

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver**

Location: Elk's Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday December 19- 2015

Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Richard Cox at 10am

Members Present: John Altfeltis, Judy Atencio, Craig Burchard, Martin Clark, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Steve Connolly, Richard Cox, Dan Dietz, Robert Doriss, Cliff Fejfar, Jeffery E. Fossum, Bob Garcia, Jose S. Gonzales, Dave Hennig, Bill Hilliard, Ray Holtz, Heidi Hendrix-Johnson, Carl Lafaro, Shannon Martenson, Rusty Morse, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, John Pascente, Joe Romero, Louie Rommerdahl, Jim Rose, Lyle Scanlan, Leonard Smith, Lindsay Smith, Thomas W. Simpson, David Steiner, Jim Topkoff, Dan Witt, John Ed Young, (36)

Board Members Excused: 0

Pledge of Allegiance – Richard Cox

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

Posting of POW/MIA Colors on POW Honor Chair—Dan Dietz

Guests – Ashley Vogl, Patty Young, Terry Young, Claudia E. Hennig,

Guest speakers: None

President – Approval of Minutes from 11-21-15 : Approved

Lift Spoon, Richard talked to recipient (Leo). He did receive it and is very happy with it . works good.

Life membership one time fees for \$100. ends Dec.31st. All members are urged to take advantage of this offer.

Changes to VA Choice card, VA says that the card has been improved, much easier to use and more flexibility applied.

Tony Lopez Scholarship: We need to form a committee to work out and get out the requirements for students to apply. If any members are interested in being on committee please see any board member. **Note:** Leonard Smith volunteered to be on the scholarship committee. Leonard stated that he has served on this type of committee before and is willing to help.

Lt.Norris Honors: Several 1071 members along with Colo Patriots Riders and Navy personal met at DIA last week to welcome & honor Lt.Norris. He is a Vietnam veteran, Navy Seal, who is a Medal of Honor recipient. The write up on Lt.Norris is on the 1071 website.

Capt.Montalvan Service Dog, Tuesday: Jeffco Mental Health will be having an event with the Capt. He writes children's story books. This will be open to Veteran's children and grandchildren. Carl Lafaro will cover more later on in the meeting.

Vietnam Memorial, Angel Fire,N.M.: State Council and Chapter 1106 are putting together a trip to Angle Fire early next year for a two or three day event at the Vietnam Memorial there. More details will be made available as we get them for those that are interested.

Two large packages of letters from Foothills Elementary School in Boulder were delivered to the chapters mailbox. Richard encouraged members to take a few letters and read them. 1071 will respond to the kid's letters as a whole.

Vise President: David Steiner: I just want to say that Bill Hillard has done a wonderful job with the Outreach Committee. He has spent a great deal of personal time reaching out and helping out veterans in need. Especially one veteran that he will speak about on his Outreach report. Let's give Bill a well deserved round of thanks and recognition for what he has done in this case.

Treasurer—John Pascente provided the members with an update (3-1-15 to 11-30-15) regarding our financial status.

We have had some generous donations this year and our chapter is being very frugal with our spending, but making sure that we do provide the care that we need to in order to help out our fellow veterans.

**VVA Chapter 1071
Income and Expense**

	Budget	Actual
	3/1/15- 11/30/15	3/1/15 - 11/30/15
INCOME		
Grant	18756	16504
Donations	7497	21215
HGDP	3753	3777
Marketing	675	1107
Dues	178	523
Fund Raising		
Honors Burial		
Total Income	30859	43126
EXPENSES		
Insurance	600	278
Marketing	1503	4357
Storage Rent	1575	1953
Office Expenses		1348
Cell Phone	225	188
Postage	100	370
Supplies	675	422
Printing	450	0
Fees	50	65

Recognition Awards	500	0		
Travel	900	198		
Training	1000	0		
Veterans Assistance Grant Program	18756	14024		
Veterans Assistance Other	1500	0		
Sr Veteran's Games		0		
Donations	350	1500		
Chapter Meetings Expense	200	0		
Board Meetings Expense	100	0		
Miscellaneous Expense	500	2646		
Honors Burial Expenses		0		
Total Expenses	28,984.00	27,349.00		
 Asset Increase (Decrease)		15,777.00		
 Cash Balances 3/1/15		6544		
Cash Balances 11/30/15		22,321.00		
	Operating	Grant	Saving	
Bank Balances 11/30/15	18495	1732	2094	22,321.00

Webmaster Report-- Ray Holtz

We had 3273 visits to our website this past month (Nov). Just want the members to know that we have reached a milestone with over 100,000 visits to our website since its beginning in Oct.2012

There are also new links in the website including one on Vietnam War Commemoration which is pretty interesting.

We have five New AVVA members; four are from Mead H.S and one new VVA member plus three lifetime members.

Outreach Committee: Bill Hillard, Meeting Notes December 19, 2015

Honors Burial

I met with Lloyd Swint at Olingers Hampden offices December 7th where we reviewed the names and information we recorded at Eastlawn Cemetery on Halloween. We ran several names through his corporate database, HMIS, trying to find social security numbers. We had no useable returns, so Lloyd will try several other avenues that might uncover that data.

We had good data on 57 bodies currently in custody of the Denver Medical Examiner, most of which had SSN information. We submitted the first 10 names to VA National Cemeteries on December 3rd, only to be rejected because the VA wanted the ME to submit through normal channels.

Events

Welcomed Navy LT Norris (MOH) previously discussed.

Vet Assists

12/7/15: Assisted Army Vietnam Vet Kurt Little, who was hospitalized most of November from a stroke, with 2 months lot rent for his trailer. He continues to improve and expects to be able to work soon.

12/15/15: Richard assisted Marine Veteran Ryan LeCompte with back rent.

12/9/15: Assisted dying Navy Vet Kurt Stults. Email passed down from VVA National HQ, Stults granted compassionate discharge parole from Colorado Dept of Corrections on Jan 5, requested our assistance in getting him discharged sooner because prognosis was to die within 2 weeks. BOD authorized a commutation request letter which was drafted and placed on Gov. Hickenlooper's desk 12/10. Coordinated w/ parole board 12/15, discharge ordered for 12/18. Stults was released 12/18, immediately taken to University Hospital, where he died three hours later.

12/9/15: Vet Grant Webinar discussing changes, over 200 applicants for next year's grant.

****In regards to the Vet Grant, Bill put out an all call for volunteer(s) to help out with this program so as not to let it go by the wayside as both he and Richard are the only administrators and their plate are pretty full. John Ed Young indicated that he would be willing to help in this area.**

Secretary Report –Encouraged members to participate in events that honor veterans. Talked a little more about upcoming Angel Fire Vietnam Memorial event in June and 1071's participation at DIA with Lt. Norris.

Marketing: Dan Dietz, Is requesting for someone else to take over in the marketing dept as his plate is also getting too full. Dan is willing to work with and help someone with this program. The chapter has ordered a storage container to help with our storage of equipment. This unit cost \$4200. plus \$130. delivery. This unit will be ours and we will eliminate the cost of the rental storage unit which is costing the chapter \$196.00 per month.

Old Business: Richard wanted to have a Christmas dinner & meeting this year but we ran out of planning time. We want to have a Christmas party/dinner next year so we are planning to start planning early sometime in Aug or Sept. of next year.

We've got our election committee and we need to get names of those who are interested in running. Please put your name out there if you are interested. Positions that will be vacant will be President & Vice President. At some point the Treasurer position may also be vacant.

Richard covered the duties required of the chapter president and noted that most expenses are paid by the state or national.

New Business: Carl Lafaro, AVVA member, Jeffco Mental Health talked about an event to be held on April 15th, 2016 to hear Capt Montalvan talk to veterans and their children/grandchildren. Capt Moltalvan writes children's books. Jeffco would like to partner with 1071 to participate in this free event. More details will be worked out as to location for event.

It was proposed and second that we try to scheduled Capt Montalvan as guest speaker for our April members meeting.

Drawing: A special thanks to Patty Young for baking and donating several loafs of baked goodies. There were several lucky members who went home with baked goods and one winner of White Fence Farm gift card.

Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on Jan.16-2016

Marty Chavez
Secretary
VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver