



PARCH-E-GRAM

PARCHE / THOUSAND ISLANDS BASE UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS INC.

MONTHLY MEETING/NEWSLETTER DATE 8/17/2024

Meeting called to order by CMDR Fred White at 11:35.

Note: This is an in-person meeting.

ON-LINE ATTENDEES: None

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES: CMDR Fred White, Treasurer David Strong, Chaplain Ken Lang, Secretary Brent Beltran, Joe Demars, Ray Forbes, Thomas Hall, Steward Handy, Ed Harris, Steven Hoffman, and Kim Reed

New Members/Guests: Wives and Significant others of most attendees

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by CMDR Fred White

Opening Prayer: Led by Chaplain Ken Lang

Tolling of the Boats: Led by Joe Demars

Creed & Purpose: Led by CMDR Fred White

Reports:

- Secretary's Report: CMDR Fred White asked if any members, having read the minutes of the 7/20/24 meeting had any corrections or concerns. The minutes were accepted as written.
- Treasurer's Report:

Last meeting starting balance	\$3,377.83
Deposits since last meeting	\$0.00
Disbursements since last meeting	\$0.00

Checking balance as of today

\$3,377.83

Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Old Business

- Today's meeting is abbreviated, and being held at Treasurer Dave Strong's home. Treasurer Strong let it be known that if anyone would like to host the picnic in the future, they are more than welcome.
- Tom Hall reported that of the two High school graduates invited to today's picnic, one did not respond, and one was going to be out of town but wrote a very thoughtful letter which Tom read to the Base.
- The next parade the Base is participating in is the Veterans Day Parade at the State Fairgrounds on November 9th at noon. Treasurer Strong will pull the float. Further details will be discussed prior to the parade.

New Business

- The Southern Tier Subvets base will be attending our next meeting. Discussions are still ongoing as to how to assist or combine with that base.
- Base Elections are being held at the October Meeting. An Election committee has been formed. If anyone would like to volunteer for a position, please contact Commander White, Secretary Beltran, or Joe Romanowski.
- We are looking for a volunteer that can send information about our base to area recruiters, touch base with area High Schools, etc.

Good of the Order

- Commander White discussed that County Veterans Service Officers, "VSO's", serve various functions, such as helping veterans with VA medical eligibility. If anyone is needing help in that area, they should contact their County Veterans Service Officer.
- Ray Forbes continues to help any member with VA Medical Benefits. He is exceptionally knowledgeable in using Buzz words which would be helpful in applications for VA Eligibility. Everyone is encouraged to seek Ray's advice when submitting an application.
- Commander White let the Base know that Vice Commander Hyne had a stroke, is in good spirits, but is feeling much better. Hope to see you at the next meeting Ed!
- The Honor Flight Banner, representing the Base, is in the process of being redone. The first attempt needed some revision. We should see the final banner at the next meeting.

Next meeting is set for September 15, 2024, at 10:30am. This is a Face to Face and Telecom meeting.

Good of the Order

- CMDR White opened with discussion wearing subvets items and handing out cards.

Closing Prayer: Led by Chaplain Ken Lang

Meeting Adjourned: by CMDR Fred White at 12:10