

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire, WI
February 5, 2025

AVVA

Attendance – Peg O., Sally and Eric J., Micki R. and Rick T.

Discussions;

- 1- Budget – in good standings
- 2- Fundraising – A&W funds were received and put into the account
- 3- Membership – 29
- 4- Donations – a motion to approve \$250.00 towards getting a trailered HUEY (Chapter 331) for the Vietnam Veterans Day event in late March was made by Micki R. and seconded by Sally J. The motion carried without objection.

Adjourned at 6:15pm

VVA

Attendance – 15

Agenda – no changes
Call to Order – Mike Korger
Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer – Joe Graff
Moment of Silence – Joe Heil
Deceased members – Joe Heil 12-20-24
Welcome Veterans and Guests – Roy Christopherson

Reports

Secretary – Dan Zeigler

A motion to approve the minutes as sent by email to membership was made by Mike Smith and seconded by Jake G. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Mike Smith

All the accounts are in great standings. (2) Scholarships for Katie Rassbach (added \$500.00 as best essay) and Baley Breyer were paid at \$1,000.00 each. Smith was thanked for his report.

President – Mike Korger

Korger spoke of things being busy since Heil's funeral. He attended multiple funerals and was not able to attend the Highground Bowling Fundraiser.

Vice-President – Rod Pettis (absent)

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford provided information on the fundraiser held at A&W, and informed the members that the AVVA would like to help with the cost of bringing a trailered HUEY (VVA Chapter 331) to the Vietnam Veterans Day event, by paying half of the cost (\$250.00), with hopes the VVA would cover the other half. A discussion was then held on separating the AVVA funds from the VVA account and opening a checking account for the AVVA. This will assist in the AVVA being able to work with the funds easier. A motion to approve the separation of the AVVA funds from the VVA funds, to open a checking account for the AVVA was made by Pete B. and seconded by Jake G. The motion carried without objection. This will be taken care of by the VVA (Mike S. and Mike K.) and AVVA Representatives (Rick T. and Micki R.). Rick T. and Micki R. will be named as the Signatures on the account.

Meetings

National – a Convention will be held this summer in New Orleans

Region 6 – no update

State – the next meeting will be in late March, in Waupaca at Par 4

VA/Benefits/Claims – no chair

Pete Breed spoke of the last VFW-District 9 meeting in which there was an attempt to use Unmet Needs funding to send to California. The funds are meant to be used for District 9 needs, and the restrictions on these funds determine that fact. The State Commander attempted to make a motion that the District would send their funds, and this was not accepted.

Minority – Dave Zein (absent)

Membership – VVA 125 AVVA 29

Old Business

Mike Korger;

- 1- New Member Steven Shackleton application has not yet been processed.
- 2- High School to Heroes will be held on April 26th, and schools will need to be contacted.
- 3- Chapter 5 Scholarship needs to be updated. A meeting will be held after the main meeting. Information will then need to be updated on our website. Talford will get the information needing updating to the webmaster.
- 4- The Chapter PO Box has been updated with Joe Heil being removed and Mike Smith being added on the account.
- 5- A safety deposit box has been obtained at US Bank, with Mike K. and Mike S. being placed on the account, and each given keys.
- 6- Vietnam Veterans Day Committee has held two meetings so far, with another coming up on Wed. A motion to provide \$500.00 to the event was made by Joe G. and seconded by Jake G. The motion carried without objection. A motion to pay half the cost of the HUEY, with the AVVA for the event in the amount of \$250.00 was made by Jake G. and seconded by Peter B. The motion carried without objection. Talford will make the arrangements.
- 7- Memorial Day Parade was discussed with a meeting upcoming by the Patriotic Council on March 26th at 6pm at VFW Post 53. Jerry Bertram will be contacted in regards to seeing if he could arrange the Jeep and trailer for the parade.

Veterans Home – Rory Schutte (absent)

Mike K. spoke of a meeting that was held by zoom, and the only thing taken from the meeting was, there is no mask mandate at this time.

Highground – Joe Graff

The 2025 schedule is out, with April 25-26th being Spring Cleaning. A discussion on wording for a legacy stone in honor of Joe Heil was completed. Graff will take care of this at the Highground.

VVA #5 Logo/Clothing – Rick Talford

Talford brought in T-Shirts, Gloves, Music CD's and Chapter Patches to the meeting that are for sale. He also provided a full listing of all merchandise available. If anyone is interested in the merchandise, please contact Rick at 715.829.3540.

New Business

Mike S. spoke of having some issues with the new printer purchased from Best Buy. He has had a few troublesome problems and Best Buy will need to correct the problems. Smith spoke of a friend in Hayward that may be able to also help.

VVA #5 Outreach – no report

Fundraiser – the 2025 fundraiser has been cancelled

Chapter Elections – April 2026

Committee – the Scholarship Committee will meet after the regular meeting. Joe G., Mike K., Mike S. and Rick T. are on the Committee. The application will be reviewed and changes will be made. The application will then be sent out to a dozen schools.

Communications – Mike Korger

- 1- A thank you card was received from the WI State Troopers Assoc. for the donations received by the Chapter 5 AVVA and VVA.
- 2- A VVMF donation request was received
- 3- A John Deere extended warranty was received for the mower purchased on last years' fundraiser. This paperwork was given to Sally J., to get to the winner of the mower.
- 4- The Highground newsletter was received

Good of the Order

Pete Breed – The District 9 Unmet Needs program has increased the funds that can be received from \$500.00 up to \$1,500.00 now. If help is needed for heat, Electric bills, car repairs, etc. please contact Leroy Janske.

50/50 – not held

Closing prayer – Joe Graff

Adjourned at 7:35pm

Next meeting will be held at VFW Post 305 on March 5th at 6:30pm.

Scholarship Committee
Meeting

Attendance – Mike Korger, Mike Smith, Joe Graff and Rick Talford

Discussion;

- 1- Changing the dates on the application to fit 2025.
- 2- Changing the Treasurer information to Mike Smith from Joe Heil
- 3- Providing the contact phone number for Mike Smith instead of Joe Heil
- 4- Changing the number of scholarships available from two to three
- 5- Adding an additional \$500.00 to be given to the best essay received

Adjourned at 8pm.