



INCOMING NEWS



VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Established in 1991

NOV
2013

Veteran's Day Programs for Diablo Valley Veteran Swim Challenge a Huge Success! Veteran Memorial Building Coffee Table Book On Sale!



MIKE

Message from the "Prez" - "Slatts"

Welcome to November's INCOMING. As always we've been busy with activities of a Welcome Home, the veteran swim challenge from Alcatraz, Veteran's Day Parade in Pleasanton & continued planning meetings for our *Holiday Dinner & Charity Crab Feed*.

Our October dinner speaker at Crow Canyon Country Club was our own *Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer* (CCC VSO), Nathan Johnson. Nathan shared with us more of the detailed benefits that we as veterans have earned. The bottom line is this... if you have not been to the VSO office in Martinez, you need to do so. It is painless & who knows? You might learn something that will benefit you & your family.

I mentioned at the August dinner meeting, we were sponsoring a "veteran swim challenge" in the bay from Alcatraz to the San Francisco Aquatic Park area. This event took place on Saturday Oct 12 even though the Federal government was in a budget shut-down. I only state that because there were issues that may have impacted the swim (e.g., the beach at Aquatic park (the get out of the water spot) is a federal park and was "closed/off limits". A last minute meeting determined a work-around/let's just do it. We provided a high carbo breakfast for them before they sailed out to Alcatraz to swim back to SF. Then while they were swimming, our BBQ'ers made lunch for all the participants and their families. Another big glitch was when the government boat ride informed us they would not be able to carry the swimmer to Alcatraz to swim back. However, our member Bob Musor stepped in with a large sailboat and he recruited friends who had sailboats and they were able to get the swimmers to Alcatraz for the swim. *A big thanks to Bob, his friends and all who assisted in this effort.* This was a huge success for the veterans as they accomplished a swim challenge that few people have attempted and successfully accomplished. *Congratulations to all!*

Veterans Day (Nov 11th at 11 am – remember 11/11@11) planning is complete and is ready to be held again at San Ramon Valley High School Performance Theater in Danville (it's the building where we form up for the 4th of July parade each year). This is a joint VSO effort (VFW, MCL, AL & BSM along with us), not just VNVDV members. Along with that program, the Veterans Memorial Building will be open on Sat & Sun (11/9 & 11/10) from 9 am to 3 pm and again Monday noon to 3 pm with special displays of educational & historic military items, including uniforms - military vehicles - radios to operate along with many other displays provided by the veteran service organizations. The Blue Star Moms will have a Post Card Table to send notes to the troops & more. Designed for the family to keep history alive through education. Come visit the VMB & All Wars Memorial this Veteran's Day weekend.

Veteran's Memorial Building Open House - Sat-Sun-Mon

Our San Ramon Valley Veterans Building in Danville is conducting a special open house and will be staffed with docents and members of the Historical Committee to explain the building - it's many exhibits and collections. There will also be a collection of military vehicles on display in front of the VMB. This is an educational event for the entire family to keep history alive. The VMB will be open on Veterans Day weekend

Saturday 9th from 9:00am to 3:00pm

Sunday 10th from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Monday 11th from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Veteran's Day Program

Monday Nov. 11th

Program to be held at the San Ramon Valley High School Performing Arts Center in Danville. This year Veterans Day will honor Vietnam Veterans... and at 1000 Hrs. - a video /slide presentation will be shown with background music from the Vietnam era. The official program honoring all Veterans will start at 11:00. Col. Allen Cruz, USMC (ret) will be the Keynote Speaker. Contact Ray La Rochelle at: Ray-L@pacbell.net .

*** See inside for other Veteran's Day Events

Join Us Monthly

Inside INCOMING this month...

Crab Feed donation collection started - members to help.

Veterans Memorial Building Coffee Table Book Available

Great Nov. Dinner Speaker with Swim Photo Presentation

SLATTENGRN
President VNVDV

Requests all members to join us for our "Annual Meeting" & Election of Officers & Directors Nov. 7th Dinner.



Annual Holiday Dinner - Thursday December 5th is our *Recognition Dinner*. Your RSVP is a must!

Contact Ray La Rochelle @ Ray-L@pacbell.net



Continued... on Page Two -

VNVDV "INCOMING" Newsletter





President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

The Pleasanton VFW & American Legion Posts hosted their annual Veterans Day parade & program in Pleasanton on Sunday Nov 3. The VNVDV along with other service organizations were asked to participate again this year. This was another fine parade to show our military colors & organizational banner. We also had our VNVDV Parade Truck - JR's 49 International Harvester with our banners. VP Ray LaRochelle coordinated the military service colors as he will for our Veteran's Day program on Monday - Nov. 11th in Danville. Thanks to all members who volunteer to help in this very worthwhile effort.

Our December Holiday Dinner Meeting will be on Thursday Dec 5th. This will be a sit-down & served dinner. The entrée choices will be Prime Rib or Salmon. This is RSVP - so please contact VP Ray LaRochelle with your reservation number and choice of entrées. This information will be needed before Thanksgiving. At this special dinner meeting we will be recognizing & showing our appreciation to those who contributed their time and efforts this past year.

The ballot we had last month for by-law changes was passed by a majority of all votes cast. The Board will take the appropriate action by informing the State of California of our updated by-laws.

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

We have started to plan the Super Sunday Crab Feed/ Fund Raiser. This coming year it will be held on Sunday Feb 2, 2014 - our 10th year! This needs a number of hands to assist in various positions. None of them are hard, but since this is a big fund raiser (we usually raise approximately \$8000 - \$9000 for our organization) we've got quite a few sub-committees to break up the work load. If you are interested in helping please see me. Donations are needed.

Remember the various veteran groups who use the SRV Veteran Memorial Building (we being one of them) are having "Saturday morning coffee" gatherings. It's open from 8 – 11 am each Saturday. It's a nice way to spend an occasional Saturday morning visiting with fellow veterans. Come when you'd like between 8 & 11 & leave when you'd like. It's just a nice way to start a Saturday morning.

According to our by-laws a "life membership" dues in the VNVDV is calculated as 8 times the annual dues. Since our dues were lowered this year to \$25 per year, the life membership payment of \$200 is a bargain for you to consider. If you are considering this, please contact Membership Chairman Bill Chew.

Finally, don't forget our Welcome Home's. As mentioned each month, if you are interested in participating in these, let John Reese know you want to be on the distribution 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 fun gatherings and only take about an hour out of your day. It is very fulfilling for both the returnees and to each of us. We had a dual welcome home mid-October with 2 military personnel at the same time.

Member passes: Nov. meeting a "special salute" honoring Life Member **Evangeline "Jamie" Jamison** - Jamie served in WWII - Korea & Vietnam

There is a lot of information in this 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. Visit our newly revised website for more information. We'll see you at the dinner.

Continued... To the right -

VMB Restoration Coffee Table Book Available

Combined VSO Fundraising

In order to pay for the day to day expenses of the Veterans portion of the VMB, including: phone, insurance, internet, office supplies, and other internal expenses incurred jointly by the VSOs using the VMB



VMB Renovation Coffee Table Book

Sales of Salutes exceeded expectations and our book is in production. The book will be for sale starting on November 9th at the VMB. The building will be open:

Saturday 9th from 9:00am to 3:00pm
Sunday 10th from 12:00pm to 4:00pm
Monday 11th from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

See historic military vehicles in front of the VMB each day Please plan to stop by the building, meet the Authors and purchase a copy. Books will sell for \$45.00. All proceeds go directly to pay for the operating expenses of the Veterans portion of the Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley in Danville..

Spirit of Danville

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Please purchase a ticket for Danville's annual Pre-Holiday Shopping & Dining Benefit Fundraiser. Tickets are only \$5.00. Proceeds from the tickets we sell will go directly to the VMB Operations Fund.

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

Saturday March 15th 2014

Mark your calendars now for this combined VSO fundraising event. On Saturday - March 15th 2014 for St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

VETERAN'S DAY ~ Thank a Veteran!

Michael Slattengren

Michael Slattengren

President 2012 - 2013

PH: (925) 837-6238

E: President.VNVDV@gmail.com

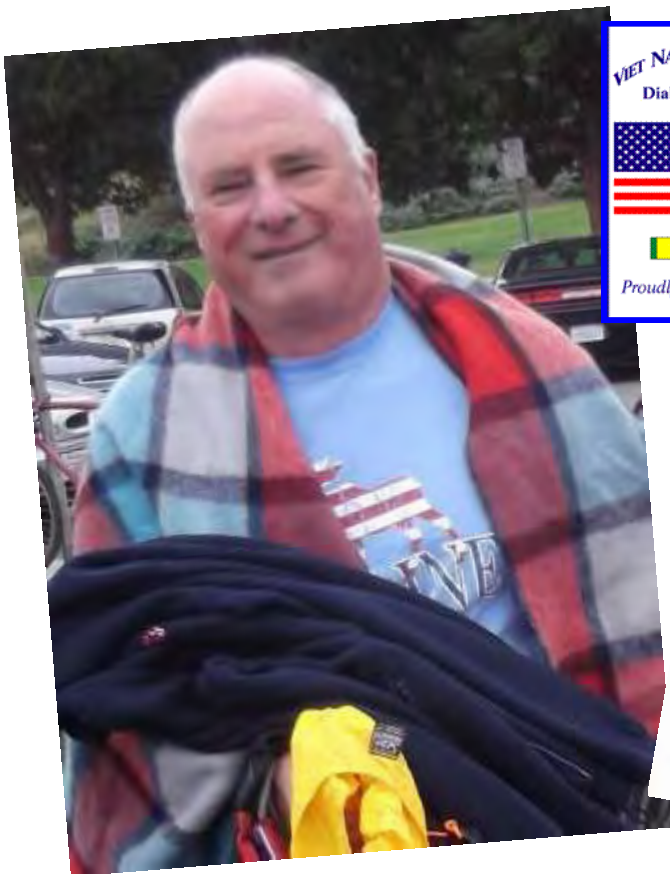


Members:
Have Questions?
Please Contact Me.

Note: E-Mail with a "dot"

November Guest Speaker
"Veteran Swim Challenge" Coordinator
EARLE CONKLIN

Hear about the very successful "Take the Rock" Swim from Alcatraz!
See the amazing video/slide presentation of these veterans!



Join us for a fun & enjoyable evening November 7th.

Be sure to "Make your Reservations" for our DEC Holiday Appreciation Dinner.

November is the VNVDV Official Annual Meeting and the Election of 2014 Officers & Directors. Attend & Vote.

Thank You to Last Month's outstanding Speaker

VNVDV Thanks goes to our Oct dinner Speaker...

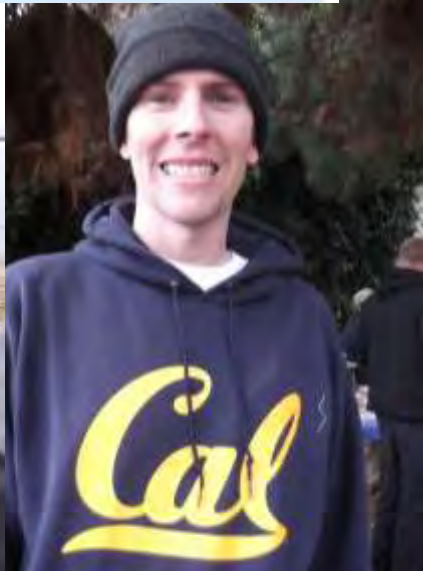
NATHAN JOHNSON

County Veterans Service Officer



VETERANS TAKE THE ROCK

• VETERANS SWIM CHALLENGE •



See more photos of TAKE the ROCK, our successful Veteran Swim Challenge - to be shown at the November 7th Dinner Meeting. *Join Us!*



THANKS to DENNIS GIACOVELLI our Veteran's Memorial Building Renovation Coffee Table Book is ready for purchase Veteran's Day weekend 2013!

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



**Look for our
VMB Coffee Table Book
Table at the VMB!**

**VMB Open
Veteran's Day
Weekend**

Support the VMB Veteran's Operation Fund with your purchase of these beautiful books.

Beautiful Renovation Pictorial History of the Danville Veterans Memorial Building (VMB) is now available in a Coffee Table Book beginning Veterans Day weekend at the VMB "Open House" Saturday & Sunday... and on Monday - Veteran's Day at the SRVHS program & also at the VMB. *Get Your Copy!*

New VMB Coffee Table Book - Supporting all VSO Operations

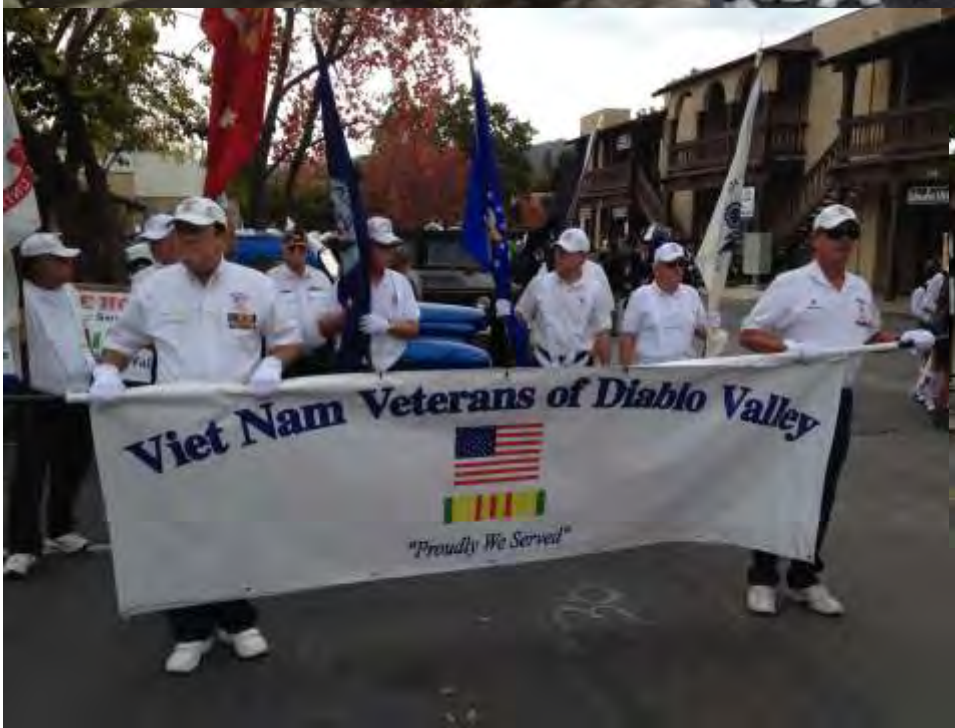
Our THANKS to DENNIS GIACOVELLI for outstanding efforts & dedication to our VMB - organizing "SALUTE" page tributes to veterans published in this new book. We Thank & Salute You!

Danville Veterans Memorial Building will be OPEN Veteran's Day weekend with special historical displays & military vehicles & more!

Veteran's Day Parade - Pleasanton - Nov. 3rd



Pearl Harbor Survivor Mickey Ganich walked the parade!



VETERANS DAY 2013

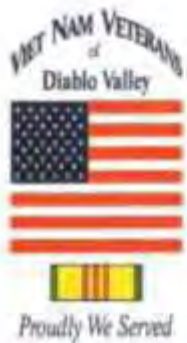
Communities of San Ramon Valley
Honor All Our Military Service Veterans



Monday - November 11, 2013 at 11:00 AM
Performing Art Center
San Ramon Valley High School
501 Danville Blvd – Danville, CA 94526

MT DIABLO POST 246

AMERICAN LEGION



MARINE CORP LEAGUE



DETACHMENT 942

BLUE STAR MOMS



BAY AREA CHAPTER



PEARL HARBOR



SURVIVORS

A Special Tribute to
Veterans of the Viet Nam War



Keynote Speaker: COL. Allen Cruz, USMC (Ret)
Viet Nam WAR VETERAN



****Special Addition: Viet Nam Era Music & Patriotic Videos Shown From
10:00AM until 11:00AM – Come Early & Enjoy the Show****
Doors Open to the Public at 10:00 AM

For information on this event ~ contact Ray La Rochelle @ Ray-L@pacbell.net

This is a great weekend to visit the Veterans Memorial Building military museum displays
and the All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park in Danville

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisor's Veterans Day Ceremony Tue. Nov. 12th

11:00am at 651 Pine St. Martinez, CA. All Veterans and community for information members are invited to attend. In honor of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice, there will be a special tribute to Veterans of the Korean War.

Maj. General Dan Helix, Korean War Veteran and Mayor of Concord, will be the guest speaker

Arrive early to secure parking near Supervisor's Chambers on Tuesday—Nov. 12th

Veteran's Day Ceremony at St. Isidore School in Danville for Veterans

Tuesday ~ November 12th at 10:00 AM in the Msgr. Cardelli Center.

If you know of a veteran attending—RSVP to school office @ 925/837-2977

All veterans & families should arrive at 9:40 AM for check-in. Refreshments

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley are proud supporters of **Golden Gate Gold Star Moms** Chapter's *Wreaths Across America*

We encourage all veterans – military families – supporters – veteran service organizations & the community to join with us and help our **Golden Gate Gold Star Moms** in their goal to lay a wreath on every fallen hero's grave across America working in cooperation with *Wreaths Across America*.

A fund raiser breakfast will be held Sunday – Nov. 10th in Walnut Creek at Applebee's Restaurant – Please pre-order tickets \$15

Please e-mail or contact the **Golden Gate Gold Star Moms** for additional information on making a donation. Contact Mary Tollefson at: marybethtoll@yahoo.com We encourage you to share this information with others on your distribution. *Thanks.*

Time to Support our "Super Crab Feed" with a "Donation" for our Auction.



Members: Please Begin to Obtain CRAB FEED

Donations for Sunday - FEB. 2nd 2014 event!



Members with donations contact President Mike Slattengren @ 925 / 837-6238

Tickets reservation can be made now. Official Donation Request Letter is included in this edition.

Holidays... A great time to begin obtaining "DONATIONS" of Merchandise & Gift Certificates for our "Super Crab Feed" Silent Auction!

Incoming Newsletter Editor John Reese to step-down as Information Director after serving ten years as the Publisher of the VNVDV Official Newsletter.



Veteran
Coffee
&
Pastries

Veterans Memorial
Building - Danville

Every Saturday

0800 to 1100

All Veterans Welcome

Please Join Us.

Danville's Veteran Memorial Building OPEN weekdays for public visitors. President Mike Slattengren request members interested in volunteering as a Docent for our Historical Military Museum tours ~ of the new Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley. Contact VNVDV President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren for details / training ~ easy hours.

VA SAYS... VISIT *MyHealtheVet*
FOR FURTHER VET INFORMATION.



Department of
Veterans Affairs

VA Martinez - Oakland & other locations
now giving FLU shots to Veterans!



Follow all the events on the website:
www.WheelchairFoundation.org
or - www.WineforWheels.org

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!

One year ago...
***VNVDV Members distributed
new wheelchairs in Vietnam
to those in need of mobility***

Speaker's Bureau appreciates your school leads!

Important notice... If you know teachers who would be interested in the assistance of our VNVDV Speaker's Bureau during - **the next school term...** please let them know of our program - available to all schools & grade levels. *As a member...* Take time to find out more about this program and others - helping join in and being an active part of our group. Contact **Mike Martin** at (925) **820-1401** or **Bill Green** (925) **820-5918** about your personal school contacts for the next 2013-2014 school term (beginning Aug/Sept 2013).

The **VNVDV Speaker's Bureau** finished an outstanding 2012 - 2013 school term and *has surpassed 53,000 school students reached through our popular supplementary history education program.* report to the membership and our Diablo Valley community they have shared this valuable history of our nation at war during the VietNam period with **school children** ! The VNVDV Speaker's Bureau is Chaired by Mike Martin - Director of Speakers and Bill Green - who is a member of the Board of Directors and uses the VNVDV membership to assist in the presentations to school children ranging from elementary schools through college, although the primary audience is high school history classes in the Contra Costa and Alameda County school districts.

The **VNVDV Speaker's Bureau** was recognized a few years back by the state's **California Department of Education** as a community leader in sharing history education with Diablo Valley school teachers and students. **CONGRATULATIONS** to both Mike and Bill for another outstanding year of leadership. **A big thanks** goes to all the members who volunteered many hours and days to help students learn history first hand from those who were there! A special thanks to the **Vietnam Helicopters** for their ongoing support!

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office

is a **FREE** service for all 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 for all veterans FREE & available M - F in Martinez & on Wednesdays in Danville 10-2

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



**Veterans
Services**

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

Walut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



Veteran's Day Specials Honoring all Veterans!

FREE MEALS & DEALS for VETERANS... on Veteran's Day - MONDAY - Nov. 11th

Each year many businesses recognize those who proudly served our nation. The following list is not complete and can vary by location / area - please inquire about the special offers prior. The following restaurants give veterans and active duty military personnel a free meal or a free food item on or about Veterans Day. Just show your military ID, current LES (Leave and Earnings statement), DD214, or VA Health Care Photo ID Card. Offers vary – check your internet and local websites for more local discounts/deals.

1 **Applebee's** - Stop into a participating Applebee's on Monday, November 11, 2013 to get your Veterans day free meal. Choose a meal from a limited menu that includes steak, cheeseburgers, chicken tenders, salad, pasta, chicken, and shrimp. This deal is dine-in only and beverages and gratuity are not included.

2 **Chili's** - Free Meal on Veteran's Day - Nov. 11, 2013 from selected menu - including: Margarita Grilled Chicken, Chicken Club Tacos, Santa Fe Wrap, Old-time w/Cheese, Cobb Salad, and more. Beverages and gratuity not included.

3 **Golden Corral** - Get a free dinner and beverage from 4-9 pm, Monday, November 11.

4 **Olive Garden** - Free entree Nov.11 includes breadsticks and soup or salad.

5 **Outback Steakhouse** - Get a free Bloomin' Onion and beverage (non-alcoholic drinks only).

7 **Hooters Free Meal** - Monday, Nov. 11, Hooters invites all veterans and current servicemen and women to a free meal, up to \$10.99 in value with any drink purchase, by presenting a military ID or proof of service at any Hooters location across the country.

8 **Sizzler** - Free Lunch for Active duty and retired members of the military get a free lunch on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, 2013 until 4 p.m. Guests with proof of military service will select a six-ounce six-ounce Tri Tip Steak, single Malibu Chicken or a half dozen Fried Shrimp entrée with a choice of side dish. Note this offer does not include veterans.

9 **TGI Fridays** - Free Lunch for Veterans and active duty military service members are invited have lunch on T.G.I Friday's this Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

10 **Krispy Kreme** - Get a free donut and small coffee on Monday, November 11, 2013 at participating stores.

11 **McCormick & Schmick's** - Enjoy a complimentary entree on Sunday November 10th, 2013. All veterans must show official verification. Veterans Day entrees must be enjoyed at the restaurant. No to-go orders permitted. *Reservations recommended

12 **On The Border** - Get a free create your own combo meal on Monday, November 11, 2013..

13 **Red Robin** - Free Red Tavern Double burger and Bottomless fries on Monday, November 11, 2013..

Free Admission

National Park Service

From November 9-11, 2013, veterans are admitted free to more than 100 national parks across the United States - Fees waived.

Year Round Discounts

1 **Foot Locker** - With a Foot Locker Advantage Card, receive 20% off online and in-store purchases. Includes Foot Locker, Lady Foot Locker, Kids Foot Locker, Footaction, and Champs Sports.

2 **Home Depot** - Active duty military; reserve; retired military; and disabled veterans and family members get 10% off purchases up to \$500. Other veterans get 10% off on Memorial Day, July 4th, and on Veterans Day.

3 **Lowe's** - Active duty military; National Guard and Reserve; retired military; and disabled veterans and immediate family members get 10% off purchases in-stock and special orders up to \$5000. Other veterans get 10% off on Memorial Day, July 4th, and on Veterans Day. Note - for proof of veteran status—Show you VA Health Care Photo ID Card or military ID (active or retired).

Tips Before Heading Out for Free or Discount Offers:

- Review the official site information and rules before heading out. Check dates carefully on the internet and specific business sites. Many websites are listing previous years (2012) promotions that are no longer valid. We encourage you to link to the official information.
- Be sure to bring proof of military service, uniform photo or be in uniform. Proof of military service varies by company. See the list of states now offering a [Veterans designation](#) on a driver's license. VA Health Care System "photo ID" is usually acceptable or military ID (retired or active).
- Pay attention to the dates on the Veterans Day offer as some offers are for Sunday November 10th or extended over several days.
- Many of the restaurant free meals are for dine in only.
- Many of these promotions include small print that says participating locations only. Unfortunately individual franchisees may choose not to participate. Fortunately, some franchisee's participate even if the corporate company does not.
- Call ahead if you're unsure about anything. *Check on the internet for additional / new Veteran's Day offers not posted until the week prior.*
- **Thank you for your service!**

VNVDV Holiday Dinner Gala

Members – Friends – Supporters & Sponsors –

Please RSVP TODAY to: Ray La Rochelle

E-Mail at: RAY-L@pacbell.net

& include your “dinner selection/choice”

Yes... a great VNVDV time of the Year! Join us for

Our Annual Holiday Dinner - Thursday Dec. 5th -a sit-down & served meal - planned with a fun-filled evening of holiday music - great food - good friends + recognition including the:

Gary Villalba Dedicated Veteran Service Award and other appreciation & recognition presentations + a great evening of fun with friends! Our biggest dinner!

Everyone is Invited... Open invitation -

Please JOIN US for our year-end Gala Event! Social Hour begins at 1700 with dinner following after 1800 at *Crow*

Canyon Country Club in San Ramon. **\$40.** p/p

Your new – unwrapped “TOY Donations” will benefit “OPERATION SANTA” & our local USMC “Toys for Tots” campaign. Remember you toy on Dec. 5th

PLEASE “RSVP” with your total number of tickets to be reserved

And dinner selection - Prime Rib - Salmon or upon request Vegetarian to

VP Ray LaRochelle at: Ray-L@pacbell.net or at our Nov. Dinner

**A special thanks to VNVDV member Jon Robbins
Who co-edited & published this Nov. edition!**

At our DEC. 5th Holiday Appreciation Dinner Gala

It is the time of year to share... Remember our -

A festive graphic for Operation Santa Claus. It features a large, decorated Christmas tree on the left with a star on top and several wrapped gifts at its base. In the center, Santa Claus is shown in silhouette, riding his sleigh pulled by a team of reindeer across a dark night sky. A large, bright full moon is in the background. The text "Operation Santa Claus" is written in a large, stylized green font at the top, with "Sponsored by Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery" in a smaller, cursive font below it. At the bottom, the text "Help Make Christmas Bright for someone!" is written in a white, italicized font. A small logo for the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley is in the bottom right corner.

Operation Santa Claus
Sponsored by Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery

Help Make Christmas Bright for someone!

You can make a difference in the lives of many local children...

With your generous gift of an "Un~Wrapped Toy" for a girl or boy

And bring it to our Dec. 5th VNVDV "Holiday Appreciation Dinner"

As in year's past... the VNVDV is proud to set a goal of collecting toys for both male & female children of all ages. All your donated gifts should be NEW & UN-WRAPPED & brought to our DEC. 5th Dinner.

Our members & supporters attending our Annual Holiday Gala have been very generous - helping make the Christmas & Holiday Season bright for hundreds of local children. Your kindness & support in providing these toys we collect at our dinner will be distributed later in the month at our "Operation Santa Claus" program which supports the children of special - invited military families, serving locally with the U. S. Coast Guard, Gold Star Families, Reserve/National Guard Families & GWOT families who have been selected and invited by their individual Commands. All remaining New & donated toys will continue our local support of the USMC "Toys for Tots" program as in years past. Thank you to all.

All remaining new & donated toys will continue our support of the
USMC "Toys for Tots" program as in years past. Thank You!



Contact: Jerry Yahiro - PH: 925 / 743 - 8850 or E: jyahiro@aol.com

Sponsored by: TESORO Golden Eagle Refinery

Hosted by: the Blue Star Moms & VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley



VNVDV Membership Dues only \$25.00

Pay Your Dues by mail or at our Monthly Dinner.
Life Membership Dues - \$200.00!

County VSO Outstation OPEN in Danville on Wednesdays

VMB Danville Veteran Service Officer Outstation 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 also features a 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. This is a FREE service!

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 Utilizing Your VA Health Care?



Affordable Care Act

and the Veterans Health Administration



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
800-362-6387
Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line
866-600-8279
Martinez, CA 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

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. VA health care meets the requirements of the ACA.

Martinez - OP Clinic

Enroll for VA Health Care through our CCC VSO

VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY

By-Law Modifications Approved at OCT 2013 Meeting - Submitted to CA Secretary of State

3.02.2 – Non Member

Former By-Law (last sentence): Persons who have been accorded Honorary status, are not members – do not pay dues – may not hold office - vote or inure any of the benefits of membership.

Approved By-Law correction (typo): ...may not hold office - vote or **incur** any of the benefits of membership.

3.04.B Privileges of Membership

Former By-Law: War veteran members in good standing, who are eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal, may in addition, hold office or serve on the Board of Directors.

Approved By-Law correction 3.04.B: War veteran members in good standing, who are eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal, may in addition, hold office or serve on the Board of Directors. **Board of Director positions other than officers may be held by war veteran members in good standing of the VNVDV.**

(Note: definition of officers vs. Board of Directors is 6.01 – officers are President, VP, Secretary & Treasurer. This change would allow VNVDV war veteran members who are not eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal to be eligible for Board of Director positions)

Former By-Law: 10.05.A – Expenditure authorization

All checks issued by the organization in excess of five-hundred dollars (\$500.00) shall require two signatures. Only the Treasurer – President – Vice President and Secretary are authorized to sign the Organization's checks.

Approved By-Law correction : Only the Treasurer – President – Vice President and Secretary are authorized to sign the Organization's checks.

Former By-Law: 3.03.4 Life Applications


Any member who has been a member in good standing for a period of five (5) consecutive years or longer and who has held a position on the Board of Directors, served as the Chairperson or Co-chairperson of a VNVDV committee, or in some other way distinguished themselves as a member of the organization, may apply to the Board of Directors for Life Membership. Fee for Life membership shall be a one time sum equal to eight (8) times the annual dues at the time of the conversion.

Approved By-Law correction: Fee for Life membership shall be a one time sum equal to eight (8) times the annual dues at the time of the conversion

MEMBERS INTERESTED IN BEING MORE ACTIVE IN THE VNVDV ORGANIZATION PLEASE CONTACT MIKE SLATTEN-GREN TO FIND OUT ABOUT VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE - ASSISTANCE PROVIDED !

Do you have an "All Wars Memorial" PAVER ?

These solid granite paver stones set in the walkway at Oak Hill Park and now limited (less than 90 remaining) ... Honor a veterans, friend, neighbor, family member with a meaningful tribute which will last forever... an AWM Paver... only - \$250.00



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 #B19, FD #875



**REAL TIME!
Pain Relief**
Relief in Minutes!

Rub it on - Pain is gone!
Promo Code: 2058

Mike Martin
Independent Vendor

1090 B Street, #128
Hayward, CA 94541
925.323.1093

Member - VNVDV & Marine Corps League

www.AskMikeMartin.com | info@askmikemartin.com

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

Order your AWM Paver Today!
Time is Limited - Less than One-Hundred (100)
AWM "Pavers" remaining in the walkway at Oak Hill Park.
Mail your order to: AWMF - P.O. Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

Membership Drive... Bring a "veteran" to any event &

Veterans - Join us at our monthly dinner at Crow Canyon Country Club - 1st Thurs/Monthly

VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley



Proudly We Served

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE:

	<i>Last</i>	<i>First & MI</i>	<i>Home Phone</i>	<i>Cell Phone</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>
NAME:					
Spouse / SO					
	<i>No. & Street</i>		<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
Address:					
Home E-Mail:			Work E-Mail:		
Company:			Title:		

Military Service

<i>Branch</i>	<i>Dates of Service</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Specialty</i>	<i>Viet Nam Dates</i>
<i>Viet Nam Units:</i>				
<i>Location(s):</i>				
<i>Medals & Awards:</i>				

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES/COMMITTEES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Welcome Home Events | <input type="checkbox"/> VNVDV Super Sunday Crab Feed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Day Ceremony | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk of Honor for our Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danville Fourth of July Parade - Flag Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> East Bay Stand Down - Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard & Service Colors/Flag Detail | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Support for Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Day Ceremony | <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Bureau - High Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors / Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

Please Visit our Website @ www.VNVDV.com for other Activities & Programs

I PLEDGE MY INTENT TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. TO HELP MAKE IT A SUCCESS AND OFFER ASSISTANCE WHENEVER POSSIBLE. I ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LIABILITY IN ANY ACTIVITY I CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN AND HOLD HARMLESS THE VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY, ITS MEMBERS AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOULD ANY MISHAP OCCUR. I PLEDGE TO ABIDE WITH THE BYLAWS OF THE ORGANIZATOION.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Please attach a copy of your DD-214 - and a check for Annual Dues: \$25 payable to VNVDV

P.O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526-2079 - PR/INFO: 925 / 935 - 4859 - E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-profit organization/corporation (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from Federal (IRC 501a) and State (RTC 23701w) income tax

Please Mail your completed application to our P.O. Box above or Submit at our 1st/Thurs. of Month Dinner. Thank You!

Visit our Website at www.VNVDV.com - Read our monthly newsletter "INCOMING" for our current events!



Operation Welcome Home

DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE

*Dedicated to the Remembrance of 9-11.
Dedicated in 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 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 2013



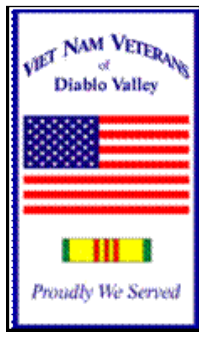
Join friends - family - veterans + the San Ramon Valley Veterans...
VNVDV - MCL - VFW - Legion & Blue Star Moms -
Warriors Watch Riders - Diablo Valley Flag Brigade -
+ many others...

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



November 2013

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announces their 10th annual charity fund-raiser & we respectfully requests your support for this event. On Sunday, February 2, 2014, we will hold our 10th annual *Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed...* at the Veterans Memorial Building, in Danville, CA.

The VNVDV are an independent, “grass-roots”, *non-profit, tax-exempt*, 501(c)(19), veteran’s organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. We **“proudly continue to serve”** our community... *with your support* - through a variety of programs – projects and events. (*Tax ID number on letterhead*).

The money raised through our 2014 Crab Feed, will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service events and programs, we conduct and proudly support throughout the year. These include:

The East Bay Stand Down
Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
Danville’s 4th of July Parade
Danville Veteran’s Day Program
The VNVDV School Speaker’s Bureau
Operation Welcome Home
Armed Forces Day “Walk of Honor”

The Blue Star Moms
The Sentinels of Freedom
Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
Veteran Swim Challenge
GWOT Duck Club Retreat
Operation Santa Claus
The Holiday Toy Drive

We respectfully request your business support for this event - through a discount on goods purchased for this event, “monetary sponsorship”, ticket purchase, donated items, or gift cards /certificates for your goods and services. Your donated items will be used in our Silent Auction or Raffle held during the 2014 *Charity Crab Feed*, to raise the necessary funds to continue these and many other worthwhile projects for our community.

For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, our monthly newsletter, or how you can contribute to our Crab Feed, visit our website at www.VNVDV.com - or e-mail us at the address below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2014 “*Salute to our Troops*” Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity to our veterans, serving military, and community programs. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Slattengren - President
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Telephone: (925) 837-6238

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

P. O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526 - 2079 - E-MAIL: VNVDV1@gmail.com - WEBSITE : www.VNVDV.com

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-pro. t veteran’s organiza on / corpora on (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax

OFFICIAL BALLOT

VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY

OFFICIAL BALLOT for NOVEMBER 2013 ELECTION of OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
JANUARY 1, 2014 to DECEMBER 31, 2014

PRESIDENT

Raymond "Ray" La Rochelle _____

VICE PRESIDENT

William "Bill" Green _____

TREASURER

Michael "Slatts" Slattengren _____

SECRETARY

Clifford "Cliff" De Cuir _____

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "JR" Reese _____

DIRECTOR of MEMBERSHIP

Joe Calloway _____

DIRECTOR - AT - LARGE

Dennis Giacovelli _____

DIRECTOR of INFORMATION

Jonathan "Jon" Robbins _____

DIRECTOR of PROCUREMENT

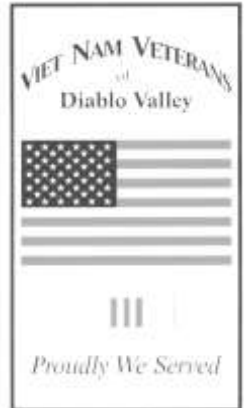
John "TJ" Trujillo _____

DIRECTOR of SPEAKERS BUREAU

Mike Martin _____

DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Gerald "Jerry" Yahiro _____



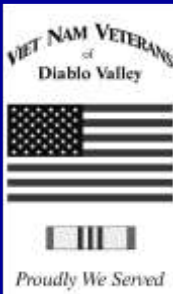
Mark your ballot with a check or "X". VNVDV members **Must** "Print & Sign Your Name" on your official ballot for it to be valid (counted) since it will be checked against current membership rolls. Completed Ballots may be turned-in at the November Meeting - or **Mailed-In - prior to deadline** - if you can't attend the meeting. All mailed ballots - must also have your printed name - be signed and "**received**" - no later than 15 NOV. 2013. If you do not submit your ballot at the November Meeting - please **MAIL** your completed ballot to: VNVDV c/o "Elections" - P.O. Box 2079 - Danville, CA 94526-2079 - for it to be counted. The "Nomination Committee" will collect & tally all ballots & report to the membership. Reminder - once again **DEADLINE for ALL BALLOTS is NOV. 15, 2013.**

VNVDV MEMBERS ONLY - - - VNVDV MEMBERS ONLY

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail or Submit @ Nov. Meeting



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

NOV 2013



Electronic Edition

**2013 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 Reese

Information -

J. G. Reese (retiring)

Events -

Vacant

Speakers -

Mike Martin

Procurement -

Bill Green

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!

John Garfield Reese,

Publisher & Editor 2004-2014

VNVDV Public Relations Director

Co-Editor this Edition:

Jon Robbins

Director of Information - Elect

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



To:

VNVDV Members & Supporters

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 Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of fellow Veterans. The Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley located in Danville is Open daily with Coffee on Saturdays until 11AM. Looking for Docents. - Come Visit!

*The VNVDV meets monthly 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 the 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 meeting is social - just dinner & a guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All meetings are OPEN... fellow veterans - active duty military guests - supporters & history buffs welcome! ... **Join us!***

**VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley**

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!

**NOV 7th - Featured GUEST SPEAKER & DINNER
at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon**

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815

Don't Miss our great monthly speakers!