



# Vietnam Veterans Of America Chapter One

[www.vvachapter1.com](http://www.vvachapter1.com)

March 2016



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## MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING March 10, 2016

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

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

The minutes of the January meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer John McLaughlin reported \$52,189 in the chapter's bank accounts. His report was approved unanimously.

Membership stands at 145 regular members, plus five lifetime associate members.

Jack Crowther, appointed to nominate officers and board members for the coming year, nominated the existing slate. These consist of Andy Megrath, president; Dave Mathis, vice president; John McLaughlin, treasurer; Jack Crowther, secretary; and George Henry, Dick Doyle, Joanne Reynolds, Mike Divoll and Bill Whitney, directors.

Anyone interested in an office is welcome to submit his or her name or have a member nominate them. Feel free to attend the April 21 Annual Meeting, or if unable to attend have someone submit your name. You may also contact any officer or email Andy Megrath at [vthogman@comcast.net](mailto:vthogman@comcast.net).

The slate was accepted in a unanimous vote. This simply means they will be nominated. Other names are welcome.

There will be a Vietnam Veteran 50th Commemoration Ceremony Tuesday, March 29, in White River Junction at the White River Vet Center and the VA Medical Center in White River. All veterans who served between Nov. 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975, will be recognized. You **DO NOT** need to be enrolled in VA Healthcare to participate.

Here is the schedule:

### **At the WRJ Vet Center**

6:15 a.m. Reveille at WRJ Veteran's Park

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at WRJ Veterans Park

7 - 10 a.m. Free breakfast at the Vet's Center

**At the VA Medical Center**

1 p.m. Formal presentation and recognition ceremony

2 p.m. Reception (refreshments in the lobby)

You may call 866-687-8387, Ext. 5397 for details. The VA web site at <http://www.whiteriver.va.gov/> or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/VAWhiteRiverJunction> are also listed for more information but didn't seem to offer specifics on the event at the time this newsletter was written.

The Vet Center is in Suite 100 of a new building located at 118 Prospect St., along the Connecticut River.

There was some discussion, but no action to be taken, concerning the work of service officers, that is, the people who assist vets in submitting claims to the VA. Andy Megrath was firm in his opinion that anyone with a claim needs to go through a service officer. However, he expressed some dissatisfaction with lack of responsiveness on the part of some service officers, finding the most success with the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs.

The winner of the \$50 attendance lottery was Andy Megrath.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Crowther, secretary

**THE CHAPTER WILL HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 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.**