



Membership Meeting Minutes

Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 1106

May 5, 2018

Location: South Metro Denver Fire and Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Ave., Centennial, CO 80112

Meeting called to order at 9:03 AM by President Lee White

Board Members Present: Lee White, Bob Easter, John Vargas, Patti Ehline, Joe Plant, Milt Omoto, Dave Lyons, Glen Payne, Tom Werzyn

Members Present: Samuel Anderson, Donna Chaney, Roger Edwards, Dan Graham, Dan Green, Leo Greunke, Ted Hanfelder, Warren Harrison, Jack Hunter, Mike Karsh, Peggy Kelly, Roger Lanphier, Bob Larson, Bob Lee, Marvin Lich, Jerry Liechti, Larry Majors, Bob Mallin, Donald McNeely Sr., Tony Nickerson, Bob Palmi, Jack Paulsen, Clarence Rebolledo, Steve Robertson, Bob Rotruck, Hazel Simeon, Jim Williams, John Williams, David Woods, Ed Woodson, and Jack Wright.

Associate Member: Kari Liechti, Dee Lyons, Barbara Rotruck, Suzanne Sigona, Jim Williams,

Guests and New Members Present: Mike Gorman, Andy Bechart, Heather Reck, John Sheadel, Lew Roman, Member Chapter 1071

Invocation and Prayer given by Hazel Simeon

Pledge of Allegiance by all

Moment of Silence for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those who are still MIA

Minutes from the April 7th, 2018 VVA Meeting were approved.

Motion made by Mike Karsh and 2nd by John Vargas.

Presentation of Commemorative 50th Anniversary Vietnam Veteran pin presented by Suzanne Sigona to: David Woods, John Sheadel, and Clarence Rebolledo.

Speaker was introduced by Bob Rotruck. Heather Reck spoke about her Mental Health Counselor practice at **Brite Beginnings Psychotherapy and Grief Recovery**—an equine-assisted therapy for trauma victims, including PTSD. brite-beginnings.com heather@brite-beginnings.com

Lee White's President's Report:

- Poppy Drive: Volunteers needed for Poppy Drive at food stores on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 26th.
Meeting Veterans, gaining membership and gathering donations are outcomes of the Poppy Drive Events on Memorial weekend and Veteran's Day each year. Five (5) teams were organized for the five locations where VVA 1106 will be for the Poppy Drive this May 26th from 9 AM to 1 PM.
- A new VVA "start-up" chapter has begun in Loveland.
- Tom Werzyn, Milt Omoto and Lee White are attending a VVA Leadership Conference in Palm Springs, CA on July 24-28, 2018.
- We will participate in the Highlands Ranch July 4th Parade, like we did last year. Volunteers are welcome to ride with us. We need military vehicles or convertible cars to ride in the parade.
- We are going to be starting a new committee: a Government Affairs Committee.

Bob Easter gave the Vice Presidents Report as well as the Speakers Bureau report:

- The Speakers Bureau is growing in events with members speaking to High School classes last month and next month.
- Tom Wertzyn spoke of the progress in getting presentation opportunities for the Speakers Bureau.

Treasures Report was given by Joe Plant.

Secretary Report by Glen Payne: In addition to the Meeting Minutes, he has been assisting the Scholarship Committee in soliciting Scholarship Applicants.

- Mike Karsh, Co-chair of Scholarship Committee discussed contacting all the schools again about soliciting Applicants. The schools told us the student procrastinate and we could expect Applicants on the final date, May 15.

Treasurer Report by Joe Plant: The Veterans Assistance Program the chapter offers support to veterans who need assistance. In the last two months, we have assisted seven (7) veterans with food and rent.

Webmaster and Newsletter Chairman, Bob Rotruck spoke about Name Tags for the meeting and request content for the News Letter. VVA1106.org is our website.

Milt Omoto reported that our VVA Chapter recently received a \$250.00 grant. We have a new Calendar of Events posted on the website. He spoke of the VVA Household Goods collection service. Our chapter received \$783.00 this past month from that VVA Household Goods collection program. The Household Goods program is managed by national VVA.

Patti Ehline gave her directors report:

Patti keeps up-to-date on issues of Veterans Administration, PTSD, Women Veterans, Agent Orange and Mental Health.

- VA.gov/Denver is turning into a great website for local information.
- Voices for Veterans has a Twitter feed now to talk to the VA and get responses.
- She discussed issues of aging, like being aware of falls and causes of falls.
- She discussed the need for smoke alarms and a plan for what to do in case of a fire in your home.

Membership Committee, Dave Lyons, Chairperson:

- Dave reported we now have 102 total chapter members and 23 associate members for a total of 126 members in our chapter. Nationally, the VVA has 82,928 members.

Social Committee report by John Vargas:

- June 3rd is the next Baseball tickets for Rockies game.
- June 23rd Trip planned to Pueblo Aircraft Museum
- Hazel Simeon discussed the August 18th trip to Fruita Vietnam Veterans Memorial is planned. Please make your hotel reservations soon.

Roundtable Discussion:

Jack Hunter discussed VA hospital Tours prior to the official opening.

Lew Roman discussed the Bloomfield Veteran Museum.

Bob Palmi discussed the Healing Waters Fly Fishing program for Veterans.

Suzanne Sigona discussed the Honor Flight to the Wall for Vietnam Veterans.

Meeting dismissed by Lee White at 10:33 AM.

Next Meeting is Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 9:00AM