

**COMBAT VETERANS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION
of Vermont, Inc.**

**Chapter 26-1
Meeting Minutes for 5/20/2018
At Mutuo Club in Barre, VT**

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: SAA

Opening Prayer:

Welcome from Chapter Commander:

- Thank you to the Breakfast crew.

Patching Ceremony New members: None this month

Report of Officers: (Executive Board)

Chapter Commander:

- Update on Ollie and Breezy
- Chapter Commander and Chapter Secretary: elections in October 2018. Candidates must declare by July 14th.
- Member ID cards passed out to the chapter.
- NEW 26-1 hand-out pamphlets.
- New CVMA 26-1 site: vtcombatvets.com. Password: REVOLUTION.

XO: Reminder-We have a power scooter if anyone knows a Veteran who could use one.

Secretary report:

- March minutes were posted. There was no meeting in April. March minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Don read the Treasurer's report in the Treasurer's absence; Treasurer's report was approved unanimously. There was discussion about some erroneous billing from Verizon two months in a row. Verizon is now blocked from our account. Any transactions must be carried out with a check.

- List of all donation jars locations and responsible member. Members reminded to pick up/empty the jars regularly. Update Roster to the commander and Treasurer.

SAA:

- Sign-in sheets; Must be legible.
- National Dues; can be paid on the national site

PR: Upcoming events posted to the calendar:

- Trip to Rolling Thunder in DC
- VT Thunder. Need someone to sell the last of the bike tickets. Our last two tickets were passed on to a member who is attending the event.

Committees Reports:

- 2019 Regional committee

Old Business:

- Gov Phil Scot donation. Raffle bike Do's and Don'ts for the drawing and the plaques. There was much discussion about animosity about the new gun bill. Don made a strong plea that folks keep their opinions about the bill to themselves for this event. The bill has nothing to do with the bike event, and we don't want negative press for CVMA from people venting their frustration at the bill with the Governor in public, specifically at an event attended by CVMA. By all means, voice your opinion to the Governor, but please do it in a different way, on your own time.

- 2019 Regionals. proposals: If it involves our chapter or funds from our chapter it must go to the commander/BOD and then to the chapter before being submitted to the Regional committee. March meeting update.

- Spring Dinner April 7th review: the event went really well. Even though it wasn't officially a fund raiser, we brought in a fair amount. Thanks for all your efforts, Carl! Smolder Mist Pub, Barre, made a sizable donation, too.

- We reordered CVMA hats before the fair as discussed. Carl brought up the idea of also ordering some CVMA sweaters, pointing out that they're available on the website.

- Donations to non-profit organizations, Working with the Dodge House, waiting to hear back from them on our donation proposal. Don will follow up with them. We have almost double the amount in our checkbook that we usually have at this time of the year, due mostly to bike ticket sales, with more on the way. Fisher House was mentioned. People were very much in favor of making a donation, but they're not fully up and running yet.

- R3 Meeting Aug 3rd – 4th. Eastern States Exposition (the Big E), 1305 Memorial Ave, West Springfield, MA 01089.

- Trip to DC for Rolling Thunder. Contact the commander.

New Business:

- Champlain Valley Fair: booth set up and raffle items were discussed. Members are encouraged to go out and get donations from your local business – you'll be amazed how many people respond favorably. There's a form you can download from the site that tells who we are and what we do – very helpful. Or you can contact the chapter commander for help.

We're looking for carpet for the booth, to save peoples' feet. 19 x 14, open to pretty much anything.

Omen mentioned about ideas for a poster or two to decorate the booth.

Don also mentioned that we put up a flat screen tv and lights, etc.

- Apartment Starter Kits for the homeless. Smolder Mist Pub idea. The VA has a starter kit already for homeless vets. We'll find out more about it and see if we can augment it.

- Chapter ride in July. People were saying they'd like to do a chapter ride sometime in July. One idea was to ride up Mt Equinox. Any other ideas?

Tabled Items:

- In the spring we will be receiving back the power chair from Reggie. Date TBD. There was some discussion – looks like we might just have to go and get it; that there seemed to be an issue with transporting it.

- Donations to non-profit organizations, FOV. We're always looking for ways to donate the money we collect to organizations that help veterans, as well as the vet-to-vets that we do. Contact any BOD member with any ideas you may have. The whole point of doing fund-raising is to give that money to folks who can use it.

- St Rep: Absent today.

Discussion: Open to Membership:

- SAA said he is still looking for the annual ride list from HOG. Some chapter members who belong to HOG said they'd get it for him.

- The VET Center shuttle driver is retiring. His last run will be a drive to Laconia. Some chapter members discussed setting up a CVMA escort for the ride, to show our appreciation for his efforts. It'll be on that Thursday, for those looking to help out.

- There is an over-flow house available to chapter members for Laconia Bike Week for \$50 per night.

- There are other rides and events on our calendar on the website.

Announcements: CVMA National charitable foundation news.

- Don opened discussion on the fact that we have almost double what we usually have in the bank account; that we need to look at how to use that money

to help veterans. One of the best things we can do, outside of vet-to-vets, is to donate to organizations that help vets. Donations must be spread out: no more than one donation to any one organization in any 3-year period. This means we have to get creative – open to any ideas!

- We voted to keep our donation to Healing Waters down at the usual amount, after Don brought up discussion to up it.

- Don mentioned making a donation to the Honor Flag. We decided to make a donation, with only one chapter member voting against. We also discussed providing a CVMA escort.

50/50: Don won it and donated it back to the chapter. Thanks, Don!

Closing Prayer:

Adjournment: CC