

# **Vietnam Veterans of America**

## **Chapter 1071 - Denver**

Location: Elk's Lodge #1777

1455 Newland Street

Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 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**— Jose Gonzales

**VVA Members Present:** John Altfeltis, Craig Buchard, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Hal Coffman, Steve Connolly, Dan Dietz, Robert Doriss, John Durant, Cliff Fejfar, William Ferguson, Jeffery Fossum, Bob Garcia, Jose Gonzales, Bruce Gottschalk, Bob Hartman, Lynn D. Herbert, Jim Hernandez, Ray Holtz, Jim Miles, Tom Moermond, Rusty Morse, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, John Pascente, Phillip Post, Terry Ritenour, Al Roettger, Joe Romero, David Steiner, Tom Simpson, Larry Sourbeer, Leonard Smith, Lindsay Smith, Tom Stepleton, Jim Topkoff, Gary Uyeda, Robert Wyatt, George Zervos (40)

**AVVA Members Present:** Judy Atencio, Mary Ann Whitehead, Scott Hefty, Ed Baker, Carl Lofaro (5)

**Guests** –Thomas D. Crews, Lew Roman, Clark Rheem, Vern Moore, Leanne Wheeler, Ann Toll, Phil Waters, Don “Larry” Carroll, Brian Erickson, Larry Ritchie (10)

**President** – Stan Paprocki: Welcomed Members and Guests.

Please silence your cell Phones

**Roll Call:** Present: Stan Paprocki, Leonard Smith, Ray Holtz, and Marty Chavez

Stan covered the events of Richard Cox's funeral and reception following the funeral. Funeral services were wonderful; Burial was at Ft Logan Cemetery with about 200+ attending. A reception for family, friends, and 1071 members was held at the American Legion post in Arvada. Richard had requested that in lieu of flowers to please donate money to our chapter. Dan Dietz turned over a \$5000.00 donation check from Kathy Cox's boss (San Marino Retirement Home). This donation was made in Richard's name to help cover the food expense and for the rest to go to our general fund. Kathy's boss loved Richard and thought the world of him. There were some other donations that need mentioning. Dan Dietz donated \$200., VVA State Council along with Chapters 1106 & 1075 each donated \$500. (total \$1500.)

Stan covered information from the VVA National Conference seminar held last month in Tucson Az. Three 1071 officers, two which are present now attended. Much was learned especially for new officers. One area of concern was bill F2920 which has to do with Agent Orange exposure. Please contact your representatives and get them behind this bill.

Hepatitis C is among one of VA's concern too. Veterans need to get tested. Some might be infected and not even know it, so make an appointment and get tested.

Veteran's Fair will be held Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, here at the Elks Lodge, 1-5pm. 1071 will have an information table set up. There are to be some 35 vendors set up to help veterans.

Jim Miles, a board member is collecting Vietnam related books and articles for donations to libraries in three schools, Mead, Green Mtn & Dakota Ridge High Schools. If you have any Vietnam related books, please contact Jim Miles.

Stan informed members that they should use Bill Bleau as their VSO as he (Bill) is now our very own VSO.

**Vice President:** Vacant

**Secretary Report:** Marty Chavez

Recognized and welcomed all guest to our meeting.

Marty also spoke about the free Lt. Dan Band concert (Gary Sinise). held for veterans at Fort Carson last Saturday. Great concert and great steaks.

**Webmaster:** Ray Holtz, **WEBSITE**

**WEBSITE**

July website visits were 2,852.

I like to thank Rusty Morse who has agreed to be my backup webmaster.

Posted 50th anniversary tribute video that is narrated by actor Sam Elliott.

Posted link to Agent Orange Newsletter Summer 2016.

Star Spangled Boomerang article did a great article about: An American Hero Veteran Richard Cox. I urge you all to take a look at this.

Posted is the VVA Press Release of the VVA President John Rowan on Trump's Attack on the Gold Star Family is Disgraceful and Un-American.

West Metro Veterans Fair will be Sept 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 at this Elks Lodge, details are on the website.

There is a link to photos of Richard's funeral at Ft Logan and reception afterwards. This link goes to Richard's Photo Galleries page that has his bio also.

I still have some DVD's of the Ft Logan ceremony. There are 360 photos from Marty and myself. The 9 News report, the "Final Roll Call Book" that Bill created and the full video that 6162 Productions made.

The last four week period for the King Soopers Neighborhood Rewards we had total of \$2,084.95. The next 4 week period will end on 9/3/16.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We added 4 new members: Bob Marlowe (Life), Wallace Struble (Life), Robert Burnham and Lonnie Leach. Cliff Fejfar upgraded to a life member.

No AVVA report yet for July.

We have 132 members, and 17 AVVA members giving us a total of 149 members.

Note: Looking for members to submit their Bio's and photos so I can download them onto the website. This is a great way to pass on your stories and legacy

**Treasurer Report:** Leonard Smith

### **VVA Denver Chapter 1071**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**July 31st, 2016**

**MARKETING \$2704 IS NOT DEDUCTED FROM \$12,913**

As of June 30th, 2016 General Acct. Balance \$14,460.37

National Membership Allocation	27.00
State HG	579.00
Marketing, King Soopers	186.25

Expenditures	(2,248.62)
Balance General Acct. 7/31/2016	<u>\$12,913.75</u>
Balance Emergency Acct. 7/31/2016	\$5,100.38
Balance Grant Account 7/31/2016	\$3,022.97
Balance Scholarship Account 7/31/2016	\$4,344.74

## **Outreach Committee: Position Vacant**

**Guest Speaker:** We had two guest speakers, Brian Erickson & Leann Wheeler from The Campaign for a Healthy Colorado to help veterans. Brian and Leann spoke about where tax monies from cigarettes are being allocated to. The campaign is working hard towards securing more tax monies for veteran's health programs.

Lew Roman from The Broomfield Veteran's Museum also spoke about their museum and the need for more artifacts and exposure to their site.

**Marketing:** Jim Topkoff: Jim showed off the Richard Cox collectors stamps that were made and donated by VVA member Phillip Post. These sheets of stamps are legit and we are asking \$12. per sheet. Thank you Phillip.

Jim also showed off and conducted the bidding process for Richard Cox's leather vest. Richard's Vietnam Vest auctioned off for \$100. Phillip Post was high bidder.

## **Drawings Door Prizes: Winners**

White Fence Farm \$30. No name recorded

1071 pin: Cliff Fejfar

Two Patches: Gary Uyeda

**Up Coming Events:** West Metro Veterans fair, Sept.20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 1-5 p.m. Location: Lakewood Elks Lodge 1277

**Old Business:** Scott Hefty spoke regarding the Veteran's Fair, free BBQ. All are welcome. Owen Oliver, reminded all of "Wish of a Lifetime" still available to anyone who meets the requirements. Also trip to SoldierStone Memorial is on for Saturday Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**New Business:** Larry Carrol spoke about a candidate forum which will be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds Sept.1<sup>st</sup> from 6-9pm. This will be an opportunity to meet and ask questions with candidates from Colorado.

**Al Roettger:** Al spoke to the membership regarding the Honors Burial and is requesting for volunteers to step up and fill these spots.

Al also mentioned that the Scholarship Fund is in limbo until we can set up a committee.

**Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors:** Jose Gonzales

**Benediction:** Chaplain Altfeltis

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

**Next Chapter Meeting will be on Sept 17th, 2016**

**Marty Chavez, Secretary**

**VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver**