

INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

JAN 2025

JAN 9TH VNVDV DINNER MEETING

BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON



Dennis Giacovel II
VNVDV
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A very **Happy New Year** to you all. This is also the time to reflect on the past and plan for the future.

The VNVDV was formed in 1991, as a grass-roots, all volunteer, stand-alone organization made up of primarily Vietnam and Vietnam era Veterans. We were built on the premise of "gaining respect for Vietnam Veterans", in other words, "to improve our image". We also wished to "promote patriotism, and to help other veterans and active military".

Have we achieved our goal?

With the last of the WWII veterans quickly disappearing, and the Korean War Veterans still hiding, will we be allowed to take their places? Fill their shoes?

I believe that we still have work to do. Here are a couple things that lead me to this conclusion:

In the last year, we have welcomed more new members than many, many past years. Where have they been? Actually, they have been around forever, but were reluctant to seek us out for one reason or another.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE VNVDV CRAB FEED FUND-RAISER FEB 9, 2025

VMB DANVILLE, CA

DOORS OPEN 1 PM

SNACK FOOD AND SOCIALIZE

FRESH CRAB DINNER AND FOOTBALL GAME TO FOLLOW

TICKETS ARE \$100

PURCHASE TICKETS: ED BAFFICO

(edgogolf@sbcglobal.net)

925-831-9678

THE DONATION OF GIFT CARDS FOR DOOR PRIZES AND LIVE AUCTION ARE REQUESTED (restaurants, Safeway, Starbucks, Home Depot, Target)

PLEASE NOTE FLYERS IN THE NESLETTER

SPEAKER for the JANUARY 9TH DINNER MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE MEETING. KEEPING TO THE TRADITION OF INTERESTING SPEAKERS, PLEASE BE ASSURED YOU WILL BE ENTERTAINED AND WORK WITH US TO HONOR A SPECIAL REQUEST.

You would be amazed how many veterans I talk to every year who have no idea there is a Veterans Memorial Building right here in downtown Danville. And they live here, in the Diablo Valley.

So, I believe we need to get back to our roots, while we can still make a difference.

Your board of directors is starting to realize this and is changing the format of the **Crab Feed**. We have also come to the conclusion that the crab feed in its usual format is an overwhelming task completed by a small handful of members, who are now unable to take this on. The massive silent auction and raffle have tipped us over. **We need the crab feed to make money, but the underlying reason for the event is to keep our good name out there, attract more members and increase community support.**

With this in mind, we have changed the format of the Crab Feed. This year there will be no silent auction or raffle. **Yes, we are collecting gift cards but the bulk of them will become "door prizes" or giveaways by drawing ticket numbers throughout the day.** We will, however, be having our first "Live Auction" during the crab feed. We will be putting together groupings of the gift cards and turning them into higher priced live auction items. Examples could be "Dine around Danville" or "groceries for months", or "napa wine experience". Having 8 or so live auction items is much, much less work and hopefully will still make us some money and the giveaways will provide some fun for the crab feed crowd.

And speaking of the **Veterans Memorial Building, our home in downtown Danville, will be turning 100 this April 2nd.** We are currently planning a day-long party on March 30 with displays, bands, food, reenactors, vintage vehicles, and much more. There will be plenty of volunteer opportunities and ways to participate.

Dennis Giacobelli
President
PH (925) 323-9404
houseworks@pacbell.net



VNVDV AWARDS DINNER DECEMBER 5TH 2024



DENNIS GIACOVELLI GARY VILLALBA AWARD 2024



DECEMBER AWARDS DINNER/GALA

AWARDS DURING THE VNVDV RECOGNITION DINNER

**VNVDV DONATION TO THE
WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION**



**DAVID BEHRING
WHEELCHAIR
FOUNDATION**



**GWOT VETERAN
RETREAT DONA-
TION BILL GREEN**



**BLUE STAR MOMS RECEIVE
DONATION
SUSIE LISTER**



**DONATION TO VSO
CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY**



**PATTY HARRIS RE-
CEIVED DONATION TO
BSM FOR GOLD STAR
PARENTS RECEPTION**



**MARCIA ESTRELLA
VOLUNTEER OF THE
YEAR**



**BILL GIBSON SPECIAL
RECOGNITION AWARD**



**DAVE SMITH VETERAN
OF THE YEAR**



**SCOTT CARR HELICOPTER
TRANSPORTATION RECOG-
NITION**



**MIKE SLATTENGRN VETERAN
OF THE YEAR**



VIET NAM VETERANS of DIABLO VALLEY



TICKETS
\$100.
EACH

LIVE AUCTION

TICKETS
\$100.
EACH

Door Prizes & Wine & Beer Bar

SUN. FEB. 9. 2025

Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley

400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA

DOORS OPEN
1:30 PM

Limited Space Purchase your Ticket(s) by 1/31/25

Contact: Ed Baffico: edgogolf@sbcglobal.net or (925) 831-9678

PURCHASE TODAY • NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!

