



## Vietnam Veterans of America of Northeast South Dakota

(Vietnam and Vietnam Era Veterans)

### Chapter 1054

PO Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

605-881-9027 or 605-753-0200

Meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of each month:  
7 pm at the Elk's Lodge, 300 West Kemp St., Watertown, SD

Email: [vets@NESDVVA.org](mailto:vets@NESDVVA.org)

Website: [www.NESDVVA.org](http://www.NESDVVA.org)

Jan/Feb 2020

### Chapter 1054 Bell Rings for the Salvation Army



#### Message from Phil,

To all our members and comrades of Chapter 1054 and any and all other veterans, we wish you a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** We hope this year is for you Healthy, Happy, Safe, and rewarding and the same to all your families, and friends.

We have a big year ahead of us, we need all of you to participate to insure success and continued ability to care for our needy veterans out there. Only thru your help and participation can we continue to succeed in that mission!

Update on Jack, he continues with his chemo treatments and treatment for his health problems. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers during this time in his life.

Look foreword to seeing each and every one of you at all of our meetings in 2020! God Bless each and every one of you and **GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

Phil Braeger, Vice President.



Pictured above: Dennis Anderson, Doc & Gerry Likness, Dean Halajian, Darrell Boyle & Gordy West.



Don Pasch, Bob Syring, Herb Carstens, Paul Day and Paul Ramse. Not pictured Jerry Denman

## *Thank you*

A special thank you to all the members who helped with the Uptown Wtn Holiday Lighted Parade. Thanks to the Color Guard, those that provided security, those handing out candy canes and to the club for providing candy canes. The extras were shared with the Boys & Girls Club and Toys for Tots. Thanks!

Kay Solberg, Parade Chair

### VVA Board of Directors:

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## Vietnam Veteran's Healing Retreat

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for more information: call Dave  
@ 605-881-6347

### Message from Dr. Sneden:

A ribbon cutting and dedication was held at the new CBAC or VA Clinic in Watertown. Over 150 many of them Vietnam Veterans were on hand for the ceremony. Chapter 1054 provided a color Guard, they included: Jim Hanson, Jerry Denman, Darrell Boyle and Greg Dubois.



Phil Braeger, Vice Chair of the Chapter 1054 presented Dr. Sneden a plaque in recognition of what the VA Clinic has done for the Veterans in NE SD.



Several from the regional VA Office were on hand to tell about the process of expanding the clinic services to the Watertown Area.

We wish the Watertown VA Clinic much success and are happy that they have chosen to expand in our area

John Sneden, MD

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Address Changes.....

If you have recently moved could you please drop us a note with your new address...either to [k\\_solberg@yahoo.com](mailto:k_solberg@yahoo.com) or VVA Newsletter  
323 1st Ave NE Watertown, SD 57201

# VVA Chapter 1054 hosts Christmas Party



A check was donated to the Salvation Army for \$1000. On behalf of the Salvation Army is Mary Beth Stimson.



A plaque was awarded to Dennis & Kay Solberg for their help and support this past year to our club.



Floyd Hermans presented a plaque to Jack Kempter for the help the VVA has done for Vets in Need. The plaque is from the Milbank DAV



Leland Harding and his parents entertained our group before the auction started.



Well attended party and fun.....



Jack was presented by Dean Halajian with a new hair do since his treatment changed his real hair.... Nice lookin Jack.....



Thanks to Denny Brenden for again being our Auctioneer and creating a fun evening.



Cake for dessert Thank you all for your service!

Each issue of the newsletter is downloaded to our website [nesdvva.org](http://nesdvva.org) for a copy in full color.

If a Veteran you know or a close relative of a veteran passes away please call Kay at 886-3040 to send the family a sympathy card on behalf of Chapter 1054.



## Canadian Vietnam Wall

at the **Redlin Art Center** Watertown, SD



Our Canadian Vietnam Vets.

Opening Ceremonies was held at the Redlin Art Ceremony. Among the speakers was Julie Ranum, Curator of the Redlin Art Center. She spoke of Terry's brother in law that was killed in Vietnam.



On Sat. night a get together was held at the home of Jerry Caulfields. Chapter 1054 presented all the Canadians with a red, white & blue quilts.



Very good food was served.



Harley Gulbraa with one of the Canadians.



Lots of stories about back then.

The weekend was filled with activities for all the Veterans. On Friday at 10:30 am an opening ceremony was held at the Redlin Center. Sat at noon was a Free meal for all Veterans and their families put on Thrivent Financial, Heather Venenga. Sat evening everyone was invited to Caulfields for a meal stories and fun.

We truly appreciate the Canadians coming to Watertown SD and sharing their stories with us. It made for a very special Veterans Day.

**Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1054, VFW Post 750, American Legion, Wtn BID District, Milbank DAV, Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1121, Glacial Lakes Energy, Doc's Bar, & Redlin Art Center**

## 2019 Veterans Day Program



The Color Guard from each organization started off the program. VVA Chapter 1054 was represented by Darwin Clyde, Darrell Boyle, Jerry Denman, and Dennis Anderson.



