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# INCOMING NEWS

VNVDV OFFICIAL VETERAN NEWS

**JUNE 2010**



The VNVDV has traditionally held a Memorial Day Observance. Once again the Observance will be held at Oak Hill Park, 3005 Stone Valley Road, Danville, at 1030 hrs (10:30 AM). Following the initial program, a short tribute to our Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and a Gold Star Families Recognition will take place at the All Wars Memorial, also at Oak Hill Park. Please come and honor our fallen comrades.

A private picnic for VNVDV members and immediate family, will be held after the ceremonies. If you plan to join us at the picnic, please notify Vice-President, Mike "Slatts" Slattengren, at [mjslatt@yahoo.com](mailto:mjslatt@yahoo.com) ASAP. Let Slatts know how many will be attending. Please bring a salad or dessert to share with the group and you own beverage of choice. The VNVDV will provide the main course.

"The Moving Wall", a half scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington DC, will be at Greeley Hill, CA, Thursday, June 10 through Sunday, June 13, 2010. "The Moving Wall" is being hosted by the National American Indian Veterans, Northern California District, Pacific Region. If you have not been to the "Wall" in Washington DC, this replica is as close as possible to the real thing. Greeley Hill is close to Coulterville, east of Modesto along Highway 120/49.

On Saturday, June 26, from 1300hrs (1:00 PM) to 1700hrs (5:00 PM), the San Ramon Valley Firefighters will host their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Charity Bowl. The proceeds will benefit the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley. The VNVDV is invited for a day of fun, food and drink. There will also be a silent auction and raffle drawings.

The VNVDV is attempting to field a bowling team. Do we have five members (hopefully some bowlers) capable of lifting and throwing a bowling ball? If you are interested, please e-mail me at [jyahiro@aol.com](mailto:jyahiro@aol.com). Come on out and support your fellow VNVDV bowlers. LET'S DO THIS! IT'S FOR A GREAT CAUSE!!!

See you at Oak Hill Park, Memorial Day, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Jerry Yahiro*

# All Wars Memorial

# MEMORIAL DAY 2010 MONDAY - MAY 31ST OAKHILL PARK



NOTICE: Due to the "constant rains" off and on again throughout the Spring... the **ALL WARS MEMORIAL** Foundation which "operates and manages" the AWM for the **Town of Danville** unfortunately announces the Spring 2010 "engraving order" for Pavers at the AWM is NOT going to be completed in time for Memorial Day.

We are continuing to wait for the weather to dry-up to before we can begin engraving. You are still encouraged to purchase pavers... so it will be installed as soon as the weather clears. We all had hoped it would be prior to Memorial Day.

Most of you who live in the East Bay know the weather has not been on our side. **These AWM Pavers make outstanding gifts which will be cherished forever!** Memorial Day is a great time to visit the memorial. Obtaining a "paver" as a "gift" is a special memory which will always be remembered... and is a true honor for those who have served or are current members of the military. The AWM coordinators can provide special "family groupings" if you have multiple family members who have served or desire to honor other family members in a special area grouping. *AWM Paver ordering information can be found on their new website at:*

[www.AllWarsMemorial.com](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.com). All AWM pavers currently installed will soon be on the website by Summer with photos. *Order a Paver for your favorite veteran or family member today!* AWM

## Memorial Day at AWM

Memorial Day is probably the VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley's biggest event - coordinated with the Town of Danville and the All Wars Memorial Foundation. The event traditionally draws over one-thousand guests to beautiful Oakhill Park in Danville - and is one of the largest "formal remembrances" of **Memorial Day** in the East Bay. This event requires our members to volunteer at what ever level they are able to assist in making this event the best possible. Please - ***every available member*** - supporter and friend from the community your help is needed to "volunteer" on Monday - May 31st @ 0700 set-up.

President **Jerry Yahiro** has Past President **Bill Picton** as the Memorial Day Chair. To assist with the events organization is the Director of Events - Ray La Rochelle, assisting the President with details. Bill indicated members are needed in every area - organize - set-up & take-down all the materials and equipment required for a successful event. We have a great program this year to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice and those who have gone before us and a special tribute at the All Wars Memorial. We need volunteers for set-up at 7AM at Oakhill Park on Monday - May 31 and for the Color Guard @ 10.

Work Parties will set the shade first and then set-up the chairs - break it all down afterwards. Director Bill Green is working the "power needs" - Past President Del Loewe is working the PA & Speaker System and Ron Lowe is working with the All Wars Memorial Foundation program. Remember is this Monday—Mark your calendar now and plan to be there early! If you have any questions... **Contact Memorial Day Chair - Bill Picton @ [BPicton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:BPicton@sbcglobal.net). Thanks!**

**Join Us for Memorial Day Program @ 10 and remember to RSVP for the Member Picnic with VP "Slatts" or miss out!**

**After MEMORIAL DAY we will have our "Members Only" Family BBQ Picnic. For those who made reservations ONLY if you want to eat. Sorry!**

**Memorial Day**  
**Monday, May 31, 2010**  
**Oak Hill Park**  
**Danville, CA**

**Program Outline:**

Pre-ceremony Concert (191<sup>st</sup> Division Army Band) 10:30 – 10:55

Ceremony Begins 11:00

Highlights:

- Presentation of colors
- Flyby: ANG F16s from Fresno
- National Anthem
- Invocation
- Welcome by Mayor of Danville
- Recognition of veterans from all wars
- Salute to each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Recognition of War on Terror veterans
- Featured Speaker: Rear Admiral Winston Copeland
- Closing remarks

Transition to the *All Wars Memorial* - conducted by... Co Co Sheriff / Police Drum & Pipe Corps

Special Salute at All Wars Memorial 12:05

- Special salute to War on Terror Veterans
- Special salute to Mike Shimansky
- 21 gun salute
- Taps
- Amazing Grace (Contra Costa Sheriff / Police Drum & Pipe Corps)
- Closing remarks
- Retire Colors

Memorial Day Observance concludes 12:30

\* \* \*

The annual VNVDV Memorial Day annual “members picnic will follow the ceremony for members who have made reservations for this picnic with the vice president mike Slattengren in advance. It will be held at the southeastern corner of Oak Hill Park, near the volley ball court.

The picnic will be for VNVDV **MEMBERS AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY**. VNVDV will provide the main course and hot dogs for children again for those who made reservations. We are only ordering enough food for those who responded to Mike Slattengren. Please bring something for yourselves and to share with others, a salad or dessert. Also, please bring your own beverage of choice.

**YOU MUST HAVE CONTACTED MIKE SLATTENGREN VIA E-MAIL AT [mjslatt@yahoo.com](mailto:mjslatt@yahoo.com) TO ATTEND THIS EVENT - LETTING HIM KNOW HOW MANY IN YOUR FAMILY WILL BE ATTENDING THE PICNIC AND WHAT YOU WILL BE BRINGING TO SHARE. Thank You.**



# JUNE 3 GUEST SPEAKER: JOSEPH W. CALLAWAY, JR.

Our June 3, 2010 speaker is (Joe) Joseph W. Callaway, Jr. Joe is one of our active members and has written a book titled “Mekong First Light”. It was not Joe’s intention to sit down and write a book about his times during the war, rather he set out to explain himself to his sons. What he ended up with was a very personal, thoughtful and sometimes painful journey through a young soldier’s struggles with war, while at the same time explaining his country’s involvement in the war in Viet Nam. The book also gives us a personal look at the boy growing up in rural Alabama, the Infantry officer in Viet Nam and life after being through such a brutal war. Joe has put together a story that tells a very personal accounting of the life-altering price of war- a story many of us share with him. Considering the sensitivity of this experience, we **will not** entertain a question and answer episode after the talk.

## MEMORIAL DAY MILITARY FLAG COLOR GUARD

VNVDV members:

We need your assistance to get our annual flag detail VOLUNTEERS TOGETHER AND finalized NOW!.

Fred Granados OUR COLOR GUARD COORDINATOR HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN PUTTING TOGETHER THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS YEARS TEAM. HE DID NOT RECEIVE AS MANY VOLUNTEERS AS ANTICIPATED AS EXPECTED AT OUR MAY MEETING AND NEEDS YOU TO CONTACT HIM THIS WEEKEND AT THE NUMBER BELOW.

This is a “**shout out**” to YOU... the membership to let you all know we need your personal assistance for OUR “military service flag” detail for the annual “Memorial day observance” on **Monday, May 31, 2010** – which begins FORMATION at 10am. VOLUNTEERS ARE TO ARRIVE FOR EVENT SET-UP AT 0700 FOR SHADE COVER – CHAIRS AND OTHER.

This is the *largest* memorial day remembrance program in the east bay conducted at the beautiful oakhill park in the town of Danville... site of the “*all wars memorial*.”

We will need a minimum of seven volunteers with one alternate – a total of eight... and the uniform of the day is: dark blue pants (long), official white vnvdv polo shirt and white sneakers. I would appreciate your assistance.


Please contact our color guard coordinator directly:

Fred Granados - ph: 925 / 930 – 6732 - E: [Fgranados@yahoo.com](mailto:Fgranados@yahoo.com)

*Thanks*

# SUPPORT OUR NEW VETERANS BUILDING

**San Ramon Valley Firefighters**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual**  
**Charity Bowl**





**Saturday, June 26th**  
Danville Bowl, 200 Boone Ct., Danville, CA

**Open Bowl 1-5PM**  
**Tournament Bowl 6-10PM**

Adults \$25 Kids 12 & Under \$10  
Food and drink provided  
Silent Auction and Raffle Prizes  
Music from San Ramon Valley Firefighters Pipes and Drums

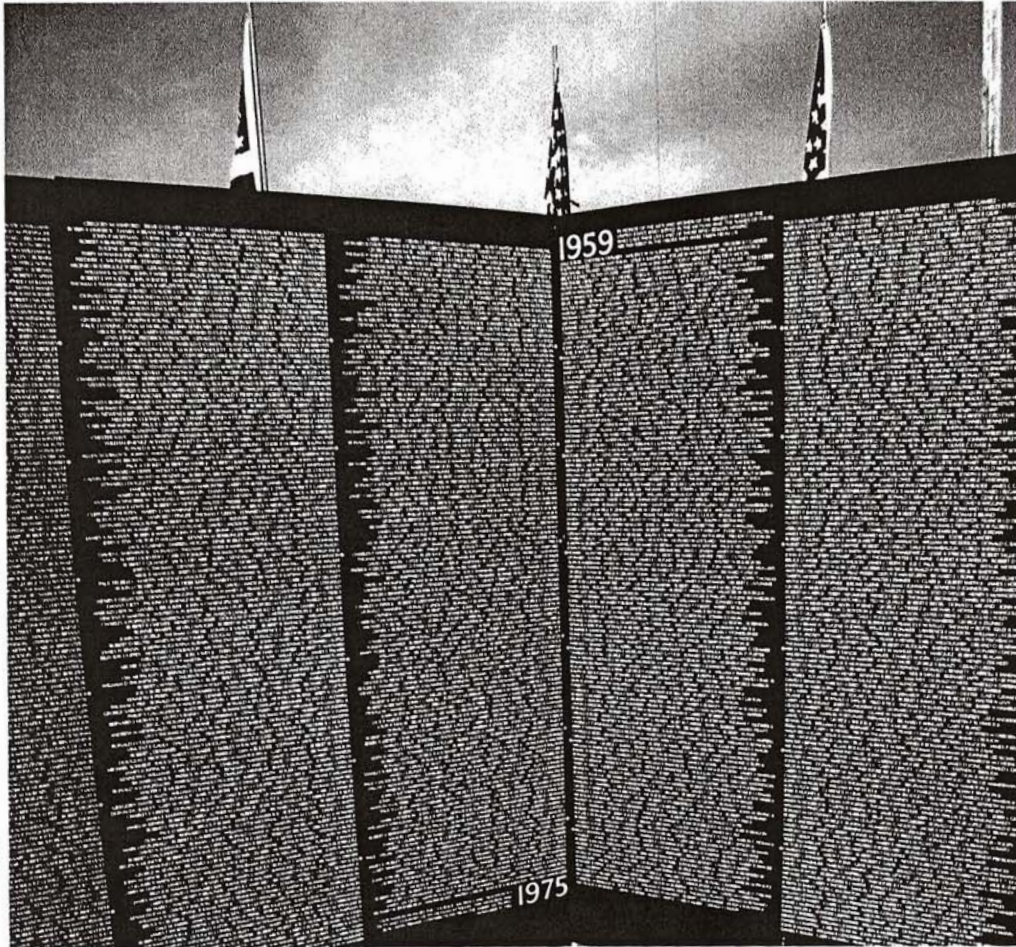
For more info and online ticket sales go to [www.srvff.org](http://www.srvff.org)

 **All proceeds to benefit**  
**Veterans Memorial Building**  
**of San Ramon Valley** 

**VNVDV TEAMS CHALLENGE ALL  
OTHER NON-PROFIT TEAMS!  
MEET YOU ON THE ALLEY!**



# The Moving Wall Memorial



“The Moving Wall,” a half scale replica of the  
Washington Vietnam Memorial, will be at  
Greeley Hill, CA 95311  
Thursday, June 10th ~ Sunday, June 13th, 2010

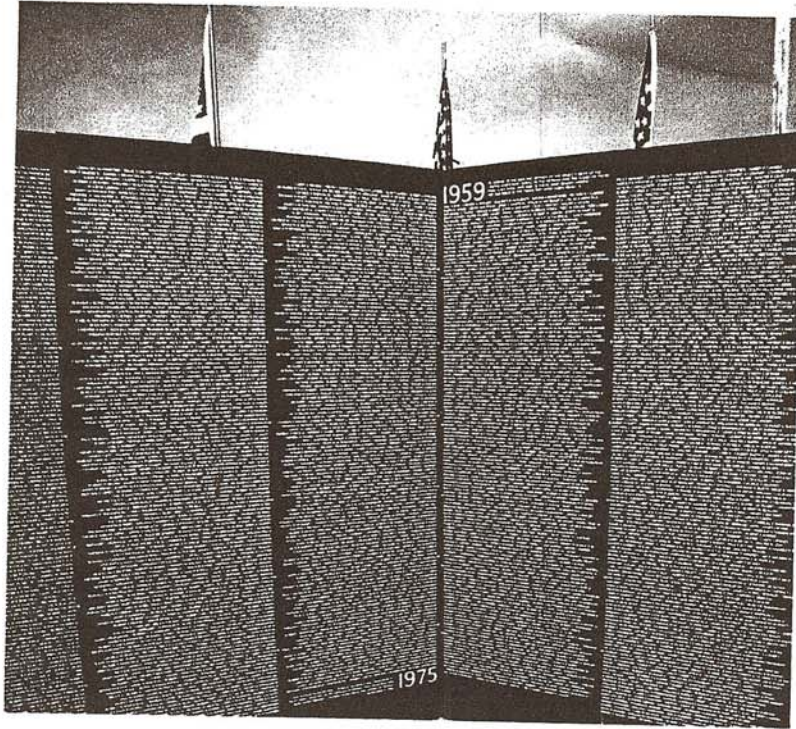
For additional information contact :

Jesse Salcedo  
650-369-0383  
209-878-3302

[jdsalcedo@earthlink.net](mailto:jdsalcedo@earthlink.net)



# The Moving Wall Memorial



## PORK ROAST - CARNITAS

Beans, Rice, and Salad - \$10.00 Per Plate  
To benefit "The Moving Wall" Memorial  
Head Cook & Bottle Washer, Retired Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
David Rodriques - Special Forces Group - Vietnam  
(209) 852-2172

Greeley Hill, CA 95311

Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Noon

The "Moving Wall" will be in Greeley Hill, CA 95311  
Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

For additional information contact :

Jesse Salcedo

650-369-0383

209-878-3302

[jdsalcedo@earthlink.net](mailto:jdsalcedo@earthlink.net)



# OPERATION GATEWAY II

## A VETERAN'S TRANSITION TO SUCCESS

SUMMER 2010

*Operation Gateway* is a great opportunity for veterans to experience firsthand the community and camaraderie that they will foster and develop throughout their experience at Las Positas College.

The three-day program is designed as an orientation for returning veterans who wish to further their education at Las Positas College. Each day will feature a wide range of topics such as course & major planning, registration, readjustment services, college resources, & Post 9/11 benefits.

	<p><b>JULY 15<sup>th</sup>: 2-6 PM</b> Las Positas College Resources Veterans Office, Counseling, Financial Aid, Registration</p> <p><b>JULY 16<sup>th</sup>: 2-6 PM</b> GI Benefits, Education, &amp; Health CA Veterans Affairs, Troops to College, Vet Center</p> <p><b>JULY 17<sup>th</sup>: 10-1 PM</b> Veteran Community Resources Swords to Plowshares, Student Veterans Organization, Q&amp;A</p>	
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All Veterans are encouraged to attend

A \$500 book stipend is available to veterans who meet the following criteria:

1. Never attended college

OR

A Student Veteran who has attended a year or less of college

OR

A Returning Student Veteran who have had a break in enrollment due to military service

2. Must be enrolled in 9 units or more in Fall 2010

3. Must attend all 3 days of Operation Gateway II

**If you are interested in attending or need additional information, please contact:**

Todd Steffan or the Veterans Office Staff  
Las Positas College - BLDG 1300, Room 1316  
925.424.1571 or 925.424.1572  
or email [tsteffan@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:tsteffan@laspositascollege.edu)



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Electronic Edition



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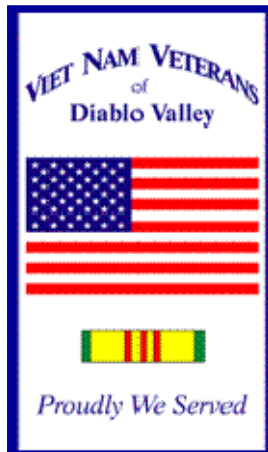
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and VNVDV IS STILL SERVING WITH HONOR**

**WE ARE ON  
THE WEB**

**www.VNVDV.com**

**FACEBOOK TOO!**



The **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** was established in 1991 as a non-profit Veterans organization to promote and enhance the image of the VietNam Veteran through Community Service and Support of fellow Veterans.

We meet each month on the **1st Thursday** every month in the Diablo Valley @ **Crow Canyon Country Club**. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Crow Canyon Country Club in San Ramon. To see some of our programs we support... visit our website. *All veterans are welcome to attend our membership meetings.* We are a "fun" social group - always looking for new members who enjoy friendship & the special bond as military veterans. *We are Proud of our Military Service... and of our continued contributions to veterans and our community.*

**OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!**



**VIET NAM VETERANS**  
of  
**Diablo Valley**



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER & OPEN SOCIAL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY - JUNE 3RD - with Joseph W. Callaway Jr. Guest Speaker**  
at **THE CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB** in Danville

*Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815*

*Featuring "Chef's Special Buffet Dinner"*

**Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**  
**"INCOMING" Newsletter**