**Please Support this Event with a Gift Card Donation
from a Local Merchant/Restaurant. Thank you!**

VIET NAM VETERANS of DIABLO VALLEY

Crab Feed & Live Auction Fundraiser
Sunday February 9, 2025

Buy a Ticket Now
Limited Seating



No Tickets
Sold at the Door

Please Support this Event

**With a \$20-\$25 value Gift Card/Certificate Donation
from a Local Retail Merchant, Restaurant
Fast Food Outlet and/or Coffee House, etc.**

**We will be collecting Gift Card/Certificate Donations
at our VNVDV Jan. 9th & Feb. 6th Dinner Meetings**

Thank you!

GIFT CARDS WILL BE COLLECTED BY JIM MURPHY

CONTACT 925-858-2618, jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com

GIFT CARD DONATION DROP OFF!

**Please Support Our
2025 Crab Feed Fundraiser
with a Gift Card Donation
from a Local Retailer • Restaurant
Super Market • Fast Food Outlet
Coffee Shop • etc.
Thank you!**

GIFT CARDS WILL BE COLLECTED BY JIM MURPHY

CONTACT 925-858-2618, jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com

DECEMBER AWARDS DINNER/GALA 2024





TICKETS CONTACT:

mconklin@sentinelsoffreedom.com



SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

Crab Feed

JANUARY 25, 2025

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lafayette

5:30 pm

DECEMBER 2024 VNVDV EVENTS



NAVY INTERCEPTIONS SINK ARMY



OPERATION SANTA CLAUS 2024 TOYS



2024 VNVDV SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECEPTION



MORGAN HALVERSON

CONNOR LEARY

JESSICA WRIGHT



BENJAMIN ROGGE

ISSABELL ZANCHI

EMILY ZANDAHL

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SIX SCHOLARS AND THE TREMENDOUS EFFORT OF BILL GREEN AND JIM MURPHY CO-CHAIRS OF THE AWARD COMMITTEE



CONGRATULATIONS TO WWII D-DAY VETERAN "PAPA JAKE" LARSON. JAKE VISITED THE VMB COFFEE IN AUGUST 2024

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

Ron Allen	USMC	Bill Kiper	Navy
Alan Perry	Navy	Arthur Gaoiran	Army
Joseph Roberts	Army	Ray La Rochelle	Navy
Bill Hawkins	Army	Rich Lee	Army
Jerry Carlson	Army	Gerald Raver	Army
Tim Sammons	Navy	Mike Feddersen	USMC
Tom Crews	Navy	Carey Battersby	Army
John Bovey	Navy	Robert Burgess	Army
Thurman McCormick	Army		

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



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

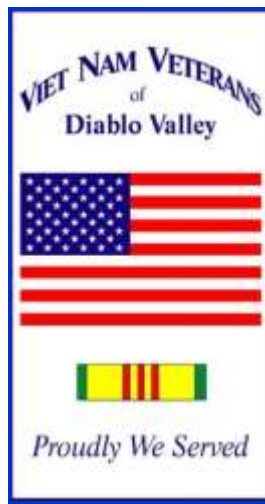
Mike Weber
925.487.7609
mike@mikeweberrealtor.com



Bill LaVigne
President & CEO

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Toll Free: (866) 369-4446
Office: (877) 668-3677
(877) MOVE-677
Fax: (707) 644-2294
integritymoving@yahoo.com

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Dear Viet Nam Veteran of Diablo Valley Member,

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) proudly announce our “Crab Feed & Live Auction” annual fundraiser and respectfully request your help and support for this event. Our event will take place on Sunday February 9, 2025 at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley, 400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA 94526. As a member of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley we respectfully request your support for this event and are asking you to donate a gift card from your favorite restaurant, Fast Food Stop, coffee stop/shop, Grocery or Department Store, etc. in support of the VNVDV’s primary annual fundraising event. Your generous gift card donation will ensure our continued commitment of support to our fellow veterans and active military within our community.

