

**Vietnam Veterans of America**

**Chapter 1071 - Denver**

Location: Elk's Lodge #1777

1455 Newland Street

Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday April 16, 2016

Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

**CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**

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

**VVA Members Present:** John Altfeltis, Bill Bleou, Craig Burchard, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Hal Coffman, Steve Connolly, Richard Cox, Dan Dietz, Cliff Fejfar, William Ferguson, Bob Garcia, Bob Hartman, Dave Hennig, Lynn D. Herbert, Bill Hilliard, Ray Holtz, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, John Pascente, Al Roettger, Joe Romero, Lance Rommerdahl, Thomas W. Simpson, David Steiner, Jim Topkoff, (25)

**Board Members Excused:** Steve Newton, Leonard Smith, John Ed Young

**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

**AVVA Members Present:** Judy Atencio, Ed Baker, Carl Lofaro, Kathy Cox

**Guests** –Claudia E. Hennig, Rev.Juls Mercer, Linda Olsen Ferguson, Jeff Johnson, Ann Toll, Scott Hefty, Nick Riggle, Terry Ritenour, Vern Moore, Mary Ann Whitehead, Larry Sourbeer, Bob Wyatt, Shiloh Augustine, Karen Hand, Linda Topkoff, Jean Chavez, Chris Chavez, Alan Orr, Joe Mielke (20)

**President** – Richard Cox

Approval of all Minutes from last month: Approved

Richard received an email from Chapter 1106 inviting all veterans to attend their May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting from 9 to 10am at the South Metro Fire & Rescue Building in Centennial. Congressman Mike Coffman will be the guest speaker.

Also a reminder, The West Metro Veterans fair will be held here at the Elks Club on Sept 20<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 5 pm

Received from National that the VA will have no further staff punishment for that fiasco with the VA hospital. This is something to be discussed with Rep. Mike Coffman at the 1106 meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Combat veterans can now get telephone care over the phone. This will eliminate a lot of time traveling to VA centers to fill out paperwork. Just contact VA and request the application.

The Chapter received a \$50. donation from Dean & Shawna Stratton when 1071 members visited Mead HS this past week. Shawna is a Secretary at Mead HS. We need to send the Strattons a Thank You note and let them know how much we appreciate the donation.

We have a request for transfer to our chapter from John J. Signal, a member at large. He should be on our roster next month.

**Vice President:** David Steiner: Nothing to add

**Treasurer Report:** John Pascente, still working on 990 form and will get everything ready to turn over to new treasurer.

**Webmaster:** Ray Holtz,

Members Meeting 4/16/2016

#### **WEBSITE**

For March website visits came to 3,010.

Posted photos of Mead HS Visit on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Posted photos of Dakota Ridge HS visits on April 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>.

Posted a VA news flash for combat vets health care application by phone.

Posted History of the Wall video by volunteer Allen McCabe.

**Posted photos of 50th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony Fort Logan.**

We will get \$258.59 check from King Scoopers Neighborhood Rewards. Had total of \$5,171.73 for the last period.

Ray explained the use of King Scoopers card to new members

Lance Rammerdahl shared his use of his King Scoopers visa card to load onto the gift card.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

We added 2 members: Terry Craig (Life), and Robert Hartman (IND3).

The following Member has upgraded to Life Member: Leonard Smith.  
I do not have the February AVVA roster yet.  
We have 116 members, and 13 AVVA members.

**Outreach Committee:** Bill Hilliard

Assisted three veterans with grocery cards and one of those received a foam mattress for her bad back.

Honor burial is coming along just great. We have four urns on display for the four veterans that have been vetted for burial at Ft Logan.

I have been communicating with Lloyd Swint and he is still very much on board with our burial efforts. There is a conflict on his part for the burial if these four in May. Lloyd would like very much to transport these remains via hearse instead of us transporting them in our trunks. We are totally in agreement with Lloyd.

After some discussion the Chapter members agreed to wait until June to hold the burial services along with the scheduled Saturday burial by Ft. Logan personal.

**Note:** Bill explained to new members and visitors what the mission of the Honor Burial Committee and the urns on display is all about.

**Secretary Report:** Marty Chavez,

Introduction of guests.

Talked about the Tuesday Tucks me in event. It was a wonderful presentation. The Kids and adults really enjoyed themselves. I want to thank the Elks Club, Judy and Carl for all their hard work in putting together this event.

Judy and Carl also thanked the chapter for their support also.

Ray thanked Karen Hand for supplying the cake for the swearing in ceremony today.

John Collier of the Elks Club thanked all 1071 members and guests for all their support last night at the Capt.Montalvan event and also for supporting the Saturday morning breakfast. He reminded all that the Elks supports all the veterans.

**Marketing:** Jim Topkoff,

Talked about the urns on display that are available upon request from Ms. Laura Peterson for about \$200.

**School / Student Outreach:** Al Roeggter,

Al spoke about the school events held at Mead HS and Dakota Ridge HS. If any veteran is not on Al's database and wants to participate, please see him.

**Up Coming Events:**

Air Show at Centennial Airport on May 6,7 & 8<sup>th</sup>

Veteran's Festival at Heritage Center on June 25<sup>th</sup>. City of Lakewood will be holding a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Installation of new officers by David Steiner. Stan Paprocki replacing Richard Cox as President, Lance Rommerdahl replacing David Steiner as V.P., Leonard Smith (not present due to illness in family) replacing John Pascente.

Marty Chavez as Secretary, John Altfeltis as Chaplain,

Asked to stand and be recognized were the Chapter Board of Directors.

After accepting the duties as officers Chaplain John said a prayer.

Richard , David and John P. thanked the Chapter members for all their support this past years.

Awards were presented to departing officers.

**Drawings 4 Door Prizes: Winners**

\$30 gift card donated by White Fence Farm: Scott Hefty

\$50 Restaurant gift card. Steve Connley

Handmade pen by Dan. Bill Ferguson

1071 Hat. Bill Bleau, gave it to his guest.

**Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors:** Dan Dietz

**Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM MDT**

**Next Chapter Meeting will be on May 21st, 2016**

**Marty Chavez**

**Secretary**

**VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver**