Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes Meeting Date: June 25th, 2016

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

• Base Chaplain Tom Hulme gave 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

• The Tolling of the boats for June was presented by Tom Hulme and Joel Sparnon.

MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

• There were 25 members present at this month's meeting with one new member transferring in from New Hampshire, Ron Miller. We welcome Ron to the Carolina Piedmont base!

SERVICE AWARD

• Tom Hulme was awarded his 5-Year service membership pin tonight.

READING/APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES

- The April 2016 meeting minutes were posted in the May/June 2016 edition of the Piedmont Periscope plus the minutes were also sent directly to the membership via email on May 2nd. A motion was made to accept the April minutes as posted; the motion passed.
- There were no minutes for May as the base met up at Burnsville for the joint NC Subvet's meeting at Moonshine Mountain.

READING/APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

- Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink presented the treasurer's report thru June 25th, 2016.
- A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report thru June 25th 2016 as presented; the motion passed.

	Balances as of	Last Reported
Category	6/25/2016	Balances
Kapss-4-kidss Fund	\$720.27	\$ 1,010.27
Scholarship Fund	\$228.00	\$ 188.00
General Base Fund	\$5,962.33	\$ 6,049.75
Total Balances	\$ 6,910.60	\$ 7,248.02

SK REPORT

• Base Storekeeper Jeff Nieberding reported he's officially out of calendars, however, he is still available for whatever items members need to order; patches, vests and challenge coins are just some of the things Jeff can obtain.

OLD BUSINESS

• None

NEW BUSINESS

• Fort Mill VFW Post Update & Proposal

- Dale Moses who is also a member of the Fort Mill VFW Post (where we meet monthly) provided news how he supported the post during their Memorial Day Celebration and also how he is working with the post to put together an separate color guard to support local events.
- Dale also presented information regarding how the VFW post was required to increase the amount of their property insurance by a significant amount each year due to the reevaluation of their property.
 - A short discussion was had as to how our base could contribute more to the VFW each month and some brainstorming occurred during that discussion.
 - It was decided we would table this issue until next meeting and the membership was asked to consider ideas for next meeting on how we could assist the VFW more financially.

• Tarheel Website Price Increase

- The base was notified by the Tarheel Base Commander that the cost of participation on the Tarheel website has increased from \$4 to \$5 per year.
- A motion was presented to increase our payment to \$5 per year: the motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

• Burnsville - Memorial Repairs

- Rick reported the Burnsville Submarine Memorial is a hidden treasure on Moonshine Mountain in NC. During last month's meeting there it was identified there are drainage/erosion issues with the memorial that could threaten its stability over the next few years.
- A recent engineering study concluded that for additional storm drains including repaying the road it will cost an estimated \$17,880.00.
- All NC Subvet bases have been asked to consider how collectively we can raise the funds to pay for the needed repairs. Multiple ideas were discussed at our meeting including starting a "Fund Me" webpage, obtaining corporate donations, utilizing matching funds thru an employee's corporate foundation and even utilizing a grant writer.
- The Asheville Base has already begun raising funds for this project. More regarding this will be discussed at our next base meeting.

• Memorial DVD's and Photos

- Once again, the tolling of the boats event joined by many of the NC Subvet bases at the Burnsville memorial was a great time. The rain even held off multiple times during the ceremony which is unusual given the memorial's mountain location.
- A professionally-made DVD has been produced for the May event which is available for \$15 each for base members. There will be a one-time order of DVD's thru Rick Petitt and the base passed a motion to pay the shipping cost of the DVD's. Members who were not at June's meeting will need to contact Rick as soon as possible to indicate if they want to order a DVD.
- Mike Hubbell indicated there were many photos taken at the Burnsville event; these photos were all uploaded to the Carolina Piedmont Base Facebook page for our enjoyment.
- One additional highlight of the Burnsville event was the Halfway Night presentation at the hotel. A string of videos recorded the night's festivities and were uploaded to You Tube under the title of "Moonshine Mountain Halfway Night."

• Halfway Night 2016 - Dale Moses

- The Carolina Piedmont Bilge Rats have begun preparing for their 2016 season; the title of this year's show is "The Carolina Piedmont Weather Channel."
- A read-through of the script was held before tonight's meeting and a dress-rehearsal will be held sometime in September or October.
- Dale reminds base members that volunteers are always needed and the gift of talent is never a requirement for participating.

• Victory Junction Visit

- > The Petitt's, Jeffries & Bells participated on the last visit to Victory Junction on June 7^{th} .
- June's activities at VJ were titled "NASCARNIVAL." There were face paintings and games and plenty of Kaps-4-Kids given out along with honorary submariner certificates.
- > The next visit to VJ will be in the October timeframe.

• Updates - Eagle Scouts, Color Guard Events, Sub Ed Ft Mill HS, Massing of the Colors

- Eagle Scout presentations were recently conducted by Rick Petitt and Walt Sealy.
- The base color guard has been busy presenting colors at two Charlotte Hornet's games and at the Charlotte Knights BB&T Stadium for the Memorial Day game.
- A submarine education presentation was recently held for the ROTC Unit at the Fort Mill High School.
- The base participated in the May 8th Massing of the Colors presentation at 6th Annual Scottish Rites meeting at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill.

• National Elections

- > Voting for the national election began on June 21^{st} .
- All base members who have not yet voted are encouraged to go NOW to the USSVI website and click on the "Vote Nat Election" button to vote.
- > 100% voting participation is very important for our base to represent our support for USSVI.

• Dues

- ➤ Time to be thinking ahead (way ahead) to paying your 2017 national & base dues.
 - National Dues are \$25/year or \$70 for 3 years or \$115 for 5 years.
 - Base Dues are \$10/year or \$27.50 for 3 years or \$45 for 5 years.
- > Dues can be paid to our Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink at any time before the end of the year.

• S E District Conference 2017

Steve Bell reported the 2017 Regional Convention will be held in Kissimmee FL next year and will be sponsored by the Sea Poacher base. Steve says the event will be held in the Radisson Hotel in Kissimmee from May 11th to 14th, 2017. Room rates are expected to be a very reasonable at \$100.57 per night.

OPEN 1MC

Items of interest briefly mentioned prior to adjourning tonight's meeting are listed below:

- An update on Carol Jeffries was given by Rick. We ask for prayers for Carol upon completion of her surgery and for Jack as he holds down the fort while Carol is recovering. The Jeffries want to say a big thank you for all the love, prayers, transportation help, meals and other support given to them upon the loss of Carol's daughter and during this time of recovery for Carol.
- A big thank you goes to Cindy Petitt on the framing of Diana Fritz's Subvettes vest (Rick helped too!). Rick was able to present the vest to Ray on Sunday after the meeting when they both were visiting with Carol Jeffries in the hospital. Robert Schilke will include a photo of the vest in the next edition of the Piedmont Periscope.
- At times Jack may be unable to handle all of the correspondence to the base during Carol' recovery, Rick informed the membership he will be handling a lot of the base's email correspondence. Any member who is not receiving updates from Rick on Carol's condition or is not receiving official USSVI notifications is asked to contact Rick to make sure he has your current/correct email address on file.
- John Brough informed us of the opportunity to donate books to the USO, of which John has donated many books to them. A thank you goes out to John for his time and effort to provide support to our troops thru the USO.
- Zeke Rybczyk is a member of the Gaston County Honor Guard and was just notified their Commander's Brother-in-law passed away while visiting in Japan. Zeke understands there is a memorial service being planned for him on August 6th and more details will follow as they're developed for this memorial service.

PIEDMONT PERISCOPE

• All hands are reminded that any news items they want 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 meeting of the Carolina-Piedmont Base will be held on Saturday, July 23th, 2016 at 1900 hrs. at the VFW in Fort Mill, SC. A pot-luck meal will precede the meeting starting at 1730.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

• A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 2006 hours; the motion passed.

BENEDICTION

• Tonight's Benediction was given by Base Chaplain Tom Hulme.

RAFFLE RESULTS

• Tonight's raffle was won by Paul Trexler.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Tom Kelly Base Secretary