INCOMING NEWS

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

NOV 2026



DENNIS GIACOVELLI
VNVDV PRESIDENT

VNVDV NOVEMBER 5TH MEETING
BRIDGES GOLF CLUB, SAN RAMON

NOVEMBER PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

First off, just when you think that no one is watching, the VNVDV was recognized by the **Contra Costa Regional Health Foundation**, for the *"many ways your organization continues to give back to our community, from supporting veterans and their families to providing wheelchairs to those in need, honoring and remembering those who have served, and supporting local community organizations and causes."* We received a Certificate of Appreciation and a donation to the organization in the amount of $2500. Well done!

President's Message (Continued from Page One)

VETERANS DAY PARADE

PLEASANTON SUNDAY NOV 8TH

NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR COLOR GUARD

FIRST COME FIRST CHOICE FOR FLAGS

MUSTER 1200 HOURS

VETERANS BUILDING MAIN STREET

PLEASANTON



THERE WILL BE NO SPEAKER for the NOVEMBER 5TH DINNER meeting. The special dinner guests for the evening will be the Members of the Helicopter Escort Group. They are essential for the display of the Static Huey at so many VNVDV Events. They will be honored for their continuous service.

President's Message (Continued from Page One)

November is a month packed with Veteran events. We start off with the **Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors** meeting on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the Board Chambers at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez. While I always support going to this Veterans Day tribute from the Board, it is especially important for us to attend in mass, as member **Bill Green** is being recognized during the ceremony. Please join me for this special tribute to all Veterans, especially the well deserving, Bill Green.

Our Dinner meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2026, will not have a speaker. This will be our annual **election night** and also **Hog Appreciation Night.** It is our chance to say thank you to the guys and gals who escort the Huey, rain or shine. We are treating them to dinner then will have them introduce themselves and tell us a bit about their lives.

On Sunday November 8, 2026, we will once again take our place in the **Pleasanton Parade**. Please plan to attend this short parade, even hop on the Huey if you have trouble walking. Meet at the Huey on Main St. at noon.

Then, on **Veterans Day**, November 11, 2026, start your day with a **pancake breakfast** at the Veterans Memorial Building from 7:30 – 10:00, sponsored, prepared and served by the Town Council. After breakfast, wonder down to the Main Hall to view the many artifacts, and displays depicting the 250th Anniversary of the United States, as well as the 250-year history of the Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. At 11:00 the annual **Veterans Day Ceremony** will commence. The hall will be open until 5:00, bring the family. The Huey will be out front for Christmas card pictures with the family. At 4:40 meet outside at the flagpole for the Beacon Lighting Ceremony.

Please plan on attending as many of these events as you can.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dennis

Oh, and one more thing, December 12, 2026, at Noon we will meet again in the main hall, for the annual **Army/Navy game**. Army has its best chance this year. (go Navy)

VNVDV'S dinner of the year…
Christmas Holiday Appreciation & Recognition Dinner Gala, Dec. 3rd

Social at 5 – Sit-down Dinner at 6
RSVP your MEAL SELECTION TO

Ed Baffico – 925-831-9678

Email: edgogolf@sbcgobal.net

By NOV 27TH

Entre: Filet Mignon – Salmon – Vegetarian
PRICE $70 per DINNER
Bridges Golf Club, San Ramon



Save the Date

November 3, 2026 | 11 A.M.

1025 Escobar Street,
1st Floor, Martinez, CA 94553

You are invited to the 11th Annual

VETERANS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Hosted by the Danville Town Council

(Newell Arnerich, Robert Storer, Mark Belotz, Renee Morgan & Karen Stepper)

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

7:30 am – 10:00 am



Veterans Memorial Building
of the San Ramon Valley
2nd Floor
400 Hartz Avenue, Danville, CA



VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY, AND FAMILY ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR

A ***COMPLIMENTARY PANCAKE BREAKFAST***





250th ANNIVERSARY

VETERANS DAY
OPEN-HOUSE/MUSEUM

NOVEMBER 11TH 2026 ★ 9:00 AM–5:00 PM



DISPLAYS HIGHLIGHTING THE 250 YEAR HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, THE U.S. ARMY, MARINE CORPS., AND NAVY

YOUTH ACTIVITIES,

MILITARY VEHICLES, HUEY HELICOPTER

FREE FAMILY EVENT

★ ★ ★

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY @ 11:00 AM

BEACON LIGHTING CEREMONY @ 4:40 PM AT FLAGPOLE

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

400 HARTZ AVE, DANVILLE

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2026
Veterans Memorial Building
400 Hartz Ave, Danville

The day begins with a Veterans Pancake Breakfast from 7:30 to 10:00 AM on the second floor of the Veterans Wing. Hosted by the Danville Town Council, the breakfast is open to all veterans and their families.

From 9:00 AM -5:00 PM the main hall will be filled with displays highlighting the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, as well as the 250th Anniversary of the Army, Marine Corps and the Navy. Many unique items will be on display including items from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and Spanish American War. One of the many highlights will be a lock of George Washington and Alexander Hamilton's hair. Quest Science Center will have several activities including the children's favorite "*Wind Voyager*". Our Huey Helicopter will be out front and various military vehicles at the side.

At 11:00 AM the Veterans Day Observance will commence in the same hall. After the Sons of the American Revolution reenactors present the American Flag, several Veterans attending Diablo Valley College will give you an insight into today's Veteran. The Monte Vista High School Choir will be singing patriotic songs throughout the observance. Mayor Newell Arnerich will add his personal experiences with Veterans.

To cap off the day, at 4:40 PM gather outside at the Flagpole at the corner of Hartz and East Prospect for a short Veterans Day Mount Diablo Beacon Lighting Ceremony.

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Invite you to our annual

CHRISTMAS DINNER

and

RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Thursday December 3, 2026

5:00 Social 6:00 Dinner

Sit-Down Dinner $70.00

No host bar

Please R.S.V.P. by Nov. 27 to

Ed Baffico at

925-831-9678 or

edgogolf@sbcglobal.net

Please respond with your choice of
Filet Mignon, Salmon,
or Polenta Tower layered with vegetables

The Bridges Golf Club,
9000 S. Gale Ridge Road
San Ramon, CA

ARMY
VS
NAVY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12, 2026
KICK-OFF AT NOON



COME CHEER WITH YOUR
FELLOW VETERANS AT THE
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
MAIN HALL

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BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE



December 19, 2026

National Wreaths Across America Day

$17 Per Wreath

130 El PORTAL
DANVILLE, CA
10:00 AM



130 El PORTAL
DANVILLE, CA
10:00 AM

Help Blue Star Mom's Chapter 101

honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Golden Gate National Cemetery & Alamo Cemetery

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/CA0927P

WREATHS across AMERICA
KEEP MOVING FORWARD

LAST DAY TO ORDER FOR 2026 – TUESDAY DECEMBER 1, 2026

VIET NAM VETERANS of DIABLO VALLEY

Crab Feed & Silent Auction Fundraiser

Sunday February 14, 2027

Buy a Ticket (s) Today
or at the VNVDV
Nov., Dec., Jan. Feb.
Dinner Meetings



Limited Seating
No Tickets
Sold at the Door

Please Support this Event

Fresh Cracked Crab Dinner

Lots of Door Prizes, Live Auction!

Purchase your Ticket(s) by 2/7/27
Contact: Ed Baffico:
edgogolf@sbcglobal.net or (925) 831-9678

Thank you!

The Ball is in Your Court!

You're a Life Member of our team so do your part and get us a win. Buy a ticket or two to the VNVDV Crab Feed & Silent Auction Annual Fundraiser. Make it a double play and donate a $25 value gift card from a local business.

You're a member of a great organization, let's keep it strong. Remember this is our #1 Fundraising event, It time to step up to the plate and give a little back…PlayBall!!!

Crab Feed Tickets contact: - Ed Baffico
edgogolf@sbcglobal.net
(925) 831-9678

Donations contact: Jim Murphy
jimmurphycreative@yahoo.com
(925) 858-2618

PTSD: It's Not Just For Nam Vets Anymore

You are invited to a free Zoom meeting on PTSD. Vets of all ages and conflicts (possibly including a WW II Marine from Iwo Jima!) will bring their own experiences and observations to bear.
The sponsor, the Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association, was founded over 50 years ago by WW II combat correspondents including Joe Rosenthal, the photographer who took the iconic picture of the flag raising on Iwo Jima. Joe was one of the founding members.
The chapter's activities now center on Iwo Jima and Joe. One continuing effort is the push to name a Marine support ship for Joe. In November 2024, a street in San Francisco near where he worked for the Chronicle and AP was renamed in his honor. The chapter is open to all vets, particularly those with a background in communications, the media and history. Membership includes veterans from WW II to the Middle East.
THE EVENT:
When: Noon, Wednesday, November 11
Who: Joel Cady, Concord Vet Center:
What: *Understating the Invisible Wounds of War.*
Site: Go to: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9373013855
Meeting ID: 937 3013855
Passcode: Va4ptQ
Sponsor: The Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association, which hosts a monthly Zoom speaker on military history, journalism and subjects of interest to veterans. Come to listen and participate in the discussion after the talk.

For more information contact: Mike Youngblood,
Email: wmy1946@gmail.com Cell: (925) 915-6813

OCTOBER 2026 VNVDV DINNER MEETING



SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN REESE FOR TAKING THESE PHOTOS

VIET NAM DIABLO VALLEY VETERANS NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bud Eckhert	Marine	Dave Corazza	Air Force
Tom Eager	Army	Chuck Gibson	Army
Tom Hervey	Army	Tom Halstrom	Navy
Steve Mazaika	Army	Jack O'Bryan	Army
Don Parker	Navy	Gary Phorr	Marine
Bob Poirer	Navy	John Ricardo	Army
Lorrie Sammons	Navy	Slatts Slattengren	Navy
Phil Sage	Army	T. J. Trujillo	Army
Kasey Warner	Navy	Bill Hodges	Navy

Thanks to October Speaker, James Lyons, Veterans Service Manager, Outreach Manager representing the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office, for his update of Veterans Benefits.



Contra Costa County

James Lyons
Veterans Service Manager
Outreach Manager
10 Douglas Drive, Suite 100
Martinez, CA 94553-4078
Phone (925) 313-1481
Fax (925) 313-1490
James@vs.cccounty.us

San Pablo
2101 Vale Road, #302 - San Pablo, CA 94806
(510) 374-3241 FAX (510) 374-7955

Brentwood
By appointment only
(925) 313-1481 FAX (925) 313-1490

Danville
By appointment only
(925) 313-1481 FAX (925) 313-1490

contracosta.ca.gov/vso

CONTRA COSTA REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley received a gift of $2,500 form the Contra Costa Regional Health Foundation to be applied to on going Veteran Support Activities.

Contra Costa Regional Health Foundation enhances the capabilities of Contra Costa Health to improve wellness of every Contra Costa resident.





Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley *"INCOMING"*

NOV 2026



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

To: **VNVDV Members & VIPs**

2026 OFFICERS & BOD

PRESIDENT -
Dennis Giacovelli
VICE PRESIDENT -
Jim Hill
TREASURER
Ed Baffico
SECRETARY
John Kelly
MEMBERSHIP
Rod Guyette
DIRECTOR - at - LARGE
Larry Tehero
DIRECTOR of EVENTS
Robin Lemmo
SPEAKERS BUREAU
Bill Green
INFORMATION
Jon Robbins
PROCUREMENT
"T. J." Trujillo
PUBLIC RELATIONS
John *"Jgr"* Reese
WEBSITE
Chelle Clements

PAST PRESIDENTS
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Steve Burchik
Dennis Giacovelli
Gary Estrella
William "Bill" Green
Ray La Rochelle
Michael Slattengren
Jerry Yahiro
John Estes
Del Loewe
Tim Hart
Mike Weber
Mike McDaniel
Rich Lambert
Ron Azarcon
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

www.VNVDV.org

Proudly We Served

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!*

OPEN - SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS - JOIN US!

MONTHLY SOCIAL DINNER MEETINGS with FEATURED SPEAKER
1ST THURSDAY of each Month
BRIDGES GOLF CLUB, 9000 S. GALE RD, SAN RAMON, CA 94582
Social Hour 1700 – Dinner 1800 – Guest Speaker – Join Us!
Buffet Dinner - $35. RSVP NOT Required