



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Chapter 1061

Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803



Volume 9 Number 5

Chartered April 2012

May 2022

Within the chapter, we have some who need our prayers. The following members are either ill or recovering - Bill Henry, Ern Grover, Susan Blaine, Sharon Shifflett, Bill and Cindy Ludholtz, Holley Watts. Larry Rodzinka, Norm & Sharon Fifer and Don Hopkins. Prayers, cards and calls are always welcome for all .

59 members and guests attended
Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by President Jerry O'Hara.

Pledge of Allegiance by Roger Alger

Opening prayer by Roger Alger.

Roll call of Officers-

Minutes presented by Tom Snook. Members approved
Finance report presented by Sonny Clutteur.

Members approved. Current balance is \$25,876.74.

Committee reports:

Membership: Steady at 154 members.

Benefit/Health: Asa Talbot

Fund Raising: Destry Thomas.

Public Relation: Kenny Emerson.

May speaker is the State VA representative.

June speaker - Ben Cline

August speaker - Jeff Boylander

Newsletter: Paul Clancey.

Scholarship: Danny Sanders/Daneen Coakley.

Deadline is May 15.

Web Site: Sonny Clutteur . The password is still VVA1061. Will be adding a donation button to the site.

Old Business: The Pigeon Forge trip is scheduled for April 25 thru April 29.

The honor flight for Harrisonburg area is scheduled for September. The application is on our web site.

New Business: Breakfast with the Veterans at Brookdale is now the second Thursday of the month. .

We are invited to attend and share time with the veterans. Please call Maggie at 540-574-2982 to let her know that you will be there.

April 21st Brookdale is having a Mediterranean Meal from 4:30 to 5:30. Call make reservations if you are interested.

Holley Watts was honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution and 21 members from the Chapter attended to honor Holley.

Holley thanked "her veterans" for attending. She was very surprised by the Chapter's honor line.

Jerry has still not received any word from Walmart or Food Lion on fundraisers. Destry will be contacting Broadway to get a space for the town fall festival.

Election of Officers:

President: Jerry O'Hara

Vice president: Danny Sanders

2nd Vice President Daneen Coakley

Secretary: Tom Snook

Treasurer: Sonny Clutteur

Directors: Kenny Emerson Sam Balsar Destry Thomas

Bill Corbin Paul Clancey Danny Judy

Bill Strang Tom Pruitt Roger Nelson



Election Committee: Roger Nelson - Chairman

Sonny Clutteur and Tom Pruitt

Chapter Representatives: Jerry O'Hara, Tom Snook, Sonny Clutteur and Kenny Emerson.

The State VVA Council meeting - June 24-26 Lynchburg, VA
New officers and board will meet after the meeting.

The next board meeting will be September 2 at 11 am at the Wood Grill.

Meeting adjourned 11:25.

Next VVA Meeting - May 21 - Wood Grill

Breakfast at 9 AM & Meeting at 10 AM



Happy Birthday
To Everyone
with a
May Birthday!

May love and laughter light your days, and warm your heart and home.
May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam.
May peace and plenty bless your world with you that long endures.
May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours.

Anonymous



Happy Anniversary
To Those
Celebrating in May!

ONE OF THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THE VIETNAM WAR IS RECOGNIZED FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS, AND HER FRIENDS ARE THERE TO CHEER HER ON.

On April 2, 2022, Chapter 1061 gathered at the Stone Presbyterian Church in Fort Defiance, VA to pay respect and admiration to one of their own, Holley Watts. More than 20 brothers in arms and fellow veterans of the Vietnam War, and friends came to join in the recognition of J. Holley by the Colonel Thomas Hughart Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution with the awarding of the Outstanding Woman in American History Award and Certificate for 2021-2022.

Holley is one of the few members of the Vietnam Veterans of America who is both female and a non-combatant. She served as a Red Cross volunteer, or “Donut Dolly”, and brought sunshine to the men and women under the triple canopy of jungle. She is an author, poetess, still a ray of sunshine .

The passage of time has not been kind to her. Holley is in the final stages of Parkinson’s Disease and is confined to a nursing home, where she is cared for, loved and the recipient of the sunshine she shared in “The Great Green Jungle”. Like so many, especially women, who have given of themselves for the support of the troops, she receives nothing in the way of veteran’s benefits, but relies on Social Security and whatever “safety nets” she created for herself. Holley joins the ranks of the WASPS, volunteer bands, USO personnel and thousands of others who suffered the same exposures as the fighting men, and in her case, the same disabilities, with no support or compensation.

For what it is worth, Holley, we of the VVA love, thank and will always remember you. You are truly an Outstanding Woman of American History.



The Band of Brothers and One Sister



Still willing to read to anyone who needs a friend, is our beloved Holley.



Bill Strang with South Vietnam Flag he donated to the Chapter.

Memorial Day - May 30 - Remember the Fallen



“Our colors never run - they never fade - and the valor of our veterans shall not be forgotten.”

By Dr. Asa R Talbot



Fred Rhodes, and the VVA Honor Guard, release the new flag to its place of honor, flying high over the Brookdale Home.



President Jerry O'Hara, along with the VVA Honor Guard, folds the old flag for its final trip to proper disposal

On March 29, 2022, National Vietnam War Veterans Day, Chapter 1061 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, stood before the Brookdale Senior Living Center in Harrisonburg, VA, and, with solemn dignity, exchanged the tattered flag on the home's flagpole with a new and pristine one. As the Chapter's President, Jerry O'Hara, said, "It is an honor to be able to serve in this community and to be able help our veterans, and that is what this Chapter is about." Brookdale is home to more than a half dozen veterans of many wars.

The day recognizes the last day of the Vietnam War when the last of our troops were pulled out. Scott Lane, a member of the Chapter and a Vietnam-era veteran (one who served during that time frame, August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975, although not in Vietnam itself), added, "The only reason that flag is waving is not because the wind is blowing. It is because of the breaths who died defending it. That's what keeps it flying. You wrote a check payable, for any amount up to and including for own life, and made it payable to Uncle Sam." Some 2.7 million men and women served in Vietnam; and more than 58,000 had the check cashed for the last time."

The old flag has been handed off to the American Legion in Harrisburg to be disposed of with dignity and honor, as required by the U. S. Flag Code. Debate about Vietnam has been rampant since its inception and will probably continue until 100 years have passed and those who lived it have passed on. However, as Stephen Decatur said, "Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right, but our country, right or wrong."



Residents of the Brookdale Senior Living Center watch as Chapter 1061 of the VVA exchanges the old flag for the new one.



Chapter 1061 Honor Guard at Brookdale

HONOR FLIGHT - TOP OF VIRGINIA

Saluting Our Heroes; Inspiring Our Youth

Serving the Veterans of the Shenandoah Valley, Loudoun County and beyond

2022 Trips

Mission #13 - Loudoun County, VA - May 14, 2022

Mission #14 - Winchester, VA - June 11, 2022

Mission #15 - Harrisonburg, VA - September 24, 2022

Honor Flight - Top of Virginia a hub of the Honor Flight Network created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Top priority is given to the senior veterans – World War II survivors, along with those other veterans who may be terminally ill. We are currently accepting applications from any Veterans who served prior to 1975. Application is on the chapter website.



Pigeon Forge Trip

April 25 - 29 FUN - FUN - FUN

By Jerry O'Hara

Pigeon Forge had 10 couples & 1 single and everyone had a wonderful time. Some had never been there before and are ready to go back next year or sooner. We had a lot of great food and plenty of it too! We saw Pirates, seals & dogs at a local show. We went to the veteran's shop, the knife store, local outlet shopping, and other gift shops and we can't forget the Moon Pie store. We also went moonshine tasting and some tasted more than others.....wondering minds can wonder who did and who didn't. We also went flying at "Sky Fly - Soar America". Everyone loved that and many wanted to go again.

A great time and wonderful fellowship was had by all. **What happens in Pigeon Forge stays in Pigeon Forge until the next adventure.....Rosie?????**



Pass the chicken, the biscuits...
Just pass it all – Yum!



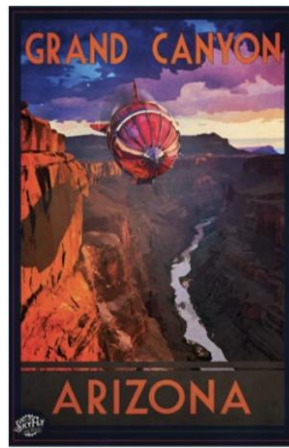
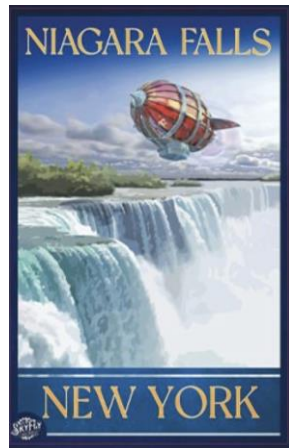
Great Meal at
Five Oaks Farm Kitchen



Mary, Joyce, Ember, Joyce & Judy



Tom, Jerry & Danny
See No Evil - Hear No Evil - Speak No Evil



Some of the Destinations at "Sky Fly Soar America"



Fun Place to Visit!

Dates to Remember

Scholarship Deadline May 15, 2022

Breakfast with the Veterans at Brookdale Second Thursday - 8 -9 AM Call Maggie to RSVP 540 280-9836

Next VVA Meeting - May 21, 2022 Wood Grill 9:00 - Breakfast 10:00 - Meeting

State VVA Meeting - June 24 - 26 Lynchburg, VA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2024

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STATE DELEGATES:

Jerry O'Hara, Tom Snook, Sonny Clutteur and Kenny Emerson



"Sharing tales of those we've lost is how we keep from really losing them."

Mitch Albom