

INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Established in 1991

Armed Forces Day - "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans

Memorial Day Remembrance - Oak Hill Park

Message from the "Prez" - "Slatts"

Welcome to this month of May's INCOMING. We have a couple of very important activities coming up in this month of May.

An enjoyable ongoing event is conducted by the various veteran groups who use the SRV Veteran Memorial Building our "Saturday morning coffee" gatherings. It's open from 8 - 11 AM each Saturday. Come when you'd like between 8 & 11 - leave when you'd like. **Open to ALL veterans...** & you don't have to be a member of any organization. It's a nice - casual way to spend an occasional Saturday morning visiting with fellow veterans.. Join Us!

The Blue Star Mom's Chapter 101 held their Spring Golf Tournament/fund raiser on Friday April 26th in Pleasanton. Representatives from each of the four VSO's marched in and displayed the service flags at the start of their program. Our VP, Ray LaRoche coordinated this activity & we used our new outdoor parade service flags that we ordered. The VNVDV proudly sponsored the 1st & 18th Tee at this annual fundraiser supporting the BSMs.

Our featured speaker for this Thursday's May dinner meeting is Craig B. Smith - author of "Counting the Days" - the true story of six P.O.W.s from completely different situations & their determination to survive. He is flying up from San Diego to share his story of writing this book with us. A great guest speaker not to be missed.

The Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival presented by the Rotary Club of Danville / Sycamore Valley Community Foundation is next Thursday - May 9th at the Blackhawk Auto Museum from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. This Club is a strong & loyal supporter of community veteran projects & their members attended & supported the VNVDV annual Super Sunday Crab Feeds. This festival features Wineries from Livermore Valley & the finest restaurants throughout the San Ramon Valley - included in your donation. The VNVDV donated an All Wars Memorial Paver. We encourage your support. Our key event this month is the 5th annual Walk of Honor (WOH) in Crockett. A short, enjoyable walk across the Carquinez / Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge followed by a delicious, catered luncheon & presentations during the BBQ at the Crockett Community Center. This is Armed Forces Day - Saturday, May 18th to honor our veterans and is generously sponsored by Phillips 66 - San Francisco Refinery/Rodeo & Carbon Plant to give back to their local community.

Help Promote Walkers

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley most important fund raiser is the "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans

Sponsored by Phillips 66 - SFR Support our community effort Armed Forces Day SAT. - May 18

Join Us Each Month

Monthly the VNVDV holds a dinner meeting on the First Thursday at Crow Canyon County Club - Open to ALL veterans - guests & visitors. - Join us for a casual evening of a relaxing, social time with fellow veterans. After social hour enjoy the Chef's Choice Buffet Dinner & our featured guest speaker. No business - just a fun, enjoyable evening with veterans & guests - friends & supporters. You are invited - Join Us!

In INCOMING this month ...

Walk of Honor - MAY 18th
...for our Veterans

★
Join us - featured guest speaker & author at Dinner meeting Thursday - MAY 2nd

- Memorial Day - May 27th
- Support our Community Events

VNVDV "INCOMING" Newsletter

MAY 2013

MIKE

SLATTENGREN
President VNVDV

Sign -Up &
Support the... 2013
"Walk of Honor"
for our Veterans -
on Armed Forces
Day

Saturday - May 18
Crockett, CA

Morning Coffee...
With fellow veterans
every Saturday from
8AM until 11AM

At the Danville
Veterans Memorial
Building

Pastries too!



Continued... on Page Two -



President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

The VNVDV is honored to have been a recipient of their support to assist our veterans & military for a number of years. This year Phillips 66 has again invited us to work with them in planning & conducting this amazing event - and as mentioned, be a recipient of a donation from them. This generous donation has been the key factor for the VNVDV - giving us the financial resources which we use to aid veterans in need & other organizations supporting worthy causes for our veterans & military personnel currently serving. East Bay Stand Down & the *East Bay Veterans Fair* are just two examples. The "Walk of Honor" & lunch comes about through a registration (\$25 donation) which includes a nice participant's T-shirt. The WOH website is up and active; take a browse through it and sign up for an enjoyable morning walk at - <http://sfrwalkofhonor.com>. The walk and lunch comes about through a registration (\$25 donation) which includes a nice participant's T-shirt. The WOH website is at: <http://sfrwalkofhonor.com> or <http://site.walkofhonor2009.com/>. Please take a browse through this website & register for a worth-while & enjoyable morning walk. Even if you cannot attend this annual "walk" - consider supporting by registering & contributing the \$25, as it is for a worthy cause... supporting our veterans. Again, this is a "major event" to support our programs.

Memorial Day this year will be observed on Monday May 27th. As in past years, this is a major east bay event that draws 800 - 1000 people from Danville & surrounding communities come to remember those who died in service to our country. At Oak Hill Park, we will be setting up cammo/shade cover & chairs provided by the *Town of Danville* prior to the start of the event... and seeking some able bodied souls to assist at 0800 Hrs. The VNVDV members also present & post the military service flags for this remembrance & volunteers are needed. we are honored to be one of the only Memorial Day Remembrance Programs with "**fly-overs**" honoring & paying tribute to those who have gone before serving in the U. S. Military caused by military cutbacks. This is a great time to visit the beautiful "**All Wars Memorial**" before & after the program. We will also have our VNVDV Members & Family Only BBQ Picnic afterwards.

Our VNVDV Board of Directors (BOD) is already planning for the *Danville/Kiwanis 4th of July parade*. The VNVDV ordered 10,000 American flags our members will distribute to parade attendees, especially the children. The U.S. Army band is scheduled to perform with the VNVDV unit & we are working on getting other participants (Concord Vet Center Huey, etc.). The *Kiwanis parade* theme for 2013 is "**People Helping People**" and the parade will start at 0900 Hrs this year. We need all members to assist in our flag distribution. BTW - since the 4th July is on a Thursday this year, our dinner meeting in July will be on Wednesday, July 3rd. More reminders of this as we approach that date.

The Sentinels of Freedom will be holding their 2013 Dinner Gala and Golf Tournament this fall. Please see more details on this worthy fund raising effort in the INCOMING. Our VNVDV Board of Directors voted to support this worthy *scholarship foundation for our wounded warriors* by sponsoring the 1st & 18th Tees at their September tournament. Golfers encouraged to register.

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The SRV Veterans Memorial Building is OPEN from 9 am to 3 pm each day, Monday - Friday. There are a number of docents that volunteer - standing three-hour shifts to share the building information and displays with visitors. We are looking for more volunteers (easy 1 hour training provided). If you are interested in volunteering 1 or 2 shifts a month (not much time taken away from your schedule) please let me know.

Finally - please remember our Operation Welcome Home events for our returning military. We've had a number during the month of April. The VNVDV is proud to be a part of the San Ramon Valley Veterans (SRVV) recognizing each returning veteran at the casual ceremonies. If you are interested in participating - visit the *Diablo Valley Flag Brigade website* to see the upcoming schedule & view photo-shows of previous events. John Reese can put on our 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 enjoyable gatherings taking about an hour out of your day. Very fulfilling for both the returnees & to each of us.

There is a lot of information in each INCOMING newsletter, so be sure to look at all the articles. Besides information on the various activities we participate in or support, there is further information we need as veterans for ourselves and our families. Past issues of the INCOMING are on-line at our website at: www.VNVDV.com

Bring a fellow veteran or guest to our May dinner meeting on Thurs May 2, 2012, 6 pm at the *Crow Canyon Country Club* in Danville. *Social hour starts at 5 pm*. I'll look forward to seeing you at our May events.

Michael Slattengren

Michael Slattengren

President 2012

PH: (925) 837-6238

E: President.VNVDV@gmail.com



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

Note: E-Mail with a "dot"

Renew Your Dues

Did you know - VNVDV Dues are now only \$25.00 a year!

We encourage all members to renew your dues at our monthly Dinner Meeting or mail your payment

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO VNVDV MEMBERS

The 2013 JULY VNVDV Membership Dinner Meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY - July 3rd** at Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. A reschedule of days.

