



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes **Monday January 21, 2019**

Attendee

Gerald Arnold	USN	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Jim Barry	USA	Frank Lem	USAF
Alberto Carrillo, Sr.	USA	Julian John Macias	USMC
Walter S Carroll	USAF	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Gerald Cederholm	USA	Francis McVey	USN
Gene Fanucchi	USA	James Madeiros	USA
Warren Finch	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Burton Smith	USN
Richard Francis	USN	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA	Jack Wells	USMC
William Thai	AVVA	Cang Dong	AVVA

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President – Warren Finch
- Vice President – Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary/Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms – John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera - Excused
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Lucia Carroll
David A Cooper USA

David Cooper is a Vietnam Vet and stayed for dinner and obtained a membership application for himself and a friend.

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the November and December 2018 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by John Hassenplug and seconded by Richard Veit.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements and a thank you from "All the Way Home" for our recent donation

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed. All Bank Statements balanced through 12/31/18.

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by John Hassenplug and seconded by Richard Veit.

VII. Officer Reports:

Draft By-Laws need to be voted on and approved in the March meeting.

The Chapter is in receipt of the money from the Estate of James Fife in the amount of \$243,561.00. In the interim, the Board of Directors have agreed to place the sum in a CD with Chase Bank for a period of 9 months as we develop a plan for the proper use and distribution of the monies longer term. The President will appoint a committee to evaluate and recommend possible uses.

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Draft budget for 2019-2020 has been distributed and will need to be approved by the April meeting. The budget provides a modest estimate in the amount of \$500 for HGDP, since any final amount will not be known prior to April CSC meeting.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

John Hassenplug will be attending the Conference the 25th – 27th in Fresno.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

UVC is currently planning the 2019 Memorial Day celebration at Oak Hill Cemetery. Bob Kadlec has developed a draft brochure for use during the event. The event will still host the Huey flyover, military vehicles and other attractions. In addition, Dignity will dig and outfit a Trench like what was used during WWI.

The UVC is concerned over the cost of the 2019 Veterans Day Parade and ability to raise enough money to cover the \$70,000.00 potential cost for the parade. Currently the UVC and the Veterans Alliance are working to reinstate

their 501(c) (19) and 501 (c) (3) status with the IRS. Pending the reinstatement, the UVC has signed an MOU with the SJ Parks Foundation to act as the fund-raising arm for the parade.

Fran has submitted the close out report for the 2018 Veterans Day Parade to the City of San Jose.

4-Chaplains celebration on Saturday February 2, 2019 and looking for volunteers to carry the colors and chapter flag. Walter Carroll and Jerry Arnold agreed to carry the flags.

Filed of Honor will be held and looking for Dignity to provide 21 chairs to be placed in the front and also looking for pictures of any member during their time in Vietnam that can be blown up and used for displays.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of December 31, we have a total of 108 members. 98 Life Time, 3 noted as incarcerated and 7 individual memberships. These members will be expiring this year and I will notify them of the fact they can renew for a onetime fee of \$50. I have talked with National VVA and the incarcerated members will be removed from the roster.

October AVVA-201 Membership at 129 (12 individual & 117 life).

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing to report.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Last issue of the Veteran had a great article about Agent Orange.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Draft By Laws need final member approval by April 2019 meeting.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing to Report.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Mare Island cemetery still under review.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson): Next Moffett Field Fund Raiser tentative for May 18. Will let chapter know more as we get closer.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report.

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold): Town Hall meeting online January 7. VA to move to modernized appeal system February 14, 2019.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): National has now removed the names of the 3 incarcerated prisoners from VVA 201 membership listing.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report.

XIII. New Business:

Dragoon Scholarship – We have been advised that there is rampant corruption in the program and the chapter needs to consider discontinuing all support. Motion from Dennis Foggie and Second from Richard Veit to cease funding support. Passed unanimously.

Jack Wells and John Macias are going to Vietnam in March to see if they can deliver money directly to the kids and not use an intermediary. Motion from Dave Sanders and second by Jerry Arnold to provide \$500 to Jack Wells to take with him to Vietnam. Passed unanimously. Jack Wells has agreed to take the funds and provide backup receipts and other documentation.

Nominations are needed by the March meeting and should be provided to the Nominating committee chair (Dennis Whittaker). Any member interested in consideration should submit their names quickly.

Congratulations to Gene Fanucchi for receiving “Man of the Year Award” from the UVC for his work on the Veterans Day Parade.

Dave Sanders has agreed to chair a committee for VVA 201 to develop criteria and develop a “Person of the Year Award” for the chapter.

XIV. AVVA Report:

Cang reported that he knows a person that is willing to translate the book “Fear” into Vietnamese. Asking for support from membership for agreement in moving forward. Membership noted their approval of the concept.

XV. Good of the Order

Nothing to report.

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday February 18, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM (2025 hours).

Respectfully Submitted20



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday February 18, 2019

Attendee

Gerald Arnold	USN	Clyde Horn	USA
Jim Barry	USA	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Bill Briggs	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Alberto Carrillo	USA	Donald MacDougall	USA
Walter S. Carroll	USAF	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Jeff Driskell	USAF	Francis McVey	USN
Gene Fanucchi	USA	Randall Richmond	USA
Warren Finch	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Burton Smith	USN
Richard Francis	USN	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA	Jack Wells	USMC
Rose Herrera	USAF	Cang Dong	AVVA

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the invocation.

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- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Lucia Carroll
David A Cooper (USA)
Joanne MacDougall

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the January 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by John Hassenplug and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed.

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and seconded by Richard Veit.

Donald MacDougall, a 30-year member of the Chapter introduced his wife and presented the Chapter with a check to be used as part of the General Fund. All acknowledged the heartfelt appreciation for such a generous gift.

VII. Officer Reports:

Memorial Day Celebration to occur at Oak Hill Cemetery and as always, we need volunteers.

Need pictures of any member while they were in Vietnam for blowing up and posting during the Field of Honor.

VIII. Board of Directors Report: Nothing to Report

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

John Hassenplug attended and prepared a written summary and the following highlights:

- Looking for a location for the 2020 Statewide Convention.
- VVA is endorsing the removal of marijuana from the VA list of Schedule 1 drugs for the purpose of allowing the VA to perform research on the benefits and effectiveness in treatments.
- VVA is pushing Paradise, CA to waive building permits and fees for Veterans. These fees can run between 60 – 80,000.
- VVA is producing a new membership application that is smaller and designed to fit in a # 10 envelope.
- AVVA is looking for any VVA member that would like joint membership for the \$ 50 life time fee. They are also looking to create a 501(c) (3) in an effort to assure VVA work continues after all VVA members have moved on.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Meeting 2/19 for the County Commission.

Not certain as to the status of Santana Row this year since the Eagle Foundation will not be available without adequate funding.

Still working of the total funding for the Veteran Day parade.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of January 31, we have a total of 106 members. 99 Life and 7 individual memberships. I have contacted each of the individual members advising them of the new life time fee and their renewal date.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): There are still 86,000 POW/MIA's with 75% prior to Vietnam. Approximately 19,000 from the Vietnam War. Dave has been in contact with Becky Thomas (sister of Darwin Thomas) and there are no updates.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Nothing to report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Draft By Laws need final member approval by April 2019 meeting.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing to report.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Santa Clara County Commission meets 2/21. Need to develop work plan for upcoming year.

Dave Sanders working to reinstate Veteran of the Year award.

County VSO Director position has now been posted.

Mare Island is still an issue and working to see if we can get 60 minutes or KQED to do a special report.

4/24 Working council for State Commanders at the State Capitol.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson): Next Moffett Field Fund Raiser tentative for May 18. HGDP year end report has been completed and sent to the CSC Treasurer.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report.

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold): Working to see if we can get VTA to run a bus line to the new Clinic.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to report.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Anyone interested in any of the Board Positions needs to contact Dennis Whittaker or Dennis Foggie to be considered during the April meeting.

XIII. New Business:

Region 8/9 pre-conference in Sparks Nevada.

Annual VVA Conference in Spokane, WA July 15 – 20.

XIV. AVVA Report:

Cang reported that the daughter of one of his AVVA members has created film and working to connect hew with Fran.

XV. Good of the Order

Veterans Chorus singing March 1 at the Methodist church on Winchester. If interested in attending, please contact Warren.

The San Jose Vietnam War Memorial will be held March 30.

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday March 18, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen R. Thompson".

Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday March 18, 2019

Attendees:

Gerald Arnold	USN	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Jim Barry	USA	Frank Lem	USAF
Bill Briggs	USN	Francis McVey	USN
Walter S. Carroll	USAF	James Madeiros	USA
Jeff Driskell	USAF	Randall Richmond	USA
Gene Fanucchi	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Warren Finch	USA	Burton Smith	USN
Dennis Foggie	USAF	William Thai	AVVA
Richard Francis	USN	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA	Reuben Wilhite	USMC
Rose Herrera	USAF	O D Wilhite	AVVA

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:05 PM (1905 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President – Warren Finch
- Vice President – Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary/Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms – John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. Guests:

David A Cooper USA
Lucia Carroll
Lauren Vuong
Minh Le

Lauren provided a presentation and summary of her family's ordeals as they struggled to escape from the communists in South Vietnam. They escaped on a 35-foot boat and were out of food and water when the Navy ship Virgo found them and delivered them to the Philippines. She has produced a movie called "Finding the Virgo" and will be sharing with VVA as soon as finalized.

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by John Hassenplug and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and seconded by Jerry Arnold.

VII. Officer Reports:

Assistance is still needed for the Memorial Day event at Oak Hill Cemetery with posting colors and carrying wreaths. Dick Francis and Walter Carroll volunteered to assist.

Military chorus will be singing at the Field of Honor

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Nothing to Report

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Next meeting last weekend of April

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Still working on funding for Veteran Day parade and Santana Row

Veterans Commission working on Veteran of the Year program

VSO Director replacement is still ongoing, The VSO has lost one member and risk of losing another

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of February 28, we have a total of 107 members. 99 Life and 8 individual memberships. There is one member whose membership expired February 28 and I have sent him a follow up letter.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing new to report

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders):

Blue Water Navy legislation is still not approved and estimated 100,000 veterans could be affected.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec):

Draft Bylaws need final member approval by April 2019 meeting.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing to Report.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Nothing new to report.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Next Moffett Field Fund Raiser May 18 and May 19.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):

VTA has no plans at this time to provide bus coverage to new CBOCSJ.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to Report.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Anyone interested in any of the Board Positions needs to contact Dennis Foggie to be considered during the April meeting.

XIII. New Business:

Motion by Dave Sanders and second by Randy Richmond to provide \$1,500 to the Adopt a Military Mom for Mother's Day with check payable to the Wine Country Marines who are the collection entity for this organization. Approved unanimously

XIV. AVVA Report:

William Thai advised that Cang is on way to Australia and sends his best wishes to the group.

XV. Good of the Order

The San Jose Vietnam War Memorial will be held March 30

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday April 15, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard. Annual election of officers to occur at this meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday April 15, 2019

Attendee

Gerald Arnold	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Jim Barry	USA	Donald MacDougall	USA
Walter S. Carroll	USAF	Francis McVey	USN
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	James Madeiros	USA
Jeff Driskell	USAF	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Gene Fanucchi	USA	Randall Richmond	USA
Warren Finch	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Burton Smith	USN
Richard Francis	USN	William Thai	AVVA
John Hassenplug	USN	Stephen Thompson	USN
Dan Heckerman	USA	Rich Veit	USA
Robert Kadlec	USAF	Jack Wells	USMC

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:05 PM (1905 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President – Warren Finch
- Vice President – Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary/Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms – John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera - Absent
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Doug Dodd USN
Lucia Carroll
Al Sickle
Toni Sickle
Joanne MacDougall

Al Sickle discussed the overall concerns in obtaining a building permit in Calaveras and Butte County. CSC has developed a resolution to ask the State to assist various counties in the process of waiving building permit fees for all veterans affected by recent disasters. Copy of resolution was sent to all members earlier

Doug Dodd, a new member, advised that he will be riding in Rolling Thunder on Memorial Day in Washington DC. Unfortunately, this is the last year for Rolling Thunder.

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Dave Sanders and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and seconded by John Hassenplug.

VII. Officer Reports:

Assistance is still needed for the Memorial Day event at Oak Hill Cemetery with posting colors and carrying wreaths. Dick Francis and Walter Carroll volunteered to assist. Still need additional volunteers

Photo gallery will be displayed at the Field of Honor and comprised of panels with individual pictures and stories

Military chorus will be singing at the Field of Honor

VIII. Board of Directors Report: Nothing to Report

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

- Next meeting last weekend of April

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

XI. Committee Reports: Deferred until May 2019 meeting

XII. Unfinished Business:

- Revised Bylaws approved
- Draft 2019/2020 budget approved

XIII. New Business:

Jack Wells updated the group on the distribution of monies provided by the Chapter for worthwhile causes in Vietnam during his visit. The funds were distributed as follows:

Catholic Nun at Sacred Heart Cathedral who runs a day care center received \$175.00

Village of Hope Orphanage was provided \$200 for a new computer and the orphanage added an additional \$180 to complete the purchase.

\$100 donated to an appliance store for a new Toshiba for the Head Master

\$25 was used to buy a young 17 year old a pair of running shoes to assist him in his running. Jack added an additional \$40 to complete the purchase.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President – Warren Finch

Vice President – Gene Fanucchi

Secretary – Steve Thompson

Treasurer – Steve Thompson

3 Year Board Member – Dave Sanders

2 Year Board Member – Dennis Foggie

1 Year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker

1 Year Transitional Board Member – Richard Veit

Election Committee

Dennis Foggie

Dennis Whittaker

Dan Heckerman

Officers and Directors were administered the oath of office by Al Sickie, VVA California Central District Director and affirmed by the membership.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

AWARDS:

Warren Finch provided awards to the following for excellent service to the Chapter during the year

- Dennis Foggie – Chairing Nomination Committee
- Steve Thompson – Researching CD for investments

XIV. AVVA Report:

Cang thanked Fran for inviting and introducing Lauren at the March meeting.

AVVA Chapter 201 sent a check in the amount of \$200 to the AVVA Foundation in memory of Elayne Mackey

Special ceremony to be held at City Hall April 28 to commemorate the day that South Vietnam fell.

XV. Good of the Order

Special free event for veterans to attend a game of the San Jose Giants. Information sent to all members and enrollment encouraged.

Commission meeting to be held the following Thursday

Steve to work with Cang to purchase a Wreath for the viewing and Funeral services for Elayne Mackey.

Web site updated and the January – March Observation Post posted

Tito Cortez is battling Colon Cancer, but is doing well and back to work part time.

Larry Doutherd has been transferred to a Skilled Nursing home in San Jose and doing much better.

Gerry Arnold advised that the X Ray department planned for the CBOCSJ is still not open or ready for used.

Dave Sanders has been appointed to work with the San Jose Vet Center in a committee member capacity

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday May 20, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard. Annual election of officers to occur at this meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM (2025 hours).

Respectfully Submitted



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday May 20, 2019

Attendee

Gerald Arnold	USN	Rose Herrera	USAF
Jim Barker	USA	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Bill Briggs	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Alberto Carrillo, Sr.	USA	James Madeiros	USA
Walter S. Carroll	USAF	Francis McVey	USN
Gerald Cederholm	USA	Randall Richmond	USA
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	David Sanders	USAF
Jeff Driskell	USAF	Burton Smith	USN
Warren Finch	USA	William Thai	AVVA
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Stephen Thompson	USN
Richard Francis	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Earl Frazier	USAF	Jack Wells	USMC
Michael Frangadakis	USA	Oleta Wilhite	AVVA
John Hassenplug	USN	Reuben Wilhite	USMC

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- Secretary / Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
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- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera
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III. Guests:

Lucia Carroll
David A Cooper

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the April 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Richard Veit and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and seconded by Mike Frangadakis.

VII. Officer Reports:

- Chapter Order #2, Series 2019-2020

Officer Appointments:

Randall Richmond – Chaplain
William McCorquadale – Assistant Chaplain
John Hassenplug – Sergeant At Arms
Gerald Arnold – Chapter Veteran Service Officer
Randall Richmond – Chapter liaison with AVVA 201

- Chapter Order #3, Series 2019-2020,

Committee Appointments:

Membership Committee Chair:	Steve Thompson
POW/MIA Committee Chair:	David W. Sanders, Sr
Agent Orange Committee Chair:	David W. Sanders, Sr
Constitution/Bylaws Chair:	Robert Kadlec
Community Services Committee Chair:	Michael Frangadakis
Government Affairs Committee Chair:	Fran McVey
Finance/Fund-Raising Committee Chair:	Steve Thompson
Public Affairs Committee Chair:	Robert Kadlec
Veterans benefits Committee Chair:	Gerald Arnold
Veterans Incarcerated Committee Chair:	Jack Wells

UVC Delegates:

Steve Thompson
Rose Herrera

Newsletter Editor

Bob Kadlec (looking for a new person going forward)

- Volunteers have been assigned for Memorial Day.
- San Jose Veteran Volunteer Choir will perform the National Anthem and other tributes at the Field of Honor.
- Mike Frangadakis and General Hillhouse will receive the wreaths.
- High School student looking for Veteran Volunteers to provide an interview.

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Next meeting to be scheduled for June.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Quarterly meeting held last weekend of April. Minutes of the event were distributed and sent electronically.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Memorial Day Celebration is complete
Veteran Day Parade planning and funding is ongoing

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of April 30, we have a total of 107 members. 99 Life and 8 individual memberships. Two memberships expired April 30 and I have sent a final reminder. Two memberships due to expire May 31 and 1 member has sent a renewal to Life member. I have sent a reminder to the other member. One membership due to expire end of July and one membership due to expire end of August. I will be in touch with them.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing new to report.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Noting new to report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Nothing new to report.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): June 15 is the dedication of the Los Gatos Memorial. Pavers can be purchased.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Legislative day in Sacramento was cancelled and a protest has been lodged. Still recruiting for a new VSO Director. Staffing at the office is down 50%.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson): Next Moffett Field Fund Raiser tentative June 22 and 23.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report.

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold): Transportation committee is working to find ways to provide transportation to the new clinic.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to report.

XII. Unfinished Business:

XIII. New Business:

XIV. AVVA Report:

Former South Vietnamese Armed Forces Day is scheduled for June 19 at City Hall.

XV. Good of the Order

DMV requires a note from the VSO validating DD214 is valid prior to issuing a Veteran designation for drivers license.

Jim Barker provided a copy of a magazine "Veterans Voice Magazine." This magazine encourages veterans to submit stories and will publish many of them. If interested in subscribing:

Veterans Voices Writing Project, Inc.
406 West 34th Street, Suite 103
Kansas City, MO 64111-3043
(816) 701-6844
Info@veteransvoices.org
Web Site: www.veteransvoices.org

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday June 17, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 17, 2019

Attendee

Ed Aki	USMC	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Gerald Arnold	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Gerald Cederholm	USA	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Jeff Driskell	USAF	Francis McVey	USN
Doug Dodd	USN	John Rowe	USMC
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	David Sanders	USAF
Gene Fanucchi	USA	Carmen Sanders	AVVA
Warren Finch	USA	Burton Smith	USN
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA	Jack Wells	USMC
Rose Herrera	USAF	William Thai	AVVA
Clyde Horn	USA	Richard A. Urrutia	USA

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:05 PM (1905 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the invocation.

II. **Roll Call of Chapter Officers:**

- President – Warren Finch
- Vice President – Gene Fanucchi - Excused
- Secretary / Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms – John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. **Guests:**

Alexa Aki
Councilman Johnny Khamos
Fran Urrutia

The Councilman Khamos is working closely to support homeless veterans in San Jose and aggressively assisting all homeless. Laura's law, passed in 2007 provides for mentally ill and troubled homeless in trouble with the law to be held in conservatorship for up to 90 days. Santa Clara County does not currently recognize or accept this law.

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the May 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership.
Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Dave Sanders and seconded by
Randy Richmond.
Warren to draft letter of support from VVA chapter 201

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by
Dave Sanders and seconded by Rose Herrera.

VII. Officer Reports:

Warren will not be at the July meeting.

Attended the celebration of life for Larry Doutherd which was well attended by many
Veteran organizations

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Reviewed and approved Quarterly financial statements.

Discussed the issue of travel expenses for the National convention were not
budgeted and requested a budget variance of not to exceed \$2,400 for the
convention. Motion by Rose Herrera and second by Richard Veit. All approved.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Next quarterly meeting will be held in August. Steve will not be able to attend, so
need to find another delegate to go.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Memorial Day Celebration was a huge success.

Veteran Day Parade planning and funding is ongoing.

Honor on the Row is being evaluated for sponsorship.

South Vietnam Armed Forces Celebration June 16.

Veteran Service Officer position is still not filled.

Spirit of 45 celebration will be held at Kelly Park on 8/10.

Los Gatos Veteran Dedication and ceremony was a huge success and major
congratulations to Mike Frangadakis for all of his hard work.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of May 31, we have a total of 105 members. 103 Life and 2 individual
memberships. One membership due to expire end of July and one membership
due to expire end of August. I will be in touch with them.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing To Report.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing To Report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): - Nothing To Report.
Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): - Nothing To Report.
Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): - Nothing To Report.
Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):
Next Moffett Field Fund Raiser June 22 and 23.
Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): - Nothing to report
Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):
Transportation committee is working to find ways to provide transportation to the new clinic.
Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): - Nothing To Report.

XII. Unfinished Business:
Nothing To Report.

XIII. New Business:
Nothing To Report.

XIV. AVVA Report:
AVVA Honored the ARVN rangers with a Navy Commendation award.

XV. Good of the Order
Discussion about using the picture panel for a month-long dedication next March and looking to see if the Main Library will be open to assisting.
Ed Aki reminded the membership that in the Pledge of Allegiance, One Nation under God is continuous.

XVI. Closing Ceremony
Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.
The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday August 19, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday July 15, 2019

Attendee:

Ed Aki	USMC	Frank Lem	USAF
Gerald Arnold	USN	Julian John Macias	USMC
William Carney	USA	Fran McVey	USN
David A. Cooper	USA	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Thomas Crawford	USA	James Madeiros	USA
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	Randall Richmond	USA
Gene Fanucchi	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Dennis Foggie	USAF	William Thai	AVVA
Dick Francis	USN	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA	Henry Wadahara	USA
Robert Kadlec	USAF	Dennis Whittaker	USA
Dennis Kim	USMC		

I. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Gene Fanucchi at 7:05 PM (1905 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President – Warren Finch – Excused
- Vice President – Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary/Treasurer – Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms – John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – Dennis Foggie
- 2-year Board Member – Dennis Whittaker
- 1-year Board Member – Rose Herrera - Absent
- 1-year "Rotating" Board Member – Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Alexa Aki
Joni Madolora

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the June 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Rich Veit and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson - a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and seconded by John Hassenplug.

VII. Officer Reports:

Nothing to Report

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Nothing to Report

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Next quarterly meeting will be held in August. Steve will not be able to attend, and Dave Sanders will attend.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Veteran Day Parade planning is still on going and fund raising with Parks Foundation and assistance from Rose Herrera

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of June 30, we have a total of 105 members. 105 Life and 2 individual memberships. 1 membership due to expire end of July and one membership due to expire end of August. I will be in touch with them. We also had one new Life time member recruited at the Moffett Field Fund raiser that should show up next month.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): Nothing to report.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Nothing to report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Nothing to report.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing to report.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Nothing to report.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson): Looking for dates in September or October.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold): Transportation committee is working to find ways to provide transportation to the new clinic.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to report.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Still working to have the POW/MIA flag raised at the Santa Clara County building.

XIII. New Business:

Fran McVey reminded the members that Spirit of '45 will be held at History Park on Saturday August 10th. Special honors for WW II Veterans and Rosie The Riveters. UVC and SAMS will be hosting a table.

VVA will be hosting a table this year and Steve Thompson, Bob Kadlec, Jerry Arnold and Randy Richmond plan to man the table.

Dave Sanders made a motion to donate \$250 to the Spirit of '45 and seconded by Frank Lem. Motion Passed.

Ed Aki raised the issue of a speaker's bureau to go to the various schools in the area. This is something that the Chapter did routinely in the past. Dave Sanders indicated he will work on re-establishing and encouraged all members to consider participating.

As we look to the speaker's Bureau, should be mindful of all conflicts (WW II, Korea, Cold War, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan).

XIV. AVVA Report:

AVVA receive First Place award for their role in the Rose, White and Blue Parade.

XV. Good of the Order

Dave Sanders in the process of developing the criteria for Veteran of the Year and has identified all the Veteran Organizations in the county. Looking to the membership to provide thoughts on the criteria to use in selecting this person and forwarding to him ASAP.

Fran McVey is working with the Maun Library and others to establish a display and photo collage for the Vietnam War. Looking to add additional photos which could allow for the creation of a 3rd photo panel. Looking for volunteers for the Core Program.

Bob Kadlec noted that he developed a binder of photos from Memorial Day Field of Honor which includes copies of the photos from the collage poster. Looking for additional photos from members.

Dave Sanders made a motion for the Chapter to pay American Legion Post 564 \$250 for Challenge coins to be provided to members. Seconded by Randy Richmond. Motion Passed.

Bill McCorquadale reminded everyone to make sure that their families know where their DD-214's and other information is located so the family does not have to worry about locating and that your wishes are honored.

Ed Aki reminded the membership that in the Pledge of Allegiance, One Nation under God is continuous.

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday August 19, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard. Steve Thompson will not be able to attend and Robert Kadlec will take minutes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen R. Thompson".

Stephen R Thompson

Secretary / Treasurer

Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201, Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday August 19, 2019

Attendees:

Gerald Arnold	USN	Dan Heckerman	USA
Jim Barry	USA	Clyde Horn	USA
John W. Briggs	USN	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Albert Carillo	USA	Donald MacDougall	USA
Walter Carroll	USAF	Fran McVey	USN
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	James Medeiros	USA
Doug Dodd	USN	Randall Richmond	USA
Gene Fanucchi	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Warren Finch	USA	Burton Smith	USN
Dennis Foggie	USAF	William Thai	AVVA
Richard Francis	USN	Richard Veit	USA
Michael Frangadakis	USA	Jack Wells	USMC
John Hassenplug	USN	Dennis Whittaker	USA

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:02 PM (1902 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant-At-Arms John Hassenplug presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randall Richmond provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

President - Warren Finch
Vice President - Gene Fanucchi
Secretary - Stephen Thompson (Excused)
Treasurer - Stephen Thompson (Excused)
Sergeant at Arms - John Hassenplug
3-year Board Member – David Sanders
2-year Board Member - Dennis Foggie
1-year Board Member - Dennis Whittaker
1-Year Rotating Board Member - Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Lucia Carroll
David A. Cooper (USA) - *Prospective New Member*
Thomas Crawford (USA) - *Prospective New Member*
Wayne Helmsoth (USA) - *Prospective New Member*
Joanne MacDougall
David Sanchez (USA) - *New Member*

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the July 15, 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Richard Veit and seconded by Dennis Whittaker.

V. Correspondence:

- Received a \$78.75 donation from Costco.
- Donation request form from the Salvation Army (SA) suggesting the Chapter make an “automatic” monthly donation to the SA.

VI Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson - a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Dennis Foggie and seconded by Randy Richmond.

VII. Officer Reports:

- President Warren Finch and Fran McVey reported they are working on a Vietnam memorial display at the San Jose Library in March of 2020. There will be a planning meeting on Agent Orange on Tuesday (August 20, 2019).
- President Warren Finch reported that San Jose Opera Veterans Chorus will perform at the Church of the Resurrection in Sunnyvale on December 8, 2019 as a fund raiser for homeless veterans.
- President Warren Finch reported that there will be a POW/MIA ceremony at the San Jose City hall on September 20, 2019 with the American Legion.

VIII. Board Of Directors Report:

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on September 10, 2019.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

- Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Steve Thompson represented the Chapter at the April CSC Conference. The next CSC Conference will be held in Fresno between 23 and 25 of August 2019. Director David Sanders will represent the Chapter.
- Dave Sanders reported that Ponce Gonzalez (VVA Chapter 464 in Redwood City) would like to attend one of our meetings, possibly in 2020, with Kate O’Hare Palmer to discuss recording of members stories of service.
- Dave Sanders and John Hassenplug attended the VVA National Convention in Spokane, Washington between 15 and 20 July 2019 as delegates from Chapter 201. There were approximately 600 delegates to this year’s Convention. Dave and John provided the following information from the Convention:
 - Amendments/changes to the VVA Constitution were very minor and primarily housekeeping.
 - There are two committees working on issues regarding the dissolution of the VVA and there was extensive “discussion” on how to handle the dissolution of the VVA. The next three National VVA Conventions will be important in addressing the future status of the VVA.

Committee research is underway on how to legally close out the VVA which is incorporated in New York. There is nothing in the VVA Constitution addressing how to close out the corporation.

There was a proposal to close out the VVA by 2028 (average age of the membership would be 82). The proposal failed – concern that it might jeopardize HGDP funding (3/4 of the National VVA budget).

If National is dissolved, it does not mean that individual chapters would go away. Therefore, chapters need to be organized and might possibly have to establish their own (new) 501(c) 19 corporation.

The suggestion that the AVVA be made the heir of the VVA cannot be done because the AVVA is a 501(c)3 corporation (charitable) therefore they cannot lobby Congress. If there is a desire to continue the VVA, a new 501(c)19 corporation might have to be established.

- Dave Sanders reported that the Blue Water Navy Agent Orange legislation has been approved. However, the VA is making it very difficult to have claims approved. The veteran has to prove that they were on a ship that was located within 12 nautical miles of the coast and must be able to provide documentation from the ship's records/logs verifying the location at the time. Blue Water Navy claims may be denied multiple times. Therefore, veterans should keep filing appeals to eventually get approval.
- The next VVA National Leadership Training conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio next year.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

- UVC President Fran McVey reported that, based on new security requirements at the latest Scottish Games, there is concern of possible significant cost increase for the UVC Veterans Day Parade.
- Funding for this year's parade is a major concern. Dave Sanders reported that American Legion Mission City Charities has approved a \$5,000 donation to the UVC for the Veterans Day Parade. Dave said that he will be contacting Legion Post 564 for a donation and he will be contacting Santa Clara County for their annual \$10,000 grant.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of July 31, we have a total of 105 Life members and 2 individual memberships. One membership expired in July and one membership due to expire end of August. Steve will be in touch with them and they are expected to renew. We also had one new Life time member recruited at the Moffett Field Fund raiser who should show up next month.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders):

- Planning is underway for a POW/MIA ceremony with the American Legion at the San Jose City Hall on September 20, 2019.
- Becky Thomas (sister of Chapter 201 namesake Darwin Thomas) advised that Darwin's crash site had been located and parts of his flight suit and helmet have been found. However, so far, no remains have been found.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders):

- There is a group in Northern California (with Ken Holybee from VVA Chapter 223) that provides information "town hall" gatherings to provide education on Agent Orange.

There are still 12 presumptives and over 20 forms of Cancer associated with Agent Orange.

- Dennis Whittaker advised that Dr. Victoria Ramirez from the Palo Alto VA will attend our 16 September Chapter 201 meeting and answer any questions on Agent Orange. Apparently all who had “boots on the ground” are automatically listed as having been exposed to Agent Orange.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Nothing to report.

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis):

- The Los Gatos Veterans Memorial is on track and has received about 60 to 70 thousand dollars from the site contractor DEVCON Construction for upgrades. The Foundation is planning a fund-raising dinner around the first of 2020 to honor DEVCON. The Foundations monthly cost for the Memorial is about \$17,000 so they are looking for large donations (corporate sponsorships).

