

**Minutes from the USSVI Tarheel Base Meeting  
Held at American Legion Post #67, Cary, NC  
07 April 2012**

**Submitted by Base Secretary Bill Lowe**

Prior to the Base meeting, 13 Subvets had breakfast chow at the Golden Corral in Cary at or about 8:30 AM.

Tarheel Base Commander Gordon Banks called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM with Chaplain Bill Whelan reciting the submariner's prayer. Gordon led the 28 Tarheel Base Subvets present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**TOLLING OF THE LOST BOATS:**

COB Patch Paciorek and Base Treasurer Dave Campbell conducted a reading of the names, recount of loss, and tolling of the bell in remembrance of the 13 US Navy submarines lost, over the years, during the months of March and April. 8 in March and 5 in April.

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Commander Gordon asked all Subvets to stand and introduce themselves by stating the year they qualified, the name of their qualification boat, plus any other pertinent comments. The first introduction was afforded to Charleston Base Subvet Ed Stank. Ed thanked the Tarheel Base members for all the support they have and continue to give he and his wife, Pauline, since she had her double lung transplant operation at Duke Hospital on May 16, 2011. All welcomed first time Base meeting attendee Greg Hample, a Subvet who rode the USS Tennessee (SSBN-734). Four WWII Subvets present were asked to stand and were honored for their service with a hearty round of applause by all in attendance.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

HOLLAND CLUB



Jim Davis, Holland Club Coordinator, inducted Tarheel Base member Ken Stephens into the Holland Club. Ken qualified on the USS Growler (SSG-577) on July 4, 1962, a patriotic accomplishment!

REPORTS

1. Base Commander Gordon Banks stated he had nothing to report. This is a first for Gordon! Chaplain Bill came to the rescue by telling about the cross in the yard at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church in Cary. Subvet Bill Edwards constructed the cross from 4x4 timbers and was honored the day before, Good Friday, for this endeavor.

2. Base Vice Commander Bill (Butterbean) Dixon continued to urge members to recruit - recruit - recruit!! Also, he stated year 2013 dues are due by December 31, 2012 with a 30 day grace period before being dropped for non-payment of dues.
3. Base Secretary Bill Lowe called for a motion to approve the minutes from the last Tarheel Base meeting held on February 4, 2012 as posted on the NC Subvets website. Motion was made, seconded, and passed for approval of minutes as distributed.
4. Base Treasurer Dave Campbell reported a beginning 1<sup>st</sup> quarter bank balance of \$4,761.94; receipts of \$1,206.30; disbursements of \$885.00; end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter balance of \$5,083.24 and an overall total increase of \$321.30. Dave stated Base membership stands at 168 with 166 regular and 2 associate members. Also, the USSVI Tarheel Base annual financial report has been submitted to facilitate USSVI National income reporting requirements.
5. COB / *ALL CLEAR* editor Patch Paciorek said he appreciates all the feedback and suggestions as relating to the NC Subvets website. One suggestion was mentioned to put pictures and bios of Base members on the website. Concern about the length of the bios was voiced.
6. Tarheel Base Storekeeper and Public Relations Officer Jim Wallace passed around a catalog of all the items that he currently has in the "Base Store."

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Parades:
  - Report on March Parades - Dick Kanning stated the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade was a great event. Bill Lowe said the Nag's Head St. Patrick's Day Parade well received by the locals and WWII Subvet Don Small really enjoyed himself while riding on the torpedo trailer.
  - Upcoming Parades - Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington on Saturday April 14, 2012; Memorial Day in Thomasville on Monday May 28, 2012; Troutman 4<sup>th</sup> of July on Saturday June 30, 2012; and Faith 4<sup>th</sup> of July on Wednesday July 4, 2012.
2. Tarheel Base Book and Video Exchange Library Coordinator Wolfgang Friedrich was not present during the Base meeting.
3. Service Projects
  - Wayne Powell stated he had nothing new to report on the Military Missions in Action Project.
  - Jim Wallace covered two upcoming Adopt-A-Spot events at Bond Park in Cary. On Thursday, April 12 from 4 - 7:00 PM, 6 volunteers are needed and on Saturday, April 21 from 9 - 12:00 Noon, 6-10 volunteers are needed. During both "work details", volunteers will be installing a landscape filtration system. Jim mentioned the previous "painting party" project was cancelled due to cold weather.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Election of Base Officers: Gordon announced he has decided not run for the office of Tarheel Base Commander for next year. Jim Davis has agreed to take on the job of Election Master again. Jim stated the same election process that was used last year will be implemented this year with voting completed by the end of October.
2. A memorial service is planned for WWII Subvet Howie Rice at a Baptist church in Walkertown, NC on Saturday, May 5, 2012.
3. Jim Davis, Holland Club coordinator, made a motion that the Tarheel Base Treasury pay for the cost of Holland Club awards (about \$10.00 each). Motion was seconded and passed.

#### **SPEAKER:**

Commander Gordon introduced the guest speaker - David Morris - former MM2(SS). Title of his talk was - Submarine Son of a Submariner.

David was born in San Diego, CA as the son of a WWII 1<sup>st</sup> Class Engineman who made war patrols on the USS Flying Fish (SS-229). His dad spent 23 years in the US Navy, serving on the USS Idaho before coming to his senses and volunteering for submarine duty. David joined the US Navy in 1970 and served on the USS

Ben Franklin (SSBN-640). After leaving the Navy in 1974, he worked for General Dynamics. David presented an interesting picture and video history covering his dad's tour of duty "on the boats."

#### **OPEN FLOOR:**

1. SE District 1 Commander Dick Kanning announced the recent change of command for the Nathaniel Greene Base. John Rupertus has stepped down and Jim Myers is now the Base Commander. Dick stated SE District 1 will have a full page ad in the upcoming USSVI National Convention's program. As info, 79% of the rooms at the Convention host hotel, the Norfolk Waterside Marriot, have been booked with 13 boat reunions planned to date. Dick reminded the Subvets of the annual meeting in Burnsville scheduled for May 18-19, 2012. Proudly, Dick mentioned there is a good chance a new Subvets Base will be formed in western NC and possibly in the Asheville area. USSVI National elections are forthcoming with openings for secretary and treasurer. Steve Bell will assume the post as SE District 1 Commander since Dick will be running for the office of SE Regional Director.
2. Reservation Desk Czar Jerry "Spots" Leppart listed the remaining manning needs for the Reservation Desk during the USSVI National Convention in Norfolk, VA. He still needs Subvets to fill slots for Friday, September 7 and Saturday, September 8, 2012.
3. John Cunningham asked if there were any stamp collectors present. He has two mint sheets of the centennial of the US submarine service stamp issue back in year 2000 for sale. If there are no takers, he will start using them for postage.

#### **BENEDICTION:**

Chaplain Bill Whelan closed the meeting by offering up a prayer for safe travel.

#### **NEXT BASE MEETING:**

The next Tarheel Base meeting will be held on Saturday, June 2, 2012.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:36 AM.

Raffle Czar Henry Hagwood conducted the 50/50 raffle drawing. Our newest Tarheel Base member, Ed Stank was the winner of the prize \$56.50.

He donated \$20.00 of his winnings to the Burnsville Submarine Memorial Fund. Thank you Ed!