



California Forumeer

American GI Forum

<http://www.agif.org>

AGIF Founded in 1948

Willie Galvan
Commander

Escalation of the War in Iraq



On Wednesday, January 10, 2007, President Bush announced his plan to escalate the involvement of the United States military in Iraq by sending 21,500 more troops to the region. This was his choice, in spite of the overwhelming vote for change in November by a majority of the American people.

Congress will be debating and voting on the President's plan in the next few weeks. Immediately following the announcement, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid sent Bush a letter, stating:

"We want to do everything we can to help Iraq succeed in the future but, like many of our senior military leaders, we do not believe that adding more U.S. combat troops contributes to success. They, like us, believe there is no purely military solution in Iraq. There is only a political solution."

"Adding more combat troops will only endanger more Americans and stretch our military to the breaking point for no strategic gain."

In addition to Democrats, Republicans in Congress are increasingly voicing public outrage over the President's plan. Republican Senator Chuck Hagel (Nebraska), a Vietnam War veteran, described the plan as "...the most dangerous foreign policy blunder in this country since Vietnam..."

The bipartisan Iraq Study Group, although not totally accepted by the Democratic Congress, in part because of its lack of a strict timetable for troop pullout, nevertheless was seen as a starting point to turn Iraq over to the Iraqis, and begin a redeployment of American troops.

President Bush has persisted on pushing through his plan, even though it is opposed by Democrats, opposed by Republicans, opposed by top military leaders, and by the American people. A poll taken on January 11, following the President's announcement, showed that the nation was opposed by a 2-1 margin.

The American GI Forum, like the U.S. Congress, continues to support our troops and will do nothing to jeopardize their safety. However, we can all exercise our Constitutional right to oppose an escalation and call for the President to be accountable for the wishes of the majority. Please call or write your Congress people to express your opinion. **Helen Galvan, Women Chairperson**



The commander and chairwoman request the honor of your presence at the AGIF State Conference & Grand Gala to be held in Modesto, CA on March 22-24, 2007. see page 4 for details

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The Forumeer is your Quarterly Newsletter, submit ideas and materials for the next issue by April 30, 2007. Submit articles highlighting your chapter's events with the names of people who make events happen. Mail materials to: California Forumeer c/o: A. G. Lerma 765 Story Rd. Ste 150 San Jose, CA 95122 or call at 408-288-9470. E-mail to: alerma@agif.org <http://www.agif.org>

California Governor's Appointment



Mr. Jake Alarid was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger on Wednesday, January 17, 2007, as a member of the California Veterans Board. Mr. Alarid, a former aerospace engineer, past National Commander, and also past State Commander of the American GI Forum, has been very active for over 30 years in promoting Veterans' rights and issues affecting both Veterans and Families.

Jake brings a lot of experience to the Veterans Board and will serve the Veterans of California with vigor and the prestige that they all deserve. Mr. Alarid, with his wife Marie, makes his home in Whittier, California, where he presides as local Commander of the El Camino Real Chapter of the American GI Forum.
Willie Galvan, California AGIF Commander

American GI Forum of California Encourages Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves

The 478,000 Reserve and National Guard servicemen who were called up and are now returning from active duty have civilian job guarantees under the Uniformed Services Employment and Redeployment Rights Act (USERRA). A good percentage of returning veterans have found it difficult to regain their former job positions, pay and reinstatement of job health insurance.

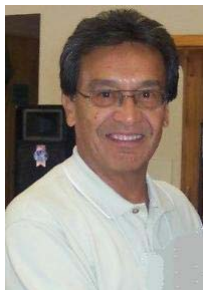
USERRA complaints are handled by government agencies as DOD, DOL, Justice and Office of Special Counsel to guarantee the rights of federal employees. The USERRA system is under stress and needs volunteers or ombudsmen for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve or ESGR program.

ESGR Ombudsmen will be trained to understand and comply with the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve policies and procedures. Ombudsmen mostly need commonsense, empathy and be willing to listen and communicate well. Ombudsmen will also provide informational and educational research to employers, the civilian community and the military community. We especially need ombudsmen and women in Southern California.

Anyone interested in becoming an Ombudsman/woman contact: Ralph Roy Ramirez, Lt. Col. (Ret.): 626-274-1001 or Fax: 626-445-0173; email: RRram@earthlink.net Thank you. **Fernando Del Rio Secretary, AGIF/CA**

2007 NATIONAL CONFERENCES

The Mid-Year Conference for the National Board of Directors and members will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The dates are Sunday March 11 to Tuesday 13, 2007. A contract is pending with the Alexis Suites. Room rates are \$89, single or double Sunday to Wednesday. For those members wishing to come early, a special rate of \$139 for Friday & Saturday is available. Hotel rooms are at a premium on weekends. The 57th Annual National Conference will be held in Oklahoma City. The dates are Wednesday August 1 to Sunday August 5, 2007. The hotel selected is the Sheraton Oklahoma City located downtown in the heart of the city. Room rates \$110, single or double. Details will be forthcoming in the next Forumeer. **Antonio Morales**



Dear Editor,

Congratulations on one of the best editions of the AGIF newsletter at the State or National level. The articles are newsworthy, enlightening, well written and show that the AGIF is involved in a number of important issues that affect our communities and veterans - and we are doing something positive about them. One of the reasons I am now involved is that the AGIF is slowly moving away from spending most of its time in internal fights and issues and moving toward issues that impact our communities AND are working together toward making changes to improve opportunities and the ability to participate in issues that affect our country. Lets hope that this approach spreads to the States and National Conventions. Good Job!

Fred Rodriguez, 1st Vice Commander

EMPLOYMENT of VETERANS with Disabilities PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is conducting a series of public hearings to gather information on better alignment of State sponsored employment services for veterans. This is an opportunity to influence the State's public policy regarding better coordination of employment services for veterans with disabilities. The Governor's Committee will consider all comments in the development of recommendations to go forward to the Governor.

- ◆ **February 27, 2007, Los Angeles City Hall, 9:00 a.m. – Noon. 200 North Spring Street, Rm 350, Los Angeles, 90010**
- ◆ **March 1, 2007, Vets Village of San Diego, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. 4141 Pacific Hwy, San Diego, 92110**
- ◆ **March 22, 2007, Sacramento, CA, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Dept. of Health Services, 1500 Capital Ave, Sacramento, 95814**

For additional information go to the Governor's Committee web site at <http://www.edd.ca.gov/gcepdind.asp>



Welcome Home Bonus Program



This is to inform you that Pete Molina from the AGIF/Central California Chapter informed me of a program in Massachusetts whereby Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan are given a Welcome Home bonus check upon returning from war in these countries. Therefore, with Pete Molina's input, I have taken the initiative to attempt to have this program implemented in California.

While in Sacramento this week, Roy Perez, our AGIF/CA Legislative & Political Advisor and I asked Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia to consider submitting legislation for a "Welcome Home" Bonus Program for our California military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. This program's payment of \$1000.00 is for active service in Afghanistan and Iraq, and \$500.00 for six months or more active service, stateside or outside the continental limits of the United States.

Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia agreed to work and present legislation towards this effort. We are grateful to her for readily agreeing to assist the AGIF/CA in our efforts to assist Veterans for service to country. I will keep you informed as legislation is written and when submitted to the full legislative body. **Willie Galvan State Commander**

Hello Family and Friends,

First I want to thank you all for your good wishes, love and support - both for myself and for our troops. I am now in Iraq, after having gone through pre-mobilization combat training with the U.S. Army at Ft. Jackson in North Carolina, on to more training in Kuwait and finally Iraq. I've now been in-country exactly one month (I left 11-Sep). I am attached to MNSTC-I (Multinational Security Transition Command Iraq - Public Affairs Office) and our mission is to document coalition forces in their support of helping the Iraqi Security Forces build their infrastructure so that they can become self-sustaining. We put out "The Advisor," a weekly publication that showcases the progress being made. It's a challenging position but also extremely rewarding. As a combat photojournalist, I get to see the situation with my own eyes and listen with my own ears to the voices that are involved in this historic human drama.

Our normal working hours are 8:30AM to 8:30PM Monday through Sunday with one day off every two weeks. This can and does vary, depending on missions. One Saturday night we got out at 1:30AM the next morning - still living la vida loca! I normally get to my command at 7:00AM, have breakfast at the DFAC (Dining Facility) and begin to make appointments, follow up on leads, go out to take photographs and interview subjects, etc. Some trips take from one to three days or longer and require some travel arrangements. Also, translation has to be arranged as our main focus is the Iraqi voice on ongoing developments.

