



Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1140 Chapter Meeting July 14, 2025 Chapter Minutes

Call to Order at 1730 hours

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Officers and Board

President – Rich Krejsa

Vice President – Joe Diaz (absent)

Secretary – Don Caldwell

Treasurer – Gregg Conroy

Board Members – Present: John Mills, Bob Baze, Bill Robinson, Rich Schonfeld, Morley Levine

(Rich announced that, for the benefit of everyone in the room, comments and questions from the audience must use microphone when speaking to the group)

Welcome of First-time Attenders: Ron Hodges, USMC, Phillip Wallace, USN, Brace Barber, USA, Woody Fields, USAF

Secretary Report - Review and approval of prior meeting minutes

Treasurer Report - Review of checking account and money market accounts

Unfinished Business

- Donation to Veteran Treatment Court. VVA donated \$2,000 to the Court at the largest graduating class (7). The Court gave VVA a plaque in recognition of the Chapter's support of the Court
- Tennessee State Veterans Home Visit. 3 members attended the most recent visitation
- Franklin on the Fourth. VVA received \$326 in donations from attendees
- Williamson County Survivor Benefits Seminar. 14 attended the seminar led by Ben Welch, Williamson County VSO, 10 a.m.-noon. Comments were that the seminar had good information for surviving spouses. The next seminar is in Columbia on September 20th.



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New Business

- Pinning Ceremony. Rick presented Vietnam Veterans Pins to 6 veterans
- Quilt of Valor presentation – Pat McMahan presented two Quilts to veterans
- Speaker—LTG Keith Huber, executive director of the Daniels Veterans Center at Middle Tennessee State University
- Speaker—Mike Alsip—VA treatment available for neuropathy.

Events / Community Engagement

July

- Bluegrass Along the Harpeth—Friday and Saturday, July 25-26, event Friday 7 p.m.-10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Setup Friday at 5 p.m., teardown, Saturday 10 p.m. (or earlier)
- Tennessee State Council Meeting, Saturday, July 19, Wilson County Fairgrounds, 11 a.m. Meeting for National Convention delegates.

August

- VVA National Convention, Tuesday-Saturday, August 5-9, New Orleans
- Williamson County Fair, Saturday, August 9, Williamson County Ag-Expo Park

SAVE THE DATE:

- September 6, Fifth Annual Veterans Car Show at Elks Lodge #72 in Franklin.
- September 13, Free “Concert for Hope” benefitting the family of Capt. Bryce Bishop, 118th AW, TNANG
- September 20, Maury County Survivor Benefits Seminar, 10-1, Memorial Building
- November 7, First Annual Golf Tournament, Cheekwood Golf Club



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Future Speakers:

- August 11, Jim Walsh, 307th Bombardment Group
- September 8, Sarah Lee, Waypoint Vets
- October 13, Greg Wade, TN Medal of Honor Winners
- November, Honor Flight
- December Christmas Lunch, Rudy Kalis, Channel 4

Chapter Committees Reports

We need people to step up and help on these committees. If interested, contact the members listed below.

- Veteran Help Committee – (Morley, Gregg, Joe developing mission for this team)
- Membership (Bob Baze & John Mills) Membership count is 164
- Communications (Gregg Conroy)
 - Calling Team
 - Web Site Changes
 - Facebook Group Page
 - Challenge Coins
- Events / Fundraising (Max Hixon)
 - VetFest, October 4, Brentwood
 - WWII Reenactment, Linden, TN, September 27
- Programs / Speakers (Don Caldwell) No Report
- Awards (Rich Krejsa) No Report
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Inside the Chapter:

- Quilts of Valor: Remember – if you would like a quilt, you must come to our monthly meetings. Sign-up sheet available
- “Reflection” poster available – FREE
- Mugs (15 oz, logo on both sides) for a donation of \$10 or more.
- Chapter Challenge Coins—One free to members, purchase additional at \$5 each
- Embroidered shirts & jackets with our Chapter info and the VVA logo. These can be ordered with or without your name for a donation based on the item. (See Gregg Conroy)

