



The Veteran's Voice



Minutes
March 26, 2017

Attending: Ron Harris, Bob Matthews, Paul White, Dennis Abels, Joe Harsch, Bo Williams, Bob Krzynowek, Bill Dixon, Jeff Kanner, Benny Hoots, Monica Cash, Larry Kall, Bonnie Kuhr

Jeff Kanner led the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was conducted by the Board. The minutes were approved as sent and the treasurer's report as read.

Education
Scholarships
VVA Golf Tournament
Update on Etchings
Legislation
Traveling Memorial Wall

Education:

- Jim Bahm has a very good class. Jim will be teaching until January when he will be retiring. He has a colleague at Athens High who is interested in teaching the class. Russell Page at Cary High School gave his students credit if they went to the Vietnam Experience and took a photo with a vet. Those at the meeting had not been approached.
- McGee Crossroads Junior High School venue is confirmed for April 19. Joe Harsch, Bob Matthews, Jeff Kanner and Ron Harris will attend. Ron Harris will email the details.
- There will be a full day scheduled in the near future by Carlyn Nance of Cary High School.
- East Cary Middle School, where we spoke last year, would like a half day program.
- Bob Matthews needs someone to take over the education position. He would like to go over the material with the new person. He will continue to be involved via emails. He is taking the course to his new school district in Alleghany County, PA.

President:

Vice President:

Bob Matthews

Treasurer:

Bob Krzynowek

Secretary:

Bonnie Kuhr

Directors:

Dennis Abels

Paul White

Dave Samuels

Bill Dixon

Angelo Carmen

Scholarships: We have one complete scholarship application and two missing essays. Members who volunteered to read are: Bo Williams, Jeff Kanner, Bill Dixon, Ron Harris, Bob Matthews, RJ Delvecchio and Dave Samuels. When asked how many are awarded in one year, it is up to four. It was also reviewed how distribution was made to the students through teachers, social studies teachers, website, counselors and by those members who go into the classroom.

VVA Golf Tournament on May 13. The deadline for the reduced rate was March 29. This will be held on May 13. It'll be held at the Reedy Creek Golf Course.

Update on Etchings in Stone: The weekend was very successful. There were enough members working. Mike Cooke stole the show (his various costumes, maybe?). NCVVI has been invited back next year but will only do Friday setup, Saturday from 10-5 and 12-5 on Sunday. The plan is to have an evening showing of Etchings with a reception following. It will be members chance to invite guests who haven't seen it.

Motion: Ron Harris moved that the above schedule be accepted.
Motion accepted and passed.

There was \$31 collected in the donation jar. At the first Vietnam Experience, it was decided to sell t-shirts and bracelets. This was a money maker for NCVVI. The last bracelet was sold at the meeting and there are only a few shirts left. It was noted that the helicopter was a big success. It was also suggested to have signage at the helicopter area inviting people to go inside the museum for the rest of the Vietnam Experience. The parking fee for the van parked in front of the museum was \$48. Moses said they had visitors throughout the time.

Lack of Publicity: Ron Harris will be talking to Cheri Williams about the lack of publicity. It was stressed that posters of NCVVI events should be gotten to all veterans organizations, Monica Cash and Donna Bartlett. Bill Dixon developed a flyer for the symposium which should be used next year. Jeff Smith from WUNC TV interviewed veterans. WUNC will show snippets of these interviews during the showing of the Ken Burns special on Vietnam. If anyone would like to get their interview, contact Jeff Smith at jsmith01@unctv.org.

Bo Williams is passionate about getting Etchings out to the public. Ron Harris is waiting for a copyright before actively pursuing new venues. Bo talked to the VA about showing it but the counselors would have to review first. Bill Dixon will be glad to show Etchings once the copyright is obtained.

POW/MIA Ceremony:

April 1 POW/MIA Ceremony – There was a woman at the Vietnam Experience who turned out to be the daughter of one of the men whose name we read at the monthly POW/MIA ceremony. She was 8 years old when William Sutton, her father, left. She will attend. The readers will be various motorcycle clubs. There will also be a young woman, Teddi from the Capitol, at the monument on April 1 doing interviews.

Lessons of Vietnam:

April 12 Bill Dixon will present MyLai and Other Atrocities on the next TV show. He has done extensive research on the subject. If you have missed it, you can catch it at ncvvi.org. The trip to Eric Kantu's museum can also be viewed at that site. (An aside, the building has been bought so he might have to move.) The Lessons of Vietnam show has exceeded 500,000 viewers and the April 12 show had 2,300 viewers.

New Business:

April 26 is Veterans Day at the Legislature starting at 8:00 a.m.

Thirtieth Anniversary of the Statue: The anniversary will be held on the first **Saturday of May (May 6)** starting at noon on the Capitol grounds with the reading of names. There will be a need for people to set up chairs. There will be a speaker. Bob Matthews, Ron Harris, Bill Dixon and Bonnie Kuhr make up the committee. The Capitol will have a display on the statue within the building for the month.

Casino Night: Friday, May 5, at SearStone Retirement Community, 17001 SearStone Drive, Cary 27513. Setup is 5 p.m., playing time is 6:30-8:30. The following have committed: Bob Kryznovek, Bob Matthews, Bo Williams, Monica Cash, Larry Kall, Bill Dixon, Dennis Abels, Ron Harris, Joe Harsch. Bo Williams has offered to get additional help from the Elks.

Bob Matthews Roast, I mean farewell: The date is **April 22** at the cottage at the VFW Cary at 6:00 p.m. Setup is 5:30. This will be a "bring a dish" event. Email bkuhr@nc.rr.com if you and your spouse/guest will be coming and if you will be bringing a side dish or dessert. It's important to respond so that we know how much to set up.

Joe Harsch commented that the VVA in Smithfield is at 152 members, 23rds are lifetime members. They have several moneymaking events, one of which was at the truck pull in Benson on April 7 and 8.

If any members want long sleeve polos contact Bob Matthews and he will put in an order. Bo Williams swears by them.

Use of Listserv: The board will come up with guidelines for the use of the NCVVI listserv and website for items submitted to NCVVI not related to Vietnam. Items of a political nature will not be circulated on this site.

Legislation that may be of interest:

From Bud Gross: Starting November 11, 2017, all Honorably Discharged veterans will be able to use Military Exchanges online shopping. <http://www.mynavyexchange.com/veterans> or Navy Exchange Facebook page to check for information. The Defense Manpower Data Center will be the sole source for verification data of authorized exchange shoppers.

Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs:

U.S. Rep. Mark Walker of Greensboro introduced a resolution to the House that would establish a Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs. Committee members would investigate all unresolved matters related to any U.S. personnel unaccounted for “from conflicts ranging from WWII to the War on Terror”. (H.R. 219)

H. Res. 129 was brought to the floor by Former Prisoners of War from the Vietnam War. From the House side Representative Sam Johnson, (16 April 1966 - 12 February 1973) introduced the following: Calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States. (Introduced 02/15/2017) Committees: House - Foreign Affairs, Armed Services Latest Action: 02/24/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

S.Res.61 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) A resolution calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States. Sponsor: Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ] (Introduced 02/15/2017) Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations Latest Action: 02/15/2017 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1220-1221) .

A bipartisan group of NC legislators filed seven bills (H.B. 483-H.B. 489) to help members of the N.C. National Guard and other military members and veterans. (If anyone is interested in the full text of these bills, email bkuhr@nc.rr.com.)

Exactly 44 years ago on March 29, 1973, the last remaining American troops withdrew from Vietnam. Forty-four years later these veterans are finally receiving official recognition. S. 305, the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act, introduced by Senator Donnelly and Senator Toomey, was approved and signed into effect.

There are some articles on House panel looking into Agent Orange benefits for navy personnel. If interested, I'll be happy to share.



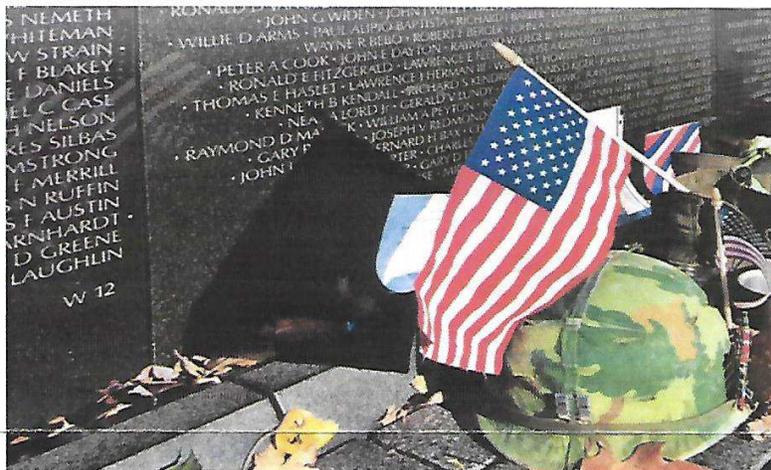
The Otway Burns Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution



Presenting Sponsor

proudly announce the arrival of

THE VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL® MAY 26-30, 2017



**Glad Tidings Church
4621 Country Club Road
Morehead City, NC**

**Opening ceremony Friday, May 26 at 11:00 a.m.
Closing ceremony Tuesday, May 30 at 8:30 a.m.
The Wall will be accessible to all visitors 24 hours daily.**

For more information, contact Chapter Regent Linda Phelps at (910) 326-6164.



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 (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.
303 Homestead Dr.
Cary, North Carolina 27513

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