

# Mike Voth Memorial Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter # 5 Eau Claire, WI 54702 September News Letter 2015 Meetings First Wed of the month 7:PM



\*Volume 1 Issue 9 ♦ September 2015 ♦ Editor ♦ Dennis Wood ♦ \*

### Upcoming events

Chapter meeting Sept 2nd, 7:PM

19th of Sept. VVA Chapter #5 Fundraiser Chicken Feed at VFW 7232 on Folsom St.

### Chapter contacts:

Pres. Dennis Werlein-Ph. 715-577-8514 V.Pres. Bob Laguban- Ph. 651-285-8518 Tres. Joe Heil-715-839-7089 Sec. Mike Korger-715-726-3918 Chap. Dan Ziegler-715-559-5158

### **Board of Directors:**

Joe Graff, Dan Ziegler, Ken Lensrud: 715-235-9432

### Committees:

Finance: Joe Heil- 715-839-7089

Govt. Affairs:

Bob Laguban-651-285-8518

Membership: Joe Heil

Public Affairs:

Roger Schuch-715-926-6052 Veterans Affairs-Benefits: Peter Breed-715-827-0359

Women Veterans:

Julie Mc Bee-715-926-1167

POW/MIA and High Ground: Joe Graff-715-579-0192

Agent Orange/ Incarcerated Veterans/Veterans Health Care: Peter Breed-715-827-0339

Fund Raising Chair: Ron Perry/Julie Mc Bee- 715-286-5155/715-926-1167

Wishing everyone with Birthdays or Anniversaries a very blessed Day!

### Founding principle,

Vietnam Veterans of America
"Never again will one generation
of veterans abandon another." –



God Bless All Veterans

Services, new member Tom Warner, and Jeff Ruud who rejoined our chapter.

A motion passed to accept the Secretary's Report as emailed and mailed out. A roll call was taken by Joe Heil.

A motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report given by Joe Heil for the month of July.

Guest speaker Bethany said that they are contracted by the VA to provide services 2 days a week in both Altoona and Chippewa Falls.

In the President's Report, Dennis stated that we will be taking 15 Chippewa homeless vets and 2 vets from the Chippewa Veteran's Home along with 10 chapter members to the Wisconsin Badger's football game on Saturday Sept. 12 at 11:00. Transportation needs to be lined up for that yet. Also, our chapter has been asked to send a color guard to the Brookfield Cemetery for a burial service for the cremains of a Viet Nam veteran who died in a tunnel in Viet Nam in 1967. We will need at least 5 members to go.

A VVA National Convention Report was given by Joe Graff. 753 were in attendance with 83 from our Region 6. Joe said there were regional meetings with the candidates running for board of directors to answer questions. Various classes were available to attend with Agent Orange having an overflow crowd. There was also a discussion on POW/MIA. Joe said there is a DVD available on the start of the VVA. See him if interested in seeing it. Also, there is Agent Orange legislation that is pending: HR 1769 in the House and S901 in the Senate. Jim Blaha, who also attended, said it was emphasized at the Agent Orange meeting that we do apply for Agent Orange coverage. Our VVA chapter shirts were complimented on by others at the Saturday night awards banquet. Joe Graff also told a Donut Dolly story because she got a special award, and another donut story of the baker who got an award for sending 400,000 dozen donuts to military persons in Viet Nam.

President Dennis passed around a sample camo scrapbook and a plastic scale model kit of the 3-man Viet Nam Memorial that are being sold as a fundraiser by "Help Hospitalized Veterans USA". See Dennis if interested.

Joe Graff stated that on Sunday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at Monroe High School starting at 1:30 there will be a "Salute to Viet Nam Era Veterans" and there will be various exhibits to view.

The next VVA State Council Meeting will be Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at Waupaca.

Fred said he is selling his 1960 Jeep ambulance. See him if interested.

A VA Benefits Report was given by Peter Breed.

Anyone who was "boots on the ground" or "brown water Navy" should put in a claim for Agent Orange or at least start the process just in case something appears. Dennis added that we should call the National VVA for help to file a claim.

Pete also brought up that we should have our guest speakers give their presentations right after they are introduced so they can leave and not sit through any of our reports. There was a general agreement that we should do that from now on.

Roger Shuh gave a brief Minority Report. Roger also brought up that if you have diabetes, you can get special shoes and socks every 6 months through the VA.

In the Membership Report we have 83 members as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. 6 more are going in now because it is after August 1<sup>st</sup> when the super deal started on a life membership for only \$100.00. VVA associates can get a \$100 life membership after Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

In the Veteran's Home Report, Dennis said there are two funds with good balances for now. Pete said that we should push for an addition to the Veteran's Home since there are more that 200 on the waiting list. A committee has been formed to start the push and they are hoping to raise \$100,000 as seed money for the project.

In the High Ground Report, Joe Graff said there is a motorcycle ride on August 14<sup>th</sup>.



# President, Dennis Werlein, Message Hello everyone.

My favorite season of the year is upon us. Fall weather is setting in. It's a beautiful time of the year, not so hot and drier air, it lets you feel ambitious about doing activities and working. Pretty soon we'll be harvesting our bountiful fields and gardens. I don't think I've ever seen such excellent crops and produce. What a blessing to live in such a bountiful nation, the breadbasket of the world. We have a lot to be thankful for. We have been busy since the last newsletter. Our chapter was honored to be invited to the funeral memorial service for a Wisconsin soldier who was killed in Vietnam in 1967. His cremations were not interned at that time because of family complications. Our color guard was the main honoring contingent that greeted the family as they processed together with the remains to the burial site. Probably once in a lifetime that we could honor one of our fallen comrades. His name was Terrence Sund of Menomonie Falls. We traveled to Brookfield for the funeral at a military cemetery. Our fundraising committee has been traveling a lot too. They are dropping off raffle tickets, picking up prizes, and putting up posters for our Chicken Feed on September 19th. There will be another committee meeting on Monday August 31st at 6:00pm at Post 305 on Starr Avenue. Try to attend if possible to help so the workload doesn't fall just \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

on a few of the members. It makes it a lot easier to work as a team. We've got quite a few nice prizes so far and raffle tickets are going well too. It should be a great time on September 19th. Speaking of potentially great times, some of our chapter members and a good number of vets from the WI Veterans Assistance Program, 35 in total, will be traveling to Camp Randall Stadium in Madison to watch the Badgers take on Miami of Ohio in a football matchup. Last year our chapter took a vanload of these vets to the" House on the Rock" for a fun excursion. Our chapter was fortunate to get free tickets for all from the State Council for the September 12th game. A big thank you to Litchfield Auto and Van Rental for giving us a good deal on leasing two vans. Prestige Auto's customer and veteran's appreciation barbeque and ceremony is held in August every year. They donate thousands of dollars each year to organizations that help veterans. Apparently our chapter has a growing reputation as a responsible and caring organization that helps a lot of needy veterans. They donated \$1000 to us to use in our mission of helping veterans.

A lot of other exciting events are in the works for this year and next year already. Come to our monthly meeting on September 2nd at VFW 7232 at 7:00pm to hear what's happening. Our membership continues to grow each month and you can help us reach our goals by using the enclosed membership application to sign up more members during the \$100 life membership deal going on till the end of the year. Any veteran should be proud to belong to our chapter. Bring one to a meeting.

See Ya.

Dennis Werlein, President, Mike Voth Memorial Chapter #5

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VVA Meeting of 8/5/2015

President Dennis Werlein called meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. He led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. He also gave the opening prayer as th chaplain was absent. Dennis also introduced several guests: Bethany Jacobson-Flieger from Grace Adult Day

In the Clothing Report, Joe Heil said that he has bonnie hats available and the correct flags for our shirts should be arriving soon.

President Dennis restated our goals for Chapter 5, including raising funds for needy vets less fortunate than us, and scholarships.

In the Fundraising Report, Dennis said that two meetings were already held. The next fundraising meeting will be held on 8-31 at 6 p.m. at Post 305. The fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. Larry Wrycza then reported what the set-up will be inside and outside of the clubhouse. He will use special squared paper with dice for the raffles. Games such as a bean bag toss, lawn jarts, and basketball hoops will be set up outside from noon till 6 or 7:00. Food will be served from noon until gone. There will be a DJ from noon til 6. Raffle drawings will be held at 10:00. There will be a band from 8 till 12:00. There will be ½ barrel of beer set up for 50 cents a cup and

pitchers at a special price. We will need volunteers to run the games, and there will be a wheel raffle with paddles. There will also be a table set up to write than you notes to veterans. Joe Heil said the raffle tickets are here so make sure you get some from him.

In the Good of the Order, Dennis Wood said that we need more sponsors for ads in our monthly newsletters. We are up to \$500, but we need \$1000. We also need an editor or co-editor. Don't forget to consider buying one of the 18 month calendars called "Eagles of Honor" featuring some area veterans. Cost is \$20 and funds go to the Honor Flights program.

Joe Heil conducted the monthly attendance drawing which was for \$40. Tom Neuenfeldt was not present, so the next month's drawing will go up to \$50. The 50/50 drawing was won by Roger Schuh.

A motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Dennis said the closing prayer and we gave a salute to the flag. 20 members were in attendance.

### **Update Fall Raffle**

For those of you who have raffle tickets I need to have those turned into me by September 14<sup>th</sup>. Will need either the tickets or money and sold tickets. I will need to get things ready for the September 19<sup>th</sup> event.

For those who have ordered bonnie hats, I will have them at the next meeting. I do

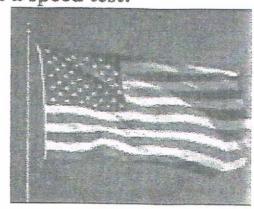
anticipate to also have the shirts we order in. We ordered flags to put on over the incorrect ones on the current shirts, and will have them also.

See you at the meeting

Joe

Should be give slow and deliberate, not a speed test!

I Pledge Allegiance, To The Flag,
Of The United States, of America,
And To The Public, For Which It Stands,
One Nation, Under God,
With Liberty And Justice, For All!



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# Mike Voth Memorial Chapter #5 Vietnam Veterans of America Chicken Feed @ VFW Post 7232

2900 W. Folsom St. Eau Claire, WI

Saturday, September 19, 2015 Noon 'til gone!

\$9.00 Donation – Children under 5 free Buy a Square Raffles, Silent Auctions, Prizes, Games and Bake sale

Classic Country "Band" and D.J.

Playing 'til Midnight Come Eat, Enjoy the Music. 50% of Profits Will Go To Wisconsin Veteran's assistance programs.

Come see the Huey Helicopter!!





P.O. Box 832

Eau Claire, WI 54702

Postage

Here

On the previous page is an application. Please use it to bring in new mambers.

Please bring the application back to the Chapter so we can send it in.

Make checks payable to: Vietnam Veterans of America

You help to build Chapter #5 is greatly appreciated

You can help Vietnam Veterans of America by asking friends to sponsor this monthly newsletter.

Make tax deductible donation.

Show your business supports our veterans by sponsoring this publication and newsletter which is shared with all members and sponsors.

Call President Dennis Werlein at 715-577-8514



2 column inches \$150 Annual Donation

\$12.50 a month

Price of buying a Veteran a good lunch

a great investment

OR

Stand out from all the rest with 3 column inches \$200 Annual Donation

\$16.60 a month
Take a veteran out once a month

the best investment

All donations are tax deductible

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT TODAY!