



Mike Voth Memorial

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #5
Eau Claire, WI 54702



October News Letter 2015
Meetings First Wed of every month @ 7pm

Volume 1 Issue 10 • Editor • Julie Mc Bee, Assistant/Dennis Wood

Upcoming events

High Ground Fall Festival 10/3/15
Salute to VietNam Veterans 10/4/15 in Monroe
Chapter meeting 10/07/15 at 7PM
Operation Welcome Home 11/11/15 in Madison
Marine Corps Birthday Ball 11/7/15 in Warrens

POW/MIA and High Ground:
Joe Graff: 715-579-0192

Agent Orange/ Incarcerated
Veterans/Veterans Health Care:
Peter Breed: 715-827-0339

Chapter contacts:

Pres. Dennis Werlein
VP. Bob Laguban: 651-285-8518
Tres. Joe Heil: 715-839-7089
Sec. Mike Korger: 715-726-3918
Chap. Dan Ziegler: 715-559-5158

Fund Raising
Chair:
Co-chair Julie Mc Bee: 715-926-1167

**Wishing everyone with Birthdays or
Anniversaries a very blessed Day!**

Board of Directors:

Joe Graff: 715-579-0192
Dan Ziegler: 715-559-5158
Ken Lensrud: 715-235-9432

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

Committees:

Finance - Joe Heil: 715-839-7089
Govt. Affairs - Bob Laguban: 651-285-8518
Membership - Joe Heil: 715-839-7089
Public Affairs - Roger Schuh ☎ 715-926-6052
Veterans Affairs-Benefits
Peter Breed: 715-827-0359
Women Veterans ☎ Julie McBee: 715-926-1167



God Bless All Veterans



President, Dennis Werlein

“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!



Chapter #5, what a productive and positively exciting month of September!

First off, our Chapter trip to Madison with the vets from the Wisconsin Housing Project to attend the Badger football game—what a fun time for about 20 of us who were able to make it. It was a beautiful day and as one of our members said, “to see the smiles on all of the vet’s faces and to be a part of it was really special.” Thank you to the drivers Jim Blaha and Julie McBee.

Speaking of thanks, thank you to all of our Chapter members for making our September 19th fundraiser a great success. Also, thank you to the Star Riders Motorcycle Club (Mike Voth’s riding buddies), Army recruiters from Eau Claire and VVA Chapter 331 for bringing their helicopter. What put us over the top was the large number of raffle tickets you all sold, netting over \$7,000 total. We will have more details at the October 7th meeting. One very special thing that happened was that an individual, who wanted to remain anonymous, donated \$250 to our Chapter and after he had been thanked and explained all that our Chapter does, he and his family donated another \$500. I guess our Chapter is doing something right that the Lord moves people to be so kind. Our Chapter has truly been blessed.

In other news, we signed up two more \$100 life members at the fundraiser. There is an application form in this newsletter for you to offer this special to any Vietnam era veteran you know. The \$100 life membership for associate members starts October 1st and runs thru to December 31st. At this rate we should have over 100 members in the Chapter by the first of the year.

As was discussed in the meetings in the past, our Chapter is planning a large “Welcome Home” picnic as part of our agreement with the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemorative Partnership Program. Fortunately for us, the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce Adult Leadership Program has voted to help us out in this endeavor. Some of their leaders will be speaking at our next meeting on October 7th to share some of their ideas for the success of this joint effort.

Try to attend the meeting so we can get more ideas from our Chapter and merge our efforts to make 2016 an even better year than 2015. See you at the next meeting, it should be informative.

Dennis Werlein

Mike Voth Memorial VVA Chapter 5 President

VVA Meeting of 9/2/2015

President Dennis Werlein called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. and he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Dan Ziegler gave the opening prayer.

President Dennis introduced Bill Anderson as a new member.

A motion passed to accept the Secretary's Report by Mike Korger as e-mailed and mailed out.

A motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report given by Joe Heil.

President Dennis said we need a plaque of appreciation for the \$1000 donation we received from Dan Mattoon and Prestige Auto from their annual fundraiser for vets. Dennis also reported that the Combined Vets Council had met and he passed around the new logo for Eau Claire County Veterans Services. The next Combined Vets Council meeting will be 9/22 at 6 P.M.

Rory Schutte reported that all auto dealerships had been contacted for support for a veterans van and there had been no response back yet.

Joe Heil requested approval to pay various bills including gas to go to the special military burial service at Brookfield, Bungee cords and posts for our new VVA banners, slings, bayonets and swivels for our new ceremonial M16 rifles. A motion passed to pay those.

President Dennis reported on the trip to Brookfield and Joe Graff added some details.

The next State VVA Council meeting will be 9/12 in Waupaca.

On Saturday, 9/12, 33-34 veterans will be going in two vans to the Wisconsin Badger football game and a list of various rules for going into the stadium will be supplied to those who are going.

A VA Benefits Report was given by Peter Breed. A Veterans Choice Program pamphlet was passed around. Go to VA.gov for details. Pete initiated a motion that passed to donate \$200 toward a Christmas party at the Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls this year. Pete reported that the Veterans Home is a 72 bed facility, but there is a waiting list of over 200. A motion passed for our VVA Chapter to formally support an addition to the Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls. A letter should be drafted and signed by our president. Dave Zien said it would be noteworthy if our Chapter would be one of the first to spearhead the drive for the addition to this facility.

Roger Schuh did not have anything for the Minority Report.

For the Membership Report, we currently have 86 members and another eight or nine have now been sent in under the \$100 life membership offer that is currently available.

A Veterans Home Report was given by President Dennis. Camp Ryan Adams will have an open house in Willard, WI. There will be an upcoming veterans' fall sponsored by the Veterans Home in Chippewa Falls. There will be a Christmas Party sponsored by the Chippewa VFW on Friday, 12/4. There will be chicken and meat and cheese trays. We are welcome to attend.

A High Ground Report was given by Joe Graff. On Saturday, 10/3 there will be a Fall Festival with a Chili Cook-Off and a car and motorcycle show. On 7/19/2016 there will be a Persian Gulf Tribute including a Wall of Remembrance. On 10/4 there will be a salute to Viet Nam era veterans in Monroe, WI at 1:30 P.M. Joe said that the High Ground donated a print called "Recon" for a raffle prize for our annual fundraiser. They also sent raffle tickets to purchase for one of their raffles. Joe said the High Ground needs some Viet Nam veterans to talk with students on their field trip to the High Ground on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of October.

VVA Meeting of 9/2/2015 (continued)

Roger Schuh reported on his trip to Camp American Legion.

Joe Heil gave a Clothing Report. A decision on VVA jackets was tabled. Joe said he ordered more shirts and supplies.

Under New Business, President Dennis reported that the Chamber of Commerce has a committee that will help us put on a big picnic next summer for all veterans with a "Welcome Home" theme.

For the Fundraiser Report, Julie McBee said that we will need lots of help, including a Friday night set-up crew. Food, lemonade, beer and water have been supplied. There will be a final fundraiser committee meeting on 9/15. There will be five Army recruiters helping for our fundraiser. Ed Michels said he will supply another basketball hoop. More advertising needed for radio and TV, a motion was passed to spend up to \$300.

For the Wisconsin Badgers football game trip, meet at 6:30 A.M. in the Wisconsin National Guard parking lot.

A motion was passed to give wood framed plaques of appreciation to Willies Military Surplus Store on Hwy J in Chippewa Falls, Prestige Auto in Eau Claire and the Safari Army Navy store in Eau Claire.

A notice has been posted on the bulletin board here at the VFW explaining the pending federal legislation on Agent Orange.

Ron Perry brought up that the Wounded Warriors out of Florida does not return much of the money they collect Back to veterans. A motion passed to no longer donate to them.

A motion passed to give out special window stickers to businesses who donate \$50 or more to our fundraisers. Julie will check into who can supply us with those.

For the Good of the Order, Joe Heil conducted the 50/50 drawing which was won by Dave Zien. The monthly attendance drawing winner was Julie McBee, the amount was \$50. Next month's drawing will be for \$10.

Dave Zien reported that he had taken a 50th Anniversary of the Viet Nam war flag to the four corners of the U.S. in Honor of Viet Nam veterans. He also said that a former Commandant of the Marine Corps will be the guest speaker At the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on Saturday, November 7th at the Three Bears Lodge in Warrens, WI sponsored by the Marine Corps League of Black River Falls. Reservations are due by October 15th. Dave also said that on 11/11 at the Capital in Madison, the Governor and the Secretary of Veteran Affairs will be giving out awards to persons and groups for outstanding service above and beyond. Ideas and nominations are wanted. Dave then asked for a standing ovation for VVA member Ron Perry and his unit for their exceptional experiences in Viet Nam which came out in a recent magazine article on pre-1967 military actions. Dave also mentioned the upcoming day of veterans events on November 10th which will start at the Chippewa Veterans Home from 7:30 to 8:30 A.M. and then continue on at other Locations for the rest of the day. Dave has the tentative schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 P.M. and Chaplain Dan Ziegler gave the closing prayer. 19 members were in attendance.



One Time Special Offer

August 1 – December 31, 2015

Life Membership Application

New: _____ Renewal: _____ Membership # _____ Chapter # _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Life Membership Dues \$100.00

Life Membership Payment: Check _____ Money Order _____

Credit Card: Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Amex _____ Discover _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility: Membership is to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purpose) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, or in any duty location between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975. **You MUST submit a copy of your DD214 with this application.**

Send To: Vietnam Veterans of America, PO Box 64299, Baltimore, MD 21264-4299

VVA Chapter #5

P.O. Box 832

Eau Claire, Wi 54702

Postage
Here

On the previous page is an application. Please use it to bring in new members.
Please bring the application back to the Chapter so we can send it in.
Make checks payable to: Vietnam Veterans of America
You help to build Chapter #5 is greatly appreciated

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 President Dennis Werlein at 715-577-8514

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Thank You!