

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

SEP 2024



JIM
HILL
VNVDV
President

SEP 5TH VNVDV DINNER MEETING

BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August was a difficult month for the VNVDV. With no activities it seemed like a quite time to catch up but that was not the case this year. The news of **Jerry Yahiro's** death will have a tremendous impact on our organization. For three decades Jerry Yahiro has been at the center of VNVDV activities. In addition to Jerry leading as a past President of VNVDV his continuous contribution as the Events Director was essential to the success of the many programs sponsored by the VNVDV. The following are some of Jerry's major contributions. EBSD Director, 4th of July Parade coordinator, St. Patrick's Day building fundraiser and Crab Feed kitchen staff and cook, Crab Feed Auction Dinner cook, Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony director, Veterans Day Ceremony director, Operation Santa Claus director and Gold Star Parents reception coordinator. The Board of Directors has for years been the recipient of Jerry's experience and direction. VNVDV are truly going to miss Jerry's leadership and participation. The Saturday morning Veterans coffee will be missing Jerry's visits and friendship. VNVDV will move forward but it will take everyone to fill Jerry's shoes.



9/11 Remembrance...

a Community Ceremony at the All Wars Memorial in Danville to remember & honor. Featured speaker

9/11 Patriot Day is a Public / Community Ceremony on - WED Sept 11 at 5:30 - 6:30 PM in Oak Hill Park
3500 Stone Valley Road Danville

*Next to Monte Vista High
Please Share this Event & Bring the Family*

SPEAKER for the SEPTEMBER 5TH DINNER MEETING, Roswitha Barry



will discuss her experiences as a child in Berlin during the "BERLIN AIR-LIFT" in 1949 and her return to Berlin for the 75th Anniversary of the Airlift.

Looking forward to September plan to attend the **Exchange Club of San Ramon Valley 23rd annual 911 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY**, Wednesday September 11th at 5:30 – 6:30 at the All Wars Memorial, Oak Hill Park, Danville, CA. This year's speaker will be Brian Vargas, USMC and a graduate of the Sentinels of Freedom. We must never forget those who sacrificed on September 11, 2001.

In **November Veterans Day Weekend** will have a Pop-Up Exhibit featuring Space Exploration and will also recognize the 80th Anniversary of events from World War II. Details of the program are being developed for the November 9-11 ceremony and exhibits.

At the November meeting and in the November Newsletter ballots will be available for voting on the VNVDV 2025 Officers and Directors. There is a lot of effort required for the many VNVDV programs that benefit the Veteran Community and our organization. It is requested that all members consider ways to contribute and participating as an Officer or Director should be a consideration. Nomination information is in the Newsletter.

The September meeting is Thursday the 5th. We are looking forward to another large turnout. In preparation there have been discussions with Bridges Golf Club that will result in a better program experience for VNVDV members. The flow of the buffet and the sound system have been targeted. This is a new venue, and it takes some time to adjust.

Thanks for your continued support and see you on the 5th.

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



President **Jim Hill** selected our 2023/2024 Nomination Committee. Steve selected the very experienced Past President **Mike Slattengren** Chair and **Dave Smith** to assist in the selection of our new & future leaders & potential Board Members & Committee Chairs. We encourage all **VNVDV members** to find out more about the organization and the various positions available. **VOLUNTEERING** in a leadership position can be

EXTREMELY REWARDING PERSONALLY! Find out **more... if you have any questions** about any position or the duties of any Board Positions please contact Dennis (houseworks@pacbell.net or Dave (dejsmith1@comcast.net). Elections are held at our Annual Meeting in the month of November by Ballot.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

AUGUST 2024 VNVDV DINNER MEETING



**SEPTEMBER 11TH, 5:30
OAK PARK HILL, DANVILLE**



SAN RAMON VALLEY, CA

**EXCHANGE CLUB OF THE SAN RAMON VALLEY
PRESENTS OUR 23RD ANNUAL**

**911 REMEMBRANCE
CEREMONY**

Featuring

**Lance Corporal
Brian Vargas**



**U.S. Marine Corps
Sentinels of Freedom**



Hear Brian's story of hope
after being shot by an enemy
sniper in Iraq.



Learn about his journey and
new technologies designed to
make those who serve safer!



