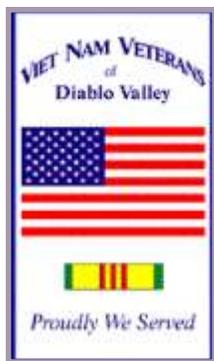


INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

MAR 2026

VNVDV MARCH 5TH MEETING BRIDGES GOLF CLUB, SAN RAMON



Dennis Giacovel II
VNVDV
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A big thanks to all of you who had a part in our latest highly successful **Crab Feed Fundraiser**. From those who donated gift cards and auction items, and those who worked to plan the event and those who worked at the Crab feed, Bravo Zulu to you all. (that's Navy speak for Well Done). **I believe it was our best ever.**

We were finally able to purchase and deliver the items we promised to **Camp Parks' "The Well" Café**. Slatts and I delivered pots, aprons, bowls, dish towels, dish drainers, knives, and many more for the café to serve and also to teach. So, a win, win. See enclosed picture of us with Army Chaplin Cpt. Sykes.

"The Well" Café



Army Chaplin
Cpt. Sykes,
Dennis and
Slatts



SATURDAY MAY 16TH REGISTER 9 AM

Walk of Honor for our Veterans

WILL NOTIFY WHEN REGISTRATION SITE IS OPEN

JOIN US! REGISTER:
SFRWalkofHonor.com
Registration \$40 includes T-shirt & BBQ Lunch
Early Bird Registration by 4/30: \$30

Walk the Carquinez Bridge followed by BBQ Luncheon at Crockett Community Center

SPEAKER for the MARCH 5TH DINNER MEETING WILL BE Dave Smith, VNVDV member, who will discuss **Operation Ivory Coast** a mission conducted by **United States Special Operations Forces** and other American military elements to rescue **U.S. prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.**

At the **Gold Star Event at the Marines Memorial Building** last Thursday, a poster was displayed at the entrance, informing guests of the Sutter St. Café, a place where the Gold Star families can gather, relax and talk after the event. As the poster states, it is dedicated to the **memory of Jerry Yahiro**, and a picture of him is proudly displayed. A framed copy of the poster is also in one of the glass cases in the first floor lobby. The **VNVDV and Diablo Valley Veterans Foundation fund this every year**. See enclosed picture.



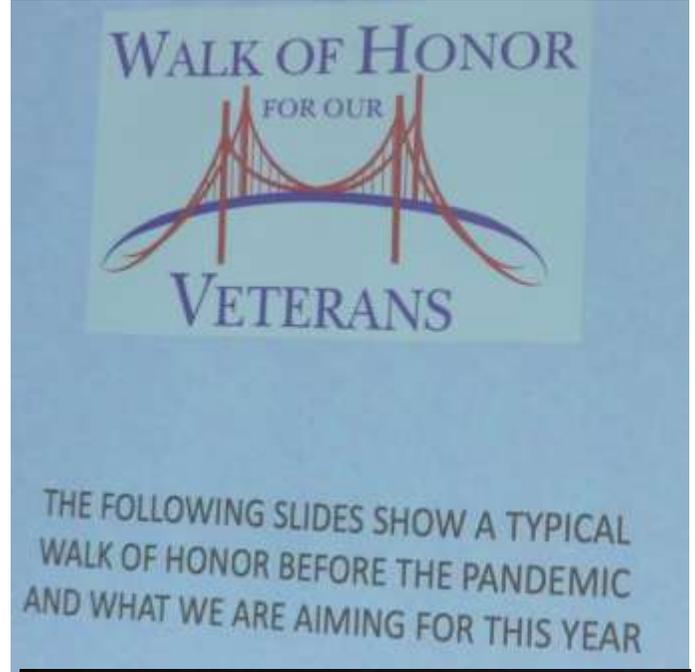
We will be looking good for **Memorial Day**. First, we purchased new camo netting that is stronger, lighter and more shade-producing than the old dilapidated ones. **Mike Weber** did the leg work on this one. Second, the **All Wars Memorial Foundation** is in the process of installing a new flagpole in the area behind the speaker's camo area. It will be 40' high with a 6' x 10' flag in full view of the Memorial Day attendees. Third, we will be partnering with the All Wars Memorial Foundation with a ribbon cutting on the new improvements to the Memorial taking place immediately after our Ceremony. We are counting on the additional advertising will bring more of the Community out to both Ceremonies.

2026 is the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley's 35th Anniversary. More on this later.

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



VNVDV DINNER MEETING ACTIVITY UPDATE WALK OF HONOR MAY 16, 2026



THE WALK OF HONOR IS A VNVDV PREMIER EVENT THAT FUNDS ACTIVITIES REGISTER ONLINE WHEN SITE IS AVAILABLE

FEBRUARY 2026 DINNER MEETING ATTENDEES



SUPER SUNDAY CRAB FEED Fun... *for Volunteers & Guests*

Thank You to all our Donors - Blue Star Moms - INTERACT from D/V High School - dedicated Supporters & Guests & all Volunteers!



