



## MIKE VOTH MEMORIAL CHAPTER 5

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

### November 2019 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS 1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 7:00 P.M.  
HELD AT VFW POST #7232, 2900 W. FOLSOM, EAU CLAIRE, WI



Volume 5 – Issue 11

EDITOR – Julia McBee

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/06/19 VVA Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.; AVVA @ 6:30 p.m.
- 11/08/19 Elks Lodge Veterans Prime Rib Dinner @ noon
- 11/08/19 Veterans Day Program @ Vet's Home @ 2:30 p.m.
- 11/09/19 USMC Birthday Ball - Wisconsin Dells, WI
- 11/10/19 VFW 305 Veterans Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.
- 11/11/19 Veterans Day Program Regis HS @ 10 a.m.
- 11/11/19 Legion Post 53 Veterans Luncheon @ noon
- 11/13/19 L.E. Phillips Sr. Ctr. Veterans Program @ 10:00 a.m.
- 11/15/19 USMC Birthday Ball – Cornell, WI
- 11/21/19 L.E. Phillips Sr. Ctr. Holiday Dinner @ 4:30 p.m.
- 11/28/19 HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!

### OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President - Mike Korger 715-404-5796
- VP - Larry Wrycza 715-402-0106
- Treasurer - Joe Heil 715-559-2945
- Secretary - Mac McBee 715-202-0181
- Chaplain & Sgt. At Arms - Joe Graff
- BOD Joe Graff 715-579-0912
- BOD Ralph Ottum 715-223-6260
- BOD Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
- BOD Mike Smith 601-938-3746
- BOD Al Weix 715-832-4792

Chapter website: [www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org](http://www.mikevothmemorialvva5.org)  
 Chapter email: [www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com](mailto:www.mikevothmemorialvva5@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mikevothmemorialvva5](https://www.facebook.com/mikevothmemorialvva5)

### COMMITTEES

- AVVA Chapter Representative - Rick Talford 715-926-5302
- Color Guard – Rick Talford 715-926-5302
- Eau Claire Veteran's Council – Dan Ziegler 715-559-5158
- Finance – Joe Heil 715-839-7089
- Fundraising – J. Heil, J. McBee
- Government Affairs – Bob Laguban 651-285-8518
- Historical – Julia McBee 715-202-0181
- Minority Affairs – Dave Zien 715-829-9436
- Membership – Joe Heil 715-839-7089
- Outdoor Recreation – Bill Anderson 715-530-3481
- POW/MIA/Highground – Joe Graff 715-579-0912
- Public Affairs – Joe Graff 715-579-0912
- Scholarship – J. Heil, Chair; J. Graff, M. Korger, J/J McBee
- Veterans Assistance – Dave Mayenchein 715-669-3169
- Veterans Home – Rory Schutte 715-563-1583
- Women Veterans – Julia McBee 715-202-0181

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA'S  
FOUNDING PRINCIPLE,

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



God Bless All Veterans

P.O. Box 832, Eau Claire, WI 54702





Be sure to check out the various events in the community to honor Veterans and check to see if an RSVP or fee is required. Thank you all for your service to your country, your community and most especially, to your fellow veteran brothers and sisters! COME ENJOY THE PROGRAM AT THE L.E. PHILLIPS SENIOR CENTER ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 A.M. WITH FELLOW VIETNAM VETERAN, DEAN TABOR, THEN STAY FOR THE FREE LUNCH AFTERWARDS!

Join Mitchell Redcloud Jr Detachment,  
Marine Corps League as we  
Celebrate the 244th Birthday of the Marine Corps  
Saturday, November 9, 2019  
Three Bears Resort  
Warrens, Wisconsin



**ADVANCE TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED**

**\$40 per person**

Can be paid by Debit/Credit Card or PayPal

CONTACT: EMILY 715-299-6519

[voyagerxii86@yahoo.com](mailto:voyagerxii86@yahoo.com)

5:00 Cocktails; 6:00 USMC Ceremony

7:00 Dinner followed by Dancing

Appropriate Evening Attire

**Chippewa Valley Marines  
Birthday Celebration**

**WARNING ORDER**

Area Marines will celebrate the 244th Marine Corps  
Birthday on November 15, 2019

**USMC 244th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

At a new location:

**THE AMERICAN LEGION IN CORNELL**  
309 SOUTH 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET  
CORNELL, WI 54732

NOVEMBER 15, 2019

1730-1830—SOCIAL, 1830-1930—DINNER

Cake Cutting Ceremony at 1945

Buffet Dinner—\$15.00—per person (tax & tip included)

ROAST BEEF & BAKED CHICKEN w/potatoes, vegetable, mixed salad, coffee, and CAKE

MASTER of CEREMONIES JEFF ENGELBRETSON

Special Guests Invited:

Jake Leinenkugel, Dick Leinenkugel

Dennis Beattie, Former State Rep. Tom Sykora

Reservations required. Mail reservation information and payment check to:

**RICK MITCHELL**

27275 269<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE

HOLCOMBE, WI 54745

NLT November 10, 2019

For more information contact RICK at 1-715-271-1396 email at

[rickmholcombe@yahoo.com](mailto:rickmholcombe@yahoo.com)

Name(s):

No. x \$15.00 =

Family and friends are welcome to attend. Mark your calendar for November 15th!

PASS THIS INVITATION ON TO ALL MARINES!

*Semper Fi*

## **VVA Meeting of 9/4/2019**

Meeting was called to order by Mike Korger, Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer led Joe Graff followed with a moment of silence and prayers for healing for members who are ill.

Guest Clint Rudesill from VFW Post 305 is here on behalf of a Veteran's Day Project at Halmsted Elementary School in Chippewa Falls where his daughter teaches. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes will again invite area veterans to come and be interviewed by the students on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Chippewa Valley Bible Church (next to the school at 531 E. South St., CF) and share with them stories from their time in service and are encouraged to bring photos or other memorabilia to show them as well. Veterans are then needed to return on November 15<sup>th</sup> for the students to present them with booklets they created based on what they learned. There is a need for 30 veterans for this project as two new teachers are interested in having their student participate this year. Veterans who would like to participate need to be available for both dates and should call Clint to sign up or ask further questions. You can contact him at [cmrudesill@gmail.com](mailto:cmrudesill@gmail.com) or call him at 608-697-2651.

Guest Denise Wenz of Chippewa Falls is here to present information on the service animals she trains for veterans in need. She has served in the US Army and National Guard for ten years and suffers from PTSD. She explained how she researched and then studied how to become a service animal trainer and to date has been able to provide 20 dogs to veterans in need. Costs of purchasing, training, veterinarian fees, food and gear to get a service animal ready for a veteran and can take upwards of 40,000 hours and costs approximately \$2,000. She is seeking sponsors to assist with the cost of purchasing and training these service dogs as a veteran may be on a waiting list for 3-5 years, and it may take an additional 3-5 years to receive the service dog. She does not ask for payment from the veteran for the service animal but does ask them to pay it forward in some manner by helping others who may need assistance.

**Secretary's Report** – Mac is currently in the hospital, motion made by Joe Graff to accept the minutes as reported and mailed/e-mailed, seconded by Mike Smith; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Joe Heil gave an accounting of income and expenses, all accounts balance with bank records and a breakdown of the Harvest Raffle proceeds. While this amount was down from last year, it was also noted that attendance at all the county fairs where the Chapter had a booth was down as well. Joe was thanked for his report.

Joe Graff made a motion to provide Denise Wenz with a \$500 yearly donation for five years to sponsor a service dog training costs, seconded by Mike Smith; motion carried. He then made a motion to donate \$300 to Steve Wojcik of Strum, who is the recipient of the Military Makeover of their home as several members of the Chapter were present for the dedication of the home to the Wojcik's and needs still exist, seconded by Dave Mayenchein; motion carried. He also made a motion to give the funds received from the Stockman's Brat Stand to the AVVA membership as they had staffed the stand, seconded by Ralph Ottum; motion carried.

**President's Report** - Mike Korger had no new information, please refer to last month's newsletter.

**Vice President's Report** – Larry Wrycza not present, no report.

**AVVA** – Rick Talford shared that Wisconsin ranked #2 in the country for new memberships with 444 new VVA members and 62 new AVVA members. Remember to come out to Pizza Ranch on the 16<sup>th</sup> from 4-8:30 to support our AVVA member's fundraising.

**National Convention** – Will be in Greensboro, North Carolina in 2021, Leadership Conference will be in Dayton, Ohio in 2020. National's website is [www.VVA.org](http://www.VVA.org).

