

'THE 201 FILE'

VETERANS NEWSLETTER

Volume One

July, 2010

No. 1

Welcome to the initial publication of the CrossPoint Community Church Veterans Newsletter. It is our mission to keep our Veterans updated on items of interest, veteran's stories, humor and profiles of our members.

It is your newsletter, so it needs input from you. Stories of your service years, funny stories from the military, (I know there must be a million of them), photos and other items which you feel might be of interest to our members. You can e-mail them to me at Topsarge8@sbcglobal.net, or just write them up and give them to me on Sunday. Don't worry about editing your stories. I'll do that in order to fit them into the format. I promise you that, if I have to edit your submission I will let you review it before we include it in the newsletter. So, if you want this to be a success, get involved.

California Veterans Benefit Booklet Available

"The California Benefits You Have Earned" booklet is available in printable form on the California Department of Veterans Affairs website at <http://www.ddva.ca.gov/>. Just click on the California Veterans Benefit Link next to the picture of the Marine. The booklet explains the different benefits available as well as the means to access them.

Lest we forget.

Someone spent a lot of time on this and it is truly remarkable. First click on a state.....then when it opensa name.....then it should show you a picture of the person or at least his bio and medals.....

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Memorial Day Service

Many thanks to Steve Trapp and the members of the Ripon High School ROTC for a stirring and reverent presentation for Memorial Day. What an honor it was to have these young people take time from their studies to present such a moving tribute. The flag folding ceremony and the playing of Taps at the end brought tears to many who have lost loved ones in the service of their country.

VETERANS MINISTRY

★ Leave No One Behind ★

Here is the logo for our Veterans Ministry. You may have seen the Leadership Team wearing shirts with it on Memorial Day. If you want a shirt with this logo just drop off a shirt of your choosing (style and color that best suits you) with your name pinned to it and \$8.00 with any of the Leadership Team members. It's a great way to jump start a conversation with other veterans.

Veterans Ministry Leadership Team

Brandon Estes-USMC

Tom LaBarbera-US ARMY

Mick LaBarbera-USAF

Ray Newman-US ARMY

Matt Schrader-Church Liaison

Army Terms Made Easy

A refresher for Army Vets and a clarification for others.



Submitted by Don Moyle

As World War II was coming to a close, General George Patton made a startling suggestion. With his army in Europe already, he suggested moving onto a war with Russia. This was not well taken by his superiors or the politicians at home. But it didn't take long for Patton's vision to come true. As the post war world was being structured, the Soviet Union began swallowing up territory and nations, absorbing them into the Union. This was the beginning of the Cold War, and it was a war that would last for decades. The first great battle was the Berlin Airlift, when the Soviets blockaded the city, trying to starve it out. Our military airlifted countless tons of supplies into the city to keep it alive until the Soviets finally gave it up.

The Cold War would see the greatest escalation of military power that the world had ever seen. Nuclear arsenals would grow that had the ability to destroy the world time and again. These weapons were used in the Cold War, but only as a powerful deterrent. The concept of mutual destruction was the dominant strategy of the war. Both we and the Russians understood that launching an attack would guarantee a horrific counter attack, there could be no winner in a nuclear war. During the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1961 we were brought to the very brink of nuclear war, within hours actually. We took the strong stance and the Soviets blinked, averting total war.

The veterans of the Cold War served all across the world in every role imaginable. They prepared for war in Western Europe, stood on the DMZ in Korea, and practiced daily to launch their missiles on command. These men and women served mainly in times of no outward aggression, although the Korean and Vietnam Wars were products of our battle against Communism. Year in and year out they stood watch over the Soviets, as we were safe here at home. They worked in severe heat and cold, through long shifts and sometimes months with no days off. They were the true reason that we won the Cold War.

Those who served in the Cold War have not been noticed here at home for their service or their victory. There were casualties and deaths, but most were covert in nature and were never noticed. Their war finally came to an end in the late 80's as the Soviet Union crumbled. Their victory went unnoticed for the most part and their service has all but disappeared from our memories. But if it weren't for the men and women that stood the line in the Cold War and commanded the most powerful military machine in its day we may have fallen to the Communists as others did. Our nation owes them a great debt of gratitude.



The Old Sarge Says:

"If the enemy is in range...
so are you."

From: Jim Lerch, ADR 3 US Navy

It was 1960 and I was stationed with VAW 11, radar sub hunters out of North Island Naval Air Base, San Diego, CA. We were deployed to the USS Oriskany CVA 34 an aircraft carrier with 4,500 to 5,000 men on board. Our squadron was there for pilot qualification of launch and recovery. Pilot qualifications consist of 10 day time and 10 night time (five deck and five catapult) launches and recoveries each. As plane captain it was my job to keep the aircraft in good operating order by checking engine, air frame and hydraulics. Before launch we'd turn the aircraft over to the pilot, who trusted us completely for the maintenance of his plane. One night on launch and recovery we were on deck with our aircraft. There was a lot of noise and wind as a carrier does 40 knots trying for wind of at least 40 knots across the bow to successfully launch the planes. When the carrier doesn't reach 40 knots then catapult launches are used. That night around 1900 hours we were at the tail end of launch and recovery. The night launches are very dangerous on a carrier. There was a lot of activity, but everyone on station knew their job. On this particular night a good friend and shipmate, Joe, also a plane captain was to my left and forward of me. He slipped and slid reaching out for and barely grabbing hold of another aircraft's landing gear. What a scare as he was able to stop himself, otherwise he'd have gone over the side and been lost. When we finished our ops Joe said, "I'm sure glad you couldn't see me because I was probably as white as you." My friend, Joe, is black. We had a good laugh, but were thankful for his quick thinking.

VETERAN'S MINISTRY
FAMILY ICE CREAM SOCIAL
SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2010
FAMILY LIFE PAVILION
2-4 P.M.

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY
BUILD YOUR OWN SUNDAES
TIME FOR SHARING - COME PREPARED LADIES!
VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND UPDATE

PLEASE R.S.V.P. TO MATT AT
MSCHRADER@FBCMODESTO.COM OR CALL 521-0181
(WE WANT TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE CHURCH'S
RESOURCES)