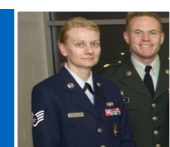


# Reveille



ISSUE  
**09** October  
2013

## Look What's Inside...

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- Oct. 23 Brown Bag Lunch Series Seminar
- Reflections from a Tuskegee Airmen's son
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- How Are You Leaving Your Boot Print?



**Facebook.com/VSC.CSUSB**

or search for

**CSUSB Veterans Success Center**

Location: Bookstore Basement, Room B006

Contact: (909) 537 - 5195 & (909) 537 - 5196

## **Government Shutdown** *and how it will affect your benefits*

With the government shutdown that took effect on October 1, 2013, you may be wondering what services have been impacted and which have not. For your convenience, we have gathered a list of services to veterans that are closed and those that are open.

Below is the list of services which are OPEN:

- Veterans Crisis Line;
- Military Sexual Trauma Counseling;
- Readjustment Counseling Services (vet centers);
- My HealtheVet;
- Claims processing and payments in the compensation, pension, education, and vocational rehabilitation programs anticipated to continue until late October. If the shutdown prolongs, these programs will be suspended when available funding is exhausted;
- NCA will process applications for headstones, markers and medallions;
- Insurance and home loan processing;
- NCA will notify VBA of death for benefit actions;
- VBA Call Centers will be operational except for education;
- Office of Small and Disadvantaged Small Businesses; and
- Acquisitions Logistics Center will accept and fill prosthetics supply orders.

### *Assistance Programs & Food Pantries*

USAA ( [www.usaa.com](http://www.usaa.com) ) and Navy Federal Credit Union ( [www.navyfederal.org](http://www.navyfederal.org) ) are setting up emergency loan programs for those affected by the government shutdown. Please consult their websites for more information .We have also gathered a list of food pantries, which we have posted on our Facebook page.

# 238th U.S. Navy Birthday

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE  
**238th BIRTHDAY**  
OF THE  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

October  
14

11:30 A.M.

RSVP  
Call the Veterans Success Center at  
909-537-5195 or e-mail Marci  
Daniels at daniels@csusb.edu

California State University San Bernardino  
5500 University Parkway  
San Bernardino, CA 92407  
**COYOTE BOOKSTORE LAWN**

**LIFE ... LIBERTY... AND THE PURSUIT  
OF ALL WHO THREATEN IT.**

The United States Navy was officially established on Oct. 13, 1775, when the Continental Congress passed a resolution creating the Continental Navy. The Continental Navy was disbanded after the Revolutionary War. Eleven years later, however, conflicts between American shipping merchants and pirates in the Mediterranean Sea led to the Naval Act of 1794, which created the U.S. Navy. Over the course of the next 20 years, the U.S. Navy was engaged in major battles, including the War of 1812 against the British. In 1845, the Naval Academy was founded. The Navy entered into World War II after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The U.S. Navy participated in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War and the Iraq War. Nuclear power and ballistic missile technology led to new ship propulsion and weapon systems, which were used in the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers and Ohio-class submarines.

On Oct. 14, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. the Veterans Success Center hosted the campus' first Navy Birthday Celebration. The celebration included a color guard from March Air Reserve Base, the reading of the Chief Naval Officer's message, the bell ringing ceremony, playing of Anchors Aweigh and a cake cutting ceremony. A special note of thanks to Jasmine Gonzales, Darcie Tossetti, Angel Rayas and Bryant Taylor for all their hard work and dedication organizing the ceremony. **HERE'S TO 238 YEARS OF PROUD NAVAL HERITAGE AND MANY MORE! Honor! Courage! Commitment!**



## Brown Bag Lunch Series

*Looking for ideas how to get better grades?*

*Need to jump start your study strategies?*

*Have questions on how to build a career network?*

On Oct. 23, 2013, the Veterans Success Center will kick off its new lunchtime seminar series. At the VSC, we know that students are being challenged to do more with fewer resources. We also know how valuable building up a resource network is to you. We realize how important conferences and training sessions are, but time away from school and costly fees are prohibitive, so we thought we would bring the experts to you! The Brown Bag Lunch is a series of free one-hour "roundtable" discussions moderated by notable experts.

