



AVVA

ASSOCIATES OF VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Serving Veterans & Their Families Since 1999

AVVA REGION 9 REPORT – October 26, 2022

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ADVENTURE IN THE REGION

VVA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION CONFERENCE was held in beautiful Greenville, South Carolina, August 9th – 13th. Sharon Hobbs, Nina Schoffel, Kathy Andras, and Bobbie Morris presented AVVA – *The 3-Rs to Recovery: Rekindle * Refresh * Reactivate*. Sharon Hobbs, Nina Schoffel and Tom Hall presented *AVVA From Heartache to Hope*. I also attended *Oral History of our Veterans*, *Survivor Benefits programs: What You Need to Know Planning for the Future*, and *Where are the Dead of War*. When I was not attending Leadership Presentations, I was working in the AVVA Products Booth with Penny Meinhardt and Bobby.

AVVA Utah Chapter 1079, CONGRATULATIONS to Representative Judy Kent and Chapter 1079 Members on finalizing their **Chapter Incorporation**. I will be presenting their Incorporation Charter December 1st in Utah!!!

AVVA CA STATE COUNCIL OCTOBER 14TH – I attended the AVVA CA State council meeting in Visalia. I assisted Michelle Mackey with the AVVA CA STATE Product Sales Table. Additionally, Michelle Mackey let a well-attended PTSD2 Tier. Nina Schoffel assisted Michelle Mackey in a PTSD2 roll play situation that presented the idea that like a snowflake, on our own we may be fragile; but, similarly like snowflakes if we stick together the accomplishments are great. My husband, Butch is a three tour Vietnam Veteran with Agent Orange health concerns and PTSD. He felt like what was happening to him mentally was indigenous to him. But when he attended a group Vietnam Veteran meeting his principal healing came when he found out he was not alone.

AVVA CA Chapter 53 Representative Kyle Orlemann and I are currently working hard to assist Korean Veteran **Huey Meador** with VA benefits. I shared with you last quarter that I had the honor of interviewing 92-year-old Huey Meador, USMC Korean Veteran who is known as one of the *Frozen Chosin*. "What many people might have considered being the darkest two weeks in Marine Corps history may have, in fact, become the Marine Corps' defining moment. With their backs to the wall, the men of the 1st Marine Division pulled together to accomplish the impossible. Their teamwork cemented a band of brothers who came to call themselves: "The Frozen Chosin".

Huey has never had benefits from the VA, and he is subsisting on approximately \$1100 per month. **Huey is 91 years young and is requiring more care than he currently receives. Kyle has many contacts in the Los Angeles VA, and we are hoping for a quick resolution.**

C. Douglas Sterner 7 OCT 2018 | **Ned Forney** U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Korea Donald Baker, Posted on January 28, 2022

OFF TO WASHINGTON DC - AVVA BOD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – NOV. 8TH – 14TH and **CELEBRATION OF VETERANS DAY.**

2022 Veterans Day Events

Event listings will be included on vva.org.

“For the 7th time in history, VVMF will host an in-person event where every single name on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is read in order of which it appears on *The Wall*. As part of the 40th Anniversary Commemoration, the in-person *Reading of the Names* will take place in Washington, D.C., at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and begins on November 7, 2022, at 3 p.m. EST. Thousands of volunteers will come to D.C. to take part in this special event that will end at midnight on November 10, 2022.”

“On Veteran’s Day, **Vietnam Veterans of America will act as the official host of the 69th Veterans Day National Commemoration** at Arlington Cemetery, beginning with the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at **11 a.m., followed by an observance in the amphitheater.**”

Arrive no later than 9:30 a.m.

[Learn more here.](#)

Prior to *The Wall* ceremony, VVA has sponsored a “**Massing of the Colors**” in honor of the **40th Anniversary of *The Wall***. Color guards from chapters and state councils across the country will join us in a salute to those we lost and those of us still surviving....

For more information, and event area map – **download the TIPS & INFORMATION sheet here.**”

VA National Veterans Day Observance

“The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans’ organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.”

“The theme for Veterans Day 2022 is “Honor.” Veterans are proud of their military service in defending our Nation. Honor reflects the military value and tradition of answering the call to duty. There is distinct honor in serving to protect our way of life and the Constitution of the United States of America.”

<https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/>

As always, thank you for all you do and please let me know how I can best serve AVVA by sending me your ideas.