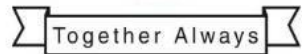




Mike Voth Memorial Chapter 5
Vietnam Veterans of America
P. O. Box 832 Eau Claire, WI 54702
October 2018 Newsletter



Meetings held 1st Wednesday of every month @ 7pm
VFW Post #7232, 2900 W. Folsom St., Eau Claire, WI

Volume 4 Issue 10

Editor – Julie McBee

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/07/18 LE Phillips Sr. Center Veterans Day Program 10:00
CHAPTER MEETING AT 5:00 p.m. NO AVVA Meeting tonight
EC County Courthouse 7:00 p.m. VERY IMPORTANT
11/10/18 Marine Corps Birthday Ball @ Florian Gardens
11/11/18 EC Patriotic Council Veterans Day Program at
American Legion Post 53 @ 10:00 a.m.

12/01/18 National Guard 128th Holiday Party @ AL Post 53
12/07/18 VVA5/DAV21 Veterans Home Christmas Party

Chapter web site: www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org
Chapter email: www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mikevothmemorialvva5

COMMITTEES

Veterans Assistance: John Dorsey 715-835-5055
Finance: Joe Heil 715-839-7089
Outdoor Recreation: Bill Anderson 715-530-3481
EC City Veterans Memorial Park: Dan Ziegler 715-559-5158
Govt. Affairs: Bob Laguban 651-285-8518
Membership: Joe Heil 715-839-7089
Public Affairs: Joe Graff 715-579-0912
Minority Affairs: Dave Zein 715-829-9436
Women Veterans: Julia McBee 715-202-0181
POW/MIA/Highground: Joe Graff 715-579-0912
Service Officer: Peter Breed 715-642-1246
Fundraising Chair: Larry Wrycza 715-402-0106
Scholarship: J. Graff, J. Heil, J. McBee, L. Wrycza
AVVA Chapter Representative: Julia McBee 715-202-0181
Historical: Julia McBee 715-202-0181
Color Guard: Rick Talford 715-647-2091

CHAPTER CONTACTS

President Mike Korger 715-726-3918
VP Larry Wrycza 715-402-0106
Treasurer Joe Heil 715-839-7089
Secretary James 'Mac' McBee 715-202-0180
Chaplain & Sgt. At Arms Joe Graff

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Joe Graff 715-579-0912
Ralph Ottum 715-223-6260
Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
Mike Smith 601-938-3746
Al Weix 715-832-4792

Founding principle,
Vietnam Veterans of America
"Never again will one generation
of veterans abandon another."



God Bless All Veterans

Chapter Moto: Honor the DEAD and fight like Hell for the LIVING!



"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

To be given slow and deliberate, not a speed test!

Greetings,

Things quieted down in October but did include a successful Pizza Ranch AVVA fundraiser night on October 10th. Thank you to all who helped or participated as a customer. Hopefully a number of us were able to participate in the Veterans and Home Front Heroes Appreciation Week from 10/29 through 11/3 spearheaded by Dave Zien.

November will be busier especially with Veterans Day events. Thank you to the Elks Lodge for having a Veteran's Appreciation Dinner on November 2nd. Thank you to CVTC for their "Give Vets a Smile" program on November 3rd offering free services for veterans. On November 7th the Eau Claire L.E. Phillips Senior Center has a Veterans Day program and luncheon starting at 10:00. There is a Marine Corps Birthday Ball (oorah!) on November 10th at Florian Gardens in Eau Claire. American Legion Post 53 has a Veterans Day event including a slum feed and "free" flu shots for veterans on November 11th. Our AVVA is putting on a dinner at Klein Hall for the veterans there on November 12th. Check your local news to find out where and when each county is holding their Veterans Day programs. Be sure to participate where you are able. Also, many businesses will be offering special meals for veterans that you could take advantage of. Learn details about all of these events at our VVA meeting on November 7th. Rory should also have an update on the party to be held in the beginning of December for the National Guard unit to be deployed.

VERY IMPORTANT! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH!!! Also, the Eau Claire County Board has a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. and they will be considering funds for the Eau Claire County Veterans Tribute Trail. It is important that as many of us attend this meeting to show support, to this end, **our next Chapter meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7th at 5:00 p.m. to allow members to participate in this meeting at the County Courthouse; there will be NO AVVA meeting that night.** I hope to see all of you at VFW Post 7232 for our meeting and then at the courthouse.

Mike Korger, President

VVA Meeting of 10/2/2018

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Korger at 7 pm. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sergeant at Arms, Joe Graff as was the Opening Prayer and Moment of Silence for those fallen, missing and ill.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Dan Zeigler to accept the Secretary's Report for the minutes of last month's meeting as mailed and emailed, seconded by Thomas Lee; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Heil absent, report will be made in November.

President's Report: Mike Korger spoke of his appreciation for those who gave such effort in the fundraiser held in September at VFW Post 7232. He spoke of the well-attended stone laying for Dennis Werlein and the 30th Anniversary at the Highground in Neillsville in September. Special thanks to AVVA member, Dean Adsit, for serving as auctioneer and his family for their donations to our fundraiser. Upcoming events will be a Chicken Feed at VFW Post 305 on October 6th, AVVA Pizza Ranch Fundraiser on October 10th, Chippewa VFW Chili Feed on October 21st, Cadott VFW Dinner Dance and the Eau Claire County Board meeting for the funding of the Veterans Tribute Trail on November 7th—important that as many veterans attend this meeting to show the board members the support of the veterans in the community for this project.

Vice President's Report: Larry Wrycza absent, no report.

AVVA Report: Rick Talford provided an update of the upcoming Klein Hall Veterans Day dinner the AVVA is hosting; there will be grilled steak, twice-baked potatoes, green bean casserole and cake with special "Thank You" bags for each veteran. Also, Klein Hall is in need of volunteers to assist with food service on the weekends—they are only allowed 40 hours/week for their cook and are in need of organizations willing to either prepare meals on the weekend, or serve pre-made meals (heat and serve) so if anyone is interested or know of groups who would be, please have them contact Mike Hanke at Klein Hall. Additionally, the AVVA is now a 501c(3) organization. Details of when this change took effect is unknown, but State Rep. Pat Furno announced at the September VVA State Council meeting that it had taken place.

National VVA Convention: Next National Convention will be in Spokane, WA in 2019.

State VVA Meeting: Saturday, November 30th will be the WSC Christmas Party and Saturday, December 1st will be the next State Council Meeting. See the website www.vvawi.org for more details. If you wish to attend the Christmas Party, please make your RSVP's accordingly.

VA/Benefits: Pete Breed spoke of numerous items; he brought with him applications for the Wisconsin Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls for any interested. There is discussion about the

federal law that removes the 30 day/40 mile requirement for veterans and the fact that the Minneapolis VA is disregarding this law, "They are simply not complying." HR299 was brought up with the need for veterans to act on their own behalf to get this legislation completed. Calling and writing State Senators is needed to ensure that this does not slip away at the beginning of 2019. On July 25, 2018 the House passed this Bill unanimously, but the Senate is refusing to act. 90,000 veterans will be affected by this Bill not going forward. There is consideration by the VA Secretary to add bladder cancer, Parkinson's tremors and hypertension to the list of Agent Orange conditions. Lastly, Pete wanted to thank Chapter 5 for their \$1,000 donation to Zach Caterer's fund adding that the VFW Unmet Needs program added \$750 and the VFW District Board approved an additional \$2,500 allotment to the family. (Editor's Note: Zach's fundraiser will be held in April 2019.)

Minority Report: Dave Zein absent.

Membership: 126 VVA members, awaiting AVVA membership report from National.

