



Mike Voth Memorial

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #5

Eau Claire, WI 54702

December 2016 Newsletter

Meetings held 1st Wednesday of every month @ 7pm at

VFW Post #7232, 2900 W. Folsom St., Eau Claire, WI



Volume 2 Issue 12 Editor – Julie McBee Asst. Editor – Dennis Wood

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/2-3/16 State VVA Council Meeting @ Waupaca
- 12/02/16 VFW Christmas Party from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Vet's Home in Chippewa Falls, all are invited
- 12/07/16 Chapter Meeting @ Post 7232 @ 7 p.m.
- 12/09/16 Combined Chapter 5 & DAV Chapter 21 Cocktail Christmas Party from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. At Vet's Home in Chippewa Falls, all are invited
- 12/14/16 Chapter 5 Fundraising Committee meeting to be held at the Colby VFW at 1 p.m.

CHAPTER CONTACTS

- President Mike Korger 715-726-3918
- VP Larry Wrycza 715-402-0106
- Treasurer Joe Heil 715-839-7089
- Secretary Roger Schuh 715-926-6052
- Chaplain Dennis Werlein 715-577-8514

BOARD of DIRECTORS

- Joe Graff 715-579-0912
- Ken Lestrud 715-235-9432
- Ralph Ottum 715-223-6260
- Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
- Ernie Werlein 714-926-4225

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: 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: Roger Schuh 715-926-6052
- Women Veterans: Julie 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
- Fundraising Co-Chair: Julie McBee 715-202-0181
- Scholarship: J. Graff, J. Heil, J. McBee, D. Werlein & L. Wrycza

Founding principle,

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



God Bless All Veterans



"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,

May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the blessings and peace of Christmas be with you. Jesus is the reason for the season. Let us pray for each other and give support where needed, especially to fellow veterans.

Currently prayers are needed for Dennis Werlein as he begins chemotherapy for cancer and Julie McBee as she recovers from back surgery, and also for Roger Schuh as he continues with dialysis several times a week.

There is also interest in having a VVA Chapter 5 Christmas Party for ourselves. Pizza Ranch and Yankee Jacks Public House (formerly Mike's Smokehouse) were suggested as a place to hold it, probably in January after the rush of the holidays. Please give us your thoughts on this at our next regular meeting.

We are looking for volunteers to be on the planning committee for our next annual Vietnam Veterans Day to be held in the spring. Please let me or Joe Heil know if you can help.

Thank you to all who were able to participate in or attend the various Veterans Day programs held in the area, especially our Color Guard at Regis High School.

Hope to see you all at our next VVA meeting on Wednesday, December 7nd at 7 p.m. at VFW Post 7232 on Folsom Street on the west side of Eau Claire.

Mike Korger, President
VVA Chapter 5

VVA Meeting of 11/2/2016

Meeting was called to order by Mike Korger. Opening Prayers given by Dennis Werlein with special requests of prayer for Julia McBee (operation), Dennis Werlein (cancer removal), and Dick Quick (heart surgery). Pledge of Allegiance was followed with a moment of silence. There were no new members or guests present.

Secretary's Report: Roger Schuh was not present but mailed and emailed version of last month's report was accepted after a motion was made by Joe Heil and seconded by Larry Wrycza.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Heil gave a quick discussion over the expenses of the chicken feed and gun raffle, as well as other items dealt with over the past five months; a summary of the Chapter's financial status was provided. Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report by Rory Schutte and seconded by Ralph Ottum and the motion carried.

On a side note, a discussion ensued on purchasing fall Color Guard jackets with the members paying half of the cost. The funds made from the chicken feed came to approximately \$750 and those funds will be transferred into an account for this item. A motion was made by Rory Schutte and seconded by Larry Wrycza and the motion carried.

President's Report: There will be a Veterans Day program at Regis High School which Chapter 5 has been invited to attend; Color Guard line-up is at 9:30 a.m. with the program at 10 a.m. There will be an Art and Poetry event at Whitehall High School on Sunday November 13th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Sunrise Club will be having a breakfast on November 9th at Post #305 for \$5.00 per person that will run from 6:30-8:00 a.m.

Vice President's Report: Larry Wrycza reported that Sunday, October, 2017 will be our next Fundraiser and will be held at the Eagles Club. The items being looked at for the raffle are a 2016 X350 John Deere riding mower with a 42 inch deck. Cost to the Chapter to purchase will be near \$2,500—Note, winner must pay the taxes for this prize. There will also be two TV's, the larger one being donated by Karl's TV & Appliance and the smaller one being purchased by the Chapter. Two Henry's (Golden Boys with octagon barrels) will again be purchased for the Raffle, with one being in the 300 range (30-30, .357 or 30-06) and a .22lr. A quilt is hoped for as the 6th place prize. The Fundraising Committee will meet in near the start of the year to go over these items and get schedules for the upcoming fair season. We will run the same pricing on the next year's tickets as we did this year (1/\$10, 3/\$25 and 6/\$50) Approximately 3500 tickets were sold for this year's raffle.

National Meeting: No report.

State Report: Joe Heil and Mike Korger will be attending the December meeting on 12/3 in Waupaca starting at 10 a.m. Anyone interested in attending, contact either Joe or Mike.

VA Benefits Report: Pete Breed spoke of the long term services available for Veterans and the fact that with a 70% disability rating, a Veteran may stay free of charge and keep their benefits as well. The Chippewa Falls home is free of charge with a 70% disability and they have a five star rating. "You can keep your income, even your VA Disability." He then discussed the rumors of the Mondovi VFW closing, a meeting was held with all the post officers to discuss closing up. A meeting will be held on November 21st with members and auxiliary. There are currently 80 Life Members and an additional 80 members but only 10% are active which makes it very difficult for the organization to stay operating.

Membership Report: As of October 2016, Chapter 5 has a membership of 141.

Old Business

Vet's Home: Dennis Werlein reports there is nearly \$56,000 in two accounts and of the Veterans activities that will be taking place at the home on the 10th and 11th.

Logo/Clothing Report: Joe Heil is looking at ordering more sweatshirts and tee shirts.

Highground Report: Joe Graff spoke of the events to be held on Veterans Day at the Highground starting at noon with a program running from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. On January 29, 2017 there will be a bowling event for Veteran's held in Marshfield. The Working Dog monument was the recipient of last year's funds, and this year they will go to the PTSD Veterans Retreat program to be held on July 7-9, 2017. This event will be at the Rose Bowl Lanes with teams of 6 bowlers at a cost of \$50/team. Call (715) 743-4224 to get set-up and registered. A brief discussion over the Chapter entering the event occurred and was tabled until the December meeting.

Note: A brief discussion about the "Entitlement Program" presented by John Schultz was then brought up by Ralph Ottum. Ralph is looking for a date and time, along with how many there will be in attendance (need minimum of 5) to be decided on. Julie McBee commented that she had contacted Jessica at UWEC Vet's Club to see if they could reserve a lecture hall on campus for this event, but as yet has not had a response. She will also contact CVTC about lecture room rental. Hopefully by the December meeting we can have the necessary information and confirmation of a date and an expectant number of attendees. Further discussion tabled until the December meeting.

New Business

Scholarship Report: It is expected that the Chapter will again have a \$750 Nursing and two \$500 General scholarships to continue the program through 2017.

VA Goals/Out Reach – no discussion.

Fundraising – discussed under Vice President's Report.

Chapter Web Site – no progress made yet, Joe Heil will have more info in December.

Committee – The monthly newsletter due date is November 25, 2016.

Communication – Mike Korger read an invitation from DeLong Middle School for their Veterans Program on November 11th. There will also be an event at Minnesota Wire with Sgt. David Geske speaking. And the Chapter has been asked to have our Color Guard be part of the Veterans Day Program at Regis High School on November 11th.

Good of the Order

There will be a joint Chapter 5 and DAV 21 Christmas Cocktail Party at the Veteran's Home at Chippewa Falls Friday, December 9th from 3 p.m.-4 p.m. All are invited to attend.

November 12th is the Hairica event from 6:30 p.m. with event proceeds going to DAV21.

November 3rd will be a breakfast held at the Chippewa Manner from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

November 4th there will be a meeting at Associated Bank at 11 a.m. to present plaques to the Chamber of Commerce members who helped us with the Vietnam Memorial Wall to Carson Park this past June.

Winner of the meeting attendance was Tom Neufeldt, not present so next month's drawing will be \$90.

Closing Prayer was given by Dennis Werlein. There were 17 members in attendance.

Next meeting to be held December 7th at 7 p.m. at VFW Post 7232.



Joe Heil presenting members of the Chamber of Commerce Adult Leadership Committee with Plaques of Appreciation for all their hard work in assisting Chapter 5 with our “Welcome Home” event held in Carson Park this past June 16-19, 2016. From left to right are Nick White, Joe Heil, Scott Rannila and Travis Schroeder.

VVA Chapter #5
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