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“The Promised Land”



On March 2, 1887, at the Forty-Ninth U.S. Congress, Members of the House of Representatives and Senate approved an Act of Congress ... *“To locate, establish, construct, and permanently maintain a branch of said National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers to be located at such place in the States west of the Rocky Mountains ... to appear most desirable and advantageous.”*

Section 2 of the Congressional Act stipulates:

“That all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who served in the regular and volunteer forces of the United States, and who are disabled by disease, wounds, or otherwise, and who have no adequate means of support, and by reason of such disability are incapable of earning their living, shall be entitled to be admitted to said home for disabled volunteer soldiers.”

One year later on March 3, 1888, with patriotic compassion and a vision for the future, John P. Jones and Arcadia B. de Baker gave more than 600 acres of pristine land to the United States Government that was *“most desirable and advantageous.”* The land was a Gift with the resolute and sacred promise that guaranteed those who honorably defended our country and were disabled or homeless would always have a place to call “Home.” In fact, the legal Deed declares no less than six different times that this land is:

“To be permanently maintained as a National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.”

Equivalently, our government's token of gratitude, on behalf of ‘we, the people,’ was the explicit promise to provide America's Military Veterans with the very best of medical care and shelter at the National Home.

BROKEN PROMISES

The aforementioned notwithstanding, the Department of Veterans Affairs has flagrantly violated the Congressional Act and breached the legal Deed by facilitating a series of long-term, low-rent, “sharing agreements” with commercial and non-profit corporations that do not share these facilities with Veterans. Contrary to the stipulations mandated by Congress in 1887, this sacred land has now become most desirable and advantageous to non-Veterans.

Today, there are an estimated 388 acres left from the Veterans original Gift, and a large portion of this remaining land and the buildings upon it, are for non-Veteran use.

As a result of this breach of promise, there are more than 20,000 homeless Veterans living on the dangerous streets of Los Angeles, even though this is their lawfully deeded “Home.”

Following is a partial list of predatory leases and agreements that the Department of Veterans Affairs has facilitated in order to benefit non-Veteran organizations at the expense of America's Military Veterans, particularly the disabled and homeless:

- The West Los Angeles VA Medical Center (WLA VAMC) entered into a 20-year sharing agreement with Brentwood School, one of the wealthiest private schools in the nation, for 21 acres of Veterans land to build an athletic field for their students use only. The sharing agreement expires in 2020 and the athletic field is not shared with Veterans.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a long-term lease agreement with Breitburn Energy. The land use agreement is for drilling oil on Veterans land and the Department of Interior controls the mineral rights and receives the royalties.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a 20-year sharing agreement with Richmark Entertainment Group, a Hollywood / New York entertainment conglomerate, for the Wadsworth and Brentwood Theaters, the only two theaters at the National Veterans Home. They are no longer available for Veterans use but have become readily available for a "cultural community center" for high-priced plays, operas, symphonies and movie premieres for the wealthy neighboring elite.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a 10-year sharing agreement with Sodexo Marriott on Building 224 for laundry services for their hotels.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a no-bid, rent-free enhanced sharing agreement with Veterans Park Conservancy, which is not a Veterans organization but a wealthy neighboring homeowner group, for a 16-acre billion-dollar parcel of Veterans land to build a public community park. The privileged agreement is a 20-year contract with a 10-year option and Veterans receive nothing but an onslaught of a public playground.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a 20-year sharing agreement with UCLA for a state-of-the-art collegiate baseball stadium and Veterans do not share this stadium on their own property.
- The WLA VAMC has entered into a 20-year sharing agreement with the Salvation Army for Building 212. The agreement expires December 2025.
- The WLA VAMC has entered into a 10-year enhanced sharing agreement with the Salvation Army for building 207. The Agreement expires April 2015.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a 20-year enhanced sharing agreement with Westside Services for parking lots on Veterans land that includes the Brentwood Village lot. The agreement expires in 2020.
- The WLA VAMC entered into a special sharing agreement for Community Soccer Leagues and local high schools to use MacArthur Field on Veterans land, but it's off limits to Veterans, as is the two-acre Meditation Garden that is chained and padlocked.
- The WLA VAMC recently leased the 20+ acres of the "Vets Garden" to another non-profit corporation, which is the Santa Ana Botanical Garden, even though Veterans wanted to create and develop individual "plot gardens" to grow their own fresh vegetables. The Botanical Garden will be open to the public.

- The WLA VAMC has operated the 15-acre Veterans nine-hole golf course that allows the public to play and more than \$200,000 has been stolen / embezzled by the employees working at the course. The WLA VAMC has entered into a sharing agreement with a non-profit corporation that is not a sanctioned Veterans Service Organization. The Veterans Golf Course will continue to be open to the public.

RESTORING THE PROMISE

At a press conference on February 21, 2010, at the 100th consecutive Sunday Rally of the Old Veterans Guard, a group of dedicated Veterans in their 60s, 70s and 80s who are protesting the abuse and misappropriation of Veterans land, presented their “Veterans Grand Plan” to honor the Congressional Act of 1887 and the legal Deed of 1888, and restore the nobility and intrinsic legacy of the National Veterans Home.

The Grand Plan is a tribute to “The Grand Army of the Republic,” which was America’s first Military Veterans Organization after the Civil War. It was instrumental in the influence and creation of the Old Soldiers Homes of the late 19th century, including the Los Angeles Home.

Likening the current conditions of the dilapidated buildings at the Veterans Home to the ruins of war-torn Europe 65 years ago (It’s been officially reported that eleven of the buildings are vacant), the Old Veterans Guard is calling on General Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to demolish the archaic and obsolete buildings of the 1930s and rebuild this sacred land, in a manner similar to the Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe.

The Grand Plan calls for the Department of Veterans Affairs to invest at least \$2.5 billion to transform and rebuild these ruinous and dysfunctional facilities into a 21st Century National Veterans Home with modern Resident Towers, Dining Halls and Administrative Offices.

That’s hardly a drop in the government’s stimulus bucket when considering what it spends to engage the two current Wars and the amount of money spent to bail out mismanaged banks, investment, insurance and automotive companies.

Surely our government can invest this small token of appreciation to save the lives of 20,000 homeless Veterans while ensuring disabled Veterans that they will always have a place to call “Home,” in accordance with the Act and Deed.

By rebuilding this sacred land into a Grand Veterans Home that we can be proud of, our nation will be investing in tangible assets to pass on to future generations of Veterans.

Bottom line is this investment will build a safe haven for Veterans to heal from their Military injuries, instead of building a more bloated VA bureaucracy with non-Veteran employees.

Those who think they have an entitlement to take this sacred land and turn it into whatever serves their special interests under the shameful guise of “honoring our veterans” are seriously misguided in their morals, and lack decency of respect for the defenders of our nation’s unparalleled freedom.

Please join The Veterans Revolution to restore the legacy, tradition and grandeur of the National Veterans Home and end Veteran homelessness.

The
“VETERANS GRAND PLAN”
Dedicated With Great Gratitude to
The Grand Army of the Republic



Grand Army of the Republic

America's first Military Veterans Organization was instrumental in the influence and creation of the Old Soldiers' Homes of the late 19th century.

“VETERANS GRAND PLAN”

Organized and Proposed by the Old Veterans Guard and Presented on February 21, 2010, at the 100th Consecutive Sunday Rally of Protesting the Abuse and Misuse of Veterans Land.

\$2.5 Billion

Transformation Program

The Los Angeles National Veterans Home

**Rebuilding Veterans’ Sacred Land into
A 21st Century**

“GRAND VETERANS HOME”

In Honor of “The Grand Army of the Republic” America’s first Military Veterans Organization that was instrumental in the influence and creation of the Old Soldiers’ Homes of the late 19th century.



“The Grand Army of the Republic”

1892 Photo - Los Angeles National Soldiers Home

“VETERANS GRAND PLAN”

A 21st Century “GRAND VETERANS HOME”

GRAND VETERANS HOME – South of Wilshire:

Medical Treatment and Rehabilitation

- A Veterans Hospital and Healthcare Center that provides top-quality, state-of-the-art medical treatment and services for all Veterans who are in need.
- Build the finest medical and rehabilitation center in the world that offers the very best of healthcare services and treatment, which is a very small token of gratitude for the world's greatest defenders of freedom and independence.

GRAND VETERANS HOME – North of Wilshire:

Residency, Preventative Medicine & Wellbeing

- Demolish the obsolete and dysfunctional structures built in 1930 and build a modern “Grand Veterans Home” with Resident Towers and Dining Halls surrounded by acres of lush lawns and landscaped gardens for natural healing.
- Establish a Veterans Health, Fitness & Longevity Compound with Educational and Training facilities to help maintain overall healthy lifestyles for all Veterans.
- Build a modern administrative office tower to be known as the Veterans “Grand Service Center,” that will become the Department of Veterans Affairs West Coast Headquarters to provide immediate assistance for all Veteran matters and affairs, including health, education, welfare.
- Re-establish Sovereignty of the National Veterans Home by implementing Article V of the Veterans’ Declaration of Enforcement that will end the occupation of all commercial, non-profit, special-interest, non-Veteran entities at the National Veterans Home by canceling any and all kind of the leases and agreements that do not exclusively and solely benefit America’s Military Veterans.

- Revert to the original twelve-member “Board of Managers” concept first established in March 1866, which was entrusted to oversee and govern all National Homes for the sole benefit of Veterans.

This plan successfully worked a century ago and it’s time to remove politics and special interest groups from having any influence that does not serve the sole and best interest of America’s Veterans, particularly our disabled and homeless Veterans.

Accordingly, the Los Angeles Home will become independent of the 30th Congressional District and removed from any further political pandering and special-interest lobbying that has destroyed the promise, purpose, integrity and legacy of the Los Angeles National Veterans Home.

No longer will wealthy and powerful special-interest groups be able to finagle Veterans land for non-Veteran use with privileged arrangements that subvert the Congressional Act of 1887 and the Land Grant Deed of 1888:

"Because this arrangement was unprecedented, it required lengthy discussions and compromises with Veterans Administration in Los Angeles and Washington. The agreement also called for approvals at the highest levels, i.e., Secretary Nicholson, and the involvement of the Congressional delegation."

Sue Young, Brentwood homeowner activist on how she was able to obtain a long-term, rent-free agreement for 16 acres of Veterans property for a public community park.



Los Angeles National Veterans Home

***“To be permanently maintained as a
National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.”***

Land Grand Deed of 1888

Board of Trustees

A Twelve-Member Board

**Charged with the Recovery, Reinvestment,
and Governance of the National Veterans Homes**

A twelve-member, non-partisan Board of Trustees selected and elected to serve only the best interests of all National Veterans Homes nationwide, and shall be implemented forthwith at Los Angeles, similarly to the original successful concept:

- President and Commander-In-Chief of the United States of America
- Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court
- Secretary of United States Department of Defense
- Secretary of United States Department of Veterans Affairs
- Eight Independent Military Veterans elected by the Veterans at large.

(America’s 25 million Veterans will maintain direct oversight and have authoritative jurisdiction of the maintenance and operation of all National Veteran Homes, and the President, Chief Justice and Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs will see that Veterans needs are paramount, and follow the guidelines of the “Declaration of Enforcement.”)

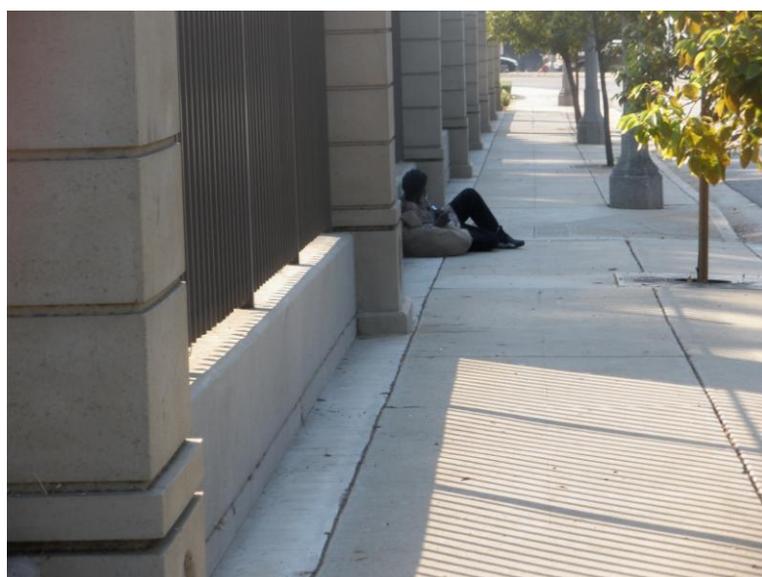
- **ORIGINAL**: The Administrative operations of the National Soldiers Homes were implemented and managed through the Army’s command structure and staffed with regular Army Officers.
- Each Branch Home had a Governor, Deputy Governor, and Secretary-Treasurer.
- The Veterans were organized into Companies and the daily routine followed the military schedule; all members wore uniforms; and workshops were provided for members wanting or required to work.
- **RE-ESTABLISHMENT**: The implementation of similar operational procedures is proposed for the 21st Century Grand Veterans Home, Grand Service Center, including a Grand Veterans College. The “Declaration of Enforcement” is also a vital document to ensure that this land will always be in conformance with the Act of 1887 and the Deed of 1888.



1890s



SOME SEE THINGS AS THEY ARE AND ASK: WHY?



Homeless Veterans outside the Los Angeles National Veterans Home – 2010 Era

**WE VISION THINGS AS THEY
SHOULD BE AND SAY: WHY NOT?**

A 21st Century “GRAND VETERANS HOME”



Resident Towers and Dining Halls

PROPOSED: A Conceptual Design of Resident Towers similar to the above towers, which is Turnberry Place in Las Vegas, is what the Old Veterans Guard proposes for the “21st Century Los Angeles National Veterans Home.”

Los Angeles National
GRAND VETERANS HOME



PROPOSED: A Conceptual Design similar to the above tower, which is The Allure in Las Vegas, is what the Old Veterans Guard proposes for the Los Angeles National Veterans Home

America's Military Veterans
GRAND SERVICE CENTER



© 2010 – Old Veterans Guard – Drawing by Roger Ow Gong

The Old Veterans Guard proposes the demolition of the obsolete and dysfunctional structures that were built in the 1930s and replace them with a modern office tower that will include the Department of Veterans Affairs West Coast Headquarters. Here, Veterans will have immediate access to their healthcare and general service requirements and they will no longer have to go from city-to-city, building-to-building for information and assistance, as this will be a one-stop Grand Service Center.

The Los Angeles National Veterans Home is surrounded by high-rise office towers, so consolidating Veterans Housing and Administrative Services into a few towers with open-spaced-landscaping that will not only blend in with adjacent communities, but it will provide acres of green space for natural healing and rehabilitation.

**Wells Fargo High-Rise Office Tower Building
Adjacent to the National Veterans Home**



Homeless Veterans sleep outside the chained and padlocked front gates to the Veterans Home adjacent to high-rise towers in the neighboring community of Brentwood.

Old Veterans Guard

HOMELSS EMERGENCY PLAN

“Bring Our Homeless Veterans HOME”

**Veterans Are Locked Out of Their
Los Angeles National Veterans Home**



**Homeless Veterans outside their
Los Angeles National Veterans Home.**

EMERGENCY PLAN

Phase I of the “Grand Plan”

As a result of the malfeasance and dereliction of duty by ranking bureaucrats at the Department of Veterans Affairs in West Los Angeles, there are an estimated 20,000 homeless Veterans in LA County, even though this is their lawfully deeded “Home.”

This disrespectful and disgraceful treatment must cease, posthaste! On behalf of all fellow Veterans, particularly our disabled and homeless Veterans, the Old Veterans Guard is calling for the following action:

- **IMMEDIATELY**: Re-establish Sovereignty of the National Veterans Home by implementing Article V of the Veterans’ “Declaration of Enforcement” (see page 26) that will end the occupation of this property by commercial and for-profit corporations, special-interest groups and non-Veteran entities by cancelling any and all kind of leases and agreements that do not exclusively and solely benefit America’s Military Veterans.
- **IMMEDIATELY**: Replace top echelon VA administrative employees at the Los Angeles VA and hire a new staff that will include an Executive Director (Governor) for the National Home in accordance with Article VIII of the “Declaration of Enforcement” (see page 27). He or she should be a professional administrator of proven successful leadership with uncompromising principles, and preferably an American Military Veteran.
- **IMMEDIATELY**: Post sentries at ingress and egress gates and allow only Veterans, VA employees and those on official Veteran business to enter these hallowed grounds, in accordance with Article XI of the “Declaration of Enforcement.” (see page 28)
- **IMMEDIATELY**: Build temporary shelter with a “Veterans Tent City” followed by more private and sophisticated facilities with “Veterans Dome Villages” and “Colonies” on the 16-acre Grand Lawn, the Vets Garden, MacArthur Field, etc., and begin to directly bring homeless Veterans “Home.”
- **IMMEDIATELY**: Paved parcels of Veterans land that are now leased to Enterprise Car Rental for storing used cars, a parking lot to shuttle Getty Museum attendees back and forth, the Laidlaw Bus parking lot, UCLA’s baseball parking lot, etc., will be converted into safe parking for Veterans who now live in their vans, campers and RVs.

Veterans Tent City

Immediate Temporary Shelter

In 1975, from April through October, Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base situated north of San Diego, welcomed, sheltered, fed and clothed more than 50,000 Refugees from Vietnam after the fall of Saigon.

Most of the Refugees arrived without personal possessions and they did not speak English. Nonetheless, they were sponsored by volunteer families, churches and corporations throughout Southern California and were readily assimilated into our society. Moreover, the vast majority eventually became productive U.S. citizens as well as leaders in their communities.



One of Eight Tent Cities at Camp Pendleton, 1975

An estimated 900 Marines and civilians worked six days erecting more than 1,000 tents and Quonset huts at Camp Pendleton, and subsequently helped thousands of Vietnamese Refugees become part of America's unparalleled way of life.

That was 35 years ago. The fact that Vietnamese Refugees were given immediate attention and support while some of our Veterans who fought to defend their native country during the Vietnam War are still homeless is shameful beyond comparison. Surely, we can implement something equal, if not better, for America's homeless Veterans.

How can we, as a supposed moral and compassionate society, allow Veterans land at the National Veterans Home to be leased for a dog park, public parking lots, carnivals, public golf, public community park, used car storage, etc., while an estimated 20,000 Veterans are homeless? The answer is simple. We can't!

A modernized "Veterans Tent City" will be Phase I of the "Grand Plan" and will serve as temporary shelter until transitional "Dome Villages" can be built, and eventually the construction of the Grand Resident Towers and Dining Halls.

TENTS: A Way of Life for Brentwood



A multitude of tents, trailers, trucks and toilets at the annual, non-Veteran "Celebrity Carnival" held on the Grand Lawn at the Los Angeles National Veterans Home



More tents, trucks and toilets at 5K / 10K races and Farmers Market in Brentwood

Veterans Dome Village

Transitional Shelter – Phase II

There are more than 20,000 homeless Veterans living on the dangerous streets of Los Angeles, even though they have a lawfully deeded “Home.” Tragically, their land and facilities at the National Veterans Home have been pillaged and plundered for non-Veteran use.

That is going to change as fellow Veterans are initiating an “Emergency Plan” to “Bring Our Homeless Veterans HOME.”

The famed “Dome Village” in downtown Los Angeles organized and managed by activist Ted Hayes proved to be very successful temporary shelter for the homeless until their land lease was escalated manifold and made it economically unfeasible to continue.

Veterans do not have that problem because they already have 388 acres of land that was a Gift by two American patriots in 1888 to be permanently maintained as a National Home for America’s Veterans. Accordingly, we can immediately create viable shelter for Veterans with Dome “Villages” and “Colonies” on the Grand Lawn, the Vets Garden, MacArthur Field, and other open-space areas, and responsibly bring our homeless Veterans “Home.”

It is a never ending struggle for many homeless Veterans. With no safe place to live, sleep and shower, they have no address and cannot get a job. And without a job they cannot get a place to call home. Finding affordable housing has become more and more difficult and the proposed “Veterans Dome Village” will help solve that problem for our homeless Veterans, and it can be accomplished quickly, efficiently and economically.

The “Omni-Spheres” are 20' in diameter and 12 ' tall with an area of about 314 square feet inside. They are comprised of 21 panels and bolt easily together with 150 teflon bolts. The panels are made of a super strong polyester-fiberglass material which makes the domes extremely durable. The Omni-Sphere is water tight and maintenance free. They are quick to assemble and can be put up in under four hours by a team of two with no more than a step ladder, a screwdriver and a wrench.

The original downtown LA “Dome Village” was made up of 20 of these Domes on a property of about one and one-third acres. The Domes can be partitioned in half and provide private living space for two individuals.

Vietnam War Veteran Craig Chamberlain is the designer of the Omni-Sphere Domes that provides an innovative solution and a new kind of transitional housing for the homeless. The Domes provide an attractive alternative to the usual “brick and mortar” or institutional type buildings and one that is non-threatening to the local community

The Domes are built to withstand extreme environmental conditions, including Class 4 hurricanes and 8.5 earthquakes, and conform to Los Angeles building code.

Mr. Chamberlain’s original design is now being produced and sold by Intershelter, Inc.

The Veterans Resident Domes are Phase II of the “Grand Plan” and will serve as temporary shelter until permanent high-rise Resident Towers and Dining Halls can be built. It is proposed that many of the Veterans living in the Dome Village will be hired to construct the Grand Veterans Home.

VETERAN DOME HOMES



**Standard 20 foot Intershelter Dome Home
\$12,500**

Dome Specifications

Diameter.....20 ft
Height.....12 ft at center
Floor Area.....314 sq. ft/up to 500 sq. ft with loft
Door Opening.....36" x 81"
Window Opening.....36" x 36"
Weight.....1,100 lbs

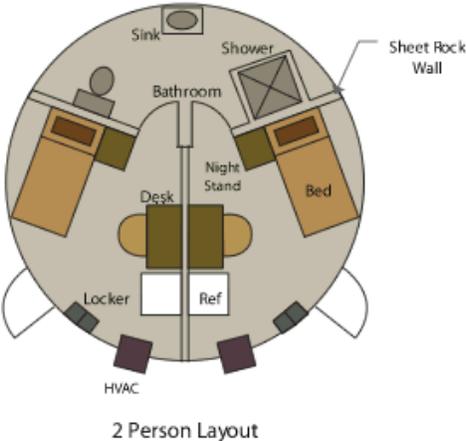


Veteran's Dome Homes can be landscaped with vegetable and herb gardens, including lush and colorful flowers and plants, which are all productive and therapeutical.

PROPOSED RESIDENT DOME INTERIOR



Note: The \$12,500 cost of a Veterans' Dome Home does not include partition, plumbing, utilities and appliances.





UNIVERSAL PLAN

- Restore the National Veterans Home just as it was legally deeded in 1888, and in accordance with the Congressional Act of 1887, and permanently maintain these sacred grounds as a tranquil sanctuary of solace and camaraderie for Veterans to rest, rehabilitate, and recover from Military injuries.
- End Veteran homelessness by re-establishing the Los Angeles Grand Veterans Home as a safe and permanent haven of privacy and quietude that is "Home" for any Veteran who is in need of shelter, food and care.



**Fellow Veterans of the “Grand Army of the Republic”
playing checkers at the National Soldiers Home – Circa 1892**

- Unify all Veterans Service Organizations, Veterans advocacy groups and independent Veterans to work together to maintain and ensure that Veterans will always have a safe place to call “Home,” whether it is for residency, healthcare, wellness and fitness, or socializing and camaraderie.
- Establish the Los Angeles Grand Veterans Home as a model to build nationwide.

Support This 21st Century “GRAND VETERANS HOME”

- Please join this noble cause to stop the abuse and misappropriation of Veterans exclusive property and rebuild their sacred land by demanding that our Government invest a minimum of \$2.5 billion to transform the Los Angeles National Veterans Home into a 21st Century “Grand Veterans Home.”
- Please help us bring thousands of our fellow Veterans Home -- NOW!
- Please share this with as many people as possible, asking for their support. Then contact members of Congress and the Senate and request that they take immediate action to fund this most urgent and mandatory project.
- Please contact all forms of media, TV, Cable, Radio Newspaper, Internet, etc., and ask them to expose the abuse and misuse of Veterans property.

Join This Broad Unification Opposing the Abuse and Misuse of Veterans Property

Following is a partial list of Veteran, Media and Radio Shows, and Political Organizations and Candidates that are unified in opposing the abuse and misuse of Veterans property at the Los Angeles National Veterans Home, and all other Veterans' properties across the United States.

Unified Veteran Organizations opposing the VA's abuse and misappropriation of Veterans property:

Vietnam Veterans of America, National
American Legion, Department of California
American G I Forum of California
AMVETS, Department of California
Veterans United For Truth, Inc.
National Veterans Coalition
Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Commission
11th Airborne Association
Gathering of Eagles
Vietnam Veterans Against the War
Emerald Coast Patriots, Florida
Veterans-For-Change
Voice For Veterans Services
Military Spouses For Change
Veterans For Common Sense
Veterans for Peace
The Old Veterans Guard
We the Veterans

**Unified News Media and Radio Shows opposing
the VA's abuse and misappropriation of Veterans property:**

Veterans Today News Network
Canada Free Press
San Fernando Valley Sun Newspaper
The Front Page On Line
Rick Townsend Show - The Firebase Network's Veterans Hour
Tom Kiely Show, International News Net World Report, NY
The Joey English Show, Palm Springs, CA
The John Clark Show, America Betrayed
The Jeff Bennett Show, Perspectives on America
Rick Adams Uncensored
The Ruthie Report, Minnesota

**Unified Political Organizations opposing
the VA's abuse and misappropriation of Veterans property:**

Board of Directors, California Democratic Party
Los Angeles Democratic Central Committee
Santa Barbara County Democratic Central Committee
Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles
Republican Liberty Caucus of Los Angeles County
San Fernando Valley Republican Club
Westside Republicans (Los Angeles)
Veterans Caucus of the California Democratic Party
Veterans Caucus of the North Carolina Democratic Party

**Political Candidates opposing
the VA's abuse and misappropriation of Veterans property:**

Chelene Nightingale, Candidate for Governor of California, American Independent Party

This “Declaration of Enforcement” is Dedicated With Great Gratitude to The Benevolent Land Grantors



John P. Jones
(1829 – 1912)



Arcadia B. de Baker
(1825 – 1912)

**Preserve, Protect, and Defend
the Land Grant Deed of 1888**

*“To be permanently maintained as a
National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.”*

March 3, 1888

“Declaration of Enforcement”

Manifesto of the Veterans, By the Veterans, and For the Veterans,

to Honor

the Congressional Act of 1887,

and to Protect, Preserve and Defend the

Deed of 1888 and the Los Angeles National Veterans' Home

WE, the Veterans of the United States Armed Forces, in order to form a more perfect National Home, establish justice, ensure tranquility, provide for the necessary healthcare, promote the general well-being of our fellow Veterans, and secure the blessings of respect for ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this “Declaration of Enforcement” for protecting and preserving the legal Land Grant Deed of 1888 and The Los Angeles National Veterans Home.

IN ACCORDANCE with the Congressional Act dated March 2, 1887, and the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Land Grant Deed dated March 3, 1888, which was unselfishly bequeathed and faithfully entrusted to the United States Government on behalf of America's Military Veterans, this “Declaration of Enforcement” shall protect and preserve in perpetuity, their exclusive and inviolable proprietary rights to the Los Angeles National Veterans Home, and said Declaration reconfirms and reestablishes the following:

THIRTEEN ARTICLES OF ENFORCEMENT



ARTICLE I. This Declaration faithfully and honorably protects, preserves and defends all land conveyed under the March 3, 1888 Land Grant Deed and guarantees its uncompromising and unconditional preservation in perpetuity. Accordingly, this deeded land shall be permanently maintained under the same guiding principles and patriotic spirit that it was so generously donated by the Grantors, Arcadia B. de Baker and John P. Jones, which is to establish and permanently maintain a National Home to care for America's Military Veterans.

ARTICLE II. The Deeded land west of the 405 Freeway and north and south of Wilshire Boulevard shall be officially and respectfully called “The Los Angeles National Veterans Home,” hereinafter referred to as the “Home.” It is with full and absolute understanding that the Home shall be permanently maintained for the sole, specific, direct and unequivocal benefit of America's Military Veterans representing all official Branches of the United States Armed Forces.

ARTICLE III. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs, hereinafter referred to as the “VA,” shall continue to be the authorized steward and fiduciary administrator for the Home. Correspondingly, the VA's responsibilities shall be to morally and faithfully honor the Congressional Act of 1887 and the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed of 1888, while simultaneously providing the highest quality of medical, rehabilitative and preventative healthcare services for America's Military Veterans, and further maintaining the highest quality of upkeep for the Home and its hallowed grounds.

ARTICLE IV. Specifically, the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed of 1888 and the moral purpose for which it was unselfishly bequeathed, are inviolable and non-negotiable. Accordingly, the Deed must be honored in perpetuity without compromise. Consequently, under no circumstances shall the VA, or any other government agency or entity of any nature or kind whatsoever, including but not necessarily limited to, any elected representative(s), hired or appointed employees, agents, consultants or officials of the federal, state or local government, lease, loan, share, exchange, trade, auction, sell, encumber, or otherwise reduce, diminish or dispose of any piece or parcel of this land and its improvements, including but not necessarily limited to, air, mineral and petroleum rights, to any non-Veteran or outside source(s) for any purpose(s) whatsoever. Absolutely no term or condition in this Declaration allows for the legal Deed of 1888 to be negotiated or infringed upon that would advantage any other parties other than for and toward 100% of the sole, specific, direct and unequivocal benefit of America's Military Veterans.

