**Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date:  June 22, 2024**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

* Brand new Carolina Piedmont Vice-Commander John McHugh called our meeting to order at 1400 hrs. at VFW Post #9138 located in Fort Mill, SC.
* The meeting followed our potluck meal including some delicious homemade desserts brought in by our base families.

**INVOCATION**

* Base Chaplain Ray Fritz started off our base meeting with an invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

* All joined in saying our nation’s Pledge of Allegiance, led by base Vice-Commander, John McHugh.

**USSVI CREED**

* The USSVI Creed was read today by Raymond Zieverink.

**TOLLING OF THE BOATS**

* Tolling for the 7 boats, which were lost during June months past, was presented by Ray Fritz and the bell was rung by Bill Strand.

**MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

* 16 base members were present at today’s meeting, including 1 new member Doug Cook and his wife, Maxine. Doug qualified on the USS Von Steuben SSBN-632. Welcome Doug & Maxine!

**HOLLAND CLUB AWARD PRESENTATION**

* Current USSVI National Jr. Vice-Commander Steve Bell inducted base member Henry Rybczyk into the United States Submarine Services’ prestigious Holland Club. Holland club members are those personnel who have been qualified in submarines for 50-years or longer. Congratulations Zeke!

**REVIEW OF LAST BASE MEETING MINUTES**

* Members are reminded that minutes for the previous month’s base meeting are posted on our Carolina Piedmont website at [carolinapiedmont.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ctom%5CDownloads%5C2022-03-26%20March%20CP%20Meeting%20Minutes.docx) under the “Current Minutes” link for their review. Members are encouraged to read the previous month’s meeting minutes prior to attending our 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 stands at $9,123.34 as of 6/22/2024.
* Bill reported that monies associated with the this year’s Burnsville event have been received and paid out and covered all costs associated with the 2024 Moonshine Mountain weekend.

**BASE STOREKEEPER REPORT**

* Jeff Nieberding is our base contact for ordering USSVI items, including patches, vests, challenge coins, calendars, parking signs, etc.
* Jeff said he has sold out of his supply of 2024 USSVI calendars.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* **None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

* **None**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

* **Bilge Rats**
* Raymond Zieverink, leader of our Carolina Piedmont Bilge Rats performance group reported they put on 4 successful shows this year.
* This year’s Bilge Rat theme was “A Walk Down Memory Lane”. Feedback from those folks who have seen these shows said they had lots of fun and the show brought back wonderful memories of songs they hadn’t heard in years.
* Well Done (Bravo Zulu) to Raymond Zieverink and all our volunteer performers for your hard work and dedication.
* **National Convention – Cleveland OH Aug 20 – 24**
* Go to the following website to read the instructions and to obtain information regarding the 2024 national convention in Cleveland Ohio. <https://subvetconvention.org/tours-and-events>
* Another way is to log in to the USSVI.org website, go to Visitors, then 2024 National Convention.
* **Burnsville – 2024**
* For those who traveled to Burnsville NC this past May for the Moonshine Mountain Submarine Memorial weekend all seemed to have a great time.
* Accommodations at the Big Lynn Lodge and the breakfast and dinner meals they served were top-shelf as usual and the weather held out on Saturday morning (no rain) as the Tolling of the Boats ceremony was held at the beautiful Moonshine Mountain Memorial.
* Another highlight of the weekend was our Carolina Piedmont Bilge Rats performers put on their Walkdown Memory Lane show on Saturday night which was enjoyed by all followed by a night of Bingo for everyone in the dining room.
* **National USSVI Elections**
* Voting for National Officers of USSVI is now open to all USSVI members in good standing. Voting is actually done by logging onto the old USSVI website (ussubvets.org) and clicking the Green Vote Nat Election button at the top left side of the page.
* NOTE: You will need your Userid and Password to the old website to login to vote.
* National election voting is from now until mid-August 2024, just prior to the National Convention starting in Cleveland.

**NEXT BASE MEETING**

* Our next base meeting will be held on Saturday July 27th at 1300 (the fourth Saturday) at the Ft. Mill VFW Post. Doors open at 1230.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

* A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1432 hours.  Motion passed.

**BENEDICTION**

* Today’s closing Benediction was given by Chaplain Raymond Fritz.

**RAFFLE RESULTS**

* Tom Kelly won today’s raffle and graciously donated his winnings to the USSVI Scholarship Fund.

**A list of today’s meeting attendees can be found below:**

**June 22, 2024, Meeting Attendees**:

* Steve Bell
* Bob Bunney – Kathy
* Doug Cook – Maxine (New/1st Timers – Guests of Kevin Walker)
* Ed Eldridge
* Ray Fritz
* Jim Goins
* Jim Harris
* Tom Kelly
* John McHugh
* Jeff Nieberding
* Zeke Rybczyk
* Bill Strand
* Joel Tuchfeld - Anna
* Dave Violette
* Kevin Walker
* Raymond Zieverink - Linda

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Tom Kelly

Base Secretary