

## MINUTES OF BRANCH/UNIT 24 13 AUGUST 2013

Shipmate President Richard Bonnett called the meeting to order at 1907. S/M MAA John Bocchicchio introduced visiting Shipmates; East Coast (EC) President Don Hoover Past Regional President (PRP) EC Claire Purdy, and PRPEC Paul Dix. After appropriate opening ceremonies, the meeting was declared convened.

Pres. Bonnett, 1stVP David Guerra and Sec/Treas Reed initiated Shipmate Vincent Harris into the FRA, Br 024. Welcome Aboard Shipmate!

The minutes of the 9 July 2013 meeting were provided for review. A **Motion** was made to accept as presented. **2<sup>nd</sup>/Approved**

The minutes of the 6 August, board of directors' (BOD) meeting were provided for review. A **Motion** was made to accept as presented. **2<sup>nd</sup>/Approved**

**Treasurer's Report:** S/M Treasurer Reed provided July expenditures and account balances. A **Motion** was made to accept as presented. **2<sup>nd</sup>/Approved**

**Communications:** Branch 24 received an East Coast Assessment fee of \$483.75; this has been paid to the ECR Treasurer.

The most current information about the National Convention was provided. To see recent updates and schedules visit [www.FRA.org](http://www.FRA.org) main page. National Bylaw Resolutions packets were handed out to convention attendees for review.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Americanism/Patriotism:** Essay Contest "The Bill of Rights and Me" for 2013/14 is open to all students grades seven through twelve. Grand Prize is \$5000! For official rules visit [www.fra.org/essay](http://www.fra.org/essay)

Veterans Day Observance is Monday, November 11, 11 a.m. at City Dock, Annapolis. All Veterans are invited to participate.

Branch 24 placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the East Coast Region for AP.

**Audit, Budget and Finance:** The FY final budget and July 2012 was handed to attendees.

**Hospital, Welfare, & Rehabilitation:** Branch 24 placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the East Coast Region for H,W,&R. Branch 24 expressed condolences for the recent loss of S/M Sec. Reed's Grandfather; she was able to attend the funeral in California.

**Legislative Services:** Shipmate John Davis explained how the automated links on the FRA website are pre-filled and goes directly to your Senate or Congressional office. Sending U.S.P.S. mail is a very time consuming effort as each piece of mail must be irradiated before it goes to a government office.

**Membership & Retention:** S/M Maxey, Chair-Membership Committee reported our current membership numbers. Our goal for the year should be to have a gain and no losses, which means we have to continue to recruit and offset any losses by contacting members to discuss renewal. If you know someone who served enlisted time in the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, encourage them to join! They can join a local Branch or be a Member at Large.

**Public Relations:** Branch 24 placed 1<sup>st</sup> place in the East Coast Region for PR.

**Youth Activities:** Branch 24 placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the East Coast Region for YA. S/M ECRP Hoover reported Soap Box Derby latest race. Need a person to organize and hand out prizes for youth games at the family picnic.

**Contributions:** NTR

**Adopt-A-Highway:** A highway cleanup of St. Margaret's Road was completed July 20<sup>th</sup> by Chairman Fred Grady, S/M DeVeau, S/M Reed, and Auxiliary Member Steve Toulotte. Many thanks to the volunteers – it was a hot, humid day and your dedication is greatly appreciated!

**Old Business:** The Annual Branch/Unit 24 Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Greenbury Point from 1300-1800. \$5 Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Bar at the FRC. No tickets sold at the event. The Picnic Chairman, William Maxey, is finalizing all the last minute details which will be reported in next month's LOG.

Raffle Tickets for the picnic are also available. \$5 each or 3 for \$10 Winner takes choice: 2 – 19" LED/HDTV's; 3 - watercolor paintings; 1 pig roast for 50 people; and a HP Printer. Winner not be present to win.

**New Business:** S/M 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Maloney resigned. A **nomination** was made for S/M Maxey to complete the term year as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, the 13 present Board of Directors took a vote. **2<sup>nd</sup>/approved**

A **motion** was made for Br. 24 delegates of the National Convention in Chattanooga, TN: Chairman Richard Bonnett; Penny Collins; Claire Purdy; Ran Purdy; Don Hoover; Chris Erickson; Lew Bearden; Jack O'Neill; William Maxey: **2<sup>nd</sup>/ approved**. A **motion** was made to allow the Chairman to add delegates: **2<sup>nd</sup>/approved**. A **motion** was made that the delegates' votes are to be uninstructed: **2<sup>nd</sup>/Approved**.

**TWO BELL CEREMONY:** The Two Bell Ceremony was conducted in memory of our shipmates now serving on the staff of the Supreme Commander.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

OCTOBER 3-14 The Annapolis Boat Show is coming! Volunteer opportunities are at the FRC during this time. Sign-up and information will be posted in the hallways for your convenience.

Because of the Boat Shows, the Branch's October 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be moved to the Moose Lodge # 296, 1890 Crownsville Rd., Annapolis. They will have a buffet dinner available, it is encouraged that you arrive early; you can bring your dinner into the meeting hall.

At the East Coast Regional Convention held at Tyson's Corner, VA in July, S/M Reed hosted the entertainment meet and greet of karaoke and banquet dinner/dance D.J. for guests. Thank you to all the committee members for their involvement in making this event the most successful convention since 2012!

**AWARDS:** Recipients who were unable to attend the meeting will be mailed their certificates.

**ADJOURNMENT:** After appropriate closing ceremonies, the meeting adjourned at 2034.

Submitted:

Approved:

Valerie Reed  
Secretary/Treasurer

Richard Bonnett  
President