**WI State Council** – Region 6 Director, Bob Grabinski, is seeking input as to where and when to hold another Region 6 meeting; Altoona, IA seemed to work well last time as it is centrally located for the region. Anyone with ideas for speakers or topics, please contact him at [www.VVAWI.org](http://www.VVAWI.org). Next meeting December 7<sup>th</sup> with Christmas Party on the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> in Waupaca. If you plan on attending, please refer to the website for costs and RSVP information.

**Benefits** – Dave Mayenchein reminded everyone that you can receive free flu shots through the VA on October 10-11<sup>th</sup> but need to schedule an appointment; there is also a shingle's vaccination available that requires two shots given six months apart.

**Minority** – Dave Zien not present, no report.

**Membership** – VVA 125/AVVA 22.

**Veterans Home** – Rory Schutte reported that the Vice Commander has resigned at the home. There will be a Veterans Ball in November, if you plan on attending, please call the home for information. Joe Heil added that we will again co-host a Christmas Party, along with the DAV, on December 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Highground** – Joe Graff reported that the annual Education Week is October 1-4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Legacy Stone laying on October 5<sup>th</sup>, the annual Fall clean-up week will be October 9-12<sup>th</sup>, and there will be a Highground Gala on November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Silverdome in Neillsville starting at 5:30 with a social hour, dinner at 6:30 and entertainment at 7:00, tickets are \$60 (\$55 for multiple tickets on sale until 11/1/19). Visit their website [www.thehighground.us](http://www.thehighground.us).

Rick Ottum has already registered the Chapter for Highground's annual bowling event in January and sent a sign-up sheet around for members who plan to attend.

**Clothing & Logo** – Joe Heil reports that the flash drive with our logo design can't be found so he will be working with the new clothing supplier on our logo for new clothing orders.

**Fundraising** – Consider what the Chapter would like to do for next year, October is the desired month for holding a raffle drawing. Suggestions for prizes?

**Scholarships** – CVTC's nursing scholarship will be awarded on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Newsletter** – Contributions need to be in by 10/16—please and thank you!

**Eau Claire Veteran's Council** – Joe Heil mentioned that groundbreaking for the Tribute Park is trying to get coordinated with the air show next spring, more but everything is moving forward with the Altoona site; more information can be found on the Tribute Park at [www.ecveteransfoundation.com](http://www.ecveteransfoundation.com).

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Joe Heil reports that our recent Grand Prize Raffle winner, Earl Coffee, recently passed away.

The Veterans Day Program will be held at Regis High School this year, our Color Guard is needed so please contact Rick Talford if you are available. Program will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Rory Schutte spoke of a Veterans Day Fundraiser being held at Neillsville Bowling alley on October 19<sup>th</sup> with registration beginning at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$15/person or \$75/lane; spaghetti dinner available for \$12/adult, \$6/child, under 5 years of age free along with raffles and silent auctions.

John Dorsey reports that the Elk Lodge on Stein Blvd. will again hold a Prime Rib Dinner on November 8<sup>th</sup> at noon for Veterans Day, all veterans are welcome with a fee of \$10 for spouses. Turkey dinners available for those not interested in having Prime Rib; please call and RSVP for this event at 715-834-4022.

Mike Korgor reports that there will be a Steak Feed at the Augusta American Legion Post on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

There is information on the Agent Orange/Toxic Exposure bills (S332 and HR66) in the current issue of the VVA Magazine; consider contacting your State Senators and Representatives about these issues.

Attendance Drawing for \$10 won by Dennis Degidio (not present), 50/50 drawing of \$9 won by Dave Mayenchein. Closing Prayer offered by Joe Graff, meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m., there were 18 members present. Next meeting Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 here at VFW Post 7232 at 7:00 p.m. (AVVA at 6:30 p.m.)

**Veterans Program**  
Wed., Nov. 13  
10am  
Speakers:  
Dean Tabor, Vietnam Veteran  
Nate Lee, Army National Guard  
Free Lunch to follow program  
All are Welcome!

**Holiday Dinner**  
Thursday, Nov. 21  
Serving at 4:30pm  
\$8 per person-pay in office by Wed., Nov. 13.  
Turkey dinner with all the trimmings,  
Including: Coffee & dessert  
Enjoy the celebration of the Holidays with your friends.  
Come and join us!  
Maximum tickets for the event is 125  
Take out orders are available!

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE FOR THE DINNER FROM THE 14<sup>TH</sup> TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup>**

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

Postage  
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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 Joe Heil at 715-559-2945**

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