

VETERANS CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF BEAUFORT  
Beaufort National Cemetery Expansion Fund  
"A Promise Made - A Commitment Kept"  
VCCOB II  
PO Box 6382  
Beaufort. SC 29903

July 28, 2014

Dear Commander/President:

This letter is being sent out to all Veterans Service Organizations located within the Low- country region. We want to alert you to the fact the Beaufort National Cemetery may have to turn away in-ground interments by the early 2030s. This has happened before: the Beaufort National Cemetery was faced with closing in 2008, were it not for efforts of the first Veterans Cemetery Committee of Beaufort (VCCOB) to arrange a land swap involving the National Guard and purchase of adjoining private property. The National Cemetery has now used half of the 15 acres the VCCOB gave it.

The committee of veteran-volunteers realized more land expansion of the cemetery would be needed down the line and they went to work to acquire an adjacent property. Sadly, the VCCOB President passed away and the committee became inactive. However, in 2010 VCCOB II was formed, with military retirees, veteran's service organizations and with support from Beaufort's Mayor and Mayor *Pro Tem*, a State Senator, and US Congressman Joe Wilson, among many others.

The property in question, approximately five acres, currently contains sub-standard apartments. The seller is eager to find a buyer and asserts the property has huge commercial value. These claims aside, it IS the LAST available land contiguous to the cemetery. The VCCOB II goal is to acquire this property to expand the cemetery. Such an opportunity may never occur again. If the property is sold to a developer, it will most likely be lost to Beaufort National Cemetery FOREVER.

We are seeking financial assistance from the community at large. The committee has partnered with the *Community Foundation of the Low Country*, specifically to raise money to purchase this property. All contributions to this fund are tax deductible. You can donate on line at [www.cf-lowcountry.org](http://www.cf-lowcountry.org), or send a check to VCCOB II made out to the "Community Foundation of the Low Country (In the lower section of the check write in "BNC Expansion Fund".)

Five more acres for our Beaufort National Cemetery will help America guarantee for at least some time into the future its solemn pledge to veterans and their loved ones, "A Promise Made – A Commitment Kept"!

Encl (1) VCCOB Article by Bob Freeman

Sincerely,



Arthur Foster  
Chairperson