

**MINUTES OF USSVI TARHEEL BASE MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 4, 2016 AT THE
AMERICAN LEGION POST#67
CARY, NC**

Before the start of the Base meeting, 13 Subvets answered the call for the morning meal at the IHOP in Cary, NC.

Tarheel Base Commander Dave Campbell called the meeting to order at 9:58 AM with two blasts of the diving alarm. Tarheel Base Chaplain Gene Rutter offered up the opening prayer and Base Secretary Bill Lowe led the 30 Subvets and 2 guests present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests were CDR Chris Dickerson, Commanding Officer of the Raleigh Navy Recruiting District and Carter Minter, a US Army Ranger/Medic- friend of Ted Hurley.

INTRODUCTIONS

Commander Dave asked all WWII Subvets to stand and introduce themselves. A total of 4 WWII Subvets were present- Robert Andrews, Joe Clark, Joe Morgan, and Bill Whelan. All present gave this group of “Greatest Generation Heroes” a hearty round of applause. Next were introductions by 4 Subvets/prospective Tarheel Base members- Mel Denis, Will Iwaniuk, Andy Piwowski, and Vince Sievert. All other Subvets present introduced themselves by including the name of their qualification boat and the year they received their dolphins.

TOLLING OF THE LOST BOATS

The Tolling of the Lost Boats Ceremony for the months of May and June was conducted by Jerry Emerson and Tom McFadden. For the new folks in attendance, Jim Davis covered the reason for the ceremony. Tom read the recounts of the 4 submarines lost in May and the 7 lost in June along with a slide presentation picturing these boats. Jerry gave a sounding of the diving alarm for each of these 11 lost submarines (note- the bell was AWOL) in solemn remembrance of our shipmates who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

SPEAKER-

Base Commander Dave Campbell covered, in detail, his Cold War “Special Ops” experience while a crewmember aboard the USS Guardfish (SSN-612) back during the 1970’s. His boat spent 28 days trailing behind a Soviet Echo II missile submarine at a distance of between 3,000 and 4,000 yards- undetected. A slide presentation accompanied Dave’s talk. All present thoroughly enjoyed Dave’s insight on his personal recount of a “Cold War Patrol”.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

HOLLAND CLUB

Holland Club Coordinator Jim Davis covered the purpose and workings of the Holland Club for new Subvet attendees. To correct a long overdue event, Jim inducted Jim Jacobs into the Holland Club. Also, Jim displayed a gold cap designed for Holland Club members. A motion was made and passed for the Tarheel Base to purchase these gold caps for future Holland inductees and also for current Holland Club members (the grandfathered ones) at a reduced price of \$15.00 to \$16.00 each.

REPORTS

- 1- Commander Dave Campbell- **A-** Dave asked Gene Rutter to give a report on the Moonshine Mountain Memorial covered by the WRAL Channel 5 TV show Tarheel Traveler. Scott and his crew filmed an episode of the Tarheel Traveler at the memorial on April 7th and same was aired on Wednesday May 18th on TV5. Gene is in the process of obtaining about 10 DVD copies of this Tarheel Traveler segment. A

motion was made and passed to reimburse Gene for the cost of these DVD's (\$91.00). Another crew contracted by the Asheville Base filmed the memorial service held on Friday May 21st. A total of 70 were present at this service. **B**- Recruitment- Dave stated an important recruiting tool would be inviting new members to Base meetings when we have interesting speakers/programs. **C**- National Officers elections will be coming up- the slate of candidates is: National Commander- John Markiewicz; National Senior Vice Commander- Wayne Standerfer; National Junior Vice Commander- Bill Andrea; National Secretary- Ray Wewers; National Treasurer- Paul Hiser; and Southeast Regional Director- Steve Bell. All are running unopposed, but still cast your vote. Voting period will be from 00:01 hrs on June 21 to 23:59 hrs on August 10, 2016. **D**- Azalea Parade Report of Events- Commander Dave was the one and only Tarheel Base member in attendance for the parade and the meeting at the Battleship North Carolina Park. All present had an enjoyable time! **E**- After some discussion, Tom McFadden will check on manning a static display (torpedo trailer and/or submarine float) or participate in a parade around the State Fairgrounds during the annual State Fair in October. By a show of hands, 6 or 8 Subvets would be willing to help out with this proposed project. **F**- Still no volunteer for newsletter editor. Tammy Thomas has turned down the job due to home and job time restraints. The idea of reaching out to members of other Bases in NC was voiced. The problem with that is the fact that a couple Bases have their own newsletter. Bottom line, a newsletter editor is a vital position that needs to be filled by someone and soon.

- 2- Base Vice Commander Jim Davis had no report.
- 3- Base Secretary Bill Lowe entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the last Tarheel Base meeting held on April 2, 2016 as posted on the NC Subvets website and e-mailed to Base members. Motion was made, seconded, and passed for approval of minutes as posted.
- 4- Base Treasurer Tom McFadden reported: Previous total balance - \$11656.09. End of March balances-Regular Account- \$10810.97; Events- \$467.26 with a total end of March balance of \$11,278.33 (current bank statement). Actual balance with Outstanding Transactions is \$10,800.82. The events account has been changed to a non-profit account effective 05/09/2016. The balance has been moved to a no-fee account. Similarly, on 05/09/2016 the primary account was also changed to a non-profit account. Currently Tarheel Base membership stands at 125 regular and no associate members.

- 5- Website Master/National Treasurer Paul Hiser stated he needs material to post on the website.
- 6- Tarheel Base Storekeeper and Public Relations Officer Jim Wallace had no comments/report due time restraints.
- 7-S.E. Regional Commander Dick Kanning was not present
- 8- District 1 Commander Dave Campbell- Dave stated his concern for our submarine fleet. We do not have enough SSN's to do the job in the Pacific. Will there be funding in the military budget to build the boats needed?
- 9- North Carolina Subvets Commander Gene Ipox was not present.

OLD BUSINESS

Upcoming Parades-

Participation in the Troutman Parade is unlikely since no one is available to tow the torpedo trailer.

1-Tom McFadden reported Rachel Roykocich, the part time intern working in his company, has told him she is ready to set up a Facebook page for the Tarheel Base at a cost of \$300.00. A motion was made and passed for Rachel go forward with this- a potential new member recruiting medium.

2- Torpedo Modification Status- During an Executive Board meeting last month, the members agreed on looking into the idea of making lightweight molds of a Gato-Class and a Virginia-Class submarine 10 ft in length to be mounted on the parade trailer back to back. Dave has contacted a 4-D Company in Roanoke, VA and they can do the job at a cost of \$1,850 for the Gato and \$1,695 for the Virginia. After some discussion, Jerry Emerson stated Frans Van Baars had another proposal. Frans, along with his son's help, can make a two sided painting of a Gato and Virginia submarine- end to end. This "billboard" would be mounted in the center of the trailer in place of the torpedo. Frans displayed a rough drawing of his idea and said the project could be completed for about \$1500 to \$2000. There was agreement that we should give Frans proposal serious

consideration. One important problem still lingers- what to do with the MK-14 torpedo?? The idea of placing the torpedo in front of the American Legion building was voiced. Also, it was noted the Triad Park Field of Honor, located between Greensboro and Winston-Salem, will not allow the torpedo to be placed there. Also, placement of the torpedo at the Battleship North Carolina is not an option. A possible site was recommended- the Veteran's Memorial Park on North Harrison Avenue in Cary. Jim Wallace "volunteered" to check with the town of Cary to see if they would allow the torpedo to have a "home" at that location.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1- USSVI National Convention will be held in Reno, NV on August 15th thru August 20th 2016.

OPEN FLOOR

- 1- Jerry Leppart brought up the idea of inviting a WWII Iwo Jima marine as a possible speaker at a Base meeting. Jerry displayed an article that was published in the N&O recently covering George Cattelona's wartime experiences. Jerry has met George at a Bojangles restaurant on a couple occasions and has found him to be one interesting "jar head". More info on this potential program will be forthcoming.
- 2- Chuck Jensen stated the annual "Fly In" will be held at the Asheboro Airport on Saturday June 11th. Anyone interested in attending and lending a hand with the torpedo and sub displays, please let Chuck know by Wednesday June 8th.
- 3- Commander Dave brought up the recommendation that the Tarheel Base get serious about holding a Submarine Birthday Ball- say on April 11, 2017- the anniversary of the US Submarine Service. Tom McFadden said there is an elegant building located on the NC State Centennial

Campus that would be a great place to hold the Submarine Birthday Ball.

RAFFLE RESULTS

Raffle Czar Henry Hagwood was “under the weather” and Jim Wallace along with Spencer Combos conducted the 50/50 raffle drawing. Joe Clark was the big winner of \$75.00. Generous Joe split his winnings and made donations to the Tarheel and Nat Greene Bases.

BENEDICTION

Gene Rutter rendered the closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at: 12:10PM with three blasts of the diving alarm. The next Tarheel Base meeting will be held on August 6, 2016

