



INCOMING NEWS



November
2015



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Free ~ Open to the Public Educational & Historical Military Displays at VMB ~ Sat. Nov. 7 & Sun. Nov. 8 Veterans Day Program at SRVHS ~ Nov. 11, 2015

Raymond
La Rochelle
VNVDV
President
Remember
Support /
Attend
Veterans Day
Activities

VNVDV Prez Ray's Nov. Notes:

Greetings - A busy month of Veteran's Day activities & events... followed by our annual Holiday Appreciation Dinner on Thursday - Dec. 3rd. our largest dinner for members, spouses, **guests & supporters...** reservations are required in advance. All reservations must be made with Treasurer "Slatts" at: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com with your meal choice - Prime Rib - Salmon or Veggie dinner. This dinner is a "sell-out" & Crow Canyon Country Club requires an advance count on dinners to be served. Please make your reservations NOW - prior to the deadline **Tuesday, Nov. 24th.** Bring a new unwrapped toy on Dec. 3rd.

2016 SUPER CRAB FEED

We need your assistance... Now is the time to start soliciting your favorite haunts for donations for the Silent Auction & Raffle. It only takes **ONE donation from EACH member** to ensure a successful event. Tickets for the Crab Feed event are available from our Treasurer Slatts at \$45. order now: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com
Best Crab Feed for 12 years!

ELECTION of OFFICERS
& DIRECTORS in NOV.
Ballot in Newsletter

Reserve your Seats for
Holiday Dinner Dec. 3rd
Reservations a Must
\$45 per ticket
Remember to bring TOY!

VNVDV Crab Feed
Selling Out Fast
Sunday - Feb. 7th
Get your Crab Feed
Tickets Now - \$45.

November Speaker

John Gallagher- from "Save Mount Diablo" one of the Beacon Boyz who restored the "Eye of Diablo"



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



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

2015 President Ray La Rochelle



Continued from Page One

VETERANS DAY WEEKEND PUBLIC MILITARY DISPLAY EVENT AT VMB

SAT - NOV. 7 & SUN. NOV. 8

The Veterans Memorial Building in Danville will be hosting a large, free public display of military memorabilia in the Main Hall of the VMB. This will be the most educational & historical displays ever held. If you have military items to add to the event, or some interesting or unusual items... contact Tim Sammons at the VMB for details. Dennis Giacobelli & Art Gaskins still seeking volunteer Docents to assist staffing the weekend displays & assist visitors with the history & education. The weekend event is Free & Open to the Public. Help pass the word & Invite family - friends & neighbors to see this educational exhibit for all ages. Only on Sat. Nov. 7 & Sun. Nov 8 - military vehicles too!

VETERANS DAY REMEMBRANCE

NOV 11, 2015

The San Ramon Valley Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) are conducting their annual joint event at the San Ramon Valley High School Performance Arts Center. Jerry Yahiro is this year's chair from the VNVDV joining with the A.L. Post 246 - MCL Det. 942 & VFW Post 75. This year's event will feature a *Special Salute to Women in the Military. It is a Wednesday- NOV. 11th - plan to attend.*

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

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



President's Holiday Appreciation Dinner - December Reservations Required - E-Mail Today!

VNVDV Holiday Appreciation & Recognition Dinner & Annual TOY Drive for Operation Santa & Toys for Tots
Thursday - DEC. 3rdrd Social 5 / Dinner 6

President Ray La Rochelle has been busy attending & planning many events, although few as important as his year-end personal opportunity to host our annual membership & supporter recognition dinner. Once a year, the VNVDV takes extra time to gather as a group with our members - spouses - family - friends & supporters... our annual Christmas Holiday Dinner in December is our largest dinner meeting - *always exceeding 125.*

Reservations are required to enable Crow Canyon Country Club Chef to plan & prepare for our gala! This is our only dinner needing your RSVP in advance. Please ALL members & guests - confirm your required number of seats & meal selection for our DEC. Holiday Dinner with VNVDV Treasurer **"Slatts"** at: Slattengren.VNVDV@gmail.com & remember to select one meal choice/dinner for each seats requested. Choose from the following: PRIME RIB / SALMON or VEGGIE for each meal.

The dinner details: 8 oz. Prime Rib or 6 oz. Salmon or Veggie dinner. Salad will be served without dressing & two choices of dressing will be on each table. Bread baskets will be set up on each table with all place settings. Coffee/Tea will be served with Yule Log for dessert. **Price: \$45. per person / RSVP.**

We have a maximum number of 150 seats available for our annual dinner gala. If you are bringing a group & desire sitting together - please inform "Slatts" know the number. Make reservations early to attend, especially groups... Reservations a Must!

Deadline for reservations: Wednesday, November 23th (Thanksgiving Eve). We must give Crow Canyon a final count. Please make your reservations prior to the deadline. *Thanks*

Please note: Due to the large crowd, & County Club requirements - no one will be admitted for meal without advanced reservation for this one special dinner. We sometimes have a limited number of single seats available for someone attending the program only. Seating preference will go to guests with a meal ticket. All guests are asked to "Check-In" at the dinner & obtain your meal selection tickets. If you have questions prior to the event - contact Mike "Slatts" Slattengren: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com

Please remember again this year at our December Holiday Dinner Gala we host our *annual Toy Drive* - collecting new TOYS for *Operation Santa & Toys for Tots* to support our military serving & veteran families in need. *Bring your toys!*

*San Ramon Valley
Veteran Service Organizations*

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE



*San Ramon Valley High School
Performing Arts Center
501 Danville Blvd. Danville, CA 94526*



Wednesday, November 11, 2015
Doors Open & Seating at 10:00 AM

Honoring Our Women Veterans

**Please review the Veteran's Day Week activities & programs
in the San Ramon Valley on the following page and
Please attend any & all events possible &
Thank You for Serving... and Welcome Home!**

November Highlights on Veterans Day Activities & Events

Providing All Veterans & Supporters with a handy Veteran's Day "Highlight" Calendar List

Friday Nov. 6th - 1:00 PM - VSO Volunteers Needed to Set-up Military Exhibits & Displays at the VMB - Help setting up tables / display racks and moving display items & setting them up.

Saturday Nov. 7th - 7:00 AM - Contra Costa Blue Star Moms 5K/10K Race - Hillcrest Park Concord - to support funds for Packages to the Troops. Run or Walk & support the BSMs.

Saturday Nov. 7th - 9AM—10:30AM - Veterans Pancake Breakfast - All Veterans Invited for Free Pancake Breakfast - VMB 2nd Floor - Hosted by Assemblywomen Catherine Baker - RSVP 925-328-1515

Saturday Nov. 7th - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM - VMB Danville - *Free / Public* Historical Military Exhibits & Displays Open 11AM - *Swingin Blues Stars Singers* & 1PM - **Special Military Women's Panel** (2nd floor)

Saturday Nov. 7th - 5PM - VMB Development Committee Private Reception to honor VMB Donors. VSOs Invited & VMB Committee Members & Docents - RSVP through President/Commander to: Ray-L@Pacbell.net - VSO limited number of guests - contact Ray if Not on a VMB Committee/Docent - Business or Military Attire requested - *Museum & Reception Opens at 5PM* - Program at: 5:45PM

Sunday Nov. 8th - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Historical & Educational Military Displays & Military Vehicles at Danville VMB - **Fun for all ages... share America's Military History with your entire family.**

Sunday Nov. 8th - 3:30PM - Break-down of VMB Display & Exhibits VSO Volunteers Needed - Assist with removal & storage of tables & display racks. No heavy lifting - just need to clear the Main Hall

Monday Nov. 9th - 5PM to 8PM - East Bay Blue Star Moms Fundraiser **"Tips for the Troops"** - **Gianni's Italian Bistro** - San Ramon - Call & make reservations to attend 925 /

Tuesday Nov. 10th - 10AM - Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Veterans Day Ceremony - Recognizing Viet Nam Veterans in BOS Chambers - 651 Pine Street - Martinez - Program at 11AM

Wednesday Nov. 11th - 10:30AM - *San Ramon Valley* **Veteran's Day Recognition Program** at San Ramon Valley High School - *Performing Arts Center* - Sponsored by SRV VSOs with Tribute to Women in the Military - Doors Open 10AM - Music & Video Program begin 10:30AM - Program at 11AM

Wednesday Nov. 11th - 10:30AM - SRV Veteran Service Organization Reception - Veterans Memorial Building - Danville - *Honoring the Women of the Military* recognized at our annual Nov. 11th Veterans Day program - Reception hosted by Military Officers Assoc (MOAA) & the Blue Star Moms.

Thursday Nov. 12th - 10 AM - St. Isadore's Veterans Day Observance at Msgr. Cardelli Center - at the school on La Gonda Way in Danville - *All Veterans encouraged to attend Veteran's Day Programs*

Note: There are exceptional Veteran's Day Observances & Recognition programs throughout our County... if you cannot attend our San Ramon Valley programs... please remember Veteran's Day & attend a program near you... and remember to Thank our Veterans for their Military Service.

Women Veteran's Panel on Saturday

Nov. 7th at 1PM - 2nd floor VMB

Special Veterans Day Recognition Panel featuring Varied Military Experiences...

A Tribute to Women in the Military

Don't miss this opportunity to hear an exceptional panel of Veterans on Saturday



At the Danville VMB on Sat. Nov. 7th

What's Happening in November



Walnut Creek ELKS Lodge
Thanks all those who served

Sunday, November 15, 2015

Lodge opens at 2:00 p.m.

Dinner will be 4:30 p.m.

COST

Veterans and active duty

FREE

There will be musical entertainment all day

Any non-military guests will be charged a small fee of \$5.00 per person. All you need will be a military I.D.; DD 214; Department of Veterans Affairs Card or show up in uniform.

This is a family event, so bring your spouse, friends, neighbors, and children, grandchildren and great grandchildren for a fine meal and afternoon of relaxing food and conversation.

All we ask is that you call the Lodge and make a reservation, to let us know who you served with, how many will be coming, and how many will be under the age of 18 so we can plan the gifts.

This will be an open-seating buffet type event, so plan early and get your reservations in, as this will fill up fast. (Server's will be available for those who can't go to the buffet.) Please call to make your reservation as soon as possible as we must limit the attendees.

RSVP to Walnut Creek ELKS Lodge

Call: 925 / 935 - 1811



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, a Fraternal Organization

Contra Costa Blue Star Moms, CA Chapter 20
presents

VETERANS DAY 5K/10K RUN & WALK



Saturday - Nov. 7th 2015

Hillcrest Park - Concord

**Benefiting Local Veterans Programs
Supported by Blue Star Moms**



Veterans Ceremony at 8:15 am Race Start at 8:30 am

**Awards to top male/female finishers in both races and
top male/female Veterans in both races
donated by Roadrunner Sports and Sports Basement**

DOG TAG MEDALS TO ALL 5K & 10K FINISHERS

To enter online go to: raceroster.com and search under CCBSM.

For more information, Veterans discount code, sponsorships or questions:
www.cdbluestarmoms.org or fundraisers@cdbluestarmoms.org

Blue Star Moms have Sons and Daughters in the Military

2015 Concord Veterans Day Ceremony and

Softball Tournament



Join the City of Concord and VFW Post 1525 for a special Veterans Day
Ceremony followed by a day of baseball at the 3rd Annual Veterans Day
Invitational Softball Tournament

November 11th at 11AM
Willow Pass Softball Fields

- 10 Team Tournament, minimum 10 players per team
- Each team guaranteed 3 games
- Minimum 50% of team must be Veterans/active duty (honor system)
- Teams can be co-ed, but not required
- Aluminum bats only; City of Concord Rules
- Food will be for sale to cover tournament costs and to benefit the Marines of the Concord Reserve Training Center

Please contact Maurice Delmer at Maurice.Delmer@va.gov or
(925) 680-4526 to register your team or for information about participating.



**BUILDING
VETERANS' SELF-
UNDERSTANDING
THROUGH
SELF-PORTRAITS**

Painting Workshops for Veterans of all Service

IF YOU CAN DRAW A STICK FIGURE, WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

Sign up for a **FREE** two-day workshop and paint a self-portrait as a way to self-understanding and self-expression. The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County is offering two-day self-portrait painting workshops at no cost to all Contra Costa County Veterans. Workshops will take place in Martinez at ARTU4IA, a working art studio led by noted artist John Kleber. No art experience required! All painting materials will be provided.

Work with other Vets – Veteran and artist Geoffrey Meredith will assist in the workshops to help Veterans of all service, all ages, and all service dates, network and tell their story.

November 3 & 5 - 6PM to 9PM
November 17 & 19 - 6PM to 9PM
Register at: ACS.org

If you are a Veteran living in Contra Costa County please register at ACS.org

Funded by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and Contra Costa County



CALIFORNIA
ARTS COUNCIL



BLUE STAR MOMS #101 TIPS for the TROOPS



GREAT DINING



Gianni's Italian Bistro

TIPS for the TROOPS
Serving you at Gianni's
Raising Funds for Postage
for our Troop Packages
& Gold Star Family Event
NOV. 9TH

Make Your Reservations
for Dinner with the BSM
925 / 820 - 6969

Monday - 5 to 8
Please Join Us!

Veteran's Day - Wednesday - November 11, 2015

**Recognition of All Veterans & special Tribute to Women in the
Military at San Ramon Valley High School Performing Arts Center**



*Invite your neighbors & friends for this patriotic annual recognition of all our Veterans!
Program begins at 10:30 with video & ceremony starts at 11AM sharp!*

**A Private Reception at the VMB to Honor VMB Donors
After Exhibits Close beginning at 5PM - Sat. Nov. 7th
Contact VNVDV President or VMB Chair for details**



Come see what a difference you have made—a building for veterans activity every day!

New Museum Display Cabinets ∞ Library Additions ∞ County Service Office
Benefits and Employment Training Center ∞ Honorary & Swearing in Ceremonies

Enjoy the activities on November 7

Dedication of Freedom Shrine of America's Founding Documents

Historical Documents on site for Permanent Displays

Tours of Annual Military Museum November 7-8

Please join the Veterans Memorial Building Development Committee
for a Private Reception to honor our donors

Special dedication of display cases contributed by
Captains Tim and Lorrie Sammons and by the Danville Rotary
And Freedom Shrine by Exchange Club of SRV

November 7, 2015

Program 5:45

Museum and Reception opens at 5:00

Wine and Appetizers by Amber Bistro
Business & Military Attire

Veterans Memorial Building
400 Hartz Ave, Danville
Rsvp 925-998-8865

The Day After Veteran's Day - NOV. 12th

*Please Join St. Isidore School for our
Annual Veterans Day Ceremony*

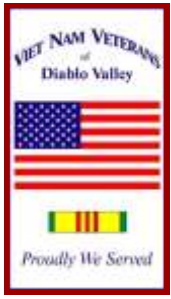


*Thursday, November 12th at 10:00AM
in the Msgr. Cardelli Center*

*If you know a Veteran that will be
attending please RSVP to the
school office at (925) 837-2977*

*We ask that Veterans and their
families arrive at 9:40AM for check in*

*Refreshments for Veterans
will be served after the ceremony*



This month remember to:

Make your December Holiday Dinner Reservations. *Do it Today* & reserve your seats at our Annual VNVDV Appreciation/Recognition Dinner Gala - **Thur - Dec. 3rd**

Members – Friends – Supporters & Sponsors –

RSVP **TODAY** to: Treasurer Mike Slattengren

E-Mail at: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com & please include **“dinner selection”** Choice: (Prime Rib / Salmon / Veggie)

This is a great time of the year and the VNVDV Gala is not to be missed. Please join with us and our Sponsors & Supports to bring in the Holidays!

Everyone is encouraged to Join us this time of for the Annual Holiday Dinner. This is a sit-down & served meal - planned with a fun-filled evening of holiday music & cheer - great food - good friends + recognition & appreciation - including the:

**Gary Villalba Dedicated Veteran Service Award
Veteran of the Year / Volunteer of the Year**

& other recognition & presentations + a great evening of fun!

Everyone is Invited... Open invitation to All...

so please make your reservation to JOIN US for our year-end Gala Event on **Thursday - December 3rd.**

Social Hour begins at 1700 with dinner following after 1800 at ***Crow Canyon Country Club*** in San Ramon. **\$45.**

To All Members / Supporters / Friends / Sponsors—

Please remember your New – unwrapped **“TOY Donations”** to **benefit “OPERATION SANTA CLAUS” & “TOYS for TOTS”**

Honoring Our Military Men and Women

WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT THEIR COURAGEOUS SERVICE, FAMILIES AT HOME AND CIVILIAN PURSUITS

Tesoro has a strong commitment to assisting our military's active and veteran communities. While our Human Resources Department actively seeks out veterans when hiring opportunities arise, Tesoro also seeks out community investment opportunities in an ongoing effort to honor those men and women who've selflessly given of themselves in service of this great nation.



Operation Santa Claus, an event sponsored primarily by Tesoro in partnership with the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and the BSM.

The largest investment by the Martinez Refinery each year in support of military families is **Operation Santa Claus**, an event sponsored primarily by Tesoro in partnership with the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley. The December 2014 event hosted families of 110 active-duty, wounded and killed-in-action military personnel. The families were treated to a traditional holiday experience that included a visit and picture with Santa Claus, stuffed Christmas stockings, sledding on a hill of manufactured but real snow, an opportunity to make their very own stuffed animal, games, face painting, a present from Santa's Workshop, plus a catered holiday meal with all the fixings. The festivities culminated in a raffle for fully decorated Christmas trees, handcrafted quilts and two weekend stays at a Lake Tahoe cabin. We thank the Blue Star Moms for their support of Operation Santa Claus each year.



Our DEC Holiday Dinner is the time of our *Annual Toy Drive* to collect new, unwrapped toys for *Operation Santa Claus*. These new toys will be used with **TESORO GOLDEN EAGLE REFINERY** who generously agreed to continue their support of **OPERATION SANTA CLAUS** for 2015. VNVDV members are asked to participate by bringing [“New Un-Wrapped Toys”](#) to the **Dec 3th Holiday Dinner**. The goal is to

collect toys (\$15-\$20) for both male & female children of all ages, especially **TEENS!** The toys will be distributed to children of *specialty invited* military families, including U.S. Coast Guard, Gold Star Families, Reserve/National Guard families and **GWOT families**... *selected & invited by their Command*. [Shop now for your gift!](#) **Extra Toys are used at Toys for Tots & the Concord Vet Centers “Santa Visit”** - we do need your Toys at DEC. Holiday Dinner. Teen items needed the most. The VNVDV thanks you for your generous donation of toys this year!



BLUE STAR MOMS

EAST BAY CHAPTER 101

DANVILLE, CA

PERMANENT DONATION DROP OFF SITE:

Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate

630 San Ramon Valley Blvd.

Danville, Ca 94526

Donations items may be dropped off there by the community during their regular business hours:

Mon - Fri, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Thank you to the Staff at Better Homes Realty in Danville!



