



PERIMETER REPORT

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc.
www.vietnamandallveteransofbrevard.com



Together Then – Together Again

1st QTR 2017 Edition

The Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc., established in 1986 in Brevard County, Florida is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of veterans, their families and supporters dedicated to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, service and remembrance to and for those who have served our nation honorably, risking life and status to insure its principles endure.

Make sure your 2017 dues are paid.

ALSO, please be sure your email address and phone are up to date.

President's Message

A warm HELLO TO ALL!

We as an organization are moving forward as well as looking forward to our 30th year Reunion. A special Thank you to Suz & Doc Russo for all the extra work that they've been doing for the organization!

We still need volunteers for Color Guard & Rifle Team, as well as Reunion, Newsletter & our new building!

On a sad note, we have recently lost two members this past week: Bob Brekke and Pat Patterson. You both will be missed; you are loved.

See ya'll at the Reunion in May!

Ranger Bob

VVB Highlights

ALL MEETINGS, ETC will now be held at our **PERMANENT LOCATION**
OUR NEW HOME ON 520!! See Article within for exact information!!

Membership drive begun to get younger veterans involved.

30th Reunion Planning nearly complete!

THE VVB HAS A HOME!



Thanks to Doc and a tap on the shoulder from someone more powerful than we are, he found us a wonderful new home! Located on 520, just 1.7 miles East of I-95, or .7 miles West of Kays BBQ, the new address is 2130 W. King Street Cocoa, FL. It's 2500 square feet of meeting room and office space, and will be a terrific home for the next 3 years and, hopefully, beyond!

30th Annual Reunion Update

It's hard to believe it's that time again - Time for the 30th Annual Florida Veterans Reunion. A time for friends to gather and enjoy each other.

The Escort will be Sunday April 30th and the Reunion will be May 4th through May 7th

It's hard to believe that 30 years ago, the VVB said, "Hey, let's put together a small gathering for Veterans to get together.", and now it is one of the largest in the nation!

I would like to thank all the people who work year round as well as during the reunion for all that they do. We can always use help so, if you or someone you know has some time, please send them our way.

This year is once again going to be filled with many events. The Wall is there for the week along with a number of static displays, and the weekend also brings vendors and entertainment. It looks to be another week of stories among friends as well as tears among brothers.

Thank you to all of our supporters. We could not do it without you!

Doc Russo
Reunion Chairman

The Wall

When you gaze upon the granite wall,
And fix your eyes upon the name.
You will see the one for whom you call,
When he died in America's shame.

You can see his young and frightened face,
See the awesome firepower.
How do you tell a Gold Star Mother
She has lost her blooming flower?

When you listen to the granite wall,
You hear their cries of death and pain.
How we tried to comfort them,
Only God knows if they died in vain.

You can also hear your Congressmen,
"America is not at war."
With 58,000 who lost their lives,
If no war, what did they die for?

Take a step and touch the wall,
Find the name you know so well.
You have no voice, you cannot hear,
As your tears begin to swell.

It has been too long for the names to appear,
A taken sign points the way.
Tell me, America, what is your fear?
Is it more fiery thunder... on a not too distant day?

Now speak as one, so loud and clear,
A message to those on the hill.
Must you persist to bury our sons
In lands that never lie still?

The Vietnam Vet has a painful heart.
Memories that refuse to fade;
We, too, proudly served in time of need,
But the hostages has the parade.

© 1983 Robert A. Chapin, Sergeant, US Army
13th Battalion 1st Cavalry Division
(Airmobile) (Submitted by: Ted Whitlock)



VVB Transitional Facility

We here at the VTF (Veterans Transitional Facility) are proud to say that as of the Month of March 2017 we have had three successes.

Residents moving out on their own and having a better outlook on life.

Things are going smoothly and we continue to strive to have many more successes. We have a grant writer and she is hard at work getting the Grants ready for us.

I would like to thank my wife, Dawn Hedrick, for stepping in the position of dealing with the Direct Assistance portion of our organization. She is also helping with other issues that we have come upon on Karen's departure.

**Richard Hedrick,
Program Director
Veterans Transitional Facility**

Allow me to introduce myself...

I am Suzanne Russo, better known to most of you as "Mrs. Doc" of Reunion Locator "fame" - I am now the Organizations Treasurer. Real life, in general, gets to be a bit much for all of us sometimes, and we have to remember that this is a volunteer organization so, with that, I would like to thank my predecessor, Karen Templeton for her years of service to this org.

While my original vocation is as an LPN, when my own health kept me from it, I became a Bookkeeper/Administrator for several local companies, as well as an organization or two so, I've got a bit of experience. ☺

I look forward to serving our Organization in a more complete fashion, and I hope to meet everyone who receives this newsletter at one of the Membership meetings.

Thank you!

Hey, HIT THE WEB!

As you may know, the internet is a great resource for Veterans Assistance. If you aren't very internet savvy, ask your kids or your grand-kids to lend a hand!

Here are some links to programs that may be of some use to you now or in the future.

- 1) <http://www.hireveterans.com/>
- 2) <https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/programs>
- 3) <https://iava.org/programs/>
- 4) <http://www.nvlsp.org/what-we-do/individual-representation/>
- 5) <http://woundedwarriorhomes.org/>
- 6) <http://veteransnationalassistancefund.org>
- 7) <http://militaryoneclick.com/veterans/>

There are a ton more, but always be "**SCAM AWARE**" Do your research before you give your personal information or your DD-214 to any person or entity.

The Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard are not members of any of the organizations listed here, do not endorse, nor are we responsible for their content. These items are shared in the hopes you might find them useful. SR

Just For Laughs (From guy-sports.com)

One reason the Services have trouble operating jointly is that they don't appear to speak the same language.

For example:

- If you told Navy personnel to "secure a building," they would turn off the lights and lock the doors.
- Army personnel would occupy the building so no one could enter.
- Marines would assault the building, capture it, and defend it with suppressive fire and close combat.
- The Air Force, on the other hand, would take out a three-year lease with an option to buy.

☺ ☺ ☺

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard Presents:
Florida's 30th Annual
Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion

The Nation's Largest Veterans Reunion
Supported by the Vietnam and All Veterans of Florida, Inc. - VVOF.org

May 4th – May 7th

Additionally, come visit The Vietnam Traveling Memorial WALL April 30- May 7

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD & DRINKS

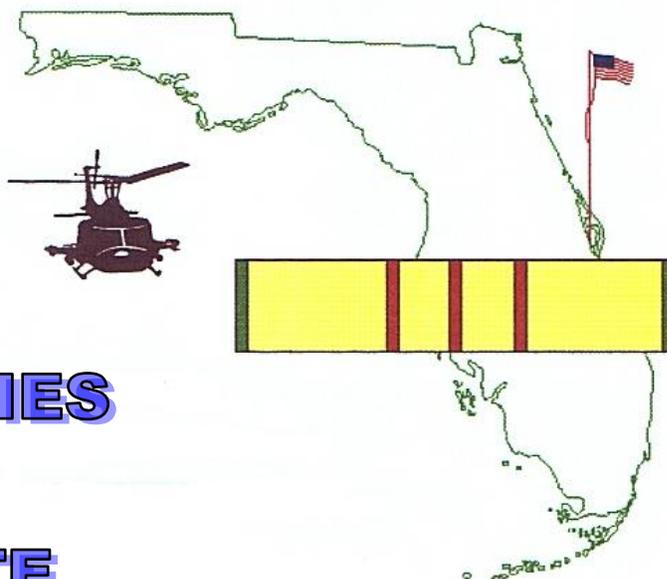
MILITARY VENDORS

MILITARY DISPLAYS

POW / MIA CEREMONIES

THE LAST PATROL

THE MOVING TRIBUTE



Wall Escort April 30, 2017 Leave at 10am
Eastern Florida State College Cocoa Campus
Also visit the Reunion Web Page at:

floridaveteransreunion.com

Wickham Park

321-255-4307 - Melbourne, FL
Take I-95 to Exit 191 or old Exit 73

No Coolers, Glass or Pets allowed
in the Reunion Area

Per Wickham Park: Golf Carts Permitted
For the Handicapped Only And Must
Abide By FL Highway Laws

Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall
<http://travelingwall.us>

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc
PO Box 237225

Cocoa, FL 32923-7225



Call For Info

321-408-2698

321-652-4185

Vendor call 321-652-4185

Vet.reunion.vendor@gmail.com

RaRusso1962@gmail.com

Candy1540@yahoo.com

Club Escort Lineup Info.

reunionescort@aol.com

Vietnam and All Veterans Of Brevard, Inc.

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Executive meets 7pm New Building	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Veteran's Council meets 9am	13 General meets 7pm New Building	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Reunion Meets	21	22
23 / 30 Escort on the 30th	24	25	26	27 VAP Meets 10am Reunion Truck loading	28	29 Work Party Wickham Park 9am

Vietnam and All Veterans Of Brevard, Inc.

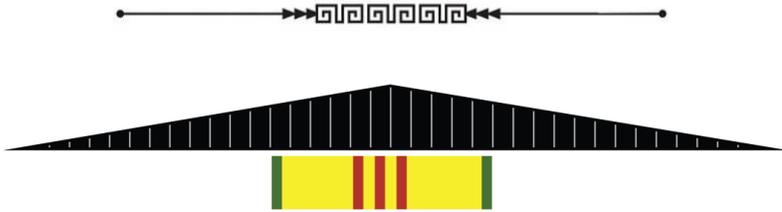
May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Opening Ceremony 6pm	2	3 Reunion meets 7pm beer tent	4 Reunion Starts	5	6 Massing of Colors 10am
7 Closing Ceremony 5pm	8	9	10 Veteran's Council meets 9am	11 General Meets 7pm New Building	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 VAP Meets 10am	26	27
28	29	30	31			

2016 Venues for the VVB Museum

April 15	Melbourne Veteran Center for Combat Vets
May 2-7	VVB Reunion at Wickham Park
May 13-14	Cocoa Village Craft Show
July 4	Cocoa Village Celebration in the Park
Sept 16	Cocoa Village Car Show
Oct 21-22	Cocoa Village Craft Show
November 3-5	Stuart Air Show
Dec 2-3	Cocoa Village Craft Show

(Submitted by: Ed Butcherine)



THE VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL ®

Well it's time to get underway for another year. I would like to thank Lou, Butch and Richard for another great refurb. It took about 10 weeks for us to spit shine the Wall for all to see.

We have 15 events set in stone for 2017 spanning the eastern half of the country once again.

We start in Inverness FL for The Gathering. In the course of the year we will see Moe at "The Ride Home" in Georgia, and Greg Welsh is even going to help at that event. We will end the year in Ft. Meade FL in November. In all we will be in Florida for 4 events including our Reunion. Please check the website for details

Lucky and I are looking forward to keeping the wheels turning for another great year. 2018 is almost full already and it doesn't look to be slowing down any time soon.

Doc Russo

Wall Manager

<http://www.travelingwall.us/>

The Vietnam Wall © Alberto Rios

I
Have seen it
And I like it: The magic,
The way like cutting onions
It brings water out of nowhere.
Invisible from one side, a scar
Into the skin of the ground
From the other, a black winding
Appendix line.

A dig.

An archaeologist can explain.

The walk is slow at first
Easy, a little black marble wall
Of a dollhouse,
A smoothness, a shine
The boys in the street want to give.
One name. And then more
Names, long lines, lines of names until
They are the shape of the U.N. building
Taller than I am: I have walked
Into a grave.

And everything I expect has been taken away,
like that, quick:

The names are not alphabetized.

They are in the order of dying.

An alphabet of - somewhere -

screaming.

I start to walk out. I almost leave
But stop to look up names of friends,
My own name. There is somebody
Severiano Rios.

Little kids do not make the same noise
Here, junior high school boys don't run
Or hold each other in headlocks.
No rules, something just persists
Like pinching on St. Patrick's Day
Every year for no green.

No one knows why.

Flowers are forced
Into the cracks
Between sections.

Men have cried

At this wall.

I have

Seen them.



Join VVB!

Keep the dream alive! Join our team.

Annual Veterans Reunion

Traveling Memorial Wall

Veterans Transitional Facility

Veterans Assistance Program

Honor Guard

Annual MIA Ceremony

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Come to a meeting or mail this form to:

Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc., P. O. Box 237225, Cocoa, FL 32923-7225

Membership in the VVB is open to all concerned citizens, family and supporters at a yearly fee of \$15.00 for a calendar year (Jan-Dec). For NEW members only, dues paid after July 1st is pro-rated to \$10.00. You do not need to be a veteran to join however if you are a veteran, please include a copy of your DD-214. Non-refundable Life Memberships are: Age 54 and under, \$175.00; 55-64, \$125.00; 65 and up, \$75.00.

Membership, \$15.00

Life Membership \$ _____

Change of Address?

New phone number?

New member?

Name: _____ Spouse _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Occupation: _____ Email Address: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Served from: _____ to _____ (show year only) Unit or MOS: _____

Locations of service: _____

Recruited by?: _____

General Stuck in the Mud



During training exercises, a lieutenant who was driving down a muddy back road encountered another car stuck in the mud with a red-faced general at the wheel.

'Your jeep stuck, sir?' enquired the lieutenant as he pulled alongside.

'Nope,' replied the general, coming over and handing him the keys, 'Yours is.'



If you want to have a Reunion or Escort (or both!) T-Shirt set aside for you, please be sure to email Quartermaster Linda Marhon at: paco1674@yahoo.com !!



Vietnam and All Veterans of Florida, Inc., State Coalition

The Vietnam and ALL Veterans of Florida, Inc., was organized in 1984, under the Name Vietnam Veterans of Florida Inc., It was a Coalition of independent Vietnam Veterans oriented organizations, to address issues affecting Vietnam Veterans and their families both in the State of Florida, and nationally. Since its inception the Coalition has grown to be inclusive, and more open to all Veterans organizations. In 2005 the Membership of the Coalition voted unanimously to change the long established name to reflect that sentiment, and to let others know we would be for All Veterans.

Cognizant of the need to promote awareness of issues and concerns unique to Veterans, the Coalition serves as a single unified voice of our organizations with representation before the Florida State Legislature, the State Veterans Planning Group, the Florida and the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs.

Conceived as a "Grass Roots" organization, the Coalition provides it's member organizations the flexibility of retaining their own autonomous identity both as independent Chapters, and in affiliation with other Veteran organizations, while at the same time being able to benefit from an association dedicated to the concept of strength of numbers and unified action on issues.

Working together through a democratic process, Member Organizations of the Coalition provide mutual support to each other for projects and programs, develop strategies and implement plans of action to address and resolve areas of common concern to all Veterans.

The motto of the Vietnam and All Veterans of Florida, Inc., "Together Then.....Together Again", recognizes the special bond of Brotherhood that exists among Veterans and promotes the inherent benefits and positive results that can be achieved as a result of that bond, now and in the future through continued association.

There are many benefits to join the Vietnam and All Veterans State Coalition. A voice of many is heard above a voice of one. The coalition meets quarterly at various locations in the State of Florida and we discuss and disseminate information pertaining to veterans and their benefits. We also are represented on the of the board Florida Veteran Council which helps determine policies in the State

To obtain information regarding joining the coalition either as an Organization, or an individual, please visit our website at VVOF.ORG. If you unsure if this is the type of organization for you, please feel free to join us at one of our quarterly meetings. All are welcomed to attend.

Robert "Doc" Neitzel, President
Vietnam and All Veterans of Florida, Inc., State Coalition

Current VVB Officers

President: Bob Reed 321-537-6444

Secretary: Donna Rogers 321-258-0281

Vice Pres.: Linda Sulzer 321-243-8755

Sgt. @ Arms: Tom Blackwell

Treasurer: Suzanne Russo vvb.suz@gmail.com

Quartermaster: Linda Marhon 321-453-9824

Membership Chair: Billy Valashinas 321-323-6475

Perimeter Report Editor: We're looking for a new editor - Interested?

Contact Donna Rogers at candy1540@yahoo.com



Contacts and Locations

VVB Bunker: 2130 W. King Street Cocoa, FL 32922

Ph. 321 690 0805

VVB Transitional Housing Facility: 700 Fee Ave., Melbourne 32901

Ph. 321 409 8167

Veterans Memorial Center: 400 S. Sykes Creek Pkwy., Merritt Island 32953

Ph. 321 453 1776

Legal Services: Shelly Campbell: shellyc@clsmf.org

Ph. 386 255 6573 X 2441

Melbourne Vet Center: 2098 Sarno Rd., Melbourne 32935

Ph. 321 254 3410

VVB Annual Reunion: Doc Russo: rarusso1962@gmail.com

Ph. 321-652-4185

Brevard County Veteran Services Team:

Ph. 321 633 2012

Veterans Administration, Viera: Benefits Info:

Ph. 321 637 3693;

Patient Advocate:

Ph. 321 637 3788 X 3534

Rifle Team/Color Guard: Bob Bodine: kbob4wic@juno.com

Ph. 321 242 1904

School Speaker Program: Rod Smith: rsmith2580@bellsouth.net

Ph. 321 632 6702



Members Ill and Distressed

Please keep our members and friends on your mind and in your prayers the Frank & Linda Marhon/Donna & Mike Rogers families on the loss of their son/brother - Frank Marhon, Jr. Sue Merkle, Bob Neitzel, Clarence Fuzzy Red Dunkle on the loss of Princess, the family and friends of Bob Brekke on his passing the Russo's son being redeployed, the family and friends of Pat Patterson on his passing and any of our members who are ill or distressed and we are yet unaware. You are always in our thoughts and prayers...



Perimeter Report is published quarterly by the Vietnam and All Veterans of Brevard, Inc. We welcome submissions from members and others interested in the VVB. Please note our website address on the front page where you will find links to other relevant sites. All submissions, comments, delivery problems or other matters related to this publication should be forwarded to Donna Rogers at candy1540@yahoo.com. All submissions are subject to editing.

Editor, NEED ONE!! Publication: Donna Rogers and Suzanne Russo

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