



## Vietnam Veterans of America of Northeast South Dakota

(Vietnam and Vietnam Era Veterans)

**Chapter 1054**

**605-956-8820**

PO Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

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) Sept-Oct 2021

### Commander Corner,



Greetings fellow members,

We have had a busy couple of months and with the covid numbers rising we find we are needing to be more cautious.

Thanks to Scooter and Gordy for heading up our Annual picnic. We had a good turn out, had great food and even had some door prizes, along with a 50/50 drawing played in a totally different way. Tim Jurgens understood it well or was just lucky, one of the two. Whichever, it was, a fun get together was had by everyone. The desserts that everyone brought weren't too bad either.

When it rains it pours, so they say. And that's what happened at the Bull Bash at the state Fair this year. Forcing them to cancel this year's Veteran presentation. Sorry to everyone but your name is staying on the list to receive the award from Red Wilk next year, at the Bull Bash at the State Fair.

We have had quite the discussion about National Convention too in relationship to the covid, vaccinations and etc. We are trying to work out the details of who is actually attending & etc.

We are continuing our main mission every month. Being there for the funeral of Veterans who fought so hard for our country. we want to thank all our members who volunteer to be at these funerals, either in the Color guards or the Honor Guards. Thanks also to all of you who help out with our community service projects. We have gotten ourselves a good reputation thanks to all of you who have given your time and energy to the projects.

Hope to see you all come to the meetings on the third Thursdays of the months. We try to have a good laugh or two besides doing the business of our Chapter.

Stay safe, be kind to one another and see you all real soon.

Jerry Denman

President of Chapter 1054



### Honor Guard & Color Guard Training

We are hosting a training in Marietta  
on Oct 6. If you want  
to attend contact Jerry at  
880-3630

### VVA Board of Directors:

President: Jerry Denman Wtn, 605-880-3630

Vice President Denny Brenden, Wtn 881-3179

Second Vice Pres. Gordie West, Wtn 237-8083

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Bob Syring, Willow Lake 605-625-5010

Glenn Folk, Milbank, 605-880-1712

Ed Timm, Elkton 605-695-2960

Dean Halajian, Wtn 605-882-2678

Floyd Hermans, Milbank 605-880-2711

Greg Overby, Clark, 605-532-5218

Phil Braeger, Wtn (Past Pres.) 881-6782

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### Notes from Todd Rose

(Veterans Service Officer  
for Codington County)

Veteran's Pension is a "needs based" benefit paid to "wartime veterans" who have limited or no income and net worth. Spouses or dependents of "wartime veterans" can also be eligible for a pension if the veteran meets the service requirements and the spouse or dependent meet the financial requirements.

Pension claims are not easy or quick, and once filed, can take several months to be finalized. But if you do qualify, it can provide additional financial assistance to a veteran, spouse or dependents. It is designed to help bring someone that is currently living below poverty level back to or just above poverty level.

There are several factors that are used to determine eligibility, too many to try and explain in the newsletter. If you know someone that might be financially challenged and they are a veteran or dependent of a veteran, please have them contact the office so we can see if they might be eligible to apply.

There are "4" basic requirements a veteran must meet to be eligible:

- \* Length of Service/ Character of discharge
- \* Wartime Service
- \* Permanent and total disability (if under age 65)
- \* Income/Net Worth Qualifications (minus) unreimbursed medical expenses.

Again, this is very basic information to get you thinking if you or someone you know might be eligible for Veteran's pension. Please contact the office or have them contact the office and we will do our best to determine their eligibility. Codington County Veterans Service Office is open Monday-Friday from 0800-1700. Our phone number is **605-882-6289**, and we are located at 125 S Broadway, in the old Watertown City Auditorium.

### Honor Guard Training

Chapter 1054 will be offering an Honor Guard Training in Marietta MN on Oct 6th. If you are interested in attending contact Jerry Denman 605-880-3630 of Floyd Hermans 605-880-2711 We will be taking the bus from Watertown to Marietta.



Travas Uthe  
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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 or VVA Newsletter PO Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201



## Elk Hunt Winners Drawn 2021

- 1st: Elk Hunt Terry Jansen-Watertown
  - 2nd: \$2000 cash Clint Lantgen, Bradley
  - 3rd: \$400 cash Gus Ruotsolum, Lake Norden
  - 4th: \$400 cash Harold Fedt, Big Stone City
  - 5th: \$400 cash Pam Raeder, Watertown
  - 6th: \$400 Dean Halajian, Watertown
  - 7th: Jorgenson Meat Bundle, Ray Olson, Bradley
- Thanks to Randy Holiday for organizing our Elk Hunt Raffle and to all the members who sold the tickets making this a great fund raiser.

### South Dakota State Fair Bull Bash Canceled.

When it rains it pours, literally. On Sept. 2 at this years State Fair it poured all day, causing the Bull Bash to be canceled. Red Wilk was planning to honor members of Chapter 1054 this year. Because of the rain the event has been



canceled. All those that were going to receive recognition will be winners at next years Bull Bash at the 2022 State Fair.

### VVA Members Promote our Chapter



VVA members took part in a Charity Poker Run in Brookings for the DAV. Glenn Folk and his wife Barb decorated their pickup and took part in the event, including a parade. Thanks to the Folks for their participation as a member of the VVA Chapter 1054.

### Sea of Goodwill Dinner.

The dinner that was set for the Sea of Goodwill has been canceled because of the covid numbers. They will notify everyone if it is rescheduled.

### Thank you!

On Thursday Sept 2nd at the SD State Fair in the Veterans Booth. VVA had a table promoting our Chapter. Thanks to Jim & Barb Strom and Greg & Susan Overby.

### National Convention held in Greensboro, North Carolina

Chapter 1054 will be attending the National Convention this year in Greensboro, North Carolina. Each Chapter is allowed delegates based on their total membership, thus we are allowed to send 10 voting delegates. Our delegates will include: Jerry Denman, Jim Hanson, Dennis Solberg, Gordy West, Darrell Boyle, Sherry Janssen, and Earl Cass. Bob Frink, Phil Braeger & Floyd Hermans are also delegates but not attending.

Chapter 1054 submitted information about our Chapter for the Chapter of the Year, and also for the best Website. Vietnam Veterans from all over the US will be in attendance for the 5 day event. More to come in upcoming newsletters.

## Around 90 Attend Annual Picnic

On Sat. Aug 14, 2021 VVA Chapter 1054 held their annual picnic at the Elk's Lodge. The Chapter furnished the brats, and burgers, salads came from the Elks and everyone brought great desserts.



Gordy West and "Scooter" (Darrell Boyle) chaired this year's picnic.



Everything was set up this year inside which kept us all in the cool air, and no flies. Great idea!



A 50/50 drawing was held....how do you win....easy, put your hand on your head for heads of the coin, or on your butt for tails. Tim Jurgens from Milbank won the 50/50.



Our chefs for the day included Herb Carstens, Jim Hanson, Jerry Denman and Dennis Anderson.

Thanks to Mary Modica, Carol Denman, Glenn & Barb Folk for making name tags, so we all know who we are!





Gerri and Brian DeBoer and Dennis Solberg sold raffle tickets.



Bill Cunningham is checking out the desserts before we start to eat.....hmmmm



Scooter, Gordy and Brian drew the tickets for the raffle....

## Thank You

Thanks to the following for the door prizes given out:

Glenn & Barb Folk & Shelly Bisgard

Thanks also to the following for helping to set things up & Clean Up!

Sue West, Rhonda Boyle, Sherry & Terry Jansen, and Noel Cummins.

We hope all that attended enjoyed the festivities.



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

## September 2021

- 1 Codington Co Vets Council
- 2 Vets Council Radio Show  
SD State Fair (Veterans Day)  
State Fair Sept 2-6)
- 4 DAV Milbank  
DAV Annual Poker Run
- 6 Labor Day  
American Legion Auxiliary
- 8 VFW Auxiliary  
Milbank VFW
- 9 American Legion
- 11 Patriots 911 Day
- 13 American Legion Riders  
DAV Monthly
- 15 VFW
- 16 **4:30 VVA Chapter Board Meeting**  
**7:00 VVA Chapter Meeting**
- 17 Constitution Day
- 18 Air Force Day
- 20 Marine Corps Auxiliary  
Sons of the American Legion
- 21 Milbank American Legion  
Marine Corps League

## October 2021

- 2 Milbank DAV
- 4 American Legion Auxiliary
- 6 Codington Co Vet's Council
- 7 Council Radio Program
- 11 American Legion Riders  
DAV
- 13 Navy Birthday  
VFW Auxiliary   
Milbank VFW
- 14 American Legion
- 18 Sons of the American Legion  
Marine Corps League Auxiliary
- 19 Milbank American Legion  
Marine Corps League
- 20 VFW
- 19 **4:30 VVA Board of Directors**  
**7:00 VVA Chapter Meeting**
- 27 Navy Day
- 31 Happy Halloween

## November 11, 2021 Veteran's Day Service



This year's Veteran's Day Service for Codington County will be held at the Watertown High School in the Civic Arena. This will allow the students to participate and understand what Veteran's Day is all about. More information will be provided. This event is planned by the VFW with all Veterans organization participating. We thank you all for your service!



### New Flag at

### Mt. Hope Cemetery

VVA Chapter 1054 & the Wtn VFW are working with the city staff at Mt. Hope Cemetery to provide a 24/7 flag with spotlights to be focused on the flag. We became aware of this when putting out the flags for Memorial Day. Great project for our community.

### 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 4:30 pm at Elk's  
VVA Reg Mtg 7 pm Elk's Lodge  
300 W Kemp 7 pm, 3rd Thursday of the Month

## July Member of Month Award



July's Member of the Month goes to Bob Syring from Willow Lake. Bob has served on the board of directors for several years, been active with many activities our chapter has had, and is responsible for us receiving the grants from Trans Canada Grant Program. Thank you, Bob for helping other Veterans.

If you know someone in our chapter who deserves to be recognized, nominate him or her for the MOM Award.

### Honor Guard Pins

If you participate in the Honor Guard, new hat pins are now available. You can pick one up at our meeting from Herb Carstens with the quarter masters shop.

## 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 Nov. 1, 1955 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. Please send application to Dennis Solberg, 1323 Grandview Dr, Watertown, SD 57201

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