



# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Membership in Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. is open to Vietnam Era Veterans  
Associate Membership to the Public at Large

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00 Annual Dues Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of DD Form 214 Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to

• VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA •

Tucson Chapter 106, P.O. Box 40907, Tucson, Arizona 85717

I am a Vietnam era veteran and would like to be a Member. (Enclose DD Form 214)

I am not a Vietnam era veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member.

Your Local Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

I want to give more. Enclosed is my check for  \$20,  \$50,  \$ \_\_\_\_\_  New Member or  Renewal

(All contributions are tax deductible.)

Membership Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

## Announcements

One of our own Chapter members was fortunate enough to find and establish a relationship of permanent commitment with a beautiful and intelligent Tucson woman.

Kimberly Pelto, daughter of John & Esther Pelto of Tucson, married Shawn Swartzmiller, son of Barbara Swartzmiller of Connelly, New York, January 2, 1988. The ceremony was started at 1:00 PM and was held at the bride's parents home. The wedding was small and intimate and included Mary Rose as the maid of honor and Robert Morin as the best man, also appropriately 40 guests looked on to cheer the young couple on. Among the guests were members of the bride's family, some of whom came from as far away as Michigan and Florida. Plus the guest list included Chapter members Dave Croteau and his wife Bernie, Mike Smyth and his wife Darlene and Albie Ginaro.

At the present, the new Mrs. Swartzmiller is employed at La Paloma and her husband and long standing Chapter member is employed at the V.A. Hospital. Their marriage being set at the start of the year will always symbolize new beginnings for them and faith in themselves and their future together. Let's all join to congratulate them and wish them all the happiness they deserve!

### NOTICE!!

If anyone has an announcement that they feel the Chapter would be interested in, or would like the Chapter to know about, please mail your announcement to:

VVA CHAPTER 106  
P.O. Box 17104  
Tucson, Arizona 85731

Attention: Frank Thompson

The announcement can be about anything - weddings, graduations, bar mitzvahs, etc.

Let's all share in each other's joy and happiness. Please send in your special announcement.

\*CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR\*  
 \* JANUARY 28th - GENERAL MEETING, Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st ST. \*  
 \* at 7:30 PM. \*  
 \* \*  
 \* FEBRUARY 11th - BOARD MEETING, Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st ST. \*  
 \* at 7:30 PM. \*  
 \* \*  
 \* FEBRUARY 25th - GENERAL MEETING, Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st ST.\*  
 \* at 7:00 PM. \*  
 \* \*  
 \* MARCH 10th - BOARD MEETING, Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st ST. \*  
 \* at 7:30 PM. \*  
 \* \*  
 \* MARCH 24th - GENERAL MEETING, Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st ST.\*  
 \* at 7:30 PM. \*  
 \* \*  
 \* MARCH 26th - A & A DAY, ONE DAY ONLY AT "D.M.A.F.B."  
 \*  
 \*CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\* CALENDAR\*

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 CHAPTER 106 IS LOOKING FOR DEDICATED PEOPLE TO FORM A COLOR GUARD AND  
 MARCHING UNIT. THIS UNIT WILL REPRESENT THE CHAPTER IN FARADES AND  
 OTHER EVENTS. FOR INFORMATION CALL: HAROLD LEIGH 748-0161  
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## BOWLING

December 12, 1987 Fiesta Bowling Lanes

Turn out was light for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Party, but a good time was had by all, even the foul-up with the names was overlooked because of the profuse apologies offered by the Fiesta Bowling Lanes staff.

How about a bowling team or teams? Three and four man teams are now being formed - meet once a month and bowl three games. The price is dependent on the number of teams - maximum is \$4.00 per person per month. If you're interested, call Mike Smyth at 297-2315. If you're not interested in bowling, then what? Remember, it's your Chapter...what do you want out of it?

## REFLECTIONS

The days were hot, so damm hot.  
 The nights were so very, very long.  
 Time hung like a thick mist around  
 you and in a fire fight everything  
 happened in slow motion.

You cursed everything around you  
 but in your heart you thanked God  
 for keeping you alive and that  
 one more day was over.

Through all this -- all you can  
 think about is that wonderful  
 place called -- "THE WORLD"

HAROLD LEIGH



## VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA TUCSON CHAPTER 106

P.O. Box 40903  
 Tucson, Arizona 85717  
 (602) 790-7602

### GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICE	NAME	PHONE
President	Dave Croteau	792-9109
Vice-President	John Shirley	884-7544
Secretary	Mike Brasher	298-6426
Treasurer	Mike Smyth	297-2315
Corres. Secretary	Albie Ginaro	749-4469
Director	Louie Leos	889-6096
Director	Gene Voelzow	888-7666
Director	Ronnie Lira	323-0991
Director	Frank Thompson	790-1978
Director	Chuck Bald-Coulter	790-7602



# SHARING THE EXPERIENCE

VOLUNTEERISM I

We're working at the VA Hospital...

...but first we need to go through the Orientation Process. Not hard. Learn the Emergency Codes and where the varied labs and service units are located. You get to watch a movie 'bout what it is to be a Volunteer Worker and how it helps the Veteran and your own Chapter by signing in & out and recording your time.

If you work through a meal hour...you eat in the Hospital Cafeteria (MESS HALL). You should sign up for this when you sign in.

I work in Visitation and Gopher. Go for this & go for that. Warm bodies are needed in Pharmacy, Mailing and Patient Feeding areas as well as Escort. If you want to help our Viet Vets in the VA, contact

Chuck Bald-Coulter 790-7602

Chapter 106 has a member participating in the Volunteer Program at the VA Hospital. He has been kind enough to put into his own words his feelings and perceptions of the program. We can just hear the doors slamming shut at the VA, but we're sincere and we care!

If after reading this you still got the huevos to do it, please contact Chuck. It's a terrific way to help your fellow vets and get a good feeling inside too!

**WU**  
western union

**Telegram**

LLD046 VAD056(1236) (2-010205E206) PD 07/24/76 1236

ICS IPHRCZ CSP

1976 JUL 24 PM 2:44

4155471556 TDRM OAKLAND CA 98 07-24 1236P EST

PMS COLONEL EARL P HOPPER SR

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING  
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, PLR

STATLER HILTON HOTEL

WASHINGTON DC

TO THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES: IF YOU HAD HAD THE KIND OF ACTION YOU HAVE BEEN SEEKING YOU WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE GATHERING FOR A 7TH ANNUAL MEETING, AS YOU ARE TODAY. THE FIRST WEEK THAT I AM PRESIDENT, A NEW SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TAKING EVERY REASONABLE AND PROPER STEP TO RETURN ANY LIVE AMERICANS STILL BEING HELD IN SOUTHEAST ASIA; TO SECURE AN ACCOUNTING OF AMERICANS STILL LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION; AND TO REPATRIATE THE REMAINS OF AMERICAN DEAD. YOU HAVE HAD TO WAIT TOO LONG FOR ACTION.

RONALD REAGAN

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# POW/MIA UPDATE

As we begin 1988, we also approach the 15th anniversary of the return of 591 American prisoners of war during March 1973. For the majority of us, that war isn't over, not until ALL OF OUR MEN AND WOMEN COME HOME! Reports of LIVE AMERICAN POW's continue to filter out of Southeast Asia. In January 1987, non-government information indicated my brother, Major Victor Apodaca, USAF, was seen with a group of TEN AMERICANS IN LAOS! They were in leg-irons and were being used to work a gold mine! This report was confirmed in March, by two other sources totally unrelated to the January report. I have been told that photographs exist and that conversation took place among the men and the individuals who reported the sighting.

How much longer will these brave men and women endure? They continue to serve their country faithfully. Do they still believe and place trust in their government to bring them home? For 15 years, the MIA families have been told the only way to solve the dilemma was through government to government negotiations. Consequently, this has resulted in the return of QUESTIONABLE BODY REMAINS. And, THIS HAS NOT RESULTED IN THE RETURN OF ANY LIVE AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

On July 24, 1976, Ronald Reagan, during his presidential campaign, sent a telegram to Col. Earl Hopper (retired), Chairman of the Board for the National League of Families, stating that he would "begin immediately ...to return any LIVE AMERICANS STILL BEING HELD IN SOUTHEAST ASIA." WELL----the families and our nation are still waiting! I have no doubt President Reagan believed his own words, unfortunately, he has people in government positions who do not want these men home and Mr. President has been listening to the wrong people!

A news article was carried in many newspapers around the country during October 1987, that Congressman John Rowland (R-Conn) was releasing a list of 70 names of POWS known to be alive and soldier's remains that the United States left in Vietnam in 1973, following the Paris Peace Accords. Unfortunately, these same newspapers never bothered to publish the list of names. I wonder why? Here is the list of 70 names:

Samuel Adams (R)	Richard D. Appelhans (POW)	Ralph C. Bisz (R)
Henry F. Blood (R)	Daniel V. Borah, Jr. (POW)	Richard L. Bowers (POW)
Robert W. Brownlee (POW)	Richard Ck. Clark (POW)	George W. Clarke (POW)
Richard N. Cocheo (POW)	Roger Coine (POW)	Donald G. Cook (R)
Thomas G. Cornthwaite (R)	Charles A. Dale (POW)	Eugene H. DeBruin (POW)
Joe L. DeLong (R)	Demmon, David S. (POW)	Bennie L. Dexter (POW)
Charles G. Dusing (R)	Jack D. Erskine (POW)	Michael J. Estocin (PW)
Walter Ferguson (R)	Sean L. Flynn (R)	Daniel A. Gerber (POW)
Solomon H. Godwin (R)	John G. Graf (POW)	Robert R. Gregory (POW)
David S. Greiling (POW)	Rodney L. Griffin (POW)	Robert H. Grzyb (R)
Dennis W. Hammond (R)	Welles Hangen (POW)	Robert I. Hanson (POW)
Allen Hiron (POW)	David L. Hrdlicka (POW)	Tomohara Ishii (POW)
Vernon E. Johns (POW)	Tanos E. Kalil (R)	Roderick L. Mayer (POW)
James H. McLean (POW)	Archie E. Mitchell (POW)	Thomas Moore (R)
Daniel L. Niehouse (R)	Betty Ann Olsen (R)	James K. Patterson (PW)
Joe P. Pederson (POW)	Robert P. Phillips (POW)	Trent R. Powers (POW)
Eunyan D. Price (POW)	Dallas R. Pridemore (POW)	Charles L. Putnam (POW)
James M. Ray (POW)	Richard R. Rehe (POW)	Edward D. Reilly (POW)
Terry L. Reynolds (PW)	James M. Roze (POW)	Dale W. Richardson (PW)
Kojiro Sakai (POW)	James Salley (R)	James F. Schiele (PW)
Walter R. Schmidt (PW)	Charles E. Shelton (POW)	James E. Simpson (R)
Burt C. Small (POW)	Donald L. Sparks (POW)	Dana H. Stone (R)
Derri Sykes (POW)	William L. Tromp (POW)	Edwin B. Tucker (R)
James L. Van Bendegom (R)	Michael B. Varnado (R)	Eleanor Vietti (POW)
Yoshihiko Waku (POW)	Marvin B. C. Wiles (R)	Kenneth J. Yonan (PW)
Robert M. Young (R)		

R = Remains withheld      POW or PW = Prisoner of war

Eleanor Apodaca<sup>1</sup> Reitz  
Sister of Major Victor J. Apodaca, USAF  
POW    June 8, 1967    North Vietnam

See next page for additional documen