



VMB NEWSLETTER

400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA 94526
www.vmbsrv.org

925-362-9806
Summer 2019

Saturday Morning Coffee

Join your fellow Veterans for coffee, sweets and camaraderie every Saturday morning from 9:00 till noon. Relax in the Veteran's Lounge and patio.



Docent Volunteer Program

The Docent Volunteer Program at the VMB is a rewarding and important opportunity to help our community understand the history of our United States Military. Volunteers are needed for short 3 hour shifts, a couple times per month



VMB put on 6th annual Docent Recognition Brunch this past January. All were treated to a breakfast cooked by Dennis and Slatts. Our Board Chair Ron Lowe, presented Dick Seavey with the 4th Art Gaskins Docent of the Year Plaque; Bob Wright, Dick Seavey, Ray LaRoche, and Ron Huesman received Special Gold Certificates for exceeding 100 volunteer hours as well as presidential certificates and a challenge coin; and Certificates of appreciation were awarded to all of our other docents.



Lee Halverson being presented with the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce **"Citizen of the Year for 2018"**, award by Mayor Robert Storer and Assyswoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan in addition to a plaque from the town and certificate from the State of California



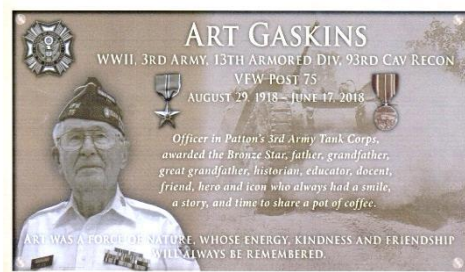
Rest in Peace

Arthur Allen Gaskins

8/29/1918 – 6/17/2018



Last year we lost our good friend and mentor, Art Gaskins, MAJ U.S. Army. Art was the head docent, a smiling greeter, a fabulous teacher, a coffee server on Saturdays and maker of the best beans this side of the Mississippi



Swearing-in Ceremony 2019



American Legion Post 246 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 75 along with the VMB Operating Committee, hosted the 2019 Military Recruit Swearing-in Ceremony on May 19th with parents and family of the recruits as special guests. The swearing-in of five Marine Corps recruits and one Navy recruit (all from our five local high Schools) was conducted by Major Clinton Hall USMC. In addition, four Military Academy appointees, two entering the Naval Academy, one entering the Air Force Academy, and one entering the US Merchant Marine Academy, were recognized. Shown in picture is also Allan Cruz the M.C. and Ron Lowe presenting VMB Challenge Coins to each attendee.

Corned Beef and Cabbage Fundraiser for VMB 2019

On Saturday March 15th the VMB Operating Committee held it's fifth annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner fundraiser. A good time was had by all and money was raised to continue the operations of the Veterans Wing of the VMB.



Library and Historical Collection Committee's New Acquisitions

Elaborate Sailor's Souvenir

between roughly 1885 and 1915 American sailors visiting the orient could obtain beautiful needlework embroideries on shore, with patriotic American Themes, mementos of a long voyage, usually bought as a gift for a loved one. The piece is elaborately embroidered in silk thread on a silk background. The 43 star flags place it being made in the year 1890



The **M1917 Enfield**, the "American Enfield", formally named "**United States Rifle, cal .30, Model of 1917**" is an American modification and production of the British .303 caliber rifle (listed in British Service as Rifle No. 3) developed and manufactured during the period 1917–1918. Upon our entry into WWI, the US had only enough M1903 "Springfield" rifles to equip about 10% of our infantry units. So we adopted and modified a British rifle (that we were already manufacturing at Remington, Winchester and Eddystone for Britain) for our 30-06 caliber cartridges. Numerically, it was the main rifle used by the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe during World War I. The Danish Army still uses the M1917, which performs reliably in Greenland/Arctic conditions, as their service weapon.



Veterans Day (Weekend) Museum November 2018

Once again the Library and Historical Collections Committee pulled out all the stops, filling the main hall and both streets with educational exhibits and hands-on vehicles. The themes this year were the 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and the 100th Anniversary of the ending of WWI. A special ceremony was held on November 11th at 11:00 am, the exact time of the signing of the Armistice ending World War I in 1918 that included poems, bell ringing and moment of silence.



Storming the Hill

On April 10th approximately 175 MOAA chapter members from around the US represented active duty, reservists, veterans and their families by visiting many of the 535 members of Congress or *Storming the Hill*. Fifteen minute appointments were made with the focus to discuss three major topics – Tricare, Survivor Benefits and benefits for the career span of military members. Patty Warnett was fortunate to attend and visited the offices of 8 California Representatives. Six other MOAA members from California visited or left information for another 50 offices.



BANNCA - Bay Area Navy Nurse Corps Association
At our recent meeting aboard the USS Hornet, Alameda: Members and guests enjoyed a catered lunch on the covered fantail; honored the CO and leaders of US Naval Sea Cadets Corps, Grey Ghost Division; and toured the historic ship including BANNCA's donations of artifacts, uniforms, and our sponsorship signage.

Upcoming Events

MCL Det 942 will be conducting another annual Italian Dinner evening to celebrate Columbus Day on Sunday October 13, 2019. Tickets are available, see Lee Halverson.

Several VSO members will be going the VietNam with the wheelchair program in late October and early November, hence the VMB will not be conducting a pop-up museum at the building for Veterans Day. American Legion Post will take over the venue for that weekend with their 100th anniversary of the American Legion.



**MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED
IN THIS YEAR'S FUNDRAISER AT**

Gianni's
ITALIAN BISTRO

**TIPS FOR CHANGE EVENT ON MONDAY
AUGUST 12, 2019. THROUGH YOUR GENOROSITY,
WE RAISED JUST UNDER \$4,000 FOR THE VMB.**



Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley

400 Hartz Ave. Danville, CA 94526
925-362-9806 vmbsrv.org
Open M-F 9:00 – 3:00 Sat 9:00 – 12:00

American Legion Post 246

Eric Ardell, Commander EArdell@aol.com
americanlegionpost246.org

Monthly lunch meeting at Veterans Memorial Building
First Wednesday of each month at 12:00.

Marine Corps League Det. 942

Allan Cruz, Commander AllanFPCruz@aol.com
mcl942.org

Monthly meeting 4th Saturday at 9:00

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 75

Michael Regan, Commander mwregan@gmail.com
www.VFWpost75.org

Monthly meeting at Veterans Memorial Building Third
Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley

Gary Estrella, President gamastar6@aol.com
vnvdiv.com

Monthly Dinner meeting 1st Thursday of each month at
Crow Canyon Country Club, 5:00 – 9:00.

Board meetings 3rd Thursday of each month @VMB

Blue Star Moms Chapter 101

Stacy Nigro SLittle12@live.com

General meetings are on the second Wednesday of every
month 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the VMB

Military Order of the World Wars

Gary Pforr, Commander Pforr@comcast.net

Military Officers Assoc. of America

Patty Wernet, President PattyWernet@hotmail.com

General meetings are on the 2nd Monday of each month.
Board meeting @ 4:00, general meeting 5:00-7:00 at the
Veterans Memorial Building

Bay Area Navy Nurse Corps Assoc.

Lorrie Sammons, President bannca@nnca.org

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Assoc.

Anthony Gonzales, Azales66@yahoo.com