



INCOMING NEWS



December
2014



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Gary Villalba Dedicated Service Award to be Presented at Holiday Dinner + Veteran & Volunteer of the Year

Super Sunday Crab Feed Tickets Available at Dinners

VNVDV Prez Ray's Notes for December

Greetings

REFLECTIONS ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR VNVDV

As this year comes to an end I wish to thank a highly dedicated and effective Board of Directors and numerous volunteers and **supporters for all we've accomplished** in the past year. Some of the highlights are as follows:

Successful Super Sunday Crab Feed Fundraiser

Support of BSM & MMA for the Gold Star Moms ceremonies

Support for numerous needy veterans through donations, gas and grocery debt cards.

2014 Walk of Honor fundraiser in partnership with Phillips 66 Refinery & Carbon Plant

2014 Memorial Day ceremonies & Member BBQ

VNVDV Holiday Appreciation & Recognition Dinner Gala

Thursday – DEC. 4th Social 5 / Dinner 6

President Ray La Rochelle has put the finishing touches on our 2014 *Holiday Appreciation & Recognition Dinner Gala* and looks forward to seeing over 125 members & guests **in attendance. This is Ray's personal opportunity to host our annual dinner for our members & supporters and recognize all for their contributions of time - energy & funds to support & benefit the VNVDV.** Once a year, *the VNVDV takes extra time to gather as a group with our members – spouses – family – friends & supporters... and to honor those who have volunteered & given above & beyond in 2014.* We will be joined by Gary Villalba former County Veterans Service Officer to present the **VNVDV's highest honor & recognition** for distinguished & dedicated service to our veterans & community. The President will also name the *Veteran of the Year & VNVDV Volunteer of the Year* awards.

The
INCOMING

*Featured in this
edition:*

- ◆ *DEC Holiday Dinner Award Update*
- ◆ *2015 Crab Feed Tickets on sale now at dinners*
- ◆ *Donation Letter & Receipt + Flyers Included in news.*
- ◆ *Election of Officers & Directors for VNBDV BOD*
- ◆ *All Wars Memorial Pavers & Membership Application and more in this issue - inside...*

*Continued page 2



**This Newsletter
is also On-Line at:
www.VNVDV.com**

2014 President Ray La Rochelle



(Continued from Page One)

4th of July Parade - 10,000 Flags Distributed

VNVDV Speakers Bureau – now over 60,000 students spoken to since 2002!

2014 East Bay Stand Down event

VNVDV Membership growth to over 160 members – the highest total ever!

Our 2nd annual Take The Rock swim challenge open to all veterans

A beautiful and moving Veterans Day Program honoring *Pearl Harbor Survivors*

2013&14 Operation Santa Claus program in partnership with Tesoro Refinery

We couldn't have done it without the help of members, local businesses and friends too numerous to mention. *Thank you all for your support and tireless efforts* and I look forward to another successful year in 2015! *Have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.*

2015 CRAB FEED FUNDRAISER

Have you got your tickets yet? Have you been out soliciting contributions for our Silent Auction/ Raffle? This is the largest VNVDV sponsored fundraiser each year and we need all members to dig in and contribute to its success. If every member gets just one contribution each, it will ensure a successful event. Request a donation now!

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

Raymond "Ray" La Rochelle
VNVDV President 2014



Mt. Diablo Beacon Light
Remember Pearl
Harbor Day Dec 7th

*Please Note the
January meeting
is on 2nd Thurs. -
January 8th*

Members - Supporters &
Friends:

Please Begin NOW to help obtain CRAB FEED Donations for our "Super Sunday" - FEB. 1st 2015 event! Begin NOW to help us Obtain

Donations contact President Mike Slattengren @ 925 / 837-6238

Ideas for 2015 Donations are provided in the

Incoming

VNVDV'S



I WANT YOU
TOYS FOR TOTS

**DONATE YOUR NEW -
UNWRAPPED
CHILDREN'S TOYS**

At

***VNVDV Holiday Appreciation
Recognition Dinner Gala***

Supporting Military Families at

OPERATION SANTA &

TOYS for TOTS (Supporting our Military Families)

You Can Make a Difference in Christmas for a Child!

Remember to bring
Your **DONATION** of
a **New - Unwrapped**
Children's TOYS
tonight at the **VNVDV**
Holiday Appreciation
& Recognition Dinner
Gala on Dec. 4th at
Crow Canyon County
Club - and make a
child's Christmas
brighter! Give Hope!

Operation Santa Claus

Sponsored by Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery



Operation Santa is a joint project sponsored by Tesoro - Blue Star Moms & VNVDV

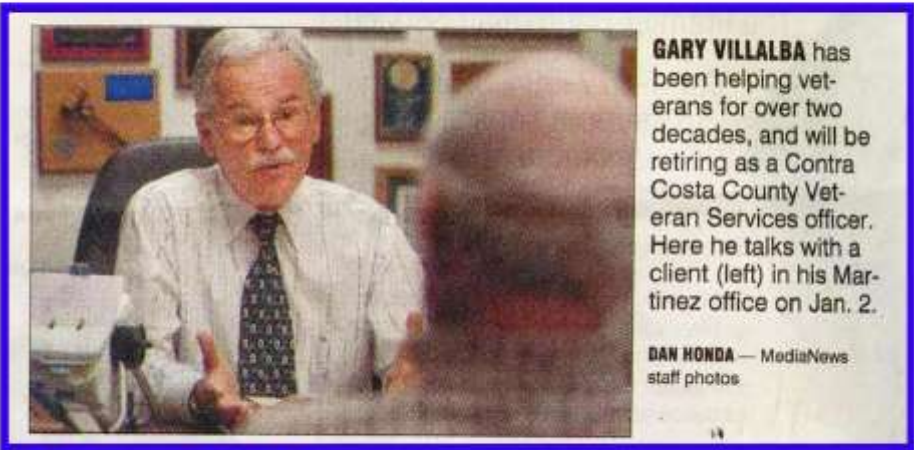
VNVDV proudly supports the Wheelchair Foundation



Wheelchair Foundation - providing freedom of mobility to those in need.
What a gift... and if you are looking for a Holiday Gift for someone special - who already has everything... one of the most rewarding gifts you can bestow is **donating a wheelchair in their name** from the Wheelchair Foundation. A beautiful certificate will be sent with a photo of the recipient of your generous donation of a new custom-sized wheelchair. Contact the Wheelchair Foundation by phone or on their website. Tax ID #94-3353881 VNVDV members have made three trips to VietNam to distribute new wheelchairs providing freedom of mobility to those in need.



GARY VILLALBA **Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer**



1988 - 2008 in Contra Costa County . . . **Over Twenty Years - Proudly Serving Our Nation's Veterans**

Gary Villalba is a legend in the California Veteran Community... having served over twenty years in Contra Costa County as our Veterans Service Officer and Director for both Martinez and Richmond Offices. The VNVDV Board of Directors voted unanimously in 2008 establishing a "perpetual recognition award" in the name of Gary Villalba. Honoring his service & dedication to veterans. This is the highest award the VNVDV bestows annually... in Gary's honor - to an individual who exhibits the character and great dedication to serving veterans as Gary demonstrated & provided in our community for his entire career. Gary will be joining us at our DEC. Dinner Gala.



The "GV" Award

The perpetual award is displayed in the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office lobby in Martinez for all to see. Annually - a brass name plate of the recipient of this honor will be added to the plaque - joining the names of all previous recipients. The recognized award recipient will receive a "personal plaque" at our annual dinner stating they were the recipient of **"The Gary D. Villalba Dedicated Service Award"** - the VNVDV's highest & most significant honor given annually. Gary also receives an engraved name plate to add to his plaque honoring each years winner which is displayed in his home in Santa Barbara. Since 2008 - Gary has joined us to honor & pay tribute to these dedicated individuals & personally present the award at our VNVDV Annual Holiday Recognition Dinner Gala

Great News: Phillips 66 & the Carbon Plant notified the VNVDV BOD & Walk Committee of tour first planning for our 2015 Walk of Honor - Armed Forces Day - MAY 16.



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



VNVDV Holiday Event Reminders

DEC. 4th is VNVDV's Annual Holiday Appreciation & Recognition Dinner Gala. A beautiful sit-down dinner, prepared by the Crow Canyon County Club chef & served by the excellent staff. Prez Ray planned a fun-filled evening of holiday music - great food - good friends + recognition including the presentation of the *Gary Villalba Dedicated Veteran Service Award - Veteran of the Year & Volunteer of the Year* + other special presentations + a great evening of fun! *President Ray is looking forward to seeing over 125 members - supporters & guests this year.*

Our Gala year-end Event begins with a Social Hour at 1700 with dinner following after 1800 at *Crow Canyon Country Club* in Danville

Operation Santa Claus

Sponsored by Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery



WRAPPED TOYS to the **Dec 4th Holiday Dinner**. The goal is to collect toys (\$15-\$20) for both male & female children of all ages, *especially TEENS!* The toys will be distributed to children of specially invited military families, including U.S. Coast Guard, **Gold Star Families, Reserve/National Guard families and GWOT families...** *selected & invited by their Command.* All remaining Toys will be passed on to be utilized at the **Concord Vet Centers "Santa Visit"** and to our local **USMC "Toys for Tots"** toy campaign... all to help these families enjoy a brighter Christmas in this special event.

REMEMBER YOUR TOY DONATIONS at our DEC dinner to support **OPERATION SANTA** sponsored by **TESORO GOLDEN EAGLE REFINERY** who generously agreed to continue their support in addition to the **Blue Star Moms** also joining the VNVDV on this special project to help military families & veterans *celebrate a happier Christmas season.* VNVDV members are asked to participate by bringing a **"New Un-**



Please note this **NEW** program to support Guitars for Veterans. Tax deductible donations of guitars in any condition to help veterans heal through the power of music.



Guitars have a rich tradition in the military. Left is a soldier from Forward Operating Post Restrapo, Korangal Valley, Afghanistan. Christmas 2007. Their only entertainment. Help keep guitars in the lives of Veterans.

Guitars For Vets
Livermore, CA

Michael Paul
Chapter Coordinator
Instructor

925.683.0859

g4vlivermore@comcast.net
www.guitarsforvets.org



DANVILLE TOWN COUNCIL HONORS
WORLD WAR II VETERANS
PROCLAMATIONS PRESENTED BY MAYOR STORER



Captain Art Gaskin
Troop E
93rd Cavalry Recon-
naissance Squadron
13th Armor Division



Captain Warren Jensen, Battery A
793 Field Artillery BN XIX Corps

Warren Jensen—Sandee Wiederman—Art Gaskin

Please CHECK-OUT & FOLLOW MONTHLY some of our SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS WEBSITES:

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

All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: www.AllWarsMemorial.org

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: www.MarineClub.com

Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation - visit: www.SentinelsofFreedom.org

Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org & see VNVDV

Blue Star Moms #101 website: www.bluestarmoms.org & Blue Star Moms #20 website: www.ccbluestarmoms.org

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Open in Danville every Wednesday - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.

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

Thank You to all Volunteers - Coaches - Swimmers & Boaters for their outstanding support of
"Take the Rock" - Veteran Swim Challenge for our Active-Duty Military & Veterans

See other website LINKS listed inside this edition of the INCOMING News & on our website.

VISIT THE VMB's NEW WEBSITE - for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING visit: www.VMBSRV.org

SAVE THE DATE –

VA's Veteran's Town Hall -- Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic -- Dec. 10th 6 - 8pm

The Northern California Health Care System DIRECTOR & leadership team will be available to answer questions about your health care at Martinez or other No Cal VA Clinics. Please share with all VSO organizations. Thanks. VA Northern California Health Care System would like to invite you and the Veterans **you serve to our Veteran's Town Hall on December 10th from 6 – 8 p.m.** The entire leadership team will be present to answer questions and concerns about the health care system. Please see below flyer for additional information. If you are able to please RSVP to Amanda Mina at Amanda.Mina@va.gov.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

TOWN HALL

VETERANS TOWN HALL MEETING

Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at the
Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic, Building 21
1st Floor, Room E8 A&B from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS
QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**

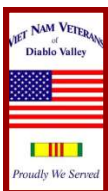
Conference Line available:
1 (800) 767-1750 Participant Code: 12345

**PLEASE RSVP TO AMANDA MINA
AT (916) 843-9034 OR
EMAIL AT: AMANDA.MINA@VA.GOV**

VA Northern California
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

www.northerncalifornia.va.gov

VA U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs





HISTORIC Vietnam PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

This exhibit, titled “An Ordinary Year, An Extraordinary Time”, covers a 12 month experience in Vietnam shared by 500,000 American soldiers from June 1968 to June 1969. It includes more than sixty photographs of ordinary soldiers, ordinary villagers and ordinary children trying to get through each day during an extraordinary conflict. The images have been selected from more than 4,000 taken by an infantryman serving with the 1st Infantry Division.



Dates: **December 1-22, 2014**
Hours: **Mon-Fri 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM**
(Closed on weekends)

LINDSAY DIRKX BROWN GALLERY
Located in the **SAN RAMON COMMUNITY CENTER**
12501 Alcosta Blvd, San Ramon, CA 94583
925-973-3200

Admission is FREE

For more information, visit the Photographer's website at www.stevenburchik.com
(Click on the "GALLERY" page.)

The Blackhawk Chorus proudly features their Winter Holiday Performance...

HOLIDAY GATHER!

featuring
**THE Blackhawk
CHORUS**

**Thursday, December 18, 2014
7:30PM**

Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center
10550 Albion Road, San Ramon, CA

The 140-voice Blackhawk Chorus, under the direction of Diane Giffether, will fill your heart with cheerful sounds of the season. The chorus will be accompanied by noted pianist, Randall Benway, and our guest artists, The Golden Gate String Quartet. The chorus is celebrating its 22nd year of providing outstanding choral performances throughout the Bay Area and around the world.

Tickets:

Adults ~ \$28

Youth (12 and under) ~ \$20

For Tickets Call: **925.973.3343** (Tues-Fri, 12-5PM)
Order Online: **sanramonperformingarts.com**

For more information visit **blackhawkchorus.com**

**Blackhawk Chorus Members Support & Attend the VNVDV Annual Super Crab Feed...
and we Proudly Support their Performances. See Helen Reese for Crab Feed Tickets**

OFFICER & DIRECTORS ELECTED FOR 2015

PRESIDENT

Raymond "Ray" La Rochelle

VICE PRESIDENT

William "Bill" Green

TREASURER

Mike "Slatts" Slattengren

SECRETARY

Clifford "Cliff" DeCuir

DIRECTOR of MEMBERSHIP

Joe Callaway

DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

Dennis Giacobelli

DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Jerry Yahiro

DIRECTOR of SPEAKERS

Mike Martin

DIRECTOR of INFORMATION

Jon Robbins

DIRECTOR of PROCUREMENT

John "T. J." TRUJILLO

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "Garfield" Reese

Meet at VMB
Every SATURDAY
Morning

Veteran & Friends **Coffee...**

Meet with fellow Veterans *every* Saturday
from 8 AM until 11 AM at the Danville Veter-
ans Memorial Building
Pastries too!
Join Us!

PREZ "RAY" announced it is time
to begin obtaining donations in
advance for our Annual 2015
"Super Sunday" Crab Feed.
Flyers & Donation Letter & Receipt
included in this edition of the news.

*Crab Feed Merchant / Business Donor
Letters available Dec. & Jan. Dinner
Meetings & also included in this issue
of the INCOMING News
Pick-up your copy along with Donor
Receipt or copy the letters enclosed in
this edition.*

**Thank You for Voting
& Electing our 2015
Officers & Directors for BOD**

Please remind everyone including supporters
of the need to request donations for
our Annual "Super Sunday" Crab Feed
to be held on Sunday - FEB. 1st!

REMEMBER YOUR TOYS - FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER TOY DONATIONS!

Support our Military Families & Veterans less fortunate during the Holidays.

**The VA Northern California
Health Care System is
expanding... VA accepts Land
Transfer at NAS - Alameda
from U.S. Navy for new facilities!**



2015 CRAB FEED FUNDRAISER

Have you got your tickets yet?
Have you been out soliciting contributions for our Silent Auction/
Raffle? This is the largest VNVDV sponsored fundraiser each year and we need all members & supporters to dig in and contribute to its success. If every member gets just one contribution each, it will ensure a successful event.

Please do your part!

**The VNVDV is Proud to Support
& participate with the
Diablo Valley Flag Brigade &
Warriors Watch Riders in
OPERATION WELCOME HOME**

Do you know of a Returning Veteran?
Contact Diablo Valley Flag Brigade at
www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com



WARRIORS' WATCH RIDERS
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Matthew Boggs
Assistant State Coordinator

925.765.0785 • mboggswwr@gmail.com
www.norcalwwr.org

Warriors' Watch is dedicated to ensuring that never again will a generation of American Warriors be scorned or ignored when they return home from defending our nation.



Warriors' Watch will support our troops and our veterans, and will honor, support, and comfort their families



Contact Northern California Warriors' Watch:

email: info@norcalwwr.org
www.norcalwwr.org



The Concord Vet Center cordially invites you and your family to our

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

December 12
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

1333 Willow Pass Rd. Suite 106,
Concord, CA 94520

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in attendance and will need to know how many toys to bring.

