



Vietnam Veterans of America of Northeast South Dakota

(Vietnam and Vietnam Era Veterans)

Chapter 1054

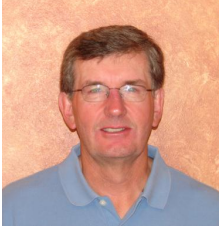
605-956-8820

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 Website: www.NESDVVA.org Jan-Feb 2022

Commander's Corner,



Greetings fellow members,
Christmas has come and gone
& 2022 has arrived. Where do the
years go to? This year for our
Chapter has been a good year. We
got to participate in our regular

projects, passing out flags for Flag Day, putting flags
out for Memorial Day, performing funerals for our fellow
veterans, holding our annual summer picnic, ringing the
bells for the Salvation Army, providing color guard for
the July 4th and the Holiday Lighted Parades, helping
the "Beds for Children" program, giving a donation
to fellow Louisiana Veterans, participating in this years
Veteran's Day Program at the High School including
the high school kids, helping out the Warner Vet's
program, held a color and honor guard training for
40+ members, and of course, the big honor of receiving
the National Chapter of the Year. All of these things
could not have been accomplished with out the help
of all the members that come out and gave of your time
and talents to make things work.

As we look forward to 2022 we will continue to fund
raise through many of the same projects but we invite
all of you to take part in meetings, activities and projects
we do. Getting to know fellow Vietnam Veterans offers
us a lot. Todd Rose, our Veterans Service Officer, comes
and is there to help us as a group or individually. We have
a lot going for us right now.

In April, we will again have election of officers and
new board members. If you would consider giving some
time and sharing ideas, get a hold of Darrell Boyle, with
the election committee. 881-5569.

Best Wishes to all in 2022. Stay warm and enjoy the
days to come.

Jerry Denman
President of Chapter 1054



Electric Wheelchairs available for members.

For the past couple of years,
Bob Syring has worked with
Trans Canada to get for our
members equipment to help
with their needs. We have
now gotten 2 electric
wheelchairs.

If you as a Veteran or your spouse are in
need of an electric wheelchair to get
around in, contact Bob Syring or Phil Braeger.

Thanks to Trans Canada for your continued
support.

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

Secretary Earl Cass, 605-237-4419

Treasurer, Bob Frink, Milbank 706-217-5950

Board Members:

Darrell Boyle, Wtn 881-5569

Jim Strom, Clear Lake 253-677-0821

Randy Holiday, Hayti 605-881-1601

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

Troy Foster Chapter 1054 Chaplain

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Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army

Every year
our Chapter
rings the bells
to raise money
for the Salvation
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to those



who helped out this year, Doc & Gerry Likness, Randy Holiday.

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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



Herb Carstens
and
Brian DeBoer.

Everyone
enjoyed helping
those that are
in need.
Thanks guys.

2021 National Convention



Seafood Restaurant the long way around!



The Empty Table Ceremony



Business meeting



A solemn ceremony



Time to eat again!



Little Big Town

Some enjoyed an evening out at a concert!



Sherry Janssen & Dennis Solberg with a couple guys from Louisiana



Pictured here is the 2020 Chapter of the Year from Muskegon, Michigan, because there was not a convention last year 2 awards were presented. Chapter 1054 received 2021 Chapter of the Year! We currently have 664 organized Chapters. Congratulations to our Chapter.

Christmas Party to Celebrate a Successful Year!



Carol Braley and Lori Halajain, committee members took care of registration....



Sherry Janssen and Connie Miller, committee members are selling 50/50 raffle tickets to Bill Schumacher.



Associate member, Maze Snittjer played the piano while we ate and then along with President Jerry Denman we had a sing-along.....



We bought a Merry Christmas cake and a Congratulation Chapter 1054 cake for dessert.



Lots of fellowship before with Veterans and spouses.



Members for several communities came out on our cold blowy night.



Around 75 attended this year's Christmas Party.....



After our sing a long.....Denny Brenden helped us out with an auction again this year. Thanks to the several members and to the businesses who donated to this year's auction. We raised over \$1200 and several members got some really nice items.....anything from a Honey Basket, Bean Bag Boards to pictures of military items. I'm sure the Navy won with the most raised with the plaques of each branch.



Everyone that night helped Ed Timm sing the Coast Guard tribute.....



We always have fun singing the Armed Forces Medley song.....

Each issue of the newsletter is downloaded to our website nesdvva.org for a copy in full color.

2021 Veteran's Day

Jan 2022

- 1 Happy New Year
DAV Milbank
- 3 American Legion Auxiliary
- 4 Codington Co Vets Council
- 6 Vets Council Radio Show
- 10 American Legion Riders
DAV monthly
- 12 VFW Auxiliary
Milbank VFW
- 13 American Legion Mtg
- 17 Marine Corp. Aux
Sons of American Legion
- 18 Milbank American Legion
Marine Corp League
- 19 VFW
- 20 **4:30 VVA Chapter Board Meeting**
7:00 VVA Chapter Meeting



February 2022

- 1 Codington Co Vet's Council
- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 3 Vets Council Radio Shows
- 5 Milbank DAV
- 7 American Legion Auxiliary
- 9 VFW Auxiliary
Milbank VFW
- 10 American Legion
- 14 Valentine's Day
American Legion Riders
DAV
- 15 Milbank American Legion
- 16 VFW
- 17 **4:30 VVA Board of Directors**
7:00 VVA Chapter Meeting
- 21 Marine Corp Auxiliary
Sons of the American Legion
- 26 & 27 State Vietnam Vet Get Together



This year's Veteran Day was held at the High School Arena, with the high school students present. Carrying color guard for the VVA included: Greg Dubios, Brian DeBoer, Dennis Anderson, and Darwin Clyde.

Ernie Gatchell, was MC for the program and Mike Cartney, Lt Cornell was the Keynote Speaker. The Watertown Band played music for the event and special awards were given to President Jerry Denman, Veteran of the Year from VVA Chapter 1054, and Dennis Solberg with the VFW received Post in top 25 of the Nation. Dean Halajian, served as VFW Chaplain. (Most of these individuals are VVA members also)



Congratulations Jerry Denman for being the Veteran of the Year! Mike Cartney presented the Eagle to Jerry.

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

Laura Thai Family Comes to America

Laura Thai and her family currently live in Big Stone City, SD. In 1980 her and her family immigrated to America from Vietnam.

Recently she met Floyd and Joyce Hermans and starting visiting about her story. It is a very interesting story of how her family ended up the state of SD and she has shared it with us.

She has written the story in full which we will have on the web page at nesdvva.org Because of the lengeth of the story we didn't want to leave any of it out. Thank you Laura for sharing.



Attention Snow Birds

If any of you that receive your newsletter through the mail, could give us your snow bird address we would send it to you there. We usually get them returned to us and we are charged again for postage. Let us know any address changes.

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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