



INCOMING NEWS



VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Established in 1991

**OCT
2013**

Nominations open for Officers & Directors - 2014 Board Veteran Swim Challenge "Take the Rock" Oct 12



MIKE

SLATTENGREN
President VNVDV

*Serving as an
Officer or Director
can be one of the
most rewarding
experiences...*

*I encourage
members to
consider serving
on the Board of
Directors
in 2014*



*Join us on
Saturday ...*

*"Morning Coffee"
& pastries with
fellow veterans
every Saturday from
8AM until 11AM*

*At the Danville
Veterans Memorial
Building*



Message from the "Prez" - "Slatts"

Welcome to October's **INCOMING**. As always we've been busy with activities of a Welcome Home, a parade and continued planning meetings for up coming activities.

We continue to have great speakers at our dinner meetings & in September at Crow Canyon Country Club; a WWII infantryman who journaled his time in service along with pictures he took with his SLR camera. Combat Engineer **Aaron Latkin** in Patton's 3rd Army at the Battle of the Bulge and then later they were one of the 1st to find a concentration camp or as he called said, it was really a death camp. His presentation was quite good.

On Sat. Sept. 14 eleven VNVDV members participated **Walnut Festival's Twilight Parade**. We 11 members carried our VNVDV banner, American, California and for the 1st time our very own **VNVDV organization flag** along with the five service flags and POW/MIA flag. We were honored to have the BSM's to join us and hand out individual American flags (same as we distribute in Danville's 4th of July parade). The **Concord Vet Center's** AMVETS trailed Huey & the **Warrior Watch Riders** joined us. We might be getting old, but we were **awarded the military marching unit trophy!**

The VNVDV is sponsoring the **"Veteran Swim Challenge" Take the Rock...** a "veteran swim" in the bay from Alcatraz to the San Francisco Aquatic Park to benefit veterans. This will take place on Saturday Oct 12. We will be providing a high carbo breakfast for them before they boat out to Alcatraz to swim back to SF. Then while they will be swimming we will be BBQing a lunch for all the participants. Anyone who would like to be there, please contact Bill Green or Jerry Yahiro who are coordinating the food service. It will be an early morning start 6AM. (they will start swimming at 8 am), but we should be out of there prior to noon that day. Our member Earle Conklin is coordinating the swim as he is an experienced open water swimmer. He has rounded up many, expert coaches who will kayak, drive zodiacs & wave runner along side the swimmers for their safety. He has held a number of practice swims already, preparing these disabled veteran swimmers for that big day. This will be a big morale booster for those veterans swimming.

We continue to plan for **Veterans Day** (Nov 11th at 11 am - remember 11/11 @ 11) to be held at *San Ramon Valley High School Performance Theater* in Danville (it's the building where we formed up for the 4th of July parade). Planning meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Veteran Memorial Building at noon. This year the program honors our Viet Nam veterans & Col. Allen Cruz, USMC is the keynote speaker. This is a joint VSO effort (VFW, MCL & AL along with us), not just the VNVDV members. Everyone is invited to attend this Veteran program.

Vote on proposed minor By-Law Revisions - OCT

VNVDV Mike Slattengren reviewed at our Sept dinner his experiences as President & some of the issues he asked the Board to address. To further enhance VNVDV operations & our overall organization, a set of By-Law minor revisions were proposed & approved by the Board (printed in two months of news). The nomination/election committee will request a membership vote at the October General Membership Meeting. This is second notice of this official vote.

Annual Meeting is scheduled for November

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley Honored by Walnut Festival's Twilight Parade Committee

Recognized as **Veteran Marching Unit** in the great downtown Walnut Creek annual event. We thank the Blue Star Moms for **American Flag** Distribution along the parade route + the Concord Huey & WWR

Join us each Month

Inside **INCOMING** this month...

**Veteran Swim Challenge
Aquatic Park SF - Oct 12**



**Nominations for 2014
Board - Month of Oct.**



**Final All Wars Memorial
Engraving for 2013 being
planned for OCT. - Order Now!**

Continued... on Page Two -

VNVDV "INCOMING" Newsletter



President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

The Pleasanton VFW post hosts a **Veterans Day parade** in Pleasanton each year and this year it will be on **Sunday Nov 3**. We have been asked to participate again this year. So another fine parade to march in. Contact Ray to participate in parade.

The **SRV Veterans Memorial Building** is open from 9 am to 3 pm each day, Monday – Friday. There are a number of docents standing 3 hr shifts to share the building information and displays with visitors. We continue to look for more volunteers (easy 1 hour training provided), so if you are interested in volunteering 1 or 2 shifts a month (not much time taken away from your schedule) please let me know.

We are also starting advance planning for the annual **Super Sunday Crab Feed** / fund raiser we have each year. This coming year it will be held on **Sunday Feb 2, 2014**. Mark your calendar. This needs a number of hands to assist in various positions. None of them are hard, but since this is a big fund raiser (we usually raise approximately \$8000 - \$9000 allowing us to support veteran programs) we've got quite a few sub committees to break up the work load. If you are interested in helping please see me.

Remember the various veteran groups who use the SRV Veteran Memorial Building (we being one of them) are having **"Saturday morning coffee"** gatherings. It's open from 8 – 11 am each Saturday. It's a nice way to spend an occasional Saturday morning visiting with fellow veterans. Come when you'd like between 8 & 11 and leave when you'd like. It's just a nice way to start a Saturday morning.

According to our by-laws a **"life membership"** dues in the VNVDV is calculated as 8 times the annual dues. Since our dues were lowered this year to \$25 per year, the life membership payment of \$200 is a bargain for you to consider. If you are considering this, please let me, or our Membership Director Bill Chew know.

Finally, don't forget our **Operation Welcome Home's**. As mentioned each month, if you are interested in participating in these, let Public Relations Director John Reese know you want to be on his distribution list when we learn about when these young warriors come home. No special skills are needed, just show up with a flag in your hand, a smile on your face and a thank you hand shake for the young man or woman. These are fun gatherings and only take about an hour out of your day. It is very fulfilling for both the returnees and to each of us. We had a welcome home earlier in September for a young man who just came home from Marine Boot camp, after leaving for that training 2 days after graduating from high school. We have two coming up the first weekend in October.

There is a lot of information in each **INCOMING** newsletter, so be sure to look at all the articles. Besides information on the various activities we participate in or support, there is further information we need as veterans for ourselves and our families. This is available on-line at our newly revised website in addition to the past issues published. I want to thank Chelle for her efforts & many hours in updating our VNVDV site.

I hope to see all of you at our October dinner meeting on Thursday Oct 3, 2013, 6 pm at the Crow Canyon Country Club in San Ramon. Social hour starts at 5 pm. At this dinner meeting we will have a ballot for the proposed by-laws I shared last month and that were in last months INCOMING.

Continued... Top of Page -

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO ALL VNVDV MEMBERS

VNVDV President **Mike Slattengren** appointed Past President & Board Advisor **Jerry Yahiro** as *Chair* for the **2014 Nominations & Election Committee**. To ALL VNVDV Members: Nominations for all positions are Open. The Election of Officers & Directors for 2014 will be conducted at our "ANNUAL MEETING" as by-laws direct on the first Thursday of November - 7th @ 1800 at Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. Additional Past Presidents are serving and will process nominations & conduct all elections & vote. A by-law modification vote will be held at the Oct. meeting.



Michael Slattengren

Michael Slattengren

President 2012 - 2013

PH: (925) 837-6238

E: President.VNVDV@gmail.com



**Members:
Have Questions?
Please Contact Me.**

VNVDV Membership Dues... only \$25. year! Life - \$200.

Our Thanks & Appreciation goes to

Chelle - webmistress & Lee

for outstanding efforts on our VNVDV Website.

It has been updated &

we appreciate your comments. Please share

them with our President.

Members & supporters... Have you got news about future events or news for veterans & even photos from veteran events.? Please share your information with our Information & PR Directors each month.

Join us for one of our most important & informative meeting speakers for veterans & family members... Dinner is "OPEN"

OCTOBER Dinner Meeting - Thursday - OCT. 3rd - 1700 Social - 1800 Buffet

NATHAN JOHNSON - Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer

This is a **very special**, evening opportunity open to all Veteran *members of VSOs* & all military veterans – along with their family members to attend & hear – personally obtaining the latest information on YOUR VA Federal Benefits - CA State Benefits & CC County Benefits. This is a **“do-not miss”** dinner speaker for Veterans / Military & family members in our community at this Thursday’s - October 3rd dinner meeting

Nathan will discuss those veteran benefits you have EARNED - through your military service... as you *proudly wore the uniform of our United States Military*. Join us - find out about recent changes & updates.

You might remember the *amount of pay* received while serving... Remember - this could be the *“other portion”* of your military service compensation you become eligible for - after you leave the military - becoming a veteran. *You should not leave your benefits on the table!* At least attend to discover more of what might be available. If not for YOU... do it for your family!

Our local, **Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office** is THE Number ONE “Service Team” of *experienced, objective professionals* and **true experts** in veteran services, claims & all other benefits which may be available for ALL Veterans & **their family members** at NO Cost! It's time you find out more about the *Affordable Care Act* - as a veteran... if you have enrolled in the *VA Health Care System*. Get all your benefit questions answered by our *objective, third-party* (not VA) County Veteran Advocate Team.

This is the one meeting **you should bring your spouse** and/or members of your immediate family... allowing them to be aware of the *expert assistance available FREE* to all veterans & family members. It is this Thursday – please attend our **October 3rd** dinner meeting and hear directly from our *Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer* - **Nathan Johnson**. Served eight years at the Concord Vet Center helping veterans.

If you are already a **client** of our County VSO or enrolled in the **VA Health Care System** – remember... benefits do change. It might be time for your *“benefit check-up”* with Nathan & the *outstanding team* of veteran service representatives. Find out how to make an appointment for you & your family members at our Danville Veterans Memorial Building on Wednesdays or during regular hours at their Martinez VSO office.

Make plans now to join us **Thursday Oct.3rd** at *Crow Canyon Country Club* – Danville/San Ramon - 1700 Hrs. Social Hour and at 1800 Hrs. the *chef's choice* buffet dinner (\$25. members & guests) followed by our featured monthly guest speaker. **Please join us for a fun & informative dinner!** Open to all.

Thank You to last month's outstanding Speaker



VNVDV Thanks goes to September
Featured Guest Dinner Speaker...

