



Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 1140

August 12, 2024, Chapter Meeting Minutes

Call to Order at 1734

Opening Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of officers and Board: All officers and board members present

President – Rich Krejsa

Vice President – Max Hixon

Secretary – Don Caldwell

Treasurer – Gregg Conroy

Board Members – Morley Levine, John Mills, Bob Baze, Bob Nichols, Rich Schonfeld

Welcome of First Time Veteran Attendees: Ray Turner, USAF

Secretary Report - Review and approval of prior meeting minutes. Passed by voice vote

Treasurer Report

Checking Account	\$13,215.73
501c3 Account	\$35,641.64
Money Market Account	\$41,693.35

Unfinished Business

- **Tennessee State Veterans Home Visit Report Doug Schnabel:**
 - 4 visited the Veterans Home earlier this month
- **Bluegrass Along the Harpeth Report:**
 - Good turnout with lots of visitors to the booth. Donations \$409.00
- **Maury County Survivor Benefits Seminar Report:**
 - 6 people attended. Many good questions. Room booking was tight, so that day was the only day available. The problem is finding a place to hold the SBS in Columbia.
- **Williamson County Fair Report:**
 - Good turnout to the booth. Donations \$245.00

New Business

- **Cumberland Valley Quilters:**
 - Rich presented the Cumberland Valley Quilters with a check for \$2,000 in support of their efforts
- **Tonight's Speaker –** Capt. Aron Buckles, Professor of Naval Science, Vanderbilt Naval ROTC



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Events / Community Engagement

August

- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, August 20, 10AM - Sign-up Sheet Available**
- **Williamson County – Survivor Benefits Seminar – Saturday August 24, Enrichment Center, Ben Welch, presenter. Set-up 9:30, Event 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sign-up Sheet Available**
- **Williamson County Toxic Exposure Town Hall Meeting, Saturday, August 31, Enrichment Center, Don Smith, presenter – Set-up 9:30, Event 10-2, Sign-up Sheet Available**

September

- **Fourth Annual Veterans Car Show – Saturday, September 7, Elks Lodge #72, 485 Oak Meadow Drive, Franklin. Set-up 7:30, Event 8-2, Sign-up sheet available**
 - **Distribute Flyers**
 - **Donation items for silent auction**
 - **List donor and approximate value**
- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, September 17 at 10 a.m. Sign-up Sheet Available**

October

- **Maury County Toxic Exposure Town Hall – Saturday, October 5, Tom Primm Commission Room, 6 Courthouse Square, Columbia, Set-up 9:30, Event 10-2**
- **7th Annual VetFest – Saturday, October 5, Granny White Park, Brentwood. Set-up 8:30, Heroes Stroll @ 9:30, VetFest 11-4. Confirmed for 2 VVA booths**
- **Saturday, October 26 – PumpkinFest, Downtown Franklin - Application for VVA booth submitted**

SAVE THE DATE (Details as we get closer)

- **Saturday, November 2 – Franklin Family Day, Harlinsdale Farm, Featuring Gary Sinise and LT Dan Band. VVA Application submitted**
- **Monday, November 11 – Veterans Day Parade, Franklin & Columbia Confirmed**
- **Monday, December 9 – VVA1140 Membership Luncheon at Willis Johnson “Barn” – Doors open @ 10AM, Lunch @ 11, catered by Uncle Bud’s. Signup sheet in October-November meetings**



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Chapter Committees - Reports.

- **Membership (Bob Baze & John Mills):** Membership is currently at 150
- **Communications (Gregg Conroy)** – Launching volunteers call team to call and remind members of meetings and events
- **Events / Fundraising (Max Hixon)**
- **Programs / Speakers (Don Caldwell)** See below
- **Awards (Rich Krejsa)**
 - **Scholarship Committee Report:** The committee is contacting area school counselors to go over the scholarship offer for JROTC senior at each school. Offering a \$1500 scholarship to a graduating senior at each school.

Future Speakers:

- **September 8 – Dr. John O'Brien, 101st Airborne Museum**
- **October 14 – Tripp Osteen, Folds of Honor**
- **November 11 – Patrick McIntyre, Tennessee Historical Commission**
- **December 9 – Nick Beres, NC5 Reporter**

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) which you can have for a donation of \$10 or more.
- **Embroidered shirts** with our Chapter info and the VVA logo. The shirts can be ordered with or without your name for a donation of \$35 or more. (See Gregg Conroy)

Meetings:

- Our next scheduled membership meeting is set for **Monday, September 9, 2024, at 5:30** at the Williamson County Enrichment Center.
- The next scheduled Board meeting is on **Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 1:30** at the Williamson County Enrichment Center (upstairs). Members are always welcome to attend and silently observe the board meetings.

