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**Here are the Membership Meeting Minutes for**

**Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 1106 on MARCH 2, 2019.**

**Location: South Metro Denver Fire and Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Ave., Centennial, CO 80112**

**Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM by President Lee White**

**Board Members Present:** Lee White, Milt Omoto, Dave Lyons, Tom Werzyn,

Bob Easter, Glen Payne, Patti Ehline

**Members Present:** Bruce Arndt,Jim Bishop, Cliff Butler, Donna Chaney, Larry Collins, Anthony Croce, Barry Fiore, Sonny Gorsuch, Dan Green, Leo Greunke, Warren Harrison, Jim Henderson, Jim Henderson, Jack Hunter, Mike Karsh, Richard Lewis, Jerry Liechti, Jim Marcille, John McMaster, Tony Nickerson, Jack Paulsen, Jay Quiring, Bob Rotruck, Rob Senatore, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Gary Steinhoff, Joe Dempsey, Mike Huber, Dan Graham,

Dan Wagle, Wendell Wallace, and John Williams.

**Associate Member:**  Linda Croce, Desiree Dayton, Kari Liechti, Litta Plant-Schaper,

 Suzanne Sigona, Siltham Smith, Jim Williams, Diane Graham, Leann Stelzer, Kysten Nelson

**Guests and New Members Present:**  Claudia Hunter, Tom Puckett,

Daniel Riley,

**Invocation and Prayer given by Dave Lyons**

**Pledge of Allegiance by all**

**The Sgt At Arms, Rob Senatore,** **conducted the POW/MIA ritual, followed by a Moment of Silence. Moment of Silence for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those who are still MIA**

**Minutes from the February 2, 2019 VVA Meeting were approved.**

**Motion: Wendall Wallace; 2nd by Tony Nickerson**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**Alyssa Carver, Head Archivist, Douglas Co. Library’s Veteran History Project – Introduced by Milt Omoto**

Ms. Carver is asking that contact her to arrange an interview about their Vietnam experience. Those interviews will be included in the Douglas Co. Library and in the Library of Congress.

**“The Wall That Heals” – Presented by Suzanne Sigona**

**The Vietnam Traveling Wall will be in Arvada, CO June 20-23, 2019.**

Sponsors are [VVA Chapter 1071 & Faith Bible Chapel. Plan to visit the traveling wall.](https://www.facebook.com/events/1175932175919112/)

**“Dreams Are Worth Protecting” Fundraiser – Litta Plant-Schaper**

On Saturday May 18th, a BIKE SHOW will be at GRAND PRIX MOTORSPORTS 3105 W. COUNTY LINE RD. LITTLETON, CO. Please plan to attend. Funds from this Bike Show will directly support VVA Chapter 1106.

**Happy 4th Birthday to VVA Chapter 1106!!!** Founding Members of VVA 1106 were recognized, and some discussed how this Chapter began. A Birth-Day cake was provided for all.

**MARTIAL JUSTICE MC is a fraternal, non-territorial, family orientated MC who will re**

**Lee White’s President Report:**

**-Poppy Drive is scheduled for Saturday, May 25, 2019 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Memorial Day weekend and Veterans Day in 2019.**

We have leaders for each of 4 locations and as many helpers as we can get at each location.

Sign-up sheets are in the back or call/email Lee to volunteer.

**-VVA lifetime membership is now $50.00**. On Oct. 20th, VVA National agreed to the Lifetime membership being $50.00. Three-year members will be changed to Lifetime. One-year memberships will be phased out and asked to become Life Members. Contact Dave Lyons if you want to start a VVA Lifetime membership. AVVA 3-year Membership is $50.00.

**-Rockies Game on June 30th: tickets available now**. Barry Fiore reported that he has 50 tickets for four Rockies games—June 30th, May 26, July 14 and August 4th—all Sunday at 1 PM. Ticket cost is $40.00. June 30th game, $13.00 of each ticket sold comes back to VVA1106. To buy tickets for any of Rockies Tickets, please contact Barry Fiore.

-**VVA Region conference 8-9 at Sparkes, NV June 1, 2019 and**

**National VVA Conventions Spokane, WA July 15-20, 2019.**

The Board will select ONE representative to attend.

-New chapter **Events Schedule and a list of Standing Committees** for 2019 are on our VVA1106 website. If you see events or committees of interest to you, volunteer to assist those endeavors. We particularly need volunteers for the Social Committee and Veteran Assistance Committee.

-Friday, March 29th will be national **Vietnam War Veteran Day**.

**Secretary Report**—**Glen Payne**:

During February we reported the meeting minutes to all the membership by email and by 16 by snail mail. Eight FYI emails were sent out to the membership during the month.

**WEBMASTER – Robert Rotruck** –We have recently updated the website. Please take a look and give Bob your comments. Name Tags for meetings: sign-up on a list at a meeting and a Name Tag for you will be made.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – (3 minutes or less)

1. Membership – Dave Lyons – 129 Members – 29 Associates – for a total of 158 members in VVA 1106. We have a goal of 200 members for VVA1106.
2. Grants/Fund Raising – Milt Omoto.

-Thanks to Litta for creating a fund-raising Bike Show event that benefits our Chapter.

Events like the Bike Show and Poppy Drive are a chance for you to interact with the community and other veterans, so please join these events.

-VA House hold pick-up services is available to you. Please use this service. They collect clothing and household items.

1. Agent Orange/PTSD – Women Veterans – Voices for Vets - Patti Ehline.

-Pattie was recently a surgery patient at the new VA Hospital in Aurora. “Never in my whole life have I gotten such good healthcare. I am a nurse, and I want healthcare done right. The VA hospital healthcare exceeded my expectations.”

-Healthevet.va.gov www.myhealth.va.gov is a great website to gather all your health information: appointments, prescription refill, Lab test results, xray results, and physician notes on your visits.

-For VA appointments now, you can get reminders of the appointments by text, email, and/or a phone call—all so you do not forget appointments.

-The VA hospital now has a Patient Liaison who available to assist veterans with obtaining great hospital care.

-Please take bags of old prescription medication to the VA Hospital for proper disposal.

-VA now has walk-in Mental Health Counseling

-Warren Harrison, Donna Chaney and Pattie Ehline are on a VA Mental Health Advisory Committee at the VA Hospital. Let them know your plaudits and concerns for VA Mental Health Care.

1. Newsletter – Bob Rotruck: The March/April 2019 Newsletter is posted on the web.

1. Speaker’s Bureau – Bob Easter. We have one late April Class presentation being arranged at Heritage High School in Littleton.
2. Scholarship Committee – Co-Chairs Mike Karsh and Jim Marcille; John Vargas,

Glen Payne. Mike Karsh reported that the committee has obtained the new Scholarship marketing poster from the printer. The Application for the 2019 Scholarship of $2,000.00 is now posted on our VVA1106.com website. The committee has visited all the high schools to leave to posters for their wall and insure students can see our scholarship data is in the HS computer database.

1. Veteran Emergency Assistance Program –Dave Lyons: Dave read a Thank You note from a Veteran whom we provided $300.00 for utility bills.

-We have medical equipment, including power chairs, to provide if any veteran needs such.

1. Social Committee –Barry Fiore, Milt Omoto, Mike Karsh, Jim Marcelle and Glen Payne. We are actively locating possible arrangements for the summer picnic, Christmas Holiday Lunch and possible Chapter Trips. Let us know any suggestions that you have for locations.
2. Gov’t Affairs – Tony Nickerson

 -United Veteran Council meetings: A UVC Banquet is planned for April 7th

-Suicide Prevention is the #1 need for veterans. We have eight Suicide Prevention Counselors in our area. A goal is to reduce veteran suicide by 20%. Call 720-723-7346 to learn more about Veteran Suicide, speak with a suicide counselor or find classes on veteran suicide.

-Legislation: A Veteran preference for hiring bill for Colorado is being discussed. State Nurses at State VA homes are paid much less than VA Nurses. A legislation bill is being discussed to raise the state nurse salaries.

-A new VA Disability Appeal form is now available.

-For Memorial Day, Fort Logan needs volunteers to put flags at veteran gravesites.

1. Color Guard – Tony Nickerson The Color Guard will be at the May 18 Bike Show.

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

-Zillow.com has contacted us to meet with them on March 6 to discuss their veteran outreach.

-Jack Hunter: Please see Claudia outside for a picture if you have not already done that.

-Bob Rotruck: Thanks for buying and reading my book on Amazon. Please go to Amazon to give write a review of the book.

-Charles Smith has book signing March 16th. Let people know what really happened in Vietnam. Encourages veterans to write their stories on Vietnam experience.

Michelle Mallin, Director of Honor Bell: Next Saturday an organizational meeting for those who want to be a Bell Guard. If you are a Hockey fan, The Honor Bell Foundation is selling tickets.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**MEMBER SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS?**

Joe Plant: Broken ankle is being considered for surgery or a cast.

Pattie Ehline: Recovering from surgery

Note: Lee White, President VVA1106, will miss the April and May meetings due to a trip and a hip surgery. These are the first meetings Lee has ever missed for VVA1106. Bob Easter will preside at those meetings.

Meeting Adjourned by: Lee White at: 10:39 AM

BREAK TIME – 10:30 – 10-45 AM - ENJOY A COFFEE REFILL AND SOCIALIZE

**NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING:  SATURDAY, April 6, 2019.**

**LOCATION:  SOUTH METRO FIRE & RESCUE BUILDING, 9195 E. MINERAL AVE., CENTENNIAL, CO**

**THANK YOU ALL!!!!**

Submitted by:

Lee White, President VVA Chapter 1106 – South Metro