

Membership Meeting September 7, 2024

Meeting Location: South Metro Fire & Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO 80112 (Board Room). ZOOM provided.

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

Invocation and Prayer: Chaplain Lonnie Hetterle

Pledge of Allegiance: All

POW/MIA Chair Presentation: Dan Green

Moment of Silence: For all those men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those still MIA. We also remember our VVA and AVVA members who have passed.

In Memoriam: A ceremony to remember Patti Ehline "Nurse Patti" (First Lieutenant, US Army); Army Nurse, Vietnam War Veteran, born September 5, 1946 (Omaha, Nebraska); passed August 17, 2024. She was a most valued Chapter 1106 Board member.

Introduction of Guests and New Members: Several guests and new members were introduced and recognized.

Officer and Board Member Roll Call: Dave Lyons, Milt Omoto, Bob Brown, Sally Ann Eaves, Joe Dempsey, Joe Plant, Joe Robinson, John Vargas, Lee White.

Board Member Emeritus: Tom Werzyn, Honorary Member

AVVA: Litta Plant-Schaper

Excused: Rev Garry "Chappy" Turks (Chapter Chaplain), Lou Grounds (new Board member)

Members Present: Felix Armenta, Bruce Arndt, Carol Brautigam, Bob Brown, Wayne Buser, Dale Creason, Rockie Cuppari, Charles Daldry, Byron Daniels, David Dawson, Diane Dawson, Joe Dempsey, Sally Ann Eaves, Bob Ferguson, Charlie Foster, David Gaul, Dan Graham, Diane Graham, Dan Green, Lawrence Groetken, Pat Hammon, Ted Hanfelder, Warren Harrison, Jim Henderson, Lonnie Hetterle, Mike Huber, Claudia Hunter, Jack Hunter, Mike Katich, Brad Kuss, Kathleen Kuss, Roger Lanphier, Walter Leuci, David Lyons, Larry Majors, Jesse Maldonado, Bob Mallin, Spencer Mamber, Jim McGrevey, Gary Nelson, Paul Olthoff, Christine Omoto, Milt Omoto,

Gary Palka, Ed Phillips, Joe Plant, Litta Plant-Schaper, Tom Puckett, Randy Reed, Coy Ritchie, Joe Robinson, Juan Romero, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Phil Snyder, LeAnn Stelzer, Mike Tarby, John Vargas, Dan Wagle, Jim Weekes, Tom Werzyn, Gary Weston, Lee White, Jim Williams, John Williams, Lew Wood, David Woods, Han Yoon.

Special Recognition: Jan Weber, Head of the Colorado Quilts of Valor and Colorado Quilters was presented with a plaque from Chapter 1106 for her tireless work to honor our veterans with gift quilts. The Colorado Quilts of Valor has presented over 800 hand made quilts to veterans in Colorado alone, over 100 of those being to Chapter 1106 members. Jan stated that it was her honor to present these quilts to remember and thank our veterans from a grateful nation.

Guest Presentation: Guest speaker was J. Kelly Garrod, a volunteer with the American Red Cross who gave us a refresher course in CPR. He emphasized that one does not have to be certified in CPR to perform CPR. Everybody can save a life. There are several levels of Red Cross course available for those who want to pursue further training. More information is available on the Red Cross website.

President's Report: (Dave Lyons)

1. The National Leadership Training in Reno was very informative. Both Dave Lyons and Bob Brown attended.
2. The Chapter picnic turned out to be a resounding success, even with an overabundance of potato salad. Thank you to all who attended and especially to Litta, Joe Plant and Walt Leuci for their extraordinary efforts to assure success.
3. We have a new Newsletter editor. Dave introduced Kathy Kuss as the new editor.
4. Our next field trip is Sep 14, 2024 to the Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum. Joe Robinson will report on that.
5. Our Oct 5th Membership meeting will be a condensed meeting (1 hour) to allow members to attend the Cherry Creek School District (CCSD) Veterans Appreciation Celebration. Lunch, at 12:00 noon. (Lunch is free for veterans) We hope to see many yellow shirts in attendance. (See Chapter email on Sep 8)
6. Our November Poppy Drive is scheduled for Saturday, November 9 2024 (Veterans Day Week-end). We are working to secure the same King Soopers locations.
7. The Reno conference attendees told us of several other possibilities as fundraisers.

Vice President's Report (Milt Omoto)

1. Milt reminded people using mikes that Jack and Alex need a moment to activate individual mikes for speakers.
2. All "lost" spoons from the picnic have found their way to the rightful owners.
3. In honor of Nurse Pattie, We will have a clothing Ifand food drive to help the Daniels Veterans Center. We will collect clothing and non-perishable food at the Oct and Nov Membership meetings. (See Chapter email on Sep 8)

4. If your picture is not "on our wall" in the back, see Claudia after the meeting to have your picture taken.

5. Remember to donate to the "Pick UP Please" VVA charity and to enroll in the King Soopers Community Rewards program.

Treasurer's Report: (Bob Brown)

1. Income for the month of August was \$1377.81
2. Expenditures were \$3845.27.
3. We need to explore opportunities for fundraising.

Motion: Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Mike Huber, seconded by Roger Lanphier.

Secretary's Report: (Sally Ann Eaves)

Motion: Motion to accept the Secretary's report made by Dave Gaul, seconded by Dave Dawson.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORT:

Membership: (Lee White and Phil Snyder)

Phil:

1. Membership of Chapter 1106 is: 215 VVA and 45 AVVA members for a total of 260.
2. We have four new members and one new Auxiliary member.

Lee: 1. Lee is still working on getting a copy of the national roster..

2. Lee has new membership packets for us to use to recruit.
3. If you recruit someone, please be sure the application is legible when filled out.
4. Send all new applications and the \$50 to Lee and not to National.

5. **Buddy Calls:** Be sure someone on the board is aware of any changes or challenges facing members.

6. **Poppy Drive:** We are organizing the November Poppy Drive on November 9, 2024 and will have sign ups at the October meeting.

State Representative: (John Vargas)

John emphasized that we need thoughts and prayers for our members going through challenges.

Honor Guard: (Dan Green)

1. The Honor Guard is a great group of individuals and are always looking for new members.

2. They are scheduled for the CCSD Appreciation event in October.

3. They will be participating in a future Honor Flight luncheon.

4. Dave Lyons will assure that there is a Missing Man service at the next Membership meeting (Dan will be absent.)

Veterans Emergency Assistance Program: (Joe Plant)

1. This past month we helped four veterans, two with rent and two with utility bills for a total of \$1147,33.
2. We need to explore more fundraising opportunities.

Chapter Events Coordinator: (Joe Robinson)

The Pueblo Aircraft Museum trip is scheduled for September 14.

- Cost is \$10 which covers the tour and a burrito and a bottle of water on the way.
- Pick up will be at 7:00AM at the Safeway parking lot in Plum Creek, Castle Rock (800 S. Prairie St.)
- Joe will be there at 6:00AM and will call roll at 7:30.
- The tour is from 10:00 to 12:00
- We will then have lunch at the Village Inn.
- We will "pass the hat" for a tip for the bus driver.
- Joe emphasized that we must be at the meeting point before 7:30am.

Douglas County VSO:

1. At Dave's request, Gary Weston, Douglas County VSO, invited the membership to the Douglas county Veterans' Day celebration.
2. In view of that, the Douglas County VSO is looking for a Vietnam Veteran, Purple Heart recipient to do a brief presentation. Contact Gary (or any board member) if you are interested.

Scholarships: Wayne Buser reported that we received a great thank you from Ashley Duncan who won a scholarship from us in 2019. She has completed her education at the University of Arizona with an Engineering degree. She expressed her appreciation to the Chapter for her scholarship.

Newsletter: 1. Kathy Kuss, AVVA member, and wife of member Brad Kuss was introduced as our new **Newsletter Editor!**

2. Kathy gave a quick rundown of her very impressive experience as a journalist both writing and editing national newspapers and newsletters. She was also a Journalism and English teacher. We are certainly fortunate to have her volunteer to help us.

Promotional Items: (Lynn Stelzer for Joe Dempsey)

1. Buy, buy, buy.

Roundtable Discussion: (all)

Gary Nelson, a volunteer at the VA hospital, told of a project to "Remember our Vets". It is an opportunity to be interviewed to "tell your story". The interviewers are excellent at helping veterans leave a lasting legacy, by "telling their story." It is important for families and especially grandchildren to know what you did. If you are interested, there are flyers in the back and I can get you the information you need. (See Chapter email of 8 Sep)

Tom Werzyn: Reminded the membership of the Cherry Creek School District Veteran Appreciation Celebration on October 5th. This includes a free lunch for veterans. There are also afternoon activities and a football game that evening.

Walt Leuci: Wishes to let the membership know how much he gets from making Buddy Calls. It is a worthwhile endeavor and very enjoyable. "You left Vietnam but Vietnam didn't leave you."

Jack Hunter: Thank you to those who volunteered when Jack and Alex can't be here to do the audio and ZOOM work.

50/50 Drawing: The winnings were donated back to the Chapter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Dave Lyons)

1. Chapter trip to the Pueblo Aircraft Museum, Saturday, September 14, 2024
2. Next Board Meeting is Saturday, September 28, 2024 9:00AM.
3. Next Membership meeting is Saturday, October 5th at 9:00AM. This will be a shortened meeting so members can attend the Cherry Creek School District Veteran Appreciation day.
6. Please continue to stay in touch with each other.

MEMBER SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS: Please pray for our sick and shut-in members

Thank You to Jim Williams and Jack Hunter for making this meeting available on ZOOM.

MEMBER SICKNESS OR DISTRESS: Please pray for our sick and shut-in members.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEMBERSHIP MEETING: at 9:00 AM; ZOOM available. Location: South Metro Fire and Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO 80112. We'll see everyone there!

Meeting Adjourned: by Dave Lyons at 10:36 AM.

These Chapter Membership Meeting minutes submitted by Sally Ann Eaves, Chapter Secretary.

Published 09/17/2024

Circulation Notice: These minutes may contain sensitive and/or personal information; therefore, please use discretion when sharing this information with non-VVA members