

Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 1140
June 10, 2024, Chapter Meeting Minutes

Called to Order at 5:32 p.m.

Opening Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of officers and Board.

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

David Seay, USAF, Jim Lundquist, USN, Dick Landers, USA

Secretary Report - Review and approval of prior meeting minutes

Treasurer Report

Checking Account: \$18,923.72; 501c3: \$1,161.64; Money Market: \$87,449.29

Membership Report

150 members as of 4/30 roster

Unfinished Business

- **Determine date(s) work for Survivor Benefit Seminars**
 - Maury County – Friday, August 2.
 - Williamson County—Waiting for Williamson Co. VSO to set a date
- **Determine tentative date(s) for Toxic Exposure Town Hall**
 - Checking availability. Want to have two seminars: One proposed date is Aug. 3
- **Brentwood Memorial Day Event**
 - Rich reported that the event was held May 13 at Brentwood City Hall with about 100 in attendance
- **Tennessee State Veterans Home Visit**

- Doug Schnabel reported that the next visit will be Tuesday, June 18
- **Armed Forces Day Event**
 - Rich reported that the event, held at the Harpeth Tru Value Store went well and was worth the effort.
- **WPLN Radio Interview – FM 90.3**
 - Rich reported that the interview at WPLN went well and included several other representatives from veterans groups
- **Flag placement and removal at Mt. Hope Cemetery**
 - Placement of flags for Flag Day was in partnership with the Franklin Rotary
- **Williamson County Memorial Day Event**
- **Tennessee State Council Meeting**
 - The Tennessee State Council Meeting was held June 8 in Lebanon. New officers for the Council were elected
- **Scholarship Committee**
 - The Scholarship Committee reported that they are looking at offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a JROTC student in Williamson and Maury Counties who interviews a Vietnam veteran and writes an account of the interview. The Committee is working on the rules to manage the contest.

New Business

- **50th Commemorative Pinning Ceremony (with DAR)**
- **Tonight's Speaker– Bobby George, Director of Outreach, Gary Sinise Foundation**

Events / Community Engagement

June

- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, June 18 @ 10AM**

July

- **Franklin on the Fourth – Thursday, July 4 10AM-6PM (Setup @8:30) – Sign-up Sheet Available**
- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, July 16 @ 10AM – Sign-up sheet available**
- **Bluegrass Along the Harpeth – Friday, July 26 7PM-10PM (Setup @ 5:30PM)–Saturday, July 27 10Am-10PM (can close down earlier) – Sign-up Sheet Available**
 - This will be the second year in a row for VVA to participate

August

- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, August 20 @ 10AM - Sign-up sheet available**
- **Williamson County Fair – Saturday, August 10 – Application submitted.**
 - **Hometown Heroes Nomination Form and Flyer (attached) DEADLINE July 5**
- **Toxic Exposure Seminar – August 2**

September

- **Fourth Annual Veterans Car Show – Saturday, September 7, Elks Lodge, Franklin.** This is a big fundraiser for VVA. Trophies will be provided by O’Riley’s Auto Parts.
 - **Distribute Flyers**
 - **Donation items for silent auction**
 - **List donator and approximate value**
 - **Bring to July meeting**
- **Visit Tennessee State Veterans Home - Tuesday, September 17 at 10 a.m. Sign-up sheet available**

Other Upcoming Events:

- **Civil War Show – December 7-8 at the Williamson County Ag Expo Center**
- **NATAC wants to do portraits of veterans**
- **Morley introduced a veterans home in Spring Hill. He is regularly visiting with veterans there**

Chapter Committees - Reports

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

- **Membership (Bob Baze & John Mills)** Current membership (4/30 roster): 150
- **Communications (Gregg Conroy)** – 10 people have volunteered to call members each month and encourage them to attend chapter meetings
- **Events / Fundraising (Max Hixon)**
- **Programs / Speakers (Don Caldwell)**
- **Awards (Rich Krejsa)**
 - **Scholarship Committee**

Future Speakers:

- **July 8 – LTC Arlin Wilsher, MTSU Army ROTC**
- **August 12 – Capt. Aron Buckles, Vanderbilt Naval ROTC**
- **September 8 – Dr. John O’Brien, 101st Airborne Museum**
- **October 14 – Tripp Osteen, Folds of Honor**

- **November 11 – Greg Wade:** Tennessee Medal of Honor Winners
- **December 9 - TBD**

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:

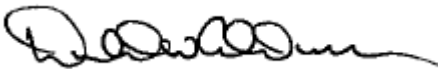
- Our next scheduled membership meeting is set for **Monday, July 8, 2024**, at **5:30** at the Williamson County Enrichment Center.
- The next scheduled Board meeting is on **Wednesday, June 17, 2024**, at **1:30** at the Williamson County Enrichment Center (upstairs). Members are always welcome to attend and silently observe the board meetings.

Thank you to all that financially support our chapter.

Anything else for the good for the order?

The Chapter adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Chapter Secretary



Nominate a Veteran for **HOMETOWN HERO RECOGNITION** 2024 Williamson County Fair

Presented by Atmos Energy



The Williamson County Fair is searching for veterans who have been inspirational to others. These acts could include family, businesses, churches, schools, community, or our country in a way to make them better and improve the lives of those around them.

Nominate a past or current member of the military whose achievements and/or service to the community has gone without notice.

Requirements:

- Nominees must have served between 1940 – Present
- Nominees must still be living
- Nominees must live within Williamson County
- Nominees must be able to attend the ceremony on August 10, 2024 @ 10:30 am – Williamson County Fair, Nissan Stage

Featuring a Musical Performance by The Gibson Girls
Presented by the Gary Sinise Foundation



To nominate a veteran, visit www.williamsoncountyfair.org
Under General Info, click Hometown Heroes for a Nomination Form

Deadline for nominations is July 7, 2024





WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR
2024 HOMETOWN HEROES
NOMINATION FORM



NOMINATOR

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NOMINEE

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE _____ RANK _____

DATES OF SERVICE _____ TO _____

HOMETOWN _____

IN 200 WORDS OR LESS, DESCRIBE WHY YOU ARE NOMINATING YOUR HOMETOWN HERO.
(USE BACK OF SHEET IF NECESSARY)

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS – July 5, 2024

Mail to: Williamson County Fair – P.O. Box 329, Franklin, TN 37065

Or e-mail to: entertainment@williamsoncountyfair.org

Presented by:

