

NATHANAEL GREENE Base Meeting Minutes for 7 March, 2015.

Meeting called to order 1300 at the American Legion Post, Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC.

INVOCATON: by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chief of the Boat Dale W. Patterson.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS: 19 members and 1 guest were present, 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.

Three **new members** were present and welcomed by the Base:

Robbie Robinson from Clemmons;

Mark McCray joined our group today;

Glen Bell, a prospective member from Rockwell, NC, attended the meeting;

Ruth Ann Worth was the only guest in attendance.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS: by Chaplain Jim Schenk read the boat list for March (8) and April (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 was absent as our Secretary due to being called to California because of a death in the family. Vaya Con Dios, Ed. Chaplain Schenk recorded the meeting minutes, and the meeting minutes of 3 January 2015 were unanimously approved by the membership present.

Commander Jim Myers has formerly retired as long-time "volunteer hauler", and registeree of the NC Submarine Veterans' "Mk-14 Torpedo" parade float. New avenues are being explored to locate a replacement driver for this "Good of the Order" duty. Gene IpoX, NC Submarine Veterans Commander, is at present looking for someone to take over hauling of our parade float. NC Submarine Veterans are the float owners, and member Jerry Emerson is in the process of getting the trailer registration put into his name. With the float weighing in at 5,800 pounds and having a 900 pound tongue weight, there has been talk of coming up with a lighter weight replica of the Mk. 14 to mitigate the issue of needing to have a hauling truck with a beefed-up rear axle suspension.

Vice Commander Ray Moore spoke briefly about how, while wearing his hat at a WalMart, he met a WWII Veteran that was a B-17 pilot and recorded 31 combat bombing missions with the 8th Army Air Corps. He had earned 3 purple hearts and has a prosthetic foot as a result of his combat duty.

Robert Hopkins mentioned how he had met a man because he saw him wearing a Sub Vet hat.

Jim Effinger cautioned all members present about an IRS scam that was being perpetrated via telephone. He told the members to be aware that if the IRS wanted to contact you, it would be via U.S. MAIL and not a telephone call.

Treasurer Chuck Jensen presented the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

Treasurer's Report of February 2015:

Special Funds:

Fuel Reimbursement Fund	\$712.17
Joshua's Angel Center of the Carolinas	\$517.00
Kaps-4-Kids	\$269.00
Trailer Maintenance Fund	<u>\$190.19</u>
Total	\$1,688.36

General Funds Available: \$5,865.44

As Membership Chairman Chuck announced that we now have 102 base members after the completion of 2014 dues collection.

Storekeeper's Report: by Gary Vernon.

2015 Submarine Fast Attack calendars	\$10.00
HOLLAND CLUB coffee mugs	\$11.00
Submarine Cookbook (one remaining)	\$21.50

Joe Clark has donated two "NO PARKING" signs to the ship's store which offer the fore-warning "Submariner Parking Only - violators will be torpedoed."

SK Gary again presented to the membership a pricing list and table-display of what is currently available. Gary also laid out submarine genre hard cover and paperback books for the taking.

Kaps-4-Kids Report: – Mike Runkle has resigned his Chairmanship due to having moved out of the immediate area, and is due to return the "K-4-K" materials still in his possession in the next couple of weeks. The new Kaps-4-Kids Chairman, Daniel Newcomer, who attended his first meeting today, was nominated and unanimously approved.

Chief of the Boat Dale Patterson 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. They have given us a listing of the most needful items at the facility. The list is below; those coming to the next meeting pick an item and bring it. Members not coming to the meeting if you want to contribute or donate items or money please send to me Jim Myers before the next May 2 Meeting.

Cases of Copy Paper; White Out; Legal Pads; Jumbo Paper Clips; Buckets of Laundry Pods (Not Powder); Undershirts & Boxers (Not Briefs) M-XXL; Socks; Coffee; Diabetic Snacks; Shampoo/Conditioner (all in one kind); Razors; Hand Sanitizer (Large Bottles)...

The \$30.00 layout for a daily newspaper delivered to VHVH has been reinstated for the ensuing six months by the COB, with reimbursement pending.

OLD BUSINESS:

The old business of our Base volunteering to enjoin in the DOT's "Adopt a Highway" program has been put to rest. The discussion centered on the overly-stringent sign up method and the fact that for the age group that we represent, it would be very taxing physically upon our membership. Commander Myers asked if anyone had suggestions for another worthy community project for the Base to enter into. Robert Hopkins mentioned that he would look into worthy endeavors that we might participate in as volunteers at the local VA Hospitals.

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 owners/operators Tammy and James Hazelwood in Boonville, NC.

Member Chris 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.

Chuck Jensen expounded on the history of the NC Submarine Memorial located on Moonshine Mountain, Burnsville, NC for the new men in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Regional Director Dick Kanning has forwarded information about the **2015 Merit Award** nominations being accepted until the cutoff date of 1 May, 2015. This is for all awards except for newsletters. The Awards Manual is on the USSVI website which contains the specifics for each proposed recipient.

The motion was made to sponsor an active duty submarine and supply them with the four quarterly-published copies of "American Submariner". The motion was seconded and approved to send the USSVI magazine to USS NORTH CAROLINA SSN-777. Chuck Jensen has already contacted National and sending a check for the Sponsorship of the USS North Carolina SSN-777.

A complimentary book, "TRIDENT DECEPTION" by Rick Campbell, has been donated to the Base and signed by the author. His new book is now available "EMPIRE RISING". Rick also has sent us some bookmarkers advertising his book for free distribution. Thank you to this author.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Base elections are upcoming. Commander Myers will be stepping down as Base Commander and will not be available for any further base officer duty.

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 beginning at 0800, when there is free coffee for all Veterans, and our esteemed WWII Veterans come in to visit; or Saturday, when area Veterans perform live music from 0900-1200. Among the musicians is a WWII B-17 and B-29 pilot that plays drums.

Joe Clark is attempting to get us a pavilion at the North Carolina Veterans' Memorial Park tentatively for 11 July 2015 at which we will have a picnic and then our Base meeting. More information to follow at our 2 May 2015 Base meeting.

Chaplain Jim Schenk reminded the Base 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. The book is also available in Kindle-format or Paperback from amazon.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

{Details and registrations for the forthcoming events are found on the website, www.ncsubvets.org}.

20-23 April 2015:

On this date the 2015 Southeast Regional Conference, hosted by Snug Harbor Base-USSVI, will be held in Brevard County, Florida at Cape Canaveral.

16-17 May 2015:

On this date USS ASHEVILLE Base will be hosting the Burnsville meeting at the Big Lynn Motel located in Little Switzerland near the Blue Ridge Parkway. The ceremony at the U.S. Submarine Memorial on Moonshine Mountain is an annual event looked forward to by many SED#1 members.

Next meeting will be on Saturday, **2 May 2015** at the American Legion Post on Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC at 1300.

BENEDICTION: by Chaplain Jim Schenk.

Meeting Adjourned 1430.

Today's **50/50 raffle** was won by Joe Clark in the amount of \$50.00, which was graciously donated back to the Base. Thank you Joe.