

## USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 7th, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1500 by Base Commander Ralph Rhorssen. Attending were Board of Directors members Ralph Rhorssen, Rick Wise, Ron Chambers, Larry Knutson, Gordon Williams, Bill Freligh, Ed Stank, Nick Nichols, Ron Chambers, Mike Ciesielko and guest Tom Lawson.

Base Commander Ralph Rhorssen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Ralph started the meeting about a major concern of recruiting new members.

- There was a discussion of where to get new members and what do we do to offer them to stay (we don't offer much).
- Ralph commented on reaching out to the Schools and giving lectures at the local High Schools.

There was a discussion on getting our wives involved with one way being allowing them to attend our meetings. Also, possibly asking them to help with charity events, etc. This may help with recruiting.

Mike Ciesielko recommended that we streamline the meeting by asking stations before the meeting if they have anything to report. If they have nothing to report they will not be called on.

- From now on the stations will only cover their material.
- The COB will not cover material a station is going to cover already.

The discussion led to when we have meetings with awards (I.E. Scholarship and Holland Club) that we let the guests stay for the meeting if they would like to do so.

Nick recommended that the base Secretary go thru previous board of directors meeting minutes, at his leisure, and make a listing of any voted motions or orders that have happened during board meetings.

Based on information put out from the National Parliamentarian, the standard from now on will not to have a vote to approve Base Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's report. Instead they will be handled as follows:

- Secretary: "The last meeting minutes have been published in the newsletter and promulgated on the website. Are there any additions or deletions. If not the minutes are Approved"
- Treasurer: "The treasurer's report is published and promulgated on the website. Are there any additions or deletions. If not the report is Approved"

Ralph discussed the proposed budget. Ed commented that there is nothing in the budget for any of the parties.

This lead to further discussion about the investment fund having a High Low Limit and the interest being used as liquid assets for parties and such. There will be further discussion on this.

Ed Stank discussed the possibility of having another float that would be more mobile that anyone could pull in these parades. This would double the exposure we currently receive. We are very limited due to the size of the current float and only a few have a powerful enough truck to pull it.

Ed reported that he will not be going to the Victory House this month. Tom Scott will go in his place.

Ed reported that the Christmas party came in \$300.00 under budget. This year's Christmas party will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Air Force Base.

The form will be sent out to the Board for Recommendation's for the Distinguished Submariner.

Membership: Larry Knutson reported that we have 304 members.

Rick Wise reported that the NMPTC Graduation will be the 19<sup>th</sup> of January.

Bill Freligh engaged Ed in the Southeast Regional Conference discussion.

Nick Reported:

- **Willie Jones** passed away at the VA on Dec 30. His service was held this past Monday. Swamp Fox Chapter and Charleston Base, along with FRA 269, was very well represented.
- **Buck Owens** started feeling bad on Nov 19. I visited but Buck didn't know I was there. He passed away on Dec. 2nd. Still waiting on the family to tell us of any services they would like.
- **Larmarr Seader NCCM(SS) USN Ret** departed on Eternal Patrol on 7 Dec 2017 in FL. His funeral was held on 15 Dec and he was buried at the VA Cemetery NAS Pensacola. He was a 31 year veteran of the Navy starting as surface the transferred to subs after 4 years. He qualified on HALFBEAK SS-352 in 1960. He served his last 12 years as a Career Recruiter. Lamarr was a Life Member of Drum Base and USSVI.
- **Rick Sparger** came through his hip replacement surgery on Friday with no problems and is now resting. He is doing well and is at the Elms room 14 P for the next few days.
- **Ken Curtis** has been diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver due to fatty liver tissue. He will be taking some experimental treatments to deal with it. He gets tired very easily.
- **Rich Alkire** was in Trident with a COPD issue. He's also been diagnosed with congestive heart failure.
- **Walt Curtis** was in the hospital over Thanksgiving and has informed us that he has a tumor on his liver which is malignant. Not sure if he's going to have treatment.
- **Terry Trump** fell from a ladder on Nov 16 and broke both ankles. Right had a hairline fracture, left was shattered. He had surgery to install plates and pins on Nov 25...surgery was successful. Between Nov 25 and 28 several shipmates came together to build a ramp for him. He came home on Nov 28 and is doing well while healing. He was at the doctor mid-Dec and received a walking boot on right foot and hard cast on left. He returns to the doctor tomorrow, Jan 8.
- **Lee Agnew** HTCM USN Retired, Rick Collins' father-in-law, passed away on Nov 24. His viewing was on Nov 29 and funeral on Nov 30.
- **Bryan Sparks**, Ray Sparks' son, has had a relapse and spent some time in Trident ICU. He is home and is recovering. He has appointments at the VA this week, to hopefully determine cause of relapse. Thanks Ray
- **Edwin Swanson, Linda Nichols' brother**, passed away on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> in GA.

The meeting was adjourned at 1624.