My command is at Phoenix Base, a FOB (Forward Operating Base) near Saddam's palace compound, which now houses the U.S. Embassy. My "hooch" (living space) is also located on the embassy compound. I've started going to church on Sunday evening with some of the friends I've made - Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, - my "Battle Buddies," since coming here. There is a mixed attendance of military, civilian contractors and State Dept. employees and a few sailors, like myself. There are armed forces personnel from Iraq, South Korea, Macedonia, Italy, Finland, Poland, Republic of Georgia, Peru, Chile, Great Britain and Australia, among 36 nations in the effort.

I am very proud and humbled to serve my country and feel blessed to be here following in the footsteps of the many Americans who have answered the call to duty, my younger brother Ralph being one of the first Marines to enter Iraq in 2003. Please continue to keep us in your prayers and if you would also pray for those Iraqi people who are trying to rebuild their country and their lives. I miss you all and think of you often.

Very Respectfully, **MC2 Elisandro "Alex" Diaz**

U.S. Navy Combat Photojournalist Multinational Security Transition Command - Iraq Phoenix Base, Baghdad, Iraq

Email: elisandro.diaz@iraq.centcom.mil



Forumeer Paul Chairez Sr. Dies
WWII Pacific Campaign
PFC, US Army

Paul was a lifetime member of the Sacramento Chapter and contributed greatly while providing guidance for us regularly. He was 87 yrs old and suffered a major stroke in early January. We honored him in 2004 at our annual awards banquet for his dedicated service to our country. Paul served in the US Army during WWII, was wounded and later served in many veterans organizations including the American GI Forum and the California Veterans Advisory Committee. Paul enjoyed volunteer work and was a member of the S.I.R.S. organization and the California Teachers Association. Paul enjoyed dancing and was an avid golfer. He was a 4th degree Knights of Columbus member who was happiest at family and church gatherings. He will surely be missed by all that knew him. Burial Services were held in Sacramento, California. The American GI Forum extends its heartfelt sympathies to Paul's family.

San Jose GI Forum Scholarship Foundation



The San Jose GI Forum Scholarship Foundation, Inc. has been a pioneer in providing scholarships to graduating seniors of Latino descent in Santa Clara County. In 1972 the San Jose Chapter's Scholarship Committee, with the help of attorney Robert Gonzales, drafted articles of incorporation, applied for and was granted its charter by the State of California.

Since its inception the Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than one and a half million (\$1.5 M) dollars to deserving students. The applications are hand carried or mailed to all the High Schools in Santa Clara County. Now students can also go to the San Jose GI Forum's Website and download the application. <http://www.sjgif.org>

A Board of Directors whose membership totals 18 members governs the Foundation. Ten members are members of the San Jose Chapter and are voted in by the Chapter membership. The East Valley-San Jose Chapter has three representatives, plus one member from the general community and four members from the Business and Education community.

It is important to remember that the Scholarship Foundation has had a close link with the business community since it was first formed. Ray Schneyer, a founding member, worked for Lockheed. Incentives offered by this company made it possible for the founding of the Foundation. Their first task was to select a winner for a \$5,000 scholarship that Lockheed was awarding to someone with career interests in mathematics and computer sciences. The group developed criteria for the selection of the first award recipient. Up to now, the criteria that was developed at that time continues to be used today. Criteria used in the selection of students include academic achievement, financial need and an oral interview. As a matter of record, the Ray Schneyer family continues to fund a \$1,500 scholarship to the Ray Schneyer Memorial fund.

In the last ten years our scholarships have been at least \$1,000 for each recipient. Many of our recipients have become successful members of our community and have excelled in their chosen careers and are giving back to their communities. Many have told us that the scholarship that they received from the Foundation made a big difference at the time they received it. The Board of Directors is looking forward to having another successful year. **Rosa Campos, San Jose GI Forum Scholarship Foundation**

Modesto Chapter Welcomes you to the 2007 American GI Forum of California State Education & Training Conference

RED LION INN 1612 Sisk Rd. Modesto, CA. 209 521-1612 March 22-24, 2007
Conference Rate is 79.00 per night, Please mention the AGIF for the Conference Rate

Conference Fees Senior and Women's Forum
\$65.00 plus \$25.00 to attend Modesto's 8th Annual Black & White Ball.
Youth Forum
\$35.00 plus \$25.00 to Attend the Black & White Ball



American GI Forum



**EDUCATION IS OUR FREEDOM &
FREEDOM SHOULD BE EVERYONE'S BUSINESS**
DR. HECTOR P. GARCIA, FOUNDER

Cut off for Hotel Reservations and the Black & White Ball is March 10 th, 2007.
Extra Tickets for the B&W Ball are available at \$50.00 each.

Our Keynote Speaker this year is Congressman Dennis Cardoza.
Please send all Fees to: Valentine Perez, Treasurer
209 Yosemite Meadows Dr. Modesto, CA 95357-0409.
Registration forms can be downloaded from the CA website at: <http://www.agif.org>

Pre Conference Meeting - Thursday, General Session – Friday & Saturday, Black & White Ball – Saturday Night

Note* The Black & White Ball is a formal event with most men wearing Suits or Tuxedos.

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS

**American GI Forum-California Education & Training Conference March 22-24, 2007 Modesto, CA
To sponsor an event or to participate and display your company materials
Call Conference Chairman, Frank Alvarez at 209-525-4599 or 209 495-2254**



LOS ANGELES FORUM MEMBERS ATTEND CONGRESSIONAL CEREMONY



In the nation's Capital every two years the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) puts on a bash and swears in recently elected Caucus officers and members. This year the event took place on January 4. Although the Latino Representatives and Senators don't always agree on all issues the Caucus does meet to discuss public policy issues. At times the ethnic difference between Cuban Americans, Mexican Americans, and Puerto Ricans impedes the Latino Congress members from agreeing on national issues. At the January 4 ceremony it was interesting to note that most of the Cuban American Representatives didn't attend.

To participate in this historic activity Los Angeles/Larry Amaya Chapter Commander Fernando Del Rio, Secretary Tony Gallegos, State Vice Commander Fred Rodriguez and LA Chapter member Richard Vasquez flew into Washington, D. C. The swearing in ceremony of the 110th Congress Latino Representatives and Senators took place in a jam-packed ballroom at the posh Washington Court Hotel. G. I. Forum National Commander Tony Morales and other Forumeers also attended the event.

The evening ceremony was somewhat of a formal program with a military color guard, singing of the national anthem and too many speeches given by the Latino Senators and Representatives. Actually the swearing in ceremony is a fund raising event. Proceeds go to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI). Corporate sponsors and individual tickets to attend the event are publicly sold and the tickets are costly. The proceeds sponsor Congressional summer intern programs in Washington, D. C.

The California Hispanic Congressional Caucus delegation is composed of ten members including five women and five men. At the ceremony outgoing Chair Grace Napolitano (D. Norwalk) turned over the Chairmanship to Joe Baca (D. San Bernardino). For the next two years Baca leads the Caucus and oversees the Institute's programs and activities.

The Los Angeles Chapter delegation didn't go to Washington just to attend the ceremony but to meet Congress members to lobby for a National Service for America (NSFA) program. At the Santa Maria (December 2006) State GI Forum meeting a resolution was passed supporting Rep. Charles Rangel's (D. NY) universal military draft bill. The G. I. Forum resolution however, expands the military draft obligation by creating a national service conscripting all youth with no exemptions. This means that their service can be in the military, Peace Corps, neighborhood development, working with children, hospital assistance, community cleanup, anti-drug and education programs and a plethora of public services making our youth responsible and giving them direction.

The California Forum delegation with Fred Rodriguez leading the way met with Representative Rangel's chief deputy who welcomed the delegation's suggestions. He stated he wants additional information from the Forum as Congressman Rangel develops his National Service bill for Congress. It will be introduced later in the current session. The Forumeers also met and discussed the issue with Reps. Hilda Solis, Xavier Becerra, Joe Baca, Loretta Sanchez, and Grace Napolitano and Linda Sanchez's deputies.

There's no doubt that the military draft and national service program is going to be a hot issue in the 110th session of Congress. The Los Angeles/Larry Amaya Chapter and the California State G. I. Forum has started the ball moving in California and on the national scale will be one of Congressman Rangel's National Service for America advocates. **Fernando Del Rio, Commander Los Angeles Larry Amaya Chapter**

Forum Leaders:

Thanks for taking time to meet with Helen and I to discuss Forum strategies, issues and your most productive trip to Washington, D.C. Your meetings and discussions with the various Congressmen and their staffs elevates the AGIF's standing. You/We have placed the AGIF on the national screen with this foresighted "National Service for America" project. Lets continue to monitor progress and follow-up with Congressman Rangel as the Bill moves forward. We can also promote the Bill and other issues at the California State Conference through our scheduled Press Conferences.

Also, lets work on the "National Service to America" power point presentation, first to take to the Mid-Year Conference in Las Vegas, and then for the State Conference in Modesto. I will make all efforts to be in attendance at the Saturday, February 10th fundraiser for Iraq Veteran Jesse Acosta, at VICS headquarters, and also the Golf Tournament scheduled for May 3rd. Thanks to all of you and Tony Gallegos for your steadfast support. **Willie Galvan, State Commander**

Oceanside Chapter AGIF Sponsors Scholarship Fund Raiser



MARIACHI CONCERT Saturday February 24, 2007 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Oceanside, California featuring Mariachi Chula Vista. Advance Ticket Sales Call Pete Magana for more info: 760-757-6276 or Johnny Lozano 760-724-2508



**OFFICIAL OSCAR NIGHT® AMERICA LOS ANGELES VIEWING PARTY
COMING TO UNION STATION TO BENEFIT TWO CHARITY GROUPS**

(LOS ANGELES, CA) – The prestige and glamour of Hollywood is coming to downtown Los Angeles on **Oscar Night®** Those without tickets to the Kodak Theatre can share the excitement of the 79th Annual Academy Awards® on Sunday, February 25, 2007 at Los Angeles’ own **Oscar Night®** America viewing party. The Los Angeles charity viewing party is one of 49 official parties, sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, that will be held across the country on **Oscar Night®** This will be the first **Oscar Night®** America party produced by and benefiting the diverse City of Los Angeles.

Benefiting *The Wall Las Memorias Project (HIV Prevention and Education Program)* and the *American GI Forum California Veterans Outreach Program*, Los Angeles **Oscar Night®** America charity celebration will be held at Union Station in downtown Los Angeles, beginning at 4:00 pm. Guests will enjoy “live” viewing of the Academy Awards® telecast on a large screen courtesy of KABC-7 the Los Angeles affiliate of the ABC Television Network, which broadcasts the Academy Awards® presentation beginning at 5PM. ABC and the Academy are cooperating for the 14th year with local charities to support official **Oscar Night®** viewing parties throughout the country. At the Union Station, guests will also enjoy “live” entertainment, an art exhibit, a charity casino night and much more. Tickets will go on sale at www.bestdamntickets.net and the Warehouse Shoes Stores throughout the City of Los Angeles. For more information call: (626) 456-0314 or Jimmy D. Dichirico, AGIF, CA (562) 522-2287, Fred Zermeno, The People’s Concert (213) 219-1060

Veterans In Community Service, Inc.
VICS, A Commitment to Service
10260 Matern Place Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 562.204.0529 -562.204.0547
Tony Gallegos, President/CEO & Fred S. Rodriguez, Board Chairman
<http://www.vicsinc.org>

7th ANNUAL VETERAN’S APPRECIATION DAY CELEBRATION
San Jose Vet Center
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San Jose, CA 95112
May 4, 2007



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VETERANS ADMINISTRATION NEWS

VA's HIV Clinical Case Registry is helping advance research for veterans and others who are HIV-positive. The HIV registry is the largest database of its kind in the world, and it is helping VA track medical services, pharmaceuticals and patient outcomes for persons with HIV, while maintaining patient anonymity. Yale University is using the HIV Clinical Case Registry for its Veterans Aging Cohort Study (VACS), in which researchers are comparing health services use, costs of care and survival in a cohort of more than 33,000 HIV-positive veterans and 66,000 matched HIV-negative control patients at VA medical facilities. Late last year, the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) awarded a five-year, \$13 million continuation grant for VACS to examine the impact of aging and alcohol use among persons with and without chronic HIV. Today, HIV infection is a long-term, chronic disease. VACS principal investigator Amy Justice of Yale School of Medicine and the VA Connecticut Healthcare System notes that, "As HIV-infected patients are living longer, they are facing a host of conditions associated with aging, HIV behaviors, and HIV treatment. Findings from VACS will help clinicians and HIV-infected patients understand how to optimize their medical care." Kevin Secor VSO Liaison Office of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Washington, DC 202-273-4836

