

Minutes for April 9, 2025 Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 279 Meeting

The regular meeting of VVA Chapter 279 was called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours. After the salute to the American flag, President Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase, and Secretary Halbkat. There were 4 officers and 32 members present. We have a quorum.

Business Brought Before the Chapter:

-there are some items that need to be taken care of and Treasurer Haase explained. We need to pay the outstanding bills from the QOV dinner. \$127.35 to Terry Hester for the cake and office supplies. We need to pay the Legion Post 374 \$1275.00 for the dinner. There was a check for \$135.74 made to Roy Love to replace one that was lost. Jim Quick made a motion to pay the bills and Dick Rowe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

-On August 14th thru August 17th, 2025, the Nebraska Vietnam Veterans will hold its annual reunion. Don't have a location yet, but rumor has it, this might be the final one.

-we started our discussion on the dissolving of the VVA. Although it is quite a ways off, it never hurts to be prepared in advance. The name of the new group was brought up and it was decided to be Vietnam Veterans of Nebraska. Pete Gill made a motion that the officers choose the name and reserve it with the Secretary of State of Nebraska. Glen Page seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

-Vice President Mangiamelli will be awarding a certificate to the outstanding JROTC cadet at Buena Vista High School next week. Be nice if some members show up.

-National Cemetery Events:

- April 26 monument cleaning
- May 6 unoccupied service burial with no relatives
- May 24 place flags by monuments
- May 26 Memorial Day celebration

New Members: We have 1 new member---Ron Schmidt. Welcome aboard, Ron.

Sick Call: None

Secretary Report: The report was emailed to all members. George Abbott moved to accept the report as written and Jim Quick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: The report was made available to all members and Treasurer Haase explained all the entries to the chapter. There being no corrections or changes, Mike Steffan moved to accept and Andy Doza seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Events: Wednesday, May 7—Pint 9 Brewing Company will be introducing HUEY LAGER beer. Watch your email for more on this event.

Parades: May 24th—Memorial Day (downtown)

May 31st—Elkhorn Days

June 14th – Papillion

July 4th – Ralston

July 13th – Fremont

July 26th – Gretna

August 16th –Aerospace, Bellevue

August 23rd – Millard

September – Labor Day, Omaha

Golf Outing: September 29, 2025. This will be our 10th anniversary year. Held at Pacific Springs. It's time for everyone to get excited and make this the best one ever.

Scholarships: no report

Veterans Home Board: Tom Brown reports there will be an educational class April 21 held in Kearney.

Correspondence Report: Vice President Mangiamelli read two letters from Victory Apartments, one thanking the chapter for an \$800.00 pantry donation and the other one for food pantry support.

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports no problems or issues. At present there are 29 members in the program.

National VVA Delegate Report: no report

Nebraska VVA Foundation: No report

Chapter Membership: President Hester reports 214 members

POW/MIA: Treasurer Haase reports 1573 souls

New Business: George Abbott made motion to donate \$1000.00 to QOV and Pete Gill seconded. Motion carried. Dwain Holmes made motion to donate \$500.00 to Homeless Veterans and Andy Doza seconded. Motion passed. Jim Quick recommended the chapter think about buying VVA jackets for members before VVA is dissolved within the coming years.

Please check out the chapter's webpage: nebraskasvietnamveterans.com

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 1830 hours. Millard Legion Post 374

Motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Dick Rowe and seconded by Greg Kleve. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary

