

MINUTES OF USSVI NATHANAEL GREENE BASE MEETING

5/8/2021

USSVI Creed: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country that their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Nat Greene Base met on May 8, 2021 at the American Legion Hall on 111 Miller St. Winston Salem, NC 27103 in our first Face to Face meeting since January of 2020. The Base also operated a zoom meeting to include those members who could not attend due travel, schedule or those located outside of North Carolina.

Dive the Boat

13:00: Meeting called to order by Base Commander Frank Gardner. Frank opened with a welcome to everyone who could attend in person and thanked base members for their support and continued dedication to the base and USSVI during the pandemic.

INVOCATION: By Bill Hinds.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: By Frank Gardner, Base Commander

INTRODUCTIONS OF ATTENDEES IN PERSON AND LOGGED IN ON ZOOM:

Twelve members in person and 1 attended by Zoom.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS: For May and June was solemnly rendered by Frank Gardner. This event honors the memory of Submarine Men and Boats lost since the establishment of the United States Submarine Force.

Guest Speaker or Submarine Movie Clip: Base Treasurer, Chuck Jensen showed a portion of the history of submarine and diesel boat development pre-WWII.

Reports:

Commander's Corner - Base Commander, Frank Gardner discussed two areas of interest to the base:

1. A Commitment to Service. As we return to in-person meetings and events such as parades, our pace of activity will increase. Frank spoke of the importance of all members pitching to help run the business of the base. With the adaption of Zoom at our meetings this means that primary members not in the immediate area could still participate in meetings and other business. For

example, our open Base Secretary position could be filled from someone out of area. We have also had some bad habits around base officer position where the same people step up year of year to do these important duties. Need to spread this out. Ed was our secretary for 10 years (since base commissioning) and Chuck our Treasurer. We really need a Treasurer in training to ensure we have this covered when Chuck decides it is time to retire from this position. We are lucky to have folks like Chuck – dedicated to the base and all of us, we cannot rely on this operational model for much longer.

2. Recruiting. We have had some luck, even in the pandemic. However, we need a stronger presence on-line (or any) and in-person. Parades this year will help. But looking for other ideas. Three members discussed ideas:
 - a. Bill Hinds, our Base Chaplin, discussed festivals and other gathers where we could set-up some kit (submarine memorabilia and displays) to attract submariners in the area. Bill committed to generating a list of festivals and such we could try to get a spot for a base display booth.
 - b. Bob Hopkins brought up the idea of moving the Torpedo to NC museums to attract interest and generate awareness. Bob knows someone at the Transportation Museum. He committed to reaching out to his contact at the museum to find out if we could display it there.
 - c. Another member suggested a U-Tube Channel. Social media is a great idea. Not necessarily the strong suite of many of us. Frank is looking to create a base officer position to manage social media (really get it off the ground).

Vice Commander's Corner: Vice Commander - Vacant

Frank Gardner our Base Commander plans to present longevity awards, Holland Club Rockers, and induct new members into the Holland Club at the picnic. For those members listed below if you plan to attend the Picnic contact Frank Gardner. If not, the awards will be mailed to you.

Longevity Pins

5 years – Gantt, Hughes, Kline, and Zilinski

15 years – Clayton, Murphy, C. Nelson, Bridges (late award for 2020)

20 years – Hauser, Jensen, Kreh, Richey, Schenk, and Vernon.

25 years – Galaviz

Holland Club Rockers

55 years – Barnhart, Keane, and Martel

60 years – Jones

70 years – Werner

New Holland Club Members

John Weaver

Gerald Schemanski

William Robinson

Secretary Report: Acting Base Secretary, Frank Gardner said that according to the USSVI National Parliamentarian it is not necessary to vote on the minutes if published earlier.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Report was provided to our Base Commander and Secretary Frank Gardner. The report was orally presented by Chuck Jensen and after comments and/or questions were made, the report was accepted as presented.

Storekeeper's Report: Bill McCormick was not present.

Kaps for Kids Report: According to Base Commander Frank Gardner, the program is on hold until further notice.

Old Business

Base Chaplin: On 22 Jan 2021, in accordance with our base by-laws the Nat Greene Base Executive Board approved the appointment of Bill Hinds as our Base Chaplin. Jim Schenk vacated the position for health reasons. Executive board voted 6 yes votes and three executive board members did not reply. This meets the 2/3 majority for approval of the appointment.

Base Secretary: Effective 01 Feb 2021, Ed Galaviz resigned his post as Base Secretary. Ed served Nat Greene faithfully for more than ten years. The entire base thanks him for his dedication to each of his shipmates in the base and the USSVI. 10 years is a long period for any position and it is up to all of us, if capable, to volunteer and take on these critical roles. **Our Base Commander reiterated the idea the Base secretary could filled by member who remotely attends the meetings.**

Moonshine Mountain Memorial Ceremony. The Annual Burnsville/Moonshine Mountain Memorial Ceremony and Weekend events is currently scheduled for May 14-16. The Registration PDF form is attached in Chuck Jensen's email of 06 Feb 2021. **This event went very well. Chuck Jensen posted pictures in an email on 30 May.**

SE Regional Conference. The USSVI South East Regional Conference scheduled for May 2021 was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns limiting attendance.

USSVI National Convention. The 2021 USSVI National Convention is being held at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, FL. From August 30, 2021 to September 4, 2021. Two items we need to consider in support of the convention is a Sponsor Contribution from the base (individuals can also contribute) and whether or not we would advertise in the convention magazine. **On 19 May 2021, the USSVI National Board of Directors announced the convention is a GO! If you are planning on attending get your registration done pronto.**

New Business

Helping a good Shipmate. As most of you know, our shipmate Jack Jeffries has recently been diagnosed with Cancer. He has had radiation treatments for brain cancer and is now undergoing chemo for a large malignant tumor in his left lung. He is having difficulty eating, talking, walking and is in a great amount of pain. Jack needed a wheelchair ramp for his backdoor so that he can access the house. USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base members and others donated money for the ramp which cost around \$1,000. Additional monetary support may also be needed in the upcoming weeks for unexpected expenses. Some medications prescribed to Jack are not covered by any insurance and are very expensive. There are many ways to manage this contribution but in order to save time and expedite the process, we are asking that donations be sent to the Carolina Piedmont Base Treasurer. He will deposit the money into his base account and will be able to disburse funds as needed. He can provide a clear and accurate audit trail but detailed information concerning individual contributions will be confidential. Propose Nat Greene Base donate \$100 to this fund to assist Jack Jefferies. **Base members voted to donate \$200. Chuck Jensen, Base Treasurer, mailed the check to Caroline Piedmont Base on 10 May 2021.**

American Legion Hall. The Legion has graciously allowed us to use their small hall for our base meeting. To assist the Legion in defraying the cost of maintaining and operating the building (for example their electric bill is \$1,000 a month) the legion only requests we make a donation at what ever level the base can afford. Propose Nat Greene Base donate a minimum of \$250 to the Legion for 2021. **Base members voted to donate \$250 to American Legion Post #55. Our treasurer presented the check to Legion on 8 May 2021.**

Annual Base Picnic. Traditionally, Nat Greene Base does a picnic in late June or early July at the Caroline Field of Honor in Kernersville. We plan to hold the picnic. Looking for a volunteer to coordinate and plan the picnic. Propose we set a budget for the picnic. **Nat Greene Base annual Base Picnic is scheduled for Saturday 31 July 2021. The location is Caroline Field of Honor Park Shelter 4. We have the shelter from 9am to 9pm. Larry Hauser is going to cook for us. Hope everyone local can attend.**

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Base Commander, Frank Gardner led the base in a moment of silence for the 53 Indonesian submariners lost this week when their submarine KRI Nanggala (402) sank while conducting drills off the coast of Bali. 402 went down in 2800 ft of water. No survivors were located.

Jim Schenk Book: Do not forget the book written by Jim Schenk titled "Covert Sailors Submarine Sea Stories.

Submarine Identification: As in previous meetings, Frank Gardner again reiterated that everyone can help with new membership by talking with veterans or by wearing something submarine related such as hats. Several attendees had stories of fellow Submariners they had met in the last couple of months and hope to get them to a meeting once we can meet again.

Next Base Meeting is our Annual Picnic scheduled for July 31, 2021 Time: 0900 to 2100.

Closing Benediction: Bill Hinds

SURFACE THE BOAT