual Chapter 218 Holiday Dinner is set for Wednesday, December 9 in the Gaviota Room of the newly renovated Goodland Hotel, 5650 Calle Real, Goleta (just around the corner from the Elks Lodge). Cocktail reception starts at 5:30pm and dinner is served at 7pm. Cost: \$30 per person.

The buffet includes three entrees:
Grilled Chicken Breast w/Green Peppercorn Cream
Buckwheat Pasta w/Swiss Chard, Cherry Tomatoes & Pecorino
Slice Beef Tenderloin w/Chimichurri

In addition there is Smashed Sweet Potato, Freshly Baked Breads w/Whipped Butter, Baby Spinach Salad w/ Candied Walnuts, Pear & Blue Cheese Dressing, Fresh Green Beans. and Organic Caffe Vita Coffee & Mighty Leaf Tea.

Dessert: Steamed Dark Chocolate Cake w/Brittle & Seasonal Gelato and Classic Cheesecake w/Seasonal Fresh Fruit Compote.

There will be a cash bar available offering assorted imported and domestic beer (\$7 per glass), house wine—red & white (\$9 per glass) along with mixed drinks and soft drinks.

Hotel policy does not allow for outside food or beverages. The room is on the ground floor and there is plenty of free parking.

Bring your spouse, significant other, family members, friends and Veterans of any era; this is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Chapter as we ring out 2015 and head into a brand new year!

The deadline for reservations is Nov. 30, but we'd like to get those early RSVP's in as soon as possible. Send your check for the full amount—made out to VVA Chapter 218—and notate that it is for "holiday dinner" to:

VVA Chapter 218
Attn: Pattie Murdy
P.O. Box 4862
Santa Barbara, CA 93140

You can also bring your check to the Chapter meetings on Oct. 14 or Nov. 11. If you have questions or just want to leave a confirming message, please call (805) 284-6372 or e-mail: peterbie@cox.net.

VNHC - Collection site

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY VETERAN STAND DOWN

Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care is collecting items for the Santa Maria Stand Down, Oct. 17 from 9am-2pm at the Fair Park. Items can be dropped off Monday-Friday at 602 E. Montecito Street in front of the LOAN CLOSET from 8:30am to 4pm. Items needed are detailed in this flier. If you have questions, please contact Arlene: (805) 690-6274

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Underwear - for women & men
- Basic T-shirts - for women & men
- Hotel Size - Soap / Shampoo / personal hygiene items
- Full size - Lotions / sunscreens
- First aid kits
- Any basic necessities needed when moving into an apartment

Backpacks are being purchased for homeless vets at a cost of \$40/each ... please consider making a donation by check to "Good Samaritan Shelter" (Memo: "Standdown/Backpacks")



**STAND DOWN -
Santa Maria Fairpark
9 – 2 p.m. Saturday
October 17, 2015**

<http://www.sbcountystanddown.com>