

Ferrarese Foundation Holds Veteran's Holiday Tribute

By Gary George

Approximately 1000 people attended the 3rd Annual Veterans Holiday Tribute at the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds on December 11.

"Yes, America stands for what is right in the world... no one can argue that it has been the American people who have contributed more towards the freedoms and liberties being enjoyed by more and more people," said Don Ferrarese in a foreword to the day's program.

The event was sponsored by the Don Ferrarese Charitable Foundation and hosted by its own Dan Tate.

"If it wasn't for the vets from World War II, none of us would be here. All veterans deserve more recognition," said veteran Joe Covarrubias.

Veterans groups had booths to say hello and disperse pertinent information. Many attendees checked out the displays of military gear and informational placards commemorating battles and cemeteries.

Harvey Bohman, of Apple Valley



Helping out with the event's logistics were (left to right) Manpreet Grewal, Mirshae Campbell, Rebecca Tennison and Jessica Swift.



Ron Comchoice, of Hesperia, perused posters describing the Battle of the Bulge.

dressed in his Navy uniform and displayed the 1942 Ford GPW Shore Patrol Jeep that took him eight years to restore.

Nedra Murphy attended with her husband Gerald, a retired Sr. Master Sgt. Nedra had brought along a POW

bracelet commemorating the missing Capt. Robert Rex, who was shot down in an F-105 in Laos in 1968 during the Vietnam conflict.

"They identified his remains in 1996. They had only been brought back to the States in 1994," said Nedra.



PHOTOS BY GARY GEORGE

Dan Tate, of the Don Ferrarese Charitable Foundation spoke during the tribute event.



From the Barstow Vets Home were (left to right) Devaughn Morton, Dennis Boyce and Dennis Gragg.



Arriving veterans are greeted upon arrival with flags and cards of appreciation.



Pumpkin pies are readied to be served by the Avid group from Silverado High School.