



## MIKE VOTH MEMORIAL CHAPTER 5

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

### October 2020 NEWSLETTER

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



Together Always

Volume 6 – 10

EDITOR – Julia McBee

### UPCOMING EVENTS

10/07/20 Chapter Meeting 7 p.m. (AVVA @ 6:30 p.m.)  
10/15/20 Highground Fall Cleanup Days Th & Fri 8a-5p  
10/17/20 Highground Fall Cleanup Sat 8a-12p followed  
With Volunteer Appreciation  
McBee 715-202-0181

### OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Mike Korgor 715-404-5796  
VP - Kenny Piel 715-533-2732  
Treasurer - Joe Heil 715-559-2945  
Secretary - Mac

Chaplain & Sgt. At Arms - Joe Graff  
BOD Bill Buss 715-5-669-3952  
BOD Joe Graff 715-579-0912  
BOD Ralph Ottum 715-223-6260  
BOD Rory Schutte 715-563-1583  
BOD Al Weix 715-832-4792

Chapter website: [www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org](http://www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org)  
Chapter email: [www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com](mailto:www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mikevothmemorialvva5](https://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. Korgor, 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,

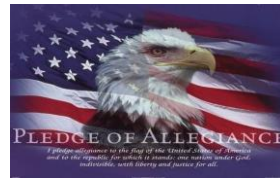
***"Never again will one generation  
of veterans abandon another."***



God Bless All Veterans

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





## President's Letter 9-29-20

Fall has arrived! The Equinox has passed, so there is more darkness than daylight now.

Not much happened in September. I missed being at the Roadside Diner on the 10th and Cadott for the 9/11 commemoration. The Highground has a Vietnam Veterans reunion on Oct. 3rd including a Huey flying in. Hopefully some of us were able to participate. Other than some local military funerals, not much has happened.

The Augusta American Legion Post 291 is having their annual Steak Feed and raffles on Sat., Oct. 24th to be held downtown at the Augusta Lions Hall starting at 5:00. Dine-in or take-out. Everyone is welcome!

Remember to keep your eyes and ears open for a veteran in need of help or prayers.

I hope to see all of you at our next regular meeting on Wed. Oct. 7th at 7 p.m. (AVVA at 6:30) at VFW Post 7232 on Folsom St on the west side of EAu Claire.

Mike Korger  
VVA Chapter 5

## **VVA CHAPTER MEETING 8/5/2020**

Attendance - 16

Call to Order – Mike Korger

Pledge of Allegiance – Joe Graff

Opening Prayer – Joe Graff

Welcome Veterans and Guests – Steve Eaton from Springfield, Illinois

### **Reports**

Secretary – Mac McBee

Mike Korger spoke of a correction needed to the silent prayer for “Dwight” Winberg. The newsletter stated “Dave” I (Rick A. Talford) made an error in the newsletter in regards to Joe Heil health concerns. It should have read that Joe Heil is dealing with Renal Cell Carcinoma. This was corrected in the emailed version, but could not be corrected quickly enough for the printed version. A motion to approve the August minutes as submitted was made by Dennis Wood and seconded by Rory Schutte. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Joe Heil

Heil reported that Chapter 5 received a donation from Prestige Auto in the amount of \$1,000.00 from their yearly fund drive for veteran organizations in the area. After the expenses for minimal activity were completed, the balances for the chapter are in very good standings (\$30,472.08). A discussion was then held in regards to possibly purchasing benches at the Camp Victory property of the Highground. Each bench placed has a cost of \$250.00. These benches will be placed in rest areas of the trail system. The current plan is to have three at each site. This would make one rest area dedicated to Chapter 5. A motion to purchase three benches at camp victory was made by Dennis Wood and seconded by Ralph Ottum. The motion carried without objection. Joe Graff then spoke of a wish list item for camp victory. They would like to have an AED Unit. A motion to purchase an AED Unit with the cost of up to \$600.00 was made by Dennis Wood and seconded by Joe Graff. The motion carried without objection. Heil was thanked for his report. (Update- Heil has informed me to place this information in the newsletter – There will be a presentation of the use of the AED Unit at the next meeting, and the cost of the unit will near \$1,100.00 instead of the \$600.00 approved)

President- Mike Korger

Korger referred to the newsletter as he spoke. He had attended a funeral for a WWII Veteran in Thorpe; as well he attended to delivery of the Klein Hall van that was donated by District 10 American Legion. Chapter 5 had donated funds towards this van. (VVA \$1,000.00 – AVVA \$200.00 = \$1,200.00) Rory Schutte then spoke of the Legacy Sign Dedication on Menomonie St. in Eau Claire, where Dave Zien had brought in Rocks/Boulders to place around the signage. A motorcycle sculpture was also placed at the site for the event in honor of police officers. A few flags were brought for signing by attendees as well. A 911 flag is now posted on one of the signs. It was also brought up at this time that a request for reimbursement of the \$50.00 sign-up costs for the Highground Bowling event had been asked for. A motion to reimburse Rick Ottum for this cost was made by Bill Buss and seconded by Ralph Ottum. The motion passed without objection.

Vice-President – Kenny Piel – Absent

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford spoke of the membership numbers remaining similar to where they have been at the National level. The service flags for the color guard have been ordered through the Army/Navy store in Eau Claire, and a thank you card was received from the AVVA Nation VP in regards to the donation towards Project Friendship. Talford read the card aloud to those in attendance.

National Meeting Council – no update

District 6 Meeting – no update

State Council Meeting – September 19<sup>th</sup> in Waupaca – Cancelled

#### VA/Benefits/Claims – Dave Mayenchein

Mayenchein spoke of the open house that was held at camp victory. It was well attended and raised approx. \$13,000.00 through raffle ticket sales, silent auction and bench sales. He also spoke of the property tax proposal in which veterans will only need to pay the difference in percentage of disability and the tax bill. EX: if you are 80% disabled, you would only need to pay in 20% of the tax bill, versus sending full payment in and waiting for a rebate/return of the 80%.

#### Minority Report – Dave Zien

Zien explained the stone for Old Abe at the Veterans Tribute would be placed once the foundation discusses its placement. He then spoke of the “Last Day or Innocence”, which falls on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be an event held next to the Roadside Diner on Menomonie St. in Eau Claire. There will be a flag signing at 5pm. On Sept. 11, there will be the ringing of the freedom bell in Cadott at 8am. This will be held at the Veterans Tribute just off hwy 29.

#### Membership – VVA 124 AVVA 26

#### Old Business

##### Veterans Home – Rory Schutte

The home is still closed to the public. A “Tee Up for the Troops” is still planned for Sept. 11 at Hickory Hills.

#### Highground – Joe Graff

Graff handed out literature on camp victory. He then spoke of the Oct. 3 Vietnam Veterans Reunion planned. A trailered Huey and a fly-in Huey are expected for the event. Ralph Ottum then added information on the Maggie Mae concert that has been cancelled. You can request a refund or you can donate the ticket costs to the Highground.

#### LOGO/Clothing – Joe Heil

Anyone that would like items can contact Joe Heil, so an order can be placed.

#### New Business

VVA Goals, Outreach – no update

#### Fundraising – Joe Heil

Next year’s plans will begin in February with a meeting.

#### Chapter Elections – April 2022

#### Committee – Joe Heil

The 2020 CVTC Nursing Scholarship was awarded to Elodie Dickinsen. A “Thank You” card was received by CVTC for this scholarship, as well a letter from the Augusta recipient. Joe Graff informed those attending, that it was found out later that this was the niece of Dwight Winberg (Chapter 5 member) who recently passed.

#### Newsletter Deadline – September 17<sup>th</sup>

#### Communications – discussed during Committee report

#### Under the Good of the Order-

Joe Heil- Heil spoke of a letter from the Louisiana State Council in which they are accepting donations for five chapters that were directly in the path of a recent hurricane (Laura). After a discussion, a motion was made to send \$1,000.00 to the State Council to assist in any relief. This motion was made by Dave Mayenchein and seconded by Joe Graff. The motion carried without objection.

Ralph Ottum – Ottum spoke of a grand-daughter (Emily Gehrke) who is planning a trip to Spain. Her costs will exceed \$3,600.00 and he was requesting a donation to help her out with the costs. A motion was made by Dennis Wood to provide \$100.00 donation. This was seconded by Joe Graff. The motion carried without objection.

Dave Zien spoke of a meeting at Post 305 from 2-4pm on Sept. 15 that would include information from 4-5pm on hunting, fishing and camping. Mary Kohler was going to be present and speaking from 5-6pm. He concluded with a savage letter he had read that was asking why veterans are not standing up against the kneeling that we keep seeing happen.

Dennis Wood spoke of the “Honor the Fallen Ride” that is planned for Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> in Ladysmith.

Attendance drawing – (\$30.00) William LaRose – absent

50/50 drawing – (\$7.00) Joe Heil

Wine Drawing – Joe Graff

Joe Heil Update – Heil spoke of his updated information on his cancer. The X-ray was negative and he is being placed on a three month regiment. He stated the cancer is not curable, but it is treatable. He added that his wife Gladys is coming along well after her surgery.

Closing prayer – Joe Graff

Adjourn – 8:05pm

Next meeting – October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm - Post 7232.

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

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