The **2026 Crab Feed** was a great success. Through the generosity of the **160 attendees** the Raffle and Silent Auction generated funds that will be used for the many activities supported by the **Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**. In addition to the financial benefits of this annual fundraiser, the VNVDV has produced a class gathering featuring fresh crab served by enthusiastic students under the guise of the National Football Championship Game as a center piece. The production of this spectacular event required a coordinated effort directed by **Mike Slattengren** and an able staff. As a thanks to this group, below are photos of these great contributors to the success of the **CRAB FEED 2026**. Many others helped with setup and tear down.



MIKE SLATTENGREN



PATTI KRITZ



ED BAFFICO



PATTY HARRIS



DENNIS GIACOVELLI



BILL GREEN



ROBIN LEMMO



MIKE YOUNGBLOOD



MARCIA ESTRELLA



RITA HANNUM



JIM MURPHY



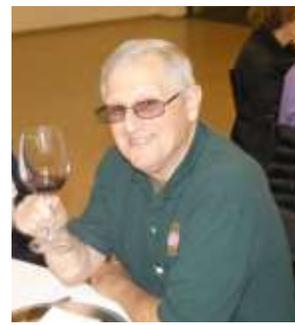
KIM HOLMES



JIM HILL



ROXANE LANGEVIN



BOB JOPLIN



JOHN REESE



A SPECIAL SHUT OUT TO THE BLUE STAR MOMS FOR THEIR SUPPORT WITH A FLAVORFUL ASSORTMENT OF DESSERTS FOR THE CRAB FEED

SATURDAY MAY 16TH CROCKETT



RODEO RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPLEX

17th

Annual

WALK OF HONOR FOR OUR VETERANS

Saturday, May **16**, **2026**



Crockett Community Center
850 Pomona Street, Crockett



Check-in 8:30 - 9:30 AM
Walk begins at 10 AM

Participate in a memorable, leisurely stroll across the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge and share a delicious BBQ lunch at the Crockett Community Center. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors; enjoy yourself while honoring loved ones who have served our country.

Funds raised from this fun community event will benefit the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and the Crockett Community Services District.



JOIN US!
\$30 REGISTRATION
INCLUDES T-SHIRT &
BBQ LUNCH



After May 1, registration cost is \$40



510-245-5130



www.sfrwalkofhonor.com

SITE NOT OPEN FOR 2026 AS OF 1 MARCH 2026

WILL UPDATE

VNVDV SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2026

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley



S C H O L A R S H I P

Program Structure/guidelines

ELIGIBILITY

- child/grandchild of VNVDV paid member
 - One time issue
- HS Senior and/or current college student

REQUIRED

- School transcripts
- Letter of acceptance or enrollment confirmation to 2 or 4 year college/university or accredited trade school
- "American Veteran" theme based Essay



For more information and/or submissions please contact:
Jim Murphy - 925 858-2618 • jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com
Bill Green - 925 683-3293 • billgreen@aol.com

VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY **MARCH** BIRTHDAYS

Frank Wallace	Marine	John Baker	Navy
Alex Siddo	Marine	John Kelly	Army
Patrick McCall	Air Force	Bob Paulson	Army
Larry McKenzie	Army	Gary Phipps	Navy
Dennis Petersen	Army	Skip Lausten	Army
Scott Randle	Army	Mike Yura	Navy
Rod Guyette	Army	David Caldwell	Marine
Charles Schretzmann	Marine		

Thanks to the February Speaker *Eugene Vicknear*, discussing the use of a Western Pacific Pullman Railroad Car that was converted to a Blood Collection Car that could reach many communities during the Korean War to provide precious blood for soldiers.



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

Mike Weber
925.487.7609
mike@mikeweberrealtor.com

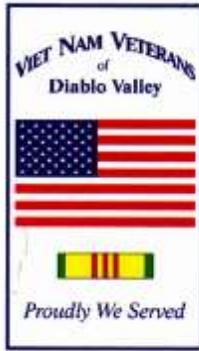


Bill LaVigne
President & CEO

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Thanks to Procurement Director John "T.J." Trujillo for his monthly display of VNVDV Hats and Shirts. Order your VNVDV NAME TAGS contact "T.J."

For all your VNVDV Shirts and Hats team with TJ and Power Stitch



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 SHIRT HAT DISPLAY AT SEPT MEETING

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, appt reqd. 925-313-1481

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, 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



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 89 on AT&T U-verse
Episodes Re-Run: 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.



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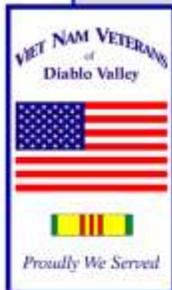
Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley
Veterans Memorial Building of SRV
400 Hartz Avenue
Post Office Box 2079

Danville, CA 94526 - 2079

E-Mail: VNVDV1@gmail.com

Web: www.VNVDV.org

Electronic News



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John "T. J." Trujillo

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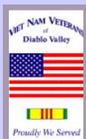
John "Jgr" Reese

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Chelle Clements

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- Del Loewe
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- 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
THURSDAY MARCH 5TH
BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON
5 PM SOCIAL 6 PM DINNER
DINNER COST WILL BE \$35