

INCOMING NEWS











JAN 2024

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley





YEARIII



JIM HILL VNVDV President

Super Sunday Crab Feed Tickets Going Fast! Got Yours?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a New Year 2024. I trust each of you had a wonderful holiday season with an opportunity to spend time with family and friends. I want to thank the membership of this wonderful organization for your vote of confidence in electing me as your 2024 President. I promise to work hard on your behalf to continue the mission of the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley.

A **BIG** thank you goes out to our recent past president **Steve Burchik** for his stewardship and leadership for 2023. VNVDV thrived as a result of his tireless efforts, energy and skill. His presidential term ended in a flourish with the execution of a wonderful December membership appreciation dinner meeting.

I want to recognize our new vice president **Dennis Giacovelli** for his hard work in organizing the Army – Navy football festivities at the Veterans Building on December 9, 2023. The game was presented on 2 big screen TVs, with pot luck food, soda and beer. A predictable winner took the game. And of course, the predictable winner......GO ARMY!!!!!

Another inspiring event "Wreaths Across America" was held at the Alamo cemetery on December 16, 2023. Several of our members supported this event as flag bearers. Our own Eric Ardell helped coordinate the ceremony. Public attendance was large and over 300 wreaths were laid veteran grave sites.

The December Christmas Dinner Meeting was a great success. A special portion was the awards and recognition presentations.

Project of the Year award went to Steve Frew. Steve (along with assistance of Jim Murphy) created a Veteran themed float for the San Ramon Christmas Light Parade. The float featured a painted depiction of a Huey helicopter that was surrounded by Christmas lights. It was one of the highlights of the parade.

2024 VNVDV Crab Feed

Sunday - Feb. 11th

"Help Sell Tickets"

"Donations Needed"

For the Feb. 11 Crab Feed donations don't fall from the sky. For this 2024 event Jim Murphy and Jim Hill need everyone's help to make the Auction successful. Contact them to discuss ways to contribute to the success of this fund raiser.





Left: JIM MURPHY, 925 858 2618

jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com

Right: JIM HILL, 510 410 1040

jamauihill@yahoo.com

ADDITIONAL DONATION INFO IN THE NEWSLETTER

SPEAKER for the JANUARY 4TH DINNER MEET-ING Joshua Zebley - County Veterans



Service Officer -Joshua is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and in 2023 became the Director of the County VSO. Joshua will provide an update of Veterans Benefits.

President's Message (Continued on Page Two)

Volunteer of the Year Award went to Carl Swanson. Carl is our Secretary with a serious responsibility of being the creator and keeper of the Board of Director minutes. 2023 what is his first year as Secretary and he did an outstanding job.

Veteran of the Year Award went to Fred Granados. Fred is also a new member of the Board of Directors and has two major responsibilities. His first responsibility entails contacting our members that are having difficulties. He extends our organization's concern, sympathy and support by sending cards, appropriate gifts and food. Secondly, Fred is responsible for the selection of our guest speakers. He was terrific in handling both of these important duties.

The Gary Villalba Service Award was presented to Jim Murphy. Jim is a long-time member of the Board of Directors. His position is Director of Membership. Jim has worked tirelessly to maintain accurate records of existing members and has been very active in enrolling new members to join our group. He has also made significant contributions to the financial well-being of the VNVDV by managing the fundraising efforts in order to secure thousands of dollars in auction and raffle prizes for the Annual Crab Feed as well as other events. On a personal level he has professional training as an artist and uses the skills to produce our brochures and flyers.

We are also fortunate to have a new member **Bob McDonnell** who will be our treasurer for the Board of Directors starting this year. Slatts will continue to work with Bob during the year to help make it a smooth transition.

Congratulations to all award recipients we are fortunate to have you gentlemen in our organization.

Looking forward there are a number of traditional projects that will continue in the new year and the first among them is the **Crab Feed and Silent Auction** which is set for Sunday, February 11, 2024. The committee has already begun working on this event for several months. Jim Murphy needs our support with acquiring donations of auction and raffle prizes. As you plan to visit your favorite restaurant and/or merchants be sure to ask for a donation.

If for any reason you cannot do this, please purchase a gift card and pass it on to Jim Murphy. This is a major fundraiser for VNVDV and we need your participation with auction and raffle donations, and the purchase of a ticket for this event. If we are not able to support this function with prizes and tickets sales we may not be able to fund other activities. We all enjoy eating delicious crab with friends and family, so let's have a record-breaking crowd for a stellar event!

One last reminder: **Our first dinner meeting is on Thursday, January 4, 2024**. it is important that we maintain attendance at the monthly dinners. We are committed to having a minimum of 50 paying people at each dinner to avoid financial penalties. Please try to make a point of participating at these gatherings with our fellow veterans.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to seeing you at the dinner on January 4, 2024 and The Crab Feed on February 11, 2024.

Jim Hill President PH (510) 410-1040 jamauihill@yahoo.com





VNVDV AWARDS DINNER DECEMBER 7TH 2023



JIM MURPHY
GARY VILLALBA AWARD



FRED GRANADOS VETERAN OF THE YEAR

DECEMBER AWARDS DINNER/GALA AT CCCC

AWARDS DURING THE VNVDV RECOGNITON DINNER

VNVDV DONATION TO THE WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION



DAVID BEHRING WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION GWOT VETERAN RETREAT DONATION BILL GREEN





DONATION TO BSM FOR GOLD STAR
PARENTS RECEPTION



SPECIAL PROJECT

AWARD

STEVE FREW

LEFT TO RIGHT

YOLANDA VEGA, ROXANE LANGEVIN,

MARY TOLEFSON





DONATION TO SENTINELS OF FREEDOM, MIKE CONKLIN



DONATION TO DVC VETERANS
MIKE SLATTENGREN



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
CARL SWANSON



AMIEE LOHR-HENRY, PHILLIPS 66
RECONITION AWARD



SCOTT CARR RECEIVED DONATION FOR "HUEY" TRANSPORTAION





DECEMBER AWARDS DINNER/GALA AT CCCC

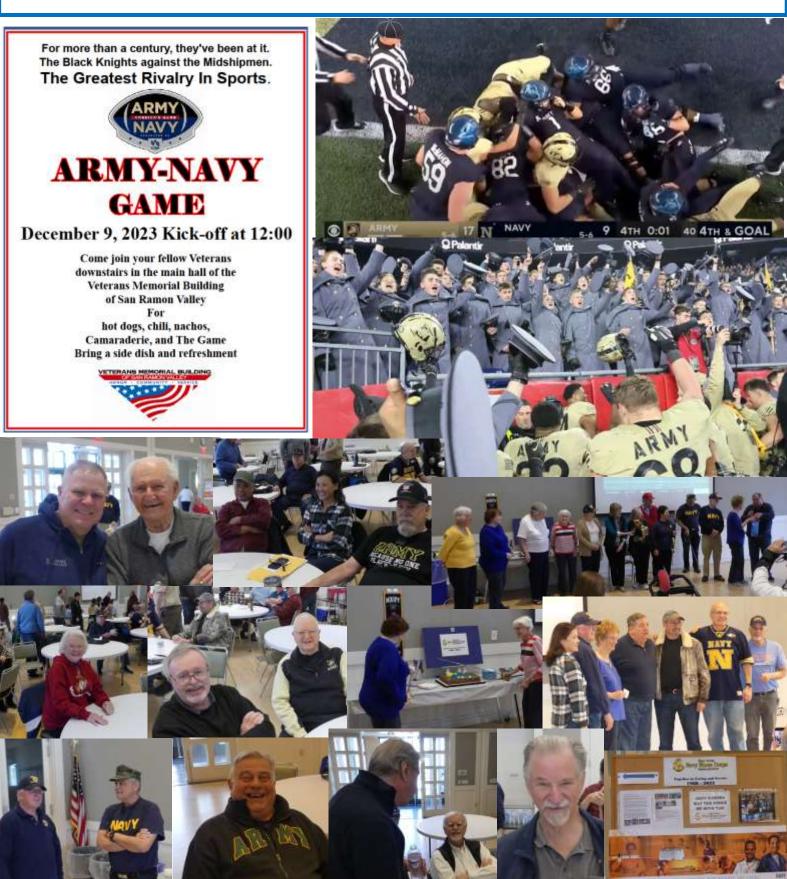


DECEMBER AWARDS DINNER/GALA AT CCCC ADDITIONAL PHOTOS





ARMY/NAVY GAME 2023 WAS NOT OVER TILL AN ARMY GOAL LINE STAND WITH ONE SECOND LEFT FORCED NAVY TO GIVE UP THE BALL RESULTING IN AN ARMY VICTORY.



VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY JAN BIRTHDAYS

Ron Allen USMC Bill Kiper Navy

Alan Perry Navy Arthur Gaoiran Army

Joseph Roberts Army Ray La Rochelle Navy

Bill Hawkins Army Rich Lee Army

Jerry Carlson Army Gerald Raver Army

Tim Sammons Navy Mike Feddersen USMC

Tom Crews Navy Cary Battersby Army

Thurman McCormick Army

JOIN VETERANS ON SATURDAY MORNINGS 8:30-12:00. ENJOY COFFEE, PASTERIES AND CONVERSATION. VMB, DANVILLE





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

Mike Weber 925.487.7609 mike@mikeweberrealtor.com



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

55 Springstowne Ctr. #301 - Vallejo, CA 94591



Next Show: Monday, January 8 @ 7:00 PM

Show Topic: "PACT ACT Update"

Watch on: Comcast Channel 27

-or- Facebook: veteransvoices1





The PACT Act and your VA benefits

This new law expands and extends eligibility for care and benefits for Veterans and survivors related to toxic exposures.

Joshua Zebley-Contra Costa County

VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY



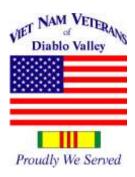
Sunday February 11, 2024

Fresh Cracked Crab • Silent Auction • Beer & Wine Bar Ticket sales are limited - buy your tickets early • Doors open at 1:00 PM San Ramon Valley Veterans Memorial Building - 400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA 94526

Tickets \$85.00 ea.

To Purchase Tickets Contact:

Michael Slattengren (Slatts)
Email: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com



Dear VNVDV member,

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announce their "Crab Feed & Silent Auction" annual fundraiser, and respectfully request your help and support for this event. Our event will take place on Sunday February 11, 2024 at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley, 400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA 94526. A fresh cracked crab dinner will be served along with a Silent Auction, Raffle, Door Prizes, Football Pool and Wine & Beer Bar. Attendance is limited to 140 people, cost is \$85.00 per person. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Michael Slattengren at (925) 216-7139 or Email: slattengren.vnvdv@gmail.com.

The VNVDV is an independent, "grass-roots", <u>non-profit, tax-exempt</u>, 501(c)(19), veterans' organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam veterans. We "proudly continue to serve" our community, through a variety of programs and events.

The money raised through this fundraising event, supports the ongoing administrative costs of the VNVDV. More importantly, these funds also support our various Veteran, serving military and community related events and programs, throughout the year. These include:

Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park

The Sentinels of Freedom

Danville's 4th of July Parade GWOT Young Veterans Retreat

Danville Veteran's Day Program The East Bay Stand Down

The Holiday Gift Drive Operation Santa Claus

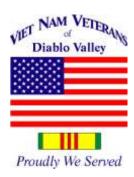
As a member of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley I respectfully request your support for this event, I am asking you to reach out to friends, associates and family member's for donations in support of our silent auction. All donations received will be identified with the donor's name. All donors will be acknowledged to our membership and to the community at large. These generous donations will ensure our continued commitment of support to our veterans and active military community. For donation follow-ups/referrals please contact: Jim Murphy (925) 858-2618 or Email: jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com.

I look forward to you joining us in support of the "Crab Feed & Silent Auction" fundraiser and I'm grateful for your generosity to your fellow veterans, serving military, and community programs. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jin Hill, President

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley



Dear VNVDV supporter,

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announce their "Annual Crab Feed & Silent Auction fundraiser, and respectfully request a silent auction donation to support this fundraising event. Our event will take place on February 11, 2024

The VNVDV is an independent, "grass-roots", <u>non-profit</u>, <u>tax-exempt</u>, 501(c)(19), veterans' organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam veterans. We "proudly continue to serve" our community, through a variety of programs and events.

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- The All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
- Danville's 4th of July Parade
- Danville Veteran's Day Program
- The VNVDV School Speaker's Bureau
- The Holiday Gift Drive

- The Blue Star Moms
- The Sentinels of Freedom
- GWOT Young Veterans Retreat
- The East Bay Stand Down
- The Wheelchair Foundation
- Operation Santa Claus

As a member of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley I respectfully request your support for this event, I am asking you to support our silent auction with a donation of an item, service of gift certificate represented or manufactured by your organization/company., . All donations received will be identified with the donor's name. All donors will be acknowledged to our membership and to the community at large. These generous donations will ensure our continued commitment of support to our veterans and active military community. For donation follow-ups/referrals please contact: Jim Murphy (925) 858-2618 or Email: jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com. Or Jim Hill (510) 410-1040 or jamauihill@yahoo.com

For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, or how you can contribute and donate please visit our website or e-mail us at the address below.

I look forward to you joining us in support of our annual charity fundraiser and I'm grateful for your generosity to our local veterans, serving military, and community programs. Thank you.

Sincerely, Silent Auction Coordinator Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

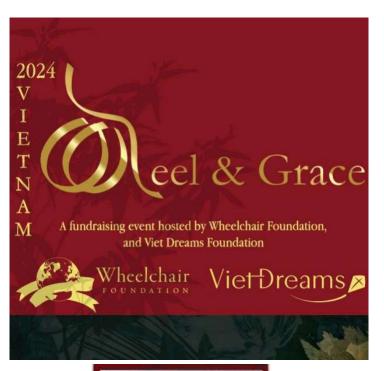


Date:

DONATION - DONOR RECEIPT

То:	_	
The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) h annual charity fund-raiser. We are a non-profit orga- or services in exchange for your donation. We sincer annual fund raising event.	nization and the VNVDV provid	led no goods
Your Donation Details		\$ - Value
	,	
	•	
The money raised through our 2024 Charity Fundra military & community-service programs and events t throughout the year. Thank you again for your supp	he VNVDV conducts and proud	
Sincerely,		
2024 Auction Coordinator Auction Donation Committee 2024 Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley		
VNVDV Contact: Jim Murphy - Telephone: (925) 858-2618 VNVDV Contact: Jim Hill - Telephone: (510) 410-1040 - E		thoo.com

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2024 FUNDRAISER FOR THE VNVDV WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION TRIP NOVEMBER 2024



- Save the Date -

Wheelchair Foundation's Wheel and Grace for Vietnam

Date

Saturday, February 17th, 2024

Time

5:00 - 11:00 PM

Location

Blackhawk Museum

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle - Danville, CA 94506

For all those participating in this years' Wheel and Grace event you will be eligible to join the November 2024 wheelchair distribution to Vietnam with the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley

For more information, please call

Jeff Behring at: 925-890-9883

or email jeffbehring@wineforwheels.org

The Individual Donation for the Wheelchair Fundraiser is \$300. Please note that two tables of 10 (20 people total) have been co-sponsored so that each attendee at these two tables will pay \$150 per attendee. The 20 Invitations are at the VMB in Danville. Please contact Jon Robbins, 925-997-9074, jonathanrobbins@hotmail.com or John Reese, 925-323-4462, vnvdv@outlook.com for reservations.

Reservations are required prior to January





31, 2024



Wheelchair Foundation Charity Ball Wheel and Grace 2024



Wheelchair Foundation Wheel And Grace 2024 - Wheelchairs For Vietnam

FEB 17, 2024 / 5:00 PM Blackhawk Museum

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir, Blackhawk, CA, 94506
The pleasure of your company is requested at the
VIETNAM: WHEEL & GRACE 2024
FUNDRAISING GALA
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024



INDIVIDUAL LEVEL TICKETS \$300 PURCHASE TICKETS:



Crab Feed

January 13th, 2024

5:30 pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lafayette, CA

Fresh Crab, Live and Silent Auction, Raffles & More!

Get your tickets or reserve your table today!

sentinelsoffreedom.org

All proceeds support
Sentinels of
Freedom, providing
educational support
to severely wounded
and injured post9/11 veterans.



SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY MARCH 16, 2024

Fundraiser for the Veterans Memorial Building

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Good Food, Good people, Good time Silent Auction, Live Auction, Raffle

All funds collected go directly to the VMB Operating Committee to pay for the operating expenses 8 activities produced by the Veterans

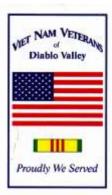
Doors open at 5:00 PM

Veterans Memorial Building

400 Hartz Ave Danville, CA

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 Hats and Shirts available at monthly meetings

VNVDV Members THANK David Behring

Wheelchair Foundation

"Serving the World"

Outle Velop Outle Velop Prouds to knowl 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 - <u>Call the County VSO Office for Assistance</u> - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.

All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: <u>www.AllWarsMemorial.org</u>

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

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

VA is now offering Flu

hots at the Martinez C

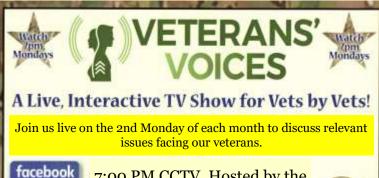
Veterans... Are You Utilizing Your VA Health Care Benefits?

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

isit our VNVDV Website for more Benefit details.

"VETERAN VOICES" THE SECOND

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





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

"VETERAN VOICES" on SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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



uses 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







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

Electronic News



2023 OFFICERS & BOD

VICE PRESIDENT -

Bob McDonnell

Carl Swanson

Fred Granados

Jerry Yahiro/Skip

SPEAKERS BUREAU

John "T. J." Trujillo

PUBLIC RELATIONS

John *"jgr"* Reese

DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

Dennis Giacovelli

NAM VETERAN Diable Valley

Proudly We Served

PRESIDENT -Jim Hill

TREASURER

SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Murphy

DIRECTOR of

EVENTS

George

Bill Green

INFORMATION

Jon Robbins

PROCUREMENT

Web: www.VNVDV.org

O:

VNVDV Members & VIPs

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!

Chelle Clements PAST PRESIDENTS

Steve Burchik

Dennis Giacovelli

Gary Estrella

WEBSITE

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 JANUARY 4TH, 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!

