



Viet Vet Monsoon Tribune

SPECIAL NAM JAM EDITION - SUNDAY OCTOBER 10 1993

!! HOUSING PROJECT SURGES AHEAD !!

For those of you who haven't driven by the northeast corner of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base lately there have been some very significant goings ons there. One could honestly say there have been some concrete happenings. With the help of many volunteers, Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association, and US Homes, two completed buildings have sprouted up and several more are under construction.

This may not sound like much to an outsider but we know what it has taken to get to this point. It seems as if some higher being is throwing obstacles in front of us just to see if we are serious enough and strong enough to overcome them. The opposition of neighborhood factions led to a zoning hassle that took over a year to straighten out. This in spite of the fact that the property (leased land from the federal government) wasn't subject to local zoning. Grants were secured and then rescinded and then granted again. Construction trailers were destroyed in a windstorm. It has been a long and rocky road. One obstacle was the securing of an easement to bring in power. Sounds easy enough until you try to do it and find that it must go through four different levels of bureaucracy two times. In the meantime Max went ahead using a portable generator. Throughout all this we have won over many influential and hardworking friends who have lent their expertise to Esperanza en Escalante and helped us through the tough spots. The beginning of the construction phase was a dream come true for many, and a mechanism for realizing the dreams of many of our less fortunate brothers. There is no turning back now with two units totally completed and occupied by needy vets. We truly feel VVA IO6 is constructing, with E&E, **the only Vietnam Veterans Memorial of real significance in the state of Arizona.**

Let me pass on the information to you on how you can be a part of it all. There is a phone on site where you can call to **volunteer a little time.** That number is **571-8294.** Betty Slaybaugh who has stuck with the project through thick and thin, lots of thin, would also be happy to talk with you about E&E. Betty's number is **296-7040.**

The E&E folks have a large display with photos and all the current info on the project here today. Make sure you stop by and talk with them.

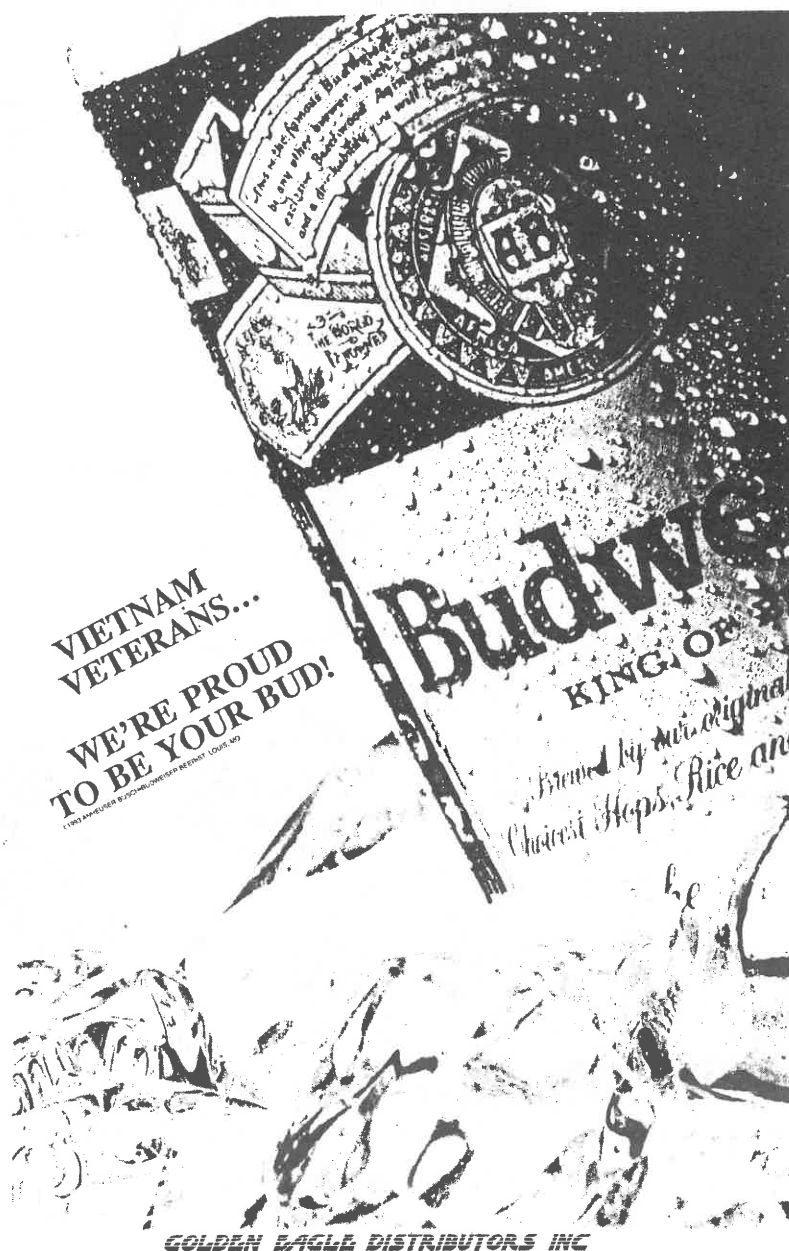
VA EMPLOYEES ASSOC. FUN RUN/WALK SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1993

