

**Vietnam Veterans of America**  
**Northern Warriors Chapter 941**  
**19 March 2012**  
**Kelly Inn- 3800 Main Ave., Fargo, ND**  
**1900 Hours**

**Meeting called to order at 1900** by President Art Williams

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for POW's and MIA's

Prayer by Wayne Wermager

**Members present:** Jan Jorgensen, Larry Nicholson, Ronn DuRand, Larry Reed, David Brunsvold, Don Norgren, Art Williams, Victor Wotter, Dave Seifert, Russ Stabler, AVVA member Leslie Lewis, Jerry Hemke, Wayne Wermager, Les Bakke, Ed Ahonen, Wayne Ellefson, AVVA members Joe and Cory Bennett, Joe Erickson.

**Guest:** Ray Bransitter

**Treasurer's Report:** checkbook balance is \$8,974.13, with deposits of \$542.00, expenditures of \$185.79, submitted by Dave Brunsvold, Treasurer. Report passed.

**Secretary's Report:** last month's minutes were taken by Les Bakke but since that time his computer "crashed" and report was lost. Jan Jorgensen would like everyone to please give her your email so she can update mailing list. Her computer also recently "crashed" and she lost information. Report passed.

**Membership Report:** Larry Nicholson states he finally had a report sent to him after three months waiting to hear from National. 99 VVA, 26 AVVA members. Report passed.

**Public Affairs Officers Report:** Wayne Ellefson states the St.Patrick's Day parade was a huge success. He had a gentleman state that he did not know there even was a VVA in Fargo. Many people thanked the veteran's for their service which was good "therapy" for some of our members. Report passed.

**Color guard Report:** Russ did a great job organizing the members for the St. Patrick's Day parade. The color guard is done for the season at the MSUM basketball games. On 20 April we are invited to MSUM for the 5K run on campus. Also coming up is Memorial Day. on 22 July, Detroit Lakes Wayne Wermager will lead the color guard. On 14 July, Prosper, ND will host color guard. Other towns will also be on the schedule.

Russ asked if he could please get the poles fixed on the new set of flags and order belts-pricing first.

It was also brought up if a Honor and Remembrance Flag could be purchased, Dave Brunsvold will check into that.

**Old Business:**

**1. Requirements for a Chapter Chaplain-** issue discussed by Wayne Wermager. Made these points: does not have to be ordained, should be committed to the job, will send cards, visit sick members and give prayers at the beginning and end of each meeting. Motion was made to check on the bylaws if Chaplain is elected and can we do that without permission of National. Russ Stabler will research bylaws and give us a report. Report passed.

**2. FMWF Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee Report:** Wayne Wermager is on this committee through his job at Noridian. This committee was named a "standing" part of the

chamber. A scale model of the USS North Dakota will be touring the country to be displayed at business' around the country.

**3. Block Island Update:** signage, invitations to event and the guest list are all in works. The thank you notes for donations are also being written. Caterer Momma K from Dilworth will be doing tremendous amount for the Block Island event with food at no cost to the chapter. She also did food for the steak fry and auction which raised considerable money for the reunion. Because of this, the chapter voted to make her an honorary associate member with a three year membership. Report passed.

Dave Brunsvold asked for a motion to be made to send out invitations for the Block Island reunion to the following: ND VVA president, Governors of Minnesota and North Dakota, Mayors of Fargo, West Fargo, Moorhead and Dilworth, UPB President Terry Richardson and Lonnie Wangen. Motion was made and passed.

Dave also asked for USS Block Island volunteers to help out with events in May.

**4. Fund Raising:** short range and long range. Money continues to come in for Block Island reunion and we have bratwurst sales set up at Sun Mart on 14 and 15 June, to raise money for chapter.

**New Business: Nominations for office:**

President: Art Williams and Larry Nicholson

Vice President: Larry Reed

Treasurer: Dave Brunsvold

Secretary: Jan Jorgensen

Membership: Larry Nicholson, Russ Stabler

Public Affairs: Wayne Ellefson

Leslie Lewis stated that thirty teachers have been contacted at the Fargo South High School in preparation for the students learning about Vietnam in history classes. Last year our members were on panel discussions in classes at Fargo South. It is Leslie's intention to do that again this year. We hope members will once again help out during this time.

Fargo South also has an Air Force ROTC drill team that would like to perform in any capacity we can find.

Every Thursday, members of chapter 941 are getting together at the West Acres food court at 1230. Informal gathering.

Arlen Blumer, a Kindred veteran was given \$500.00 for a Korean Veteran's reunion to take place in July 2012.

Next meeting at Kelly Inn 16 April 2012

Respectfully submitted by:  
Jan Jorgensen, secretary