

## MINUTES OF USSVI TARHEEL BASE MEETING

HELD AT CAFE CAROLINA IN CARY, NC ON FEBRUARY 3, 2018

Prior to the start of the Base meeting, 10 Subvets and 1 wife enjoyed breakfast and a social hour at the IHOP in Cary, NC.

Meeting venue had to be changed from the American Legion Post #67 to the Cafe Carolina in Cary due a lockout at the American Legion building (combination on the lock had been changed). Meeting called to order by Commander Dave Campbell at 10:14 AM with two blasts of the diving alarm by COB Daniel Wall. Chaplain Gene Rutter offered up the opening prayer. Base Secretary Bill Lowe led the 24 Subvets and 1 visitor (Daniel Wall's wife Ann) in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The statement of the USSVI Purpose was not read due to a confined meeting place.

### INTRODUCTIONS

Commander Dave asked all WWII Subvets to stand and introduce themselves. A total of 2 WWII Subvets were present- Marty Kirwin and Don Moyer. All gave these heros from the "Greatest Generation" a hearty round of applause. Next came an introduction by a first time Subvet attendee and prospective new Base member Lonnie Hickerson. Following were introductions by the other 23 Subvets present.

### TOLLING OF THE LOST BOATS

Due to the changing of the meeting location, the Tolling of the Lost Boats Ceremony was cancelled for this particular meeting.

### ETERNAL PATROL MEMORIAL

Chaplain Gene thanked the 27 Subvets that tended the lines for former

Chaplain Bill Whelan on January 14, 2018. Also, Gene read a letter from Bill's wife Anne as follows: My dear friends, you have no idea how pleased our family was when we walked into the sanctuary for Bill's celebration of life. When we saw all the jackets, our small family of six felt as though our numbers were increased tenfold. Thank you for supporting us in our time of need. The words spoken by Gene and Bill were just perfect. I would not change any part of the service. And the flowers were beautiful. Thank you. Bill loved each and every one of you. His greatest pleasure during his last years was contacting you by phone or internet. He was so proud to have served his country in WWII as a submariner. You came from north, south, east, and west. Sorry I did not get to speak to each of you personally, but I felt your presence and felt stronger because of you. Living alone is a new experience for me, and it is tough. Your support through visits helped both Bill and me. My family wanted me to assure you that they feel the same as I. Do not forget, I am the wife of a navy veteran and appreciate your support. With love and appreciation, Anne, Michael, Nancy, David, and Margot Whelan.

### **BINNACLE LIST (PRAYERS, INFORMATION, ACTIONS)**

Chaplain Gene covered a list of those in need of prayers and support- Jerry Leppart; M.B. Hudson's wife; and Spencer Combos's mother. Also, Rich Cimino's wife Cindy is doing better- a praise!

### **SPEAKER - COMMANDER DAVE**

Dave went over several items he gleaned from a Navy League Symposium that he attended recently: The speaker was Dave's former CO of the USS Guardfish (SSN-612) back in 1972. There were 350 people present for the meeting and one was the producer of the movie Hunt for Red October. Items discussed were: There is a need for 60 Virginia Class SSN's at a cost of 2 billion each. The Virginia Class boats do not need refueling during the 33 year life of these boats. The Columbia class of SSBN's will cost 6 billion each and construction of the first one will begin in 2021 in Groton, CT. 60% of the



SSN's are stationed in the Pacific with an average deployment of 7 1/2 months. There is a backlog of 50,000 man days of overhaul for the SSN's. One of the underlying problems is 50% of the shipyard workers have 5 years or less experience in doing these overhauls.

### GOOD OF THE ORDER-

Holland Club Awards - Jim Davis inducted Joe Doyle into the Holland Club. Joe qualified on the USS Barb (SSN-596) in 1968.

### REPORTS

Base Commander/ SE District 1 Commander - Dave Campbell- Dave went over the contributions to the Sailor of the Year Runners-Up Fund by the District 1 Bases. The Tarheel Base - \$225 (same as last year); Nathaniel Greene Base- \$225; Carolina Piedmont Base - \$225; USS Virginia Base - \$175; Coastal Carolina Base - \$50; USS Asheville Base - \$50; Albemarle Sound Base - 0.0; Old North State Base - \$50. As a note, the Hampton Roads Base supports the 4 winners with \$150 each for a total donation of \$600.

Vice Commander Jim Davis - Jim reported the good news on Tarheel dues collection for 2018- only one dink! There are 6 Tarheel Base members that don't have email addresses listed. Jim emphasized the importance of updating your information. There is a dire need for someone to step forward and take over the website. Also, Jim stated he has looked at the Tarheel Base rolls and 70% of the members belong to the Holland Club. We are getting older and there is a need to recruit younger Base members like today's visitor- Lonnie Hickerson.

Secretary- Bill Lowe - Approve last meeting minutes from October 7, 2017 meeting held during the Base picnic as sent out on the tarheel email buoy. Meeting minutes were approved with no changes or additions.

Treasurer - Tom McFadden - Membership Report - Base membership stands at 107 as of February 3, 2018. Financial Report: Current Balances- Regular



Account- \$11,288.67; Events Account- \$493.56; Total Balance- \$11,782.23. Previous Balances (reported October 2017)- Regular Account- \$11,337.10; Events Account- \$560.16; Total Balance- \$11,897.26. Notes- Slight drop in operating account reflects the following fourth quarter transactions: Tarheel Picnic; expenses for State Fair (banner, car magnets, wood coins); insurance; Scorpion Alumni Association; Air Museum membership; memorial flowers. Offset to expenses includes a deposit of \$660 from the Pearl Harbor Dinner raffle. Events account slight drop due to the expenses associated with the Pearl Harbor Dinner. In Summary- the registration income from the dinner covered 5 individuals ( guest speaker, his wife, Gunnery SGT, one WWII vet and guest). Total attendance (charged seats) was 86 (club credited 4 seats for individuals not able to make it due to weather. The dinner raffle receipts was \$780. From this \$120 was returned to 3 paid individuals not able to make it due to weather (one had not paid). Result was \$660 deposit to operating account. Balances do not include dues received but not yet deposited for 4 individuals. As discussed in a previous meeting, the new Financial Policy and Procedures Manual requires an annual audit of the financials. The audit material has been distributed to the audit committee volunteers. When complete, the Base annual financials will be completed and submitted. The following was passed along to Base Secretary Bill Lowe after today's Tarheel Base meeting. The Tarheel Base Audit Committee, consisting of Jim Davis and Dick Kanning, held a meeting after the conclusion of the Base meeting and completed the Tarheel Base audit as of February 3, 2018.

COB - Dan Wall- Dan covered a happening while he was aboard the USS Atule (SS-403) - CBS newsman Walter Cronkite made a visit to the boat.

ALL CLEAR NEWSLETTER EDITOR - The search is still on for a replacement for Moe Moses.

STOREKEEPER/PR OFFICER - JIM WALLACE - Jim was brief with mentioning one item for sale- 2018 USSVI Subvet calendars for \$10.00.



BASE RECRUITER - BILL "BUTTERBEAN" DIXON - His main point- keep trying to recruit new members!! A possible means of putting out the word about our Tarheel Base was brought up- Spencer Combos has a Facebook page, but it isn't private?? Also, Butterbean suggested "passing the hat" during today's meeting to collect donations for a NC Subvet in need. This was done resulting in a donation totaling \$300. Treasurer Tom McFadden will send a check in that amount to Asheville Base Commander Ipoix in support of this worthy cause. Along these same lines, a motion was made and approved to take the 50/50 raffle donation and give to the USSVI Charitable Foundation.

NC SUBVETS COMMANDER - CAROLINA PIEDMONT BASE COMMANDER  
RICK PETITT - Not in attendance.

DISTRICT COMMANDER - DAVE CAMPBELL - Dave stated an item that will be discussed during the upcoming District Commanders meeting will be problems with holding/scheduling SE Conferences.

REGIONAL COMMANDER - STEVE BELL - Not present

NATIONAL OFFICERS - Paul Hiser - National Treasurer - No comment noted.

### OLD BUSINESS

PARADES & EVENTS UPCOMING: Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade- Per Jerry Leppart, the parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM. Jerry will do the "ground work" and check on signing us up for this parade. Chuck Jensen stated the annual Thomasville Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 28, 2018. As in 2017, the Old North State Base has reserved the Torpedo Float for two Christmas parades in December- one in Wilson and one in Bailey. Per Dan Wall, a possible place to participate in a Christmas Parade would be in Archers Lodge, NC.

BREAKFASTS - GOLDEN CORRAL ON GLENWOOD AVE. - Next one is scheduled for Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 0830.

JNROTC SUPPORT BY USSVI BASES - For Tarheel Base, this would be at Cary



High School which we have supported in the past. Paul Hiser is the lead on this. As a note, Base Commander Dave has a presentation he provides for high school level introduction to submarine force and nuclear power.

### NEW BUSINESS

DUES & RETENTION STATUS 2018 - Dave's comment- Tarheel Base strength was 163 when I joined and became Treasurer! Now it is at 107 members!! We need to recruit new members!!!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA - Support for this upcoming Christmas season. (National Cemeteries or Base/State Vet Events). All were in agreement that the Base participate in this event at a National Veteran's Cemetery in the Raleigh area. The key is locating a cemetery that is available for us to honor deceased veterans.

SE REGIONAL CONFERENCE - The scheduled April 27-29, 2018 SE Regional Conference in Virginia Beach, VA, hosted by the Hampton Roads Base, had to be cancelled due low number of sign-ups!! GEE!

MOONSHINE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL MEETING- This event is scheduled for Friday, May 18 thru Saturday, May 19, 2018. Registration form and hotel info have been sent out. Sign up!

NEXT PEARL HARBOR DINNER - This meeting/dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 8, 2018.

AGENDA ITEM FROM LAST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - Tom McFadden stated the Base needs to plan the activities/events for the coming year. During a visit with the Old North State Base, Dave reviewed their 2 year event plan and Tarheel activity consideration for future planning. Goal-support as many NC public venues as possible with our assets. Possibilities: Thomasville Memorial Day and Asheboro Veteran's Day Parades; Old North State Base has reserved Torpedo Float for two Christmas parades; expect Asheville Base for 2 Christmas parades; Moonshine Mountain Memorial; Tarheel Base for Raleigh's St Patrick's Day Parade?; Veteran's Day Parade-

Events; Memorial Day Parade - Events; Annual Tarheel Base Picnic; Birthday Ball/ Golf Tournament; Base meeting dates (published); Annual report; NC State Fair; Quarterly socials- dinners/lunches; Base annual budget (hard to put together)/ audit. Per Tom McFadden, an item for the Executive Board to consider during the Board's next meeting- a trip to a Durham Bulls baseball game.

Kaps For Kids- For Tarheel Base consideration; make a donation to bases with an active program- like the Carolina Piedmont Base.

BACKUP CHAPLAIN- Chaplain Gene has asked if we could have a backup chaplain volunteer. Gene is 82 and possibly could use some help "down the road".

COLOR GUARD VOLUNTEERS - Commander Dave stated we currently have 6 in the Base Color Guard and could use some volunteers as a backup crew.

NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMING UP- Steve Bell is running for the office of National Junior Vice Commander and Ken Nickols will probably be running for SE Regional Director. VOTE!!

NC WEBSITE EDITOR - Joel Spranon is getting additional School of the Boat on "How To"s.

OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION- Vince Sievert went over ideas of how to push our organization (NC Subvets) into the 21st Century. One main point brought up by several was the fact that this younger generation is a highly "Tech Savvy" group. To reach and recruit them, we need to use mediums such as Facebook and Twitter. A lengthy discussion followed.

RAFFLE- None was held this meeting due to the change of meeting place.

BENEDICTION- Chaplain Gene rendered the closing prayer.

Motion was made to adjourn until the next meeting on: Saturday, April 7, 2018. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.