



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes



When: June 16, 2012 at 09:00

Location: Golden Corral, Wilmington, North Carolina

Breakfast at the Golden Corral

Bill Dixon led the 12 attendees in Grace prior to a delicious breakfast at the Golden Coral.

Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

Call to order: Base Commander Terry Kuhn called the meeting to order promptly at 09:00.

Attendees: Terry Kuhn (Base Commander), Charlie Backes (Vice Commander), Barry Turano (Base Treasurer), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Jerry Hawks, George Perhala, Bob Govern, John Norosky, John Williamson, George Roderick, and Ron Armstrong.

Invocation: Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

Tolling of the Boats: Charlie Backes (Base Vice Commander) and Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain) lead the attendees in the “Tolling of the Boats” ceremony recognizing the sacrifice of the sailors and submarines lost in the months of May and June.

Pledge of Allegiance: Base Commander Terry Kuhn led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance: George Roderick was introduced and shared with the attendees his World War II boat assignments and experiences.

Introductions: Each attendee introduced himself and gave a little background on their submarine experience.

Treasurers Report: Barry Turano (Base Treasurer) reported that the Base bank account has \$1,147.44 in it. He also reported that since the last meeting we took \$150.00 and had an expense of \$110.00.

Recruiting: Butterbean reported that he was expecting two potential recruits to be at this meeting but they called and said they hoped to make it to the next meeting. He also reported that the Base membership currently stands at 55 members and that he has a very large list of potential members and asked for help in following up on contacting those potential members. Charlie Backes volunteered to contact the people on the list to encourage them to join and become active members. The attendees engaged in a discussion regarding ways to stimulate recruitment. Butterbean suggested that the members that live in the area consider setting up breakfast meetings in the months between regular Base meetings in Southport and Jacksonville to make it easier for non-

members in those areas to attend a meeting. Once we get a potential member to a meeting, they usually join. Another suggestion was made to advertise meetings in the local newspapers. This would increase awareness of the Base activities.

Flag Day Coverage, June 24th: Charlie Backes informed the attendees that he, Barry Turano and Jim Brincefield will raise the flag at the 21 Day Salute to Flag Day in Wilmington and invited members to attend. Charlie, Barry and Jim will raise the flag at 07:45 on Monday June 25th at City Hall on Third Street in Wilmington.

Southport 4th of July Parade: The next event for Base members is the 4th of July Parade in Southport. We **do not have** one of the NC Submarine Veterans floats for the parade. Base Commander Terry Kuhn asked for member volunteers with a pick-up truck to drive in the parade.

Terry also made a MOTION that the base purchase magnetic signs for the Base for these parade occasions in which no sub float is available. The motion was SECONDED by Charlie Backes and the vote CARRIED.

The attendees then joined in a discussion about building a CCB float but no decisions or motions were made.

2nd Saturday Event at the Battleship July 14th: The state has a 2nd Saturday program at the battleship to celebrate some part of the country's military heritage. July 14th the Base has been invited to host a tribute to the submarine service. The event will be publicized by the State and the Battleship Memorial (see **ATTACHED** recent advertisement). The Base will have access to the auditorium and display areas from 10:00 to 16:00 to do a "Show and Tell" about the submarine service. Terry asked the members to pull out their memorabilia from the submarine service. The goal is to set up a display and have volunteers man venues for WWII era, Vietnam era, Cold War and current submarine service (USS North Carolina SSN 777). If that is not enough excitement to get you to participate, lunch will be provided.

National Convention: The national convention for the USSVI will be held in Norfolk, Virginia from Sunday, September 2nd to Saturday, September 8th. Base Commander Terry reported that we now have the volunteers needed to cover the registration desk for the assigned periods. Butterbean mentioned that the meeting is setting up to be a very good meeting and encouraged attendees to register to attend if possible.

National USSVI Election: The polls are open for the National USSVI Elections! Butterbean explained that you can now vote online and that it is a very user friendly 5 minute process to vote. Base Commander Terry reiterated Butterbeans assessment of how easy voting online is. But, for the computer averse, he also brought hard copy ballots which can be filled out and mailed in individually or turned in to the Base to submit. Terry also had hard copies of the background on each issue and candidate for consideration in the election. Attendees were encouraged to make a maximum effort to participate in the election. Maximum participation is important to the issues and candidates under consideration and it is also important to the Base. National tracks Base participation in elections very closely and rewards highly participative Bases.

Establishment of a Bylaws Committee: Base Commander Terry Kuhn announced that he set up a Bylaws Committee to review the Bylaws and make recommendations to modify the Base Bylaws to be aligned with the National and State Bylaws. The committee will be led by Vice Commander Charlie Backes. Also serving on the committee will be Base Secretary Bill Underwood and John Norosky. Issues identified for review and recommendation include meeting times, meeting locations and timing for voting and installing new Base officers. The committee is also instructed to look at term duration for Base officers.

Base Support of Veterans Government Initiatives: Base Commander Terry Kuhn relayed a discussion between NC SubVet Base Commanders to support State and Federal government initiatives for the benefit of Veterans. Please see the **ATTACHMENT** for more information. Terry recommended that CCB commit to support these State and Federal efforts on behalf of Veterans with \$20 per year. For this level of contribution, the CCB will be recognized as a supporter of veteran's benefits.

Terry made a MOTION that the CCB allocate \$20.00 per year for the support of veteran's benefits on the State and Federal level. Vice Commander Charlie Backes SECONDED the motion and the motion was CARRIED by a unanimous vote of the attendees.

Deceased Member Recognition: Vice Commander Charlie Backes brought up a suggestion to create an album with a picture and a write up detailing each deceased member's service in the submarine service. Currently deceased members are recognized by putting their name in a book. Charlie expressed his feeling that we as a Base are missing an opportunity to record a unique part of a fellow submariner's life. Charlie pointed out that eventually all of us will be in the album and we should consider writing down what we would like to be remembered about our years in the submarine service. He suggested that the album be started with Jim Tolben and Chief Dunn and the obituary be used as a starting point and the stories could be filled out potentially by interviewing the families of the submariner.

Charlie offered a MOTION that the base commission an album dedicated to the lost members of the Base in the manner he described. The motion was SECONDED by Base Treasurer Barry Turano. The motion was CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

Scholarship: Vice Commander Charlie Backes suggested that the Base consider starting a scholarship for Southeastern North Carolina high schools with active ROTC units. He suggested that the target be to offer at least a \$1,000.00 scholarship.

Raising Funding for Proposed Scholarship: To raise money for the support of the scholarship, Charlie suggested a golf tournament be planned for spring 2013 (most likely March). Charlie suggested that attendees think about potential corporate sponsors for the golf tournament. He also said that they would need non-golfers to serve at the registration stations, etc.

Another Suggestion was made for setting up a football or basketball score card type game. Charlie agreed to investigate this idea and report back.

Base Treasurer Barry Turano cautioned the attendees to be careful to be sure any fund raising activities fully comply with the law and the Bases non-profit status.

Base Library: Vice Commander Charlie Backes recommended the establishment of a Base Library of good books or movies related to the submarine service. He suggested that Base members could donate books and movies to the library so that future members could enjoy them.

Open Discussion: A question was raised of why CCB has the responsibility for the SS 28 memorial. After World War II the US Submarine Veterans of World War II assigned each of the submarines lost in World War II to specific states to set up and maintain a memorial to the submarines lost in WWII and specifically memorialize the assigned submarine. The states of New York and California were each assigned two lost submarines to memorialize. North Carolina was assigned the USS S-28 also known as SS 133. The S-28 was lost on July 4th, 1944 during a training exercise off the coast of Pearl Harbor in 1,400 fathoms with 49 souls on board. All were lost. The memorial is located in the southeast corner of Battleship North Carolina Memorial

Park under a live oak tree next to the Cape Fear River. The opposite side of the memorial stone recognizes the 52 submarines lost during World War II.

Salty Stories: “How I Met the Admiral”. By Charlie Backes

“The Sand Lance (SSN660) had five reactor operators that qualified RO initially: Jim St. John, Charlie Backes, Newell Crary, Bruce Ward, and John Walsh. As part of the initial engineering testing that goes with a new submarine each shift had to have their qualified reactor operators and shifts perform a fast scram recovery. For you forward types this involved an emergency shutdown of the nuclear reactor and a subsequent fast startup. For all submarines built during this timeframe, Admiral Rickover personally observed these fast scram recoveries. This is about my turn in the barrel, so to speak.

Three of the RO’s were selected to perform the fast scram recovery while we were at sea. The admiral had come on board with all his accompanying fanfare and needs. A time was selected and the RO’s taken to Machinery Room #2 to await their turn. I do not remember which position I was in, but I do know I was not the first.

I am sure many of you remember how small Maneuvering was, especially the engineering types. When my turn came up they called me into the Maneuvering Room. Maneuvering normally held four watch standers: The Engineering Officer of the Watch, (EOOW), the reactor operator (RO), the electrical plant operator (EO) and the steam plant operator (Throttleman). When I got to maneuvering there must have been twelve people in the space normally used by four. I managed to squeeze in the room and relieved the watch. Admiral Rickover was in the chair normally used by the EOOW and the EOOW was standing. Also, this was not just the RO that was tested, but the whole shift. So all four watch stations were being relieved. When things settled down a little someone in Machinery #2 opened the scram breaker for a partial scram which allowed us to do a fast scram recovery.

When the reactor is shutdown one of the first things each watch station is required to do is to reduce electrical loads to minimum to keep the reactor as hot a possible. If the reactor gets below a certain point the RO is required to do a full scram and we all are in deep dodo. Part of this rig for reduced electrical in the engine room is to shut off the vent fan supplying the Maneuvering Room with cool air. The temperature goes from 72° to 98° in about five minutes.

Here we are with the reactor shutdown, the boat rigged for reduced electrical, and a nervous reactor operator asking permission to restart the reactor. This permission is granted by the EOOW and a fast scram recovery is started by ME. A normal reactor startup is not all that eventful; but with Admiral Rickover at my right elbow and not enough room to breath, things got a little tense. My job was to withdraw the control rods in a manner that led to a controlled, critical reactor and to do a plant heat up within limits. This I was doing when I started “bumping” rods out to control the conditions. Someone, namely Admiral Rickover, did not like the way I was bumping rods and he yelled “You’re breaking the machine.” I got control of myself and the plant and completed the startup back to initial condition with Tave (read T average) in the green band, the turbines on line and making a 1/3 bell. At that point I was relieved, in more than one way, and got the hell out of Maneuvering.

I think I have told that story about a hundred times over the years about how I met Admiral Rickover.”

Adjournment: Base Vice Commander Charlie Backes made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Base Treasurer Barry Turano SECONDED the motion and the motion CARRIED by unanimous vote by the attendees.

Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

WILMINGTON, NC – Engage in a sailor's life above and below the water line of two navy vessels in these interactive July programs at the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.

Battleship 101

2nd Saturdays Programs

Saturday, July 14, 2012

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Battleship 101 visitors engage with ship volunteers stationed throughout the ship as they create dialogue on specific subjects relative to daily shipboard life including gunnery, radar, sickbay, galley and engineering areas. A unique opportunity to talk one on one of what life was like aboard a WWII Battleship in the time of combat. Free with paid admission.

The Legacy Series: Under the Sea with Submarine USS NORTH CAROLINA

2nd Saturdays Programs

Saturday, July 14, 2012

10:00 am – 4:00pm

This July, the Legacy Series continues as we go Under the Sea with Submarine USS NORTH CAROLINA. Discover life aboard U.S. Navy submarines at the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA in the Visitors Center. Area submarine veterans will bring "show and tell items" and video to engage visitors about different eras of submarine development, technologies, equipment, mission, and daily life aboard these undersea warriors.

Part of the Legacy Series celebrating the service of all warships named NORTH CAROLINA, *Under the Sea with Submarine USS NORTH CAROLINA* highlights the newest of the state's namesakes. Attack submarine NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777) is the fourth U.S. Navy ship to bear the name and fourth in the VIRGINIA class, the Navy's next-generation attack submarine. North Carolina has improved stealthiness, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and Special Warfare enhancements which enable it to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements.

Virginia class submarines are able to attack targets ashore with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and conduct covert long-term surveillance of land areas, littoral waters or other sea-based forces. Other missions include anti-submarine and anti-ship warfare; special forces delivery and support; and mine delivery and minefield mapping. With enhanced communications connectivity, the submarine also will provide important battle group and joint task force support, with full integration into carrier battle group operations.

The next Legacy Series: Blue and Gray NORTH CAROLINAS, Saturday, August 11, will focus on the two NORTH CAROLINAS which served in the Civil War, the ship-of-the-line for the Union and the ironclad for the Confederacy. All are free with paid admission.

The 2nd Saturdays programs are a statewide effort of historic sites under the Department of Cultural Resources to combine arts and heritage with food and fun on June 9, July 14, and August 11 at all 37 museums and Historic Sites. Each 2nd Saturdays 2012 program will reflect the unique character of place. For more information visit <http://www.ncdcr.gov/2ndsaturdays.aspx>.

The Battleship NORTH CAROLINA is self-supporting, not tax supported and relies primarily upon admissions to tour the Ship, sales in the Ship's Store, donations and investments. No funds for its administration and operation come from appropriations from governmental entities at the local, state or federal levels. Located at the junction of Highways 17/74/76/421 on the Cape Fear River. Visit www.battleshipnc.com or follow us on Facebook.com/ncbb55 and Twitter.com/battleshipnc for more information.

VETS

U.S. Department of Labor

Veterans' Employment and Training Service

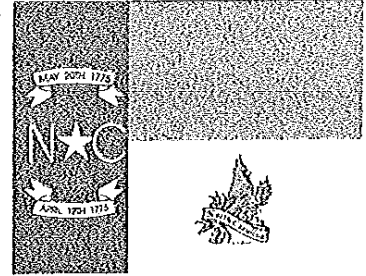
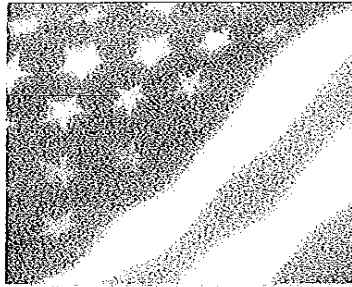
Evon DiGregorio

Director - North Carolina

700 Wade Avenue
P.O. Box 27625
Raleigh, NC 27611

Phone: (919) 707-1944
Facsimile: (919) 733-1508
digregorio.evon@dol.gov
evon.digregorio@ncasc.gov

*Veterans, Reservists, and National Guard Members—
Strong, Productive Members of America's Work Force.*



North Carolina Veterans FACTS

- North Carolina is ranked 10th in the nation with a population of approximately 780,000 veterans and their families residing here. Also, North Carolina is 6th in the nation with 70,000 women veterans.
- During 2010, the VA spent \$3.769 Billion in NC. \$2.0 Billion was paid directly to veterans, dependents or survivors. Service-connected disability compensation is received monthly by more than 181,529 veterans.
- There are 4 VA Medical Centers, 4 VA Outpatient Clinics, 6 Vet Centers and 17 Community-Based Outpatient clinics in North Carolina and 312,400 veterans received their healthcare from USDVA Medical Centers and Outpatient Clinics.
- 82,000 military retirees and 10,000 surviving spouses reside in NC; during 2010, they received \$2 Billion in Department Of Defense Benefits
- Currently, the NC Division of Veterans Affairs oversees 2 State Veterans Nursing Homes and 3 state cemeteries; 2 additional Veterans Nursing Homes in Kinston and Black Mountain will be completed in Sept 2012.
- Currently, the NC Division of Veterans Affairs oversees a budget of more than \$39.8 Million, 85 employees and 130 county Veteran Service Officers, that represent 93 counties, to assist veterans, dependents and survivors on a local level.
- NC is home to 137,000 active duty military personnel at 8 major military bases; Military families are homeowners, taxpayers and make great neighbors.
- 22,799 National Guard and Reserve members reside in NC including the more than 5,000 men and women currently mobilized to Southwest Asia.
- In 2010, 38% of the NC population was either a military member, veteran, spouse, parent, or dependent.
- North Carolina has a veteran population greater than 42 other states, yet NC is one of only 9 states without a Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Veteran Issues before the 2011-2012 General Assembly

- Create a Cabinet-Level Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- H 172 Encourage Military Veteran Contractor use
- H 799 Allow Licensure by Endorsement for Military Personnel and Military Spouses
- H 473 Equal Tax Treatment of Government Retiree Benefits (Bailey-Patton Act)
- NC General Statute Chapter 116-143-3, Amend to read "Any Veteran that meets the requirements of the Post 9/11 GI Bill should be afforded in state tuition"

Supporting Organizations

American Legion
American Veterans (AAVETS)
Disabled American Veterans
Fleet Reserve Association
Marine Corps League
Military Order of The Purple Heart
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vietnam Veterans of America
The Benevolent & Protective Order of the Elks of U.S.

On behalf of all NC veterans, we ask the members of the NC General Assembly to enact legislation which will improve State-sponsored benefits for Veterans & Military personnel.