**Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date:  July 22, 2023**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

* Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Petitt called our meeting to order at 1405 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**

* Base Chaplain Ray Fritz started off our base meeting with an invocation. Ray asked us to remember our shut-ins and to pray for America.

**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 Jim Goins.

**TOLLING OF THE BOATS**

* Tolling for the 3 boats that were lost during the months of July past was presented by Ray Fritz and the bell was rung by Bill Strand.

**MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

* 14 base members were present at today’s meeting.
* We were joined by two visitors today: Meghan Strand, daughter of Bill Strand and Jeff & Michele Nieberding’s granddaughter Lilly.

**SPECIAL EVENT**

* Today Bill Strand’s daughter Meghan was awarded a $2,000 scholarship from the USSVI General Scholarship Fund. The money will be sent to Winthrop University which Meghan plans to attend.
* Meghan plans on majoring in exercise science and working towards being a doctor in either chiropractic or physical therapy.  She also has a love for the theater and performing arts communities, maybe even finding future work at either Broadway in New York or the West End in London.

**REVIEW OF LAST BASE MEETING MINUTES**

* Members were reminded that minutes for each previous base meeting are now posted on our Carolina Piedmont website at [carolinapiedmont.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ctom%5CDownloads%5C2022-03-26%20March%20CP%20Meeting%20Minutes.docx) for their review. Members are encouraged to read the previous meeting’s minutes prior to attending the next base meeting.
* No comments or corrections were received on last month’s meeting minutes.

**READING OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT**

* Base Treasurer Bill Strand read our latest treasurer’s report. Combined monies in all base accounts currently stand at $8,474.00 as of 7/22/2023.
* No comments or corrections were received on the treasurer’s report.

**BASE STOREKEEPER REPORT**

* Jeff Nieberding is our base contact for ordering USSVI items, including patches, vests, challenge coins, calendars, parking signs, etc.
* Jeff will be taking orders for the 2024 USSVI calendars starting in October.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* None.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

* **North Carolina Submarine Museum Update**
* Rick reported that Charlotte Fire is working hard with some big companies in the Carolinas to raise funds for the construction of the new submarine museum here in the Carolinas.
* There are 3 subs named related to the state of North Carolina: USS Charlotte (now stationed in Pearl Harbor), USS Asheville and USS North Carolina.
* We can become more informed about the future of this museum by visiting their website at NCSubmuseum.org. There you can see their mission statement, see a rundown of their current Board of Directors (and their qualifications) and there’s even an ability to donate online to the construction of the museum which is a 501(c)3 – tax deductible organization.
* **Football Game – Naval Academy vs UNC Charlotte 49’s**
* Rick reported that the U.S. Naval Academy Midshipmen will be coming to Charlotte on Saturday, October 14th to play football against the UNC Charlotte 49’s.
* The game will be held at the 49’s Jerry Richardson’s Stadium and Rick has obtained a block of tickets for this event. The tickets are at a reasonable price but the stadium is relatively small so it will quickly sell out.
* Contact Rick if interested in purchasing one of the block tickets he has purchased.
* **Softball Sponsorship**
* Rick indicated possibly next month we’ll start the process of researching sponsorship of another Rock Hill girls’ softball team.
* **Kaps-4-Kids**
* Rick reminded us he has hundreds of Kapss-4-Kidss hats and certificates he received after Jack’s passing and wanted to have us consider if there are any other organizations out there where we could participate in K4K presentations.
* On suggestion was proposed by Mike Hubbell that possibly the Shriner’s Hospital in Greenville might be one place to consider.
* **Charlotte Knights Baseball Game Aug 12th or 13th**
* Rick asked if anyone was interested in just having a night out together at a Charlotte Knights baseball game in August. This would not be a game where we presented the colors but just be for a night out of fun in the summer.
* Contact Rick if you are interested in either day.

**NEXT BASE MEETING**

* Our next base meeting will be held on Saturday, August 26th, 2023, at the VFW in Fort Mill. As usual, we will be having a potluck meal before the meeting begins. Doors open at 1230 for set-up, meal to be served at 1300 and meeting will follow the meal at 1400.
* Reminder: All future base meeting times, unless otherwise notified, will now be held on the fourth Saturday of each month and the meetings will start at 1400 hours after we’ve finished our potluck meal. This change applies to all future meetings held during both summer and winter months.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

* A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1450 hours.  Motion passed.

**BENEDICTION**

* Today’s Benediction was given by Base Chaplain Ray Fritz.

**RAFFLE RESULTS**

* Today’s 33/33/33 raffle was won by … me (who was not in the room to hear the winning ticket being drawn) … so therefore my penalty was I had to donate my winnings to my wife Susan.

July 22, 2023, Meeting Attendees:

* Steve Bell
* Bob Bunney – Kathy
* Ray Fritz
* Mary Gilles (Subvette)
* Jim Goins – Marsha
* Jim Harris
* Mike Hubbell – Glenna
* Tom Kelly – Susan
* Jeff Nieberding – Michele and granddaughter Lilly
* Rick Petitt – Cindy
* Zeke Rybczyk
* Stan Schultz
* Bill Strand (with daughter Meghan)
* Joel Tuchfeld – Anna
* Raymond Zieverink – Linda

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Tom Kelly

Base Secretary