



# Vietnam Veterans Of America Chapter One

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January 2016



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## MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING

Jan. 14, 2016

A nominal meeting of the Board of Directors took place at the start. Directors present included President Andy Megrath; John McLaughlin, treasurer; and Dick Doyle, director. There being no business for the board to conduct, the regular meeting began.

Besides the directors listed above, those attending included Larry Lyman.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer John McLaughlin reported \$48,979 in the chapters bank accounts. His report was approved unanimously.

Membership stands at 143, plus five lifetime associate members.

Andy Megrath read a letter from Kyra Dugento, his granddaughter, thanking us for the \$500 the chapter donated to her for a student exchange trip to Germany this spring. Kyra came before the chapter at our September meeting with German exchange student and friend Jan Lotter from Bochum, Germany, where Kyra will visit. Jana has returned home, but the two girls will reunite when Kyra visits in April for 12 days.

Here is a portion of what Kyra said in her letter:

“As a whole, this exchange has been one of the most positive things in my life during my senior year and I am so incredibly thankful that you all are a part of it.

“As the trip draws closer, I find myself really looking forward to the more academic aspects of the exchange. As of now we plan to visit the Holocaust Memorial, Hitler’s Bunker, Checkpoint Charlie [in Berlin], and other historical sites while in Germany, and that really excites me because learning facts in a classroom is one thing, but seeing things in person is a whole other situation.

“I would love to speak to you all again when I return and present pictures and information about the places we visit.

“Once again, I want to thank you for your contribution, it truly means a lot to me. I hope you all are well and I look forward to seeing you again after my trip.

“Thank you for your help, and thank you for your service.”

Andy recently went to Montpelier with Christine Morgan, executive director of Rutland’s Dodge House for homeless veterans, to testify with other veterans service organizations before the General, Housing and Veterans Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

The next VVA State Council meeting will be in Chester. Andy Megrath said the chapter can have two alternate delegates to the State Council, and Dick Doyle volunteered to be one of them. The current regular delegates are Andy, John McLaughlin and Dave Mathis. If a member would like to be a delegate to the State Council, the chapter will pay \$50 for attending.

The winner of the \$50 attendance lottery was John McLaughlin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Crowther, secretary

**THE CHAPTER WILL HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 10, AT 6 P.M.  
AT THE CHAPTER OFFICES AT THE VFW, 15 WALES ST., RUTLAND.  
A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL PRECEDE THE REGULAR MEETING.**