



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes



Azalea Festival Parade



Once again, the submarine veterans attending the Azalea Festival Parade were rewarded with a very warm welcome and expression of thanks from the thousands of parade viewers along the route.

Memorial to Crews of the S-28 and the 52 Submarines Lost in WWII

After the Azalea Festival, parade attendees joined other Base Members and guests at the Submarine Memorial at Battleship Park to pay homage to the crews of the S-28 and the 52 submarines lost in World War II. A brief memorial service was led by Jim Myers, Commander, North Carolina Submarine Veterans. The *USS S-28 (SS 133)* was lost on July 4th, 1944 on a routine training operation. Lost with her was her crew of 40 officers and enlisted men plus 10 shipmates in training.



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When: April 13, 2013, at 1200

Location: Ward Room, *USS North Carolina, BB-55*, Wilmington, North Carolina

Call to order: Base Commander Terry Kuhn called the meeting to order promptly at 1200.

Attendees: Terry Kuhn (Commander), Charlie Backes (Vice Commander), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Barry Turano (Base Treasurer), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper), Jim Brincefield, Richard Schrum, Bernie Maguire, Bill Lowe, Bill Whelan, Tom Richey (Nathaniel Greene Base), Tom McFadden, Dale Patterson (Nathaniel Greene Base), Joe Clark (Nathaniel Greene Base), Henry Hagwood (Tarheel Base), Chuck Jensen (Nathaniel Greene Base), John Norosky, Jerry Hawks, Arv Klemp (Tarheel Base), Jim Myers (Nathaniel Greene Base), Rodney Brown, James Jacobs and guests Barbara Dixon, Mary Ann Jensen, Mary Backes, Gail Klemp, Judy Hagwood, Pat Blackmon, Carolyn Richey, and Nancy Jacobs.

Invocation: Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Kuhn led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: Each attendee stood and introduced themselves and gave their qualification boat and year.

Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance: There were two World War II Submarine Veterans in attendance. Joe Clark qualified in 1944 and served on 3 war patrols. Also in attendance was Bill Whelan who also qualified in 1944 and served on 3 war patrols.

Tolling of the Boats: The Tolling of the Boats ceremony for boats lost in the months of March and April was performed by Vice Commander Elect Jerry Hawks, Commander Elect Charlie Backes, and Commander Terry Kuhn.

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

Installation of Coastal Carolina Base Officers for 2013 and 2014: North Carolina Submarine Veterans Commander, Jim Myers administered the Oath of Office to the following newly elected Coastal Carolina Base officers:

Commander	Charlie Backes
Vice Commander	Jerry Hawks
Secretary	Bill Underwood
Treasurer	Barry Turano

Each of these new officers were elected to serve for the two year term of 2013 and 2014.



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Recognition of Outgoing Commander Terry Kuhn: Commander Charlie Backes and Commander Jim Myers thanked outgoing Commander Terry Kuhn for his service to the North Carolina Submarine Veterans. Terry has seen the Base grow from less than 20 members to 57 members. In addition, under Terry's leadership, the Base has taken over responsibility of maintenance of the S-28 memorial, established a library of Navy and Submarine books, established a Book of Members to memorialize Members on Eternal Patrol as well as current Members, initiated an annual charity golf tournament, started construction of a Base parade float, established a Base Newsletter, won numerous awards from USSVI, and sponsored donations to various local and USSVI charities. As Terry leaves the Commander position, he intends to lead the buildup of Kaps4Kids charitable activities by the Coastal Carolina Base. Commander Charlie Backes announced that the Base has acquired a nice gift for Terry to commemorate his service and will present it to him as soon as it arrives.

North Carolina Submarine Veterans Commander Comments: Jim Myers, Commander, North Carolina Submarine Veterans and Commander, Nathaniel Greene Base was introduced by Commander Charlie Backes. Commander Myers commented that the North Carolina Submarine Veterans was started as an off-shoot of the World War II Submarine Veterans. The Tarheel Base was chartered in 1997 by the WWII Submarine Veterans to have quarterly meetings in each quadrant of North Carolina. One big event for the subvet organization was to commemorate the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack each year. This year the Tarheel Base is hosting the Pearl Harbor Dinner on Saturday, December 7. Commander Myers encouraged Coastal Carolina Base Members to plan to go to Cary to attend this dinner. He explained that the dinner is always a very good time. There are raffles, door prizes, good food and great submarine sailor interaction.

Commander Myers continued by encouraging attendees to write nominations for USSVI national awards. He said that the NC Subvets have been very active in the USSVI awards program and have won many awards. The Coastal Carolina Base got the Golden Anchor Award last year for membership growth.

He also discussed the cost of maintenance of the two NC Subvet floats, the torpedo float and the submarine float. He said that it is very expensive to maintain the float and that just recently spent over \$400.00 for tires. They would like to get contributions from each Base to the maintenance fund to support the floats.

Commander Myers closed by saying that his door is always open and he is eager to hear from any Member with questions, ideas or concerns.

MOTION: Terry Kuhn offered a MOTION that the Coastal Carolina Base appropriate \$100.00 to be contributed to the NC Subvet Parade Float Maintenance Fund. The MOTION was SECONDED by Barry Turano and PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

Storekeepers Report: Base Storekeeper, Frank Blackmon announced that he had a full assortment of patches and rocker panels for anyone who needs them.



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Update on the Coastal Carolina Base Float: Base Treasurer, Barry Turano gave a report on the progress of the Coastal Carolina Base parade float project. Barry reported that he and Secretary Bill Underwood traveled to Carpenter Company in High Point to pick up the submarine centerpiece for the new Base float. Below is a picture of the submarine centerpiece shrink wrapped into a Styrofoam cradle.



Base Member John Williamson volunteered his covered car trailer for the transport from High Point to the storage point in Base Member Richard Schrum's barn in Richlands, NC. Many thanks to Barry, Bill, John and Richard for their contributions to the delivery of the centerpiece. The centerpiece is constructed of heavy duty solid Styrofoam and is approximately 14 ft long, 2 ft wide and 4 ft tall. Barry continued that the Styrofoam is vulnerable to dents, etc. until it is coated with a protective coating. He said that he has spoken with Line-X, a company that makes pickup truck bedliners, about the suitability of their product for putting a black protective



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coat on Styrofoam objects like our centerpiece. The local Line-X dealer and the Line-X headquarters technical group assured him that they routinely successfully coat Styrofoam objects with their product and it results in a smooth, durable end-product. Barry said that the cost of the coating would be approximately \$700.00 and asked for permission to expend the funds for coating the centerpiece.

MOTION: Barry Turano offered a MOTION that the Base approve the expenditure of approximately \$700.00 to have the centerpiece coated with a Line-X type product to protect the centerpiece and color it submarine black. The MOTION was SECONDED by Frank Blackmon. In the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that so far donations for the Base float had exceeded \$1,800.00 and thus far the Base has incurred expenses of approximately \$1,580.00 (including fabrication of the centerpiece, banners for the float and gas to deliver the centerpiece). Thus far the construction of the Base float has not impacted the Base's routine bank account at all. The MOTION PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

Barry continued that a working party will be set up soon to make a few minor refinements to the centerpiece prior to coating. He explained that the leading edges of the sail, fairwater planes, stern planes, and rudder should be sanded to be more realistically hydrodynamic. Such a process can be done with normal sheetrock finishing tools and would give the centerpiece a much more realistic look. Any Member with such skills and a willingness to spend an afternoon or morning working on the centerpiece should contact Barry at b.turano1@charter.net.

Base Members are reminded that the Coastal Carolina Base is a not-for-profit organization and that all donations to CCB are generally considered tax deductible (of course, you should consult your tax accountant for deductibility in your particular circumstance).

Regional USSVI Meeting in Charleston, SC: Base Commander Charlie Backes recounted his experience attending the USSVI Regional Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina earlier in the week. He submitted his hotel room expense for reimbursement. Commander Backes reported that Dick Kanning had also encouraged bases to apply for USSVI awards and scholarships. The scholarships are reserved for USSVI Members children and grandchildren, but there is no way to receive one if applications are not filled out.

USS North Carolina, BB-55 Veterans Banquet: Attendees and Members were encouraged to attend the USS North Carolina Veterans Banquet on Saturday April 20th at 1730 at the Elks Club in Wilmington, NC. It was pointed out that the veterans of the BB-55 are fewer and fewer and this may very well be the last banquet. All veterans were encouraged to attend the meeting to support these fellow veterans.

