

INCOMING NEWS



JUL 2023

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley July 4th Danville Parade Flag Distribution

VNVDV JULY 6TH DINNER MEETING CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB



Steve Burchik
VNVDV
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had another high attendance level for the **May Dinner Meeting with more than 70 people showing up for a great dinner.** Fred Granados introduced retired Coast Guard Admiral-Mary O'Donnell who delivered an exciting presentation to the packed house.

We heard some sad news when we learned that one of our newer members, **John Upmeier**, passed away at the beginning of June after a long illness. Several of our members attended his memorial service on June 21 to help support his family. John was an Air Force veteran who served as a Navigator on F-4 Phantom jets during the Vietnam conflict.

President's Message (Continued on Page Two)

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY JULY 4, 2023

680 NORTH OR SOUTH EXIT EL CERRO WEST. DANVILLE BLVD ONLY RIGHT TURN ALLOWED. LEFT DEL AMIGO TO LEFT VERONA TO LEFT LOVE LANE TO HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT UNDER SOLAR PANELS.

PARADE START 0900 MUSTER 0800.

VNVDV WHITE COLLARED JERSEY SHIRT, DARK SLACKS OR SHORTS, WHITE VNVDV CAP.

FLAGS TO HAND OUT TO SPECTATORS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED.



SPEAKER for the JULY 6TH MEETING, ALLAN SHIELDS, DANVILLE POLICE CHIEF.



Chief Shields is in charge of Police oversight, budget and upholding the mission and vision of the department.

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley 4th of July 2022 Parade

Our next public event is perhaps **one of the most important of the year-marching in the July 4 Parade in Danville**. At this time, we will be the only military service organization marching in the parade, so it is more important than ever that each of you show up and let everyone know that we are proud of our service. Our contingent will be led by our color guard carrying all of the Service Flags for each branch of service. The Huey Helicopter will follow and **the rest of our members will be passing out 10,000 small American flags to the spectators**.

A reminder: Our next **Dinner Meeting is on July 6th**. It is important that we maintain attendance at the monthly Dinners. A number of our members travel during the summer so it is even more important that you make a special effort to join us at the dinner.

We are committed to having a minimum of 50 people at the dinner to avoid a financial penalty. Please try to make a point of participating at this gathering of fellow veterans.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to seeing you at the July 4th Parade as well as the monthly Dinner on July 6th.



Steve Burchik
President
PH (925) 998-9433
Info@steveburchik.com



JUNE 2023 VNVDV DINNER MEETING - GREAT ATTENDANCE CONTINUES



31th Anniversary Memorial Day Remembrance

Sponsored by Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley



VMB MEMORIAL DAY LIGHTING OF THE MT. DIABLO BEACON



VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY *JULY* BIRTHDAYS

Gary Villalba	Army	John Prentice	Marines
Mike Weber	Army	Earl Conklin	Army
James Hill	Army	John Schafgans	Army
Alex McElee	Navy	Frank Luna	Army
Wayne Norwood	Army	Daniel Harrington	Navy
Joe Cardinale	Army	Steve Cochran	Army
Larry Ashcock	Army	Marty De Venuta	Air Force
Ron Huesman	Marines	John Willing	Marines
Jeff Wagner	Marines	Billy Rogers	Army
Sandra Johnson	Air Force	Jeremy Bonelle	Army
Ed Baffico	Air Force	Eugene Franck	Army
	Tom Silva	Army	

Thanks to the June speaker **RADM Mary P. O'Donnell (USCG retired)** for her presentation on her experiences as the first female Flag Officer in the United States Coast Guard.



If you have any questions or would like to schedule a viewing, call or email me.

Mike Weber

925.487.7609

mike@mikeweberrealtor.com



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ALL WARS MEMORIAL PAVERS - ORDER PAVER BY JULY 31 FOR ENGRAVING BEFORE VETERANS DAY - APPLICATION IN THE NEWSLETTER



IN HONOR
3RD BATTALION
7TH MARINES
REGIMENT
THE CUTTING EDGE

IN MEMORY
LCPL JOSHUA
CHACHI CORRAL
3RD BAT. - 7TH REG
U.S.M.C.



Friends of Vinh Son Orphanage (FVSO) Kontum, Vietnam

Donations are tax deductible with 100% going to the kids, providing support for over 800 Montagnard children who live in 8 Vinh Son orphanages in the Kontum/Pleiku area of Vietnam. For over 20 years, FVSO donors have supplied food and medicine, dental care, education, clean water, housing and more.

Patrick Leary
FVSO PRESIDENT AND LIFE MEMBER OF VHPA



TO DONATE OR CONTACT FVSO

Our Monthly Newsletters Available on the Web site

Website
FriendsofVSO.org
Email
FriendsofVSO@gmail.com
Address
FVSO, P.O. Box 9322
Auburn, CA 95604-9322



All Wars Memorial PAVER Order Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the **All Wars Memorial Foundation** or purchase an AWM 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

Charge my: Visa - MasterCard (Please Print)

Card Number

Expiration Date

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

www.AllWarsMemorial.org

TIME TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

at GIANNI'S for the Fundraising Dinner
benefitting the
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
OF SAN RAMON VALLEY



Please join us at Gianni's Italian Bistro on **Monday August 21st** for a Great Italian Dinner, inspiring conversation and heart-warming camaraderie, all while being served by a wait staff comprised of our own Blue Star Moms and members of the Operating Committee.

This is our only fundraising event for the year, and our only chance to fund our programs, events and our military museum.

"TIPS FOR CHANGE" EVENT
MONDAY AUGUST 21, 2023

Gianni's
ITALIAN BISTRO

Dine-in or Take-out between 4:30 and 7:30

*Gianni's Italian Bistro
2065 San Ramon Valley Blvd.
San Ramon, Ca 94583*

www.giannissanramon.com

www.yelp.com/biz/Giannis-Italian-bistro-san-ramon

(925)820-6969

JULY 8TH WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION FUND RAISER

Wheelchairs, Wine & Country

Celebrating Wheelchair Foundation's
23rd Anniversary

July 8th, 2023 | 5pm - 11pm

Special Performances By
Nashville Recording Artists:

**THE BRODIE STEWART BAND
AND
SADIE BASS**

General Admission Ticket: \$150

VIP Table: \$2,000

Event & Artist Sponsorship: \$5,000

Additional information available by visiting
WheelchairFoundation.org
or by scanning the QR Code below.

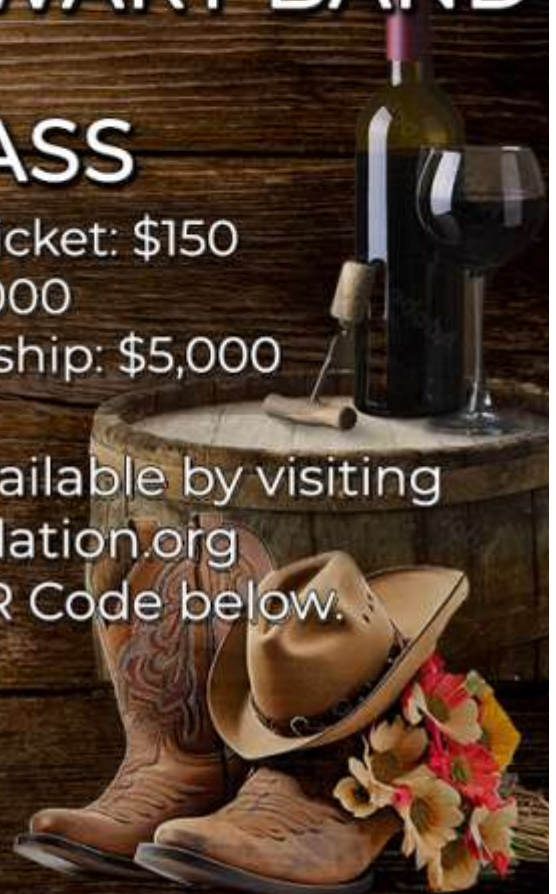


Wheelchair
FOUNDATION

Blackhawk Museum
3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle
Danville, CA 94506



SCAN ME





**VETERANS'
VOICES**

Next Show: Monday, July 10 @ 7:00 PM

Show Topic: **“Veterans in the Kitchen”**

Watch on: Comcast Channel 27

-or- Facebook: **veteransvoices1**



5 Year Transition Plan-VNVDV

May 1, 2023

OBJECTIVE: Plan for an orderly transition of VNVDV organization and activities as age and medical issues impact member's abilities to maintain current levels of activity.

TRANSITION PLAN: The general transition plan is to change our legal status from the current IRS 501 (c19) organization to a strictly social organization of Vietnam Veterans.

TIMING OF CHANGE: The transition to a social organization does not have a specific date. It will occur when we no longer have enough volunteers to conduct fundraising activities; manage the administrative activities of the group; and provide the manpower for public events such as Memorial Day gatherings or Parades.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The IRS rules require that a nonprofit organization must transfer all remaining assets to another nonprofit organization at the time of dissolution. No decision is being made at this time, but there is some interest in transferring any remaining funds to the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville. The VNVDV Board that is in office at the time of this change will make the decision on what group(s) receive these funds.

MONTHLY DINNER MEETINGS: Since the monthly Dinner Meetings are the most widely attended activity by VNVDV members the plan is to continue to conduct these meetings as long as members are willing and able to attend. A recent poll of the members indicated that the majority prefer to continue meeting at an evening event. That, however, could change in the near future as more members find it difficult to drive at night and the meeting could move to a lunch time event. As it becomes more difficult to meet the minimum attendance requirements of catered venues, we may move to a conventional restaurant with a group room that has no fixed rental charge.

FUNDRAISING PROJECTS: Our operating funds currently come from two sources: Crab Feed and the Walk of Honor. Both events are at risk in the near future. The Crab Feed requires a great deal of manpower, especially in the solicitation and management of donations. New Volunteers are not stepping up in the numbers that are needed to make this event worthwhile in the coming years. The Walk of Honor depends on the manpower and financial support of Phillips 66 which is a publicly traded corporation. Corporations can change their priorities quickly based on market conditions and their support can shift to some other community project on short notice. Also, we are in need of New Volunteers to make this event successful.

COMMUNITY MANPOWER SUPPORT: We need large numbers of Volunteers for public events such as Parades, Memorial Day events, Veterans Day events etc. The average age of our members is currently 78 1/2 years old. Will you still be willing to carry a flag for one or two miles in two years or four years?

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL SUPPORT: We support various community groups financially, such as Blue Star Moms, Wheelchair Foundation, Sentinels of Freedom, Veterans Service Office, etc. The funds we disperse depend on the funds we raise. As our fundraising ability diminishes, our disbursements will also have to shrink.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: This program is off to a great start and we would like to keep it going as a "Legacy" project. We will consider making a contribution to some type of trust to provide funds for the future depending on the advice of an attorney.

TRANSITION TO YOUNGER VETS: Attempts have been made to attract younger Veterans, but without much success. They find it hard to relate to us and don't see a connection between Iraq and Vietnam. We are working actively to develop a stronger Veterans Group at Diablo Valley College and will continue to do this while we still have some funds to support them.

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



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 Hats and Shirts available at monthly meetings

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



Department of
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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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 is now offering Flu shots at the Martinez 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.**

"VETERAN VOICES" THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Monthly Show Topics IMPORTANT to VETERANS & Recently Discharged/Returning VETS SUPPORT ~ 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.



A Live, Interactive TV Show for Vets by Vets!

Join us live on the 2nd Monday of each month to discuss relevant issues facing our veterans.



7:00 PM CCTV, Hosted by the
Veterans Service Office Contra
Costa County



Contra Costa TV is channel 32 on Astoria, channel 27 on Comcast, and channel 99 on AT&T U-verse
Episodes Re-Run: Mondays @ 7pm, Wednesdays @ 11pm & Saturdays @ 9am



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Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.org

Electronic News



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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!*

PAST PRESIDENTS

- Dennis Giacobelli
- Gary Estrella
- William "Bill" Green
- 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



DINNER MEETING JULY 6TH,
CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB

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"** - **\$30** **RSVP NOT Required!**

"INCOMING" News - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV

Established 1991