**Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: April 22, 2017**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

* Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Petitt called the meeting to order one-half hour earlier tonight @ 1830 hrs. at the VFW Post located in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

NOTE: We’ve shifted our meeting start time to 1830 now on a trial basis to allow folks the ability to travel home during the remaining daylight hours.

**INVOCATION**

* Former Carolina Piedmont Base Chaplain Raymond Fritz gave us tonight’s invocation.
* Ray also bid us a temporary farewell tonight as he will be traveling to be an interim pastor at a church where he was originally the founding pastor.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

* All joined together in saying our nation’s Pledge of Allegiance.

**USSVI CREED**

* The USSVI Creed was recited tonight by Bill Strand.

**TOLLING OF THE BOATS**

* Tolling for those boats lost in April was presented by Ray Fritz and Mike Hubbell.

**MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

* There were 20 members present at this month’s meeting.

**MEMBER AWARDS**

* No awards were presented at tonight’s meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES**

* The March 2017 base meeting minutes were posted in the April issue of the Piedmont Periscope which was emailed out to members on April 21st for review.
* A motion was made to accept the March minutes as written; no discussion and the motion passed.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

* Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink presented the treasury report thru April 22nd, 2017 at tonight’s meeting; *see table below for actual figures*.
* A motion was made to accept the April’s treasurer’s report as presented; no discussion and the motion passed.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Category | Balances as of 4/22/2017 | Last Reported Balances |
| Kapss-4-kidss Fund | $911.50 | $911.50 |
| Moonshine Mtn Memorial Fund | $510.00 | $0.00 |
| NC Air Museum | $29.50 | $117.00 |
| Scholarship Fund | 141.00 | $76.00 |
| General Base Fund | $5,003.56 | $5,087.08 |
| Total Balances | $ 6,595.56 | $ 6,191.58 |

**SK REPORT**

* Our base storekeeper Jeff Nieberding announced he still has 2017 submarine calendars available and they are now offered at a reduced price.
* Jeff also has patches, parking placards, challenge coins, etc. available for purchase.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* None

**NEW BUSINESS**

* None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

* **Submarine Education Classes**
* Rick reminded us that one of our many successful base outreach programs was our submarine education presentations.
* Rick reported that Steven White who resides “in the center of the universe” at Kings Mountain NC has volunteered to start presenting sub-ed presentations at schools located in the western part of our region. Zeke Rybczyk has also become active in this special outreach.
* Our next (and possibly final sub-ed presentation for the 2016 – 2017 school year) will be held on Friday, May 12th at the Fort Mill High School. NOTE: This date has recently been changed to May 12th from an original date of May 5th.
* Our sub-ed presentations are primarily conducted at schools having NJROTC programs but in the past we have also conducted presentations to schools having Air Force or Marine JROTC programs.
* **Bilge Rats-Update**
* Dale Moses reported our final Bilge Rats’ presentation of the Weather Channel parody for our 6th season was held today April. 22nd at the Terrace Ridge Assisted Living in Gastonia. 21 persons were in attendance.
* Next season (our 7th) the Bilge Rats production crew will be performing Hee Haw Revisited. Tryouts (???) and rehearsals will start later this summer.
* Our thanks goes out to all of our bilge rats actors & production crew for bringing Halfway Night presentations to those not fortunate enough to experience life on board a United States submarine.
* **Base Color Guard-Update**
* Late this month on April 30th at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill SC at 3 PM there will be another Massing of the Colors event. Dale is still contacting members of the base color guard to determine their availability. It is also noted that anyone from the base can attend this event which is quite a patriotic affair.
* Dale reminded us our color guard will also present the colors at the Charlotte’ Knight’s BB&T ballpark on Saturday, May 27th at 7 PM for a Memorial Day event. A nice crowd of base members and their families have already signed up to attend. Tickets are still available if you haven’t signed up yet. Contact Dale for tickets at the very reasonable rate of $18 per seat.
* **Eagle Scout Presentation-Update**
* Rick reported he attended a very special Eagle Scout presentation this past month where the honored eagle scout was already signed up for service in the Navy and was scheduled to enter the submarine program as well.
* **Military Appreciation Day**
* Rick, Jack, Lee Hickerson, Robert Schilke and Steven White attended a military appreciation day event this month at Shelby High School.
* The event was attended by many representatives from the different branches of our armed forces but was not well attended by the public.
* Those in attendance took the opportunity to celebrate the time by meeting many new folks and establishing new friendships.
* **Burnsville**
* May 19th & 20th will be our annual Burnsville event at Moonshine Mountain.
* Friday night there will be a music jam session.
* Saturday will be the memorial service and tolling of the boat ceremony.
* Saturday evening will be the Halfway Night festivities.
* The submarine model raffle will be held at Burnsville that weekend with proceeds going towards the Burnsville Memorial Restoration Fund.

**OPEN 1MC**

* A brief discussion was held regarding what is stated to be the loss of the 501(c)3 status for USSVI due to the less than 90% membership of sailor’s who served during wartime periods. Jack Jeffries will be following this development and there will surely be information put out about this later this year at the National Convention. It was noted that donations made to the USSVI Charitable Fund will still be tax deductible.
* Members were reminded of the continued prayer needs for Jim Schenk and the multitudes of tests he will be undergoing and for our member Rudy Ogas who has suffered a severe stroke and is currently experiencing major paralysis.

**PIEDMONT PERISCOPE**

* All hands are reminded that any news items they want to be included or considered for the next issue of the Piedmont Periscope newsletter that all submissions must be sent to Robert Schilke no later than the 15th of each month.

**NEXT BASE MEETING**

* May’s base meeting will be preempted by the Burnsville meeting at Moonshine Mountain and therefore there will not be a Carolina Piedmont base meeting in May at the VFW.
* The next base meeting at the Fort Mill VFW will be held on the fourth Saturday in June on the 24th. REMINDER: Our meal times will remain the same time starting at 1730 but our meeting times are now moved up to starting at 1830 ***(1/2 hour earlier than our usual meeting starting time)***.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

* A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1917 hours; the motion passed.

**BENEDICTION**

* Tonight’s Benediction was given to us by Raymond Fritz.

**RAFFLE RESULTS**

* Tonight’s raffle was won by Bill Strand!

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By:

Base Secretary Tom Kelly