



INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

SEP 2017



Bill Green
VNVDV
President
2017

VNVDV's Sponsors "TAKE the ROCK" Military & Veteran Alcatraz Swim Challenge October 1st ~ expands to 100 Swimmers ~ Coast Guard/Army/Navy & Veterans

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to our VietNam Veterans & Patriots -

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and Labor Day weekend as we roll into our busy fall season. But first, let me look back at August before we get into September. We lost **RADM Russ Gorman** at the end of July and on the 6th of August and attended his Celebration of Life at the VMB that was uplifting to all of us - dealing with the loss of a Great Patriot... and on the 7th many of us went to the final salute & military honors at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon. You'll be missed Russ. In August we lost a long time VNVDV member **Richard Vannucci**. Rich was well known for his volunteer work with so many organizations and his generosity of time & energy to the VNVDV. For years Rich donated all his volunteer hours aboard the liberty ship **USS Jeremiah O'Brien** in exchange for guest tickets to be auctioned by the VNVDV for **Fleet Week** to see the **Blue Angels**. Rich also participated in our Wheelchair Foundation distribution trip to VietNam in 2006 with other VNVDV members. He will be missed - always remembered & never forgotten.

Later in August Jerry and I went on our annual pilgrimage to the **King Pacific Lodge** once again in search of my *Bucket List Salmon* and no luck. As always, we had a great time with outstanding food, wine, cigars, friends & needless to say **FISHING!!** (even though Jerry out fished me again this year) for all of you that enjoy all of the above (except being out fished) Remember to get your special tickets for the **"opportunity of a lifetime"** - a deluxe fishing trip to the **King Pacific Lodge**.

Now let's look at the many great events during September (more details of each in this edition)..

9/11 Remembrance... a Community Ceremony at the All Wars Memorial in



Danville to re- member & honor. Featured speaker **Derek McGinnis,** Navy Corpsman, Veteran, Husband & Father of 3.

The Patriot Day public ceremony will take place - Monday - Sept 11 - at 5:30 PM at All Wars Memorial in Oak Hill Park - 3500 Stone Valley Road in Danville. **Please Share & Join us!**

**Please
Note:**
**Nominations
Open for
VNVDV
Officers &
Board of
Directors for
2018**
**Election at
Nov Meeting**

**NOTE TIME
CHANGE**
VETERAN 's
SAT Morning
Social Coffee...
Join fellow
Veterans each
Saturday
9AM until
12PM
In Danville at the
VMB



SEPT 7th SPEAKER

Carrie Pepper author of *Missing On Hill 700: How Losing a Brother in Vietnam Created a Family in America*

President's Message (Continued from Page One)

Time is running out for Veterans to get their FREE tickets to the **Monta Vista High School football game** Fri/Sept 8. Contact Lee Halverson at the VMB in Danville **NOW** before our dinner for your ticket. No tickets at the game. Veterans receive free hot dog, beverage & homemade apple pie & introduced at game. This is a great evening out.

On September 11th - "**Patriot's Day**" there will be a public community **9/11 Remembrance Program** held in Oak Hill Park at the All Wars Memorial on Stone Valley Road - 5:30 and I encourage our members to attend & support.

One of the most important events during September is the **Veterans Memorial Building's** "Operating Fund" fundraiser. This covers expenses for jointly running our VMB *Veteran's Wing* events (see flyer) - our museum & other general expenses. Join us for dinner on Monday the 18th - it's the only fundraiser of the year. Veteran waiters will be working for TIPS at Giannis Restaurant. The VMB will receive all tips & also 10% of the nights proceeds. Your **Maitre'D** that evening will be **Ron Lowe** & some of your fine waiters will be Dennis Giacobelli, Jim Murphy, Lee Halverson, Hank Glauser and of course your VNVDV President!!! This fundraiser is important for the VMB so **PLEASE make your dinner reservation ASAP**, and tell your friends. **A Great Meal and a GREAT Cause**, --- *You can't beat that!!!*

There are a number of other great events worthy of your consideration outlined, in detail, in this edition. One special event to support is **Mike Ergo** who is coordinating our swim is also going to participate in the **IRONMAN** in Hawaii and he is having an **AUCTION on Sept. 30th** and could use a few *more auction items donated* & supporters showing up. See the flyer with details & contact information in newsletter.

On Oct. 1st is the annual **TAKE THE ROCK SWIM CHALLENGE for VETERANS & ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY** and the VNVDV is again very proud to sponsor this event. We also thank all the coaches for their time & effort is helping train & qualify all the swimmers. Once again, **Mike Ergo**, of the **Concord Vet Center**, is coordinating & leading this event and doing a HELL of a job! Last year we had 50 swimmers, this year it looks like we may have as many as 80!! These are *young Vets*, *Old Vets*, and many **active-duty Military** who have been training for this swim all summer. The swim is from Alcatraz to Aquatic Park (1.3 miles) & it can't be done without our coaches & a long list of volunteers. If you are interested in helping out at the **Swim** let us know at the Sept. dinner. Members - friends - family & patriots just come on out & join in the fun of watching our guys & gals meet the challenge and conquer San Francisco Bay on the morning of **OCT. 1st**. Thanks for your support.

If you have not purchased a copy of **Jerry Whiting's** newest book released about the **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley** - *I personally encourage you to do so. "It Don't Mean Nothin' Man" - We're back in the world now... is a great read*

Know you're busy... take time to review **your** newsletter & the events. Please share your news & events with others who may be interested. Use our **membership cards** & bring a fellow VietNam Veteran (or a guest) to our 1st Thursday dinner meeting. *See you Thursday*

Bill

William "BILL" Green
President 2016 - 2017
PH: 925 / 683 - 3293
E: BillGreen@aol



EVENTS NOT TO MISS

Sep. Oct. Nov. (details in letter)
Mark Your Calendar - Share

VNVDV DINNER MEETING - 1st Thur.
Crow Canyon County Club
SOCIAL HOUR 5 - 6 PM
BUFFET DINNER 6 - 7 PM

HONORING OUR VETERANS
FRI. SEP 8TH MONTA VISTA
HS FOOTBALL FREE TICKETS
STONE VALLEY ROAD, DAN-
VILLE - CALL LEE HALVER-
SON @ VMB 925-362-9806

9/11 Remembrance
Monday SEP 11 - 5:30
Oak Hill Park Danville

V3 & HOPFEST SAT SEP 16TH
BISHOP RANCH SUPPORTING
SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

GIANNIS tips for change
Monday SEP 18 - VMB
operating costs benefit

MIKE ERGO SILENT AUCTION
SUPPORTING SENTINELS OF
FREEDOM - Sept. 30th

TAKE THE ROCK - SUN OCT 1
Veterans Alcatraz Swim Challenge
Contact Mike Ergo—Vet Center for Details

Veterans Day Parade
Pleasanton - Sun. Nov 5
Mark your calendar - More Later

Join us...

Gianni's

ITALIAN BISTRO

TIPS FOR CHANGE EVENT

BENEFITTING

THE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING OF SAN RAMON VALLEY



Monday, September 18, 2017

Between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM

EARLY RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Please join us at Gianni's Italian Bistro for a *Great Italian Dinner*, inspiring conversation, and heart-warming camaraderie, all while being served by a wait staff comprised of our own retired Generals and Captains, as well as proud Enlisted.

All tips and a percentage of the nights receipts go directly to the Veterans Memorial Building's Operating Committee which in turn funds such events as:

- Military Recruit Swearing-in Ceremony
- Docent lead tours of the Veterans Memorial Building Museum Collection
- Veterans Day (weekend) Special Event Open House Museum
- World War II Veterans Recognition Ceremony
- Research Library
- In-house Museum
- Army-Navy game buffet lunch
- As well as paying the day to day operating expenses of the entire Veterans Wing of the Memorial Building.

Please Call 925-820-6969 for Reservations

Or go to <http://giannissanramon.com/>

2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd. San Ramon, CA 94583

www.giannissanramon.com **925/820-6969**

Volunteers from all VSOs will be waiters/servers for this dinner & others are encouraged to CALL & *make reservations* for dinner on Sept 18th.

Exchange Club Sponsors 9/11 Remembrance

**9/11 SPEAKER
DEREK MCGINNIS**

Our Hero of Freedom—
Mentoring Returning Injured
Veterans and Their Families
"Pain no longer rules my life."

**9/11
COMMUNITY
REMEMBRANCE**

**OAK HILL PARK
DANVILLE
5:30 PM**

200 Scouts
Monte Vista Choir
Ice Cream

HONORING

Firefighters
Police
Veterans
Gold Star Families

QUESTIONS? 925-998-8865

NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

*Navy Corpsman, Veteran
Husband & Father of 3 Sons*

*"Derek is the
ultimate
wounded
veteran who
never quit and
never stopped
serving."*

*Mike Conklin
Sentinel of
Freedom*

**Marathon
Runner**

**Oak Hill Park - Site of the All Wars Memorial
Danville - Monday - Sept. 11th - 5:30 PM**
A free public Community 9/11 Remembrance Program - Join Us!

Nominations OPEN for 2018 Officers & Directors!

President Bill Green selected our 2018 Nomination Committee. Bill selected the very experienced Past President Del Loewe as Chair and included other very qualified VNVDV Past Presidents – to seeking out new & future leaders & potential Board Members & Committee Chairs. The other Nomination & Election Committee Members are Past President Rich Lambert – Mike Weber – Ray La Rochelle should you have any questions about any position or the duties of any Board Positions. Elections held at our Annual Meeting in the month of November by Ballot.

V3 & HOPFEST to benefit Sentinels of Freedom

DOUGHERTY VALLEY / SAN RAMON
ROTARY CLUB
Presents



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
2600 CAMINO RAMON, SAN RAMON

Join Us For A
Benefit Bike Ride And Craft Beer Festival!

15, 30, 60 & 100 Mile Ride Options
Craft beer tasting, live music &
food available for purchase from food trucks

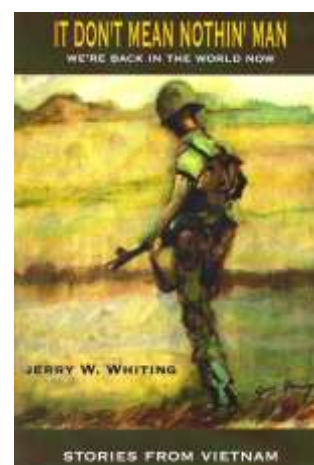


REGISTER AT
WWW.V3HOPFEST.COM

Proceeds Benefit Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation
and Dougherty Valley / San Ramon Rotary Foundation



JERRY WHITING's
new book about VNVDV
"It don't Mean Nothin' Man
We're back in the world now"



CELEBRATE
THEIR LIVES

HONOR
THEIR SERVICE

REMEMBER
THEIR SACRIFICE



11TH ANNUAL
Joey Graves
MEMORIAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Honoring our Fallen Heroes & Veterans

SEPT 18, 2017
DISCOVERY BAY COUNTRY CLUB



.....
\$175 PER PLAYER!
GREAT SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES!
INCLUDES GREEN FEE, CART, LUNCH & DINNER!

.....
TONS OF PRIZES! 1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE WINNERS!

.....
HOLE-IN-ONE CONTESTS! AWARDS DINNER WITH AUCTION!



**JOIN US IN CELEBRATION
OF JOEY'S BRAVERY AND
SACRIFICE TO OUR NATION.**

.....
SPC. JOSEPH A. GRAVES
KIA 25 JUL 06
OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM
.....

REGISTER AT WWW.SOMEGAVEALL.US TODAY!

Some Gave All - The Joey Graves Foundation is a charitable 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
All proceeds benefit the families of our fallen soldiers.

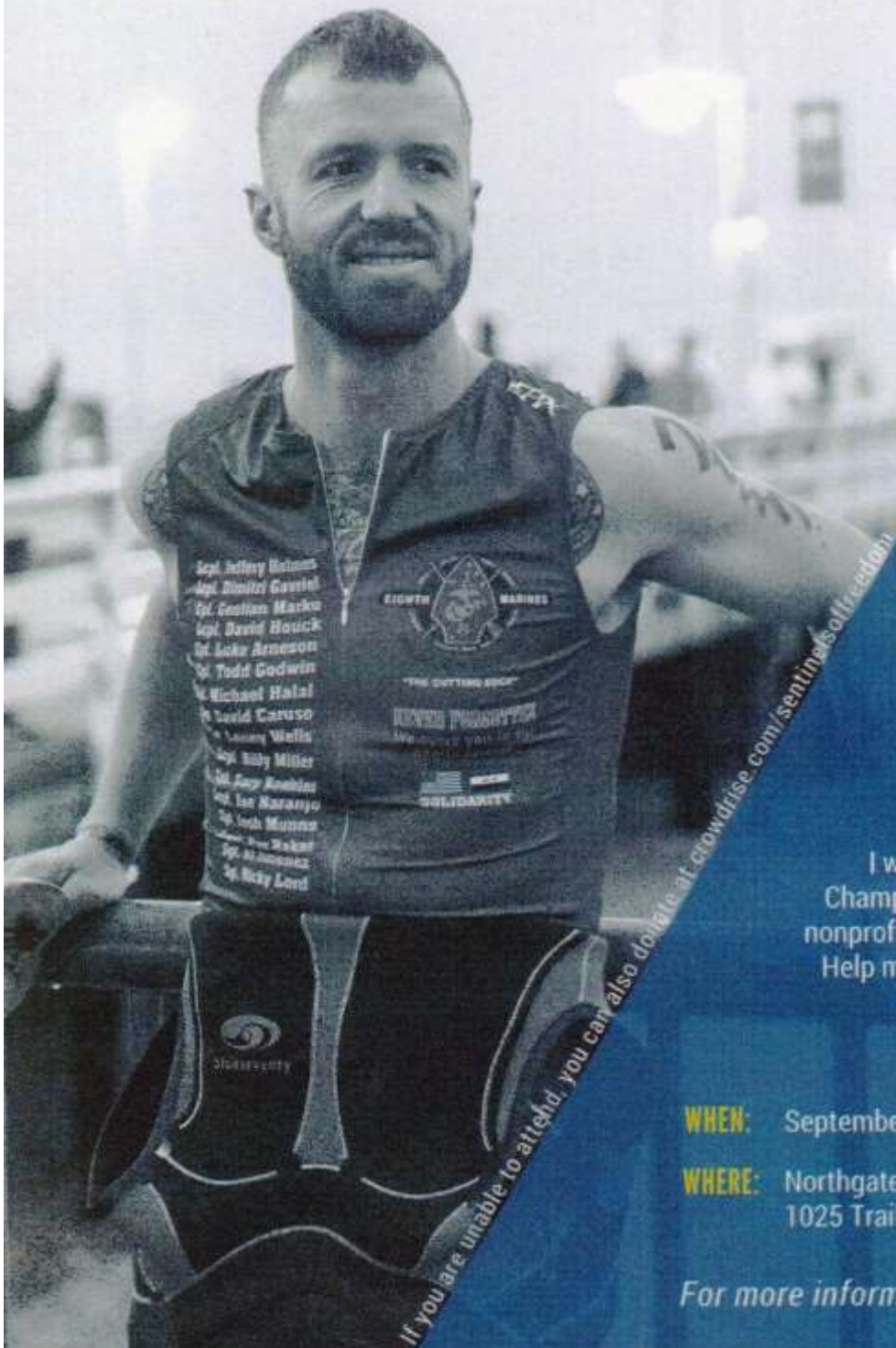


09/30/17

SILENT AUCTION

TO BENEFIT SEVERELY WOUNDED & INJURED VETERANS

SENTINELS OF FREEDOM
www.sentinelsoffreedom.org



If you are unable to attend, you can also donate at crowdfunder.com/sentinelsoffreedom



JOIN ME, MIKE ERGO,

father, Marine, and veterans' advocate, on my quest to assist those who have already served our country and are looking for the opportunity to do so again.

I will participate in this year's Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii, and have chosen nonprofit Sentinels of Freedom as my beneficiary. Help me raise my fundraising goal by taking part in this fun, **FREE** to attend silent auction.

WHEN: September 30th, 2017 (Time TBD)

WHERE: Northgate HOA Clubhouse,
1025 Trails End Drive, Walnut Creek, CA

For more information, email mike.ergo@gmail.com

09/30/17

SILENT AUCTION

TO BENEFIT SEVERELY WOUNDED
& INJURED VETERANS



Assisting severely wounded and injured post 9/11 veterans...

When: September 30, 2017 (Time TBD)

Where: Northgate HOA , 1025 Trails End Drive, Walnut Creek

The SILENT AUCTION benefiting severely wounded and injured Veterans has been developed over the past months in conjunction with the **Sentinels of Freedom**. The inspiration for the Auction spawned as a result of Mike Ergo being invited to the Ironman World Championships in Kona this October. Ironman saw the work Mike has done with vets and the information presented in Mike's blog (<http://transitionsfromwar.com/>) about how Mike uses triathlon events to honor the fallen from his unit by wearing their names on his jersey. Mike decided to set a fundraising goal of \$18,000 in honor of his unit 1st Battalion, 8th Marines aka "One-Eight." So far he has raised \$9,000 just by doing a digital fundraising campaign: <https://www.crowdrise.com/sentinelsoffreedom>

Auction Items: Wine tasting tour to Cass Winery, Paso Robles, Weekend at Silverado Country Club, custom made guitar, babysitting and movie tickets, road runner sports gift basket, portrait session family or equestrian. **Items Needed:** sports tickets, sports equipment, bottles of wine, gift cards, electronics. Mike.Ergo@gmail.com

Open to all Veterans & Active Military

TAKE THE ROCK

• VETERANS SWIM CHALLENGE •



October 1st, 2017

Swim Alcatraz to San Francisco

Free for Active Duty Military and Veterans

Training Included - No Experience Necessary!

Register at: www.taketherock.com

Contact Mike Ergo (Michael.ergo@va.gov)

Training Included - Contact Us!

Contact Mike Ergo at Concord Vet Center to Participate

AKCM RICHARD JOHN VANNUCCI USNR, Ret.

October 7, 1937 - August 10, 2017

VNVDV Wheelchair Foundation Distribution Trip in VietNam 2006 with Vannucci front & center!



AKCM RICHARD JOHN VANNUCCI USNR, Ret.

Richard was born in San Francisco on October 7, 1937 and passed away at the age of 79 on Thursday August 10 of heart failure. He was preceded in death by his parents Rudolph and Mabel. He is survived by his brother Gary, also by many cousins and friends. Gary appreciates all the help his cousin Bill Lucchesi provided in the last months of his brother's life. Also to Gayle & Fred Matsu-moto, Art Smith, Greg Hickey & George Nobori for their assistance.

Richard was raised in Oakland and was a graduate of Castlemont High School in 1956 and also enjoyed his involvement with their class reunions. Shortly after graduating, Richard joined the Navy in 1956. He served in the Navy in both Active and Reserve status for over 35 years achieving the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer which he was very proud of attaining. He had two tours in the Vietnam conflict in 1959. Richard was a lifelong parishioner of St. Louis Bertrand Church, was a member of the church choir, and volunteered at the church's Food Locker serving food to the people in need. He was a Resident of Castro Valley

Richard worked for the Parks and Recreation Department in Oakland, Hayward and Fremont for over 30 years. He was an avid gardener and enjoyed passing his talents of gardening to anyone who would listen. Richard was also a dedicated crew member of the **Liberty ship USS Jeremiah O'Brien** in San Francisco and enjoyed preparing meals for the crew and recruiting new volunteers. Richard was a huge jazz supporter especially to the Bob Enos Big Band and other Jazz venues in the bay area.

Richard was a member of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA) and a recipient of the 1776 NERA award. He was also a member of the Naval Order of the United States and was a life member in the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley - VFW Post 9601 and the Moose Lodge 1491. Richard was involved in the following *Italian Associations*: American Heritage, Fratellanza Club, Buon Tempo Club, Colombo Club and Galileo Club.

Richard's services were held for Friends and family Holy Angels Funeral and Cremation Center in Hayward and the Funeral Mass was held at St. Louis Bertrand Parish in Oakland. Entombment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on Mission Blvd. in Hayward with full military honors. Donations may be made to the St. Louis Bertrand Food Locker.



Rich proudly displays a sketch drawn by a Vietnam student



Rich with "Wild Bill" & Reese in VietNam watching students perform

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley will sorely miss our friend & fellow VietNam Veteran - Rich Vannucci and his dedication to serving others... he will be remembered & never forgotten

VNVDV MEMBER SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tom Hutchens	Navy	Michael Hurder	Army
Bill Tharp	Army	Nathan Greene	Air Force
Fred Granados	Army	Bob Miller	Navy
Don Loeffler	Army	Lawrence Ames	Air Force
Dave Smith	Army	John McPartland	Marine
Bart Gilbert	Army	Julian Mathews	Navy
Keith Harrigan	Army	Dan Young	Army
Don Loeffler	Army	Dennis Nead	Marine

Qualify for the VNVDV Swim Challenge
~ "Take the Rock" yourself ~ Start practicing or
Volunteer & Support the VNVDV on the beach!



J. Rockcliff

REALTORS


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

*"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years
serving California and beyond with Excellence"*

Celebration of Life

RADM Russell W. Gorman, USNR (Ret)

Celebration of Life



Rear Admiral
Russell W. Gorman

August 17, 1927—July 20, 2017

RUSSELL W. GORMAN

Growing up in New Jersey, he graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York in 1949 and at 22 was commissioned an Ensign USNR. As a Merchant Marine, he served aboard U.S. Flag merchant vessels operating on the U.S. East Coast, in Europe, and South America. He transferred to the Navy four years later and in late 1953, while serving on active duty in Yokohama, Japan for the Military Sea Transportation Service, he met and married his lovely wife Mielko [aka Eriko] Deguchi.

After returning to civilian life in 1957, he worked for shipping companies, including Chevron and Utah International, until his retirement in 1995. Simultaneously, he continued to be affiliated with the Naval Reserve, holding five commands after attending the Naval War College and the National Defense University.

In 1980, then CAPT Gorman was advanced to the rank of Rear Admiral. Three years later, he was called to active duty, serving in five successive command positions: including Deputy Commander of Military Sealift Command; as Director of the Pacific Exercise—Ocean Venture; with a staff of 490 personnel, 3 nuclear-powered submarines, 14 surface vessels, 160 aircraft, and a battalion of U.S. Marines to provide the opposition to 40,000 U.S. forces from more than 100 commands; and finally as Commander of the Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Twenty with responsibility for all Naval Reserve Surface Forces located from Utah to Hawaii. RADM Gorman retired from active duty in 1987 after serving seven years as a Flag Officer.

After 38 years of Maritime Service, RADM Gorman continued to honor his military service focusing on active participation in the Naval Order, the American Legion, the Marine Corps League, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Navy League, and the Military Officers Association of America. His bearing and astute words gave formality and honor to every event in which he was involved. He was proud to shake hands with newly sworn military recruits, to present Challenge Coins in conjunction with his work on historical restoration of the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville, and to thank fellow veterans for their years of military service. As a founding Director of the Veterans Memorial Building Development Committee of San Ramon Valley and as a Honorary Flag Officer/Advisor for the new veterans building, he chaired the committee to create the Challenge Coin for donors helping to secure our new veterans building in Danville.

His appointments included the Secretary of Defense Advisory Board on Naval History, Secretary of the Interior Advisory Commission to the San Francisco National Maritime Historical Park, Secretary of Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee on Education, National Chairman for Long Range Planning Reserve Officers Association, and the Naval Academy's Screening Committee for the California 10th and 11th Congressional Districts. In 2004, RADM Gorman was received the RADM Alex Jackson Award by the Reserve Officers Association for a lifetime of service to his country.

In 2013 RADM Gorman was honored for his generous donation to the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville. A portrait of the Rear Admiral and Eriko welcomes you to the new Library and Board Room that will forever bear his name. In 2014, he was recognized for his generosity as the second largest donor to the Korean War Memorial in San Francisco. The Admiral's passion for supporting veterans' service organizations has made an immeasurable difference in their accomplishments.

RADM Gorman is survived by cousins Anthony Weldon of Palm Desert, California, and Warren Weldon of Vancouver, Washington.



Thanks to August Speaker, John Schembra for his talk on his experience with the Military Police and the many varied assignments during his service in Vietnam. In addition, John spoke about novels he has written.



2017
NATIONAL DAY OF KOREA
Honoring the Korean War Veterans

CONSULATE GENERAL
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IN SAN FRANCISCO
& CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
cordially invite Korean War Veterans of Northern California
to 2017 National Day of Korea

• Date & Time: **Friday, September 29, 2017, 11:00 am**

* Luncheon will be served / Seats are limited

• Venue: **Grand Ballroom, Palace Hotel**

(2 New Montgomery Street · San Francisco, CA 94105)

Note: You are welcome to bring one guest

Please RSVP by Thursday, August 31, 2017
with your (and guest's) full name to Jessie Park*

(Also indicate if you would like to receive "Ambassador for Peace Medal")

*Email: sfkoreancg2@gmail.com / Phone: 415-590-4066
Address: 3500 Clay Street, San Francisco, CA 94118

HONORING OUR VETERANS!!!!

Monte Vista Mustangs host the Dublin Gaels

Friday, September 8, 2017 – Varsity kickoff at 7 p.m.

Sam Zackheim Stadium



Free admission for Veterans, along with complimentary hot dog, beverage,
and homemade apple pie!

Limited number of tickets available! Call Veteran's Memorial Building, Danville, Phone (925) 362-9696

Tickets can be picked up by prearrangement from Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 75

SAT Morning Veterans Social Coffee in Danville every week - Join fellow Veterans each Saturday AM from 9AM until 12PM at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley Join hosts: Hank Glauser - Art Gaskins - Lee Halverson in the Lounge at our Veterans Memorial Building Join Us for a few minutes or an hour - Just Drop In!



This INCOMING News is on-line along with past historical issues. Check them out at: www.VNVDV.org

Last month, 12,000 veterans began shopping at the military exchanges by way of a "beta test." The beta test allowed veterans' to test the new online exchange shopping experience, which will open for millions of honorably discharged veterans on Veterans Day Nov. 11th. **All veterans are being encouraged to confirm veteran eligibility status at <https://www.vetverify.org>.** It might be a multi-step process if the Defense Manpower Data Center lacks information to verify that a veteran served and received an honorable discharge.



Operation Welcome Home



Dedicated to the Remembrance of 9-11,
Devoted to the Support of our Troops.
www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com

Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley
along with the **Diablo Flag Brigade - Warriors**
Watch Riders - Blue Star Moms - & our fellow
VSO organizations.

Welcome Home Celebration
US Army Capt. Dean De Smet

Operation Welcome Home!

We will never, ever again let our military heroes be treated like they were when they came home from the Vietnam War, when our Soldiers, Airmen, Seamen and Marines were spat on when they got off the plane





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

Veterans Voices Staff Volunteers

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
integritymoving@yahoo.com

Eliz. C. A. Johnson
Attorney at Law

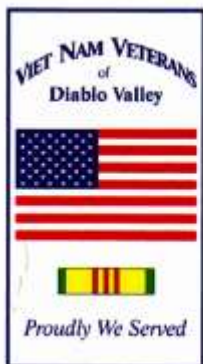
JLF

A Law Firm

Post Office Box 8, Danville, CA 94526
T.925.362.1010 F.925.362.1015
elizabeth@johnsonstateplanning.com

johnsonstateplanning.com

Thanks to Procurement Director John "T.J." Trujillo for his presentation of VNVDV Hats and Shirts. Please contact "T.J." for all your uniform requirements.



John T.J. Trujillo
Director of Procurement

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
P.O. Box 2079
Danville, CA 94526

925-997-5253
trujillo.tj.john@gmail.com
www.VNVDV.com



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



The VNVDV is considering another Wheelchair distribution trip to Vietnam. If you are interested - advise the President.

VietNam 50th Commemoration Honors our VietNam War Veteran Members

**VNVDV LIFE MEMBERSHIP...
Special 50th Commemoration
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 15 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**

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

Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: www.MarineClub.com

Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation - visit: www.SentinelsofFreedom.org

Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org

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

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

Hot Summer Nights in July & August
 Featured Unique Military Vehicles at
 Veterans Memorial Building in Danville
Veteran's Day will feature GWOT Veterans



All members are part of our VNVDV Membership Team!



**BRING A VietNam Veteran to
 Dinner! Share these new
 cards with other Veterans!
 Tell about being a member
 of the Viet Nam Veterans of
 Diablo Valley**

VNVDV Information Cards
are available for your use. This
"business card" format allows
each Member to share VNVDV in-
formation about the our dinner
meetings & our Veterans Memori-
al Building in Danville. Help
spread the WORD.

CHRISTY'S DONUTS
 Since 1987

436 Diablo Rd.
 Danville, CA 94583
 (925) 820-3394
 Weekdays 5:30-2:00
 Weekends 6:00-1:00



- Donuts
- Coffee
- Pastries
- Bagels

More Than 2 Dozen: Please Call Ahead
 (Special Discounts)

Church • School • Scouts • Party Orders • Club Organizations

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 San Ramon, CA 94583
 ph. (925) 820-2202
 fax. (925) 820-8911
 Email: 48@fastsigns.com

The Fishing Opportunity of a Lifetime!



KING PACIFIC LODGE TRIP FOR THE 2018 SEASON

An iconic luxury lodge to stay in while you fish...

West Sport fishing King Pacific Lodge is a luxury floating lodge, designed in the spirit of a modern and efficient fishing lodge; where understated elegance meets the wilderness with many quality details and finishing touches catering exclusively to 34 guests. This trip is currently valued at \$9590 CDN/\$7112 USD.

For more information on the lodge go to <http://kingpacificlodge.com/>

Dates will be determined upon availability at King Pacific Lodge. Reservations available after 5 Feb 2018. All-inclusive from Vancouver. Gratuities not included.



VIET NAM VETERANS
OF DIABLO VALLEY



**Major VNVDV
Fundraiser!**

**Trip for 2 for a
4 day/3 night stay**

**½ Day guided each day
5hrs/day. Self-guided
unlimited hours of
fishing**

**Luxury rooms feature a
soaker tub with
panoramic window
views!**

**Roundtrip transportation
from Vancouver, Canada
South Terminal to Lodge**

\$50 PER OPPORTUNITY

Maximum 300 tickets to be sold

Contact
Bill Green 925.683.3293
or
Jerry Yahiro 925.683.2541
for tickets

Winner will be drawn 2/4/2018
at the VNVDV Crab Feed

Winner need not be present to win

***Your "donation" will support VNVDV projects & programs
benefiting Veterans & those proudly serving our nation.***



WOUNDED, NOT BROKEN

MIKE CONKLIN | CHAIRMAN & CEO, SENTINELS OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION



As we come away from another great 4th of July Celebration, I wanted to share with you a story of first impressions and how they can ultimately lead to success and independence.

A few years back on my travels to the various military hospitals to interview rehabilitating Veterans, I found myself standing in a hospital room at Balboa Naval Medical Center in San Diego with a young, severely wounded US Marine – Sergeant Kyle Garcia.

Kyle had heard of Sentinels of Freedom and requested an interview to see if he qualified for our transition program. He was still in his hospital bed as we talked. Every first encounter and interview is different, so I have learned that the best thing to do is to grow big ears and listen more than I talk.

I mostly do not ask about the details of how they got there – I do not have to, I can see the brutal results. I have trained myself to listen hard, look past their injuries the best I can, and to focus on their potential. I read their faces and think to myself, *what would I do if this was my own son?* And then I ask them: *how can we help you achieve your goals in education and your future career when you get home?*

Sergeant Kyle Garcia, US Marine Corps

Kyle grew up in Hayward, in a family with a history of military service. He graduated high school in 2006 and became a Marine at the age of 17. I found him to be a very emotionally mature young man, a battle-hardened Marine who had completed Scout Sniper School as one of only five Marines in his Battalion. “A courageous combat leader, his priority was always the safety and welfare of the young men for whom he was responsible,” praised his Commander Lieutenant Colonel Seth Folsom in his letter of recommendation to us.

This commitment was evident in November 2011 when Kyle suffered a blast injury from an

improvised explosive device while on a foot patrol in Afghanistan during his third deployment. “Despite the life threatening traumatic amputation of his leg, Kyle maintained complete composure and coordinated his own medical evacuation while simultaneously directing his Marines to secure the area,” Folsom continued. “Kyle’s quick-thinking and presence of mind – even while critically wounded – safeguarded his Marines and prevented further injuries and loss of life.”

In that first encounter with Kyle, what impressed me the most were his integrity and drive. Instead of taking advantage of the recreational opportunities offered at the hospital, he stayed in his room and studied, taking college classes online. He completed a two year associate degree with a 4.0 GPA in one year. In November 2013, after numerous surgeries, he made it back home to start a new life with his bride, Heather, and son, Louis.

In May of 2016, Kyle graduated with a bachelor’s degree in business and accounting from San Francisco State University. He completed an internship with PG&E’s accounting department that prepared him for a job with the IRS where he worked until earlier this summer. He has recently relocated to Saint Louis, Missouri, where he will begin law school this fall.

This community, our community, can take immense pride and honor to have been asked by Kyle to walk at his side from the hospital through higher education and onto success. However, in the end, he is the one to have carried all the heavy water in achieving his goals.

Kyle’s story of valor is not uncommon in the annals of the Marine Corps and other branches – it is the story of the generational service above self, provided to us by our military.

To learn more and to contribute to our effort in making a difference in the lives of Veterans like Kyle, visit www.sentinelsoffreedom.org.



VETERANS WRITING WORKSHOP

Veteran's Writing Workshop (Cost: free)

For U S Military Veterans ONLY - Every Thursday

This is a Drop In Class, no advance notice or reservation required

Facilitator: Dan O'Conner, USAF Veteran - American Legion # 246

When: Every Thursday 1-2 PM, SEP 7 - DEC 14, 2017, Veterans Memorial Building - in the Library, 400 Hartz - Danville

Creative Writing: Write your military story for your grand children or get help with Memoirs, essays, novels, short stories and/or poetry. Program adapted to attendees. Optional-in-class writing exercises may take place according to class interest. Participants are invited to bring writing samples to class for potential group, or instructor, review and comment. Impromptu How-to-lectures are anticipated. Any and all writing projects of any kind are welcome. No prior writing experience is required or expected.

Future Events for VNVDV Mark Your Calendar

Pleasanton 2017 Veterans Day Parade November 5th at 1:00 PM.

Theme: Medics in the Military

Muster in front of the Veterans Memorial Building (VMB) - 301 Main St. - Pleasanton Muster at 1130 hrs (11:30 AM), advise getting there earlier as parking can get bad.

Requirement: 10—12 members to carry flags and the VNVDV banner

Post Parade: Gathering of VNVDV members and a Veteran Day Program at VMB

**Contact: Jerry Yahiro (925)-683-2541
jyahiro@aol.com**

Pleasanton Veterans Day Parade 2016





Department of
Veterans Affairs



VA | Defining
HEALTH CARE | **EXCELLENCE**
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 GUIDELINES for EMERGENCY & URGENT CARE

Going to the Emergency Room - Who Pays?

New Guide for Service-Connected Urgent Care

on following page of this month's newsletter

**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



**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



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 | info@askmikemartin.com

For many Veterans there may come a time when it is necessary for you to go to a hospital. The hospital may be a Department of Veteran Affairs affiliated facility or a local non-affiliated institution. The following guide is an overview of questions you may have.



Questions

What should I do if I need to go to an Emergency Room?

If you suspect you have an emergency medical condition that needs to be addressed, please call the VA telephone Advice Nurse at **1 (800) 382-8387**. The Advice Nurse will be able to direct you to the appropriate resource and document your concerns in your VA Record.

Will I have to pay for my trip to the emergency room?

The question of VA reimbursement has several criteria:

- Was the visit to the Emergency room service connected?
- Any condition, if rated 50% service connection or more.
- Non service connected aggravating a service connected to a service connected condition.
- Any condition of a WWI Veteran.
- Disability discharged from active duty.

VA MUST BE NOTIFIED WITHIN 72 HOURS



The VA sent me to the hospital and now the hospital is billing me. What should I do?

Hospital billing should forward all bills to the VA Northern California Health Care System - Community Care Program at (707) 562-8430/ fax (707) 647-8901 for payment. Please inform the hospital billing department to contact the VA Community Care Program to make sure your other insurance (Medicare, Medi-Cal or private insurance) is not billed. If you do receive a bill, please contact VA Community Care Program immediately to process the claim.



IMPORTANT VETERANS EMERGENCY/URGENT CARE GUIDE

Beneficiary Travel
(916) 843-7012

VA Telephone Advice Nurse
1 (800) 382-8387

Community Care Program
1 (707) 562-8430



VA NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Emergency/Urgent Care Guide

IMPORTANT NEW EMERGENCY INFORMATION

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



What if I am not service connected? Can I go to an emergency room?

Veterans must meet all of the following criteria:

- Enrolled in VA Healthcare
- Must have been seen at the VA Outpatient clinics or hospital within the last 24 months
- No or some health "coverage"
- No injury sustained by third party
- Disability discharge from active duty
- VA hospital/clinic is not available and must meet the definition of an emergency
- Please file your claim within 90 days

What if I am sent to the hospital by the VA? Will I get an ambulance bill?

Most VA clinics have contracts with local ambulance services. Ambulance reimbursement occurs through BENEFICIARY TRAVEL (BT) (916) 843-7012 throughout Northern California. Some Veterans may still receive a bill from the ambulance service. If you do receive a bill, please contact a (BT) service representative.

I am being discharged home and need home health or equipment what should I do?

Most hospitals have discharge planning. If you are in need of additional services or equipment , the hospital should call Community Care Program at (707) 562-8430 to coordinate discharge plans. All requests must be pre-approved by the VA to avoid additional costs or delays. The VA has 48 hours to consider whether to approve or deny the hospital discharge requests.





**Are YOU a
LIFE
MEMBER?**

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

Membership Recruiter

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

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

VNVDV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE: _____

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

Military Service

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

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES/COMMITTEES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Welcome Home Events | <input type="checkbox"/> VNVDV Super Sunday Crab Feed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Day Ceremony / All Wars Memorial | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk of Honor for our Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danville Fourth of July Parade - Flag Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> East Bay Stand Down - Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard & Service Colors / Flag Detail | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday & Other Support for Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Day Ceremony | <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Bureau - High Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors / Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> GWOT Duck Club Retreat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Memorial Building Museum / Docent | <input type="checkbox"/> Take the Rock: Veteran Swim Challenge |

Please Visit our Website @ www.VNVDV.com for other Activities & Programs

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

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

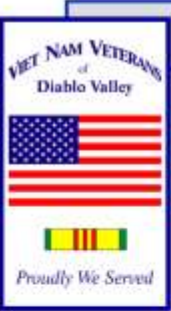
Please attach a copy of your DD-214 - and a check for Life Membership: \$50 payable to VNVDV

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. Life Membership \$50 in honor of 50th Commemoration



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

SEP 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

Electronic News

2017 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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- VICE PRESIDENT -**
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- TREASURER**
Mike Slattengren
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Visit the VNVDV Web
Past Newsletters & our
latest news on-line
www.VNVDV.org



To: VNVDV Members & VIPs

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

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

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

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