



VVA Chapter 1071 Members Meeting

Location: Elks Lodge, 1455 Nelson St. Lakewood Co

Date: May 16th, 2026 Time: 10am

- Call Meeting to Order / SILENCE CELL PHONES PLEASE.
Today is **ARMED FORCES DAY**. The purpose of which is to honor those currently serving in our armed forces. It was established in 1949 by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson to replace separate, branch-specific days with one unified celebration.
- **Invocation** – Otto Smolik
- **Posting of Colors** by our Color Guard
- **Pledge of Allegiance** – Stan and all members
- **POW/MIA Recognition** – Otto Smolik, Tom Sandquist
- **Officers Present** – Stan Paprocki, Tom Sandquist, Bill Bridges, Marty Chavez is excused from today's meeting. He is in Pensacola, Florida at a US Marine Corps Reunion. Trini Rael is excused to attend a graduation ceremony.
- **VVA Members Present** – 58 Sign up sheet not available at this time.
- **AVVA Members Present** – XX
- **Guests Present** – XX
- **Welcome New Members** - 2
- **Member Birthdays or Anniversaries**
- **Scholarship Program**; Jackson Stillman, grandson of Don Stillman. Jackson is enrolled at the University of Colorado. He is enrolled in the Aerospace Engineering Program.
- **Guest / Member Speaker – Scott Feldt (DAV)** - Our Honored Guest Speaker today is Scott Feldt. Scott is a US Army veteran, an Infantry First Sergeant and National Service Officer here in Lakewood for the past 4 years. He has performed combat support in the following campaigns; Operation Iraqi Freedom (twice), Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Spartan Shield. Scott is here today to help us understand the role of the DAV and how they can help our Colorado Veterans, and surviving spouses. Scott will answer your questions today at the close of his talk.

Department Reports

- **State Council Report** – not available
- **Secretary Report** – not available
- **Treasurer / Financial report** – Bill Bridges, Our financial condition for the chapter is VERY GOOD. April income was \$960, expenses were \$3,398, resulting in a decrease of \$2,438. **NOTE:** If you have any Questions regarding the Chapter's Financial status, Please reach out to VVA 1071 Treasurer Bill Bridges

- **Membership Report** – Ray Holtz as presented by Stan, In April we had 2 new VVA members Floyd Nuss and Keith Stone. In April we had no new AVVA members. We have 264 VVA members, and 53 AVVA members giving us a total of 317 members.
- **Webmaster Report** – Ray Holtz as presented by Stan, April website visits were 1,367. I posted photos of Chapter members Dave Nila, Tom Sandquist, Otto Smolik, Steve Newton and Bill Bridges who spoke to students at Niwot High School on 5/4/26. Posted photos of Members David Nila and Dick Bares who helped with food bank at 40 West on Wednesday, May 6th. Archived and moved many items from the Home page to make it shorter.
- **Fund Raising** – Steve Newton, we are prepared and ready for our fundraising on Saturday, May 23, 2026 at seven locations.
- **Honors Burial** – Bill Bridges, Doug Nunes’ Honors Ceremony will be held on Friday, June 5, 2026 at 11:00 AM, Shelter C. Flags for Fallen Veterans is on Sunday May 24, 2026, at 09:00 AM, at Fort Logan National Cemetery. Volunteers are needed to place flags. Meet at Section T, across from Columbarium #1 on Denver Drive. Denver Drive is the North “Funeral Entrance” on Sheridan Blvd. Retrieval will be on Saturday, May 30th, 9:00 AM.
- **Veterans In Need** – David Nila, gave an update on current donations and distributions at 40 West.
- **Education & Speakers Program Report** – Jim Higgins is on vacation. No report.
- **Merchandise and Door Prize drawing** – Jim Topkoff
- **Directors Discussion** -
- **Membership Discussion** -
- **POW/MIA** – Otto Smolik, Tom Sandquist
- **Benediction** – Otto Smolik
- **Please note that there are three (3) tables that have assignments to perform at the end of our meeting today. Colored sheets of paper list the tasks. We ask, on a rotating basis, that members assist with the “clean-up” of the Elks Hall. It’s only 15 minutes worth of work. Please help us with these tasks. It is out of respect and the continued support of the Elks. Thank you.**
- The next VVA Member Meeting is June 20th, 2026
- **Adjournment** - Turn your Cell Phones back on and Please clean up after yourself.

For Marty Chavez (Bill Bridges) – Secretary, VVA Chapter 1071 – Denver