

Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver
Location: Elk's Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday March 19th, 2016

Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Richard Cox at 10:05 am

Roll Call of Officers: All Present

Board Members Excused:

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—Ray Holtz

President – Approval of Minutes from last month: Feb.20th,2016: Approved

Richard covered Election of Officers in April. Positions open are President, Vice President & Treasurer. Members running unopposed are Stan Paprocki (Pres.), Lance Rommerdahl (VP) and Leonard Smith (Treasurer). No other present members volunteered at this time for office when polled by Richard.

Capt Montalvan (Tuesday Tucks Me In) Event on April 15th. AVVA members Carl Lofaro & Judy Atencio informed members about the upcoming event regarding Capt. Montalvan and his book signing / story telling for veteran's children & grandchildren.

Kirt Bol, Intram Registrar Colo. Vital Records Bureau will be our guest speaker today

Reminder that the West Metro Veteran's Fair planning committee will be meeting on April 13th at Belmar Center, City of Lakewood.

Reminder to members of event on June 11th 2016 at Angel Fire to honor MIA's and Vietnam Veterans.

New members and visitors were recognized and welcomed.

VVA Members Present: John Altfeltis, Bill Belau, Marty Chavez, Steve Connolly, Richard Cox, Dan Dietz, , Cliff Fejfar, Jeffery E. Fossum, William Ferguson, Bob Garcia, Jose S. Gonzales, Jim Hernandez, Bill Hilliard, Ray Holtz, George Horgan, Jim Miles, ,Steve Munsinger, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, John Pascente, Phillip Post, Al Roettger, Lance Rommerdahl, Eddie Shreeve, Thomas W. Simpson, Leonard Smith, Lindsay Smith, Tom Stapleton, David Steiner, Frank Tobanni, Jim Topkoff, Rick Winfrey, Dan Witt, (34)

AVVA Members Present: Judy Atencio, Ed Baker, Carl Lofaro, Ashley Vogl (4)

Guests – Shiloh Augustine, Kirt Bol, Barry Dibble, Hadley Dykes, James Emerson, Linda Olsen Ferguson, Bruce Gottschalk, Bob Hartman, Jerry Hilton, Chuck Lamison, Tom Moermond, Nick Riggle, Terry Ritenour, Pete Roybal, Neal Stanley, Mary Ann Whitehead, Kellie Vogl, (17)

Other Agenda: VN veteran Neal Stanley (Guest) spoke to members about volunteering at the Wall in DC. He brought brochures and copies of questionnaires that volunteers can have access to. He expressed the need for volunteers if any members are interested.

Pete Roybal (veteran and city councilman) showed the members a flag that signifies that the City of Lakewood is now officially a member of the 50th Vietnam Veteran's Commemoration and

will present the flag to city council in about two weeks. This meeting will be televised. Pete also mentioned a WWII Veteran's Memorial, erected by in 1947 by students of the old Lakewood High School. This memorial was left behind when the school was relocated to its new site. Plans are under way to restore and move it to the present L.H.S. location for dedication this Memorial Day. Members are invited to attend the ceremonies.

Bob Garcia brought us up to date on Veteran's Court in Jeffco. Program is working good but could like to have more volunteers to meet with these veterans to show support and to lend an ear.

AL Rottger: Update on school talks. Going great. Have several members already signed up for talks.

Guest speakers: Kirt Bol, Intram Registrar Colo. Vital Records, Kirt spoke about the importance of keeping vital records of births and deaths in Colorado, especially regarding all veterans. Kirt expressed his intentions to work with the Honor Burial committee & Bill Hilliard. Bill followed up by thanking Kirt for the progress made since teaming up with him and his office last summer. Our team effort will finally take care of veteran's remains that have been abandoned. We owe a lot to Kirt and we can't thank him enough.

Vice President: David Steiner: We will not be issuing out voting ballots since there are no challengers to the three members running for office. The candidates were introduced to the members. The election and transfer of duties will take place at the April's member's meeting.

Treasurer Report: John Pascente, Not too much activity to report on. Finished our physical year report ending in Feb. I am working other reports that need to go to State Council.
Financial Report: \$10,450 in general acct. \$4,044 in savings acct. and \$1,543 in grants acct.

Webmaster: Ray Holtz,

WEBSITE

January website visits came to 3,655

Modified links in Photo Galleries page to make it easier to pick names.

Added Marty Chavez to Photo Galleries page

Posted Vietnam Vets Appreciation day photos at capitol on March 7th.

Created a link to the AVVA Updates Newsletters.

There is a link to "Tuesday Tucks Me In" event held April 15th here at the Elks Lodge, that Carl Lafaro talked about last month.

I have reserved the Green Mtn King Soopers near Alameda and Union for poppy fund raiser on May 28th from 9 till 12. Sat before Memorial Day.

MEMBERSHIP

On our Chapter roster for January 2016 as of 3/10/2016 we added 3 members: George Horgan (Life), Christopher Walters (Life), David Kause (IND3) that has a FL address but a Colorado Phone number that is not in service.

The following Member has upgraded to Life Member: Leonard Smith

No new AVVA members were added to our roster.

We have 114 members, and 13 AVVA members.

Note: Ashley Vogl is a AVVA member still not recognized by National. Richard will check into this. She signed up on Veteran's Day

Out Reach Report: Bill Hilliard

Outreach Notes – Membership Meeting

Saturday March 19, 2016

Guest Speakers

Kirk Bol, interim vital records registrar, Colorado Center for Health and Environment Data

Veterans Assist

2/25/16: Received call from David McLemore regarding Ricardo Gomez needing assistance with rent. Check mailed 3/1/16.

3/4/16: Assist vet with \$50 grocery card and vehicle registration.

3/4/16: Assist vet with rent check

3/4/16: Assist vet with grocery card and household goods.

3/7/16: Assist vet with medical bill copay and grocery card.

Honors Burial

3/10/16: Called Renee Bear (303) 692-2179, Colo. Vital Records re access of death certificate info. No answer.

3/10/16: Called Dan Catron, Supervisor, VA National Cemeteries (314) 416-6324 to see if we made any progress. He did not receive previous email of 2/26, it was resent and he has it and will review it with his supervisor today. He advises that currently he has no option but to open individual cases on every name submitted, but would not mind some legislative involvement to streamline the process.

3/11/16: Called Andrew Dunkley (Sen. Gardner) asking for help to streamline procedures at VA Nat'l Cemeteries. Forwarded email sent to Dan Catron.

3/11/16: Called Renee Bear – she advises Interim Registrar Kirk Bol (303) 692-2170 has been working on the issue. Later discussion with Kirk provides information exchange, and invite to today's meeting.

Auction Activity

2/17/16: Notified by PayPal we forfeited a \$551.10 payment received for Ebay sale of speakers on 1/18/16. PayPal says they did not receive a reply to their request for information on 2/4. Email of 2/4 says: "Our records show tracking information is available for this transaction. We will review

this as soon as possible. At this time, we need no further action or information from you.” Owen sent letter to PayPal.

3/11/16: Demand for Payment letter sent to buyer via certified mail.

Secretary Report: Marty Chavez, Gave report on Vietnam Veteran’s Appreciation Day and passage of Blue Water Bill on March 7th at State capitol.

Also mentioned that dog tags are available to be made by Mary Ann Whitehead (a soon to be avva member).

Dan Dietz: Thanked all who came to visit him during his hospital stay last month.

Marketing: Jim Topkoff, None

Old Business: None

New Business: Richard mentioned that the Health Council is working on Hepatitis C treatment and requested that all veterans get tested for Hep.C if they have not been tested before.

Drawings 4 Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff & Steve Newton

Winners

\$25 gift card for Cabelas: Marty Chavez

\$30 gift card donated by White Fence Farm: Eddie Shreeve

Walking stick (donated by avva member & Mead H.S. student, Ashley Vogl) Neal Stanley

1071 Challenge Pin: Bill Bleau

\$45 VN Emblem pen, hand made & donated by Dan Dietz: Nick Riggle

Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors: Ray Holtz

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on April 16th, 2016

Marty Chavez

Secretary

VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver