

NATHANAEL GREENE Base Meeting Minutes for 3 January, 2015.

Meeting called to order 1308 at the VFW Post in Winston-Salem, NC.

INVOCATON: by Base Chaplain Jim Schenk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: by Base Commander Jim Myers.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS and GUESTS: 15 members were present and introduced themselves, announced their qualification boat and year, and where they resided.

Two esteemed WWII Submarine Veterans were also in attendance:

MoMM3(SS) **Joe Clark**, qualified aboard **USS BREAM SS-243** in 1943 and made three War Patrols.

EMCM(SS), USN Ret. **George Bass**, qualified aboard **USS BOARFISH SS-327** in 1944 and made three War Patrols.

Two new members were present and welcomed by the Base members:

David Bergman and Robert DesRosiers.

Ruth Ann Worth was the only guest in attendance.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS: by Chaplain Jim Schenk read the boat list for January (5) and February (5) while Vice Commander Ray Moore tolled the bell for each boat, and Chuck Jensen concurrently projected the names and pictures of the "Eternal Patrol" boats from his laptop computer onto a pull-down projection screen behind the podium.

Base Secretary Ed Galaviz recorded the meeting minutes, and the meeting minutes of 8 November were unanimously approved as posted on our Base webpage.

Commander Jim Myers has formerly retired as long-time "volunteer hauler" of the NC SubVets "Mk-14 Torpedo" parade float. New avenues are being explored to locate a replacement driver for this "Good of the Order" duty.

Commander Myers has also handed off North Carolina Submarine Veterans' Commandership to Gene Ipoix, Commander of Asheville Base.

{Regional Commander Dick Kanning led the kudos and Base's thankful recognition for the exemplary job that Commander Myers has faithfully performed in both capacities.}

Commander Myers asked if anyone had suggestions for another worthy community project for the Base to enter into, to which there were no suggestions presented.

Vice Commander Ray Moore spoke briefly how he had travelled to Cleveland, Ohio for the reunion of his qualification boat **USS BANG SS-385** and had also visited the museum boat **USS COD SS-224**. He

remarked how he got to hear the engines start up and told of how the boat is still functional in many respects.

Treasurer Chuck Jensen presented the Treasurer's Report which was voted on and approved unanimously.

In his capacity as and Membership Chairman he announced that currently four members are still being contacted to renew by 30 January (the cut-off date or membership). Six members have dropped out for various reasons, and current membership now stands at 101.

Treasurer's Report of 12 20 14:

Special Funds:

Fuel Reimbursement Fund	\$647.17
Joshua's Angel Center of the Carolinas	\$517.00
Kaps-4-Kids	\$269.00
Trailer Maintenance Fund	<u>\$190.19</u>
Total	\$1,623.36

General Funds Available: \$5,596.44

Storekeeper's Report: by Gary Vernon.

2015 Submarine Fast Attack calendars	\$10.00
HOLLAND CLUB coffee mugs (new item)	\$11.00
Submarine Cookbooks	\$21.50

He again presented to the membership a pricing list and table-display of what is currently available.

Kaps-4-Kids Report: – Chairman Mike Runkle was not in attendance and has asked to be replaced and has not renewed his membership due to family hardship. Commander Myers told of how nominations to fill the vacant post are now being accepted and will be further determined at the next meeting. The Base C&B has the job description for those volunteering for this position. Mike will return the show-and-tell materials to the Base in the near future for the next Chairman.

Chief of the Boat Dale Patterson was not in attendance, so Commander Myers spoke of "Veterans Helping Veterans Heal" (www.vhvh.org), under Volunteer Coordinator Mary Claybourn, and how we continue to support the organization. They have had several graduates who are doing well back out in society, and how their successful system is today filled to capacity and being well supported and funded by the Veterans' Administration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commander Jim Myers gave a report on our continued support of "Joshua's Angel Center of the Carolinas." The "Center" is doing well and currently has 15 handicapped children on Fridays, and 10 on Saturdays enjoying the opportunity to therapeutically ride horses provided the "Center" by owner/operators Tammy and James Hazelwood in Boonville, NC.

Member Kris Bridges was not in attendance to talk about the proposed Base Lapel Pin.

Chuck Jensen and Joe Clark provided an update on the progress of the reinstallation of the updated paving bricks at the "*Carolina Field of Honor*" that was dedicated on 31 May 2014.

