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3-2014

Reveille (Issue 14)

CSUSB Veterans Success Center

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Recommended Citation

CSUSB Veterans Success Center, "Reveille (Issue 14)" (2014). *Reveille newsletter*. 27.
<https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/reveille/27>

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[Facebook.com/VSC.CSUSB](https://www.facebook.com/VSC.CSUSB)

or search for

CSUSB Veterans Success Center

The New Veteran Health Identification Card is coming soon!



- Increased security for your personal information - no personally identifiable information is contained on the magnetic stripe or barcode.
- A salute to your military service – The emblem of your latest branch of service is displayed on your card. Several special awards will also be listed.

The VHIC will be issued only to veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system.

The VHIC is for identification and check-in at VA appointments. It cannot be used as a credit card or an insurance card, and it does not authorize or pay for care at non-VA facilities.

VA will automatically mail a VHIC to enrolled veterans, who were issued the Veteran Identification Card. Mailing will begin soon.

Because the VA will be reissuing 4 million cards, they are asking for your patience during this time.

Veterans who have the old VIC will automatically have the VHIC mailed to them.

Enrolled veterans who do not have the VIC (the old identification card), may contact their local VA medical center enrollment coordinator to arrange to have their picture taken for the new VHIC, or they may request a new VHIC at their next VA health care appointment. To ensure their identity, veterans must provide either one primary or two secondary documents.

Important!! Veterans who are already enrolled should ensure the address the VA has on file is correct so you can receive your VHIC in a timely manner. To update or to confirm your address with them, please call 1-877-222-VETS (8387). If the post office cannot deliver your VHIC, the card will be returned to the VA.



Two Wins at the Local VA Loma Linda Competition for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival



On Feb. 20, 2014, the VA Loma Linda Hospital held a competition as part of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Zayre Ruiz won first place in the wood model building kit category for her bald eagle entry and Jennifer Smolenski won third place in the plastic model building kit category for her Blackhawk model. Zayre's bald eagle will be entered in the 2014 National Veterans Creative Art Festival, Oct. 27 through Nov. 2, 2014, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Veterans Success Center is a Help Hospitalized Veterans (HHV) craft site and both Zayre and Jennifer's entries were from kits that we have on hand at the center and are provided free of charge to veterans. Since its inception in 1971, HHV has distributed 26 million arts and crafts kits along with other programs and services to our nation's hospitals. HHV neither seeks nor receives government funding. Every Wednesday, new and different arts and crafts kits including leather crafts, sun catchers, paint-by-numbers, latch-hook

rugs, poster art, plastic and wood models/crafts, and much more are brought to the VSC. All that HHV asks is that you complete a postage paid postcard to the kit's funder to thank them for their donation. So stop by the VSC and get your craft kits today and good luck at national's Zayre!



Brown Bag Lunch Series

On March 4, 2014, Phyllis Meltzer, Ph.D., provided a session on "Self-Discovery" at the Veterans Success Center. Dr. Meltzer has served as a faculty

member at UCLA and USC and as a staff member at the Smithsonian Institution and the national Gallery of Art. Dr. Meltzer invented the Self-Discovery Tapestry Kit, which provides a resource to review one's life milestones. According to Meltzer, "The Self-Discovery Tapestry creates an opportunity for clients and therapists to acknowledge and review the client's life. Using colored pens, individuals 'weave' their lives, disclosing continuous behaviors as well as important events and future goals. It assures insights into how people adapt to life's changes." The Self-Discovery Tapestry has been used by more than 7,000 persons. Fourteen veterans attended the workshop and created their own Self-Discovery Tapestries. Ken Jacobs, USMC-Reserves, stated, "By using Dr. Meltzer's tapestry, I gained insight into the important events that have happened in my life."



Military Appreciation Night a Tremendous Success



On Feb. 21, 2014, the Veterans Success Center in collaboration with several university departments, held the inaugural Military Appreciation Night at the men's basketball game. Prior to the game, military members, veterans, and students feasted on a BBQ hosted by ASI and Rec Sports. CSUSB President Tomás Morales joined the festivities and gave thanks to our many military members in attendance. Directly following the tail gate, those in attendance took their seats to watch the CSUSB men's basketball team play the Sonoma State Seawolves. Beginning at tipoff, a joint Color Guard comprised of cadets from the CSUSB Air Force ROTC, Det. 002 and the Army ROTC, Coyote Battalion posted

