



## March 2010

### From the Desk of the President

The last several months has seen an increased involvement of the chapter in national and local issues. In January I attended the National Board of Directors meeting where I was added as member of the Government Affairs Committee. I am currently a member of the Healthcare Committee. I have been member of the Public Affairs Committee since 2000.

At the Public Affairs Committee meeting It was discussed in great detail the fact that many members have asked for a workshop at the 2010 Leadership Conference, focused on public speaking and effective communications with Congressional Representatives. I was asked to work on the committee that will be presenting the workshop. The committee includes National Vice President Jack Devine.

As you may know the chapter participated in the Alzheimer Walk in November 2009. There is a correlation between brain trauma and Alzheimer. How it will affect the current troops is unknown. It was suggested during the Veterans Healthcare Committee meeting that we (V V A) suggest that research be started to determine the relationship between Traumatic Brain Injury and Alzheimers. Ultimately the objective is to establish that exposure is presumptive for Alzheimer. The research will take a long time but when these troops are in their late forties and begin to experience an increase in Alzheimers, they will receive the benefits they deserve.

We are continuing to participate in the protest at the West Los Angeles VA Facility. As you may have seen in the current issue of the The Veteran their is an article about the "Land Grab" Our own Al Biernesser is quoted in the article. We volunteer on the fourth Sunday of the month. If you are interested in participating call the office and we can arrange to car pool to West L.A.

The third Annual Welcome Vietnam Veterans Day will be held at California High School, in Whittier on Sunday March 28, 2010 from 11am to 6pm

James Maddox

### From the Como-Center

We are excited about our new office in the W.L.A. federal building. It is staffed Fridays by our VSO James Maddox, as well as by other VSO's when available. It gives us direct access to files for claims. If you need help call the West L.A office 310-235-7107 or the Commo-Center office.

### VSO Services

Chapter has a volunteer Veteran Service Officer (VSO) available by appointment.

Hours for appointment are normally Tuesday or Thursdays after 7:00pm at above location in Pasadena.

### Quick Links

- [Chapter site](#)
- [National Site](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Become a Member](#)

Please note the Welcome Home on March 28<sup>th</sup> at California High School (see flyer). AB717 signed by Gov. Schwarzenegger establishes an annual "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" March 30<sup>th</sup> .

Also note the ¾ scale Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall open for public viewing March 23-30 at Rose Hills Memorial Park & Mortuary in Whittier. Opening ceremony will take place on March 23 at 4pm with a key-note address by our chapter member and founder of "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day", Jose Ramos. Closing ceremony is 4pm March 30. Volunteers are needed for a week of events, please call Phyllis at 805-341-7269 or e-mail [Phyllis@corridorcommas.com](mailto:Phyllis@corridorcommas.com).

**Next chapter 446 Annual meeting Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:00pm at office meeting room #107. Help us plan for the coming year.**

**Come join the community in a celebration**



Sunday March 28, 2010  
11:00AM to 6:00PM  
California High School Stadium  
9800 Mills Ave  
Whittier, CA 90604

for more information visit <http://www.whvvd.org/>

**Your United States Marine Corps invite  
you and your family  
as GUESTS at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA**

**For our "Welcome Home" Celebration,  
dedicated to our Marines returning  
from both war fronts & duty around our world**

The public is invited **free of charge** to enjoy the entertainment of our local "Honors" High School Bands and their excellent Directors to our United States Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps from Washington, D.C. plus many celebrity guests and a great patriotic salute to America.

Sunday March 21st at the Rose Bowl  
1001 Rose Bowl Drive, Pasadena, CA 91103  
Gates open at 1:00PM

[click here](#) for more information

Vietnam Veterans of America | 1000 E. Walnut Street | Suite 207 | Pasadena | CA | 91105