

Central Coast Veterans CEMETERY FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Garza, *President*
James Bogan, *Vice President*
Robert Schaffer, *Treasurer*
Marti Stanton, *Secretary*
Janet M. Parks
Robert Lockwood
Sandy Lockwood
William (Bill) Nye
Dan Presser
Ed Robano

220 12th Street (P.O. Box 849) Marina, CA 93933 (831) 218-1780 www.ccvcf.org

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Candace Ingram or Tish Sammon **Immediate Release:** December 12, 2017

EPIC RIDE FLAG COMING HOME TO VETERANS CEMETERY

The 2017 Epic Flag, escorted from the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery to Arlington National Cemetery and flown over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, is returning home again. Upon final return, the Flag will be flown each Memorial Day at the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery.

Congressman Jimmy Panetta will present the Flag during a ceremony on Saturday, December 16 at 10 a.m. at the Veterans Cemetery on former Fort Ord. The public is welcomed to attend.

The Flag was escorted in a month-long, 10,000 mile cross-country ride on motorcycles by three American Legion Riders to increase awareness about the Veterans Cemetery and to assist in raising funds to provide in-ground burials for veterans who desire or whose faiths or cultures require in-ground placements. The 2017 Epic Riders included Hy Libby, Rick Phinney and Steve Culver from the American Legion Post 31 in Salinas.

The first phase of the Cemetery was opened in October 2016 providing for placement of cremains only. The second phase provides the option of in-ground burial.

The Central Coast Veterans Cemetery is owned and operated by the California Department of Veterans Affairs. Local funds must be provided to match federal grant funds in construction of each phase of the Cemetery's development. To date, the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation has provided nearly \$1 Million for completion of the first phase and to assist with planning and design of the second phase for in-ground capacity.

For more information, contact the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation at (831) 218-1780 or visit the Foundation's website at www.ccvcf.org.

##

Emeritus (Past Members):

Byrl Anderson-Smith
Morris Dickson
Charlie Eskridge
Thomas Griffin
Howard Gustafson
Robert Harrell
Russell Harris
Robert Huffer
Michael O'Brien
James (Jimmy) Panetta
Jeanne Nakagawa
Greg Nakanishi
Darlene Velicki

