



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 Saturday of each month:

11 pm at the Elk's Lodge, 300 West Kemp St., Watertown, SD

Website: www.NESDVVA.org Nov/Dec 2023

Email: vets@NESDVVA.org



Commander's Corner,

Well this year is going by fast. We hope everyone is getting ready for winter, it feels like it will be here really soon.

We had a good turn out for the summer picnic in August.

Thanks to Jim & Cathy Hanson, Gerry & Brian DeBoer, Carol Braley and everyone that helped to organize the day. It's always fun to have a social events that bring us all together.

We started October through the winter months having our meeting on Saturdays. Several of you requested day time meetings cause night driving, especially in the winter, is getting harder as we get older. We hope you will all continue to come. The meetings will be kept to one hour. We look forward to a large group in November.

At the last meeting we did decide to give the Veterans in Hawaii \$5000 to help them get their homes back in order.

Veteran's Day is coming up on November 11th, which is a Saturday this year. The VVA will have a Color Guard along with the other Veteran's groups. State Veteran Secretary, Greg Whitlock is the Keynote speaker. The program, planned by the VFW, is at the Extension Bldg and starts at 10:30 am. Following the program the VFW Auxiliary is serving a free lunch of hot beef combos. All Veterans and their families are invited to the VFW. Hope to see you there.

Don't forget the Christmas Party on Dec 2nd. It's at 1 pm this year. Kay has the tickets and will have them at the November meeting. The tickets can be purchased at the Classroom Connection.

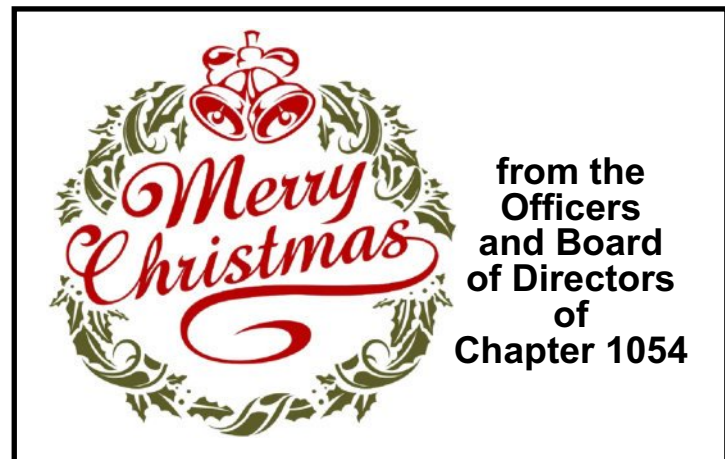
The Uptown Businesses have again asked us to again do security for the Holiday Lighted Parade.

It is on Friday November 24, at 6 pm. Meet at Mark's Auto. We need a couple dozen Vets to do security and pass out candy canes. Hope several can come out, it is only an hour's time. Great visibilty for our Chapter.

See you on Veteran's Day!

Gordy West

President of Chapter 1054



VVA Board of Directors:

President: Gordy West Wtn 605-237-8083

Vice President: Bob Syring, Willow Lake 605-625-5010

Second Vice Pres: Darrell Boyle, Wtn 605-881-5569

Secretary: Earl Cass, Lead 605-237-4419

Treasurer: Bob Frink, Milbank 706-217-5950

Board Members:

Brian DeBoer, Wtn 605-868-0955

Jim Strom, Clear Lake 253-677-0821

Sherry Janssen, Wtn 605-237-3236

Jim Hanson, Wtn 605-880-5029

Herb Carstens, Wtn 605-520-9798

Dennis Solberg, Wtn 605-880-4225

Floyd Hermans, Milbank 605-880-2711

Phil Braeger, Wtn 605-881-6782

Jerry Denman, Wtn 605-880-3630

Jerry Caulfield Wtn 304-282-9990

Troy Foster, Peever, Chaplain 605-268-4673



Bell Ringers Needed

The VVA will again be ringing bells for the Salvation Army. It will be for 2 hour shifts starting at 10 am until 8 pm at HyVee. Contact Kay at 605-886-3040 or 605-886-9632 if you can help out!

Please support the following businesses that are supporting us.

Puthoff Insurance Agency

Ag Underwriters LLC

Jim Knudson, CIC

P.O. Box 16
1608 9th Ave SW
Watertown, SD 57201
Office: 605-886-9319
Fax: 605-886-9356
jim@puthoffinsurance.com



Notes from Todd Rose
(Veterans Service Officer
for Codington County)

The Codington County VSO office has moved to a new location: 101 19th Street NE, Watertown, SD

What is a VSO? We are not VA employees! Most are county employees, hired to assist veterans apply and navigate through the process for state and federal benefits that they or their dependents might be eligible for. It can be confusing and sometimes frustrating to complete the claims process. We try to put the best plan of action to accomplish the claim, but it does acquire work from both our office and the veterans, at the end of the day it is the veteran's signature on their claim.

