

"Welcome Home" NEWSLETTER



May - Jun 2022 - VOL 8 NO 3

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Notice:

If you have moved or changed your address, PLEASE notify us immediately! Contact: Dave Lyons, Membership Chair E-mail: Snoyldavid@centurylink.net

Phone: 303 690 8776

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Facebook: Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1106



MEMORIAL DAY - NEVER FORGET

Editor's Note:

This version of the newsletter is in Microsoft Document (.DOCX) format so that the <u>links</u> will work. Put your cursor over the link, depress your Control Key (ctrl) and depress your left mouse button and it will take you to the listed link position. PDF format, the links will not work. The comments and editorial input does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the membership of our chapter. I would appreciate any feedback that you might have, items you liked or if you find offensive or derogatory in anyway. (bobrotruck73@gmail.com) Thank you for allowing me to be your editor.

Notes from the President

Dave Lyons

I am humbled, honored, and privileged for trusting the leadership of Chapter 1106 to me. As the newly elected President of Chapter 1106, I will strive to continue the success of the Chapter in the many activities we do. Above all, this is your Chapter. Please let me know how we are doing, what changes you would like to see, and any suggestions you may have to continue to make this a great Chapter.

We have a very meaningful Chapter with subcommittees and individuals that help our members, that reach out into the community to help other veterans and families, and activities that support each other. Above all, I want to continue to focus on activities that check on each other. Regular "Buddy Check" calls, visits to our sick and shut-in members, and help with any member who needs it are very important functions of this Chapter. Just contact me or any of the Board members if you need assistance, or just want to talk.

Thank you, members, for your continued participation and enthusiasm, and for your incredible support. Together will continue our success.

Member Feature

Charles U. Smith, US Army, 1964 - 1967 - E-5

I was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Bronze Stars, National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Sharpshooter Badge (Rifle), Expert Pistol, Combat Infantrymen Badge, Expert (M-79 GL), and the Good Conduct Medal. I was stationed at Ft. Jackson, SC, Ft. Wainwright, Alaska, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii: 25th Infantry, and Cu Ciu, South Vietnam, and Ft. Hood, TX. My MOS/NEC was 11B-Infantry. My most memorable experience during my service was the cold weather in Alaska with combat infantry training at 50 degrees below zero. Combat infantry training in Hawaii and fighting in the jungles and rice patties in Vietnam followed by the horrors of war and its after affects. As a Chapter 1106 member, I want to continue serving our Vietnam Veterans and their families. I would like to have our Chapter make a trip to the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco on March 29, 2023, which is the National Vietnam War Veterans Day. This is a great way to show our respect for those Veterans that paid the ultimate price for our freedom!

Military Trivia

ASVAB Click here for end of the Newsletter Trivia Answer

March Guest Speaker - Robin Anderson

Anderson Appraisals, Inc. We are a leading provider of real estate valuations for the mortgage lending marketplace. With many years of experience in the business, we have a proven track record of reducing lenders time, efforts, and costs in managing the appraisal process.



April Guest Speaker – Mike Brophy – Director of Fort Logan National Cemetery Complex

Burial in a VA national cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces and Veterans who have met minimum active-duty service requirements, as applicable, and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Members of the reserve components of the armed forces who die while on active duty or who die while on training duty under certain circumstances are also eligible for burial, as are service members and former service members who were eligible for retired pay at the time of their death.

Mission: National Cemetery Administration honors Veterans and their eligible family members with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our Nation.



John Vargas presenting a Chapter Certificate of Appreciation to Mike Brophy.

Membership! (As of 4/28/2022)

VVA 179 AVVA 43 TOTAL: 222

VVA

James Chisel John Pennington Juan Romero

AVVA

Board of Directors/Officers

Dave Lyons – President
Milt Omoto – Vice-president
Mike Huber – Treasurer
Clarence Rebolledo – Secretary

Board Members – Patti Ehline, Tom Werzyn, John Vargas, Joe Plant, Rev. Garry Turks, Joe Dempsey, Joseph Robinson.

