

# **INCOMING NEWS**











MAR 2019





Gary Estrella VNVDV President



UPCOMING EVENTS:

**WALK OF** 

**HONOR** 

Registration OPENS Soon

On-line

SFRWalkofHonor

To the Community

A Reminder... The East Bay's Largest

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBER-ANCE

Monday - MAY 27

ALL WARS MEMORIAL

In Oak Hill Park -3005 Stone Valley Road *(Monte Vista High School) in the* Town of Danville

FREE & OPEN

to the PUBLIC -

A FAMILY EVENT

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Armed Forces Day ~ the "WALK of HONOR" for our Veterans

THANK YOU to our Crab Feed Generous Sponsors & Supporters

### VMB CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER MAR 16TH

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, February was a month to remember! More than enough going on for a short month to say the least. The month began with our Crab Feed – a huge success. Thanks to the advance planning efforts and event work of a lot of people and supporters, our efforts will enable us to continue serving veterans and the community. I know many people worked on this effort in front of and behind the lines. I would be remiss in not mentioning their names. Slatts did a superb job in keeping us organized, not to mention his expertise in accounting for our interests. Others deserving our thanks are: Jerry Yahiro for Crab procurement, John Reese – tickets and PR, Dennis Giacovelli - Set up Team, TJ – football pools, Bill Green – bar and jelly bean czar, Lee Halverson – event technical coordinator, Cliff DeCuir – clean-up team, Jon Robbins – appetizers & snacks, Ray LaRochelle - sauce, Jim Hill and Jim Murphy – wine and silent auction coordination, Patti Kintz - raffle, and Anders Schmitt - "you name it". Additionally, Debbie Schafgens and Lorie Sammons along with the Dougherty Valley High School Interact Students all deserve our thanks and gratitude.

Honor Veterans
Walk in their Honor
at the Phillips 66
WALK of HONOR
SAT - May 18, 2019
Guest Speaker
Mickey Ganich
Pearl Harbor Survivor



# MARCH SPEAKER JON ROBBINS

will speak on LOGISTICS TRUCK TRANSPOTATION in support of all

units operating in the Central Highlands Northern II
Corps

President's Message (Continued on Page Two)

When Bill Green approached me about becoming President of the VNVDV, he said that the Board was the best anyone could have and to treat them nice. How right!!! Much Much Thanks!!

While I attended three veteran crab feeds and one Rotary Beer Fest at the Veterans Memorial Building in the last 30 days, the one event I attended for which I really am grateful is the California Gold Star Honor and Remembrance affair at the Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco. My wife and I went over Thursday by BART, attended the evening reception, spent the night, and attended the Memorial Service the following morning. Getting the opportunity to visit with some of the families who have lost a loved one in the service of our country definitely underscores the cost of war. This experience fifty years later, after meeting these families, gives rise to the feelings of what I know my mother and others might have felt when their loved ones went off to battle. My father and all my uncles served in WWII or Korea and all came home. My brother and I served in Vietnam and my "wounded" letter reached my mother before the two Marines visited her to announce my misfortune. When I finally arrived home, my mother told me that she used to walk around the house aimlessly after I shipped out. When asked by my father what she was doing, she replied waiting for the visit she didn't want.

This Gold Star event on February 21-22 was an experience in which I was honored to have attended. To be able to be there for Gold Star families, to show support, to help grieve with them and celebrate the life of their loved ones and to help them get on with life are essential to their healing process and something I would do again. If you have not been to a Gold Star event, I would encourage you to find out more about it & do so. As a Veteran, our duty to others and our country doesn't end when we leave the uniformed service and lay down our arms.

God Bless those Gold Star Families.