ARTICLE V. Any and all existing leases, sharing agreements, or any other arrangements of any nature or kind whatsoever, including but not necessarily limited to, land, building, air, mineral, petroleum, or any other considerations of any nature or kind whatsoever, which are now in effect or existence, or in the process of negotiation, that does not solely, specifically, directly and unequivocally benefit America's Military Veterans 100%, are null and void, and in violation of the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed of 1888, including the specific purpose for which this land was morally and unselfishly bequeathed. Consequently, any and all such leases, agreements, arrangements or considerations of any nature or kind whatsoever, shall be terminated forthwith and all rights and benefits shall fully and exclusively revert back under the stewardship of the VA and be permanently maintained to serve the healthcare needs, rehabilitative services, benefits and general welfare of America's Military Veterans. Any and all leases or sharing agreement holders, including services, businesses, non-profit organizations or other occupants of any nature or kind whatsoever, that do not solely, specifically, directly and unequivocally benefit America's Military Veterans 100%, must unconditionally vacate the deeded property, posthaste. This includes, but shall not necessarily be limited to, the Wadsworth and Brentwood Theaters, commercial office space, car and bus storage lots, laundry services, oil drilling and explorations, private school grounds and all public parks of any nature or kind, plus all other occupation and exploitations of the premises that violate the integrity and legacy of the Deed. In keeping with the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the Deed of 1888, absolutely no term or condition in this Declaration allows for this hallowed land and appurtenances thereupon to be negotiated with any other parties whatsoever, other than for 100% of the sole, specific, direct and unequivocal benefit of America's Military Veterans.

ARTICLE VI. In accordance with the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed of 1888, the Home shall be permanently maintained as a safe haven and must always be considered "Home" to all of America's Military Veterans. Accordingly, The Home must be continuously and readily available at all times for any individual Veteran who was honorably discharged from America's Armed Forces, and to be cordially welcomed with the immediate availability of professional and courteous medical and rehabilitative healthcare services and treatment. In accordance with the 1887 Act of Congress, there shall never be a “homeless Veteran,” because this is the rightful and legal Home for any Veteran who is disabled by disease, wounds, or otherwise, and who has no adequate means of support, and by reason of such disability is incapable of earning his or her living, shall be entitled to be admitted to said home for disabled volunteer soldiers.

ARTICLE VII. The United States Government and the VA shall never underfund the operating budget for the Home and it must permanently maintain a policy of mandatory funding in order to provide quality medical, rehabilitative and preventative healthcare facilities and services, including, but not necessarily limited to, providing quality upkeep throughout all of the land conveyed under the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed of 1888. It is imperative that the Home be permanently maintained as the finest medical and rehabilitation center in the world, which is a small token of gratitude for the world's greatest defenders of freedom and democracy.

ARTICLE VIII. Historically, particularly during its formative years and for decades following, the Home had an American Military Veteran who was also a professional Medical Doctor / Physician as its Chief Administrator, and was honorably and respectfully called "Governor." In keeping with this proud heritage and to ensure that a spirit of understanding, cooperation and camaraderie is always present, the Chief Administrator must, whenever possible, be an American Military Veteran and Medical Doctor / Physician of high moral and professional standards who is devoted to the needs of the Veterans-at-large, and the rank-and-file in particular, and is wholly dedicated to serving their best interests first and foremost. In addition, he or she must never be pre-empted or distracted with the wants and desires of surrounding communities, special interest groups, and/or commercial enterprise, nor bow to the passion and prejudice of political pressure and dictates when it comes to permanently maintaining quality healthcare and rehabilitative services for America's Military Veterans, and providing quality upkeep of the Home and its hallowed grounds.

ARTICLE IX. As originally envisioned by the Grantors of the 1888 Land Grant Deed, the legacy of the Home is that after Dutifully and Honorably serving our Country in the Military, disabled Veterans lived on these therapeutical grounds and became independent and self-sufficient while maintaining upkeep of the Home through farming, gardening, carpentry and other skilled trades that made them proud and productive individuals. The guiding model for the medical and rehabilitative services for today's American Military Veterans convalescing at the Home, where physically and mentally possible, must adhere to a policy that maintains similar self-sufficient programs and self-sustaining activities, that are holistic in nature and wholesome to the degree that patients will have the equal opportunity to learn a rewarding and gainful trade or profession, or how to become self-employed as an entrepreneur, while being respectfully rehabilitated. The VA shall immediately begin providing full therapeutic value by expanding upon, maintaining, and perpetuating the natural environment, the flora and fauna, and, the gainful inclusion of America's Military Veterans who are patients in any and all restoration and maintenance projects at the Home and throughout the grounds. Whenever and wherever possible, America's Military Veterans must be hired and contracted over any other considerations of non-Veteran employees or contractors.

