



**VETERANS  
HERITAGE  
PROJECT,  
A 501(C)(3)**

- Motivating Students and Advisors to record veterans' stories for Permanent Preservation
- Continuing the efforts of Cactus Shadows High School's Arizona Heritage Project
- Expanding the project to more schools, educators, students, and veterans

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# The VHP Voice

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 28, 2011

## Community Supports VHP

Launching a business and gaining a non-profit status from the IRS can be a very difficult and prolonged task; often taking the better part of a year. That's why VHP founder Barbara Hatch was so thrilled when our application for a non-profit 501 (c)(3) status was approved in less than five weeks last April. "There must have been have been a veteran working on our application!" she announced at last year's Veterans Reception and Book Signing event for Volume Seven of *Since You Asked*.

VHP's next hurdle was and still is funding. It costs about \$20,000 to create, publish and promote the book, and to award much needed scholarships to our future leaders. Local families, veterans' groups and supporters such as the Kiwanis Club in Carefree realize the importance of recording veterans' stories for permanent preservation in the



Library of Congress and have given generously to help VHP operate and expand the student academic club to other high schools in Arizona. In November, after contributing \$2,000 to VHP, Kiwanis president Manny Gonzales said he, "liked the way VHP helps young people serve their community and build skills that will make them successful in college and in life."

Through contributions' from Kiwanis, local families and veterans taking advantage of state school tax credits (up to \$400 per family) and federally tax-exempt donations, VHP can achieve its mission of expanding the project



### Welcome to Issue #1

Welcome to the VHP Voice! This is our first issue and we would like to welcome all of our friends—students, vets, advisors, families and sponsors to the Veterans Heritage Project.

This monthly newsletter will contain news and information about upcoming events and highlight activities of the non-profit and clubs as we prepare for upcoming publications of veterans essays contained in *Since You Asked*. Deadlines for article submittal will be the 20th of each month.

Please send your articles and comments to VHP Marketing Communications Director, Laura Byers at [Laura@e-vmi.com](mailto:Laura@e-vmi.com)

## Outstanding Service to America

### VHP's Own Barbara Hatch Honored



On Saturday, November 13th, 2010, the Foster Friess Stars and Stripes Classic held its annual fundraising benefit at the Hyatt Regency in

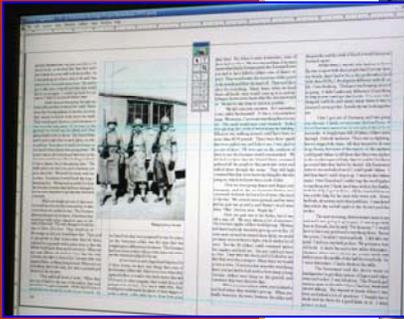
Scottsdale. Special guests included former Vice President Dan Quayle, Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, Gover-

nor Sarah & Todd Palin, Dr. James Dobson, War Correspondent Alex Quade, Lt. Gen. William G. Boykin and others.

The patriotic event, hosted by businessman and philanthropist Foster Friess, was designed to help advance the Joe Foss Institute's mission of educating students about patriotism, integrity, public service and America's freedoms. **During the evening, the Institute presented Joe Foss Institute Medallions for Outstanding Service to America to**

**honorees from around the country. Educator and founder of VHP Barbara Hatch was the first to be recognized that evening for her contributions of bringing high school students and veterans together. With over 400 interviews and essays written and archived in the Library of Congress by VHP club students, seven volumes of Since You Asked published, and the roll out of the program to three more schools this year is an achievement that we can all be proud. Thank you Barbara!**

# Writing the Essays, Building the Book



Adobe's publishing tool Pagemaker is used to compile the veterans stories into the book-mockup. A tedious process, former club members pass on the knowledge and techniques to the next years' editors.



Cactus Shadows High School (CSHS) freshman Nima Sadeghi, writes his second veteran essay for the project. His tasks, undertaken by all of the students in the club at Cactus Shadows High School, involve listening to the live video tape, transcribing the multi hour-long interview, reviewing the transcripts for accuracy (up to 40 pages!), finding the story, and writing the essay. Nima is committed and excited about the essay because his veteran saw a lot of action in Vietnam and earned a purple heart. The pressure is on — he wants to make him proud.



