



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 1071 NEWSLETTER



Meeting held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10am, Elks Lodge, 1455 Newland St., Lakewood, CO. A \$10 Breakfast is offered 8:00 -10:00am

Volume 2024

Website: vva1071.org

Issue 4

April 2, 2024

April 4 and 5, 2024 Arvada West High School

Speaker Bureau volunteers will visit Arvada West and share their Vietnam War experience with students.

April 11 and 12, 2024 Dakota Ridge High School and Lakewood High School

Speaker Bureau volunteers will visit both these schools. Consider joining our volunteer group.
Doug Nunes, 415-710-6394

April 16, 2024 Honor's Burial

We will Honor 14 Military Veteran's forgotten, from the past, recovered from storage, and brought into the light by our own Chapter 1071 Board Member, Honors Burial Leader Bill Bridges. Please join us at Ft Logan National Cemetery, at 1:00 at 12:45 PM, Commitment Shelter B, (enter the North Gate, off South Sheridan Blvd, on Denver Drive follow all the way around a circle loop, past Omaha Dr, to Shelter B on the right). **A second group of 13 Recovered Veteran Cremains will be Honored, April 30 at 12:45 PM, at Ft. Logan.** Please join us for both Services.

April 19, 2024 Front Range Christian School

Speaker Bureau volunteers will visit both this school.

April 25 and 26 Mountain Range High School

April 20, 2024, Members Meeting

Lt US Navy Corps **Carol Brautigam** BSN MSN. and
Karren Kowalski BSN MSN PhD US Army Nurse Corp
Past President of CNA and member of CNA Hall of Fame

“Nursing Land and Sea during Vietnam”



Army nurse Karren Kowalski, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, ANEF, FAAN,
works in a pediatric clinic run by the medics from the
173rd Airborne Brigade in Bien Hoa, Vietnam in 1966.

Carol Brautigam. Naval Nurse. 1966

Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence
7535 E Hampden Ave Suite 110.
Denver, CO 80231

“Great Leaders are what they leave behind.”

May 18, Members Meeting.

Armed Forces Day (The third Saturday in May)

Final Arrangements – Estate Planning
Owen Oliver / John Thompson / Bill Bridges

At the May membership meeting, members from our chapter will present an educational session on Final Arrangements/Estate Planning (Wills and Trusts). We will cover the key information that veterans should collect and keep a record of; the key estate planning items that should be filled out, **NOW (Not next week)**, and there will be handouts that can be used for making your final wishes know. The objective is to ensure that your surviving family members know what to do when you are no longer here. Your planning ahead will relieve your loved ones of the sad job of figuring out what they should do at that time they will be in emotional shock.

June 15, Members Meeting

TBD

TBD, Members Meeting

Rod Keiscome, Chapter 1071 Member

Rod will share his service in the US Navy and the use of the A-5 Vigilante Aircraft for photo Recon evaluation, for tactical use of Naval resources, USS Constellation (CVA 64), 1971-72. High Altitude Surveillance.



RA-5C launch off USS Constellation
Vigilante A3J Surveillance Aircraft

Originally designed as a Mach 2 all-weather bomber capable of delivering nuclear weapons, the A3J Vigilante was eventually modified into a high-speed reconnaissance aircraft after the Navy's strategic bombing mission was assumed by nuclear submarines. The resulting RA-5C Vigilante incorporated sophisticated electronic equipment in its bomb-bay that included side-looking airborne radar and passive electronic countermeasures, along with vertical, oblique, and split-image cameras. Eighteen RA-5Cs were lost to enemy fire during the Vietnam War, the highest loss rate of any Navy aircraft during the war, a testament to the dangers of pre- and post-strike reconnaissance missions.



USS Constellation

Broomfield Veterans Museum Coffee and Conversation

13 April – **Flint Whitlock** will give a special presentation about the **Nazi massacre of over 600 men, women and children of the French town**, Oradour sur Glane. Flint is an award-winning author and military historian. He is a former US Army officer who served on active duty from 1965 to 1970, including a tour in Vietnam. Flint is a BVM board member and member of the Colorado Authors Hall of Fame.

20 April – **Tim Hutchinson**, the Broomfield Veterans Administration Service Officer, will provide an update on **current VA policies and programs**. He will be joined by a member of the VA Community Living Center in Aurora who will discuss long-term care options for veterans.

27 April – **John Steinle**, avid historian, author, and former curator and archivist at the Cincinnati Art Museum and also administrator for the Hiwan Homestead Museum. A frequent presenter with the Broomfield Veterans Museum, his most recent book is Colorado and the Civil War. His April 27 talk centers on his 2021 book, “**Colorado and the Silver Crash – the Panic of 1893.**”

Chapter Member Biographs

Please consider adding your Vietnam Service Bio to the VVA Chapter Website; collect photos, and other memorabilia, send photos of them to Ray Holtz, (hikerup@gmail.com), our Chapter Webmaster and he will help create a record of your individual statement of your Service. Check out other listings as models for your information.

Veterans in Need Program, Chapter 1071 *Partnering with the Lakewood Elks #1777*.

Please support Chapter 1071's partnership with the Lakewood Elks and bring personal items needed by Veterans formerly living in unhealthy and dangerous circumstances. These are Veterans who have moved into recently provided apartments in Lakewood, after being evaluated by the Veterans Administration. We are collecting bulk-quantities of hand soap, dish soap, toothpaste, shaving cream, shampoo, bulk (more than 5 quantity) of all items an individual would need to setup a new living situation. There are approximately 16 Veterans in the program. We are also collecting new bulk quantities of socks, underwear in various sizes (t-shirts, shorts, briefs), The Elks will collect and store these items and deliver them to a Veteran participating in the Programs.

If you prefer to make a cash donation, forward a check made out to "VVA Chapter 1071", and mailed to **Chapter 1071, PO Box 281023, Lakewood, CO 80228** and we will add it to the credit of this program. We are often in need of full size or queen mattress and box springs, chests of drawers, bookshelves. **If you know of any Vietnam Veteran in Need please contact, Doug Nunes: 415-710-6394.**



Giving Something to Those Who Served.

Vet Tix * provides tickets to events which reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, build life-long memories, and encourage service members and veterans to stay engaged with local communities and American life. We support our troops by honoring their service and providing positive family and life experiences, during and after their years of service to our country.

Vet Tix provides tickets to all branches of currently serving Military and Veterans, including immediate family of troops KIA. Vet Tix secures tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational and family activities across the nation. Vet Tixers sign up online. We verify their service. Vet Tixers request tickets to events that interest them, then pay a small delivery fee to receive their free tickets. Sign up, have DD214 and copy of Gov ID..... <https://www.vettix.org/> Vet Tix is a 99% back to program charity (Independently audited past 13 years).

With SGT Mike



Copyright 1970

Does anyone remember Sgt Mike, send me an e-mail with a copy of your favorite or a description.



Quilts of Valor Mission: to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

Who is eligible for a QOV?

Any service member or living veteran who served in one of the following branches: Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Members of the activated National Guard and activated or active duty-special work (ADSW) reservists are included. The Army National Guard and Air Force National Guard are components of the Army and Air Force respectively. Merchant Marines activated from 1941 to 1945.

Nominate a Friend or self-nominations are welcome, online at:

<https://www.qovf.org/nominations-awards/>

Chapter 1071 - Speaker Bureau

We are looking for Chapter 1071 **members to sign up** to be speakers at high schools in the Denver Metro area. We visit schools as Teams of 3-5 members. Each member uses up to 10 photo slides in a PowerPoint show to introduce the class to what each Team member did during the Vietnam War era. Then the Team answers questions from the students. This is a rewarding program for you and the classroom. **Contact Doug Nunes, 415-710-6394 if you are interested.**

988

Veterans Suicide and Crisis Line. Dial this number and talk to someone who cares. If you are confused and need help, call the Veterans Crisis Line, and talk to a concerned friend. Share your situation, trained operators are available now, call and figure it out. **Dial 988.**

Chapter 1071 Board