

USSVI “OLD NORTH STATE” Base Meeting Minutes
1200 Saturday 14 October 2023
Sievert Homestead
8840 Robbins Rd., Rocky Mount, NC 27803
Phone 252-292-0044

AGENDA

13 ONS Base members and 1 Guest attended meeting.

GET 50/50 TICKETS BEFORE MEETING

1213 CALLED MEETING TO ORDER by Commander Sievert – CELL PHONES OFF OR ON VIBRATE.

DIVE BOAT – Two blasts of diving alarm.

INVOCATION - Joe Goarck led the opening prayer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Base Commander Vince Sievert led base in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

RECITE CREED:

“Our purpose is 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.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice.”

Tolled Boats for October Followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Tolling of the lost boats for the month October conducted by commander Vince Sievert who read the accounts of the 9 submarines and 572 shipmates lost during the month of October. Shipmate Richard Graves tolled the bell respectively for the boats and men lost in the month of October in solemn remembrance of our shipmates who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

RECOGNIZE – WWII SUBVETS-none in attendance

INTRODUCTIONS – INTRODUCTIONS – 14 SubVet members introduced themselves by including their name and their qualification boat, the year they received their dolphins, and where they stay, (NC slang for where you live).

ETERNAL PATROL MEMORIAL – None

BINNACLE LIST –

- Joe Goarck reported that his lung cancer has come back and has spread. He has decided that he is not going to undergo the intensive radiation and chemo treatments. His wife Gene is struggling with the loss of her eyesight and other health issues. His eldest daughter Judy will be having surgery on her knee.
- Dennis Loch knee replacement surgery went well, he is working through PT. His wife Cathy still dealing with dementia but is stable.
- Richard Graves wife Lynnette is still struggling with immune system issues. Richard's back is still causing him much discomfort.
- Will Iwaniuk's wife Angela will be getting a hip replacement soon and then shoulder
- Mike Sears wife Terry had her Thyroid removed because it was cancerous.
- Jerry Leppart has a blood cancer and is having Chemo treatments.
- Frans Van Baars has face cancer and is undergoing treatment.
- Jack Murray's wife Crystal has a rare type of lung infection and has been put on an aggressive treatment program.
- **Please keep everyone in prayer for healing and encouragement. Remember are all shipmates and if you need to reach out for support or just to talk, we are here for you. That's what shipmates do!**

SPEAKER/SEA STORIES: Base members Jerry Leppart, & Bill Lowe, were in attendance. Regional Director Ken Nichols was in attendance and gave an update on USSVI business and issues including the National convention in AZ in August, the upcoming WWII SubVets ceremony at Kings Bay GA in November. Jerry Palmer Sub Fund, USSVI collage fund available. He is looking to have a USSVI Charitable fund POC so that members can access if required. Gave an update on the USSVI sub vets web site <ussubvets.org>. Schedule for moving the USSVI national office from WA. To the USSVI building in Groton CT. Highly recommends everyone visit and check it out.

REPORTS:

NC SUBVETS CDR: Jerry Emerson

- **He confirmed that he is going to resign as the commander. If you are interested in relieving him of the job let him know. We need someone to step up and assume this position, stop hoping someone else will and take it on.**
- The Nat Greene Base has taken custody of the torpedo float and will store at their Winston Salem location. Some repairs and upkeep are required to be completed on it and will be accomplished by the base members.
- The float will be used by the Morehead Veterans Day parade.

- Jerry also updated the members about his Great grand Daughter Sophie 11 yrs. Peggy and him have become her legal custodian's and she will be living with them. Base members agreed that she could become an associate base member.

COMMANDER: - Discussed upcoming base schedule and float events.

- **Reminded all members that national and base dues are due NLT 30 November. See attached list to see if you need to pay up. National dues are \$30.00 and Base dues are \$12.00 per yr. You can pay them at any of our meetings or you can send them to the ONS Base Secretary (me) at 621 Cummings Rd., Rocky Mount NC 27804. Make the checks out to USSVI-ONS.**

VICE COMMANDER: Mike will confirm the date for the Nashville Blooming Festival Parade.

SECRETARY

- 9 September 2023 meeting minutes (distributed via email). Motion made and seconded to accept September meeting minutes as submitted. Motion passed.

TREASURER

- 1 September – 30 September financial report was reviewed. Motion made and seconded to accept. Motion passed. **See attached report.**

MEMBERSHIP

- **25 members**
 - 20 Primary
 - 5 Dual
 - 1 Associate

WEB MASTER - Web site <NCSubvets.org> everyone needs to check it out.

STOREKEEPER – He stated that he had submitted to T-shirt order but hasn't received them yet.

He is also taking orders for the 2024 USSVI Submarine calendars. If you want to get one or more let Dennis or me know and he will get them ordered.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Shipmate Phrog gave an update on the KAPS for Kids program. He is also looking to expand the location of the visits to other hospitals, Ronald McDonald houses etc. He also updated the base on how to get corporate sponsors for the program and how the USSSVI charitable program works etc. He will be setting up a table for donations at the NC State Fair float display on Wednesday 18 October Contact Phrog if you would like to support.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Commander Sievert recommended that the 11 November meeting be moved to the first Saturday 4 November due the 11th being Veterans Day and the base will be supporting the Veterans Day Ceremony with the Sub float on the 11th at Jack Laughery Park in Rocky Mount. Members agreed. Put both dates on your calendar. Let's have a strong turnout for the Veterans Day ceremony, if you haven't been to one you need to try and be there, you'll be glad that you did.**
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- **Solicit Nominations for 2024 Elections of Officers** (Here is your chance to be in charge and get rid of the clowns in charge now)!

EVENTS:

Quarterly Social Dinner – 14 October was held after the meeting at the Sieverts homestead and was well attended and the food was excellent and good cheer was had by all.

Proposed Annual Plan & Budget for 2024 was provided for members to review

18 Oct NC State Fair Military Appreciation Day

11 Nov Veterans Day Ceremony (Jack Laughery Veterans Park)

9 Dec Pearl Harbor Dinner (Tarheel Base)

17-18 May 2024 Moonshine Mtn

20 -24 August 2024 USSVI National Convention (Cleveland OH)

Guest Speaker Ken Nichols Regional Commander was in attendance and provide updates on USSVI business (see above). Welcome Ken.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Check out North Carolina Submarine Veterans website – <https://ncsubvets.org>

USSVI – Old North State Base Facebook Page – check it out, like and share

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1198129857025276/?ref=bookmarks>

BENEDICTION: Shipmate Joe Goarck led the prayer.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Motion made and seconded to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 1417. Next meeting: **1st Saturday**, 4 November 2023 at 1000 at the VFW.

SURFACE THE BOAT: Three blasts of diving alarm

50/50 DRAWING: Will Iwaniuk won the 50/50 drawing donated \$60.00 of his winnings back to the base) **BZ Will!**