The VNVDV is an all-volunteer independent, “grass-roots”, *non-profit, tax-exempt*, 501(c)(19), veterans’ organization, comprised primarily of Vietnam veterans. We “proudly continue to serve” our community, through a variety of programs and events.

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

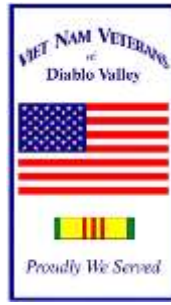
- The All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
- Danville’s 4th of July Parade
- Danville Veteran’s Day Program
- The VNVDV School Speaker’s Bureau
- VNVDV Scholarship Program
- The Blue Star Moms & Gold Star Families
- The Sentinels of Freedom
- GWOT Young Veterans Retreat
- The Greater Bay Area Stand Downs
- The Wheelchair Foundation
- Operation Santa Claus

We will also be holding a Live Auction at this event. If you have a contact to share or can help with procuring items for our Live Auction please for follow-ups/referrals contact: Jim Murphy (925) 858-2618 or Email: jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com.

We look forward to your support in making our “Crab Feed & Live Auction” fundraiser a success. We are grateful for your generosity to the VNVDV, your fellow veterans, serving military, and community programs.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely, Your Board of Directors, Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley



December 2024

Dear Business Owner / Community Supporter –

The Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) announces their 20th annual charity fund-raiser & we respectfully request your support for this event. On **“Super Sunday”** - February 9, 2025, we will hold our annual **“Salute to our Troops” Charity Crab Feed**, proudly honoring all those who served. This fundraiser will be at the Veterans Memorial Building – 400 Hartz Avenue in the Town of Danville, beginning at 1PM.

We look forward to your business support for this important event with donated gift certificates or gift cards to promote your business and/or services. Your generous donation will be used in our Live Auction or Super Raffle held during the 2025 *Charity Crab Feed fund raiser*.

The VNVDV **are an independent, “grass-roots”, non-profit & tax-exempt**, 501(c)19, **Veteran’s Service Organization**, comprised primarily of Viet Nam combat veterans. With a motto: We **“proudly served”** and *proudly continue to serve our community and veterans...* through your support of this annual event.

The funds raised through our Charity Crab Feeds support local veteran, active-duty military, non-profit community-service events & projects / programs that we conduct/support or sponsor throughout the year - **including...**

- East Bay Stand Down – *Homeless Vet Support*
- Memorial Day Program at Oak Hill Park
- 4th of July Parade – Danville - *Flag Distribution*
- **Veteran’s Day Program** - San Ramon Valley
- **The VNVDV Speaker’s Bureau** – *over 80,000 reached*
- Operation Welcome Home – *Returning Veterans*
- **Armed Forces Day “Walk of Honor”** for our Veterans
- Blue Star Moms Support– *Troop Care Packages*
- Sentinels of Freedom Scholarships
- GWOT Veteran Retreat – *Duck Club Weekend*
- All Wars Memorial at Oak Hill Park
- Wheelchair Foundation – *Distribution/Support*
- Operation Santa Claus – *Supporting Active-duty*
- Veteran Memorial Building – *Museum Docent*

For more information on the VNVDV, its programs, events, membership, & our monthly newsletter, or how you can contribute to our organization, visit our website at www.VNVDV.org – or contact us below.

We look forward to you joining us in support of our 2025 **“Salute to our Troops”** Charity Crab Feed and are grateful for your generosity & support of our veterans, active-duty military, & community programs.

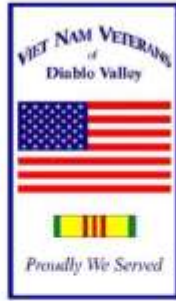
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis Giacobelli - President
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Telephone: 925 / **323-9404**
E-mail: houseworks@pacbell.net

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

VNVDV - P. O. BOX 2079 - DANVILLE, CA 94526-2079 - WEBSITE: www.VNVDV.org - E-MAIL: VNVDV1@gmail.com
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley is a non-profit veteran’s organization / corporation (EIN 68-0266369) exempt from federal (IRC 501c) & state (RTC 23701w) income tax



Date: _____

VNVDV DONATION - RECEIPT

Donor(s): _____

The **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley** (VNVDV) hereby acknowledges your support to our annual charity fund-raiser. We are a non-profit organization and the VNVDV provided no goods or services in exchange for your support. We sincerely thank you for your support of our annual fund raising event.

Donation Details
Value

Estimated \$ Value

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Procurer: _____

_ Please return this form along with donation to:

VNVDV Contact: Jim Murphy - Telephone: (925) 858-2618 - E-mail: jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com

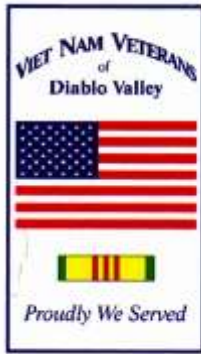
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

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

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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, 2019 and 2024 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 four amazing wheel chair distribution trips to Vietnam.

The VNVDV participated in the distribution of 460 Wheelchairs during the NOV 2019 and 2024 trips to Vietnam. Thanks to the support of the Wheelchair Foundation & Supporters

**VietNam 50th Commemoration Honors
our VietNam War Veteran Members**

**VNVDV LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Special 50th VN Commeration -
Honoring Your Service - ONLY \$50.**

**Danville VMB's County Veterans Service Office
OPEN every Wednesday 10-2 to serve Veterans**

All Wars Memorial

Oak Hill Park Memorial Expands
The New Paver Section with 600 Pavers
Do you have an AWM Paver? Don't wait - Honor a veteran, friend, neighbor, family member or patriot with a special AWM Paver Tribute!
1st ENGRAVING COMPLETED—Hopefully 1 in May!
Custom Engraving is performed Spring & Fall.
Take time to visit the AWM - then the website for an application form. Order your AWM Paver
www.AllWarsMemorial.org
Questions? See link on AWM Website

Please SUPPORT & FOLLOW NEWS from some of our SUPPORTERS & FRIENDS WEBSITES:
Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office - Call the County VSO Office for Assistance - call 925 / 313-1481 for Appt.
All Wars Memorial and obtaining AWM Pavers at Oak Hill Park - visit: www.AllWarsMemorial.org
Marines Memorial Association / Hotel / Club in SF - Visit their website at: www.MarineClub.com
Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Foundation - visit: www.SentinelsofFreedom.org
Wheelchair Foundation & Wine for Wheels - Support our those in need of mobility - Visit: www.WineforWheels.org
Blue Star Moms #101 website: www.bluestarmoms.org & Blue Star Moms #20 website: www.ccbluestarmoms.org
VNVDV website to see more about the Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley at: www.VNVDV.org

VISIT THE WEBSITE for the VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING at: www.VMBSRV.org

SUPPORT OUR BLUE STAR MOMS "DROP-OFF" LOCATIONS



Department of Veterans Affairs



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!

Veterans
It's that
time of year

GET YOUR FLU SHOT
MARTINEZ CLINIC



Martinez Clinic

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. PT

Appointments available

Call 1-[800-382-8387](tel:800-382-8387), press 2 and then option 3, or stay on the line to schedule an appointment.

Visit our VNVDV Website for more Benefit details.

"VETERAN VOICES" THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

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

"VETERAN VOICES"
on SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

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



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.



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



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



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VNVDV
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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

REAL TIME PAIN RELIEF



To purchase call: Mike Martin - 925.323.1093



Official Mailing Address:

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Veterans Memorial Building of SRV
400 Hartz Avenue
Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.org

Electronic News



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Carl Swanson

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Larry Tehero

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EVENTS

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Jon Robbins

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John "T. J." Trujillo

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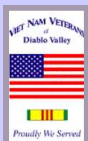
John "Jgr" Reese

WEBSITE

Chelle Clements

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Tim Hart
Mike Weber
Mike McDaniel
Rich Lambert
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Bill Picton
Norm Mahalich



Jonathan "JON" Robbins

Director of Information

Editor / Publisher "INCOMING" News

News E-Mail: VNVDV.News@gmail.com

Keep your e-mail address current please!

Visit the VNVDV Web
Past Newsletters & our
latest news on-line



The VietNam Veterans of Diablo Valley - established in 1991 as a local, grass-roots, non-profit, & all-volunteer Veteran Service Organization (VSO) to promote & enhance the image of the Viet Nam Veteran through Community Service & Support of our fellow Veterans, and value & maintain a high level of dignity & respect for the young men & women currently serving our nation today in all branches of our military services. Danville's Veteran's Memorial Building for the San Ramon Valley is home for the VNVDV and designed for the next 100 years - to serve our veterans now - those returning & our future veterans - while serving as a lasting reminder & Memorial for all those who served before us in the name of Freedom... leaving a "legacy"

The VNVDV meets monthly on the 1st Thursday of every month at the Bridges Golf Club, San Ramon.

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
JANUARY 2025 MEETING
THURSDAY JANUARY 9TH
BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON
DINNER COST WILL BE \$35