



# INCOMING NEWS



APR 2017

## Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Register now for the "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans

REGISTER [www.SFRWalkOfHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkOfHonor.com)

Memorial Day - Monday May 29 - Oak Hill Park - Danville



Bill Green  
VNV DV  
President  
2017



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So it's the start of April and before we look at this month - let's look back at last month. On March 10<sup>th</sup> the VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley were honored to support the 2017 **Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation's Annual Gala** at the Blackhawk Museum in Danville. This was an outstanding event that our organization has once again had the honor of being a **Gold Sponsor** for our Sentinels! We had a large representation of members in attendance supporting the gala. You can't say enough about this organization and what it has done for our very seriously wounded returning Veterans.

**Mike Conklin** is a true American Hero, not for just putting this organization together - but also the everyday overseeing of each individual program for these heroes.

**Thank you Mike for all you do.**

Hopefully our members & supporters are doing a good job and working hard to stay safe & healthy.. Get your VA flu shots and others needed. March had an **extended sick call** for our group and it is running over into April. **Helen Reese** is continuing her recovery from extensive back surgeries and is still going through rehab in Danville. **John** is recovering after having cardio heart stents placed in two arteries & now in a holding pattern waiting to again have cardio surgery for a few more at the VA in SF on April 17/18/19. *All the best John!*

Recognize & Honor  
**Your Hero in 2017...**

Walk in their Honor  
on Armed Forces Day

SAT - May 20, 2017

in the *Phillips 66*

WALK of HONOR!

Carry a *Photo Sign* of  
your *Hero - Veteran* or  
*Family Member* and  
HONOR them. Sign up  
early online *or* use the  
Walk Application *inside*

## April Speaker



The April VNV DV speaker will be Neil Giles talking about Submarines used in the Viet Nam War. The rescue of American prisoners and covert operations were some of the many missions.

### The INCOMING

Featured in this edition:

- ◆ 2017 Phillips 66 Walk of Honor registration for Saturday - May 20th
- ◆ 2017 Blackhawk Food, Wine and Film event to support the Danville/Sycamore Valley Community Foundation

### To the Community

**A Reminder...  
The East Bay's  
Largest**

**MEMORIAL DAY  
REMEMBRANCE**

is Monday -  
MAY 29

Site of the beautiful  
ALL WARS  
MEMORIAL

In Oak Hill Park -  
3005 Stone Valley  
Road (next to Monte Vista High School) in the Town of Danville  
FREE & OPEN  
to the PUBLIC -  
A FAMILY EVENT

Joe Callaway was back in the hospital again and then back home and now is back in San Ramon Regional again! Wishing the best for our outstanding membership director. Fred Granados is recovering from shoulder surgery (and trust me I know how painful that is). Jerry Yahiro's back is once again acting up, Jim Murphy has been in the hospital again for surgery and recovery.. Get well Jim! John Estes was also in the hospital last month, Scott Randle was having some work done and Bob Moore was hospitalized for over a week with an infection and is out & recovering. I hope I didn't miss anyone because that's way more than enough. If you do hear of anyone ill or down—let me know we want to send them a card and let our membership know of the status of our great members. To all of you, you're in our hearts and prayers and get well soon! For the rest of you... stay safe & healthy!

We will have an Eagle Scout, Keshav Yerabati, who will be attending our meeting this Thursday. He is working on a Veteran History Project, in conjunction with the Library of Congress. If any of you are able to participate and be interviewed at a later date—please talk to him prior to the meeting - at the break or after the meeting and provide your contact information allowing him to interview you for this project. Let's give this young man a helping hand.

This is the *final week* of the "War Come Home" exhibit at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Stop and see this exhibit.& attend the Special program on Friday to conclude the **Letters From Home** project at the Danville Library. The Friday program is well worth attending - since I will be presenting at this Library program... so please show up & support this event.

Do not forget to sign up for the **Phillips 66** sponsored "Walk Of Honor" for our Veterans on Armed Forces Day – **SAT – MAY 20<sup>th</sup>** in Crockett. Please register in advance (on-line at: [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)) for this major event. Register even if you are unable to attend. Register and submit the name of the Veteran or Military Member you would like to Honor on that day! As mentioned, You can register on- line or at our Thursday Dinner meeting. This is a major event for the VietNam Veterans allowing us to support dozens of worthwhile programs for our Veterans in the greater East Bay Community through your support by registering for the Phillips 66 "Walk of Honor" for our Veterans

My Thanks to all...

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



## OFFICIAL CHANGE NOTICE

The **MAY VNVDV Board of Directors Meeting** regularly scheduled at the Veteran Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley in Danville & held on the 3rd Thursday each month at 1800 Hrs. is **CHANGED** for the month of **MAY 2017** & will **NOT** be held on **MAY 18th** at the VMB/SRV. By a passage of a motion by the BOD the May meeting for the Board has been **RESCHEDULED** to the day prior for our BOD meeting & will be held on **WED - MAY 17th - 6PM** (the day before) at VMB..

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.

The change for the **MAY BOD** allows VNVDV members & leadership to support & attend the Danville / Sycamore Valley Rotary Club's Community Foundation's **Blackhawk Food - Wine & Film Festival** at the Blackhawk Museum on Thursday - **MAY 19th** at 5PM. Details on this annual Rotary event are in this edition of this edition of the **INCOMING News**.



## WALK of HONOR

for our Veterans Sponsored by

**PHILLIPS 66**

**Armed Forces Day Saturday May 20th**

**Bridge Walk / BBQ & more in Crockett, CA**

**Crockett Community Center  
650 Pomona - Crockett 8-1PM**



Rodeo Refinery and  
Carbon Plant



Crockett  
Community  
Services  
District



SFR Rodeo Refinery  
and Carbon Plant

Proudly Presents the  
9th Annual



Saturday, May 20, 2017

Check in: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.  
"Walk" begins at 10:00 am

Crockett  
Community Center  
850 Pomona Street  
Crockett, CA 94525

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

The Phillips 66 Refinery and Carbon Plant invite you to join with us in honoring and celebrating the service of our military veterans. The "Walk of Honor" will be a short walk across the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge and back. Last year's event was a huge success. More than 425 employees, contractors and local residents participated in the celebration. In the last eight years we have raised in excess of \$265,000. We are working hard to surpass last years fundraising and attendance milestones, and with your help we are sure to succeed! We promise you a fun, exciting and fulfilling day honoring the men and women who have valiantly served our nation.

Schedule of Events

8:30 - 9:30 am - Check in at the Crockett Community Center, 850 Pomona Street, Crockett. Transportation will be provided to and from the bridge.

10:00 am - "Walk" begins.

11:45 am - Luncheon Ceremony.

Following the "Walk" all registered participants are invited to join us for a luncheon ceremony. There will also be music by the John Swett High School Band and a raffle.

Many local veterans service organizations and providers will be on hand to share information regarding their services.

100% of all contributions will be divided evenly between the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) and the Crockett Community Services District (CCSD).

The VNVDV is dedicated to present and former members of the Armed Forces of the United States, through the support of local community activities, which recognize the contributions and sacrifices of Veterans. The CCSD is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Crockett Veterans Memorial Building.

Phillips 66 is proud to be the Lead Sponsor of American Jobs for America's Heroes, a national nonprofit campaign coordinated by the Center for America to encourage employers to post jobs for 60,000+ unemployed National Guard members. Register at [www.CenterForAmerica.org](http://www.CenterForAmerica.org) to post jobs at no cost.





Phillips 66 - SFR  
Rodeo & Carbon Plant  
WALK of HONOR  
Sponsors

# WALK OF HONOR FOR OUR VETERANS Armed Forces Day



REGISTRATION On-Line at: [www.SFRWalkofHonor.com](http://www.SFRWalkofHonor.com)  
The "WALK" Supports VNVDV programs in our East Bay Community - Join us!  
Register NOW to "WALK" in HONOR of a Veteran in Your Family!

**Armed Forces Day - SAT - MAY 20th**



**2017  
WALK of HONOR  
Outstanding BBQ  
luncheon includ-  
ed with each reg-  
istration to enjoy  
at program after  
bridge walk.**



*Join us May 20th*

**Short— Fun & Enjoyable  
Saturday morning  
Bridge Walk with friends**

**Please share the 2017 registration form with friends - neighbors & supporters - get a group together and WALK in HONOR of your favorite military Veterans!**

*SAT Morning Social  
Coffee in Danville  
every week - Join fel-  
low Veterans each  
Saturday AM from  
8AM until 11AM at the  
Veterans Memorial  
Building.*

Join hosts: Hank  
Glouser - Art Gaskin -  
Lee Halverson & the  
Veterans Memorial  
Building  
*Join Us for a few minutes  
or an hour - Drop In!*

## WALK of HONOR 2017



**This INCOMING  
News is on-line  
along with past  
historical issues.  
Check them out at:  
[www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)**

## Veterans To Get Exchange Privileges

Honorably discharged veterans are getting limited online military exchange shopping privileges as of November 11, 2017.

The Defense Department announced the change Jan. 13, calling it a way to reward those who served their country and generate funds for the morale, welfare & recreation (MWR) activities. The privilege will not extend to purchase of uniforms, tobacco or alcohol products.

DoD views it as a win-win in that it is expected to bolster the exchanges' online retail operations, helping them develop inventory and improve service.

# Complete Registration & mail with your check or turn-in at meeting



Rodeo Refinery and  
Carbon Plant



Crockett  
Community  
Services  
District



Sign up today for the May 20, 2017 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Veterans Name(s)

Early Registration \$25.00, after May 1, 2017 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 15, 2017.*

### 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 20, 2017.

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!

# Please Register even if you are unable to attend & support our 2017 programs

# 2017 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 Refinery and Carbon Plant invite you to join with us in honoring and celebrating the service of our military veterans on Saturday, May 20, 2017. The 7th Annual "Walk of Honor for our Veterans" will be a short walk **across the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge and back. Last year's event was a huge success & well attended.**

Over 600 employees, contractors & local residents participated in the celebration, and together we raised \$40,000! **We are working hard to surpass last year's fundraising and attendance milestones, and with your help we are sure to succeed!** We promise you a fun, exciting and fulfilling Armed Forces Day 2017 honoring the men and women who proudly serve today and those who have valiantly served our nation. We are still accepting Sponsors at this time!

Schedule of Events at [2017 WALK of HONOR for our Veterans](#) in Crockett **Sat. May 20, 2017**

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 & BBQ Lunch.**

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.

10:00AM - "Walk" begins. Transportation will be provided to and from the bridge.

11:45AM - **Luncheon Ceremony. Following the "Walk" all registered participants are invited to join us for a special BBQ luncheon & ceremony, including music and a outstanding raffle.**

100% of all contributions to the Phillips 66 Walk of Honor will be divided evenly between the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) and the Crockett Community Services District (CCSD). The VNVDV is dedicated to present and former members of the Armed Forces of the United States, through the support of local community activities, which recognize the contributions and sacrifices of Veterans. The CCSD is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Crockett Veterans Memorial Hall. *Join us & support our 2017 activities*

**Join us and help support those currently serving & all of our nation's veterans on SAT – May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Armed Forces Day in Crockett at the 2017 Phillips 66 Walk of Honor for our Veterans. ***We'll look for you!***



**MIKE WEBER**  
Realtor \*

4105 Blackhawk Plaza Circle  
Danville, CA 94506  
CalBRE#00441586

direct: 925.736.1500  
mweber@rockcliff.com



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

**Helen S. Reese**  
**PH: 925 / 935 - 4294**  
**New E-Mail: HSReese@att.net**

Website: [www.VentureResearch.biz](http://www.VentureResearch.biz)  
*"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years  
serving California and beyond with Excellence"*

# VNVDV Member *April* Birthdays

**Doug Miller - Navy**

**Del Loewe - Navy**

**Michael Ebert - Army**

**Dennis Verlyne - Navy**

**Dave Richardson - Army**

**Harry Fuller - Army**

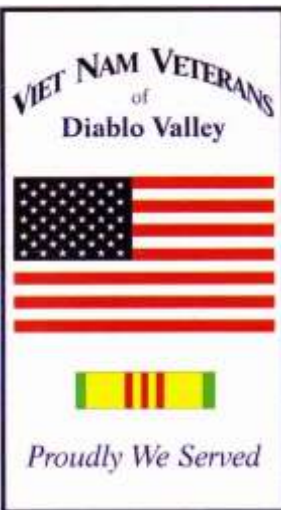
**Dennis Giacovelli - Navy**

**Charles Fiedler - Army**

**Jack Hafen - Navy**

**Richard Lambert - Navy**

**Tom McHale - Marine**



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley  
**VNVDV**  
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley  
Meets 1st Thursday of the Month  
Crow Canyon Country Club  
Danville, CA  
1700 Hrs - Social  
1800 Hrs - Buffet Dinner - \$25.  
& Featured Guest Speaker  
Dinner Meetings Open to all... join us!  
Veterans Memorial Building  
of San Ramon Valley  
400 Hartz Avenue  
P. O. Box 2079  
Danville, CA 94526-2079  
E-Mail: [VNVDV1@gmail.com](mailto:VNVDV1@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)  
Monthly Newsletter on-line

**Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**  
**Member Information Cards** are available  
for your use. This **"business card"** format allows each Member to distribute  
VNVDV dinner invitation & contact information to fellow VietNam Veterans and  
anyone interested in supporting VNVDV activities. **Please help spread the WORD.**  
Pickup a set of cards at meetings & please share



**Final Days**

**Historic  
Photography Exhibit  
Jan 29 - Apr 9, 2017**

**War Comes Home and a Historic  
Photography Exhibit is  
presented at the Museum of  
San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad  
Avenue, Danville, CA.  
Tuesday - Friday 1pm-  
4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm,  
Sunday noon-3pm.**

**This SPACE could  
be announcing your  
next event or help  
promote a special  
project of program.  
Contact the editor!**

**The VNVDV Loves FastSigns**

**FASTSIGNS**  
More than fast. More than signs.™  
**FASTSIGNS #48**  
2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
ph. (925) 820-2202  
fax. (925) 820-8911  
Email: [48@fastsigns.com](mailto:48@fastsigns.com)



# MARCH Dinner MEETING Brings LARGE GROUP of Veterans & Supporters





# Viet Nam Veterans Diablo Valley Speakers Bureau

The VNVDV Speakers Bureau responds to Bay Area educational institutions & organized groups looking for knowledgeable speakers at functions or classrooms about the Viet Nam War. Direct presentations or Skype are offered. [Contact the VNVDV.](#)

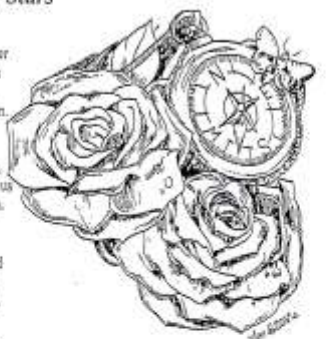


Recently Bill Green, Mike Martin and Jim Murphy visited with St. Anne School in San Francisco. Their presentation was well received by the students and Courtney Yee, Chief Editor of the St. Anne Newspaper expressed her appreciation. They made a donation on behalf of VNVDV

## Vietnam Veterans Visit By: Courtney Yee

The Junior High was fortunate to have Vietnam War veterans visit St. Anne. They helped prepare us for our upcoming trip to the Washington, D.C. Vietnam War Memorial by sharing their stories about their time in Vietnam. As a kind gesture in gratitude for all the volunteer work these men do, **the Junior High donated \$600 to the Wheelchair Foundation.** The Wheelchair Foundation is one the Vietnam veterans' favorite non-profit charities. Many thanks!

**We Thank Our Lucky Stars**  
By Katie C.



We believe a thanks' in order  
To our dearest servicemen  
For fighting our fights  
For no thanks, but even then.

A side effect of losing  
Is counting what's still here.  
And today you stand before us  
To tell the tale of your peers.

You who came to talk  
Educate with how you fared  
Surmounting all the odds  
To donate to wheelchairs.

You fought for our country  
Though then we didn't know  
Its people like you who stood up  
For the land we love and know.

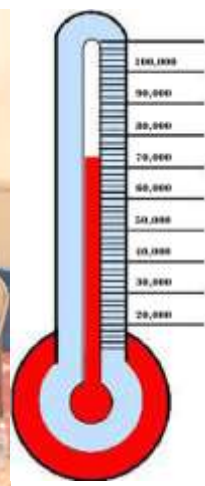
There were no redcoats in the corner  
Or slaves with a gun  
But you fought for our ideals  
What we thought made U.S. one.

All came out with cuts and bruises  
And wounds that ran more deep  
but America deprived you  
Of thanks, we were so cheap.

But here the thanks is now  
Coming from a room of kids  
For serving our country  
When there were those who hid.

People like you inspire  
You heal and prevent scars  
You spread your love and stories  
For which we thank our lucky stars.

**The Poem and Art-work (note the compass with the flowers) were prepared by St. Anne Students who attended the Speaker Bureau Presentation.**



**The Speakers Bureau has presented to a combined audience of over 72,000**

CONTRA COSTA BLUE STAR MOMS



Dedication of Memorial  
In Honor of

**Pfc. Benjamin B. Tollefson**  
United States Army  
Operation Iraqi Freedom

Berean Christian High School  
March 15, 2017

**Contra Costa Blue Star Moms working with the Clayton Business & Community Association dedicated a Memorial in Honor of Pfc. Benjamin B. Tollefson. The Contra Costa Blue Star Moms have a mission to provide support for members of the United States Armed Forces and its veterans. They strive to honor our troops, our veterans and our fallen heroes in their words and in their deeds.**



Pfc Benjamin B. Tollefson  
United States Army  
7 November 1986 – 31 December 2008



# VNVDV are Proud Supporters of the D/SV Rotary & Blackhawk Film Festival



Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley  
Community Foundation

Presents the 27th Annual

## BLACKHAWK FOOD, WINE & FILM FESTIVAL

Date: Thursday, May 18th, 2017

Time: 5:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: The Blackhawk Museum

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, California



Featuring the movie *"Winning"* starring Paul Newman

An Evening of Great Food, Wine & Entertainment!

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

2017 FUND-A-CAUSE will benefit The Down Syndrome Connection  
Helping children and adults who need us the most.

Special Guest, American Idol finalist, **Adam Lasher** performs

*From Danville, California*



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



Thanks to March Speaker Gerald Raver for his talk on his experience as a Cobra pilot operating in Northern II Corps.



VNVDV Members are proud supporters of the

Wheelchair Foundation



"Serving the World"

Looking for a great gift - donate a wheelchair in their honor... for someone who has everything!

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

Thank you for your support of VNVDV & Two Trips to Vietnam



More information at: [www.wheelchairfoundation.org](http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org) & if donating a wheelchair - mark "VNVDV" on your WCF note. Thanks!

VietNam 50th Commemoration Honors our VietNam War Veteran Members

**VNVDV LIFE MEMBERSHIP... Special 50th Commeration Limited Time - ONLY \$50.**

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 SUPPORT & FOLLOW NEWS from 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)

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 VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: [www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)

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)

# TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE at VMB

## FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

FOR PEOPLE WITH LIMITED TO MODERATE INCOME  
IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

- Nervous about doing your taxes?
- Confused by tax forms?
- Want a faster refund?
- Want to know about credits, deductions, the Affordable Care Act, identity theft, etc?

Help is here from  
**AARP Tax-Aide!**



### WHAT IS TAX-AIDE?

Tax-Aide volunteers provide FREE tax preparation for anyone who needs to file basic income tax forms. Service is offered to people of all ages, with special attention to those aged 50 and older.

### WHEN IS SERVICE AVAILABLE?

Tax counselors are available from  
**February 1, 2017 through April 18, 2017.**

### HOW DO I MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?



Starting in early January, call the appointment number for one of the sites listed on the back.

**AARP Tax-Aide**

AARP membership is not required.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

- **Social Security cards** for yourself, spouse and dependents.
- **Photo ID** for yourself and spouse.
- **Prior year tax return.**
- **2016 income tax documents** received from payers of wages, Social Security, pensions, interest, dividends, IRA distributions and any other income.
- **Broker statements** and cost basis of stocks, bonds or real estate sold in 2016.
- **Evidence of deductions** such as medical/dental expenses, property taxes, vehicle registration, mortgage interest, charitable contributions, etc.
- **Evidence of education expenses.**
- **Evidence of medical insurance coverage.**
- **Social Security numbers** for child care providers and recipients of any alimony or spousal support you paid.
- **Blank check** from your checking account, if you want direct deposit or to set up an electronic payment.

*Every Tuesday at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville*  
**Visit our Veterans Memorial Building Free Museum & Library**

# JOIN VETERANS' VOICES

## *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: the CCCVSO "Veterans Voices" link.



**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.***

**WATCH every month and 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" highlight Veteran programs & events at the end of the 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 provides information on all Veteran Events in the East Bay**



**Bill LaVigne**  
President & CEO  
Cell: (510) 368-4441  
Toll Free: (866) 369-4446  
Office: (877) 668-3677  
(877) MOVE-677  
Fax: (707) 644-2294  
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[johnsonestateplanning.com](http://johnsonestateplanning.com)



Dear VietNam Veterans

The **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** is a Commemoration Partner with the Department of Defense's 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War. The VNVDV Board of Directors, as partners in this national recognition program, wants to honor the service of our Members who served in Vietnam during the war in a special way. **VNVDV Lifetime Membership is only \$50** to recognize the Commemoration of 50 years and honor the service and sacrifice of all those who proudly wore our nation's uniforms in VietNam. This special tribute is also to celebrate and commemorate VNVDV's 25th Anniversary of service our organization has provided Veterans and our community since establishment in 1991.

***I encourage all of our VietNam Veterans to take part in this recognition tribute and become a Lifetime Member.***

WE, as individuals, have come a long way since Vietnam and the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley - as a non-profit, grass-root, and all volunteer organization has been extremely helpful to our fellow Veterans, the local military and continues to do a great job in working with our community to enhance their impression and commitment to support Veterans. We are ***EXTREMELY proud*** of our organization, its achievements, its service to others, and how it has bonded so many great friendships.

***Thank you for your service.***

***Joe Callaway***

***Director of Membership***

***Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley***

# VNVDV members need to support proposals for Government Approval of important issues that impact the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office and the Viet Nam Helicopters Museum



CalVet

Grant Application

## 2016 – 2017 Proposition 63 Funding

Help the Grant Application to support the [Veteran Voices](#) Program: **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.

**When contacting CALVET: Here are some bullet points:**

- 30 episodes
- National Awards, state, and regional awards
- Currently a finalist for two regional awards
- National audience
- Ongoing production collaboration with VA and CDVA.
- Expanding the program into the CDCR to reach incarcerated Veterans.

**Letters of Support for the Grant Application should be forwarded to the Grant Reviewer:**

**PHILLIP.LEGGETT@CALVET.CA.GOV - CA Department of Veterans Affairs**



VIETNAM HELICOPTERS MUSEUM has presented a proposal to the Contra Costa County Airport Division to approve a request to transfer hangar structure and assign the lease from TDMC (current lease) to VHM. The Contra Cost County Airport division has rejected the VHM proposal and solicited alternative bids and has made a preliminary award to another Organization. The CCA action demonstrates a pattern and practice of discrimination against VHM and VHM is filing a claim. [Help by sending your letter...](#)

VNVDV member support of the VHM request for space at Buchanan Airport sample letter:

January 24, 2017

**Please contact: [jonathanrobbins@hotmail.com](mailto:jonathanrobbins@hotmail.com) for e-mail addresses of Government Officials:**

Contra Costa County Supervisor  
District 2: Candace Andersen  
309 Diablo Road  
Danville, CA 94526

Reference: Viet Nam Helicopters Museum Hanger Space Buchanan Field Airport

Dear Ms. Andersen:

I'm writing to you on behalf of Viet Nam Veterans Diablo Valley regarding the situation with the Vietnam Helicopters Museum (VHM) and their request to lease hanger space at Buchanan Field Airport. I strongly request your support for a resolution of approval of the much needed leased hanger space to properly preserve and display all of the museum's historic aircraft. The veterans at VNVDV strongly believe that the VHM does immense good for the morale of our veterans. They also provide an invaluable service in educating young people in our community about the sacrifices our veterans have made and the brave men and women who flew helicopters during the Vietnam conflict. Please do whatever is in your power to assist the VHM in realizing their dream of having hanger space at Buchanan from which to operate.

Thank you very much,

Jonathan Robbins  
Viet Nam Veterans Diablo Valley  
San Ramon, CA



You know other VietNam Veterans... Invite them to join you for one of our dinners!

# 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>
<b>NAME:</b>					
<b>Spouse / SO</b>					
	<i>No. &amp; Street</i>		<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
<b>Address:</b>					
<b>Home E-Mail:</b>			<b>Work E-Mail:</b>		
<b>Company:</b>			<b>Title:</b>		

### Military Service

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

### 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 ORGANIZATOION.**

**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... first dinner is on us! A token of our thanks.**

**Annual Membership \$25. Life Membership \$50 in honor of 50th Commemoration**




# 2017 Sentinels of Freedom Gala with Guest of Honor Admiral Paul Kunkunfl Commandant USCG




**Justin Avila**  
US Navy

“Sentinels of Freedom has been an amazing pillar of help and support to my family. The financial aspects of the program are great, but the real benefit to being a Sentinel is knowing that if my family needs ANYTHING, they are just a phone call away. That peace of mind is priceless as we transition to our new lives.”




**Joey Bozick**  
US Army

“As a severely disabled Iraq war Veteran, I was unsure of what lay ahead once I was discharged from active duty in May 2006. The SOF Scholarship Program gave me a job, education, housing, support, and direction. It was the best “jump start” to my new life that I could have asked for.”




**Matt White**  
US Army

**Gavin Onorato**  
US Marine Corps





**Christopher Vogelin**  
US Marine Corps

**Lucas Oppell**  
US Army




**Jack Schumacher**  
US Army

“The Sentinels have truly changed my life. From laying in a hospital bed feeling sorry for myself to achieving my goals and dreams. They have assisted me with getting accepted into Georgetown University’s business school, served as my mentors, and above all else have inspired me to continue to have that sense of pride in myself and in my country.”





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.**  
Martinez Primary Care Clinic  
150 Muir Road, Martinez, Calif. 94553

Advice Nurse-Appointment Line  
800-382-8387  
Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line  
866-600-8279  
Martinez, CA. 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804

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

**VA's NEW MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC**  
**OPEN for VETERANS - Use the Services**  
**VA MARTINEZ**  
**150 Muir Road**  
**Martinez, CA 94553**

**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)



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Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley **"INCOMING"**

**APR 2017**



**Official Mailing Address:**

**Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**  
**Veterans Memorial Building of SRV**  
**400 Hartz Avenue**  
**Post Office Box 2079**

**Danville, CA 94526 - 2079**

**E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com**

**Web: [www.VNVDV.org](http://www.VNVDV.org)**

**Electronic News**

**To:**

**VNVDV Members & VIPs**

**2017 OFFICERS &  
BOARD MEMBERS**

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William "Bill" Green

**VICE PRESIDENT -**

Dennis Giacobelli

**TREASURER**

Mike Slattengren

**SECRETARY**

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**MEMBERSHIP**

Joe Callaway

**DIRECTOR - at - LARGE**

John Schafgans

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John "T. J." Trujillo

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

John "jgr" Reese

**WEBSITE**

**Chelle Clements**

**Jonathan "JON" Robbins**

*Director of Information*

*Editor / Publisher "INCOMING" News*

*News E-Mail: VNVDV.News@gmail.com*

*Keep your e-mail address current please!*

**Visit the VNVDV Web  
Past Newsletters & our  
latest news on-line**



**The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** - established in 1991 as a local, grass-roots, non-profit, & all-volunteer Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, and value & maintain a high level of dignity & respect for the young men & women currently serving our nation today in all branches of our military services. **Danville's Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley** is home for the VNVDV and designed for the next 100 years - to serve our veterans now - those returning & our future veterans - while serving as a lasting reminder & Memorial for all those who served before us in the name of Freedom... *leaving a "legacy"*

The VNVDV meets monthly on the **1st Thursday of every month** at the **Crow Canyon Country Club** in Danville.

VNVDV monthly Board of Directors Meetings are held on the **3rd Thursday** each month at the Veterans Memorial Building in the Library / Board Room at **1800 Hrs.** in Danville. To find out more about programs & projects the VNVDV supports & events sponsored... visit the website at: **www.VNVDV.com**. All veterans & guests are welcome to attend our **"open"** membership meetings. This VNVDV is a casual - **"fun"** - social veterans group - always looking for new members who enjoy friendship & the special bond as military veterans. **We are Proud of our Military Service...** & of our continued contributions to fellow veterans & community. Our dinner meetings consist of a social dinner & guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. Please join us... All dinner meetings are **OPEN** - bring fellow VietNam veterans - active duty military - history buffs - friends - community supporters... *see what a difference volunteering makes in the lives of others. All veterans welcome!*

**OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!**

**VIET NAM VETERANS**  
of  
**Diablo Valley**

**MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS**

**1st THURSDAY of each Month**

at **CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB** in Danville, CA

Social Hour at 1700 - Dinner at 1815 - Guest Speaker - **Join Us!**

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

**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**

**"INCOMING" News - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV**