



Vietnam Veterans of America | Chapter 218 | Santa Barbara

RECON REPORT

"Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another"

NOVEMBER 2016

**"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
Don Matter
Steve Penner
Pat Rumpza

CA State Council Rep: Hap DeSimone
Membership Director: Chris Galbraith
Chaplain: Pattie Murdy
Memorabilia: Cathy Matter

Vance Memorial Fund

The Chapter's Vance Committee distributes funds to qualified American veterans.
Fred Golin (Chair) Chris Galbraith
Mike Mauro Pattie Murdy

Next Regular Chapter Meeting

January 11, 2017 | 6:00 pm
Santa Barbara Elks Lodge
150 N. Kellogg Ave., Goleta
Dinner Available
\$8.00 per person

Greetings to the Membership:

Welcome Home!

Melinda and I are finally on home turf after two wonderful weeks in Italy! Once in your life you need to visit Rome—a city founded in 735 B.C.—and then head out to the countryside. You won't be disappointed.

THE MOVING WALL

I cannot express enough my gratitude to everyone who participated in The Moving Wall. It was a truly emotional time for so many of us, from those who helped in the initial setup to those who were at the tents, to those walking the green and assisting visitors in locating a name to the various vendors who made it such a beautiful presentation. Most importantly, it could not have happened without the financial support of so many businesses, individuals, foundations and vendors who generously donated to the display. The dedication ceremony, the reading of the 99 names, and a flyover that was so exquisitely timed (the planes arrived at the very moment the buglers began to play TAPS) brought tears to the eyes of many in attendance. Thank you for supporting Chapter 218 and for being part of such a great organization.

VETERANS DAY PARADE

We—and our Huey—are participating in the Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, Nov. 12 in Santa Barbara. We form up at Sola and State Streets with the bird arriving around 11am and all personnel who are walking (or riding in the bird) on site no later than 11:30. The parade steps off at noon sharp and proceeds down State and ends at the Veterans Memorial Building on Cabrillo. The Huey will immediately head over to the Carriage Museum where it will be parked for the big barbecue event sponsored by the Santa Barbara Riders for Veterans Foundation that goes to 5pm. We need folks to carry our five flags and our banner and march in front of the bird. Please let me know if you can do so by calling (805) 259-9779; leave a message if I don't pick up.

IT'S TIME FOR A HOLIDAY DINNER

Our annual Christmas/Holiday dinner is set for Monday, December 5 at 6pm at the Santa Barbara Club on Chapala Street. The menu is currently being worked up, but based on the food served the previous times we were there, there is no doubt we will have a great meal! We will charge a nominal fee of \$25 per person for the dinner. Please RSVP ASAP as we need to get an accurate head count by calling (805) 284-6372 and leaving a message with your name and number of people in your party. Be prepared to pay via check or credit card the night of the event. You can also mail your check to VVA Chapter 218, PO Box 4862, Santa Barbara, CA 93140. This will also be an opportunity for us to properly thank our members for their hard work over the past year and to recognize so many individuals for their contributions of time, energy and countless volunteer hours.

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FLAG SPONSORSHIPS AT THE MOVING WALL

If you sponsored a flag at The Wall, I will be contacting you shortly to get the flag to you. They are in good hands at The Flag Factory in Carpinteria where they were taken to be cleaned and folded for proper presentation.

There is no chapter meeting set for November or December. Our holiday dinner will be the “meeting” for that month. The next scheduled meeting of the chapter is Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6pm at the Elks Lodge in Santa Barbara.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and I’ll look forward to seeing you at the dinner on December 5.

You can always direct questions and concerns to: info@vvachapter218.org or call my cell (805) 259-9779.

Welcome Home!

Peter

