



LINCOLN HILLS VETERANS GROUP BULLETIN

July 2026

Lest We Forget

Volume 26, No. 7

President's Corner

Committed Leaders, Part IV

Meet Two More Leaders Who Keep Us Strong

Peter Gilbert has served as the vice president of the Veteran's Group and is the current president. Here are his service recollections:

I originally joined the California National Guard and served in a 90-millimeter gun unit at several bases in the San Francisco Bay Area. We were later converted to a Nike missile unit.

In 1961 I joined the U.S. Army and after several schools at the Army Finance Center in Indianapolis,



Indiana, I was recruited into the Army Intelligence Corps for assignment in Washington D.C. I served from 1961 thru 1964 managing confidential funds for the Army Intelligence Corps worldwide. It was a very challenging position and it helped me develop my accounting and management skills that helped guide me during my professional career. I completed my service in 1964 and was discharged as a staff sergeant (E-6).

Bill Lewis is a past president of the Veteran's Group and is our current chaplain. Bill writes as follows:

I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in January 1957 and attended boot camp at the Naval Training Center San Diego. After competing Electricians School, I was assigned to the USS *Shelton* (DD-790), homeported in Long Beach.



While aboard the *Shelton*, we made two West Pac tours to Yokosuka Japan, including sailing around Australia and conducting operations in the South China Sea. I finished up my tour of duty on the

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Next Meeting

Air Force Special Operations Technician to Speak July 16

Veterans Group life member and U.S. Air Force retiree Bill Hanlon will be the featured speaker at the July 16 general membership meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Kilaga Springs Presentation Hall.

Bill will discuss his ten years as a special operator technician in support of worldwide reconnaissance operations. He spent eight years on flying status on KC-135 aircraft, installing, modifying, operating and uninstalling special electronic equipment. His presentation will reveal the spy organization his missions supported.



Bill was retired and honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1978 after 20 years of service as an electronics technician. During his career, he specialized as a communications repairman, special

operator technician and electronic counter-measures (ECM) repairman.



His service took him to units in France, Germany and Turkey, as well as U.S. assignments at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; Lowry AFB, Colo.; McClellan AFB, Calif.; Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.; and George AFB, Calif.

Lincoln Hills Veterans Group 2026 Officers and Directors

President: Peter Gilbert 650-759-5584
Vice President: Jeff Davis 408-483-2860
Treasurer: Dave Taylor 559-281-0868
Secretary: Bauke Van Oosbree 559-307-5577
Director: Phillip Cameron 916-705-4310
Director: Dick Parry 425-240-1098
Director: Frank Furr 435-659-6218

Past Presidents: Jeff Davis, 2024-2025; Dave Taylor, 2023; Bill Lewis, 2022; Joan MacAdams, 2020-2021; Mike Schultz, 2019; Wayne Gallant, 2018; Fred Buhler, 2017; Bob Ringo*, 2016; Jack Everett, 2015; Malcolm Singer*, 2014; Roger Espiritu, 2013; Joey Chisesi*, 2012; Rich Williams, 2011; Jon Hodson, 2010; Doug Cooper, 2009; Steve Witmer, 2008; Vern Luke, 2007; Wayne Ford, 2006; Dick Schultz*, 2005; Mark Dentinger*, 2004; Dick Meyer*, 2003; Ed Foley, 2002; Mickey Haggard*, 2001

**Deceased*

Advisors and Committee Chairs

Membership: Phillip Cameron 916-705-4310
Programs: Dick Parry 425-240-1098
Vets Resource: Doug Cooper 916-408-7173
Social Events: Phillip Cameron 916-705-4310
Chaplain: Bill Lewis 916-303-0349
Flag Sales: Bauke Van Oosbree 559-307-5577
Public Relations: Steve Witmer 916-521-3587
Web Admin: Catania Group cirina@catania.us

Meetings

General membership meetings normally are held the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Kilaga Springs Presentation Hall, except for March, June, October and December, when social events are held.

Membership

The purpose of the Veterans Group is to bring together resident veterans who have served honorably in any uniformed service of the United States or its allies during war or peace. Dues are \$20 a year. Life membership is \$200. For further information, please contact Phillip Cameron at 916-705-4310.

Bulletin Contributions

Contributions to the monthly *Bulletin* are appreciated. Please send material for consideration to:

Steve Witmer, Editor
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Question for "Old Salts"

In 1941, the United States Navy needed a lightweight, all-purpose building that could be shipped anywhere and assembled without skilled labor. The wartime Navy settled on a building that could be assembled in a day by a 10-person team using only hand tools. Can you name the type of building chosen? The answer appears on page 4.

— In Memoriam —

Robert Donald Putnam

Veteran of the U.S. Army

The Veterans Group extends its deepest condolences to Robert's family and friends.

Calendar of Events

July

- 4 Independence Day*** 
 9:00 a.m. Parade, 9:30 p.m. Fireworks
14 Directors' Meeting
16 General Membership Meeting

August

- 13 Ice Cream Social**
 1:00 p.m., Leatherby's
18 Directors' Meeting
20 General Membership Meeting

** National Holiday or Observance. Proudly fly the American flag.*

Parade, Fireworks to Highlight Lincoln's July 4 Celebration

9:00 a.m. – Lincoln Hometown Parade

Presented by the Lincoln Area Chamber of Commerce and proudly co-sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lincoln

9:30 – 10:00 p.m. – FIREWORKS
 immediately following the Potters baseball game

All events are made possible through the tireless efforts of the City of Lincoln, City Staff, the Lincoln 4th of July Foundation, and the Lincoln Area Chamber of Commerce.



Treasurer's Report

On May 31, 2026, the group's bank accounts totaled:

Checking: \$ 4,617.48
Savings: \$ 4,002.81
Total Assets: \$ 8,620.29

Membership Report

The group's membership on May 31, 2026 totaled:

Life Members: 88
 Annual Members: 57
Total Voting Membership: 145

Ice Cream Social Coming in August

Save the Date: Leatherby's, Thursday, August 13 at 1 p.m. in the back room. Vets and guests will order from the senior menu. Come and enjoy!

President's Corner, continued from page 1

Shelton as an Electricians Mate (E-5) as she was being upgraded to a guided missile destroyer. I was released from active duty September 1960 and was discharged in 1963.



I enjoyed and I am proud of my time in the military as it gave me a lifetime career, 30+ years as an electrician with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Items of Interest to Veterans

Interested in Something from the Veterans Group's Past?

The Veterans Group maintains an archive of its newsletters since its founding in 2001. If you're interested in a person or event that was featured in a past issue, you can get a copy of that story by contacting Steve Witmer at



switmer@ymail.com. Just identify the topic of the article and its approximate publication date, we'll research it and see that you get your copy.

History Channel to Launch Series Honoring Combat Veterans

Combat veterans offer first-person stories to commemorate nation's 250th

A network series that tells the stories of combat veterans will launch this year on the History Channel, social media platforms and several websites, in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary.

"Mission to Honor: A 250th Salute to American

Veterans" will offer the personal stories of service members who fought in World War II, Vietnam, Korea and the War on Terror, according to the History Channel, which partnered with the White House and Freedom 250, a public-private initiative, for the project.

Veterans profiled will include Paul Priest, who served in the Army's 9th Armored Division in World War II; Louis Graziano, who fought on Omaha Beach on D-Day; Royce Williams, a Korean War Navy pilot;

Vietnam Medal of Honor recipient James McCloughan; and Lt. Col. William Swenson, awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in the Battle of Ganjgal in Afghanistan.

► *Congressional Medal of Honor recipient E. Royce Williams*



"At the heart of the initiative [are] first-person video profiles featuring veterans from World War II through the Global War on Terror," according to the History Channel. Users will be able to access the features on the History Channel, History.com, veterans.com and various social media channels. Each story will be introduced by the president, who will offer a tribute to those who served, according to the History Channel.

The profiles will culminate with a one-hour documentary that will premiere on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, on the History Channel.

- *Stars and Stripes*

North Korea's New War Museum Glorifies 'Noble Sacrifices' for Russia

SEOUL—Bloodstained letters from North Korean soldiers. An American tank supposedly captured at war. A munitions shell containing soil from the battlefield.

These are some of the items featured in a new memorial in Pyongyang dedicated to North Korea's participation in Russia's war against Ukraine. The museum-cum-shrine blends propaganda exalting the regime of leader Kim Jong Un with a message of fealty to Russia, a country that is increasingly vital to North Korea's security and economic well-being.

► *Kim Jong Un hosts senior Russian officials at a ceremony to inaugurate the museum in Pyongyang.*



Kim personally opened the museum—dubbed the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at Overseas Military Operations—late last month. It marked the first anniversary of the expulsion of Ukrainian troops from Kursk, a region in

southern Russia. That operation relied on some of the 15,000 North Korean soldiers Kim has sent to help Russia in the Ukraine war since late 2024.

North Korea has emerged as a crucial ally in Russian President Vladimir Putin's war, which has burned through enormous quantities of munitions and has left hundreds of thousands of Russian soldiers injured or dead. In addition to troops, Pyongyang has supplied Moscow with artillery shells, short-range ballistic missiles and antitank missiles.

In return, Moscow has given Pyongyang cash, air-defense equipment and diplomatic support by blocking additional United Nations sanctions.

The museum sends the message that Kim "intends to continue strengthening relations with Russia, and in turn, Russia must not forget what North Korea has done for them," said Shin Beom-chul, a former South Korean vice defense minister who is now a senior analyst at the Sejong Institute think tank.

— Wall Street Journal

First look at the Global War on Terrorism Memorial in Washington

The foundation overseeing the design of the future Global War on Terrorism Memorial on the National Mall in Washington has unveiled the first renderings of what the site will look like.

► *Rendering of the Global War on Terrorism Memorial in Washington, D.C. (Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation)*



The memorial's design is the culmination of eight years of input from 20,000 Americans, including veterans from every branch of service and every conflict since World War II, according to a foundation release.

Foundation officials are slated to meet over the coming months with various city planning commissions to finalize design approval, according to the foundation's proposed timeline.

With approval, the foundation is aiming for a 2027 groundbreaking and a project completion date of late 2028.

— Military Times

Lest We Forget

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Marks 100 Years of Military Guard

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia reached a milestone of being continuously guarded by service members for 100 years on March 25. The tomb was established in the wake of World War I, when an unknown soldier



who died in the war was interred on Nov. 11, 1921, according to a news release by the Army's 3rd Infantry Regiment.

It did not have an assigned military guard until March 25, 1926, after the Army's deputy chief of staff ordered such a presence over concerns the monument was not properly respected. It was a daytime guard until July 1, 1937, when it became guarded 24 hours a day, seven days a week in all weather conditions.

— Stars and Stripes

Answer for "Old Salts"

A Quonset hut is a lightweight prefabricated structure of corrugated galvanized steel with a semi-circular cross-section. The design was developed in the United States based on the Nissen hut introduced by the British during World War I.

The sides were corrugated steel sheets, and the ends were covered with plywood which had doors and windows.



The building could be placed on concrete, on pilings, or directly on the ground with a wood floor. The flexible interior space was open, allowing use as barracks, latrines, medical and dental offices, isolation wards, housing, and bakeries.

More than 170,000 Quonset huts were manufactured during World War II, and the military sold its surplus huts to the public after the war. The name comes from the site of their first deployment at Quonset Point at the Davisville Naval Construction Battalion Center in Davisville, Rhode Island.