

NATHANAEL GREENE BASE MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 14, 2016

HELD AT AMERICAN LEGION POST, WINSTON-SALEM, NC

Submitted by Edward Galaviz

Nathanael Greene Base Secretary

Meeting called to order 1300.

INVOCATON: By Chaplain Jim Schenk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: By COB Dale Paterson. **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS PRESENT:** 15 members were present out of the 99 member Base reported by Chuck Jensen. Michael C. (Mike) Adams and S. A. (Wally) Walliser travelled north from South Carolina to be with us who are members of both "Denizens of the Deep" and "Nathanael Greene" Base.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS: By Chaplain Jim Schenk and Vice Commander Fred Gunter. Chuck Jensen projected the names and pictures of the boats on Eternal Patrol for May and June from his laptop computer.

MINUTES: Ed Galaviz requested that the minutes from our meeting of March 5, 2016 be approved as previously posted on our Base Webpage. They were unanimously approved.

Vice Commander's Corner: Fred Gunter spoke about a friend who will come to our July meeting from New Mexico. The friend will share events related to the American Red Cross and our veterans.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Jensen reports an ending balance of \$8,546.00. The special funds consist of; Trailer Maintenance \$435.64, Kaps 4 Kids \$269.00, Joshua's Angels Center \$269.00, and Fuel Reimbursement \$742.67 for a total of \$1,604.31. This leaves us with available funds of \$6,828.83. We were apprised of the transfer of our Base funds from New Bridge Bank to Wells Fargo Bank. The Report was voted on and approved.

Storekeeper's Report: Our storekeeper, Gary Vernon presented a table full of available items for sale to the benefit of Nathanael Greene Base. He had an itemized pricing list of the items for all members present. We have NAVY pens available now which were donated at a previous meeting by a local Navy Recruiter, Miguel Almazan. A collection of books were available for the membership to avail them of. We are currently looking for a volunteer for relief of Gary as Base Storekeeper by our next meeting. Thank you to Gary for his long-time service in this capacity and a "Job Well Done".

Kaps-4-Kids Report: Chairman Daniel Newcomer was absent but is in process of scheduling new K-4-K events.

Chief of the Boat: Dale Patterson announced that the “Veterans Helping Veterans Heal” organization has now graduated over 100 Veterans from this program, and that 85% of these are either employed, in a stable home situation, or both.

OLD BUSINESS: William D. McCormick, of Greensboro, NC, who’s Qual Boat was USS TRUTTA (SS-421) in 1962, was inducted into the Holland Club. He was unable to be honored at the March 5th meeting due to his long-time involvement as a Race Official for the Iditarod in Alaska.

Ray Moore spoke of the four Holland Club qualifiers that have not yet been inducted:

1) Roger D. Bjerke, of Hampton, VA, who’s Qual Boat, was USS NATHANAEL GREENE (SSBN-636). Ray is in touch with him and trying to arrange for the Hampton Roads Base to honor him.

2) Lee Eubanks, of Hampton, VA, who’s Qual Boat, was USS FRANCIS SCOTT KEY (SSBN-657). Ray is in touch with him and trying to arrange for the Hampton Roads Base to honor him.

3) James Martell, of Murphy, NC, who’s Qual Boat, was USS NATHANAEL GREENE (SSBN-636). He has declined induction at this time.

Chris Bridges – Chris was absent for this meeting, and as Lapel Pin Chairman, has forwarded information to Chuck Jensen concerning the 200-piece lot that we could order for the price of \$2.84 per unit. The finish is copper and has two posts for mounting. The Base voted to table this issue until we could find out what the 100-piece lot pricing would be. We are afraid that 200 would be too many for us to disburse.

Jim Myers – Updated the members present on the “Highway Naming” formerly discussed. There were 130 names entered for the honor by the March 15th deadline, and 4 names were selected. Nathanael Greene Base’s entrée was not selected. The contract for the new name is to be awarded in July. There is still no limit on voting by dialing 336-446-4156.

Ray Moore again reminded the membership of the book, “Where is Your Boat, Today,” for which he recently sent out a Base All Hands memo via email. He has received the book (in DVD form) and will bring it to the next meeting for anybody to borrow.

NEW BUSINESS:

Base member, Charlie C. Dye, Sr. went on Eternal Patrol on 27 February. He served on Qual Boat USS POMPON (SS-247) in 1954 as RM3(SS). Chaplain Jim Schenk made a “Book of

Remembrance” for presentation to his family which will be presented to his nephew in Greensboro by Chuck Jensen.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Chuck Jensen spoke on the Longevity Pins. Some were lost in the mail and were replaced by having the envelopes “hand-cancelled” at the Post Office. Secretary Ed Galaviz mentioned that this cost was \$41.45. This year 20 members will be eligible to receive their pin, among which; six are for the 15-year pin and 5 for the 20-year pin; member George Bass already has his 25-year pin.

USS NATHANAEL GREEN (SSBN-636) had their reunion at the Comfort Inn (Cocoa Beach, FL from 21-23 April. We await any word from attendees.

Mike Adams made mention of the SSMC (Silent Service Motorcycle Club) that was locally begun by Dale (Moe) Moses of the Carolina Piedmont Base. It is open to all USSVI members and the bikes must exceed 500cc. The dues for a member-at-large are \$10.00 per year.

Ray Moore reported that the South East Regional Meeting had more representatives from North Carolina than any other location, except for Albemarle Base.

National Elections will commence on-line balloting in June. USSVI is constructing a new website and data base.

Regional Director Dick Kanning will be relieved of command by Steve Bell.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 20-21 – The annual visit to Moonshine Mountain for the Tolling of the Boats Ceremony hosted by Asheville Base-USSVI. The Bilge Rats floor-show will provide for the entertainment. The Big Lynn Lodge is the host hotel.

May 30 – Thomasville Parade. Commander Ray Moore has suggested we be there an hour earlier so that we can park our vehicles in the area adjacent where our floats will be.

July 4– Bob Hopkins will obtain a volunteer float puller for the Faith Parade. Marvin Beaver of Carolina Piedmont Base has requested the floats to attend the Third Annual Mooresville, NC Veteran’s Day Parade on 11/11/16.

July 9 – Our picnic-meeting will again be held at the Field of Honor, (6561 Willow Creek Road, Kernersville, NC). The meal will be served at 1100 and the meeting at 1300. Member Larry Hauser is again supervising the food for the get-together. Thus far the menu includes: Ham, Beans, Potato Salad, and rolls.

August 15-20 - USSVI National Convention will be held in Reno, NV. Registration by July 17, 2016.

The Nathanael Greene Base meeting will be moved to September 10, 2016.

Next Meeting: will be on July 9th, the second Saturday of the month, as noted in Upcoming Events.

BENEDICATION: by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

Meeting Adjourned: 1435.

50/50 raffle (\$33.32) was won by Jim Balderas of Kernersville.