



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

## Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 4, 2021

Scheduled Meeting Start Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Location: Fremont Building, 14603 E Fremont Ave., Centennial, CO 80112

Meeting called to order by President Lee White at 9:07 AM

### Meeting Topics

1. Welcome to the meeting by President Lee White
2. Armed Forces Medley and recognition of member branch served (provided by Jack Hunter)
3. Star Spangled Banner (provided by Jack Hunter)
4. Invocation Prayer by Chaplain Garry Turks and Moment of Silence

- Prayer for our members and family members who are sick and are shut-in
- Prayers for those in need

5. POW/MIA Chair Presentation by Dan Green and Moment of Silence

Moment of Silence for those still POW/MIA and for Chapter members who have passed

6. Board Member Roll Call

Officers and Board Members Present Roll Call: Officers: Lee White (President), Dave Lyons (Vice President), Mike Huber (Treasurer), Milt Omoto (Secretary); Board Members Present: Reverend Garry Turks (Chaplain), Joe Plant, Patti Ehline, Joe Dempsey, Ron Smith, John Vargas, Tom Werzyn

6. Members in Attendance (from sign-in sheets)

Jane Brown, Ita Dempsey, Claudia Hunter, Jean Jaffe, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Suzanne Sigona, Leann Stelzer, Valerie Werzyn, Vieng Vongsakoun, Jim Williams, Bruce Arndt, Bob Brown, Wayne Buser, Cliff Butler, Dale Creason, Tony Croce, Steve Curti, Joe Dempsey, Bob Easter, Patti Ehline, Dan Green, Leo Greunke, Lou Grounds, Ted Hanfelder, Mike Huber, Jack Hunter, Alan Jaffe, Mike Karsh, Roger Lanphier, Bob Lee, Walter Leuci, Marvin Lich, Chuck Luley, David Lyons, Jesse Maldonado, Bob Mallin, Jim Marcille, James Martindale, Jim McGrevey, Harry Montgomery, Tony Nickerson, Milt Omoto, Gary Palka, Ed Phillips, Joe Plant,



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

Clarence Rebolledo, Coy Ritchie, Steve Robertson, Bob Rotruck, Edward Seiler, John Sheadel, Charles Smith, Ron Smith, Gary Steinhoff, Michael Tarby, Garry Turks, John Vargas, Dan Wagle, Wendell Wallace, Tom Werzyn, Gary Weston, John Williams, Di Seiler

*Note: If your name does not appear on this list but you were there, that is because you did not sign-in*

The above list includes on-line attendees

7. Recognition of new members and guests (including members who have not attended in a while)

Derek Mullner, Murray Sallenback (US Army), Di Seiler, Jesse Maldonado

8. Chapter Meeting Minutes Approval

Minutes for the November 6, 2021 Chapter Membership meeting were emailed to each member. Minutes are also posted on the Chapter website.

**Motion 1.** Motion to approve the VVA Chapter 1106 Minutes dated November 6, 2021, made by Bob Rotruck and second by Tom Werzyn; the minutes were approved.

9. Special Presentation: Derek Mullner, Cherry Creek School District Executive Director of Elementary Education

John Vargas introduced our guest speaker, Derek Mullner, who is active in enabling CCSD to support veterans and active military; he worked with all District Supervisors; he presented the Chapter with several checks from staff and students of the District.

Derek is very supportive of VVA Chapter 1106.

Special Presentation: Vietnam War Commemoration Pin Presentation

By Suzzane Signoa and Milt Omoto; five members received the Commemoration Pin.

10. President's Report: Lee White

- Thank you to members who helped at the November Poppy Drive
- Please continue to support the King Soopers Community Rewards Program and encourage your friends and neighbors to participate
- Holiday Lunch: to be covered by John Vargas
- Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser: to be covered by Milt Omoto
- Buddy Call List: We are working to reinstate the buddy call system



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

- Sock Drive: Thank you for your sock donations today; we will continue to collect socks at our January and February meetings
- Patti also is collecting items to take to the Daniels Veterans Center

11. Vice President's Report: Dave Lyons

- Dave stated that members should consider an end of year donation to the Chapter; he reported that they met with TREA and have some good ideas for raising funds.

12. Treasurer's Report: Mike Huber

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mike Huber;
- Mike reported on the current status of Chapter funds
- The November Poppy Drive helped greatly with Chapter funds increase.

**Motion 2.** Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Bob Rotruck and second by Tony Nickerson; the Treasurer's Report was approved.

14. Secretary's Report: Milt Omoto

- Fundraising Event: Texas Roadhouse November Veterans Month
  - The fundraiser was successful with the Chapter to receive gift cards from the restaurant as a result of customers supporting veterans;
  - All month of November (guests got a free appetizer card when they donated \$5; they also could complete an appreciation note that the restaurant will give us at the end of the month; monies collected will be converted to gift cards and given to us;
  - November 11th (Veterans Day); the Chapter set up a table with information and donation requests; the restaurant handed out vouchers for a free meal that had a "fact sheet" of VVA Chapter 1106 attached;
- Thank you for supporting the November Poppy Drive, which was very successful;
- Information on how to link your King Sooper's Rewards Card to our Chapter is provided on the back table; contact Milt if you need instructions at [omoto.milt@gmail.com](mailto:omoto.milt@gmail.com);

15. Board Member and Committee Reports

- a) Membership (David Lyons): Dave reported on the current total number of regular Chapter members at 171 and AVVA members at 47; there are a total of 88,903 regular members and 9,877 Associate members;
- b) Veterans Emergency Assistance Program (Joe Plant): The Chapter assisted four veterans in the month of November, working with HUD-VASH to get them off the street; Joe stated that Chapter funds are used to pay the first rent for the veteran, utility payment and other urgent needs; the Chapter Board recently increased the monthly allocation that the program can use to help more homeless veterans;



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

- c) Chaplain's Report (Rev. Garry Turks): Chaplain Turks continues to visit the sick and shut-in members; he visits with Rich Eisenberg three times a week and with Sonny Gorsuch weekly; he reported that Sonny is not doing week; Garry continues with his Chaplain calls to members who do not attend meetings; please let Chaplain Turks know of those who are sick, shut-in and in need of Chaplain services and visits;
- d) Speakers Bureau (Tom Werzyn): Dave Lyons reported for Tom that the Speakers Bureau has no activities until January;
- e) Grants and Fundraising (Milt Omoto): Covered under Secretary's report;
- f) Events Coordinator (Ron Smith): Ron reported no current activity;
- g) Scholarship Committee (Gary Weston): Gary Weston has agreed to chair the Scholarship Committee; Gary stated that the committee needs to get active for scholarships for this academic year; Jim Marcelle will continue to be part of the committee; Mike Karsh stated that he can also assist remotely;
- h) Social Committee (John Vargas): John reported that Roger Lanphier donated funds for two lunches for the Holiday Lunch; our end of year Holiday Lunch is December 18<sup>th</sup> at Maggiano's from 11:00Am to 1:00PM; cost is \$20/person and we are registering and collecting payment today (last day); the guest speaker for the Holiday Lunch is confirmed; John reported that he prepared a list of activities that we, as a Chapter, do in support of veterans and the community; he read the list; most importantly we check on each other and support each other; the list is useful during Poppy Drives;
- i) Promotional Items (Joe Dempsey). The Chapter has an inventory of promotional items that are sold at monthly Chapter meetings; we currently have XXL and XXXL shirts and jackets; an order will be place for M, L, and XL polo shirts (\$40/each), but members wishing these must pre-pay for them; ball caps with the Chapter logo (\$20/each) will also be procured; women's size polo shirts are planned to be available, as well as long sleeve tee-shirts; apparel with AVVA logo will also available; all items must be requested and paid in advance before order can be placed;
- j) Voices for Veterans (Warren Harrison): Patti reported for Warren that they continue to participate to represent veterans and raise issues to the VA leadership; Patti reported that disability checks will be increased next year, and that VA will provide hospice care;
- k) Women Veterans, Veterans Health, PTSD, Agent Orange (Patti Ehline): Patti reported that the list of presumptive for agent orange is increasing; she stated that the VA may look into providing small housing for homeless veterans with a re-hab program; Pati is collecting toiletries, coats and sleeping bags to take to the Daniels Veteran Center; Patti recognized Suzzane Sigona for her continuous volunteer work at the Vietnam "Wall" in Washington DC;
- l) AVVA Chapter Liaison (Litta Plant-Schaper): Litta manages the Zoom on-line capability for Chapter meetings; she stated that those needing a name badge should put their name on the request sheet; Litta will also be preparing name tags for the Holiday Lunch; Joe reported that there are 82 signed-up so far;
- m) Webmaster and Newsletter (Bob Rotruck): Bob appreciated receiving Member Background forms; the information will be in the January/February newsletter; Bob also reported that he gets a report of Chapter web activity, and the number of visit "hits" is very low; he encouraged members to visit the Chapter website as there is much informative information available there;
- n) Government Affairs (Tony Nickerson): Tony reported that veterans need to be engaged with the update of the Colorado State Constitution that provided veterans with service-connected



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

- disability to receive a 50% reduction in their property tax payment; the change will extend this benefit to those with at least 50% disability rating;
- o) Color Guard (Tony Nickerson): Tony read a thank you card from Ben Franklin Academy for the Color Guard's participating on Veterans Day.

16. Roundtable

- a) Jack Hunter stated that veterans are allowed to salute during the playing of the National Anthem; veteran can also salute during the Pledge of Allegiance, but must remain quite; Jack stated that today's Zoom capability now enabled those online to speak and we can hear them (a first);
- b) Jack Hunter stated that he is in need of a helper for the audio system during meetings as it is difficult for him to control the audio and ensure that all microphones are available to speakers and adjusted properly;
- c) Gary Crego stated that in the latest issue of the Veteran, that delegates at the National Convention voted to make VVA a last man standing organization;
- d) Bob Rotruck stressed the need for members to step-up and be an active part of Chapter committees and to volunteer your time; please get involved;
- e) A member stated that the Chapter should consider visitations to veterans in homes, such as the VFW does; they bring fruit to homes and spend time with the aging veterans; Patti stated that visits are important;
- f) Patti stated that additional lap blankets donated by Lee's neighbor will be taken to the Sky Ridge Cancer Center; they are much appreciated;
- g) John Vargas stated that raffle gifts for the Holiday Lunch have been wrapped; everyone will receive two raffle tickets and additional can be purchased, three for \$5.00/

17. Drawings (Ron Smith)

- The 50/50 Drawing had a total of \$75 was won by Leann Stelzer who donated the funds back to the Chapter.

18. Announcements

- The Chapter Holiday lunch is December 18<sup>th</sup>;
- Next Chapter membership meeting is January 8, 2022; location to be announced;
- Anyone needing a picture for the Chapter picture board should see Claudia Hunter.

19. Membership in Sickness or in Need of Support

- a) Donna Chaney (who just had surgery), is doing well;
- b) Gwen Wilson, who had cancer, is now cancer free!
- c) Buddy check calls will be reinstated;
- d) Please keep Rich Eisenberg, and Sonny Gorsuch in your prayers;
- e) Please let Chaplain Garry Turks know of members and family members who are ill or in need of support



Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 1106

20. Schedule

- a) The next Chapter Board Meeting is yet to be scheduled;
- b) The Colorado VVA State Council meeting is December 11<sup>th</sup>;
- c) The next Chapter Membership Meeting is Saturday, January 8, 2022; the location will be announced; the guest speaker will also be announced.

**The Next Chapter 1106 Membership Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2022 at 9:00AM – Live! Zoom capability will be provided to those who cannot attend the meeting in person. Location to be announced.**

The membership meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections by President Lee White at 10:20 AM.

This Chapter Membership Meeting minutes is submitted by Milt Omoto, Chapter Secretary.

---

*Published: 120521*

*Circulation Notice: These minutes may contain sensitive and/or personal information; therefore, please use discretion when sharing this information with non-VVA members. Note that this is the web version of the meeting minutes posted to the Chapter's website.*