CSHS senior and VHP club president Ashley Schafer, and junior Saige Williams sit in front of their computer combing over their "master organizer" spreadsheet they are using to build this year's publication. It lists out by section the exact details of the title page, the Purple Heart theme, all of the veterans' essays, photos and captions, and student and veteran bios. The information

will eventually be fed into the Adobe publishing software, Pagemaker, for the book's professional look and feel. The organizer also tells them where they are in the process — how far each interview has come, which students have essays outstanding, which veteran has submitted photos, and more. Because of the hard work of these students, the status of the master list slowly makes its way towards completion. Ashley and Saige will need to tie up 65+ veterans worth of loose ends soon in order to hit their February 28th publishing deadline

Other club members pitch in to help. Freshman, Casey Drieggs, transcribes the veterans' biographies. Senior Brenna Leech updates the *In Memoriam* section which documents all of the veterans that have passed



since the first publication. Brenna says, "It's bittersweet. I'm thankful that veterans' stories have been captured but I'm saddened that more than 55 interviewed and 17 other friends of the program have found their names onto this list." Capturing their stories before they are lost is VHP's mission.



## Telling the Story in Photos

Club senior Madi Pascale sorts through pictures that veterans send in. She chooses the ones that will be placed in the essays as well as throughout the book. With pointers from CSHS Advisors Barbara Hatch, she also researches archives for pictures that help illustrate the time and place of each wars' theater.



# Canyon Valley “Pilot”

Canyon Valley School is proud to announce its selection as one of three new pilot schools in the Veterans Heritage Project. Canyon Valley history teacher Larry Dexter remembers listening to a presentation by Barbara Hatch and her students that sparked his interest in the project. Dexter recalled “these students spoke with great enthusiasm in their voices, while you could feel the great pride they took in the project.” So last year, his students decided to participate in the national “Take a Vet to School Program,” which created real interest in our veterans’ stories and

experiences. “Our students showed genuine pride in getting to know these brave individuals and wanted to do something on a larger scale,” stated Dexter. So in May when Barbara Hatch proposed that Canyon Valley School join in on VHP, Dexter jumped at the opportunity. Gilbert Public Schools are placing great emphasis on a program to expand rigor, relevance, and relationships in the classroom teaching experience. As Larry stated, “What a perfect fit for Canyon Valley Students! VHP will be used to expand teaching opportunities on American history with a first-hand perspective from local veterans.



VHP Advisor Larry Dexter holding a picture of his “first” veteran.

We will be building relationships not only in the classroom, but more importantly in the Gilbert community.”

You are cordially invited to attend the Veterans Heritage Project’s Reception and Veterans’ Book Signing this April 17, 2011 from 3-6PM at ASU’s West Campus

## New Location for VHP Reception

Did you notice that last year’s veterans’ reception was a little on the crowded side? The Desert Foothills area has been the project’s centerpiece for celebrating student and veteran accomplishments. Between the Carefree Conference Center, the Cave Creek Library and finally Desert Hills Lutheran Church, seven volumes of *Since You Asked* have made their way into the hands of family and friends. When organizers of this year’s event got together in November, they thought that perhaps this coming spring

VHP should take the next step and find a larger and more centrally located venue for its new multi-school event. Stephanie Habib, a senior at CSHS, is responsible for organizing the reception. She’s expecting about 600 people. “Not only will veterans interviewed by Cactus Shadows High School students be there, but three more VHP club chapters will participate, from Show Low, to Gilbert and Deer Valley School Districts.”

Mark your calendars for April 17th, and arrive in time for the 3-6PM

celebration which will take place this year at the main Conference Center at ASU West Campus, located at 4701 W. Thunderbird Road., Glendale, AZ 85306.

With schools participating statewide, ASU professors and aca-



VHP Reception!  
April 17th 3-6PM



## Upcoming Issues

- Students trek to Show Low High School to introduce the new VHP Chapter
- Eleven Students from CSHS VHP Club will travel to Holland and Luxemburg over spring break.
- They’ll see the Ardennes Forest where the Battle of the Bulge took place, Patton’s grave and Ann Frank’s House.
- More on what it takes to publish *Since You Asked*:
  - VHP’s 8<sup>th</sup> volume... that’s 2,550 hours of student and advisor effort!
  - Unsung heroes: Kevin Calabrese, arrives at 6:30am every morning to transform videos into DVDS and CDs!
  - Gilbert High School students roll up their sleeves

- Publishing Houses... searching for the best deal
- Student Scholarships... Top honors go to...
- VHP Advisors get ready for 2011-2012 academic year



VHP Advisor and veteran Pamela Lizardi shares her story with her Show Low Students.

# Veterans Heritage Project

## A non profit 501(c)(3) corporation

P.O Box 1297  
Carefree, AZ 85377-1297

Phone: 602-571-1248  
www.VeteransHeritage.org



Please join us...  
VHP Committee meets the first  
Wednesday of every month at 3:30PM at  
The Byers,  
33401 N. 55th Street,  
Cave Creek, AZ 85331 (602)421-9419

### VHP Non Profit Directors

Barbara Hatch Executive Director	602-571-1248 bhatch12@cox.net
Mark McCullough VHP President	602-793-6887 McCullough.mark.a@gmail.com
Richard Doubek, VHP Treasurer	480-488-7919 azcarboy@cox.net
Marilyn McCullough VHP Chapter Liaison	602-690-6122 Mmmcgolf3@aol.com
Laura Byers Secretary / Marketing communications	602-421-9419 Laura@e-vmi.com
Lynn Silan Torcolini Operations/Processes	610-223-3200 LDSilan@yahoo.com

### Contribute To VHP

**To contribute**, please fill out this form and mail it and your check to: Veterans Heritage Project, P.O. Box 1297, Carefree, AZ 85377-1297. **You will receive a letter from Veterans Heritage Project documenting your contribution for your records.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Check one or both:

**Tax Credit Donation** to a VHP club at an Arizona School  
**Payable to: Cactus Shadows High School.**  
in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_.  
• Deduct this from your state taxes.

**Tax-Deductible Donation**, to the 501 (c)(3) nonprofit corporation  
**Payable to: Veterans Heritage Project,**  
in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_.  
• To be included in your itemized deductions for federal taxes.

# Calendar

## February 2011

2nd - VHP Committee Meeting  
28th - final mockup of book; book goes to press

## March 2011

2nd - VHP Committee Meeting  
15th - Final proof back from publisher; review and submit final  
17-26 CSHS VHP Club Trip - Amsterdam & Luxemburg trip:  
Battle of the Bulge, Patton's Grave & Ann Frank's house

## April 2011

6th Committee Meeting  
8th - Take receipt of Volume 8 books  
16th - VHP club student & advisor party hosted by CSHS chapter  
17th - 3PM-6PM VHP Reception and Book Signing, ASU West,  
main Conference Center at ASU West Campus, located at  
4701 W. Thunderbird Road., Glendale, AZ 85306

## May 2011

3rd VHP Committee Meeting  
7th VHP Advisor Training for 2011-2012 school year, 9-3PM  
28th-29 Board Meeting retreat, Flagstaff

## June-July 2011— Summer Break

## August 2011

13th VHP Club Kickoff Parties (each school)

# Schools & Advisors

2003 Cactus Shadow High School, Cave Creek, AZ (Barbara Hatch, Advisor)  
2010 Canyon Valley School, Gilbert, AZ (Larry Dextor, Advisor)  
2010 Sandra Day O'Connor High School, Deer Valley, AZ (Suzanne Wooten, Advisor)

## Books & VHP Guide for Purchase

### Since You Asked

Volume I 2004	SOLD OUT
Volume II 2005	\$20.00
Volume III 2006	\$20.00
Volume IV 2007	\$20.00
Volume V 2008	\$20.00
Volume VI 2009	\$25.00
Volume VII 2010	\$25.00
<b>Pre-Order Volume VIII 2011</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
Any 3 Volumes:	\$50.00
VHP Advisor Program Guide	\$50.00
Shipping 1-3 books or guide	\$5.00

To order, visit our website: [www.veteransheritage.org](http://www.veteransheritage.org)  
or call 602-421-9419