

NEW York STATE COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2010
OWEGO, NEW YORK

Roll call was taken at 9:00 am. 21 of the 38 New York chapters were represented. There were about 50 members present.

The president, Ned Foote started the meeting with some remarks including information about trying to bring to light the task to integrate P.T.S.D., the VAHCS treatment program and outside medical health practitioners. It is N.Y.S.C. position that this shared information can only aid in the diagnosis and treatment of the problem.

Coming up at the April 2010 N.Y.S.C. meeting, the council will have a speaker informing members about veteran's death benefits. This should be particularly informative coupled with the councils push to educate funeral directors about veterans and their benefit entitlements.

The N.Y.S.C. is still working hard to get all New York chapters to submit a historical account of each chapter. Greg Cain is currently working on the project and could use any help offered. Our older members could be a great help with the project. Please consider helping Greg out. Our legacy as an organization needs to be preserved and this is a good way to do it. Vietnam veterans get little enough recognition for our contribution to America. Lets preserve our history while there is still time.

The Jamestown chapter made a very generous contribution to the N.Y.S.C. service officer's program. The amount given was \$5,000. That along with the \$3,000 yearly contribution from chapter 20(Rochester) and the \$1,000 chapter 77 gives will go a long way to help Dee Garcia and Jennifer Setlock do more for our veterans in need of benefit help? Congratulations to chapter 845, Jamestown, New York.

At the VVA National council meeting a scholarship award was brought up. In the past one scholarship was granted for each of the 9 VVA National regions. The amount of the award wasn't disclosed at the NYSC meeting.

Always a hot topic Jobs! A lengthy and informative report by Tom Harris regarding jobs and availability of the same. Retraining and additional education is available if you are interested. Check it out with Jack Michel or Dee Garcia to see what is out there.

New York State Membership stands at over 5,500, national, 60,713.

A reminder that Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day is happening the last weekend of March.

There will be a food collection for needy veterans at the April Council meeting. I will tale a contribution to Owego to present from the chapter.

At the June Council meeting New York State Officers will be elected. It would be nice if we could send more than one or two representatives to that meeting to show support for the council. **THINK ABOUT IT** and **ACT** in a positive manner.

The Council is asking for nominations for a local business to be recognized for their contribution to veterans and veterans causes. If you want to nominate one please see Jack Michel.

“VALENTINE'S DAY GOODWILL CARAVAN” Bringing love and gratitude from New York to our wounded service members recovering at Walter Reed Army Hospital and Bethesda Naval Hospital. This was started last year by chapter 807 from Manhattan, NY. Jack Michel has a list of events for the weekend and it would be worth sending a representative from the chapter.

A number of NYS by-laws were amended at the meeting. See Jack if interested.

Treasurer Nick DeLeo presented the NYSC 2010 budget. A hefty dollar amount for the council but not too different from last years.

The Leadership Conference was discussed briefly and the subject's to be covered should make the conference very informative and interesting. If you can make it, it is well worth your time.

The National Veterans Initiative is leaving for Vietnam on March 10th to visit a dig site looking for remains of American still listed as POW/ MIA. There are still 1,724 Americans not accounted for.

THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING IS IN APRIL. WANNA' GO?