This years Veteran's Day program included music by the Glacial Lakes Harmonizers and the Watertown City Band. Al Janzen was our MC, and Craig Werling shared invocations.

Rob Purvius and Ron Parks were the Keynote speakers. Over 10,000 Canadians came to the US to fight with the US Military. 149 died and those names are on their wall.

One of the Canadians went to Willow Lake for their ceremonies.

Following the program all Veterans and their families were invited to a free lunch at the VFW.



The Glacial Lakes Harmonizers sang the Canadian National Anthem.



Taps was played by Kirby Zent with the Watertown City Band.



An honor reception was held immediately following the ceremony so that those attending could meet and greet the Canadian Vets.



## Legislative Round Table on Veterans Issues

**Jan 2020**

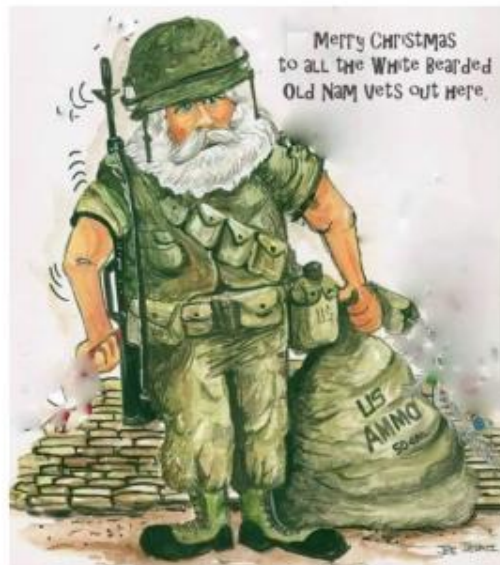
- 4 Milbank DAV
- 6 American Legion Aux.
- 7 Vets Council
- 8 Vets Council Radio Program  
VFW Aux.  
Milbank VFW
- 9 American Legion Monthly Meeting
- 13 DAV monthly  
American Legion Riders  
**VVA Board Meeting in Milbank**
- 15 SD Vietnam & Era Reunion  
VFW Monthly Meeting
- 16 **VVA Chapter Meeting**
- 20 Martin Luther King Day  
Marine Corp. Aux.  
Sons of American Leg.

**Feb 2020**

- 1 Milbank DAV
- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 3 American Legion Aux
- 4 Vets Council
- 5 Council Radio Program
- 10 American Legion Riders  
DAV monthly mtg.
- 12 VFW Aux Mtg  
Milbank DAV
- 13 American Legion
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Presidents Day  
**VVA Chapter Board in Wtn**  
Marine Corp Aux  
Sons of American Legion
- 18 Milbank American Legion  
Marine Corp. League
- 19 VFW Mtg
- 20 **VVA Monthly mtg.**



A Legislative Round table took place in Watertown at the American Legion in the beginning of Dec. Each organization was represented along with area legislators to discuss issues of concerns for Veterans in NE SD. Among the topics included health issues, a nursing home on the east side of the state and the state cemetery to be located in Sioux Falls. Phil Braeger represented Chapter 1054 at this meeting.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the Vietnam Veterans.... We look forward to 2020

**Monthly Meeting Locations (alphabetical order)**

American Legion-American Legion in Watertown  
 Codington County Veterans Council VFW Wtn  
 DAV American Legion in Watertown  
 Marine Corp League VFW in Watertown  
 Milbank American Legion American Leg in Milbank  
 Milbank DAV the American Legion Hall in Milbank  
 Milbank VFW VFW in Milbank  
 VFW VFW in Watertown  
 VVA Chapter 1054 Board of Directors Cliffords in Wtn  
 (1 st Mtg of the quarter) 1054 meets in Milbank  
 VVA Chapter 1054 monthly meeting Elk's Lodge  
 300 W Kemp 7 pm, 3rd Thursday of the Month

# Application for Membership Chapter 1054

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ work/cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership (Please check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 (Lifetime Membership) \_\_\_\_\_ AVVA Membership is \$175 for those under 60 years of age. AVVA Membership is \$100 for those over 60 years

Must submit copy of Drivers license.

Method \_\_\_\_\_ check \_\_\_\_\_ Money Order

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Discover

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Pin # on back \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility: Membership is open to US Armed Forces Veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between Feb. 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975 or any duty location between Aug. 5, 1964 & May 7, 1975. You must submit a copy of your DD-214 with this membership. VVA is a non-profit, Veterans service organization. Programs and services are funded by member dues and public donations.

## Re-Up as a Life Member



50 years.....

Gordy West and Jim Kurtz served in the same unit in Vietnam War and after 50 years and several conversation with others led them to meet up at our Christmas Party. Jim, a new member, of Chapter 1054 now lives in Garretson and came up to Watertown for the Christmas party and to meet Gordy after all this time.

While they were the only from South Dakota they had not run into each other before now. Jim visited with Lori Halajian at the state fair Veterans booth and passed on the information to Gordy.

Do you know a Veteran that's been ill?  
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and he will send a Get Well card.

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