



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

When: August 17, 2013, at 0900

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

Call to order: Base Commander Charlie Backes called the meeting to order promptly at 0900.

Attendees: Charlie Backes (Base Commander), Jerry Hawks (Base Vice Commander), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper), Terry Kuhn, Ron Bixby, Howard Crist, George Depta, Richard Schrum, Jim Brincefield, Bob Bozart, Kevin Kesterson, Andy King, John Norowski, Tom McFadden, Bob Govern, Bill Lowe, Phil Brown, Mark Siewert, new member Jason Howell and guest Tom Russell, Founder of Step-Up-for-Soldiers.

Invocation: Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Backes 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 no World War II Submarine Veterans in attendance.

Tolling of the Boats: The Tolling of the Boats ceremony for boats lost in the months of July and August was performed by Vice Commander Jerry Hawks, and Ron Bixby. The first boat covered was the S28 (SS 133) which is the lost boat assigned to the North Carolina Subvets. It was lost on July 4th 1944 off the coast of Hawaii with 50 men on board. The S-28 survived 7 war patrols.



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Holland Club Presentations: Bob Bozart was presented with his Holland Club certificate and patches at this meeting.



Special Presentation to Past Base Commander Terry Kuhn:



Base Commander Charlie Backes presented outgoing Base Commander Terry Kuhn with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the Base as Commander.



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Approval of the Minutes from the June 20, 2013 Meeting:

MOTION: Bill Dixon offered a MOTION to accept the published minutes of the June 20th meeting as written and dispense with the reading of those minutes. Phil Brown SECONDED the Motion. The Motion PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees and the reading of the minutes was dispensed.

Submission of Expenses and Base Communications: Base Commander Backes recounted the July 13th event at the Battleship and submitted a receipt for taking the SSN 777 Plank Holder Special Guests to dinner that evening. He also submitted receipts for bunting for the front of the float and for a plastic storage container for the banners and accessories for the float.

MOTION: Bill Dixon offered a MOTION to reimburse Commander Backes for these expenses. Phil Brown SECONDED the MOTION and the MOTION PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

Base Commander Backes also discussed the Call for Donations for a Sailor in Need that was made by Commander Jim Myers in July. The CCB raised \$175.00 which was submitted to Commander Jim. Bill Lowe informed the group that the North Carolina SubVets Group raised over \$3,000.00 for the Sailor in Need. Base Commander Backes read a letter of appreciation and thanks from the grateful SubVet to the attendees.

Treasurers Report: Base Treasurer, Barry Turano, was not at the meeting, but he submitted the following report through Commander Backes:



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Treasurers Report 6/16/2013 through 8/16/2013

Beginning Balance 6/16/2013		\$295.91
Income:		
	Dues	\$110.00
	Raffle income	\$28.00
	"Sailor in need" donations	\$175.00
	* Full Sponsor donation Registers	\$100.00
	* Half sponsor donation Preston	\$50.00
	* Donation from Reeds Jewelers	\$500.00
	* *Golf tournament entries	<u>\$810.00</u>
	Total income	\$1773.00
Expenditures		
USSVI National Dues		\$60.00
Charles Backes (outgoing Commanders gift)		\$50.00
FedEx Office Golf flyers		\$44.19
Exxon (Fuel cost. Transport float from Wilmington to Battleship. From Battleship to Carolina Beach (Tom Mc Fadden) for storage. Return trailer to Richard Schrum in Richlands. From Richlands to Wilmington 197 total miles)		\$70.69
Jim Meyers (Sailor in Need)		\$175.00
FedEx Office Golf flyers (2 nd run)		<u>\$44.19</u>
Total all expenses		\$444.07
Reconciled		
	6/16/13 Cash on hand	\$295.91
	Deposits	<u>\$1773.00</u>
	Total	\$2068.91
	Less expenditure (\$444.07)	
	Ending Balance	\$1624.84
*Golf Tournament Donations		
Registers		\$100.00
Preston		\$50.00
Reeds Jewelers		\$500.00
**Golf Tournament Entries		
Don Ruch (team)		
Cindy Merrell (team)		
Jack LaBruyere (team)		

COB Report: Commander Backes informed attendees that, since our last meeting, we received a rather large donation of submarine and navy books to the Base Library. A list of the donated books is listed under **Base Library** below in these minutes.



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Storekeeper's Report: Base Storekeeper Frank Blackmon reported that he has a stock of Base patches and rocker panels available for purchase and that he is available to help Members order vests, patches, etc. He has been working with USSVI to build a Base Store on the National site.

Committee Reports:

Report on Status of Base Parade Float: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that the new parade float was a success at the 4th of July Parade in Southport and at the July 13th Battleship North Carolina Tribute to the Submarine Service.

Base Commander Backes asked for suggestions from members as to improvements that could be made to the float. The following suggestions were offered:

- Add a klaxon diving alarm – Terry Kuhn said he will borrow the Battleship klaxon for future events
- Allow for some subvets to walk along beside the float in parades
- Commission a special shirt for subvet parade attendees to give a more uniform appearance
- May need to touch up the water proofing on the centerpiece – once put in storage after the July 13th event water drained from the centerpiece for awhile

Report on Newsletter: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that a Special Edition of "*The Below Decks Watch*", the Base newsletter was sent to Members in late July due to the high level of Base activity in June and July. The next regular edition of the newsletter, the 3rd Quarter edition, will be issued in mid-September.

Public Relations: There was no public relations report at this meeting.

Book of Base Members: Commander Backes passed the Book of Base Members around to attendees resulting in several request by attendees for pictures to be taken. Commander Backes asked attendees again to please submit a short (one page) autobiography of their submarine duty and experiences. One attendee suggested that we just make up a biography, in true submariner style, for those members who do not respond with an autobiography.

Report on Golf Tournament Status: Jim Brincefield reported that progress continues on the Base's first sponsored Golf Tournament. Reed's Jewelers has agreed to donate \$1,000.00 to be the title sponsor for the tournament. Their donation will be \$500.00 in cash and \$500.00 in jewelry to be used as prizes. Chick Fil A from the Monkey Junction store will furnish box lunches for each tournament entrant. However, we still need a beverage cart sponsor. Members are encouraged to approach beverage companies and grocery stores about being the beverage cart sponsor.

However, the Golf Tournament Committee needs members to help recruit sponsors, door prizes, goody bag materials and, most of all, golfers to fill the foursomes. Your help is Needed!



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Tom Russell, Founder of Step-Up-For-Soldiers

Jim introduced Tom Russell, the founder of Step-Up-For-Soldiers, to speak to the attendees about recent activities of Step-Up and about his prior experiences with charity golf tournaments. Tom suggested that the golf tournament committee go observe a few local golf tournaments to see what works and what doesn't. It makes a huge difference to the golfers if the sign in process and execution of the tournament are well organized.

The tournament will be held at Echo Farms Golf Club on Saturday, September 28th. Please call Jim Brincefield (910 619 5289) or Bernie Maguire (703 622 8376) ASAP to volunteer to help!

Tom McFadden volunteered to provide commemorative shirts for all the volunteers that sign up and help out on tournament day.

Old Business:

Recruiting: Base Chaplain and Recruiter, Bill Dixon, (Butterbean) had to leave early to get on the road back to Raleigh, but Commander Backes reported that Jason Howell joined the Base today. He also said the BB has several other potential members in his sights.

Commander Backes also reminded 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. More details to come on the location!



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Attendees were reminded 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.

Base Budget: Commander Backes informed the attendees that the officers are working on a budget for the Base and will present it for review and approval as soon as it is complete.

Base Library: Commander Backes announced that Bob Montore, a non-member friend of the Base, contacted us to donate 25 books to the Base Library. Below is the list of the donated books. A big thanks to Bob for his contribution!

No.	TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	Fiction or Non-Fiction	COPYRIGHT DATE	HARDCOVER OR SOFT
1	Escape From the Deep [USS Tang]	Alex Kershaw	NF	2008	H
2	Silent Steel [USS Scorpion]	Stephen Johnson	NF	2006	H
3	Seizing the Enigma	David Kahn	NF	1991	H
4	A Tale of Two Subs [Sculpin and Sailfish]	Jonathan J. McCullough	NF	2008	H
5	Red Star Rogue	Kenneth Sewell with Clint Richmond	NF	2005	H
6	Iron Coffins (has underlines on some pages)	Commander Herbert A. Werner	NF	1969	S
7	Raising the Hunley	Brian Hicks and Schuyler Kropf	NF	2002	H
8	Dark Waters [NR-1]	Lee Vyborny and Don Davis	NF	2003	H
9	Unknown Waters [USS Queenfish]	Alfred S. McClaren	NF	2008	H
10	The Navy Times Book of Submarines	Brayton Harris	NF	1997	S
11	The Depths of Courage	Flint Whitlock and Ron Smith	NF	2007	H
12	Submarine!	Edward L. Beach	NF	1946	S
13	Blind Man's Bluff [USS Seawolf]	Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew	NF	1998	S
14	Scorpion Down	Ed Offley	NF	2007	H
15	Take Her Deep	Adm. I.J. Galantin, USN [Ret.]	NF	1997	S
16	War in the Boats	Capt. William J. Ruhe, USN [Ret.]	NF	1994	S
17	Fatal Dive [USS Grunion]	Peter F. Stevens	NF	2012	H
18	Pirana: Firing Point	Michael D. DiMercurio	F	1999	S
19	Some Survived [Bataan Death March]	Manny Lawton	NF	1984	S
20	By Sea and by River [Civil War Naval History]	Bern Anderson	NF	1962	S
21	Torpedo Junction	Homer H. Hickam, Jr.	NF	1989	S
22	The Death of the USS Thresher	Norman Polmar	NF	1964	S
23	Rising Tide [Cold War Russian Subs]	Gary E. Weir and Walter J. Boyne	NF	2003	H
24	George Bancroft - The Intellectual as Democrat	Lilian Handlin	NF	1984	H
25	Resurrection - Salvaging the Battle Fleet at Pearl	Daniel Madsen	NF	2003	H

Silent Service DVDs on Sale: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that DVD packages of the episodes of the TV show Silent Service are available through Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper). The show was popular



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on TV in 1957 and 1958 and featured reenactments of real WWII submarine patrols. Many of us grew up watching these shows and became fascinated with submarines. The USS Sea Lion Base converted the records of the shows to DVD and sell them on their website. CCB contacted them and negotiated to purchase DVD sets at a reduced price so CCB will make 10% to 20% on Base Member purchases depending on volume. Member should contact Frank Blackmon, Base Storekeeper, to purchase.

Jim Brincefield suggested that the Base consider purchasing a set of the DVDs for the Base Library. No action was taken at this time.

Base Historian: Commander Backes asked for volunteers to become the Coastal Carolina Base Historian. The duties of the Base Historian would be to bring some relevant historical facts to the Base meetings. No one volunteered at the meeting, so Commander Backes asked that all Base Members consider stepping up for the position. As an example of what he would like the Base Historian to do, Commander Charlie read the following:

Advice from a Retired Husband

It is important for men to remember that, as women grow older, it becomes harder for them to maintain the same quality of housekeeping as when they were younger. When this becomes apparent, try not to yell at them. Some are oversensitive, and there's nothing worse than an oversensitive woman.

My name is Ron. Let me relate how I handled this situation with my wife, Carol. When I retired a few years ago, it became necessary for Carol to get a full-time job, along with her part-time job, both for extra income and for the health benefits that we needed. Shortly after she started working, I noticed she was beginning to show her age. I usually get home from the golf club about the same time she gets home from work.

Although she knows how hungry I am, she almost always says she has to rest for half an hour or so before she starts dinner. I don't yell at her. Instead, I tell her to take her time and just wake me when she gets dinner on the table.

I generally have lunch in the Grill at the golf club, so eating out is not an option for us in the evening. I'm ready for some home-cooked food when I walk through that door. She used to do the dishes as soon as we finished eating but now it's not unusual for them to sit on the table for several hours after dinner.

I do what I can by diplomatically reminding her several times each evening that they won't clean themselves. I know she really appreciates this, as it does seem to motivate her to get them done before she goes to bed.

Another symptom of aging is complaining, I think. For example, she will say that it is difficult for her to find time to pay the monthly bills during her lunch hour, but chaps, we take them for better or worse, so I just smile and offer encouragement. I tell her to stretch it out over two or even three days. That way, she won't have to rush so much. I also remind her that missing lunch completely now and then would help her figure. I like to think tact is one of my strong points.

When doing simple jobs, she seems to think she needs more rest periods. She had to take a break when she was only half-finished mowing the lawn. I tried not to make a scene. I'm a fair man. I told her to fix herself a nice, big, cold glass of freshly squeezed orange juice, and just relax for a while, as long as she is making one for herself, she might as well make one for me too.

I know that I probably look like a saint in the way I support Carol. I'm not saying that showing this much patience & consideration is easy. Many men would find it difficult if not impossible. Nobody knows better than I do how frustrating women get as they get older.

However, Chaps, even if you just use a little more tact and less criticism of your aging wife as a result of reading this article, I will consider that writhing it was well worthwhile. After all, we are put on this earth to help each other.

Ron died suddenly of a perforated rectum after publishing this letter. The police report says he was found with a Calloway extra-long 50-inch Big Bertha Driver II golf club jammed up his rear end with barely 5 inches of the handle showing. A sledge hammer was laying nearby.

His wife, Carol, was arrested and charged with murder. The all-woman jury took only 9 minutes to find her "Not Guilty", accepting her defense that Ron, somehow without looking, accidentally sat down on his golf club.



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Local Flag Day Salute: Commander Backes informed attendees that the Base participated in the Wilmington Area Salute to Flag Day. Members Jim Simon, Bill Underwood, and Jim Brincefield joined Commander Charlie at the flag pole in front of the Wilmington City Hall at 0800 on June 28th to raise the flag, salute and say the Pledge of Allegiance to honor our country.

New Business:

Step-Up-For-Soldiers Mud Run: Past Commander Terry Kuhn informed the attendees that he has been working with Step-Up-For-Soldiers to support their upcoming Mud Run fund raiser. He asked for Base Members to volunteer to help prepare the course at 0800 on Saturday, August 25th at the National Guard Armory on North Kerr Street at the Airport. Contact Terry at etkfixr@bellsouth.net directly if you can help. He needs a head count as lunch will be provided for volunteers. The Mud Run is planned for October 19th.

Coordinated Shirts for Parade Float Attendees: Commander Backes noticed at the Southport parade that other military groups had the same shirts on which gave a sharper more finished look to the float and the group. Tom McFadden informed Charlie that he is in that business and could mock up some prototype shirts to show the Members. Tom had those mock ups at the meeting. They were red polo shirts with the CCB patch on the left chest. Tom is going to work with Base Storekeeper, Frank Blackmon to offer the shirts and hats to Base Members for a reasonable price that would give a small % to the Base for each item ordered. Frank and Tom are targeting to have pictures of the items and the pricing available to be published in the upcoming edition of "The Below Decks Watch".

Open Floor:

Patriots Point Mistake: Bob Bozart raised the issue that the memorial at Patriots Point in South Carolina has the *USS Barbero SSG 317* and the *USS Tunny SSG 282* are incorrectly listed as *SS 317* and *SS 282*. Bob has petitioned Patriots Point to correct this inaccuracy to no avail. Bob asked if other Members had connections in Patriots Point to help get the designation correct.

USS Clamagore SS 343 Status: Howard Crist asked what the status of the Clamagore was. The *USS Clamagore, SS 343* is currently a historic site in the Patriots Point Museum in Charleston, South Carolina. Patriots Point can no longer afford to maintain the submarine and plans to sell it as scrap to become a reef off Florida unless it can find an alternative museum or sponsor to maintain it. The Clamagore Veterans Association has been actively working with Patriots Point and various politicians and potential sponsors to *Save the Clamagore*. Thus far they have raised about \$40,000 and explored many avenues to save the Clamagore, but the fate of the Clamagore is currently bleak.

The Clamagore was launched in 1945 and decommissioned in 1975 and is the only remaining example of a GUPPY III conversion cold war submarine. If you have any suggestions to save the Clamagore, please provide them to <http://www.savetheclamagore.com/> or to George Bass, 110 River Birch Drive, Salisbury, NC 28146.



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Holland Club Mug Drawing: At the end of the meeting the drawing for chances to win a Holland Club Mug was held. Jerry Hawks won the mug. The Base raised \$46.00 for the treasury in the raffle.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Phil Brown offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Bill Underwood **SECONDED** the motion and the motion **PASSED** by unanimous vote by the attendees and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Scheduled Base Event/Meeting

Heads Up! Commander Backes is contemplating calling another interim meeting in mid-September to cover Base activities related to the upcoming Golf Tournament. Date, Location and Time will be distributed soon!

The Coastal Carolina Base Charity Golf Tournament will be held on September 28th at Echo Farms Golf Club.

The next regular Base Meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 17th at 1900 at the First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, in Wilmington.

Base Calendar of Events

Date	Event
September 28, 2013	CCB Annual Golf Tournament at Echo Farms Golf Club, Wilmington, NC.
October 17, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
December 7, 2013	Pearl Harbor Meeting and Dinner in Cary, NC hosted by the Tarheel Base
December 21, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral Restaurant, on New Centre Drive, Wilmington, NC.



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REEDS
Jewelers
presents:



**The Coastal Carolina Submarine Veterans
Charity Golf Tournament**

For the Benefit of Two Local Charities,
Step Up For Soldiers and Submarine Veterans Inc.
www.stepupforsoldiers.org www.ussvi.org

Come join us on Saturday, September 28 for 18 holes of golf on an enjoyable and challenging course; limited number of 20 foursomes; Sign up early; Three flights; Prizes for each flight; 501(c)3 Charitable Deduction; Echo Farms Golf & Country Club; fun for everyone; Beverage Cart; Door Prizes; one free mulligan per player; Captains Choice; Scramble; Golf Carts; Practice Facility; Bag of range balls and Valet bag service at arrival and departure.

Location: Echo Farms Golf & Country Club
4114 Echo Farms Boulevard
Wilmington, NC 28412
www.echofarmsnc.com

Schedule: September 28, 2013
Registration: Start time 11:30 AM
Tee time: Carts scramble at 1:00 PM
Format: Scramble, 4 person teams
Chick-fil-A: Box Lunch on arrival

Entry Fee: \$75.00 per individual player: \$270.00 per foursome
Sponsor a green or a tee: \$100.00
Deadline: Payment on or before Saturday, September 21
Cancellation: 50% refund until noon, Tuesday September 24
Red Tees and Extra Mulligans sold at check -in

Sign Up now to enjoy and support your local veterans!

ENTRY FORM

TO: Submarine Veterans, Coastal Carolina
c/o: Mr. Barry Turano
4901 Merlot Court
Wilmington, NC 28409-3663

Individual Player or
Team Captain:

Name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
Email Address: _____

TEAM NAME: _____
Player #2: _____
Player #3: _____
Player #4: _____
Sponsor: _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
Submarine Veterans, Coastal Carolina Base



**For More information contact Jim Brincefield at
910-619-5289 or email to jab39@att.net**





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Never Forget Our Brothers On Eternal Patrol!

