

# INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

May 2016



Register now for the **"WALK of HONOR"** for our Veterans  
*Support Local Organizations / Events Supporting our Veterans*  
**Commanding General USCENTCOM Visits VMB in Danville**



Bill Green VNVDDV  
President 2016

*East Bay Stand Down* is our community support program to provide a helping hand-up - not a hand-out to our Homeless & in-need Veterans & the dates are modified to SEPT. 15 - 18 to provide additional time for set-up of the encampment. We are honored to be a Major Sponsor of EBSD 2016. Join us in supporting this major community effort at the Alameda County Fair Grounds.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is May and a busy month, but before we talk about May, let's look back at April....

The month began with our monthly dinner meeting in which we were honored with the company of 12 young active-duty Army Rangers plus having Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient **Leroy Petry**, U.S.A. & **Bryan Anderson**, Distinguished Service Cross recipient (2<sup>nd</sup> highest - just under the CMOH) joined us. The VNVDDV also made VMB 97 years young, senior Decent, **Art Gaskins**, WW II Veteran, an Honorary Life Member of our VSO, and **Leroy Petry** gave Art his CMOH personal Challenge Coin. *What a great night!*

Then the **Sentinels of Freedom Gala** and what a party it was & I am honored to advise our membership we were a **Major Sponsor** at the **Sentinels Gala!** In addition to Leroy & Bryan at the Gala we had the honor of **4-Star, Commanding General of USCENTCOM General Joseph Votel, U. S. Army** visit & tour **Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley** in the Town of Danville, prior to his remarks at the **Blackhawk Museum** at the **Sentinels Gala**. This was a real honor to meet & personally shake hands with these **Heroes...** representing all our members.

Continued page two

Honor Your Hero  
*Walk in their Honor*  
on Armed Forces Day

SAT - May 21, 2016

at the *Phillips 66*

**WALK of HONOR!**

**Register On-Line NOW**  
**& plan to carry a Photo Sign**  
**of your family's Veteran to**  
**Honor & pay Tribute to them.**  
**Include the names of your**  
**Veterans for the Tribute Wall.**

**Walk Applications NOW On-Line**  
**WALK directly Supports VNVDDV Programs**

## To the Community

**A reminder... The East Bay's Largest MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE is Monday - MAY 30**

In Oak Hill Park  
Site of the beautiful  
ALL WARS  
MEMORIAL  
3005 Stone Valley  
Road (next to Monte  
Vista High School)  
Town of Danville

Plan to Attend!



**May Featured Speaker**  
**TOM CORBETT, VNVDDV member will**  
**discuss his varied operational as-**  
**signments while serving with the**  
**Marine Corps in the Demilitarized**  
**Zone of South Viet Nam.**  
**Please join fellow Veterans!**

# 2016 VNVDV President Bill Green

(Continued from Page One)

A big honor as President of our active VSO... we presented a donation check to **East Bay Stand Down** at their monthly public planning meeting to become **EBSD first 2016 Major Sponsor**. **Note: EBSD dates have been modified allowing more time for set-up. EBSD is now scheduled for Sept. 15 - 18** at the Alameda County Fair Grounds to aid the VA in ending homelessness among Veterans in our community.

We have a lot to look forward to in **May... our busiest month of the year**. The VNVDV has two major events, first & very important the **Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans on Armed Forces Day - Sat. - May 21<sup>st</sup>** We need "all hands" available to **register on-line & support the "WALK"**... even if unable to attend! We rather have you participate in this enjoyable morning event. We all know how important this event is in supporting our local programs & projects.

Followed by our **Annual Memorial Day Remembrance** at Oak Hill Park on **Mon. - May 30<sup>th</sup>**. Jerry is requesting help in set-up & break-down at the event & as reward you can participate in our **members-only BBQ** after the event. We all remember those who gave the ultimate for our freedom on this day. Please attend to pay tribute to our warriors.

Every month, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7PM our **County VSO's Veterans' Voices** on CCTV. Make it a point to *watch the show Live* & call in with questions or comments & become part of the show. Nathen is looking for Veterans to serve on an **Advisory Committee** & viewers to participate in surveys. He needs our support so let's do our part to help our VSO!

The **D/SV Rotary**, a great supporter of the VNVDV is having their **Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival** on **Thur. - May 19<sup>th</sup>**. This is usually our Board meeting night, but as announced last month - the date of our **May BOD moved back one-day to Wed - May 18<sup>th</sup>** allowing Board members a chance to support this outstanding event, as we hope our members & supporters will too... get your invitation!

Mike Martin & our **VNVDV Speakers Bureau** is in full swing because May is its busiest month. Now, let's not forget **Mother's Day!** One last thing, **Del Loewe** had some replacement parts added. Like many of us... guess a lot of that is going around! Del, operation was a success & he's back home. We wish speedy recovery to all who are healing & fighting illness... **GET WELL SOON.**

I look forward to seeing you at our next dinner & at the events outlined above. Thanks for all the support & *Have a Good One!*

**WILLIAM "BILL" GREEN**  
**President 2016**  
**PH: 925 / 683-3293**  
**E: BillGreen@aol.com**



## To Do List.. EVENTS YOU SHOULD ATTEND

VMB Veterans Coffee  
Every Saturday - 8-11AM

County Veteran Service Officer  
By Appt. Every Wed 10AM-3PM

D/VS Rotary **Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival**  
Thurs. - MAY 19th - Danville

BSM - Golf Tournament  
Callippe Preserve Golf Course  
May 20 - Friday 10AM

Phillips 66 - Walk of Honor  
Armed Forces Day  
MAY 21th - SAT - Crockett

Swearing-In Ceremony  
May 22 - VMB - Danville

Memorial Day Remembrance  
Oak Hill Park  
MAY 30th - Danville

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

The VNVDV Board of Directors Meeting regularly scheduled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month is CHANGED for the month of MAY 2016 ONLY & will NOT be held on MAY 19th. The BOD passed a motion to move the May BOD meeting to WED - MAY 18th - 6PM (the day before) at 6PM at the VMB/SRV..

The official change for May was requested by VNVDV President BILL GREEN to show our organization's support for a special non-profit organization who supports VNVDV projects & programs & Veterans in our community.

Changing the MAY BOD allows VNVDV leadership & members to support Danville / Sycamore Valley Rotary Club's Community Foundation by attending their 2016 Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival at the Blackhawk Museum on Thursday - MAY 19th at 5PM. We encourage all members & supporters to attend this outstanding event! More details are in this edition of the INCOMING News.

Invitations limited - contact Newell Arnerich

# WALK of HONOR 2016



## 2016 WALK of HONOR for our Veterans Sponsored by Phillips 66 Refinery & Carbon Plant

### Honoring the Men and Women who Served Our Nation

The **Phillips 66 SF Refinery & Carbon Plant** invite you to join with us in honoring & celebrating the service of our military veterans on **Armed Forces Day - Saturday, May 21, 2016**. The 8th Annual "Walk of Honor for our Veterans" is a short walk across the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge & back followed by an outstanding BBQ luncheon. Last year's "WALK" event was a huge success & well attended. Over 600 employees, contractors & local residents participated in the celebration, & together we raised \$40,000 to support Veteran projects in our community! The planning committee is working hard to surpass last year's fundraising & attendance milestones, & we know with your support we are sure to succeed! We promise you a fun, exciting & fulfilling **Armed Forces Day 2016** honoring the men & women who proudly serve today & all those who have valiantly served our nation. A short ceremony during lunch at the Crockett Community Center with a special guest speaker & raffle. Outside beginning at 8AM until 12 noon the "WALK" features a **Veteran Information Fair - an EXPO** featuring non-profit & government providers with valuable information for Veterans - family & community members. Exhibitors include VA Health Care, Department of Veteran Affairs, County Veterans Service Office, Concord Vet Center, Blue Star Moms, Sentinels of Freedom, JFK University, Shelter, Inc., the Wheelchair Foundation & Blackhawk Museum, U.S. Park Service "Rosie the Riveter" + invited Veteran Service Organizations & s displays of military vehicles including a UH-1 Huey Helicopter for family to climb aboard & take photos. Remember your camera! **Join Us! Register NOW on-line at: [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)** & if you know **Sponsors** interested in being included on the Walk of Honor participant shirt & in the program - contact **Phillips 66** before the deadline. Registration forms & sponsor contacts *on the website*.

### Walk of Honor Schedule of Events in Crockett on SAT. - MAY 21st

- 8:00AM - 9:30AM** - "Walk" Check-In / Registration at the Crockett Community Center - 850 Pomona Street - Crockett, CA. Register on-line in advance at: [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com) - \$25. Registration includes "Walk" Shirt & great BBQ Luncheon - items provided at the Veteran Information Fair, military displays + an American Flag for the Walk.
- 8AM - 1PM** - The VA along with many local Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) & other non-profit organizations serving veterans & their families will be on hand providing information regarding their services / programs / projects and benefits available to veterans / family members and those who proudly serve today. Plus UH-1 Huey for photos
- 10:00AM** - "Walk" begins. Transportation will be provided to and from the bridge (from Community Center)
- 11:45AM** - Luncheon Ceremony. Following the "Walk" all registered participants are invited to join us for a special BBQ luncheon & ceremony, a special guest speaker, plus music and a outstanding raffle & the Veteran Information Fair/EXPO

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Your registration & 100% of all contributions to the Phillips 66 Walk of Honor will be divided evenly between the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) & the Crockett Community Services District (CCSD). The VNVDV a non-profit, all-volunteer VSO dedicated to present & former members of the Armed Forces of the United States, through the support of local community activities, programs, & projects which recognize the contributions & sacrifices of Veterans. The CCSD is dedicated to the preservation & restoration of the historic Crockett Veterans Memorial Hall built in the 1920s. Support the WALK!

Join us & Walk in Honor of your family Veteran & help support those currently serving & our Veterans by registering for the **2016 Phillips 66 "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans** on SAT - May 21<sup>st</sup> Armed Forces Day in Crockett



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# Phillips 66 "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans "Featured Guest Lunch Speaker"



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Carbon Plant



Crockett  
Community  
Services  
District



## Phillips 66 - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk of Honor for Our Veterans



The "Walk of Honor for Our Veterans" event is fortunate to have Stephen Shodeen, SFC, US Army/Army Reserves (ret.) as our guest speaker.

SFC Shodeen joined the Army Reserves while still in high school, and attended Basic Training between his junior and senior year. He continued to serve for the following 2 yrs. as a Communications and Electronics Specialist (31V) with the 483<sup>rd</sup> Transportation BN at Oakland Army Base.

In 1987 he joined active duty as an Infantryman (11B), and was later selected to join The 3<sup>rd</sup> US Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) at Ft. Myer, Virginia. While a member of The Old Guard, he was on a Full Honor Casket Team, which conducted Army funerals in Arlington National Cemetery and surrounding cemeteries. He later tried-out and became a member of The United States Army Drill Team, representing the Army and performing nationwide. He later trained and became a Sentinel and Assistant Relief Commander at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He is listed as the 386<sup>th</sup> Tomb Guard Identification Badge Holder, since the badge was awarded in 1958. There are just over 600 Tomb Guard badges issued to this day.

SFC Shodeen volunteered to be an Army recruiter and returned to the Bay Area for 3 years, recruiting in Oakland, Richmond, Alameda and the tri-valley area. After leaving active duty, SFC Shodeen was member of different reserves units at Camp Parks in Dublin, supporting the missions at hand. He is currently in the Retired Reserves. He is currently a police officer with Livermore Police Department, and also served with the San Leandro Police Department prior, for a total of 17 yrs.

SFC Shodeen is married to a California school teacher, and has 2 adult daughters, the oldest who is currently an Army Sgt. serving as a Combat Photographer (Airborne) and is an Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran.

**Register on-line for the Phillips 66 "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans  
[www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com) & support community Veteran Service Programs**

# Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans REGISTRATION FORM

Registration On-Line & WALK in Honor of a Veteran in your family!



Rodeo Refinery and  
Carbon Plant



Crockett  
Community  
Services  
District



Sign up today for the May 21, 2016 event! Enjoy a memorable leisurely walk across the "Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge" and share a delicious BBQ lunch at the Crockett Community Center – 850 Pomona St., Crockett. Invite your family, friends and neighbors; and enjoy yourself while honoring the service of loved ones who honored us by their service to our country.

Check-in 8:30 am - 9:30 am at the Crockett Community Center/ Walk will begin at 10:00 am

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

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

Tear along dotted line, keep top portion for your records

## Registration Form

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City, State, Zip

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Walking in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Veteran: Name(s)

Early Registration \$25.00, after May 1, 2016 Registration is \$30 (T-shirt and BBQ included)

T-Shirt Size: S / M / L / XL / 2XL / 3XL (Please circle one)

Please make checks payable to: SFR Community Fund, (Tax ID#45-2483804). Mail registration form along with check to:

Phillips 66, Attn: Aimee Lohr, 1380 San Pablo Avenue, Rodeo, CA 94572

Register online at [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)

**Participation waiver must be filled out completely. Application deadline is May 14, 2016.**

### Participant Waiver

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree that I will indemnify and hold harmless Phillips 66, its subsidiaries and affiliates, successors, assigns, agents, representatives, directors, officers, and employees, from any and all liability or claims of injury of whatsoever nature which may be incurred by me as a result of my voluntary participation in the Walk of Honor for our Veterans event sponsored by Phillips 66 on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

I further represent and certify to Phillips 66, its officers, employees, agents and assigns that I am physically able to do the various things enumerated above without limitation, and that I have no disabilities which might prevent me from doing the same.

All banners, flags, or apparel worn or carried in the WALK are subject to the approval of the Walk of Honor Committee. Non-compliance with this policy will subject offenders to eviction from the WALK or banquet and forfeiture of their application fee.

I certify that either I am eighteen (18) years of age or older, or that my parent or court-appointed guardian has full knowledge of my participation in this event and has given me permission to participate, as evidenced by his/her signature below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARTICIPANT (If not age 18 or older, parent/guardian must co-sign below.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/GUARDIAN (Undersigned has read the above and understands this waiver.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

For additional information, please contact Aimee Lohr at 510.245.5130 or Paul Adler at 510.245.4400

Thank you for your support!

**Your Participation in the Walk of Honor supports many VNVDV worthwhile programs for Veterans.**  
Complete this Registration Form & Mail with your Registration Fee to: Aimee Lohr - Phillips 66 - 1380 San Pablo Ave. - Rodeo, CA 94572

2016 Sentinels of Freedom Gala with Guest of Honor  
General Joseph Votel USA & Medal of Honor Recipient Leroy Petry



The VNVDV Proudly Supports & Thanks Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Members for their Support of all Veterans & our VMB & encourages Your Support of the Blackhawk Film Festival!



Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley  
Community Foundation

Presents the 26th Annual

# BLACKHAWK FOOD, WINE & FILM FESTIVAL

Date: Thursday, May 19th, 2016  
Time: 5:30 – 8:30 PM  
Location: The Blackhawk Museum  
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, California



Featuring the movie "007 in Casino Royale"

An Evening of Great Food, Wine & Entertainment!

Featuring the wines of Livermore Valley, local fine restaurants, and great musical entertainment, Silent and Live Auctions

2016 FUND-A-CAUSE to benefit Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation assist veterans with severe service-related injuries who have the aptitude, attitude, and drive to become independent and successful members of society.



Featuring Wineries from the Livermore Valley & the Finest Restaurants  
Throughout the San Ramon Valley

Proceeds go to the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization in support of local charitable and non-profit organizations and international service projects.

A Private Event for the Donors of the Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation with a minimum annual donation of \$50.00 or more.

Advance Invitations Only. Information at [Newell@ADarch.com](mailto:Newell@ADarch.com) or call 510.366.0716

To obtain a "Donor Invitation" to the Rotary Foundation Festival  
Contact: Helen Reese ~ Newell Arnerich or David Behring

Veteran Services Organization received a welcomed visit from USCENTCOM General Votel and Staff for a review of the Exhibits and Services offered at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley





# Viet Nam Veterans Diablo Valley May Birthdays

This month please acknowledge the following:

**Bob Moore - Army**

**Mike Stalcup - Army**

**Gary Estrella - Marine**

**Norm Mahalich - Marine**

**Jim Morrill - Navy**

**Ron Azarcon - Air Force**

**Dennis Stogner Army**

**Steve Mick - Navy**

**Gene Ghio - Army**

**Jim Oram - Army**

**Esteban Ramirez - Army**

**Mark Connors - Air Force**

**Skip George - Army**

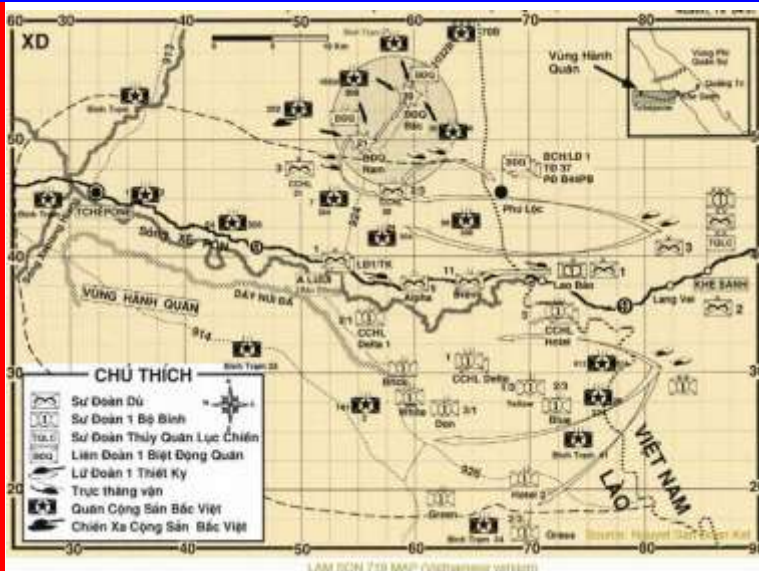
**Shelly Hansen - Navy**



**Welcome to new Member  
MICHAEL HOUSTON  
AIR FORCE**



**THANKS to the April Speaker  
DAVE SMITH for his presenta-  
tion on his trip to Laos includ-  
ing the Ho Chi Minh trail and  
the Battle of Lam Son 719 /  
Dewey Canyon II**



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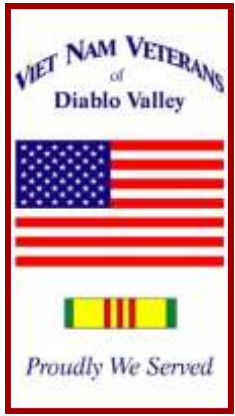
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# VNVDV Dinner April 2016 - Guests from the 75th Ranger Regiment Fort Benning





# Memorial Day Remembrance

## Mon. May 30th

### Oak Hill Park in Danville



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley are working with the All Wars Memorial Foundation, Town of Danville & fellow VSOs to present another successful Memorial Day at Oak Hill Park.

**Plan to join us and attend**

The VNVDV will need volunteers to help set-up cammo & chairs beginning at **0730** at Oak Hill Park on Monday May 30th prior to the arrival of community guests beginning at 10AM for seating. The Danville Community Band play at 10:30 & the Program will start at 11:00. **This year's one**-hour program will also feature a Vietnam UH-1 Huey to climb aboard for family photos - also at Oak Hill Park is the All Wars Memorial, next to MVHS on Stone Valley Road.

This is the largest traditional Memorial Day Remembrance program in the east bay & it is Open to the public. Please invite friends, neighbors & community members to take two-hours out of the weekend to honor **FALLEN WARRIORS** whose sacrifice made it possible for us to enjoy the freedom we have.

**We will also need volunteers again to assist in taking down the cammo & chairs...** and following the clean-up - we will have our annual *Members Only Family BBQ* & remembrance - **in the parking lot "after" the program & event tear-down** .

**REMEMBER** - all members need to bring *"something to share"* - a side dish - **salad or dessert** **"with enough for their family plus extra - to share with others members."**

Everyone is also responsible for **"bringing their own"** favorite beverage. [Furnished by the organization](#): the Main **"meat" dish** - condiments - plates/silver wear/napkins. Bring your own chairs or picnic blanket, sun-screen.



**The VNVDV Thanks the Blackhawk Chorus Members for their Support  
our our Crab Feed & the Sentinels of Freedom Foundation &  
Encourages Your Support of their Spring Concerts!**

**THE BEST OF** Presented by  
**THE Blackhawk**  
**CHORUS**  
under the direction of  
**DIANE GILFETHER**

**THE BEATLES**

**Sunday**  
**May 22, 2016**  
**4:30 PM**  
**St. Joan of Arc Church**  
**San Ramon, CA**  
Proceeds Benefit  
The Blackhawk Chorus  
Music Education Support fund

**Saturday**  
**May 21, 2016**  
**8PM**  
**Leshner Center for the Arts**  
**Walnut Creek, CA**

**\$25 for Adults**  
**\$17 for Children (12 and under)**

**Join The Blackhawk Chorus, now in its 24th year, for a musical celebration of Beatlemania – including timeless classics "All You Need is Love", "I Want to Hold Your Hand", "Here Comes the Sun", "Yesterday", hits "She Loves You", and "Can't Buy Me Love", and many more." A concert you don't want to miss!**

**for Tickets go to: [www.BlackhawkChorus.com](http://www.BlackhawkChorus.com)**  
for additional information, visit [www.BlackhawkChorus.com](http://www.BlackhawkChorus.com)

**Don't Miss the "BEATLES" Musical Concert by the Blackhawk Chorus in May.  
The VNVDV encourages you to Order your Tickets Early! Concerts do Sell-Out!**



**The Veterans Memorial Building  
of the San Ramon Valley,  
The Town of Danville and  
The City of San Ramon**

Are honored to request your presence for a  
Military Recruit Swearing-in Ceremony  
to honor the Monte Vista, San Ramon Valley,  
Dougherty Valley, Del Amigo, and California  
High School students graduating in 2016  
and enlisting in the Military.

Each recruit is invited to bring their immediate family  
members to witness this special event in their lives.

Sunday May 22, 2016  
Check-in at twelve thirty,  
program starting at one o'clock

To be held at the  
Veterans Memorial Building  
of the San Ramon Valley  
Community Hall  
115 E. Prospect Avenue,  
Danville, CA 94526

RSVP to: [info@vmbsrv.org](mailto:info@vmbsrv.org) or 925-362-9806  
Light refreshments to follow



Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley invites our nine Veteran Service Organizations to join Parents & Families of our Military Recruits for the 2016 **"Swearing-in Ceremony"** to be held in Danville at the VMB on SUN - May 22, 2016 1 PM *Seating is limited so please RSVP to [info@vmbsrv.org](mailto:info@vmbsrv.org)* Photos from past Ceremonies.



*J. Rockcliff*  
For

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Alameda County Fair Grounds

**September 15 - 18**

*Please Note: Date Change*

*Become Active...*

*Support EBSD 2016*

The 2016 East Bay Stand Down (EBSD) is scheduled for September 15 through 18, 2016 at Alameda County Fair Grounds in Pleasanton - *the original four-day Stand Down in the U.S.*

All meetings for EBSD are Open - Public Community Information & Planning Meetings & held on the second Tuesday of each month. Locations vary in the East Bay - so always check the website for latest information on EBSD meetings & wish list needs. The next community meeting is TUESDAY - MAY 10th at 1800 Hrs. (6PM) at HILLCREST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - at 404 Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill, CA.

Community organizations, clubs, businesses, churches & interested individuals are encouraged to find out more about how you might be able to assist in this major community effort to end homelessness for our military Veterans. As months get closer to the event date - final meetings usually take place at the Alameda Fairgrounds to aid volunteers in becoming familiar with the event location. NOTE: EBSD public - monthly planning meetings is an excellent venue to show your support & present your 2016 **“Sponsorship Donation Checks.”** *Major Sponsorship begins at \$5,000.00 & “Tent Sponsorship” is \$500. for non-profit organizations & \$1,000. for Corporations.* All groups Sponsoring Meals during the four-day event are coordinated with Food Services & Executive Board. NOTE: All EBSD donation checks should be *made payable to* - Diablo Valley Veterans Foundation, a 501(c)3 funding EBSD.

**The EBSD “Executive Board” meets prior to the public meeting at 1700 (5PM) at the same location as the community / public meetings.** We respectfully request all planning meeting attendees wait until 6PM before entering allowing the Executive Board to complete their business meeting prior to the scheduled start of public meetings. *We are all volunteers & can always use help setting up chairs & putting them away.*

Each Planning Meeting has a **“Sign-In”** sheet requesting: Your Name - Organization you are representing - Your Mobile Phone & your best E-Mail contact address & if you attend on a regular basis - this information will be pre-typed & you need to check to see if all data is correct. Collection of information will allow Executive Board Members & Coordinators to contact you personally, if necessary between meetings. This listing **is kept “confidential” & not shared with any except those mentioned above.** **At your first planning meeting** - you will be requested to provide the information above.

If you have questions - about anything - the monthly planning meetings - locations or times - always check the EBSD website at: [www.EastBayStandDown.org](http://www.EastBayStandDown.org) The official 2016 **“Volunteer Sign-Up”** will NOT be available online until early July & completed online.

Signing-in at the monthly planning meetings DOES NOT register you as a Volunteer at EBSD. This is a separate process. Again - check the EBSD website on a regular basis for additional information. Thank you for your support of East Bay Stand Down 2016. Help spread the word - get other groups interested in EBSD.



Department of  
Veterans Affairs



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in the 21st Century



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m.  
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150 Muir Road, Martinez, Calif. 94553

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Martinez, CA. 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

**FLU IS CAUSING SERIOUS ILLNESS & DEATH!**  
**Please visit one of our VA Clinics in Martinez**  
**- Oakland or other locations now to obtain your**  
**FLU shot - available to all Veterans! Don't Wait!**

**Check VA's MyHealthVet  
or the VA online for Flu Shot  
details or Call VA's  
"Advise Nurse" for answers!**

California's Veteran Benefit Book Available and the New

Federal Veteran Benefit Handbook - See CCC VSO for copy.

**Veterans... Are You Utilizing  
Your VA Health Care Benefits?**

The VNVDV encourages all Veterans to Enroll in VA  
Health Care coverage & utilizing trained  
professional advocates at our Contra Costa County VSO.  
The VA Health Care System is the Best - get help

**Visit our VNVDV Website  
for more Benefit details.**

**Watch CCTV "VETERAN VOICES" each Month**

Featuring Nathan Johnson - our Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer & Guests

**Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office  
is a FREE service for all Veterans!**

Find out about all the Veteran Benefits  
You earned through your Military Service  
Visit the County VSO Office NOW...  
for your FREE "Benefit Check-Up" - You Earned it!

Our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is "the place" to have all of your VA  
paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is for all  
veterans FREE & available M - F in Martinez & on Wednesdays in Danville 10-2

**Veterans Benefits Contact:**

**Nathan D. Johnson**  
**Veterans Service Officer**  
**Contra Costa County**

10 Douglas Dr. Suite 100  
Martinez, CA 94553

**Tel: (925) 313-1481**

Fax: (925) 313-1490

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



**Veterans  
Services**

*Because You Chose To Proudly Serve*

Oakmont Memorial Park Cemetery in Lafayette is offering  
major financial assistance to all Veterans and Veteran Spous-  
es on both Traditional and Cremation Property.

Pre-Planning Lifts the Burdens Off Your Loved Ones

Contact: Thomas Corbett, Vet-  
eran Liaison Officer, LIC# 44629  
(925) 935-3311, (925) 216-4785  
[TCOAK8@gmail.com](mailto:TCOAK8@gmail.com)



Rub it on - Pain is gone!

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**Dates have Changed  
for EBSD 2016...  
Check the Website!  
September 15 thru 18**

**EAST BAY STAND DOWN DATE CHANGE - NOW SEPT. 15-18**

**Visit the EBSD website for full details on Sponsorship & attend the Public Monthly Planning Meetings. [www.EastBayStandDown.org](http://www.EastBayStandDown.org)**

**VNVDV Members are proud supporters of the**

**Wheelchair  
Foundation**  
"Serving the World"



**Outstanding  
community events  
supporting mobility,  
including WW II  
Freedom Flights  
for our Veterans  
& EBSD**

**The Viet Nam Veterans made distribution trips  
in 2006 & again in 2012 to Viet Nam to provide  
mobility for those lacking this basic freedom.**

**Thank you for your  
support of VNVDV**



**More information at: [www.wheelchairfoundation.org](http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org)**

**& if donating a wheelchair - mark "VNVDV" on your WCF note. Thanks!**

**Your VNVDV 2016 MEMBERSHIP...  
is PAST DUE - Mail it in or See Slatts**

**VNVDV MEMBERSHIP...  
only \$25. year! Life only - \$200.**

**Danville VMB's County Veterans Service Office  
is OPEN every Wednesday 10-2 to serve Veterans**

## **All Wars Memorial Paver**

**AWM ENGRAVING ONLY TWO TIMES A  
YEAR - Only 25 Blank Pavers Remain  
Do you have Your AWM Paver Ordered?**

**Don't wait** - Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor,  
family member with a Paver Tribute! **Only -  
\$250.00**

Engraving is only performed in the Spring & Fall. Take  
time to visit the AWM website for an order form & more  
historical & educational information about all wars.

[www.AllWarsMemorial.org](http://www.AllWarsMemorial.org)

Please CHECK-OUT & FOLLOW MONTHLY some of our SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS WEBSITES:

*Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Open in Danville every Wednesday - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.*

*All Wars Memorial and 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 at: [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 our those in need of mobility - Visit: [www.WineforWheels.org](http://www.WineforWheels.org) & see VNVDV*

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

*VNVDV website to see more about the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: [www.VNVDV.com](http://www.VNVDV.com)*

See other website LINKS listed inside this edition of the INCOMING News & on our website.

**VISIT THE VMB/SRV's WEBSITE - for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING at: [www.VMBSRV.org](http://www.VMBSRV.org)**



Join the

## Viewer Advisory Panel

You can help with a small commitment of your time, only 2 or 3 minutes per month. You will receive a single email each month with a short survey containing 5 questions. You simply rate each segment of the Show and send the email back to:

**VETERANS' VOICES**

To sign up, just go to:

[veteransvoices@contracostatv.org](mailto:veteransvoices@contracostatv.org)



**Support our Contra Costa County  
Veterans Service Office  
Watch Veterans' Voices**

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office

**WATCH VETERANS' VOICES on CCTV Every Month on the 3rd Monday**

***Veterans' Voices - our VSO TV Show Airs Live Every 3rd Monday at 7PM.***

Each month you're invited to call in, text or live chat with the hosts & guests. Be a part of the conversation and you can help other vets who are struggling with the same issue. New topics every month - 3rd Monday!

**Veterans' Voices will be broadcast live/online on CCTV every third Monday, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.** The show is a joint production of the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office & Contra Costa Television (CCTV.) It is underwritten by a grant from the California Department of Veterans Affairs. "Veterans' Voices" airs the third Monday every month at 7:00 p.m. on CCTV. **"VETERANS' VOICES" will be promoting the WALK of HONOR in their MAY TV Show**

CCTV and Veterans' Voices can be found on Comcast Channel 27, Astound Channel 32 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 throughout Contra Costa County. If you missed this edition... Catch it and all other prior shows or watch the show live online by visiting: <http://www.contracostatv.org/veteransvoices>. **All previous shows are on-demand 24/7 & If your organization can help support an episode of Veterans' Voices - contact Nathan Johnson our County VSO for more info.**

***If you know non-profit Foundations supporting "education" - "history" - "military issues" - Veterans, or other - please advise County Service Officer Nathan Johnson - Funding support is needed to continue these CCTV "Veterans' Voices special monthly TV shows to provide this valuable information for returning veterans & their family members. If you have any TV or production skills or are willing to learn - stop by the CCTV studios on the 3rd Monday prior to the live broadcasting of Veterans' Voices... YOU may be able to help or learn to help & reduce production costs of shows. Veterans' Voices will also be providing information on East Bay Stand Down meetings & the Sept. 15-18 event.***

### **SAT Morning Social Coffee...**

Join fellow Veterans each Saturday AM from 8-11at Veterans Memorial Building  
Hosts: Hank Glauser - Art Gaskin & Lee Halverson & the Memorial Building  
Pastries too!

Danville "VSO" Outstation - 400 Hartz Ave. Open every Wednesday from 10 to 2 for veterans & family member. Schedule your **"benefit check-up"** appointment by calling the County VSO in Martinez at: 925/ 313-1481

# SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

## GALA



**General Joseph Votel, US Army  
Commander U.S. Special Operations  
Command**

General Votel commanded the 75th Ranger Regiment and participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, in Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom, in Iraq. General Votel served in the Pentagon as the Director of the Army and Joint Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Defeat Task Force.



**Master Sergeant Leroy Petry, US Army (Ret.)**

Petry became only the second living recipient of the Medal of Honor. On 26 May 2008, Petry, despite being wounded in both legs by gunfire, he continued to fight and give orders. When a grenade landed between him and two other soldiers, Petry grabbed it and attempted to throw it away from them when it exploded, saving the soldiers' lives but severing his right hand.



# California Launches Veteran Driver License & ID Card

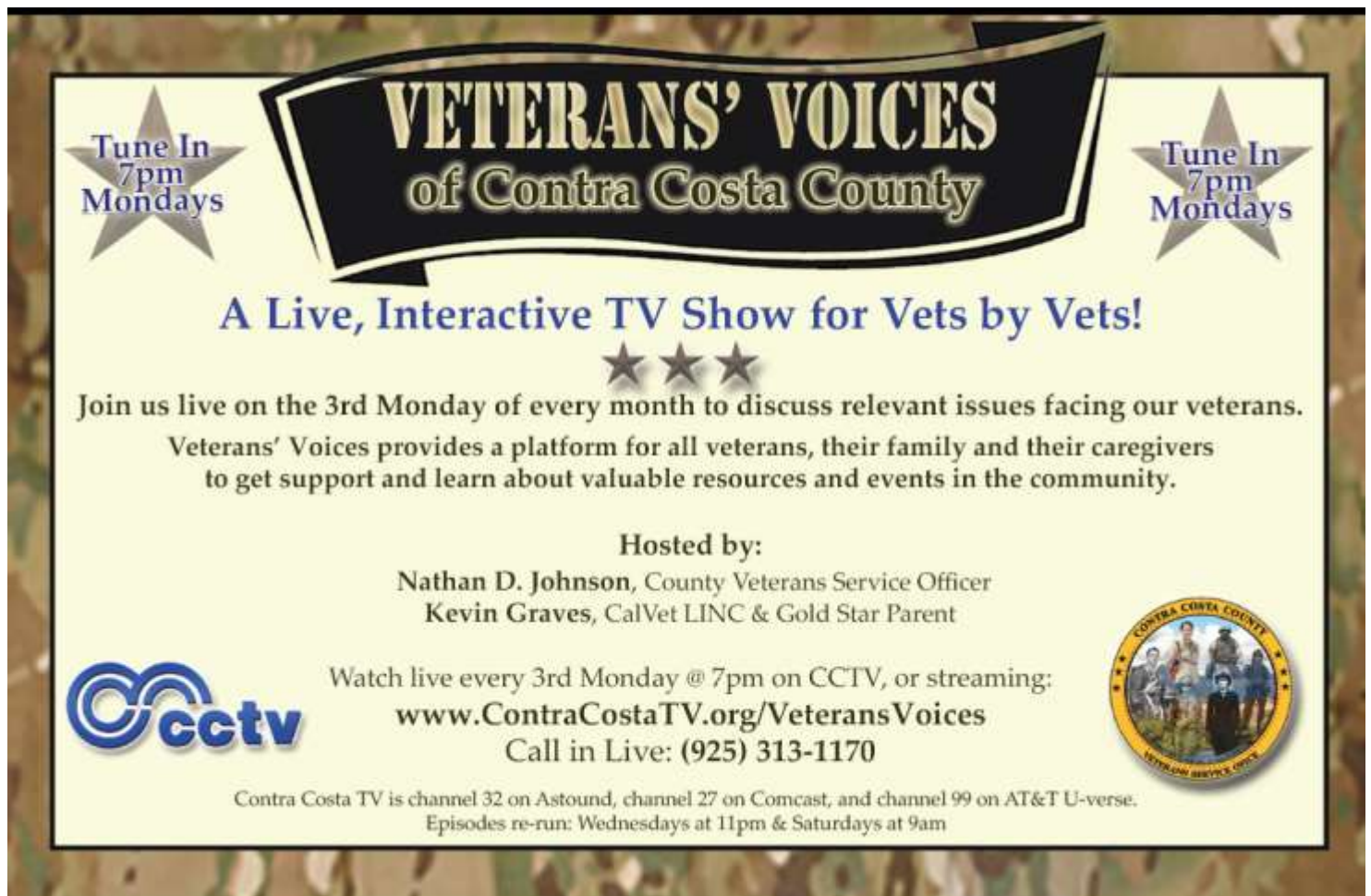
As a Veteran - **you can obtain a DMV “Veteran” designation on your Driver’s License**

The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) has a new program honoring Veterans & recognizes the military service by allowing them to apply for a “Veteran” designation on California driver licenses & identification (ID) cards.

All Veterans are encouraged to contact our local Contra Costa County Veteran Service Office in Martinez or one of their outstations to start the process. In addition, Veterans can learn about “earned benefits” from their military service. A “Veteran” designation on a California Driver’s License or ID Card will aid Veterans show their status as a certified Veteran & take advantage of businesses proving offers and/or discounts to Veterans.

## How to obtain your “Veteran” designation for a driver license or ID card - It’s easy:

- ◆ Get Records. Find your military discharge certificate (DD214). If you need assistance obtaining your military records, then contact our County Veteran Service Officer (CVSO) in Martinez.
- ◆ Visit any Contra Costa County Veteran Service Office. Take your DD214 and government identification to the CVSO to obtain your Veteran Status Verification Form. For faster CVSO service, you can contact our local CVSO by calling 925/ 313-1481 to find out locations & hours of CVSO outstations, and their main office in Martinez
- ◆ Visit Any DMV. Go online or call DMV for an appointment. Then bring your Veteran Status Verification Form to any DMV field office. Pay any application fees, in addition to a \$5.00 Veteran designation fee, and complete all application & testing requirements. To schedule an appointment at a DMV office, visit [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov) or call 800-777-0133.



**Tune In 7pm Mondays**

# VETERANS' VOICES of Contra Costa County

**Tune In 7pm Mondays**



## A Live, Interactive TV Show for Vets by Vets!

★ ★ ★

Join us live on the 3rd Monday of every month to discuss relevant issues facing our veterans. Veterans' Voices provides a platform for all veterans, their family and their caregivers to get support and learn about valuable resources and events in the community.

**Hosted by:**  
Nathan D. Johnson, County Veterans Service Officer  
Kevin Graves, CalVet LINC & Gold Star Parent

Watch live every 3rd Monday @ 7pm on CCTV, or streaming:  
[www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices](http://www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices)  
Call in Live: (925) 313-1170



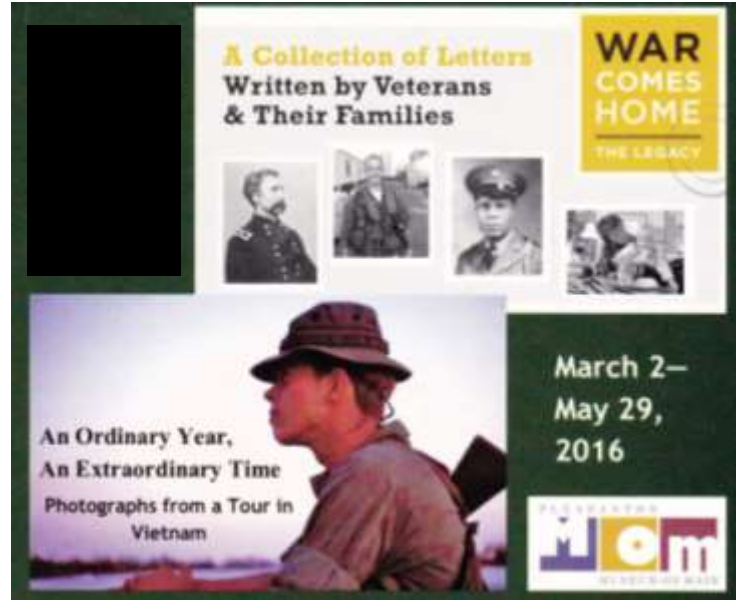
Contra Costa TV is channel 32 on Astound, channel 27 on Comcast, and channel 99 on AT&T U-verse.  
Episodes re-run: Wednesdays at 11pm & Saturdays at 9am

Exhibition in Pleasanton - *WAR COMES HOME*  
 A Collection of Letters Written by Veterans and Their Families  
 and An Ordinary Year, An Extraordinary Time Photo Exhibit



603 Main Street  
 Pleasanton, CA 94566  
 925/462-2766  
[www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org)  
 Open Tue-Sat 10-4, Sun 1-4

AN ORDINARY YEAR, AN EXTRAORDINARY TIME  
*Photographs by Steven Burchik*  
 and  
**WAR COMES HOME: THE LEGACY**



## Blue Star Moms Coming Events

May 20 – Friday – 10AM - The Blue Star Mom's 6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton. All funds raised through this event will again benefit our annual Gold Star Family program in San Francisco. The Blue Star Moms – Chapter 101 are seeking event sponsors - Event flyer on our website. For more information contact **Jake at Callippe Golf Course** at [925-426-6666 x18](tel:925-426-6666) or **Michelle Miller** at [chellem@bak.rr.com](mailto:chellem@bak.rr.com).



**COME SAIL ON THE SS JEREMIAH O'BRIEN - JULY 16, 2016 - GOOD MORNING VIET NAM VETERANS - 10AM—2PM**

Join the Crew as they pay a Tribute to Viet Nam Veterans, long overdue recognition for the men and women who served in Viet Nam. Harold Day and the Experience, a Jimi Hendricks Tribute Band, will bring back oldies of the era. Cruise leaves and returns to Pier 45 **at Fisherman's Wharf. The Jeremiah O'Brien will sail under the Golden Gate Bridge and then back inside the bay continuing along the San Francisco waterfront for a spectacular view of the City.**

Adults \$140, Children 16 and younger \$85, VIET NAM VETERANS \$62

**All Newsletters  
 are On-Line at:  
[www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)**



Chefs **Bill Green & Jerry Yahiro** cook a Cioppino Dinner *par excellence* to **Reward "HIGH BIDDERS" from the Crab Feed Auction** (donated by Bill & Jerry) with members **Jim Murphy & Dennis Giacovelli** **both serve winner's guests.**



# VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

MAY 2016



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

**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 2016!**

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

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

*Meeting are OPEN to ALL Veterans - Supporter & Guests*

## the "INCOMING" - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV

### 2016 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- PRESIDENT** - William "Bill" Green
- VICE PRESIDENT** - Dennis Giacovelli
- TREASURER** - Mike Slattengren
- SECRETARY** - Clifford DeCuir

#### MEMBERSHIP

Joe Callaway

#### DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

John Schafgans

#### DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Jerry Yahiro

#### SPEAKERS BUREAU

Mike Martin

#### INFORMATION

Jon Robbins

#### PROCUREMENT

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

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "jgr" Reese

#### PAST PRESIDENTS

- Ray La Rochelle
- Michael Slattengren
- Jerry Yahiro
- John Estes
- Del Loewe
- Tim Hart
- Mike Weber
- Mike McDaniel
- Rich Lambert
- Ron Azarcon
- Bill Picton
- Norm Mahalich



*Established in 1991*