

INCOMING NEWS



**JULY
2012**

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Danville's 4th of July Parade - 0900 Hrs.

Fallen Hero Memorial Dedicated at VMB

JULY 2012 - Message from President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren

Welcome to this month of July's INCOMING.

Memorial Day Services on Monday May 28th at Oak Hill Park in Danville was a wonderful event where we honored those who gave all for our freedom and all other veterans who have passed away in the last year. As in previous years, approximately 500-600 attended. I want to thank all who came out early that Monday morning to help setup the cammo-shade cover, the chairs for seating and the PA system. And also to those who represented the VNVDV by carrying our service flags. The members who stayed for lunch enjoyed a nice visit with each other and with our families.

The Danville 4th of July parade is coming shortly. As I have stated, if you have not been in a parade since you separated from the service, this is the place to be. Our VP Ray La Rochelle has done an excellent job working with the Kiwanis Parade committee to have us lead the parade this year. We will have a Marine Corp Color Guard start with our organization banner and service flags following. Our large brigade flag will be carried this year by the *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)*. The Concord Vet Center Huey & AMVETS, along with the Warrior Watch Riders will be a part of us. The most fun is as a member of the VNVDV – to casually walk along the crowd gathered and hand out the 12,000 American flags we have purchased to the children & others to wave as the remainder of the parade rolls by is an amazing feeling! The recognition we receive from the parade watchers is thunderous. It is a **"welcome home"** we didn't receive 40 years ago.

This past Saturday the community joined in a moving dedication of our Danville Fallen Hero / Soldier Cross Memorial at the SRV Veteran Memorial Building in Danville. The memorial was initiated by friends & family members of LCpl. Joshua Corral, a young Marine warrior & Danville resident who was killed in action in Afghanistan in Nov. of last year. The family started the Semper Fi Foundation to assist Marine troops and family members in need. This dedication was very well attended by veterans – military - our community & VNVDV members.

Danville's Fallen Hero Memorial Dedication
Photo Display Inside this Edition!

Don't Miss Thursday's Dinner!

The VNVDV dinner meeting is Thur. - **JULY 5th** at Crow Canyon County Club *Open to guests* - where we will have a *very special guest speaker...* the **"door gunner & crew chief"** for the Army's 25th Infantry Division UH-1-H Huey -

Gonzalo "Pancho" Salazar

who served with the 25th Aviation Battalion - 25th Division from Dec. 1967 to Oct. 1969 in VietNam. He will be joined by the owners & crew of the 25th Huey UH-1. *Don't miss the 4th "flyover" of Pancho & his presentation Thursday!*

Our 4th of July Parade will feature a special "flyover" by the 25th Huey with our Thursday Guest Speaker ABOARD once again as Crew Chief.



**MIKE
SLATTENGREN**
President VNVDV
Please Join me in the Kiwanis parade this 4th of July as the VNVDV members distribute American Flags to those attending!
It will be a great day & I look forward to you joining us this year.

Nathan Johnson our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer will OPEN our new VMB Veteran Service Office every Thursday beginning July 5th for benefit services & info.



"Prez Message" Continued... on Page Two -



President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

This past Saturday the community joined in a moving dedication of our Danville Fallen Hero / Soldier Cross Memorial at the SRV Veteran Memorial Building in Danville. The memorial was initiated by friends & family members of LCpl. Joshua Corral, a young Marine warrior & Danville resident who was killed in action in Afghanistan in Nov. of last year. The family started the Semper Fi Foundation to assist Marine troops and family members in need. This dedication was very well attended by veterans – military & community members.

East Bay Stand Down (EBS) is conducting monthly meetings in preparation for the event in Sept. The next planning meeting – always held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month – is planned for Danville. Registration is now open & consider volunteering to help in any capacity needed. This is a very rewarding activity that helps and assists our fellow veterans who don't quite have things as nice as we do. The EBS website has a wish-list and areas which need volunteers. Go to the website of www.eastbaystanddown.org to learn more & to register to volunteer for a day or more. All volunteers must register by August 31st – No volunteer registration on-site.

We are already planning for Veterans Day that will be held at San Ramon Valley High School in Danville as it has each year. Please mark that day on your calendar and come to this event. Veterans Day is for us, we veterans. The date and time is easy to remember. It's always on Nov 11 at 11 am (11/11 at 11 am). A great day to carry your Service Color banner!

During July our members are helping volunteer with the Hot Summer Nights in Danville too! See more information in this edition. Also our Danville Veteran Service Office will "OPEN" on Thursday – July 5th for the first time with Nathan Johnson, our County VSO "open for business" at 1000 Hrs. & will be open every Thursday to service our local veterans.

We encourage members & our supporters to attend the monthly *Wine for Wheels* events supporting the Wheelchair Foundation - as a group of our members prepare for a distribution trip to VietNam to deliver the *freedom of mobility*. We will also be hosting special fund raisers to make donations to the orphanages visited during this distribution trip.

Finally as I mention each month, don't forget our Operation Welcome Home events. Remember to check the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade website on a regular basis for upcoming programs in your area. If you are interested in participating in these, let John Reese know you want to be on his distribution list when we learn about when these young warriors come home. No special skills are needed, just show up with a flag in your hand, a smile on your face and a thank you hand shake for the young man or woman. These are "feel good" gatherings and only take about an hour out of your day. These are very fulfilling for both the returnees and to each of us.

I hope to see all of you all at 0800 for the Danville 4th of July Parade and then the next day – Thursday at our July 5th dinner meeting at the Crow Canyon Country Club in San Ramon.

Thanks for your support...

Michael Slattengren

President 2012

PH: (925) 837-6238

E: President.VNVDV@Gmail.com



Col. John & Arnie Corral at Fallen Hero Memorial Dedication



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

President "SLATTS" invites all veterans to join us for dinner at Crow Canyon Country Club to hear our July Guest Speaker Featuring...

Gonzalo "Pancho" Salazar
Crew Chief / Door Gunner of the 25th Huey in VietNam.

Dinner is \$25. for both members & guests
Social @ 1700 - Buffet (*all you can eat*)
@ 1800 followed by Guest Speaker.
No business - a relaxed - enjoyable dinner with friends - fellow veterans & guests.

**The Danville VMB
Veteran Service Office
OPENS on Thursday
JULY 5th with weekly
hours from 1000 to 1400
Every Thursday for Vets
& family members for
veteran benefit claims.**

Note: New E-Mail



4TH OF JULY PARADE



Danville's annual ***Kiwanis 4th of July Parade*** is just around the corner... **WEDNESDAY—JULY 4th!**

According to **VNVDV VP & Director of Events Ray LaRochelle** — **everything is done and ready!** **We just need YOU...** our loyal & dedicated members to help support this major event and assist us in our distribution of 12,000 American Flags to the children and parade attendees along the one mile parade route. The estimate between 35,000—40,000 attend this family—hometown parade in Danville. The parade starts at 0900 and the VNVDV musters on Love Lane near the high school prior to the kick-off. Since we are first in the parade according to Ray - please arrive at 0800. [See the Map.](#)

Ray has requested all members help maintain our organizational image and has requested to wear our official VNVDV White Polo Golf Shirt & encouraged to wear your military ribbons, medals & devices on your shirt - authorized by both the DOD & VA on all holidays. Don't forget your white caps, and remember the sun-screen too! Blue Slacks or Shorts & white tennis shoes round out our parade uniform for the 4th of July

The Veterans Memorial Building will provide disabled veteran seating on the front Terraces as follows:
NORTH TERRACE—Opens at 7:30 a.m. and is reserved for Disabled Veterans and their families only.
SOUTH TERRACE—Opens at 7:30 a.m. and is reserved for Veterans and their families - not in parade.
BOTH TERRACES WILL BE SEATED ON A FIRST-COME / FIRST-SERVED BASIS.... See Linda Schardt
Everyone should bring their own chairs, umbrellas & water bottles (no glass bottles allowed)

As in prior years, The VFW is hosting their annual veteran BBQ immediately after the parade for all veterans. VNVDV members are encouraged to stop and join with the American Legion—MCL & AMVETS at this BBQ. Since the veterans will finish early according to Ray... this is a great place to stop. The Auditorium of the Veterans Memorial Building will be open and all veterans and their families are welcome! Please stop by and join us afterwards — while the food lasts!

**BBQ After The Parade @
1200 Noon at Bill Green's
for VNVDV Members who
"Participate" in 4th of July Parade**

**Going to Bill & Peg Green's? Please remember
to bring a side dish - Salads and /or Dessert to
Share with others & your own cigars! :)**

See You After The Parade @ Noon!

4th of July Parade Staging Area & Parade Start - Route & Finish



**Remember on WED - the 4th of July
Parade Starts at 0900 - Muster 0800.
The Military & Veterans Start the Parade**

Danville's Fallen Hero Memorial Dedicated ~ June 23rd



Danville's Fallen Hero Memorial Dedicated ~ June 23rd



Danville's VSO Office is ready to Open ~ Don't Miss this Veteran Forum!



Veteran Services Forum

A meeting to discuss and describe new services available in Danville's VMB - VSO Office will be held on

WEDNESDAY - JULY 25TH 2012 @ 6 p.m.

AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING - 400 HARTZ AVE - DANVILLE, CA

We will be discussing the what, when, why, where and other items regarding how services in the area can be accessed.

Topics will include benefits, access to health care, PTSD therapy and more for our veterans & family members.

F. Michael 'Hoff' Hoffschneider, Veterans Service Representative. Hoff is from Oakland, California and served in the U. S. Army from November 1966 to November 1969. He has a B. A. degree in Political Science from U. C. Berkeley and a Master of Public Administration from John F. Kennedy University. He retired as a Veterans Claims Examiner from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs in October, 2004 with 31 of service years. He has worked as a Veterans Service Representative with Contra Costa County Veterans Services since March, 2005.

Nathan D. Johnson, Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer. Nathan became a part of the CVSO team in February of 2012. Nathan previously was a part of the Concord Vet Center team as a Readjustment Counselor providing both individual and group therapy for combat Veterans and their family members. Nathan served in the Marine Corps with a combat tour in Iraq. After the Marine Corps, Nathan earned his BA in Communications at CSU Stanislaus and his MSW at UC Berkeley.

Denver F. Mills, Concord Vet Center Team Leader. Denver is a Vietnam Veteran who served as an advisor to South Vietnamese small boat operations. He has a B.A. from U.C. Berkeley in Interdisciplinary Studies, an M.A. from U.C. Santa Barbara in Public Affairs and another M.A. from Newport University in Psychology. He has been running VA programs for the treatment of PTSD since 1985 and is also involved with helping homeless Veterans.

Limited seating

Forwarded as information for our veterans - by VNVDV's Veteran News

**VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
OF SAN RAMON VALLEY**
HONOR • COMMUNITY • SERVICE



4th of July - The Veterans Memorial Building will provide seating on the front Terraces as follows:
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SOUTH TERRACE—Opens at 7:30 a.m. and is reserved for Veterans and their families
BOTH TERRACES WILL BE SEATED ON A FIRST-COME / FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

Everyone should bring their own chairs, umbrellas and water bottles (no glass bottles allowed). See Linda Schardt for details or if you have questions.



Be part of our Service Colors Team

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JUL 03—Tuesday—**Danville... Town Council selects a new Mayor & Vice Mayor** - Town Hall @
JUL 04 - Wednesday - Danville... VNVDV distributes 12,000 American Flags in annual 4th of July Parade - Parade begins at 0900 Sharp - Muster at Love & Railroad near Hartz at 0800 - First in Parade - arrive early.
+ Remember Parade starts at 0900 Sharp from Love Lane near the HS with Military & Veteran Service Groups.
JUL 05 - Thursday - San Ramon - VNVDV Dinner Meeting at Crow Canyon Country Club with guest speaker.
From the 25th Huey - Crew Chief & Door Gunner from the 25th in VietNam - **Gonzalo “Pancho” Salazar**
JUL 5 - Thursday - County Veterans Service Office Opens in Danville - Every Thursday 10AM until 2PM
JUL 12 - Thursday 10AM - 2PM in Danville - County Veterans Service Office Open in VMB - Every Thursday for Veteran Benefits
JUL 19 - Thursday @ 1800 in Danville... VNVDV “Board of Directors” Business Meeting @ Veterans Memorial Building
* See Newsletter for additional dates of events during the month & see our note below on websites. Thanks
AUG 13 - Golf for Mobility—Wine for Wheels - Wheelchair Foundation Charity Golf Event
OCT 13 - Music on Eagle Ridge 2012 - Wheelchair Foundation - Home of Ken & Pat Behring - Blackhawk

Note: We encourage you to attend many other meetings - events - information by fellow VSO & support organizations + our

Operation Welcome Home events Watch for more announcements & only wish we had time and space to list everyone's event and program. Please check their specific websites of all our partnering and supporting organizations for details on their upcoming events - **listed in this edition of the newsletter. Look for special feature “other organizations”** - listing website for more information.

All **“Operation Welcome Home”** event updates can be found at: www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com for upcoming events. Thanks.

Visit our website to see more about the [VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley](http://www.VNVDV.com) at: www.VNVDV.com
For information on *All Wars Memorial* and obtaining *AWM Pavers* at Oak Hill Park - visit:
www.AllWarsMemorial.com

Join the *Marines Memorial Club & Hotel* in San Francisco - visit the website for details
www.MarineClub.com

For details and information on our [new Veterans Memorial Building](http://www.srvveteranshall.org) visit: www.srvveteranshall.org
You can make a **“pledge” over a three to five year period... and YOU can “make a difference in the future**



Town of Danville Mayor **CANDACE ABDERSEN** Appointed by Governor to County Board of Supervisors

In a Press Release by **Danville's Town Manager - Joe Calabrigo** he announced this week...

Danville **Mayor Candace Andersen** has been appointed to fill the remaining term of District 2 Supervisor Gayle Uilkema. Andersen, who received 60% of the vote in the June primary was to have taken the seat in January, however Monday evening she was asked by California State Governor Jerry Brown's office to begin the term as of June 26, 2012.

MAYOR ANDERSEN AT THE RECENT VMB DEDICATION OF DANVILLE'S "FALLEN HERO MEMORIAL" - DAYS PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT.

Monday evening Andersen informed Town Manager Joe Calabrigo of the appointment and resigned her position on the Town Council. At their regularly scheduled meeting **Tuesday morning, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors accepted the appointment and Andersen was sworn in by Contra Costa County Clerk Steve Weir.**

At their next regular meeting **on July 3, 2012, the Town Council will select a new Mayor and Vice-Mayor** to fill out the remainder of the terms, which end December 4, 2012. Andersen's seat will remain vacant through December, with a new council member being chosen in the November General Election.

For more information on this Press Release announcement - contact **Town Manager Joe Calabrigo** at (925) **314-3388** or jcalabrigo@danville.ca.gov

. The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - along with all the San Ramon Valley Veteran Service Organizations... add our **Congratulations** to, now **Supervisor Andersen**. We thank her solid support of **all veterans** in the *greater Diablo Valley*; and for her leadership as the Town of Danville Mayor & member of the Danville Town Council - supporting all our San Ramon Valley Veteran Service Organizations and her dedication in opened our new Veterans Memorial Building & dedication of the Fallen Hero Memorial.

The New VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING for the San Ramon Valley - located in the Town of Danville is OPEN. Come Visit Us!





Time to Register & Volunteer for **EAST BAY STAND DOWN**

Registration is OPEN on-line for all 2012 “VOLUNTEERS”

Do it NOW... You will NOT be able to register on-site & enter – you must pre-register if you plan to volunteer any days prior to – during or after the event. Registration closes on August 31st.

Visit – www.EastBayStandDown.org and Register on-line NOW
all volunteer must pre-register on the website!

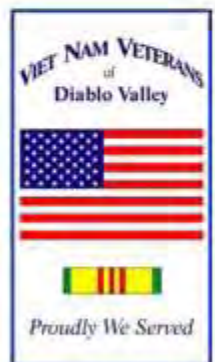
Part of a group... Register individually & by the way... participating in the 2010 EBSD does NOT automatically register you... Nor being a EBSD Coordinator or attending the Public Planning Meetings also does NOT register you to be a VOLUNTEER at EBSD 2012.

You must do it before the event... Please go to the official website & Register as a 2012 EBSD Volunteer! Thank You.

Please help pass the word... everyone must register in advance. *Thanks*



*East Bay Stand Down Monthly
Planning Meetings
3rd Tuesday of each month
At various locations
Meeting start at 1800
The Public & Community Groups
are invited & encouraged to attend*



New Mental Health center at VA Palo Alto Health Care System Opens

WASHINGTON (June 25, 2012)— The Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary for Health, Dr. Robert Petzel joined Veterans, staff and congressional representatives on June 22 to open a state-of-the-art, 80-bed acute mental health center at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System.

“This new facility will ensure that California’s Veterans continue to have access to high-quality mental health care that they earned through their service to our Nation,” said Petzel. “This is a priority for the American people. It’s a priority for the Department of Veterans Affairs. And there is nothing more important to me than making sure America’s Veterans receive the health care and services they need and deserve.”

The new center, on the Palo Alto campus, will provide a continuum of mental health services, from inpatient to outpatient, with an additional research component. The 90,000 square-foot facility will house four units, each with 20 inpatient acute psychiatric beds. The project also includes outdoor enclosed gardens for the patients, a separate mental health research and office pavilion and a utility building to service the complex. Most rooms are private, with some semi-private, and all have private bathrooms.

“This new facility is like day and night to the current one,” said Christopher Hurt, 25, an Iraq War combat Veteran and patient. “I’ve heard other people say they’ve never seen a facility this nice. It’s bright, airy and just makes the healing process so much nicer. It even has a work-out room and basketball court. I love it.”

The building’s therapeutic design and healing environments were the result of collaboration with clinicians and considering the perspective of the Veterans who will receive care in the facility. Features to enhance the treatment of Veterans can be found throughout the project, including patient access to landscaped gardens, ample use of natural light in all internal patient and staff areas, views to landscaped areas from all patient bedrooms, color, texture and material palettes selected to aid in the healing process. To view the VA Palo Alto Mental Health Center visit http://www.paloalto.va.gov/construction_mhc.asp.

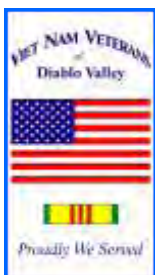
Last year, VA provided quality, specialty mental health services to 1.3 million Veterans. Since 2009, VA has increased the mental health care budget by 39 percent. Since 2007, VA has seen a 35 percent increase in the number of Veterans receiving mental health services, and a 41 percent increase in mental health staff.

In April, as part of an ongoing review of mental health operations, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced VA would add approximately 1,600 mental health clinicians as well as nearly 300 support staff to its existing workforce of 20,590 to help meet the increased demand for mental health services. The additional staff would include nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers

Visit our New Veterans Service Office in the Danville Veterans Memorial Building for Information on your Veteran Benefits You have Earned.

**Open on Thursdays - beginning July 5th
Hours from 1000 to 1400 each Thursday**

Visit the V.A. in Martinez for your Health Care



VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley



Board of Director POSITIONS OPEN...



*Interested in Being More Active?
Get Involved in Community Service!
Find Out More - at our "Business Meeting"*

Learn More about our organization...
Ask one of our Board of Director Members -
at our Dinner Meetings or attend a Board Meeting!



Director of Information Director of Events Director of Procurement

Interested in Joining the VNVDV Board of Directors?

Do you have some spare time & want to volunteer for community service?

THREE positions as "Board of Director" Members exist. Contact our President "Slatts"!

**The VNVDV Thanks Phillips 66
& all Walk of Honor participants!**

SUFFERING FROM CHRONIC PAIN?

Give us your opinion on our Natural, TOPICAL
pain relief LOTION. Back, Neck, Nerve,
Arthritis, Joint & Muscle Pain etc.

*Free samples & follow up: 925 / 323-1093
email: askmikemartin@gmail.com
WEB: <http://rtpr.com/site/1fec12ae>*

Support "Wine for Wheels"

Call or email Jeff Behring

jeffbehring@wineforwheels.org

(925) 648-3829

The VNVDV encourages you to give the
FREEDOM of mobility! Donate a Wheelchair!
**VNVDV Proud Supporters Wine for
Wheels & Wheelchair Foundation**



Operation Welcome Home 2012

DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE

*Dedicated to the Remembrance of 9-11.
Devoted to the Support of our Troops.*

www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com



OPERATION WELCOME HOME!

We will never, ever again let our military heroes be treated like they were when they came home from the Vietnam War, when our Soldiers, Airmen, Seamen and Marines were spat on when they got off the plane.

NEVER, EVER AGAIN.

If you know of a military member that is returning home and you would like to surprise them with one of these heart-warming Welcome Home ceremonies, please contact Bryan Welden of the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade at 925-212-9260 or to see pictures of past Welcome Home ceremonies or to be added to our E-mail list, go to:

www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com

www.warriorwatch.org
spiker592000@yahoo.com

For Full Military Escorts : Welcome Homes, Funerals And All Veteran Events. An All Volunteer Patriotic Riding Group

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley wants to thank and welcome all those returning along with **Diablo Valley Flag Brigade** - the **Warriors Watch Riders** - **Blue Star Moms** & many support organizations.

To find out how and when these events are in your area and occur - visit the new website of the **Diablo Valley Flag Brigade** at www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com.

Website has video slideshow of each Welcome Home event & dates of all upcoming events & is updated daily. **It is the best source for Welcome Home news & where families can schedule a Welcome Home**

Recognition of all our active-duty military service members is one of the most worthwhile activities VSO members are able to perform. Members of the **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** - along with **VFW #75 - American Legion #246 - Marine Corps League #942** make-up the **San Ramon Valley Veterans**. Attending & thank each returning veterans for serving. Help these other great organizations in providing the proper Welcome Home. Each returning service member is presented a Certificate of Appreciation by the SRV Veterans.

Visit the Website & Please Join Us!



HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE AT A WELCOME HOME EVENT?

It is easier than you might think...

Obtain the location, bring a flag, have a smile inside you or a handshake on you, keep a sincere thanks for their service in your heart - share all this with the returning service member when you see them.

You will feel good inside...

JOIN US

In 2012



Join friends - family - veterans & the community... along with the **Blue Star Moms** - **MCL** - **VFW** - **Legion** **Warriors Watch Riders** - **Diablo Valley Flag Brigade** - **Military Family groups** & many others...

As we conduct our local returning military "OPERATION WELCOME HOME" events for those serving from our community.

This is part of what being a VSO is all about... Remember when we came home... **Never Again!** We Welcome Home our Troops the Right Way!



DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE - Welcomes Home the dedicated Military Men and Women that keep this Country Safe

HOT SUMMER NIGHTS CAR SHOW IN DANVILLE

Be a Volunteer & also Attend & Support this Event

HOT SUMMER NIGHTS - To All Our Valued Volunteers...

This is to let you all know that we will be having our Hot Summer Night's Car Shows - July 19th and August 16th of this year. In addition to the wonderful collector automobiles that attend our show there will be music, food and 25 vendors providing something for everyone.

As always, we will need an 'Army' of volunteers to help us make these shows a success. Since many of you were of great assistance in the past, we are in hopes that you will be willing to give of your time this year. If you can, please let us know by contacting us at the email - Linda Mannina <linda.mannina@comcast.net>. We will be holding our Volunteer's Meeting Monday, July 16th at 6:30 at the 'new' Veteran's Memorial Building at 400 Hartz Avenue - Danville, CA. We are planning on doing something a little different at this meeting. We will be assigning stations and responsibilities for all volunteers at the meeting. In this manner, all you will have to do on the day of the show is check into the Headquarters Booth and we will give you directions to your station.

Once again, if you are able to volunteer again this year, please respond to this email. If you are not, we want to thank you for all your help in the past and hope that you will be able to enjoy the show as an attendee. **Look for the VNVDV Parade Truck at the VMB!**

David Miller, Hot Summer Nights Producer - Linda Mannina, Hot Summer Nights - Director of Vendors / Volunteers

Homes Donated by Bank Millions of Americans paused this Memorial Day weekend to remember those who died while serving their country. But for six military veterans and their families, Memorial Day also marked the beginning of a new era of homeownership as they received keys to mortgage-free homes.

The homes, which were provided by Chase, were awarded by three nonprofit organizations: Building Homes for Heroes, Military Warriors Support Foundation and Operation Home front.

"We are honored to award homes to our nation's military veterans and their families in partnership with our nonprofit partners," says Frank Bisignano, JPMorgan Chase Chief Administrative Officer and CEO of Mortgage Banking. "Our servicemen and women and their families have done so much for our nation. We hope that this effort will have a positive impact on their transition back to civilian life."

Ceremonies coast to coast

The first of six ceremonies took place May 23 at the New York Rangers playoff game at Madison Square Garden in New York. U.S. Army Sgt. Andrew Berry, his wife Rebecca, and their four sons were invited to attend the hockey game—and then surprised with the key to their new home in St. Cloud, Fla.

In Killeen, Texas, on May 24, hometown hero U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Mike Clark was awarded a home during military appreciation night at the local rodeo. Born in Killeen at Fort Hood—the largest active duty armored post in the U.S. Armed Services—Clark was also stationed there during his Army career. His mortgage-free home is located in Georgetown, Texas.

1,000-home commitment

CHASE Bank has promised to award 1,000 mortgage-free homes over the next five years to deserving veterans and their families through nonprofit organizations. Homes typically are valued between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Chase inspects and renovates the homes, investing up to \$50,000 for paint, carpet, appliances, landscaping and accessibility options. For information contact the San Ramon Chase Bank Lending Officers who provided this news.



VENTURE RESEARCH
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Appraisers & Consultants

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movinginc@sbcglobal.net



Watch for us in the Parade!



**Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
Warriors Watch Riders
AMVETS with Concord Huey**

Blue Star Moms

**Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary
Sentinels of Freedom**

Daughters of the American Revolution

U. S. Marines

"Proudly We Served"

**VNVDV Members
Family BBQ Picnic
After Memorial Day
Members Join Us!**

MONTHLY DINNERS with GUEST SPEAKERS
1st THURSDAY of each Month
at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon
Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815
Featuring "Chef's Special Buffet Dinner" - \$25.

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Proudly Supports the Wheelchair Foundation

Visit their website: www.wheelchairfoundation.org

Danville Self Storage



BOB BURKE
Manager / Storage Consultant

3550 Camino Tassajara
Danville, CA 94506
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Fax 925-736-0872
danvillestorage@sbcglobal.net
www.danvilleselfstorage.com

**Sponsor of our VNVDV
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owner/operator

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Walnut Creek, Ca
94596

(925)247-4268
promotiveshop@gmail.com





VNVDV Veterans Plan Return to VietNam in 2012

Help Support the VNVDV's Wheelchairs for VietNam...

Wheelchair Foundation Distribution



The team of **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley members** November 2012, return to Vietnam are moving along quickly. The VNVDV is honored to once again partner with the **Wheelchair Foundation** on this journey to distribute approximately 240 wheelchairs to those in need, at pre-screened agencies with East Meets West throughout Vietnam.

The timeframe for this trip is **November 5 to 21, 2012**. The cost for this trip will be personally paid by each individual member—using no organizational funds. The cost for each member is approximately **\$3,000 to \$3,500**, per person. The one plus is the cost of the trip may be tax deductible, as we will be on a volunteer, charitable mission in conjunction with the **Wheelchair Foundation**. The VietNam travelers are encouraged to consult their tax adviser for further details.

There was space available for **20** to make the journey. Since space was limited, the travel group filled quickly. Since more than 20 desired to make the trip, some members may have to be placed on a waiting list. Also a criteria will be set to determine travel priority. An initial deposit of **\$1,000, per individual** was required two month earlier and last month an **additional \$1000, per person** was required. The airline tickets have already been purchased for the all the distribution travelers, and a third payment will be due in the near future. All travelers met recently for a dinner hosted by Skip & Liz George and paid for by each of the travelers. Many thanks to Skip & Liz for their hospitality.

Travelers are now encouraged to check the travel website and begin the process of obtaining the required shots and immunizations for travel to rural areas throughout VietNam. Those enrolled in the VA Health Care System should check with their Primary Care Doctors in Martinez for assistance. If you have questions about travel requirements contact Joel Hodge at the Wheelchair Foundation.

The VNVDV is working with *East Meets West* to conduct distribution of wheelchairs from the south to North - with possible side trips to visit locations where they served, during the War. The VNVDV team will arrive in Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), with possible visits to Can Tho, Quy Nhon, Hue, Ha Long Bay and Hanoi prior to their return prior to Thanksgiving. This group will miss Veterans Day in Danville.

The **2012** trip will be the **VNVDV's second return to Vietnam**. In 2006, nine (9) VNVDV members and their spouses/significant others made the memorable journey. Everyone who made this trip in 2006 felt that it not only helped the veterans, but also dramatically improved the life of those who received a wheelchair, as well as the benefits to their caregivers and families.

During the 2006 journey, impromptu "group sessions" were held to discuss veterans' memories, feelings, and observations. More importantly, spouses/significant others were involved in many of these discussions, contributing to the healing experience of any leftover war time issues.

The VNVDV team is looking for ways to raise additional funds to assist some of the orphanages & technical training schools as they did during their 2006 distribution trip. There will be additional updates and meetings for the travelers for planning. Travelers who have questions or need assistance please contact VNVDV Past President **Richard Lambert** at **925/938-1767** or e-mail *Rich* at: **(RLAMBERT@RITCHIECOMMERCIAL.COM)**. VNVDV Treasurer Marty De Venuta is handling all the funds for the distribution trip. We thank Marty for his extra time & effort in processing the travel tickets and funds. We also thank **Joel Hodge** and the Wheelchair Foundation for the outstanding presentation and work he is doing in planning this distribution trip for the VNVDV. We encourage our members and supporters to continue to help us with wheelchairs by participating in the Wine for Wheels events held each month by Jeff Behring. Check their website for details on these events. Thanks.

VNVDV requests you help support the Wheelchair Foundations "Wine for Wheels" events each month.

VNVDV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING BOARD MEETING

THIRD MONDAY - **EVERY MONTH** @ 1800

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING - BOARD ROOM (1st Floor)



Come to a Board Meeting

Your Involvement makes the difference! **We need your personal participation** If you are a member - come to the parade - visit the Veterans Memorial Building - **join a committee** of interest or **get more involved** – spend only what time you want & you will enjoy it... plus you will make new & lasting friendships! *We believe... you will be glad you did - it may change your life!* *Proud Veterans serving other Veterans & those who now currently serve our nation in uniform & we continue to serve our community Proudly!*

Visit the new Veterans Memorial Building

The VNVDV Proudly Supports our Blue Star Moms

Contra Costa BLUE STAR MOMS - Chapter 20

Check website for year-round needs: www.ccbluestarmoms.org

San Francisco East Bay BLUE STAR MOMS—Chapter 101

Check website for year-round needs: www.bluestarmoms.org

Their hearts are on the line... with sons & daughters serving!

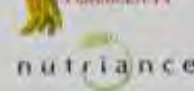


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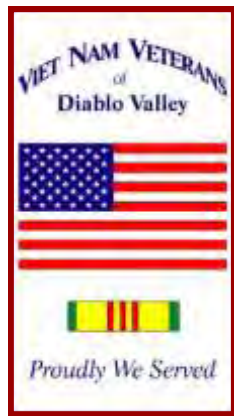
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CA Sale Permit CH 100-314584

Visit the new VMB



Look for us above the 4th of July
Parade - the 25th HUEY



Please Join Us each First Thursday at 1700!

You can Help Save \$\$\$ (processing fees) for the VNVDV
at all Dinners by Paying by CHECK -
Made Payable to the "VNVDV" -

Save Time Writing it in Advance - for the Correct Amount.

Our "Regular Monthly Meeting" Buffet Dinner is \$25. members /guests

You are also welcome to pay by CASH or use a Major Credit Card...

Friendly reminder - the VNVDV is charged a percentage - "a processing fee" for all Credit Cards purchases.

FOR SALE: 1974 1/2 MGB Roadster



E-Mail John
at: JGReeseUSN@sbcglobal.net & request details

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HOT SUMMER NIGHTS CAR SHOWS



This is our 18th year! We hope you will join us as a volunteer or to enjoy the Car Show. The dates for 2012 - **Thursdays JULY 19th and AUGUST 16th.**

Show hours are 4 PM to 9 Pm, while our car staging starts at 2 PM. Which means Hartz Avenue will be "CLOSED" for the Car Show.



The prestigious "Town Choice Awards" will be presented to 20 car owners. The award is a beautifully engraved plaque and it is our way of saying 'Thank you for bringing your car to Danville'.



The Legendary **Danville Car Show** draws some of the most beautiful hot rods and classic automobiles from around the state and country. Our downtown Danville venue provides the most beautiful atmosphere for a nostalgic experience and a walk down memory lane. Be sure to join us for both the JULY and AUGUST events.

There are exciting bands to listen to and dancing in the streets. There are local merchants displaying their products and services. There are food vendors offering tasty treats as well as wonderful restaurants that provide outside cafe dining with an enormous selection of fine cuisines.

Make sure you visit Linda Mesa and Hartz Ave.....just off the north east corner. James Willson of James Jungle Adventures will be showing children friendly reptiles and teaching them how we all should be getting along with the animals of the world. James can provide information on personal events to your home for a birthday party - teach your children about reptilian friends.

The **VNVDV "salutes"** the **Danville Police, Fire & Rescue** & the many other County & State agencies assisting in the Town's programs. **They are truly the Finest!** Always on hand to assist & make this truly a family event for all to enjoy and when we deal with crowds that may swell to 15,000 plus guests. It is a comfort to know - outstanding staff is present & prepared for any unexpected emergency to ensure that your Hot Summer Nights Car Show is a safe & enjoyable family evening out.

David Miller, is the Producer of *Hot Summer Nights* & **Linda Mannina**, is the Director of Vendors / Volunteers. There are more than 50 Yellow Shirted "EVENT STAFF" volunteers who will assist in the safety & security of this great Car Show. Linda is looking for volunteers - so see the "volunteer notice" in this newsletter for details. Be sure to plan on attending even if you are not able to volunteer. *Watch for the VNVDV Parade Truck in front of the new Veterans Memorial Building this year!*

JAMES WILL BE SHOWING A REAL LIVE 100 POUND ++ TORTOISE FOR YOUR LEARNING & VIEWING PLEASURE! HIS NAME IS "TANK". THIS GUY IS SO BIG WE MAY REGISTER HIM AND PARK HIM AS A SHOW CAR! Last year TANK was Awarded the "TOWN CHOICE AWARD"

See information On volunteering

Help our Homeless Veterans prior to EBSD



YUBA-SUTTER STANDDOWN 2012 AUGUST 23-24-25

The Pavilion in Marysville's Riverfront Park

THIS ANNUAL EVENT PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN HELPING OUR LOCAL VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES OBTAIN NECESSARY GOODS AND SERVICES.

Dental Services Friday and Saturday only



Services include:

- ✓ Food
- ✓ Shelter
- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Social Security
- ✓ Legal Assistance
- ✓ Veterans' Benefits
- ✓ Employment/Public Assistance
- ✓ Drug, Alcohol & Mental Health Counseling
- ✓ Medical, Dental, Hearing, Vision & Women's Health

**YOU MAY PRE-REGISTER IF YOU ARE NOT IN THE VA SYSTEM WITH
YUBA-SUTTER STAND DOWN, MARVIN KING (530) 749-6710
OR AT THE NEW VA CLINIC
425 PLUMAS STREET, YUBA CITY**

OPENING CEREMONIES ON AUGUST 24TH AT 12:00 NOON

All Veterans and Active Duty Service Personnel and their Families are Welcome to Attend

Yuba-Sutter Stand Down

604 D Street, Marysville, CA 95901 • (530) 749-1036

Email: ysvsd@hotmail.com • www.yubasutterveteransstanddown.org

Sentinels of Freedom 5th Annual Golf Gala & Tournament

September 16 & 17, 2012

Hosted by the Diablo Valley Veterans Foundation for the exclusive benefit of Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation.

The year, unlike previous years, we will have a 2-day event held on Sunday September 16, 2012 and Monday September 17, 2012.

Both events will be held at the Diablo Country Club, 1700 Club House Drive, Diablo, CA. There are many pricing options, depending on if you decide to attend the dinner/auction only, golf only, or attend both events. [Click here to see our pricing online.](#)

In addition, there are many [sponsorship opportunities available](#)

Sunday September 16, 2012 - Cocktails, Dinner, Speaker and Auction

4 – 5:30 pm: Cocktail House (times are approximate; a full schedule will be posted closer to the event. The event order may also change.)

5:30 – 6:30 pm: Dinner/Program

7:00 pm: Speaker Col. Danny McKnight: USA (Ret.)

7:45 pm: Auction

Guest Speaker, COL Danny McKnight - US Army Ranger



COL Danny R. McKnight, USA (Ret.) – His military career included two combat duty tours (Panama 1989 and Somalia 1993 – the basis for the Book and Movie "Black Hawk Down"). His new book is "Streets of Mogadishu".

COL Danny R. McKnight's awards and decorations include:

- Legion of Merit (2 awards)
- Bronze Star Medal for Valor
- Purple Heart
- Combat Infantryman's Badge
- Ranger Tab
- Master Parachutist Badge
- Combat Star and the Path Finder Star

COL Danny R. McKnight has authored a new book called "Streets of Mogadishu" and there will be a book signing opportunity available.

"COL Danny McKnight, one of the heroic figures of the battle of Mogadishu, has written a superb leadership-primer for all chiefs and up-and-coming leaders, which will serve them well from battlefield to boardroom – World Defense Review"

"If you can handle the unvarnished, politically incorrect truth, then you'll love this book. Danny McKnight pulls no punches as he provides a behind-the-scenes version of American combat action in Somalia that you won't get from the main-stream media. Combined with his thoughts on time-tested leadership skills honed while leading soldiers under fire. Highly recommended. – Robert A. Schmidt, Federal Agent and Retired Naval Officer"



[Click here to register for dinner only](#) - (Sunday, September 16):

Dress: Business Casual, Class A Uniform

[Click here to register for golf and/or dinner](#) - (Sunday & Monday, September 16 & 17).

Monday September 17, 2012 - Golf

9 am: Check-In Opens

10:45 am: Opening Ceremonies

11 am: Shot Gun Start with the Cannon

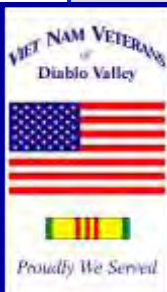
4:00 pm: Appetizers and Open Cash Bar (time may change)

5:00 pm: Awards Ceremony (time may change)

If you wish to pay by check, make it payable to DVVF, PO Box 1316, San Ramon, CA 94583. For golf, [please print out this form](#). For dinner attendees, [please print out this form](#). Refer to our pricing page (link above).

Discounts are only available online.

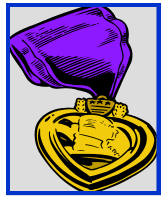
Visit the Sentinels of Freedom website for all details!



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

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Web: www.VNVDV.com

JULY 2012



Electronic Edition

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EDITOR in CHIEF and

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www.VNVDV.com



To:

VNVDV Members & VIPs

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley was established in 1991 as a non-profit Veterans organization to promote and enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of fellow Veterans. Our new Danville Veteran's Memorial Building is under construction.

The VNVDV meets each month on the **1st Thursday** of every month in the Diablo Valley @ **Crow Canyon Country Club**. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held on the **3rd Thursday** of each month also at Crow Canyon country Club.

To find out more about programs we support... visit our website at www.VNVDV.com. All veterans are welcome to attend our membership meetings. We are a casual - fun - social veterans 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 fellow veterans and our community. Our dinner meetings consist of social - dinner and a guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All of our meetings are **OPEN** meetings... fellow veterans - active duty military - history buffs ... **Join us each month.**

**VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley**

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!

MONTHLY DINNERS with GUEST SPEAKERS

1st THURSDAY of each Month

at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815

Featuring “Chef's Special Buffet Dinner” - \$25.