



TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

ON THIS VETERANS DAY 2014, MY HEART FELT THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE AND FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF VETERANS OF ALL ERAS.

OUR “WELCOME HOME” WAS TEPID AT BEST, NONEXISTANT FOR MOST.

HOWEVER, IN THE DECADES SINCE, VIETNAM VETERANS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY FOR HAVING DONE THE JOB WE WERE SENT TO DO, WHETHER SERVING IN-COUNTRY OR AT POSTS AROUND THE WORLD.

VIETNAM WILL ALWAYS BE OUR LEGACY. IT WILL REMAIN TO THE HISTORIANS FOR YEARS TO COME TO SORT OUT THE FACTS AND DETAILS, THE POLITICS, THE STRATEGY, THE WAR AT HOME AND THE ONE ABROAD AND TO GIVE PERSPECTIVE AND A PAUSE FOR RELFLECTION TO WHAT WAS A VERY EMOTIONAL AND POLARIZING TIME IN OUR NATION’S HISTORY.

NOT UNLIKE OUR OWN CIVIL WAR OF 150 YEARS AGO, WE—AND THIS NATION--ARE STILL HEALING FROM THE RAVAGES OF “THAT OLD ASIAN WAR IN WHICH WE WENT AND DID OUR PATRIOTIC CHORE”.*

AS VIETNAM VETERANS YOU DESERVE NO LESS THAN A NATION’S THANKS FOR DOING WHAT WAS ASKED OF YOU. AND THAT THIS COUNTRY SHALL NOT FORGET ANY OF ITS VETERANS WHO WILLINGING PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE, WHETHER DURING A TIME OF WAR OR A TIME OF PEACE.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12 AT 6PM AT THE ELKS LODGE IN SANTA BARBARA. WE’LL BE GATHERING IN THE BILLIARD ROOM ON THE MAIN FLOOR. LET’S ENJOY A MEAL TOGETHER AND MAKE PLANS FOR OUR HOLIDAY DINNER IN DECEMBER!

YOURS IN COMRADESHIP,

Peter

PETER BIE
PRESIDENT
VVA 218 | SANTA BARBARA

**from “Ruby” by Kenny Rogers and the First Edition*



VVA Chapter 218 | Santa Barbara
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The Santa Barbara Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America is a tax exempt, non-profit, community service organization. Our members are Vietnam era (you need not have served "in country") Veterans and associates (individuals from all walks of life who may or may not have served in the military).

The Chapter meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Santa Barbara Elks Lodge, 150 N. Kellogg Ave., Goleta. The meeting starts at 6:00 pm and dinner is available immediately following (\$8.00 per person). Spouses, family members and veterans of all eras are always welcome.

Publisher/Editor: John Selfridge johnselfridge218@hotmail.com. Please let me know if you wish to receive this newsletter via e-mail in PDF form and check our website for updated information on events and the latest news.

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Vance Memorial Fund

The Chapter's Vance Committee distributes funds to qualified disabled American veterans. Committee is appointed each April.

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