



MIKE VOTH MEMORIAL CHAPTER 5

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 7:00 P.M.
HELD AT VFW POST #7232, 2900 W. FOLSOM, EAU CLAIRE, WI



Volume 7 – Issue 3

EDITOR – Julia McBee

UPCOMING EVENTS

05/05/21 Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. (AVVA @ 6:30 p.m.)
05/10-15 Veterans & Home Town Heroes Appreciation Week
05/12-15 Highground Work Week
05/31/21 Eau Claire Memorial Day Parade
05/31/21 Chippewa Valley Veterans Tribute Trail Dedication

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Mike Korger 715-404-5796
VP – Kenny Piel
Treasurer - Joe Heil 715-559-2945
Secretary - Mac McBee 715-202-0181
Chaplain & Sgt. At Arms - Joe Graff
BOD Joe Graff 715-579-0912
BOD Ralph Ottum 715-223-6260
BOD Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
BOD Mike Smith 601-938-3746
BOD Al Weix 715-832-4792

Chapter website: www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org

Chapter email: www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mikevothmemorialvva5

COMMITTEES

AVVA Chapter Representative - Rick Talford 715-926-5302
Color Guard – Rick Talford 715-926-5302
Eau Claire Veteran's Council – Dan Ziegler 715-559-5158
Finance – Joe Heil 715-839-7089
Fundraising – J. Heil, J. McBee
Government Affairs – Bob Laguban 651-285-8518
Historical – Julia McBee 715-202-0181
Minority Affairs – Dave Zien 715-829-9436
Membership – Joe Heil 715-839-7089
Outdoor Recreation – Bill Anderson 715-530-3481
POW/MIA/Highground – Joe Graff 715-579-0912
Public Affairs – Joe Graff 715-579-0912
Scholarship – J. Heil, Chair; J. Graff, M. Korger, J/J McBee
Veterans Assistance – Dave Mayenchein 715-669-3169
Veterans Home – Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
Women Veterans – Julia McBee 715-202-0181

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA'S
FOUNDING PRINCIPLE,

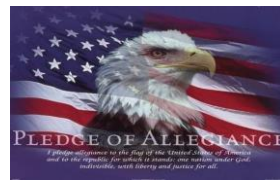
***"Never again will one generation
of veterans abandon another."***



God Bless All Veterans

P.O. Box 832, Eau Claire, WI 54702





May 2021 President's Letter

Greetings,

Activities are ramping up and we now have our raffle tickets available to sell. Contact Joe Heil or myself to get those raffle tickets! Set up a table outside a store and see what you can sell. Contact another member to help, especially for breaks.

I missed the "Highground Rising" launch event in Osseo on April 8th, I did watch the video recording online and I think it is worth the time (one hour and 13 minutes.)

Upcoming events include Dave Zien's Armed Forces/Veterans and Home Front Heroes Appreciation Week, May 10 thru May 15. It all starts at 8 a.m. Monday, May 10th at Patriots Park by the Roadside Diner near the entrance to Carson Park. Get a flyer (see further ahead in the newsletter) from Dave. National Lao Hmong Veterans Day is May 14th. I did not see any current information online about this yet. The Highground is having a Work Week May 12-15, as well as their 11th Annual Honor Ride on May 31st. Check them out online.

The Annual Eau Claire Memorial Day parade and ceremony will be on Monday, May 31st. Please plan to be there to help march or ride. The plan is to be done by 11:30 and then go over to Altoona to the Veterans Tribute Trail for a 1:00 dedication and Legacy Stone Laying ceremony. Let's have a big turnout!

I heard some news about the Chippewa Veterans Home; some visitation is being allowed with proper protocols. I should finally be able to see my cousin.

I hope to see all of you at our next regular meeting on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. (AVVA at 6:30 p.m.) at VFW Post 7232 on Folsom Street on the west side of Eau Claire.

Mike Korger, President
VVA Chapter 5

CHAPTER MINUTES FROM 4/7/2021

Call to order by President Mike Korger, with the Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer led by BOD Joe Graff; there were no guests or visitors present.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Ralph Ottum, seconded by Rory Schutte, to accept last month's meeting minutes as mailed and emailed (it was noted the Treasurer's Report had been omitted) with further discussion; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: All Chapter accounts balance with bank records; paid expenses, along with upcoming expenses reviewed and authorized, and Joe Heil was thanked for his report.

President's Report: Mike Korger welcomed everyone back to regular meetings again and shared that the Vietnam Veterans Day ceremony held on March 29th at VFW Post 305 had been a particularly good program, especially keynote speaker, John Schultz. The Fund-Raising Committee had met and decided to go ahead and hold a Raffle Ticket Fund Raiser and tickets are available for members to start selling. There was a virtual State Council meeting on March 15th, and it was announced that the website, www.vvawi.org, had been hacked and that a new website is being created. There are tentative plans to hold the June meeting at Camp Victory in Willard on June 19th—this will be an election meeting, but it has not been decided if there will also be a potluck luncheon as in the past. *The Veteran* is now back in print format rather than just online. The Chippewa Valley Veterans Tribute Trail will have a dedication and Legacy Stone laying on May 31st after the Eau Claire Memorial Day parade, at Prairie Point Park in Altoona. To learn more about the Tribute Trail Foundation, visit their website, www.chippewaveterans.org.

Vice President's Report: Kenny Piel brought the handmade wooden United States flag that he is donating to the Chapter as a fund-raising prize.

AVVA: Rick Talford reports that AVVA National is still discussing its options for National Convention, whether it will be in person or online. Rick also presented a facemask that he received from VVA Board of Director at Large, Sandie Wilson, that benefits the children of Agent Orange program; efforts will be made to reach out to Sandie to find out more about the facemasks and how much of the cost benefits the program and will report back to membership next month.

National VVA: Convention in Greensboro, NC, November 2-6, 2021; please refer to their website, www.VVA.org.

State VVA Council: Upcoming meeting on June 19th at Camp Victory in Willard; a new State Council website is being created as the www.vvawi.org site has been hacked.

VVA Region 6: No regional meeting scheduled at this time.

VA/Benefits/Claims: No report, Dave Mayenchein absent.

Minority: Dave Zien recapped the Vietnam Veterans Day program held at VFW Post 305 on March 29th and thanked everyone who attended for their open-mindedness as there had not been any hassle pertaining to a trans-gender combat vet who was present that day. Also acknowledged was the upcoming Lao Hmong Veterans Day on May 14th and their contribution that enabled many US service members to make it home from Vietnam. Flyers were passed out for the upcoming May Armed Forces and Home Front Heroes Appreciation Week, May 10-15th.

Membership: VVA 123; AVVA 26

Veterans Home: Rory Schutte reports that the home is still closed to visitors. Pete Breed reminded everyone that if you are rated at 70% or more, there is no charge for your care at a veteran's home; additionally, the VA has now contracted with Dove Health Care in Rice Lake and Spooner for needed services.

Highground: Joe Graff reminded everyone that there will be a Work Week on May 12-15; the on-going POW-MIA & League of Wives Exhibit runs from April thru July; there will be a Legacy Stone laying on May 22; Honor

the Fallen Ride will be held Memorial Day, May 31st, to see all upcoming events, and/or volunteer opportunities (especially for Work Week), please visit their website, www.thehighground.us or call 715-743-4224 for more information.

Discussion then turned to various foundations that offer programs for aiding veterans. As was discussed last month about the Gary Sinise Foundation, 87.2% of donations goes directly to veterans; the Marine Corp. Fund gives 99% to veterans. As a group it was felt that any money the Chapter donates to veteran programs, we would like to keep it local, supporting veterans here in the Chippewa Valley area. Discussions to seek new programs or add to existing contributions will be ongoing and no final decisions were made tonight.

Fund-Raising: Tickets are printed and available for our Annual Raffle Ticket Fund-Raiser to be drawn after our regular Chapter meeting on October 6th at 8:30 p.m. See Joe Heil or Mike Korger for tickets; prices are \$10/1, \$25/3, \$50/7 (see accompanying flyer.)

Chapter Elections: April 2022

Scholarships: Updated high school forms available and handed out with a downloadable form available from Joe Heil.

Good of the Order:

Chapter 5 will be participating in the Eau Claire Memorial Day parade, members are needed to march, walk alongside and greet veterans in the crowd. Joe Heil asked what members thought of having banners that could drape over the sides of his truck highlighting our raffle fund-raiser, Joe Graff volunteered to get banners made promoting our fund-raiser that could be used during the parade and at various county fair events. Motion made by Mac McBee, seconded by Rory Schutte, to allow Joe Graff to have two 3'x5' banners made up for the 2021 fund-raiser; motion carried.

May 31st will be a busy day with the Chapter marching in the Eau Claire parade, which should be concluded by 11:30 a.m., and then reassembling at the Veterans Tribute Trail at Prairie Point Park in Altoona for the dedication of the Tribute Trail and the laying of Legacy Stones, both individual and the Chapter's stone; discussion turned to the wording of the plaque on the Chapter's bench that will be next to the Vietnam Veterans of America podium. At this time, it is unclear if the bench will be ready for the dedication in May, but it is planned for.

Join Sheriff Mack, Constitutional Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association President, on April 10th at Lilydale Dance Hall & Event Venue in Chippewa Falls for the 4th Annual Wisconsin Regional Patriot Meeting from 1:00-4:00 p.m. for a presentation followed with Q&A with Sheriff Mack. Legislation was recently introduced in LRB 2788 to make Wisconsin a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary State.

\$20 Attendance Drawing was won by Richard Meier, not present, so next month's drawing will be for \$30. The 50/50 Drawing was won by Rory Schutte. There were 19 members present at tonight's meeting. Joe Graff gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 5th, at VFW 7232, Folsom Street at 7:00 p.m. with AVVA at 6:30 p.m.

MIKE VOTH MEMORIAL CHAPTER 5 VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

ANNUAL RAFFLE TICKET FUND RAISER

DRAWING AT 8:30 P.M. on OCTOBER 6, 2021 @ VFW POST 7232, FOLSOM ST., EAU CLAIRE

TICKET PRICES - \$10/1, \$25/3, \$50/7

1ST PRIZE – 42" Cub Cadet Mower & Lift System



2nd PRIZE – Universal Combination Table/Bench
Picnic Table and Char-Broil 3 Burner Gas Grill



3rd PRIZE – Henry .22 Blue Steel Rifle



***MUST BE ABLE TO LEGALLY PURCHASE & OWN A FIREARM IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN**

4th PRIZE – 50" Flat Screen Television



5TH PRIZE – 32" Flat Screen Television



6th PRIZE – Handmade Wooden Wishing Well
Dimensions approximately 3'x5'



7th PRIZE - \$300 Cash 

8th PRIZE – Handmade Wooden American Flag
Dimensions approximately 2'x3.5'



Mike Voth Memorial Chapter 5 Vietnam Veterans of America, P.O. Box 832, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0832

NOTE: SOME IMAGES MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM ACTUAL PRIZES NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN, BUT PRIZES MUST BE CLAIMED WITHIN 30 DAYS

VVA Chapter #5
P.O. 832
Eau Claire, WI 54702

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