

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Gulf Coast Chapter 1037**

FSC Meeting 2/13/2016

Submitted by: Dennis Bruland, President

Veterans Outreach: Charlotte County Homeless Veterans Standdown, provided food for homeless vets on Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have started donating to a local food bank in support of veterans and needy people in the community. Support veterans at the Jacobson State Nursing Home. We have a program cutting stars from our Flag and giving them to veterans with a note of encouragement.

Fund Raisers: The Chapter cooks burgers and hot dogs at the local Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealer. All food is provided free of charge and we have a tip basket and accept donations. (On two occasions we raised over \$900.)

Community: Participated in the Punta Gorda Veterans Parade. The Chapter was invited to a going away party for our County Service Officer. We also attended the induction ceremony for the Charlotte County Combat Wounded Veteran Program. We work hard raising funds for the Southwest Florida Vietnam Memorial Wall. Groundbreaking for the Wall, with Gov. Scott, was held on November 11, 2015. The Dedication is schedule for June 2016. A donation was made to Wreaths Across America in the name of our fallen members. We support a Young Marine unit at Imagine School in North Port FL, we also support the Southwest Florida Honor Flight, Inc.

Membership Drive: We have a booth set-up at Farmers Markets in Englewood and Punta Gorda. The Chapter held a meeting at the Rotonda West VFW (3 new members)

I serve as President of the Charlotte County Veterans Council.

Future projects include a fund raiser raffle for a gun, a lunch cruise on the Gulf of Mexico, shooting competition continue and we have another fishing trip are planned.

No newsletter or email - working to complete

Meeting Date: First and third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. We meet at American Legion Post 110, in Port Charlotte.