Kevin Secor/VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of VA, Washington, D.C. writes:

"I recently had the privilege and honor to visit Vails Gate, New York (right outside of Newburg, NY – just north of NYC and West Point) and toured the National Purple Heart Roll of Honor and Museum. What a great experience. I would highly recommend visiting if ever in the area. I would like to take this opportunity to spread the word about the Hall of Honor, and particularly the Roll of Honor, their database and archival record of Purple Heart recipients.....

"They are asking for your help. The Museum is counting on veterans, friends, family members and comrades to help enroll each and every Purple Heart recipient. People interested in enrolling someone can start the process by contacting them by phone (845-561-1765), or visiting their website, www.thepurpleheart.com. Once on the website, in the FAQs section, you can find information about the materials required for documenting receipt of the Purple Heart, and other information and objects they are interested in acquiring, as well as the address for sending an enrollment application. There is no charge for being enrolled in the Roll of Honor."

Willie Galvan adds that we have many Hispanic Veterans within our communities that are "Purple Heart" recipients, and highly recommends that the AGIF/CA and throughout the U.S. distribute the above information to our membership and communities. In this manner, our Hispanic Veteran heroes and their families can become aware of the "National Purple Heart Hall of Fame and to enroll in the "Hall of Honor".

RECRUIT MEMBERS

Disseminate the News that the AGIF/CA Forum membership is open with one-year-free as an Associate Member. Sponsor a Veteran and/or a Veteran's family member - it's beneficial to them and the Forum. All Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans are eligible for free Forum membership for one year. The AGIF/CA is beginning to get heard, but to be really listened to, we need to enlarge and even triple our membership base. We need your help to get our message out. So if each of you would bring in at least 2 or 3 new members as paid, or associate/free members, then we would reach our goal by March, 2007. The more our Forum membership grows, the greater influence we have. Thanks for your efforts. Willie Galvan, Commander AGIF California

General Membership Application

Qualifications to join: Any honorably discharged veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States is eligible for membership, as is any person who is approved by the membership. Chapters hold monthly meetings. The Mid-Year Conference is held during the first quarter of the year. The State Conference is held during the second quarter of the year and the National Conference is held in August.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Chapter Name _____
Email _____

DUES (Dues are \$30.00 for most chapters)
Annual membership dues includes local, state and national dues. Members receive a subscription to The Forumeer, the official AGIF Newsletter, and discounts to the AGIF's conferences and events. Mail application and dues to: AGIF State Treasurer Daniel Morales, P. O. Box 52617, Riverside, CA 92517. You may also send application to your nearest AGIF chapter.

• Veteran _____ Yes _____ No • New Member _____ Renewal _____ • Gender _____ Male _____ Female



California Forumeer

Forumeer Advertising Rates

Full Page	\$1,000.00
Half Page	\$ 500.00
Quarter Page	\$ 250.00
Business Card	\$ 100.00



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Forumeer on the Web: <http://www.agif.org>

Website Redesign

Here are just some ideas that could be included in the new California Website

- 1) A larger picture of Dr. Garcia in color
- 2) Short history of AGIF of US
- 3) Short history of AGIF, California
- 4) Legacy of California AGIF
- 5) Names of Board Members to include email addresses
- 6) Chapter Commanders, phone #s, email addresses (updated)
- 7) Board Appointees with their titles and email addresses
- 8) Update VOP – Explanation of Services
- 9) Update VSO – Explanation of Services
- 10) Civil Rights Involvement
- 11) Civic Community Involvement
- 12) New Membership Application Forms
- 13) Other items that membership may come up with

This is a lot to include, but if we are to really tell our story or what we do, or what we are about, then we should really give this some thought. Of course, we all need to pitch in with the upgrades and needed information.

We also know this is premature, as we need equipment, software and technical assistance, but we want to put this on the table for discussion/debate. Again, we're asking for input from all that think this is important to propel the Forum to become a first-rate organization that is taking advantage of today's technology.

Communications Committee

VISIT US ON THE WEB
[Http://www.agif.org](http://www.agif.org)

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