

**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**  
**WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL**

State Council Meeting  
The HighGround  
June 23, 2012  
[www.vvawi.org](http://www.vvawi.org)

The State Council Meeting was called to order by President Lindbeck at 12:00 p.m. on June 23, 2012. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all along and a Moment of Silence for our POWs/MIAs and active duty service members was observed.

There was a Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Sorenson. All officers were present except the Treasurer and At-large Regional Director. There was a Roll Call of Chapters by Secretary Sorenson and the following were present: Chapters 5, 92, 101, 115, 220, 236, 425, 437, 448, 479, 529, 731, and 767. AVVA was present. The President said there was a quorum.

There was no reinstatement of suspended Chapters.

President Lindbeck appointed John Margowski as Parliamentarian and Jim Mullarkey as Timekeeper.

There was approval of the Agenda. Moved/Seconded/Passed Without Objection.

There was approval of the March 2012 Meeting Minutes. Moved/Seconded/Passed Without Objection.

The President gave his Report. He went to Washington DC in April for a National Board Meeting and met with legislative aides. He was able to speak with Congressman Ron Kind le there. He went to Bethesda to hand out walking sticks. He helped wash The Wall. He is promoting having Veteran written on drivers' licenses. He spoke of a study of inter-generational Agent Orange effects.

He discussed for-profit schools while at the National Board Meeting in DC. They warned of some schools misusing the Veterans' benefits. Be careful of these school and how they operates he warned. The President spoke of DUSTUP, a baseball team made up of Veterans with prosthetics. They will play at Lakeside Park, Fond du Lac, on July 7.

The President also attended a meeting at the Oneida Nation with WDVA Secretary Scocos and Secretary Roth (of Regulation and Licensing). They are working on employment issues Veterans may have.

Kay Hanson from HighGround welcomed us. She also wishes for us to get involved in the Persian Gulf Tribute. She challenged each Chapter to give \$500-\$1,000. Or you could buy a stone for \$550 with three lines, 20 spaces each line.

The Secretary read correspondence about the project to get the USS Canon, an Ashville class patrol Gunboat, moved from Philadelphia to Sheboygan. Those interested Chapters should get more information at: <http://www.winavalshipassociation.com/index.html>.

The Travelling Wall will be at Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh August 16-19, 2012. The Travelling Wall will be in Eau Claire September 13-17, 2012, in conjunction with the Field of Honor Celebration there September 8-16.

Legislative Chair Clif Sorenson gave his Legislative Committee and Homeless Veterans Committee Reports. The Chair spoke of jobs needed for Veterans; his legislative efforts in Washington DC trying to get better benefits for Veterans and Homeless Veterans.

He reiterated Camp Lejeune contaminated water and new Agent Orange disabilities

Vice President Pat Craney gave and distributed the Treasurer's Report.

There was no AVVA report given due to the absence of Pat Furno.

John Margowski and Mike Demske presented the by-laws changes that were sent out to all members previously. As is the current thinking, the Constitution is the first place to go for guidance and then the local by-laws and then Roberts Rules of Order. The by-laws can be reduced to one page. Moved out of Committee/Seconded/Passed Without Objection.

Regional Director Reports were given.

Chapter Reports were given:

Chapter 437, Oshkosh, had extensive activities; has raffle tickets. Participated in memorial services, Memorial Day parade, Assisted AMVETS in the concession tent for the Midwest Rock Fest.

Chapter 767 did a variety of community activities and gave an oral report about these activities.

Chapter 448 has been selling Orange Blossoms, held a brat fry, helped out at Minneapolis VA Health Care System (MVAHCS) Milwaukee. They donated to

the Veterans Fishing Day, Memorial Day activities and helped the Newburg Fire Department.

Chapter 425, Waukesha, participated in the Memorial Day parade; held fund raisers and other community activities; gave out three scholarships.

Ch 529 gave a report on many activities they have participated in.

Chapter 5, Eau Claire, Dennis Werlein gave an update on the health of Past Wisconsin State Council President Michael Voth. He is very ill in a nursing home – Dove HCCenter, Room 1411A Truax Blvd Eau Claire, WI. They have sponsored a Wounded Warrior project

Chapter 731 has an active color guard and education committee -- very busy.

Ch 440 is having a raffle.

Unfinished Business – see updated site [www.vvawi.org](http://www.vvawi.org) per Jim Mullarkey; help to keep it updated

Council on Veterans Programs Representative Report. Representative Bob Piaro, reported WDVA asked for how to fund trust fund in a very short term basis – raise state taxes; sin taxes; talked about issues coming out. Bob abstained from any action in support of any position.

Stepping Stones Farm – horse therapy – VA VISN 12 (Tomah) is sending some people down to attend this program; Eau Claire will have a rally at their Equine Therapy site – on HWY 37 – ask the Veterans Assistance Foundation if they wish to make a contribution.

New business – Jim Mayr spoke with John Miskowski of Public Television about a project to collect all WI KIA photos – any pictures (want to partner with VVA) for Virtual Wall. **Motion** that John come to the September VVA Meeting and his project be on our Website. Motion/Second/Without Objection Passed

Elections Committee Report: John Margowski and Bob Morzenti gave their report of those nominated for the leadership roles of the Wisconsin State Council of VVA. John traditionally three times asked for other nominations from the floor. There being no other nominations:

Richard Lindbeck was unanimously elected as President.

Jim Mayr was unanimously elected as Vice President

Pat Craney was unanimously elected as Treasurer

Jim Mullarkey was unanimously elected as Secretary

Separate District Elections were held with the following results:

District 1 - Tom Heitman

District 2 - Mike from Janesville

District 3 - Tom Hoffman  
District 4 - Bob Morzenti  
At Large - Francis Cohen

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. **Motion/Second/Without Objection** by President Lindbeck.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Clif Sorenson*

Clif Sorenson, Secretary (immediate past)

Vietnam Veterans of America Wisconsin State Council