WW II Veteran AARON LATKIN

VNVDV By-Law Proposal Vote at Oct. Meeting

Presented to VNVDV General Membership at Meeting – Sept. 2013 &
Announced (Included) in *Incoming News* communicating to all Members
Membership Vote – Scheduled for General Meeting – Oct. 2013

3.02.2 – Non Member

Current By-Law (last sentence): Persons who have been accorded Honorary status, are not members – do not pay dues – may not hold office - vote or inure any of the benefits of membership.

Propose correction (typo): ...may not hold office - vote or **incur** any of the benefits of membership.

3.04.B Privileges of Membership

Current By-Law: War veteran members in good standing, who are eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal, may in addition, hold office or serve on the Board of Directors.

Propose adding sentence to 3.04.B: War veteran members in good standing, who are eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal, may in addition, hold office or serve on the Board of Directors.
Board of Director positions other than officers may be held by war veteran members in good standing of the VNVDV.

(Note: definition of officers vs. Board of Directors is 6.01 – officers are President, VP, Secretary & Treasurer. This change would allow VNVDV war veteran members who are not eligible for the Viet Nam Service Medal to be eligible for Board of Director positions)

Current By-Law: 10.05.A – Expenditure authorization

All checks issued by the organization in excess of five-hundred dollars (\$500.00) shall require two signatures. Only the Treasurer – President – Vice President and Secretary are authorized to sign the Organization's checks.

Propose to remove 1st sentence: **All checks issued by the organization in excess of five-hundred dollars (\$500.00) shall require two signatures.** Only the Treasurer – President – Vice President and Secretary are authorized to sign the Organization's checks.

Current By-Law: 3.03.4 Life Applications

Any member who has been a member in good standing for a period of five (5) consecutive years or longer and who has held a position on the Board of Directors, served as the Chairperson or Co-chairperson of a VNVDV committee, or in some other way distinguished themselves as a member of the organization, may apply to the Board of Directors for Life Membership. Fee for Life membership shall be a one time sum equal to eight (8) times the annual dues at the time of the conversion.

Propose to remove 1st sentence: **Any member who has been a member in good standing for a period of five (5) consecutive years or longer and who has held a position on the Board of Directors, served as the Chairperson or Co-chairperson of a VNVDV committee, or in some other way distinguished themselves as a member of the organization, may apply to the Board of Directors for Life Membership.** Fee for Life membership shall be a one time sum equal to eight (8) times the annual dues at the time of the conversion

The proposed changes above in the VNVDV By-Laws will be voted on at the October Business Meeting—First Thursday at approximately 1900 Hrs. by all VNVDV Members “in good standing” and present at the Dinner Meeting OCT 3rd. Change objective to allowing Life Memberships sooner due to the advancing age of VietNam veterans and allow other worthy, active veteran members to participate as a Director on the Board assisting the VNVDV.

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

PREZ "Slatts" announced it is time to begin "advance planning" for 2014 Super Sunday Crab Feed.



Some of our VNVDV members do not need a lot of encouragement to "get ready" for our Annual "Super Sunday" Crab Feed!

Children's Monster Mash (take your grandkids) Friday - Oct. 25th Danville Volunteers Needed

Join us for a scary good time at the Town of Danville's 11th Annual Children's Fall Fest. Festivities will include arts and crafts, face painting, games and trick-or-treating. All of these fall-filled activities will take place Friday, October 25 at the Danville Community Center, located at 420 Front Street. This event is perfect for all the little monsters ages 1 through 9. Light refreshments will be served.

There are two sessions to choose from for this event; 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Pre-registration is required** and no walk-ins can be accommodated. Register online at www.danvillerecguide.com or call (925) 314-3400 for more information.

Due to limited spaces available, if a session is full the Town encourages children to be added to the waitlist in case the Town is able to accommodate additional participants.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, visit www.danville.ca.gov/Volunteer_Opportunities.

Thank You to the Exchange Club for the 9 / 11 Remembrance Event at the All Wars Memorial - Oak Hill Park - Town of Danville



**EXCHANGE CLUB
SAN RAMON VALLEY**

September 11, 2013

"Welcome New Fire Chief Meyer!"

Our Front Line: Yosemite River Fire, Alamo Gas Leak, ...

*12:00 Sign in 11:30 Classic Caesar/Grilled Chicken Breast
rsvp coachstepper@yahoo.com \$16 Members/ \$20 Returning Guests*



*K Stepper, R Price, Joe Combs, M Remmich, O Moore
August 14 Meeting*



9/11 IN ARLINGTON
Through the eyes of a former Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

9/11 Ceremony
5:50 Oak Hill Park

"WHY DO WE HAVE A MEMORIAL PROGRAM ON SEPTEMBER 11th?"
Ask a youth to enter the Exchange Club Essay Awards
srvexchangeclub.org



All Wars Memorial "paver engraving" planned in Oct. prior to Veteran's Day!
Visit the All Wars Memorial in Oak Hill Park on Veteran's Day weekend!

VETERANS TAKE THE ROCK

• VETERANS SWIM CHALLENGE •



SWIM TAKES PLACE:

OCTOBER 12TH



SPONSORED BY:
VIETNAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY
NADADORES LOCOS (open water swim club)
CONTACT: MAURICE DELMER (925)680-4526
MAURICE.DELMER@VA.GOV



[FACEBOOK.COM/THEROCKVETERANSSWIMCHALLENGE](https://www.facebook.com/therockveteransswimchallenge)

Take the Rock veterans swim challenge is sponsored by the *Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley* & the *Nadadores Locos* open-water swim club for the purpose of providing a high quality / low-cost experience - open to all currently serving & all veteran military members - to receive training & participation in an *Alcatraz to San Francisco* bay swim. **Contact Us - Join Us - Support Us!**

Our THANKS to DENNIS GIACOVELLI for outstanding efforts & dedication to our VMB - organizing "SALUTE" page tributes to veterans in our soon to be published book. We Salute You!

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
OF SAN RAMON VALLEY
HONOR • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

Look for our
VMB Coffee Table Book
On Sale Soon!

VMB Open
Veteran's Day
Weekend



Visit the SRV Veterans Memorial Building Veteran's Day weekend!

Veteran
Coffee
&
Pastries

Veterans Memorial
Building - Danville

Every Saturday

0800 to 1100

All Veterans Welcome

Please Join Us.

Danville's Veteran Memorial Building OPEN Veterans Day weekend (Sat-Sun-Mon) & weekdays for public visitors. President Mike Slattengren request members interested in volunteering a few hours as a Docent for our Historical Military Museum in our new Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley.

Interested? Contact VNVDV President Mike "Slatts" Slattengren for details / training - easy hours. Stop & visit the military displays.

Danville Veterans Memorial Building will be OPEN Veteran's Day weekend with special historical & military displays!

Thank You to Monte Vista High School for "Honoring our Veterans" at your Football Game!

Monte Vista High School offered Free tickets to all Veterans in the community for their Sept. Football Game. This was the schools local tribute to our Vets! The school offered every Veteran an "advance" ticket – which included: free admission, free hot dog, beverage, and piece of apple pie (home baked by Magret Munes!). This was a great event sponsored by Monte Vista High School.

On behalf of all our Veteran Service Organizations
the VNVDV "Salutes" Monte Vista High School for paying tribute to our Veterans!



Many of our Veteran support programs conducted by the VNVDV
- possible due to our annual support from Phillips 66 Walk of Honor

Veteran Swim Challenge
"TAKE the ROCK"

Blue Star Moms &
Gold Star Families
Labor Day BBQ Tribute
at the Concord Vet Center

Distribution of American Flags
to children attending the annual
Walnut Festival's Twilight Parade

Donations to Service Office
Supporting Needy Veterans

Speedy Recovery to VNVDV Member SSgt. Jon R. Cavalani - MoH Recipient



While Staff Sgt. Jon R. Cavalani was suffering through an 18-month ordeal as a POW, the Army awarded him a "posthumous" Medal of Honor. He was released and rejoined the living in March 1973.

The VNVDV President & Board of Directors encourages all members and supporters to remember those who cannot attend our monthly meetings in your thoughts.. Please "check-in" on members & supporters you do not see or miss... and we encourage you to visit those who are unable to get out any longer. How about giving them a call - or drop a short note or card in the mail... and let them know **You Care** because they served! Our best wishes - thoughts & prayers go out to any member ill, or in distress. *Contact the Prez.*



Support "Wine for Wheels"

Call or email Jeff Behring

jeffbehring@wineforwheels.org

(925) 648-3829

The VNVDV encourages you to give the
FREEDOM of mobility! Donate a Wheelchair!

Proud Supporters of the Wheelchair Foundation

Jon Cavalani, Memorial Day speaker, good friend & VNVDV Life Member is undergoing treatment for a blood disorder/cancer at Stanford. Please keep Jon in your thoughts & prayers. *Thank You*

**Thank You to the SRV Veterans Memorial Building
LHCC for sponsoring military & historical displays coming
on Veteran's Day Weekend**

Thanks to the **Blue Star Moms**
for all your support of our troops & veterans!

**Thank You to the Town of Danville & staff for their
support of our SRV Veterans Memorial Building
during our many Discover Danville events this summer!**

**The VNVDV is involved in many different activities
Every month... there is something for everybody.
Get Involved! Continue to Serve!**

Sentinels of Freedom

2013 Dinner Gala and Golf Tournament

Thanks to all for supporting this year's gala!

Members interested in being more active in the VNVDV organization
Please contact Jerry Yahiro ASAP
to find out about various officer &
director positions available for
the new term - assistance provided

Do you have an "All Wars Memorial" PAVER ?

**These solid granite stones set in the walkway at
Oak Hill Park and now limited... Honor a veterans,
friend, neighbor, family member with a tribute
which will last forever... an AWM Paver. \$250.00**



Thomas Corbett
Family Service Counselor
Pre-need and Veteran Specialist
Lic. #44629
tcoak8@gmail.com

2099 Reliez Valley Road • Lafayette, CA 94549
cell 925.216.4785 • office 925.935.3311 • fax 925.935.0625
COA #B19, FD #875



Rub it on - Pain is gone!
Promo Code: 2058

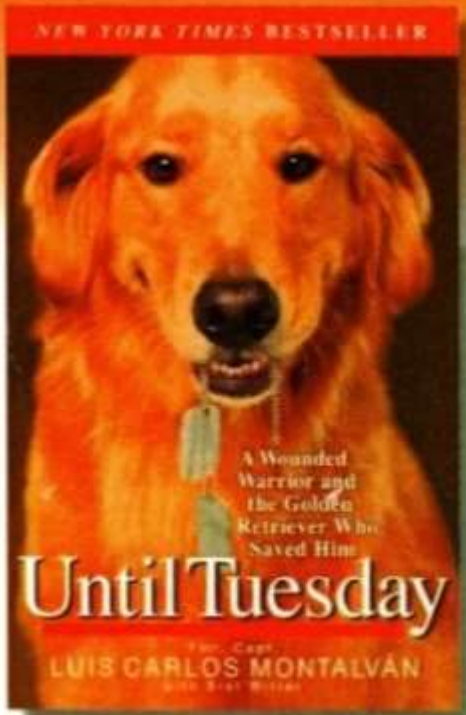
Mike Martin
Independent Vendor

1090 B Street, #128
Hayward, CA 94541
925.323.1093

Member - VNVDV & Marine Corps League

www.AskMikeMartin.com | info@askmikemartin.com

An inspiring story ~ An amazing warrior ~
A great book ~ A worthy cause!
Support & Attend ~ Oct. 4th



Share the inspiring true story of a war veteran, a golden retriever and how they saved each other.

Luis Carlos Montalvan

Author of New York Times Best Seller

Until Tuesday

Gala and book signing to benefit
Bergin University of Canine Studies,
home of The Assistance Dog Institute.



October 4, 2013

Ed Roberts Campus Berkeley

Author keynote, book signing, silent auction,
wine tasting, light fare

Tickets \$55 • online at: <http://bit.ly/12Xzmvo>

For further information:

(707) 545-3647 or info@BerginU.edu



Bergin University of Canine Studies, helping dogs help people since 1997, advancing the human-canine partnership through research, education and placement of service dogs for people with disabilities. Founding organization of Paws for Purple Hearts.

WWW.BERGINU.EDU

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Our Veterans & Military Swimmers are ready -

**They Served With Pride...
& Now take the Veteran Swim Challenge...**

TAKE THE ROCK

• VETERANS SWIM CHALLENGE •



October 12th - 0700 - San Francisco



Swim practice with the outstanding coaches has progressed extremely well supporting the veterans & military participating as they near the start of this amazing life challenge!

Take The Rock - *Practice & Swim* at - Aquatic Park

499 Jefferson Street - San Francisco, CA

Find out more on – <http://www.meetup.com/Take-The-Rock-Veteran-Swim-Challenge/event>

Vets have been working with Swim Director, Kirk McKinney, who recently swam Lake Tahoe the long way (22 miles which is why we call ourselves LOCO.) Kirk and the great coaches have been providing each participant with tips on how to swim in open water, and allowed time for lots of practice. After each practice - the veterans review their experience & discuss ways to work on improvement areas prior to the Veteran Swim Challenge. The Take the Rock swim will be on Saturday - Oct. 12th leaving Aquatic Park area by boat to Alcatraz for the one & one-half mile swim back to San Francisco taking less than two-hours. The Hyde Street Pier is a great location to watch the swim. They are planning to enter the water around 0800 Hrs. For more details check the Swim events page on: Meetup.com. VNVDV is sponsoring these veterans & military - many who are service-connected vets providing encouragement for life after military service. VNVDV will provide the swimmers pre-event "carb load" & Swimmer BBQ after the Swim Challenge. We are proud to continue our support of veterans at the Concord Vet Center & our military.



VNVDV Annual Membership Dues - \$25.00

Pay Your Dues by mail or at our Monthly Dinner.

Life Membership Dues - \$200.00!

County VSO Outstation in Danville on Wednesdays

VMB Danville Veteran Service Officer Outstation Hours

Danville Outstation - 400 Hartz Ave. Room 208 - Open **every Wednesday** from 10am to 2pm (Except Holidays). Your appointments may be scheduled by calling (925) 313-1481 (Martinez VSO).

Richmond also features a branch office - 100-37th Street - Room 1033 - Veterans service is available on **Tuesdays** from 9am to 12pm & 1pm to 4pm (Except Holidays). To reach this office by phone, call (510) 374-3241.

We pledge to continue comprehensive and respectful services to the Veterans community of Contra Costa County. This is a FREE service!

Nathan Johnson - County Veterans Service Officer

FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS


Link to 2012 Veterans Handbook: http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/2012_Federal_benefits_ebook_final.pdf

Download your copy of your Veteran Benefit Handbook - Review the benefits you may have earned with your service!

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



VA HEALTH CARE | Defining **EXCELLENCE** 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
800-362-6387
Pharmacy(Toll Free)Line
866-600-8279
Martinez, CA 94553

Fax: (925) 372-2804



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
CONCORD VET CENTER

Denver F. Mills
Director / Team Leader
Readjustment Counseling Service

1333 Willow Pass Road
Suite 106
Concord, CA 94520

Telephone: (925) 680-6526
Fax: (925) 680-0410
BlackBerry: (925) 588-1954
E-mail: denver.mills@va.gov

Martinez - OP Clinic

Concord VET Center

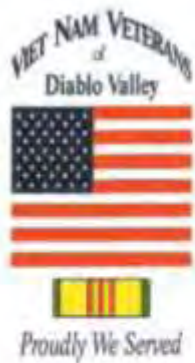
VETERANS DAY 2013

Communities of San Ramon Valley
Honor All Our Military Service Veterans



Monday - November 11, 2013 at 11:00 AM
Performing Art Center
San Ramon Valley High School
501 Danville Blvd – Danville, CA 94526

MT DIABLO POST 246
AMERICAN LEGION



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



DETACHMENT 942

III. DE STAR MOMS



BAY AREA CHAPTER



PEARL HARBOR



SURVIVORS

**A Special Tribute to
Veterans of the Viet Nam War**



Keynote Speaker: COL. Allen Cruz, USMC (Ret)
Viet Nam WAR VETERAN

******Special Addition: Viet Nam Era Music & Patriotic Videos Shown From
10:00AM until 11:00AM – Come Early & Enjoy the Show******
Doors Open to the Public at 10:00 AM

For additional information on this event ~ contact Ray La Rochelle.

Speaker's Bureau starts-up again & appreciates your school leads!

Important notice... If you know teachers who would be interested in the assistance of our VNVDV Speaker's Bureau as the new **school term starts...** please let them know of our outstanding history & educational program - available to all schools & grade levels. *As a member...* Take time to find out more about this program and others - helping join in and being an active part of our group. Contact **Mike Martin** at (925) **820-1401** or **Bill Green** (925) **820-5918** regarding personal school contacts for the 2013-2014 school term.

The **VNVDV Speaker's Bureau** finished an outstanding 2012 - 2013 school term and *has surpassed 53,000 school students reached through our popular supplementary history education program.* report to the membership and our Diablo Valley community they have shared this valuable history of our nation at war during the VietNam period with **school children** ! The VNVDV Speaker's Bureau is Chaired by Mike Martin - Director of Speakers and Bill Green - who is a member of the Board of Directors and uses the VNVDV membership to assist in the presentations to school children ranging from elementary schools through college, although the primary audience is high school history classes in the Contra Costa and Alameda County school districts.

The **VNVDV Speaker's Bureau** was recognized by the state's **California Department of Education** as a community leader in sharing Viet Nam history education with Diablo Valley school teachers and students. **CONGRATULATIONS** to both Mike and Bill as their enter a new year of *speaker leadership.* **Also thanks** to all the members who volunteered hours and days to help students learn history first hand from those who proudly served and were there! *A special thanks to the Vietnam Helicopters for their ongoing support!*

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office

is a **FREE** service for all Veterans!

Find out about the Veteran Benefits
You earned through your Military Service
Visit the County VSO Office NOW..
for your "Benefit Check-Up" - You Earned it!

Our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office is "the place" to have all of your VA paperwork completed - by a qualified, experienced service rep. & this service is for all veterans FREE & 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

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Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us



VENTURE RESEARCH

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"Experience the Quality Difference... over 30 years
serving California and beyond with Excellence"



Promotive
Performance and Repair

"Veteran Owned"

Richard Rein
Owner operator

1410 Lesnick Lane

Unit E

Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



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 - 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

Contact Phone and E-Mail Address

INDIVIDUAL Granite 8" x 8" Pavers @ \$250.00 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 Granite 8" x 8" Pavers @ \$250.00 each

PAYMENT METHOD:

Enclosed **Check** for: \$

Payable to: **ALL WARS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

Post Office Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

Charge my: Visa - MasterCard

Card Number

Expiration Date

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

www.AllWarsMemorial.org



The All Wars Memorial located in Danville, California is a project undertaken by the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and continued by the All Wars Memorial Foundation. The Memorial is unique in three ways. As the name implies, it honors those who perished or served in all wars, past and future. Second, it recognizes the sacrifices of the families of those who served. Lastly, it pays tribute to all patriotic Americans, who in their own way supported, contributed, volunteered and sacrificed to assist those fighting in a conflict.

www.AllWarsMemorial.org

Order your AWM Paver Today!

Time is Limited - Less than ~~One Hundred (100)~~ **87 left!**

AWM "Pavers" remaining in the walkway at Oak Hill Park.

Mail your order to: AWMF - P.O. Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation Presents



VETERAN'S VICTORY VELO ANNUAL BIKE RIDE

Join Us...

Routes for the
Novice to Experienced Rider

30 mile ride

60 mile ride

100 mile Devil Mountain Century

Beginning and ending at the
Sentinels of Freedom parking lot
2678 Bishop Drive • San Ramon, CA

COMMEMORATIVE JERSEY AVAILABLE

OCTOBER 12, 2013

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Your participation in this fundraising ride helps support wounded veterans as they work to gain self-sufficiency and independence.

All registered participants and their family members are invited to join us for food, fun and entertainment at the **POST-RACE FESTIVAL!**

LIVE BAND: KEN COOPER MUSIC'S "AKA"

Tickets to the festival are available for purchase by the general public. Visit our website for more info.

REGISTER EARLY!

Registrations submitted by **JUNE 27** include a free cycling safety clinic with certified instructors. (See website for details)

For Ride and Registration Information
visit our website at:

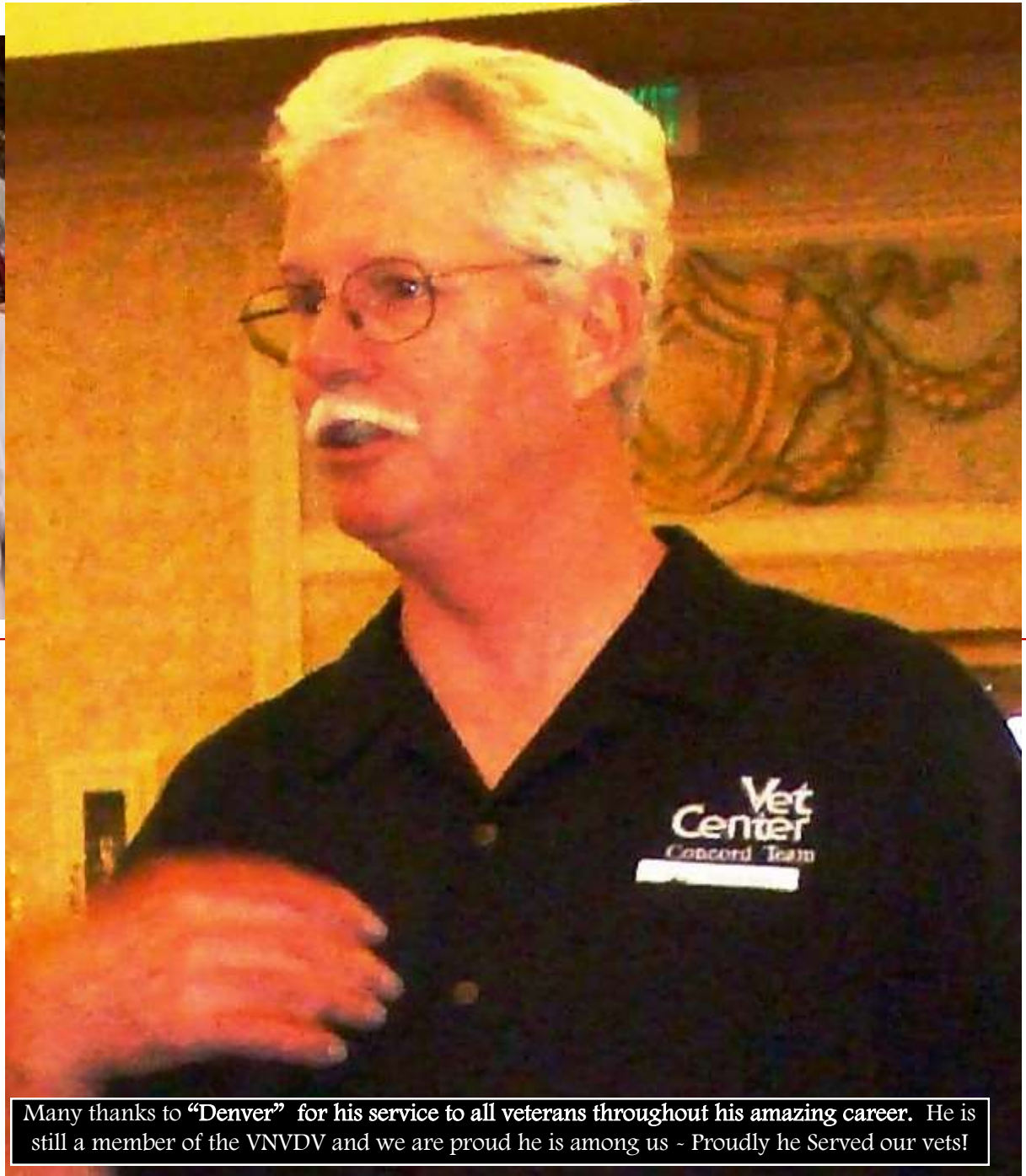
www.VeteransVictoryVelo.com

Proud to support Sentinels of Freedom Foundation

Denver Mills on leave... set to retire after years of service.



Yes... one of the many faces of Denver Mills as he served our veterans well.



Many thanks to "Denver" for his service to all veterans throughout his amazing career. He is still a member of the VNVDV and we are proud he is among us - Proudly he Served our vets!

The **rumor** at the water cooler has it - that good friend & long-time veteran service provider, innovator of **Stand Down** services and a dirty-brown-water Navy vet - **AKA: DENVER MILLS**, who serves as the **Team Leader** at the Concord Vet Center - a

location known as a leader in innovative ways to assist veterans. So after **over thirty years** of service he is on leave - practicing retirement **& going fishing** - even camping - **imagine that! He has left the Vet Center and - we understand "he is on vacation" at this time! Thank you Denver.**

**Congratulations to Denver Mills
for Serving our Veteran Community
with Honor & Pride!**

Membership Drive... Bring a "veteran" to any event &

Veterans - Join us at our monthly dinner at Crow Canyon Country Club - 1st Thurs/Monthly

VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley



Proudly We Served

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DATE:

	<i>Last</i>	<i>First & MI</i>	<i>Home Phone</i>	<i>Cell Phone</i>	<i>Work Phone</i>
NAME:					
Spouse / SO					
	<i>No. & Street</i>		<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>ZIP Code</i>
Address:					
Home E-Mail:			Work E-Mail:		
Company:			Title:		

Military Service

<i>Branch</i>	<i>Dates of Service</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Specialty</i>	<i>Viet Nam Dates</i>
<i>Viet Nam Units:</i>				
<i>Location(s):</i>				
<i>Medals & Awards:</i>				

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES/COMMITTEES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Welcome Home Events | <input type="checkbox"/> VNVDV Super Sunday Crab Feed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Day Ceremony | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk of Honor for our Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danville Fourth of July Parade - Flag Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> East Bay Stand Down - Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard & Service Colors/Flag Detail | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Support for Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Day Ceremony | <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers Bureau - High Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors / Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

Please Visit our Website @ www.VNVDV.com for other Activities & Programs

I PLEDGE MY INTENT TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. TO HELP MAKE IT A SUCCESS AND OFFER ASSISTANCE WHENEVER POSSIBLE. I ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LIABILITY IN ANY ACTIVITY I CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN AND HOLD HARMLESS THE VIET NAM VETERANS OF DIABLO VALLEY, ITS MEMBERS AND ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHOULD ANY MISHAP OCCUR. I PLEDGE TO ABIDE WITH THE BYLAWS OF THE ORGANIZATOION.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Please attach a copy of your DD-214 - and a check for Annual Dues: \$25 payable to VNVDV

P.O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526-2079 - PR/INFO: 925 / 935 - 4859 - E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-profit organization/corporation (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from Federal (IRC 501a) and State (RTC 23701w) income tax

Please Mail your completed application to our P.O. Box above or Submit at our 1st/Thurs. of Month Dinner. Thank You!

Visit our Website at www.VNVDV.com - Read our monthly newsletter "INCOMING" for our current events!



Operation Welcome Home

DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE

*Dedicated to the Remembrance of 9-11.
Dedoted in the Support of our Troops*
www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com



OPERATION WELCOME HOME!

We will never, ever again let our military heroes be treated like they were when they came home from the Vietnam War, when our Soldiers, Airmen, Seamen and Marines were spat on when they got off the plane.

NEVER, EVER AGAIN.

If you know of a military member that is returning home and you would like to surprise them with one of these heart-warming Welcome Home ceremonies, please contact Bryan Welden of the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade at 925-212-9260 or to see pictures of past Welcome Home ceremonies or to be added to our E-mail list, go to:

www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com

www.warriorwatch.org
spiker592000@yahoo.com

For Full Military Escorts - Welcome Homes, Funerals And All Veteran Events. An All Volunteer Patriotic Riding Group.

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley thanks and welcomes all returning military along with Diablo Valley Flag Brigade - Warriors Watch Riders - Blue Star Moms & our fellow VSO support organizations.

To find out how and when these events are in your area and occur - visit DVFB website of the **Diablo Valley Flag Brigade** at www.diablovalleyflagbrigade.com

Website has *video slideshow* of each Welcome Home event & dates of all upcoming events & is updated daily. It is the **best source for Welcome Home news & where families can schedule a Welcome Home**

Recognition of all our active-duty military service members is one of the most worthwhile activities VSO members are able to perform. Members of the **VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - along with VFW #75 - American Legion #246 - Marine Corps League #942** make-up the San Ramon Valley Veterans. Attend & thank each returning veterans for serving & help these other great organizations to provide the proper Welcome Home. Each returning service member is presented a Certificate of Appreciation by the SRV Veterans. **Visit the Website on a regular basis!**



HOW CAN I

PARTICIPATE AT A WELCOME HOME EVENT?

It is easier than you might think...

Obtain the location, bring a flag, have a smile inside you or a handshake on you, keep a sincere thanks for their service in your heart - share all this with the returning service member when you see them.

You will feel good inside...

JOIN US

In 2013



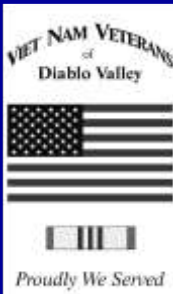
Join friends - family - veterans + the San Ramon Valley Veterans...
VNVDV - MCL - VFW - Legion & Blue Star Moms -
Warriors Watch Riders - Diablo Valley Flag Brigade -
+ many others...

as we celebrate our local returning military in
"OPERATION WELCOME HOME"
events for those serving from our community.

***This is part of what being a "VSO" is all about...
Remember when we came home... Never Again!
We Welcome Home our Troops the Right Way!***



DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE - Welcomes Home the dedicated Military Men and Women that keep this Country Safe



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Post Office Box 2079
Danville, CA 94526 - 2079
E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com
Web: www.VNVDV.com

OCT 2013



Electronic Edition

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Contact Us... Visit our Website...
Attend our Open Meetings...
Participate in our Community!

John Garfield Reese,

Publisher & Editor

VNVDV Public Relations Director

**Visit Our
Website:
www.VNVDV.com**



To:

VNVDV Members & Supporters

The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley was established in 1991 as a non-profit, local, grass-roots Veterans organization to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of fellow Veterans. The Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley located in Danville is Open daily with Coffee on Saturdays until 11AM. Looking for Docents. - Come Visit!

*The VNVDV meets monthly on the 1st Thursday of every month in the Diablo Valley @ Crow Canyon Country Club. Our Board of Directors Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville. To find out more about programs we support... visit our website at www.VNVDV.com. All veterans & their guests are welcome to attend our dinner meetings. We are 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 & our community. Our dinner meeting is social - just dinner & a guest speaker of interest to veterans & military. All meetings are OPEN... fellow veterans - active duty military guests - supporters & history buffs welcome! ... **Join us!***

**VIET NAM VETERANS
of
Diablo Valley**

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!

**Oct 3rd - Featured GUEST SPEAKER & DINNER
at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon**

Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815

Don't Miss our great monthly speakers!