Special Chapter Positions

AVVA Liaison to chapter Board of Directors – Litta Plant-Schaper

Chaplain – Rev. Garry Turks
Chapter Historian – John Vargas
Database/Audio – Jack Hunter
Government Affairs – Tony Nickerson
Sergeant-at-Arms – Dan Green
Chapter Nurse – Patti Ehline
Email Blaster – Bob Rotruck

Working Committees

- Agent Orange/PTSD: Patti Ehline
- Color Guard: Tony Nickerson (Command Sergeant),
 Don McNeely, Dan Green, Clarence Rebolledo,
 Robert Senatore, Ron Smith, John Sheadel
- Event Coordinator: Ron Smith Chair, Lee White
- Fundraising/Grants: Milt Omoto Chair
- Marketing/Media/Events: Tom Werzyn
- Membership: Lee White Chair, Litta Plant-Schaper (AVVA Roster Updates)
- Mental Health: Patti Ehline, Warren Harrison, Joe Plant
- Name Tags: Litta Plant-Schaper
- Newsletter Editor: Bob Rotruck
- Promotional Items: Leann Stelzer, Joe Dempsey, Ita Dempsey
- Refreshments: Walt Leuci, Dave Lyons
- Scholarship Program: Gary Weston, Chair, Jim Marcille, Lou Grounds, Litta Plant-Schaper, Mike Karsh (At-Large, Consultant)
- Social John Vargas, Chair, Joe Dempsey, Milt Omoto, Clarence Rebolledo
- Speakers Bureau Tom Werzyn Chair, Bob Mallin, Dave Lyons
- Veteran Emergency Assistance Committee: Joe Plant, Dave Lyons
- Voices for Veterans: Warren Harrison, Patti Ehline, Joe Plant
- Webmaster: Bob Rotruck
- Women Veterans: Patti Ehline

Meetings/Events Calendar - 2022

April 30, 2022 - Board of Directors Meeting (Zoom)

May 7, 2022 - VVA Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting May 7, 2022 - JROTC Presentation - Mountain View

High School, Loveland

May 28, 2022 - Poppy Drives - King Soopers (5)

May 30, 2022 - MEMORIAL DAY

June 4, 2022 - VVA Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting

June 11, 2022 - CO State Council Meeting - Castle Rock

June 14, 2022 - FLAG DAY

June 25, 2022 - Board of Directors Meeting (Zoom)



In Memoriam



As of: 4/28/2022
Total Funeral Homes Visited - 2,548
Cremains Found - 27,484
Veterans Cremains Identified - 5,891
Veterans Interred - 5.336

Events:

March 5th Meeting

Cherry Creek School District presented Certificates of Appreciation to volunteers who served at different CCSD schools to help out during a time of staff shortages. The presentations were given out by Christy Everson, Derek Mullner, Melissa Lyubenko.



L to R Standing: Roger Lanphier, Letitia Herrera (Tony Nickerson's daughter), Dave Lyons, Ron Smith, Tom Werzyn



CCSD Exceptional Volunteer

Cherry Creek School District, our local school district that has essentially adopted VVA Chapter 1106 as its own, recently honored one of our own as an Exceptional Volunteer within their system; Tom Werzyn, a long-time VVA Chapter 1106 member, and member of our Board, was selected as an Exceptional Volunteer to the CCSD system; he is one of a very few non-educator selections, and the one unanimously nominated administrators and staff at the Educational Services Center- i.e. District HQ; he is among 100 folks, districtwide, so honored. Tom's citation reads: "Tom, an Army Veteran, has volunteered countless hours facilitating classroom presentations and supporting CCSD's Annual Military Appreciation Event and Quilts of Valor ceremonies. We thank him for his service to our students, district and country."

Accompanying Tom at the presentation was his wife, Valerie, and daughter, Christine. Our chapter President, Lee White, and Vice President, David Lyons were also in attendance.

"Volunteering is about paying-it-back and paying-it - forward. you do what you can do, when you can do it; all involved reap the benefits ..." commented Tom after the ceremony.



Tom Werzyn- Honoree, his wife Valerie, CCSD Superintendent-Christopher Smith



Lee White- Chapter 1106 Pres., Tom Werzyn-Honoree, Dave Lyons- VP

CCSD Military Appreciation Day Planning Event

The planning meeting dates. All meetings will be from 1:00-2:00 p.m. and will take place at our main office, the Educational Services Center located at 4700 S. Yosemite Street in Greenwood Village. We hope that you will be able to join us

April 28th

May 19th

July 14th

August 25th

September 15th

Donuts – gluten free, sugar free, fat free, calorie free (LIAR)

The wonderful folks from CCSD provided the goodies for our March meeting.



L to R: Lee White (*who ate one dozen donuts*), Christy Everson, Derek Mullner, Melissa Lyubenko

Highlands Ranch Metro District's Citizen's Academy

February 22, 2022 - John Vargas recently graduated from the Highlands Ranch Metro District's Citizen's Academy. Presenting his graduation plaque is Mr. Mark Dickerson, Chairman of the District Board of Directors. The goal for the program is to build the civic capacity of Highlands Ranch residents. A seven-session course, with an additional evening for graduation, exposes participants to key topics and issues in Highlands Ranch and introduces opportunities for civic involvement.



Colorado VVA State Council Submitted by Milt Omoto

The Colorado VVA State Council distributed Dreiling Estate funds to each Colorado Chapter at their March 2022 meeting for the 2022 fiscal year. Pictured receiving their checks from left to right is Tom Dowell (President Chapter 1075), Stan Paprocki (President Chapter 1071), Lee White (President Chapter 1106), and Dave Ramey, State Council Treasurer.



April Meeting Election Results

At the April meeting, Bob Rotruck (your editor) announced the voting results for Chapter Officers and Board Members. The "Lucky" winners are:

Dave Lyons – President

Milt Omoto - Vice President

Clarence Rebolledo - Secretary

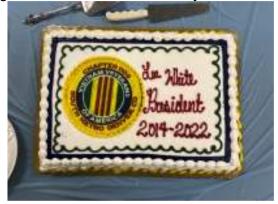
Mike Huber – Treasurer

Board Members, Joseph Robinson, Patti Ehline, Tom Werzyn, Rev. Garry Turks, Joe Dempsey, Joe Plant, John Vargas

They will be sworn into office at the May meeting.

Lee White - Stand Down

At the April meeting, there were many powerful, loving, and thoughtful comments from the Officers, Board Members, and the floor in appreciation of the fabulous job Lee has done in getting our chapter started and leading it for over seven and a half years!



A beautiful and powerful song was rendered by Chris Omoto. Lee was presented with a special award for his service to the chapter, community, and country!



We were blessed to have Lee's sweet wife, Cookie and their daughter, Wendy at this special meeting!



Note from your Editor

In 2010, I was one of the four key players that started the Douglas County Veterans Monument Foundation in Castle Rock. We worked hard to raise the money for its construction. As time passed, one of the volunteers that came to our aid was a guy named Lee White. He was affiliated with the Colorado Honor Flight organization, but he wanted to help with such an honorable project. The DCVM was dedicated in 2013. Lee contacted Barbara and I March 2015 to have lunch at The Black Eyed Pea. At that time, he had recently gotten the VVA 1106 Chapter chartered and was looking for possible additional new members. Barbara and I instantly knew that we wanted to become a member of the chapter and signed up for a lifetime membership. Thank you, Lee, for all you did for the DCVMF and for our VVA Chapter.

Socks

John Vargas dropped off the last of the Rich Eisenberg Socks event from his namesake drive at the Department of Veterans Affairs – Valor Point. They are very thankful and can always use Socks.



In Rich's fond memory!



Department of Veterans Affairs – Valor Point building. Valor Point was opened nearly five years ago thanks to a federal grant aimed at helping homeless veterans. It's a satellite of the Veterans Affairs facilities in downtown

Denver and is part of the continuum of care veterans have access to after their service is finished.



Reina Lopez, a VA employee assisted John with the unloading of the sock donations from our chapter!

Michelle Mallin Memorial Dedication Ceremony Friday – April 15th, 2022 – 11:00AM – Plum Valley Park



The swing was part of the dedication which has the plaque mounted in center.



There were approximately 100 that attended the ceremony including the wonderful Honor Bell.



VVA members surrounding the Honor Bell which Michelle was a very active part of as an originator and became a Director of the Foundation!



John Vargas was Master of the Ceremonies. The gentleman on the right with his back to my camera is Dr. Bob Mallin, Michelle's father.

A couple of views of the attendees:





Remember Our Veterans (ROV) - Castle Rock **Senior Center**

Dave Lyons, Vice President, VVA Chapter 1106, presented at the Castle Rock Senior Center about his experiences onboard a hospital ship in Vietnam.



Suzanne Segona – Our Volunteer at The Wall

The chapter presented a plaque of appreciation for her work in our chapter and as a volunteer at The Wall in Washington, D.C. She announced that she will be moving to the east coast in two months of the date of our April meeting. She will surely be missed!



Dave Lyons and Suzanne

Books/Articles

A message to my supportive brothers and sisters!

By Suzanne Sigona

During our April meeting, we began the transition to our next phase of the Lee White VVA Chapter 1106. I was surprised when the group honored me with a farewell plague. As if I wasn't teary eyed enough going through the memories of all of Lee's dedication and efforts, I was faced with my own transition.

Facing this departure makes it difficult to say all that I feel about this group, the relationships, the journey we have been on and the one that will continue. Thank you for allowing me space in the newsletter to attempt to express why you matter so much to me.

We all come together because, we "get it". We understand a part of our being that is living our day to day lives while carrying a bit of Viet Nam with us. It may be because you got drafted right after you started a new job out of high school, that you joined the military, prepared to go over and never got called, that you have a father who is enduring service-related illnesses, you have great alignment with all who suffer post-traumatic stress, you served on the front line, or you just don't want to talk about it.

With all of this common ground, we connect. This group accomplishes so much with scholarships, aid programs, education efforts, and other levels of service. Not everything is for everyone but something about our community reaches various individuals. You are changing lives.

It has been my honor to serve at the Wall for 32 years. Thank you for understanding my ministry. I have been blessed to make a number of support trips to Viet Nam. Thank you for supporting my passion and the work of Sister (in Viet Nam). You have always given wings to my work.

More than anything, thank you for welcoming me to this community. Some say you aren't known for accepting civilians.

I've been blessed to be part of this amazing group. With every situation that comes our way, we adapt, we serve, and we thrive. Keep up the good work!

BTW I was reminded that there is still Zoom!

With love and respect, Suzanne

Editor: This is not a joke or a cartoon, but oh so sad in today's world!





GIVEN ALL

Brave men and women love this American land,
But they don't show it off in front of a grandstand.
They show it through service in foreign places,
They wear bravery and courage on their proud faces.
Trying to bring freedom and democracy where
strangers have trod,

Folks they don't even know, but they do it for love of God.

America has asked them to stand tall, an example for all to see,

The kinds of freedom we take for granted like the waves on the sea.

They volunteered from Kansas, Maryland, and tinbuck-two,

They come from all over to keep freedom for me and you.

Many leave their families for months on end, They try to do their best and never bend.

Many come home with damaged limbs and brains,
Their hopes and dreams covered in blood stains.
And some never get to see home at all,
Because they have answered a far greater call.
They've pushed a comrade out of harm's way,
And took the brunt of a blast that day.
Their friend's eyes are the last they saw,
When they took the heat and given all.
God bless our men and women so proud,
God will announce their coming home out loud.
Through heaven's gate they pass in full dress,
Can we as Americans honor them any less?

AMEN!

ROTRUCK – '07

Light Side
LARRY MAY BECOME MY NEW FAVORITE!



*A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, 'Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!' After a few seconds, Little Larry stood up. The teacher said, 'Do you think you're stupid, Larry?' 'No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!'

*Larry watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. 'Why do you do that, mommy?' he asked. 'To make myself beautiful,' said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue. 'What's the matter, asked Larry 'Giving up?'

*The math teacher saw that Larry wasn't paying attention in class. She called on him and said, 'Larry! What are 2 and 4 and 28 and 44?' Larry quickly replied, 'NBC, FOX, ESPN and the Cartoon Network!'

*Larry's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. 'Yes,' said the policeman. 'The detectives want very badly to capture him.' Larry asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?"

*Little Larry attended a horse auction with his father. He watched as his father moved from horse to horse, running his hands up and down the horse's legs and rump, and chest. After a few minutes, Larry asked, 'Dad, why are you doing that?' His father replied, 'Because when I'm buying horses, I have to make sure that they are healthy and in good shape before I buy. Larry, looking worried, said, 'Dad, I think the UPS guy wants to buy Mom'



They say marriages are made in Heaven. But so is thunder and lightning.

- Clint Eastwood



"Sorry to keep you both waiting out here. Where's your wife?"



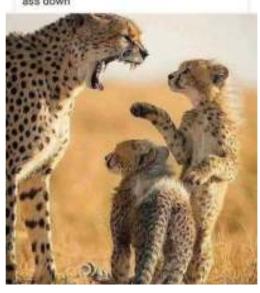


I just replaced my litter box with a FedX box, now when it's full I just tape it shut and put it on my porch for someone to steal.

How my dog sees himself when the doorbell rings



Somehow I think this translates to sit your



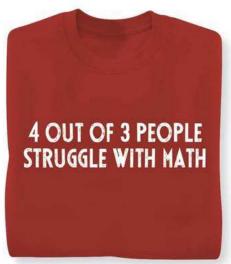


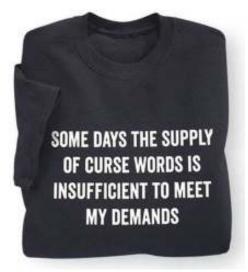
You don't have to be Catholic to appreciate this one:

A man suffered a serious heart attack while shopping in a store. The store clerks called 911 when they saw him collapse to the floor. The paramedics rushed the man to the nearest hospital where he had emergency open heart bypass surgery...

He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at the Catholic Hospital. A nun was seated next to his bed holding a clipboard loaded with several forms, and a pen. She asked him how he was going to pay for his treatment. "Do you have health insurance?" she asked. He replied in a raspy voice, "No health insurance." The nun asked, "Do you have money in the bank?" He replied, "No money in the bank." Do you have a relative who could help you with the payments?" asked the irritated nun. He said, "I only have a spinster sister, and she is a nun" The nun became agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters! Nuns are married to God." The patient replied, "Perfect. Send the bill to my brother-in-law."

T-shirts for SeniorsSubmitted by Lou Zoghby, WWII Vet













JUST TRYING TO PLUG IN MY GENDERLESS EXTENSION CORD



Trivia Answer

ASVAB: Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery. A multiple-choice test a prospective recruit takes before enlisting to see if they are qualified to join and which military jobs they qualify for.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

VVA Chapter 1106 Annual Calendar of Events 2022

Date	Event	Location
January 2022		
January 8 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	CCSD Fremont Building
JANUARY 27 (Thursday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
February 2022		
February 5 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	CCSD Fremont Building
February 26 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
March 2022		
March 5 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	CCSD Fremont Building
March 12 (Saturday)	Colorado State Council Meeting	Castle Rock Philip S. Miller Library
March 26 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
March 29 (Thursday)	Vietnam Veterans Day (observed)	Events at Various Locations
April 2022		
April 2 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
April 16 (Saturday)	Colorado Rockies vs. Chicago Cubs (6:10PM)	Coors Field
April 30 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
May 2022		
May 7 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
May 22 (Sunday)	Colorado Rockies vs. New York Mets (1:10PM)	Coors Field
May 28 (Saturday)	Memorial Day "Poppy Drive" Fund Raiser	King Sooper (Locations TBD)
May (TBD)	Chapter Board of Director's Meeting	On-Line
June 2022		
June 4 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
June 11 (Saturday)	Colorado State Council Meeting	Castle Rock Philip S. Miller Library
June 19 (Sunday)	Colorado Rockies vs. San Diego Game (1:10PM)	Coors Field
June 25 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
July 2022		
July 2 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
July 4 (Monday)	Chapter Participation in Fourth of July Parade	TBD
July 30 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
July 31 (Sunday)	Colorado Rockies vs. LA Dodgers Game (1:10PM)	Coors Field
August 2022	Colorado Rockies VS. En Dougers Game (1.1911)	
August 6 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
August 9 to 13	VVA National Leadership Conference	Greenville, South Carolina
August 13 (Saturday)	Chapter Family Summer Picnic	Falcon Park, Highlands Ranch
August 27 (Saturday)	Chapter Board of Directors Meeting	On-Line
September 2022		
September 3 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
September 10 (Saturday)	Colorado State Council Meeting (TBD)	Tentative
October 2022		
October 1 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
November 2022		
November 5 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
November 11 (Friday)	Veterans Day	Events at Various Locations
November 12 (Saturday)	Veterans Day "Poppy Drive" Fund Raiser	King Soopers (Locations TBD)
December 2022		The second secon
December 3 (Saturday)	Monthly Chapter Meeting	TBD
December 10 (Saturday)	Colorado State Council Meeting	Tentative
December (TBD)	Chapter Holiday Luncheon and Festivities	TBD

FRIENDS OF CHAPTER 1106



South Metro Denver Fire & Rescue 9195 E Mineral Ave

Centennial, CO 80112



TREA: The Enlisted Association - HQ Phone - (303) 752-0660 12200 E. Briarwood

Avenue, Suite 250, Centennial CO 80112



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Alycia Carmin PO Box 233 Kersey, CO 80644 (970) 352 8802



3989 E. Arapahoe Road #20 Centennial, CO 80122 720-361-0155



The Honor Bell Foundation
PO Box 1432
Englewood CO 80150
720.282.9182
www.honorbell.org



Connecting faith & finances for good."

9137 E Mineral Cir Ste 100 Englewood, CO 80112-3422



Smoky Hill Trail Chapter NSDAR Parker, Colorado



King Soopers 9551 S. University Blvd., Highlands Ranch, CO 80126



Qualified Listeners: PO Box 563 Dacono, CO 80514 Tel: 720-600-0860



Military Order of Purple Heart, Chapter 1041, Arvada, CO



4700 South Yosemite Street Greenwood Village, CO 80111



Mary Haddon – President 1201 Williams St #18A Denver, CO 80218 720-217-3235



PARKER MEDICAL SUPPLY STORE 9845 S Parker Rd . Parker, CO 80134 303-840-4444



Texas Roadhouse

11205 S. Parker Road, Parker, CO 80134

THANK YOU FOR REACHING OUT AND HELPING VETERANS