The sessions are open discussions on topics that we know are important to our student veterans. The sessions are moderated by experts but driven by the attendees! The first free one-hour sessions will be held at the Veterans Success Center on October 23, 2013 at 11:45 a.m. and best of all we provide the brown bag lunch for free. To RSVP call the VSC at (909)537-5195 or email [daniels@csusb.edu](mailto:daniels@csusb.edu).



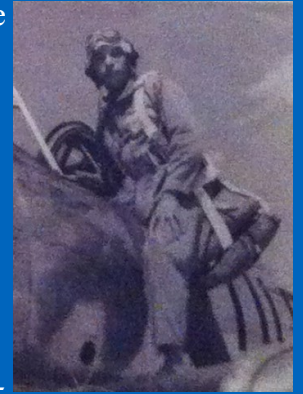
## Reflections from a Tuskegee Airman's Son - James Trotter

It is unfortunate that most of us don't realize the importance of an event or a person until they are gone. Perhaps it is because the person or event is too close to us for to realize the significant of their history.

As a very young boy I remember my uncle coming over to the house sitting down and talking to my father about this guy and that guy that they flew with during the war. My uncle would say that such and such came by the gas station he owned in Inglewood. They would talk all afternoon about the squadron they flew in. On occasion a group of former Tuskegee Airmen would come to the house and sit in the living room drinking their bourbon and scotch and talk about one of their own passing away. This would lead to hours of conversations about the war and the retelling of the experiences they had. As a child I would sit on the couch next to the dining room table and listen to the stories these men told. I was still too young to really understand what they where talking about but I could tell it was one of the most exciting times of their lives. Moving their hands around in the air explaining the moves of two airplanes flying in combat. It was fun to see my father and uncle light up when talking about performing a split "S" or pulling straight up and stalling the plane to streak down in to

an attack. It didn't all make since to me at the time but it seemed very cool. These meetings would last way late into the night and I would fall asleep on my dad's lap.

As a teenager we would go to all the local air shows and see the different planes on display, but the two planes that we really came to see where my dad's B-25 and my uncle's P-51. My father was 6'0" and my uncle was 5'6". My dad had wanted to be a fighter pilot like his older brother who had been flying for a year before my father was drafted. At 6'0" my father was just too tall to fly the P-51. The B-25 Fighter Bomber was the next best thing. He took great pride in being a B-25 pilot and explained to me many times with great enthusiasm the B-25 could put 7 guns forward and really make a mess of anything in its path on a low level strafing run. He talked about how during in training flights they would fire the guns in a five plane formation and lay waste to everything in their path.



(Continued on Page 6)

## Halloween Haunt Resource Fair

This quarter's resource fair will take place on Halloween day, Oct. 31, at the Veterans Success Center! Similar to last spring quarter's *Spring Fling Resource Fair*, we will have numerous campus resources available to veterans, military dependents, and cadets. If you need help with your GI Bill or California Fee Waiver or have any questions about your PAWS report, an expert will be able to assist you. The Veterans Success Center hopes to guide CSUSB's military-associated students through their college career by bringing valuable resources to them each quarter: resources such as academic advising, Workability IV, the Career Center, and many more will be in attendance. Lunch will be provided. So stop by for a "Howling Good Time."

**Halloween Haunt Resource Fair**  
**at the Veterans Success Center**

When: Thursday October 31, 2013  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Veterans Success Center

There's a full moon tonight,  
The monsters come out and play.  
Black cats and bats are all over the night.  
Come to the Veterans Success Center on Halloween day  
and receive all your campus resources in sight.  
So mark it in your calendars today!

Claw into your PAWS Report  
Academic Advising  
Career Center Internships  
Financial Aid Workability IV  
GI Bill Veterans Affairs

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SAN BERNARDINO  
Veterans Success Center



## City of Redlands Veterans Day Parade and Float

Organizers of Redlands' 125th Anniversary Veteran's Parade and Celebration have asked the Veterans Success Center (VSC) and Student Veterans Organization (SVO) at California State University, San Bernardino to participate in the Nov. 11 parade. "Our veterans have served in the military and also here at home," said parade committee member Laura Greene. "With the big anniversary coming up, this is a chance to salute Redlands' history and its heroes."

The VSC and SVO will join forces to build a patriotic-themed float honoring Inland Empire veterans that will be featured in the parade. Student veterans will ride on the float and walk alongside it. On Veterans Day, parade participants will gather at 7:30 a.m. on Citrus Avenue between Church and University streets, Greene said. The procession will

get moving at 9 a.m. starting at Redlands Boulevard, the parade will follow Citrus to Eureka Street, State Street, Center Street and Redlands Boulevard, ending up on New York Street at Jennie Davis Park.

A Veterans' Day ceremony and celebration will follow in the park, hosted by American Legion Posts 106 and 650. The ceremony will include a musical tribute to the nation's armed services, posting of colors by honor guards from the Redlands fire and police departments and remarks from local government leaders. Also planned are a military vehicle display, live music, food trucks, a beer and wine garden, display booths and a kids' zone.

**If you are interested in helping build the float or walking/riding in the parade please contact the VSC at (915)346-8861.**



## Thank You Contestants of the Jet Fighter Model Airplane Competition

Thank you, VP of Student Affairs, Student Leadership & Development, Student Veteran's Organization, the Student Recreation and Fitness Center, the Kinesiology Department, Athletics Department, Delta Sigma Chi Fraternity and the Sigma Chi Fraternity for participating in our Air Force Birthday Celebration Model Airplane contest. After a long and thoroughly scientific study involving some of today's most advanced technology and the two of the greatest military minds that CSUSB has to offer, we have determined the winner in each of the following categories:

**Longest Flight:** VP Student Affairs  
**Best Stunts:** Student Leadership & Development  
**Best Design:** Student Veteran's Organization



## Student Veterans Organization

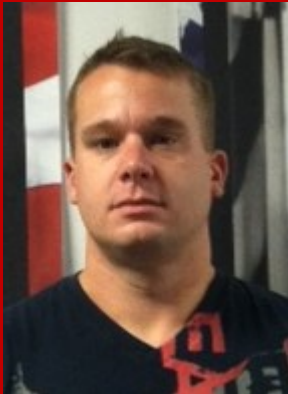
Since its establishment in 2009, the Student Veterans Organization (SVO) at CSUSB is growing and becoming an even stronger organization. Its current mission is to promote and create successful leaders and alumni at CSUSB by providing a rich atmosphere of like-minded individuals, leadership development, community service, and most importantly support from its members. In this organization members are asked to step out of their comfort zones with the hope that they may develop new skills that are necessary for their success. Being a member of the SVO is also a great opportunity to network, sharpen current skills and to learn new ones. If you are interested, the SVO would like to invite you to become a member and take advantage of all it has to offer.

**Contact: Fred Cervantes, Public Relations Officer  
at prsvocsusb@gmail.com**





# How Are You Leaving Your Boot Print?



## JEREMY VIETH, USMC VETERAN

I served in the USMC from July 2004 until I was honorably discharged in September of 2009. I began my military career in USMC Security Forces and then finished my contract with 1<sup>st</sup> Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion. I've deployed overseas four times: Bahrain, Iraq, South Korea, and a west pack with the 13<sup>th</sup> Marine Expedition Unit aboard the U.S.S. Boxer. I am a disabled veteran attending California State University, San Bernardino. I am in my sophomore year and studying kinesiology with a concentration in pre-physical therapy. I currently work at the Santos Manuel Student Union Information Desk as a student assistant. I want to become a physical therapist and help rehabilitate other veterans of all branches with service related injuries.

We queried some of our campus veterans regarding how they are leaving their mark on the world and the following are experts of what they had to say.....



## JENNIFER SMOLENSKI, U.S. AIR FORCE VETERAN



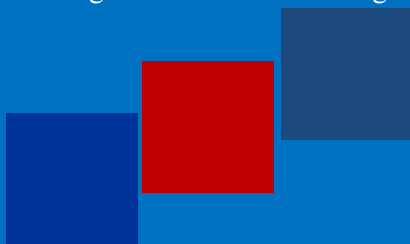
I served in the U.S. Air Force for four and a half years in Security Forces, stationed in Wyoming, England, and of course Iraq. Now I'm pursuing a bachelor's in business with a specialty in accounting. I'm also the new treasurer for the Student Veterans Organization and work part-time in our wonderful theatre costume shop as a student aide. I enjoy passing on the knowledge I have gained through my experiences to younger students. I also hope to leave a lasting and more organized SVO for future generations.

