

**Vietnam Veterans of America  
Northern Warriors Chapter 941  
20 April 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, Jan Jorgensen, Larry Reed, Steve Paradis, Les Forman, Paul Hydman, Ed Ahonen, Bill Peterson, Duke Johnson, Mark Helfter, Russ Stabler, Les Bakke, Larry Nicholson, Larry Kessel, Ronn DuRand, Dave Rice, Jerry Halmrast, Leo Almeida, Bob Harris, Tom Picard, Frank Brya. AVVA Members Hella Helfter, Dan Thorstad, Scott Halmrast, Ben Kessel.

**Approval of agenda:**

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

**Approval of the minutes:**

One correction noted, spelling of guest Al Sakson.

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

**Treasurers report:**

Treasurer David Brunsvold reports:

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$12,897.67
	Total Deposits	\$ 3,828.14
	Total expenditures	(\$893.63)
	Interest	\$ 0.12
ENDING BALANCE		\$15,832.30

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Duke Johnson, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

**Membership Report:**

Membership chair Jan Jorgensen reported VVA new members: Kevin Tegtmeier- Fargo, ND, Paul Anderson- Fergus Falls, MN (Veterans Home), Gordon Bahner-Hendrum MN, Steve Bye- Dilworth MN, Dennis James-Fargo ND, (VA Hospital) , Jack Miller - Fargo ND, Richard Wentz - Fargo ND. New AVVA members: Keary Barger- Fargo ND, Jan Nelson - Fargo ND, Sheila Watson - Fargo ND, Rick Weaver - Hawley MN, DR. Amy Wieser - Wilson - Ottertail MN.

Total VVA 222

Total AVVA 56

Member Gary Cooper recently passed away.

A motion to accept the Membership Report was made by Leo Almeida, second by Scott Halmrast. Motion carried.

**Color Guard Report:**

Commander Russ Stabler reported VVA color guard participated in the following events.

March 14 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Day Parade
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Crusaders Bike Show
April 11 <sup>th</sup>	ND Reserve Officers Association
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Metro Mayor's committee of People Disabilities Award Banquet

Upcoming events to be announced.

A motion to accept the Color Guard Report was made by Bob Harris, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

**State VVA Meeting:**

Ronn DuRand , Ed Ahonen, and Bob Mandt attended VVA State Meeting in Hillsboro March 21<sup>st</sup> 2015.

National Membership	VVA	74,705	
	Women	1,125	
	AVVA	8,474	
North Dakota Membership	VVA	7,905	
	AVVA	806	

State VVA picnic to be held in Mayville, ND Friday July 17<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup>.

National VVA meeting scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin.

National VVA Convention to be held July 20<sup>th</sup> in Springfield IL. Three Delegates needed.

**VAVS Report:**

Les Forman reported VA is still looking for volunteers for various positions. During VA Quarterly meeting, burial Escort program has been approved however information must pass through various departments before they implement. VVA 941 will become the contact organization to arrange list of personnel for each week.

USS Block Island (May 26-30) Volunteers needed:

Reunion members will start arriving on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> picnic at Bonanzaville (Drivers needed)

Vietnam Veterans at Fargo Air Museum (May 16<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>) - Volunteers needed.

Set up exhibit May 14<sup>th</sup> 1100. Opening ceremony 1130 May 16<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker Camilla Wilson, a Vietnam War Correspondent. North Dakota Senators Hoven and Heitkamp along with Representative Cramer will also be in attendance.

**Election Committee Report:**

The following members are running for office this year so far.

President	Larry Nicholson
Vice President	Steve Perrault
Secretary	Bob Mandt
Treasurer	David Brunsvold
Membership	Russ Stabler
Public Affairs	Les Forman
Color Guard	Russ Stabler

Valley Vintage Car Show - May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3d at the Moorhead Youth Hockey Arena (hours 1000 to 2000 Sat and 1000 to 1600 on Sunday).

United Patriotic Bodies - Apr 27<sup>th</sup>- Dilworth VFW 1900.

Fargo South class room talk May 7<sup>th</sup> 0800 to 1600.

Military Appreciation night July 30<sup>th</sup> - Newman Field, for our Color Guard

Veterans Classic Car and Bike Show May 14<sup>th</sup> - Dilworth VFW 1900.

Fargo Marathon May 9<sup>th</sup> - Gooseberry Park (0700 setup) (0800 start time).

10K/5K Run - July 4<sup>th</sup> at Bonanzaville set up 0600 race start 0730.

Bennett Park - Need people to plant flowers and pick - up garbage. City of Moorhead to provide flowers.

Veteran Family Recognition - May 24<sup>th</sup> 1400 at the Air Museum for MIA and KIA families.

Honor Flight - Raise \$ 4000.00 during silent auction and dinner at the Dilworth American Legion on 19 April.

VVA Brat Sale - to be held June 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> at Village West Hornbachers 1100 to 1900 both days.

Dan Thorstad - Cass County Veterans Service Officer:

Dan Thorstad has taken over as Cass County Veteran Service Officer and is located on the 3d floor of court house.

Dan's goals are:

1. Program outreach trying to do more rural interviews and claims.
2. Looking for drivers for vans through rural areas to help VETS get to appointments.
3. WEBSITE update.

10,000 veterans in Cass County need our help in the form of transportation to and from appointments, filling out paper work, and making follow up visits.

Meeting adjourned at 1950 with a salute to the Flag.

Next meeting to be held May 18<sup>th</sup> at 1900.

Respectfully submitted by:

R. D. Mandt  
Secretary

