



THE FWCVHPA NEWSLETTER

FORT WOLTERS CHAPTER - VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

An independent organization not under control nor authorized to act as an agent or representative of the VHPA.

March, 2016

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President's Blurb

Well, if you missed the last chapter meeting you missed a great opportunity to be part of making the chapter a member of the Builders Club of The National Vietnam War Museum. That club has a one time payment of ten thousand dollars and we had 11 people step up with \$1,000 dollars to donate in the chapters' name. But here's another opportunity - If the Chapter donates \$25,000 (total) then we can get our name on the OH-23 that will be on display in Phase 1 of the museum. I understand you TH-55 guys may not like that bird, but it was the first trainer and the museum has one. It's going to go into the shop soon to be dismantled, cleaned and re-assembled for display. The \$11,000 that we sent in will count so we need only 14 more people to send checks for \$1,000 to the museum PO Box 146, Mineral Wells, TX 76068. Get the checks moving ASAP. Put a note with the check that it is for the Builders Club; Jim Messinger will get it into the right bank. We got 11 people at the last meeting with only 20 members in attendance. There are 200 members out there.

UPDATE Since the meeting, we have already collected 2 more donors so now we just need 12 more to get the helicopter named with FWCVHPA on it. Also, the Museum Building fund is now at 180,000, so only 82 more members at \$10,000 each are needed to build the museum. Jim Messinger

Notes from the Vice President

Reminder for our next meeting: Wear your name tag so I won't address you by "Hey You".

I've had good response for "Did You Know". Our next celebrity is Tom Lawrence: From milking cows in upstate Maryland, Tom's very first flight was commercial from Baltimore to Dallas, he got airsick which did not start his flying experience off on good footing. His first Nam tour was with Dustoff at Pleiku in 1966, the second was flying Chinooks in 1968. After service he ran a motorcycle shop in Waco,

got smart and married a native Texas girl. Tom spent 35 years in the motorcycle industry as a factory rep. for BMW. He says" riding is the closest thing to flying without leaving the ground".

Donald R. Ancelin
chopperdon@sbcglobal.net

Secretary Stuff

For questions or actions about membership, dues, change of address and email issues, contact Jerry Barnes at baron67@verizon.net or 214-212-0761.

You can update your contact info with VHPA on-line at:
<https://directory.vhpa.org/login.php>. Log in and click on "Update My Information."

Treasurer's Report

First order of business is to recognize the 13 that responded to the funding request: Gary Fowler, Gerald Brazell, Ed Faught, Gary Salisbury, Jim Hart, Adam Steczko, Phil McMillen, Rick Couch, Tom Lawrence, Mike Sheuerman, Jim Messinger, Bill Kane, and Jack Lowey

Our treasury is in excellent shape with \$ 2,573.25 in cash and \$1,483.92 in the CD for a total of \$ 4,057.17 in our account.

FWCVHPA Meeting Minutes 5 December 2015

Editor's note: minutes edited for space.

Executive Council Meeting

Members in Attendance: Ed Faught, Don Ancelin, Adam Steczko, Rick Couch, Pat Richardson, and Jim Messinger.

The meeting was called to order at 1110 hours.

The issue of how to timely inform the membership of events, most notably, the passing of members remains an issue. The chapter website has the ability to send mass mailings, but the use of this feature remains a mystery to most.

The next issue of the newsletter will be the first on-line version; this again identifies the need for the membership's need to be versed in the on-line tools. Additional input, such as photos will be able to be incorporated into the on-line only version of the newsletter.

The need for executive leadership to document and to centrally store these document was identified again. Executive po-

sition holders will document their activities in support of the organization, and forward them to Ed Faught for storage on the chapter web site. The General membership will need to also document the activities they perform for the chapter as well as the Museum.

Adam has volunteered to assume the monument maintenance function performed by Virgil. This will entail regular visits to the monument for inspection, and cleaning.

The General Membership Meeting followed at 1132 hours.

The president called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ed Faught again led the charge informing the membership of how to add themselves to the chapter mailing list. This is an important tool in keeping the membership informed. The chapter website is <http://fwcvhpa.org>

The executive council will review the Chapter by-laws to add a chapter dissolution section, as well as any other needed updates.

Good news for vets in the Plano area! A new VA clinic will be open there in the May / June time frame. About time.

Pins for the 50th Commemorative of the Vietnam War were distributed to those in attendance.

Mike Sheuerman indicated that the 2018 Reunion will be held in Atlanta, and that there would be seven Cobras and six Hueys available for rides (for a fee). For the Reno Reunion, there are three levels of room rates: \$89, \$99, and \$129. More details available on line. The hotel is also offering a 10% discount for purchases at the hotel for those displaying their lanyards.

Mike also indicated that you may now re-new you National VHPA dues on line.

To ensure that your obit accurately details your military service, you may consider writing the obit yourself. This will also relieve your next-of-kin of this detail during a very stressful time.

Jim Messinger presented an update to the Museum's building strategy. He petitioned the members in attendance for a \$10,000 donation for the Chapter. His request was for 10 members to donate \$1,000 each. The Chapter's members responded, and the chapter raised the \$11,000. Well done to those generous families.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1202.

Adam Steczko
Past President & Scribe

VHPA 2016 REUNION

**33rd Reunion will be at the
Peppermill Hotel, Reno, NV
6 - 10 July 2016**

Reunion details are available on the VHPA website - <http://www.vhpa.org/news.htm>. The registration webpage is <https://reunion.vhpa.org/>.

PAY YOUR CHAPTER DUES!

Now \$20 per year - (still cheap)!

The number after your name on the address page of your mailed copy is the year that your membership expires. Pay in person to the secretary or treasurer or mail to the return address shown on this Newsletter. The expiration date is January, regardless of the year. Send more money (\$20 per year) and you can extend your membership for as many years as you like. If the date is 2016 or lower, you have expired. Well, maybe not *YOU*, but your membership has.

The National Vietnam War Museum, Inc.

Space constraints do not permit listing Museum events in the mail version of this edition of the Newsletter. See the Museum website, <http://www.nationalvnwarmuseum.org> for details. The on-line edition includes Museum info on Page 4.

Fort Wolters VHPA Chapter web site
<http://www.fwcvhpa.org>

You can now join the *Chapter*, pay your dues, buy *Chapter* paraphernalia, join "Friends of the Museum" and buy *Museum* bricks using MasterCard or Visa via our secure server connection.

Current Chapter Officers

Ed Faught	President
Don Ancelin	Vice President
Ada Adam Steczko	Imed. Past President
Rick Couch	Sr. Member-at-Large
Ch John Grow	Midterm Member-at-Large
Pat Richardson	Jr. Member-at-Large
Jerry Barnes	Secretary
Jim Messinger	Treasurer

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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For Chapter info, rattle these cages. Someone will eventually answer. Landline - 940-325-8427 or Fax - 940-325-4009

MEETING NOTICE

The next Quarterly Meeting will be on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at Logan's Road House, 948 N.E. Loop 820 in Hurst. Spouses and guests are welcome. The EC meets precisely between 11 and 11:30 or so with the general membership meeting immediately following. The Chapter pays for nothing; you are on your own for food and drinks. We do have a deal with Logan's for a flat rate, \$20, menu and free peanuts (you may throw the shells on the floor).