ARTICLE X. As steward for the Home, the VA, along with the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, hereinafter "VAGLAHS," shall work in a cooperative alliance with a Veterans Oversight Board, herein referred to as "VOB," and made up of local Military Veterans that shall be judiciously and evenly selected from independent Veterans-at-large, Veteran advocate organizations, and Veteran Service Organizations. Their responsibilities shall be to oversee, monitor, report and advise on the day-to-day operations at the Home, thereby ensuring that the guiding principles and spirit of the Deed are fully honored, and that the VA and VAGLAHS are providing permanent quality care and services for America's Military Veterans at the Home. The VOB shall have immediate, full and unencumbered access to the operating budget and its day-to-day expenditures to ensure that there is no waste, neglect, or fraud. In the event of unresolved issues that would upset the sanctity, quietude and general flow of rehabilitative efforts at the Home, the VOB will have direct and immediate reporting access to the offices of the Inspector General, and all Senators and Congresspersons whose responsibilities are extended for the stewardship and oversight of this hallowed land.

ARTICLE XI. In brief, the sanctity and integrity of the Home must never be compromised. This is historic and revered land with a century-old proud tradition and it must be perpetually honored, protected, preserved and maintained with the highest regard and the utmost of safety, dignity, respect and decorum. Accordingly, all public access and thoroughfares shall be immediately terminated and thereafter prohibited on and throughout the grounds of the Home, and nobody except America's Military Veterans, VA employees, and those on official Veterans business shall be authorized to enter these hallowed grounds. Correspondingly, a guardhouse shall be erected at each entry into the grounds and a sentinel or federal police shall be posted to monitor and facilitate ingress and egress of the Home.

ARTICLE XII. The Deeded land east of the 405 freeway shall be officially and respectfully called "The Los Angeles National Veterans Cemetery," herein referred to as "Cemetery." Because of its near full capacity, the Cemetery no longer accepts ground burials for America's Military Veterans. Therefore, in order to continue honoring the remains of America's Military Veterans, the VA shall design, develop and maintain a Veteran's Memorial Columbarium for ashes in cremation urns in a location of serenity, dignity and decorum. At no time shall any land at the Home ever be declared, "excess," as any such land shall then be converted into Cemetery burial plots. Accordingly, the VA shall diligently seek to expand the Cemetery burial grounds along with

mausoleum entombment wherever possible, including all Deeded grounds west of the 405 Freeway, if any portions of that land are no longer occupied, or required for medical, rehabilitative or preventative healthcare services.

ARTICLE XIII. This Declaration of Enforcement shall supersede any and all previous Congressional Documents of Legislation pertaining to the interpretation of, and adherence to, the Congressional Act of 1887 and the legal Land Grant Deed of 1888. Contrary to previous and ongoing misinterpretations, misconceptions and flagrant violations, the guiding principles and patriotic spirit of the legal Deed have always been, are now, and shall always remain, morally and patriotically inviolable. Furthermore, there shall be no other Congressional or Senatorial bills or pieces of legislation attached to this Veterans' Declaration, nor shall this Declaration be attached to any other Congressional or Senatorial bill or document for endorsement and enforcement. More specifically, this Declaration shall stand independent on its own merit with absolutely no conditions, compromises, provisions, modifications or amendments, except for implementing further considerations that will greatly improve and enhance the sole, specific, direct and unequivocal benefit of America's Military Veterans.

*So Declared on the Third Day of the Twelfth Month in the Year Two Thousand Seven
In Honor of This Unified Alliance of Fellow Veterans of the United States Armed Forces:*

Robert L. Rosebrock – Francisco Juarez
Co-Directors, We the Veterans

Agreed

Ray Delgado
Dave Culmer
John L. Stamatiades
Joe Romo
Michael V. Sedano
Gilberto (Gil) Flores
T. Steven Palmer
David Bischoff
Walter Martin
Luis Rivera
Newton Young
Bob Handy
Daniel Overmyer
John Keaveney

Richard H. Breithaupt
Ernie Hilger
Sam Cardova
Gordon Duff
Richard H. Herkert
Gilbert Sanchez Lujan
Bruce A. Jones
Max Huber
Mario Trillo
Ralph P. Cingo
Larry Cardenas
Rudy Garcia
Arnold Tena
Richard Herkert

Credo of the Old Veterans Guard

“The Bridge Builder”

By Will Allen Dromgoole
(1860-1934)

*An old man going a lone highway
came at the evening, cold and grey,
to a chasm, vast and deep and wide,
through which was flowing a swollen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
that swollen stream held no fears for him.
But he paused when safe on the other side
and built a bridge to span the tide.
"Old Man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
You're wasting strength with building here,
Your journey ends with the ending day.
You never again must pass this way.
You've crossed this chasm deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at the even' tide?"
The builder lifted his old grey head,
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followeth after me today,
a youth, whose feet must pass this way.
This swollen stream that was naught for me,
to that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too must cross in the twilight dim.
Good friend, I am building the bridge for him!"*

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