

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver
Location: Elk's Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO
Date: Saturday July 15th, 2017
Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT**

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

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

Prayer & Moment of Silence for POW/MIA'S - John Altfeltis: Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance – John Altfeltis

Our Pledge of Allegiance today was presented to a flag that once flew aboard the USS New Jersey, John read aloud a letter describing the events concerning this flag. 45 years John was able to bid on and buy this same flag on Ebay.

Posting of POW/MIA Colors on POW Honor Chair - Jose Gonzales

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

Terry Ritenour-Excused

VVA Members Present: (46)

Glenn Rountree	Dan Dietz	Bruce Gottschalk	Charlie Wilson
Joe Romero	Marty Chavez	Bill Bleau	David Hennig
Nelson Hendrickson	Ray Holtz	David Sorenson	Robert Doriss
Dewayne L Bomar	John Thompson	Wally Struble	Steve Connley
Steve Newton	Bob Burnham	Bob Hartman	Chuck Chavez
Owen Oliver	Jose Gonzales	Gary Uyeda	Wes Chapman
David Steiner	Jeff Fossum	Trinidad Rael	Don Bates
Tom Simpson	Philip Post	Robert Coleman	Robert Primeaux
Jim Topkoff	Ed Sheerve	Bob Lopez	Scott Hefty
George Zervos	John Altfeltis	Lew Roman	Jim Niggins
Tom Moermond	Leonard Smith	Stan Paprocki	
Jim Miles	Larry Sourbeer	Ron Gorman	

AVVA Members Present: (2)

Janet Beiner, Scott Hefty,

Guests: (11)

Linda Olson	Scott Elzas	Rebecca Hefty
William Seguro	Claudia Hennig	Andy Romero
Linda Fishel	Natalie Rhodes	
Glenn Fishel	Morgana Meader	Ted Hildebrand

President: Stan Paprocki

Welcome VVA Chapter #1071 members and guests!

First of all, Thank everyone for participating and helping at the past "Honors Burial" of unclaimed cremains at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, June 23, 2017. It was a great turn-out and went very well. Nothing but good feed back and a lot of complements. Jim Topkoff will give us his de-brief later.

The City of Lakewood will write a article about this ceremony for their newsletter sometime soon, this with the help of chapter member Scott Hefty.

New bill introduced in congress, legislation in the House updating the GI Bill to 'The Forever GI Bill'

Chapter Food Drive for next meeting, August.

Please attend the upcoming City of Brighton, City Council Meeting to show support for the proposed Vietnam Memorial, to be erected in front of the City of Brighton town hall.

National VVA convention August 8 thru 13th of August 2017.

Kudos to Ray Holtz for his dedicated work with the web page for our chapter. He works hard doing what he does and deserves our appreciation and a round of applause. Good Job Mr. Webmaster.

Vice President: Terry Ritenour: Excused absence

Secretary Report: Marty Chavez

Welcomed guests and new members.

Financial Report: Leonard Smith

**Treasurer's Report
June 30th, 2017**

As of June1st 2017 General Acct. Balance (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	\$30,239.23
State Household Goods Allocation	658.00
Donations & Merchandise Sales	1,614.36
Expenditures	(706.57)
Balance General Acct. 5/31/2017 (General Fund and Emergency Fund)	<u>\$31,805.02</u>
Balance Emergency Fund 6/30/2017	\$5,000.00
Balance Scholarship Account 6/30/2017	\$6,296.56

WebMaster, Ray Holtz

WEBSITE

1. June website visits were 3,720.
2. The last 4 week period for the King Soopers Neighborhood Rewards we had total of \$4,690.00. The previous 4 week period we had \$4,075.00, giving us a total of \$8,765.00. We will receive a check for \$475.25 for the two periods. The next period will end on August 5th.

MEMBERSHIP

1. We added 1 new member: Donald Bates.
2. One member transferred to our chapter Charlie Wilson.
3. AVVA report for June has no change.
4. We have 156 members, and 17 AVVA members giving us a total of 173 members.

Outreach Liaison: Robert Primeaux, Robert mentioned that he will be buying extra King Soopers cards to give out to his neighbors as a way to boost the money coming in from King Soopers. Another idea is to hand out KS cards during the Poppies giveaway to patrons entering the store. It takes money to make money.

Guest Speakers: Our guest speaker, member John Altfeltis show photo slides and spoke about his navy career. John had several very interesting slides of navy ships and of course the USS New Jersey which also served of the Vietnam coast and provided fire power to support troops. Lots of questions and answers followed John's presentation.

Honors Burial: Jim Topkoff

Jim spoke about the Honors Burial that was held on the 23rd of June. It was a great success, good attendance and media coverage. Thanked all for their support. The next burial is in the works as Crown Hill has several cremains that are unclaimed. After a short break Jim and Terry will meet with Crown Hill directors to gather more information.

Jim also mentioned that the Colorado Woodworkers Guild who provided the honors burial urns will also provide free of charge urns to any veteran requesting one.

Marketing: Jim Topkoff

Drawings Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff

- White Fence Farm Gift card – Janet Beiner
- Lanyard-Morgana Reader
- Vietnam Zippo Lighter, High Bidder, Wally Struble
- Cane donated by Dan Dietz. High Bidder, Bob Lopez

Up Coming Events:

Aug 2 (a Wednesday) is a Vietnam Veterans Round Table in Louisville set up by the BVMM curator.

Anyone interested needs to contact Megan Huelman @ curator@broomfieldveterans.org.

Sept. 20th GMHS to honor veterans at their football game.

Sept. 26th West Metro Veterans Fair, 1 to 4pm. More info on website

Old Business: Jose Gonzales spoke to members about the Vietnam Memorial that is being approved by the Brighton City Council this coming Tuesday, July 20 at 7pm. Jose mentioned that over 200 veterans from the Brighton area, including small farming communities served in Vietnam. There were also some KIA's from there too. He described what is being planned and where the memorial will be erected. Jose's message was to invite and encourage 1071 VVA and AVVA members to attend this meeting as a show of support for this project.

Ray Holtz took questions and provided answers regarding the King Soopers cards. He also covered the website links especially the photo gallery, encouraging members to send in their bio and service photos to be posted on the website gallery.

New Business: Ray & Stan met with some veterans from JeffCo who were 40+ strong when they joined the army as a group and trained together at Ft Bliss Texas. These veterans are planning a 50th anniversary reunion next year and have reached out to 1071 for some help in locating some of the veterans. So far 20 have been located. Some veterans are planning on joining our chapter.

Stan mentioned that Linda Olson from City Health and promoting the Jazzed Festival in October would like for 1071 to put together a video to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Vietnam. This video would be viewed during the Jazzed Festival.

Retiring of POW/MIA Colors: Jose Gonzales

Benediction: Chaplain John Altfeltis

Meeting adjourned at 11:35am MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on August 19th, 2017

Marty Chavez - Secretary

VVA Chapter 1071 – Denver