



INCOMING NEWS



JULY
2015



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Help Distribute 10,000 American Flags with the VNVDV FREE in Danville's Kiwanis 4th of July Independence Day Parade

Raymond "Ray"
La Rochelle
VNVDV
President

We request
"ALL HANDS"
to participate
in this year's
Independence
Day Parade...

Members -
Bring your teen-
age children or
Grand Children
if old enough to
help out.

SAT Morning
Social Coffee...
Join fellow Veterans
each Saturday
8AM until 11AM
At the Danville
Veterans Memorial Building
Pastries too!

VNVDV Prez Ray's Comments:

Independence Day... 4th of JULY PARADE

This is one of our most enjoyable events... face-to-face with our *Red-White & Blue* community. A time to meet & greet the patriotic families of the greater Diablo Valley... and help distribute the 10,000 flags along the parade route. We have the U.S. Marine Color Guard & the 191st U.S. Army Band in our entry and leading the parade. We are also fortunate to have the Daughters of the American Revolution carrying our large parade flag, and the AMVETS UH-1 Huey escorted by the Warriors Watch Riders. If you can't handle walk through downtown Danville distributing flags—we will attempt to find you a vehicle in another organization to ride-in... the Huey is Full. Bring your kids/grandkids/spouses with you to help with the flags. See parade details in newsletter. *Join US!*



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

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

4th of July Parade

The Best Event!

Wear your VNVDV shirt.
Members muster at 0730 -
south end of SRVHS
Love & Railroad - Danville
We lead the Parade!

July Speaker

Hank Glauser is a Veteran & works for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a Principal Investigator for Global Security of our Countries Ports

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

4th of JULY

ORDER OF PARADE: 0900 Hrs.

VNVDV ENTRY:

U. S. M. C. MILITARY COLOR GUARD

From Concord Marine Corps Detachment -

PLEASE STAND & SHOW RESPECT FOR OUR FLAG...

*(Preference is military **'half-step'** to allow for distribution of American Flags to children along parade route)

VNVDV MILITARY SERVICE COLORS / FLAGS

U.S. Army – U.S. Marine Corps – U.S. Navy – U.S. Air Force –
U.S. Coast Guard

POW / MIA Flag –

Remembering those held Captive & Missing in Action

UNITED STATES ARMY BAND - 191st Army Band

"Band of the Wild West" – from Camp Parks

COMMANDED by - Warrant Officer JEREMY GARRIDO

BANDLEADER - First Sergeant KEITH BARLOW

*Band will play our National Anthem 4 Times

At the start - announce booth - reviewing stand & the end.

Note: At 'anthem' entire unit Stops – Render Hand Salute

VNVDV ORGANIZATIONAL BANNER – Est. in 1991

"Proudly We Served" ...

and We Proudly Continue to Serve our Veterans & Community

VNVDV VIP VEHICLE – A 1928 Model "A" Ford Sedan

Riding: Bill Green – **Vice President of VNVDV and...**

WITH SMALL QUANTITY OF AMERICAN FLAGS

DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR)

CARRYING OLD GLORY...

The VNVDV's LARGE AMERICAN PARADE FLAG (38 X 20)

VNVDV PARADE TRUCK –

A 1949 International Harvester KB-1 Farm Truck

Decorated with ORGANIZATIONAL BANNERS & Carrying the 10,000 AMERICAN FLAGS DISTRIBUTED ANNUALLY FREE.

(Truck will also carry cold water for everyone in our entry)

*When Re-loading yourself with Flags approach from rear.

AMVETS UH-1 HUEY HELICOPTER

*Flown in VietNam & Restored by AMVETS Post #26
AMVETS Post 26 - Concord Vet Center*

UH-1 Huey is Escorted by WARRIORS WATCH RIDERS

An Support Organization - Honoring Community Veterans -

Providing Welcome Home & Last Honor Funeral Escorts



Viet Nam Veterans in 4th of July Parade

The VNVDV annually purchases 10,000 American Flag - *made in the USA* for distribution to those along the parade route. Expected are 40+ *Thousand 'Cheering' children & community members* at the 4th of July Parade in Danville. Wear your shirt - see **"T.J."** if you need one... & have the best time distributing *free* Flags to a very appreciative crowd! Note: We have been requested to muster at **0730 at the south end of SRVHS - Love & Railroad.** Look for the 'white' shirts! The Parade Kicks-off at 0900 Hrs. Takes 30 minutes.

Parking becomes more difficult the later you arrive & street close early. Plan accordingly & muster on-time. This event is worth it!

The VFW hosts a BBQ early - right after we **finish the parade at the VMB... and** Bill Green will host a lunch-time gathering of VNVDV members & guests participating in the parade at the plush but not overly ostentatious Green Estate on Pine Tree Drive in Alamo. All guests need to bring a salad - side dish or desert to share with others.

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!*

Event Director JERRY YAHIRO is still in need of VNVDV Members to Proudly Carry your Military Service Colors in the Parade.





BLUE STAR MOMS – Chapter 101

4th of July Care Packages for our Troops - Community Drop-Off

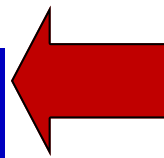
For more CARE PACKAGE information, or to find out how to drop off other donations contact Linda Johnson at: lcjassoc@gmail.com. Monetary donations are always appreciated to cover our postage expense. Your checks can be made payable to & mailed to: Blue Star Moms – P. O. Box 2537 - San Ramon, CA 94538. For drop-off list of items we are need - visit our website at www.bluestarmoms.org.

June 29 - Monday from 5:30PM thru 9:00PM at Gianni's Restaurant in San Ramon the Blue Star Moms will be working for "TIPS for the TROOPS" Gianni's is closed on Mondays – and open for charitable organizations to support worthy causes. **Please join the Blue Star Moms at Gianni's at 2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon as they work for "TIPS"** To make reservations call: [925-820-6969](tel:925-820-6969) or visit <http://www.opentable.com/giannis-italian-bistro?rid=108103&restref=108103>. **All funds raised at Gianni's will benefit the BSM care package program for our troops.**



Join Us...

**Last Chance to Reserve for
Blue Star Mom Dinner**



TIPS FOR TROOPS | EVENT
Benefitting



**MONDAY, JUNE 29
RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE!
BETWEEN 5:00 – 8:00 PM!**

The Blue Star Moms, East Bay Chapter 101 (established Nov. 2001), is a support through service organization located in Danville. We are moms joining together to share our pride, devotion and worries for our sons/daughters currently serving and those who are now veterans. Funds raised go to support our active duty troops, veterans, wounded warriors and Gold Star Families. Go to www.bluestarmoms.org for more info.

Volunteers and Supporters of "Blue Star Moms" will be your servers for the evening with all tips going to support their organization. You have a wonderful dinner and support the troops. It's a Win-Win.

**Call 925-820-6969 for reservations!
or go to opentable.com**

2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd. San Ramon, Ca. 94583
www.giannis-sanramon.com • 925-820-6969



SUGGESTED ITEMS INCLUDE:
 PACKAGES OF INDIVIDUAL SIZED INSTANT COFFEE, TEA, OATMEAL, AND HOT CHOCOLATE
 PACKAGES OF SINGLE SERVING BEEF, JERKY, TUNA, PROTEIN BARS, PEANUT BUTTER, LUNCH KITS, TRAIL MIX, MINTS, OJAM, DRIED FRUIT, NUTS, AND OTHER NON-PERISHABLE SNACKS
 TRAVEL SIZED LIP BALM, DISPOSABLE TAYLORS, DENTAL FLOSS, POCKET TISSUE, WHITE CREW SOCKS
 DONATED ITEMS SHOULD'NT EXPIRE BEFORE JANUARY 2016.
 PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INCLUDE ENCOURAGING LETTERS AND POSTCARDS FROM HOME OR SCHOOL!

PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS AT:
 2840 CAMINO RAMON, SUITE 345, SAN RAMON, CA 94582
 CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT (925) 328-1515 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**United States Postal Service
New Medal of Honor**

'Forever' Stamps Issued



**1st Series Honors
VietNam Recipients
& can be ordered
on-line at USPO
In display sets &
first-day issue stamps
or ask your Post Office.**

Purple Heart Forever Stamps are also Available
Proud of our Veterans... use U. S. Postal Service "Veteran Related Stamps"

**PLEASE JOIN ASSEMBLYWOMAN
CATHARINE B. BAKER TO HONOR**

RYAN SYKES
16TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
Veteran of the Year

Ryan Sykes joined the United States Navy soon after graduating from high school in 2000. He was initially stationed in South Florida and served as the Navy and Marine Corps Senior Analyst for Caribbean, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Colombia.

Following the events of 9/11, Sykes volunteered for a position as a Special Warfare Intelligence Analyst in Virginia. His deployments included Africa, Iraq, and Afghanistan on multiple occasions. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his work in Iraq and Afghanistan.

After an injury in Afghanistan almost cost him his life, Sykes left the military and was accepted into the Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation. He has focused on rehabilitating from his injury sustained overseas and continues to push himself physically by participating in bike races, skydiving, white water rafting, and rock climbing, even though his disabilities have forced him into a wheelchair.

He is a member of the Dougherty Valley San Ramon Rotary Club and seeks to inspire and mentor others who have disabilities and encourage them to continue pursuing their dreams and goals just as he has done.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015
1:15 PM
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
400 Hartz Avenue, Danville, CA 94526

Please RSVP to the District Office at 925-328-1515.

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley will distribute 10,000 American Flags

FREE to attendees at the 4th of July Parade - Please Join Us!



JOIN KIWANIS AND HELP US PUT ON THE

4th of July Parade



As a member of Kiwanis you will help CREATE this wonderful event for the Community. You will SUPPORT local charities by donations from Parade Sponsorships, and you will have the opportunity to PROMOTE your business among your fellow Kiwanians. We Have no exclusive categories for particular businesses. No other club offers this unique combination! Plus, Kiwanis is truly a fun group of people who might soon be your close friends! Use the free lunch ticket, enclosed, to join us at Round Hill Country Club at noon on any of the 1st, 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month for a no-obligation peek at this great Club. You will be happy that you did!

Kiwanis ★ *Danville* Presented by
4th of July
Parade
ACE Hardware
Alamo Area & Central



We request "ALL - HANDS" at the Danville 4th of July Parade to distribute FLAGS to the children along the Parade Route.

Remembering BOB FRANCO

"Proudly He Served"

Celebration Of Life For Bob Franco
Saturday July 25th, 2pm - 5pm
Sharp Park Golf Course
Pacifica, Ca

Please RSVP by
July 20th to Pete
(408) 876-8692 or
65olds@gmail.com

1 Sharp Park Rd.
Pacifica, Ca 94044
(650)359-3380

BOB FRANCO - an active VNVDV member and always ready to volunteer... remembering Bob wanted to carry the POW/MIA Flag in all Parades.

A Celebration of Life for VNVDV Member BOB FRANCO will be held on Saturday - July 25th from 2PM until 5PM in Pacifica at the Sharp Park Golf Course.. Please RSVP to Pete at: 408 . / 876 - 8692 or E-Mail: 65OLDS@gmail.com





THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



In Honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam War the *Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley* have **"Commissioned a commemorative VNVDV cap"**

for members available through VNVDV *Director of Procurement*: **T. J. Trujillo's Contact him by:**

e-mail: Trujillo.tj.john@gmail.com to order

this special cap. Cost is \$25 each for the existing supply. Hats available at July 2nd dinner meeting & if any remain - also prior to the start of the 4th of July Parade & our annual American Flag distribution.. This commemorative cap will provide a great look for the *4th of July parade*.

VNVDV Member July Birthdays

Gary Villalba	7/1	Army	Dick Sperling	7/4	Army
Mike Weber	7/4	Army	Earl Conklin	7/5	Army
James Hill	7/7	Army	John Schafgans	7/7	Army
Larry Ashlock	7/10	Army	Marty De Venuta	7/11	Air Force
Ron Huesman	7/14	Marines	John Willing	7/18	Marines
Wayne Norwood	7/24	Army	Bill Chew	7/25	Army
Daniel Harrington	7/25	Navy	Dick Seavey	7/28	Army

A Welcome to New VNVDV members

Mike Hurder - Army

Larry McKenzie - Army

Know of a VietNam Veteran? Ask them to Join the VNVDV.

Don't Miss our Featured Guest Speakers Monthly

VNVDV Dinner Speakers On-Deck:

- July 2** **Hank Glauser** works for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a Principal Investigator for Global Security of our Countries Ports
- July 4** **DISTRIBUTION of 10,000 AMERICAN FLAGS** along Parade Route in Danville
- August 6** **Cornelia and Lang Srey** "The Smell of Water" twelve year old soldiers escape from the Khmer Rouge Army and the story of his survival

Special Thanks to our June Speaker Ray LaRoche for his very informative talk on his assignment to Antarctica 1968-1969

VietNam Vets Sponsor Veteran Retreat for "GWOT" (Global War on Terrorism) Vets... a Weekend at "The Duck Club"

One of the VNVDV's less publicized efforts is a special veteran service 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 safe, relaxed, social environment to aid in readjustment to civilian life & activities after combat military service.. This is a weekend retreat for this selected group of vets.

Assisting the VNVDV with counselor resources and Veteran support is **Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office & Concord Vet Center's** "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 by the VNVDV through our partnership with **Phillips 66** & their support from the annual "**Walk of Honor**" on *Armed Forces Day*. We thank all those who supported this year's event. These younger veterans will be able to relax in a safe environment & enjoy various activities - fly casting lessons, skeet shooting, swimming, BBQs, horseshoes, movies, group campfires, lots of great food & fellowship with other vets & no drugs or alcohol.



VETERANS' VOICES

of Contra Costa

A monthly TV Show for Veterans



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) 312-1490

Nathan.Johnson@vso.cccocounty.ca.gov



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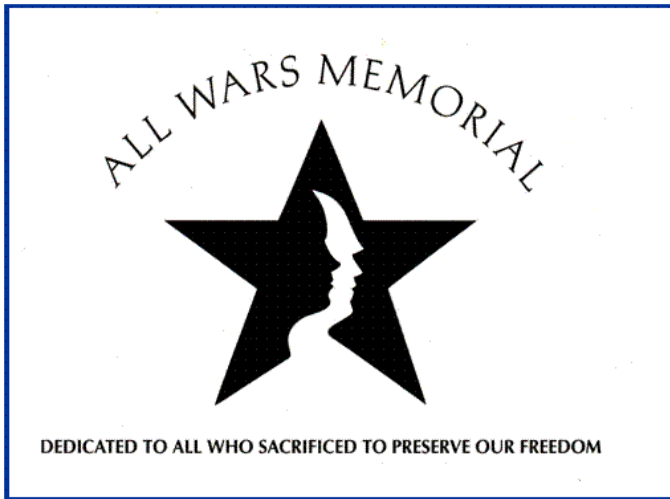
"Veteran Owned"

Richard Rein
Owner operator

1180 Leavick Lane
Unit 8
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

925-947-4268





All Wars Memorial Vandalized

**REWARD offered on Vandalism at the
ALL WARS MEMORIAL in Oak Hill Park**





518 La Gonda Way
Danville, CA 94526
Phone (925) 314-3188
Fax (925) 838-0548
<http://www.danville.ca.gov>

Press Release

Contact: Det. Sgt. Brian Sliger
Phone: (925) 314-3703

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
12:00 p.m. June 10, 2015

Reward Issued for Vandalism

Graffiti found at All Wars Memorial on Monday morning

Extensive graffiti was found on pavement, stone paths and granite benches at the All Wars Memorial in Danville on the morning of Monday, June 8. Danville Police investigators believe the vandalism occurred late Sunday evening.

The All Wars Memorial, located at Oak Hill Park in Danville, is a memorial dedicated to all who served in American wars. Maintained by the Town of Danville in collaboration with the All Wars Memorial Foundation, the site features bronze figures, walking paths, stone walls and a historical quotation wall. Vandalism used black and red spray paint to deface the areas around the memorial. Photos of the vandalism are attached.

The Town of Danville and private donors have issued a combined **\$6,500 reward** for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator. "The All Wars Memorial is dedicated to honoring the men and women who served our country," said Police Chief Steve Simpkins. "We hope that this reward will help lead our investigators find out who committed this disgraceful crime."

Anyone with information about the crime should contact **Det. Sgt. Brian Sliger** at (925) 314-3703 or bsliger@danville.ca.gov.

Please help - pass the word to the youth in the community... to listen for any talk of this vandalism act & share information with Det. Sgt. Brian Sliger [925/313-3703](tel:9253133703) or BSliger@Danville.ca.gov

**Photo Released by Danville Police from
Oak Hill Park Community Center Camera**

Free Concert for Military & Vets

Operation Swingtime

Honoring our Veterans - Military... and Saluting our Troops

Saturday - July 18, 2015

5:00PM to Twilight in Lafayette

Twilight Concert & Picnic - **Lafayette Reservoir...**

hosted & Sponsored by the area's five Rotary Clubs

In a unique, first of its kind collaboration, five local Rotary clubs are partnering with the USO to share a musical evening with the community to honor service members, past and present.

The famous Big Band of Rossmoor and the very talented Swinging Blue Stars, a quartet of ladies who sound amazingly like the Andrew Sisters - think "Don't sit under the apple tree" - will be treating active duty men and women from Travis Air Force Base and Camp Roberts along with Lamorinda residents to a free evening of swing. The USO will be providing transportation for hard working troops for this special show.

"It's rare that troops are invited off-base to be entertained," said director of the Bay Area USO, Jeff Herndon. Rotary groups are organizing the festivities and generously providing dinner for the service members.

Veterans from conflicts across the globe are invited to meet with active duty personnel prior to the show by the 32-member strong Big Band of Rossmoor and the special harmonizing vocal guests. Military vehicles will also be on display at the new stage and picnic area overlooking the Lafayette Reservoir, just up from the eastern edge of the parking lot, near the kids' playground.

For those unfamiliar with the organization, the non-profit, non-political USO has provided a tangible way for Americans to say thank you to our troops for the last 70 years by offering a home away from home for service members and support for those deployed overseas, here at home or those transitioning from service. The very first USO show featuring Bob Hope in 1941 from Camp Roberts, Calif.

Organizers would like to encourage veterans to attend.

In order to recognize those who served our country, please email band director: **Mo Levich** at: gto@67goat.com

Please provide the veteran's name, rank, branch and years served.

A golf cart shuttle is available for those who may need some assistance. Uniforms are optional but encouraged.

Bring your own blanket, lawn chairs and picnic goodies to Operation Swingtime to celebrate troops past and present and enjoy a fine summer evening of Glenn Miller and George Gershwin melodies from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 19 at the Lafayette Reservoir.

Organization Overview

Guitars4Vets is a Federally registered 501(C)(3) not-for-profit organization, headquartered in Milwaukee with chapters in 25 states. All chapters are affiliated with VA facilities. The two East Bay chapters are in Livermore and Martinez.

The organization is dedicated to sharing the healing power of music with Veterans dealing with combat related physical and/or emotional stress.

It pursues its mission by providing qualified Veterans with guitars and private guitar instruction, consisting of ten weekly one-**hour sessions structured to meet each individual's abilities and challenges.**

A practice guitar is provided for use during the 10 weeks, and, upon completion of the program, each Veteran is presented with a new acoustic guitar with a gig-bag, tuner, capo, stand and strap. Additionally, monthly group sessions are offered to all past students to provide ongoing instruction and encouragement.

In 2014, 303 Veterans completed the G4V program and received the new "guitar bundle."

How You Can Help G4V

For \$200 per Veteran, G4V provides guitar lessons and a new acoustic guitar with **accessories to our nation's most deserving heroes. Your tax deductible donation** will help support our effort to share the healing power of music.

Guitars for Vets also accepts donations of guitars & guitar accessories.

Mike Paul, Livermore VA Chapter Coordinator.
G4VLivermore@comcast.net (925) 683-0859



MEET THE AUTHOR GENERAL STANLEY McChrystal USA (Ret)



Stanley A. McChrystal was born on August 14, 1954, in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In 1990, he became action officer for Army Special Operations, working in Joint Special Operations Command. In 1991, he saw action in the Desert Shield and Desert Storm tours. He was commander of the Joint Special Operations Command from 2003 to 2008. He became top commander in Afghanistan in 2009, but resigned in 2010.

Wednesday - **July 15, 2015.....**Gen, Stanley Mc Chrystal USA (Ret) will be at the Marines Memorial Club / Hotel to talk about and introduce HIS NEW book **"TEAM OF TEAMS"**

The Event & Presentation commences at **1400 Hrs.** & Registration beginning at **1330 Hrs.** in the MMC Theater on the 2nd Floor at 609 Sutter St. in S. F.

The General's topic is the ability to transfer ones leadership skills from the military to the civilian life.

Prior to The General's retirement in 2010, The General was The Commander of NATO'S INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORCE and ALL U.S. FORCES in Afghanistan.

After The General's presentation The Leatherneck Steak House - 12th. Floor, over looking The City, will be open for dinning for those who desire chow. Reservation IS recommended-

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AT
Member@MarineClub.com



55 Springstowne Ctr. #301 • Vallejo, CA 94591

Bill LaVigne
President & CEO

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Operation SAVE
STAND BY THEM

**Veterans
Crisis Line**



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

• Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to 838255 •

FOLLOW SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS on their WEBSITES:

Danville Veterans Memorial Building: www.VMBSRV.org

"Operation Welcome Home" event can be found at: www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com

Info on **All Wars Memorial** & 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 mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org

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

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

We request all Members participate in the 4th of July Parade in Danville - Helping us distribute 10,000 American Flags to the children sitting along the Parade Route. *This is an enjoyable event* - street repair will be completed & we need to display our Military Service Colors & greet the patriotic crowd! *Attend!*

Special Thanks to our June Speaker Ray LaRoche for his very informative talk on his assignment to Antarctica 1968-1969

Please Join Us the First Thursday each Month!

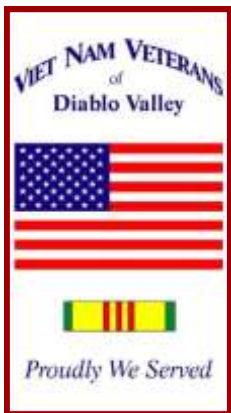
**A great Buffet Dinner & Guest Speaker
Meetings are OPEN to All Veterans
Guests - Patriots & Supporters**

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

Social Hour begins 1700 Hrs. - Buffet Dinner begins 1800 Hrs. - Speaker 1900 Hrs.

Cash - Checks & we take Major Credit Cards...

However - VNVDV is charged a percentage - for "a processing fee" on credit cards.



J. Rockcliff
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mweber@rockcliff.com

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San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com



Open to All Veterans & Military & Reserves personnel (& family)

VNVDV will have an Information Booth at VetCon 2015



17AUG2015
(9AM - 2 PM)
VETCON

What is VetCon?

VetCon is an opportunity for Veterans to gather and network with employers, educational institutions, Veterans health and benefits, and most importantly, each other. Veterans are the greatest resource for each other and the goal of VetCon is to not only help Veterans and their families' access the benefits, resources and information they need, but to create an environment where Veterans can tell the story of the transition from military life to the career, hobby, or interest they are passionate about today.



Attend valuable workshops and connect with employers who want to hire you!

"Veterans' Voices" will be broadcasting live from VetCon, be there!

"Kids Corner" On-site child care will be provided free of charge!

Learn about your benefits (education, disability, burial, etc.)

HILTON HOTEL
1970 Diamond Blvd
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 680-4526

<http://www.vetcon.org>

Veterans Voices will be broadcasting LIVE at VetCon 2015

Looking for Employment? Bring your Resume
Going back to School?

Check out Colleges

Register with VA

Network with Vets

See a Service Officer

Donate Blood

Connect with VSOs

This event is not to be missed by our Veterans & Military

MONDAY - AUG 17

9AM - 2PM

Concord Hilton



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Helen S. Reese
PH: 925 / 935 - 4294

E: HReese@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.VentureResearch.biz

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Richard Rein
Owner operator

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Unit E
Walut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



Swim Open to All Military & Veterans

& parents - spouses - children & siblings
and includes Training Program & Practice

TAKE THE ROCK



Veteran Alcatraz Swim Challenge

SEPT 20, 2015

Eligible Participants: Veterans, Serving Military and
their parents, spouses, children and siblings

Includes Training Program

Info at www.taketherock.com



Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley &
Nadadores Locos Swim Club



Take the Rock 'Swim Practice' - Coaching & Meetings have started... Sign-up Now & begin training.

Danville's Hot Summer Nights Hot Rod & Classic Car Show

In its 20th year, the show features hundreds of hot rods and classic cars along Hartz Avenue on **Thursday, July 16, 2015** and **August 13, 2015** from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., along with a disc jockey spinning nostalgic 1950s and '60s music, vendor booths and awards for the favorite collector vehicles. Hot Summer Nights accepts featured cars up to and through the year 1976. **If you'd like to showcase your classic car at Danville's Hot Summer Nights, register your vehicle at St. Isidore Church on La Gonda Way beginning at 2:00 p.m. on the day of the event.** Expect to see rare one-of-a-kind collector cars, custom designed cars, classic & muscle cars from the 1960s, and again in front of the Veterans Memorial Building - **the VNVDV's Parade Truck - supporting the VMB's Veteran's Day Weekend Historical Military Museum Displays,** For more information or to register a car, visit www.danvillehotsummernightscarshow.com

Diablo Valley Flag Brigade Returning Vets **"Welcome Home"**

OPERATION WELCOME HOME
The VNVDV is Proud to
Participate & Support the
Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
Warriors Watch Riders
& OPERATION WELCOME HOME

To find out more - or Schedule a Welcome Home Event - Visit Diablo Valley Flag Brigade at www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com
Or contact WWR at:
www.norcalwvr.org



Stand Down on the Delta - 2015

Homeless Veteran Helping Hand-Up

Sept 11-14th 2015

**Contra Costa
County Fairgrounds**

Sponsored by
Delta Veterans Group
For more information contact
www.DeltaVeteransGroup.org

US Department Of Veterans Affairs

**Vet
Center**

Concord Vet Center
1333 Willow Pass Road
Suite 106
Concord, CA 94520

925-680-4526
925-680-0410 FAX
jeffrey.jewell@va.gov

Jeffrey Jewell, M.P.A., M.A.
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Department of
Veterans Affairs
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PARKS RESERVE FORCES TRAINING AREA



GARRISON CHANGE OF COMMAND

"Change of command ceremonies are steeped in tradition. Rich in military history, these ceremonies predate the Norman conquest of England and are a formal, symbolic passing of responsibility, authority, and accountability of command from one leader to another"...

10:00 a.m. May 28, 2015

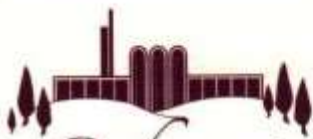
Outgoing Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Christopher P. Gerdes has been assigned to the Army War College at Fort Leavenworth. LTC Gerdes began his military career in 1986 and was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a commission as a Regular Army Second Lieutenant. LTC Gerdes combat and overseas service includes Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Joint Task Force Bravo (Honduras) and Bamberg, Germany.

Incoming Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Andrew W. Jones arrives from Fort Leonardwood. LTC Jones graduated of OCS and was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division. LTC Jones' combat and overseas service includes Operation Desert Falcon, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.



VNVDV Membership Dues Now only \$25.

**Renew Your 2015 Annual Dues
at our Monthly Dinner or convert to a
Life Membership in VNVDV
for only: \$200.00!**



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VNVDV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley



Proudly We Served

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE: _____

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

Military Service

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

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES/COMMITTEES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Welcome Home Events | <input type="checkbox"/> VNVDV Super Sunday Crab Feed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Day Ceremony / All Wars Memorial | <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 & Other 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"/> GWOT Duck Club Retreat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Memorial Building Museum / Docent | <input type="checkbox"/> Take the Rock: Veteran Swim Challenge |

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 ORGANIZATION.

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

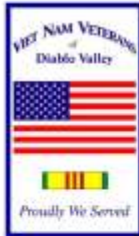
Please Mail your completed application to our P.O. Box above or Submit at our 1st/Thurs. of Month Dinner. Thank You!

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

JULY 2015



Use the new Medal of Honor Forever Postage Stamps



Official Mailing Address:

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.com

Jonathan "JON" Robbins
Director of Information - 2015
EDITOR/PUBLISHER "INCOMING" NEWS

Veterans Memorial Building
400 Hartz Avenue
Danville, CA 94526
News E-Mail:
VNVDV.News@gmail.com

Keep your e-mail address current please!

Visit the VNVDV Website
for our latest news -
online at:



Electronic News

To: VNVDV Members & VIPs

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Jon Robbins

Procurement -

John "T.J." Trujillo

Speakers Bureau -

Mike Martin

Public Relations -

John "jgr" Reese

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a local, grass-roots, non-profit, & all-volunteer Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, and 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's Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley** is home for the VNVDV and 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 monthly on the **1st Thursday of every month** at the **Crow Canyon Country Club** in Danville.

VNVDV monthly Board of Directors Meetings are held on the **3rd Thursday** each month at the Veterans Memorial Building in the Library / Board Room at **1800 Hrs.** in Danville. To find out more about programs & projects the VNVDV supports & events sponsored... visit the website at: www.VNVDV.com. All veterans & guests are welcome to attend our **"open"** membership meetings. This VNVDV is 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. Please join us... All dinner meetings are **OPEN** - bring fellow VietNam veterans - active duty military - history buffs - friends - community supporters... *see what a difference volunteering makes in the lives of others. All veterans welcome!*

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 in 2015!

Featuring "Chef's Choice Buffet Dinner" - \$25.

Reservation **NOT** Required - Except December Appreciation Dinner

the "INCOMING" - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV

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Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