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey):

- Fran McVey was reelected as president of the Santa Clara County Veterans Commission and Mike Frangadakis was reelected as Vice President.
- Dave Sanders and Mike Frangadakis are working on the Veteran of the Year project. Mike announced that there will be a Veteran of the Year for each of the five Santa Clara County Districts. Dave and Mike will contact each District and choose a veteran based on the District Supervisors recommendation. The approved veterans will be honored at a Board of Supervisors meeting and during the UVC Veterans Day Parade. It is requested that Chapter 201 submit recommendations to assist the Commission in identifying veterans deserving of the honor. Right now, time is short – need recommendations before Veterans day. Guidelines and application forms will be provided.
- Fran McVey reported that recruiting for the Santa Clara County Veterans Service Officer (VSO) to replace Marion Moses is ongoing. The salary for the position has been increased by \$17,000 per year in hope of getting the latest candidate to reconsider and reapply.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Looking at a possible fund raiser at the Moffett Field Commissary on 12th and 13th of October during Fleet Week. The Navy will stage a P-3/Orion and a P-8/Poseidon from Moffett Field for events in San Francisco.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):

- The new San Jose Clinic Radiology Department does not have X-Ray, MRI or CT Scan equipment
- The Veteran Center (Vet Center) has plans to relocate from the 3rd floor of the San Jose Clinic to a space on the first floor near the rear entrance. This space was originally intended for the VA Pharmacy. Since there will not be a pharmacy at the San Jose Clinic, the space is to be renovated for use by the Vet Center. However, the cost is estimated as high as \$1.7 million and a source for funding has not been identified.
- There are two means to provide transportation for veterans at the VA – VTA Access and Navarre Corporation. To be able to use one of these van services free of charge, the veteran needs to have his/her primary care physician submit a “consult” request to the VA business office for a Special Mode Transportation (SMT) authorization which, if approved, will provide free transportation for medical appointments.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Chapter 201 participated in the annual Spirit of 45 celebration at San Jose, California's History Park on August 10, 2019 commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Chapter members John Hassenplug (Sergeant At Arms), Steve Thompson (Secretary/Treasurer), Fran McVey and Bob Kadlec provided educational information on Agent Orange and PTSD issues and handed out VVA and AVVA brochures to recruit new members.

XIII. New Business:

- There will be an excursion on San Francisco Bay for 300 handicap veterans on September 28 and 29, 2019. David Sanders made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the Oakland Yacht Club for support of the excursion. Randall Richmond seconded the motion, Passed.
- David Sanders made a motion to donate \$500 to American Legion Post 642 for Wreaths Across America at the Gates of Heaven Cemetery in Los Altos on December 14, 2019. Steve Thompson will be one of the guest speakers. Motion was Seconded by Michael Frangadakis. Passed.

XIV. AVVA Report:

Nothing to report.

XV. Good of the Order:

- Michael Frangadakis reported that there will be a car show at the Palo Alto VA Hospital on September 14, 2019. Currently they are looking for volunteers to escort patients at the hospital for the event.
- Dennis Whittaker reported that the Honor Flight is looking for donations to help pay expenses for "care givers" to assist veterans on flights to the Washington, DC memorials.
- Dennis Whittaker reported that the Oral History Project, where high school students interview veterans, is looking for volunteers to participate in the interviews.
- David Sanders wants the Santa Clara County Veterans Commission to encourage the County to fly the POW/MIA flag at the County building.
- The AVVA has an excellent document to compile and list information and documents for veterans and their loved ones called "The Paper Safe." The document can be filled out online and downloaded from the AVVA web site (<http://www.avva.org/papersafe.html>).

XVI. Closing Ceremony

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be held on Monday September 16, 2019 at the Country Inn. Social hour and dinner begins at 6:00 PM with the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM (2030 hours).

Respectfully Submitted,

Signed

Robert J. Kadlec
Acting Secretary
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday September 16, 2019

Attendee

Ed Aki	USMC	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Gerald Arnold	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Jim Barry	USA	Bill McCorquadale	USN
John Briggs`	USN	Fran McVey	USN
Walter Carroll	USAF	James Madeiros	USA
Tito Cortez	USA	Richard Paulsen	USA
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	Randall Richmond	USA
Gene Fanucchi	USA	David Sanders	USAF
Warren Finch	USA	David Sandez	USA
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Burton Smith	USN
Dick Francis	USN	William Thai	AVVA
Earl Frazier	USAF	Stephen Thompson	USN
John Hassenplug	USN	Rich Veit	USA
Dan Heckerman	USA		

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President - Warren Finch
- Vice President - Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary / Treasurer- Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms - John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – David Sanders
- 2-year Board Member - Dennis Foggie
- 1-year Board Member - Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-Year Rotating Board Member - Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Alexa Aki
Lucia Carroll
David Cooper USA
Paula Mitchell

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the August 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Rich Veit and seconded by Dave Sanders.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements and thank you note from Spirit of 45

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Dick Francis and seconded by John Hassenplug.

VII. Officer Reports:

Main Library is showing a movie regarding "Agent Orange" on October 2 and starts at 2:00 PM

Veterans Chorus is having a fund raiser in December. Information to follow

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Holiday Dinner will be on Monday December 16, 2019 at the 3 Flames Restaurant on Meridian Ave in San Jose. The chapter will pay for the member and one guest. Steve Thompson will send an RSVP E Mail out in November to nail down the attendance.

Becky Thomas (Sister of Darwin Thomas) will be the keynote speaker at our dinner.

Board reviewed and approved year to date Financials and Budget.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Dave Sanders attended for the chapter and reported that Humana did provide a presentation. Also, Butch Frederickson is working to assist veterans in their rebuilding process for Paradise, although the city is charging exorbitant fees to start the rebuilding process.

Seth Reeb is the new CSC/VVA legislative lobbyist.

Dave is working to have Chapter 201 become the chapter of the year.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Veteran Day Parade planning is still on going and fund raising with Parks Foundation and assistance from Rose Herrera. Major General Jones is to be the Master of Ceremonies.

Need minimum of 4 volunteers for the color guard. Interested members need to contact Steve Thompson

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

As of August 31, we have a total of 109 Lifetime memberships.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders):

POW/MIA day to be honored at City Hall on Friday September 20, 2019.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Nothing new to report

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): Nothing new to report

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing new to report

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey):

Dave Sanders is working on the Veteran of the year.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Next Fund Raiser is October 12 and 13.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):

Transportation committee is working to find ways to provide transportation to the new clinic.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to report

XII. Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report

XIII. New Business:

Nothing to report

XIV. AVVA Report:

Working on collecting pictures and other memorabilia for upcoming presentation at the Main Library in March 2020.

XV. Good of the Order

Dave Sanders made a motion to provide \$200 to Sue Peterson of Los Banos to offset her costs to buy yard to make scarves for veterans. Dennis Foggie approved and Dave Sanders second. Motion passed

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Assistant Chaplain Bill McCorquadale provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday October 21, 2019 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday October 21, 2019

Attendee

Ed Aki	USMC	Dan Heckerman	USA
Gerald Arnold	USN	Rose Herrera	USAF
Jim Barry	USA	Robert Kadlec	USAF
John Briggs`	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
Alberto Carrillo, SR		Neil Lichtman	USA
Walter Carroll	USAF	Bill McCorquadale	USN
Tito Cortez	USA	James Madeiros	USA
Doug Dodd	USN	Randall Richmond	USA
Cang Kim Dong	AVVA	Burton Smith	USN
Gene Fanucchi	USA	William Thai	AVVA
Warren Finch	USA	Stephen Thompson	USN
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Rich Veit	USA
Dick Francis	USN	Jack Wells	USMC
Earl Frazier	USAF	Reuben Wilhite	USMC
Wayne Heimsoth		Oleta Wilhite	AVVA
John Hassenplug	USN		

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President - Warren Finch
- Vice President - Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary / Treasurer- Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms - John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – David Sanders
- 2-year Board Member - Dennis Foggie
- 1-year Board Member - Dennis Whittaker - Excused
- 1-Year Rotating Board Member - Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Ann Aki
 Lucia Carroll
 David Cooper (USA)
 Christine McCorquadale

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the September 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Rich Veit and seconded by Randy Richmond.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements and thank you Certificate from the Wheelchair Regatta

VI. Finance Report:

Treasurer Stephen Thompson reported that a copy of the Financial Report was distributed:

Motion to approve Finance report as submitted and subject to audit by Randy Richmond and second by Wayne Heimsoth.

VII. Officer Reports:

Need dedicated color guard volunteers for Veteran Day Parade. Current volunteers include Gerald Arnold, Bob Kadlec and Steve Thompson.

Veterans Chorus is performing 12/8 at 1930 hours. Tickets can be obtained online at the San Jose Opera Website for \$20

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

Next Board Meeting 11/14/19

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Next scheduled meeting is 10/25 – 10/27

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Rose Herrera reported as Acting President that the parade planning is moving well and overall funding looks sufficient to cover the current years expenses.

Bill McCorquodale sent best wishes card to Fran McVey from UVC and VVA.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Stephen Thompson, As of September 30, we have a total of 1110 Lifetime memberships.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing to report.

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): Nothing to report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec):

There are some By Law revisions proposed by National and these will be reviewed in conjunction with VVA 201 By Laws

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): Nothing to report.

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): Nothing to report.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Raised \$325 at recent Moffett Field fund raiser

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): Nothing to report.

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):

Veteran of the year criteria is available for review and recommendation.

Vet Center will have a bus to transport veterans from the Vet Center to the Veteran Day Parade.

High level of Vietnam Vets receive care through the VA and still have concerns that there is no pharmacy or X Ray at the new San Jose Clinic

Palo Alto VA Medical Center could use a representative to attend Director meeting 2nd Monday of each month in Directors Conference Room

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): Nothing to report.

XII. Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report

XIII. New Business:

Treasurer noted that the annual UVC membership dues will be paid and since they are budgeted, no motion to approve required. Members selected were Neil Lichtman, Rose Herrera and Wayne Heimsoth.

Motion by Randy Richmond and second by John Hassenplug to donate \$500 to the UVC for the Veteran Day Parade. Motion approved unanimously.

XIV. AVVA Report:

AVVA 201 will be visiting 2 VA medical centers on November 23 and November 30 to distribute gifts to the patients.

XV. Good of the Order

Need 2 volunteers to assist in the Flag Lowering ceremony at Oak Hill on Sunday October 27.

Know a Vet Free Convoy of Hope to be held November 23 at San Jose Municipal Stadium.

Holiday Dinner is scheduled for The Three Flames Restaurant on Meridian December 16 at 6 PM. Chapter to pay for member and one guest. Additional guests will be charged \$30 each, payable at the door. Need RSVP from attendees by no later than December 1. Please send to Steve Thompson at srbthompson@gmail.com.

Alberto Carrillo, Sr. presented a letter addressing concerns about the county wanting to take conservatorship and assets from a veteran that is in declining health. Motion to take action was tabled, but members will look into other options that are available for veterans to preserve their assets.

10th Street range in San Jose closing temporarily but will have an outreach program for all on November 9.

Walter Carroll noted his recent experience with the San Jose VSO. He had applied for benefit increase and noted that even with approval, that the VA's formula for calculating percentage increases round up or down, depending on the calculation. New Director noted as being hired, but nothing further to report.

Annual Miller Middle School event and all are encouraged to participate.

Bob Kadlec noted that the website is current and event page updated. The Zephyr will be late this month but can be downloaded from the CSC website.

XVI. Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Randy Richmond provided the closing prayer and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 meeting will be on Monday November 18 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen R. Thompson".

Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday November 18, 2019

Attendee

Gerald Arnold	USN	Robert Kadlec	USAF
Jim Barker	USA	Frank Lem	USAF
John Briggs	USN	James Madeiros	USA
Walter Carroll	USAF	Bill Noyes	USA
Lawrence Dietz	USN	David Sanders	USAF
Liz Dietz	USPH	David Sandez	USA
Cang Dong	AVVA	William Thai	AVVA
Gene Fanucchi	USA	Stephen Thompson	USN
Warren Finch	USA	Richard Veit	USA
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Jack Wells	USMC
Earl Frazier	USAF	Dennis Whittaker	USA
John Hassenplug	USN		

I. The meeting was called to order by President Warren Finch at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) at Holder's Country Inn. Sergeant at arms John Hassenplug led the Pledge of Allegiance and Steve Thompson provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers:

- President - Warren Finch
- Vice President - Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary / Treasurer- Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms - John Hassenplug
- 3-year Board Member – David Sanders
- 2-year Board Member - Dennis Foggie
- 1-year Board Member - Dennis Whittaker
- 1-Year Rotating Board Member - Richard Veit

III. Guests:

Gina Barker
Lucia Carroll
Judy Noyes

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the October 2019 meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by John Hassenplug and seconded by Rich Veit.

