

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

Submitted by Base Secretary Bill Lowe

Prior to convening the working meeting, 20 Subvets and their ladies met at the Golden Corral in Cary for fellowship and a chow-down at appx.11:30 AM.

Tarheel Base Commander Jerry Emerson called the Base working meeting to order at 12:57 PM followed by Chaplain Bill Whelan rendering an opening prayer. 30 Subvets, one wife, and one daughter recited the Pledge of Allegiance. All present introduced themselves stating the name of their qual boat.

David Smith, a guest of Frans Van Baars, told of his time in the British Royal Navy Submarine Service. He joined the Royal Navy in 1979 and retired in 2001. David met Frans in Wilson, NC where they both reside and David will be joining the Tarheel Base as an associate member.

Commander Jerry asked for a head-count of the Subvets that plan on attending the Burnsville quarterly meeting on 19-20 June and also the USSVI National Convention in San Diego in September. Six folks are going to make each meeting as of to date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

1. Base Secretary Bill Lowe read a brief overview of the minutes from the last working meeting held at the VFW "hut" in Cary on 4 April 2009. Minutes were approved as read.
2. Commander Jerry introduced the new Base treasurer, Spencer Combos. He will be filling in for Mike Toomey until the election of a new slate of officers. Spencer thanked Mike for doing an outstanding job handling the Base financials. Spencer stated he had no balances to report, as he is in the process of converting the records to Quick Books.
3. Chuck Jensen reported on the status of the Burnsville Memorial. As reported previously, the site made it through the winter without any further damage. Hopefully, the property owner, Tony V., will be in a better financial position in the near future to help out with the restoration costs. Carolina-Piedmont Base is still collecting funds for this project. This item remains open.
4. Chuck Jensen stated the placement of an S-28 plaque in the WWII Museum of the Pacific in Fredricksburg, TX will remain on hold until such time NC WWII Subvets shutdown their organization and use their funds for this plaque. As a note, the National WWII Subvets are not in favor of shutting down any time soon. This item remains open.
5. No action, for the present, on the torpedo trailer insurance/ waiver issue. This item remains open. Motion was made and passed to authorize Jim Myers to purchase four additional chairs for the parade torpedo trailer.
6. Jerry Emerson discussed the bid for NC Subvets to host the 2012 National Convention in Wilmington, NC. A new convention center in Wilmington will be completed this fall with sufficient facilities for a national convention. Jerry, Jim Myers, and Dick Kanning met with the mayor of Wilmington on 18 May and the mayor was very receptive to the idea of hosting the USSVI National Convention in Wilmington. Vice Commander Butterbean has been "drafted" to submit our bid at the National Convention in San Diego in September. This item remains open.

7. Jerry Leppart covered the NC Subvets license plate status. To date, Jerry has a list of 220 names with orders for a total of 321 plates. The bill authorizing this specialty plate along with 53 others continues to reside in the NC Legislature Finance Committee. Jerry plans to meet with members of the Finance Committee next week to "lobby" for expeditious approval of the bill. This item remains open.
8. Commander Jerry continues to seek a "volunteer" to step forward and relieve Will Harvey as Base Storekeeper. He had a candidate in consideration, but that person did not want to travel throughout the state. This item remains open.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Chuck Jensen covered a proposed change in the Constitution & Bylaws of the Tarheel Base. It is a rewording of Section 4 of the Constitution and Section 2 of the bylaws to "For WWII Subvets, who are lifetime members of USSVI, are exempt from paying Base dues." This is proposed in order to clarify dues requirements once the regular members of the USSVI-WWII Tarheel Base close down their chapter. Motion was made and seconded to make the proposed change when approved by Southeast Region District 1 Commander Dick Kanning.
2. The annual Burnsville meeting is scheduled for 19-21 June 2009 at the Pinebridge Inn in Spruce Pine, NC, with a former POW Colonel as guest speaker. Information on the meeting is in the latest edition of the All Clear and has been sent out via e-mail. Chuck Jensen said the owner of the Moonshine Mountain Sub Memorial site would be present on Saturday when Subvets are planning their visit.
3. Next parade for NC Subvets participation will be the 5th Annual Iredell County Independence Celebration Parade in Troutman, NC on Saturday, 27 June 2009. Subvets will need to muster no later than 10:00 AM. Chuck will send out e-mail with the particulars. Per John Rupertus, the 4th of July parade will be held in Faith, NC. Participants will form up in the Lowe's parking lot between 8:00 - 8:30 AM. E-mail with directions will be forthcoming. Commander Jerry stated the Tarheel Base participates in 11 parades annually and a total of 153 parades are held in North Carolina each year. Bottom line, we need to enter more parades in order to take advantage of this readily available Base exposure.
4. Commander Jerry asked all Base members to put their thinking caps on and come up ideas for fund raising projects.
5. As for long range planning, Jerry stated the need for additional Subvet Bases to be established in NC. This will allow for more localized participation.
6. Next business / working meeting will be held at the Cary VFW "hut" at 1300 on Saturday, 1 August 2009. As has become the "plan of the day," NC Subvets will muster for lunch prior to meeting.
7. In lieu of traveling graces, Chaplain Bill Whelan asked for a moment of silence in honor of the 65th Anniversary of D-Day. Prayers of remembrance go out to the families who had love ones involved in battle on 6 June 1944. Chaplain Bill covered members on the binnacle list. Don Small in doing well after his lung surgery. Ollie Thompson is being moved to a nursing home and continues to be in need of our prayers.
8. Meeting was adjourned at 1409. As a note, no 50/50 raffle was held due to the absence of Henry Hagwood.