Here are a few but not all of claims and benefits we can assist with:

- * Disability Compensation (Service-Connected Disabilities)
- * Veterans & Widows Pension (Income based Benefit)
- * Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (Usually Surviving Spouse Benefit)
- * Headstones & Markers
- * Burial Claim
- * National or State cemetery Pre-needs

If you or someone you know has a question about something veterans related, be it with a veteran or dependent, we will do our best to get you an answer or at least connect you to someone that has an answer.

Also please keep in mind that laws and benefits change and what might have been true 10 years ago might not be today. I encourage all veterans or spouses of veterans to call or stop in and see their local VSOs to ensure they are using the benefits that the veteran's service made them eligible for.

Hope to see at the Veteran's Day Program.



No Job too Big or Too Small...

- o Remodel
- o New Homes
- o General Contractors

Watertown



Travas Uthe
travsoutfitter@midconetwork.com

**TRAV'S
OUTFITTER**

Hwy 212 9th Ave SE, Watertown, SD 57201

Phone (605)882-1739
Toll Free 1-866-508-5894

Fax (605)882-1758
Boot Truck (605) 880-6665
www.travsoutfitter.com

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



Veteran's Day Service

Saturday November 11th at 10:30 am

Codington County Extension Building

Keynote Speaker: Veterans Secretary

Greg Whitlock,

Veteran of the Year Presented

Music by Watertown City Band, Doug Herr

Lunch served at 11:45 at the VFW Post, 808 S Bdwy for Veterans & their families



2023 Elk Hunt!

2023 Elk Hunt took place in October. The winner of this year's Elk Hunt was Ryan Root, from Watertown. He gave his right to shoot to his grandson Jake. Jake is a high school student in Watertown.

Pictured here is Jake Root, Bill Schumaker (VVA member), Bob Frink (VVA member) and Ryan Root.

Tickets are now available for the 2024 Elk Hunt. They will be at the November meeting to pick up.



Electric Wheel Chairs available for members!

We have two electric wheel chairs. If you are a Veteran or your spouse is in need of an electric wheel chair:

Contact: Bob Syring 605-625-5010
or Phil Braeger 605-881-6782



Chapter 1054 Christmas Party

Saturday Dec 2nd
1 pm. Elk's Lodge

Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased before. They are available at Classroom Connection and can be purchased at the November meeting.

Veteran Auction- We brought things for Veterans things back from the National Convention...if you have something to donate drop it off at the Classroom Connection

**2023 Summer Picnic enjoyed
by all.....good food, good conversations
and Great Desserts!**



Gerry DeBoer and Carol Braley man the check in table.....



Sherry Janssen, Dennis Solberg and Brian DeBoer get the food line started.....



Floyd Hermans, wife Joyce,
Dave Jepseth



Mary and Doug Modica.....



The Clark guys show up....Steve and Lavita Wicks
and Greg and Dianna Overby.

Thanks to all who came in August for our Annual picnic held at the Elk's Lodge. Approximately 80 came out to share in the picnic. We had a silent auction and also auctioned off a fifth of Whiskey that has Chapter 1054 logo glass etched into the bottle. Congratulations to Floyd Herman for winning this. The club has 2 others that they will include in the Christmas Auction that we have. Thanks to the Elk's for helping make everything run smoothly and the great food.



Lori and Dean Halajian and Paul and Lori Kraai. Paul is a member of 1054 but right now is also Commander of the local VFW Post.




We have the best desserts.....we noticed that several went through this line several times.....hmmmmm

Group & Individual Sessions

**Facilitated By
Sioux Falls Vet Center**


**Veterans Social
Connection & Clinical Information**

**MEETING AT VFW
302 E Maple
SISSETON, SD
~~October 16th, 2023~~
(3rd Mondays of the month)
11:00 AM—1 PM
Please Contact:
Christopher Hicks
605-698-7376**





Veterans Mental Health

- PTSD
- MST
- Moral Injury
- Bereavement



Orlando George
Readjustment Counselor
Sioux Falls Vet Center
605-330-4552





Connection,
Comradery,
Community

Winter VVA meetings

Starting in November, general membership meetings will be at 11 am at the Elk's on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The board will meet at 10 just prior to the general member session.

Pro Am Golf Tournie


Chapter 1054 was asked to provide a color guard for the Pro Am Golf Tournie held in Sioux Falls. Jerry Denman, Bob Syring, Jim Hanson, Brian DeBoer and Greg Dubois.

2023 Veteran's Booth at the SD State Fair

This year VVA had a table at the Veteran's Bldg. We played the video, and had drawings for quilts that went to 3 people in the state. Thanks to the following for working shifts the first day of the State Fair: those included were Herb Carstens, Bob Syring, Brian & Gerry DeBorer, Curt Lamb, & Jerry Denman. That evening 9 members were awarded awards at this year's Bull Bash.

