

INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Established in 1991

DEC
2013

Christmas Appreciation Dinner & Annual Toy Drive

Thursday - December 5th - 1700 Hrs.

Veterans Memorial Building Renovation Coffee Table Book on Sale

Super Sunday Crab Feed Tickets now Available!

Message from our VNVDV "Prez" - "Slatts"

Welcome to December's **INCOMING**. As always a number of member volunteers have been busy with activities for our *Operation Welcome Home* events and also continued planning meetings for up coming events in 2014. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration with family and friends and that everyone is safe and healthy.

Our November dinner speaker at *Crow Canyon Country Club* was our own member **Earle Conklin** who shared with us the logistics of our Veteran Swim Challenge the VNVDV helped sponsor from Alcatraz to San Francisco in the month of October. He brought 2 veterans who took the challenge swimming with him and shared with us the feeling of accomplishment they experienced participating in and completing this swim challenge. Both of these young veterans spoke from the heart and it was very moving to hear them share their stories. The event was a huge success for all the veterans who participated as they completed a swim challenge that few people have attempted or accomplished.

Veterans Day (always on Nov 11th at 11 am) was another successful recognition of all veterans. The major program for the Diablo Valley was held at San Ramon Valley High School's Performance Art Theater in Danville. This was a joint VSO effort with planning & participation by VFW, MCL, AI along with the VNVDV & Blue Star Moms. Our VP **Ray LaRoche** was MC of the program with **Col. Allan Cruz, USMC** (ret) from Marine Corp League #942 as the main speaker... sharing many facts about the Viet Nam war. BSM sharing her views of that time was **Georgann Seavey** who was a flight attendant for *Flying Tiger Airlines*. She spoke of what it was like to bring a plane full of soldiers to Viet Nam and then flying another plane full of men back to the US who had served their year in Viet Nam and the difference in the attitudes of the men in those flights. *It was a talk shared from her heart.* The Chorus of the San Ramon Valley High School performed one of the finest patriotic medlies of songs & music we had the pleasure of hearing. Along with that program, the Veteran Memorial Building Library & Historical Museum was open on Sat (11/9) from 9 am to 3 pm and again Sunday and Monday (11/10 & 11/11) from noon to 3 pm with special displays of military uniforms, vehicles, communications equipment and other items. It was well attended by hundreds of Diablo Valley families & lots of children learning about history from their parents & docents at the VMB.

Prior to the Veterans Day weekend the Pleasanton VFW post hosted a Veterans Day parade in Pleasanton the VNVDV participated in on Sunday, Nov 3. Thanks to all members who showed up & carried their military service colors & our VNVDV banner letting the parade attendees know who we are & how proud we were to have served our country.

Mt. Diablo Beacon Light Refurbished Ready for Pearl Harbor Day Dec 7th



MIKE "Slatts"

SLATTENGREN
VNVDV President

Remember your new - unwrapped TOY for a boy or girl of any age... at our Thurs. Dec 5th Dinner for "Operation Santa" for our annual Christmas Toy Drive!



2014 Charity Crab Feed Tickets Available for Super Sunday - FEB. 2nd - Limited seating... reserve yours now!

Invite your friends & neighbors to join you for a great day at the VMB



- In this edition:
- Crab Feed donation collection started - each members requested to assist.
 - Veterans Memorial Building Coffee Table Book Available
 - Recognition of Member Contributions in DEC.
 - 2014 Event Dates Planned & Announced
 - New Officers & Directors For 2014 Elected

"Prez" Continued... on Page Two -

President's Message

Continued... from Page One -

2014 Officers & Directors Elected



Along with those activities a number of members were asked to attend and speak to schools and Boy Scout Troops concerning our service in the military. A very busy 2 weeks around Veteran's Day - November 11th.

Our December dinner meeting is on **Thursday Dec 5th**. This is not a buffet, but a sit down, served dinner. At this dinner meeting we will not have a speaker, but will be recognizing those who have gone that extra mile and contributed their time and efforts this past year. This is a special evening!

The SRV Veterans Memorial Building is open from 9 am to 3 pm each day, Monday - Friday. There are a number of docents that stand 3 hr shifts to share the building information and displays with visitors. We are looking for a few 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. The VMB historical museum is outstanding!

We have also started planning the Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed Fund Raiser we have each year. This coming year it will be our 10th Annual event and held on Sunday - Feb 2, 2014 at the Danville Veteran Memorial Building. This is a major event and needs a number of hands to assist in various positions. None of them are hard, but since this is a popular event & big fund raiser (we usually raise approximately \$8000 - \$9000 for our programs). We've established quite a few sub committees to break up the work load. If you are interested in helping please see me. To make this year another success - we are asking that each member solicit a gift card or other donation item for our silent auction. This could be: nice bottles of wine, gift baskets, sports memorabilia, military theme, if it is different - it is probably good! We will use these in our silent auction. Our member Skip George is coordinating these items which can be turned in at meetings or to any Board Member. He will categorize them & coordinate the display at the crab feed. In this issue of INCOMING we have a "donation request letter" document that can be printed & given to a business for their tax records as you request donations.

Remember the various veteran groups who use the SRV Veteran Memorial Building (we being one of them) having "Saturday morning coffee" gatherings open from 8 - 11 am each Saturday. It's a casual & relaxed social time with fellow veterans. Come when you'd like & leave when you'd like. A nice way to start a Saturday morning & weekend.

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 our Treasurer or any Board Member know of your interest in converting from annual to life member.

Each month I mention the importance of our Welcome Home's. If you are interested in participating in these, check-out the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade website & let John Reese know you want to be included on the distribution when we learn about these young warriors coming home. No special skills are needed, just show up with a flag in your hand, a smile on your face & a thank you hand shake for the young man or woman. These are fun gatherings - taking about an hour out of your day. It is very fulfilling for both the returnees & to each of us. We recently had two welcome home events in November, one for a Corpsman & one for a Navy fighter pilot. There is a lot of information in this INCOMING newsletter, so be sure to look at all the events. We will be publishing a "year-end" edition highlighting our many activities during the past year... watch for it. It will be **John Reese's final edition after ten years as editor**. He passes the newsletter to our new editor/publisher **Jon Robbins**. Reese will remain *Director of Public Relations* working with Jon & all event promotion.

Since this is my last "president's message" - I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to lead this **very best veteran organization** these past 2 years. I wish everyone a joyous Christmas. Enjoy our families during these wonderful days. Stay safe and healthy. And since this is also my last opportunity: Army Navy game. Sat. Dec 14, **GO NAVY!!!** I hope to see all of you at our December dinner meeting on Thursday Dec 5 2013, 6 pm at the Crow Canyon Country Club in San Ramon. Social hour starts at 5 pm.

PRESIDENT

Raymond "Ray" La Rochelle

VICE PRESIDENT

William "Bill" Green

TREASURER

Michael "Slatts" Slattengren

SECRETARY

Clifford "Cliff" De Cuir

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "JR" Reese

DIRECTOR of MEMBERSHIP

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DIRECTOR - AT - LARGE

Dennis Giacobelli

DIRECTOR of INFORMATION

Jonathan "Jon" Robbins

DIRECTOR of PROCUREMENT

John "TJ" Trujillo

DIRECTOR of SPEAKERS BUREAU

Mike Martin

DIRECTOR of EVENTS

Gerald "Jerry" Yahiro

Michael Slattengren

President 2012 - 2013

PH: (925) 837 - 6238

E: President.VNVDV@gmail.com

*This e-mail will be transferred to
Our new President-elect in Jan 14*

**It has been an honor
to lead this very best
veteran organization
these past two years!
THANK YOU!**



GO NAVY!



Please remembere on DEC. 5th - our Christmas Appreciation Dinner

It is the time of year to share... Remember our -

Operation Santa Claus

Sponsored by Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery



Help Make Christmas Bright for someone!

You will make a big difference in the lives of military family children...

With your *generous gift* of an “Un-Wrapped Toy” for a girl or boy

And share the joy of Christmas - Bring your toys on DEC. 5th

As in year's past... the VNVDV is proud to set a goal of collecting toys for both male & female children of all ages. All your donated gifts should be NEW & UN-WRAPPED & brought to our DEC. 5th Dinner.

Our members & supporters attending our Annual Holiday Gala have been very generous - helping make the Christmas & Holiday Season bright for hundreds of local children. Your kindness & support in providing these toys we collect at our dinner will be distributed later in the month at our “Operation Santa Claus” program which supports the children of special - invited military families, serving locally with the U. S. Coast Guard, Gold Star Families, Reserve/National Guard Families & GWOT families who have been selected and invited by their individual Commands. All remaining New & donated toys will continue our local support of the USMC “Toys for Tots” program as in years past. Thank you to all.

All remaining new & donated toys will continue our support of the
USMC “Toys for Tots” program as in years past. Thank You!



Contact: Jerry Yahiro - PH: 925 / 743 - 8850 or E: jyahiro@aol.com

Sponsored by: TESORO Golden Eagle Refinery

Hosted by: the Blue Star Moms & VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley

VNVDV Christmas Appreciation Dinner & Annual Toy Drive Gala



Members – Friends – Supporters & Sponsors –

Our Annual Christmas Dinner - Thursday Dec. 5th - a sit-down meal - dessert - tax & gratuity included - \$40.00 Cash or Checks Preferred. It is a fun-filled evening of holiday music with the SRVHS Chorus - great food - seeing good friends + recognition of members including the VNVDV's highest recognition - the:

Gary Villalba Dedicated Veteran Service Award and other appreciation presentations + a great evening of fun with over 130 of our members - supporters & friends!

Our biggest dinner gala of the year!

Social Hour begins at 1700 with dinner following after 1800 at *Crow Canyon Country Club* in Danville \$40.00

Cash or Checks Preferred - *Credit Cards Accepted*

A great time to renew your dues for 2014 - only \$25.00 - or Life Membership available at \$200.00

Crab Feed Tickets for Sunday - Feb. 2, 2014 available - \$40.00

Your new – unwrapped “TOY Donations” will benefit “OPERATION SANTA”

& our local USCG & CA National Guard Christmas Toy Support Program. Remember your new - unwrapped toy for any age child on Thursday - Dec. 5th

You will make a child's Christmas brighter through your generosity!

Special thanks to VNVDV member Jon Robbins - your new VNVDV *Director of Information* - Elect, who co-edited & published this edition of the Incoming & has been working for two months preparing to learn about his new role. His dedication is truly appreciated! *jgr*

Attention: ALL Veterans
 Danville's Veteran Memorial
 Building OPEN every SAT. AM
 from 0800 to 1100 for a *free*
 coffee & pastry social get-
 together. Stop by for a few
 minutes, an hour, stay as long
 as you desire ~ leave when
 you want. Meet in our new
 lounge ~ see the museum dis-
 plays ~ *bring a friend!*

The VMB Museum is Open
 Monday thru Friday 9 to 3 for
 public visitors. President
 Mike Slattengren is looking
 for any members interested in
 volunteering a few hours
 each month as a VMB Docent
 for our Historical Military
 Museum tours & Training is
 provided. Contact "Slatts"



For over a decade, the Wheelchair Foundation, with your continuous support, has been delivering hope, mobility and freedom around the world by providing wheelchairs to adults, teens and children in need.

Help us *Move Someone* and honor your friends and family by giving a wheelchair in their name or memory. To thank you for your generosity, we have some special incentives just for you!

With your donation of \$100 we will send you a red triple-function flashlight-pen with stylus.

Donate \$150 or more and you will also receive a personalized certificate with a photo of a wheelchair recipient, sent in a beautiful presentation folder.

As an additional token of our appreciation, we will include our deluxe, multipurpose duffle bag with your donation of \$500 or more!

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF DELIVERING
 1,000,000 WHEELCHAIRS!

Looking for a Special Christmas or Holiday Gift - for someone in your life who is hard to shop for... or really "has everything"? Donate a Wheelchair in their name... this is truly a special gift!

Remember - just one year ago in 2012 VNVDV Members were in Viet Nam with the Wheelchair Foundation distributing new wheelchairs to those without & in need of mobility. "Truly a rewarding experience!"

**Follow all WCF events on the websites:
www.WheelchairFoundation.org
 or - www.WineforWheels.org**

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!



She lost both legs from a landmine in the mid 1980's while gardening at her home & moved around on two-crates until VNVDV visit provided her with a new WCF wheelchair in 2012.



Welcome the Holiday Season at Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel!

Upcoming Events at Marine Club and Around San Francisco:

[Macy's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony](#)

Join in the celebration at Macy's 24th Annual Great Tree Lighting Ceremony at Macy's Union Square Park. Enjoy live music performances, a visit from Santa and visit the SPCA holiday windows featuring lovable animals available for adoption.

[Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Experience](#)

A parody takes on the ultimate challenge of condensing all seven Harry Potter books into seventy hilarious minutes! This Olivier Award nominated production comes to the Marines' Memorial Theatre beginning December 3rd!

[San Francisco Ballet's Nutcracker](#)

This holiday season, experience a uniquely San Francisco Nutcracker with SF Ballet. Ticket prices start at only \$25.00 through www.sfballet.org/tickets.

Make sure to check out our [Calendar of Events](#) for more great things to do in San Francisco! Be sure to also browse through our [photos](#) to see everything Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel has to offer. If you've stayed with us recently, please think about filling out our [Guest Satisfaction Survey](#). We'd love to hear from you!

Marines Memorial Club & Hotel
609 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
General Inquiries
Tel: (415) 673-6672
Fax: (415) 441-3649

History, Elegance & Hospitality

Contact Marines Memorial Club & Hotel

Marines Memorial Club and Hotel offers smart accommodations and first-rate service in a premier location. Ideal for government, business, and leisure travelers alike, Marines Memorial Club is the top choice among military hotels in San Francisco

Our Thanks to Ray La Rochelle Moderator & the joint VSO Committee for an outstanding Nov. 11, 2013 San Ramon Valley Veterans Day Special Thanks to featured speaker Colonel Allen Cruz, USMC (Ret) & San Ramon Valley High School Chorus for an amazing patriotic performance!

Viet Nam Warrior Statistical Profile from Presentation

IN UNIFORM AND IN COUNTRY

- Vietnam Vets: 8.7% of their generation.
- 9,087,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam era (Aug. 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975).
- 8,744,000 personnel were on active duty during the war (Aug. 5, 1964 – March 28, 1973).
- 3,403,100 (including 514,300 officers) personnel served in the Southeast Asia Theater (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and sailors in adjacent South China Sea waters).
- 2,584,000 personnel served within the borders of South Vietnam (Jan. 1, 1965 – March 28, 1973).
- Of the 2.6 million, between 1 and 1.6 million (40–60%) either fought in combat, provided close combat support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy attack. 15% were in combat units.
- Another 50,000 men served in Vietnam between 1960 and 1964.
- 7,181 women (6,250 or 83.5% were nurses) served in Vietnam.
- Peak troop strength in Vietnam: 543,482 (April 30, 1969).

CASUALTIES

- Hostile deaths: 47,418.
- Non-hostile deaths: 10,811.
- Total: 58,229 (includes men formerly classified as MIA and *Mémoires* casualties). Men who have subsequently died of wounds account for the changing total.
- 8 nurses died — 1 was KIA.
- Married men killed: 17,539.
- 61% of the men killed were 21 years old or younger.
- Highest state death rate: West Virginia — 84.1 per 100,000 males (national average in 1970: 58.0).
- Wounded: 303,704 — 153,329 hospital-

ized + 150,375 injured who required no hospital care.

- Severely disabled: 75,000 — 23,214 100% disabled; 5,283 lost limbs; 1,081 sustained multiple amputations.
- Amputation or crippling wounds to the lower extremities were 300% higher than in WWII and 70% higher than in Korea. Multiple amputations occurred at the rate of 18.4% compared to 5.7% in WWII.
- Missing in Action: 2,338 (at war's end).
- Prisoners of War: 708 (114 died in captivity).

DRAFTEES VS. VOLUNTEERS

- 25% (648,500) of total forces in country were draftees. (88% of U.S. armed forces members in WWII were drafted.)
- Draftees accounted for 30.4% (17,725) of combat deaths in Vietnam.
- Reservists killed: 5,977.
- National Guard: 9,000 served; 22 KIA.

RACE AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND

- 88.4% of the men who actually served in Vietnam were Caucasian (includes Hispanics); 10.6% (275,000) were black; 1% belonged to other races.
- 85.3% of the men who died in Vietnam were Caucasian; 12.5% (7,241) were black; 1.2% belonged to other races.
- 170,000 Hispanics served in Vietnam; 3,070 (5.2% of total) died there.
- 85.8% of the men who were killed as a result of hostile action were Caucasian; 12.1% (5,711) were black; 1.1% belonged to other races.
- 14.8% (11,530) of non-combat deaths were among blacks.
- 34% of blacks who enlisted volunteered for the combat arms.
- Overall, blacks suffered 12.5% of the deaths in Vietnam at a time when the

percentage of blacks of military age was 13.5% of the total population.

- Religion of dead: Protestants — 64.4%; Catholic — 28.9%; other/none — 1.7%.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

- 78% of the men sent to Vietnam were from lower middle/working class backgrounds.
- Three-fourths had family incomes above the poverty level; 50% were from middle-income backgrounds.
- Some 23% of Vietnam vets had fathers with professional, managerial or technical occupations.
- 79% of the men who served in Vietnam had a high school education or better when they entered the military service. (83% of Korean War vets and only 45% of WWII vets had completed high school upon separation.)

WINNING & LOSING

- 82% of veterans who saw heavy combat strongly believe the war was lost because of lack of political will.
- Nearly 75% of the general public agrees that it was a failure of political will, not of arms.

AGE & HONORABLE SERVICE

- Average age of the Vietnam War GI: 19 (26 for WWII).
- 97% of Vietnam era veterans were honorably discharged.

PRIDE IN SERVICE

- 91% of actual Vietnam War veterans and 90% of those who saw heavy combat are proud to have served their country.
- 66% of Vietnam vets say they would serve again if called upon (pollied in the 1980s).
- 87% of the public now holds Vietnam veterans in high esteem.

Compiled by VFW magazine. Please copy and distribute to educators.

www.vfw.org

Thank You to the Veterans Memorial Building LHCC for the outstanding military museum displays during the Veterans Day Weekend in Danville!

THE GARY VILLALBA DEDICATED SERVICE AWARD

What the VNVDV's Highest Award means...

Standing Up to the Highest of Standards & Qualities - Gary held close & demonstrated on a daily basis – year in & year out in his dedication to serving veterans & their families in our community. To Gary - it was not a career... it was "his lifestyle" - To serve those who served our nation... always going "above & beyond" the call of duty for all VSOs - veterans & their family members in Contra Costa County & beyond... *others before self.*

GARY VILLALBA DEDICATED VETERAN SERVICE AWARD

Was established in 2007 by the...
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
As a Perpetual Award... Presented Annually to only a select few...
In Honor of a lifetime of Dedicated Service to Our Veterans & Family members provided by our then retiring Contra Costa County Veterans Service Officer (VSO) - Gary D. Villalba. This is the VNVDV's Highest Veteran Service Honor.

Viet nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
THANKS...



FASTSIGNS

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2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd. #113
San Ramon, CA 94583
ph. (925) 820-2202
fax. (925) 820-8911
Email: 48@fastsigns.com

PLEASE Support our "Super Crab Feed" with a "Donation" for our Auction.

Members - Supporters & Friends:

Please Begin NOW to help us Obtain CRAB FEED Donations for our "Super Sunday" - FEB. 2nd 2014 event!

Donations contact President Mike Slattengren @ 925 / 837-6238

*Tickets available NOW at Christmas Dinner - \$40.00 each. Check-out a block of tickets to sell to friends!
Official Donation Request Letter is included in this edition.*

"DONATIONS" of Merchandise or Gift Certificates for our "Super Crab Feed" Silent Auction are needed!

Incoming Newsletter Editor John Reese to step-down as Information Director after serving ten years as the Publisher of the VNVDV Official Newsletter.

Health Care is Changing - Get Enrolled in the VA through our Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office
Let true professionals guide all veteran through the VA process for Free!

**County VSO Outstation OPEN in Danville on Wednesdays
& in Martinez a Team of VSO Professionals Mon - Fri**

Danville VSO Office - 400 Hartz Ave. Room 208 - Open every Wednesday from 10am to 2pm (Except Holidays). Martinez Office is "drop-in" & Danville you can make an appointment by calling in advance to the Martinez VSO Office for appointment **(925) 313-1481**.

The VNVDV strongly encourages all veterans to obtain trained - professional veteran service assistance free of charge when dealing with any of your VA claims, benefits, appeals, or other questions about veteran services which you have earned through your military service. These services are also available for the veteran's family members. Don't try to complete VA forms alone or go the process alone - pro help is available & it's local & the best you will find anywhere in the State of California! *Vets... just tell them the VNVDV referred you !*

Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office
is a FREE service for all Veterans!

Find out about all the Veteran Benefits
You earned through your Military Service
Visit the County VSO Office NOW...
for your FREE "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

Fax: (925) 313-1490

Nathan.johnson@vs.cccounty.us



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Helen S. Reese
PH: 925 / 935 - 4294

E: HReese@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.VentureResearch.biz

"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
Walut Ceek, Ca 94597

925-247-4268



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!



Plan Ahead... to Join Us -

Set aside the date on Armed Forces Day

For the Phillips 66 Walk of Honor

In Crockett - Third Saturday in May 2014

Please join us for this major event to support our veterans & the Crockett VMB

Combined VSO Operations Fundraising

In order to pay for the day to day expenses of the Veterans portion of the VMB, including: phone, insurance, internet, office supplies, and other internal expenses incurred jointly by the VSOs using the VMB

VMB Renovation Coffee Table Book

Books will sell for \$45.00. All proceeds go directly to pay for the operating expenses of the Veterans portion of the Veterans Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley in Danville



**Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner
Saturday March 15th 2014**

Mark your calendars now for this combined VSO fundraising event. On Saturday - March 15th 2014 for St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

"Super Sunday" Crab Feed

featuring...

**Oakland Raiderettes
10th Year Appearance**

VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley



**OPERATION SANTA CLAUS
Supports our Military Troops
Don't forget your new unwrapped Toys!**



**Department of
Veterans Affairs**



**VA
HEALTH
CARE** Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

Affordable Care Act & Veterans and the Veterans Health Administration

The provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court will not affect the current role the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has in the lives of America's Veterans.

We will continue to provide Veterans with high quality, comprehensive health care and benefits they have earned through their service. VA health care does not change as a result of the ACA. VA health care meets the requirements of the ACA.

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

The VNVDV encourages all Veterans to Enroll for VA Health Care coverage utilizing trained professionals & advocates at our Contra Costa County VSO. The VA Health Care System is the Best - get help



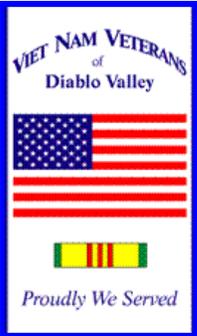
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

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

**VA Martinez - Oakland & other locations
now giving FLU shots to Veterans!**



VNVDV Membership Dues Now only \$25.

Renew Your 2014 Annual Dues at our Monthly Dinner or convert to a
Life Membership for only: \$200.00!

Members interested in being more active in the VNVDV organization
Please contact MIKE SLATTEN-
GREN to find out about various
committees and opportunities
available - assistance provided!

Do you have an "All Wars Memorial" PAVER ?

These solid granite paver stones set in the walkway at Oak Hill Park and now limited (less than 90 remaining)
... Honor a veterans, friend, neighbor, family member with a meaningful tribute which will last forever... an AWM Paver... only - \$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 #619, 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



Operation Welcome Home

DIABLO VALLEY FLAG BRIGADE

*Dedicated to the Remembrance of 9-11
Devoted to 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

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

ALL WARS MEMORIAL



FOUNDATION

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)
AWM "Pavers" remaining in the walkway at Oak Hill Park.
Mail your order to: AWMF - P.O. Box 158 - Danville, CA 94526

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: _____

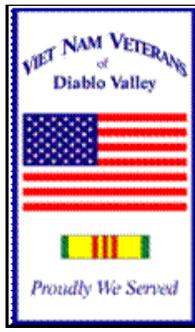
Please attach a copy of your DD-214 - and a check for Annual Dues: \$25 payable to VNVDV

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!



December 2013

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter -

The **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley** (VNVDV) proudly announces their 10th annual charity fund-raiser & we respectfully requests your support for this event. On **Sunday, February 2, 2014**, we will hold our 10th annual *Super Sunday Charity Crab Feed...* at the Veterans Memorial Building, in Danville, CA.

The VNVDV are an independent, “grass-roots”, *non-profit, tax-exempt*, 501(c)(19), veteran’s organization, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. We **“proudly continue to serve”** our community... *with your support* - through a variety of programs – projects and events. (*Tax ID number on letterhead*).

The money raised through our 2014 Crab Feed, will support local veteran, active-duty military & community-service events and programs, we conduct and proudly support throughout the year. These include:

The East Bay Stand Down
Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
Danville’s 4th of July Parade
Danville Veteran’s Day Program
The VNVDV School Speaker’s Bureau
Operation Welcome Home
Armed Forces Day “Walk of Honor”

The Blue Star Moms
The Sentinels of Freedom
Diablo Valley Flag Brigade
Veteran Swim Challenge
GWOT Duck Club Retreat
Operation Santa Claus
The Holiday Toy Drive

We respectfully request your business support for this event - through a discount on goods purchased for this event, “monetary sponsorship”, ticket purchase, donated items, or gift cards /certificates for your goods and services. Your donated items will be used in our Silent Auction or Raffle held during the 2014 *Charity Crab Feed*, to raise the necessary funds to continue these and many other worthwhile projects for our community.

For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, our monthly newsletter, or how you can contribute to our Crab Feed, visit our website at www.VNVDV.com - or e-mail us at the address below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2014 “*Salute to our Troops*” Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity to our veterans, serving military, and community programs. **Thank you.**

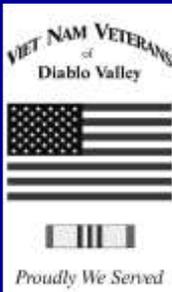
Sincerely,

Mike Slattengren - President
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Telephone: **(925) 837-6238**

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

P. O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526 - 2079 - E-MAIL: VNVDV1@gmail.com - WEBSITE : www.VNVDV.com

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-pro. t veteran’s organiza on / corpora on (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax



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

DEC 2013



Electronic Edition

**2013 OFFICERS &
BOARD MEMBERS**

President—

Michael Slattengren

Vice President -

Ray La Rochelle

Treasurer -

Martin De Venuta

Secretary -

Cliff De Cuir

Director-at-Large -

Dennis Giacovelli

Membership -

Bill Chew

Public Relations -

John Reese

Information -

J. G. Reese (retiring)

Events -

Vacant

Speakers -

Mike Martin

Procurement -

Bill Green

PAST PRESIDENTS

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich

- Est. 1991 -

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

John Garfield Reese,

Publisher & Editor 2004-2014

VNVDV Public Relations Director

Co-Editor this Edition:

Jon Robbins

Director of Information - Elect

**Visit Our Newly
Revised 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!

**DEC 5 - Holiday Appreciation Dinner
at CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB in San Ramon
Social Hour starts at 1700 - Dinner at 1815
January we will begin our great monthly speakers!**