



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 3, 2021

Scheduled Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: South Metro Fire and Rescue Building, Meeting Rooms 1 & 2

Meeting called to order by President Lee White at 9:00 AM

Meeting Topics

1. Welcome to the meeting by President Lee White and to our new meeting room
2. Invocation Prayer by Chaplain Garry Turks and Moment of Silence
 - Prayers for the Chapter meeting members as we conduct our business
 - Prayers for those still MIA and POW
 - Prayers for those in need and for those sick and shut-ins
3. Pledge of Allegiance (all): lead by Lee White
4. POW/MIA Chair Presentation by Milt Omoto and Moment of Silence (for all our MIA and POW)
5. Board Member Roll Call

Officers and Board Members Present Roll Call: Officers: Lee White (President), Dave Lyons (Vice President), Mike Huber (Treasurer), Milt Omoto (Secretary); Board Members Present: Tom Werzyn, Reverend Garry Turks, Ron Smith, Dan Green, John Vargas

Absences: Patti Ehline

6. Members in Attendance (from sign-in sheets)

Diane Graham, Claudia Hunter, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Siltham Smith, Leann Stelzer, Alvin Arrowood, Bill Cheyne, Bob Crago, Joe Dempsey, Bob Easter, Richard Eisenberg, Dan Green, Jim Henderson, Mike Huber, Jack Hunter, Alan Jaffe, Mike Karsh, Roger Lanphier, Marvin Lich, Rod Lillpop, Dave Lyons, Bob Mallin, Jim McGrevey, Tony Nickerson, Milt Omoto, Gary Palka, Joe Plant, Clarence Rebolledo, Bob Rotruck, Rob Senatore, John Sheadel, Ron Smith, Gary Steinhoff, Garry Turks, John Vargas, Dan Wagle, Wendell Wallace, Tom Werzyn, Gary Weston, Lee White, John Williams



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7. Introduction and Recognition of Guests and New Members

Rod Lillpop (new members), Dale Creason (Army), Jean Jaffe (AVVA), Troy Kenney, Wayne Buser, Vieng Vongsakoun, Robin Bernal (AA), Ken Gillon, Tom Schultz, Lew Wood (Army), Bridget Murphy, Harry Montgomery

8. Chapter Meeting Minutes Approval

Minutes of the June 2021 Chapter Membership meeting were emailed to each member.

Motion 1. Motion to approve the VVA Chapter 1106 Minutes dated June 5, 2021, as transcribed, made by David Lyons and second by Tom Werzyn; the minutes were approved.

9. Special Presentations

Bridget Murphy, Chapter scholarship winner, read her essay about women who served in war theaters; 90 percent were nurses who worked 12-hour shifts six days a week to provide support to field hospitals; the strength of character and caring attitude of female Vietnam War veterans displayed and set the precedent for how America should be.

Robin Bernal, Colorado Alcoholics Anonymous, introduced Tom and Ken who shared their experiences with AA, an 80-year old organization that helps a person change their behavior about drinking; the 12 Traditions keeps a person's progress alive; for more information, go to coloradoAA.org.

Special Presentations

- Litta Plant-Schaper was presented with a Recognition Award for her continuous support to Chapter 1106 and its members; thank you Litta!
- Mike Karsh was awarded a Recognition Award for his efforts in leading the Chapter's Scholarship Committee for many years; thank you Mike!

10. President's Report: Lee White

- The Chapter will participate in this year's Highlands Ranch Fourth of July Parade; members are encouraged to participate in the parade; there will be several vehicles for those who cannot walk the 1.1 mile route;
- Lee stated that the Chapter has an In Memoriam plaque of members who have passed; it will be displayed at every meeting;
- The last Chapter Board meeting was held June 26th;
- The Chapter's Necessities Drive was a success with over 400 pounds of items donated to the Help and Hope Center of Castle Rock;
- Members are encouraged to participate in the King Soopers Community Rewards Program by linking their Rewards Card to our Chapter; the Chapter received quarterly checks from this program;



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- The Poppy Drive which was rescheduled to July 10th will be rescheduled again once we can secure King Soopers locations to setup tables at select stores;
- We have a Board position opening; if anyone would like to be considered for the Board, please contact President Lee White; we also need committee members for those committees that have lost members due to relocations;
- We need a volunteer who can pick-up coffee for monthly membership meetings and take care of this important function; Dave Lyons will continue to handle cookies and donuts;

11. Vice President's Report: Dave Lyons

- Contact Dave if you would like to volunteer at the Wall That Heals, City of Brighton, September 3 through 5, 2021; You can also sign-up on the City's website.

12. Treasurer's Report: Mike Huber

- Mike reported that four checks to the schools of this year's scholarship winners have been mailed to each school
- Mike reported on the Chapter's financial status.

13. Secretary's Report: Milt Omoto

Nothing to report.

14. Board and Committee Reports

- a) Social Committee, John Vargas
 - John said a farewell to Mike Karsh who will be moving to Las Vegas;
 - Reminded that the Chapter Summer picnic is August 14, 2021 in Highlands Ranch;
 - Reported that we will be having a caravan on July 9th to honor Michelle Mallin who is bedridden from cancer; the caravan will drive by her house and her husband Dean will help her to the window to see us;
- b) Veterans Emergency Assistance, Joe Plant. Joe reported that the committee assists veterans to get off the street by providing initial rent deposits and possibly late rent payments; the committee works with HUD-VASH; they may get contacted by them, the VA or City of Denver; the committee spends \$12,000 to \$15,000 annually to help homeless veterans and those in need; in June four veterans were assisted;
- c) Events, Ron Smith. Ron reported that plans are underway to have a second trip to the Dragon Man Military Museum in Colorado Springs; a show of hands showed interest in the trip; the museum will provide a tour; most likely date is a Friday (July 30); we must be there by 9:45AM to pay and be ready for the tour; the tour takes 2-hours and cost \$20/person; we can all meet at the Safeway parking lot in Castle Rock as we did the last time;
- d) Color Guard, Dan Green reported that they will participate in the opening ceremony at the Wall That Heals in Brighton in September; Dan also stated that the new Commander of the Color Guard is Tony Nickerson;
- e) Tom Werzyn reported that Cherry Creek School District has scheduled the military and veteran's appreciation football game and event for September; the Chapter's Color Guard



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- will participate in the event; the parallel Voices for Colorado Veterans, a 501(c)(3) organization is now official and next steps are being formulated;
- f) Chaplain's Office, Garry Turks. Chaplain Garry will continue to fight for and support veterans in need; Chaplain will continue to make his Buddy Check calls as well as Chaplain Calls to all Chapter members;
 - g) Membership, Dave Lyons. VVA National has a total of 88,063 regular members and 9,894 Associate Members; we lost 116 members and 4 AVVA members; there are 513 with dual membership (Regular and Associate); the average size of a Chapter is 111; Chapter 1106 is over 200 members (!);
 - h) Voices for Veterans (no report)
 - i) Grants and Fundraising, Milt Omoto. Please continue to participate in the King Soopers Rewards program; if you shop at King Soopers, and have a rewards card, please be sure to register your Rewards card by linking it to our Chapter; you will know you are properly registered when you see "Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1106" at the bottom of your receipt; please continue to support the VVA household goods program with your donation of clothing and household items; you can schedule a pickup online or by phone;
 - j) Webmaster and Newsletter, Bob Rotruck. Bob continues to seek articles and items of interest for the Chapter newsletters;
 - k) Speakers Bureau, Tom Werzyn. Tom reported that the Speakers Bureau will continue to contact schools for speaking opportunities; the committee can use new members;
 - l) Scholarship Committee, Jim Marcelle. Jim will be taking over the Committee with the relocation of Mike Karsh;
 - m) Government Legislative Activities, Tony Nickerson. Tony reported on current legislation for the 117th US Congress; there are 91 veteran related bills in the House and Senate; interestingly, there are 28 Democratic and 63 Republican veterans serving; 43 veteran bills have gone through the House and Senate; they include an Amendment to Title 38 for hyperbaric oxygen therapy, homeless veteran support, providing a year supply of contraceptive products, and eliminating certain co-pays; in Colorado, a bill to allow license plates for disabled veterans passed, as well as a bill that established a program to reduce veteran suicides, and a mobile veteran support program for veterans with any discharge status living in remote areas.
 - n) Chapter Promotional Items, Litta Plant- Schaper. Litta stated that Chapter promotional items are available for purchase at each meeting.

15. Roundtable

- a) Jack Hunter. Pictures of members for the picture boards can be taken at every meeting if you haven't had your picture taken; Jack also continuously updates the sign-in sheets;
- b) Roger Lanphier asked if any members participated in the Cuban Missile Crisis; interestingly, a few members did;
- c) Several veteran organizations including the VFW are working to have the 74 sailors who lost their lives on the USS Frank E. Evans after a collision with the carrier Melbourne to be on the Wall;
- d) Rich Eisenburg stated that the Mission Act allows veterans three visits annually for care outside of the VA system; for example, if you need to go to urgent care, show your VA card



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to get care; Tony Nickerson cautioned that you must track expenditures and notify the VA within 72-hours of a visit; not following the rules can cost you out of pocket.

16. 50/50 Drawing. \$58.00 was won by Allen Jaffee and his wife Jean
Also auctioned was a Chapter windbreaker that went to the highest bidder, Allen Jaffee.
17. Membership in Sickness or in Need of Support
 - a) Please continue to keep Michelle Mallin in your prayers;
 - b) Please pray for Richard Lewis (broken hip), Mark Nickel, and Jack Paulson for healing;
 - c) Please let Chaplain Garry Turks know of members who are ill or in need of support.
18. Schedule
 - a) The next Chapter Board Meeting is scheduled for July 24th at 9:00AM via Zoom;
 - b) The next Chapter Member Meeting is Saturday, August 7th, “live” at the South Metro Fire and Rescue Building; our guest speaker will present on the Veterans Treatment Court;
 - c) All member meetings will continue to be held in our new meeting location (Meeting Rooms 1 & 2) through the end of the year.

The Next Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2021 at 9:00AM – Live!

The membership meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections by President Lee White at 10:45 AM

This Chapter Membership Meeting minutes is submitted by Milt Omoto, Chapter Secretary.

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Circulation Notice: These minutes may contain sensitive and/or personal information; therefore, please use discretion when sharing this information with non-VVA members. Note that this is the web version of the minutes posted to the Chapter’s website.