

**Minutes from the USSVI Tarheel Base Working Meeting
Held at VFW Post #7383 in Cary, NC
05 February 2011**

Submitted by Base Secretary Bill Lowe

Prior to the working meeting, 27 Subvets "mustered" for the noon meal at the Golden Corral in Cary.

New Tarheel Base Commander Gordon Banks called the meeting to order at 12:59 PM with Chaplain Bill Whelan rendering the opening prayer. Gordon led the 38 Subvets present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

All Subvets introduced themselves while stating the name/hull # of their qual boat, etc. Several first time Subvet business meeting attendees were welcomed. It was noted that John Matthis was the oldest qualified Subvet present having completed his quals on board the USS Haddock (SS-231) in 1942

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

1. Holland Club Coordinator Jim Davis honored 4 Subvets with induction into the Holland Club. New members to this prestigious group are Raymond Kilduff (USS Trigger (SS-564) - 1956); Donald Wells (USS Hardhead (SS-365) - 1960); Joe Sendek (USS Sennet (SS-408) - 1961); and Jerry Emerson (USS Jallao (SS-368) - 1961). Jim has two more inductions pending at this time.
2. USSVI SE District 1 Commander Dick Kanning read a certificate of appreciation to be awarded to Pat Collins for a job well done as the Tarheel Base Holland Club Coordinator for 10+ years.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS:

1. Tarheel Base COB Jerry "Patch" Paciorek and Treasurer Spencer Combos held a reading and tolling of the bell for the ten WWII boats lost during the months of January and February.

REPORTS

1. Base Commander Gordon Banks welcomed all to the first Tarheel Base business meeting of his tenure. He plans on setting a goal of limiting future meetings to no more than one hour in duration and end meetings with a presentation by a speaker. Due to the volume of items to cover this go around, that objective was not possible.
2. Base Vice-Commander Bill (Butterbean) Dixon covered a suggestion that Subvets mingle with wives, couples, and new attendees during the breakfast get-togethers, i.e. - don't be seated as separate groups.
3. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes from the last Tarheel Base business meeting held on 16 October 2010. Minutes are recorded by Base Secretary Bill Lowe and published in the All Clear plus posted on the NC Subvets website.
4. Tarheel Base Treasurer Spencer Combos reported the current Base checking account balance at \$4,650.76 as of 02/05/2011. Tarheel Base has a total of 177 members of which 133 are life members and are not required to pay National dues. Spencer stated 1 annual and 3 life members have not paid their Base dues. Also the Base has 57 WWII Subvets and 81 Holland Club members.

5. All Clear editor Patch Paciorek thanked Subvets for submitting info/articles for the upcoming issue of the All Clear and a cutoff date for any additions is Friday, 11 February 2011. Patch is now on the judging committee for the National Newsletter of the Year Award.
6. Jerry Leppart- NC Subvets License Plate "Czar" said the bill, S-24, has been filed again and is the only license plate bill pending in the NC Legislature at present. Bill S-24 has had one reading in the Senate and now resides in the Senate Finance Committee. Jerry covered a list of State Senators and urged Subvets to send their respective Senators a cordial note requesting support for the bill. Also, Jerry stated he has 292 names for 420 plates on his list to date. A picture of the recently approved Tennessee Subvets plate was passed around with "most" all present agreeing that it looks very nice but too "busy".
7. Tarheel Base Storekeeper and Public Relations Officer Jim Wallace listed some items he has for sale: USSVI calendars for \$10.00 and nice coffee mugs at a reduced price of \$5.00 each. Also, anyone that ordered qual date pins need to pick same up from Jim. A UNC- TV Fund Drive was covered. If the Base can recruit at least 20 volunteers (wives and kids included) to answer telephones during a particular time slot, two 30 second on-air spots will be available to publicize USSVI. All agreed for Jim to plan for this event with a possible date of 27 March and an AM time slot.
8. Commander Gordon asked for a volunteer to be in charge of setting up a POW/MIA table. Scott Powell said he would take on the task since his father was a POW.
9. A request was made by Commander Gordon for a volunteer to step forward and take possession of the submarines, candles, and etc. used for the lost boats ceremony during the annual Pearl Harbor meeting. Wayne Powell never learned an important lesson during his active duty days - never volunteer-!! Wayne is now "the keeper of the boats."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Burnsville quarterly meeting will be held on 20-22 May 2011 at the same location as last year - the Pinebridge Inn in Spruce Pine. Late word from Steve Bell, Carolina Piedmont Base Commander, is that this hotel has been sold and the location for the meeting may change. Additional info will be on the website soon.
2. Parades - List of upcoming parades: 12 March - St. Patrick's Day in Raleigh; 19 March - St. Patrick's Day in Charlotte; 9 April - Azalea Festival in Wilmington (Coastal Carolina Base to handle details); and 30 May - Memorial Day Parade in Thomasville. Patch will set up an area on the NC Subvets website for parade info.
3. SE District 1 Commander Dick Kanning covered plans in the works for the 2012 USSVI National Convention to be held in Norfolk, VA. There will be a Casino Night on Wednesday and a Tolling of the Boats Ceremony on the fantail of the Battleship Wisconsin. There will be a need for volunteers (2 man teams) from SE VA and NC Bases to man the registration table Tuesday through Friday and 2 hours on Saturday.
4. Chuck Jensen reported \$3,700 (donated by the WWII Subvets and Subgalleons groups) will be used to finance the placement of 1 or 2 benches at the S-28 Memorial in the BB-55 Park in Wilmington. Hopefully, this project will be completed before the quarterly meeting scheduled for April 9, 2011 in Wilmington.
5. Dick Kanning announced a revision of USSVI Bylaws will now allow him to run for SE District Commander- if nominated. Also, Dick is serving on a committee that is looking into sizing USSVI districts more equitably.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Commander Gordon read each of the following 7 motions and asked for a vote of approval by the Subvets in attendance. All passed as read after minimal discussion.
 - Motion 1 - To affirm appointed officers:
 - Chief of the Boat and Webmaster – Jerry “Patch” Paciorek
 - Chaplain – Bill Whelan
 - Eagle Scout Award Coordinator – Kris Bridges
 - Holland Club Coordinator – Jim Davis
 - Storekeeper and Public Relations Officer – Jim Wallace
 - Motion 2 - To schedule Base meetings on the first Saturday of even months. Base Commander has discretion not to meet, or to meet on a different day, if conditions warrant, making a realistic effort to notify the membership in advance. (Note- per Dick Kanning, for this motion to be “official”, the Base Bylaws will need to be amended.)
 - Motion 3 - To schedule Base meetings’ usual start at 10:00 AM. The Base Commander has discretion to start at some other time.
 - Motion 4 - To direct treasurer to write a check for \$100.00 to the Floats Maintenance Fund, c/o Chuck Jensen.
 - Motion 5 - To direct treasurer to write a check to Ron Athey, Convention Comm. Chair, for \$50.00 toward costs of 2011 National Convention.
 - Motion 6 - To direct treasurer to write a check to Dick Kanning for \$100.00 as contribution recognizing CSL Sailor of the Year Runners-Up.
 - Motion 7 - To amend Base Bylaws, Art. II, Sec. 1 to read “Annual Base dues will be \$15.00, effective January 1, 2012.” Members as of February 5, 2011 who have paid dues for future years will have such dues payments honored at the original amount.
2. Several possible service projects for the Base were briefly covered by Commander Gordon and others present. They were:
 - A. Wounded Warriors
 - B. Fisher House
 - C. Operation Home Front of NC
 - D. Kaps for Kids
 - E. Safe Harbor Command
 - F. AAP (Adopt a Platoon)
 - G. From Kris Bridges - Adopt one or more of 3 subs named for NC cities. (North Carolina, Charlotte, and Asheville)
 - H. From Chaplain Bill - Lend a helping hand to surviving S-28 sub sailors. (Note: S-28 is the NC Memorial Lost Boat)
 - I. From Spencer Combos - United States Veterans Corps
 - J. USO
 - K. From Gary Lew - Military Missions in Action

After some discussion, Dave Campbell and Wayne Powell agreed to head up a committee with a goal of finding a project or projects best suited for Base participation.

SPEAKER:

Commander Gordon introduced the guest speaker for the meeting - Dave Campbell. He retired as a Commander after spending 29 years in the US Navy Submarine Service. Dave gave a very interesting talk on the USS Stark incident that occurred on March 17, 1987 during the Iran-Iraq War. He told of the crew's damage control parties brave actions after two 1,500 pound Exocet missiles hit their ship. All present gave Dave a "BZ" for a great presentation.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING:

The next Tarheel Base Business meeting will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2011.

Meeting was adjourned at 1502.

Gene Rutter was the winner of the 50/50 raffle drawing in the amount of \$80.00.

Following the meeting, Subvets Gordon Banks, Butterbean Dixon, Bob Govern, Bill Lowe, John Rupertus, and Bill Whelan attended Tarheel Base member Floyd Crisp's Celebration of Life Service in Durham.