

# INCOMING













January 2015

The INCOMING

Featured in this edition:

- ♦ 2015 Crab Feed Tickets on sale now at dinners
- ◆ DEC Holiday Dinner Award Photo Update
- ♦ Crab Feed JAN Donation Letter & Receipt + Flyers Included in this edition.







Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

# Super Sunday Crab Feed Tickets Going Fast! Got Yours?

### VNVDV Prez Ray's Notes for January

**ALL ABOARD!** CRAB FEED 2015!

We're less than one month away

from our annual Crab Feed Fundraiser. Your Crab Feed Committee has been hard at work planning every detail to make it another great party... but we need your help. Have you solicited the businesses you frequent for donations for our Silent Auction & Raffle? We need every member to get involved to ensure that we have a successful event. If every member gets at least one donation,

that will ensure a successful fundraising event. Remember, we don't make our money on the ticket prices - that just about covers the cost of the food and the all-day appetizers served.

\*Continued page 2

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



This Newsletter

2 is also On-Line at:

www.VNVDV.com

2015 President Ray La Rochelle



(Continued from Page One)

The real fundraisers are our Silent Auction, raffle and football pools — the biggest money maker is the Silent Auction so print out those donation requests and get them in the hands of the businesses you frequent.

Also, don't forget, when you get a donation, give the donor a receipt so print out those forms also. Get out there and beat the bushes. DONATIONS OF ALL SIZES / AMOUNTS ARE WELCOME. One caveat: No Garage Sale or used items — new items only. It doesn't have to be huge but of course, the bigger the better! We need maximum member participation to ensure a successful event. GO! GO! GO!!!

### "PROUDLY WE SERVED"

and continue to serve veterans and our community.

Raymond "Ray" La Rochelle VNVDV President 2015



2015 Crab Feed Merchant/Business
Donation Request Letter & Donor
Receipts are available at the JAN.
Dinner Meeting & also <u>included</u> in
this issue of the INCOMING News.
Pick-up or copy these to use for
soliciting merchant donations.
An idea list of items needed &
2015 Crab Feed poster included

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!

2015 CRAB FEED is a FUNDRAISER

Have you got your tickets yet?
Crab Feed tickets going
FAST! Don'T BE LEFT OUT...
only 160 tickets will be sold-all in advance.

This is the largest VNVDV sponsored fundraiser each year & we need all members & supporters to dig in & contribute to its success. *Purchase tickets for our Military!* 

If every member gets just one contribution each, it will ensure a successful event.

Please do your part!

Donation Request I etter & receipt are in this edition with poster & idea I ist.

Reminder: Our Crab Feed is a Fundraiser
Please DO NOT bring ANY alcohol or wine to the event.

Congrats to the new officers





### Speaker Jan 2015 Jerry Yahiro

Led By Love Of Country – Braves — 3rd Battalion 12th Infantry 4th Infantry Division



Jerry was born in Wailuku, HI, and graduated from St. Anthony High School, Wailuku, HI, in 1961. He attended Seattle University, enrolling in the US Army ROTC program. Upon graduating from Seattle University, in 1966 he was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, US Army Reserve.

Jerry served in Vietnam as a Mortar Platoon Leader, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, from June 1967 to December 1967. He served as the Public Information Officer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> ID for the remainder of his tour in Vietnam.

Jerry left the US Army in 1969, and began his career with Pacific Telephone & Telegraph and retired in 1996.

In 1997, he became involved with the East Bay Stand Down (EBSD), a program for homeless and displaced Veterans. In 1998, Jerry became the Director of the EBSD.

Jerry continues to serve as the Director for the EBSD, and is the past President of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley, 2010 and 2012, Junior Vice Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Golden Gate Nisei Memorial Post 9879 and a member of the Board of Trustees for the San Ramon Valley Veterans Memorial Building, Danville. He is active in many

Veteran events and issues... and a true veteran advocate. Join us for his journey back in time on Jan. 8th



VNVDV Member Birthday

Recognition for January 2015

Ronald Allen - 1/7
Bill Kiper - 1/7
Allan Perry - 1/10
Arthur Gaoiran - 1/13
Roy La Rachelle - 1/20
Bill Hawkins - 1/21
Rich Lee - 1/21
Jerry Carlson - 1/24
Tom Crews - 1/28

### VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING in Danville

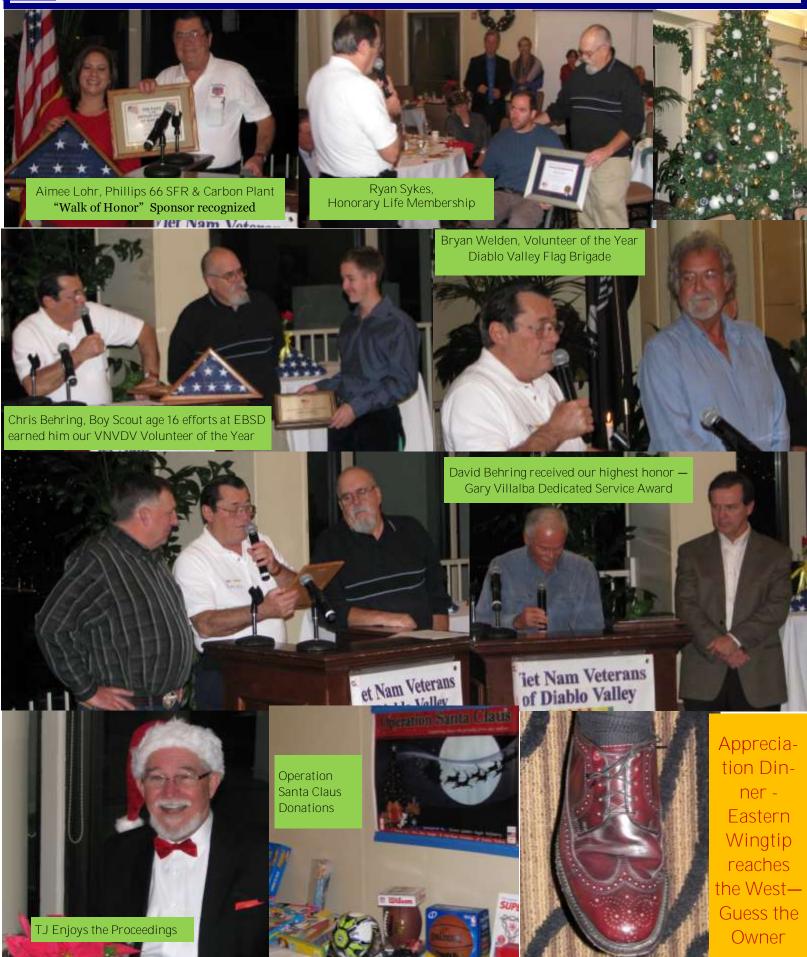
The Danville's Veteran Memorial Building is OPEN <u>every</u> SAT. AM from 0800 to 1100 for free coffee & pastry... a social get-together. Stop by for a few minutes, an hour, stay as long as you desire - leave when you want. Meet in our new lounge - enjoy the outdoor patio porch - see the museum displays - bring a friend or fellow veteran or active duty personnel.

The VMB Museum is Open Monday thru Friday 9 to 3 for public visitors. Past President Mike Slattengren encourages 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.



## APPRECIATION DINNER HONORS AND RECOGNIZES EAST BAY CONTRIBUTORS DEDICATED TO SERVING OUR VETERANS



# Joint VSOs - schedule St. Patrick "Corned Beef & Cabbage" Dinner



Save the Date - Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2014 @ 6:00 PM
The first, and, hopefully Annual, *Combined / Joint*Veterans Service Organization (VSO)

### VMB St. Patrick's Operations Fundraiser

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner - \$30.00

See Dennis Giacovelli or Lee Halverson for reservations or questions.

Please help us by collecting an item to auction, mark "for CB&C"

and deliver to the Veterans Memorial Building before March 1, 2014

All funds collected go directly to your

Veterans Memorial Building Operating Committee to pay for the operating expenses of the Veterans portion of the building

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. *Thank you* 

# Life Membership in VNVDV for only: \$200.008 Membership in continues to Grow-Bring a VietNam Vet to Dinner!





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Email: 48@fastsigns.com

### SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

### Sentinels of Freedom Annual Dinner Gala



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



### **USMC** Lance Corporal Andres Serrano

Operation Welcome Home in conjunction with the Northern California Warriors Watch Riders were joined by the Family and Friends of LCpl. Serrano to honor his return on leave to Walnut Creek. Matthew "Santo" Boggs of Warrior Watch Riders hosted the event on Saturday Dec. 27th. A large group of well wishers including the VNVDV represented by Ray LaRochelle honored LCpl. Serrano.

#### 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

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







# SUPER SUNDAY CRAB FEED

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 1, 2015 DANVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING 1 P.M. DOORS OPEN

> VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING 115 PROSPECT

DANVILLE, CA 94526

ALL YOU CAN EAT CRAB DINNER
SILENT AUCTION - SUPER RAFFLE - ENTERTAINMENT
APPETIZERS - DESSERTS - NO HOST BEVERAGES
TICKETS - \$40.

ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY

RSVP WITH TREASURER AT: 925 / 837 - 6238

#### 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 J 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 <u>new gift merchandise</u> which was given as a <u>gift</u> for a <u>birthday - Christmas or other</u>. You already have **two** (<u>maybe three!</u>) 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 - <u>no junk</u>.

If every member / supporter works to obtain at least <u>one</u> 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.



January 2015

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announces their 11<sup>th</sup> annual charity fundraiser & we respectfully request your support for this event. On Sunday, February 1, 2015, we will hold our "Tribute to our Troops" Super Sunday Annual Charity Crab Feed, proudly honoring all those who served at the Veterans Memorial Building – corner of Prospect & Hartz Avenue in the Town of Danville, CA.

The VNVDV are an independent, "grass-roots", <u>non-profit, tax-exempt</u>, 501(c)(19), veteran's organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. We "proudly continue to serve" our community and veterans 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 & 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
- Danville Veteran's Day Program
- The VNVDV School Speaker's Bureau
- Operation Welcome Home
- Armed Forces Day "Walk of Honor"

- The Blue Star Moms
- The Sentinels of Freedom
- Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
- All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- The Wheelchair Foundation
- Operation Santa Claus
- Veteran Swim Challenge "Take the Rock"

We respectfully request your business support for this event, through donated merchandise or gift cards /certificates for your goods or services, or "monetary sponsorship" & ticket purchase, 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 and many other worthwhile projects for our community.

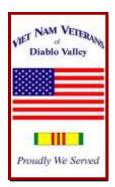
For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, our monthly newsletter, or how you can contribute to our organization, visit our website at <a href="https://www.VNVDV.com">www.VNVDV.com</a> - or e-mail us at the address below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2015 "Tribute to our Troops" Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity to our veterans, serving military, and community programs. Thank you. Sincerely,

Raymond LaRochelle - President

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Telephone: 925 / 606 - 5828 E-mail: Ray-L@pacbell.net



Date:	

#### DONATION RECEIPT

То:	
The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV charity fund-raiser. The VNVDV provided no good sincerely thank you for your support of our annual	
Your Donation Details	\$ - Value
-	Feed, will support local veteran, active-duty military & OV conducts and proudly supports throughout the year
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-L@pacbell.net









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 Voteransi Don't Waiti

### Check VA's MyHealtheVet 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 CCTV "VETERAN VOICES" each Month**

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 <u>all</u> of your VA paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is for all veterans <u>FREE</u> & 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



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### **VNVDV NEEDS HELP!**

We Are Behind in Donations for "Super Sunday" - FEB. 1st 2015 event! We Really Need Help Obtaining Donations.
Contact Crab Feed Chair Mike Slattengren @ 925 / 837-6238

Ideas for 2015 Donations are provided in this edition

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

Your VNVDV 2015 MEMBERSHIP... is DUE in January 2015 - See Slatts

**VNVDV MEMBERSHIP...** 

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

This month the VNVDV & Phillips 66 & the Carbon Plant begin planning for our 2015
Walk of Honor - Armed Forces Day Save the Date - MAY 16th





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

REMEMBER VNVDV JANUARY 2015

DINNER MEETING

Is SCHEDULED on

JAN 8th the 2nd Thursday this month

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

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







# 2015 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President -

NAM VETERA

Diablo Valley

Proudly We Served

Ray La Rochelle

Vice President -

Bill Green

Treasurer -

Michael Slattengren

Membership -

Joe Callaway

Secretary -

Cliff De Cuir

Director-at-Large -

Dennis Giacovelli

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Jerry Yahiro

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Information -

Jon Robbins

Procurement -

John "T.J." Trujillo

#### PAST PRESIDENTS

NO VERN

Diable Valley

hough We Serve

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Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

- 3

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Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

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**Bill Picton** 

Norm Mahalich

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Web: www.VNVDV.com

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Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

Jonathan "JON" Robbins Director of Information - 2015

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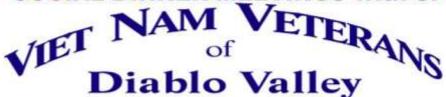
The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a local, non-profit, Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, value & maintain a high level of dignity & respect for the young men & 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"

WINDY Members & VIPs

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

### OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with SPEAKER!



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 in 2015!

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