To RSVP or for more information please contact the Concord Vet Center at (925) 680-4526
Please RSVP by December 1

We will be collecting non-perishable items to donate to the local food bank

November 6th:

Thanks to our November Speaker—Mony Nop- was born in Battambang, Cambodia in 1972 during the Pol Pot regime and the reign of terror by the Khmer Rouge. His story traces his walk from Cambodia to Thailand at the age of 6, his 4 year stay in various refugee camps and his escape to the United States in 1983.

Speakers Bureau—November 12 Ray LaRochelle and Bill Green spoke to a Las Positas College gathering of around 400 honoring Veterans. Many local Organizations contributed and participated to include the Vietnam Helicopters "UH-1 Huey" fly-in.

The Las Positas Chancellor, Dr. Jannett Jackson provided opening comments that included her educational and military experience having served a LTC Battalion Commander in the Army.

Ray LaRochelle spoke of his background early in the Navy and his experience as a "Huey" combat assault pilot for the Army and the Navy.

Bill Green related his experience graduating from High School in San Francisco, entering the Army as a draftee, completing infantry training and being assigned to the Americal Division in I Corps where he rose to the rank of Sergeant.

The VMB / SRV Renovation Book



VMB Renovation
Coffee Table Book
**Autographed &
Reduced Price**
Special Available
See Dennis Giacovelli
for details.

Books sell for \$45.. &
now reduced to \$35.00
All proceeds go directly
to pay for the operating
expenses of the Veterans
portion of the VMB for
the San Ramon Valley

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING in Danville

The Danville's Veteran Memorial Building is OPEN every SAT. AM from 0800 to 1100 for **free coffee & pastry... a 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 - enjoy the outdoor patio porch - see the museum displays - *bring a friend or fellow veteran.*

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!
Great place to share your military history with
family - children & grandchildren.



Department of
Veterans Affairs



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



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

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!

**Check VA's MyHealthVet
or the VA online for Flu Shot
details or Call VA's
"Advise Nurse" for answers!**

California's Veteran Benefit Book Available and the New

Federal Veteran Benefit Handbook - See CCC VSO for copy.

**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.**

Watch a New TV Show "VETERAN VOICES" on CCTV

Featuring Nathan Johnson - our Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer & Guests

**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"



Promotive
Performance and Repair

"Veteran Owned"

Richard Rein
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane
Unit E
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



Santa Has a Mailbox in Danville

Danville Community Center Accepting Letters December 1-12

Children wanting to make sure their Christmas wishlists make it to the North Pole need only drop by the Danville Community Center and visit Santa's Mailbox.

From December 1 – 12, 2014, children who mail their letters will receive a handwritten reply from the jolly old elf by December 24, 2014. Be sure to include a return mailing address with all letters.

Santa's Mailbox is available in the lobby of the Danville Community Center, 420 Front St. during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Youth Program Coordinator Jessica Wallner at [\(925\) 314-3477](tel:(925)314-3477) or jwallner@danville.ca.gov.

A reminder ... the VNVDV is a local, grass-roots non-profit Veterans Service Organization and is Non-Political (part of our non-profit status). Please refrain from "politics" of any kind at dinners.

December Dinner on the First Thursday is SPECIAL!

Our Annual Christmas Dinner a sit-down/served dinner - \$40.p/p

RESERVATIONS in Advance REQUIRED for DEC. CONTACT Treasurer "Slatts"

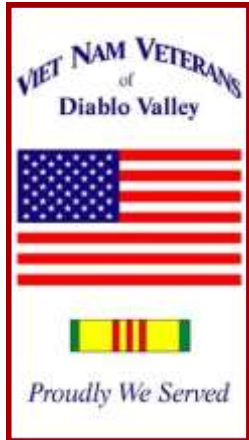
Pay by CHECK or CASH at Dinner - Renew your Annual Dues too!

We collect New, unwrapped TOYS at our Holiday Dinner Meeting - remember your gifts!

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

We also take Major Credit Cards...

Nov is time to RSVP for your DEC dinner & pay your 2015 dues!



VNVDV Membership Dues Now only \$25.

Life Membership in VNVDV for only: \$200.00!

Membership in continues to Grow - Bring a Viet Nam Vet to Dinner!

