

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver**

Location: Elk's Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO

Date: Saturday January 16, 2016

Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Richard Cox at 10am

VVA Members Present: John Altfeltis, Bill Bleou, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Hal Coffman, Steve Connolly, Richard Cox, Dan Dietz, Cliff Fejfar, Jeffery E. Fossum, William Ferguson, Bob Garcia, Jose S. Gonzales, Dave Hennig, Lynn D. Herbert, Bill Hilliard, Ray Holtz, Vern Hume, Jim Miles, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, John Pascente, Joe Romero, Lance Rommerdahl, Eddie Shreeve, Thomas W. Simpson, Leonard Smith, David Steiner, Jim Topkoff, Frank Tobani, Gary Uyeda, Terry Young, (33)

Board Members Excused: John Ed Young

AVVA Members Present: Judy Atencio,

Pledge of Allegiance – Richard Cox

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

Posting of POW/MIA Colors on POW Honor Chair—Dan Dietz

Guests –Claudia E. Hennig, Rev.Juls, Linda Olsen Ferguson, Ben Cardamone, Bob Hartman, Phillip Post, Tom Moermond, Jeff Johnson, Larry Carroll, Ed Baker

Guest speakers: None

President – Approval of Minutes from last month: Approved

Angel Fire Vietnam Memorial is scheduled for June 11th &12th, 2016. Rolling Thunder of Colo, Chapters 1071, 1075 & 1106 are participating. 30 rooms with Queen beds are reserved at \$89 + tax. Katchina Lodge in Taos, N.Mex. Will be posted on website.

\$100.00 membership to VVA and AVVA is now forever. This is for life time membership.

Vietnam era veterans can be members of the VVA. Chapter members should let those veterans that they can become members even if they never set foot in Vietnam.

Scholarship committee: Leonard Smith has volunteered. Interested members need to contact Ray or Richard.

Chapter 1071 has purchased a flag set to place in the Veteran's Corner at San Marino Retirement home in support for all that they provide this chapter.

Vietnam War maps are being printed up by National Chapter and will be available for donation to schools when we speak there. Dan Dietz has donated his. We will let you know when they are available.

The meeting with Capt. Montalvan is being scheduled. Judy Atencio is working with Carl Lafaro on date/time and location.

The Heroes of Vietnam Memorial is being unveiled on January 30th at 3 pm. All 1071 members are invited. 1071 attire and/or uniforms are requested if possible. Members are also invited to a dinner that will follow at King's Landing restaurant.

Commemorative Pins: We need to see how many pins need to be ordered for those that are participating in the Vietnam Anniversary scheduled for later this year. City of Lakewood is already on board, Richard will contact the Governor.

Richard presented Bill Hillard with a Certificate of Appreciation from Chapter 1071 for all his dedication and hard work in working with our chapter and our missions.

Richard recognized visitors and new members.

Guest Larry Carroll from United Veteran's Committee of Colo. invited our chapter to attend the Military Appreciation day event on Jan.29th at the State Capitol. Larry stated that this event was important so as to make Legislators aware of whom you are in their perspective districts.

Another guest whose name I did not get donated a flag to our chapter that was donated to him by Wounded Warriors.

Richard received an email from Fox 31 reporter Erica Gonzales. She is doing research regarding Vietnam veterans and Agent Orange. Richard responded to her email and will invite her to our next members meeting.

Vice President: David Steiner: Nothing to add

Treasurer—John Pascente, The activity since last meeting has been very quiet. Presently we have \$14,000+ in our regular acct and \$900+ in our grant acct.

Webmaster Report-- Ray Holtz

We had 3988 visits to our website this past month (Dec). Posted a story on website regarding the oldest VA Chapel. Also got together with White Fence Farm owner, Craig Caldwell. He has donated enough \$30.gift cards for the whole year. Ray presented Craig with the Chapter's Certificate of Appreciation, which he was much honored to receive. Dan Dietz has some hand made bullet pens for sale. Polo shirts with our logo, like the ones board members are wearing are for sale. Please see Ray if you want to place an order. Membership list is backlogged due to fire sale last month, will post as soon as it comes out. King Soopers cards are still available. We have \$4000.and need to bring it up to \$5000 in next week to get our \$250.rewards.

Outreach Committee: Bill Hillard,

Meeting Notes January 16, 2016

Vet Assists

- 12/21 Paid veteran's rent – Medical issues (legs) prevented work previous month
- 12/29 Bought RTD bus pass & grocery card to help veteran start new temp job
- 1/11 Bought grocery card to tide veteran over until start of new job

- Applied for \$4556.42 reimbursement for last quarter

Honors Burial

- No progress to report on getting social security numbers in order to submit names to VA Nat'l Cemeteries.
- Discuss whether to expand to other mortuaries. **NOTE:** Motion was made and seconded to contact other mortuaries regarding deceased veteran's remains. Members voted and passed by majority.
- Don Bell returns from vacation Tuesday. Ongoing discussions to support Denver ME's office with veteran identification.
- Upcoming meeting with Denver Woodworkers Club on Tuesday. Jim Topkoff has engraved samples for urns. Leonard Smith has identified an engraved nameplate source.
- **NOTE:** Jim Topkoff will look into a members request about purchasing an urn for himself when he attends the Woodworkers meeting on Tuesday.

Events

- Auctions have resumed. Two sets of speakers and a power conditioner will sell tomorrow.

Secretary Report –Marty Chavez: Talked regarding Heroes of Vietnam Memorial.

Nominated Jim Topkoff as BOD in charge of marketing. Was second and approved by members

Marketing: Dan Dietz turned over marketing duties to Jim Topkoff.

Old Business:

New Business: Nominations for open BOD positions will be accepted at next members meeting in Feb. Positions open are President, Vice President and Treasurer

Drawing: Winners names not available due to lost notes

Sgt-at-Arms Retired POW/MIA Colors: Dan Dietz

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on Feb. 20, 2016

Marty Chavez
Secretary
VVA Chapter 1071 - Denver