

# MINUTES OF USSVI NATHANAEL GREENE BASE MEETING

January 08, 2022

**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.

## Dive the Boat

**13:34:** 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. The USSVI creed was also read. Meeting held at the American Legion Post 55 in Winston-Salem, NC.

**INVOCATION:** By Bill Hinds.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** By Frank Gardner, Base Commander

**INTRODUCTIONS OF ATTENDEES:** We had several attendees in-person and 4 via Zoom. After introductions, several sea stories were told, some were almost believable. The South East District 1 Commander, Vince Sievert was in attendance.

**Tolling of the Boats:** For January and February 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. Frank also conducted a moment of silence in honor of Jeffrey Moore, Ray's son. Ray gave his thanks to the base for the flowers sent.

Frank G conducted a coffee and doughnut break prior to Officer Reports. Caffeine and sugar highs would be required (kind of like the lectures on remote operability).

## Reports

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

1. Read an excerpt from ADM Chester Nimitz's change of command speech at the end of World War II. The speech emphasized the Submarine service and its contribution to winning World War II, especially in the early part of the war.
2. Held a pop quiz about submarine history. Based on results, a re-board is required for the base.

**Vice Commander's Corner:** Rick Woodson – On travel. Rick did ask for members to remember the Caps 4 Kids program and the need to restart the program with conditions permit.

**Secretary Report:** David Lemly – Reported the November 2021 meeting minutes had been approved and posted on the website.

**Treasurers Report:** Chuck Jensen – Ending bank balance as of December 31st \$6,992.51. Special Funds – Kaps 4 Kids \$35.42. Chuck also reported that there are 91 base members.

**Storekeeper's Report:** All of the 10 2022 USSVI Calendars ordered this year have been sold.

**Caps for Kids Report:** NTR, on hold until further notice.

### **Old Business**

The base had sent flowers in memorial of Ray Moore's son, Jeffrey, for his funeral. The action had been approved by the Executive Board via email.

### **New Business**

As of 23 December, we had 20- members who had not paid their 2022 dues; 12- primary base annual members, 3- secondary base annual members and 5 – USSVI life members. Efforts to collect will continue until the end of January.

**Annual Base Picnic.** The base is looking for a volunteer to help organize the picnic. Picnic time/date are TBD but will be held at the Carolina Field of Honor. Based on feedback and the 2021 picnic was a huge success and will be hard to top.

### **Base Officer Elections.**

Vince Sievert (District 1 Commander) conducted the swearing in of base officers.

Base Commander – Frank Gardner

Base Treasure – Chuck Jensen

Base Secretary – Dave Lemly via Zoom

**District Commander Remarks:** Vince provided an update on the District/National USSVI and his biography.

The December USSVI Board of Directors meeting was canceled.

USSVI website – no change. Still a work in progress.

The End of January will be the cutoff for renewing USSVI membership dues.

Based should plan on a push from National to get awards for individuals and bases this year.

Looking to better support submarine memorials and events in the state and local region. Moonshine Mountain and Pearl Harbor dinner given as examples.

The 2022 National Convention will be held later this year in Buffalo New York. The convention will be a 4 day format vice the 5-7 day format to help with costs. Some discussion about the North Carolina bases hosting the convention in the future. More information after the March base commanders meeting.

Good turnout by the bases for the Pearl Harbor Dinner held in December 2021.

The Old North State Base's submarine float will be displayed at the North Carolina State Fair in September.

Discussion held about how to keep USSVI relevant to the veteran's community and community at large. Involvement and visibility remain the primary method. Examples of involvement include:

- Speaking at JROTC programs.
- Caps for Kids
- Boy/Girl Scout events. USSVI has a certificate for Eagle Scout award recognition.
- Involvement with other veteran organizations.

### **GOOD of the ORDER**

Motion approved to send \$30 dollars to USSVI Boat Sponsorship program for USS North Carolina SSN 777. Check #1195 issued, action complete.

Motion approved to send \$50 dollars to the American Legion Post #55 for use of meeting room. Check #1196 issued, action complete.

Motion approved to send \$1 per Base Primary Member to North Carolina state organization for dues. Based on the final primary member count at end of January 2022, check will be issued in February. Expect the check to be around \$67.

Motion approved to waive 2022 base dues for Secondary Base Member, Greg Hand.

50/50 raffle conducted. Ray Moore won and donated part of his winnings to the base. Thanks Ray.

### **Next Base Meeting - Saturday March 05, 2022 at 1330**

Closing Benediction: By Bill Hinds

15:21 Meeting concluded.

### **SURFACE THE BOAT**