

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire
June 4, 2025

AVVA
6pm – 6:20pm

Attendance – 6 (1- guest)

Discussions;

- 1- Membership is 27 (Life)
- 2- Budget is in good standings
- 3- Fundraising – ideas for future fundraising were discussed as Pizza Ranch and A&W are getting harder to get into. A possible brat stand at Festival Foods will be researched.
- 4- Donations – a vote to approve \$100.00 to the WI State Trooper Assoc. in order to assist with purchasing bicycles for the Northern WI State Fair was completed. The VVA and the AVVA will send a total of \$300.00 to this program.

VVA
6:30pm – 7:40pm

Attendance – 10 (2- AVVA)

Open Special Election Meeting at 6:45pm

- 1- Nomination of Mike Smith to be the Chapter Treasurer was made by Bill Buss and seconded by Ralph Ottum.
- 2- No discussion was held
- 3- Vote was unanimous for Mike Smith to take over as Chapter Treasurer was completed.

Special Election meeting was then closed/adjourned

Agenda – no changes

Call to Order by Mike Korgner at 6:50pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mike K. (all present)

Opening Prayer – Joe Graff absent (Funeral) Mike K. led

Moment of Silence – none

Deceased members – none

Welcome Veterans and Guests – none

Reports

Secretary – Dan Zeigler (absent)

A motion to approve the minutes as emailed to members was made by Jake G. and seconded by Rod P.
The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Mike Smith

All accounts are in good standings. The funds from the Vietnam Veteran Day Committee have been received and will be placed into a special account, under Vietnam Veterans Day Fund.

President - Mike Korger

Korger spoke of multiple items including;

- 1- Scholarship presentation at the Augusta High School completed with Joe Graff
- 2- Memorial Day parade in Eau Claire attended
- 3- Memorial Day parade in Augusta attended (re-dedication of Veterans Memorial Stone)
- 4- Honor Guard services in Chippewa Falls and Augusta with the local Legion's

Vice-President – Rodney Pettis

Pettis explained he worked on flag placements at cemeteries and also marched with Chapter 5 in the Memorial Day parade in Eau Claire.

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford spoke of marching in the Eau Claire and Augusta Memorial Day parades. The AVVA also voted on a donation to the WI Troopers Assoc. (\$100.00) to assist with purchasing bicycles for the NWSF. Chapter 5 will be sending \$300.00 in total for this program. A fundraiser idea was discussed regarding brat sales at the Festival Foods in Eau Claire. Pettis wondered if the VVA and AVVA could do this together. A good idea for the future, Talford will check into what would need to be done to hold a fundraiser at Festival, and report back next month.

NOTE- Korger spoke of possibly setting up a table to get donations for our poppies at the fair. There didn't seem to be any interest by members on doing this. He also spoke of setting up at grocery stores for the same reason.

Meetings

National Convention will be held in August in New Orleans. A proposal has been put together by the BOD (April mtg) that will introduce a name change effective in March 2028. The name would change from Vietnam Veterans of America to Vietnam Veterans of America Legacy Society.

Regional Conference will be held July 11-12th in Janesville, WI. (Members attending currently would be Mike K., Mike K., Rod P. and Rick T.)

State Council Meeting will be held in Waupaca in September 2025 at Par4.

VA/Benefits/Claims – still need a chair for this position. (No report)

Minority – Dave Zein (absent) no report

Membership – VVA 125 AVVA 27

Old Business

Veterans Home – Rory Schutte (absent) no report

Highground – Joe Graff (absent)

- 1- June 13-15th – Female Veterans PTSD/MST – focused retreat
- 2- June 14th – Korean and Legacy Stone Ceremonies

- 3- June 20-22nd – Female Veterans Outdoor Adventure retreat
- 4- June 28th – Freedom Celebration Fireworks at Dusk

Logo/Clothing – Rick Talford

Talford was asked to bring some chapter t-shirts along to next months' meeting.

Kellen Fundraiser check – the check was provided to the Grandfather prior to the event, but has not yet been cashed. Contact may be required to get this check cleared from the bank.

Vietnam Veterans Day – The Committee has closed down and the funds have been transferred by check to Chapter 5. They will be placed into a special account and meetings will begin after Veterans Day for next years' event.

Hmong Veterans Day – a number of members attended the May 14th event in Cadott and Neillsville.

Assistant Treasurer – Jake Gundlach was appointed the position by Mike Korger, after he agreed to take the position.

New Business

Membership review – the paperwork has not yet been sent to State and National on the (3) deceased members on our roster.

Chapter 5 BOD position has been filled by Jake Gundlach, after being appointed the position by Mike Korger.

Finance and Election reports have not yet been filed with State and National. These are due by July 15th, 2025.

Chapter Elections – April 2026

Committee – no report

Communications – a "Thank You" card was received from Amelia Feltes (Memorial) for the scholarship.

Good of the Order

Mike K. - Auto Car Show and Swap Meet at VFW Post 7232 on June 8th, 2025.

Bill B. – Thorpe VFW will again hold a breakfast fundraiser on July 4th, 2025 from 7-11am. The cost is again \$9.00 this year (all u can eat). Come and enjoy a great breakfast at Yellowstone Park.

Closing Prayer – Mike Korger

Adjourn at 7:40pm

Next meeting will be held at VFW Post 305 on July 2nd, 2025, beginning at 6pm (AVVA) 6:30pm VVA.