

**Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1071 – Denver  
Location: Elk's Lodge #1777  
1455 Newland Street  
Lakewood, CO  
Date: Saturday March 18, 2017  
Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT**

**CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting called to order by: Stan Paprocki at 10:00 am**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance – Stan Paprocki**

**Posting of POW/MIA Colors on POW Honor Chair— Jose Gonzales**

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

**VVA Members Present:** John Altfeltis, Jeff Birdwell, Bill Bleau, Bobby Campoy, Larry J. Cato, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Hal Coffman, Bob Coleman, Steve Connolly, Dan Dietz, Robert Doriss, John Durant, Cliff Fejfar, Bill Ferguson, Jeffery Fossum, Jose S. Gonzales, Ron Gorman, Bruce Gottschalk, David Hennig, Lynn Herbert, Ray Holtz, George Horgan, Kevin Hurst, Bob Lopez, Jim Miles, Tom Moermond, Vern Moore, Rusty Morse, Steve Newton, Stan Paprocki, Phillip Post, Robert Primeaux, Terry Ritenour, Louis Rivas, Al Roettger, Lew Roman, Joe Romero, Glen Rountree, Eddie Shreeve, Tom Simpson, Larry Sourbeer, Leonard Smith, Lindsay Smith, David Steiner, Wally Struble, John Thompson, Jim Topkoff, Phil Waters, Rick Winfrey, Bob Wyatt, George Zervos, (52)

**AVVA Members Present:** Mary Ann Whitehead, Scott Hefty, Carl Lofaro (3)

**Guests –** Dante Potter, K. Potter, Chris Christensen, Jonathan Rash, Wilton Webb, Laura Peterson, Cliff Peterson, Claudia Hennig, Bob H.??, Cary Goltermann, Nelson Hendrickson, Eileen Meeker, John Currie, J.????? (14)

**President – Stan Paprocki:** Welcomed Members & Guests

**President's Report: Stan Paprocki,**

The Chapter's main objective at this time is the upcoming Honors Burial March 24, Ft. Logan, we will get a full report from Jim Topkoff later in the meeting.

We received 2 donations this week from DAR, Dr. Susan Anderson Chapter, Arvada CO for our Honors Burial Program. And another from one of their members Barbra Smith. \*\* Stan attended the DAR meeting and was presented with the donations. This is a different DAR chapter than the one that Janet Beiner belongs to.

Also, I have been working on the Agent/Orange Town Hall Meeting in conjunction with chapter 1106 (Lee White), flyers out next week. \*\* April 29<sup>th</sup> at American Legion Post 161

I attended the March Meeting of the United Veteran's Committee of Colo. This past week very informative and will continue to be involved with this group.

\*\*Stan stated that he will continue to attend future meetings and represent chapter 1071.

We had the Colorado State Council meeting last Saturday, the Regional Info. Was talked about, June 24, no location confirmed yet, but to be in Aurora, CO.

\*\*Stan encouraged all members to attend this conference in June. 1071 will reimburse the registration fee (\$65.00) for those that attend.

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### **Vice President: Terry Ritenour**

State Council Meeting revealed that Colorado Springs will have a new National Cemetery. It will be called Pikes Peak National Cemetery. Ground breaking is scheduled this year and first ceremony will be in 2018. They are also looking for a new Honor Guard for the cemetery, so any suggestions would be appreciated.

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### **Secretary Report: Marty Chavez**

1. Introduction of New Members/Guests/Visitors: We had 14 guests attending today which included the Colo Woodworkers Guild, Three students, and several veterans invited by other members.

2. Mentioned books that are available for check out by 1071 members.

3. Remaining Vietnam Commemoration Certificates & Pins donated by the DAR were presented to four members who missed the last meeting.

4. Covered information regarding other than honorable discharges, which will allow the VA to treat veterans for PTSD and Mental Health. The bill is Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Healthcare Act (H.R.918)

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**Webmaster: Ray Holtz,**

### **WEBSITE**

1. February website visits were 2,759.

2. Honors Burial Project page update, along with Ft Logan map.

3. VA Secretary on YouTube Live Q&A with Veterans 2/24/2017

4. Posted Pre-Need Burial Eligibility Determination

5. DOD Announces New Outreach Efforts to Vets Regarding Discharges and Military Records.

6. Posted Vietnam War Facts, Stats & Myths

7. The last 4 week period for the King Soopers Neighborhood Rewards we had total of \$3600.00.

The next 4 week period will end today March 18th.

8. The King Sooper store at 136<sup>th</sup> & Colo Blvd, Green Mtn, and a new addition the Ken Caryl store at Ken Caryl and Simms have been reserved on Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> between 9am and Noon for Poppy Donations for Memorial Day, which is Monday May 29<sup>th</sup>. Will have a signup sheet at the next meeting.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

1. We added 2 new members: Robert Coleman and Glen Rountree

2. Two members transferred to our chapter Sam Bunge and Fred Ceconi
3. AVVA report for February has no change.
4. We have 144 members, and 17 AVVA members giving us a total of 161 members.

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**Treasurer Report: Leonard Smith**

**VVA Denver Chapter 1071  
Treasurer's Report  
February 28th, 2017**

As of February 1st 2017 General Acct. Balance (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	\$26,647.52
State Household Goods Allocation	579.00
Donations & Merchandise Sales	898.25
Expenditures	(562.30)
Balance General Acct. 2/28/2017 (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	<u>\$27,562.47</u>
Balance Emergency Fund 2/28/2017	\$5,000.00
Balance Scholarship Account 2/28/2017	\$5,695.96

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**Outreach Liaison: Robert Primeaux,**

1. The letter to the NFL Hall of Fame was approved by the State Council last Saturday and is in the mail. \*\* Robert explained the intent of the letter to NFL and a little bit of history regarding the football players / veterans who lost their lives in the service of our country.
2. The press release regarding the Honors Burial scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> will go out on Monday to The Veterans Magazine for publishing.

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**Guest Speakers: Eileen Meeker,** Metro State student would like to do one on one interviews with Vietnam veterans regarding their personal experiences in Nam vs Hollywood movies. This is a school project for her.

**Dante Potter,** Green Mountain High School senior, Dante talked about the wonderful experience he and several students had every time veterans come to GMHS and talk about their military experience. The assemblies and classroom talks that Vietnam veterans did at GMHS inspired several students including Dante to start a school project which ended up helping homeless veterans with care packages to help them survive being on the streets. Chapter 1071 donated \$100.00 to help Dante and his team continue doing their great work with homeless veterans. President Paprocki also presented Dante with a VVA Challenge Coin.

**Honors Burial: Jim Topkoff:** Jim introduced Laura and Cliff Peterson, Cary Goltermann from the Colorado Woodworkers Guild. Laura and her team of volunteers built and supplied the urns for the Honors Burial. Jim spoke of great work that went into building these wonderful wood urns. Jim presented Laura with a Certificate of Appreciation from 1071, An Honors Burial DVD from last June's burial and a donation check from our chapter for \$250.00. It is such a Blessing to have partnered with Laura and her group to honor these lost veterans. Laura spoke and thanked 1071 for doing what we do and said it was a pleasure working with us.

Jim also demonstrated the Uniform of the Day that he was wearing. This is the way that 1071 would like for those carrying the urns from the hearse to the tables to dress. We want to keep it honorable by dressing properly. Jim also gave out vital information regarding how 1071 would like the Honors Burial to proceed on Friday.

**Marketing: Jim Topkoff:**

**Drawings Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff**

White Fence Farms gift card \$30.: # 211 Louis Rivas

DVD Honors Flight: # 233

1071 Challenge Coin: # 207

1071 4" Patch: #211

**Up Coming Events:**

**Old Business: Al Roettger,**

Al explained what 1071 does regarding getting schools involved with Vietnam Veterans and the impact that it has accomplished which helps students understand why we fought the war and also helps veterans when they talk about their experiences. There are some school projects in the works now and Al will be discussing that at a later date. In the mean time if veterans are interested in participating they should contact Al.

**David Steiner:** Scholarships applications have been sent out to the three high schools that we have partnered with. So far no response from the schools or students.

**New Business: Bill Bleau,** 1071 VSO spoke regarding his role as the new VSO.

**Retiring of POW/MIA Colors: Jose Gonzales**

**\*\*Benediction: Chaplain John Altfeltis:**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:39 PM MDT**

**Next Chapter Meeting will be on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Marty Chavez, Secretary**

**VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver**