



INCOMING NEWS



OCT
2012

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Established in 1991

October Meeting Features Outstanding Speaker! TUSKEGEE AIRMAN LTC. ALEX JEFFERSON

October 2012 - Message from
President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren
Welcome to this month of October's INCOMING.

East Bay Stand Down (EBSD) was held this month with approximately 400 participants receiving a safe environment for 4 days, new clothes, shoes, a sleeping bag, health care, and legal and substance abuse assistance & much more! A big thanks to all of you who spent some time volunteering in one way or another to help these fellow veterans who don't quite have things as nice as we do. Many VNVDV members serve in various leadership roles too... many thanks to all for making another outstanding success in 2012.

Fleet Week celebration will be this first week of October with ships sailing into the bay and will be open for tours while docked in San Francisco; and of course the Blue Angels are scheduled to perform. See specific detail on the internet.

Our October dinner meeting speaker will be Alex Jefferson a Tuskegee airman (pilot). Alex spoke to us a number of years ago and it was most interesting. He has been asked back to the East bay by friends to speak to a number of veteran organizations in the East Bay as well as to a number of high schools. He will have a busy week but he loves sharing his experiences. **Reservations for this dinner are required** - as we believe there will be larger number of attendees and we need to give that info to the *Crow Canyon Country Club*. PLEASE EMAIL or CALL RAY LAROCHELLE (ray-L@pacbell.net) NO LATER THAN Sunday - Sept 30th with your dinner attendee numbers.

Veterans Day planning is well on its way and again will be held at San Ramon Valley High School in Danville in the Performance Center.

Don't Miss Thursday's Dinner Meetings & AMAZING Speaker!

Our VNVDV dinner meeting is Thur. - OCT. 4th at Crow Canyon County Club - Open to all veterans - guests & visitors. VNVDV scheduled another great speaker - Join us for a casual evening of relaxing, social enjoyment - followed by our Chef's Choice Buffet Dinner & our featured guest speaker. No business - just fun, enjoyable evening with fellow veterans & their guests - friends & supporters & interesting speakers. *You are invited* - Join Us!

Fleet Week

This month of October kicks-off FLEET WEEK in San Francisco... beginning Oct. 3rd. See the schedule in this edition of the *Incoming* news and see all the details online @ FleetWeek.US

EAST BAY STAND DOWN 2012

An Outstanding Success... helping over 400 homeless & needy veterans! Many Thanks to all the volunteers - many supporters & great Sponsors who helped make a difference.

Proudly Continuing to Serve!

MIKE
SLATTENGREN
President VNVDV

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley will be remembering ALL VETERANS on Veteran's Day in the San Ramon Valley - Join us in Danville on Nov. 11th at 10:30am.

In
Danville...

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is OPEN in our new Veterans Memorial Building. Change in OCT. to every WEDNESDAY from 10AM until 2PM for benefit services & information.





President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

Veteran's Day for the San Ramon Valley is the same location where we formed up for the 4th of July parade & same as it has in recent years. 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).**

As we approach the end of the year we will be looking for volunteers to help lead this organization. It has been a most enjoyable and busy year for me so far. It has also been my pleasure to serve with the other board members whom you elected along with me last year and - **if nominated, I will serve again next year.** As the Marines say *"we're looking for a few good men."* Whether you were a Marine or served in any of the other branches of the service and are interested in helping to lead our organization & support our goals & activities in 2013. Please contact our *five-member* nominating committee (Jerry Yahiro, Del Loewe, Mike Weber, Rich Lambert or John Estes) and let them know you are interested or have questions.

We are using the new San Ramon Valley Veteran's Memorial Building facilities as much as we can. Our BOD meetings are held there each month. The building operating committee and trustees are looking for volunteers to serve as docents who would be willing to volunteer a few hours each month to **answer phones or people's questions who drop in (training will be provided).** Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a VMB Docent.

Don't forget our Operation Welcome Home's. 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. You may also check online at: **Diablo Valley Flag Brigade's** website. 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.** It is very fulfilling for both the returnees and to each of us.

I look forward to see all our members & many new ones at our Oct dinner meeting on Thurs Oct 4, 2012 at The *Crow Canyon Country Club* in San Ramon. Dinner will be available at 6 pm, and remember... a *special social reception* starts at 4 pm, to allow time for everyone to casually visit with our featured guest speaker Tuskegee Airman Alex Jefferson. *Make your Reservations now!*

Michael Slattengren

**New Members:
Have Questions
Please Contact Me.**

Michael Slattengren
President 2012
PH: (925) 837-6238
E: President .VNVDV@gmail.com



Note: E-Mail with a "dot"

President Mike **"SLATTS"** Slattengren is inviting all veterans & guests to join the VNVDV for dinner at Crow Canyon Country Club to hear our special October featured Guest Speaker

**LTC. Alex Jefferson
Tuskegee Airman Pilot**

Dinner is \$25. for both members & guests - A Reception @ 1600 - Buffet (*all you can eat*) @ 1800 followed by Guest Speaker. *No business - a relaxed - enjoyable dinner with friends - fellow veterans & guests.*
RSVP for our October Dinner Meeting is Respectfully Requested - Contact Ray.

Healing the Wound of PTSD

Fellow veterans - I am on vacation currently and wanted to let you know now that EBSD has completed and we see a break in our very busy schedule... I hope to be planning a showing of Stephen Olsson's video which he produced & directed entitled **"A SOLDIER'S HEART" - Healing the Wound of PTSD.** Through David Behring - Stephen was kind enough to provide selected members with a preview copy of this film he produced to help all veterans & their family members in dealing with combat and its affect on the warrior. The plan is for the VNVDV to join with the other VSOs to provide an open showing of this important message to all veterans in our community, hopefully at the Veterans Memorial Building. Watch for announcements.

A Change in the Danville VMB Veteran Service Office...

**It is OPEN weekly - Now a
Change in Days beginning OCT
to Wednesday from 1000 to 1400
for Vets & family members.**

Make an Appointment!

**To make YOUR appointment to see the VSR in
our new Danville Veterans Memorial Building
call our CCC VSO in Martinez at 925 / 313-1481.**

Tuskegee Airman Alex Jefferson to Speak Oct. 4th

VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Join Us
Thursday, October 4th
4:30pm to 8:30pm
Crow Canyon Country Club

ALEXANDER JEFFERSON

Tuskegee Airman
Analytical Chemist
332nd Fighter "Red Tail" Group
POW
Keynote Speaker

Itinerary for the Evening

No Host Bar & Hors D' Oeuvres: 4:30pm ~ 6pm

Buffet Dinner: 6:00pm ~ 7:00pm

General Membership VNVVV Meeting: 7:00pm ~ 7:30pm

Presentation: 7:30pm ~ 8:00pm w/ Col. Alexander Jefferson

Q&A: 8:00pm ~ 8:30pm

RSVP Req. ~ Reservations to: RAY-L@pacbell.net

Veterans Remember POW / MIA Day in Danville at VMB



Veterans gathered at the VMB Flag Pole for POW/MIA day on the third Friday of Sept. (L-R): Dennis Giacovelli, Bill Green, Ron Lowe, John Reese, Mike Slattengren, Jerry Yahiro, with Ernie Petagara, Art Gaskins & Lee Halverson representing the VSO groups currently utilizing the new Veterans Memorial Building in

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 1 - Monday - Deadline for getting your Dinner Reservations in to Ray La Rochelle for the Thursday Dinner Meeting—Call him Today!
- Oct 3 - Wednesday - Change in Days for County Veterans Service Office - Open Wednesdays in Danville - 10AM until 2PM each week
- Oct 4 - Thursday @ 1700 - San Ramon - VNVDV Social & Dinner Meeting at Crow Canyon Country Club with Alex Jefferson—RSVP
- Oct 13 - Music on Eagle Ridge 2012 - Wheelchair Foundation - Home of Ken & Pat Behring - Blackhawk - A grand gala event
- Oct 10 & 17 & 24 - Wednesdays - County Veterans Service Office is Open EVERY WEDNESDAY in Danville - 10AM until 2PM each week
- Oct 18 - Thursday @ 1800 in Danville... VNVDV "Board of Directors" Business Meeting @ Veterans Memorial Building - Board Room
- Oct 19 - Friday @ 1800 in Danville... "Donor Wall Unveiling" at the new Veterans Memorial Building in Danville - RSVP to: 925/362-9806
- Nov 1 - Thursday @ 1700- San Ramon - VNVDV Social & Dinner Meeting at Crow Canyon Country Club with guest speaker from VNVDV
- Nov. 5 - 22 - VNVDV Wheelchair Distribution Trip to VietNam to various orphanages *Providing the freedom of mobility to those in need.*
- Nov 11 - Sunday - 10:30 in Danville - San Ramon Valley **Veteran's Day Observance** - San Ramon High School Performing Arts Center
- Nov 15 - Thursday @ 1800 in Danville - VNVDV "Board of Directors" Business Meeting @ Veterans Memorial Building - Board Room
- Dec 6 - Thursday - 1700 in San Ramon - VNVDV Annual Holiday Appreciation Dinner & Gala at Crow Canyon Country Club - RSVP Required
- Dec xx - TBD - *Operation Santa Claus* - a program for active duty military families with spouse currently serving out of area.—More Info later.
- JAN, 1, 2013 - HAPPY NEW YEARS from the VNVDV Officers—Directors & Members to all of our Friends & Supporters!

* See Newsletter for additional dates of events & more during the month & see our note below on visiting other websites.

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 features "other organizations"** - listing website for more information on events we support... such at the **Sentinels of Freedom** - Blue Star Moms and many others.

All "Operation Welcome Home" event updates can be found at: www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com for coming events.

Visit our website to see more about the VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: www.VNVDV.com

For information on All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: www.AllWarsMemorial.com

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

Support the Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - website: www.wheelchairfoundation.org

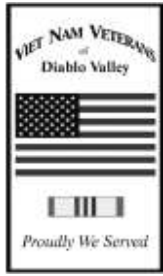
For details and information on our new Veterans Memorial Building visit: www.srvveteranshall.org

You can make a "pledge" over a three to five year period... and YOU can "make a difference in the future of our community."

Veterans Memorial Building - **"Unveiling of the Donor Wall"** - Friday - October 19th at 1800 - RSVP: 925/362-9806

More events - Not enough space to list them all - **watch for FLASH News to our Supporters! Thanks... jgr**

Outstanding Line-Up of Featured Guest Speakers...



October's Featured Speaker is...

LTC Alex Jefferson - Tuskegee Airman Pilot

Amazing Featured Speaker - plan to attend & be sure to make your Reservations for dinner at our October Meeting by contacting - VP Ray La Rochelle at:

PH: 925 / 606 - 5828 or Ray-L@pacbell.net

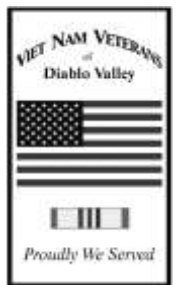
Special Note: The VNVDV is Hosting a Special Reception to Honor Alex Jefferson at Crow Canyon Country Club beginning at 1600 - with our usual Social Hour beginning at 1700 & Buffet Dinner @ 1800

Invite Friends & Make Your Reservations Today!

November we have scheduled...

VNVDV's Speakers Bureau Leaders...

Bill Green & Mike Martin



December features...

Our VNVDV Annual Holiday Appreciation Dinner -

Reservations Required in Advance for Dec. Dinner & your meal selection choice

RSVP to - Ray La Rochelle by e-mail at: Ray-L@pacbell.net or call 925/606-5828

Slightly Higher cost for one Holiday Appreciation Dinner - to make it special each year

be sure to join us - your friends with music - recognition and much more! RSVP Soon!

**THANK YOU to our
September Featured Guest Speaker**

LTC Roger S. Dong, USAF, Retired

Discussed... **“China in Turmoil”**

He was outstanding - We will have him back again!



Affordable Care Act and the Veterans Health Administration

The provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court will not affect the current role the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has in the lives of America's Veterans. We will continue to provide Veterans with high quality, comprehensive health care and benefits they have earned through their service. VA health care does not change as a result of the ACA. *All veterans are encouraged to enroll in the VA medical health care benefit services.*



Extension of Richmond Hours & New Danville VSO Outstation Hours

Effective October 3, 2012

Richmond branch office, 100-37th Street, Room 1033, Veterans service will be available effective January 8, 2013 on Tuesdays from 9am to 12pm & 1pm to 4pm (Except Holidays). To reach the office by phone, call (510) 374-3241.

Danville Outstation, 400 Hartz Ave. Room 208, will be available effective October 3, 2012 on Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm (Except Holidays). Appointments may be scheduled by calling (925) 313-1481.

We pledge to continue comprehensive and respectful services to the Veterans community of Contra Costa County.

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**



California Department of Veterans Affairs

CalVet Encourages all Veterans & Active Military to Register and VOTE!

The November 6 General Election is just around the corner! The California Department of Veterans Affairs is coordinating with the California Secretary of State to encourage veterans, active duty military, employees and their families to vote!

“Veterans have protected our right to vote from the time this country was formed,” said CalVet Secretary Peter J. Gravett. **“Men and women are standing the line to defend that right today, and we should all honor their sacrifice and service by voting on November 6.”**

The last day to register to vote in the General Election is October 22, 2012. Registration is easy. If you have a California Driver License, you can register online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm. Active military personnel who are California residents serving out of state or deployed overseas are encouraged to participate. You may also register to vote at your County Elections Office. To find an office near you, visit www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm.

Polls will be open on Election Day, November 6, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Registered voters who cannot make it to the polls on Election Day, can vote by mail. To do so, complete and print an application found at www.sos.ca.gov/elections_m.htm. Mail your application in time to arrive at your County Elections Office no later than October 30, 2012. Deployed military personnel should do so immediately so that their ballots can reach them and be returned in time to be counted.

For more information call, the Secretary of State’s voter hotline at (800) 345-VOTE or visit www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-in-california.

East Bay Stand Down a Success... but still more to do!

- ◆ According to the state Department of Veteran Affairs, there are approximately 62,628 veterans living in Alameda County. In Contra Costa County, the number is 59,826.
- ◆ There are approximately 1,865,342 veterans living in California. Of those, 165,439 are women. At the East Bay Stand Down, there were 21 women in attendance.
- ◆ There are approximately 1,699,903 male veterans in California. There were 353 men in attendance at the East Bay Stand Down.
- ◆ According to Housing California, a nonprofit organization, about 26 percent of all the homeless in California are veterans. California has the highest number of homeless veterans in the U.S., according to the organization.

* *Source:* California Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing California

If you are Homeless or a Veteran in need... see the VA Website or nearest VA Facility

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is taking a decisive action to end Veteran Homelessness. Get the help you need visit the VA website at: [http:// www.va.gov/ homeless/](http://www.va.gov/homeless/)





Last month we gave you a look back in time... to when *East Bay Stand Down* first started in 1999. Much has changed - an event which has grown & become the true model of what a *national Stand Down* event should be about & attempt to accomplish. This success is due to a great amount of dedication by many individuals - *too many to name...* but you know who they are - proudly continuing to serve to make EBSD the great success it has known! Many thanks to all volunteers - supporters and the generous sponsors - for making a difference in the lives of our homeless & needy veterans. *Bravo-Zulu to all!*



A small sample of the photos available on the home page of the EBSD website. Visit: www.EastBayStandDown.org



Check-Out the great EBSD 2012 Photos & articles on the EBSD Website

The 9 / 11 Observance sponsored by Exchange Club of San Ramon at the "All Wars Memorial"

Featuring Admiral Mary O'Donnell, USCG (Ret) was a Huge Success!

Danville Self Storage

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Danville, CA 94506
925-736-1001
Fax 925-736-0872
danvillestorage@sbcglobal.net
www.danvilleselfstorage.com

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Richard Rein
owner/operator

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Walnut Creek, Ca
94596

(925)247-4268
promotiveshop@gmail.com

VNVDV donates remaining *three* new *Wheelchair Foundation* wheelchair from EBSD & the Wheelchair Foundation to the **VA Martinez's new TBI Brain & Wellness Center** - Bldg. 23 for use by veterans while utilizing this new facility in Martinez. Made possible - thanks to David Behring & the *Wheelchair Foundation* for again donating five new wheelchairs to EBSD 2012 for veterans in need of mobility - as determined by the EBSD medical doctors.



3 new wheelchairs to VA

Do you know about veterans use of Building 23 at the Martinez VA?

The new Brain & Wellness Center in Martinez at the VA Northern California Health Care System offers supervised personal physical therapy instruction for Veterans in this new state-of-the-art facility. The best equipment - rock climbing wall - club room with pool table - X-Box for **between appointments**. **Exercise & determine "your own limits"** by contacting your VA Primary Care Doctor for a "consult" to use this new center. The VA offers the best in Health Care for Vets! **FLU Shots now available - drop in!**

Our Contra Costa County VSO staff ready to serve our Veterans!



Find out about the Veteran Benefits
You earned through your Military Service

All Veterans Contact:

Nathan D. Johnson

Veterans Service Officer

Contra Costa County

10 Douglas Dr. Suite 100

Martinez, CA 94553

Tel: (925) 313-1481

Fax: (925) 313-1490

Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us

Our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is "the place" to have all of your VA paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is available free to you in Martinez or on Wednesdays in Danville.

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Help the Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary with a Donation...
of Clothing for their "Wardrobe for Opportunity" Drive!

WARDROBE

for Opportunity

WARDROBE
FOR



Opportunity

Wardrobe for Opportunity works in partnership with the Bay Area community to assist low-income individuals to "Find a Job, Keep a Job, and Build a Career." Since 1995, WFO has helped 20,000 low-income men and women successfully gain employment and advance in the workplace.

BRING YOUR DONATIONS



The Danville-Sycamore Rotary is hosting a clothing drive and need gently used or new professional clothing and suits for men and women.

Donations accepted October 1 through November 6 at the following locations:

★ DANVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
117 E Town & Country Drive, Danville
Monday - Friday 9am-5pm

★ BLACKHAWK DENTAL CARE
3880 Blackhawk Road #100, Blackhawk
Tuesday - Friday 9am-4 pm

★ EMPIRE REALTY ASSOCIATES
380 Diablo Road, Danville
Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

★ CLUB SPORT
350 Bollinger Canyon Lane, San Ramon
Sunday 7am-9pm
Monday - Friday 5am-11pm
Saturday 6am-9pm

Thank You to *Chairs for Affairs* and *A Grande Affair* for Donating Clothing Racks

MEN'S & WOMEN'S

Acceptable Donations

Pant suits, skirt suits
Blazers, jackets and coats
Dress shirts, knit tops, pants
and skirts
Workplace appropriate shoes,
jewelry and handbags
Cuff links, scarves & belts

High end items (evening gowns, coutoure
wear, vintage - will be consigned

- ★ Clothing must be received on hangers
- ★ Donate only items that are clean
and undamaged

Donations are tax deductible

The "Wardrobe for Opportunity" to Help Others dress for Employment -
runs from Oct. 1st - Nov. 6th with four drop-off locations!

You Can Make a Difference - Get Involved - Donate Clothing!



Veterans Service Outstation

Now Open Every WEDNESDAY in Danville beginning in Oct 2012.

A free benefit to all veterans... get a Benefit Check-Up today!

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Danville VMB outstation

EVERY WEDNESDAY - FROM 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING, 2nd Floor – Room 208
400 HARTZ AVENUE - DANVILLE, CA

The opening of this outstation extends Veterans Service's capability in serving elderly - disabled - newly returning Veterans - Vets of all Era's - and their families. **This is a FREE Service to all veterans. You Earned it!**

Comprehensive benefits counseling, claims assistance, case management, information & referrals are some of the services offered at this location. A skilled and experienced **Veterans Service Representative** will be on duty!

Please call (925) 313-1481 to schedule an advance appointment.

The Danville Outstation is staffed beginning in October 2012 - now on Wednesday from 10:00am to 2:00pm by a trained, experienced Veteran Service Representative. At the Danville VSO Outstation, he is able to schedule appointments with Veterans in 45 minute increments beginning at 10am and ending (last appointment) at 1:00pm. An appointment can be scheduled by calling the Martinez VSO at (925) 313-1481. Nathan advise all Vets & family members to schedule this appointment in advance, as these appointments fill quickly. Remember – these are benefits you earned! If you have not received a **“benefit check-up”** – do it for yourself & especially for your family. This is something **“EVERY”** veteran needs to do... regardless of when they served! This could be the most important appointment you ever make... to help your family! Do not miss out on this valuable service provided & available to all veterans.



You Helped our Bay Area

Homeless Veterans...



You Made a Difference - Thank You to All!

San Francisco 2012 FLEET WEEK Schedule

October 3 - 8... We Salute the Sea Services!

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

USS MAKIN ISLAND sails into Bay approx. time under Golden Gate Bridge 1:30!

Thursday, October 4, 2012

Interagency Softball Competition at US Coast Guard Island, Alameda 8:00am

Blue Angels Circle and Arrival Maneuvers practice 1-5pm

Friday, October 5, 2012

Humanitarian Assistance Village on Marina Green 8am-5pm

Interagency Softball at Moscone Field 8:00am

Weapons Display at Alameda, near USS Hornet 9am-5pm free, open to public

US Navy Band concert at Jack London Square, 12 noon to 1:30pm, honoring the veterans of the East Bay. This event is free and open to the public

USMC 1st Marine Division Band - Tribute Concert to Honor The Fallen, CA Maritime Academy in Vallejo

Pier 39 Air Force band Concert 12:00

Fleet Week Air Show Practice 12:30pm to 4:00pm

Pier 39 USMC 1st Marine Band Concert 5:00pm

Saturday, October 6, 2012

Humanitarian Assistance Village on Marina Green 8am-5pm

Ships tours aboard LHD 8 USS Makin Island, 9am-4pm

Weapons Display at Alameda, near USS Hornet 8am-5pm free, open to public

Humanitarian Assistance Village on Marina Green 10am-5pm

Powell St. 1st Marine Division Band Concert 10:00am

Parade of Ships 11:00 am (Ships coming in under GGB to their piers)

Fleet Week Air Show 12:30pm to 4pm

PIER 39 USMC 1st Marine Division Band Concert 1pm

Fireworks sponsored by Hornblowers 9:30pm, Pier 3

Sunday, October 7, 2012

Humanitarian Assistance Village on Marina Green 8am-5pm

Ships Tours (see ships page)

Weapons Display at Alameda, near USS Hornet 8am-5pm free, open to public

K9 Services Pier 80 at 9:30-11:30am

Oakland Navy League BBQ for visiting Sailors and Marines 11am-4pm

Italian Heritage Parade North Beach with US Navy Band 12 noon

TRX24-hour Fitness Event on Marina Green 12:30

Fleet Week Air Show 12:00pm to 4pm

America's Cup Race 1:50-2:30

PIER 39 Navy Band concert 4:30pm

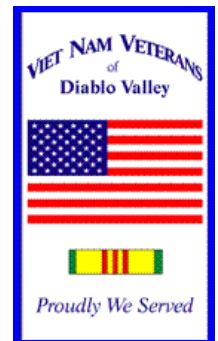
Monday, October 8, 2012

Ship Tours (see ships page)

High School Band Challenge at Golden Gate Park 10am

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

All SFFWA Ships Depart



**VNVDV encourages the Community & all Veterans to
Support FLEET WEEK - SF - visit their website - FleetWeek.us**

VNVDV "INCOMING" Newsletter

**U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF VETERAN AFFAIRS**



MAJOR SPONSOR



Thank You



MAJOR SPONSOR



**Our VETERANS ...
and - Your Community...
"THANK YOU"**

at&t



MAJOR SPONSOR



Support



www.wheelchairfoundation.org
Wheelchair Foundation

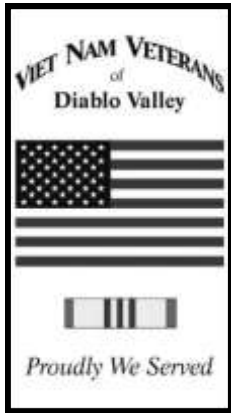
**VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley's
"RETURN to VIET NAM 2012"**

Wheelchair Distribution Trip in Nov by VNVDV
**Members to Orphans & those in need...
Providing the... "Freedom of Mobility"**

Remember to Support the Wheelchair Foundation's *Wine for Wheels*
events scheduled monthly by Jeff Behring. These are casual social
events in support of providing the Freedom of Mobility to those in
need. These are local events - Check the WCF website for details.

First Annual VMB Operating Committee GOLF TOURNAMENT - Cancelled!

Unfortunately, we did not get enough of a "jump-start" on advance planning & were facing five other golf tournaments in the area during the same two months!
Watch for plans on another event!



Join Us Every Month on the First Thursday!

Paying by CHECK - Make Payable to the "VNVDV"
A Reminder: OCT. & DEC. Dinners both require RSVP
to: VP Ray LaRochelle @ RAY-L@pacbell.net

Our "Regular Monthly Meeting" Buffet Dinner is \$25. members /guests.
December Gala is slightly higher.

You are also welcome to pay CASH or use a Major Credit Card...
for your all you can eat dinner at Crow Canyon Country Club on the 1st Thursday

FOR SALE: 1974 1/2 MGB Roadster



Make an Offer

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

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Walnut Creek - Burlingame

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 or Consider a Board Position in 2013

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!

Note of Caution to all Veterans:

Do NOT OPEN any e-mail you may receive if it does not have a subject - even if you know the sender. *Most have spam links!*

SUPPORT



Visit our website to see more about the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: www.VNVDV.com

DOCENTS needed for VMB museum tours of the new Veterans Memorial Building. Contact President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren for details & training if interested.



The VNVDV Proudly Supports our Blue Star Moms

FL | Granados Financial Services

Frederick L. Granados, **FSS, LUTCF**
Financial Advisor

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Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(925) 930-6732
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Group Medical
Estate Planning
Financial Planning



WEB: nathan.GNLD.net

R. Nathan Greene
Independent Distributor

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2013 Nomination Committee of 5 Past Presidents Looking for Interested Members for Officers & Directors

President draws upon active past leaders to discuss & interview positions with members for the 2013 VNVDV Board of Directors.

Past Presidents - Jerry Yahiro - John Estes -
Del Loewe - Mike Weber - Rich Lambert
to serve on VNVDV Nomination Committee.

"Slatts" our current President stated -
"if nominated, I will serve 2013 as President!"

Good News for the VNVDV organization...

Now we need Officers & Directors to join him in 2013.

These are all enjoyable volunteer positions -
with full support from current Board Members - Past Presidents
available to all new elected Officers & Board Members.

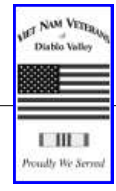
Stay Current...
NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS ?

**Help us keep in touch with
YOU**
We Value all MEMBERS!
Send Us your Updates Now!

Made E-Mail or Contact Information changes recently? *Please let us know.* With all the technology changes - sometimes it is hard to keep up!

We care about every member and want to provide you the best in communications in our Newsletters - Flash News - and keep you up to date on items of interest to our members & many supporters... although, *we need your help!* For many reasons - information can change quickly... we do not want to loose touch with valued members! If you *changed* e-mail providers, cell numbers or other... please let us know. We do want to keep you informed of our VNVDV activities & of various programs of interest! *THANK YOU!*

The VNVDV is Active... are YOU?



The VNVDV members along with over 1500 other volunteers from the community - VA & military contributed to another successful East Bay Stand Down program held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from Sept. 13 - 16 . Many Thanks to all the members & our supporters who helped 400 veterans in need. See the EBSD website for photos from this event. All Vets need to remember - Check on the Benefits you Earned at our new Danville Veteran Service Office - "OPEN" now on Wednesdays beginning in October from - 10am until 2pm - *Call Martinez VSO for an appointment.*

We encourage members & our supporters to attend the monthly *Wine for Wheels* events supporting the Wheelchair Foundation - as our group of VNVDV members prepare for "**Return to VietNam - 2012**" a distribution trip to VietNam to deliver wheelchairs - providing the *freedom of mobility* to those in need. *We continue to Serve!*

In October we will have a pre-dinner reception for our featured speaker beginning at 1600 Hrs. prior to our usual Social Hour at 1700 at Crow Canyon Country Club. RSVP for the dinner NOW with Ray La Rochelle & join us - meet *Tuskegee Airman Alex Jefferson*. This week begins FLEET WEEK in San Francisco. See their Fleet Week website for details. Next month we have our Veterans Day observance on Nov. 11th. Lots going on every month for veterans in the greater Diablo Valley!

Don't forget our major *Holiday Appreciation Dinner* on the first Thursday in December! Always a huge celebration enjoyed by members - spouses - supporters - friends - many guests & visitors! *Be sure to make your reservations with Ray for this dinner in advance* for an evening of fun - festive food & more - with friends!

Check out the Calendar and the websites of our many partners for events & programs to support our veterans & our great community. *Don't miss our great Guest Speakers at our Dinner Meetings!* Remember you are respectfully requested to make reservations in advance before Monday - Oct.1st for reserve your dinner for October...
RSVP at: RAY-L@pacbell.net NOW! *Thanks!*



The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley were honored and recognized by the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office at our Sept 2012 meeting by Nathan Johnson, VSO and Mike "Hoff" Hoffschneider, Sr. VSR for their dedication & support of the VSO office and all veterans in the county. President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren accepted the award



Operation Welcome Home

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 Weiden 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



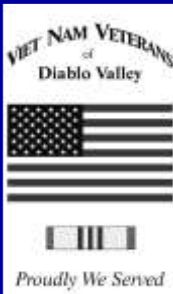
Join friends - family - veterans & the community... along with the Blue Star Moms - MCL - VFW - Legion Warriors Watch Riders - Diablo Valley Flag Brigade - Military Family groups & many others...

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!



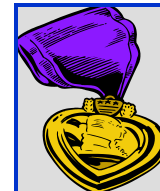
DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE - Welcomes Home the dedicated Military Men and Women that keep this Country Safe



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
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Danville, CA 94526 - 2079
E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com
Web: www.VNVDV.com

OCT 2012



Electronic Edition

**2012 OFFICERS &
BOARD MEMBERS**

- President—
Michael Slattengren
- Vice President -
Ray La Rochelle
- Treasurer -
Martin De Venuta
- Secretary -
Cliff De Cuir
- Director-at-Large -
Dennis Giacobelli
- Membership -
Bill Chew
- Public Relations -
John G. Reese
- Information -
Vacant
- Events -
Vacant
- Speakers -
Bill Green
- Procurement -
Vacant

PAST PRESIDENTS

- Jerry Yahiro
- John Estes
- Del Loewe
- Tim Hart
- Mike Weber
- Mike McDaniel
- Rich Lambert
- Ron Azarcon
- Bill Picton
- Norm Mahalich
- Est. 1991 -

**Contact Us... Visit our Website...
Attend our Open Meetings...
Participate in our Community!**

To:

VNVDV Members & Supporters

John Garfield Reese,
Publisher & Editor
VNVDV Public Relations Director

**Visit Our
Website:
www.VNVDV.com**



The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley was established in 1991 as a non-profit, local, grass-roots Veterans organization to promote & enhance the image of the VietNam Veteran through Community Service & Support of fellow Veterans. Our new Danville Veteran's Memorial Building is open & we are looking for Docents. - Come Visit!

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 at our new Veterans Memorial Building in Danville. To find out more about programs we support... visit our website at www.VNVDV.com. All veterans & their guests are welcome to attend our dinner 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... & of our continued contributions to fellow veterans & our community. Our dinner meetings consist of social - dinner & a guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All of our meetings are OPEN meetings... fellow veterans - active duty military - history buffs welcome! ... Join us!

**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.