



The Veteran's Voice

The North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc



May, 2010
Vol. 1, Issue 1

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Membership renewal form

Attendance April Meeting

April 27, 2010 meeting with Chef Dennis Abels preparing dinner for members. Thanks Dennis! In attendance were John Odom, Ron Harris, Dennis, Jim Price, Lee Booher, David Samuels, RJ Del Vecchio, Bud Gross, Joe Harsch, Bo Williams, Bill Dixon and President Ron Wagoner. Rolling Thunder Chpt. 7 member Monica Cash was a guest

Finance Report

Checking: \$2,758
Bridge Back: \$507
Scholarship: \$21,901
Small wall: \$1,285

NCVVI Family

The NCVVI family suffered two tragedies in April. President Ron Wagoner's mother passed. And past President Chris Moore's son was killed in a tragic automobile accident. Please remember these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers

Education

Our Education Czar Bob Matthews was not able to attend as he was in Pa. participating in "Bob Matthews Day" at the school where he taught and coached at before immigrating south. No one we know was there to confirm, but "he says" his pitch was right across the plate. Oh! One more thing Congratulations Bob! Another job well done. The Bridge Back was formed to not only plan the return of NCVVI to Vietnam was to continue and expand one of the missions NCVVI began many years ago. To Teach a Nation", by going into schools locally and nationwide to expand the Lessons of Vietnam curriculum that NCVVI pioneered. There are ongoing discussions for the curriculum to be shared in New Jersey, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska as well as several school systems in North Carolina. This can not be done without the support and participations of all of NCVVI membership. A New Jersey trip is planned for the 2nd or 3rd week of June to visit the New Jersey Vietnam Memorial and share with the school system the LOV course. All members that can, are encouraged to go and participate.

More discussion will be held at the May meeting, please attend.

President:

Ron Wagoner

Vice President:

Joe Harsch

Treasurer:

Bud Gross

Secretary:

Bill Dixon

434-7345

Directors:

Bill Dixon

Bobby Thrower

Dennis Abels

Bo Williams

Lee Booher

Bob Matthews, Joe Harsch and Bill Dixon attended an education conference in Chapel Hill. The subject was Vietnam, there where several LOV teachers in attendance as well. It was well done and educational. As a result of the Bridge Back attendance at a conference held in DC sponsored by Johns Hopkins University and Texas Tech. University, members of NCVVI: Lee Wilson, Bob Matthews, Joe Harsch and Bill Dixon were asked to be interviewed by the Voice of Vietnam for a program called "Healing the Wounds of War". All members are encouraged to go to the VOV website and listen to the interviews. Or call the secretary and he will send you a link.

On Saturday May 14, the North Carolina Historical Society had speakers and displays pertaining to the Vietnam War. Ron Miriello's, 'Vietnam "The Way It Was" 'Separating the Myths from the facts', was an interesting presentation.

Cary News had a great article featuring Cary High School's LOV teacher Russell Page and Bob Matthews and the NCVVI's Bridge Back program. A copy will be at the May meeting for members who have not read the article.

NCVVI members who have spoken at schools in the area report good response from the students.

Sign in a Business window in Florida: "We would rather do business with 1000 Al Qaeda Terrorist than 1 single American Soldier" What kind of business would dare post such a sign?

Upcoming Events

May 23, 2010: Sunday 12-2 Rex Open, "Military Appreciation Day" Free admission, refreshments meet NCSU football coach Tom O'Brien. TPC golf course Wakefield

May 25, 2010: NCVVI meets in main hall of Cary VFW, free dinner at 6:15

May 26, 2010: Veterans with Legislatives Day, at State legislative Building, 8:00 PM

May 26, 2010: The American Institute of Healthcare & Fitness invites veterans to hear Commander Harold Buell, dive bomber pilot in World War II. He now lives in Fuquay-Varina and earned his wings before Pearl Harbor and went on to a very distinguished career. 7:15 at 8300 Health Park off Forum Drive, Raleigh,

May 30, 2010 As part of Rolling Thunder's Memorial Day "Ride for Freedom" in DC Chris Noel and Lynn O' Shea will be speaking along with other guest at the reflecting pool beginning at 2:00

May 30, 2010 American Legion Post 1 will hold Memorial Day services at National Cemetery in Raleigh

May 31, 2010 American Legion Post 67 will hold Memorial Day services at cemetery in Cary

May 31, 2010 The Marine Corp. League will hold Memorial Day services at 12:00 at the War Memorial in the state Capital grounds.

May 31, 2010 NCVVI will hold its Memorial Day calling of the names immediately after the Marine Ceremony

June 1, 2010 The president is calling a special meeting, details will be discussed at the May meeting

June 5th, 2010 NCVVI will be holding its monthly ceremony of calling of the names

June: NCVVI trip to New Jersey to share LOV curriculum and visit Vietnam Memorial (see NJ Vietnam Memorial website)

June 12, 2010 Rolling Thunder Chapter 7 invited NCVVI to hold POW/MIA ceremony at Veterans Memorial in Wake Forest (time 12:00 noon)

June 15, 2010 The South Vietnamese Veterans and their families have invited members of NCVVI and their families to a picnic to be held at Powell Park from 10-1 (located off Powell Drive Raleigh)

June date to be determined by availability of VFW hall President's dinner with a vowel

July 3, 2010 Monthly calling of names, NC Vietnam Memorial

July 4, 2010: Independence Day activities at capital ground including a Citizenship Swearing in

Ceremony, wreath laying and NCVVI's calling of the names ceremony.
July 17, 2010 Rolling Thunder Chapter 4 is holding a Flap Jack Fundraiser at Applebee's on Garner from 8-10

September 11: Casino Night at Heather Hills

September 16-18 National POW/MIA weekend and "The Ride Home '10. pays tribute to American POW's who have returned. Held at the Andersonville National Historic POW Museum, in Anderson Ga. To sponsor a POW's trip visit www.POWRideHome.org (NCVVI will hold a special POW/MIA ceremony at the NC Vietnam Memorial.

