

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 1071 - Denver

Location: Elk's Lodge #1777

1455 Newland Street

Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday Dec.17th, 2016

Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by: Stan Paprocki at 10:05 am

Prayer & Moment of Silence for POW/MIA'S— John Altfeltis, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance – John Altfeltis

Posting of POW/MIA Colors on POW Honor Chair—

Roll Call: Present: Stan Paprocki, Terry Ritenour, Leonard Smith, Jose Gonzales(Excused), Ray Holtz, and Marty Chavez (Excused)

VVA Members Present: John Altfeltis, Jeff Birdwell, DeWayne Bomar, David W Chapman, Chuck Chavez, Robert Doriss, John Durant, Cliff Fejfar, Bob Hartman, Ray Holtz, Kevin Hurst, Vern Moore, Tom Moermond, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, Robert Primeaux, Al Roettger, Leonard Smith, Wally Struble, Jim Topkoff, Phil Waters, Rick Winfrey, Bob Wyatt, Terry Young, George Zervos, (26)

AVVA Members Present: Carl Lofaro, Judy Atencio

Guests – Michelle Adams, Jim Higgins, Louis Rivas, Cal Stegink, (5)

President – Stan Paprocki: Welcomed Members & Guests

1. State Council meeting last Saturday was attended by Stan and a couple of 1071 members. Regions 8 & 9 will have a conference meeting scheduled for June 25 & 26th of 2017. More information will become available as time nears.
2. A couple of bills before congress have been passed. Please see 1071 website for information on bills.
3. State Council had three chapters report at last Saturday's meeting. 1071 is doing very well in membership and being very active in meetings.
4. Memo to the Chaplain (John Altfeltis) from Army vets: Army 21, Navy 17
5. Welcome past AVVA 1071 member Judy Atencio, now living in Montrose Colo. Judy spoke of her trying to set up a chapter in the Montrose area and is glad to be back visiting her old chapter.

Vice President: Terry Ritenour

Terry reported on VFW Post #1's event on Dec.4th to honor all veterans with a banquet and special guest Ann Margaret & her husband. Unfortunately little notice was given to Stan & Terry prior to the event. Both were able to buy tickets and attend. Ann Margaret looks the same, wishing all the veterans well especially Vietnam Veterans. There were several veterans from all different wars including one 95 year old . There were also several MOH veterans in attendance. Post #1 did a wonderful job putting this together. Stan stated that he hopes to get early information next time an event like this is scheduled and can be passed on to 1071 members.

Post # 1 also has a Veterans Outreach program for veteran artist who may want to sell their art. Please see VP Terry for more info.

Secretary Report: Marty Chavez

None, Out of town

Webmaster: Ray Holtz,

WEBSITE

November website visits were 2,970.

Posted food drive for January.

Added the VVA Web Weekly news link to top of home page.

Updated the link to the Navy list of ships with Agent Orange exposure. New list is broken down into different categories and is 34 pages long.

Posted VVA President John Rowan's two emails about the Vets Health Care and Benefits Act, Toxic Exposure Research Act and the Fairness for Veterans Act.

Posted Dan Dietz's Pen Case on the Merchandise page.

The last three 4 week periods for the King Soopers Neighborhood Rewards we had total of \$7,989.61. We should receive a check for \$399.48. The next 4 week period will end on December 24th.

MEMBERSHIP

We added 4 new members: Kevin Hurst, Vern Moore, Phil Waters and John Thompson.

Membership transfer for Robert Primeaux was sent to National.

No AVVA report for November.

We have 139 members, and 17 AVVA members giving us a total of 156 members.

*Ray added a reminder for food drive due next members meeting in January.

*Bills before Congress have been posted on 1071 website.

*Pen cases for pens made by Dan Dietz are also available. Contact Dan.

*Question on Applewood Plumbing \$1000. Donation giveaway. Ray will have more info by Jan. meeting.

*Scholarship applications ready to roll, awaiting BOD approval at Jan. meet.

Treasurer Report: Leonard Smith

VVA Denver Chapter 1071 Treasurer's Report

November 30th, 2016

As of November 1st 2016 General Acct. Balance (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	\$21,949.68
State Household Goods Allocation	579.00
Donations	2,882.19
Expenditures	(849.41)
Balance General Acct. 11/30/2016 (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	\$24,561.46
Balance Emergency Fund 11/30//2016	\$5,000.00
Balance Scholarship Account 11/30/2016	\$5,245.56

Outreach Committee: Position Vacant

Guest Speakers: Phil Waters: 1071 member Phil Waters spoke to the members about the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. He explained that this project is on-going to help preserve the history of veterans stories in their own voices. Handouts were made available & a sign up sheet was passed around for interested veterans to sign up.

Robert Primeaux (pronounced Primo). Robert is a new transfer VVA member to our chapter. Robert gave a history of himself and his connection to several VVA Chapters and his desire to help veterans along his many travels. He spoke of his movie episodes during his career. It was mentioned that Robert has volunteered with our OutReach program.

Marketing: Jim Topkoff: Jim updated new & old members on the Honors Burial Project within our chapter. We are hoping to continue with some burials of veteran cremations at Fort Logan during the first quarter of 2017.

Steve Newton brought in three beautiful jackets donated by a deceased member of 1071, Jay Hand who passed away early this year. The jackets were donated by his wife Karen. A money donation will be accepted for the jackets will be in order at conclusion of meeting.

Drawings Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff

Stan provided five large Vietnam maps which were given away for free.

Three Jackets of Jay Hand were up for donations. These were donated by Jay's widow Karen Hand. Thank you Karen.

White Fence Farm \$30. Gift card winner: Louis Rivas

VN Stocking Cap winner ticket holder # 86

1071 logo hat/shirt pin winner ticket #74

Up Coming Events: Canned food drive, January, 2017

DAR Vietnam Veterans Commoritive event Febuary, 2017

Old Business: Jim Miles (absent) has all donated Vietnam books lined up and ready to distribute to selected area schools for their Vietnam Theme Libraries. Please continue to bring your discarded Vietnam books to next meeting as this project is on-going.

Rick Winfrey, 1071 member and VSO for Gilpin County, thanked all members for the clothing and food drive sponsored by 1071. The mountain vets appreciate it but

New Business: Stan presented **Venita Collier (Elks Representative)** with a donation from Chapter 1071 in the amount of \$500. Venita heads up the Veterans Committee at the Elks and is involved in numerous veterans causes. Venita wanted to know if 1071 had any special place that we wanted her to use that donation, whether it be used to help veterans in need, Wounded Warriors Project, or any special thing that we have in mind. She spoke of all the wonderful things the Elks Veterans Committee & volunteers have done for veterans with donations. A motion was made to allow her to use the money to help veterans with household goods as they move on to their own housing. Motion was seconded and approved by members in attendance. Venita thanked the chapter for the donation.

Carl Lofaro, AVVA member & JeffCo Outreach for veterans thanked the chapter for the \$150. Donation that was used to help a veteran who just moved into his own apartment. This donation was used to purchase much needed household appliances.

Carl also passed on the sad news of **Capt. Luis Carlos Montalvan's** passing in December. May he rest in peace. Chapter 1071 is so glad and honored to have met him and his dog Tuesday during his visit and book signing here in our meeting room on April 15, 2016. For pictures & story of his visit go to 1071 website (archives 2016).

Cliff Fejfar mentioned that Elks member **Paula Schaffer** is a lady who has volunteered to play Taps during Military Funerals should she be needed. She can be reached through the Lakewood Elks @ 303-238-1307. Please allow plenty of notice.

Cliff also mentioned that the Honor Bell Assn. Is looking for volunteers to ring the **Honor Bell** during funerals at Ft. Logan. All they ask is that you dress in a hat or jacket that signifies that you were in the military. Keep in mind that it could turn into an all day affair as Ft. Logan normally does 5 to 6 burials a day. Go to www.honorbell.org for more information.

Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors:

Benediction: Chaplain Altfeltis

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on Jan.25th,2017

Marty Chavez, Secretary

VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver