



# Vietnam Veterans of America | Chapter 218 | Santa Barbara

# RECON REPORT

*"Never again will one generation of Veterans abandon another"*

## AUGUST 2016

**"Together then,  
Together now"**



### Chapter 218

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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 disabled American veterans.  
Fred Golin (Chair) Madeline Moreaux  
Mike Mauro Pattie Murdy

#### Next Chapter Meeting

August 10, 2016 | 6:00 pm  
Santa Barbara Elks Lodge  
150 N. Kellogg Ave., Goleta  
Dinner Available  
\$8.00 per person

Greetings to the Membership:

**First, we are back at the Elks Lodge for our monthly August 10 meeting at 6pm.** Secondly, we have several events happening very soon and I urge all members to participate as we wind down our Fiesta Booth and do another Classic Car Show and prepare to bring The Moving Wall to Santa Barbara in October.

On **Saturday, July 30**, the construction of our Fiesta Booth at De La Guerra Plaza gets underway around 7am that morning and will take approximately four to five hours. We can use your help in getting the booth up. Please bring portable drills, gloves and the like to assist. Upwards of 10 or so folks will make the work go really fast!

The booth isn't finished until the roof is on, the screen has been completely wrapped around the structure—and on top—and the palm fronds in place. The sinks, cooking equipment, tables and refrigerator also need to go in the booth. If you are comfortable doing electrical work, various pieces of equipment and fans need to have power cables and/or extension cords run to them. Main power and water supply is being handled by a couple of our experienced folks.

This is our last year doing the booth so let's give it a big sendoff by turning out to do those all important volunteer hours: **10am-11pm on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 3-6. Invite you family and friends to participate. Contact: donmatter51@yahoo.com...and Don will be making direct calls as well.**

Then come celebrate the end of an era with a **FREE** barbeque at Leadbetter Beach on **Sunday, August 7 from 3pm to dark**—or as long as the food and drink last. If you—or someone you know—worked the booth anytime over the past 30 some years, we want to say THANK YOU by throwing you a party! RSVP to peterbie@cox.net or call (805) 284-6372 so we know how much food & drink to lay in. (Cathy Matter and daughter Kelsey have volunteered to put this shindig together!)

On **Saturday, July 30**, our Huey chopper will be on display at the Classic Car and Travel Trailer Show at the **Santa Barbara Elks Lodge #613, 150 N. Kellogg Ave., from 9am to 2pm.** We will sell our Huey T-Shirts and inform the public about our upcoming display of The Moving Wall. We need 4 to 5 members present to help with getting folks in and out of the bird as well as selling our merchandise. If you can be there for an hour or two or more, please let me know: peterbie@cox.net or (805) 284-6372. (The bird will be parked directly in front of the entrance to the lodge so it will be seen from the street).

We've had nothing but huge support from the public at the various car shows over the past several months, including raising over \$700 at the State Street Nationals event in May!

(Cont'd on Page 2)

I want to thank everyone who turned out for our July meeting at the Plaza Theater in Carpinteria. After a short discussion of chapter business, the doors opened to the public and we viewed the 1995 documentary about Maya Lin, the designer of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

We had lots of compliments about the film and there were many who were surprised to learn of the criticism and nasty comments directed toward her after her design was chosen—out of 1,400 entries!

We also took the opportunity to show a four-minute presentation about The Moving Wall and provided attendees with information about sponsoring the Wall when it's here in October.

We have had great success in bringing on sponsors for the Wall, including the Rudi Shulte Foundation, the Santa Barbara Riders for Veterans Foundation, Montecito Bank and Trust, The Montecito Journal and many others and we are very grateful for their support. If you know of an organization or individual that would like to sponsor our event—either with a monetary donation or an in-kind donation--please let me know: peterbie@cox.net

Moving Wall Sponsorship booklets are available (I keep them in my car) and should you need one or more, just contact me. And if you know of a store, office, or public area that would display our tri-fold brochure for The Moving Wall (in its own holder), we have plenty and can get them to you. Posters (11x17) for The Moving Wall are also available. The more the public knows about what's coming, the more people we'll have at the Wall in October.

At the August meeting, we will have a volunteers sign up sheet for those of you who want to “work” the Wall during its time here. We will need folks to staff the two tents (one at each end of the Wall) to man the computers to provide printouts of names on the Wall. The tents must be staffed 24/7. Docents will be required to help people locate names on the Wall as well as explain how and why the Wall is designed the way it is. (If you can't make the August meeting, please send your volunteer hours for the Wall directly to me). Of course, you—and all Vietnam Veterans--are welcome to be at The Wall at anytime of any day and stay for as long as you like. We can use your help!

There is much more to come, but please pencil in the dates: October 12-17 and set aside time to assist at The Wall. (We will also need folks to help at the Huey, as it will be parked on Cabrillo Boulevard 24/7 during the time the Wall is here—this is a first!).

A full time frame of events and details concerning The Moving Wall will be coming soon.

See you August 10 at 6pm at the Elks Lodge. Bring a friend, a fellow Vietnam Vet or a Veteran of any era! We also encourage the general public to attend; perhaps you'll be inclined join us as an Associate member of the chapter.

Welcome Home!

*Peter*

