

INCOMING NEWS











JUNE 2020





Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley VNVDV HAVE ARRANGED A VITUAL MEETING FOR THURSDAY JUNE 4TH ~ 6 PM DETAILS WITH LINK WILL BE SENT BY E-MAIL

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

No need to remind everyone the "Shelter in Place" still remains. For how long is anybody's guess! Hope it's soon

Sad news of the passing of one of our own members. Received notification that Mike McClosky passed on Friday May 22nd. Please see the write up following this letter.

The Board had a Zoom meeting May 21st and is planning a *General meeting via Zoom on June 4th*. Based on our last effort it would be a good idea for you all to brush up on your computer skills and/or iPhone/ Compatible phone skills if you want to join in and say hello. Look for the invitation and instructions in an email. The Crow Canyon Country Club is still closed to us for Dinner Meetings. Will keep you informed as soon as we hear anything.

VIRTUAL MEETING MAY 7TH OFF TO A GOOD START





June Dinner Meeting
CANCELLED

No speaker

President's Message (Continued on Page Two)

If you did not receive the E-mail with Zoom Instructions contact Jon Robbins:

jonathanrobbins@hotmail.com

At the Board meeting the subject of the election of new officers came up. We need to have a slate of candidates by the end of August or early September and it sure would be nice to have some of you members step up and throw your hat in the ring. My health status is still positive but still do chemo to the end of the year. Rumor has it that my tenure as President is running up against the limits of the 22nd Amendment and I understand considerina that some are Amendment 25, Section 4 "non compos mentis" strategy to ensure our leadership doesn't falter.

Be safe and well

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





VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILD-ING VETERANS ORGANIZA-TIONS HONOR MEMORIAL DAY WITH A CEREMONY AT THE VMB











MICHAEL McCLOSKY



On May 22, Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley Life Member LTC Michael McClosky USAF (retired) passed away.



Michael served in the First Flight Detachment, MACV-SOG in Vietnam, for which he received the Bronze Star.



CANCELLED EVENTS INVLOVING THE VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY







VNVDV Member *June* Birthdays

Gordon Dunne Dave Turner Navv Army

Don Schroeder Marines Pete Longoria Armv

Lee Halverson **Marines** Bill Green **Army**

Bobby Dunton Coast Guard Navy **Phillip Simon**

Daniel Miranda Saber Zell **Marines Army**

Ken Jones William Hendley **Air Force** Navy

Dave Farkas Mark Marcum Army Navy

Virgil Stanger Dennis Kline Navy Navy

POSTPONMENT NOTICE—THE GWOT RETREAT JUNE 2020 IS POSTPONED











THE BLUE STAR MOMS, CHAPTER 20 AND CHAPTER 101 HAVE DEVELOPED A PROGRAM TO HONOR FALLEN VETER-ANS. MEMORIALS HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO BE LOCATED AT THE HIGH SCHOOL OF THE VETERAN. EACH MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED WITH A CEREMONY THAT PERMITS THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN WITH FAMILY MEMBERS IN RECOG-NITION OF THEIR LOSS. VNVDV SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM AND ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

THE MEMORIAL DEDICATION FOR SSG DANIEL SCHEILE **AND SGT JOHN ARAGON SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4TH AT** ANTIOCH HS HAS BEEN CANCELLED. NOTIFICATION OF THE RESCHEDULE DATE WILL BE IN THE NEWSLETTER.





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National Vietnam War Veterans Day

On March 28, 2017, President Donald J. Trump, signed into law <u>The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017</u>, designating every March 29 as *National Vietnam War Veterans Day*

National Vietnam War Veterans Day joins six other military-centric national observances codified in <u>Title 4 of the United States Code §6</u> (i.e., Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, Navy Day, Veterans Day).

March 29 is a fitting choice for a day honoring Vietnam veterans. It was chosen to be observed in perpetuity as March 29, 1973 was the day United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam was disestablished and also the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. In addition, that same day Hanoi released the last of its acknowledged prisoners of war.

<u>The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration</u> honors all U.S. veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time from <u>November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975</u>, regardless of location.

November 1, 1955 was selected to coincide with the official designation of Military Assistance Advisory Group-Vietnam (MAAG-V); *May 15, 1975* marks the end of the battle precipitated by the seizure of the SS Mayaguez.

The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that today there are more than 6 million U.S. Vietnam veterans living in America and abroad, along with 9 million families of those who served during this time frame. We make no distinction between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or who were stationed elsewhere during the Vietnam War period. All were called to serve and none could self-determine where they would serve.

Additional Background: U.S. involvement in Vietnam started slowly with an initial deployment of advisors in the early 1950s, grew incrementally through the early 1960s and expanded with the deployment of full combat units in July 1965. The last U.S. personnel were evacuated from Vietnam in April 1975.

This national commemoration was authorized by Congress, established under the Secretary of Defense, and launched by the President to thank and honor our Nation's Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice.



Veterans: Call before visiting your VA facility

Medical appointments possible at home via VA Video Connect VA APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE UPDATE

Got a fever, cold, cough or flu-like symptoms? Are you worried that you have a viral illness? The last thing you want to do is get out of the house to see the doctor, exposing yourself (and others) to more potential bugs and viruses.

VA can make it easier and safer to get back to health with virtual care through My HealtheVet and the VA Video Connect app on your smartphone, tablet or computer.

What is virtual care? Virtual care means you can contact your VA provider (and health care team) through secure messaging or receive treatment by telephone or video. Last year, Veterans had over 20 million virtual engagements with VA.

Any Veteran who qualifies to receive VA care and lives in the U.S. is eligible to use virtual care.

Long Description

Staying home - easier for you, safer for the community.

Virtual care is personalized and can connect you with your providers more effectively than ever. Ask your health care team if virtual care can help meet some of your health care needs. Options include in-home health monitoring with tailored technologies, connection to specialists, or even remote scans and data.

Cold and flu care made easy

Virtual care is safe and effective. Imagine the benefits to you and to your fellow Veterans if you don't have the hassle of going to the hospital or clinic with a with a cold, flu or other viral illness. You can stay at home and avoid battling for a parking spot and spending time in a waiting room. Most importantly, you won't put other Veterans at risk of a highly contagious illness. Staying home can be easier for you AND safer for the community by helping contain the spread of infectious diseases.

You probably already know My HealtheVet is a great way to manage your care – with online Rx Refills, VA Appointments, and your labs and tests, radiology reports, and images.

With secure messaging and video appointments, reaching your providers while at home can be easy, too. While not for use in emergencies, a secure and private session begins with a simple request with a Secure Message for a video appointment. Sign in and request one next time you need to see your doctor or other providers.

Your health care team can also set up an in-person appointment, if needed. Call your VA health center if you have symptoms.

For more information, visit:

<u>VA Video Connect</u> (allows you to test your equipment compatibility)

Reach Your VA Care Team Over Live Video (YouTube)

VA Telehealth Services

Veterans can search free resources through *Code* of *Support's* **PATRIOTlink**

Find vetted, direct, cost-free services

Code of Support's PATRIOTlink® platform is a free online resource database that includes thousands of programs tailored to the military and Veteran community.

Through **PATRIOTlink**, users can search vetted, direct, cost-free services specific to their needs. **PATRIOTlink** was recently redesigned to make it even easier to use. Now, users can complete searches by entering less information and they can view events and job opportunities in their area through a news feed feature.

Working together, a partnership with VA

With over 40,000 Veteran Service Organizations offering resources, both VA and Code of Support recognize that collaboration is a key to ensuring military and Veteran families find the right help. This partnership between *Code of Support* formally started in December 2018 when VA's Veterans Experience Office signed a Memorandum of Understanding with *Code of Support*.

Through its ongoing collaboration with **VA**, Code of Support's **PATRIOTlink** database includes a list of VA resources along with program information for each resource. Listed resources include suicide prevention coordinators, Vet Centers, domiciliary units, and caregiver support services. Including these resources in **PATRIOTlink** makes it easier and more efficient for Veterans to access VA resources, which improves outcomes. The VA collaboration also ensures that awareness of available resources extends to more suicide prevention coordinators and caregivers across the nation.



Long Description

Together, VA and Code of Support hope to improve the access to and navigation of resources in local communities to best serve Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors. Code of Support provides case coordination, education and engagement, and a navigation platform that allows service providers to reduce the amount of time it takes to find resources to meet their client's needs. VA cannot do it alone, and partnerships like Code of Support help to augment and supplement VA services and benefits where needed.

VA is providing Code of Support the most up to date resource and contact information to access and navigate VA services and benefits that includes caregiver support services, suicide prevention and homeless coordinators, Vet Centers and domiciliary units. One of VA's goals is to ensure that access to services and benefits is easy, efficient, and creates positive experiences in receiving care and support where they live.

Veterans and their families should not have to struggle with finding resources and services, so VA encourages Veterans and their families to use the free services from partners like the Code of Support Foundation for easier access and navigation support.

How do I join?

To get started, simply login at **www.patriotlink.org**, enter a few keywords or select a service need, and filter the results by your specific eligibility criteria. You can then see a list of unique resources customized to your needs.

<u>To learn more</u>, visit **Code of Support Foundation** or **PATRIOTlink**.

To request additional information, email patriotlinksupport@codeofsupport.org.

REAL ID REQUIREMENT IS OCTOBER 1ST 2020



Now is the time to consider a REAL ID!

REAL ID is the next generation of identification recognized across the country.

Starting October 1, 2020, you will need a REAL ID, valid passport, or other federally approved form of ID to travel by plane within the U.S. or to access federal facilities and/or military bases.

If you decide not to get a REAL ID, your California driver license or identification card will display the phrase "Federal Limits Apply" while a REAL ID will display a California bear with a star.

DL 1400 (REV. 9/2019)

Add "VETERAN" to your license!



How to get a REAL ID

To convert your California driver license or identification card renewal to a REAL ID you must visit a field office. Beat the rush by making an appointment early, or check wait times online to visit as a walk-in.

You will need to bring:

- Proof of identity (such as birth certificate, valid U.S. passport, or permanent resident card)
- 2. Proof of Social Security number (SSN card, W-2 or paystub with full SSN)
- 3. Proof of CA residency (2 documents, such as home utility bill, vehicle registration, property tax bill, or mortgage or lease agreement)
- 4. Proof of name change (if the name on your identity document is different than the name on your application)

Find out when, how and the best way to get your REAL ID at REALID.dmv.ca.gov or 1 (800) 777-0133.

DL 1400 (REV. 9/2019)

Access VA Services When You Need Them



ChooseVA is your one-stop for all the choices you have for VA benefits and services.

- Explore and apply for VA health care
- Learn about home loans, educational help and other assistance
- Access health resources
 Learn more at www.choose.va.gov.



Your go-to for all VA services. Call this 24/7, toll-free number for all your VA needs: 1-844-698-2311.



Confidential chat online at www.VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to 838255.



Sign up for a My HealtheVet (MHV) account at

www.myhealth.va.gov.

- Access your personal health information and keep records of your health services.
- · Order VA prescription refills,
- Send nonurgent messages to your VA health care team,
- Get email reminders of upcoming VA medical appointments.



Learn about your health conditions, medications, medical tests, and more at

www.veteranshealthlibrary.org.



Reach your VA Care Team over live video with this convenient and time-saving app

you can download at mobile/ va.gov/app/va-video-connect.



All Wars Memorial Granite Paver Order Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the All Wars Memorial Foundation or purchase an AVM Paver To honor the service or contribution made by an Individual Serving-Veteran or Patriot with a Paver - or Honor your Organization or Unit

PURCHASER'S INFORMATION: (If paying by credit card Use the information as on the billing statement) Name of Purchaser Address City / State / Zip Please provide Contact Phone & E-Mail Address (utilize separate sheet & attach, if needed to clearly provide requested information. INDIVIDUAL Paver - Granite 8" x 8" @ \$300.00 each IN MEMORY (for those who died while serving their country) IN HONOR (for all other pavers) NAME (to be shown on paver) Can add Rank for those who that served in the military. Up to two lines available - maximum of 15 characters on each line - including spaces. Please PRINT all letters. BRANCH of SERVICE: (circle one) U. S. Army - USMC - U. S. Navy - USAF - USCG - Army/Air Corps Merchant Marines - National Guard - or - PATRIOT (for all others) Organization / Unit Paver - Granite 8" x 8" @ \$300.00 each PAYMENT METHOD: Enclosed Check for: \$ → Payable to: ALL WARS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION - (AWMF) Post Office Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526 Mall to Charge my: Visa - MasterCard (Please Print) CV Code: Card Number **Expiration Date**

Signature and Date... & mail to: AVMF (address above)

DANVILLE 2020 HOT SUMMER SUNDAYS

CAR SHOW

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

16 AUG

\$25.00 Pre-Registration | \$30.00 Day of Show Staging from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on Danville Boulevard. 680 Freeway, Exit El Cerro. Follow the signs to the Staging Area. All cars must enter by 10:00am.

Pre-Registered Cars Are Guaranteed Entry to the Show.



Inviting ALL YEAR Muscle Cars, Hot Rods, Classics, Customs, Foreign and Exotic

Family Friendly Event * Multiple Award Categories * VIP Judges
Collector T-Shirts * Live Entertainment * Great Restaurants * Outside Cafes
Courtesy of the Danville Merchants' Association – Shop Danville

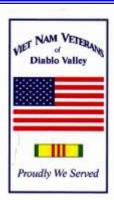
Special ABC Breaking News Award Presented by ABC TV News Anchorman Dan Ashley

ONLINE REGISTRATION @ WWW.DHSSCS.COM

Vendor and Volunteer Opportunities Still Available Please Call David at 925-437-3649 or by email ezasugo@yahoo.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."

For all
your
VNVDV
Shirts and
Hats team
with TJ
and Power Stitch



the Globe with Friendship

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 THANK David Behring

Wheelchair Foundation

"Serving the World"



Looking for a unique BIRTHDAY Gift?

Donate a new
WCF wheelchair
in their honor...
great for someone
who has everything!

The VietNam Veterans made 3 Wheel Chair distribution trips, 2006, 2012 and the Fall 2019 to VietNam.. Wheel Chairs Provide freedom of mobility for those lacking this basic need.

We Thank David Behring & the Wheel Chair Foundation for the support of VNVDV & our three amazing wheel chair distribution trips to Vietnam.

The VNVDV participated in the distribution of 460 Wheelchairs during the NOV 2019 trip to Vietnam.

Thanks to the support of the Wheelchair Foundation & Supporters

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

All Wars Memorial

Oak Hill Park Memorial Expands
The New Paver Section with 600 Pavers
Do you have an AWM Paver? Don't wait Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member
or patriot with a special AWM Paver Tribute!

1st ENGRAVING COMPLETED—Hopefully 1 in May!
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 - Call the County VSO Office for Assistance - 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

VISIT THE WEBSITE for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING at: www.VMBSRV.org

SUPPORT OUR BLUE STAR MOMS "DROP-OFF" LOCATIONS









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

Remember CALL VA's Prior to ANY Appointment or Urgent Care Need! At the VA - all Veterans will be Screened prior to entering Clinic!

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 2nd Monday?

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



"VETERAN VOICES"
on SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

TUNE-IN AND ASK YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT VETERAN SERVICE OR VETERAN ISSUE.



Because You Chose To Proudly Serve

Watch live every 2nd Monday at 7 pm on CCTV www.ContraCostaTV.org/VeteransVoices Call in Live: (925) 313-1170

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



REAL TIME PAIN RELIEF



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





VNVDV Members & VIPs

2020 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

NAM VETERAN

Proudly We Served

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Mike Slattengren

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Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

Established 1991

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!

