Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver
Location: Elks Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO
Date: Saturday Aug. 17th, 2019
Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

I: Meeting called to order by Stan Paprocki, Pres.

Opening Prayer: John Altfeltis, 1071 Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance Stan Paprocki, Pres.

Posting of POW/MIA Colors– Steve Newton

Moment of Silence for POW/MIA'S- Stan Paprocki, Pres.

Roll Call: Present: Stan Paprocki, Terry Ritenour, Ray Holtz, John Altfeltis, Marty Chavez, Leonard Smith

VVA Members Present: (56) John Altfeltis, Bill Bleau, Tim Bradley, Don Bates, Bob Burnham, Bobby Campoy, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, Robert Coleman, Rick Cody, John Currie, Robert Doriss, Cliff Fejfar, Bill Ferguson, Jeff Fossum, Ray Fouts, Gary Funk, Bruce Gottschalk, Dave Hennig, Lynn Herbert, Jim Hernandez, Jim Higgins, Ted Hildbrand, Ray Holtz, Jan Housley, Ron Kurtz, Bob Lopez, Jim Miles, Peggy McCoy, Mike McDonald, Vern Moore, Rusty Morse, Steve Newton, Stan Paprocki, Brent Pick, Steve Randolph, Frank Riddle, Terry Ritenour, Bill Robbins, Al Roettger, Joe Romero, Tom Simpson, A.L.Smith, Otto Smolik, Larry Sourbeer, Lindsay Smith, John Thompson, Jim Topkoff, Gary Uyeda, Bill Vance, Phil Waters, Rick Winfrey, Don Wood, Bob Wyatt, George Zervos, Jerry Zimmer

AVVA Members Present: (6) Scott Hefty, Marie Winfrey, Linda Olson, Carol Cordova, Brian Topkoff, Pete Frank,

Guests: (13) Norm Miles, Louis Jones, Doug Scherer, Michael Enggust, Clete J.Thill, Fran Rowland, Jim Branaugh, Barb Pick, Charlie Heath, Suzzane Sigona, Gary Sumner, Mike Higgs, Susan Bates,

I: Opening Comments: (Stan Paprocki**,**1071 Pres.) Good morning and welcome to VVA chapter1071 meeting. We have a new agenda method that we have agreed to implement, so bear with us if we stumble as we proceed.

III: Welcome New Members: (Stan Paprocki) Peggy McCoy, Army Nurse, Vietnam 65-66. Mike Hicks, Army, Vietnam 70-71, former member of another chapter, hadn't attended for several years, heard about 1071 couple months ago and decided to rejoin.

IV: Welcome Guests: (Stan Paprocki)Had new guest stand up and introduce themselves. Several of the guest are Vietnam veterans and had some interesting info to share. Welcome to all

V: Report of Board Business: Al Roettger 1071 Director, will give you an update on our board meeting and results for this month. We are doing this to be more transparent and to keep you informed.
Al Reported on things that the board approved at the last meeting:

1. Received detailed report from the VVA National convention
2. Approved a new accounting program not to exceed $75 per month

3. Approved name change from Speakers Bureau to Education and Speaker Program
4. Approved to donate $250 to Wreaths Across America.
5. Approved to purchase a new portable Oxygen Concentrator for use by members as needed on a loan basis.
6. Approved to purchase a portable speaker system with two mics, not to exceed $600.
7. Approved to move Clothing & Food drive to October from November.
8. Approved an Appreciation Plaque to Avalanche Harley Davidson in Golden for their support with The Wall That Heals in June.

If you have any questions or want more info on these items, please wait for the Discussion Session later in this meeting. End of Report.

VI: Officer Reports:

a. **President's Report:** Stan Paprocki, Stan thanked all those who have attended the last two burials of veterans at Ft. Logan. Our (1071 Chapter) presences is greatly appreciated by the families involved.

b. **Vice President's Report:** Terry Ritenour

1. Reported that his VFW magazine calendar is missing the March 29th National Vietnam War Veteran's Day. He will be contacting the editors to address this error.
2. Reported on the upcoming SoldierStone trip scheduled for Sept.28th. Terry gave a short history of the monument and provided a sign-up sheet for those wanting to go. Owen Oliver is coordinating the yearly trip.
3. Terry put out a call for volunteers to help set up and tear down during our monthly meetings. We appreciate the use of the Elks and want to put everything back as normal after our use.
4. Reminded all that he has received more brochures on Agent Orange, especially on the effects of your children and grandchildren. Please pick one up.

c. **Secretary Report:** Marty Chavez, Nothing to report at this time

d. **Financial Report:** Leonard Smith

Leonard gave the monthly financial report. No questions were asked. Leonard stated that he will be available at end of meeting if anyone has any questions.

VII: Awards & Presentations: Stan presented Venita (Elks Lodge) a check in the amount of $250 to be used for Wreaths Across America program co-sponsored by the Elks and Crown Hill Cemetery. Venita thanked the chapter and invited all to participate in the laying of the wreaths at Crown Hill starting at noon on December 14th. Venita also thanked all for their support with the Elks breakfast.

VII: Optional Speaker: none

IX: Department Reports:

a. **Membership Report: Ray Holtz**

1. We added 4 new members: Robert Burch, John Everhart, James Farrell and Peggy McCoy.
2. Member Brent Pick transferred into our chapter from the state at large.
3. We added no new AVVA members.
4. We have 198 members, and 32 AVVA members giving us a total of 230 members.

b. Webmaster Report: Ray Holtz

1. July website visits were 774.
2. Posted VVA Press Release about VVA to VA Secretary: Reverse Stay on Blue Water Navy Claims.
3. **Posted photos of Bob Hartman funeral at Ft Logan.**

4. Posted photos and email of Alyssa Mischell about Thomas Mischell who is the Grandson of Bob Hartman raising funds for our Chapter.

5. Posted 9 News video of former homeless veteran Michael Mongelluzzo funeral at Ft Logan with narration from Cliff Fajfar.

c. Outreach Committee: Chaplain John Altfeltis:

d. The Wall That Heals (TWTH): Jim Topkoff

Anyone who volunteered at TWTH and did not get their Challenge Coin to please see Jim after the meeting.

e. **Honors Burial: Jim Topkoff,**

Jim spoke about having attended a few veteran burials lately at Ft. Logan and was dismayed at the cardboard boxes in which veterans were laid to rest in. Jim mentioned that we (1071) have access to urns with proper military logos for any honorably discharged veteran. Rocky Mountain Wood Workers Guild has blessed us with several urns and are willing to provide more as needed. Jim told members that if they need an urn either for themselves or any veteran to please contact him. No veteran should be buried in a cardboard box.

e. Education & Speaker Program: Al spoke about the E & S program especially to those in attendance today who have not heard about this program. He encouraged members to sign up.

f. Scholarship Committee: David Steiner,

X: Director Discussion:

a. Ray also mentioned that Safeway stores has a **Veterans Discount Day** the 1st Saturday of every month.

b. Al mentioned the invitation from GMHS football to their annual veteran's appreciation game and tailgate party on Sept 27th, 5pm at 100 south Kipling stadiums.

c. Al also mentioned that Front Range Community College is onboard for the Education & Speakers Program.

d. Phil Waters spoke about his experience attending this year's VVA National Convention. Phil also mentioned how impressed he was over the presentation by our VVA national president, John Rowan made to the House and Senate Veterans committee. Phil stressed that we as veterans need to pressure our Representatives and Congressmen & women on veterans' issues.

e. Phil also spoke about setting up a Tour Trip to Vietnam sometime in 2020. Phil spoke about his desire to visit Vietnam and was seeking any interest from 1071 members. There was a signup sheet available for those interested in going.

XI: Monthly Member Speaker: Chuck Chavez

Chuck served with the Army Ambulance Corps (AAC) in Vietnam. His assigned area was Cam Ranh Bay, 1966-67. Chuck spoke about his Journey from civilian life to field medical.

Chuck did a great job in sharing his story and we'd like to have him back so we can hear the rest of his time in Vietnam.

XII: Discussion from the floor

a. Scott Hefty (AVVA) mentioned the annual WMVF coming up on Sept.24th at the Elks Lodge. There will be about 40 vendors plus as usual a great free cookout & drinks.
b. Suzanna Sigona, 1106 guest and great helper with TWTH in June thanked everyone for their help in getting the Wall to Arvada and making it such a success.

c. Ray Holtz mentioned Lew Roman's announcement of the renaming of the post office in north Denver to George T. Sakato Post Office, George fought and served during WWll and is a Medal of Honor recipient .This honor will be held at the Western Complex Center on Aug.23rd at 11am. Ray will post info on website.
d. Steve Randolph also thanked all those who stepped up to donate blood at the July members meeting. Great success. We had 25 donors, 10 of those were first time donors. We collected 25 units of blood which will save up to 71 people .
e. Linda Olson spoke about Bill's medical condition and thanked the board and membership for providing the loaner oxygen consentrator for Bill to use while out of the house.

Xlll: Drawings Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff

a. $25 Ace Hardware card (donated by Carol & Renee): Mike Macdonald
b. $25 Ace Hardware Card (donated by Carol & Renee) : Bob Coleman
c. WOTR Tickets (2) (donated by WOTR & 1071) : Tom Moermond

XlV: Up Coming Events:

a. West Metro Veterans Fair (WMVF) Sept. 24th, 2019 at Elks Lodge.
b. GMHS Football Tailgate and Game for veterans, Sept. 27th, 6pm, Game to follow tailgate party

c. Jazzed Festival (Inner City Health) October 20th, 2019.

XV: Retiring of POW/MIA Colors: Steve Newton

XVI: Reading of POW/MIA Names & Dates: Chaplain John Altfeltis

XVll: Benediction: John Altfeltis

XVlll: Meeting adjourned at 11:45am

XlV: Next Chapter Meeting will be on Sept. 21st, 2019

Marty Chavez – Secretary, VVA Chapter 1071 – Denver

Signed_____ Date _____