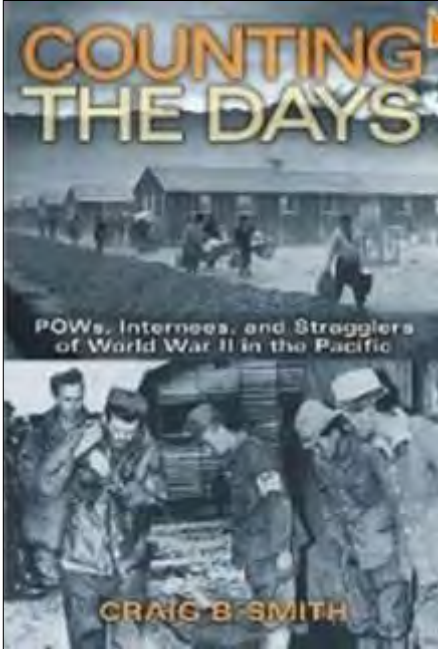
This change is necessary due to this Thursday being - 4th of July Holiday. Please attend the parade on 4th.

VNVDV Monthly Meetings feature Buffet Dinner & Guest Speaker Meetings are Open... Join Us!

MAY Guest Speaker - Author Craig B. Smith

May 2nd at our dinner, we *feature* author **Craig B. Smith** - who is flying in exclusively for the VNVDV. He is author of **“COUNTING the DAYS”** a true story of six P.O.W.s from completely different situations & their determination to survive. *Don't miss this rare opportunity at our dinner!*

“Counting the Days” tells the personal story of six very different people & situations during WWII, including:



- ◆ Two who were captured on the second day of the war and spent the entire war as a POW- one a U.S. Marine captured on Guam and sent to a POW camp in Japan, and the other a Japanese Ensign sent to an American POW camp in the mainland.
- ◆ A Russian mining engineer and his wife captured by the Japanese in the Philippines
- ◆ Mitzi Takahashi, a U.S. citizen of Japanese descent living in Malibu, CA, imprisoned by the U.S. for the duration of the war
- ◆ A Japanese soldier who escaped to the jungle when the U.S. re-captured Guam, and remained hidden in the jungle until 1960

The book chronicles how each of these POWs, Internees and the Straggler struggled and suffered to survive. Craig Smith spent over 20 years interviewing and researching the personal stories in the book including visiting most of the areas described in the book. The book doesn't just tell the wartime story, but gives us a

look at each of the characters before the war and how their experiences effected their lives after the war.

Craig B. Smith was formerly president and chairman of DMJM-Holmes & Narver, an international architecture, engineering, & construction firm. Holmes & Narver was involved in the design & construction of military facilities during & following World War II. Notable projects included Camp Roberts, CA, a 44,000 acre site where over 400,000 soldiers received basic training during WWII.

Military history is one of Smith's interests and he has researched and written articles on the war in the Pacific, where his special focus has been prisoners of war. His interest in the topic was stimulated by the experiences of friends and employees who were POWs or civilian hostages during war time, up to and including the first war in Iraq, when a group of DMJM-H+N employees were captured by Iraqi forces during the Kuwait invasion. His recent books include, "How the Great Pyramid Was Built," published by Smithsonian Institution Press (2004) and Extreme Waves, published by the Joseph Henry Press of the National Academy of Sciences (2006).

Smith received his BS in Engineering from Stanford University & his M.S. & Ph.D. in engineering from UCLA.

Join us for a great dinner with the author featuring his interesting book!

Many Thanks to our **APRIL** Dinner Speaker...

KENNETH LEVIN

Author - “Crazy Razor”



Join the VNVDV on Armed Forces Day - May 18th

Phillips 66

San Francisco Refinery - Rodeo and Carbon Plant

2013 WALK of HONOR for our Veterans



Honoring the Men and Women who Served Our Nation

The **Phillips 66** San Francisco Refinery and Carbon Plant invite you to join with us in honoring and celebrating the service of our military veterans on **Armed Forces Day 2013**. Currently, our employees are organizing the 5th Annual **Phillips 66** sponsored "**Walk of Honor**" which will be held on **Saturday, May 18, 2013**. The "Walk of Honor" will be a short walk across the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge and back. Last year's event was a huge success. More than 400 employees, contractors and local residents participated in the celebration, and together raising in excess of \$100,000 in the past four years. We are working hard to surpass last years fundraising and attendance milestones, and with your help we are sure to succeed! We promise you a fun, exciting and fulfilling day honoring the men and women who have valiantly served our nation.

Once again, we are partnering with both the ***Vietnam Veterans of the Diablo Valley*** (VNVDV), and the ***Crockett Community Services District*** (CCCS). We will equally divide all proceeds from the Walk between these two organizations. The VNVDV is an incredible organization comprised of community volunteers who work diligently providing support services to veterans in need, including hosting the "*East Bay Stand Down*". The volunteers of the CCSD have undertaken a huge public benefit challenge, as they lead efforts to restore the *Crockett Veterans Memorial Building*. We are very honored to support these *two* worthy causes and hope we can count on your support. ***Join us... Register on-line in advance.***

Support the VNVDV at the "Walk" on Armed Forces Day - Sat. May 18th

Sign up today for the May 18, 2013 Armed Forces Day "Walk of Honor" event! Enjoy a memorable leisurely walk across the "*Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge*" & share a delicious BBQ lunch at the Crockett Community Center - 850 Pomona St., Crockett. Invite your family, friends & neighbors; & enjoy yourself while honoring the service of loved ones who honored us by their service to our country.

Registration \$25.00 T-shirt and BBQ included + Veteran Information & Benefit Booths

Check-in 8:00 am - 9:30 am at the Crockett Community Center / Walk will begin at 10:00am.

Please make checks payable to: *SFR Community Fund* - (Tax ID#45-2483804).

Mail check to: Phillips66 - Attn: Aimee Lohr - 1380 San Pablo Avenue - Rodeo, CA 94572....or...

If you wish to pay by credit card, please enter card information on registration form found on-line at:
<http://sfrwalkofhonor.com> - after completion "submit" the form on-line to Phillips 66.



EVENTS...

Plan to Participate

Phillips 66 WALK of HONOR Sat. - May 18th

Mark Your Calendars

Memorial Day Remembrance -

Mon. May 27th - Oak Hill Park in Danville

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley are working with the All Wars Memorial Foundation to present another successful Memorial Day event.

Plan to join us & attend.

The VNVDV will be setting-up cammo & chairs beginning at 0800 at Oak Hill Park on May 27th & after the remembrance program we will have our Members Only Family BBQ - meat provided.

The VNVDV & All Wars Memorial Foundation sponsors this annual Memorial Day Remembrance...

featuring one of the only "fly-overs" on Memorial Day! Join Us!

VietNam Veterans ready for 4th of July Parade

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley purchased & received 10,000 U. S. Flags - made in America for distribution to the large crowd expected at the 4th of July Parade in Danville. Wear your shirt

VNVDV members encouraged to help in Flag distribution... all hands!

The 4th this year falls on the First Thursday.
Our monthly dinner meeting will be held
the day prior - Wednesday - July 3rd



Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley
Community Foundation

Presents the 23rd Annual

BLACKHAWK FOOD, WINE & FILM FESTIVAL

Date: Thursday, May 9th, 2013

Time: 5:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: The Blackhawk Museum

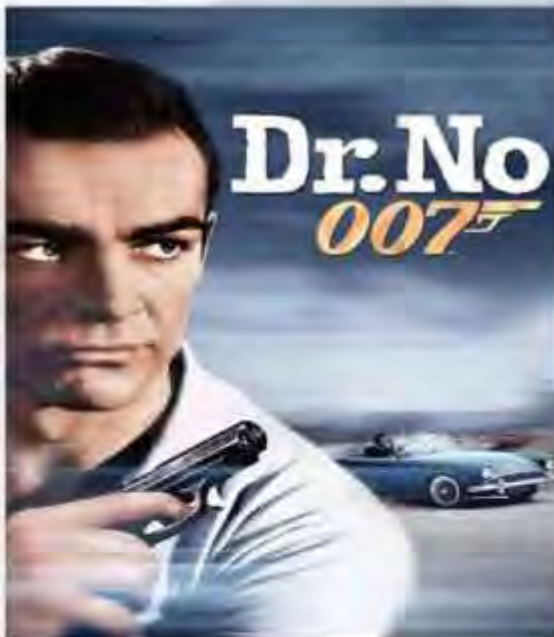
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, California



Featuring the classic movie "007 in Dr. No."

An Evening of Great Food, Wine & Entertainment!

Featuring the wines of Livermore Valley, local fine restaurants, and great musical entertainment, Silent and Live Auctions



Featuring Wineries from the Livermore Valley
& the Finest Restaurants throughout
the San Ramon Valley

Proceeds go to the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization in support of local charitable and non-profit organizations and international service projects.

A Private Event for the Donors of the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation with a minimum annual donation of \$50.00 or more.

Advance Invitations Only. Information at lippman.max@gmail.com or call 510.289.4020

Visit: <http://www.BlackhawkFilmFestival.com> for more Information.



Phillips 66 - SFR
Rodeo & Carbon Plant
WALK of HONOR
Sponsors

WALK OF HONOR

FOR OUR



VETERANS

Armed Forces Day



The Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor"
benefits VNVDV projects &
programs for veterans & those serving
+ the Crockett Community Foundation
enhancement of Crockett's
Veterans Memorial Building

Saturday - MAY 18th

Register On-Line:

<http://SFRwalkofhonor.com>

A short & enjoyable "Walk" across the Bridge in Crockett followed by a delicious BBQ luncheon. Check-in 8AM until 9:30PM at the Crockett Community Center. "Walk" at 10AM. Shirts for registered walkers + Veterans Information Fair - **SAT. May 18th in Crockett.** Register on-line in advance — **\$25.** donation supports - with **100%** going to the two organizations.

Through the generosity of the **Phillips 66 Community Foundation** and the enthusiasm of everyone who participated and sponsored - *last year's Walk of Honor* resulted in over \$38,000 raised, of which over **\$19,000** was donated to the **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley!** These funds will go a long way toward "helping hands" efforts for our community! Please join this year on **Armed Forces Day - Sat. - May 18th** for our **5th Annual Walk of Honor...** for our Veterans.

Diablo Valley's

MEMORIAL DAY 2013

MONDAY - MAY 27th

OAK HILL PARK

All Wars Memorial



Honor our veterans at the site of the All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park in the Town of Danville on Memorial Day

The **ALL WARS MEMORIAL** Foundation which "operates & manages" the AWM for the **Town of Danville** just preparing their pre-Memorial Day "engraving order" of new Pavers at the AWM. After Memorial Day - we have another engraving taking place... to begin work on paver repairs and additional new engravings. Now is the time to think about obtain pavers for your military members - veterans - and patriots in your family to be engraved in time for the 4th of July. A truly great gift.

Do you have a paver yet? Order yours at the Memorial Day program at one of the AWM Paver tables or ask questions about the pavers from one of the AWMF Board members. **Less than 100 pavers remaining in the walkway. AWM Pavers are a great gift for your favorite veteran or patriot and will be cherished forever!** A paver is a true honor for those who have served or are current members of the military. The AWM can provide special "family groupings" if you have multiple family members who have served or desire to honor other family members in a paver grouping. *AWM Paver ordering information can be found on the **AWM website** at: www.allwarsmemorial.org. AWM Pavers are a donation of only \$250.* Mail your form available on the website to **AWM - P.O. Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526**. If you have questions about paver engraving or the AWM - please contact John Reese at: 925/935-4859, or visit the All Wars Memorial website.

Memorial Day in the Town of Danville is the best traditional remembrance in the east bay... Honoring & remembering those who have served in the military. The **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** is proud of one of its best known events paying tribute to our military **VETERANS** who have gone before us and a special time to remember all those who paid the ultimate price... our brave heroes proudly wearing the uniform of our United States Armed Forces. This is the real Memorial Day - Honoring our nation's veterans who have given all.

Oak Hill Park located on Stone Valley Road in the Town of Danville is the site of the annual Memorial Day Remembrance - a traditional remembrances in the East Bay paying tribute to our fallen veterans.

This family event last just over one-hours & is hosted by the VNVDV & coordinated with the *All Wars Memorial Foundation* & the Town of Danville. Annually the event traditionally draws upward of 1000 of community guests to beautiful Oak Hill Park in Danville - site of the beautiful "All Wars Memorial" - honoring all veterans. Seating available beginning at 10AM. Program begins at 11 AM & includes "fly-over"

While you are at Oak Hill Park take time to visit the beautiful **ALL WARS MEMORIAL**... see the over one-thousand "pavers" engraved in the walkway leading to the top of the memorial... and the five liberty panels along the wall lining the memorial walkway. A wall of freedom quotes form the base of the memorial next to a beautiful bronze statue of a warrior helping another comrade. Two famous Lincoln quotes are carved into large granite boulders at the top of the memorial. Information about the All Wars Memorial available on Memorial Day .

