

# Veterans for Peace- Chapter 27

## August 18<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting Minutes

### Chapter 27 Monthly Meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

5:05 PM to 6:05 PM Executive Committee Meeting (All Welcome)

6:05 PM to 8:00 PM General Monthly meeting

VFP office 1806 Riverside Ave., Minneapolis MN. (Above the Acadia Café)

Agenda items call Larry Johnson 612-747-3904

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### 5:05 p.m. EXECUTIVE MEETING

#### “Power to the Peaceful”

**QUOTE: “War is the greatest plague that can afflict humanity; it destroys religions, it destroys states, it destroys families. Any scourge is preferable to it.”**  
~ Martin Luther

#### **5 p.m. EXECUTIVE MEETING - August 18, 2013**

Attending: Wayne Wittman, Bruce Barry, Dave Logsdon, Larry Johnson, Steve Gates, Mary McNellis, Barry Riesch, Chante Wolf.

**Keith Ellison:** Keith just got back from the region with the group, Tellos trip to Palestine and Israel with APAC. Wants to get more people to go and offer Christians a more balanced view of the situation, but nothing more can happen right now. VFP received an official copy of the Kellogg/Briand Pac that was in the Congressional record. Still waiting for meeting set up with Keith.

**Canoe Raffle Dinner:** Dave Logsdon hasn't gotten the program together yet, if anyone would like to help him please contact: 612-204-9768. Larry will get the food. Event is at the WAMM office 4200 Cedar, September 21st, 6:30. Next VFP meeting is Sept. 8th, and he should have something by then.

**PeaceStock:** They were short this year funding wise. Some talk was that folks wanted to help out, but also perhaps a more of a regional meeting type of thing and save the costs of paying for outside speakers. Barry suggested it could be an opportunity to strategize with the regional folks. Whatever the discussion, Red Wing chapter needs to be a part of it since they are the ones who have been organizing these in the past.

**Retreat:** 1st weekend in October in Twin Harbor on Lake Superior. Opening for 12 to 14 people or more if they want to camp out. 3 spaces for couples, others can sleep on couch, floor etc. Others can stay in town, or camping grounds. Looking to also have a professional facilitator. Gooseberry Falls, Split Rock or Duluth can accommodate people as well, as we don't want to limit those attending, just the first place Dave got for this can not house more than 14 people. If you want to participate contact: Dave Logsdon: 612-204-9768.

**National Convention:** Wayne suggested that the boundaries of both local and national need to be made for input and control. Bruce felt that having the banquet on Friday instead of Saturday, made Saturday fall apart and people left early. Barry felt that with Vietnam history being rewritten, VFP should be ready to send out articles articulating the truth to the media. Many resolutions including one on Syria and no military intervention. Other issues about sexual harassment and trying to open the organization to women and people of color.

**\* Meeting Adjourned --- This Month's Meeting is Dedicated to Bob Heberle ~ Thank you for ALL your tireless efforts for over 20 + years with peace and social justice!!!**

**\* MOVIES: "The Good Soldier", "We Were Soldiers in the 'War on Terror'", "Where Soldiers Come From".**

## 6:05 p.m. GENERAL MEETING

**Attending:** Andy Berman, Terry Burke, Steve McKewon, Wayne Wittman, Bruce Barry, Dave Logsdon, Larry Johnson, Mary McNellis, Steve Gates, Chante Wolf, Barry Riesch.

**Call to Order and Statement of Purpose** - Read by: Andy Berman.

**Check-in:** Short introduction, check-in.

**Member Welfare:** Andy Berman reported that both his Leukemia and Lymphoma are in remission, and the doctors believe the Lymphoma is totally eradicated. Bob Heberle was joined by over 20 Chapter 27 members today, to give him the National VFP medal for lifetime accomplishment. Stories were told from members whom he has touched over the many, many dedicated years to VFP and the peace and justice movements. He was very touched. He will remain at his home with hospice care as he prepares for his untimely death. Please contact him if you want to stop in for a visit ~ and remember not to squeeze him tight as he had surgery on his middle back. 612-789-9020. Pat Downey made mention at Bob's that he is losing his memory and could not recall past events with many people. Please hold him in your prayers along with his wife, Jennie. Tom Dooley who is now 87 years young is struggling with failing eyes and leg problems. Charlie Bloss is still struggling with his cancer care and treatment, but still tries to give it his all. To all mentioned above and those we are not aware of we at Chapter 27 hold all in the care of the Divine with all our love and thanks for the hard work of peace and justice.

**EXECUTIVE REPORT:** Report above. Thanks to Greg Hagen for the work he has been doing on emailings and with the website.

### **REPORTS:**

**Secretary-Last Months Minutes:** Moved to accept - second - passed.

**Treasurer:** Moved to accept - second - passed. Attached below.

**Finance Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Communications:** Dave submitted for a KFAI Wave Project for the next year. The History Theater will be getting together a play about "The Things They Carried" and another around women in combat. Would also be good to press them about putting together something around the Kellogg/Briand Pact.

**Life Member from Charlie Atkins :** He donated \$250 for the work around Kellogg/Briand Pact but thinking to expand it to across the country. He has unfortunately since passed away.

**VFP Passes Resolution in New 9/11 Investigation:** Veterans For Peace May Be First Anti-War Group to Demand a New 9/11 Investigation.

**Events:** Nancy Harris Memorial is scheduled for Aug. 22nd at 7 pm at the Stoneyard Hobgoblin Music Barn. People are invited to donate in lieu of flowers to NOW (National Organization for Women), PFLAG, League of Women Voters or Planned Parenthood. Aug. 27th event at Kellogg house. Sept.15th protest at Camp Ripley, 11

am to 1 pm at the main gate. Camp Ripley is home of the \$4 Million dollar Drone training facility. It is the same day that they are holding their annual, Open House to promote itself as a 'good neighbor'. There will be a pot luck at Morrison County Park afterwards. [www.brainerdpeace.org](http://www.brainerdpeace.org) Sept. 21st is our Canoe Raffle held at the WAMM office: 4200 Cedar, September 21st, 6:30. VFP invited to table at WAMM Silent auction Sept 22nd ~ \$25 per person .. Duck soup movie making fun of going to war. Sept. 28th Anti-War & WAMM Action Against Drones: Sept. 28th leave to Chicago to protest Boeing, at Millennium Park at 3 pm. Sunday, Sept. 29th Conference, "Building the Movement Against Drones Conference", 9:30 am-3 pm. \$40 per ticket to ride the van, scholarships available, bring your own food or food money, housing available. 612-827-5364 for more information. Sept. 22nd WAMM Silent Auction: 5 to 8 pm: St. Joan of Arc Church, 4537 Third Ave. S. Mpls. Anyone wanting to host a table, cost is \$25 a chair. 612-296-6796 for more information. October 21st: MAP Annual Celebration, "Our Vanishing Liberties: Drones, NSA and Executive Overreach", 511 Groveland at Lyndale, Mpls. 6 pm, 7 pm presentation, \$5 a ticket. 612-522-1861 for more information.

**SOA:** Larry & Mary McNellis met with Pepperwolf to see if it can get off the ground. Pepperwolf is trying to get connections at the local colleges and universities. Got already a bus and hotel reserved. Plymouth church will allow folks to park. Looking at overall cost of closer to \$300 per person. VFP will be in charge of the bus. Wayne said that \$1400 is seed money from the last trip is already in place. Wayne and Ward are willing to go, but only if VFP is in charge of the bus and the educational opportunities it presents, not the agenda of the college students or others. Thank you Mary for stepping in and helping out regardless of the shaky ground the event started out with. We have 48 seats and if they don't fill we still have 30 days to cancel. Wayne moves that we charter one bus for SOA. Second. Passed.

**MAP:** No meeting held.

**Kellogg/ Briand Pact:** Proclamation to be submitted to St. Paul City Hall, August 21st, Room 300 @ 15 W Kellogg, at 3:30 pm. The resolution will be brought forward by Council member David Thune for the purpose of proclaiming August 27th, 2013 as "Kellogg Briand Peace Day" in celebration of the 85th anniversary of the Pact signed by 84 countries, including the United States. Dave Thune whose Ward has the Kellogg house in it's district. UPDATE: This was passed unanimously and looks good to go forward.

**Kellogg House Event:** St. Paul on Aug. 27th, at 633 Fairmont (off of Dale and Grand), there will be a celebratory event at the Kellogg house by the people renting it. StarTrib journalist, Ruben Rosairio will be asked by Larry to publish a piece around the Kellogg Briand Pact and it's 85th anniversary, and hoping to get other press to cover it as well. Aiki Brookstone, a two time Pulitzer nominee, will read a special poem she wrote for the occasion. The writer for the Broadway play about the 1914 Christmas Truce will be the main speaker. There is only room for 50 people and that limit has been met. There were special invitations to Polly Mann and Don Irish. Carpooling is suggested as parking is tight.

Steve will get directions out and there will be a representative from the local Cable TV will be videotaping the whole event. Steve got an article in the WAMM newsletter.

**Bradley Manning:** Thinking about what to do to support him. Then a good article in the StarTrib (AP), “A Decade of Pentagon Struggles Laid Bare During Manning Trial” about what he was doing and why. David Swanson ~ “Let’s Try Democracy” article.

<http://www.gazettenet.com/home/8082627-95/manning-trial-lays-bare-a-decade-of-pentagon-struggles>

**Bell Making Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for August 28th at 3:30 Nicolette Coffee House.

**Letter to Churches:** Larry wrote a draft letter that Mary will help to get it mailed out.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted, Chante Wolf.** [chantewolf7@gmail.com](mailto:chantewolf7@gmail.com) (Any corrections, please bring to next meeting and they will be addressed in the minutes).

VFP- TREASURER'S REPORT 7/14/13 to 8/16/13

**OPENING BALANCE**

\$9,355.78

**EXPENSE**

\$600.00

NCLP - rent, August.

Wayne Wittman - printing & postage for minutes, July.

\$19.69

Wayne Wittman - State of MN - tax related fee

\$25.00

Century Link - phone and internet

\$107.01

DNR Printing - product for sale

\$954.80

\$1,706.50

Total

**INCOME**

\$1,140.00

Donations

Product sale

\$1,218.00

Raffle tickets - 2013

\$652.00

\$3,010.00

Total

\$10,659.28

**CLOSING BALANCE**

**BELL GRANT ACCOUNT**

\$8,700.00

(Grant from MN State Arts Board for bell casting project)