



**VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
(QUEENSLAND BRANCH) INC.**

*"Honour the dead but fight like hell for the living"*

ABN 45 827 964 391

**MISSION:** To assist all veterans, their descendants and their dependants in all matters in relation to their health, welfare and well being

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the VVAA Qld Branch Inc State Management Committee conducted at Hervey Bay RSL on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**1. OPENING**

The President welcomed all the delegates and visitors and called the meeting to order and declared the State Management Committee Meeting open at 1155 AM

**2. ATTENDANCE**

**2.1 State Executive**

President	John P Smith, OAM, JP (Qual)
Senior Vice President	Vacant
Junior Vice President	David Fiechtner
Secretary	John P Smith, JP (Qual)
Treasurer	John Skubis

**2.2 Delegates**

Gympie	Keith Fraser
Cooloola	Bill Hewat
Sth Burnett	Trevor Sanderson
Sunshine Coast	David Fiechtner
Hervey Bay	Geoff Gayler
Bribie Island	Gwen Moseley
Townsville	Sheila Smith (Proxy)
Logan and Albert	John Power
Redcliffe	Bill Stowers
Cool Tweed	Bruce Weir
Bne Nth	Peter Thorne

**2.3. Apologies**

State Health adviser	Ken O'Brien
Helena smith	

**2.4 Visitors**

Bribie Island	Greg Norris
	Sue Norris
	Rob Moseley
Cooloola	Dot Hewat
Gympie	Denise Fraser
Sth Burnett	Pat Crowe
Redcliffe	Neville Cullen
Hervey Bay	John Rutland

**Motion to accept apologies**

**Moved Redcliffe**

**Carried**

**Seconded Cool Tweed**

**Resolution 01/10**

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Motion**, 'That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Redcliffe on 28th February 2009 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the last State Congress'.

**Proposed Secretary**

**Carried**

**Seconded Logan**

**Resolution 02/10**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**6. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Finally 2009 is finished and thank goodness for that. If 2009 wasn't the worst year for us it came very close. It is definitely a year to forget.

About the only thing that went well was the AGM apart from not having a Secretary which we tempted to fill on a number of occasions. The problem was that the person who was prepared to fill the position was only an Associate member and until we amended the constitution this met with staunch opposition. Maybe we are all getting older or something but once again we do not have anyone nominate for the position of Secretary. We will have to call for nominations from the floor. Carl Boy'e from Bne Nth has volunteered to put his hat in the ring for this position

The next problem that we had was being given an eviction order to vacant Angus House. We fought hard but eventually we had to give in. The latest on this saga I believe is that the Qld RSL has agreed to give us the fire sale valuation of only \$6500 but as of yet we have not been advised officially. The next sorry event was finding out that the State Senior Vice President and manager of Zac's Place was caught with his fingers in the till of both the Townsville sub branch and Zac's Place. This matter is still before the courts so we cannot say more at this time.

As you are aware we have been helping the Diggers Association run the ANZAC Day Dawn Service over the last few years, well we finally have control of this plus we have transferred their premises in Grey St, Brisbane known as Remembrance House, it is now ours at last. To assist with the running of the Dawn service we have set up a committee comprising reps from the Diggers Assn, Qld RSL, VVFA, APPVA, RAR Assn and ADCC plus reps from the BCC, State Govt, Police, and DOD. We have had two meetings at this time but we are getting stern opposition from the Qld RSL. We have agreed to also invite both the Naval Assn and RAAFA to join us as well. The ADCC have invited us to become a sub- committee of them. We have BCC approval to conduct a peaceful assembly in ANZAC Square called the ANZAC Day Dawn Service. We only have to answer to the BCC and of course the people of Qld.

We had a very successful day on Vietnam Veterans Day even though the numbers attending was down. The Vietnamese armed forces Assn took part with them marching behind their colour party. I believe that we were very fortunate to have Her Excellency the Governor the Premier, Leader of the Opposition present plus we had the honour of the presence of a former Sth Vietnamese 2 star general who was the commander of the 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at the fall of Saigon. Their task was to defend Saigon. His name was Lin Minh Dao and he was captured and spent 19 years in a hard labour camp.

During the year we also saw the demise of the Caboolture Sub Branch. If I could be so bold I wish to issue a challenge which I have issued before and that is 'If every member of the VVAA Qld were to recruit just one person each year then we would double our membership each year.

On a more serious note VVAA Vic has commenced a personal welfare program called 'Are you on the radar'. There is nothing earth shattering about it except it is merely a reminder that we are here to help our mates and their families so if you know of a vet who is not travelling so hot then talk to him and see if we can do anything to help Let's see if we can prevent any Vietnam veterans from passing away and leaving his family in financial difficulty. It does not take much, most probably just a quick chat. We have placed the Vic letter on our website and we are in the process of placing a Power point presentation in regard to this matter on the site as well

We are hosting the National congress here in Qld this year. It will be conducted at the Caloundra RSL in Caloundra with accommodation at the Rydges Oasis Resort. This Congress is to be conducted from Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. If you are in the area just drop in or if you would like to attend it just book in. I am sure that you will find it very interesting. There will be information placed on our web site as it comes to hand. The Congress will be officially opened on the Thursday morning and at the moment we are investigating the possibility of having the Prime Minister carry out this task. The congress will be conducted over the Thursday and Friday with a Bar BQ on the Thursday night at the Caloundra RSL, cost \$25 and a dinner on the Friday night cost \$50 per head includes dinner and some drinks with wine on the table plus entertainment both at the Caloundra RSL. Come along a meet your National Executive and also the Representatives from all the other States.

I sincerely hope that this year will be a much better one than last year. It has started off a bit shaky but I am sure that it will improve.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee for a job well done under very trying conditions and especially would like to thank our State Treasurer who has been doing the job for just about the last ten years, John Skubis. John really has done a great job and has continually been a great support and a tower of strength. I am sure that John really deserves a well earned rest.

I would also like to congratulate the new committees both at State and Sub branch level. We have a very trying time ahead with our continual fight with DVA and the government to ensure that the veterans of today and also of tomorrow plus their families are not disadvantaged in any way. We have to keep the government on their toes and remember this year is an election year. We must also endeavour to assist our younger veterans and make them feel welcome and not outcasts as we were made to feel.

**Motion:** That the president annual report for year 2009 be accepted

**Proposed Bribie Island  
Carried**

**Seconded Townsville  
Resolution 03/10**

## 7. TREASURERS REPORT

Complemented us on the way the books were kept.

The treasurer gave a run down on the report

No mention of Remembrance House due to not having the deed

Assets rich, Money poor

**Motion,** 'That the Audited Annual Financial Statement for 2009 be accepted.'

**Proposed: Treasurer  
Carried**

**Seconded: Cool Tweed  
Resolution 04/10**

Thanked John on a job very well done and we are very appreciative of his commitment and wish him well in retirement

## 8. BUSINESS ARISING

NIL

## 9. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2010

Thanked the previous committee on a job well done and in particular John Skubis

The President declared all position vacant

Called on nev Cullen from Redcliffe to chair

Nominations received were:

President: John Smith, OAM, JP (Qual) Nominated by John Skubis Seconded by David Fiechtner

Secretary: Vacant Nominations from the floor.

Received one from Carl Boy'e Bne Nth after previous nomination withdrawn

Senior Vice President: Greg Norris Nominated by Denis Nicol Seconded by Lyn Nicol

Junior Vice President: Keith Fraser Nominated by Len Herron Seconded by Andrew Turner

Treasurer: David Fiechtner Nominated by John Skubis Seconded by John P Smith

All nominations have been accepted by the respective members

Minimum number of nominations received for President, Senior Vice President, Jnr Vice President and Treasurer so therefore there is no need for voting for these positions

They are therefore elected unopposed.

Nominations for Secretary from the floor, Carl Boy'e

The only nomination from the floor

The State Executive for 2010 is:

President: John Smith, OAM, JP (Qual) (Bne Nth)

Snr Vice President: Greg Norris (Bribie Island)

Jnr Vice President: Keith Fraser (Gympie)

Secretary: Carl Boy'e (Bne Nth)

Treasurer: David Fiechtner (Sunshine Coast)

## 10. State Appointments

State Auditor:	MT Smith
State Consultative Forum	John P Smith, OAM, JP (Qual)
State Advocate:	Helena Smith
State Training Consultative Group Representative:	Helena Smith
State QFE:	Greg Norris
State Health Adviser	Ken O'Brien
State Merchandise Officer	David Fiechtner
Public Officer	Carl Boy'e
Honorary Solicitor	Vacant (As required)
Public Relations and Media Officer	Denis Nicol
Regional Consultative Forum (VVCS)	David Fiechtner
Registered Office	20 Hoya Close North Lakes, 4509
Postal Address	PO Box 473 North Lakes, 4509
Phone	3491 7730
Mobile	0430 737 068
Operation Life	Keith Fraser
ANZAC Day Commemorative Committee	John P Smith, OAM, JP (Qual)
State Web Master	Gary Green
Delegates to National Congress	John P Smith, OAM, JP (Qual) Carl Boy'e
Zac's Place Management Committee	State Executive
Zac's Place Manager	Margaret Standfast
Remembrance House Committee	State Executive
ANZAC Day Dawn Service Combined Committee	John P Smith, OAM, JP (Qual) (chair) David Fiechtner (voting Person) Greg Norris Carl Boy'e (Secretary) Denis Nicol (PR)
Vietnam Veterans Day Committee	State Executive
Post 75 Liaison Officer:	To be confirmed

**Motion,** that all appointments be confirmed.'

**Proposed: Cooloola**

**Carried**

**Seconded: Redcliffe  
Resolution 06/10**

**11. CLOSURE**

The next Annual General Meeting of the VVAA Qld Branch Inc. State Management Committee is to be hosted by Coolangatta/Tweed Heads Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2011

The Annual General Meeting of the VVAA Qld Branch Inc. was declared closed at 12.25PM