OLD BUSINESS

Veterans Home: Rory Schutte reports receiving a notice that if members are going to be unable to attend any Veterans Home committee meetings, please contact the appropriate individuals prior to the meeting so your absence is duly recorded.

Highground: Joe Graff gave the Highground's 30th Anniversary event report; over 200 Vietnam veterans signed the map and a bus ride from the fair grounds to the Highground was done to recreate a "Welcome Home" for those attending. A Fall Work Week will be held October 12-13th and on November 11th there will be a Veterans Day Raffle. Joe concluded his remarks by commenting on the stone laying for Dennis Werlein adding that the VFW State Honor Guard was present, along with Chapter 5's Color Guard, to provide honors for the event. Find more information at www.thehighground.org.

Logo/Clothing: Rick Talford reported that the new jackets are ready for pick-up with a minor issue that needs attention; the embroidery is completed but was done with the jacket attached so the liner is not removable at this time. Corrections are being considered and Joe Heil is having his jacket done to show everyone next month.

Fundraising: Joe Heil will present a completed fundraising report at next month's meeting.

Eau Claire Veterans Council: There should be an email announcing the ground breaking for the Tribute Trail for the Spring 2019. There will be County Board Meetings that Veterans are encouraged to attend (**Editor's Note: Be sure to come to the Eau Claire Courthouse on November 7th at 7:00 and be sure to wear something to identify yourself as a veteran—there will be input needed as they will be voting on funding for the Tribute Trail and your presence is very important!**) REMEMBER, the **Chapter's meeting is at 5:00 p.m.!!** Contact Joe Heil or Dan Ziegler for more information about the November 7th meeting. More information about the Tribute Trail can be found at www.ecveteransfoundation.com.

Communications: Newsletter deadline will be **October 25th**. Don't forget to check out our Website/E-Mail: www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org / mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com
Don't forget you can find National info at www.VVA.org and State info at www.VVAWI.org

NEW BUSINESS - No New Business.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Al Weix spoke of the Elks Club Veterans Day Prime Rib Luncheon. Please call 715-834-4022 to make your reservations for this event. Additionally, there will be an unveiling of the wall mural at Klein Hall on October 18th.

Bob McRoberts spoke of the November 7th Veterans Day program and lunch that will be held at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center starting at 10:00 a.m.; Joe Heil and Dan Zeigler will be guest speakers. The Senior Center is asking that Veterans put together an 8x11 photo/biography of their service to share on a Veterans display.

Dan Zeigler informed members of the Recognition Dinner that will be held at the Wild Ridge Golf Course on April 30, 2019 recognizing those students and their families who will be entering military service; approximately 60-80 students will be recognized. A formal dinner will be served, and sponsors are being sought for the expected 20-25 tables. Cost of a table sponsorship is \$250. There will be a combined Color Guard for this event.

Rory Schutte provided information about the National Guard 128th HHC Co. Troop Deployment Holiday Party for members from Eau Claire that will be held on December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post 53. This will be an "Ugly Sweater" night and there will be a buffet provided but attendees are asked to bring a dessert to share. A full battalion deployment event will be held in later. Think of how we can help support those family members from Eau Claire once these Guardsmen are deployed.

Al Weix requested reimbursement for his costs when he purchased 75 pounds of hot dogs and brats for the Chapter Fundraiser; due to a misunderstanding, 75 pounds were purchased rather than 75 count and this created a huge purchase. A motion was made by Joe Graff to reimburse Al \$300 for the meat purchase, seconded by Thomas Lee; motion carried.

November 3rd CVTC will be having a "Give Vets a Smile" event from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. providing dental care, lung function testing, flu shots, wellness screening, assistive walking device screening and haircuts. Preregistration is a MUST and can be made by calling 715-833-6271. You can obtain more information by contacting Donald Raymond at 715-833-6204.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.; 50/50 and attendance raffle will be held in November.

VVA Chapter #5
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