J. Rockcliff



REALTORS



MIKE WEBER
Realtor *

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle
Danville, CA 94506
CalBRE#00441586

direct: 925.736.1500
mweber@rockcliff.com

FASTSIGNS

More than fast. More than signs.™

FASTSIGNS #48

2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113

San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

Sentinels of Freedom Annual Dinner Gala

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, March 28th, 2015
at The Bridges Golf Club, San Ramon, CA



Corporal Kyle Carpenter, United States Marine Corps,
Sentinels of Freedom Scholar and Medal of Honor recipient
will be our special guest speaker.

Please join us as we honor our Sentinels.

Further details about the event and sponsorship opportunities to follow, early 2015. For immediate inquiries please contact Jenny Howard at jennyh@sentinelsoffreedom.org

Know of a Returning Veteran? Let Diablo Valley Flag Brigade know!
Providing "Operation Welcome Home" events in the East Bay.

A reminder ... the VNVDV is a local, grass-roots non-profit Veterans Service Organization and is **Non-Political** (part of our non-profit status). Please refrain from **"politics"** of any kind at dinners & functions.

Because You Chose To Proudly Serve

Oakmont Memorial Park Cemetery in Lafayette is offering major financial assistance to all Veterans and Veteran Spouses on both Traditional and Cremation Property.

Pre-Planning Lifts the Burdens Off Your Loved Ones

Contact: Thomas Corbett, Veteran Liaison Officer, LIC# 44629

(925) 935-3311, (925) 216-4785



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

VNVDV SPEAKER'S BUREAU looking for additional schools & teachers...

Important for Members - Community & Teachers - If you have school contacts or teachers who would be interested in the assistance of our VNVDV Speaker's Bureau during the 2014-2015 school year term. Please let them know of our outstanding history & educational 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 regarding personal school contacts for the 2014-2015 school term.

The **VNVDV Speaker's Bureau** has an outstanding record during previous school terms & has well *surpassed 60,000 school students reached through our popular supplementary history education program.* The VNVDV program is a valuable addition to schools providing personal 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.

We encourage our new & continuing members to find out more about the wide range of varied programs & activities the VNVDV is involved. Get more out of your membership - be active... volunteer - You can make a big difference! Thank you for Serving!

Danville VMB's County Veterans Service Office
is OPEN every Wednesday 10-2 to serve Veterans
Danville "VSO" Outstation - 400 Hartz Ave.
Open *every Wednesday* from 10 to 2 for
veterans & your family... *use it!* Schedule
appointments by calling (925) 313-1481

VNVDV 2015 MEMBERSHIP...
DUE in January 2015 / Paid

VNVDV MEMBERSHIP...
only \$25. year! Life only - \$200.

Watch - WAR INK



rt video
WarInk.org



Do you have an All Wars Memorial PAVER ?
These solid granite stones set in the walkway at Oak Hill Park are now limited...
Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member with a paver tribute & will last forever... **an AWM Paver.** Only - \$250.00
Application Form in this newsletter

VNVDV JANUARY 2015
DINNER MEETING
HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO JAN 8th
the 2nd Thursday

**President's December
Holiday Appreciation
Dinner is our Event to
Recognize those who
Have Supported the VNVDV
During the past year!**

New Year Membership Drive... Reserve dinner for your VietNam Veteran guest at our January 8th dinner meeting!

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>
<i>Viet Nam Units:</i>				
<i>Location(s):</i>				
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!

All Wars Memorial "PAVER" Order Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductable 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

ALL WARS MEMORIAL



FOUNDATION

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

**About
50 left!**

FYI... Engraving occurs two or three times a year & only in sunny / warmer weather.

PLEASE JOIN THE
VIETNAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY
FOR OUR 11TH ANNUAL
"SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS"



SUPER SUNDAY
CRAAB FEED

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 1, 2015
1 P.M. DOORS OPEN

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
115 PROSPECT
DANVILLE, CA 94526

CRAB DINNER
SILENT AUCTION - SUPER RAFFLE - ENTERTAINMENT
APPETIZERS - DESSERTS - NO HOST BEVERAGES

TICKETS - \$40.

ADVANCE RSVP ONLY: 925 / 837 - 6238



December 2014

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announces their annual charity fund-raiser & we respectfully requests your support for this event. On Sunday, February 1, 2014, we will hold our 11th annual *Charity Crab Feed*, at the newly remodeled 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 below).

The money raised through our 2015 **Charity Crab Feed** will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service events and programs that 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
- San Ramon Valley Veteran's Day Program
- The VNVDV School Speaker's Bureau
- Operation Welcome Home - *Returning Vets*
- Armed Forces Day "*Walk of Honor*"
- The Blue Star Moms
- The Sentinels of Freedom
- Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
- All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- The Wheelchair Foundation
- Operation Santa Claus / Toys for Tots
- Veteran Swim Challenge - "*Take the Rock*"

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 & services**. Your donated items will be used in our Silent Auction or Raffle held during the 2015 *Charity Crab Feed*, to raise the necessary funds to continue these & 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 2013 "*Tribute to our Troops*" Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity to our veterans, serving military, and community programs. **Thank you.**

Raymond LaRochelle - President
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Telephone: (925) 606-5828
E-mail: Ray-L@pacbell.net

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-profit veteran's organization / corporation (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax

VNVDV needs Crab Feed Donations: See below - be creative & THINK "Outside the Box"

Meal Gift Certificates for meals - from restaurants for: Breakfast – Lunch or Dinner... *a standard!*

- These can be Gift Cards with a certain dollar value or *Certificates* for 4 or 2 dinners

Gift Cards/Certificates – from any merchant or business - for our raffle or adding to a gift

Wines - nice bottles of wine (donations for our silent auction) *or* a **Cases of Wine**

Cigars – Nice Box or a Special collection of Cigars + a special Cognac / Brandy or Liquors

Wine Tastings - at a Winery – Private Wine Tours – with a bottle of their wine

Golf - Foursomes / Twosomes at a private or public course is great – add carts + lunch at the club

Spa / Health Club: Massages – Salon or Spa treatment – Trainers & Special Memberships

Event Tickets – for 2 or 4 or group at Concerts – Event - Plays – Museums – Dances or other

Military Items – K-Bar Collectors knives – Marine Corps items – *other unique military logo items*

Sports Event / Games Tickets – to Baseball – Football – Basketball - Soccer *or other events*

Professional Services – Gift Certificates for specialty businesses for Services of any type.

Examples: *Limo Service – Salons – Haircuts – Websites – Computer Services – Accounting/Taxes*

Hotel Stays – Two Nights or a *weekend get-away* or overnight stays in Hotels in SF/Napa/other

+ *Adding* a dinner – Breakfast in Bed or Meal Certificate to this Hotel stay makes it a packaged item.

Gift Baskets *from local merchants / businesses* featuring their products or services – *made by staff*

Bed & Breakfast over-night or weekend – i.e.: **Mini-Vacations** or even week-day stays are great

Paintings & Photographs - Framed - military & sport or framed art is very popular (signed w/cert.)

Time-share Vacations – a week *or* a weekend *or* even week-days – donated time/space

Book or Video selections – hardback or special editions – military / service branch & signed is a plus.

Tours – of the SF Bay / *by Sea – Air or Land* – Private Tour of famous site or exclusive locations]

Airplane Rides - Historic planes – on Boat / Hot Air Balloon *or* Helicopter of the Bay or other...

Memberships – Museums – Clubs – Associations – Honorary – Special – annual or limited is great

Travel – Trips – Vacations of any type are a big plus & *Air Travel Tickets or Mileage Coupons*

Jewelry - Custom / Hand-Made Jewelry items – Ear Rings – Necklaces – Bracelets or other nice item

Merchandise – Items from local businesses / stores: Home Depot – Gift Shops – Pet Stores or others

Do You Know Someone ... who could provide us with something special & unique donation?

If your donation item is *unique or different* – **all the better!** These type of donations help sell tickets & draw more outside guests to our event making our auction more interesting & successful!

Private Home entertainment / multiple course dinners for a small group or other group dining event

A Group event - BBQ or Picnic catered for 10-12-15-20-25 people at their home or a special location;

Tours or *"behind-the-scenes"* a private visit to special/unique locations – something different such as:

Fire House or Station Dinner at a Big Fire House with the fire Chief & firemen! *Other locations?*

Police Ride-a-long - or day with Police or Sheriff Department - or other unique ride / tour of facility -

U. S. Coast Guard – a Ship Tour – Group Base Tours / Ride-a-long for the day or military base events.

Use of your pair of Jet-Skis & trailer for a day or two on the lake – Use of your 3 or 4 wheeler bike

Weekend on your House Boat – tour of the bay - or overnight at your Cabin or Lake House /Lodge

Know someone? Dinner with *"special or famous person"* in the arts / sports / social / civic field?

