



# INCOMING NEWS



October  
2015



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

## Veterans Day November 11, 2015 Military Displays at VMB ~ Nov. 7 & 8

Raymond  
La Rochelle  
VNVDV  
President

Thanks all  
the coaches  
- swimmers  
& supporters  
involved in  
"Take the  
Rock" 2015



SAT Morning  
Social Coffee...

Join fellow Veterans  
each Saturday  
8AM until 11AM

At the Veterans  
Memorial Building  
in Danville

Pastries too!

### VNVDV Prez Ray's Comments:

TAKE THE ROCK - A HUGE  
SUCCESS!

The annual "Take The Rock" swim challenge from Alcatraz hosted 39 swimmers this year - the largest total to date! They faced some unique challenges this year. A freighter crossed the swim lane in the 7:30 time-frame, requiring the Coast Guard to delay the start until 8:00. This delay caused the swimmers to be caught in the retreating tide & swept them far north off course. Despite fighting the retreating tide all of the swimmers completed the course, having had to swim far longer than anticipated. Great job to all swimmers - coaches & all the event support committee members & volunteers for making the event possible.

BLUE STAR MOMS NEED  
YOUR SUPPORT

Local Chapter 101 - Blue Star Moms are preparing their annual holiday pack for the troops & is in dire need of funding to support the postage required for each package.

ELECTION of OFFICERS  
& DIRECTOR in NOV.  
Nominations OPEN

Flag Pole Ceremony  
Veteran Service Office  
10 Douglas Drive  
Martinez  
Sept. 30th @ 1530 Hrs.

Holiday Dinner - DEC. 3rd

October  
Speakers



Veronica and Peter Villano  
Pilot and Stewardess on World  
Airways during Viet Nam.  
Brought us over & back, and  
part of the final extractions.

Don't miss the meeting.



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

**2015 President Ray La Rochelle**



*Continued from Page One*

The VNVDV Board of Directors voted to donate \$500 to get the ball rolling but they need your individual support to fill their needs. Any amount is welcome. Make checks payable to: [Blue Star Moms, Chapter 101](#). Please support this great pack-out effort to get “care packages” to the troops in time for Christmas.

## VETERANS DAY WEEKEND EVENT – NOVEMBER 7-8, 2015

The Veterans Memorial Building in Danville will be hosting a free public display of military memorabilia in the Main Hall of the VMB. This will be the largest display ever held & **they're looking for your items to add to the event**. Got some interesting or unusual items? Contact Tim Sammons for further details. The weekend event is Free & Open to the Public. Invite friends & neighbors to see this educational exhibit for all ages. Only on Nov. 7 & 8

## VETERANS DAY REMEMBRANCE NOV 11, 2015

Jerry Yahiro is again chairing our joint VSO event at the [San Ramon Valley High School Performance Arts Center](#) with joint sponsorship of the VNVDV - A.L. Post 246 - MCL Det. 942 & VFW Post 75. **This year's event will feature a *Special Salute to Women in the Military***. Mark your calendars & 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



**Calendar the Date**  
**Sunday - FEB. 7th**  
*Tickets on Sale Soon!*  
**VNVDV Crab Feed**

## Contra Costa, Alameda college campuses carve out space for veteran resource centers



A San Ramon-based nonprofit is working with local businesses & the Contra Costa Community College District to set up spaces on four local college campuses where veterans who've come back to school can gather, learn or simply get away for a little while.

The Student Veterans Resource Centers will be designed to offer transition from military service to civilian life and into higher education and new careers.

The centers are coming to Los Medanos College in Pittsburg and Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill late this year, and to the Contra Costa College campus in San Pablo in Fall 2016. Another center is expected to open at the College of Alameda within the next several weeks, said **Mike Conklin**, CEO and board chairman of the Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Fund.

The first center backed by **Sentinels of Freedom** opened at San Francisco State in 2012; PG&E was the lead benefactor with that project, Conklin said. His group's main task since forming in 1998 was offering scholarships to returning soldiers with serious battle injuries requiring rehabilitation, and finding them homes and jobs to help with the transition back to civilian life.

Los Medanos President Bob Kratochvil did a survey of the needs of college veterans, asking what they needed to succeed at college. The top answer: a place for vets to gather and help one another.

# Nominations Open until NOV for Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley 2016 Officers & Board of Directors

Nominations are OPEN - as announced in our September News & at our September dinner meeting. President Ray LA Rochelle's term in office will come to an end on Dec. 31st. He has appointed Past President Del Loewe, as the Chair of the Nomination Recruitment Team along with Past President's Mike Weber & Rich Lambert as official members of the 2016 Elections Committee. Past President Del - Mike & Rich are out **looking for a few good men...** to serve on the Board in 2016. The new VNVDV incoming President will need a solid team working with him... so all members are encouraged to find out more about positions on the Board of Directors. The BOD is where all the *official business* is conducted for the VNVDV and these meetings are held on the THIRD Thursday at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville at 6PM and usually last less than two hours. Voting will occur using the Official Ballots distributed at our annual meeting on the *First Thursday* of November at our Thursday Dinner Meeting and will include the names of those nominated to-date. You can nominate yourself - or members can nominate other current members in good standing. **Any questions about the election process or about the "responsibilities" of each office should be directed to any member of the nomination & election committee.** Ballots for voting in the 2016 Election for Officers & Directors will also be included in the November issue of the *INCOMING News*, and will be distributed to members at our November 5th meeting. Members official written ballots can be turned-in at the Nov. 5th meeting to a member of the Election Committee *or* mailed to the VNVDV official mailing address no later than NOV. 15th. ALL Ballots must be **"completed in full"** to be valid and 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*.

The 2016 Election is for the VNVDV 4 Officers & 7 Board of Directors positions listed below:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

Director of Membership

Director of Events

Director At Large

Director of Information

Director of Procurement

Director of Speakers

Director of Public Relations



**Members Notice:** President Ray has appointed Past Presidents Del Loewe - Rich Lambert & Mike Weber as the 2016 VNVDV Nomination / Election Committee responsible for identifying members who want to get more involved & serve on the 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS. All interested members contact Del Loewe, Rich Lambert or Mike Weber at the October Dinner Meeting or by phone/e-mail. BOD Meetings once a month on 3rd Thursday at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville at 1800 Hrs. To find out more... attend the OCT BOD meeting - if interested in running for any of the positions at the NOV. Dinner Meeting.

All positions are OPEN & the Election Committee encourages members to run for whatever position they desire by notifying any of these three Past Presidents personally - by e-mail (please copy Election Committee members). The duties & responsibilities of all "Officers & Directors" positions listed above are outlined in our organizational by-laws, available to any member. We encourage new members, as well as who now have more time to get more involved - to attend our October Board of Directors meetings this month on the 3rd Thursday at the Danville Veterans Memorial Building at 1800. This is a good way to find out what each position is responsible for & gives members a better understanding & background of the organization. *All members are welcome to attend any Board meeting.* If you have questions about the positions - speak one of the members of the nomination/election committee. The new President "appoints" various Chairs / Co-Chairs & Assistants & are needed in many areas. This is a great way to learn about the duties - help in a significant way - keep our organization strong & active helping fellow veterans - those serving and our community. There are many enjoyable positions to serve - helping with the direction of this amazing organization. We strongly encourages all members to consider joining the 2016 team which promises to be another fun & exciting year. Past President Jerry Yahiro noted... **"The quality of an organization depends on its current leaders' & the members' willingness to participate in the administration of the organization."** 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.*



WALK OF HONOR  
FOR OUR  
VETERANS



VNVDV officers join **Phillips 66** at the Dead Fish Restaurant for Walk of Honor presentation.

Ray, Jerry and Bill were honored to receive a major donation check from the proceeds raised by the **WALK of HONOR** sponsored by the **Phillips 66 - San Francisco Refinery**. Representing **Phillips 66** are Amiee Lohr & Paul Adler - PR Manager. The VNVDV greatly appreciate this tremendous support towards our programs & projects for 2015-2016.

## History on Display at Veterans Memorial Building

Military memorabilia sought for Veterans Day exhibit



**It's Not Too Late...**  
**to include a display of your Military Memorabilia at the VMB the weekend prior to Veteran's Day!**  
**Contact the VMB**

*The theme of this year's exhibit will be "Women in the military."*

The Veterans Memorial Building, in partnership with the Town of Danville, is seeking collections of military memorabilia for an open house featuring temporary exhibits honoring our nation's veterans in conjunction with Veterans Day. The focus for this year's exhibit will be "Women in the Military."

These educational & historic exhibits will be on display in the auditorium of the Veterans Memorial Building - 400 Hartz Avenue, and open to the public Saturday - November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday - November 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Admission is free and an excellent opportunity to share history with children of all ages & grand-children

For those with collections or memorabilia, send a brief description of the items and photos to Tim Sammons, [curator@vmbsrv.org](mailto:curator@vmbsrv.org). Deadline for entries for the exhibit is 12:00 p.m. October 16, 2015. Please mark your calendars for the weekend prior to Veteran's Day - Nov. 7 & 8.

The annual San Ramon Valley Veteran's Day program will be held on Veteran's Day - November 11<sup>th</sup> at the San Ramon Valley High School's Center for Performing Arts beginning at 10:30 with a video program honoring *Women in the Military*. Free and open to the public.

**The VMB Exhibit is FREE and is OPEN to the Public at the Danville Veterans Memorial Building - Sat & Sun NOV. 7 & 8**

# Concord Veterans Center Salutes WWII Veterans on September 2nd in Honor of the 70th Anniversary of the formally ending the War with Japan



*A great event with Pacific and Europe Theatres represented*



Above: **Martin Duering** was 18 when he arrived in a replacement camp in Le Havre, France on Dec. 18, 1944. Martin was assigned to the 35th Infantry Division which was in the Third Army. The 35th would move North from France to engage the German Forces on the Southern shoulder of the Battle of the Bulge. The 35th successfully fought in the relief of the Town of Bastogne, Belgium. Martin was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Later Martin was assigned to the 5th Infantry Division which continued to engage German forces till Luxembourg was finally liberated in mid February 1945.



Above: **Commander "Diz" Laird** is a member of the American Fighter Aces Association. Cmdr. Laird has the unique distinction of being the only American ace to have recorded kills in two Theatres. While serving on the USS Ranger, a carrier in support of the British, a German Junker was engaged off the coast of Norway and successfully downed. Cmdr. Laird was transferred to the Pacific where he earned four kills of Japanese aircraft. Prior to the end of the war Cmdr. Laird was returned to the States to assume Flight training assignments. Cmdr. Laird has flown just about every fighter and trainer plane the Navy had and continued service through Korea and Viet Nam. After WWII he was assigned to the first Navy jet squadron. At the end of his career Cmdr. Laird was contacted by 20th Century Fox where he was selected as a pilot in the filming of *"Tora, Tora, Tora."*



*On the right*  
**"Diz" Laird**  
next to his  
F6F- Hellcat

*On the left*  
the 35 ID  
position on  
25-26 Dec 44



**Let's all join the Marine Corps League for their Italian Night!  
Order your tickets in Advance - no tickets at the VMB door**

# ITALIAN NIGHT

**Saturday, October 10, 2015**

**At Veterans Memorial Building in Danville**

For the benefit of Marine Corps League, Detachment 942  
and Devil Dawgs, Pound 47

**\$25 Per Person**

(After October 3, 2015 \$30)

NO-HOST BAR from 5:30 p.m.

FAMILY STYLE DINNER served at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner includes: Tossed Salad, Meatballs,  
Garlic Bread and Penne Pasta with Meat Sauce  
From Genova Deli,  
Dessert & Coffee

**NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR**

ALL SEATS RESERVED & RESERVATIONS NOT CONFIRMED UNTIL MONEY RECEIVED.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MCL 942, and Mail to:

1441 SPRINGBROOK RD., WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 (Attn: Marylou)

or DROP CHECKS OFF AT Marine Corps League meeting

FOR INFORMATION CALL: MARYLOU 932-0471

**PAID-FOR TICKETS WILL BE AT THE DOOR**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

With whom would you like to sit \_\_\_\_\_

(Show all names)

**at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville - SAT. - Oct. 10th**

# TAKE THE ROCK

September 20, 2015



# Veterans Day - November 11, 2015 - *Recognition of Women in the Military* at San Ramon Valley HS



***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!***



**Display Your Military Memorabilia  
at the Veterans Memorial Building  
of the San Ramon Valley**

**SAT - NOV. 7th & SUN NOV. 8th  
in Danville**

**VETERANS DAY 2015...** the Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley – located in Danville will feature a special educational & historical exhibit of local military items & memorabilia on the weekend prior to Veterans Day – SAT, Nov 7<sup>th</sup> & SUN Nov 8<sup>th</sup> this special event will be held in the Main Veterans Hall Auditorium and has been referred to as a “Do it yourself Museum” - **goal is to honor – pay tribute & remember our veterans.** The Library & Museum Committee for our local Veterans’ Memorial Building is asking local veterans and their family members to gather any special military items are ready them for display to the public Veterans Day weekend prior. Have questions... contact VMB Museum Curator at: [curator@vmbsrv.org](mailto:curator@vmbsrv.org)

Do you have special military memorabilia to display from your personal collection or a family member? This is a special opportunity to display these special items at the Danville Veterans Memorial Building the weekend **PRIOR** to Veteran’s Day in our weekend tribute to all of our local veterans and a special **salute to all women in the military**... look through your family treasures and contact the VMB Museum Curator to discuss - and reserve your space to display your items in Danville at the Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley for **SAT & SUN - NOV. 7 & 8.** Contact our Curator at: [curator@vmbsrv.org](mailto:curator@vmbsrv.org)

***Free educational exhibits - Open to the Public - for all ages!***



# Don't Miss our Featured Guest Speakers Monthly

VNVDV Dinner Speakers On-Deck:

- October 1**      **Veronica and Peter Villano** - Pilot and Stewardess on World Airways during Viet Nam. Brought us over, and back, and part of the final extractions.
- November 5**    **John Gallagher**- from "Save Mount Diablo" one of the Beacon Boyz who restored the "Eye of Diablo"
- December 3**    **Annual Holiday Appreciation Dinner** - *Reservations Required*

## *Special Thanks*

to our September Speaker  
**Mike Conklin, Chairman**  
**Sentinels of Freedom**  
*Scholarship Foundation*



## Recognition of September Dinner Attendees



*Top Left* - Roseanne Phillips - President of San Francisco East Bay Chapter 101 Blue Star Moms - Roseanne will be working with the Wreaths Across America Program and the "Hugs for the Holidays" care package program.

*Top Right* - (left) CPT David Ferstl – 2-360<sup>th</sup> CS/CSS (Training Support Battalion) and (right) SFC Charles Fultz visiting from Camp Parks

*Left* - Michael Hurding - new member and a participant in the G4V—Guitars for Vets program at the Livermore Veterans Center the VNVDV supports.



# 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](mailto:Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us)



**VENTURE RESEARCH**  
Commercial Real Estate  
Appraisers & Consultants

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



**Promotive**  
Performance and Repair

**"Veteran Owned"**

Richard Rein  
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane  
Unit E  
Walut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268





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

## **Diablo Valley VMB Seeking Your Military Memorabilia for FREE educational exhibit**



510 La Gonda Way  
Danville, CA 94526  
Phone (925) 314-3388  
Fax (925) 838-0548

### Press Release

Contact: Henry Pesezalono  
Phone: (925) 314-3454

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
3:30 pm July 29, 2015

### History on Display at Veterans Building

### Military memorabilia sought for Veterans Day exhibit

The Veterans Memorial Building, in partnership with the Town of Danville, is seeking collections of military memorabilia for an open house featuring temporary exhibits honoring our nation's veterans in conjunction with Veterans Day. The focus for this year's exhibit will be "Women in the Military."

The exhibits will be on display in the auditorium of the Veterans Memorial Building - 400 Hartz Avenue - and open to the public Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Admission is free.

For those with collections or memorabilia, send a brief description of the items and photos to Tim Sammons - [curator@vmbsrv.org](mailto:curator@vmbsrv.org) Deadline for entries for the exhibit is 12:00 p.m. October 16, 2015.



Community Supporters do not want you to miss-out of the Free - Public displays of our Military vehicles & much more - at the Danville VMB on Nov. 7 & 8

Contact Tim Sammons - VMB Curator at: [Curator@VMBSRV.org](mailto:Curator@VMBSRV.org) if you have items for display on Nov 7 & 8



# 9 / 11

A heartrending eye-witness account  
Of desperation on the 78th Floor  
Defending freedom on American Soil.  
Yet it all started —  
"On a Clear Day"



## 9/11 TRIBUTE TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS



Ken Abrams SRVHS Chamber Choir



GSM—Mary Tollerson

Bert Upson—  
Speaker and  
Author "ON A  
CLEAR DAY"



Ryan Sykes

# Feature Story

Kenneth Hathaway • United States Navy  
(Mr. Hathaway is the uncle of IAS employee Debra Moore)



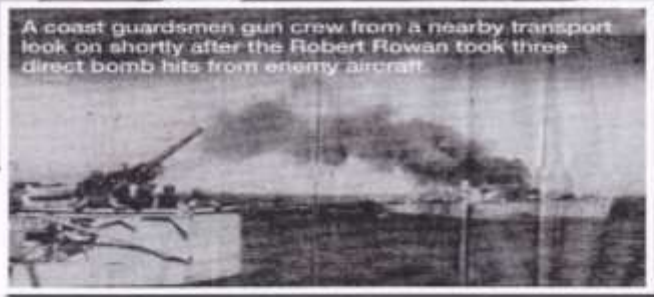
Ken Hathaway  
Out of Boot Camp  
January 1942



Hathaway and a  
Shipmate in  
September 1944



Ken Hathaway 2011

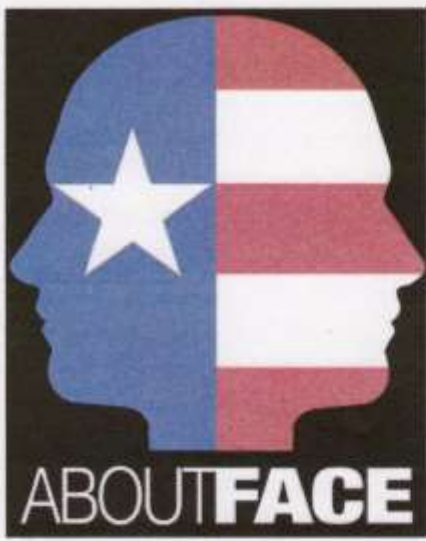


A coast guardmen gun crew from a nearby transport look on shortly after the Robert Rowan took three direct bomb hits from enemy aircraft.



The explosion of the Robert Rowan.

Ken Hathaway, a resident of Antioch, joined the Navy shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack. Completing basic and gunnery schools, Ken was assigned to cargo ships operated by the Merchant Marine. This included trips to Murmansk, Russia. On 9-10 July 1943 Ken was serving on the Robert Rowan in support of the Invasion of Sicily. German Junker 88 bombers attacked the Robert Rowan and successfully hit the Liberty Ship with three bombs before being driven off by Ken Hathaway's gunnery crews who were credited with downing two enemy aircraft. The Robert Rowan carried fuel and ammunition and sunk without any casualties after a spectacular explosion. Ken Hathaway received commendations for his direction of the Robert Rowan defense. Ken remained in the Navy to the end of 1951 and continued in the reserves for another four years. [Article & information prepared by editor - Jon Robbins](#)



# 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 workshop to help Veterans of all service, all ages, and all service dates, network and tell their story.

OCTOBER 20 & 22 — 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm NOVEMBER 3 & 5 — 6:00 pm TO 9:00 pm  
OCTOBER 27 & 29 — 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm NOVEMBER 17 & 19 — 6:00 pm TO 9:00 pm

If you are a Veteran living in Contra Costa County please register at [ACS.org](http://ACS.org)

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



# Friends of the Blackhawk Museums presents NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Sunday, October 4, 2015

See the Spirits Come Alive!

## Friends of the Blackhawk Museums presents NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Sunday, October 4, 2015 - 5:00 PM

Join us for a Wild West themed hoe-down at the Blackhawk Museum in "The Spirit of the Old West" gallery & under the stars to support the Children's Education and Transportation Fund.

- BBQ DINNER BY BACK FORTY TEXAS BBQ
- LIVE MUSIC & DANCING
- WESTERN COSTUME CONTEST
- HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS

Price: \$100 per person

Limited to 150 Guests

Attendees are encouraged to don their choice of Western Wear to join in the costume contest. No Host Bar. Purchase your tickets now and enjoy a great night in the Old West.

Purchase tickets online at: [BlackhawkMuseum.org](http://BlackhawkMuseum.org)  
Or make checks payable to: Friends of the Blackhawk Museum

Mail to: JoAnne Nissim  
3871 Deer Trail Lane  
Danville, CA 94506-4652

For more information: [FOBM@blackhawkmuseum.org](mailto:FOBM@blackhawkmuseum.org)  
Or Call: (925) 736-9393

## Visit the Marines Memorial Hotel & Club

### Octoberfest by the Bay

**Oktoberfest** By The Bay is one of the Top 10 best [places](#) to celebrate Oktoberfest in the USA. Various venues.

[Open](#) FRIDAY SEPT. 25: 5pm-12am SATURDAY SEPT. 26: DAY 11am-5pm | NIGHT 6pm-12am [SUNDAY](#) SEPT. 27: 11am-6pm

### Fleet Week Special Events

Don't miss the most spectacular [event](#) of the year. The Blue Angels [practice](#) from 12-5pm on October 8 with the Air Show kicking off on October 9 from 12:30-4pm. And the Parade of Ships from 10-11am on October 9 with ship's tours available on Saturday, October 10 and [Sunday](#), October 11. Visit the [website](#) for more information and [activities](#) including visiting the Humanitarian Village on Marina Green.

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Music Festival  
OCTOBER 2-4, 2015 [Location](#): Golden Gate Park, SF

DETAILS CONTACT: [WWW.MARINECLUB.COM](http://WWW.MARINECLUB.COM)



OCT 9 - 11



BLUE STAR MOMS – CHAPTER 101

SAN FRANCISCO 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 - i.e. 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 Pop Top Canned Fruit (no plastic) Crackers plain/w/Cheese - Cheese Packs (non-refrig types)

**SPECIALTY ITEMS** Ground Coffee (Peet's and Starbucks are popular) 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!!**

**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**

We are a 501(c)(3) IRS designated non-profit group.

East Bay Blue Star Moms - P.O. Box 2537 -San Ramon, California 94583



# VNVDV Member *October* Birthdays

Joe Callaway	10/3 Army	Richard Vanucci	10/7 PHS (Public Health Service)
Jim Murphy	10/8 Navy	Jon Robbins - Editor	10/8 Army
James Handlin	10/10 Army	Bob Sada	10/10 Air Force
John Reese	10/11 Navy	Tim Perry	10/14 Navy
Jerry Yahiro	10/11 Army	Greg Brown	10/15 Marine
Dennis Marguet	10/15 Marine	Henry Fanger	10/17 Navy
Mac McConnico	10/18 Army	David Behring	10/25 Honorary
Terry Miller	10/28 Army	Bill Chew	10/30 Army

## MEMBER RECOGNITION

NEW MEMBER - Richard Harrow - Navy

The September Newsletter failed to recognize the birthdays of:

Fred Granados Army 9/16      Lawrence Ames Air Force 9/21



**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](mailto: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](http://VeteransCrisisLine.net) or text to 838255 •



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

Danville Veterans Memorial Building: [www.VMBSRV.org](http://www.VMBSRV.org)

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

All Wars Memorial & obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: [www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel & Club in SF - Visit their website: [www.MarineClub.com](http://www.MarineClub.com)

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

Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support mobility - Visit: [www.WineforWheels.org](http://www.WineforWheels.org)

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

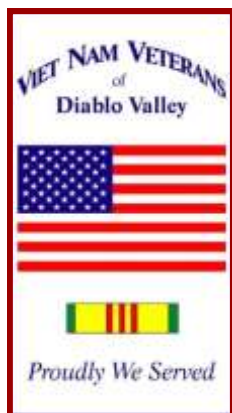
And many others...

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

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

See OUR websites for additional listings & Links

Activities - Events - Programs & Projects



*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*



REALTORS



MIKE WEBER  
Realtor \*

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle  
Danville, CA 94506  
CalBRE#00441586

direct: 925.736.1500  
mweber@rockcliff.com

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fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: [48@fastsigns.com](mailto:48@fastsigns.com)

**BLUE STAR MOMS**  
 Serving you at Gianni's

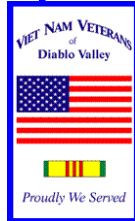


GREAT DINING

Gianni's Italian Bistro

**NOV. 9TH**

**Monday - 5 to 8**  
 Make Your Reservations  
 for Dinner with the BSM  
**925 / 820 - 6969**




**All Wars Memorial  
 PAVERS**

**less than 30 remaining!**  
[www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)



**VNVDV Membership Dues  
 Now only \$25.**

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



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

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



**Rub it on - Pain is gone!**  
 Promo Code: 2058

**Mike Martin**  
 Independent Vendor

1090 B Street, #128  
 Hayward, CA 94541  
 925.323.1093

[www.AskMikeMartin.com](http://www.AskMikeMartin.com) | [info@askmikemartin.com](mailto:info@askmikemartin.com)

**JOHN F. KENNEDY UNIVERSITY**  
presents  
**FRONT LINE to HOME FRONT**  
**Suicide Prevention**



-- Save the date -- \* **See attached workshop flyer for full details...**

Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> - John F. Kennedy University will be hosting a suicide prevention event.

*Please RSVP today.* We hope to see you there and help with this very important and serious issue.

We will have three speakers who will speak on the topic of suicide among veteran and current service members and how we can broach the subject and seek out resources.

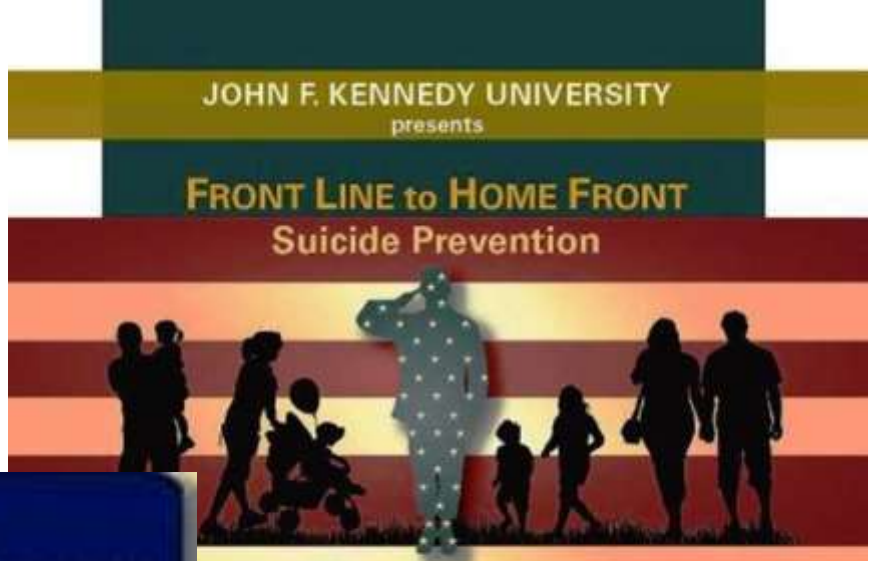
*Please share this important information...*

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Captain Tom Chaby**  
Decorated Navy SEAL Commander currently serving as Director of the Preservation of the Force and Family Task Force for the US Special Operations Command

**Session Presenters**  
**Melodi Billera**  
Clinical and research social worker with the Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center at the Denver VA Medical Center

**Brian Adkinson**  
Suicide Prevention Coordinator for the Veteran's Administration - East Bay

...And representatives from local veteran agencies and support



To register for the event, go to  
<http://bit.ly/JFKUnivFrontLine2015>.

**Saturday, October 24, 2015 | 10 am – 2:30 pm**  
**100 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA**  
A **FREE** half-day workshop with resources for struggling servicemembers and their families

Sign Up for OCT. 24th Workshop...  
Full details in the workshop flyer.

Jared Anderson  
Veteran Academic Advisor  
Academic Advisor  
John F. Kennedy University  
100 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA  
W. [925.969.3332](tel:925.969.3332) F. [925.969.3136](tel:925.969.3136)  
[janderson2@jfku.edu](mailto:janderson2@jfku.edu)

**Who should attend?**

- Veterans and servicemembers and their families
- Military service organizations
- Counselors, therapists and mental health professionals
- Primary care and community health providers
- Substance abuse treatment providers
- Advocacy groups

...and anyone interested in issues facing servicemembers and their families

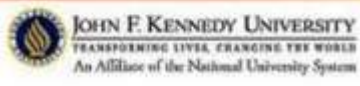
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...And representatives from local veteran agencies and support organizations.

To register for the event, go to  
<http://bit.ly/JFKUnivFrontLine2015>.



# VNVDV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

VIET NAM VETERANS  
of  
Diablo Valley



Proudly We Served

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

	<i>Last</i>	<i>First &amp; MI</i>	<i>Home Phone</i>	<i>Cell Phone</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>
NAME:					
Spouse / SO					
	<i>No. &amp; 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](http://www.VNVDV.com) for other Activities & Programs**

**I PLEDGE MY INTENT TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. TO HELP MAKE IT A SUCCESS AND OFFER ASSISTANCE WHENEVER POSSIBLE. I ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LIABILITY IN ANY ACTIVITY I CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN AND HOLD HARMLESS THE VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY, ITS MEMBERS AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOULD ANY MISHAP OCCUR. I PLEDGE TO ABIDE WITH THE BYLAWS OF THE 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

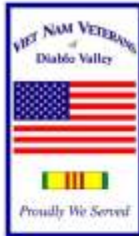
**Please Mail your completed application to our P.O. Box above or Submit at our 1st/Thurs. of Month Dinner. Thank You!**

# VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Oct 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](mailto:VNVDV1@gmail.com)

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

## 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

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](http://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

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

