

INCOMING NEWS



Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

OCT 2026

VNVDV OCTOBER 1ST MEETING

BRIDGES GOLF CLUB, SAN RAMON



Dennis
Giacobelli
VNVDV
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I sincerely thank all of you who attended the **25th Anniversary of 9/11** this year. Although it was a bit lengthy, there were some powerful speakers giving their thoughts about that horrific day and every day since.

Now on to the next event.

Each year, Veterans Day gives our nation a sacred opportunity to pause, remember, and give thanks to all who have worn the uniform of the United States. For those of us who served in Vietnam, this day carries a special meaning. It is a time to honor service, remember sacrifice, strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood, and ensure that the stories of our generation are never forgotten.

Please see the enclosed poster for this year's **Veterans Day activities**, and, I am asking every member of our organization to make a special effort to attend this annual Veterans Day Ceremony and pop-up museum.

President's Message (Continued on Page Two)

Veterans Day Parade
Pleasanton - Sun. Nov 8

Need volunteers for Flags

Color Guard Flag Carriers

Assigned as VNVDV Members
Arrive

Muster 12:00 Veterans Bldg.
Main Street Pleasanton



SPEAKER for the OCTOBER 1ST DINNER meeting will be a Representative



of the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office. An update of Veterans Benefits and Policies will be provided to include a question and answer period.

Your presence matters. When we stand together, we show our community that the service and sacrifices of **Vietnam Veterans** remain visible, valued, and worthy of remembrance. We also demonstrate to younger generations what duty, courage, loyalty, and resilience look like in real life.

The pop-up museum is more than a display of photographs, uniforms, medals, documents, and memorabilia. It is a living classroom. It gives families, students, neighbors, and fellow veterans a chance to see our history up close and to hear the human stories behind the artifacts. Every item shared and every memory spoken helps preserve the truth of our service for those who did not live through that time.

I encourage you not only to attend, but also to bring your family, invite a friend, and encourage neighbors to join us. Our organization has a responsibility to keep these memories alive, and that responsibility is strongest when we carry it together.

Stay safe and healthy,

Dennis

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



NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2027 VNVDV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President **Dennis Giacobelli** selected our 2026/2027 Nomination Committee. Dennis selected the very experienced Past President **Jim Hill** Chair and **Dave Smith** to assist in the selection of our new & future leaders & potential Board Members & Committee Chairs. We encourage all **VNVDV members** to find out more about the organization and the various positions available. **VOLUNTEERING in a leadership position can be EXTREMELY REWARDING PERSONALLY!** Find out **more... if** you have any questions about any position or the duties of any Board Positions please contact Jim (jamauihill@yahoo.com) or Dave (dejsmith1@comcast.net). Elections are held at our Annual Meeting in the month of November by Ballot.

***YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!***

**VETERANS DAY VMB
EXHIBIT 2025**

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

VETERANS DAY

The Service Ends,
The Commitment Continues

THANK YOU
VETERANS

★ REMEMBER | HONOR | RESPECT ★



Save the Date



November 3, 2026 | 11 A.M.
1025 Escobar Street,
1st Floor, Martinez, CA 94553

Made with AI

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

AFTER BREAKFAST VISIT THE VETERANS DAY EXHIBITS DOWNSTAIRS

You are invited to the 10th Annual

VETERANS PANCAKE

BREAKFAST

Hosted by the

Danville Town Council

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

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

7:30 – 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**



SEPTEMBER 2026 VNVDV DINNER MEETING



Exchange Club Remembers 9/11 25TH Anniversary at AWM



Hot Summer Sundays Car Show



Nominations Open for Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley 2027 Officers & Board of Directors Election at November 5th Meeting

Nominations are OPEN for 2027 Officers & Directors - as announced at the September Membership Dinner Meeting & mentioned in the INCOMING News. President Dennis Giacobelli appointed Past President Jim Hill Chair of the Recruitment & Nomination Committee for 2027. He also appointed Dave Smith to serve as official member of the 2027 committee for the Election of Officers & Directors for the VNVDV. Past President Jim Hill expressed he is *looking for a few good men...* to serve on the Board in 2027. The President needs a solid team behind him... so all members are encouraged to find out more about these positions from any of these Past President... **Mike Weber**. The Official Ballots will be distributed at the November 5th dinner meeting with the names of those nominated to-date. You can nominate yourself - or members can nominate other current members in good standing. Any election questions about the "responsibilities" of each office should be directed to any of these three members of the election committee. **Elections/Voting (turning in your written ballot)** will be held at the General Membership Meeting on **Thursday - November 5, 2026**. Ballots may also be returned by mail to the VNVDV official mailing address. All "mailed ballots" must be "completed in full" and received no later than **November 19, 2026** to be counted in the final results. Election results will be announced by the President & Election Committee at the **December meeting** & announced in the *Incoming* electronic newsletter.

The 2026 Election is for the 2027 VNVDV Officers & Board of Directors positions listed:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

Director of Public Relations

Director of Membership

Director of Events

Director At Large

Director of Information

Director of Procurement

Director of Speakers

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

President Dennis Giacobelli previously indicated there are many enjoyable positions to serve - making a difference in the direction of this amazing organization and he strongly encourages all members to consider joining the 2027 team which he promises will be another fun & exciting year. Our events & activities are so varied... there is truly something for everybody! You can make a difference. Join the team.

CRAB FEED 2027 WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 14TH
THERE WILL BE A SILENT AUCTION FOR THE 2027 CRAB FEED
DONATIONS FOR THE AUCTION AND GIFT CARDS ARE REQUESTED FROM MEMBERS



Gift Cards can be brought to our Dinner Meetings and Ed Baffico will collect them at the check-in table.

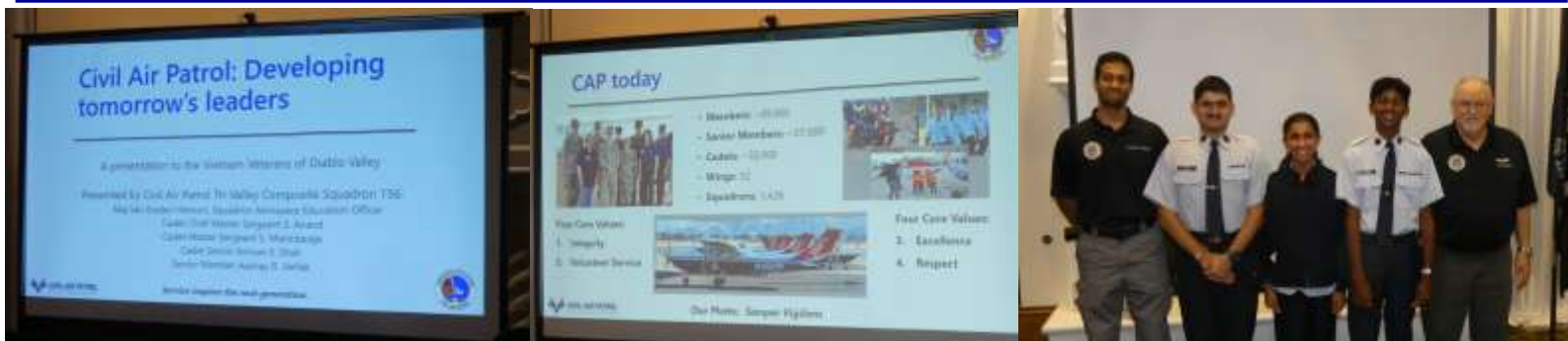
Gift Cards and Donations from Supporters and Local Businesses are an essential contributor to the Crab Feed success.



VIET NAM VETERANS DIABLO VALLEY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Jim Murphy	Navy	Jon Robbins	Ar my
James Handlin	Ar my	Bob Sada	Air Force
John Reese	Navy	Patti Wernet	Ar my
Jerry Yahiro	Ar my	Phil Butler	Navy
Gary Slattengren	Navy	Henry Fanger	Navy
David Behring	Honorary	Robert Mitchell	Marine
Pat Leary	Ar my	Les Chakurian	Ar my
Mike Huntsman	Navy	Roy Warner	Navy
Joe Callaway	Ar my	Patty Chew	Ar my
Juan Kelly	Ar my	Dave Smith	Air Force
Jeff Jewell	Air Force	Tony Bettencourt	Ar my
Mark Heineman	Ar my	Robert Joplin	Ar my

Thanks to the September Speaker Van Henson and members from the Tri-Valley Composite Squadron 156 of the Civil Air Patrol for their presentation discussing their mission and programs: Service Inspires the Next Generation.



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

Mike Weber
925.487.7609
mike@mikeweberrealtor.com



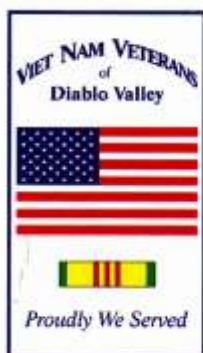
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Contact Procurement Director John "T.J." Trujillo for White VNVDV Hats and Shirts, part of the VNVDV uniform for the Fourth of July Parade.

**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 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 Commemoration -
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 | Defining
HEALTH CARE | **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



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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GAS



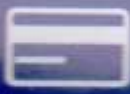
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Official Mailing Address:

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 Giacobelli

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

John "T. J." Trujillo

PUBLIC RELATIONS

John "Jgr" Reese

WEBSITE

Chelle Clements

Jonathan "JON" Robbins

Director of Information

Editor / Publisher "INCOMING" News

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

Keep your e-mail address current please!

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

www.VNVDV.org



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

The VNVDV meets monthly on the **1st Thursday** of every month at the **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!*

PAST PRESIDENTS

Jim Hill

Steve Burchik

Dennis Giacobelli

Gary Estrella

William "Bill" Green

Ray La Rochelle

Michael Slattengren

Jerry Yahiro

John Estes

Del Loewe

Tim Hart

Mike Weber

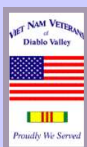
Mike McDaniel

Rich Lambert

Ron Azarcon

Bill Picton

Norm Mahalich



DINNER MEETING
THURSDAY - OCTOBER 1ST
BRIDGES GOLF CLUB SAN RAMON
5 PM SOCIAL 6 PM DINNER
DINNER COST WILL BE \$35

After Buffet Dinner - A Featured Speaker!

"INCOMING" News - Official Newsletter of the VNVDV