

**Minutes from the USSVI Tarheel Base Meeting
Held at American Legion Post #67, Cary, NC
03 October 2015**

Submitted by Base Secretary Bill Lowe

Before the start of the Base meeting, 8 Subvets enjoyed breakfast chow at the IHOP in Cary, NC.

Tarheel Base Commander Jerry Emerson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and Chaplain Bill Whelan offered the opening prayer. Base Commander Jerry led the 27 Subvets and 1 guest in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Commander Jerry asked all WWII Subvets to stand and introduce themselves. A total of three WWII Subvets were present - Marty Kirwan, Joe Morgan, and Bill Whelan. All present gave this group of "Greatest Generation Heroes" a hearty round of applause. Jim Wallace introduced the newest Tarheel Base member and first time attendee, Mike McRoberts. Afterwards, the remaining Subvets introduced themselves with pertinent info such as the name of their qualification boat, etc. A late arrival was a prospective new member, Gary Sikes, who resides in North Raleigh.

TOLLING OF THE LOST BOATS:

Prior to the Tolling of the Lost Boats Ceremony, Patch Paciorek gave the reason for and history of this event for the benefit of our first time Subvet, prospective member, and guest speaker present. Patch Paciorek and Tom McFadden conducted a reading of the names, recounts of the lost boats, and a picture slide presentation. Following was a tolling of the bell in solemn remembrance of the 14 US Navy submarines lost during the months of September and October - five in September and nine in October.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commander Jerry presented Patch with the Newsletter of the Year Award (Class Two – Tarheel Base "ALL CLEAR") that was announced and accepted by Butterbean Dixon at the USSVI National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. All gave Patch a round of applause for his continued job as editor of the ALL CLEAR.

Holland Club

Holland Club Coordinator Jim Davis had no Holland Club awards pending.

SPEAKER – BILL TSCHUDY – NAVY VIETNAM PRISONER OF WAR FOR 7½ YEARS

Retired Navy Commander Bill Tschudy presented an interesting talk and slide presentation covering the time (July 18, 1965) he and his pilot had to parachute out of their doomed A-6A Intruder over North Vietnam and their imprisonment for 7½ years. His slides covered the living conditions and the types of torture they had to endure during their captivity. They were released by the North Vietnamese in Hanoi on February 12, 1973. All present thanked CDR Tschudy for a very informative program and invited him to come back to another base meeting soon with time to continue his talk.

REPORTS

1. Commander Jerry Emerson covered the following items: King's Bay Memorial - Deadline for reservations is October, 23, 2015; Commander Jerry asked Gordon Banks to give an update on this year's Pearl Harbor Dinner scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2015. Gordon stated the meeting will be held in the same room at the NCSU University Club as last year. This room is the right size for the number of attendees. Per Gordon, the reservations deadline is the middle of November, but don't wait - the sooner the better. To date (October 3, 2015), 20 reservations have been received. Wayne Powell stated he will not be able to be present at the Pearl Harbor Dinner this year and is in need of someone to do the job of placing the lost boats cutouts and candles on the tables. Jim Davis stepped forward and volunteered to do the job this one time! Commander Jerry asked Chuck Jensen to cover plans for participation in the Veterans Day Parade in Asheboro on Wednesday, November 11, 2015. Chuck stated Subvets need to meet on Church Street between 3:00 and 3:15 PM - same place as in years past. He will send out an e-mail with the details.

Jerry Leppart will tow the torpedo trailer. This was followed with some discussion about coming up with a lighter version of the torpedo or placing the sub model on the trailer. The big problem is what to do with the MK-14 torpedo.

2. Base Vice Commander Dave Campbell was not present.
3. Base Secretary Bill Lowe entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the last Tarheel Base meeting held on August 1, 2015 as posted on the NC Subvets website. Motion was made, seconded, and passed for approval of minutes as posted. Bill thanked Jerry Leppart for his outstanding job of filling in for him during the last base meeting, but Jerry said he has no desire to be Base Secretary on a permanent basis.
4. Base Treasurer Tom McFadden reported: Regular Account: Ending July balance: \$10,378.59; Ending September balance: \$10,618.70. Events July balance: \$890.52; Ending September balance: \$866.52 and Combined July ending balance was \$11,485.22. As of October 3, 2015 balance change since last report was + \$216.11. Currently Tarheel Base membership stands at 132 regular and 2 associate members for a total of 134 members. Dues reminder: National has advised that annual dues will increase from \$20 to \$25 for 2016. National dues paid before the end of 2015 will be accepted at the \$20 rate. Total for 2016: Base dues \$15, National dues \$25; total \$40 (if paid after December 31, 2015).
5. Recruiter/Membership Chairman Butterbean Dixon was not present.
6. COB/ All Clear Editor/ Website Extraordinaire Patch Paciorek announced the next edition of the *ALL CLEAR* will not be published until late October due to his job and family travel plans.
7. Tarheel Base Storekeeper and Public Relations Officer Jim Wallace displayed a copy of the 2016 USSVI calendar that contains some great pictures of current US submarines on duty. They are available for \$10 each. Jim gave an update on the Adopt-A-Spot program of service at the Cary Freedom Veterans Park. He has visited the Park and it is free of trash. Jim hopes he can arrange a workday for Subvets to plant shrubs and do mulching in the very near future. Date and time will be forthcoming. As for advertising base meetings, it was pointed out by Gary Sikes, the prospective new member in attendance, base meetings are in the hard copy of the newspaper. He found out about today's base meeting by seeing it listed in the Sunday issue of the N&O's community service section.
8. S.E. Regional Commander Dick Kanning was not present.
9. District 1 Commander Dave Campbell was not present.
10. North Carolina Subvets Commander Gene Ipox was not present.
11. National Treasurer Paul Hiser commented on the outstanding USSVI National Convention held in Pittsburgh, PA. All who didn't make the meeting missed out on a good time of fellowship and lots of fun. Also, Paul covered a plan for a Subvets time capsule by a base in Arizona. Those bases participating can place items in jars and the capsule will be opened 50 years "down the road."

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Request by Earl Buffalo for funds to purchase some WWII books was tabled again due to Earl's absence.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commander Jerry stated he will not be running for Base Commander for next year due to time and travel restraints. He lives in Bailey, NC- 45 miles from Raleigh and can't make the trip as often as he should as Base Commander.
2. Nominations for Tarheel Base Officers for 2016 were opened by Jerry. The Subvets below were nominated. Nominations were closed and Jerry stated COB Patch Paciorek will be the Election Master. Patch will send out ballots via e-mail and snail mail. Paul Hiser questioned why the slate of nominated officers can't be elected by acclamation. Jim Davis stated we must abide by the Tarheel Constitution and Bylaws - Article VI. This calls for an election by ballot since write-ins are allowed.

Base Commander: Dave Campbell
Base Vice Commander: Jim Davis
Base Secretary: Bill Lowe
Base Treasurer: Tom McFadden

OPEN FLOOR:

1. Tarheel Base Librarian Wolfgang Friedrich did not transport "the books" to today's meeting due to rainy weather.
2. Bill Lowe thanked the Tarheel Base Visitation Team - Butterbean Dixon, Bob Govern, and Chaplain Bill Whelan - for making the trip "over the mountains" to attend his mother's funeral. Their support was greatly appreciated.

RAFFLE RESULTS:

Raffle Czar Henry Hagwood conducted two drawings. The first one was for two tickets to the upcoming SAS golf tournament. Gordon Banks was the winner, but he said he couldn't use the tickets. Gordon offered the tickets to anyone that wanted them and Arv Klemp said he would take and use them. Next came the 50/50 raffle drawing and Jerry Leppart was the big winner of \$54.50.

BENEDICTION:

Chaplain Bill rendered a prayer in which he thanked God for an excellent Base meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at: 12:45PM. The next Tarheel Base meeting will be held on December 5, 2015 for the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner at NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough St. Raleigh, NC.

Reception: 5:00 PM, Dinner seating: 6:00 PM

First meeting next year: Saturday, 06 February 2016 at 10:00 AM at the American Legion Post 67, 8523 Chapel Hill Road (NC Hwy 54), Cary, NC