



The Veteran's Voice

Minutes
April 23, 2019



Attending: Ron Harris, Ron Fitzsimmons, Dennis Abels, Larry Kall, Bob Kryznovek, Benny Hoots, Bo Williams, Mark Palmer, Mike Lynch, Richard Johnson, Bonnie Kuhr

The pledge of allegiance was said. It was good to see Mark Palmer and Mike Lynch. Benny Hoots presided in absence of the president.

On motion made and seconded the minutes as sent and the treasurer's report as read by Bob Kryznovek were approved. Bob mentioned that only 17 have paid dues as of this date. Ron Harris noted he spent \$300 for the helicopters on display at the Vietnam Experience. Dave Samuels paid \$100 for one helicopter out of pocket. Ron Harris will present an accounting for the Vietnam Experience at the next meeting.

*POW/MIA Ceremony
Etchings
Vietnam Experience – March
29 and 30
Live Streaming
H.R. 1019
Tarboro – Military Museum
Tarboro – The Wall that
Heals
Passing of Bill Beardall*

POW/MIA Ceremony:

**May 4 – Rolling Thunder NC7
NCVVI – Paul White**

May 27 – Memorial Day – no ceremony

**June 1 – American Legion Riders 232 Garner
NCVVI ?**

We will be working on an updated list of readers.

We were asked if we would be interested in a speaker system that might come into a pawn shop where a vet's wife works. It was agreed to pursue this avenue for a speaker. It was again mentioned that one speaker is going. We need a system that is wireless.

Education: Ron Harris will be at McGee's Crossroads with Del Vecchio, Bill Dixon, and Jeff Kanner on May 2. Green Hope High School (John Reese class) needed veterans to be interviewed. Thanks to all those who participated. Cary High School put out a call for volunteers for a day of panel discussions. Thanks to those members who participated.

Vietnam Experience: There were 2201 visitors on Friday and 2118 on Saturday. (Previous years: 2016 - 5356 with evening visitors; 2017 – 4001 with evening visitors; 2018 – 3420 Saturday and Sunday.) There were 40 plus a class viewing Etchings on Friday and 85 on Saturday. Ron's painted rocks were a hit. All proceeds donated to NCVVI.

Scholarships: There are 21 ready for reading. There are a mother and son applying. Essays were handed out at the meeting and will be sent to those outside of the area and not at the meeting.

Live Streaming: April 24 subject was "The Hawk and the Dove" by Tom Baker. May 8 subject was "Mysteries of the Vietnam War". May 22 Col. John R. Booth, USMC (ret), author of "Duck Your Head and Keep on Going". To see go to <http://www.ncvvi.org> and click "TV Show" in the menu.

President:

Dave Samuels

Vice President:

Benny Hoots

Treasurer:

Bob Krzynovek

Secretary:

Bonnie Kuhr

Director:

Ron Harris

New Business: An email came in from a woman who is looking for a veteran who can connect with her father. There was no information of his unit. Bo Williams will contact her.

Passing of a Brother: Steve Accai writes: I recruited Brother Bill to serve on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee. I conceived of the memorial in 1977. He was also a charter member of NCVVI. I'm covering this in my updated history of the memorial, which was first written and published shortly after the dedication of the memorial.

For those who didn't get the email with his obituary:

Willis Herrera "Bill" Beardall

1943 - 2019 Obituary

Willis "Bill" Herrera Beardall

Asheville - Willis "Bill" Herrera Beardall, 75, of Asheville, NC passed away April 22, 2019 at Solace Hospice Center in Asheville.

Bill was born October 9, 1943, in Colon, Republic of Panama and grew up in Panama City. In 1961, he graduated from Balboa High School, Balboa, Panama Canal Zone. He earned a B.A. in Art History from the University of Arkansas in 1966, where he was a member of the [U.S. Air Force](#) Reserve Officers Training Corps and Tau Kappa Epsilon social fraternity. He received a masters in Landscape Architecture from North Carolina State University's School of Design in 1977.

He was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Asheville.

Bill proudly served as a captain in the [U.S. Marine Corps](#) from 1966 to 1973.

He flew Sikorsky CH-53 Sea Stallion heavy-lift helicopters during the [Vietnam War](#); and trained fixed-wing pilots in Naval Air Station Pensacola. In Vietnam, his aircraft was downed twice by enemy fire during combat operations, earning him the Distinguished Flying Cross and Combat Action Ribbon. Bill was fiercely loyal to his Marine brothers, keeping close ties with fellow graduates of The Basic School 4-67 and those he served with in Vietnam.

With 10 other members of the North Carolina Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee, Inc., Bill was instrumental in the creation of the North Carolina Vietnam Veterans Memorial monument, "After the Firefight." The sculpture was dedicated in 1987 at the state capitol grounds in Raleigh, NC.

In the late 1970s, Bill founded Beardall Associates in Raleigh, a builder/contracting firm; later he worked with York Properties. He retired in 2013 from NC State University, having served nine years as Assistant Director of Facilities Operations for Grounds Management, Fleet Services and Waste Reduction and Recycling.

Proud of his Panamanian heritage and a strong advocate for Latino immigrants, Bill served on the Governor's Advisory Council for Hispanic/Latino Affairs, and on the boards of El Pueblo Inc., and the Triangle United Way. He encouraged NC State University Latino employees to take English classes and helped 35 employees to become U.S. citizens. He loved all things Latino and mastered Panamanian cuisine and dancing.

Bill was happiest working in his garden, getting to know people, cooking from scratch, and spending time with family and friends. He loved going on trips with his best friends, "The Canoe Buddies," who have paddled together for four decades.

Bill saw beauty and uniqueness in everyone and made others feel special and loved. He will be remembered for his outgoing and loving nature.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Amelia Maria Herrera Eder of Colon, Republic of Panama; father Willis Snow Beardall of Provo, UT; and his beloved nephew Stuart Charles Beardall of Fairfax, VA.

He is survived by his wife, Judith "Judy" Lorene [Smith](#); brother Colonel Charles Walter Beardall, U.S. [Army](#) (retired) and his wife Jonilynn; nephews Bradford Clement Beardall; Travis Scott Beardall and his wife Lina; grand-nephew Ellis Stuart Beardall; grand-niece Norah Elise Beardall; niece Virginia Rose Rodgers Massaro and her husband Michael; brother-in-law Benjamin A. Rodgers; and goddaughter Allison Elizabeth Sophia Pftzer.

A memorial service followed by a reception is set for Saturday, May 18, at 1 p.m., at St. John's Episcopal Church, 290 Old Haw Creek Road, Asheville, NC.

Donations in Bill's memory are welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church, 290 Old Haw Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28805; or for needs-based scholarships for children of Marines: Erin Fleming, TBS 4-67 Memorial Scholarship, c/o Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, 909 N. Washington St., Ste. 400, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please indicate "In memory of Bill Beardall" on donations.

BELOW ARE NOTES ON BILL'S TALK TO THE ASHEVILLE MILITARY VETERANS ON MAY 1, 2014, RAY RUSSELL

Bill Beardall, a Marine captain in Vietnam, flew the huge CH-53D helicopter. Bill gave a talk at the Asheville Military Veterans meeting on Friday, May 1. Here's one of his stories: There always has been friendly/evil banter between the Marine fast movers and we, the Marine helicopter pilots, the more creative and hardest working pilots. One time the jet jocks got cute and stole our group commander's jeep off our base at Marble Mountain and trashed it, repainted it, and put much graffiti on it. Big mistake! We went to their location at Danang, about 3 miles away, and stole their Group CO's jeep, trashed it in the same manner as they did our CO's. But we one upped them in a way they could not match. We hung the jeep from straps under the belly of our helos and flew it over to Danang and placed it on the roof of the fast mover's CO Hdqrs. Their CO had to call our CO and ask for the jeep to be put down..OOORAH!

Repeated INFORMATION:

It is important to call our U.S. representatives about H.R. 1019 – Full Military Honors Act of 2019. This is an amendment to Title 10 of the U.S. Code to require a full military honors ceremony for certain deceased veterans and for other purposes. You can search H.R. 1019 on the web. N.C. representatives are Mark Meadows, David Price, Virginia Foxx, Mark Walker, Alma Adams, Patrick McHenry, George Holding, Richard Hudson, Robert Pittenger, David Rouzer

There is an Edgecombe County Veterans Military Museum, 106 West Church Street, Tarboro. I'll bring information to the meeting.

The Wall that Heals will be in Tarboro at Indian Lake Park on October 17-20.

Thanks to Dennis for dinner. Bonnie Kuhr will cook next month.



Membership Application

NCVVI is proud to have you as a member.

A DD214 is required for full membership

(Last Name) (First Name) (MI)

(Spouse's name)

(Street Address)

(City) (State) (Zip code)

(____) _____ (____) _____
(Home Phone) (Work Phone) (Occupation)

_____ Full Membership (\$25 per Year) _____ (check amount) DD214 supplied ___Y ___N

_____ Associate Membership (\$15 per year)

(E-MAIL ADDRESS :) **{Need this to send the unit's monthly newsletter}**

(Signature)

(Date)

Reminder: NCVVI holds a remembrance service on the Capital grounds, Raleigh, NC, the first Saturday of each month (12:00 noon) and the monthly business meeting on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at VFW 7383, 522 Reedy Creek Road, Cary, NC. (6:15 PM dinner 7:00 PM meeting)

North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc.
7316 Ray Road
Raleigh, NC 27613

Member of: N.C. Vietnam Veterans Council, Wake County Veterans Council, National Vietnam Veterans Coalition