the colors, followed by more than 100 JROTC cadets, representing seven high school and four branches of service, that majestically unfurled a giant American flag across the basketball court, followed by Air Force ROTC cadet Carrera Allred, whose beautiful rendition of the National Anthem was appreciated by all. Next, Chaplain Capt. David Sarmiento, 163rd Reconnaissance Wing, provided a moving invocation. As he spoke, the Student Veterans Organization (SVO) set the battlefield cross on center court for fallen SVO member Michael Brennan. Throughout the game the CSUSB Cheer Squad, adorned with red, white and blue ribbons in their hair, danced to patriotic medleys and the Army and National Guard shot t-shirts to the fans. VSC's very own Kenny Jacobs suited up in his Coyote uniform for the evening and entertained the crowds as none other than Cody Coyote. Throughout the game, there were opportunity drawings and military items were given to the fans. At halftime, 20 Wounded Warriors and disabled veterans were honored and future soldiers and warriors took the ceremonial oath. A great time was had by all. Sgt. 1st Class Mayorquino, Recruiting and Retention NCO for the National Guard in San Bernardino related, "Thank you so much, my warriors had a great time, your event was awesome." And best of all the Coyotes defeated the Seawolves by a wide margin. Many thanks to our sponsors: Crest Chevrolet (bronze sponsor); Brill's Shoes (arena sponsor); The Mug (arena sponsor); Tello's Tailors (arena sponsor); The Tossetti Family (arena sponsor); Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.-Beta Kappa Chapter (arena sponsor); and the Bravo Troop, 4-9 Cavalry (arena sponsor).



Military Veterans Screenwriter Workshop to be Offered at CSUSB



Andreas Kossak, a professor of CSUSB, was inspired by a video of the Military Veterans Writers Workshop. The workshop is a weekend retreat for veterans organized by the Writers Guild of America Foundation, which provides them with a brief introduction into screenwriting (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mHxheRjkmI>). Professor Kossak felt, however, that it did not provide the in-depth instruction and guidance needed to create a screenplay.

With this in mind, he approached Marci Daniels, director of the Veterans Success Center, with a wonderful proposition. He was willing to volunteer his time to provide an actual course that will teach veterans the art and craft of developing an original story for the screen. The outcome for veterans would be the development of professional skills in screenwriting, to open up career opportunities and, hopefully, the creation of a screenplay with commercial potential. Eventually, veterans could form writers' groups to support each other, as well as gain access to resources available to them in the film industry.

"Veterans have stories to tell. They have dealt with extremely challenging situations and can draw from a rich life experience," said Kossak. Their discipline and work ethic will serve them well to be writers. What's missing is an opportunity to learn how to turn their stories into feature film screenplays and potentially into novels."

Professor Kossak is a graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. He is the producer and co-writer of the award-winning indie comedy "Cyxork 7" and was the managing partner of Gamma Gulch Productions, LLC. He has served as the cinematographer/director of photography on about 400 productions including a dozen feature films, numerous features for cable TV, documentaries, and a documentary series for the Discovery Channel. He is a member of the WGA.

The program will meet for nine sessions during the summer starting on July 1 and ending on Aug 26. Professor Kossak is looking for 15 dedicated veterans that are interested in developing a screenplay. Please contact the Veterans Success Center at (909) 537-5195 or e-mail daniels@csusb.edu if you want to be part of this exciting opportunity.

Cadet of the Month

Cadet Joel Powell, MSI



- Always motivated, eager to train. Proper uniform, always according to regulation and disciplined.
- PT score of 276. Second highest score of MSIs and IIs in January.
- Ranger Challenge Team
- GPA 3.0
- Psychology major
- Wants to branch active duty aviation.
- An example and leader to his MSI peers.
- Wants to contract in AROTC as soon as possible.

Graduating Student Veterans, Order Your Graduation Stole Today

Call the Veterans Success Center at (909) 537-5195 or e-mail Marci Daniels at daniels@csusb.edu to receive your free graduation stole.

Make sure to include your full name, email address, phone number, and branch of service.



If you have a GPA of 3.0 or higher you qualify for the S.A.L.U.T.E Honor Society. Applications are available at the VSC or contact Jaime Espinoza by **MAY 23, 2014** at (909) 537-5195 or e-mail at jespinoza@csusb.edu.

Don't Forget!

**In Memory of Barry Fletcher (Paul B. Fletcher III),
U.S. Army Veteran**

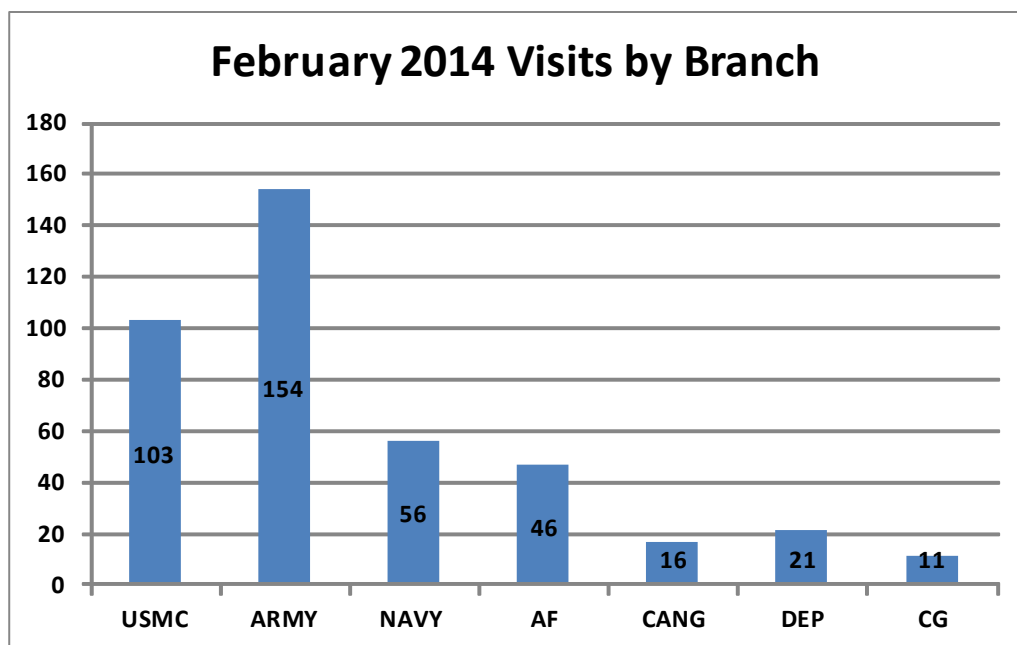


The SVO's effort to establish a library memorializing Barry Fletcher is underway. They are currently accepting monetary donations and recyclables that will go towards purchasing the bookshelves. Please go to the URL below if you'd like to make a donation and drop off your recyclables at the VSC. For questions, please contact David Briggs at bdraivgigds@yahoo.com or Luca Daley at luca.daley@yahoo.com

<http://www.gofundme.com/6izifk>

February Total Visits at 1,644

The 28 days of February were successful ones for the Veterans Success Center in terms of numbers, with the highest ever recorded visits totaling 1,644. Military Appreciation Night on Feb. 21 was a huge success, with 1,055 attendants recorded at the basketball game. Furthermore, the Veterans Success Center has begun recording branch of service for its patrons, as evidenced by the affiliation circle on the newly formatted sign-in sheet.



Vets & Dependent Achievements



Tracy Pittsley
U.S. Navy

I am a double major at CSUSB pursuing my bachelors in Arabic studies and international business. I recently got accepted as a Chinese major at CSULA for fall 2014. I will be commuting between both

universities, in hopes of achieving degrees at both schools. Also, I will be studying abroad this spring at Qasid Arabic Institute in Jordan. Furthermore, I have been accepted into the Chinese summer language intensive program here at CSUSB.

Joe Moseley
U.S. Army

I double majored in liberal studies and sociology with a double minor in Latin

American studies and ethnic studies. Thanks to connections I made by working with other veterans while studying at CSUSB, I am now employed at the County of San Bernardino VA office as a veterans service representative aid. I'm extremely honored to have graduated alongside fellow veterans and deeply honored to have continuing connections with Cal State San Bernardino.



Beatrice Longshore-Cook,
USAF Dependent



I grew up as the dependent of my father who served in the USAF for 20 years, as well as being the granddaughter to a U.S. Army veteran. At CSUSB, I received two bachelor's degrees in anthropology and Arabic, and am currently working towards my Master's in Social Science with a Middle East regional focus. On campus I am involved in numerous clubs and programs including the Global Citizens Project, Student Ambassador's Society, and the Model United Nations program. This summer I will be backpacking through Europe with my mother and sister.



David Briggs
U.S. Army

I am graduating with a B.A. in Arabic studies and a B.S. in social sciences during winter quarter, 2014. As a student at CSUSB, I have participated in the Model United Nations/ Model Arab League programs, studied Arabic in Jordan, and started the Fletcher Library with the Student Veterans Organization. Over the next few months I will continue to work as an Arabic tutor, complete a research project with a grant awarded by Office of Student Research and continue building towards going to graduate school.

