

## **Mike Voth Memorial Chapter 5**

Vietnam Veterans of America P. O. Box 832 Eau Claire, WI 54702 September 2019 Newsletter



# Volume 5 Issue 8

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

09/04/19 VVA Chapter Meeting at 7:00 p.m. (AVVA at 6:30)

RAFFLE TICKET DRAWING TONIGHT!!!! BE SURE YOUR TICKETS ARE TURNED IN BY 6:30! AVVA members will be serving cake and ice cream tonight.

09/20/19 CHI-HI honoring vets at 7:00 p.m. prior to game 09/21/19 State Council Meeting in Waupaca

### Editor – Julie McBee

## **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

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

## COMMITTEES

Veterans Assistance: Dave Mayenchein 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 Fundraising: J. Heil, J. McBee Scholarship: J.Heil Chair: M. Korger, J. Graff; J/J. McBee, AVVA Chapter Representative: Rick Talford Historical: Julia McBee 715-202-0181 Color Guard: Rick Talford 715-926-5302

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

Greetings,

I hope to see all of you at our next regular VVA meeting on Wednesday, September 4th 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. Don't forget we will have our Annual Fundraising Raffle Drawing prior to the start of our Chapter meeting. Please be sure you arrive early to turn in your tickets, if you are unable to make it but have tickets, PLEASE call an officer so arrangements can be made to pick-up those tickets so they are included in the drawing. Our AVVA members will be serving cake and ice cream so be sure to come early, turn in your tickets and have some dessert.

Mike Korger, President VVA Chapter 5

Convention attendees Joe Graff, Mike Smith and Rick Talford stopped in Missoula, Montana to visit the Missoula's Vietnam War Memorial Angel for the Fallen in Missoula's Rose Park while on their way to Spokane.



### VVA Meeting of August 7, 2019

Call to order by President Mike Korger, Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance led by Joe Graff.

### REPORTS

Secretary--Minutes of the past three months approved.

Treasurer--Joe Heil will give an updated financial report upon his return in September.

**President--**Mike Korger focused on our fundraising efforts, possibly adding Bloomer County Fair next year and splitting the \$160 booth cost amongst AmVets/VFW/Legion/Chapter 5; Kenny Piel has a project called Helping Hands to procure a van for homeless vets.

Vice President--Larry Wrycza reported that attendance at all the county fairs has been down.

**AVVA--**Rick Talford reported on the AVVA's meetings in Spokane, Project Friendship will generate over \$17,000 for Volunteers of America. Our July Pizza Ranch night took in \$160 from sales and \$152 in donations--good job everyone and thank you to those who came out and supported the night.

**VVA National**--Convention recap given by Mac McBee, Joe Graff and Mike Smith; no decision was made by the 658 delegates who attended the meetings in Spokane as to an end date, possible name change or distribution of assets. More proposals to be put together in the 2021 Leadership Conference in Dayton, OH to be presented to the membership at the 2022 National Convention in Greenville, NC.

WI State Council--Next meeting will be September 21st in Waupaca.

**VA Benefits-**-Dave Mayenchein reported on an article in the recent VFW magazine on the Blue Water Navy benefits to be effective January 2020--sign up NOW so your claims in the in queue. RN's at the Tomah VA say that they would like to see more research done on the new PTSD medications being offered before they themselves would take it--do your research if offered something new!

Minority--Dave Zien not present, no report.

Membership--VVA members, 125; AVVA members, 21.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Veterans Home-**-Rory Schutte gave information about a picnic coming up, 8/10 from 11a-3p; volunteers needed. Also, at the recent golf outing, Josh Hawkins gave \$5,000 to the home but final total of donations from the golf outing not available yet.

**Highground-**-Joe Graff reported on the Highground's August 17th Ride to Remember, the rededication of the Gold Star Tribute on August 24th, possible Chapter's Legacy Stone laying will be in October. He then spoke of suicide prevention in veterans who don't open up to family members but those around the veteran are concerned about things they see--recent example was how they were approached at our booth at the Buffalo County Fair in Mondovi by a woman who was concerned about someone she knew and wondered who to talk to, she was directed to the Buffalo County VSO who happened to be there at the time and while the woman was relaying her concerns to the VSO, it turned out that the veteran the woman was concerned about was a relative of the VSO--you never know how close you are to someone who may need help. If you are a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, call the **Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1.** 

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Fundraising--Brat Stand at Stockman's in Osseo on August 23rd & 24th...sell those tickets!

Newsletter--August 23, 2019.

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dan Ziegler gave an update on the Veterans Tribute and the upcoming County Board meeting for August 20th at 6:30 at the County Courthouse...possible first Legacy Stone laying for 8/1/2020!

Rory spoke of the success had at the Country Jam and the proceeds being donated to the Tribute.

Don't forget Prestige Auto's Veteran and Customer Appreciation event, August 14th starting at 3:30 p.

Eric Killen, ECVSO will be present at the vets gathering on August 28th at 1:00p.m. at the Senior Center.

Joe Graff shared a conversation he had in Spokane with the President of Chapter 582 in Paradise, CA affected by the recent fire; Dan Ziegler motioned that we donate \$1,000 to Chapter 582 to assist vets, seconded by Mac McBee; motion carried.

Convention attendees shared pictures taken while out in Spokane. There were 23 members in attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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

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