**Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: March 25, 2017**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

* Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Petitt called the meeting to order @ 1900 hrs. at the VFW Post located in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

**INVOCATION**

* Carolina Piedmont Base Chaplain Tom Hulme gave us tonight’s invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

* All joined together in saying our nation’s Pledge of Allegiance.

**USSVI CREED**

* The USSVI Creed was recited tonight by Jim Reeves.

**TOLLING OF THE BOATS**

* Tolling for the lost boats in March was presented by Tom Hulme and Joel Sparnon.

**MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

* There were 32 members present at this month’s meeting including 2 new first-timers who joined us tonight. We wish to welcome Chad Gordon from Mooresville and John Schons from Charlotte to our base.
* Tonight, Raymond Fritz was recognized due to just over 58 years ago Ray was onboard the USS Skate (SSN-578) when it was the first submarine to surface at the North Pole on March 17, 1959.

**MEMBER AWARDS**

* Holland Club
* There were 5 members recognized at tonight’s meeting for induction into the prestigious Holland Club. The Holland Club recognizes members who have been qualified in submarines for 50 years or longer. Members Clarence Jordan and Joel Tuchfeld attending tonight’s meeting and were presented with their Holland Club certificates. Members Paul Simerly, Jay Andress and John Rupertus also now qualified for 50 years did not attend tonight’s meeting. Congrats to our newest Holland Club members.
* Service Awards
* 10-Years: Members Paul Myers, Jack Jeffries & Paul Trexler
* Attaboy Award
* Member Al Westberry was awarded an Attaboy Award tonight for all his behind-the-scenes work with our bases’ fall/picnic meetings where he sets up the outdoor sound equipment for music and our post-meeting karaoke entertainment. In addition, Al has donated equipment used for entertainment to the base for our continued future use. Thanks a bunch Al!

**READING/APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES**

* The February 2017 base meeting minutes were posted in the March issue of the Piedmont Periscope which was emailed out to members on March 23rd for review.
* One correction was noted to February minutes related to the posted treasurer’s report where the date listed for the current base balances was the January date from the previous meeting verses what should have been the date of February 18th for the current meeting. The actual dollar figures presented by the treasurer for February were listed correctly.
* A motion was made to accept the February minutes as corrected; no further discussion and the motion passed.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

* Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink presented the treasury report thru March 25th, 2017 at tonight’s meeting; see table below for actual figures.
* One item to note was a donation was received in memoriam to the passing of Hal Rutter; the monies received were applied to our Kaps-4-Kids fund.
* A motion was made to accept the March treasurer’s report as presented; no discussion and the motion passed.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Category | Balances as of 3/25/2017 | Last Reported Balances |
| Kapss-4-kidss Fund | $911.50 | $810.50 |
| Moonshine Mtn Memorial Fund | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| NC Air Museum | $117.00 | $117.00 |
| Scholarship Fund | 76.00 | $53.00 |
| General Base Fund | $5,087.08 | $5,102.21 |
| Total Balances | $ 6,191.58 | $ 6,082.71 |

**SK REPORT**

* Our base storekeeper Jeff Nieberding was out of town this weekend so no SK report was given.

NOTE: Information about what our storekeeper can supply can also be read in each edition of our Piedmont Periscope publication.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* None

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Microphone for Bilge Rats
* A new microphone was needed for use during our Bilge Rats productions. The cost of the new omni-directional microphone and associated cables was $154.01. A motion was made for the base to cover the cost of the new equipment after some discussion the motion passed.
* Hal Rutter Shadow Box
* After Hal Rutter’s passing a shadow box was assembled using Hal Rutter’s USSVI vest in honor of his service and presented to Hal’s wife Dee; there was a cost of $51.75 for the materials needed to make the shadow box. A motion was made that the base would split the cost of the materials with our bases’ lady Subvettes. After discussion, we wanted to cover the entire cost of the shadow box from our men’s treasury. The original motion was withdrawn and a new motion was made for us to cover the entire cost of the shadow box. We checked with the ladies first to make sure we didn’t get ourselves in trouble *(smart guys)* and when they said okay the motion passed. :-)

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

* **Base Officer Elections**
* Our election master Dale Moses reported the email votes were tallied to officially elect our persons to serve for the next two-year terms as base officers. Dale also reported there were no write-in names submitted.
* Re-elected to serve as base officers for the next two years are:
* Base Commander – Rick Petitt
* Base Vice Commander – Jack Jeffries
* Base Treasurer – Raymond Zieverink
* Base Secretary – Tom Kelly
* Congratulations goes out to our re-elected base officers; officers who attend will be sworn in at our May gathering at Burnsville.
* A special thank you goes out to Dale Moses for coordinating re-election of our base officers.
* **Meeting Time Discussion**
* Two Aspects of this Discussion:
* First discussion of our fall/winter meeting times: We tabled until later in the summer the possibility of moving our late fall and winter meeting times up to the afternoon to allow members the ability to drive in the daylight. This discussion will continue again after summer is over. There would have to be coordination with the VFW to open their doors earlier.
* Second discussion was changing our normal start of our meetings to earlier: A recommendation was to move the start time of our meeting to earlier (change from 1900 to 1830). Our mealtime would continue to start at 1730 and clean-up has normally been finished by 1830 so members agreed on a trial-basis to start our monthly base meeting at 1830 in lieu of 1900 which would be immediately after our clean-up is finished.
* Jack Jeffries sent out an email on March 31st to base members notifying them that our next base meeting (on April 22nd) will start at 1830. This message is especially for those members that won’t make the pre-meeting meal.
* **Victory Junction Visit**
* Steve, Rick and Joel & Karen Sparnon traveled for a chance to meet the special kids at Victory Junction for our first visit of the year. Rick mentioned this happens to be our 8th year now being able to participate at these gatherings of special children.
* Victory Junction is special because it allows children to do anything they are capable of doing related to sports or entertainment. Victory Junction’s motto is “NO-NO” – meaning there’s nothing these children can’t do.
* Joel reported the special time they all had with the children including some great one-on-one time. There was a talent show this visit where the children performed various kinds of entertainment including singing, dancing and funny jokes.
* Our next Victory Junction visit will be during the “Nascarinval” weekend where Jim and Liz Harris have been invited to attend.
* **Bilge Rats-Update**
* We had two Bilge Rats shows since last meeting, one on Sat. Feb. 25th at the Crescent Heights Senior Living Center in Concord NC and the other on March 25th was at Plantation Estates in Matthew where there were over 60 guests at the show who really got into the spirit of things!
* Our next Bilge Rat show is on April 22nd at the Terrace Ridge Assisted Living in Gastonia at 10:30 AM. This will be our last show of the Weather Channel parody.
* Next season the Bilge Rat production crew will be performing Hee Haw Revisited.
* **Color Guard Events, Eagle Scouts, Sub Education Programs-Updates**
* On April 30th at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill SC at 3 PM there will be the next Massing of the Colors event. Dale will be contacting members of the base color guard to determine their availability. It is also noted that anyone from the base can attend this event which is quite the patriotic affair.
* Dale reminded us our color guard will have the privilege of presenting the colors at the Charlotte’ Knight’s BB&T ballpark in May for the Memorial Day weekend. The date for this event is Saturday, May 27th at 7 PM. Contact Dale for tickets for this event; tickets are very reasonable at $18 per seat.
* Since last meeting, Steve Bell presented an honorary submariner certificate and patch to a brand-new Eagle Scout at the Antioch Lutheran Church in Dallas, NC.
* Next school submarine presentation will be at Fort Mill on Thursday, May 4th
* **SERD Regional Convention**
* Since our meeting on the 25th of March, Steve Bell has had to cancel our South East Regional Conference due to not enough attendees signing up for this event. *See Jack Jeffries email sent out on April 4 related to the cancelation of this conference.*
* **Moonshine Mountain-Updates**
* Dale prompted us about the Halfway Night festivities when we meet on the 19th & 20th of May at Moonshine Mountain. On Friday night, there will be either a karaoke night or if enough musicians with instruments show up there will be a jam session. The top award for the Halfway night festivities is the coveted Crusty Sock Award.
* Reminder the raffle of the submarine model will be held at Burnsville that weekend. Tickets are still available at $5 each with proceeds going to the Burnsville Memorial Restoration Fund.

**OPEN 1MC**

* Dale Moses, who is also a member of the VFW post where we meet, says they have movie nights at the VFW and we’re always welcome to join them for that gathering.
* Tom Hulme reminded us of prayer needs for Jim Schenk and Robert Howell. Robert’s wife Emma said he would love to have visitors stop by to say Hi.

**PIEDMONT PERISCOPE**

* All hands are reminded that any news items they want to be included or considered for the next issue of the Piedmont Periscope newsletter that all submissions need to be sent to Robert Schilke no later than the 15th of each month.

**NEXT BASE MEETING**

* The next base meeting will be held on the fourth Saturday in April on the 22th at the Fort Mill VFW. REMINDER: Our meal time will remain the same time starting at 1730 but our meeting time is now moved up to starting at 1830 ***(1/2 hour earlier than our usual meeting starting time)***.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

* A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 2012 hours; the motion passed.

**BENEDICTION**

* Tonight’s Benediction was given by Base Chaplain Tom Hulme.

**RAFFLE RESULTS**

* Tonight’s raffle was won by our base Jim Harris!

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By:

Tom Kelly

Base Secretary