## VICTOR QUEZADA, U.S. NAVY VETERAN

After serving for four and a half years in the U.S. Navy and being laid off in 2010, I felt I was destined to do something different with my life. I decided to pursue an education and the VA helped me accomplish that goal. I am currently an undergraduate student at CSUSB majoring in business administration with a concentration in accounting, and when I graduate I plan to either work towards my doctorate and/or



work with a respected firm or in the government sector. My goal is to become a highly sought out expert in my field and share my knowledge with the younger generation. I want to not only teach the core concepts but expand on the theories and practice to better facilitate an ever changing economy. My untold goal is to prove that even though you may come from an uneducated and low income background, anyone can succeed with the correct mentality and motivation. Knowledge is power, and to keep it to yourself would be to disgrace.



## VALENTINE TAPIA, CA NATIONAL GUARD VETERAN

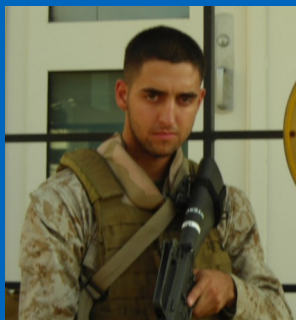
I served in the California Army National Guard. At present,



I am in the rehabilitation counseling program at California State University, San Bernardino. My hope after graduating is to work with others that have gone from the straight and narrow. Furthermore, I would like to work professionally helping the less fortunate kids-at-risk and soldiers in crises. I hope to be a counselor that serves the people, and to encourage them from my experience/education that it is never too late to change the behavior of negativity to positivity. In conclusion, a major life goal for the counselor is to assist a person with a disability to move from a position of psychological and economic dependence to one of independence.

## ADAM MIRANDA, USMC VETERAN

I was born in Downey, CA, and lived there until I joined the USMC in 2004. I was part of Fast Company Stationed in Norfolk, Va. I also was stationed in Spain for six months. While stationed in Spain, we deployed to Beirut, Lebanon and provided extra security for their embassy due to bombs threats and such. After Fast, I was stationed in 29 Palms with the 3/4. I later volunteered for a PSD unit and deployed to Iraq with them as the General's PSD in 2008. I returned home, got out of the military and started attending school at Cerritos College. I also started working as a dispatcher in the beginning of 2013. The dispatcher position will get me used to the 3-, 4-, 12- hour shifts that I may have to work once I become a police officer or something in the criminal justice field. That is why I am attending CSUSB to get my bachelor's and open more opportunities for myself when I complete my schooling.



**Don't forget to RSVP for the USMC Birthday by October 28th.**

**E-mail: [peralesr@coyote.csusb.edu](mailto:peralesr@coyote.csusb.edu) or [jacok301@coyote.csusb.edu](mailto:jacok301@coyote.csusb.edu)**



### List of services which are CLOSED

- VBA Regional Offices public contact services
- Recruiting and hiring of veteran job applicants will cease with the exception of VHA
- Presidential Memorial certificates not processed
- Outreach and public awareness activities
- VetSuccess on Campus suspended
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Education Counseling limited
- Military services coordinator operations will be suspended

### Suspended National Phone Numbers

- Education Benefits: 1-888-442-4551
- Consumer Affairs: 202-461-7402
- Inspector General Hotline: 1-800-488-8244
- Special Issues: 1-800-749-8387
- Whistle Blower Reprisal: 1-800-872-9855

### Tuskegee's Son (continued from pg. 3)

For my father the war was one great opportunity to see the world and travel around the country. To the best of his knowledge he was never under fire. While my father did not fight the Germans or the Japanese at the time, he was fighting another battle on the home front. Racism was prevalent at the time and many people didn't think a black man could fly an airplane. They would remark, "Blacks where not intelligent enough to do that." This is the same black man that would later become one of the engineers for the SR71 Blackbird Spy Plane and the Apollo missions to the moon.

The Tuskegee Airman where fighting the war of racism that was just as dangerous and as important to the future of this country as winning the war in Europe and the South Pacific. My father had many clashes with racism while wearing an officer's uniform. He used his rank and position as a way to help re-educate some individuals that all men are created equal.

[Check out our Facebook page for the rest of the story!](#)