September 11th | 5:30 - 6:30 PM | Oak Hill Park | Danville

MONTE VISTA CHOIR | FREE ICE CREAM | 50 YOUTH FLAGS

911 ESSAY AWARDS COMPETITION

Nominations Open for Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley 2025 Officers & Board of Directors Election at November 7th Meeting

Nominations are OPEN for 2025 Officers & Directors - as announced at the September Membership Dinner Meeting & mentioned in the INCOMING News. President Jim Hill appointed Past President Mike Slattengren as Chair of the Recruitment & Nomination Committee for 2025. He also appointed Dave Smith to serve as official member of the 2025 committee for the Election of Officers & Directors for the VNVDV. Past President Dennis Giacovelli expressed he is *looking for a few good men...* to serve on the Board in 2025. The President needs a solid team behind him... so all members are encouraged to find out more about these positions from any of these Past Presidents... Mike Weber or Rich Lambert. The Official Ballots will be distributed at the November 7th dinner meeting with the names of those nominated to-date. You can nominate yourself - or members can nominate other current members in good standing. Any election questions about the "responsibilities" of each office should be directed to any of these three members of the election committee. **Elections/Voting (turning in your written ballot)** will be held at the General Membership Meeting on **Thursday - November 7, 2024**. Ballots may also be returned by mail to the VNVDV official mailing address. All "mailed ballots" must be "completed in full" and received no later than **November 16, 2024** to be counted in the final results. **Election results** will be announced by the President & Election Committee at the **December meeting** & announced in the **Incoming** electronic newsletter.

The 2024 Election is for the 2025 VNVDV Officers & Board of Directors positions listed:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

Director of Public Relations

Director of Membership

Director of Events

Director At Large

Director of Information

Director of Procurement

Director of Speakers

The Election Committee has received nominations for each position and encourages members to find out about each leadership role and become involved in our Board of Directors meetings. All positions are OPEN and we encourage members to run for whatever position they desire by notifying the Nomination Selection Committee by e-mail (please copy Election Committee members). The duties & responsibilities of all "Officers & Directors" positions listed above are outlined in our organizational by-laws. We encourage new members - as well and those now with time available - to attend our October Board of Directors meetings this month on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Danville Veteran's Memorial Building at 1800. This is a good way to find out what each position is responsible for and gives you a better understanding and background of the organization. All members are welcome to attend any Board meeting. If you have questions about the positions - speak one of the members of the nomination/election committee. Co-Chairs and Assistants are *"appointed"* by the President - and are needed in most areas. This is a great way to learn about the duties - help in a significant way - and keep our organization strong & active in helping fellow veterans - those serving and our community. **Past President Jerry Yahiro noted... "The quality of an organization depends on its current leaders' and the members' willingness to participate in the administration of the organization."** We encourage all members to "strongly consider" becoming more active & involved in "the program of your choice" in our organization.

President Jim Hill previously indicated there are many enjoyable positions to serve - making a difference in the direction of this amazing organization and he strongly encourages all members to consider joining the 2025 team which he promises will be another fun & exciting year. Our events & activities are so varied... there is truly something for everybody! You can make a difference. Join the team.

VNVDV PROMOTE DONATIONS FOR WHEELCHAIRS AT THE WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT



DONATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE TOURNAMENT PRODUCED 100 WHEELCHAIRS



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Veteran Veterinary Wellness Clinics

Joybound believes in the power of the human-animal bond, and that cost of care should never keep Veterans from this benefit. We offer free vaccine and veterinary wellness clinics for Veterans' pets.

Our free veterinary wellness clinics are available by appointment for dogs and cats only. Limit two pets per household per clinic.

On-site Clinic

Our in-house clinic provides veterinary wellness care for Veterans' pets. The dedicated Veterans' clinic entrance can be found just past the main adoption entrance, around the corner from the spay/neuter clinic entrance. Services are by appointment only on Wednesdays.

For information or to schedule an appointment, please call (925) 296-3125 (select option 7) and leave a message. Clinic staff will call you back for scheduling.



VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY **SEPT. BIRTHDAYS**

Fred Granados	Army	George Coughlin	Army
Don Loeffler	Army	Steve McCrerry	Marine
Dave Smith	Army	John McPartland	Army
Bart Gilbert	Army	Julian Mathews	Navy
John Sullivan	Air Force	Steve Frew	Navy
Mike Hurder	Army	Robert Miller	Navy
Bill Tharp	Army	Dan Young	Army

Thanks to the September speaker VNVDV Member Karen Born for her presentation on her experiences as a Navy Nurse stationed on the USS Sanctuary while operating off the shore of I Corps in support of the Army and Marine Corps.



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

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Toll Free: (866) 369-4446
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HONORING DR. DORIS "LUCKY" ALLEN

Dr. Doris "Lucki" Allen

U.S. Army Vietnam 1967 -1970



AUGUST 2024 VNVDV DINNER MEETING



SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Danville Hot Summer
Nights Car Show



2024 VETERANS DAY ON THE DELTA PERFORMANCE BOAT RUN



Saturday, September 7th

Discovery Bay Marina

GRAB YOUR SUNSCREEN AND JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED DAY OF BOATING ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN DELTA.

RSVP by September 1, 2024

Register at <https://SomeGaveAll.us>

proudly sponsored by





2024 Veteran's Family Fishing Day Event Presented by East Bay Regional Park District and the Delta Veterans Group



When: Saturday, Sep. 7th 2024

Time: 9:00am-2:30pm

Where: Antioch/Oakley Regional Shoreline (Antioch Pier)
Located at Bridgehead Rd at Wilbur Ave, Antioch, CA 94509



Event Details

Participants must pre-register with the DVG on a first come first serve basis, prior to attending it. There's only 50 spots.

E-mail your RSVP by Mon Aug 12th for best chances to insure a spot. Send the Veterans full name and Cell number along with each family members name attending. *Optional*, it would be helpful to know the age of children attending so we can have age appropriate games available.

For more information about this event and to RSVP contact Jim Etherington by E-mail to: Jim@vahop.vet
(No fishing license is required to participate at this event.)

Transportation

Participants can provide their own transportation or request to car pool when you RSVP. If you will need transportation, we will help coordinate pick up & drop off locations. Contact Jim Etherington by E-mail.

At this event you will:

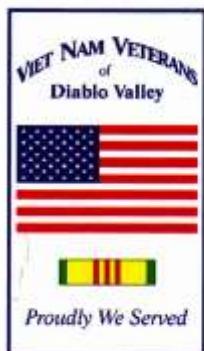
- Each RSVP will receive a backpack and a fishing tool kit complete with a collapsible rod, reel & tackle to take home.
- Catered continental style breakfast, sandwich lunch with meat & veggie options, plus snacks & refreshments.
- Expert instruction on knots, rigging, and casting from EBRPD fishing staff and DVG volunteers.
- A free and fun day of fishing for striped bass on the pier.
- Games and educational materials provided.

For more information on your 73 local East Bay Regional Parks
Please Contact 510-544-2553 M-F 8:30 to 5 PM or akint@ebparks.org

2024 VETERAN'S FAMILY FISHING DAY EVENT SEPT. 7TH

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 Pow-
er 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
Supplier: Power Stitch 3195
Danville Blvd, Suite 2
Alamo, 925-362-3477,
powerstitch@comcast.net

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 Commemoration -
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



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
800-382-8387
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

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 @VeteransVoices

CCCTV

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

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

"VETERAN VOICES"
on **SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH**

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



REAL TIME PAIN RELIEF



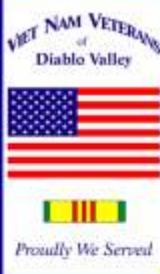
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VNVDV
uses FASTSIGNS

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Danville, CA 94526 - 2079
E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com
Web: www.VNVDV.org

2023 OFFICERS & BOD**PRESIDENT**

Jim Hill

VICE PRESIDENT

Dennis Giacovelli

TREASURER

Ed Baffico

SECRETARY

Carl Swanson

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Murphy

DIRECTOR - at - LARGE

Fred Granados

DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Jerry Yahiro/Skip George

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Bill Green

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Jon Robbins

PROCUREMENT

John "T. J." Trujillo

PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "Jgr" Reese

WEBSITE

Chelle Clements

PAST PRESIDENTS

Steve Burchik

Dennis Giacovelli

Gary Estrella

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Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

Established 1991

Electronic News**To:****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**

www.VNVDV.org



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!

**DINNER MEETING
 AUGUST MEETING
 THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH
 BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON
 DINNER COST WILL BE \$35**

"INCOMING" News - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV