



# VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

## Chapter 1061



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March, 2022

*Within the chapter, we have some that need our prayers: They are as follows: Rusty Davis' family, Ern Grover, Bill Henry, Susan Blaine, Doug Van Lear, Trudy Pannell, Lisa Damon( retired military, Bobbi Counts grandson, Linda Balser's mother and Barbara Peters. Prayers, cards and calls are always welcome for all .*

61members and guests attended

Meeting called to order by President Jerry O'Hara.

The minutes were presented by Tom Snook and the financial report was presented by Sonny Clutteur (current balance is \$224,028.97) - approved by the membership.

### COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Membership is steady at 153

Fundraising: This month's Chapter auctions (3 gift certificates were raffled off(\$25 ea.) The monthly challenges are also helping us stay afloat. and will continue in Tom Counts' memory. Thanks to the members. This office, and Advertising, is now open due to Tom's death.

Health: Promising legislation (HR1072 abd SR810) dealing with possible recognition of claims for veterans who suffered exposure to pit fires and other toxin is moving through Congress with bipartisan support. The VA is making noises about lowering the disability for FUTURE claims. It should not affect those already on disabilities.

Public Relations : Our scheduled speaker came down with COVID and Ben Cline has dropped out. Kenny Emerson is looking for replacements for future meetings

Newsletter: Doc Talbot will pass the torch as Editor in April—that position is open for election.

Scholarship: Danny Sanders and Daneen Coakley shared that applications are due by May15 and the application is available on the website. None have been received at this time. Destrly Thomas has obtained a \$500 scholarship donation from Dairy Queen.

Honor Guard, Anyone interested in serving as part of the Honor Guard should see Fred Rhodes. Charlene Davis has given the bugle that Rusty Davis used at funerals to the Chapter in his memory. The order for one has been cancelled.

Website: The password remains VVA1061 and it is updated regularly and contains much information. Check it out.

### OLD BUSINESS

Wooden nickels are in, and if you want some to distribute, pick them up from the Secretary's table at the meeting.

### POLITICS

Sonny Clutteur read a thank you letter from the Kentucky State VVA Council for the \$1265.00 the Chapter sent to help in the relief efforts after the tornados. Jerry also received an email thanking the Chapter for the donation.

The State VVA Council will meet in Richmond March 19th. Anyone interested in going, contact Jerry.

The Finance Committee will meet at Jerry's Church February 25th at 10:30 a.m. The next Board meeting will be on March 4th at 11:00 a.m. at the Wood Grill.

### NEW BUSINESS

All Officer and Board positions are open for the next election. Anyone wishing to serve in any position can give

their name to Sonny Clutteur, Sam Balser, Tom Pruitt, or Roger Nelson. Officers and Board members will be expected to serve and aid the Chapter. The ballot for elections will be changing and Sonny Clutteur will have an example at the March meeting.

Fred Rhodes has designed a patch on the 2nd Amendment. Jerry has them and they are \$5 a piece with \$2.00 going to the Chapter as a fund raiser.

Sam Balser reported that the health equipment locker has received several donations but is still in need of wheelchairs . If anyone sees any at Yard Sales, reasonably priced, please pick them up. The equipment is available for use by anyone.

### CHAPTER BULLETIN BOARD

The Chapter is planning a trip to Pigeon Forge April 25 thru April 29. If you are interested and need information, contact Jerry

The Breakfast for Veterans at Brookdale is now the 2nd Thursday of the month. unless changed. Please call Maggie at 540-574-2982 to RSVP. There are now about 14 veterans residing there and we are invited to help them be remembered.

The flag displayed in front of the Brookdale Home is in bad shape. The Chapter has obtained a replacement and will present it to Maggie on March 29. It is hoped that we can have the Honor Guard present for the ceremony. The Bridgewater VFW is having a flag disposal ceremony April 9th and we will transfer the old colors to them or to the Boy Scouts for proper disposal. Everyone is invited to attend. The next Chapter meeting will be at the Wood Grill on March 19, 2022 with breakfast at 9 a.m. and meeting at 10 a.m. REMEMBER TO TIP OUR SERVERS.

March Birthdays: Doreen Coakley, Tom Estep, Ron Lamirande, Vickie Breeden, Anneke Grover, Dorothy Turner, Richard Daniels, Hugh Bazzle, Hobart Smith and David Keplinger. HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March Anniversaries: Bill & Kay Gentry, Harry & Marcia Sampson, Danny & Joyce Sanders and James & Glenna Koontz. BON CHANCE

A married couple in their 60's are visited by a fairy who grants them both a wish. "I want to travel round the world with my darling husband" says wife, two tickets for a luxury cruise magically appear in her hand. Husband says:"Sorry but my wish is to have a wife 30 years younger than me." Fairy waves wand and husband becomes 92 ... Moral of story - men who are ungrateful bastards should remember fairies are female!!!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2023

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**HONORARY DIRECTOR** Destry Thomas

### STATE DELEGATES:

Jerry O'Hara, Tom Snook, Bill Ludholtz  
and Kenny Emerson

DUE TO THE  
QUARANTINE, I'LL  
ONLY BE TELLING  
INSIDE JOKES.

## One percenter. . . .

The 1% Age Group.

This special group was born between 1930 & 1946 = 16 years.

In 2021, the age range is between 75 & 91.

Are you, or do you know, someone "still here?"

Interesting Facts For You . . . .

You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s.

You are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

You are the last to remember ration books for everything from gas to sugar to shoes to stoves.

You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into tin cans.

You saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available.

You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" on the porch.

You are the last to see the gold stars in the front windows of grieving neighbors whose sons died in the War.

You saw the 'boys' home from the war, build their little houses.

You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you "imagined" what you heard on the radio.

With no TV until the 1950s, you spent your childhood "playing outside."

There was no Little League.

There was no city playground for kids.

The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like.

On Saturday mornings and afternoons, the movies gave you newsreels sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines), and hung on the wall in the kitchen (no cares about privacy).

Computers were called calculators; they were hand-cranked.

Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.

'INTERNET' and 'GOOGLE' were words that did not exist.

Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening.

The Government gave returning Veterans the means to get an education and spurred colleges to grow.

Loans fanned a housing boom

Pent-up demand, coupled with new installment payment plans, opened many factories for work.

New highways would bring jobs and mobility.

The veterans joined civic clubs and became active in politics.

The radio network expanded from 3 stations to thousands.

Your parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war, and they threw themselves into exploring opportunities they had never imagined.

You weren't neglected, but you weren't today's all-consuming family focus.

They were glad you played by yourselves until the street lights came on.

They were busy discovering the postwar world.

You entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where you were welcomed, enjoyed ourselves and felt secure in your future although the depression poverty was deeply remembered.

Polio was still acrippler.

You came of age in the '50s and '60s.

You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our homeland.

The second world war was over and the cold war, terrorism, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with unease.

Only your generation can remember both a time of great war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.

You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better...

You are "The Last Ones."

More than 99 % of you are either retired or deceased, and you feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times!"

Amen! It's great being part of the 1% Special Group!

# THE VETERAN'S VOICE

## Butch, The Rooster.

Sarah was in the fertilized egg business. She had several hundred young pullets (a young hen) and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs.

She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced.

This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters.

Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing.

Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report by just listening to the bells.

Sarah's favorite rooster, old Butch, was a very fine specimen but, this morning she noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all!

When she went to investigate, she saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover.

To Sarah's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring.

He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one.

Sarah was so proud of old Butch, she entered him in a Show and he became an overnight sensation among the judges.

The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the "No Bell Peace Prize" they also awarded him the "Pulletsurprise" as well.

Clearly old Butch was a politician in the making.

Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention?

**Vote carefully in the next election. You can't always hear the bells.**

### The Dash

*I read of a man who stood to speak at a funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.*

*He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears but said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own, the cars...the house...the cash. What matters is how we lived and loved and how we spend our dash.*

*So, think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.*

*To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.*

*So, when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash, would you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?*

Linda Ellis