**Gary Estrella President** 

PH: 925 / 962-9552 E: gamastar6@aol.com







# WALK OF HONOR FOR OUR VETERANS





#### WALK of HONOR

for our Veterans Sponsored by

**PHILLIPS 66** 

Armed Forces Day Saturday
May 18th

Bridge Walk / BBQ & more in Crockett, CA

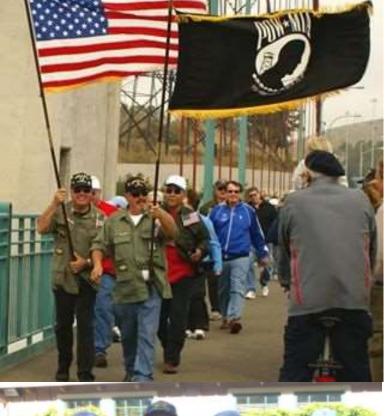
Crockett Community Center 650 Pomona - Crockett 8-1PM





BQ Bridge Walk







# Walk of Honor Honoring the Men & Women who Served Our Nation

The <u>Phillips 66 Refinery and Carbon Plant</u> invite you to join with us in honoring and celebrating the service of our military veterans on **Saturday**, **May 18**, **2019**. The 11th Annual "Walk of Honor for our Veterans" will be a short walk across the <u>Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge</u> and back. Last years event was a huge success. Over 400 employees, contractors, local residents and volunteers participated in the celebration and together we raised in excess of \$41,000. 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.

Saturday, May 18, 2019
Armed Forces Day
8:30-9:30am - Check-in at the Crockett Community Center, 850 Pomona
Street - Crockett. Transportation provided to and from the bridge.
10:00am - "Walk" begins.
11:45am - Luncheon Ceremony.

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

Many local government agencies & veterans service organizations will be on hand providing information regarding services - programs & benefits for Veterans

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

The VNVDV is dedicated to present & 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: <a href="www.CenterforAmerica.org">www.CenterforAmerica.org</a> to post jobs at no cost.

# Community Friends & Supporters...

Help us celebrate again and enjoy our FIFTH annual combined

Veterans Service Organization CORNED BEEF AND

CABBAGE DINNER

**Fundraiser** 

**Tickets \$40.00** 

Saturday March 16, 2019 at 5:00 PM Veterans Memorial Building 400 Hartz Ave Danville, CA

SILENT AUCTION-LIVE AUCTION-RAFFLE-DOOR PRIZES

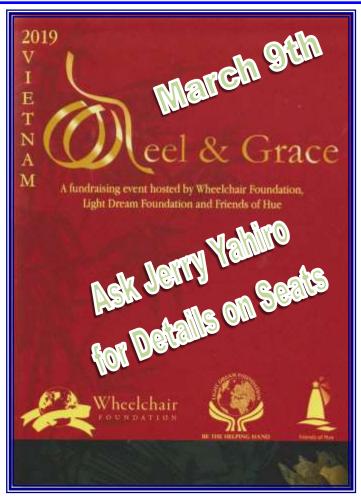
All funds collected go directly to the Veterans Memorial Building Operating Committee to pay for the operating expenses of the Veterans Wing of the building

# Purchase Tickets NOW at the VMB in Danville

Or Contact Dennis Giacovelli at houseworks@pacbell.net or Lee Halverson at lhazmateer@aol.com for tickets

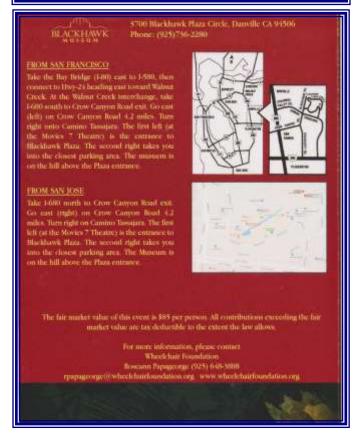


The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley have been invited to attend the Wheelchair Foundation 2019 VIETNAM: WHEEL & GRACE FUNDRAISING GALA won Saturday - March 9, 2019 at the Blackhawk Museum. There is a special sponsorship level for <a href="mailto:members of the VNVDV">members of the VNVDV</a> of \$100 and please contact JERRY YAHIRO (925)-683-2541 jyahiro@aol.com for an invitation. Individual Level Sponsorship begins at \$175. and up for non-members of the VNVDV.



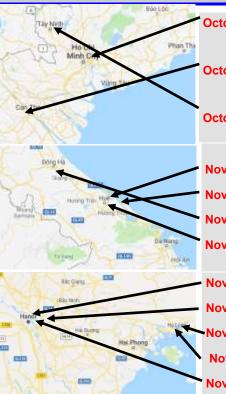


#### VIETNAM: WHEEL & GRACE 2019 ur sponsorship of any size is greatly appreciated. All sponsorship levels, except the Individual evel, will receive a table of ten at the dinner and a tax receipt as permited by law. Other unique enefits are listed below. RESENTING LEVEL \$15,000 Recognition as Go-Brist of the event along with NGOs and the Wheelchair Framétation Opportunity for a 2 minute multimedia presentation shring the event opposeer must provide media-scady content) If desired, logo embrosidered on the back of 200 wheelchains for distribution Private pro-cocktail pure, how d'ueuves and guided preview of two new galleries Advertisament on the back over page of the event program book Recognition in the Wheelthair Foundation's 'Changing the World' newsletter distributed to thousands of companie and families worldwide Two beautifuly described tables in best billyoon location One bottle of Bed Wine and one bottle of Champagne on table OLD LEVEL \$5,000 Private pre-cockial purp., hors d'ocurres and guided preview of two new galleries One page advertisement in the event program book. Berognition in the Wheelchair Foundation's 'Charging the World' newslener distributed to thousands of compan and funities worldwide One beautifuly decorated table in preferred hallmons location One bottle of Red Wine and one bottle of Champagne on table VIP Wine Testing at Museum HIVER LEVEL \$3,000 One page advertisement in the event program book One reserved table for 10 in preferred ballyoon location YIP Wice Taiting at Mescum RUENDSHIP LEVEL \$2,000 Half page advertisement in the event program book One reserved table in: 10. GOLD INDIVIDUAL LEVEL \$500 One seat at the event to enjoy the entire grogram and disner in prenium hallmoon location Private pre-cockial party, boo d'ocumes and guided proview of two new gallecies HVER INDIVIDUAL LEVEL \$300 One was at the event to enjoy the entire program and disner in premium fullmoon location Vill Wine Testing of Museus NDIVIDUAL LEVEL \$175 One was at the event to enjoy the entire program and dinner



Jerry Yahiro just announced the travel schedule of the fall 2019 wheelchair distribution trip to VietNam in conjunction with the Wheelchair Foundation. The itinerary is provided and days are specifically provided for the distribution of wheelchairs. The trip cost is estimated at \$4,000/ person and please note this does not include airfare. Flights are available from \$900-1,000.

Any VNVDV Members wishing to join this trip should send a \$1,000 deposit check made out to VNVDV and indicate in the memo that the check is for the Vietnam trip.



October 28th SAIGON - ARRIVAL

October 30th CAN THO - MISSION DAY - SAIGON

October 31st SAIGON - CU CHI - TAY NINH

November 1st SAIGON - HUE

November 2<sup>nd</sup> HUE - MISSION DAY

November 3<sup>rd</sup> DMZ QUANG TRI - DONG HA

November 4th, 2019 HUE - CITY TOUR

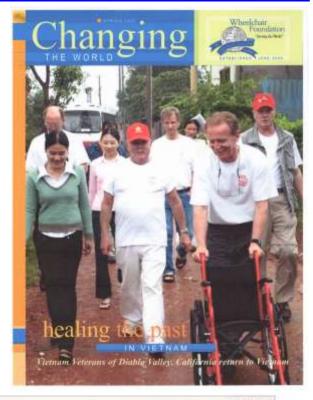
November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 HUE - HANOI

November 6th, 2019 HANOI - MISSION DAY

November 7th, 2019 HANOI - HA LONG BAY

November 8th, 2019 HA LONG BAY - HANOI

November 9th, 2019 HANOI - DEPARTURE



#### NOTE: DETAILED TRAVEL SCHEDULE AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE: WWW.VNVDV.ORG VIETNAM

#### **VNVDV 2006 DISTRIBUTION TRIP**

#### Delivering Hope for the Future



Written By John Ester, U.S. Marine Corps. 1965

The plane reached down at 10.15 a.m. on November 26th, 2006 at 7 am fair Man Angest in South Vistorian. "We're lack..." in all I could come up with to any. It was but not not borned and alightly eventual and 16 Chi Mich City was above with activity.

"Looke the same to roi," and "Wild Bill" LaVigne (U.S. Army) in "A shready better! fast time? I aw for expairs in we were consistent, "and party Yahnin's (U.S. Army) take.

"Seems olday," chimed in Tim Hart (U.S. Marine Corps). "I agree with Bill".

"I don't know what to say yet ..." commented John Rosse (U.S.

years to raise five funds for these wheels lates, and now we had cores ack to Vienum to distribute firm. We brought with us \$3,500 dol lars to donate to a number of children's schools and orpha we had also brought along, thunks to the work of John Ro-

lars to donate in a mether of dishborn's estheols and orphanages and not had sice brought abong, thanks to the work of John Roses and the geamonity of the V.A. Brogital in Mortinez, California, noer 60 posseds of needstones. Our first should be supposed to the control of Dar first whost-thair idear/basics cares on ear first day in Ho Ch. Minn City (formerly Seigen). Joel Hodge, our Winelchair Foundation luision, walked us in The Friendship Hotse in the con-trol of 30, Oh Mint City where a very farmed centratory would take place. Over the next level, many wheelchairs were given out. I think the control of the central part of the control of the central part o

all lingars to malifer what we were doing and got to see first hand lying our helping hands affected the duly lives of those in pont of a wheelshuir. We mut the local individuals face-to-four and fift their friendship and carrieg. Whole families were there to see their chilministry and carrie. Where travities were there to see their crime, grandpassers, and more and dods receive increditing this would completely charge their lives for the better. They cried and we action with them. They imagined and we inagined with them. And see helped them load up their new wheelchain, as usury as four undertail on the basic of a fourity mone sectors; and marveled or their chilty in they drive story.

In Quy Nion we met a wonderful women turned Nigaryen Niga.

who, with the help of some of her handicapped students, educates, finds and pates for marty 200 orphaned thadded children every day. She was so greed of her folds and introduced us to her staff. It was ity of the needs of the Vie

At Kids First Village in Dong Hu on Day Nino, we saw the "new" 'mackern' Victuars burg bath. We gave away more whoelathers and we denated John Reese's 60 pounds of medicine to Kids First Clinic. I watched as Wild Bill helped a heautiful young girl into her new wheelchoir and made her smile. And then I one him and Rich cci (U.S. Novy Retired) begin to weep.

gate that the neighbors and

trip, Day 11. We stated the Vietnam Framdship

the Victian Friendship Village lodgy Destrict Margoret, U.S. Marine page, quiet throughout most of the tip A more of his emotions in bot I will say this. It is secreting most of our area and would not be harmen if it id not affect you. When you are there is and the warmth that they give, you know within them have

endship Village. Along with disabled children, they

hands and years passed. We laughed and we sorely cried and found

As we were leaving the Frenchsta Village, a little disabled boy weaklief up to me and agong mon my umm, and in his excitorment, he post on me. It solded as him and I had never soon more joy expressed on summon's line in all my like. With ha disabled body he had naying. Whather me! Number one! Sumber one! and griving me the thombs up sign, and be did not want to get those. This moment will say with me downer. On one had day in Vietnam, Skip George unid, "There are two heads of people in this world, those that the aid those had show the little will be the best downer of the little will be the best downer of the little will be the little will be the world. We care, we say, we leggifed and we crited. We gave some, the way got had much mach, much meet. And, we changed I. It for one,

het we got back much, much more. And, we changed. It for one







situation delian org

**VNVDV 2012 WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTION TRIP** 

**VIETNAM** 

### GOING BACK TO VIETNAM

SIX YEARS OF FUND RAISING AND 7823 MILES OF TRAVEL
THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY HEAD BACK TO VIETNAM



It was a dark and stormy night... We find ourselves in Hue, Vietnam. A group of five of us have trekked to a local watering hole known as "The DMZ Bar." We are midway through our 15 day journey across Vietnam, distributing wheelchairs in partnership with Oakland, California, based East Meets West Foundation, and visiting old haunts. There are 17 of us in our group, but for a few of us the DMZ Bar holds fond memories of an evening we shared there during our last trip to Vietnam, in 2006. It was a night of laughter and tall tales (all prefaced by the words "True story...!") accompanied by beer and an endless supply of coconut peanuts. It was the night we all wrote our names on the wall with magic marker, some of us leaving messages for other travelers who would grace the same space long after we had left.



However, this visit would wind up somewhat bittersweet. Our memories of a dimly lit, rundown dive bar with no indoor plumbing and a single surly local bartender, supplanted by the revelation that the DMZ had been remodeled and modernized. Oh sure, you were still allowed to write on the walls with magic marker, but everything that had been there six years earlier had been changed in the "great remodel of 2008." The new had replaced the old, and we were reminded that our memories of Vietnam of the past were no longer valid today.

This message would serve as an underlying theme for many on this trip. For those among us returning to this country for the first time since the late 1960s and early 70s, this trip was the opportunity to experience modern Vietnam and gain understanding of the life that has evolved since the Vietnam war (or "the American war," depending which side you had been on). Of course, it was wrought with the apprehension and trepidation of not knowing how we might be received, or how we might remember what we had forgotten, intentionally or otherwise.



Several in our party set out on side trips to visit locations familiar to them from their time of service in their respective branches of the military (we had Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard represented among us). Again and again, a similar story was repeated "I found the place where our camp / airfield / base had been, but now it's just a Vietnamese War Memorial / shopping center/ highway, etc..." This is the face of progress in Vietnam. >

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: >>> The Gang assembles outside the White Hotel in District 1 in Ho Chi Minh City, on day one. Many thanks to Ann Tours and Mr. Truc Vole, our excellent interpertendend fixer. >>> In Can Tho we provided wheelchairs to swimmers with Olympic aspirations. >>> Pictured Left to Right: Jerry Whiro, John Beese, David Behring and Richard Lembert with one of the many tentris wheelchairs bonated to East Meets West 5 INSPIRE SPORTS programs throughout Vielziam.



Our partners on the ground, East Meets West Foundation, had worked closely with the Vietnamese Paralympic Committee and others to arrange opportunities for us to distribute wheelchairs all along our route. We gave away wheelchairs in Can Tho, Ho Chi Minh City, Quang Tri, Hai Phong Harbor and Hanoi. We donated tennis and basketball wheelchairs to sports clubs and training centers through EMW's Inspire Sports program, allowing para-athletes to develop their skills, train and compete in a peer environment. Along the way we met swimmers, javelin throwers, weight lifters, track athletes, basketball and tennis players and one tough tug-of-war team whose single armed competitors easily toppled our crew on multiple occasions.

Vietnam is now a country of young adults. It is a country undergoing rapid change, and the impact of having access to modern technology is visible almost everywhere. There are fewer dirt roads and more sky-scrapers, fewer bicycles and more motorbikes and cars. There is also an ever increasing demand for modern services, like clean drinking water, sanitation, medical care for newborns, internet access, and goods and services. And yet, with all of this rapid advancement, there still exists a very large need for wheelchairs for the disabled.



TOP LEFT: >>> Tran Nghia was 17 years old when David Behring prisented her with her first wheelchair in 2003. This past Fall, the two were reunited in Hanol, as Nghia and her mother joined us for a wheelchair distribution in the city. David and Nghia have remained in touch via the internet. David says of the relationship, "It is always a joy to give someone a wheelchair and it is an even greater joy to personally watch and hear how that wheelchair improved their life." >>> LOWER LEFT >>> Three Cheen for everyone involved in distributing wheelchairs throughout the country of Vietnam! Everyone gives a thumbs up for a job well done!

"Getting to go back to Vietnam, and to help people get wheelchairs, often the very first one they have ever owned, was awesome! Aside from getting married and having children, I think this is most significant thing I have done in my lifetime."

 -John Garfield Reese - U.S. Navy Diver on his second wheelchair distribution trip to Vietnam.

For the Veterans on this journey, our 15 days pass in what seems like no time at all. Soon we are speaking to one another about our trip in the past tense, where we had once been talking about it in the future tense for what seemed like such a long time. We were able to help Vietnamese in need of mobility by providing 260 brand new wheelchairs and 60 new sports wheelchairs. The Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley were able to witness first hand how their continued support of numerous orphanages, schools and rehabilitation facilities has had a positive and lasting effect on the people of Vietnam.

VIETNAM FAST FACTS

POPULATION: 91.519.289 (JULY 2012 EST.)

NUMBER OF MOBILE PHONES: 127.3 MILLION (2011 EST.)

