

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1071 - Denver
Location: Elk's Lodge #1777
1455 Newland Street
Lakewood, CO
Date: Saturday March 17, 2018
Scheduled Time: 10:00 AM MDT**

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by: Stan Paprocki, 1071 President

Opening Prayer – John Altfeltis, Opening prayer plus special day today as the USS Colorado is being commissioned today.

Pledge of Allegiance – Stan Paprocki

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

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

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

VVA Members Present: (53) John Altfeltis, Donald Bates, Bill Bleau, Tim Bradley, Bob Burnham, Larry J. Cato, Chuck Chavez, Marty Chavez, John Currie, Dan Dietz, Robert Doriss, Joe Dural, Jeffrey Fossum, Cliff Fejfar, Jose Gonzales, Bruce Gottschalk, Ron Gorman, Nelson Hendrickson, Lynn Herbert, Jim Higgins, Ted Hildebrand, Ray Holtz, Miller Hudson, Ron Kurtz, Lonnie Leech, Bob Lopez, Michael McDonald, Jim Miles, Rusty Morse, Steve Newton, Owen Oliver, Stan Paprocki, Philip Post, Frank Riddle, Terry Ritenour, Bill Robbins, Lew Roman, Joe Romero, Eddie Shreeve, Tom Simpson, A. Leonard Smith, Lindsay Smith, Otto Smolik, Larry Sourbeer, David Steiner, Tom Stepleton, Wally Struble, Jim Topkoff, Frank Tobani, Phil Waters, Charlie Wilson, Bob Wyatt, George Zervos

AVVA Members Present: (2) Scott Hefty, Mary Ann Whitehead,

Guests: (11) Susan Bates, Linda Olson, Morgana Reader, Janet Beiner, Sandy Quinbrall, Theresa Smith Joanna Walters, Bob Schofield, Ken Bowen, Bob Cook, Dennis Messer

President Report: Stan Paprocki,

Welcomed Members and Guests, Thanked Chaplain John for mentioning the commissioning of the USS Colorado.

Upcoming Dates:

1. March 24th, Crown Hill at 8:30am for those that volunteered to help out with the identification of cremains in order to prepare for the next Honors Burial.
2. March 24th, DAR presentation of the 50th Anniversary certificates and recognition of Vietnam veterans at Northglenn Elks Lodge. Morgana Reader from DAR explained what will transpire at that event.
3. March 29th, National Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony to be held at Ft Logan National Cemetery to honor a Vietnam Veterans. Stan encouraged all members to attend if possible. Lots of activities are planned for that day.
4. April 8th, United Veterans Committee banquet.

Vice President Report: Terry Ritenour

Terry mentioned the Broomfield Veterans Memorial. Money has been allocated to expand the museum. I encourage to visit the museum if you haven't done so yet. They are open on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

VVA member, Lew Roman is one of the coordinators and sets up the displays there. Questions or maybe a personal tour?? See Lew Roman.

March 29th, Vietnam Veterans Day, Be sure to fly your flags that day.

Secretary Report: Marty Chavez,

Welcomed guests and had them introduce themselves.

Encouraged all members to attend the event at Ft. Logan and to please wear your vests or hats that signify your military branch of service.

Financial Report: Leonard Smith

Leonard reported on the Chapters financial. As always, if anyone has any questions, please come see me after the meeting.

Webmaster: Ray Holtz

1. February website visits were 4,332.
2. VVA Press Release, Our Veterans Need VA Secretary Shulkin.
3. Posted wheel chairs for Veterans from member John Durant.
4. Free dental screening for Veterans at Inner City Health Center May 3, 2018 along with application form
5. Posted Honors Burial update about Crown Hill for March 24th.
6. The last 4 week period for the King Soopers Neighborhood Rewards ending Feb 24th we had total of \$5,732.66. We will get a check for the last period for \$286.63. The next period that will end today.

MEMBERSHIP: Ray Holtz

1. We added 2 new members: Tim Bradley and Joe Dural.
2. We added 1 new member to our AVVA roster: Bernice Bertolli
3. We have 168 members, and 22 AVVA members giving us a total of 190 members.

Outreach Liaison: Position Vacant

Outreach Committee: Chaplain John Altfeltis: John also mentioned that the Broomfield Veterans Museum has a replica model of the USS Colorado and to make an effort to visit the museum. He also gave an update on our brother Al Roettger who has been hospitalized for over 6 months now. He is alert and visitors are allowed. Presently he is at St. Luke /Presbyterian hospital, room 11. John also mention Dan Dietz (who is Present) and to continue to hold all our brothers in prayer during these difficult times.

Board of Directors: Jose Gonzales, Gave an update on the Brighton Vietnam Memorial scheduled to be dedicated on this coming Memorial Day. Jose spoke about the many young men (200+) from the Brighton & surrounding areas that went to Vietnam. Most came back but several were KIA's. Very emotional and passionate story from Jose.

David Steiner. David mentioned the availability of US Flags made in America by veterans. A great deal for any size flag is available through Amazon.

David also mentioned the upcoming elections of 1071 officers and board members next month. Member are obligated to participate and please do.

Guest Speaker: David requested that any veteran interested in telling the military story to contact him. We are hoping to have a member speaker every month. We presently have 18 signed up, If you have not signed up I will come calling on you shortly.

Our scheduled speaker today is Ray Holtz, Winner of the VVA National Website of the Year. His wonderful 1071 website beat out close to 700 other chapter's websites. Great Job Ray. Ray spoke about his time in the Army as an Engineer both stateside and in country.

Lindsay Smith introduced the next guest speaker, Joanna Walters, 1994 graduate of the Naval Academy and the first woman to serve aboard a Navy Warship. She is also the author of Girl at Sea, a book she wrote three years ago about her experiences in the Navy.

Honors Burial: Jim Topkoff, Gave an update on scheduled mission on March 24th to identify and record unclaimed cremains. Our object is to find unclaimed veterans who need a proper military burial, which is one of this chapters main goals.

1071 Schools Outreach Program: Phil Waters introduced himself and member Jim Higgins as the school speaker coordinators who are stepping in to fill Al Roettger's shoes while he is in the hospital. The new email for the school speakers program is speakersbureau@vva1071.org You can contact both Phil and Jim to get on speakers list for this great program. VP Terry explained a great project that Mead HS students have done in the past and that is taking a name from the Wall, making a project item for that veteran, which is then taken to the Wall in DC by one of our chapter members .

Scholarship Committee: David Steiner,

Marketing: Jim Topkoff

Drawings Door Prizes: Jim Topkoff

1. Girl at Sea book donated by guest speaker Joanna Walters: Larry Cato
2. \$25 king Soopers reloadable card: Jim Higgins
3. White Fence Farms gift card: Eddie Shreeve

Plaque Presentation: Member Mary Ann Whitehead presented to our chapter a plaque that has all of the Vietnam Colorado MIA and POW veteran's names on dog tags that she created. Member Dan Dietz restored and refinished an antique wooden plaque for Mary Ann to mount the dog tags. This will be used for our High School speaker's events and other Chapter events.

- Up Coming Events:**
1. March 24th, Crown Hill Mortuary for cremains identification, Honors Burial
 2. March 27th, Northglenn Elks, DAR presentation, 50th Anniversary Vietnam War
 3. March 29th, National Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at Ft Logan National Cemetery.
 4. April 8th, United Veterans Committee Banquet
 5. May 26th scheduled poppies donation at King Soopers locations.
 6. May 28th, Memorial Day Dedication and unveiling of the Brighton Vietnam Memorial.
 7. July 24th to 28th, VVA National Leadership Conference, Palm Springs, Calif

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Retiring of POW/MIA Colors: Jose Gonzales

Benediction: John Altfeltis

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 am MDT

Next Chapter Meeting will be on April 21st , 2018

Marty Chavez - Secretary

VVA Chapter 1071 – Denver