

Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 28, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Petitt called our meeting to order at 1400 hrs at VFW Post 9138 located in Fort Mill, SC.
- The meeting followed a wonderful potluck luncheon meal brought in by our base families.

INVOCATION

- To start off 2023, Base Chaplain Raymond Fritz shared with us a pre-meeting message from God's Word followed by an invocation for our first base meeting of 2023.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- All joined in saying our nation's Pledge of Allegiance, led by Base Commander, Rick Petitt.

USSVI CREED

- The USSVI Creed was read today by Terry Draper.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS

- Tolling for 5 boats lost during past January's was presented by Raymond Fritz and the bell was rung by Bill Strand.

MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

- 16 members (and 9 ladies) were present at today's base meeting. The ladies then went off to have a Subvettes meeting on their own before the men started our business portion of our meeting.
 - Bob Bunney invited a former submariner he met in York SC (John (JJ) Mattingly) to our January meeting and JJ ended up joining our base at the end of the meeting.
 - Welcome JJ Mattingly to our Carolina Piedmont Base.
 - We are starting of 2023 with 85 members of our base.

AWARDS

- Steve Bell, our Holland Club Chairman, gave out 2 extended-year Holland Club Rockers to Raymond Zieverink (55 years qualified) and to himself Steve Bell (60 years qualified).
- Steve mentioned there are presently no new Holland Club inductees scheduled for 2023.

REVIEW OF LAST BASE MEETING MINUTES

- Members were/are reminded that last month's meeting minutes are posted on our Carolina Piedmont website at carolinapiedmont.org for their review. No comments were received on last month's meeting minutes.

READING OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

- Base Treasurer Bill Strand supplied our latest treasurer's report. Combined monies in all base accounts currently stands at \$7,756.33 as of today's meeting date.

BASE STOREKEEPER REPORT

- Jeff stated all 2023 submarine calendars are now gone.
- Jeff Nieberding is our contact for ordering USSVI items, including patches, vests, challenge coins, calendars, parking signs, etc.
- It was also mentioned that the USS Charlotte will be receiving 3 copies of the American Submariner magazine, courtesy of our base.

OLD BUSINESS

- Update on Certificates of Appreciation to Indian Land VFW: Rick stated he paid a visit to the Brews Tavern in Indian Land to present the VFW with a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$200 as a thank you from our base for their Honor Guard services at Jack Jeffries funeral service.

NEW BUSINESS

- A brief discussion was had over whether we would sponsor another season of a Girls' Softball Team in Fort Mill. A final decision on this proposal will take place at our next meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

• Open Base Positions

- Rick reminded us there are a few open positions for volunteers to fill. One position is the Kaps-4-Kids leader and a coordinator position for future Eagle Scout presentations.

• Color Guard Opportunities

- Rick reported that the Charlotte Knights baseball franchise have asked our base to do the Memorial Day colors presentation again. Rick will be following up with more details on the event and what date that will be.
- Possibility exists that we could get another opportunity for presenting colors at a Charlotte Checkers game. The hockey team's season wraps up in mid-April.

• School Visit Opportunities

- Bill Strand, Rick Petitt and Mike Hubbell will be looking into which schools might be open for a visit to discuss life served aboard a nuclear submarine.

• USSVI Dues Increase

- Steve Bell reported that National will be increasing dues amounts effective April 1st of 2023.
- Reasons for dues increase are publication costs of American Submariner magazine are up, there's a negative cash flow now to the National treasury and increased cost of travel for USSVI board members.
- The following are the new non-lifetime dues rates after April 1st:
 - ❖ 1-year \$30/year
 - ❖ 3-year \$85/year
 - ❖ 5-year \$140/year
 - ❖ If a new member joins in October, then they pay \$35 (which is \$5 for remaining current year & \$30 for following year).
- The following are the new Lifetime dues rates after April 1st based on age when payment is made:
 - ❖ 76 & older \$120
 - ❖ 66 – 75 \$240
 - ❖ 56 – 65 \$360
 - ❖ 46 – 55 \$400

❖ 45 or less \$600

• **Burnsville May Event**

- Reservations for the May 19th, 2023 event at Burnsville/Moonshine Mountain are now being accepted. Mike Hubbell will be helping a lot at this year's event at Big Lynn Lodge where most of the festivities will occur.
- Room availability is limited at Big Lynn Lodge so if you haven't already made your reservation now is the time before you'll have to stay at another hotel.
- For a view of the Moonshine Mountain Memorial, you can just search on Google Maps for Moonshine Mountain Rd to take a drive-by via Google Maps ... or just click on the link below and then go to Street View to see the actual memorial:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Moonshine+Mountain+Rd,+North+Carolina+28714/@35.950473,-82.2918716,93m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m15!1m8!3m7!1s0x885a0b9376785b75:0x6444b76f55103d93!2sMoonshine+Mountain+Rd,+North+Carolina+28714!3b1!8m2!3d35.9504448!4d-82.2919644!16s%2F1tvtc1m3!3m5!1s0x885a0b9376785b75:0x6444b76f55103d93!8m2!3d35.9504448!4d-82.2919644!16s%2F1tvtc1m3>

NEXT BASE MEETING

- Our next base meeting will be at 1400 (winter hours), on Saturday, February 25th, at the VFW in Fort Mill, SC. VFW doors open at 1230 and we will have our normal potluck meal prior to the meeting starting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1511 hours. Motion passed.

BENEDICTION

- Today's Benediction was given by Ray Fritz.

RAFFLE RESULTS

- Tonight's 33/33/33 raffle was won by JJ Mattingly ... (our newest member)

OPEN 1MC

- Paul Trexler mentioned his daughter Teri just got out of the Navy.
- Bill Strand let us know his daughter is selling Girl Scout cookies, but this is her last year for girl scouts. Any orders placed with Bill; the cookies will be mailed to person's who ordered.
- Discussions were held by our lady Subvettes on how to help some local homeless lady veterans who they just learned about.
- Calvin Reese was reported to have knee replacement surgery recently.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:
Tom Kelly
Base Secretary

NOTE: The list of meeting attendees follows below.

January 28, 2023 Meeting Attendees:

- Steve Bell

- Bob Bunney
- Terry Draper
- Ray Fritz
- Jim Goins
- Mike Hubbell
- Tom Kelly
- JJ (John) Mattingly – Newest Member
- Ed Milczarski
- Howard Murray
- Jeff Nieberding
- Rick Petitt
- Zeke Rybczyk
- Bill Strand
- Paul Trexler
- Raymond Zieverink