

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire, WI
Post 7232
March 4, 2020

ATTENTION – Due to the Covid-19 and the Governor's non-essential travel mandate, the April meeting has been cancelled.

Attendance – 12

Call to order – Mike Korger

Pledge of Allegiance – Mike Korger

Prayer – Joe Heil

Deceased member – Dennis Woodford 2/7/20 US Army
Clif Sorenson 3/16/20 US Air Force

Welcome Veterans/Guests – none

Reports

Secretary – James (Mac) McBee (Absent)

A motion to accept the minutes sent through mail and email was made by Tom L. and seconded by Ralph O. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Joe Heil

Heil provided the monthly information on expenses and account balances. Everything is in good standings. There will be higher expenses in the next couple of months, as we begin purchasing the items for this year's raffle. Heil was thanked for his report.

President – Mike Korger

Korger really did not have a full report to provide, but did provide updated information for this year's Vietnam Veterans Day being held on March 21, 20 at the Eagle Club in Lake Hallie, WI. He spoke of the t-shirts that have been created for the event. Rick A. Talford then showed the membership a sample of the shirts and provided the prices. (M-XL = \$12.50/each and 2XL-3XL = \$15.00/each)

UPDATE – This event was cancelled

Vice-President – Larry Wrycza (Absent) No Report

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford informed those in attendance of the increasing membership for the AVVA. He also explained the Board of Directors meeting for both the VVA and AVVA will be held in April. (Silver Springs, MD). There will also be the election for the AVVA Chapter Representative on April, 1, 20.

UPDATE- The BOD meetings were cancelled

UPDATE- The Elections have been delayed at this time

National meeting update – none

Regional meeting update – none

State Council Meeting – The next meeting will be in Waupaca on March 21, 20. McBee’s plan on attending, as many members will be at the Vietnam Veterans Day event in Lake Hallie the same day.

UPDATE – The State Council Meeting was cancelled

VA/Benefits/Claims – Dave Mayenchein (Absent) No Report

Minority – Dave Zien (Absent) No Report

Membership – VVA 126 AVVA 22

Old Business

Vets Home – Rory Schutte (no report)

Joe Heil spoke of some issues with the outside commons area the residents use in the summer. There will be some work performed that will be paid for by the State and the Recreation Committee. There is a plan on new benches being placed on the grounds and a driveway extension is planned so you are able to drive all the way around the entire facility. The service flags will be getting replaced this spring as well.

Highground – Joe Graff (Absent) no report

Mike Korger did provide information on events that will be upcoming for March and April. March 14th is the Friends of Highground dinner, March 17th is the Porch Greeters Lunch. On April 18th is the Maggie Mae benefit concert. The Learning Center has a Vietnam Veteran Experience display that will remain until April 29th.

UPDATE – All events have been cancelled and the buildings are now currently closed
Until further notice

Logo/Clothing – Joe Heil

The Colby business (Tiffany) will be taking over making the shirts/hoodies/jackets for the chapter. Heil will be ordering more jackets. If anyone is interested they can contact him. We will not have a minimum order requirement with this company, but we may have a set-up fee for the design we use.

New Business

Fundraising – Joe Heil

A meeting was held last month to set up the prizes we will offer through this year’s raffle. We are ordering 2500 tickets this year and they should be ready in a week or so. Our costs for prizes will be approx. \$3,500.00 including banners and flyers. The drawing will be held on Oct. 7, 2020 at 8:30pm after our regular monthly meeting. The prizes are as follows; 1st place – 42” Cub Cadet and mower lift system, 2nd place – Universal picnic table and grill, 3rd place – Henry 22lr rifle, 4th place- 50” flat screen television, 5th place – 32” flat screen television, 6th place- wishing well, 7th and 8th place - \$250.00 each.

UPDATE – Tickets are available

Elections – Joe Heil

The elections for officer and board of director positions will be held at the April 1, 2020 meeting. The Chaplain and Sgt. at arms position will also be set. An assistant to the treasurer is also being sought if

anyone has interest. After this election, the delegates for the chapter will be set for voting rights at the state council meeting and the national convention in North Carolina.

UPDATE – Elections have been delayed at this time under guidance from National offices.

Committee- Joe Heil

The scholarship information still needs to get updated and provided to the schools this month in order for the chapter to award them this school year.

UPDATE – The Scholarship information has been sent out to schools

Newsletter – March 20, 20 is the deadline –

NOTE-With no meetings being held, we may not have any future newsletter information until further notice. We will communicate with membership if needed through email and phone calls.

Communications – none

Good of the Order

Donation – Joe Heil provided information that one of last year’s raffle winners of the \$250.00 prize has donated the funds back to the chapter. Kent Schilling has asked that these funds be given to Denise W. for her service animal training program.

Veterans Tribute- Joe Heil explained that the flag setting event will be late April or early May depending on flooding possibilities. The flag pole will be set with a 20X60’ flag. They are currently looking into (2) bids that have been received for the creation of the legacy stones. There will be fundraising events held the next four years to assist with the costs affiliated with completing the project. There is a meeting set up in a couple weeks with Country Jam to look at holding the Veterans Day on Friday. More information will be coming soon. Heil also told everyone to watch for commercials on WEAU-13 that were recently recorded for the Tribute.

Hearts2Heroes- Rick A. Talford provided information of a case that has come public. Christopher T. Engle (co-owner) has pleaded guilty to wire fraud after he used a fake charity to pocket donations. This program was said to be sending care packages to military members overseas. Almost \$287,000.00 was not used for packages, but rather personal reasons. He faces 20 years in prison and \$250,000.00 in fines if convicted. This information was found online through UnitedVoice.com.

Vietnam Veterans Day – Joe Heil

Heil wanted to provide a reminder to everyone about the event being held in Lake Hallie and at the Eagles Club on March 21, 2020. The schedule is 10am – 3pm. Soup and sandwich will be available from 11:20-1pm for \$6.00 a person. Chapter 5 Color Guard will be part of the opening ceremony. Members that are willing to assist can contact Rick A. Talford at 715-926-5302. Color Guard members should be available no later than 9:30am that morning.

UPDATE – As this was cancelled, a tentative re-schedule date of June 25, 20 has been set

High School to Heroes – Joe Heil

This year's event will be held on April 29, 20. Chapter 5 will be sponsoring three tables, with two chapter members sitting at each table. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Joe Heil as soon as possible.

Drawings –

- 50/50 - #4407 Mike Korger
- Wine - #4404 Ralph Palmer
- Attendance – 86 Ralph Ottum \$30.00

Closing prayer – Joe Heil

Adjourn at 8:25pm

Next meeting will be on April 1, 2020 at Post 7232 beginning at 7pm. - CANCELLED