Don't miss the 11th Annual 10K/ 2 mile fun run/ walk to benefit the Vietnam Veterans Transitional Housing Project and the Trudeau Child Development Center. **Call Dave Mellady at 629-4628 for more info.**

SPECIAL POST NAM JAM EVENT

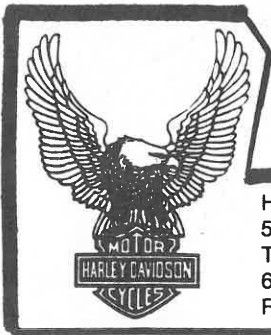
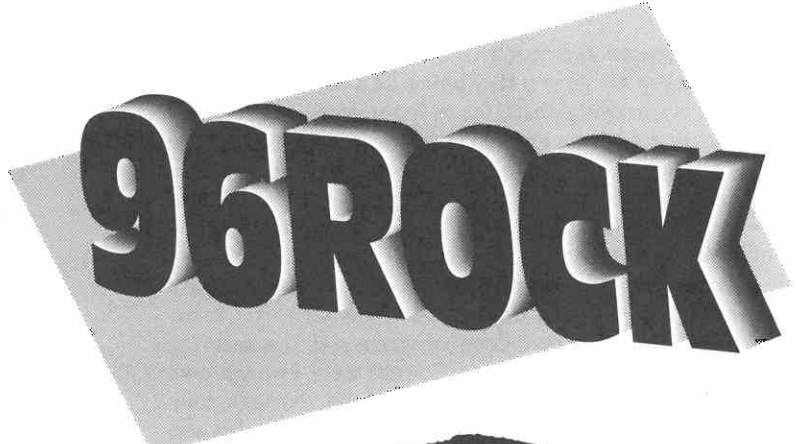
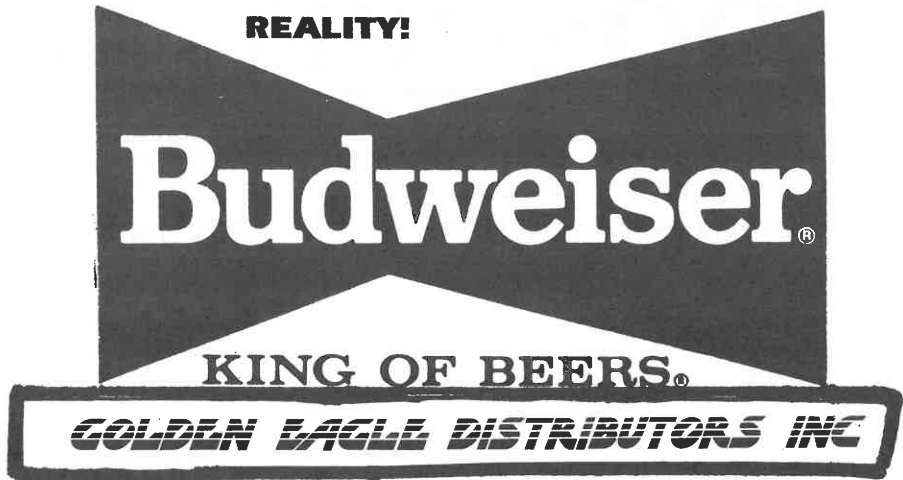
Don't miss this evening with R. Carlos Nakai, Navajo Vietnam veteran and world famous concert artist.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27th
7:00 P.M.

The Park Inn - 88 E. Broadway Tucson, Az.
For more information call (602) 622-5428.

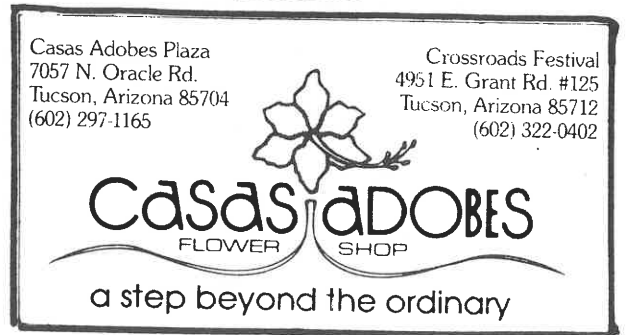
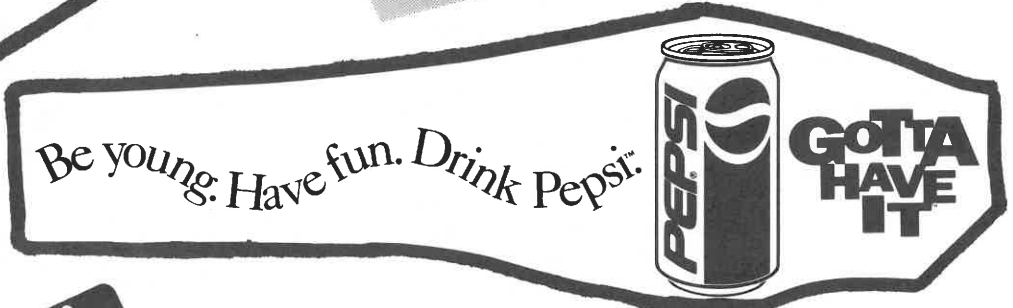


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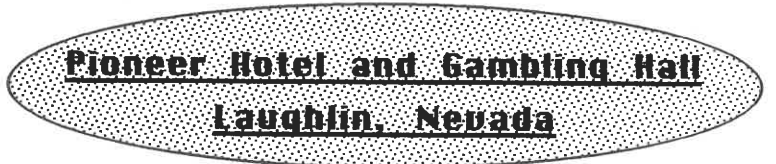
**A VERY SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO THESE
 GENEROUS VETERANS ADVOCATES WHO
 HELPED TO MAKE NAM JAM 93 A
 REALITY!**



HARLEY-DAVIDSON OF TUCSON
 5205 EAST 22ND STREET
 TUCSON, AZ 85711
 602-747-7304
 FAX 602-745-2423



561 N. 4th Ave. - 623 - 3939



Vietnam Veterans of America

A Congressionally Chartered Veteran's Service Organization



Membership is open to Vietnam-Era Veterans and
Associate Membership is open to the Public at large

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Social Security # _____
Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

New Member

I am a Vietnam-Era Veteran (Jan. 1, 1959 - May 7, 1975) and would like to be a Member. Enclosed \$20.00 for Annual Dues and copy of my DD Form 214.

I am NOT a Vietnam era Veteran and I would like to be an Associate Member of Vietnam Veterans of America. Enclosed \$20.00 for Annual Dues

Renewal of Membership Membership Number _____ Chapter No. _____

I want to donate more! All contributions are tax deductible. Enclosed is my donation
 \$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 \$500.00 \$ _____

(All contributions are tax deductible)

Recruited by _____
Membership # _____ Chapter No. _____

Return this form to:

Vietnam Veterans of American
Tucson, Chapter 106
P. O. Box 40903
Tucson, Arizona 85717
Phone (602) 323-6798



When one American is not worth the effort
to be found, we as Americans have lost.



INTRODUCING VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Vietnam Veterans of America was recently characterized by *The Washington Post* as a small but feisty group who aggressively looks after the interests of Vietnam Veterans. I kind of like that portrayal. We are still strong inside and don't take any flack from anybody. Though we have perhaps mellowed with age, we are still willing to fight for what we feel is right, even if this bucks the trend.

VVA 106 has led the way in the veterans community of Tucson on the homeless issue. We have stuck with bulldog tenacity to the dream of Esperanza en Escalante until it has become a concrete reality and has gained the respect and support of a wide base of veterans groups and local and state institutions. Perhaps during this time you have paid your \$20 every year and done little else, perhaps you wondered why you were even doing that, perhaps you're not a member. Well, we are here to tell you that VVA 106 has been part of something big and something you as a Vietnam Veteran can be very proud.

Become a member and take the next step! Stride out of the shadows and become an active participant in VVA 106! Assist us in the realization of a dream that can be shared by everyone. It is less painful and much more satisfying than a hangover, and at times even approaches being lots of fun. Attending NAM JAM is only half the trip. Regaining the brotherhood is the frosting on the cake. Using that power and spiritual energy in making truly important things happen is what we're all about. Call today and get involved. 323-6798

Vietnam Veterans of America, founded in 1979, is the nation's only congressionally chartered Vietnam Veterans organization dedicated to improving the condition of Vietnam veterans and their families.

We are a nationally respected not-for-profit membership association that enjoys a well-earned reputation for effectiveness, integrity and meaningful achievement. VVA is on the cutting edge of all federal and state legislative and health programs that impact Vietnam-Era veterans. VVA has walked point on Agent Orange, PTSD, and Judicial Review. In the past year the VA tried to open the VA hospitals to non-veterans and was trying to make changes in the Vet Center system that would have certainly led to their elimination. VVA national and its state and local chapters played a major role in ambushing both of these attempts to further reduce services to our nations veterans.

Currently VVA members are canvassing all incumbent and aspiring members of congress to change the way veterans bills are treated in congress. At this time these bills are decided on in committee and never are debated on in the house or the senate. This second class treatment of vets needs to change and VVA is once again leading the fight.

We are proud of our 44,000 plus members located throughout the nation. We come from all walks of life. We, as an organization, have members who are in need of assistance, and we also represent those who are able and willing to give of themselves. We have members who are former prisoners of war, US senators, former nurses, and children of Vietnam veterans.

VVA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. VVA Service Representatives provide advocacy for veterans in 35 states.
2. Assist in the maintenance of the Veterans Outreach Center program.
3. The only veterans organization with regular contact with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to discuss policies affecting veterans medical care.
4. The only chartered veterans group significantly addressing the problems of homeless vets.
5. With 35+ incarcerated Chapters, VVA has taken the lead in addressing issues impacting on incarcerated vets.
6. The only vets group actively recruiting multicultural and women members.
7. VVA National Committee on PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) and Substance Abuse is working with state agencies and the DVA to develop innovative treatment approaches for Vietnam vets.
8. VVA Legal Services Program together with the National Veterans Legal Services Project are working to develop procedures that will make judicial review work to the benefit of the greatest number of veterans.

VVA 106 LOCAL ACTIVITIES

1. Actively assist and contribute to local organizations working with the homeless.
2. Maintain a contingency fund administered by the local VA Medical Center to meet veterans needs not addressed by governmental services.
3. Volunteer time at the local VA hospital and provide magazines and books for patients there.
4. Provide a contact and referral service to appropriate assistance agencies for Vietnam Era vets.
5. Family support and crisis assistance for Vietnam Era vets.
6. Produce NAM JAM, an annual get-together for Tucson veterans to renew old ties, provide a day of family fun, provide access to veteran service groups, and to maintain public awareness of the Vietnam veterans sacrifices for, and contributions to, the community.
7. Maintain a color guard which performs in various parades and ceremonies.
8. Offer educational programs on the Vietnam War and the Vietnam era to schools and other organizations.
9. Present the VVA Annual St. Patrick's Day Bike Ride.
10. We have spearheaded the development of "Esperanza En Escalante", a 50 duplex housing complex that presents an innovative approach to alleviating the homeless problem in Tucson. It is estimated that one-third of all homeless persons are veterans. We have targeted this population for our housing project. In addition to having secured the site and created architectural plans for the complex and grounds, we have been awarded grants through the City of Tucson as well as Pima County and the State of Arizona. We are actively seeking federal and private funding also. Two units are now completed and occupied with construction underway on several more.