

NATHANAEL GREENE BASE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 14, 2017
HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION POST, WINSTON-SALEM, NC
Submitted by Edward Galaviz
Base Secretary

11:00: Breakfast/lunch at Cagney's. A total of 12 members and 1 guest attended.

13:00: Meeting called to order by Base Commander Raymond Moore after 50/50 ticket sales.

INVOCATION: By Fred Gunter

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Headed by Dale Patterson.

Jim Myers then requested a moment of silence for the passing of Howard Clark on November 17, 2016

INTRODUCTIONS: The attendance was 13 members. A new prospective member was brought by Fred Gunter by the name of Will Martinez. Also introduced by Dale Patterson was Mark Ford, Director of Operations from VHVH who was our guest speaker for the meeting.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS: For January and February solemnly rendered by Fred Gunter and Ray Moore tolling the bell with a computer slide show presentation by Chuck Jensen.

At this point, Ray Moore requested a prayer for those shipmates from the Nat. Greene Base that are on final patrol. Fred Gunter read the names and Chuck Jensen projected them on the screen. All toll there were 17 members dating from 2011 to 2016.

REPORTS:

Minutes: Secretary Edward Galaviz requested a motion to accept the November 12, 2016 minutes be made. It was seconded and approved as previously posted on our Base Website.

Vice Commander's Corner: Fred Gunter said that the Nat. Greene Association has belt buckles in commemoration of the USS NATHANAEL GREENE available for sale. The buckles were made in the USA and will sell for \$25.00 each including shipping costs. Ray Moore has already sent out an email for those members who would like to purchase on an individual basis and not the Base.

From the initial introductions and of Will Martinez, Fred told us how he met Martinez, retired Senior Chief Sonarman. It was at a Diner in Greensboro and Fred was wearing his Submarine Veterans Cap.

Treasurer's Report: The report was read by Chuck Jensen and approved by the membership. The ending balance as of January 13, 2017 was \$6,827.07. Special funds totaled (\$1,401.87). As of now, total funds available total \$5,655.59.

Chuck brought up the subject of 2017 dues not yet paid. There are 2 USSVI Life Members Base dues not paid and 4 annual USSVI & Base Dues not paid for a total of 6 members.

Storekeeper's Report: Bill McCormack said that he sold \$100.00 of merchandise in our last meeting of November 2016. Thus far at our current meeting he has sold a total of \$34.00. Bill still has 10 2017 calendars available for sale.

Kaps-4-Kids Report: Daniel Newcomer was not present to bring the members an up-date on current events. Base Commander Ray Moore said that there is an apparent visit to Children's Home in February. Ray is to get more info out to the membership at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS:

Asheboro Air Museum Membership. Our original contribution to the Museum was for \$25.00. We were requested raise our contribution from \$25.00 to \$42.00 per year. This would split the cost evenly from 4 Bases using the facility to store our floats. Base Commander Ray Moore approved the extra \$17.00 and Chuck has already sent a check for the additional amount to the Museum.

The raffle for the WWII submarine that Larry Travis served on is underway. Ray Moore had the raffle tickets at our meeting. Tickets are \$5.00 each and the drawing will be held in May at the Burnsville Memorial Service.

Thus far \$12,000 has been raised for the estimated \$18,000 cost to preserve the Burnsville Memorial.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dale Patterson: Dale introduced our guest speaker for the meeting. The gentleman was Mark Ford, Director of Operation from VHVH. Mr. Ford gave us a recap of what VHVH was about and the successes it has had in rehabilitating the young men that have gone through VHVH. Mr. Ford thanked the Nat. Greene Base for the donations we have given VHVH over the past 2 years. "Hoppy" (Robert F. Hopkins) made a motion that we should make a donation to VHVH at this meeting. It was decided that whomever wins the 50/50 drawing would donate the winnings to VHVH. The motion was approved. Since Mr. Ford was to leave before our

meeting ended, it was decided to do the drawing while Mr. Ford was present rather than wait until the end of our meeting. The drawing was made at this point of our meeting and Secretary Edward Galaviz was the winner. In addition to the 50/50 winner plus additional donations from members, including the base's share of the 50/50 raffle, Mr. Ford was presented with \$110 in donations.

Base Commander Ray Moore requested of the membership if we wanted to have our July meeting again at the Carolina Field of Honor which has been so successful these past 2 years. Upon a positive response from those present, Ray Moore will inquire to see if we can have it there again. Ray will keep us advised.

Ray Moore recommended that we continue the Boat Sponsorship Program for the USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSBN-777) at a cost of \$30.00 a year. The motion was approved.

Ray Moore gave a brief overview of the Pearl Harbor dinner held December 3, 2016 in Raleigh. Only 4 members; Ray Moore, Fred Gunter, Chuck Jensen and Edward Galaviz attended from the Nat. Greene Base. Edward Galaviz felt that the reason only 51 people were present of which about 1/2 were women might have been the costs. Registration was \$40 per person, \$6 for drinks and \$89.00 for a hotel room. Ray Moore quietly said that maybe future dinners of this nature might not be the best thing to continue.

There was a discussion on joining the SSN-777 club. It was determined that the mission and purpose of the club was not appropriate for our Base. This issue and according to Ray Moore was now tabled.

The Base has wanted, and now for some time, for someone to volunteer for the management of the Base's Facebook Page that John Robbins had been doing. Currently this now appears to be dead issue.

An update on the Holland Club. The four members eligible in 2017 are Donald Godfrey, Ricky Donahue, Peter Thompson and Al Zilinski. Ray Moore will order the Holland materials for all 4 members this month. Ray said that the Holland Club is in need of money. He also noted that the Tarheel Base has paid for all of their Club members. Since the costs for materials are not funded by USSVI, the Bases normally ask its Club members for a \$1.00 donation each year. A motion was passed that our base will donate \$5.00 for each of the base's Holland Club this year to help restores the Holland Club operating fund.

How do we get more meeting attendance from local members? Some suggestions were made. Chuck Jensen said that the Greensboro News & Record publishes a weekly schedule for upcoming events. He said that a good idea may be to place the next meeting in the paper for subscribers to see.

John Markiewicz, National Commander has sent a letter to Ray Moore thanking him for the contribution to the Burnsville, Memorial Fund. We have sent in \$2,000 and \$12,000 has been raised thus far which is considered good.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

When the subject of memberships came up by Ray Moore, members present agreed that wearing a submarine cap was one of the best ways to be recognized by veterans who have never heard of USSVI. Some members spoke about their own experiences. Fred Gunter said that he met our new member Will Martinez at a Greensboro Diner by wearing his Submarine Veterans cap.

Chuck Jensen brought some of Howard Clark's submarine books and VHS tapes donated by his family. They are available to Base members and can be obtained from our Store Keeper, Bill McCormick.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2017 at the American Legion Post, Winston-Salem, NC.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Raleigh, NC is scheduled for March 11. Chuck Jensen will provide more info when he receives it.

2017 SE Regional Meeting in Kissimmee, FL May 11-14.

Burnsville Memorial May 19-20.

2017 USSVI National Convention in Orlando, FL Sep 1-6.

2017 Pearl Harbor Dinner, Dec 2 – Raleigh or Sanford.

Sub Vet Submarine Birthday Ball as suggested by David Campbell, Tarheel Base Commander. Ray Moore sent out an email inquiring as to who would be interested in this event. It appears to be very little interest in attending from our Base as he said that thus far only 2 or 3 members replied of any interest.

Closing Prayer: By Fred Gunter

Meeting ended at 14:30 pm.