

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 1140

September 8, 2025 Minutes

Call to Order at 1730 hours

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of officers and Board.

President – Rich Krejsa

Vice President – Joe Diaz

Secretary – Don Caldwell (Excused)

Treasurer – Gregg Conroy

Board Members – Morley Levine, John Mills, Bob Baze (excused), Bill Robinson, Rich Schonfeld

(Rich announced that for the benefit of everyone in the room, for questions or statements from the audience to please raise your hand and wait until someone brings a microphone before speaking.)

Welcome of 1st attendees: Keith Bennett, Army, Mike Disser, Army and Jim Smith, Army

Secretary Report - Review and approval of prior meeting minutes

Treasurer Report - Review of checking and money market accounts

Unfinished Business

- 5th Annual Veterans Car Show – A rainy day but good results - \$690 from registration activity, \$750 from Silent Auction and a total (after credit card processing fees) of \$2,720.79
- Tennessee State Veterans Home Visit – Visitation date is still unsettled, but for this month Wednesday after this chapter meeting.

New Business

- Quilt of Valor – Pat McMahon presented a Quilt to Ronald Hodges, USMC
- Speaker – Sarah Lee – Founder and CEO, Waypoint Vets

Events / Community Engagement

September

- Concert for Hope – Benefiting the family of Capt. Bryce Bishop – Saturday, September 13 – Event 6-8:30PM
- Survivor Benefits Seminar – Columbia – Saturday, September 20 – Event 10 – 1

October

- VetFest – Saturday, October 4, Granny White Park, Brentwood: Heroes Stroll – 9:30, Event 11AM – 4PM
- PumpkinFest, Saturday, October 25, Franklin 10AM – 6PM (application submitted)

November

- Franklin Family Day – Saturday, November 1, 10AM – 3PM, Harlinsdale Farm (application submitted)
- First Annual Golf Scramble Tournament – Friday, November 7, Cheekwood Golf Course
- Veterans Day Parade – Tuesday, November 11 – Franklin & Columbia
- Militaria Relics Show - Friday – Saturday, November 28-29

December

- December Luncheon – Monday, December 8 – Doors open @ 10AM Space is limited – Registration ENDS at close of November 10 Meeting

Future Speakers:

- October 13 – Greg Wade, TN Medal of Honor Winners
- November 10 – Honor Flight – Speaker TBD
- December 8 – Rudy Kailis, Yearly Luncheon (Attendance is limited).

Chapter Committees - Reports

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

- Veteran Help – (Morley, Gregg, Joe)
- Membership (Bob Baze & John Mills) - Membership count is 164
- Communications (Gregg Conroy) continue to recruit for various functions (website, calling team)
- Events / Fundraising (Bill Robinson)
- Programs / Speakers (Don Caldwell)
- Awards (Rich Krejsa)

Inside the Chapter:

- Quilts of Valor: Remember – if you would like a quilt, you have to come to our monthly meetings.
- “Reflection” poster available – FREE
- Mugs (15 oz, logo on both sides) which you can have for a donation of \$10 or more.
- Chapter Challenge coins – One free to members, \$5 each for additional.
- 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)

Meetings:

- Our next scheduled membership meeting is set for Monday, October 13 2025, 5:30 at the Williamson County Enrichment Center
- The next scheduled Board meeting is on Wednesday, September 17, 1:30 at the Williamson County Enrichment Center. 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? Gregg Conroy reminded everyone that we are seeking suggestions for an individual to serve as Chapter Chaplain. Individual does not have to be a current/past minister.

Mike Alsip motioned to donate \$1,000 to WayPoint Vets, Max Hixon offered an amendment to make the amount \$2,000. After brief discussion the motion was passed. (A check was presented after the meeting adjourned.)

The Chapter adjourned at 1859 hours.

Respectfully submitted



Substitute Secretary