

# INCOMING NEWS



**JUNE  
2014**



## Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

# Participate with the VNVDV in the Danville/Kiwanis 4th of July Parade

## Phillips 66 WALK of HONOR a Success!

### VNVDV Prez Ray's Comments:

#### 2014 WALK of HONOR – A HUGE Success

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Phillips 66 Walk of Honor. Great food, great crowd! For those of you that missed it... John Reese *starred* in a video produced to explain what's going on with the Crockett Veterans Memorial Hall, (co-benefactor of the proceeds from the event), and he did a fantastic job! All-in-all a great day and we are grateful to Phillips 66 SFR & Carbon Plant - all the employee & sponsors for their ongoing support enabling us to conduct our many veteran programs - projects & aid those serving & veterans in-need.

#### MEMORIAL DAY 2014 – MON. MAY 26

This is our signature event & we still need volunteers starting at 8:00 AM to help set-up the shade covers & chairs for the event. We will be having a members/guests family cookout after the event so bring a side dish or dessert to enjoy after the ceremonies. VNVDV will be supplying the main course – Bill Green's famous *Tube Steaks* & sausages. We will not be having the Concord Marine Color Guard this year so we'll need additional volunteers for Color Guard duty. Uniform is Parade Dress: White VNVDV shirt/white hat, blue trousers, black shoes and medals and devices. See Event Director Jerry Yahiro to volunteer.

(cont. page 2)

**This Newsletter  
is also On-Line at:  
[www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com)**



Phillips 66 Public Relations Manager **Mark Hughes** is shown on *Armed Forces Day* at **Walk of Honor** with a *Ceremonial Presentation Flag* flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of all **PHILLIPS 66** employees.



# Memorial Day Oak Hill Park - Danville

## 26 May Set-up 0730

## Ceremony 1030

## Mbr/Family BBQ 1300

**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).

**Raymond  
"Ray"  
La  
Rochelle  
VNVDV  
President  
Thanks  
Phillips 66  
employees -  
sponsors &  
walkers for  
support of  
the WALK  
of HONOR  
this year!**



**SAT Morning  
Coffee...**

**With fellow Veterans on Saturday from 8 AM until 11 AM**

**At the Danville Veterans Memorial Building**

**Pastries too!**



**2014 President Ray La Rochelle**

(Continued from Page One)

**SWEARING IN CEREMONIES – JUNE 12, 2014**

The Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation is hosting a military induction ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Building at 5:30 PM on June 12. MAJGEN Bart Gilbert is conducting the swearing-in. All members of local Veterans Service Organizations are invited to attend to show our pride and support to these young men and women for their choice in serving our nation. *LET'S ALL BE THERE TO GIVE THEM A ROARING SEND-OFF!*

**SAVE THE DATE - FRIDAY JULY 4<sup>th</sup> PARADE & FLAG DISTRIBUTION in DANVILLE**

We need a large turnout of our members & invited guests to help hand out the 10,000 flags to children along the parade route. We also need volunteers for the Color Guard & Banner. This is our opportunity to showcase our organization to the community... so please plan to be there in your Parade Dress Uniform – White VNVDV shirt/hat, Blue trousers/shorts, White Sneakers, Medals and devices. **PROUDLY WE PROMOTE FLAG EDUCATION & OUR PATRIOTISM!**

**REMINDER - SAVE THE DATE- WED, AUGUST 6 WINE TASTING IN THE LIVERMORE VALLEY**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSIST IN PLANNING FOR VETERANS DAY 2014 - Please Join Us!**

Jerry Yahiro is looking for fresh faces & fresh ideas for this year's ceremonies. This is a joint VSO venture involving the VNVDV, VFW, A.L., Marine Corps League & Blue Star Moms. Let's make this event the best Veterans Day yet! *Get on-board with your ideas!*

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



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

# MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 26

*The Diablo Valley's Largest Veteran Remembrance*

**Oak Hill Park - Stone Valley Road - Danville**

Site of the **ALL WARS MEMORIAL**

**Events Schedule on page 3**



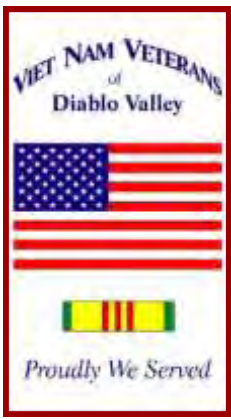
## **Viet Nam Veterans 4th of July Parade**

**The VNVDV purchased and received 10,000 U. S. Flags - made in America for distribution to the large crowd expected at the 4th of July Parade in Danville. Wear your shirt. VNVDV will distribute Flags. Parade starts at 0900 VNVDV Members meet at 0800, south end of SRVHS, Love & Railroad.**

**Bill Green will host a gathering of VNVDV parade participants at the plush but not overly ostentatious Green Estate on Pine Tree Drive in Alamo. Bring a salad, side dish or desert.**

**The Parade is one of the most amazing events you - as a Viet Nam veteran can attend...**

***It is the Welcome Home you may not have received!***



# Memorial Day Remembrance

## Mon. May 26th

## Oak Hill Park in Danville



**Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley** are working with the *All Wars Memorial Foundation* - Town of Danville & VSOs to present this year's memorable Memorial Day event on Monday—May 26th in Danville.

## Plan to join us and attend

The VNVDV will be setting-up cammo & chairs beginning at 0730/0800 at Oak Hill Park on May 26th & after the remembrance program we will have **Our "Members & Guest Only" Family BBQ** - meat provided.

**REMEMBER** - everyone should bring a side dish - salad or dessert "with enough for their family & extra to share with others" - A great pot-luck!

Everyone is also responsible for "bringing their own favorite beverage" A Main dish—condiments and plates/silver wear will be **furnished** by the VNVDV Organization. **Bring your own chairs or picnic blanket, Sun Screen**

The Danville Community Band play at 10:30 and the Program will start at 10:30AM - Get there early to help volunteer and get a great seat.

Invite your friends from the Community to take an hour or two out of the weekend to honor **FALLEN WARRIORS** whose sacrifice made it possible for us to enjoy the freedom we have today! This is the day to remember veterans of the past.

Remember to visit the **ALL WARS MEMORIAL (AWM)** before and / or after the event... just on the other side of the lake in beautiful Oak Hill Park.

New AWM Pavers have been engraved... and a few paver locations are still available. Stop at the AWM Paver table and get an application today!

# Walk of Honor benefits VNVDV and CCSD

**Mark Hughes**, Phillips 66 Public Relations Manager, hosted and sponsored the “Walk of Honor” event on May 17th and near \$40,000 was raised at the 6th year of this program that honors Veterans. Phillip 66 partners with the Viet Nam Veterans of the Diablo Valley and the Crockett Community Service District. The proceeds from the “Walk” are divided equally between these two Organizations. The Volunteers of the CCSD have undertaken a huge public benefit challenge, leading the efforts to re-store the Crockett Veterans Memorial Hall. Thanks to All!

Mark Hughes prepared the following message in response to efforts of all who supported and attended the “Walk of Honor” 2014:

**Dear Esteemed Walk of Honor Committee Members,**

**Well, you did it once again- you created an event that exceeded most people’s expectations. Together we raised lots of money, we provided a celebration our veterans deserved, we brought joy to hundreds of people, and we brought a community a little closer together in their quest to restore an historic veteran’s hall. I thank every one of you for your contributions in making this event the success that it is. It was simply incredible and we couldn’t do it without the complete support of the entire team. You are all awesome!**

**I hope each of you feel fulfilled in giving your time supporting our veterans, and I hope each of you will continue serving on this committee in the future.**

**With gratitude, Mark**



# WALK OF HONOR

FOR OUR



# VETERANS

## Phillips 66 Walk of Honor HUGE Success!



Phillips 66 'WALK of HONOR' for our Veterans



SAT - May 17th - Crockett - www.SPKWalkofHonor.com



VP BILL & the PREZ Present FLAG to MARK HUGHES



Certificate for the Capitol FLAG Presented to Phillips 66



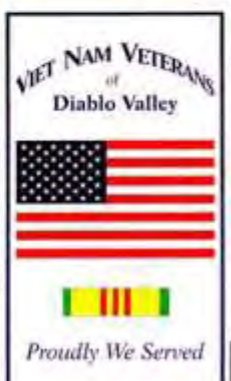
Engraved Glass Presentation Case for Phillips 66 Capitol Flag



RAY the PREZ - Mark Hughes, Phillips 66 - VP Bill Green



SLATTS & THE PREZ FOLD WALK OF HONOR SHIRTS



SLATTS - DAVID BEHRING - BOB SADA - DENNIS & DIANE & THE PREZ

# Phillips 66 Walk of Honor brings out the Best in Community Service Support for Veterans!



## ARMED FORCES DAY



Past President Mike "SLATTS" Slattengren displays VNVDV Banner at Walk of Honor



Amazing Singing Idol AVERY CHAPMAN — age 12 from Danville performs National Anthem at the 2014 Phillips 66 Walk of Honor for our Veterans held in Crockett



PHILLIPS 66 Public Relations Manager MARK HUGHES with guest speaker Vice Admiral JODY BRECKENRIDGE, USCG (Ret) & County Supervisor FEDERAL GLOVER



HARVEY DURAN - Phillips 66 Carbon Plant Navy Veteran & idea man behind the Walk of Honor with RON WILSON of the Crockett Community Services Group - Memorial Hall Committee

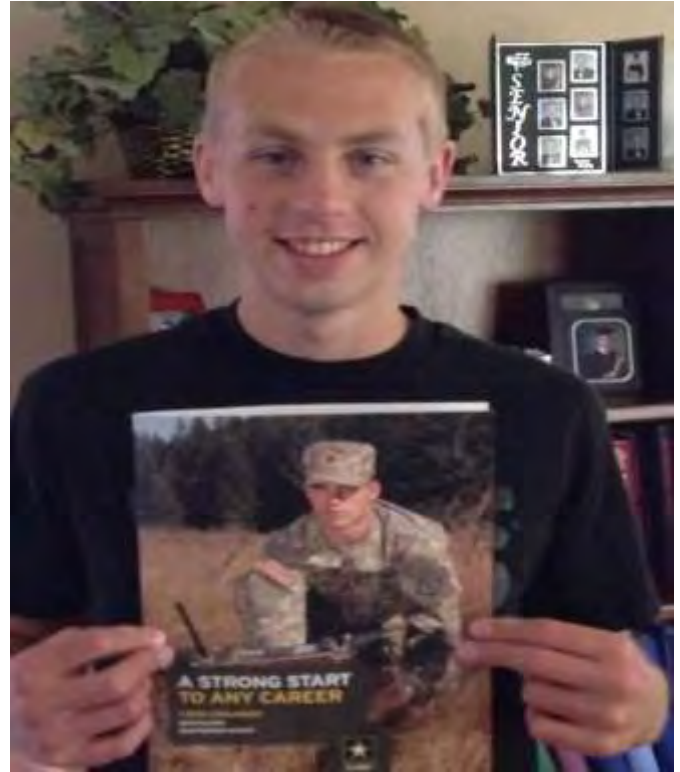


Singing Idol AVERY CHAPMAN performs National Anthem as Congressman Thompson (front center) & others honor our nation at 2014 Walk of Honor in Crockett luncheon.

# Sentinels of Freedom News

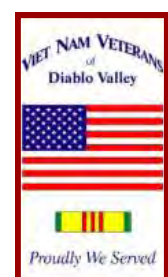
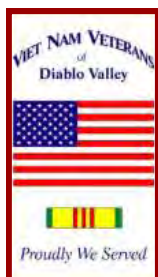
**You are invited to attend **June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M. Danville Veterans Hall, Danville Ca.** when Tyler Jachowski of California High School, San Ramon will be sworn into the United States Army with an entry date of Sept. 2014 to Ft Benning Ga. where he'll attend Infantry Basic Training, Advanced Individual Training, Airborne School and Ranger Assessment and Selection Program.**

**Tyler is an excellent student, member of the Cal High Track Team and a Naval Sea Scout. Additionally in June 2014 Tyler will attend the Colorado Outward Bound Mountain School 28 day Survival Training Course. Over the past 8 months Tyler has done an excellent job of investigating his path into the Army and the processes of becoming an Army Ranger including a week spent with the 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers at Ft Benning in March 2014 where he was given a complete tour of the Ranger Training School, Ranger Operations and was able to view a nighttime 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion ( 500 Rangers) Airborne Airfield Seizure training mission. He's done his homework and is making this choice based on a very clear understanding and desire to serve our nation in the United States Army.**



**General Barton Gilbert USA Ret. will officiate and swear Tyler in with Tyler's family , his Recruiter SFC Watson and members of our community present .**

**Sentinels of Freedom will sponsor this event along with the other Veterans organizations in the Valley and provide nonalcoholic refreshments and snacks afterwards.**



# VNVDV Congratulates Paige Furlong Entering USNA

Bob Musor, Marine Director of Take The Rock II informs the VNVDV that Tom Furlong, a member of the Fleet serving Take The Rock II and a graduate of the Naval Academy will proudly send his daughter Paige



off to Annapolis where she will enter the Class of 2018 of the Naval Academy.

This will be a long journey for Paige as she tackles Sea Trials and ends with Graduation. Best wishes from the VNVDV at the start this difficult mission.



## 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



# Blue Star Moms, East Bay Chapter 101

## Care Package Community Drop offs

24 May—Safeway Alamo 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

14 June—Veterans Memorial Building, Danville 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

21 June Camp Parks care pack packaging and mailing 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

For more information from website [www.bluestarmoms.org](http://www.bluestarmoms.org)



### Summer 2014 Donations List

**Just Add Water - INDIVIDUAL Serving Sizes**  
Instant coffee packets, sugar and powdered creamer  
Powdered drink mixes - i.e. Crystal Light, Propel,  
etc.  
MiO, Liquid water/energy enhancer drops (store  
brand ok)

**Proteins - Individual SINGLE Serving Sizes**  
Tuna or chicken - foil pouches/pull top cans  
Tuna/Chicken box w/crackers  
Beef jerky/Slim Jims,  
Protein Bars - Power, Cliff, Muscle Milk Bars  
Jiff to Go peanut butter - Sunflower Seeds, Nuts

**Clothing**  
White/Black COTTON long athletic socks

**Specialty Items:**  
Ground coffee (Peet's and Starbucks are popular)  
Local Grocery Store Gift Cards, Zip Lock Brand Bags (all sizes)

**Small, individual, and travel sizes, PLEASE**

Please do not forget encouraging letters/postcards from home/schools, they love to receive them!!

We can't ship glass containers, so plastic or metal only please! We can't send religious material,  
perishable foods or pork, fireworks, fireworks, aerosol cans or pornographic material

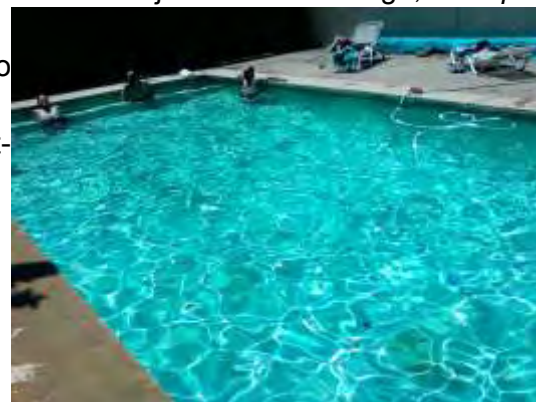
# "GWOT" (Global War on Terrorism) Veteran Weekend Duck Club Retreat Sponsored by the VietNam Veterans

One of the VNVDV's less publicized efforts is a special veteran services program designed by long-time VNVDV member & Director **Bill Green** - who serves as a volunteer "mentor" for Vet Center support groups. Created to assist our more recent returning vets - "GWOT" (Global War on Terrorism) giving them a relaxed, social environment to aide in readjustment to civilian life & activities after combat military service..

Assisting the VNVDV with counselor support is our County Veterans Service Office & Vet Center "mentors & coaches" allowing time for these younger vets to talk with other veterans. This worthy program was developed for returning / GWOT veterans - and made possible, largely due to funding received through our partnership with **Phillips 66** & their annual "**Walk of Honor**" on **Armed Forces Day**. *We thanks all those who supported this year's event.*

Lots of effort goes into this retreat by VNVDV Director Bill Green - who fortunately happens to be a member/partner member of a private "Duck Club" located near the **Sutter Butte Mountains** - not far from Yuba City. Bill worked with fellow members to create this retreat & a time when these younger vets could gather - socialize & relax together with a wide variety of activities. Part of the process is to be able to feel secure - no pressures - get a good night's sleep - being with others who understand the *sometimes difficult process* of readjusting socially to everyday life.