October 6-9 1st Brigade (Separate) 101st Airborne Division Vietnam, 1965 through January 1968. The 12th Biennial Reunion will be held in Omaha, NE, October 6-9. Contact Ivan Worrell, PO Box 675, Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

Please check the NCVVI website for other opportunities and dates

Old Business

At the May POW/MIA ceremony which was our 23rd anniversary, American Legion Post 297 read the names with a special color guard made up of former South Vietnamese soldiers who were there to commemorate the anniversary of the fall of Saigon. A friendship and a promise to work together were made.

The NCVVI sponsored trip to the D-Day Memorial located in Bedford, Va was enjoyed by Lee Booher, Ron Wagoner, Bill Dixon and Russell Page. Those that missed should make a point to go on their own. On the D-Day landing the small town of Bedford with its 3200 population sent 35 of their sons and 21 of them will be lost at the landing. Giving them the dubious distinction of losing the most per capita of any town in the USA. (Visit www.dday.org)

New Business

Our Scholarship Czar Lt. Bud Gross presented the results of the Scholarship essay judging. The members present voted to award 4- \$500 scholarships. Winning essay will be published in a later newsletter.

Monica Cash a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 7 gave a presentation of "The Ride Home" POW/MIA event held in Andersonville. NCVVI voted to sponsor a former POW's trip to Andersonville and the activities with a donation of \$350.

Information

May 2010: Six new names were added to "The Wall" Army, Lt. Col. William Taylor; Marine, Lance Cpl. John Granville; Marine, Lance Cpl. Clayton Hough Jr. ;Marine, Cpl Ronald Viviona; Army, Cpt. Edward Miles; Army, Sgt. Michael Morehouse. 11 names already on the wall were modified to reflect a change in status, to reflect they are no longer missing

Bob Matthews will have the shirts at the May meeting that members ordered. Please plan on paying then.

Del talked about a new book "The Politically Incorrect Guide to the Vietnam War" he was able to secure a big discount from the author and may have them available in a limited number at the meeting. The group ordered 10.

Agent Orange update: The VA proposes to add 3 new illnesses to the presumptive service connection for herbicide exposure: B cell leukemia, Parkinson's disease and ischemic heart disease.

The President signed the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Service Act of 2010 into law. It establishes new assistance for the family caregivers of seriously disabled veterans, including training and certification required to meet the veteran's needs, access to ongoing support services, counseling and mental health services, respite care, medical care and a monthly personal care allowance.

Senator Burr has directed the VA to establish a pilot dental insurance program for veterans.

A new directive allows the VA to provide glasses and hearing aids to those who are not service connected for these conditions. (Priority groups 6-8).

Members of NCVVI, the organization needs you and your input. We meet the 4th Tuesday night of each month (except December) and the meetings seldom last more than 1 hour. Please try to find an hour to visit with your veteran family



Answer to question what business would dare to post such a sign: A funeral home!

Dues Due List: (If your dues are paid up, please forgive this list.)

Acai, Steve	Dutcher, Dale	McNeely, Michael J.
Beane, Phil	Dyer, George D.	Melton, Norman
Beddingfield, Robert E.	Dyer, James E.	Palmer, Mark A.
Bimbo, Carl L.	Faulkner, Brady	Patrikios, Bob
Bozeman, Rob	Johnson, Steve	Peters, Ralph W.
Brooks, David	Kelly, Edward J.	Rawlings, John
Brown, Robert	Kenney, Whit	Samuels, David
Bywater, Mike	Kenny, Dean	Seagroves, Ted
Carter, Robert	Kesgen, Edward	Sodan, Robert J.
Cook, George G.	King, Donald	Toothaker, David
Cook, Michael J.	Kuhr, Bonnie	Walters, Ron
Davis, Kevin M.	Larson, Keith	West, Dale
Dawson, Robert L.	Loving, John C.	White, Robert
	McGinnis, Dwight R.	Whitmire, Warren T. (ret)



I wanted to share this picture with the membership. While we where on our trip back to Vietnam, my two twin granddaughters would have been born, but we lost them before the trip. I donated \$100.00 in their memory to purchase two bikes. Look at these two faces, do you have someone to honor? This is a fantastic way to do so

Membership and Renewal

NCVVI is proud to have you as a member.



(Last Name)

(First Name)

(MI)

(Spouse's name)

(Street Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip code)

(Home Phone)

(Work Phone)

(Occupation)

_____ Full Membership (\$20 per Year) _____ (check amount)

_____ Associate Membership (\$10 per year)

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

Attached DD 214 _____ Y _____ to follow

(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 in Cary, NC. (6:00 PM)

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