



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 6, 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 Vice President David Lyons at 9:00 AM

Meeting Topics

1. Welcome to the meeting by Vice President David Lyons
2. Invocation Prayer by Chaplain Garry Turks and Moment of Silence
 - Memorial bell toll for Michelle Mallin and moment of silence
 - Prayers for our Chapter Board and members as we conduct our meeting today
 - Prayers for families in bereavement
 - Prayers for those in need and for those members who are sick and shut-ins

3. Pledge of Allegiance (all): lead by David Lyons

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. 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: Reverend Garry Turks (Chaplain), Joe Plant, Patti Ehline, Ron Smith, John Vargas, Tom Werzyn.

Board Members Excused: Joe Dempsey

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

Glen Payne, Alice Boswell, Chris Boyer, Jane Brown, Ita Dempsey, Diane Graham, Claudia Hunter, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Jai Smith, Leann Stelzer, Jim Williams, Bruce Arndt, Don Boswell, Wayne Buser, Cliff Butler, Bob Crago, Bob Easter, Patti Ehline, Barry Fiore, Dan Graham, Dan Green, Lou Grounds, Ted Hanfelder, Warren Harrison, Jim Henderson, Mike Huber, Jack Hunter, Roger Lanphier, Walter Leuci, David Lyons, Bob Mallin, James Martindale,



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

Jim McGrevey, Harry Montgomery, Tony Nickerson, Milt Omoto, Gary Palka, Ed Phillips, Joe Plant, Jay Quiring, Clarence Rebolledo, Coy Ritchie, Steve Robertson, Bob Rotruck, Carl Sanchez, Edward Seiler, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Michael Tarby, Garry Turks, John Vargas, Dan Wagle, Tom Werzyn, Lee White, John Williams, David Yates, Di Seiler.

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

On-line Attendees via Zoom: Jim Williams

7. Recognition of new members and guests (including members who have not attended in a while)
8. Chapter Meeting Minutes Approval

Minutes for the October 2, 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 October 2, 2021, made by Joe Plant and second by Tony Nickerson; the minutes were approved.

9. Special Presentation: Debbie Osborne, The Enlisted Association (TREA)

Debbie described the 50-year-old organization that supports veterans and military in numerous ways. In 1963, TREA (The Retired Enlisted Association) was first organized to support retired enlisted veterans. In 2021 the organization became open to non-retired military veterans of all eras. They provide over \$3MM in support aid to enlisted men and women. They perform direct mail solicitation and use social media for fundraising and are also partnering with USAA. They provide assistance with food, rent, and other urgent needs. TREA is a national organization headquartered in Centennial CO. For more information, visit their website: www.trea.org.

Special Presentation: Jessie Ipock, Veterans Administration HUD-VASH Program

Jessie was invited by Joe Plant to speak about the VA's HUD-VASH to which our Chapter partners with to support veterans who experience homelessness. The program's priority is to provide housing to homeless veterans and get them off the streets. Our Chapter gets four to six calls monthly to work with HUD-VASH to provide emergency funds for housing rent, utility payment and food. The VA program typically provides support from one to four months of direct support.

10. President's Report: Lee White

- The November Poppy Drive is set for Saturday, November 13th at five King Soopers locations; each LZ leader have been provided with material for their location;



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

- There are a number of events and activities for Veterans Day, November 11th ;
- Please continue to support the King Soopers Community Rewards Program; we need more participants; the third quarter report showed 33 participants;
- We are seeking “Member of the Year” and “Associate Member of the Year” nominations; complete a form or email completed forms to Lee; no Chapter officers should be nominated, but any Board member qualifies;
- Our Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, December 18th; more information will be provided by John Vargas;
- Please support the Texas Roadhouse (Parker location) fund raisers this month (Milt to provide more information).

11. Vice President’s Report: Dave Lyons

- Dave stated that pre-registration and pre-payment are required for the Holiday Lunch. We are collecting monies today.

12. Treasurer’s Report: Mike Huber

- The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Mike Huber;
- The October Poppy Drive helped greatly with funds.

Motion 2. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report made by Bob Rotruck and second by Tony Nickerson; the Treasurer’s Report was approved.

14. Secretary’s Report: Milt Omoto

- Fundraising Opportunity: Texas Roadhouse November Veterans Month
 - All month of November (guests get a free appetizer card when they donate \$5; they can also complete an appreciation note that the restaurant will give us at the end of the month; monies collected will be converted to gift cards and given to us;
 - November 10th is 10% night; veteran customers that bring in the VVA flyer will have 10% of their food purchase go towards the Chapter;
 - November 11th (Veterans Day); starting at 11:00AM, veterans can drive through and pick-up a voucher good for a future meal; we will set up a table with information and donation requests; the voucher will have a “fact sheet” of VVA Chapter 1106 attached;
- Please support the November Poppy Drives; participating in Chapter Poppy Drives is a great way for Chapter members to interact with the community in addition to being an important fund raiser;
- Information on how to link your King Sooper’s Rewards Card to our Chapter is provided on the back table; contact Milt if you need instructions at omoto.milt@gmail.com;
- Please continue to support the VVA Household Goods Program; the monthly amount that each Colorado Chapter receives from this program was recently increased to \$1,005.00;
- We are working with CyberGrants to get registered so we can apply for Walmart Community Grants.



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

15. Board Member and Committee Reports

- a) Membership (David Lyons): Dave reported on the current total number of regular Chapter members at 172 and AVVA members at 47; there are a total of 88,772 regular members and 9853 Associate members for National; we lost 87 members;
- b) Chaplain's Report (Rev. Garry Turks): Chaplain Turks continues with his Chaplain calls to members who do not attend meetings; please let Chaplain Turks know of those who are sick, shut-in and in need of Chaplain services; he stays in contact with Rich Eisenberg; Chaplain Garry also reported that he visits Sonny Gorsuch regularly and that Sonny is not doing well;
- c) Speakers Bureau (Tom Werzyn): The Speakers Bureau is prepared for the current academic year and expects requests for speakers to come in during the new year; let Tom know if you are interested in becoming part of the Speakers Bureau;
- d) Veterans Emergency Assistance Program (Joe Plant): The Chapter assisted four veterans in the month of November, working with HUD-VASH to get them off the street; Joe also refers veterans in need to other veteran organizations and to social workers; he will work with TREA to seek funds for veteran emergency assistance;
- e) Events Coordinator (Ron Smith): Ron reported that we are prepared for the November Chapter Poppy Drive, but that Tom Werzyn could use additional volunteers at his location;
 - November 13th (Saturday): There will be five Poppy Drive locations; the Poppy Drives run from 9:00AM to 1:00PM;
- f) Scholarship Committee (Jim Marcelle): Absent
- g) Social Committee (John Vargas): John read a tribute to Michelle Mallin; the Social Committee members will have a meeting in preparation for the Holiday Lunch; our end of year Holiday Lunch is December 18th at Maggiano's from 11:00Am to 1:00PM; cost is \$20/person and we are registering and collecting payment today; the guest speaker for the Holiday Lunch is confirmed;
- h) Promotional Items (Ida Dempsey). An order has been placed for additional promotional items that will be sold at monthly Chapter meetings;
- i) Voices for Veterans (Warren Harrison): Warren reported that the VA mental health program has a change in management with a new Chairperson; the VA is encouraging peer-to-peer groups; rather than a single large group setting; there is a Home Front Program for mental health management;
- j) Women Veterans, Veterans Health, PTSD, Agent Orange (Patti Ehline): Patti stated that she is a volunteer liaison to the VA (and not an employee of the VA); she continues to work with the VA on Community Care program issues to improve the system (let her know if you have issues); she also stated that members need to be informed of the VA's Caregiver support program; Patti is involved with the VVA National Committee for Women Veterans; she has discussed placing a picture of Michelle Mallin with the Honor Bell exhibit at the VA; she encouraged the VA to develop a 15-minute video that describes the services available to veterans; she encouraged everyone to take care during this COVID period and to wear a mask; she recently provided lap blankets to the Cancer Center at Sky Ridge Medical Center and asked if anyone knows how to make these (contact Patti); the Agent Orange list of illness is expanding; information to veterans on health is available at the VA's My Health website: <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>
- k) Veterans Treatment Court: No current activity; however, David Yates, participates in this program;



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

- l) AVVA Chapter Liaison (Litta Plant-Schaper): Nothing to report;
- m) Webmaster and Newsletter (Bob Rotruck): Bob will send out Member Background forms for you to complete, describing your military service; he features a member in each newsletter; return the form to Bob;
- n) Government Affairs (Tony Nickerson): Tony reported on a Bill that will authorize the VA to construct facilities for joint use; the VA will also require payment from veteran for cost sharing situations;
- o) Color Guard (Tony Nickerson): The Color Guard will be at the Ben Franklin Veterans Day event on November 11th.

16. Roundtable

- a) Chris Boyer of The Honor Bell Foundation encouraged members to donate to Wreaths Across America; use the website: <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/164035> to purchase wreaths; this link supports the Honor Bell Foundation with your purchase;
- b) David Yates talked about the Veterans Treatment Court and encouraged Chapter members to become involved with “buddy Checks;” you can sign-up for Vietnam Buddy Check at the WarriorNOW website: <https://wariornow.org/buddy-check/> ;
- c) John Vargas stated that November is “Caretaker Month;”
- d) Roger Lanphier talked about our Nation coming close to a nuclear war during the Cuban Crisis’ US naval blockade in 1962; Roger was part of this operation;
- e) Tom Werzyn has information on obtaining military records that have been archived; contact Tom for more information;
- f) Jack Hunter instructed everyone to speak into the mike when they have something to say; also, a reminder to sign-in when you arrive; and, if your picture is not on the member picture boards, get your picture taken;
- g) Patti encouraged members to communicate with the VA and to also be aware of legislation that impact veterans.

17. Drawings (Ron Smith)

- The 50/50 Drawing had a total of \$53 was won by Tom Werzyn who donated the funds back to the Chapter.

18. Announcements

- Please attend the Quilts of Valor presentation on Saturday, November 12th at 9:30 AM, CCSD; flyers have been emailed to members; Richard Lewis will be receiving a quilt;
- The Chapter Fund Raiser is scheduled for November 11th at the Texas Roadhouse in Parker; also, bring your 10% flyer to the restaurant on November 10th for 10% night;
- The Ben Franklin Academy Veterans Day event is November 11th at 8:45AM;
- The next Vietnam Veterans War lapel pin presentation is December 4th at our Membership meeting;
- The Chapter Holiday lunch is December 18th;



Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1106

19. Membership in Sickness or in Need of Support
- a) Please keep Donna Chaney (who just had surgery), Rich Eisenberg, and Sonny Gorsuch in your prayers;
 - b) Please let Chaplain Garry Turks know of members and family members who are ill or in need of support
20. Schedule
- a) The next Chapter Board Meeting will be held live, immediately after the December 4th membership meeting;
 - b) We currently do not have a December speaker;
 - c) The next Chapter Membership Meeting is Saturday, December 4th “live” at the South Metro Fire and Rescue Building; all membership meetings will continue to be held in our new meeting location (Meeting Rooms 1 & 2);
 - d) The November Poppy Drive is Saturday, November 13th .

The Next Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2021 at 9:00AM – Live! Zoom capability will be provided to those who cannot attend the meeting in person.

The membership meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections by Vice President David Lyons at 10:20 AM.

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

Published: 110821

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.