



## Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes



When: February 16, 2013, 2013 at 0900

Location: Golden Coral Restaurant, New Centre Drive, Wilmington, North Carolina

### Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

**Call to order:** Base Vice Commander Charlie Backes called the meeting to order promptly at 0930.

**Attendees:** Charlie Backes (Vice Commander), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Barry Turano (Base Treasurer), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Kevin Kesterson (COB), Jerry Leppart, Bob Govern, Bill Lowe, Bob Bozant, Jerry Hawks, Jim Brincefield, Steve Croom, Emmitt Redmon, Willy Allen, Howard Crist, Chad Yaw, Ron Willems and his wife Patricia, John Norowsky and his wife Peggy, John Williamson, Bernie Maguire, Mark Siewert, Steve Cotton, Andrew Poulos, Phil Brown and guest Don Ruch.

**Invocation:** Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice Commander Backes led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Tolling of the Boats:** Ron Willems and Steve Croom led the attendees in the “Tolling of the Boats” ceremony recognizing the sacrifice of the sailors and submarines lost in the months of January and February.

**Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance:** There were no World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance for this meeting.

**Introductions:** Several new members were either attending for the first time or joined at the meeting. Vice Commander Backes asked each to introduce himself. The guest/new members were Bob Bozant, Chad Yaw, Andrew Poulos, Steve Cotton, and Howard Crist.

**Holland Club Presentations:** No Holland Club presentations were made at the meeting.

**Drawing for a Holland Club Cup:** Vice Commander Backes announced that, to raise funds for the Base, the Base is going to sell tickets at each meeting for chances at winning a small prize. Initially, the prize will be a coffee cup with the Holland Club logo on it. Attendees are free to choose no tickets, one ticket or as many tickets as they want when the hat is passed. At this meeting, Phil Brown, won the cup and the raffle made \$70 for the Base treasury.

**Treasurers Report:** Barry Turano (Base Treasurer) reported that the Base took in \$565.00 since the last meeting and spent \$503.74 in that period resulting in a February 15, 2013 balance of \$1,339.35 (not inclusive of the raffle proceeds above).



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**Storekeeper Report:** Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper) was not in attendance, but reported through Vice Commander Backes that he had \$76 on hand (also not included in the Treasurer's balance above).

**Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2012 Meeting: MOTION: Jerry Leppart motioned to accept the minutes as written. SECOND: Steve Croom seconded the Motion. VOTE: The motion CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.**

**Recruiting:** Butterbean welcomed the new members and congratulated the members that had sponsored the new members. Butterbean reported that recruiting for the Base was going very well. Several of our new members were from the local Cape Fear Subvets group.

Regarding membership, Butterbean continued, there are about 100 submarine veterans in our area so CCB should be able to continue to grow for some time. He encouraged members to actively pursue leads on Subvets in southeast North Carolina and give him the contact information to follow-up. **He needs the prospects name, email address and phone number** for each potential recruit.

**Butterbean reminded all attendees that Base election will start in early March** and he will be sending each member a ballot email. He encouraged each member to quickly follow the voting instructions in the email and return the email vote to him as quickly as possible. **We must have the elections finalized in time to install the new officers at the April 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Meeting on the battleship.** He also reminded attendees that National tracks voting performance statistics for each Base and makes awards for high proficiency at the National Convention.

**Base and National Dues:** Butterbean also reminded attendees that he needs to hear from the members who have not yet paid their 2013 dues to find out if they want to continue to be a member. He is also starting the collection process for 2014 Base and National dues. BB also informed attendees that he is also a member of the International Submarine Veterans Association. He said that the ISV dues are \$50 and they have a nice patch that would look good on your vest. If interested, contact Butterbean for more information at [goldbow@att.net](mailto:goldbow@att.net).

**COB Report:** There was no COB Report at this meeting.

**Support for the Local NJROTC Programs:** Vice Commander Backes described his experience speaking to the Ashley High School NJROTC membership. He spent about an hour on two visits to Ashley for two different classes. He talked about his experiences in submarines to a very attentive audience of students. He cautioned that the students listen attentively and ask thoughtful questions. He said it was a very rewarding experience and recommended that CCB members consider signing up to speak at one of the local high schools ROTC Programs.



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**Upcoming Parades:** Vice Commander Backes reported that the Base is signed up for the 2013 Azalea Festival Parade on April 13<sup>th</sup> and the Southport July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. Members should keep these dates in mind and participate, if possible. The Base has the Torpedo float reserved for the Azalea Festival Parade and we are hoping to have a new float for the Southport July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

**Base Parade Float:** Barry Turano reported that, since the last meeting, he has made considerable progress on procurement opportunities for a submarine float for the Coastal Carolina Base. He followed up with the Oklahoma Company that Butterbean had identified and he discovered that, due to the distance, the delivery costs and transportation risks for that source were prohibitive. He then located a manufacturer in High Point, N.C. that offered to build the submarine float centerpiece for less than \$1,000.00. On January 30<sup>th</sup>, the CCB officers met to discuss the findings and a possible proposal for attendees for the February 16<sup>th</sup> CCB meeting. Volunteers stepped up to resolve the identified problems. Richard Schrum volunteered to store the float at a pole barn on his property in Richlands. He also volunteered his 20<sup>ft</sup> tandem trailer to carry the float in Parades. John Williamson volunteered to use his enclosed car transport trailer to pick up the finished float from High Point and deliver it to a site for the Base volunteers to assemble it, paint it and rig it for presentation on Richard Schrum's trailer. Commander Kuhn volunteered to lead a work detail to assemble, fiberglass for durability, paint and rig the float for Parades. The officers decided to present the option to the attendees of today's meeting and, if approved, target having the new float ready for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade in Southport.

The picture below is a float prepared in Oklahoma for a USSVI base out west, but is similar to the concept for the CCB float.



The proposed CCB float will look similar to the picture above and will have 777 on the sail representing the USS North Carolina, SSN 777.



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**MOTION:** Bernie Maguire made a **MOTION** to approve the acquisition of the model submarine and the construction of a float as described in the Base officer's proposal. **Discussion:** A discussion ensued regarding raising funds to pay for the acquisition and limits to the expenditure for the float. **The MOTION was amended to include a limit of \$1,500.00 for the acquisition of the float and to allow the Base to ask for donations to help rebuild the Base bank account during this process. The MOTION was SECONDED by Jim Brincefield and CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.**

**Coastal Carolina Base Float Project Donations:** Following the approval of acquisition of the centerpiece and building a CCB Float, attendees generously immediately started giving Treasurer Turano donations to support the Float Project. By the end of the meeting, approximately \$750.00 was donated by the attendees specifically for the project. **A hardy "At-A-Boy" to all the attendees for their fantastic support!** Anyone who would like to contribute, please contact Barry Turano at B.turano1@charter.net.

**Book of Base Members:** Vice Commander Backes passed around the CCB Book of Members for review. The book now has pictures for about 15 Members and autobiographical write-ups for about 6. The write-ups have no rules and range from very brief listing of boats served on to more detailed descriptions of submarine experiences. The Vice Commander encouraged all to write up something (limited to one page), even hand written on paper, and get it to him to format and include in the book. What would you like future Members to read about your time as a submariner? Jot it down! Get it to Charlie!

Base Secretary Bill Underwood reminded attendees that he will continue to collect pictures of members at Base meetings and provide the pictures to Charlie for inclusion in the **Book of Members**.

**Scholarship:** No report at this meeting.

**Golf Tournament Fund Raiser:** Bernie Maguire reported that the CCB Golf Tournament Fund Raiser is getting rolling. The Tournament will raise money for Wounded Warriors and the CCB. The team needs more volunteers to help recruit sponsors, donations, event organization, and advertising. The event is currently planned for September 28, 2013 at either the Wilmington Municipal Golf Course or Beau Rivage Golf Course. The intention is that it will be an annual event for the Base.

The Tournament Team is recruiting volunteers for to head the following activities associated with the golf tournament;

- Advertising – Promotion of the event
- Sponsorship – Recruitment of sponsors for each hole at the tournament (\$100/hole)
- Door Prizes – obtain donations of prizes for various achievements in the tournament
- Food – Recruit a restaurant like Chick Filet to donate a lunch meal for each participant at the tournament.



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**Base Public Relations:** Bernie Maguire also reported that he has published three reports about CCB activities in the Club Activities section of the Wilmington Star News. He will continue to issue such PR to raise community awareness about the Coastal Carolina Base Submarine Veterans.

**Base Library** – There was no update at this meeting on this subject.

**New Business**

**Coastal Carolina Base Newsletter:** Vice Commander Backes informed the attendees that some members have mentioned that the Base should publish a Base Newsletter to keep members more informed about Base activities and needs. After a discussion of the attendees, Bill Underwood, Base Secretary, volunteered to initiate a Base Newsletter in addition to the minutes from each meeting. If you have suggestions for the Newsletter, please email them to Bill at [bunder343@aol.com](mailto:bunder343@aol.com).

**Additional Fund Raising Concepts:** Vice Commander Backes informed attendees of another possible approach for the CCB to raise money, a fund raising booklet. The booklet is made up of pages of 10X10 squares for scores on sports events. He explained the potential to raise as much as \$1,000.00 for the Base treasury.

**The Cape Fear Submarine Veterans:** Phil Brown, a member of both CCB and the Cape Fear Subvet group, informed the attendees that discussions were ongoing about coordinating the activities of two local Subvet groups. He invited the attendees to the next Cape Fear Subvet meeting at Bluewater Grill, Wrightsville Beach on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Phil said that the Director of the Wilmington Port would speak at the meeting. He also mentioned that Dr. Ted Rockwell was going to speak at the Cape Fear Community College on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 1900. The topic will be about nuclear power and admission is free to all.

**Upcoming Events Reminder:**

Date	Calendar Event
Now	Pay your Base and National dues if you plan to continue as a member
March	In early March Base election ballots will be emailed to you. Please expedite your vote and return email
Apr 6	After Battery Hog Roast in Dorchester, SC (on the way to Regional USSVI Convention in Charleston)
Apr 7-11	Regional USSVI Convention in Charleston, SC
Apr 13	Azalea Festival Parade, meet 0530 at the battleship parking lot
Apr 13	Base and Regional SubVet Meetings on the USS North Carolina BB-55
Apr 13	Installation of newly elected Commander and Vice Commander for CCB
May 9	Members invited to attend Cape Fear SubVet meeting at Bluewater Grill
Jul 4	North Carolina 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Southport, NC
Sep 28	Target date for CCB Annual Golf Tournament



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## Adjournment:

Jim Brincefield offered a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Base Secretary Bill Underwood SECONDED the motion and the motion CARRIED by unanimous vote by the attendees.

The meeting was adjourned.

## Next Scheduled Base Meeting

The next Coastal Carolina Base meeting will be on Saturday morning April 13, 2013. The meeting will convene on the USS North Carolina, BB55 immediately following the Azalea Festival Parade.

If you have any comments or suggestions on these meeting minute's format please provide them to Bill Underwood, Base Secretary, at [bunder343@aol.com](mailto:bunder343@aol.com)

## Never Forget Our Brothers On Eternal Patrol!