FAVORITE ITEMS TO DONATE TO THE TROOPS =

JUST ADD WATER (INDIVIDUAL Serving Sizes) Instant Coffee Packets - Sugar - Powdered Creamer, Powdered Drink Mixes - Crystal Light - Propel, etc. Liquid Water - Energy Enhancer Drops, Instant Oatmeal, Hot Cocoa, Hot Cider

TRAVEL SIZE PERSONAL ITEMS Flushable Wipes - Disposable Razors Lip balm - Chap Stick Dental Floss – Toothbrushes Eye Drops - Pocket Tissue - Hand Warmers

PROTEINS (Individual SINGLE Serving Sizes) Tuna or chicken - foil pouches - pull top cans Tuna - Chicken box w/crackers Beef jerky - Slim Jims, Protein Bars - Cliff - Muscle Milk Bars Peanut butter - Jiff to go Box type lunch kits

CLOTHING White/Black COTTON Long Athletic Socks Dark Colored, Knit Hats/Beanies

STOCKING STUFFERS AND ENTERTAINMENT Silly Putty - Nerf or Tennis Balls - Yo-Yos Crossword Puzzles - Word Search - Sudoku Playing Cards - DVD's

SNACKS (INDIVIDUALLY Wrapped Packages) Nuts All Kinds - Trail Mix - Corn Nuts - Sunflower Seeds Chex Mix - Hard Candy - Mints – Gum Granola Bars (non nutri-grain) - Pop Tarts, Dried Fruit (raisins, etc.) Fruit Snacks, Canned Fruit (no plastic) Crackers plain/w/Cheese - Cheese Packs (non-refrig types)

SPECIALTY ITEMS Ground Coffee (Peet's & Starbucks) Local Grocery Store Gift Cards Zip Lock Brand Bags (all sizes)

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

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

All donations of items and especially for the required postage (\$14.00 for each box) is greatly appreciated! Our Troops thank you! This is our small way to thank them!

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

Flag Pole Dedication Ceremony

Veterans Services Organization Martinez

Nathan Johnson, Contra Costa Veterans Services Office, planned & chaired the dedication ceremony of the Flag Pole and Gardens designed as a Living Memorial for all. Featured are tribute benches and a program to provide continuing nurture of the Memorial. Contributing to the Ceremony were Martinez VFW Color Guard, Gold Star Parents, Blue Star Moms, Veterans of WWII and Operation of Iraqi Freedom, and VNVDV members. The Flag flown is the donation of GSP David Graves and the Flag draped the coffin of his son. Visit our VSO.



Don't Miss our Featured Guest Speakers Monthly

VNVDV Dinner Speakers On-Deck:

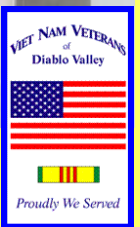
November 5 **John Gallagher-** from “Save Mount Diablo” one of the Beacon Boyz who re-stored the “Eye of Diablo”

December 3 *Annual Holiday Appreciation Dinner - Reservations Required*

No speaker—Music by the SRVHS Choral Group—Gary Villalba—recognition and awards for service to our Veterans & more! Make your reservations

Special Thanks

to our September Speakers from World Airways and their story of dedication to save Vietnamese babies after the fall of Saigon in 1975 and their return to VN in 2005



Above: Yolanda Vega

Upper Left: Veronica Villano, Kenneth Healy, Yolanda Vega

Left: Peter Villano, Warren West

Veterans Voices, October 19th, featured interviews with Viet Nam Veterans in consideration of the anniversary of the 40th year since Saigon fell to the Communist North Viet Nam. Steve Burchik discussed his book *Compass and a Camera*. VNVDV members were asked about their experiences when they returned to the States. MCL member Jim Townsend offered not only his experiences but also his wife's memories as a stewardess for flights in and out of Viet Nam. With a non Veteran perspective Frances Nguyen related her escape in April 1975 and successful relocation to the US. Mike Weber and John Gianni offered veteran views on returning to Viet Nam. Finally Janna Hohne updated her project to obtain photos of all services members on the Wall—FACES NEVER FORGOTTEN. Watch Veteran Voices past episodes on-line any-time on CCTV or LIVE on the 3rd Monday at 7PM—call-in and ask your questions each month.



PEACE on EARTH

~ A Holiday Wish



featuring

THE
Blackhawk
CHORUS

Saturday
December 5, 2015
4:00 PM

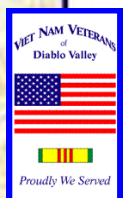
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center
San Ramon, CA

The 120-member Blackhawk Chorus, under the direction of Diane Giffether, and accompanied by noted pianist, Randall Benway, will perform memorable holiday selections including "Jingle Bells", "Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth", "And the Glory of the Lord" from Handel's Messiah, and "The First Chanukah Night." Also featured is "Dirait-On" by contemporary American choral composer, Morten Lauridsen.

Holiday Concert Schedule

- **Saturday, December 5 at 4pm**
San Ramon: Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center
- **Sunday, December 6 at 7pm**
Oakland: Temple Hill Auditorium
- **Sunday, December 13 at 6pm**
Danville: Blackhawk Country Club - includes dinner after.

For more information - visit: www.BlackhawkChorus.com





VETERANS' VOICES of Contra Costa

Your monthly TV Show for all Veterans & their Family on CCTV
LIVE on the 3rd Monday of Each Month & All Previous Episodes Available On-Demand
Visit <http://www.contracosta.ca.gov/5163/Veterans-Voices>



Veterans: Watch Veterans Voices LIVE on the 3rd Monday each month at 1900 Hrs - 7PM
Past episodes are available on-line... 24/7 - catch-up & watch all educational episodes.

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



VENTURE RESEARCH

Commercial Real Estate
Appraisers & Consultants

Helen S. Reese
PH: 925 / 935 - 4294
E: HReese@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.VentureResearch.biz
"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years serving California and beyond with Excellence"

Promotive

Performance and Repair

"Veteran Owned"

Richard Rein
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane
Unit E
Walut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



Veterans Memorial Building in Danville hosting a Free public educational & historic display of Military Memorabilia



A great event for the entire family to learn about American History & the Freedom our Veterans provided for all of us to enjoy. Come out & celebrate Veteran's Day Weekend at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley in Danville. Sat Nov. 7th & Sun. Nov. 8th.



The VMB Exhibit is FREE and OPEN to the Public at the Danville Veterans Memorial Building - Sat. Nov 7 / 9to4 & Sun. NOV. 8 / 10to3

For Info or Details - Contact Tim Sammons - VMB Curator at: Curator@VMBSRV.org

VNVDV Member *November* Birthdays

Michael Karl	11/3	Navy	Bob Franco	11/4	Navy (Deceased 2015)
Michael McClosky	11/5	Air Force	“TJ” Trujillo	11/6	Army
Tim Sammons	11/7	Navy	Tom Holstrom	11/11	Navy
Gary Pforr	11/11	Army	Steve Mazaika	11/14	Army
Donald Parker	11/14	Navy	Phil Stage	11/17	Army
Slatts Slattengren	11/20	Navy	Kasey Warner	11/24	Navy
Dave Corozza	11/27	Air Force	Steve Shirley	11/27	Army
			Bob Poirier	11/29	Navy

October Meeting

Joe and Guest Doug Payne (father below) whose father served with Joe

Lt. Chuck Payne a good friend. He had a great smile. April 27, 1967



Bill LaVigne
President & CEO

Cell: (510) 368-4441
Toll Free: (866) 369-4446
Office: (877) 668-3677
(877) MOVE-677
Fax: (707) 644-2294
integritymoving@yahoo.com

55 Springstowne Ctr. #301 • Vallejo, CA 94591

Operation SAVE
STAND BY THEM

**Veterans
Crisis Line**



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

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

Encourage you to Follow - Visit & Support Groups who Support Us...

Danville Veterans Memorial Building: www.VMBSRV.org

“**Operation Welcome Home**” event can be found at: www.DiabloValleyFlagBrigade.com

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

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel & Club in SF - Visit their website: 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

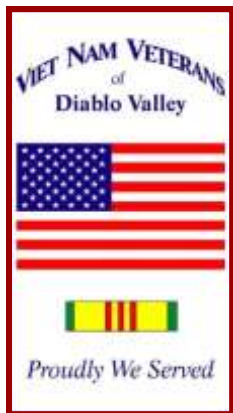
And many others...

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

www.VNVDV.com

Visit our Dinner Meetings and see Our website for additional listings & Links

Activities - Events - Programs & Projects



December is a Special First Thursday Holiday Dinner

**Our Annual sit-down Dinner with Music -
Recognition - Holiday Spirit & More
Meetings are OPEN to All Veterans -
Spouse - Guests & Supporters**

Holiday Appreciation Dinner - \$45. Reservations Required

Social Hour begins 1700 Hrs. - Holiday Dinner begins 1800 Hrs. - followed by Music & Awards

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

to pay your Annual Dues - Dinners - Crab Feed Tickets

J. Rockcliff



REALTORS



MIKE WEBER
Realtor *

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle
Danville, CA 94506
CalBRE#00441586

direct: 925.736.1500
mweber@rockcliff.com

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San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

BLUE STAR MOMS #101 TIPS for the TROOPS



TIPS for the TROOPS
Serving you at Gianni's
Raising Funds for Postage
for our Troop Packages
& Gold Star Family Event
NOV. 9TH

**Make Your Reservations
for Dinner with the BSM
925 / 820 - 6969**

**Monday - 5 to 8
Please Join Us!**



VNVDV Membership Dues

Annual Dues only \$25.

**Time to renew your 2016 Annual Dues
at our Holiday Dinner or convert to a**

Life Membership in VNVDV in 2016 for only: \$200.00!

Thomas Corbett
Family Service Counselor
Pre-need and Veteran Specialist
Lic. #44629
tcoak8@gmail.com

Oakmont
Memorial Park & Mortuary

2099 Reliez Valley Road • Lafayette, CA 94549
cell 925.216.4785 • office 925.935.3311 • fax 925.935.0625
COA #619, FD #875

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Annual Meeting Election of Officers & Directors Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley for the 2016 Year. Election Details...

The Annual Meeting Election for Officers & Directors is operated & controlled by the Nomination & Election Committee appointed for 2016: Chair - Past President Del Loewe, serving with Past President Mike Weber & Past President Rich Lambert as the official members of the 2016 Elections Committee. Voting will occur using the Official Ballots enclosed in this newsletter and the same will be distributed at our annual meeting on the First Thursday of November at our Thursday Dinner Meeting. The Official Ballot has the names of members in good standing who have been nominated to date. You can write-in your name or nominate any member in good standing willing to accept the position. All members in good standing are allowed to vote in the annual election and ALL BALLOTS MUST be SIGNED with your printed name also included to be counted in the election. The Election Committee verifies the vote against the current membership roster of all members in good standing. Voting will take place at the November Dinner Meeting and be collected at the meeting by members of the Election Committee Only. Members who are not able to attend or choose to vote by mail may do so and Mail their Official Ballot to the organization's official mailing address: VNVDV - c/o Elections - Post Office Box 2079 - Danville, CA 94526. no later than NOV. 15th to be counted in the election. ALL Ballots must be **"completed in full"** to be valid and counted by the Election Committee. The votes will be counted by the Election Committee after the mailing deadline of November 15, 2015. Election results will be announced by the Chair of the Election Committee at the December Holiday Dinner Meeting & announced in the *Incoming*. Any questions **about the election process or about the "responsibilities" of each office should be directed to any member of the nomination & election committee.** Please support our new selection of Officers & Directors.

The 2016 President will "appoints" various Chairs / Co-Chairs / Assistants and membership support is needed in many areas. This is a great way to learn about the duties - volunteering to help in a significant way - keep our organization strong & active helping fellow veterans - those serving and our community. There are many easy & relaxing volunteer opportunities available to our members. We strongly encourages all members to consider joining the 2016 team of volunteers which promises to be another fun & exciting year. Past President Jerry Yahiro sums up his thoughts by noting... **"The quality of an organization depends on its current leaders' & the members' willingness to participate in the administration of the organization."** Volunteer and become more active & involved in **"the program of your choice"** in our organization. Our projects - **events & activities are so varied...** there is truly something for everybody! *You can make a difference. Join the team in 2016.*

PLEASE JOIN
ASSEMBLYWOMAN CATHARINE B. BAKER FOR A
**VETERANS
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015
9:00AM-10:30AM**

DANVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
400 HARTZ AVENUE, DANVILLE, CA 94526

TO RSVP, CONTACT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT (925) 328-1515.

PLEASE JOIN US TO HONOR OUR LOCAL VETERANS & SHARE
YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT ISSUES FACING OUR COMMUNITY.



VA Flu Shots

Available

**Martinez VA
Drive Thru
Nov. 17**

PLEASE JOIN THE
VIETNAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY
FOR THE 12TH ANNUAL
"SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS"



The BEST
CRAB FEED

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 7, 2016

DANVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

1 P.M. DOORS OPEN

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

115 PROSPECT / 400 HARTZ

DANVILLE, CA 94526

ALL YOU CAN EAT **CRAB DINNER**

SILENT AUCTION - SUPER RAFFLE - ENTERTAINMENT

APPETIZERS - DESSERTS - NO HOST BEVERAGES

TICKETS - \$45.

ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY

EVENT SELLS-OUT ANNUALLY

PURCHASE TICKETS NOW TREASURER AT: 925 / 837 - 6238



November 2015

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV)** announces their 12th annual charity fund-raiser and we respectfully request your support for this event. On **Sunday, February 7, 2016**, we will hold our annual **"Salute to our Troops" Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed**, proudly honoring all those who served. This fundraiser will be at the Veterans Memorial Building - 400 Hartz Avenue in the Town of Danville, CA.

We look forward to your business support for this event with donated merchandise/certificates or gift cards promoting your business / services, or ticket sponsorship for military service personnel. Your donation will be used in our Silent Auction or Raffle held during the 2016 *Charity Crab Feed* event, to raise necessary funds to continue our non-profit organization's projects & programs in our local community.

The VNVDV are an independent, "grass-roots", non-profit & tax-exempt, 501(c)(19), veteran's service organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. We **"proudly served"** and continue to serve our community and veterans... with your support of this annual event. (Tax ID number below).

The money raised through our 2016 **Charity Crab Feed** will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service events - projects & programs that we conduct and support throughout the year - including...

- 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"

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 www.VNVDV.com - or contact us below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2016 **"Salute to our Troops" Charity Crab Feed** and are grateful for your generosity & support of our veterans, active-duty military, and community programs. **Thank you.**

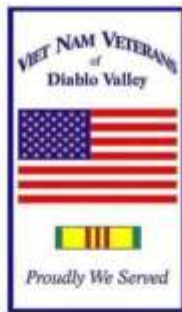
Sincerely,

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

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

VNVDV - P. O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526 - 2079 - WEBSITE: www.VNVDV.com - E-MAIL: VNVDV@gmail.com -

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-profit veteran's organization / corporation (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax



Date: _____

DONATION RECEIPT

To: _____

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

Your Donation Details

\$ - Value

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The money raised through our **2016 Charity Crab Feed**, will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service programs and events the VNVDV conducts and proudly supports throughout the year. We thank you again for your support of the VNVDV.

Sincerely,

Coordinator

Crab Feed Donation Committee 2016

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

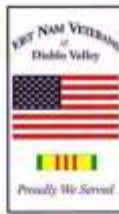
VNVDV Contact: President Ray La Rochelle - Telephone: (925) 606-5828 - E-mail: Ray-L@pacbell.net

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

P. O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526 - 2079 - E-MAIL: VNVDV1@gmail.com - WEBSITE: www.VNVDV.com

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-profit veteran's organization / corporation (EIN 68-0266369)

& exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax



DONATION IDEAS

Sample IDEA list of "donation items" which would greatly assist our VNVDV fundraising event:

- *Gift Certificates / Gift Cards (various values)*
- *Large Bottles or Unique – Special Wine or Liquors*
- *Merchandise and/or Gift Items for our "silent auction" & "Super Raffle"*
- *Cases of Wine – for "silent auction"*
- *Gift Baskets from Professional / Service Businesses & Companies*
- *Military Memorabilia – any Branch or Era (very popular)*
- *Restaurant Dinners or Brunch for Two - Four at area dining*
- *Golf Foursomes with Cart at any golf course*
- *Limo Services or Tours - or other Professional Services*
- *Wine Tasting & Special Tour of Winery s for a group*
- *Sports Memorabilia – Signed / Autographed*
- *Tickets to Music / Art / Play or Pro Sporting or other Special Events*
- *Lodging / Hotel Nights — Private Club or Resort Weekends with dinner*
- *Travel – Trips - Vacations - Airline Tickets or Mileage Coupon Tickets*
- *Professional Services from Service Industry businesses*
- *Balloon - Airplane or Historic Aircraft Rides*
- *Certificates / Passes for Group Events for 2 – 4 – 6 - 8 or more*
- *VIP or Unique "One-of-a-Kind" Opportunities "YOU CAN'T BUY"*
- *Personal Hosting of a DINNER or Special Event at your Home/Business*
- *MAJOR Event SPONSOR for the Crab Feed's Appetizers – Desserts - Wines – Beers – Beverages*
- *Use your imagination or this list to help merchants & donors to support our only fundraising event*
- *Personalize the VNVDV Donation Request Letter to a business or merchant you personally know. Request specific items/merchandise or gift cards & asked they be mailed to our official address - or pick up in person and hand-deliver the "Donation Receipt" included in this packet of materials..*

Remember to keep this donation list with you in your car along with the donation letters & receipts.

VNVDV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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>
<i>Viet Nam Units:</i>				
<i>Location(s):</i>				
<i>Medals & Awards:</i>				

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!



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE 2016 ELECTION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
JANUARY 1, 2016 to DECEMBER 31, 2016



OFFICIAL BALLOT

PRESIDENT

William "Bill" Green _____

VICE PRESIDENT

Dennis Giacovelli _____

TREASURER

Mike "Slatts" Slattengren _____

SECRETARY

Clifford "Cliff" Decuir _____

DIRECTOR of MEMBERSHIP

Joe Callaway _____

DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

John Schafgrans _____

DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Jerry Yahiro _____

DIRECTOR of SPEAKERS

Mike Martin _____

DIRECTOR of INFORMATION

Jon Robbins _____

DIRECTOR of PROCUREMENT

John "T. J." Trujillo _____

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "Garfield" Reese _____

All VNVDV Ballots should be submitted at Annual Meeting in NOV. or copied from the November issue of the INCOMING News and Completed in Full and Mailed to the organizational address - VNVDV - PO Box 2079 - Danville by the Nov. 15, 2015 deadline.

PRINTED NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ CONTACT PHONE: _____

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE COMPLETED ALLOWING ELECTION COMMITTEE TO MATCH AGAINST OUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Nov 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

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!*

2015 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President -

Ray La Rochelle

Vice President -

Bill Green

Treasurer -

Michael Slattengren

Secretary -

Cliff De Cuir

Membership -

Joe Callaway

Director-at-Large -

Dennis Giacovelli

Director of Events -

Jerry Yahiro

Information -

Jon Robbins

Procurement -

John "T.J." Trujillo

Speakers Bureau -

Mike Martin

Public Relations -

John "jgr" Reese

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

PAST PRESIDENTS

Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

