



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 8, 2022

Scheduled Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Fremont Building, 14603 E Fremont Ave., Centennial, CO 80112

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

Meeting Topics

1. Welcome to the meeting by President Lee White and Happy New Year!

2. Invocation Prayer by Chaplain Garry Turks and Moment of Silence

- Prayer for our members and family members who are sick and are shut-in
- Prayers for those in need
- Blessings on Chapter members

3. Pledge of Allegiance (all)

4. POW/MIA Chair Presentation by Milt Omoto and Moment of Silence

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

5. Board Member Roll Call

Officers and Board Members Present Roll Call: Officers: Lee White (President), Mike Huber (Treasurer), Milt Omoto (Secretary); Board Members Present: Reverend Garry Turks (Chaplain), Joe Plant, Patti Ehline, Joe Dempsey, Ron Smith, John Vargas, Tom Werzyn

Excused: David Lyons (Vice President)

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

Mike Karsh, Mike Messenger, Ita Dempsey, Claudia Hunter, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Leann Stelzer, Jim Williams, Bruce Arndt, Wayne Buser, Tony Croce, Steve Curti, Joe Dempsey, Bob Easter, Patti Ehline, Richard Eisenberg, Barry Fiore, Douglas Frasher, Dan Green, Leo Greunke, Mike Huber, Jack Hunter, Alan Jaffe, Roger Lanphier, Walter Leuci, Marvin Lich, Chuck Luley, Jim Marcille, James Martindale, Jim McGrevey, Harry Montgomery, Milt Omoto, Gary Palka, Ed Phillips, Joe Plant, Coy Ritchie, Bob Rotruck, Murry Sallenbach, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Jerome Springs, Gary Steinhoff, Mike Vallow, John Vargas, Dan Wagle, Wendell Wallace, Tom Werzyn, Gary Weston, John Williams



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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 on-line attendees

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

Michael Katich (new member)

8. Chapter Meeting Minutes Approval

Minutes for the December 4, 2021 Chapter Membership meeting were emailed to each member. Minutes are also posted on the Chapter website.

Motion 1. Motion to approve the VVA Chapter 1106 Minutes dated December 4, 2021, made by Joe Plant and second by Tom Werzyn; the minutes were approved.

9. Special Presentation Today: None

10. President's Report: Lee White

- Thank you to all members for the 2021 year; we got through it!
- Lee called on John Vargas who provided an appreciation to all who helped and supported the Chapter Holiday Lunch; everyone agreed that it was a very successful event; Congratulations to Member of the Year Jack Hunter and Associate Member of the Year Litta Plant-Schaper;
- John Vargas recognized Claudia Hunter for her continuing dedication and support of the Chapter; she was presented with red roses; thank you Claudia;
- Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser results (see Milt's report);
- Buddy Call List: Lee continues to work to reinstate the Buddy Calls; there is a need for four (4) more people willing to call 15 members monthly; this is an important activity for the Chapter to check on each member; this is also a way to keep member phone numbers and emails current; please see Lee to be a Buddy Call leader;
- Thank you to all who contributed to the Rick Eisenberg Sock Drive; donations will be given to various non-profit organizations (such as the Daniel's Veterans Center) and others; let John Vargas know of any other organization that should receive donated socks; the sock drive will continue into February;
- The Chapter's website will continually be updated with the latest information on monthly meeting locations; so far, we plan meet again at the CCSD Fremont Building for the February Chapter meeting; please keep in mind that meeting locations may change due to the current fluid COVID situation;
- Chapter elections will be held during the April meeting; anyone wishing to run for a Board position should contact Bob Rotruck, Elections Chairman;
- The Scholarship Committee is in need of an additional two (2) members; please see Gary Weston to be a part of that Committee;
- Charles Smith made a donation to the Chapter; Bob Mallin donated to the Scholarship fund.



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11. Vice President's Report: Dave Lyons

- Absent

12. Treasurer's Report: Mike Huber

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mike Huber;
- Scholarship Fund: anyone wishing to donate to the Scholarship Fund can indicate on their check that the amount is to be for that purpose;

Motion 2. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Bob Rotruck; the Treasurer's Report was approved.

14. Secretary's Report: Milt Omoto

- Meeting minutes are emailed to all Chapter members; they are also posted on the Chapter's website;
- Fundraising Event: Texas Roadhouse November Veterans Month results; the fundraiser was successful with the Chapter receiving gift cards from the restaurant as a result of customers supporting veterans; the Chapter will be presenting the restaurant with an appreciation plaque;
- The Chapter will again be receiving funds from the Dreiling Estate during the month of March; the fiscal year report will be submitted to the Estate Executor this month;

15. Board Member and Committee Reports

- a) Membership (David Lyons): Lee reported that the Chapter has 171 regular and 42 AVVA members; there are a total of 88,903 regular members and 9,877 Associate members nationwide;
- b) Veterans Emergency Assistance Program (Joe Plant): The Chapter assisted four veterans in the month of December, working with HUD-VASH to get them off the street; Joe stated that Chapter funds are used to pay the first rent for the veteran, utility payment and other urgent needs;
- c) Chaplain's Report (Rev. Garry Turks): Chaplain Turks continues to visit the sick and shut-in members; he visits with Rich Eisenberg regularly and with Sonny Gorsuch weekly; he reported that Sonny is not doing week; Garry continues with his Chaplain calls to Members, making 10 calls per week; please let Chaplain Turks know of those who are sick, shut-in or in need of Chaplain services and visits;
- d) Speakers Bureau (Tom Werzyn): Tom reported that the Speakers Bureau has no activities for now until schools decide to engage them;
- e) Grants and Fundraising (Milt Omoto): Covered under Secretary's report;
- f) Events Coordinator (Ron Smith): Ron reported no current activity; if you have any ideas for a Chapter event this year, contact Ron;
- g) Scholarship Committee (Gary Weston): Gary Weston, chair of the Scholarship Committee, Jim Marcelle and Lee met to discuss this year's scholarship program; Gary stated that the committee is preparing for this academic year, including school visits, preparing essay



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- requirements, and discussions with school counselors; see Gary to get involved with the Scholarship Committee;
- h) Social Committee (John Vargas): No further items to report;
 - i) Promotional Items (Joe Dempsey). The Chapter will be placing an order for polo shirts (M and L) and Chapter ball caps; we will not be placing an order for tee shirts at this time due to our large inventory; the Chapter has an inventory of promotional items that are sold at monthly Chapter meetings; we currently have XXL and XXXL shirts and jackets; Chapter polo shirts cost \$40/each; ball caps with the Chapter logo will also be procured; women's size polo shirts are planned to be available, as well as long sleeve tee-shirts; apparel with AVVA logo will also be available in the future; all items must be requested and paid in advance before any future order can be placed;
 - j) Voices for Veterans (Warren Harrison): Patti reported that she, Warren, and Chaplain Garry continue to participate to represent veterans and raise issues to the VA leadership; a recent newsletter was sent out to members; contact Patti to get involved with Voices for Veterans;
 - k) Women Veterans, Veterans Health, PTSD, Agent Orange (Patti Ehline): Patti reported that the list of presumptive for agent orange continues to increase; check with your VA administrator to see if any of your conditions qualify for disability; VA disability check amounts will increase this year; there continues to be new findings with PTSD; PTSD affects not just veterans but those who have experienced traumatic events;
 - l) AVVA Chapter Liaison (Litta Plant-Schaper): Litta manages the Zoom on-line capability for Chapter meetings; she stated that those needing a name badge should put their name on the request sheet; please see the back table to pick-up your name tag if you ordered one;
 - m) Webmaster and Newsletter (Bob Rotruck): Bob reported that the next newsletter is progressing well; send Bob information on newsletter items; Bob has membership background forms for those members who have not completed one yet and would like to; the Chapter web site is slowly getting more "hits;" Bob is the Chapter's official email "blaster" and he stated that he gets undelivered emails; see Bob if you are not getting emailed information from him;
 - n) Government Affairs (Tony Nickerson): No report
 - o) Color Guard (Tony Nickerson): Ron Smith reported for Tony that the Color Guard has no current engagements.

16. Roundtable

- a) Alen Jaffe reported that the NSA/NSS DaNang Veterans Association's 2022 reunion is April 4 through 10 in Clarksville, Indiana; see Allen for more information;
- b) John Vargas reported that each Poppy Drive LZ leader will be presenting a certificate of appreciation to their respective King Soopers store manager;
- c) John is also working on a new updated Chapter brochure; see John to get involved;
- d) Jack Hunter stated that if you want your picture on the Chapter's picture board to see his wife Claudia and she will take your picture;
- e) Barry Fiore reported that he worked with the Rockies organization and has a schedule of four (4) 2022 veteran games; the games are April 16th, May 22nd, June 19th and July 31st; all tickets cost \$40; seats are in the upper rows of Section 117 and they are covered; there are four handicap seats available per game; any Chapter member making a ticket purchase will have some of the amount given back to the Chapter; contact Barry to purchase tickets at (303) 5076034;



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- f) Barry also reported that any veteran who is missing a medal can contact him, and he and the Forgotten Heros Campaign will acquire and present them to the veteran in a formal ceremony;
 - g) Tom Werzyn stated that he has information on finding military records at the National Archives; see Tom for information;
 - h) Walt Leuchi reported that as part of his buddy calls, he found out that Chapter member Ted Ulrich passed away in December; Walt stated that Ted had a lot of tools that his wife would like to sell; Walt volunteered to be with his wife during any tool sale so she will not be alone; Chaplain Garry will also contact Mrs. Ulrich; please see Walt if you can help; Walt stressed that this is an example of the importance of buddy check calls;
 - i) Mike Vallow (Texas) reported that he will continue with his Buddy Check calls; he recently contacted member Glen Payne (also in Texas) and they plan to get together.
17. Drawings (Ron Smith)
- The 50/50 Drawing was won by Coy Ritchie who donated the funds back to the Chapter.
18. Announcements
- We have a speaker for the February meeting; Tom Werzyn is confirming the March speaker and John Vargas for the April speaker;
19. Membership in Sickness or in Need of Support
- a) Carl Sanchez recently had two surgeries and is immobile; keep him in your prayers;
 - b) Please continue to keep Rich Eisenberg, and Sonny Gorsuch in your prayers;
 - c) Please let Chaplain Garry Turks know of members and family members who are ill or in need of support
20. Schedule
- a) The next regularly scheduled Chapter Board Meeting is January 27, 2022 via Zoom
 - b) The next Colorado VVA State Council meeting is March 12, 2022
 - c) The next Chapter Membership Meeting is Saturday, February 5, 2022; the location will be the CCSD Fremont Building.

The Next Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting is scheduled for February 5 at 9:00AM – Live at the Fremont Building, 14603 E Fremont Ave., Centennial, CO! Zoom capability will be provided to those who cannot attend the meeting in person.



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The membership meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections by President Lee White at 10:11 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 meeting minutes posted to the Chapter's website.