



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

## Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 6, 2023

Scheduled Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: South Metro Fire & Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

Meeting called to order by President David Lyons at 9:00 AM

### Meeting Topics

1. Welcome to the meeting by President David Lyons
2. Invocation Prayer by Chaplain Garry Turks
  - Prayer for our Chapter 1106 members
  - Prayer for our members and family members who are sick and are shut-in
  - Prayers for today's Membership meeting
  - Guidance for our meeting today and for President Layon's leadership

3. Pledge of Allegiance (all)

4. POW/MIA Chair Presentation by Dan Green and Moment of Silence

Moment of Silence for those still POW/MIA and for Chapter members who have passed

5. In Memoriam for Chapter members Benjamin Wolf and Gary Steinhoff

6. Board Member Roll Call

Officers and Board Members Present Roll Call: Officers: David Lyons (President), Milt Omoto (Vice President), Mike Huber (Treasurer); Board Members Present: Reverend Garry Turks (Chaplain), Joe Plant, Patti Ehline, Joe Dempsey, Joe Robinson, Tom Werzyn; Litta Plant-Schaper (AVVA Liaison)

Excused: Sally Eaves, John Vargas

7. Members in Attendance (from sign-in sheets and on-line)

Mike Karsh, Alice Boswell, Ita Dempsey, Diane Graham, Claudia Hunter, Dora Plant, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Jai Smith, Vieng Vongsakoun, Jim Williams, Bruce Arndt, Jim Blumberg, Don Boswell, Mike Burzynski, Wayne Buser, Donna Chaney, Bill Clark, Tony Croce, Rockie Cuppari, Charles Daldry, David Dawson, Joe Dempsey, Bob Easter, Patti Ehline, Alan Elbert, Craig Fagerness, Barry Fiore, Dan Green, Leo Greunke, Lou Grounds, Ted Hanfelder, Warren Harrison, Jim



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Henderson, Mike Huber, Jack Hunter, Roger Lanphier, Cliff Lawson, Bob Lee, Walter Leuci, Chuck Luley, David Lyons, Jesse Maldonado, Bob Mallin, Jim Marcille, Jim Martindale, Harry Montgomery, Milt Omoto, Gary Palka, Ed Phillips, Joe Plant, Tom Puckett, Randy Reed, Steve Robertson, Joseph Robinson, Dean Rollins, Juan Romero, Bob Rotruck, Carl Sanchez, John Sheadel, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Phil Snyder, Wain Stowe, Michael Tarby, Garry Turks, Dan Wagle, Tom Werzyn, Gary Weston, Lee White, John Williams, Lew Wood, Ed Woodson, David Yates

*Note: If your name does not appear on this list but you were there, that is because you did not sign-in*

The above list includes all on-line attendees

8. Recognition of new members and guests (including members who have not attended in a while)

Guests Miranda and Don Cullen (daughter of Gary Steinhoff); DAR members

9. Special Presentation: Guest Presentation: Brenda Standke, Regent, Toll Gate Creek Chapter DAR, Meaghan Sweeney, Vice Regent, Lynne Evans, National Chair, Myra Meverden, DAR Service to Veterans Chapter Chair, Louetta Smith, DAR Service to Veterans Chair, Colorado State Society,

The representatives from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented the Vietnam War Commemoration Pin and certificate to members who signed-up; they also presented an Honorary Partner Distinction flag to President David Lyons for the Chapter

10. Member Biography (3-5 minutes)

At each monthly meeting we will feature a member who will give a brief background of him or herself. This month, Bob Mallin presented his background, military experience in Viet Nam as a field medical officer, and his post military civilian life and practice.

11. President's Report (David Lyons)

1. Our Memorial Day weekend Poppy Drive is Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>; we need a new leader for LZ3, location is the King Soopers at 25701 E. Smokey Hill Road (Smokey Hill & Arapahoe); the King Soopers at this location has been secured
2. We will again have Quilts of Valor present quilts to 15 of our Chapter members at our June Membership meeting
3. The Chapter is conducting a food drive for collection of non-perishable foods for the Volunteers Of America Bill Daniels Veteran Services Center's food bank; when Patti delivered clothing donated by the Steinhoff family, she noticed a very low supply of foods; if you donate four or more cans of food, you get a free raffle ticket! Bring your non-perishable food donation to the June Membership meeting
4. "Big Tony" Project: Presentation of the American flag to those families who did not receive one upon the passing of their veteran family member during the Covid pandemic; this event is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM at Bandimere Speedway (C-470 in Morrison); we need Chapter members in yellow shirts to attend; the event will be recorded and televised
5. David will need help folding 50 American flags for the Bandimere event; please contact David to volunteer; Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at his home



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12. Vice President's Report (Milt Omoto)

1. Milt Omoto presented a check to Barry Fiore of the Forgotten Heros Campaign for their continued support of veterans who never received a medal they earned, or had their medals lost or stolen; this organization will acquire medals and present them to the veteran in a formal ceremony
2. Please continue to support the King Soopers Community Rewards Program by linking your rewards account to Chapter 1106

13. Treasurer's Report (Mike Huber)

Treasurer Mike Huber reported on the current fiscal state of the Chapter.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made and seconded; the Treasurer's report was approved by a majority

14. Secretary's Report (Milt Omoto for Sally Eaves)

Chapter meeting minutes are emailed to all members; minutes are also posted on the Chapter website;

Motion to approve the VVA Chapter 1106 Minutes dated April 1, 2023, made and the Minutes were approved

15. Board Member and Committee Reports

1. Membership (Lee White for Dale Creason). Lee reported that there are 84,790 regular VVA members and 10,330 AVVA members; 156 members were lost and 176 new members were gained; the Chapter has 193 regular members and 43 AVVA members
2. Veterans Emergency Assistance Program (Joe Plant). Joe reported that the Chapter's Veteran Emergency Fund assisted 9 veterans in April at a cost of \$2,777.50
3. Chaplain's Report (Reverend Garry Turks). Chaplain Garry expressed his appreciation for all the prayers and cards he received while he was out ill; he reported that he is recovered and is well; he stressed the importance of Buddy Calls to maintain contact with each member; he has a long list of sick and shut-in members but thankfully no hospitalizations; he and Chaplain Loni were available after the meeting should anyone request prayers
4. Government Affairs (Tony Nickerson). Absent
5. Speaker's Bureau (Tom Werzyn). Tom reported that there is currently no activity with the Speaker's Bureau
6. Grants and Fundraising (Milt Omoto). Milt stated to please continue to support the VVA Household Goods program by donating your used clothing and unwanted household goods; you can schedule a pickup online and they will come to your home and pick up the items
7. Chapter Events Coordinator (Joe Robinson). Joe reported that the WWII Aviation Museum tour is on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in Colorado Springs; CPR Training is available at the VA on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 12:00; this presentation is for veterans' caregivers; however, veterans are invited; if there is strong interest with veterans, they are willing to schedule separate CPR training classes for veterans with 10 or more in attendance for each class



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8. Scholarship Committee (Gary Weston). Gary reported that the Scholarship Committee received 9 scholarship applications; the Committee will review each entry and make a decision on the winning six students; the Chapter is awarding six \$2,000 scholarships
  9. Social Committee (John Vargas). Absent
  10. Promotional Items (Joe Dempsey). Joe stated that they have shirts available for sale; also, that AVVA products are on order
  11. Voices for Veterans (Warren Harrison). NAMI Colorado Walk, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Centennial Center Park, 13050 E Peakview Ave., Centennial, CO 80112; Voices for Colorado Veterans Mental Health Council has regular online meetings that everyone is invited to attend
  12. Veteran Health, PTSD, Women Veterans (Patti Ehline). Patti encouraged members to join the Voices for Colorado Veterans Mental Health Council's monthly online meetings; she reported that when she was at the Bill Daniel's Veterans Center dropping off donated clothing, she noticed that they are very low on non-perishable foods; Patti encouraged members to complete your screening under the PACT Act to ensure all your military related conditions are recorded; you should do it before August 10, 2023; the Act expands Health Care, Benefits, and Services for Military Environmental Exposures; Patti recognized AVVA members who made blankets that were donated to Sky Ridge Medical Center
  13. Webmaster and Newsletter (Bob Rotruck). Bob stated that the July/August newsletter is progressing and requests articles and items to include; he also stated that if you want access the "Members Only" link on the Chapter's website, to contact him and he will send you the passcode
  14. Past President's Report (Lee White). Lee reported that we have a birthday cake today to celebrate first quarter birthdays; Lee recognized new Chapter members in attendance; the trip to the WWII Aviation museum is being finalized; there will be a guided tour starting at 10:00AM; members are encouraged to carpool
  15. AVVA Chapter Liaison (Litta Plant-Schaper). Litta stated that members who ordered a nametag can pick them up in the back; also, any member needing a name tag can sign the form in the back.
16. Roundtable
- a) Dan Green reported that the Chapter Color Guard will be at the NAMI Walk on May 13<sup>th</sup>; the Color Guard will also be at Wind Crest on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> for an event; member Tom Puckett stated that there are over 200 veterans residing at Wind Crest
  - b) Tom Werzyn stated that he has information on retrieving records from the National Archives; the CCSD Innovation Campus recently completed 5 tiny homes for the homeless
  - c) Dan Green also warned to not park in the Elks Club parking lot in Lakewood; they will ticket you with a \$82 ticket; park on the street
  - d) Jack Hunter reported that he will not be at the July meeting, but that Alex and Andrew will manage the audio system.
17. 50/50 Drawings (Ron Smith)
- The winner of today's 50/50 drawing donated the proceedings to Reverend Garry Turks for his continued service and ministry to Chapter members



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18. Announcements and Schedule

- a) NAMI Colorado Walk, Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> , Centennial Center Park, Centennial
- b) Trip to WWII Aviation Museum is Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>
- c) Presentation of the American flag at Bandimere Speedway is Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM
- d) The next scheduled Chapter Board Meeting is Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM, on-line
- e) The Memorial Day weekend Poppy Drive is Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM (various King Soopers locations)
- f) Colorado Freedom Memorial 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event, Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00AM to 2:00PM, 756 Telluride Street, Aurora
- g) The next Chapter Membership Meeting is Saturday, June 3, 2023 at 9:00 AM.

**The Next Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting is scheduled for June 3 at 9:00AM – Live at the South Metro Fire and Rescue Building, 9195 E Mineral Ave., Centennial, CO. Zoom capability will be provided to those who cannot attend the meeting in person.**

Please pray for our sick, shut-in and distressed members

The membership meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections by President David Lyons at 10:39 AM.

This Chapter Membership Meeting minutes is submitted by Milt Omoto for Sally Eaves

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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 meeting minutes posted to the Chapter's website.*