



CHAPTER 391
Tuolumne County, California

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
GUERRILLAS IN THE MIST

Vietnam Veterans - Chapter 391

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VVA-391 grosses \$134,000 during 2009

Nearly \$135,000 was added to VVA-391 coffers in 2009 with the fiscal year ending in February 2010. Donations to charities and expenses totaled nearly \$130,000. According to Treasurer Barry Schloffel, "When you see that revenue number, it would appear that the Chapter has plenty of money for the next fiscal year until you see the expenses and donations already made."

A couple of downfalls led to a lesser revenue in 2009. The Celtic Festival actually was a loss and the chapter didn't do the Mother Lode Fair this year. The biggest fund-raiser this year was the Veterans Memorial with about \$45,000; however, most of that goes to ordering the bricks and materials for the

Memorial. Second was the Bobby Rapp Memorial Scholarship Motorcycle Run which grossed over \$20,000 (the net was placed in a Certificate of Deposit). The Annual Golf Tournament came in third with \$18,500. The net results of income was about \$64,000. Of this 53% went to charities in the amount of \$25,530 of which \$21,000 went to scholarships.

The fund-raisers in 2009 included Cinco de Mayo, Fathers' Day Fly-in, the Golf Tournament, Hawaii Condo and Rifle Raffle, the Motorcycle Run, Clover sales, Veterans Incarcerated, the Stand Down, AVVA Rummage Sale, and Veterans Memorial. Other revenue came from the Hawker Shop, member-

ship dues and rebates from National VVA, and miscellaneous donations.

In 2010, two more revenue-producing events are planned which should add a considerable amount to the coffers — the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Parade on March 28 and the VVA-391 Fishing Derby planned

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First 'Member of the Year' honored at the 391 Christmas Party

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 391 of Sonora has named George Eldridge their 2009 Member of the Year. Eldridge received the award at the Chapter's Christmas Dinner on December 8 at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds.

Eldridge is the Public Affairs Officer (PAO) for VVA-391. This is the first time the Chapter has made this award. According to Barry Schloffel, Chapter Treasurer, "He has been most valuable to our organization and has been since he first joined and later became a Life Member. Just this year he served on the Golf Tournament Committee and the Veterans Memorial at the VA Sonora Clinic Committee as well as chairing a parade committee for Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day (WHVVD) on March 28, 2010. This was a richly deserved award."

Eldridge designed their web site several years ago and maintains it for the chapter. It carries a lot of information for all veterans. He also started up

See Member of the Year, page 5



President Dan Brown (left) presents a Certificate of Appreciation Ron E. Patel, General Manager of Black Oak Casino, a major sponsor of VVA-391's 8th Annual Golf Tournament. Black Oak Casino has been a sponsor for several of the events held by VVA-391 during 2009 and in other years as well. The Golf Tournament had its most successful year in 2009. Chairman John Marrs is on the right.