

INCOMING NEWS



**APRIL
2014**



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Armed Forces Day - "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans Memorial Day - Rememberance Oak Hill Park

**Raymond
"Ray"
La
Rochelle
VNVDV
President**
Thanks all
the VSOs
for support
of the joint
"St. Patty"
Corned Beef
& Cabbage
Dinner



**VNVDV Prez Ray's Comments: Register for the Walk
May 17th**
**The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
most important fund raiser is the
"Walk of Honor"
Sponsored by Phillips 66
Register Now**

Plans are nearly complete for the 6th annual Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" for our veterans. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year so we need maximum participation by our members, friends & neighbors to ensure another successful event. Registration is only \$25 & includes shirt & great BBQ luncheon. Half of the proceeds from this amazing event come to the VNVDV allowing us to continue our support of Veteran programs & benefit those currently serving & returning. Even if you don't feel up to walking the 2 mile round-trip across the bridge & back, the Armed Forces Day program, major raffle & food is well worth the money.

JOINT VSO CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE FEED A HUGE SUCCESS!

Great food, great auction items & a great crowd joined together to make for a very successful & fun event. The program, headed up by Dennis Giacobelli was beautifully planned & executed with the food committee headed up by Jerry Yahiro did a magnificent job on the food. The Blue Star Moms provided a delicious assortment of desserts and we all left stuffed and satisfied. Great job to all involved!

<http://site.walkofhonor2009.com/>

Speaker for April 2014

John Shirley-WWII 3rd Infantry Division of the US Army, awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart as well as being named to the French Legion of Honor. He will tell of his combat on the breakout of the Anzio, Italy Beachhead, and the march to capture Rome. Also how he was wounded, captured, and escaped fighting in the Colmar Pocket, France.

Morning Coffee...
With fellow Veterans on Saturday from 8 AM until 11 AM
At the Danville Veterans Memorial Building
Pastries too!



On ARMED FORCES DAY - Plan to Join Us -

For the **Phillips 66** *Walk of Honor*

In Crockett - May 17, 2014

This is a major event supporting our veterans & the Historic Crockett Veterans Memorial Building

Phillips 66 is the generous Host & Sponsor

Please Join us on May 17th in Crockett!



2014 President Ray La Rochelle

SAVE THE DATE - WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 6th
for a Fun - Early Evening **WINE TASTING** event
in the **LIVERMORE VALLEY** for members -
friends & supporters! Join Us...

Plans are now complete for a **wine tasting event** to benefit the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley at **Retzlaff Winery** in Livermore. Wine, appetizers and music from **5:00-8:00 PM** with one-half of the \$10. tasting fee going directly to the VNVDV. This is the only certified organic winery in the Livermore Valley and they have some magnificent wines. For those of you not familiar with Livermore Valley wines you're in for a real treat! Plan on being there for an enjoyable evening. If you're a wine lover you won't be disappointed. This is **OPEN** to VNVDV members - guests - friends & supporters. More details follow in months ahead

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to assist in the support of the many outstanding events we have planned for this year. **We are looking for a few good men... for our Military Service Flags & Color Guard.**

Please Volunteers for:

- Blue Star Moms Golf Tournament - **April 25 (Friday)**
- Phillips 66 Walk Of Honor - **May 17 (Saturday)**
- Memorial Day - **May 26 (Monday)**
- 4th of July Parade - **July 4 (Friday - day after our meeting)**
- Veteran's Day - **NOV. 11 (Tuesday)**

See Event Director - Jerry Yahiro to sign-up & for details.

Get Involved -
Carry Your Service Colors **PROUDLY.**

"PROUDLY WE SERVED" and continue to serve veterans and our community.

Thank You for your Service...

Raymond F. La Rochelle
President - Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley



SFR Rodeo Refinery
and Carbon Plant

Proudly Presents
the



Saturday, May 17, 2014

Crockett Community
Center
850 Pomona Street
Crockett, CA 94525

Register on line at
www.SFRWalkofHonor.com

The Phillips 66 Refinery and Carbon Plant invite you to join with us in honoring and celebrating the service of our military veterans. 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 500 employees, contractors and local residents participated in the celebration, and together we raised in excess of \$40,000. 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.

Schedule of Events

8:00 - 8:30 am - Check in at the Crockett Community Center, 850 Pomona Street, Crockett. Transportation will be provided to and from the bridge.
10:00 am - "Walk" begins.
11:45 am - Luncheon Ceremony. Following the "Walk" all registered participants are invited to join us for a luncheon ceremony. There will also be music and a raffle.

Many local veterans service organizations will be on hand providing information regarding their services.

100% of all contributions will be divided evenly between the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) and the Crockett Community Services District (CCSD). The VNVDV is dedicated to present and former members of the Armed Forces of the United States, through the support of local community activities, which recognize the contributions and sacrifices of Veterans. The CCSD is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Crockett Veterans Memorial Building.

For questions, contact Mark R. Hughes, Phillips 66 Public Relations Manager at 510-245-4400.



The "WALK" is the VNVDV's Most Important Event of the Year... Funding our Programs & Projects!

SALUTE TO VIET NAM VETERANS - 50TH ANNIVERSARY

MARINE'S MEMORIAL CLUB - SF

THURS. APRIL 17 - 1800

A special invitation from MMC CEO Mike Myatt - MajGen USMC (Ret.)



Friends of Marines' Memorial:

Join us for a very special evening honoring Vietnam Veterans. The evening will include a grand reception, dinner, live music, dancing and guest speakers Gen. Tony Zinni, USMC (Ret.) and Joe Galloway.



THURSDAY 17 APRIL • 6:00 PM

SALUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS — 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Guest Speakers: Gen. Tony Zinni, USMC (Ret.) and Joe Galloway



Tickets: \$75 per person • Register online today at www.marineclub.com

Registration at 5:30 pm | Program & Dinner at 6:00 pm

Marines' Memorial Club • 609 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

Ticket includes a grand reception, dinner, live music, dancing and guest speakers, Gen. Tony Zinni, USMC (Ret.) and Joe Galloway, author of "We Were Soldiers Once... and Young".

DON'T MISS THIS SPECIAL COMMEMORATION! • REGISTER ONLINE TODAY AT WWW.MARINECLUB.COM

Ticket is \$75.00 per person for Club Members and Guests - Salute to VietNam Veterans include a: grand reception - dinner - live music - dancing & guest speakers. Join us!

Register online today or call (415) 673-6672 x229.

Don't miss this Special Commemoration & Tribute to VietNam Veterans

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY at: www.MarineClub.com

The VNVDV "THANKS" the Marines Memorial Club for their Support of our Crab Feed & Blue Star Moms!

Thank You to...

Marines' Memorial Association

609 SUTTER STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-1027 • UNITED STATES

TELEPHONE: (415) 673-6672 • FAX: 441-3649

VNVDV "INCOMING" Newsletter - also available online at: www.VNVDV.com



WALK OF HONOR
FOR OUR
VETERANS



ARMED FORCES DAY - MAY 17...

Plan to Join Us -

For Phillips 66 Walk of Honor
Third Saturday - 17th of May 2014

This major event supports the VNVDV & all their Programs & Projects including EBSD + it supports the Historic Crockett Veterans Memorial Building Phillips 66 is the generous Host

Phillips 66 - San Francisco Refinery & Carbon Plant Honor the Men and Women who Served Our Nation & those serving currently on **Armed Forces Day** - 3rd Saturday in May in Crockett with the **"WALK of HONOR" for our veterans!** **Phillips 66** and the VNVDV invites you to join with us in honoring & celebrating the service of our military veterans on **May 17th Armed Forces Day 2014.**

Currently, the employees are organizing their **"6th Annual Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor"** a key-stone community event sponsored & hosted by **Phillips 66.** On **Saturday, May 17,** the **"Walk of Honor"** is a short walk across the *Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge* & back - followed by an amazing BBQ luncheon. Last year's event was a huge success. More than 400 employees, contractors, sponsors & local residents participated in the celebration, together raising in excess of **\$100,000** in the past four years. **Phillips 66** event planning team is working hard help surpass last years fundraising & attendance milestones, and with your help we are sure to succeed! We promise you a fun, exciting and fulfilling morning honoring the men & women who have valiantly served our nation. This event supports our veterans - and deserves your personal support.

Once again, **Phillips 66** is partnering with *both* the **Vietnam Veterans of the Diablo Valley** (VNVDV), and the **Crockett Community Services District** (CCSD). **Phillips 66** equally di-vide **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 2014"**. The volunteers of the **CCSD** have undertaken a huge public benefit challenge, leading the efforts to **re-store the Crockett Veterans Memorial Building.** We are very honored to support these two worthy causes and hope we can count on your support. Registration on-line at **Phillips 66's** website www.SFRWalkofHonor.com Walkers receive a shirt - veterans information expo materials - plus an outstanding BBQ luncheon after the walk and transportation (if desired) to and from the bridge. More details on the **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** (VNVDV) website: www.VNVDV.com **Your organization can be a SPONSOR!** Join us in 2014. visit both websites - see newsletters - Facebook & Flash

Coming Events - Mark your Calendar

Phillips 66 "Walk Of Honor" - May 17, 2014

Memorial Day - Oak Hill Park - May 26, 2014

Kiwanis 4th of July Parade - Danville July 4, 2014

Veterans Day - November 11, 2014

"PROUDLY WE SERVED" & Continue to serve veterans & our community.





An Opportunity to Leave a Legacy in the Diablo Valley...

A book to be written about the VNVDV members & organization!



Jerry Whiting is an accomplished research author & has started the interviewing of VNVDV Members.

The intention of interviews is to develop a book that will present the background of Members and how the VNVDV Organization became involved in the many Projects beginning with the All Wars Memorial & Memorial Day, followed by EBSD, Operation Welcome Home, Veterans Memorial Building, Speaker's Bureau, 4th of July Parades, Veteran's Day & others.

Mike Martin is the VNVDV BOD Primary Contact for coordinating Members to participate in this effort.

Please consider this unique opportunity and contact Mike Martin (925-323-1093) and be part of the VNVDV legacy! This will be the legacy of our organization.

To participate - please complete the following questions and return to Jerry Whiting.

Jerry Whiting

925-934-5204

EAJWWhiting@aol.com

www.jwhitingwarstories.com * Please e-mail the above information to Jerry Whiting

Veteran Pre-Interview Questionnaire

Full Name:

Address:

Phone number:

Email address:

Date of Birth:

Were you drafted or enlisted:

Branch of Service:

Date of Service entry and departure:

Specialized training received:

Dates of Service in Viet Nam:

Units in which you served:

Assignment in Viet Nam:

Where in Viet Nam did you serve?

If on a ship which ship?

USS Hornet Museum Hosting Splashdown 45th - Sat. - JULY 25th

USS Hornet Museum in Alameda to Host Splashdown 45th on Saturday - July 26th
Featuring Famed Apollo 11 Astronaut and "Moonwalker" Buzz Aldrin

In celebration of the 45th anniversary of the historic *Apollo 11* mission in 1969, when humans first walked on the moon, the USS Hornet Museum will host *Splashdown 45*. This ever-popular festival, which also commemorates the daring, safe recovery of the astronauts and their command module by the aircraft carrier *USS Hornet* CVS-12, will take place **Saturday, July 26, 2014 from 10:00am to 5:00pm**, followed by an evening reception from 6:00pm-10:30 pm. All events will take place onboard the carrier at 707 W. Hornet Ave., Pier 3 in Alameda, CA.

Special guest speakers include *Apollo 11* astronaut and best-selling author, Buzz Aldrin, one of the first two men to walk on the moon. Aldrin will be available to sign copies of his acclaimed book, *Mission to Mars: My Vision for Space Exploration*. Festival guests will also have an opportunity to meet Aldrin and other significant guests during the USS Hornet Museum's VIP cocktail reception and dinner in the evening. A press conference with Aldrin is being planned. For more information, ticket prices and event planning, visit: www.uss-hornet.org or call (510) 521-8448. *The VNV DV proudly supports the Hornet!*

Legislation Support for our County Veterans Service Officers

AB 2703 - Funding for our County VSO to encourage innovation & reward outstanding service by CVSOs & increase State assistance to fund activities/programs/services in Contra Costa & other County VSO offices. Keep our Danville VSO funding

AB 1637 - Veteran recognition on driver's license

Your Support of these two CA Assembly Bills is critical to our CVSO!



BRAVO!
COMMON MEN, UNCOMMON VALOR
THE STORY OF BRAVO COMPANY AND THE 77-DAY BATTLE OF KHE SANH

Special Screening and Conversation with Filmmakers
KEN & BETTY RODGERS

March 30, 2014 at 6PM on the SS JEREMIAH O'BRIEN

Pier 45 Fisherman's Wharf San Francisco

Tickets + Sponsorships available at www.ssjeremiahobrien.org

A BENEFIT FOR THE SS JEREMIAH O'BRIEN DRY DOCK FUND

Filmmakers Document The Siege of Khe Sanh March 30, 2014— 6 PM at the S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien, SF Pier 45

Please Support the O'Brien!

RICHARD VANNUCCI
Recruiter

The National Liberty Ship Memorial, Inc.

S. S. JEREMIAH O'BRIEN

Office Location:
1275 Columbus Ave, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94113
Shoreside Ofc: 415 / 544-0100
Shoreside Ofc Fax: 415 / 544-9890
Email: liberty@ssjeremiahobrien.org

Ship Location:
Pier 45 Fisherman's Wharf
San Francisco, CA 94133
Ship Tel: 415 / 441-5994
Ship Fax: 415 / 441-6420
www.ssjeremiahobrien.org



CONGRATULATIONS from the **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley** to **Danville Area Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Community Award Recipients**

The Danville Area Chamber of Commerce announced the following recognition for 2013 in four categories -

Citizen of the Year - a person who exemplifies the BEST of our area - **MARY TUTTLE**

Charitable Organization of the Year - a Non-Profit which touches many lives -
KIWANIS CLUB - San Ramon Valley - sponsors for the annual 4th of July Parade in downtown Danville.

Employee of the Year - that person that goes the extra mile for their business - **JOE CALABRIGO - Danville Town Manager**

Business of the Year - a company which exemplifies the best our community has to offer through spirit & cooperation - **BRIDGES RESTAURANT**

All four recipients were recognized at the DACC "State of the Town" & Community Awards Luncheon last week at *Crow Canyon Country Club* - and was presided with a featured address by Town of Danville's **Mayor ROBERT STORER**. VNVDV representatives were present to honor these outstanding contributors - companies & individuals who go the extra mile in Alamo, Blackhawk, Danville and Diablo. **Again - CONGRATULATIONS from all of us in the VNVDV.**

TAKE THE ROCK

• VETERANS SWIM CHALLENGE •



VNVDV announces Sponsorship of

Take the Rock II - Veteran Swim Challenge

Sunday - September 28, 2014

Jerry Yahiro - Event Director

Earl Conklin - Swim Director

Bob Musor - Maritime Director

VNVDV plans to Sponsor up to 75 Veteran Swimmers
We are looking for additional swimmers & support for this event. Encourage members - friends & supporters with boats or kayaks to contact member Bob Musor to volunteer. More information monthly as plans develop. Support our Veterans - Take the Challenge!

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley members & supporters assisting in locating missing photographs.

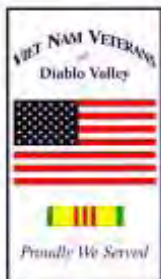
The **Faces Never Forgotten** project, which endeavors to honor Vietnam War casualties in the proposed Education Center at the Wall on the National Mall, needs photos of the following service members from **Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties**: VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley members & supporters assisting in locating missing photographs.

This exhibit will be part of the National Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Fund Museum Veterans / Family & Community Members - Will you assist in the project on your own time?

See the *Contra Costa Times* feature by Gary Peterson in this issue & our website for all the names of fallen who require photos. Help this worthwhile effort to Honor - Remember & Pay Tribute to those Contra Costa Vietnam Vets... *"Who Gave All"*



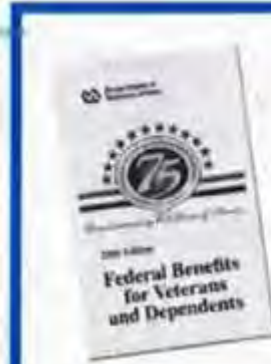
**Medal of Honor Recipient
SGT TY CARTER, U. S. Army
shares a moment during his
visit to the Veterans Memorial Building
Museum with Tim & Lorrie Sammons**



**Operation Welcome Home
Events are worth attending!
See if You can spot Ray!**



VA OFFERS DENTAL PLANS TO VETS



The latest edition of the **Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents** booklet is now available. It provides a comprehensive list of federal benefits available, along with a complete list of VA facilities by state.

To get your free copy, go to:

http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.asp
or call **1-800-827-1000**.

Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic
150 MUIR ROAD
MARTINEZ CA 94553

Phone: (800) 382-8387
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Web: <http://http://www.northerncalifornia.va.gov/>

Veterans Affairs Dental Insurance Program (VADIP)

DELTA DENTAL PLANS

Veterans Affairs
Dental Insurance Program

You Deserve a Hero's Smile.

We're proud to offer dental benefits to U.S. Veterans.

MetLife

Veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries have another reason to smile — introducing the new MetLife VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP).



Check VA's MyHealthVet or the VA online for details

EBSD East Bay Stand Down

Open Public Community Meetings Planned

2nd Tuesdays - 6:30PM at Alameda County Fairgrounds

April 8- at the Palm Pavilion

May 13 - at the Jockey Pavilion (the other side of the grandstands)

June 3 - at the Palm Pavilion

July 8 - at the Jockey Pavilion OR the Palm Pavilion (see website)

August 12 - at the Palm Pavilion

Website: <http://www.EastBayStandDown.org> - Check Online

East Bay Stand Down 2014 is scheduled for **September 11 to 14 - 2014**. The next public informational /coordination & planning meeting will be held, April 8th at 1830 6:30PM at the Palm Pavilion, Alameda County Fair Grounds. The monthly meetings are OPEN to the public - all organizations & clubs interested in getting involved this year should attend. Schedule shown above! Your VSO—organization or group can make sponsorship donations at any of these meetings as shown in photos. See EBSD website for details!



VNVDV announces Sponsorship of Take the Rock II - Veteran Swim Challenge Sunday - September 28, 2014

Earl Conklin— Swim Director

Bob Musor— Maritime Director

Planning to Sponsor up to 75 Veteran Swimmers

Welcome to New VNVDV Members

VNVDV is pleased that so many Viet Nam Veterans have learned of our Group and chosen to join. New members allow VNVDV to expand the many Services Projects & Programs that support Veterans and the Community. Get Involved!!! THANKS for Joining!

Congratulations to *RADM Russ Gorman* for being recognized by the Korean Counsel General for his generous contribution towards the planned Korean War Memorial. The Korean Counsel General spoke about the long and close ties between our countries and expressed the gratitude of South Korea for all Korean War Veterans and the sacrifices they made to ensure the freedom of South Korea. *RADM Robert Tiernan* hosted the event and presented the history behind planned Memorial. VNVDV President Ray La Rochelle attended this special recognition honoring RADM Gorman, USN.

WELCOME TO THE SUNNY TROPICS OF SOUTH VIETNAM

- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT NIGHTLY
- HIGHLAND RETREATS
- MEET STRANGE AND INTERESTING PEOPLE
- FINE OPEN AIR DINING
- FIREWORKS DISPLAYS
- OVERNIGHT TENT ACCOMODATIONS
- SAFE SANDY BEACHES
- MILES & MILES OF HIKING TRAILS
- LEECH THERAPY SPAS & SAUNAS
- FREE HELICOPTER RIDES

COURTESY OF UNCLE SAM

VietNam Veterans Killed-in-Action from Contra Costa - **Need Photos of those fallen - *The search is on... can you Help***

The first time Janna Hoehn visited Washington, D.C., she went to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Its simple power -- a black granite wall etched with the 58,286 names of U.S. service members killed in the Vietnam War -- left her in tears.

"As you're standing there, you realize your reflection is in this wall," said Hoehn, 58. "You're in there with the soldiers. It made me cry because it's so massive, so many names."

Now she's part of a project that aims to intensify the emotional experience by adding faces to the names. The Faces Never Forgotten project has collected photos for more than 33,000 of the names on the wall, via online submissions from family and friends and through the work of volunteers directed by the nonprofit Vietnam Veterans Fund in Washington, D.C.

The project is the brainchild of Jan Scruggs, a Vietnam veteran who founded the wall. Now he seeks to build an underground education center on the Washington Mall in which to display the photos. (Photos that have been collected are displayed at www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces.)

Legislation authorizing construction of the \$100 million education center was signed in 2003 by President George W. Bush. Scruggs said he has raised approximately \$15 million to date. Recently, Congress granted the project a four-year extension -- through 2017 -- to raise the additional \$85 million.

"We're talking to the right people in the corporate world," said Scruggs, an Army veteran who earned a Purple Heart in Vietnam. "We'll get it done. It will be powerful. We really want this to be done in a tasteful manner to inspire people to appreciate those who have given everything for their country."

Hoehn, a florist on the island of Maui in Hawaii, was part of the Faces Never Forgotten project before she knew it existed. Five years ago, on her visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, she traced a random name -- MIA Gregory Crossman -- on a piece of paper. After returning home, her curiosity piqued, she searched online for any information she could find about her mystery service member. Her cousin was able to locate a photo. "I put his picture in a scrapbook," Hoehn said, "and put the scrapbook away."

Then she heard about Faces Never Forgotten. She sent Crossman's photo to Scruggs, who wrote back asking if Hoehn would be willing to locate photos for the 42 dead or missing from her home island. She calls them the "Maui boys." "What I thought would be a simple project was not," she said. "After six months, I had them."

Hoehn then volunteered to find pictures of casualties from Riverside County, where she grew up. Now she's searching Bay Area counties. She uses a number of tools. She started tracking down the "Maui boys" with a phone book. She visited high schools, scanned microfiche in libraries and pored through yearbooks. She got the final photo by knocking on a door in her neighborhood.

Now she works remotely, scouring the Internet and asking local newspapers to write about the project. Her cousin helps, using ancestry.com. For her work in Contra Costa County, Hoehn enlisted the help of the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley.

"I think we'll get most of the photographs," Scruggs said. "By the time we have the center built, we'll probably be in the 80 to 85 percent range. Once it's operational, and people come to see it, that's when we'll get the rest. There's probably one-half of 1 percent you can never get."

The photo Andy Holt cares most about is the one of his older brother, Raymond, who was killed in combat in the Binh Duong province of South Vietnam in 1970, two days after Christmas and 10 days after his 22nd birthday. Andy, Raymond and their three siblings grew up in Antioch.

Andy Holt, who enlisted in the Army with two buddies who were killed in Vietnam, likes the concept of Faces Never Forgotten.

"That sounds great," he said. "The men and women who served in Vietnam, and those who didn't make it back, had a (crummy) deal. It's not like our soldiers today, who come home to a warm welcome. It was just bad all the way around. This is a long time coming."

*** See the list of names for Photos Needed for Fallen VietNam Veterans from your County on website: www.VNVDV.com**

This article was written by Bay Area News Group's [Gary Peterson](http://Twitter.com/garyscribe) at 925-952-5053. Follow him at Twitter.com/garyscribe.

To contribute a photo

If you have a photo of a friend or family member who was lost in Vietnam and wish to contribute it to the Faces Never Forgotten project, email it to **Janna Hoehn** at neverforgotten2014@gmail.com.

Janna Hoehn is the VNVDV featured dinner speaker on JUNE 5th - *don't miss the full story on this amazing volunteer project. Remember... You can help!*

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a Proud Supporter of the ROTARY



Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary
Club
Presents

**The 24th Annual
Blackhawk Food, Wine & Film Festival**

May 15, 2014

**Thursday 5:30 - 8:30PM
The Blackhawk Museum**

An Evening of Great Food, Wine & Entertainment!



Featuring Wineries from the Livermore Valley
& the Finest Restaurants throughout
the San Ramon Valley, great musical entertainment,
and Silent and Live Auctions

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 dchandler@leaders-inc.com or call 1-925-413-5338

VETERANS - advance invitation - contact HELEN REESE at: HReese@sbcglobal.net or 925 /935-4294

Invitations
available -
Donation
of **\$50.** or
more per
person

If you need in-
formation or to
would like an
invitation for
this out-
standing an-
nual event -
Contact one
of our
VNVDV Sup-
porters:

David Behring
or **Helen
Reese**

This event
held at the
Blackhawk
Museum annu-
ally features
outstanding
food restau-
rants - winer-
ies - desserts -
beverages and
much more, in
addition to a
fun silent and
live auction on
Thur. May 15th

**Join Us - Sup-
port the D/SV
Rotary CF.**

WALK OF HONOR
FOR OUR
VETERANS

On Armed Forces Day

SAT. - MAY 17th

"WALK of HONOR"

for our Veterans

Register On-Line Now!



**Mark Hughes - Phillips 66
Invites to "Walk of Honor"**



**A Major Event for the VNVDV annually
Be a part of a very special East Bay
community effort & join us on
Armed Forces Day - Saturday May 17th
in Crockett for the Phillips 66
2014 "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans
Website: www.SFRWalkofHonor.com**

Be a Sponsor for the 2014 "Walk of Honor"

GWOT Veteran Retreat

**Sponsored by VNVDV in conjunc-
tion with Bill Green's Private
Duck Club - Jun 20 - 22**

**Saturday a special visit from the
25th Int. Div. UH-1 HUEY Chopper
provides some great GWOT rides.**

**It's a weekend of clay pigeon
shooting, swimming, horse shoes,
good food, bond fires, cigars
(optional) and most of all GREAT
CAMARADERIE with our young
Vets. Sponsored by the VNVDV**

The VNVDV and Diablo Valley Flag Brigade had the "tables turned" at one of our recent Operation Welcome Home events - where Capt. David Yuers presented beautiful framed flags flown in combat along with challenge coins & combat patches... after being welcomed by the SRV VSOs. VNVDV President Ray La Rochelle accepted our plaque & display it at our meeting.

Mark YOUR Calendar NOW for the

Kiwanis July 4th Parade in Danville

A Reminder . . . East Bay's Largest

MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 26

The Diablo Valley's Largest Veteran Remembrance

Oak Hill Park - Stone Valley Road - Danville

Site of the ALL WARS MEMORIAL

NFL Announces Super Bowl 2016 Goes to Santa Clara...

VNVDV Announces Conflict with Organization's Annual Crab Feed!

National Football League announced Super Bowl 2016 – the 50th Anniversary in Santa Clara

The National Football League has announced that the date of 50th anniversary Super Bowl at the planned Levi's Stadium in the City of Santa Clara on Feb. 7, 2016.

The exact date of the Super Bowl L championship game, which the league's owners awarded to the city's \$1.2 billion stadium project last May 21.

The VNVDV also recently announced how unfortunate there is a conflict, although this just happens to be the same date as their Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed dedicated to our Troops.

"Santa Clara is proud to host the Super Bowl's golden anniversary game in the Golden State," Chamber of Commerce officials said in a statement. ***VNVDV is very satisfied with Danville!***

The Danville Veterans Memorial Building is honored to be the selected host location for the VNVDV "Crab Feed" on Feb. 7, 2016 once again, Town officials mentioned casually!

It is estimated that a Super Bowl brings between \$300 and \$500 million in economic benefits to the surrounding region, ***While VNVDV Crab Feed tickets are a bargain at only \$40. each.***

VNVDV officials stated, "2016 is a long way off - and focus should focus be on the 2015 Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed first"... rather than something a year & one-half away!

Levi's Stadium, still under construction, is to open Aug. 2 and serve as the new home field this fall for the San Francisco 49ers, which ended its last season at Candlestick Park in San Francisco last December.

The Danville VMB has been open for roughly two years & is ready!

The Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce said, "We expect our Santa Clara businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and shops to be overflowing Super Bowl week."

According to the city of Santa Clara, there also will be a weeklong series of public events and celebrations leading up to the Super Bowl in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area. ***The VNVDV proudly announced the Armed Forces Day - "Walk of Honor" sponsored by Phillips 66 for our veterans - follows the Super Sunday Crab Feed. Register now for this year's "Walk."***

The Super Bowl is the most-watched television program each year in the United States, an average audience of more than 100 million viewers. ***The VNVDV smiled with no comment!***

The VNVDV Crab Feed estimates to "sell-out" once again making the 160 tickets available – extremely valuable and hopes they won't be scalped & sold outside the VMB doors! J

The game's logistics and events for the Super Bowl are being planned by the San Francisco Bay Area Super Bowl Host Committee, which includes public officials from the Bay area and the NFL, according to the city. ***The VNVDV announced their Super Sunday Crab Feed is being planned by an experienced group of the same ol' dogs that planned the 2014 event and will probably be active for the 2015 event.***

Mark your calendar for the first Sunday in February of 2015 & 2016! We look forward to seeing all of you!

If YOU have NEWS of interest to the readers of the **INCOMING** News... Send it to us!

Contact Editor/Publisher: "Jon" Robbins - JonathanRobbins@ Hotmail.com

News deadline each month is the 3rd Weekend of the Month - After Board Meeting

CHECK - OUT & FOLLOW MONTHLY SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS WEBSITES:

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

Visit our own VNVDV website to see more about the [VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley](http://www.VNVDV.com) at: www.VNVDV.com

Information on [All Wars Memorial](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org) and obtaining [AWM Pavers](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org) at Oak Hill Park - visit: www.AllWarsMemorial.org

[East Bay Stand Down](http://www.EastBayStandDown.org) monthly meetings - *Second Tuesday* - visit: www.EastBayStandDown.org for location of monthly meeting

[Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF](http://www.MarineClub.com) - Visit their website at: www.MarineClub.com

[Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation](http://www.SentinelsofFreedom.org) - visit: www.SentinelsofFreedom.org

[Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels](http://www.WineforWheels.org) - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org & see VNVDV

[Blue Star Moms #101](http://www.bluestarmoms.org) website: www.bluestarmoms.org & [Blue Star Moms #20](http://www.cdbluestarmoms.org) website: www.cdbluestarmoms.org

Plan to participate on [Armed Forces Day for 2014 PHILLIPS 66 "Walk of Honor"](http://SFRWalkofHonor.com) on-line soon at: <http://SFRWalkofHonor.com>

See other websites listed inside this edition of the INCOMING News

For details and information on our [new Veterans Memorial Building](http://www.srvVeteransHall.org) visit: www.srvVeteransHall.org - You can still make a **"pledge"** over a three to five year period... have your name on the donor wall and **YOU** will **"make a difference in the future"**



Special thanks to our MARCH dinner guest Speaker
Douglas Northam

Please Join Us the First Thursday each Month!

**You can Help the VNVDV \$\$\$
by Paying by CHECK or CASH at Dinners
Checks payable to the "VNVDV"**

Monthly Meeting Chef's Choice "All-you-can-eat" Buffet Dinner is \$25. members /guests

Social Hour begins at 1700 Hrs. - Buffet Dinner begins just after 1800 Hrs.

Yes - we also take Major Credit Cards...

However - on the back-end the VNVDV is charged a percentage - for "a processing fee"

J. Rockcliff



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Danville, CA 94506
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direct: 925.736.1500
mweber@rockcliff.com

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ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

Don't Miss our Featured Guest Speakers Monthly

Speakers for 2014

March 6th

Special thanks to Douglas Northham for speaking on his experience as a POW interned by the Japanese in early 1942 till the end of the war.

April 3rd:

John Shirley-WWII 3rd Infantry Division of the US Army, awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart as well as being named to the French Legion of Honor. He will tell of his combat on the breakout of the Anzio, Italy Beachhead, and the march to capture Rome. Also how he was wounded, captured, and escaped fighting in the Colmar Pocket, France.

May 1st :

Tad Kishi -Japanese American who was interned at Manzanar, America's Stalag during WW II, because he looked like the enemy. After the war he was drafted and sent to Occupied Japan as an interpreter. Later Tad had a rewarding career at Lawrence Livermore Labs for over 35 years.

June 5th :

Janna Hoehn - a Volunteer for the Viet Nam Memorial Fund is working on the Wall of Faces. Her mission is to have an image for every name on the Vietnam Veteran Memorial fund website and in the future Education Center to be built adjacent to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall).

The VMB / SRV Danville



VMB Renovation Coffee
Table Book

The are available now at meetings & VMB Books 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

YOUR VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING in Danville

The Danville's Veteran Memorial Building is OPEN every SAT. AM from 0800 to 1100 for *free* coffee & pastry... and social get-together. Stop by for a few minutes, an hour, stay as long as you desire ~ leave when you want. Meet in our new lounge ~ see the museum displays ~ *bring a friend!*

The VMB Museum is Open Monday thru Friday 9 to 3 for public visitors. Past President Mike Slattengren is looking for any members interested in volunteering a few hours each month as a VMB Docent for our Historical Military Museum tours. Easy Training is provided ~ 3Hr shift. Contact "*Slatts*"

Tell others about our Veteran & Military Museum!



Department of
Veterans Affairs



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

Affordable Care Act & Veterans 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.



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
800-382-8387
Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line
866-600-8279
Martinez, CA 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

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

Veterans... Are You Utilizing Your VA Health Care Benefits?

The VNVDV encourages all Veterans to Enroll in VA Health Care coverage & utilizing trained professional advocates at our Contra Costa County VSO. The VA Health Care System is the Best - get help Visit our VNVDV Website for more Benefit details.

FLU IS CAUSING SERIOUS ILLNESS & DEATH!
Please visit one of our VA Clinics in Martinez
- Oakland or other locations now to obtain your
FLU shot - available to all Veterans! Don't Wait!

**If you as a Veteran - have VA Health Care Benefits
You are Covered & meet all requirements of the
Affordable Health Care Act! Use the VA!**

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is a FREE service for all Veterans!

Find out about all the Veteran Benefits
You earned through your Military Service
Visit the County VSO Office NOW...
for your FREE "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"



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Performance and Repair

"Veteran Owned"

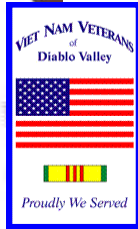
Richard Rein
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane
Unit E
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



RAY says... get ready to join us for the Armed Forces Day "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans on Saturday - May 17th. More details soon!



Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" Armed Forces Day SAT - May 17th in Crockett

YOUR COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION CAN BE A SPONSOR
Contact **MARK HUGHES** at "Phillips 66" NOW to be a "Walk of Honor" Event Sponsor for 2014.



VNVDV Membership Dues
Now only \$25.

Renew Your 2014 Annual Dues
at our Monthly Dinner or convert to a
Life Membership in VNVDV
for only: \$200.00!



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 #619, FD #875



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

Mike Martin
Independent Vendor

1090 B Street, #128
Hayward, CA 94541
925.323.1093

www.AskMikeMartin.com | info@askmikemartin.com

Membership Drive... Bring a VietNam Veteran friend to our next monthly dinner!

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					
Address:	<i>No. & Street</i>		<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
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>
Viet Nam Units:				
Location(s):				
Medals & Awards:				

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
Devoted to the Support of our Troops*
www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com



OPERATION WELCOME HOME!

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

NEVER, EVER AGAIN.

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

www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com

www.warriorwatch.org
spiker592000@yahoo.com

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

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley 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



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley "INCOMING"

Official Mailing Address:

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Post Office Box 2079
Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.com

Jonathan "JON" Robbins
Director of Information 2014
EDITOR/PUBLISHER "INCOMING" NEWS
Veterans Memorial Building
400 Hartz Avenue
Danville, CA 94526
News E-Mail: VNVDV.News@gmail.com

Keep your e-mail address current please!

Visit the VNVDV Web
Often - our latest news
is online at:

www.VNVDV.com



MAR 2014

Electronic News

Use Purple Heart Stamps



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Norm Mahalich



To:

VNVDV Members & VIPs

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a local, non-profit, Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, value & maintain a high level of dignity & respect for the young men & women currently serving our nation today in all branches of our military services. Danville has a new Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley - designed for the next 100 years - to serve our veterans now - those returning & our future veterans - while serving as a lasting reminder & Memorial for all those who served before us in the name of Freedom... Leaving a "legacy"

The VNVDV meets on the 1st Thursday of every month at the Crow Canyon Country Club, in Danville. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Building - Library / Board Room at 1800 Hrs. in Danville. To find out "details" & more about programs we support & events we sponsor... visit our website at www.VNVDV.com. All veterans & guests are welcome to attend our "open" membership meetings. We are a casual - "fun" - social veterans group - always looking for new members who enjoy friendship & the special bond as military veterans. We are Proud of our Military Service... & of our continued contributions to fellow veterans & community. Our dinner meetings consist of a social dinner & guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All dinner meetings are OPEN - bring fellow veterans - active duty military - history buffs - friends - supporters... & Join us each month.

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with SPEAKER!

VIET NAM VETERANS of Diablo Valley

MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS

1st THURSDAY of each Month - Every Month

at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in Danville, CA

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Buffet Dinner at 1815 - Join Us!

Featuring "Chef's Choice Special Buffet Dinner" - \$25. RSVP NOT Required!

the "INCOMING" - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV