

Nathanael Greene Base Meeting Minutes – 1 March 2014.

1300 – Meeting called to order at American Legion Post in Winston-Salem by Commander Jim Myers.

Invocation by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

Pledge of Allegiance by all hands.

The member introductions by the 16 members present. (Two wives attended: Marge Kanning and Ruth Ann Worth).

A prospective member in attendance was Scott Hughes.

A new Tolling the Boats program was initiated in which Treasurer Chuck Jensen used a PowerPoint presentation, projected on a movie screen, of the pictures for the March and April “Lost Boats” as they were being extolled by the Chaplain with the assistance of the Vice Commander, Ray Moore, manning the bell.

Reports:

The minutes from the January meeting were unanimously accepted as submitted via the Base webpage after our last meeting.

Vice Commander Ray Moore rendered no report for this meeting.

Treasurer Chuck Jensen provided the base treasury report and recognized the Nat Greene Base on 100% member-retention of primary USSVI annual base members.

Chuck updated the construction progress of The Carolina Field of Honor Memorial now being built on an 8 acre tract at the Triad County Park. The former USSV-WWII Tarheel Chapter has purchased an 8” X 8” memorial brick to remember the 52 boats lost during WWII, with their remaining treasury funds. A bronze plaque to recognize the US Submarine Service and indicating the location of the 6 NC Subvets Bases will be installed as the result of Joe Clark’s fund raising efforts. The Carolina Piedmont and Tarheel Bases have already purchased a 4” X 8” brick for their bases. Plans are to have all submarine memorial bricks placed adjacent to the plaque. This would include bricks purchased by individuals and our members are encouraged to purchase a brick for themselves. When completed, this will be the 2nd largest military memorial park in the South.

The War of Terror Memorial will be dedicated on Flag Day (June 14th) in Holly Springs. This is David Griffith’s Eagle Scout project as a memorial to his brother who was killed in action in Afghanistan. All 6 NC Subvet Bases have purchased a brick to support this effort by David Griffith. Dick Kanning will present the USSVI Eagle Scout recognition items when David receives his Eagle Scout Badge.

Storekeeper Gary Vernon reminded all of items available.

Kaps-4-Kids Chairman Mike Runkle briefed the members on the type of group-participation program he brings to our Kids and upcoming venues to visit. All past program-recipients wish for our return.

Old Business:

Chuck Jensen briefed us on information signs for Moonshine Mountain near Burnsville, NC. The possibility of our installing these was investigated as a tabled item from the January meeting. It is not

feasible to have this type of a sign installed by the State of North Carolina due to their requirements for a minimum number of site-visitors. The USSVI webpage lists all of the Submarine Memorials across the country and includes Moonshine Mountain.

SE Regional Commander, Dick Kanning, has resigned as Nathanael Greene Chief of the Boat. Dale Patterson has been appointed Base COB by Jim Myers and the 2 elected base officers present approved the appointment per the Base C&B.

New Business:

Commander Myers passed around a thank you card from Joshua's Angel Center of the Carolinas for our continued and important support of their efforts.

Nathanael Greene Base has unanimously voted to purchase a 4"x8" brick, with emblem; vote unanimously carried for the expenditure of \$225.00 for The Carolina Field of Honor.

Member Bob Hopkins informed us of his upcoming attendance of his grandson's Eagle Scout Award Ceremony in Atlanta. His granddaughter won a USSVI scholarship this year. Bob Werner's granddaughter is receiving her 5th year's scholarship and matriculating Wayne State University for Pharmacology. Bob's grandson also received a 4 year scholarship. Several other members spoke of the importance of these Submarine Veteran Scholarships, available to be applied for on the USSVI Website, and the gratitude of past selectees of our Base's members.

SE Regional Director, Dick Kanning spoke on several issues:

How to nominate Sub Vets for Awards at the next convention in San Francisco. Bob Hopkins brought up the oversight that Mike Burkholder, being the prime initiator of Submarine Veterans in the Carolinas, should be recognized for an award.

About the impending Regional Meeting to be held in Cary, NC in the month of April.

The importance of getting base year-end reports in on time to the National Treasurer to avoid IRS penalties for late-filing.

The positive changes to the quality of the American Submariner Magazine are the result of the new editor and his assistants. Bravo Zulu to that team.

Good of the Order:

COB Dale Patterson informed us of the Veterans Helping Veterans Heal initiative that we have been supporting for the past few months. We have decided to not bring needed items to the meeting to be donated, but rather have instituted a donation box that will be passed at each meeting so they overseers-in-charge can purchase the items needed most by the Veterans as the needs arise.

Upcoming Events:

15 March – St. Patrick's Day Parade in Raleigh at 1000 hours.

16 March – St. Patrick's Day Parade in Nag's Head at 1300 hours.

7 April – Southeastern Regional Convention Meeting check-in and registration.

Nathanael Greene and Holland Club member George Bass will attend as one of the Guest Speakers.

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Holiday Inn, Cary. Address is 5630 Dillard Drive, Raleigh, NC, 27518 at a rate of \$79.00/night. Please deal directly with the Holiday Inn at 919-277-2011, being sure to reference "Submarine Veterans". For further information please contact Commander Tarheel Base Bill "Butterbean" Dixon.

3 May – Next Nathanael Greene Base meeting at the American Legion in Winston-Salem.

16-17 May – Burnsville gathering and Moonshine Mountain Ceremony. The Carolina Piedmont Base will have a preview of their "Bilge Rat Productions" travelling show which is reprising the old "Hee Haw" television show.

26 May – NC Sub Vets' torpedo float will be going to the parade in Washington, D.C.

7 June – The Air Museum Fly-In at the venue where we store our parade floats.

Benediction by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

Chuck Jensen presented a picture documentary, accompanied by Submarine Ballads by Tommy Cox and Bobby Reed, submarines of the U.S. Submarine Force from 1896-1933 which was enjoyed by all. Thank you Chuck for your efforts in bringing many heretofore unseen pictures to our attention and enjoyment.

50/50 Raffle won by SE Regional Commander Dick Kanning and donated \$20.00 of his winnings back to the Base. Thank you, Sir.

1500 – Meeting adjourned after Jim Schenk gave the closing prayer.