V. Correspondence:

Bank statements

VI. Finance Report:

The Finance Report was noted during the meeting and membership advised that copies of the financial statement would not be distributed at future meetings since the Board does review the Financial Reports quarterly.

Any member who wishes to review the Chapter Financial Statements may contact the Treasurer, Steve Thompson at any time and he will establish the time for the member to review.

Motion to approve Finance report as presented and subject to audit by Dennis Foggie and Frank Lem.

VII. Officer Reports:

March 24, 2020 the San Jose main library will have a presentation, to include Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 201, to be displayed in the main library for a period of time. As part of this project, we are looking for pictures from South Vietnamese Army veterans of their time in country.

President Finch reminded everyone that the nominating committee is chaired by Dennis Foggie and anyone interested in any of the positions that will be available as of April need to contact Dennis as soon as practical.

Treasurer will present a draft budget to the BOD during December for review and approval by way of E Mail. The tentative approved Budget for 2020/2021 will then be provided to the membership during the January meeting for them to review over the next 60 days and provide final approval during the March 2020 meeting.

VIII. Board of Directors Report:

The Board discussed the change in process to no longer provide hard copies of the Finance Reports to the members during regular meetings, but instead the Treasurer will read a summary of the prior months finances. Any member that wishes to see the actual finance report can request a review from the Treasurer and this will be provided within a reasonable time frame.

Discussed and approved the Chapter to cover the cost of the AVVA members and guest during our next holiday meal.

IX. California State Council (CSC) Report:

Meeting was held at the Radisson Hotel in Fresno 10/25 – 10/27. Highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- Future meetings will be moved to Visalia.
- ATRIA Senior living centers are geared very closely to Veteran needs and are strongly supported by the CSC.
- The next CSC meeting to be held 2/28 – 3/1.

X. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

The Annual Veteran Day Parade was held in Downtown San Jose on Monday 11/11 and from all appearances this was a very successful parade with active audience participation, local dignitaries and other scheduled events. Major General Jones provided the keynote and there was a Blackhawk helicopter flyover.

XI. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Stephen Thompson, As of October 31, we have a total of 110 Lifetime members and we have at least 2 more signing up.

POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing to report

Agent Orange Committee (David Sanders): - Nothing to report

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Robert Kadlec): - Nothing to report

Community Services Committee (Mike Frangadakis): - Nothing to report

Government Affairs Committee (Fran McVey): - Nothing to report

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee (Stephen Thompson):

Raised \$325 at recent Moffett Field fund raiser.

Public Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): - Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold):

X Ray is still not available at the San Jose Clinic and there have been rumors that they may bring a portable unit to the facility for use.

Incarcerated Veterans Committee (Jack Wells): - Nothing to report

XII. Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report

XIII. New Business:

Motion by Steve Thompson and seconded by Richard Veit to provide a donation of \$500 for Wreaths across America. Motion passed.

Motion from Dennis Foggie and second by Gene Fanucchi to sponsor as many trees as possible for Trees for troops at an amount not to exceed \$400. Motion passed.

XIV. AVVA Report:

AVVA 201 will be visiting 2 VA medical centers on November 23 and November 30 to distribute gifts to the patients.

XV. Good of the Order

Convoy of Hope is working with Know a Vet to be held November 23 at San Jose Municipal Stadium.

Holiday Dinner is scheduled for The Three Flames Restaurant on Meridian December 16 at 6 PM. Chapter to pay for member and one guest. Additional guests will be charged \$30 each, payable at the door. Need RSVP from attendees by no later than December 1. Please send to Steve Thompson at srbthompson@gmail.com.

11/8 Miller Middle School event was well attended and shows how much students appreciate hearing from veterans.

Ribbon Cutting ceremony on 11/23 to honor the South Vietnamese Building in San Jose.

San Jose Veteran Chorus will be performing at the Church of the Resurrection on 12/8. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased on line at the San Jose Operas site. Veterans are free, but it is noted that all proceeds are donated to "All The Way Home" for veterans in the community.

Personal invitation was sent to Barbara Ledig to invite her to our annual Holiday Dinner (Executor of the Jim Fife Estate).

Dave Sanders noted that Sue Peterson from Los Banos is busy knitting lap top blankets for veterans.

XVI Closing Ceremony

The closing prayer was presented by Steve Thompson and Sergeant at Arms John Hassenplug retired the colors.

The next scheduled VVA Chapter 201 business meeting will be on Monday January 20, 2020 at Holders Country Inn on De Anza Boulevard. The Annual Holiday Dinner, which will not be a business meeting will be held at the Three Flames Restaurant on December 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM (2015 hours).

Respectfully Submitted:



Stephen R Thompson
Secretary/Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
DARWIN J. THOMAS
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 201
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday December 16, 2019

Three Flames Restaurant, Meridian Ave, San Jose, California

In lieu of the December Chapter 201 social and business meeting, VVA and AVVA members, and guests gathered at The Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose at 5:00 PM, 16 December for a Holiday dinner. This being our annual dinner, all routine business was suspended until our next meeting.

- I. **President Warren Finch** introduced Ms. Becky Thomas, beloved sister of our chapter namesake, Darwin J. Thomas. Becky presented an oral and pictorial memorial to her brother highlighting much of his past and early time in the Navy. The presentation was very emotional, not only for Becky, but for many of the members. President Warren Finch presented Becky with a Certificate of Appreciation and eternal gratitude of the chapter.
- II. **Chaplain Randy Richmond** provided the opening and closing prayer and noted that the chapter chaplain.
- III **President Warren Finch** presented Gerald Arnold, Bob Kadlec and Stephen Thompson with a certificate of Appreciation for their assistance during the annual Veterans Day Parade.
- IV. **AVVA President Cang Kim Dong** thanked all of the VVA members for their support during the Vietnam War and working with the South Vietnamese forces to try and stem the tide of communism. AVVA also presented a commemorative American/South Vietnamese knitted sash to Warren Finch and Stephen Thompson
- V. **President Warren Finch** adjourned the Dinner and reminded all that the next gathering will be the monthly social and business meeting on the third Monday of the month on January 20, 2020 at Holder's Country Inn.

Respectfully Submitted:

Stephen R Thompson
Secretary / Treasurer
Darwin J. Thomas Chapter 201
Vietnam Veterans of America