FIND something a person **normally cannot just go out & buy...** that's ***thinking outside the box!***

A final thought... you, a family members or a friend - may have **new gift merchandise** which was given as **a gift** for a *birthday – Christmas or other*. You already have **two** (*maybe three!*) or just do not need the item! Consider donating your nice / new boxed items to our auction. These items need to be of high quality – *no junk*.

If every member / supporter works to obtain **at least one** donated item - ***we will be successful!***

This is not difficult - if you ask a business that your personally support – use our donation letter.

We hope our **2015** donation list helps give you some new ideas of items to obtain for our Crab Feed!

Turn your donations in at the DEC or JAN dinner meeting or contact "Slatts" for drop-off info.

Note: *All donations need to be submitted by Jan 15th for recording & preparation prior to the Crab Feed.*



Date: _____

DONATION RECEIPT

To: _____

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) hereby acknowledges your donation to our annual charity fund-raiser. The VNVDV provided no goods or services in exchange for your donation. We sincerely thank you for your support of our annual fund raising event.

Your Donation Details	\$ - Value
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The money raised through our 2015 **Charity Crab Feed**, will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service programs and events the VNVDV conducts and proudly supports throughout the year. Thank you again for your support of the VNVDV.

Sincerely,

Coordinator
Crab Feed Donation Committee 2015
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

VNVDV Contact: President Ray La Rochelle - Telephone: (925) 606-5828 - E-mail: Ray-La@pacbell.net

CRAB FEED on Super Sunday

VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley

Proudly
We Served



Join us for a Crab and Pasta Feed

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 1st at VMB

Doors Open @ 1p | No Host Bar and Appetizers @ 1p | Crab & Pasta @ 4p

Pre-sale Tickets

\$40

RAFFLE

by reservation only

**E-Mail our Treasurer Mike Slattengren
Slattengren.VNVDV@gmail.com**

silent
Auction



HONORING OUR TROOPS

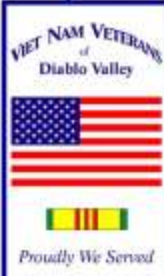
For more information or to reserve tickets:

Call Mike at: 925 / 837 - 6238

Slattengren.VNVDV@gmail.com

Veterans Memorial Bldg.
400 Hartz
Danville, CA

VNVDV's Tribute to our Troops!



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley "INCOMING"

DEC 2014



Official Mailing Address:

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

Electronic News

**2014 OFFICERS &
BOARD MEMBERS**

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com
Web: www.VNVDV.com

To:

VNVDV Members & VIPs

President -

Ray La Rochelle

Vice President -

Bill Green

Treasurer -

Michael Slattengren

Secretary -

Cliff De Cuir

Director-at-Large -

Dennis Giacovelli

Membership -

Joe Callaway

Director of Events -

Jerry Yahiro

Public Relations -

John "JC" Reese

Information -

Jon Robbins

Procurement -

John "TJ" Trujillo

Speakers Bureau-

Mike Martin

Jonathan "JON" Robbins

Director of Information 2014

EDITOR/PUBLISHER "INCOMING" NEWS

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:**



The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a non-profit, Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote and enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service - Support of fellow Veterans & those Currently Serving. Our Danville Veteran's Memorial Building is OPEN M-F from 9-3 and on Sat. for Coffee 8-11.

The VNVDV meets each month on the **1st Thursday** of every month in the Diablo Valley @ **Crow Canyon Country Club**. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held on the **3rd Thursday** of each month at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville at 1800 Hrs. To find out more about programs we support... visit our website at www.VNVDV.com. All veterans are welcome to attend our membership meetings. We are a casual - "fun" - social veterans group - always looking for new members who enjoy friendship & the special bond as military veterans. As Viet Nam veterans we are Proud of our Military Service... and of our continued contributions to fellow veterans and our community. Our dinner meetings consist of a social - dinner and a guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All of our meetings are **OPEN** meetings... fellow veterans - active duty military - history buffs ... Join us each month. December does require special reservations in advance - it is our annual appreciation & recognition dinner.

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!

**VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley**

MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with *FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS*

JAN thru NOV on 1st THURSDAY of each Month & *DEC is special...*

at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in Danville, CA

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815 - ***RSVP Today!***

DECEMBER is our Sit-Down / Served Dinner Gala—Reservations Required!

"INCOMING" - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV

PAST PRESIDENTS

Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

