



**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**  
**Chapter 528 Plymouth, MI 48170**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**11/14/2016**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President John Spencer

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

OFFICERS ROLL CALL: John Spencer, Mike Steffes, Clyde Rains, Bob Dew, and Dennis Bielskis  
69 MEMBERS PRESENT (58 VVA, 11 AVVA)

Guest(s):

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

**President**-John Spencer talked about the Veterans Ceremony's in Plymouth and Canton and wished the Marines a happy birthday.

**1st Vice President** Mike Steffes N/R

**2nd Vice President**- Clyde Rains, spoke about the Flag folding program that he and the VFW commander took part in at Northville Middle School. There was a bunch of good questions by the children.

**Secretary-** Minutes approved with correction. Motion by Clyde Rains 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dale Luebke motion carried. Correspondence thank you letters for recent donation that chapter has made.

**Treasurer-** the profit and loss statements for October of 2016, Motion by: Dale Luebke 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron King to approve treasure report subject to audit. Motion carried.

**Chaplain:** Rich Whipple was excused from meeting but did relay about the death of Lana Franks.

**Chapter Historian:** Rich Waldecker N/R

**Legislatives/ Government affairs:** Richard Waldecker N/R

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**Old Business:**

- Salvation Army bell ringing will again be at the Sam's Club as in past years. John Fleming has sign up sheet going around meeting.
- Poker Shoot out wrap up, John Riley won \$327.00 and the income is \$571.46

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**Committee Reports:**

**Chapter By-Laws** - Jim Hodgson N/R

**Membership**- Bob Lamoureux, we currently have 274 VVA members and 79 associate members.

The life membership will remain at \$100.00; AVVA Life Membership will be \$100.00 if 60 or older. Drawing for life member was drawn again and George Mylinski won.

**Color Guard** - Bob Lamoureux, and Frank Gilbo went to Walden Woods senior home, Tyler Elementary for flag ceremony and Salute to Services.

**Product Sales** - Bill Browning, update on the product sales. New Items for Rick Balish

**Public Affairs** - Don Dignan N/R.

**Webmaster/Home-Front Editor**-Tom Brown

- Webpage: [www.vva528.org](http://www.vva528.org)
- Newsletter: all articles, photos and flyers are due on the 22nd of each & every month, again thanked everyone for the prayers and to those who were at the memorial service for his dad.

**POW/MIA** - Al Kerbyson, N/R

**AVVA Rep** - Bryan Bentley, AVVA, N/R

**VFW Liaison** - The Veterans day program went well and everyone was happy with the chili at the post after the ceremony.

**VFW Aux.** Patty Brothers Patty Bielskis talked about the Children's Christmas Party. Judy Thomason, announced Taco night is back again once a month except December.

**A/O & VA Health Chair:** Stu Israel: forward his report via e-mail to all members.

**VVA State Council**- Gary Estermyer stated that the State Council meeting is December 4th, will have luncheon and the raffle drawing for the M1A1 rifle will be drawn during the luncheon.

**Fundraising** - Bob Dew, Sportsman's raffle in the works. We have the tickets now and flyers are ordered.

**Chapter Special Committee Reports**

**Kokomo**- Dale Luebke; 310 days to go and the application for camping sites will be out early next year.

**Sportsman raffle**- The date has been set for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we will have 40 prizes again 15 from ABC Warehouse and the rest from Gander Mountain. List of prizes has been compiled, and tickets are in now.

**General Discussion:**

John Fleming, went over the donations to the MVF and the items already set aside for the annual donation.

Leroy Page, talked about the Honor & Remember program that was held in Southfield this past month. 167 Vet's were present for the program and presentation of the flags.

**DONATION/MOTION REQUESTS:**

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D2016-016

Motion to donate \$500.00 to the Children's Christmas party

Motion made by Dennis Bielskis 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Dignan

Board recommendation: recommended approval Membership approval: passed

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**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- Karaoke - 1st and 3rd Friday 8 pm in the Post Lounge
- Live music 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in the Post lounge
- Please sign birthday book before the meeting located in the Post Lounge
- Veterans Traveling Golf League every Monday, let Don Dignan know you are golfing
- Taco night November 18, 2016 from 5 p - 7 p in the post lounge
- Children's Christmas Party December 10, 2016 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, please let Patty Bielskis know the sex and age of each child who will be attending party.
- Salvation Army bell ringing on Saturday December 10 At Sam's Club on Ford Rd Canton,
- Ann Arbor VA Hospital Christmas party, December 13, 2016 meet in lobby at 5:00 pm
- Post Blood Drive December 19, 2016 from 1:30 pm - 7:30 pm

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Next VVA General Membership Meeting: Monday December 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting Tuesday November 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm

**Adjourned: 8:15 p.m.**

PRESIDENT     John Spencer

SECRETARY     Dennis Bielskis