The Memorial Day program is traditional & historical in nature. We encourage everyone to help spread the word in our community of this family event - help pass down this educations program & the true meaning of Memorial Day... to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice and remember those who have gone before us. Please join us on Monday - May 27th at Oak Hill Park in Danville. The program begins at 11AM - plan to be there early to obtain the best seats!

Thank You for your support!

Memorial Day in the Town of Danville - Oak Hill Park - Mon. May 27th

All Wars Memorial "PAVER" Order Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the **All Wars Memorial Foundation** or purchase an AWM Paver To honor the service or contribution made by an Individual - Organization or unit.

PURCHASER'S INFORMATION: (If paying by credit card Use the information as on the billing statement)

Name of Purchaser _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Contact Phone and E-Mail Address _____

INDIVIDUAL Granite 8" x 8" Pavers @ \$250.00 each

_____ IN MEMORY (for those who died while serving their country)

_____ IN HONOR (for all other pavers)

NAME (to be shown on paver) _____

Can add Rank for those who that served in the military. Up to two lines available - maximum of 15 characters on each line - including spaces. Please PRINT all letters.

BRANCH of SERVICE: (circle one)

U. S. Army - USMC - U. S. Navy - USAF - USCG - Army/Air Corps Merchant Marines - National Guard - or - PATRIOT (for all others)

Organization / Unit Granite 8" x 8" Pavers @ \$250.00 each

PAYMENT METHOD:

Enclosed Check for: \$ _____

Payable to: **ALL WARS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

Post Office Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

Charge my: Visa - MasterCard

Card Number

Expiration Date _____

Signature and Date... & mail to: AWMF (address above)

www.AllWarsMemorial.org



The All Wars Memorial located in Danville, California is a project undertaken by the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and continued by the All Wars Memorial Foundation. The Memorial is unique in three ways. As the name implies, it honors those who perished or served in all wars, past and future. Second, it recognizes the sacrifices of the families of those who served. Lastly, it pays tribute to all patriotic Americans, who in their own way supported, contributed, volunteered and sacrificed to assist those fighting in a conflict.

www.AllWarsMemorial.org

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley is proud to donate a custom engraved All Wars Memorial paver to the D/SV Rotary's Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival's Silent Auction on May 9th.



2013 Membership Dues only \$25.00

Pay Your 2013 Dues by mail or at our Monthly Dinner.
Membership Dues reduced for 2013 - Renew Now!

County VSO Outstation in Danville on Wednesdays

VMB Danville VSO Outstation Hours & Extension of Richmond Hours

Danville Outstation - 400 Hartz Ave. Room 208 - Open *every Wednesday* from 10am to 2pm (Except Holidays). Your appointments may be scheduled by calling **(925) 313-1481** (Martinez VSO).

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

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

Nathan Johnson - County Veterans Service Officer

FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS

Link to 2012 Veterans Handbook: http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/2012_Federal_benefits_ebook_final.pdf

Download your copy of your Veteran Benefit Handbook - Review the benefits you may have earned with your service!

Veterans... Are You Enrolled in VA Health Care?

Veteran's Club Room at VA Martinez -
Exercise Room - X-Box - Pool Table
Rock Climbing Wall & more - Bldg. 23



VA HEALTH CARE | Defining **EXCELLENCE** in the 21st Century

Martinez VA Clinic is encouraging veterans to visit Building 23.

The new *Brain & Wellness Center* in Martinez at the VA Northern California Health Care System offers supervised physical therapy instruction for Veterans in this *new state-of-the-art facility*. They have the best equipment + a 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" & use this new building 23 center.

The VA in Northern California offers the best in Health Care for Vets!

**Concord VET Center & County Veteran Service Office
announce "VetCon 2013"
the East Bay Veterans Fair
July 15, 2013
Hilton Hotel
1970 Diamond Blvd
Concord, CA 94520
For more details visit:
www.eastbayveteransfair.org
or - www.VetCon.org**

VNVDV proud to help sponsor - VetCon 2013

VetCon 2013 will be held **Monday, July 15** from 9am to 2pm at the Concord Hilton Hotel in Concord, CA. VetCon 2013 is the evolution of the East Bay Veterans Fair events that have been held for the past several years. This year's event will include representatives from the Contra Costa County Veteran Service Office as well as representatives, counselors and service providers from numerous veterans and other relevant service organizations to bring a highly concentrated level of support for area Veterans and their families. *Join us at VetCon—2013.*

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

Find out about the Veteran Benefits
You earned through your Military Service
Visit the County VSO Office NOW...
for your Benefit Check-Up. You Earned it!

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 M-F free to you in Martinez or on Wednesdays in Danville.

Veterans Benefits 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



VENTURE RESEARCH *Commercial Real Estate Appraisers & Consultants*

Helen S. Reese
PH: 925 / 935 - 4294

E: HReese@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.VentureResearch.biz

*"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years
serving California and beyond with Excellence"*



Promotive
Performance and Repair

"Veteran Owned"

Richard Rein
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane
Unit E
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268





VNVDV BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING - Danville

BOARD MEETING - THIRD THURSDAY - EVERY MONTH @ 1800



Join Us for our "Business Meeting" of the VNVDV

Volunteer positions open - Attend our Board Meeting on Third Thursday

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!*



The VNVDV Proudly Supports our Blue Star Moms

New Veteran Memorial Building OPEN weekdays for tours
DOCENT volunteers needed for VMB museum tours of the new Veterans Memorial Building in Danville. Contact President Mike *"Slatts"* Slattengren for details & training.

Business Card Advertisers:
ADS have EXPIRED!
Business Cards - \$50.00 yr.
to Renew your Incoming Ad
by contacting Treasurer
Marty De Venuta at dinner.

What about the Cold season...get your FLU Shots at the Martinez VA!

The VA has the new 2013 Calendars available for all veterans - pick one up this month.

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

We are on Facebook too!

East Bay Stand Down 2014 Dates Announced

East Bay Stand Down 2014 dates set ~ Sept. 11, 12, 13, and 14

All you long term planners..... 2014 Dates reserved at the Alameda County Fairgrounds are for **Sept. 11, 12, 13, and 14** - plus related set up & tear down before & after. Calendar the dates I. As Mike Weber said - See you there... and don't say - *I didn't tell you early enough!*
Questions? Contact Logistic Director - Mike Weber - 925-736-1500

*Your Business Card
could be in our newsletter!*

Business Card Advertisers:
ADS have EXPIRED!
Business Cards - \$50.00 YR to
Renew your Incoming Ad by
contacting VNVDV Treasurer.

Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary announces Blackhawk Food, Wine, & Film Festival



Mark Ibanez
www.ktvu.com



We have Emmy award winning sports anchor **Mark Ibanez** helping host our event this year. This bay area legend is the longest running sportscaster here in the bay! Obtain your invitation with a donation to the D/SV Rotary.

This event also features - great food from many of the bay areas finest restaurants and the Livermore winery community... plus lots more - attend this event!

The **Wine for Wheels & Wheelchair Foundation** events are amazing to attend & support. **VNVDV** members interested in attending events should check on-line for upcoming functions and please contact **Jeff Behring** if you have questions. Visit their websites.

The VNVDV is honored to be a proud supporter of the Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels and the opportunity to provide the **freedom of mobility** to those in need. *We Thank both **David & Jeff** for their support & to all others supporting these events.*

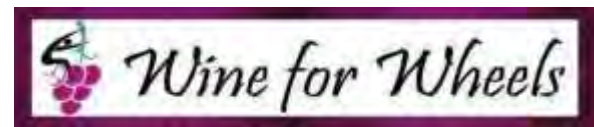
Support "Wine for Wheels"

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



Thomas Corbett
Family Service Counselor
Pre-need and Veteran Specialist
Lic. #44629
tcoak8@gmail.com

2099 Reliez Valley Road • Lafayette, CA 94549
cell 925.216.4785 • office 925.935.3311 • fax 925.935.0625
COA #619, FD #875

Member - VNVDV & Marine Corps League



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Sentinels of Freedom

2013 Dinner Gala and Golf Tournament

Reserve the Date

Dates:

Dinner: Sunday September 29th, 2013

Cocktails begin at 4 pm. Dinner, Auction and Speaker to follow

Golf: Monday September 30th, 2013

Registration opens at 9 am

Opening ceremonies at 10:30 am

Goal:

To raise money and awareness for Sentinels of Freedom and the Veterans that we serve.

Location:

**Diablo Country Club
1700 Clubhouse Road
Diablo, CA**

Registration or Questions:

Email: carlagoulart@sentinelsoffreedom.org

Phone: (925) 380-6342 ext 2



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m.
Martinez Primary Care Clinic
150 Muir Road, Martinez, Calif. 94553

Advice Nurse-Appointment Line
800-362-8387
Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line
866-900-6279
Martinez, CA 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

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>



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 thanks and welcomes all returning military along with Diablo Valley Flag Brigade - Warriors Watch Riders - Blue Star Moms & our fellow VSO support organizations.

To find out how and when these events are in your area and occur - visit DVFB 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. Attend & thank each returning veterans for serving & help these other great organizations to provide the proper Welcome Home. Each returning service member is presented a Certificate of Appreciation by the SRV Veterans.
Visit the Website on a regular basis!



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 San Ramon Valley Veterans...
VNVDV - MCL - VFW - Legion & Blue Star Moms -
Warriors Watch Riders - Diablo Valley Flag Brigade -
+ many others...

as we celebrate our local returning military in
"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



ARMED FORCES DAY
SATURDAY - MAY 18th

Your Organization or Group
can Sponsor a Team of Walkers
in our 2013 Walk of Honor ...

Join Us
in Crockett
on MAY 18th

Register NOW
to be a 2013
"Individual or Team"
Walker
OR
WALK of HONOR
"Tribute"
Walker!

Be a part of a very special community
event in CROCKETT, CA
... join us on Armed Forces Day - Saturday
- May 18 in our 2013 "Walk of Honor" for
our Veterans. *Fun for the Family*
Register on-line - SFRWalkofHonor.com

The "Walk of Honor"
benefits the Crockett Community
Foundation enhancement of the
Veteran's Memorial Building
& aids the VietNam Veterans
of Diablo Valley help fellow
veterans in the East Bay.



The "Walk of Honor"
features a great morning
bridge walk & following
all registered participants
are invited for a BBQ luncheon
at the Crockett Community Center

Your COMPANY can be a SPONSOR

Custom Ball Caps Available! **Contact "Phillips 66" to be a "Walk of Honor" Sponsor on May 18th.**

Register Now for Armed Forces Day "WALK" - Sat. May 18th

VNVDV President Mike "SLATTS" Slattengren invites all VNVDV Members ~ Supporters ~ Friends & Fellow Veterans to join us for our **5h Annual "WALK of HONOR"** for our Veterans on Armed Forces Day ~ Saturday MAY 18th in Crockett sponsored by Phillips 66 SFR.

We encourage you to organize your team or group & "register now" on-line at:
sfrWalkofHonor.com ~ or ~ <http://site.walkofhonor2009.com/>

The event begins at the Crockett Community Center ~ Check-in from 8AM to 9:30AM. Transportation provided to & from the Bridge... followed by a BBQ luncheon ~ included with your *registration* at the Community Center. Shirts for all registered in the *Walk* ~ plus much more! Remember ~ your donation helps us serve our community & veterans. Also ~ do not miss our "Veterans Information Fair" outside the Crockett Community Center with booths/tables/displays of ~ various programs, benefits, services, projects for our veterans and their family members. Information Fair open from 0800 to 1300 Hrs.

★ Your Veteran Resources



County Veterans Service Office

10 Douglas Drive - Suite 100

Martinez, CA 94553

PH: 925 / 313-1481



VA Martinez Outpatient Clinic

150 Muir Road

Martinez, CA 94553

PH: 800 / 382-8387

PH: 925 / 372-2000



Concord Vet Center

1333 Willow Pass Road - Suite 106

Concord, CA 94520-7931

PH: 925 / 680-4526

PH: 877 / 927-8387



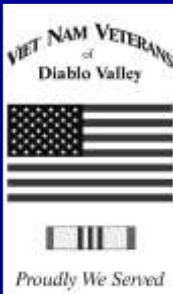
VA Oakland Regional Office

Federal Building

1301 Clay Street

Oakland, CA 94612





Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.com

MAY 2013



Electronic Edition

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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!

MAY — Featured GUEST SPEAKER & DINNER

1st THURSDAY - MAY 2nd

at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815

Don't Miss our great monthly speakers!