HOLLAND CLUB Chairman, George Bass, collected dues from HOLLAND CLUB members present.

South East Regional Director Dick Kanning addressed the membership about the recent USSVI National Convention held in San Francisco, CA, which was hosted by the Mare Island Base, and told of a new Convention Handbook that will be utilized as a guideline for future successful conventions. The next National Convention will be in Pittsburgh, PA in 2015.

Director Kanning congratulated Membership Chairman Chuck Jensen for his outstanding dedication to his charged duty.

The Director reminded the Base of the great importance of the USSVI Scholarship Fund which is available to children, step-children, and grandchildren of USSVI Members in good standing. A deadline of March 15 is in place for the submittal of registration forms for this award. Eight-six honorees were granted scholarship checks last year in the amounts of \$1,500 to \$750 per year of their college education.

The End of Year Financial Report by National Treasurer Paul Hiser has been submitted and is now online for the membership (www.ussvi.org).

The USSVI has been granted War Veteran Status which translates into organizational donations henceforth becoming tax deductible.

USS DRUM SS-228 is the Museum Boat in Mobile, Alabama and is also in good order like the **USS COD SS-224** in Cleveland, Ohio. There is a **USS DRUM** Restoration Fund in place under the aegis of Tom Bowser.

NEW BUSINESS:

Regional Commander Kanning spoke about the history of the Southeast District One's initiation of the "Sailor of the Year" awards. A motion was introduced to grant \$255.00 for the upcoming "Sailor of the Year" runner's-up gift as our Base's share of the worthy prize. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Joe Clark gave a summary of one of his War Patrols navigating the Lombok Strait on the surface and at night, 70 years ago. He then displayed the original Battle Flag from **USS BREAM SS-243** that had been forwarded to him by the family of a deceased member of the boat who had custody and deemed “keeper of the brag-rag”. There are only three members still alive who were on this boat during WWII, and they will determine what museum will be honored with the flag for posterity. Joe had his picture recorded with the honored relic and it will be forwarded to “American Submariner” for inclusion in an upcoming issue.

George Bass updated the Base on the tentative dispensation of **USS CLAMAGORE SS-343** at Patriot’s Point near Charleston, SC.

Chaplain Jim Schenk reminded the members that for each signed-copy of his book, “COVERT SAILORS-Submariner Sea Stories” purchased by our members, a \$3.00 donation will go to the Base “Kaps-4-Kids” Fund. He presented the Base with a promised check for the 2014 royalty share.

The First Place trophy for the 2013 High Point, NC “Best Military Float” was brought to the meeting.

Chaplain Jim Schenk invited the members to attempt to visit Richard’s Coffee Shop and Living Military Museum at 165 North Main Street in Mooresville, NC, where a 54” model of **USS FLASHER SS-249** (the tonnage-sunk leader in WWII) is displayed having been donated in the name of North Carolina Submarine Veterans by Commissioning Base Commander John Rupertus. The best days to visit are Thursday, when there is free coffee for all Veterans, and the WWII Veterans come in; or Saturday, when area Veterans perform live music from 0900-1200. Among the musicians is a WWII B-17 and B-25 pilot that plays drums.

Some members brought books to the meeting for use of the members to read and return for others to also read. Most of the books were Submarine-related and some were War or Navy-related. Many books were shared out until the next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS: (Details of forthcoming events are found on the website, to www.ncsubvets.org).

There will be a new HOLLAND CLUB member honored at the next meeting.

March:

As of this meeting there has been no planning for attendance of the Torpedo Float or the Parade Submarine in the Annual Charlotte St. Patrick’s Parade. Any changes promulgated will be emailed to the membership.

April:

20-23 – USSVI Southeast Regional Conference will be held in Brevard County, Florida. Planning has been instituted by the Snug Harbor Base, and the registration form can be found online.

May:

15-16 – Asheville's hosting of the Moonshine Mountain Submarine Memorial Weekend at Big Lynn Lodge in Spruce Pine, NC. The Lodge is located on NC Rt. #226A between Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine. Information is posted on the website.

Next meeting will be on Saturday, 7 March 2015 at the VFW Post on Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC at 1300.

BENEDICTION: by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

Meeting Adjourned 1437.

Today's **50/50 raffle** was won by Tom Richey in the amount of \$38.00.