Scorpion Memorial Sponsorship: Secretary Bill Underwood informed attendees that the \$99.00 donation to sponsor one of the *USS Scorpion's* lost crew members for the memorial service was made. Coastal Carolina Base was assigned sponsorship of MM1(SS) Joel Kurt Watkins of Fayetteville, NC. Maryetta Bishop Nolan, daughter of the COB lost with *Scorpion*, said that Joel's brother is very active in the memorials to his brother



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and will be attending the 45th Memorial Ceremony. It brings it home to think that, if the *Scorpion* had not gone down that fateful day, Joel Watkins would likely be one of us, a member of one of the NC Subvet bases.

Recruitment, et cetera: Base Chaplain and Recruiter, Bill Dixon, (Butterbean) updated attendees on recruitment status. Two new Members joined the Coastal Carolina Base since the last meeting.

Butterbean, also Commander of the Tarheel Base, reminded the attendees that the Tarheel Base will be sponsoring the Pearl Harbor Dinner Meeting this year and it will actually be on Saturday, December 7th. He informed the attendees that the uniform for the dinner will be Red Shirts and the dinner will be in the Raleigh/Cary area. He will put out the details as they are finalized. But, for the time being, all Members are encouraged to put the date on their calendar and plan on attending.

Butterbean also said that the Tarheel Base will be the host for the 2014 USSVI Regional Meeting which is being planned for the week leading up to the Azalea Festival. Members are encouraged to plan to attend this Regional meeting.

First Annual Coastal Carolina Base Golf Tournament: Bernie Maguire reported that the First Annual Coastal Carolina Base Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, September 28 at 1300 at Echo Farms Golf Club in Wilmington, NC. For \$30 per golfer, Echo Farms will provide 18 holes of golf, golf carts, signs and sign placement, contest management, range balls and 4 free rounds of golf as door prizes. Players will be charged \$60 to \$80 per head with the profits going to the charities. Bernie reported that he has completed due diligence on the **Step Up for Soldiers** charity and selected it to be the charity for the golf tournament.

At the Base meeting on April 2nd Tom Russell, founder of Step Up for Soldiers, informed attendees of the activities of his charity. It is a local, all volunteer group providing renovations, recreation, and recognition for recently disabled veterans in eastern North Carolina. Step Up for Soldiers mission statement is “to provide disabled veterans who experienced loss of limb and mobility problems with the resources necessary to adjust in a post-war environment. “As a result of the events and fundraisers, sponsored by Step Up For Soldiers, we strive to not only enhance their lives and those of their families but also help to restore their confidence and positive self-image” said Russell.

Frank Blackmon, who recently was involved in a charity golf tournament, suggested that a lot of funds can be raised by selling Red Tees and Mulligans at the tournament.

Bernie is working on a flyer to help Members recruit players and hole sponsorships from local businesses and plans to have it ready by April 27th.

The Golf Tournament Team continues to seek volunteers to help organize and manage the golf tournament. In particular they need volunteers for:



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- 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.

Upcoming Events Reminder:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Calendar Event</u>
Apr 20	Final <i>BB-55</i> banquet at 1730 at Elks Club in Wilmington, NC
May 9	Members invited to attend Cape Fear SubVet meeting at Bluewater Grill
Jun 20	Regular scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC
Jul 4	North Carolina 4th of July Parade, Southport, NC
Aug 17	Regular scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral, Wilmington, NC
Sep 28	CCB Annual Golf Tournament at Echo Farms
Oct 17	Regular scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC
Dec 7	Pearl Harbor Meeting in Cary, NC hosted by Tarheel Base
Dec 21	Regular scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral, Wilmington, NC

Adjournment:

MOTION: Jim Brincefield offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Bernie Maguire **SECONDED** the motion and the motion **CARRIED** by unanimous vote by the attendees and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Scheduled Base Meeting

The next Coastal Carolina Base meeting will be on Thursday evening June 20, 2013. The meeting will convene in room 208 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, North Carolina at 1900. Members are encouraged to attend the *BB-55* banquet on April 20th at 1730 at the Elks Club in Wilmington, NC.

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



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Never Forget Our Brothers On Eternal Patrol!

