



Listening Post

July 2026

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Richard Camacho

LP Editor

Joe Richardson

James Ray Scholarship

Joe Richardson

Membership

Joe Richardson

Presidents Message

The following opinions expressed in this message are solely mine and do not represent the official views of the VVVC. The United States is celebrating its 250 year anniversary as a country in just a few days. There were a lot of sacrifices among those who fought for freedom and to protect the rights of the citizens in this great country. It is a time of celebration and reflection of what has been achieved. It's also a reminder of what must be done to maintain our country and guide it. Happy Independence Day America! God bless and guide the Nation into the next 250 years!

Respectfully Howard Tench VVVC Pres.

Note: Board Meeting time moved to 5:30pm
General meeting remains 6:pm

Sick Call: Barry is now hospitalized, John Walker, Fred & Irene Hoff (both upcoming surgery), Richard Pena, Ed Evens(back east now)

LP Editor Over time members have sent articles to me that would/should have made it into the LP. So this month I am including some.

Scholarship

Recipient selected and will attend the August meeting to read his essay and receive his award

PAO Richard Camacho: Upcoming Events

July 4 Ojai Parade, be there by 8:30 AM, We are No. 2 in the lineup, John will be in place at 8AM

July 13 10:00 AM, Veterans Call, Color Guard for the tournament at Spanish Hills Golf Course
999 Crestview Ave Camarillo 93010

July 25 10am-4pm American Veterans United 10th Annual BBQ Fundraiser, Oxnard Beach Park

August 15 Camarillo Air Show

September 18 National POW/MIA Ceremony, Ventura County Veteran's Memorial 7:00 PM

September 26 Port Hueneme Banana Festival

Reminded all about 1st wed of the month lunch at the VFW Port Hueneme and 3rd Wed on base

Richard also shared that the only thing waiting on the statue project is the Building and Safety permit due to the over 5 foot tall height of the Remembering Black Wall Stone

POW/MIA Report

The Defense Accounting Agency announced:

WORLD WAR II

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Helmut F. Behlert, 27, of Salt Lake City, Utah, killed during World War II, was accounted for Oct. 9, 2025.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Carl F. Abbott, 35, of Salinas, California, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Jan. 5, 2026

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Robert P. Aikman, 40, of Forsyth, Missouri, killed during World War II, was accounted for April 2, 2025.

U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Robert J. Barrat, 20, of Woonsocket, Rhode Island, killed during World War II, was accounted for April 30, 2025.

KOREA

U.S. Army Cpl. Charles L. Carroll, Jr., 18, of Pittsburgh, who was killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Aug. 5, 2025.

U.S. Army Cpl. Orestus M. Stewart, 20, of Magnolia Springs, Texas, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Nov. 26, 2025.

June 22

Presenting Congresswoman Brownley with her Thank you gift



Last general meeting presentation of Thank You gift to Laurie Curtis Abbe



Richard asked to share this article

Five months after [promising up to 800 units](#) of new temporary housing on its West Los Angeles campus by this fall, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is calling for bids to build fewer than a third of that number with a delivery date seven months later.

A [request for proposals](#) issued last month by the VA calls for a minimum of 220 units with an option for 40 more. A contract to be awarded at the end of August would require completion by next April.

The solicitation marks a retreat in quantity but an upgrade in quality. After the VA unveiled a plan during a federal court hearing in January to [install 800 tiny homes](#) on the campus, advocates for veteran housing criticized the 8-foot-by-8-foot sheds as cramped, flimsy and undignified. The new proposal is for much larger structures of 160 to 226 square feet, each with a bathroom and kitchenette containing a refrigerator, microwave and sink.

Bidding is limited to [firms owned by disabled veterans](#). The notice did not specify the cost. The winner will be chosen based on value, balancing price and technical quality, it said."

Richard received this email from Camarillo H.S. after his presentation

Good morning,

I should have sent this email months ago. To be honest, students made hand-written notes to thank you for your time at ACHS as guest speaker this year. Alas, the project took on a life of it's own and mailing it to you escaped me.

My sincerest thanks and appreciation to you for your time speaking with my classes all day at the beginning of our "Things They Carried" unit.

Our last day of school is today and as we reflect on the year, many of their "favorite part" is having Richard Camacho come speak to us about his experiences.

Thanks again, and I hope you have a wonderful summer!

[Adolfo Camarillo High School](#)

Howard has had a great partnership with a local shop that is furthering our hat sale/donations



So here is POPS REPAIR SHOP