



INCOMING NEWS



JUN 2023

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

July 4th Danville Parade Flag Distribution

VNVDV JUNE 1ST 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 60 people showing up for a great dinner. **Fred Granados was able to bring another great Speaker for this event, Pearl Harbor survivor Chuck Kohler** who spoke non-stop for more than 30 minutes without any notes-an impressive feat for anyone but especially for someone who is 99 years old.

We are also presented a summary of the **5 Year Transition Plan for VNVDV**, the result of the work of six different committees. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions about the plan and to make comments. A copy of the formal plan is included in this Newsletter.

Bill Green and Jim Murphy had some great news to report on this year's Scholarship Program. There were four \$1,000 Scholarships awarded to relatives of our active members. The funds will be sent directly to the schools that the winners will be attending.

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

MONDAY MAY 29, 2023

OAK HILL PARK 3005
STONE VALLEY ROAD,
DANVILLE

SET-UP 8:30 - MUSIC
10:00 AM - PROGRAM
11:00



SPEAKER: JIM TAYLOR,
VNVDV MEMBER MOH RECIPIENT

NOON TO 2 PM PICNIC FOR VNVDV MEMBERS AND GUESTS. A BOX LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAM OR SET UP. PLEASE BRING THE BEVERAGE OF YOUR CHOICE.



SPEAKER for the JUNE 1ST MEETING RADM MARY P. O'DONNELL (retired)



will discuss her career in the US Coast Guard which started in 1973 and included deployments around the globe.

This past weekend was a busy weekend with many of our members participating in the **Walk of Honor event on Saturday, May 20** across the Carquinez Bridge in Crockett.

We also had a large number of Viet Nam Veteran Volunteers at the **Swearing-In Ceremony on Sunday, May 21** for local High School graduates who are entering military service right after graduation.

There is one more big event this month which is the **Memorial Day remembrance at Oak Hill Park in Danville**. Contact Slatts if you wish to carry a Flag. This event starts at 10 AM on Monday, May 29th. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors.

We are ending the monthly ZOOM Service Club gatherings for the summer. Participation has been declining for the last couple of months with only two guests on the most recent ZOOM call. Members are often traveling during the summer, so we will reevaluate this project after the summer ends. We do want to thank those who did try it out. Many of the conversations were pretty lively.

A reminder: Our next **Dinner Meeting is on June 1st**. It is important that we maintain attendance at the monthly Dinners. 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 Memorial Day gathering on May 29th and the monthly Dinner on June 1st.

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



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.



MAY 2023 VNVDV DINNER MEETING - GREAT ATTENDANCE CONTINUES



Thank You to Exhibitors and all who Supported the



WALK OF HONOR FOR OUR



VETERANS

Phillips 66 Walk of Honor HUGE Success!



The 2023 Swearing-In Ceremony Sunday May 21 recognized graduating High School seniors who are entering military service or the Academies.



WELCOME TO THE 2023 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Today we honor High School students graduating in 2023 and enlisting in the United States Military or entering a Military academy.

Sunday, May 21st, 2023



Roll Call of Recruits

- United States Army**
 - Luis Diaz, Cristo Rey DeLa Salle
 - Carmen Ortiz, Livermore High School
- United States Marine Corp**
 - Liam Morris, California High School
 - Emmanuel Vazquez, California High School
 - Axl Serli, Dougherty Valley High School
 - Daniel Menjivar Mora, Richmond High School
- United States Navy**
 - Oliver Smalridge, California High School
 - Noah LeBeau, San Ramon Valley High School
- United States Air Force**
 - Seth Ramsey, Mare Island Technology Academy
 - Shawn Brewer, American Canyon High School
 - Merlan Uson, American Canyon High School
 - Marlo Cordon, Terra Linda High School
 - Scott Logan, Benicia High School
 - Matthew Dominguez, Middle College High School
- United States Coast Guard**
 - Kenneth Kocher, JR, East Nicolaus High School

Roll Call of Military Academy Appointees

- United States Naval Academy, Annapolis**
 - Nimisa Panda, California High School
- United States Military Academy, West Point**
 - Arjun Kasathuri, San Ramon Valley High School
 - Ethan Haldezos, Monte Vista
 - Patrick Lee, California High School
- United States Air Force Academy**
 - Sophia Pedersoll, California High School



VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY *JUNE* BIRTHDAYS

Gordon Dunne	Army	Dave Turner	Navy
Don Schroeder	Army	Pete Longoria	Marines
Lee Halverson	Marines	Bill Green	Army
Bobby Dunton	Navy	Phillip Simon	Coast Gd.
Daniel Miranda	Army	Saber Zell	Marines
Ken Jones	Navy	William Hendley	Air Force
Dave Farkas	Navy	Mark Marcum	Army
Hank Stanger	Navy	Dennis Kline	Navy
Bob McDonnell	Army	Bill Youngblood	Army

Thanks to the May speaker **Chuck Kohler** for his for his presentation on his experience during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.



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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ZOOM SERVICE CLUB CALLS CANCELLED FOR THE SUMMER

ZOOM SERVICE CLUB



We are testing a New ZOOM Call where VNVDV Members can join in and talk with fellow members at a Virtual Bar in our ZOOM SERVICE CLUB.

- No formal Agenda. Only one Hour long.
- Just pour your favorite drink at home and join in.
- Talk with fellow Veterans in distant cities.

NEXT ZOOM MEETING is Thursday, JUNE 8 AT 7:00 PM PDT



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 ½ 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.



VETERANS' VOICES

Next Show: Monday, June 12 @ 7:00 PM

Show Topic: **"Training Vets to be Referees"**

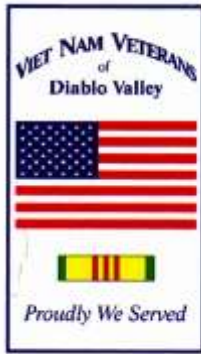
Watch on: Comcast Channel 27

-or- Facebook: **veteransvoices1**



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
Veterans Affairs



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in the 21st Century



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m.
Martinez Primary Care Clinic
150 Muir Road, Martinez, Calif.94553

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

Fax: (925) 372-2804

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

VA 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.**





VETERANS' VOICES

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.

facebook @VeteransVoices1

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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Electronic News



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Visit the VNVDV Web
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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 Giacovelli
- 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



Established 1991

DINNER MEETING JUNE 1ST,
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