MEDIAN AGE: 28.2 YEARS

AVERAGE INCOME: \$9.60 PER DAY

POPULATION LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE: 14.5%

WHEELCHAIRS DONATED BY WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION: 14,476

ESTIMATED NEED: GREATER THAN 2,745,579

PERCENTAGE OF DISABLED POPULATION REACHED: 0.527% OR

1:190

Since the VNVDV 2012 trip to VietNam - we have gained many new members - we are now in the planning stages for a VNVDV trip in the fall of 2019

The full detailed schedule has been posted on our organizational website at: www.VNVDV.org

along with articles from the Wheelchair Foundation regarding the VNVDV distribution trip to VietNam.



### AIR SHOW \* TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE



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# ABOUTFACE

# SELF-UNDERSTANDING THROUGH SELF-PORTRAITS

NO COST PAINTING WORKSHOPS FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES









### **REGISTER** at

RETURNING VETS OF DIABLO VALLEY. ORG

2019









# **CONCORD VET CENTER**

1333 WILLOW PASS RD, CONCORD, SUITE #106

12 PM - 3 PM MARCH 2 & 9 MARCH 30 & APRIL 6 MAY 11 & 18 DVC

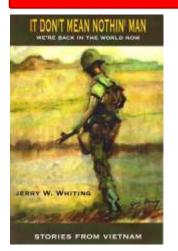
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE 321 GOLF CLUB RD, PLEASANT HILL, ROOM: ART 301

12PM-3PM

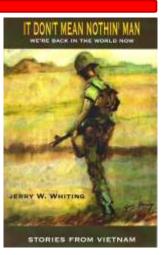
MARCH 16 & 23 April 13 & 14 April 27 & May 4

#### THANK YOU to "Super Sunday Crab Feed" Guests & Volunteers!





Remember to get your personal copy of JERRY WHITING's new book about VNVDV "It don't Mean Nothin' Man We're back in the world now"



#### SUPER SUNDAY CRAB FEED Fun... for Volunteers & Guests Thank

You to all our Donors - Blue Star Moms - Rotary INTERACT from D/V High School - dedicated Supporters & Guests & all Volunteers!



# CHRISTY'S DONUTS

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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FASTSIGNS #48

2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113 San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202

fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

# February Dinner Meeting - 2019





#### Gen. Paul J. Selva Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

Gen. Paul J. Selva serves as the 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the nation's second highest-ranking military officer.

General Selva graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1980, and completed undergraduate pilot training at Reese AFB, Texas. He has held numerous staff positions and has commanded at the squadron, group, wing and headquarter levels. Prior to his current assignment General Selva was the commander of U.S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill.

General Selva is a command pilot with more than 3,200 hours in the C-5, C-17A, C-141B, C-37, KC-10, KC-135A and T-37.

#### **EDUCATION**

1980 Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.

1983 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

1984 Master of Science in Management and Human Relations, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas

1992 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., distinguished graduate

1992 Master of Science in Political Science, Auburn University, Montgomery, Ala.

1996 National Defense Fellow, Secretary of Defense Strategic Studies Group, Rosslyn, Va.



Gen. Paul J. Selva Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff Guest Speaker Annual Sentinels Gala

# A unique opportunity to meet our Sentinels

Date:

Saturday April 13th, 2019

Location:

Blackhawk Museum Danville, California

Time:

6:00 PM Cocktail Reception 7:00 PM Program Start

Commemorating the United States Air Force

#### **Ticket Information**

Individual Ticket Sale

www.sentinelsoffreedom.org

Purchase tickets today. Tickets are \$350 after March 15th.

# HUY NOW

Sponsor a Sentinel



\$300

Sponsor a Sentinel's ticket for this event.

\*BUY NOW

\*Please note that 575 per ticket will not be tax detuctible as cost of dinner purchase.

13th Annual
California
Gold Star Parents
Honor and Remembrance

The Blue Star Moms - East Bay Chapter 101 & the Marines Memorial Association Club & Hotel Honored & Remembered the Gold Star Families of California in a two-day Tribute in San Francisco at a Reception & Memorial Program to Honor our California Fallen Heroes. The VNVDV was honored to attend.





The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley thank the Blue Star Moms Chapter 101 & Marines Memorial Association for their dedication & tireless efforts to honor & support our Gold Star Families each year.





### VNVDV Member *March* Birthdays

Frank Wallace Marine John Baker Navy

Randy Parent Army Alex Siddo Marine

Steve Burchik Army Bob Paulson Army

Larry McKenzie Army Gary Phipps Navy

Dennis Petersen Army

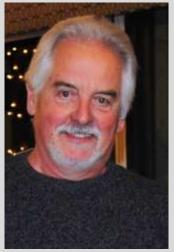
Correction to February Birthdays

Peter Garcia Navy

**NEW MEMBERS** 

George Coughlin Army Patty Wernet Army

John Kelly Army Ellery Lausten Army



Thanks to the February Speaker *Mike Hoff-schneider* for his presentation on the most recent benefits and medical services available through the Contra Costa Veterans Service Office in Martinez. Mike also discussed his experience as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Bliss, TX during 1968.





direct: 925.736.1500 mweber@rockcliff.com



Appraisers & Consultants
Helen S. Reese

PH: 925 / 935 - 4294 W E-Mail: HSReese@att.net

Website: www.VentureResearch.btz

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#### 

#### **Providing Our Nation's Veterans:**

- Access to High-Quality Health Care Services Based on Availability and Distance Qualifications
- A Network of 200,000 Providers Supporting Our Nation's Veterans
- More Than 1.1 Million Veterans Served by Community Providers



TriWest Healthcare Aliance has the privilege of serving our nation's Veterans as a partner of the Department of Voterans Affairs in administering the Veterans Choice Program, which encompasses all or parts of 28 states and three geographic territories in Regions 3, 5 and 6 of the program.



TriWest.com + facebook.com/TriWest + twitter.com/TriWest



#### California State Commanders Veterans Council All Veterans Day at the Capitol

State Capitul, Sacramento California

eterans Day at the Capitol



IME & LOCATION

30 am to 3:00 California State Capitol, Basement Eureka Room. Sacramento, CA.

Legislative speakers, Legislators of the Year Award presentations, visit legislative offices.

8:30-9:00 Doors open, mingle, continental breakfest.

9:00-noon Legislative speakers.

Youn-1:00 Free lunch for registered attendees.

1:00-3:00 Visit legislative offices.

Founded in 1966, the CSCVC promotes the rights, benefits, and opportunities of veterans in the State of California.

tate of California.

All veterans who are active members of the organizations belonging to the California State Commanders Veterans Council (listed below).

lign up to attend: Complete and email this form or your information to: Dana Nichol, Reeb Government Relations: dana.nichol@sbcgiobal.net

REGISTRATION FORM

ie:

Address:

E-mail / Phone:

Check the veterant organization(s) you belong to:

AMERICAN LEGION AMERICAN G.I. FORUM

ASSOCIATION OF THE US ARMY
CA ASSOCIATION OF CVSO'S
ELITE SERVICE-DV8E'S
FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE US MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

MARINE CORPS VETERANS ASSOCIATION MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF CA NATIONAL VETERANS FOUNDATION PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION CONTROL AMERICAN MULTARY SOCIETY

SCOTTISH AMERICAN MILITARY SOCIETY US SUBMARINE VETERANS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

VET MATCHMAKING VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA WOMEN VETERANS ALLIANCE

Complete and e-mail this form or your information to: data nichol@sbcglobal.rus

Veterans can now schedule optometry and audiology appointments without a referral from their Primary Care Doctor.

For more information or to schedule an appointment today.

Call 1-800-382-8387

After visiting the VA -Can no longer tell her I did not see

her... also using the 'D can't



# CHRISTY'S DONUTS

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

# FASTSIGNS.

More than fast. More than signs."

#### **FASTSIGNS #48**

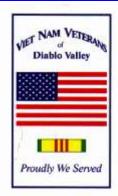
2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113

San Ramon, CA 94583

ph. (925) 820-2202 fax. (925) 820-8911

Email: 48@fastsigns.com

# Thanks to Procurement Director John "T.J." Trujillo for his monthly display of VNVDV Hats and Shirts. Order your VNVDV NAME TAGS contact "T.J."



#### 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



"T.J." has the new VNVDV Coffee Mugs that have been prepared for the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley... Nice! Order your set from TJ

# VNVDV Members THANK David Behring

Wheelchair Foundation "Serving the World"

the Globe with Friendship

North Vitter

Looking for a
unique BIRTHDAY Gift?
Donate a new
WCF wheelchair
in their honor...
great for someone

The VietNam Veterans made 2 distribution trips in 2006 & in 2012 to VietNam - providing freedom of mobility for those lacking this basic need.

We Thank David Behring & Joel Hodge for your support of VNVDV & our two amazing wheel chair distribution trip to

The VNVDV is planning on filling a container of Wheelchairs for distibution in Vietnam. Be a part of this exciting VNVDV project!

who has everything!

# VietNam 50th Commemoration Honors our VietNam War Veteran Members

VNVDV LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Special 50th VN Commeration Honoring Your Service - ONLY \$50.

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

# <u> All Wars Memorial</u>

Oak Hill Park Memorial Expands
The New Paver Section Opened JAN 2019
Do you have an AWM Paver? Don't wait Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member
or patriot with a special AWM Paver Tribute!

New Walkway of 600+ Pavers to Open \$300.

Custom Engraving is performed Spring & Fall.

Take time to visit the AWM - then the website for an application form. Order your AWM Paver www.AllWarsMemorial.org

Questions? See link on AWM Website

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

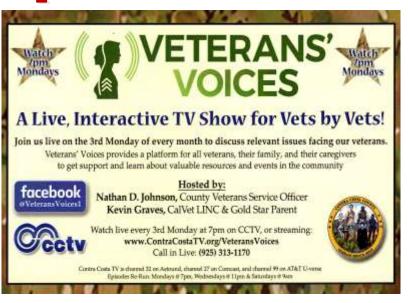
Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org
Blue Star Moms #101 website: www.bluestarmoms.org & Blue Star Moms #20 website: www.ccbluestarmoms.org
VNVDV website to see more about the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: www.VNVDV.org

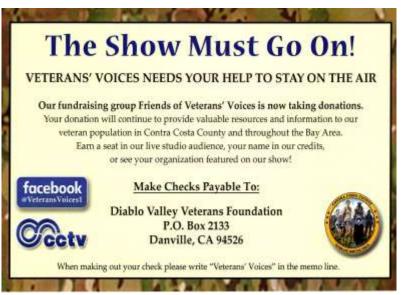
See other website LINKS listed inside this edition of the INCOMING News & on our website.

VISIT THE VMB/SRV's WEBSITE - for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING at: www.VMBSRV.org



# Update Information on VERTERANS' VOICES.





Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office TV Show

#### **Watch VETERANS' VOICES on CCTV Every Month on 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: <a href="http://www.contracostatv.org/veteransvoices">http://www.contracostatv.org/veteransvoices</a>. 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 important 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



A Law Firm

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

johnsonestateplanning.com









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 & DEATHI

Please visit one of our VA Clinics in Martinez

Oakland or other locations now to obtain your
 FLU shot - available to all Veteransi Don't Walti

# VA's FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE - DROP-IN ARF Mobile Veteran Pet Exam Van Monthly! Get your Veteran Certification for DMV License

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.

# Are You Watching CCTV "VETERAN VOICES" on 3rd Monday?

Monthly Show Topics IMPORTANT to VETERANS & Recently Discharged/Returning VETS SUPPORT Nathan Johnson - our Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer

# 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 <u>all</u> of your VA paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is for all veterans <u>FREE</u> & 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



#### Because You Chose To Proudly Serve

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

Pre-Planning Lifts the Burdens Off Your Loved Ones

Contact: Thomas Corbett, Veteran Liaison Officer, LIC# 44629 (925) 935-3311, (925) 216-4785 TCOAK8@gmail.com





#### 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

To:

# **VNVDV Members & VIPs**





NAM VETERAN Diable Valley

**BOARD MEMBERS** 

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**VICE PRESIDENT** -

**Dennis Giacovelli** TREASURER

Mike Slattengren

SECRETARY

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**EVENTS** 

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**Mike Martin** INFORMATION

Jon Robbins

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS John *"jgr"* Reese

WEBSITE Chelle Clements

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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 1991

Lille I

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

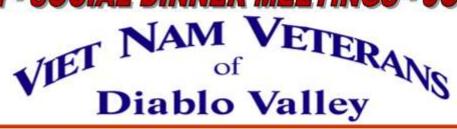


The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a local, grass-roots, non-profit, & all-volunteer Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, and value & maintain a high level of dignity & 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!



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!

