

**Minutes from the NC Subvets Working Meeting
Held at VFW Post #7383 in Cary, NC
January 31, 2009**

Submitted by Base Secretary Bill Lowe

Prior to convening the working meeting, 24 Subvets met at the Golden Corral in Cary for fellowship and lunch at 11:30 AM.

Tarheel Base Commander Jerry Emerson called the Tarheel Base working meeting to order at 1:10 PM, followed by Chaplain Bill Whelan rendering the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by 34 Subvets and 1 lady in attendance.

Jerry asked all Subvets present to introduce themselves and tell tidbits about their qual boat.

Kudos to Joe Morgan, a survivor of the battery fire and loss of the USS Cochino (SS-345) in the Norwegian Sea on 26 August 1949.

Pat Collins presented Holland Club plaques, lapel pins, and challenge coins to 3 Subvets: Gene Rutter, Charles Tolbert, and Carl Walker. Carl Walker also received the Senior Submariner Award.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

Base Secretary Bill Lowe read the minutes of the last working meeting held at the VFW "hut" in Cary on October 11, 2008. With the addition of one oversight, minutes were approved as read.

Base Treasurer Mike Toomey reported a checkbook balance of appx. \$3,400, which was higher than normal amount due to several members paying dues in advance. Mike thanked Butterbean Dixon for his efforts in collecting member's dues. To date, only 5 annual and 7 lifetime members haven't paid their dues out of a current membership of 199. Due to unique circumstances, National USSVI has extended the deadline for paying dues to February 15, 2009.

Chuck Jensen reported on the status of the Burnsville Memorial. The owner of the property has considerable financial trouble due the market downturn and hope is that he will still be able to pay half of the restoration cost in the future. Chuck will contact him come spring for an update. Joe Peek wants to make a donation to the project in memory of his father. Glenn Harris stated a total of \$527 is now in the Carolina-Piedmont Base treasury earmarked for the Burnsville Memorial Restoration Fund. This item remains open

All Clear editor Jerry "Patch" Paciorek stated he hasn't received any input from the other NC bases. Glenn Harris will change that omission for the Carolina-Piedmont Base. Patch is condensing the All Clear Bulletin to 20 pages to defray mailing costs. Subvets were informed to give Patch the heads-up if they aren't receiving the All Clear via email or by snail mail. Commander Jerry said the top-notch issue of the All Clear would be submitted for a National Award. Deadline for the upcoming issue is Tuesday, February 3.

Trailer liability insurance and a blank waiver were discussed at length. Jim Myers got a quote of \$885/year and Jerry Emerson got one for \$700/year for liability insurance. All were in agreement that the Base couldn't foot the bill at these rates. This item remains open.

Vice Commander Butterbean covered a hospital visit program that he would like the Base to initiate and he is soliciting help for this project. Also, Butterbean has set up a Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dinner at the K&S Cafeteria in Cary on Friday, February 13 at 6:30 PM for Subvets and wives/sweethearts. Inform Butterbean if you desire to attend. Butterbean mentioned the USSVI National Convention to be held in San Diego, CA on 7-12 September 2009. He urged

Subvets to make their room reservations ASAP since this will be a convention with 15 sub reunions plus International Subvets in attendance.

Jerry Leppart covered the NC Subvets license plate issue. He passed around examples of plate logos. Jerry, Butterbean, and Dick Kanning will meet with a NC State Senator on Tuesday, February 3 in an effort to get the 300-plate requirement reduced and possibly the annual additional cost for the plate. Jerry is in the process of compiling an up to date list of the Subvets that had and have signed up for the plates. This item has been reopened.

Commander Jerry is asking for volunteers to step forward and relieve Mike Toomey as Base Treasurer and Will Harvey as Base Storekeeper. One taker was announced during the meeting. Spencer Combos said he would assume the job of treasurer and would do the job with the help of his accountant wife. Spencer stated he would donate a copy of the Quick Books Program to the Tarheel Base.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

Next quarterly NC Subvets meeting will be held in Elizabeth City on March 7 and will be setup / planned by Barry Danforth and the Albemarle Sound Base. Information will be forthcoming - hopefully in the next issue of the All Clear (See Page 5).

Donations requests were discussed. A motion was made and passed for the Tarheel Base to make a \$50.00 donation to the USS Drum (SS-228) Memorial Fund. Dick Kanning covered the ComSubLant Sailor of the Year Award and solicited a donation for the 8 to 10 outstanding runner-up sailors. Monies will be used to host a dinner for these sailors and wives. The motion was made and passed for the Tarheel Base to donate \$200.00 toward this endeavor. A bucket was passed around for contributions from Subvets present and a total of \$148.00 was collected to help out with this donation.

Chuck Jensen told of his visit to the WWII Museum of the Pacific located in Admiral Chester Nimitz's hometown of Fredericksburg, TX. Chuck passed around pictures of plaques on a wall at this museum. He proposed that all 4 NC Subvet Bases join forces and purchase a plaque for the S-28 to be displayed at this museum. Cost of a plaque measuring 20" X 20" would be \$2,500. This is an open item.

Dick Kanning stated USS Ling (SS-297), a museum boat located in Hackensack, NJ, has been spared the salvage torch - for the time being.

Commander Jerry covered the next parade scheduled for Base participation - the St Patrick's Day Parade to take place in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, March 14. Additional info will be in the All Clear (See Page 16). Jerry would like a coordinator designated for each parade with this person responsible for planning a luncheon for Subvets and wives prior to or after the parade. Chuck Jensen will coordinate the Thomasville parade held during end of May. John Rupertus will setup participation in the 4th of July parade in Salisbury. Five other parades were mentioned with some possible coordinators: Winston-Salem and High Point (Jim Myers); Old Soldiers Parade - Newton (Hal Bazzle); Troutman (Glenn Harris); and Asheboro Veterans Day (?). Plans for NC Subvets parade participation will be finalized during next Base business meeting.

A very good fund raising project was proposed by Commander Jerry. He and Jim Myers will be working on a bid for NC Subvets to host the USSVI National Convention (possibly in Wilmington) in 2012. Additional info will be covered at the next business meeting.

Per Commander Jerry, the next Pearl Harbor Day meeting is set for December 5, 2009 at the Country Inn & Suites located at I-95 Exit #121 (intersection of I-95 and Hwy-264). Room rates are \$89 to \$109 and cost of meal will be \$25 per person.

Carolina-Piedmont Base Commander Glenn Harris covered the upcoming USSVI Southeast District 1 Annual Meeting to be held in Mooresville, NC on 1-3 May 2009. A registration form along with general information was emailed out with Dick Kanning's District Soundings News recently (see the last two pages of this newsletter).

Next business / working meeting will be held at the Cary VFW "hut" at 1300 on ~~March 28, 2009~~ April 4, 2009 (updated by the editor after the meeting). As before, NC Subvets will gather for lunch prior to meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1512. Afterwards, three door prizes were awarded and Mr. Lucky Chaplain Bill won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$82.50.