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

Nov 2023

- 4 Milbank DAV
- 5 Daylight Savings
- 6 American Legion Auxiliary
- 7 Codington Co Vets Council
- 8 VFW Auxiliary
Milbank VFW
- 9 Vets Council Radio Show
American Legion
- 10 Marine Corps Birthday
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY 
Program 10:30 am Extension Bldg
Lunch at VFW at noon
- 13 Sons of the American Legion
DAV
- 15 VFW
- 16 Legislative Round Table
11 am Wtn American Legion
- 18 **10 am VVA Chapter Board Meeting**
11 am VVA Chapter Meeting
- 20 Sons of the American Legion
- 21 Marine Corp League
Milbank American Legion
- 23 Thanksgiving Day
- 24 Holiday Lighted Parade
6 pm meet at Mark's Auto

December 2023

- 2 VVA Christmas Party, Wtn
Milbank DAV
- 4 American Legion Auxiliary
- 5 Codington Co Vet's Council
- 7 Veteran's Radio Show
Pearl Harbor Day
- 11 DAV
American Legion Riders
- 13 National Guard Birthday
VFW Aux Mtg
Milbank VFW Mtg
- 14 American Legion
- 16 10 am VVA Board of Directors
11am VVA General Mtg
- 18 Sons of the American Legion
- 19 Marine Corp League
Milbank American Legion
- 20 VFW Member Mtg
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 25 Christmas
- 31 New Years Eve

Help Needed for Holiday Lighted Parade

The Uptown Businesses are again asking for our help with security at the Holiday Lighted Parade which is held on Friday Nov 24th at 6 pm. If you can help out meet at Mark's Auto on Kemp Ave. Easy job, we just need to keep people out of the street during the parade. Call Kay at 605-886-3040 if you can help out!

Legislative Round Table

November 16th at 11am

Watertown's American Legion W Hwy 212.

Area legislators will be on hand to discuss topic of interest to all Veterans. In Sept the SD State Council meet and discussed some issues to be brought up to this session. Some concerns included: Long term Health Care issues for Veterans; facility on the east side of the state for aging Veterans, review hiring and reimbursement policy of the Hot Springs facility, (this facility is only 60% filled). Explore exempting 100% permanent and totally disabled Veterans from paying sales tax on food for the first \$5000. Also they are requesting the state GFP to issue a combination hunting and fishing license to all qualifying Veterans, at 50% off and also free or reduced admission fees for certain Veterans.

If you have any other topics you would like to bring up the area legislators, come and share your questions, ideas and concerns to those at the Round Table. These legislators represent you and will be there to hear your concerns about Veterans and Veterans benefits.

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 Legion 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 10:00 am at Elk's
VVA 1054 Reg Mtg 11 am Elk's Lodge
300 W Kemp, 3rd Saturday of the Month



CBOC News Dr. John Sneden

My HealthVet is a VA's online personal health record. Available anywhere there is Internet access. With HealthVet, you can access trusted and secure VA health information to better manage your overall health and wellness, and to put the power of prevention in your hands. For veterans, there are enhanced features and facts about VA benefits and services to which you may be entitled. After you register, you can record and track health information, vital signs and so much more.

If you are a VA patient, take a few minutes to complete the one-time registration process during your next visit. To learn more, check out www.myhealth.va.gov. When you are at the clinic, we will verify your contact information allowing you to send messages directly to your care team without having to wait on hold or wait for a call back. It is fast, easy and the preferred method of communications.

John Sneden

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

Join as a Life Member

Performance

Towing and Recovery

24 hours-Local-Long Distance

Phone (605) 753-0084

24-Hour Cell: (605) 884-6024

Toll-Free (855) 540-6689

1402 26th Street Southeast
Watertown, SD 57201

www.watertowntown.com

Light

Medium

& Heavy Duty

Thanks to

Glacial Lakes Energy

for helping
with the Fuel
for the VVA Bus!

301 20th Ave SE Watertown.SD 57201
605-882-8480



**Vietnam Veterans of
America of
Northeast
South Dakota**
PO Box 1062
Watertown, SD 57201

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
WATERTOWN, SD
PERMIT NO 9

Address Service Request

The following businesses support our newsletter. Please support them.



Offers
Homes
for
Heroes
Program

As a Veteran you qualify.....

Call Jody Fiedler
605-881-5585
or 605-753-0137



Ryan Van Dusseldorp, Owner
511 4th St SW
Watertown, SD 57201

605-882-3236
605-882-5710
fax

**HomeTown
BuildingCenter**

We Measure Up

HomeTownBuildingCenter.com

S Hwy 20

"Service You Can Depend On"



**Sales & Service
since 1911**

Appliances and
electronics for
your home!

7 N Broadway PO Box 1566 Watertown, SD
57201 605-886-4060 jim@dugansales.com
dugansalesandservice.com

Jim Dugan Co-Owner