

Minutes for November 13, 2024 Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 279 Meeting.

The regular meeting of VVA Chapter 279 was called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours. President Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase was excused, and Secretary Halbkat. There were 3 officers and 33 members present. We have a quorum.

Guest Speaker: Heather Carroll with Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska. She gave the chapter a very interesting talk and visual presentation on brain injuries. The talk sparked a lot of questions and kept us all very interested.

New Members: Bill Sturges. Welcome aboard, Bill. Great to have you with us.

Sick Call: David Teer is out of rehab for his hip and is now back home. Hope to see you soon, Dave.

Secretary Report: The report was sent to all members via email. Dick Rowe made a motion to accept as written and Tom Lundquist seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Haase made copies for all members. Since there were no corrections or questions, George Abbott made motion to accept the report. It was seconded by Tom Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

Events: Dec. 11th will be our annual POT LUCK DINNER. We will have a very short meeting and then join our families for some great food and fellowship. Our mtg. will start at 6 PM. On Saturday Dec. 14 the Wreathes Across America will be at the Omaha National Cemetery. It will begin at 11 AM.

Golf Outing: Held on September 29, 2025. This will be our 10th annual outing. We discussed how many more and the price from the golf club.

Scholarships: Tom Brown reports the UNL Foundation has a total of \$47,644.99 in its balance. This includes UNO, UNL and UNK.

Veteran's Home Board: No report

Correspondence Report: No report

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports that there will be a graduation ceremony on Dec. 5 at 2 PM. President Hester will be sending out a reminder to all members via email as to time and place.

National VVA Delegate Report: No Report

Nebraska VVA Foundation: Tom Brown reports visitation is up at the National Memorial.

Homeless Veterans: Because of the success we had with our golf outing, Eddie Nelson made a motion to increase our gift card donation to the 4 surrounding counties VSO's to \$4000.00. Pete Gill seconded and it was unanimously passed by the chapter.

Chapter Membership Report: Currently, 211 members and 12 associates.

POW/MIA: Still 1,575

Quilt of Valor: See Mike Steffen for a form.

New Business: President Hester has FREE hockey tickets for any member to watch the UNO Mavericks.

We have finally found someone who can store our parade trailer inside and away from the elements. It will cost the chapter \$1000. Also, there is a motion to donate \$1000 to Bellevue University for their backpack program. Both motions were combined and made by George Abbott and seconded by Dawn Holmes. Motions carried.

On February 15, 2025 we celebrate member's appreciation dinner. More to follow on this. Also, March 29, 2025 is Vietnam Veterans Day. We will celebrate our day with a dinner and a program. 5 of our members will receive a quilt of valor.

Please check out our webpage: nebraskavietnamveterans.com

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 1800 hours located at American Legion Post 374. Note the TIME CHANGE.

Dick Rowe made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Eddy Boller. Motion carried.

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary