

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Northern Warriors Chapter 941
17 August 2015
Kelly Inn 3800 Main Ave, Fargo, ND
1900 Hours**

Meeting was called to order by President Larry Nicholson

Pledge of allegiance

Moment of silence for POW'S and MIA'S

Prayer by Russ Stabler

Members present; Bob Mandt, David Brunsvold, Les Forman, , Ed Ahonen, Russ Stabler, Larry Nicholson, Larry Kessel, , James Gebhardt, Richard Bailes, Jim Aasness, Bill Peterson, Ronn DuRand, Curtis Aamodt, Joe Wallevand Guests Lauri Moreno, Larry Bakken, Shelly Nannenga and Buddy

Introductions:

Members went around the room and introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Russ Stabler, second by Joe Wallevand. Motion carried..

Approval of the Minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jim Aasness, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Treasurers report.

Beginning Balance		\$18,407.41
Deposits	5K/10K Run	\$ 900.00
	AVVA Membership	\$ 20.00
	Sales	\$ 12.00
TOTAL Deposits		\$ 932.00
Expenditures	AVVA #1509	\$ 60.00
	AVVA #1530	\$ 20.00
	Hornbacher's (Casino Night) #1531	\$ 53.99
	D. Brunsvold (Supplies) #1532	\$ 163.92
TOTAL Expenditures		\$ 297.91
Interest Earned		\$ 0.16
Ending Balance		\$19,041.66

Jim Aasness made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Public Affairs Report:

Les Forman reported approval for Honor Escort at the VA is still pending final approval. Clay County Veterans conference is scheduled for October 2nd at Moorhead Armory from 1000 to 1600, free lunch is

being provided by Beyond the Yellow Ribbon.

A motion to approve the Public Affairs report was made by Bill Peterson, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Membership Report:

Chair Russ Stabler reports.

VVA active membership	224
New Members	3
Total	227
AVVA Active	64
New (George Shepke)	1
Total	65
VVA Inactive	4
AVVA Inactive	3
Total	7

Motion to accept Membership Report was made by Ed Ahonen, second by Ronn DuRand. Motion carried.

Color Guard Report:

Commander Russ Stabler reported VVA 941 participated in the following events.

23 July	Joes for GI's at US Bank
25 July	LOCO Daze Parade Dilworth
30 July	Military Appreciation Night at the Red Hawks
15 August	Motorcycle Rally at Pelican Rapids
15 August	Pioneer Days Parade Bonanzaville
15 August	Harvest Days Parade at Sabin MN
16 August	Pioneer Days Parade Bonanzaville

Upcoming Events

	Show	Start	
29 August	Barnesville Potato Days Parade	1500	1730
3 September	MSUM football	1730	1800
11 September	September 11th on the bridge	0730	0900
18 September	POW/MIA Day on the Bridge	0730	0900
19 September	MSUM football	1230	1300
19 September	MSUM volleyball	1530	1600
22 September	MSUM volleyball	1630	1900
26 September	MSUM volleyball	1530	1600

A motion to accept the Color Guard Report was made by Jim Aasness, second by Joe Wallevand. Motion carried.

Legislative Report - National and state:

Toxic exposure (Agent Orange Plus) State House Bill 1759 and Senate Bill 901 call Representatives and Senators asking for support.

National Convention:

Larry Nicholson and Russ Stabler attended the VVA National Convention in Springfield IL. July 21st thru 25th. Report was given by Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald.

Target topics being discussed during the convention were PTSD, Woman's Health, Agent Orange, Homeless Veterans, and VVA life membership one time offer from August 1, 2015 thru December 31st 2015 for \$100.00. John Rowan from New York was re-elected national president, Dan Stensvold North Dakota State VVA president was re-elected Region 6 member at large.

Next national meeting is scheduled for two more years (2017) in New Orleans LA. For more information contact Larry Nicholson or Russ Stabler.

VAVS Report:

Chair Les Forman extended a thank you to all members who participated in Black Jack Night at the VA on Aug 19th. Next event will be at 1900 on the 16th of September.

Suicide prevention walk to be held September 13th at 1400 in Lindenwood Park.

National POW/MIA day set for Friday September 18th on the Veterans Memorial Bridge at 0900. Color Guard muster at 0730 at the Frying Pan restaurant in Fargo for breakfast.

Decorum: Members please be mindful of behavior at all internal and external functions. Behavior is reflective on the entire chapter.

Flag status:

Bill Peterson made a motion to give American Flag, given to chapter 941 by Senator John Hoeven and flown over the US Capitol, to Cass County Veteran Service Officer for display in his office. Second made by Les Forman. Motion carried.

Service Dogs of America:

They are a non-profit organization founded to provide disabled veterans with service dogs/PTSD dogs. Shelly Wannenga and service dog Buddy gave chapter a demonstration on dogs training which included walking, standing up, and detection of anxiety associated with PTSD and how service dogs help the veterans. It was interesting to see dog feel anxiety in veteran, turn on the light and calm veteran. The dogs take 2 years to train and cost \$20,000.00. Service dogs of America has provided dogs all over the United States. The organization uses rescue dogs with Labrador Retrievers and Golden Retrievers being their favorite breeds to work with due to their size and calm demeanor. Anyone interested in more info can contact Service Dogs of America at info@ser4vicedogsforamerica.org PH 701-685-2242.

Veterans Classic Car/Bike Show:

Car/bike show was held 13 August 2015 at Dilworth VFW. 30 cars and 10 bikes attended. Next show and last show of the season scheduled for September 10th.

September 11th Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Bridge is scheduled for 0900. Color Guard muster at Fargo Frying pan Restaurant at 0730 for breakfast.

POW/MIA'S on the Bridge:

VVA941 is promoting POW/MIA awareness ceremony at Fargo Veteran Bridge at 0900 18 September 2015. Color Guard muster at Fargo Frying Pan Restaurant at 0730 for breakfast.

Lifetime Membership to AVVA:

Joe Wallevand made a motion for the chapter to provide Life time Membership to the AVVA to Missy At Bonanzavilloe and Sonia at the Biltmore Motel for their support to VVA 941, Ronn DuRand second. Motion carried.

Sickness and Health:

Anyone who has or knows of somebody who needs prayer please contact Wayne Wermager Chapter Chaplin.

Other: remember red shirt Friday's to support veterans everywhere.

VVA Lifetime Membership is being offered August 1, 2015 thru December 31st 2015 on a special one time basis for \$100.00

Next meeting will be held September 21st 2015 at 1900.

Meeting adjourned at 2010 with a salute to the flag.

Respectfully submitted by;

R. D. Mandt
Secretary