



# The Veteran's Voice

Minutes, Tuesday, January 26, 2016



Attending: Bud Gross, Bo Williams, Ron Harris, Bob Matthews, Ron Fitzsimmons, Paul White, Dave Samuels, John Odom, Dennis Abels, Bob Krzynowek, Lonnie Conner, RJ Del Vecchio, Bill Dixon, Jeff Kanter, Paul Rodriguez, Val Price, Bonnie Kuhr

Bud Gross opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Motions were made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the secretary's minutes as sent by email and the treasurer's report as presented.

**Scholarship:** One has been submitted so far. The deadline is February 29. Jeff Kanner volunteered to read submissions. Bud also announced he has bracelets--\$3 or 2 for \$5.

**Education:** Second semester has started and Bob Matthews will be sending out an updated list of classes. There will be more teachers this semester. He has gotten a special request from Wakefield High School teacher who came to the summer workshop. He wants to incorporate the link program with every one of his students. Bob will give out members' mailing address and members can expect to receive an invitation from a student to be his/her link within the next two weeks.

**November Convention:** Bob has applied to present our course in D.C. next November. If anyone is interested in going with Bob, let him know. D.C. is one area we haven't been in and the other one is California.

**Freedom Park:** A time capsule has been placed at the Park. The park is just about completed except for some cosmetic work.

**OLLI:** Jeff Kanner announced a program on Vietnam starts on March 6 and ends April 30 at McKimmon Center. This session is composed of 3 combat vets. Larry Hines will do one of the sessions. Bob Matthews was also contacted by OLLI but he turned down their request. They want the talks to focus on Vietnam today, not the Vietnam experience. Del thought it might be interesting to talk about Vietnam today—how it really is. Bob will check into it again.

**Monthly POW/MIA:** February 6. Helicopter pilots will be there. It was recommended that the PA system be checked. Bill Dixon will assume charge of the flags and materials for the missing man table as well as the table for the fruit provided by the Vietnamese. Joe Harsch has to relinquish the responsibilities. Bill appreciates anyone who is able to help him set up as it is a lot for one person to set up. Since we are aging out, Ron wondered if some other group would take charge of the monthly

**Special topic**

**Education**

**Upcoming Events**

**Old / New Business**

**Information**

**Membership renewal form**

**President:**

  Vacant  

**Meeting Coordinators-**

B. Matthews & B. Gross

**Vice President:**

  Vacant  

**Treasurer:**

Bud Gross

**Secretary:**

Bonnie Kuhr

**Directors:**

Dennis Abels

Paul White

Dave Samuels

ceremony. This ceremony is something emotional as NCVVI has been doing it since April 1987.

**MOTION:** John Odom motioned to accept offer to look into another organization to assume charge of the monthly POW/MIA ceremony and come back with a suggestion within the next six months. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Election of Officers:** Paul White, Bo Williams and John Odom agreed to be on a nominating committee with elections in February.

**Etchings in Stone:** The next presentation will be Friday, April 1, Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3, at the Museum. The recordings are done. It is just not a play but vehicles are there, Mike Cooke's exhibit, Vietnam Experience, small wall and there will be the 51 shirts of NCVVI for sale. We need people to work at the displays and need help with the advertising. The Museum will be putting it on their schedule. Ron is trying to reach Roger as we haven't received the video from last spring. If Ron can't reach Roger, he is to let John Odom know. Zero dollars were spent last year out of the \$1,000 in the fund, but we need sponsors to tape a video from several angles which could cost as much as 3 to 5,000 dollars. Let Ron know if anyone knows someone who might contribute. We need programs, handouts and money for those bringing helicopters. We need \$250 as an application fee to get the Edenton Street closed Saturday from 9 to 7 and Sunday from 10 – 1 for big vehicles. Ron will bring his diorama. A suggestion was made to have a separate room with the tapes of the three symposia for viewing.

**MOTION:** Bob Matthews made a motion that we allot \$250 from the Etching in Stone Fund from the last play to pay for the application fee of \$250 required by the City of Raleigh to get what we need to have the street closed. Motion was seconded and passed.

Bob also raised a question that when we try to raise money can we make a statement that if they give a certain amount of money their names will be in the program.

Ron Harris reported on the results of the interviews some of the members had with young men who were doing a documentary for a local TV station. Some of the members went to preview the program and said some of those interviewed were right on target. The young men are looking for more venues and would like to present it at the Museum. NCVVI needs to support them.

**New Business:** NCVVI Online Show: Dick Ellis, American Armed Forces Vietnam Network, was on January 13 and his slides and pictures will be on January 27. The site is [www.etchingsinstone.org](http://www.etchingsinstone.org).

Upcoming dates:

January 31 – TET at the Fairgrounds

February 6 – POW/MIA Ceremony

February 10 – NCVVI Video

February 24 – NCVVI Video

March 5 – POW/MIA Ceremony

March 9 – NCVVI Video

March 15 – NCVVI Symposium on PTSD at the Museum

April 1, 2 and 3 – Etchings in Stone at the Museum

**Miscellaneous:** Women's tape from the Museum still in the computer. The Black Experience program was excellent. Military members can now wear their medals.

Bud thanked Dennis for the excellent meal. Jeff Kanner is February's chef.



# 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 (\$10 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 (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month at VFW 7383, 522 Reedy Creek Road, Cary, NC. (6:00 PM dinner 7:00 PM meeting)

North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc.  
601 Compton Road  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

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