

# **VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER #423**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**FLEET RESERVE CENTER BRANCH #16**  
**23003 56<sup>TH</sup> Ave West Montlake Terrace WA**  
**Meeting 2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday ea Month 13:00**

**DATE:**01/14/2024    **TIME START:** 14:03    **TIME END:** 15:20    **ATTENDANCE:** 16

☒ G. DELOS SANTOS JR.-PRES.    ☒ S. PENNINGTON-VP    ☒ C. YOUNG-TREAS    ☒ G.LACOMBE-SEC

☒ S. PENNINGTON-STATE DEL. CHAIR    ☒ B. CORRELL-STATE DEL    ☒ E. SHAFER-STATE DEL.

☐ F. IVARRA REGION 8 PRESIDENT

### **OFFICERS REPORT:**

#### **PRESIDENT REPORT-Greg Delos Santos Jr.**

- Update on Francisco attending the National Board of Directors Meeting, Notice had been sent out to members. January 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. Reminded members to submit any concerns, comments, or suggestions that you wanted him to bring before the Board.
- GD-summarized efforts initiated at our last board meeting to revisit our current bylaws and organization chart.
- GD-noted that 2024/2025-chapter elections are coming up for vote.
  - Nominations will be held in our March General Meeting.
  - Election of Officers will be held at our April General Meeting
  - CY raised the question of what officers are being voted on in consideration of our review of current By-Laws and Organization Chart.
    - SP outlined many of the redundant and obsolete positions contained in our current bylaws which haven't been revised since 1991.
    - SP noted we are in the process of whittling down and consolidating our organization to fit our current operations/requirements.
    - Discussion GD/CY concluding voting would be for current officers positions along with appointed state delegates, i.e. 7 positions. Future offices formed as part of the by-law/organization chart review would be filled by special election (s).

#### **VICE PRESIDENT REPORT-Steve Pennington**

- SP-Provided update on obtaining your DD214, Ordering earned Metals. Use Std Form 180, copies available-contains instructions/addresses, takes about 6 weeks to process. Can also go online Google NVRC National Personnel Records Saint Louis. Be Patient
- SP-Briefed on lost records due to Fire in the NVRC Records Center-July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1973, 16-18 Mil Records were destroyed. Following records were affected:
  - Army Discharged between Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1912 and Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1960 (Dates encompasses Korean War Veterans)
  - Air Force Discharged between Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, 1947, and Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 1964, and Last name after Harper James.

- SP-cited a story of a widow who was trying to reconcile stories she had been told and the official record which didn't agree. **The truth will be revealed**, don't let your family with the embarrassment of discovering the truth.
- Ron Foster-cited a story when he requested replacement ribbons and was also provided with ribbons that had been awarded that he had been eligible for but were not listed on his original DD214, i.e. Vietnam Gallantry Cross.
- SP-Summarized the Christmas Dinner provided to Sebastian House.
  - 15 Meals were prepared and delivered. The members are VERY appreciative of the meals. This is a yearly event, and we are anticipating repeating this Service.
  - Brief was provided of Sebastian house including requirements for getting accepted.
  - Jerry Matheson commented on his contact with Veterans at Salvation Army and what could they do to get acceptance into Sebastian House housing.
    - SP noted there is a two-step vetting process. Currently there are ~6 openings and could take around 4 weeks to complete the process. SP note he would provide Jerry Matheson with information/application and guidance on the process for acceptance.

#### SECRETARY REPORT-Jerry LaCombe

- JL notified December minutes had been issued, anyone not receiving needs to confirm having correct e-mail address. Additional hard copies are available.
- Update on Action Item addressing Directors and Officers Insurance (D&O), previously confirmed that our national insurance did not cover local chapter for D&O. Only the National and State Officers and Directors are covered by our National Insurance Policy. Accordingly, I have applied with a local, Brown and Brown, Insurance broker to obtain a quote for D&O insurance. A guess of between \$700.00 and \$1000.00 depended upon the organization.
  - Gave brief of what is covered by D&O insurance, i.e. protects officers and directors from having to put their personal assets on the line to defend a lawsuit. **(ACTION ITEM-UPDATE)**
- Update on Action Item addressing procedure covering Capital Improvement Projects (Vets with Hammers)
  - Draft Copy essentially complete, being held in abeyance pending resolution of new bylaws and organization chart. Additionally, Insurance coverage for capital projects is being investigated.
- Earl Shafer-questioned if our general liability policy covered construction projects. Confirmed it did not.
  - Terry Quick advised he was investigating and noted the following:
    - Our activities are like Habitat for Humanity, except smaller in scope.
    - We need to be listed with the State Labor and Industries and have a Bond in Place. If cited not having are paperwork/bond in place, we would be subject to a \$10,000.00 Fine.
  - Terry Quick provided a brief discussion he is having with Brown and Brown about what are the exclusions cited in our National General Liability policy. Discussion on activities we are involved in and what coverage is provided. Response from Brown and Brown pending **(ACTION ITEM-UPDATE)**.
  - JL-Gave explanation of our insurance records-VVA 0423 has a copy of what is termed an ACCORD Short Form Declaration page. This is not the actual policy, analogy Car Insurance policy vs a card proving you have insurance that you carry in your glove box. Items on the short form that are noteworthy summarize what is not covered. Does not provide what are the deductibles' etc., need the actual policy.
  - GD-noted that all activities involving construction projects (Vets W/Hammers) are to be held in abeyance pending resolution of our Insurance and State requirements.
- Brian Seguin noted that in the December minutes the spelling of his last name was in error listed as Sequin.

- Provided update on Honor Flight noted that in December minutes, page 3, listed if your number is < 200 expect call in April, should read <50.
- JL noted that Bob Correll had advised, after December meeting reporting, that an action item about a \$289.00 web page invoice was not valid and could be closed.
- JL noted that Action item for Chris and Brian regarding American Legion Post 37 funding for Veteran Financial Assistance has been resolved.
- JL advised he had prepared a full yearly calendar of events and will be appending to the meeting minutes. Additionally, if any members want an event added to the calendar please advise. The calendar will be updated periodically.
- Special recognition was given from the floor praising the “End of Year Dinner” as the best.
- JL noted we had submitted an application/proclamation for VVA #423 to be listed as a “Purple Heart Entity” Questioned if receipt had been received by anyone-Response negative, can expect at any time.
  - A purple heart entity is given to an organization (entity) that recognizes (proclaims) the sacrifice that purple heart recipients have made for our country.

#### TREASURES REPORT-Chris Young

• <b>CHECKING</b>		
○ Beginning Balance		<b>\$32,382.76</b>
▪ Deposits (Clover Refund)	\$99.00	
▪ Expenses		
• Hammers Supplies, PO Box, Supplies, Annual Dinner	\$2,996.22	
• Sabastian House (15) Holiday Dinner	\$1,509.70	
• *,**Veteran Financial Assistance (VVA 423 R.T.)	\$2,415.00	
○ Ending Balance		<b>\$25,560.84</b>
• <b>SAVINGS</b>		
○ Beginning Balance		<b>\$2,930.64</b>
▪ Deposits-Total	\$801.32	
• **Heroes Café-Lynnwood (11/29/23)	\$300.00	
• **American Legion Post 66 (11/29/23)	\$300.00	
• **VFW Post 1040 (12/16/23)	\$300.00	
• *American Legion Post 227 (12/18/23)	<b>\$500.00</b>	
• *American Legion Post 37 (1/2/24)	<b>\$300.00</b>	
• Interest Earned	<b>\$1.32</b>	
* Deposits made in January to be credited toward VVA Chapter 423 Veteran Assistance		
** Deposits made in December and credited toward VVA Chapter 423 Veteran Assistance		
• Current Balance		<b>\$3,731.96</b>
• <b>VETS W/HAMMERS (Credit Card)</b>		
○ Beginning Balance		\$814.33
▪ Funds Used	\$0.00	
▪ Budget Transfer	\$185.60	
▪ Interest	\$0.07	
○ Ending Balance		<b>\$1,000.00</b>
• <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$30,292.80</b>

CY-Highlighted the recent contributions made by other organizations in support of Veterans needing assistance. Advised that wanted to set up a meeting with these organizations to discuss how we can team up to provide assistance to Veterans. **ACTION ITEM**

CY-noted \$1,700.00 along with VVA 423 contribution of \$715.00 totaling \$2,415.00 had been donated to assist a local Veteran with financial assistance. Certificates of Appreciation would be sent-**ACTION ITEM**

#### STATE DELEGATE CHAIRMAN-Steve Pennington

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE-Chris Young
  - CY Noted the current membership at 115 members.
  - CY Encouraged members to look ahead (calendar of events) for how they can participate in helping with upcoming events.
  - CY Introduced John Rheaume “At large Member” met during our last Poppy Sales Event. Gave update of Service Army Vietnam Vet.
  - Greg D.-Updates National Roster Listings
    - George Kaufman was listed on our roster as a pending (DD214) member. George has been dropped from our roster.
    - David Powell, Transfer from chapter 102 now listed on National Roster
    - John Veentjer, New member now listed on National Roster.
    - Tim Miller, New member now listed on National Roster.
    - Bob Durant, New member now listed on National Roster.
- VETS WITH HAMMERS-Earl Shafer
  - Confirmed pending Insurance issues being resolved, projects are on hold.
  - ES noted that similar efforts are being taken by “Master Builder Associations” for building wheelchair ramps. Applications are available for needy people. **See Earl and will help with application.** They have a large crew and take on projects once a month.
  - CY brought up case of a grandson (9 yrs) of a Vietnam Vet in need of assistance for a wheelchair ramp. Also wanted to have his wheelchair modified/repared and did we have any advice. ES noted should refer to **Jackie Hall Donors Closet-Edmonds.**
  - Terry Quick noted that Home Depot and Lowes are willing to help needy Vets and seek out the store manager for assistance.
- WEB PAGE & FACE BOOK-Bob Correll
  - BC summarized the past several years managing our social media network, including face book, web page and has been transitioning the face book page from his personal account to Google - “VVA 423”- members only. Do not need to query address VVA 423.org. As a member you can post pictures, subject to approval, see/communicate with other members.
  - GD announced we are still looking for someone to transition into taking over duties of managing our social media network. **See either Greg or Bob for information and discussions.**
  - CY questioned the time commitment that would be needed, depending on background and current level of experience level. **Also noted that our web page is paid up through 2025.**
- COMMUNITY AFFAIRS-John Henderson
  - John Henderson-Annual Year End Dinner Chairman
    - Chris and Deb Young
    - Jerry and Jann LaCombe
    - Terry Quick
    - Richie Richter
    - Kathleen Henderson

Summarized events culminating with an overwhelmingly successful Dinner.

  - Evaluated 3 prospective caterers including:
    - Zian Jung (SP)-Asian Cuisine
    - Lombardi’s-Italian Cuisine

- Erwin Brecher-Executive Chef Mario Andretti Racing-American Cuisine
  - 3 Proposed menus to select from
  - Prepared on site, from scratch.
  - Provide price estimate that included:
    - Flat Fee for Chef-\$600.00
    - Food offered at cost.
- Cost Comparisons (Includes all costs + donations for Helpers)
  - Last Year 2023 Chef Dane                      60 attend                      tot cost \$6,151.44
  - This Year 2024 Chef Brecher                      95 attend                      total cost \$3,990.00
- Detailed cost comparisons from last and this year dinners are available for next years committee to use.

#### Upcoming BBQ Discussion

- Terry Quick suggested we secure Erwin Brecher to cater our BBQ. John Henderson noted the BBQ event is being planned as a much more casual event with member potluck. Venue would be at Silver Lake with focus on family fun and games at the park.
- Focus of the event is to celebrate our purple heart veterans. VVA #0423 has 5 known purple heart recipients.

## **OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS:**

### 01-14-2024

- Chris Young-present certificates of appreciation to organizations that contributed to the need Veteran Housing.
- Chris Young- Set up meeting with similar Veteran Assistance Organizations to discuss common goals and how we can support each other to provide needy veterans with assistance.
- Jerry LaCombe-Provide final findings on acquiring Directors and Officers Insurance for our Chapter

### 12-10-2023

- ~~Chris Young/Bob Correll-Review bill of \$289.00 for Web Page payment.~~
- ~~Greg Delos Santos-Make presentation of Certificates of appreciation to Northlake Christian Church and American Heritage Girls organization at Annual VVA Dinner.~~
- Terry Quick-Investigate and Report on obtaining a chapter tax accountant and obtaining insurance coverage for Volunteer Labor, UPDATE 1-14-2024
- ~~Brian Seguin/Chris Young-report on funding available from American Legion Post 37 for Tartar January rent.~~
- Membership Committee-Consider investigating acquiring a VVA Chpt 423 shirt for our membership.

### 11-16-23

- Chris Young-help develop a card size information guide describing the Vietnam Poppy color scheme along with contact information for our VVA chapter.
- Greg Delos Santos-Provide lists of members to be contacted for updates on status, phone numbers, emails, addresses and welfare.

### 08-13-23 Meeting

- Chris Young follow-up on BECU funding assist for 2024 BBQ

### 09-10-23 Meeting

- ~~J LaCombe-Status update on "Capital Improvement Procedure"~~

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2024

- ~~**12-12-2023 Heroes Café Shoreline Luncheon**~~

John Hosey (VVA Member & Korean War Veteran) will be presenting presentation on his "Military Experience".

Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00

- ~~**1-6-2024 VVA Chpt. 423 Annual Year End Dinner (RSVP)**~~

Northlake Christian Church  
19029 North Road  
Bothell WA 98012  
16:00 to 20:00

- ~~**1-9-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**~~

Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00

- ~~**1-10-2024 Pacific Northwest Veteran Assistance Art Reception**~~

Michael Regan and Jake Powell Artists  
Lynnwood City Hall  
49400 44 Ave W  
Lynnwood WA 98036  
17:30 to 19:00

- ~~**01-14-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**~~

Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
23003 56th Ave W  
Montlake Terrace WA  
13:00 to 15:00

- ~~**1-16-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**~~

American Legion Post 127  
21020 State Rt. 99 SE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
11:00

- ~~**1-23-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**~~

New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
09:00 to 13:00

- ~~**1-26-2024 Red Cross Blood Drive**~~

American Legion Post 227, Starr Sutherland  
14521 17th Ave NE  
Shoreline WA 98155  
11:00 to 16:00

- **2-08-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**

**Suicide Awareness**  
New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
11:30 to 13:00

- **02-11-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
 CANCELED-Superbowl Weekend  
 Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
 23003 56th Ave W  
 Montlake Terrace WA  
 13:00 to 15:00
- **2-12-2024 Linda Daniels Memorial Services**  
 Purdy & Walters Floral Hills  
 409 Filbert Road  
 Lynnwood WA 98133  
 13:00
- **2-12-2024 Pacific Northwest Veterans Assist**  
 Operation Paint to Heal  
 Lynnwood Library Main Event Room  
 19200 44<sup>th</sup> Ave W Lynnwood WA 98036  
 From 13:00 to 16:00
- **2-13-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **2-20-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00
- **2-27-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **03-10-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
**Officer Nominations 2020/2025**  
 Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
 23003 56th Ave W  
 Montlake Terrace WA  
 13:00 to 15:00
- **3-12-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **3-19-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00
- **3-22-2024 Red Cross Blood Drive**  
 American Legion Post 227, Starr Sutherland  
 14521 17th Ave NE  
 Shoreline WA 98155

11:00 to 16:00

- **3-26-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
09:00 to 13:00
- **4-tbd-2024 VVA WA State Council Meeting**  
Toppenish WA,  
Yakima Warriors Assoc.  
Legends Casino Hotel
- **4-9-2024 Heroes Café-Shoreline Luncheon**  
Steve Pennington-USAF, Vietnam Veteran  
Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00
- **04-14-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
**Officer Elections 2024/2025**  
Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
23003 56th Ave W  
Montlake Terrace WA  
13:00 to 15:00
- **4-16-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
American Legion Post 127  
21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
11:00
- **4-23-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
09:00 to 13:00
- **5-tbd-2024 VVA Chpt. 423 Memorial Day Weekend Event**  
Purdy & Walters at Floral Hills  
409 Filbert Rd, Lynnwood WA
- **05-12-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
23003 56th Ave W  
Montlake Terrace WA  
13:00 to 15:00
- **5-14-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
Speaker Carl Kurfess  
Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00
- **5-17-2024 Red Cross Blood Drive**  
American Legion Post 227, Starr Sutherland  
14521 17th Ave NE  
Shoreline WA 98155  
11:00 to 16:00



- **5-21-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
American Legion Post 127  
21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
11:00
- **5-28-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
09:00 to 13:00
- **06-09-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
23003 56th Ave W  
Montlake Terrace WA  
13:00 to 15:00
- **6-11-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
Speaker Dennis Gibb  
Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00
- **6-15&16-2024 Moses Lake Air Show**  
Grant County International Airport  
7810 Andrews St. NE  
Moses Lake WA 98837
- **6-18-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
American Legion Post 127  
21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
11:00
- **6-25-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
New Life Church  
6519 188th St SW  
Lynnwood WA 98037  
09:00 to 13:00
- **7-9-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
Speaker Open Mike  
Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
From 09:00 to 13:00
- **07-14-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
23003 56th Ave W  
Montlake Terrace WA  
13:00 to 15:00
- **7-16-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
American Legion Post 127  
21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
Woodinville, WA 98072  
11:00

- **7-23-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **7-26-2024 Red Cross Blood Drive**  
 American Legion Post 227, Starr Sutherland  
 14521 17th Ave NE  
 Shoreline WA 98155  
 11:00 to 16:00
- **8-03-2024 VIETNAM VETS "Welcome Home BBQ"**  
 Ande Mitchell's Place (360)-708-3268  
 6254 Fruitdale North  
 Sedro Wooley, WA 98204  
 11:00 to 15:00
- **08-11-2024 VVA Chpt. 423 Annual BBQ Potluck**  
 Camp Paterson Picnic Shelter  
 Silver Lake -Sullivan Park  
 Everett Wa
- **8-13-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Speaker Open Mike  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **8-20-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00
- **8-27-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **09-08-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
 Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
 23003 56th Ave W  
 Montlake Terrace WA  
 13:00 to 15:00
- **9-10-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Speaker Open Mike  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **9-17-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00

- **9-24-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **10-8-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Speaker Open Mike  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **10-13-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
 Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
 23003 56th Ave W  
 Montlake Terrace WA  
 13:00 to 15:00
- **10-15-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00
- **10-22-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **11-10-2024 VVA Chpt 423 General Meeting**  
 Fleet Reserve Center Branch 18  
 23003 56th Ave W  
 Montlake Terrace WA  
 13:00 to 15:00
- **11-12-2024 Heroes Café Shoreline**  
 Speaker Open Mike  
 Seattle Scottish Rite Center  
 1207N 152nd Street, Shoreline WA 98133  
 From 09:00 to 13:00
- **11-19-2024 Heroes Café Woodinville**  
 American Legion Post 127  
 21920 State Rt. 99 SE  
 Woodinville, WA 98072  
 11:00
- **11-26-2024 Heroes Café Lynnwood**  
 New Life Church  
 6519 188th St SW  
 Lynnwood WA 98037  
 09:00 to 13:00
- **11-tbd-2024 VVA Chpt. 423 Annual Poppy Fund Raiser**

Multiple Fred Meyer Locations  
Everett WA

- **11-tbd-2024 Mill Creek Veterans Day Parade**  
Mill Creek, WA