This "weekend retreat" features the full-use of this remote Duck Club with a variety of activities - movies - campfires - sleeping accommodations for at least thirty - plus a swimming pool - fly-casting lessons - game room - BBQ grills and "cases of clay pigeons" with shotguns provided & enough shotgun shells to become quite proficient! So much to do in this great outdoor space - including usually a few dogs to pet - enjoying the many different activities - or to just relax. Although, one *special highlight* which is rarely passed-up at this special veteran retreat weekend is the arrival & landing of **Vietnam Helicopters, Inc.** - 25th Inf. Div. **UH-1 HUEY**. To add to the thrills in a door-open, ride aboard this fully-restored, vintage VietNam combat helicopter. \* We have been told by much older vets - the Huey tour is better than a *Disneyland "E Ticket"* ride! These younger, GWOT vets truly get an amazing tour over the Sutter Butte Mountains. Attending with these vets includes our County Veterans Service Officer & others who serve as Vet Center "coach" providing always someone to talk with. This is quality time together with others



who understand & have been there! All this works up an appetite and Bill has lots of food and special treats prepared at this special weekend. The VNVDV sponsors this event and provides funding for the food - ammunition (shotgun shells) & cases of clay pigeons as great food (Bill likes to cook).

**This Duck Club Retreat is made possible through the "WALK of Honor" sponsored by Phillips 66! Thank You!**



lots

# **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://Twitter.com/garyscribe).**

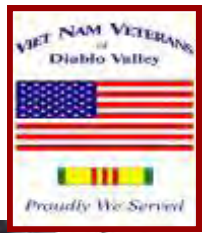
**To contribute a photo—see our VNVDV website for a list of names for photos...**

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](mailto: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!***

# 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!*****



## **Open Public Community Meetings Planned**

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

**June 10** - 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

**SPONSOR A TENT OR BECOME A MAJOR SPONSOR OF EBSD 2014!**

**East Bay Stand Down 2014** is scheduled for **September 11 to 14 - 2014**. The next public informational /coordination & planning meeting will be held, JUNE 10th 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. \$500.00 for non-profit and veteran groups to sponsor and \$1000.00 for a corporate business. Major Sponsorships are still available - contact Director Jerry Yahiro for more information. Also see the “wish list” of items needed for EBSD... see if you are able to obtain these items needed. Remember we need volunteers prior to EBSD for the encampment set-up and afterwards for the tear-down of the campsite. Volunteer Registration will Open in JULY 2014. See 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**

***Do YOU know any veterans or active-duty wanting to swim?***

# Don't Miss our Featured Guest Speakers Monthly

## Speakers for 2014

- May 1<sup>st</sup> :** **Special Thanks to MAY Speaker 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 5<sup>th</sup> :** **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).
- July 3rd:** **Susan Mayall** grew up in England during World War II. Having lost her father to the war, her mother was left with four small children, Susan at six, being the eldest. She will describe how they survived the nightly bombing, strict rationing, travel restrictions, and constant air raids.

## 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

**The VSO "Dunk Tank" will be in operation again during Discover Danville in August 2014. Sign up now to volunteer - See Dennis G.**

FRIENDS OF PORT CHICAGO AND NPS

# THE PORT CHICAGO DISASTER

# AT 70

PORTCHICAGOMEMORIAL.ORG

JULY 17 & 19, 2014

Learn how little-known events in the Bay Area during World War II led to desegregation of the U.S. military.

925-695-PORT (7678)  
portchicagomemorial.org

Sponsored by The Burroughs Fund at  
Coastal Carolina University

Thursday, July 17, 2014 - FREE  
**The Port Chicago Disaster at 70:  
A Symposium on Race and the  
Military During World War II**  
8:30 am to 1:30 pm  
Diablo Valley College

Saturday, July 19, 2014 - FREE  
**70th Anniv. Commemoration and  
Tours of USS Enterprise and  
USS Voyager**  
10 am to 2pm  
Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center

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

Saturday, June 7th

2:00 to 4:30 pm

# Wine Tasting

at Viano Winery

150 Morello Avenue, Martinez

Come spend the afternoon at a century-old vineyard nestled on hillsides surrounding a fertile valley where they have produced many award-winning wines. Enjoy silent and live auctions for great gifts plus a DJ playing light jazz music.

Admission \$30 per person or  
\$50 per couple if purchased before May 15th  
(after May 15th \$30 per person only)

~ includes 4 pours, appetizers, & souvenir wine glass ~

Online purchasing available at

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/ccbsm-wine-tasting-fundraiser-tickets-11221930095?aff=efbevent>

and then search for CCBSM Wine Tasting Fundraiser  
(Yes, of course checks are still very welcome!)



Contra Costa  
Blue Star Moms  
California Chapter 20  
[www.ccbluestarmoms.org](http://www.ccbluestarmoms.org)

For more information,  
contact: Shannon at  
[fundraisers@ccbluestarmoms.org](mailto:fundraisers@ccbluestarmoms.org)


must be 21 to attend



**VNVDV Proudly Supports our Blue Star Moms!**



# VA Introduces More Secure Health Care ID




**Your New ID Card:  
More Secure And Personal**


The new Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC) offers peace of mind with a personal touch.

Already have the old Veteran Identification Card? If so, VA will automatically mail you a replacement VHIC. Just make sure VA has your current address.

Cards will be mailed starting April 2014. It may take up to 3 months to replace all cards. Once you receive your new card, destroy your VIC as you would a credit card by cutting or shredding it.

If you are already enrolled but do not have a Veteran Identification Card, contact the Enrollment Coordinator at your local VA medical facility or request a new VHIC at your next VA health care appointment.

 To learn more about the VHIC, visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VHIC](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VHIC) or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387).

**VA**  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

## ***Because You Chose To Proudly Serve***

Oakmont Memorial Cemetery in Lafayette is offering major discounts to all Veterans and Veteran Spouses on both Traditional and Cremation Property through June 30, 2014

Contact: **Thomas Corbett**, Veteran Liaison Officer

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

**TCOAK8@gmail.com**



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

All **"Operation Welcome Home"** event updates can be found at: [www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

[East Bay Stand Down](http://www.EastBayStandDown.org) monthly meetings - *Second Tuesday* - visit: [www.EastBayStandDown.org](http://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](http://www.MarineClub.com)

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

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

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

Plan to participate on [Armed Forces Day for 2014 PHILLIPS 66 "Walk of Honor"](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com) on-line soon at: [http://SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.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](http://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 MAY dinner guest Speaker Tad Kishi, Japanese American, story of Manzanar

*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*



REALTORS

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle  
Danville, CA 94506  
CalBRE#00441586



MIKE WEBER  
Realtor ®

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

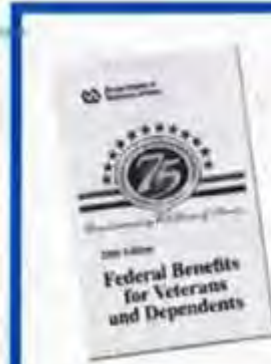
**VA - Mtz**

**OFFERS**

**"Same Day"**

**Appointments**

**If Required!**



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](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**



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!

**The VA Northern California Health Care System - operating Mare Island - Oakland & Martinez - Fairfield are providing great VA Health Care. Same day appointments - If needed!**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:HReese@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.VentureResearch.biz](http://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



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

### Military Service

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

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com)

[www.warriorwatch.org](http://www.warriorwatch.org)  
[spiker592000@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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 2014



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"

**JUNE 2014**

Use Purple Heart Stamps

**Official Mailing Address:**

**Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**

**Post Office Box 2079**

**Danville, CA 94526 - 2079**

E-Mail: [VNVDV1@gmail.com](mailto:VNVDV1@gmail.com)

Web: [www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com)

**Electronic News**



**2014 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS**

**President -**

**Ray La Rochelle**

**Vice President -**

**Bill Green**

**Treasurer -**

**Michael Slattengren**

**Secretary -**

**Cliff De Cuir**

**Director-at-Large -**

**Dennis Giacovelli**

**Membership -**

**Joe Calloway**

**Director of Events -**

**Jerry Yahiro**

**Public Relations -**

**John "JR" Reese**

**Information -**

**Jon Robbins**

**Procurement -**

**John "T.J." Trujillo**

**Speakers Bureau -**

**Mike Martin**

**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](mailto:VNVDV.News@gmail.com)**

**Keep your e-mail address current please!**

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



**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](http://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**

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich



# 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!

## **USS HORNET HISTORY**

**On July 26<sup>th</sup>, the USS Hornet Museum is holding an event to commemorate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the epic Apollo 11 lunar landing mission.**

**The featured speaker for *Splashdown 45* will be Buzz Aldrin, one of the first two humans to walk on the moon, who will also autograph his book *Mission to Mars*.**

**In addition to the day-long public activities, there will also be a cocktail reception and dinner with Buzz in attendance that evening.**

**More information can be found at this website - [www.hornetsplashdown.com](http://www.hornetsplashdown.com)**

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