



# **Vietnam Veterans of America**

## **Chapter 1140 Chapter Meeting**

### **June 9, 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

Secretary – Don Caldwell

Treasurer – Gregg Conroy

Board Members – Present: John Mills, Bob Baze, Bill Robinson, Rich Schonfeld. Absent: 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)

Secretary Report - Review and approval of prior meeting minutes

Treasurer Report - Review of checking account and money market accounts

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Tennessee State Veterans Home Visit – Doug Schnabel reported that three members visited the Veterans Home in May.
- Franklin Rodeo-- A three day event, the Chapter collected under \$1,000 in donations
- Flag Placement and Retrieval at Mt. Hope Cemetery—Rich reported that Chapter members placed and retrieved flags at veterans' graves
- Franklin Memorial Day Event—Rich reported that the event at the Five-Points location was well attended.



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### **New Business**

- Quilt of Valor presentation – Pat McMahan presented two Quilts to veterans: Rick Tice, USN, and Doug Williams, USA
- TSC Chapter Presidents Meeting—Rich reported that the state Chapter presidents met recently. Point of discussion was the eventual dissolution of VVA, Inc., to VVA Legacy Association. The Chapter will need to restructure its bylaws.
- Speaker—Bradley Boshers, Williamson County Archivist, presented the County's Archives and its services.
- Speaker—Phil LaPrad, Mobility Chairman, VVA Chapter 1089, discussed that chapter's services in providing mobility equipment for veterans, including their immediate family members. Chapter 1089 covers 10 different states, and includes providing for WWII and Korean veterans.

### **Events / Community Engagement**

#### **July**

- Franklin on the Fourth—Friday, July 4, Main Street. The Chapter's booth is assigned in front of the Mellow Mushroom. Signup sheet available. Setup Friday, 7/4, at 8 am, tear down at 6 p.m.
- July 12—Williamson County Survivor Benefit Seminar led by Ben Welch, Williamson County VSO, 10 a.m.-noon.
- 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)

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

- August 8-9, Williamson County Fair
- September 6, Veterans Car Show at Elks Lodge #72 in Franklin.
- September 13, Free "Concert for Hope" benefiting the family of Capt. Bryce Bishop, 118<sup>th</sup> AW, TNANG



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- September 20, Maury County Survivor Benefits Seminar, 10-1, Memorial Building, Columbia

#### **Future Speakers:**

- July 14, LTG Keith Huber, Daniels Veterans Center, MTSU
- August 11, Jim Walsh, 307<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group
- September 8, Sarah Lee, Waypoint Vets
- October 13, Greg Wade, TN Medal of Honor Winners
- November, Honor Flight
- December, 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 162
- Communications (Gregg Conroy)
- Events / Fundraising (Max Hixon)
- Programs / Speakers (Don Caldwell)
- Awards (Rich Krejsa)
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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.
- 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)
- *The Bravest Generation* books by Susan Hunter are available for each member to receive one copy.

