



# The Veteran's Voice



Minutes  
Tuesday, July 26, 2016

Attending: Bud Gross, Bob Matthews, Paul White, Dennis Abels, Bill Dixon, Ron Harris, Bonnie Kuhr, Joe Harsch, Steve Henley, Mike Lynch, John Odom, Bo Williams, Ron Fitzsimmons, Bob Krzynowek, Dave Samuels, Ron Walters, Del Vecchio

Bud Gross opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Guest Johnny Ray spoke about his work as Director, Proud Volunteer, Operation North State. This group brings vets together for fishing trips, etc. The next event where volunteers are needed will be at Jordan Lake on the last Friday of September. During the first week in December gift boxes are assembled to be mailed to veterans. If anyone is interested in volunteering, Johnny's phone number is 919-847-1723 or [raybiz@nc.rr.com](mailto:raybiz@nc.rr.com). It was suggested NCVVI do a casino with proceeds going to Operation North State.

The minutes were approved as sent and the treasurer's report as read.

**Education:** Bob Matthews reported there will be 9 teachers teaching the full course on Vietnam in 17 high schools. Abby Stotzenberger is working on a trip to Vietnam for teachers. There will be a need for three people to go as chaperones in the spring of next year during the school year. Bob Matthews will be going. Funding is through the schools and teachers. Our sponsorship is in name only but we are putting the program together. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we participate in name only but put the program together.

NCVVI is looking at a workshop for teachers with a showing of Etching in Stones which will be broken down to a 45 minute capsule. It will be held this fall at the Museum probably on a Saturday morning. A packet will be go out about the workshop requesting an RSVP. Teachers outside of the area will be invited. Schools open on August 29. Twenty-eight high schools will have a unit on Vietnam.

NCVVI will be going to the national conference in D.C. on December 3, 4 and 5.

**Etchings in Stone:** Bob made contact with an expert on projectors at SAS. SAS would like to help us out and we are hoping they will donate. As for showing the video, Joe Harsch will be visiting the Community College to see if they will do; Bob has talked to the Elks. VVA Smithfield and the Elks both gave us \$500 so there should not be a charge.

**Replacement of Treasurer:** Bud Gross will be moving to Tennessee. Bob Krzynowek agreed to replace Bud.

**Management of Scholarship:** Bob Matthews and Bonnie Kuhr will try to replace Bud. A motion was made, seconded and passed that Bob Matthews and Bonnie Kuhr replace Bud Gross in the management of the scholarship.

**Special topic**

**Education**

**Upcoming Events**

**Old / New Business**

**Information**

**Membership renewal form**

**President:**

*Ron Harris*

**Vice President:**

*\_Bob Matthews*

**Treasurer:**

*Bud Gross*

**Secretary:**

*Bonnie Kuhr*

**Directors:**

*Dennis Abels*

*Paul White*

*Dave Samuels*

*Bill Dixon*

*Angelo Carmen*

**Creation of Veterans Service Officer:** The idea is to have a designated person to whom anyone with problems, especially financial, could go. Bo Williams has volunteered to be that person. Information should be given to Bo. If the need is \$200, Bo would go to the board. If it is more, membership would have to approve. Mike Lynch mentioned that the Army has an emergency fund that helps those in need. He will check if the Army could help.

**Group Activities:** Ron Harris mentioned two possible activities—one a trip to D.C. on Veterans Day or a bus trip to Patriot Point, South Carolina. November 8 is Election Day and Veterans Day is November 11. The group agreed Patriot Point is the trip of choice at this time. Ron Harris, Bo Williams and Bob Matthews will coordinate the trip and report back to the group.

**Casino Night:** The date is August 27; set up is 6 p.m., casino from 7:30-10 p.m. The place is Heather Hills. Those agreeing to volunteer are: Ron Walters, Bonnie Kuhr, Bo Williams, Bill Dixon, Ron Harris, Joe Harsch, Bob Matthews, Dennis Abels, Bob Krzynowek, Dave Samuels, John Odom and Bud Gross.

**Wreaths Across America:** The National Cemetery in Raleigh is looking for donations for wreaths: 1 is \$15, 4 \$60, 10 \$150.

1<sup>st</sup> Motion: We buy one wreath in honor of Gen. Gaddis.

Corrected Motion: We make a \$150 donation for 10 wreaths for Gen. Gaddis, Nick Rowe and deceased members with an extra \$20 for cards for families. The motion was amended to \$170. The corrected motion was seconded and passed.

**Golf Tournament in Smithfield:** Joe Harsch will supply info at August meeting. It is in September.

**Sign at the Memorial:** Bill Dixon was trying to get the Capitol to put a “keep off” sign up at the statue. They informed the Capitol was not able to provide one. Discussed putting poles around the statue with a sign to keep off of the monument.

**Cleaning of Monument:** On September 10 a group of volunteers, under the supervision of NCVVI, will be cleaning the monument. NCVVI will furnish cleaning materials. The 4 hour shift will be from 9-1.

**Armed Forces VN Network Reunion:** There is a need for drivers. It will start September 30, doing POW ceremony on October 1 and leaving on Sunday. They will take a bus down to Ft. Bragg. Dick Ellis is hosting. Let Bob Matthews know if you are interested in going to the barbecue and/or small dinner and/or driving.

Thanks to Bill Dixon for the evening’s dinner.

At the August meeting for which they will cook, Gen. Gaddis will be given a lifetime membership.



# 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. (6:15 PM dinner 7:00 PM meeting)

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