



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

Chapter Meeting Minutes
Monday February 24, 2025

Attendees:

Bernie Arce	USMC	Craig Kumler	USN
Gerald Arnold	USN	Frank Lem	USAF
David Allen	USA	Newman, Ken	USAF
Roger Blank	USAF	Macia, Julian John	USMC
Gerald Cederholm	USA	McCorquadale, William	USN
Roger Clark	USA	Morasch, Peter	USA
Freddie Clegg	USA	O'Connor, Bob	USMC
Cranford, Jim	USA	Jack Stauffer	USAF
Thomas Crawford	USA	Stephen Thompson	USN
Robert Devlin	USAF	Rich Veit	USA
Fanucchi, Gene	USA	Jack Wells	USMC
Finch, Warren	USA	Mike Welsh	USMC
Dennis Foggie	USAF	Dennis Whittaker	USA
Don Havens	USMC	Xuan Thahn Vangaasbede	AVVA
Jim Husing	USA	Van Le	AVVA

I. The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Warren Finch at 12:15 PM (1215 hours) at Cupertino Country Inn. Sergeant-At-At-Arms Freddie Clegg presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplain Richard Veit provided the invocation.

II. Roll Call of Chapter Officers

- President - Warren Finch
- Vice President - Gene Fanucchi
- Secretary / Treasurer - Stephen Thompson
- Sergeant at Arms - Freddie Clegg
- 3-year Board Member - Gerald Cederholm
- 2-year Board Member - Dennis Foggie
- 1-year Board Member - Dennis Whittaker
- 1-year Rotating Board Member - Richard Veit -

III. Guests:

Robin Kimler
Gwen Lee
Thanh van Graebel
Chris McCorquadale
Mariel Manglona
Peter Lyon
Sofie Husing

IV. Reading of Minutes:

Minutes of the January meeting were forwarded electronically to the membership. Motion to approve the minutes by Frank Lem and second by Dennis Foggie

V. Correspondence:

- a. Bank Statements
- b. New Member Application

VI. Finance Report:

The Finance Report for January was presented. Motion Gerald Arnold and Seconded by Freddie Clegg

VII. Officer Reports:

President Report =

- a. Warren shared with the group his recent challenges with Prostate Cancer and partial hip repair and is doing well. The Membership offered an enthusiastic OOH RAH for his recovery and return.
- b. Draft Budget was sent electronically and copies attached to the agenda. The final budget needs to be approved during the March meeting.
- c. Election of Officers nominations are now open, and Dennis Foggie and Dennis Whittaker are the nominating committee. Elections will be held during the April meeting

VIII. Chaplain Report

Chaplain asked for thoughts go out to:

David Sanders
Cang Dong
Randy Richmond
Rich McCoy
Neil Lichtman
Rose Herrera
Bill Briggs

IX. Board Of Directors Report:

Boad met on February 7 and discussed the YTD finances and approved as submitted. Also agreed to present to the Membership for approval a \$5,000

contribution to the Cupertino Veterans Memorial for the Moving wall to be welcomed to Cupertino in 2026 and \$2,000 to the LA Fire Veterans. Chapter 446 In Pasadena Is handling these donations,

X. California State Council (CSC) Report:

- Next meeting is April 17 - 19 in Visalia and copies of the agenda and other legislative Issues were sent electronically

XI. United Veterans Council (UVC) Report:

Nothing to Report

XII. Committee Reports:

Membership Committee (Stephen Thompson): As of January 31, we have 144 Members

Agent Orange and POW/MIA Committee (David Sanders): nothing to report.

Constitution By-Laws Committee (Steve Thompson): nothing to report

Community Services Committee – Mike Frangadakis - nothing to report

Government Affairs Committee (Rose Herrera): nothing to report.

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee: Nothing to report

Veterans Benefits (Gerald Arnold): Caregiver program is still very much in the works and all veterans that have a need should be signing up.

Emergency Assistance Program: Nothing to report

XIII. Unfinished Business:

None

XIV. New Business:

- a. Motion to donate \$5,000 to the Cupertino Veteran Memorial fund for the Moving wall made by Steve Thompson and seconded by Rich Veit and motion carried.
- b. Motion to donate \$3,000 to the VVA Chapter 446 for assistance to Veterans affected by the LA Fire made by Steve Thompson and seconded by Dennis Whittaker and motion carried.

XV. AVVA Report:

There will be a special meeting at the State Capitol In Sacramento on April 30, 2025 to commemorate the fall of Saigon and loss of the country of South Vietnam; There Is an additional ceremony to be held In San Jose at a time and location to be determined.

XVI. Good of the Order

- a. Barry Meehan, Disabled Veteran Outreach Program representative distributed business cards and encouraged others to look Into the program. Copies of the business card were sent via E Mail to all VVA members.
- b. There Is a Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Dinner on Wednesday April 2, 2025 at the American Legion Los Altos Post. This Is a joint program from the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Legion Post, Los Altos.

- c. Gerald Cederholm reminded all that the Honor Flight Is available to all Vietnam Veterans and should go onto the web site and sign up.
- d. Dennis Whittaker noted that volunteers will be needed for the moving wall to assure that there Is 24/7 coverage and security.
- e. The Santa Clara VSO has a mobile Dental unit available and encourage veterans to check with office as to dates and time.

XVII. Closing Ceremony

Closing prayer provided by Chaplain Rich Veit and Colors retired by Sergeant at arms.

XVIII. The next event scheduled for VVA Chapter 201 will be at Holders Country Inn in Cupertino on March 24, 2025.



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