

## USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**June 1, 2023**

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1802 by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko. Attending were Board Tom Lawson, of Directors members Woody Woodsmall, Bill Freligh, Ed Stank, Johnny Brown, Carl Chinn, Rick Sparger, Gordon Long, Ricky Collins, Lewis Leal, Glenn Little, and Nick Nichols.

### **Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko:**

- Mike welcomed members to the meeting.
- Mike notified the Board about a need for a new PAO. This notice will be also be stated at the Base Meeting next week.

### **Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall:**

- Nothing to report

### **Holland Club – Bill Freligh:**

- Nick provided a list of WWII SUBVETS. Bill will read these names at the Holland Club ceremony.

### **PAO – Ed Stank:**

- Ed has written articles about the Amberjack Ceremony, a “Remembrance/Celebration” about the Submarine Birthday Ball and the Holland Club presentation. He will be submitting these to American Submariner after he gets some photos to go with them.

### **Newsletter – Ed Stank:**

- Ed is working on the June Newsletter.

### **Recreation –Johnny Brown:**

- Seventeen have signed up for the River Dogs game. He is waiting for a return call about the tickets so that he can have them at the Base Meeting next week.
- Johnny will start working on the Christmas Party soon.
- A suggestion was made to possibly have the party earlier in the day for those who don’t drive at night.

### **Scholarship – Carl Chinn:**

- As of this evening, we have \$13,831 the Scholarship fund. This does not include the bourbon raffle.
- At the Base Meeting next week, we will have four recipients – only one or two will receive their award in person. The others are out-of-state.
- The next raffle will be for season tickets to Flowertown Players theatre in Summerville.

### **Vice Commander – Tom Lawson:**

- Johnny will tow the float to Locklear Park for Freedom Fest on June 30 at 1700.
- The float coordinator will provide a map.

## USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### **Special Events – Rick Sparger:**

- Jerry Stout has borrowed some tents and chairs. One of the tents is broken.
- The cover that Johnny purchased for the float looks good.

### **COB – Rick Sparger:**

- Nothing to report.

### **Secretary – Gordon Long:**

- The April and May BOD Meeting Minutes are now posted on the website.
- The May Base Meeting Minutes are in progress and will be sent soon.

### **Treasurer – Ricky Collins:**

- Checks will be provided for the Scholarship recipients next week.

### **Social Media – Lewis Leal:**

- The May Base Meeting video will be available soon.

### **Photographer – Glenn Little:**

- A man he knows has requested Honorary Membership. Some in the room also know this man, but he has made no contribution to Charleston Base. After some discussion, a vote was taken, denying the request.

### **Membership – Nick Nichols for Larry Knutson:**

- Charleston Base currently has 254 members.
- Nick Nichols provided the top Base Rankings: 1) Groton 1149 - 2) Hampton Roads 275 - 3) Charleston 254 - 4) Bremerton 238

### **FRA – Rick Sparger:**

- Nothing reported.

### **VA – Tom Lawson:**

- Nothing reported.

### **Chaplain – Nick Nichols:**

- There are several shipmates and family members who have given me information which they wish to be kept confidential at this time.
- **Amy Clark Korngiebel, Tom Clark's daughter**, passed away on May 18, 2023 while surrounded by family, at the Low Country Hospice (Agape) on Myers Road in Summerville. Amy was born Feb 15, 1966 at Langley AFB Hospital. Her service was held on May 23, 2023 at Carolina Memorial Park
- **Rick Wise** has recovered extremely well from his cancer surgery and is in great spirits. He is able to drive himself to his doctors' appointments. Larry Knudsen has gone by his house and installed a second fan for him.
  - On Thursday, May 25, seven NNPTC Sailors, members of the FCPOA, that's First-Class Petty Officers Association for those who like to know what the acronym means,

## USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

descended on his humble abode and conducted field day on his yard doing an excellent job. Pictures will be on the website by the meeting next week.

- **Hauns ‘Sam’ Vlam** is in the Oakbrook Health & Rehabilitation Center Rm 315 for rehab. Sam has Parkinson’s and is doing as well as can be expected. Bill Freligh and Robby Roberts tracked him down and presented his Holland Club certificate and hat. He doesn't get many visitors so if you are able he would enjoy a visit.
- **Woody Woodsmall** is doing well in his rehab from shoulder surgery.
- **Howard ‘Andy’ Anderson** is in cardiac rehab at Summerville Cardiac Rehab ctr after having 4 heart attacks & then 3 separate heart procedures earlier in the year.
- **Joe Lunn** is still battling his Parkinson’s Disease.
- **Don Petersen** can’t take phone calls however he does text. If you want to text him the number for text only is 843.532.6464.
- **Thom Beach** is still at the VICTORY HOUSE in Walterboro. His phone number is 843.809.9417. He called me Tuesday to say he’s doing OK and to also say he is asking for pictures of submarines to hang at the Victory House. He has talked to those in charge and they have agreed to use pictures if he can get them. These should be similar to those the Scholarship committee has now if possible.

### Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- Until told differently, continue to use the website of <https://ussubvets.org>

### Memorial Day/Veterans Day – Nick Nichols:

- Since the Memorial Day service was not held at the Summerville cemetery, Nick and Linda attended the ceremony at the FRA. There were about ten SubVets present.
- Nick recommended that, if the Summerville ceremonies are curtailed in the future – some ceremonies are being held in St. George already – Charleston Base will join the events held at the FRA. It will involve us purchasing a wreath for the event. The wreaths are stored at the FRA. We will table the discussion about any wreath purchase until the January BOD meeting. It only takes two months to have one made.
- If Summerville does not have any event for Veterans Day, we can still go to Coastal Coffee Roasters as we always have. This is not a county-run event.

### Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko:

- USSVI National Commander has provided information about a program that Naval Submarine League has – Sub Clubs – to work with active U.S. submarines. Mike read the article and made a basic presentation of the info. The work involved is very similar to that which is done by a city sponsoring a new construction boat. There was some discussion, but the labor is prohibitive.
- Nick will post the information on the Base website for others to glean from.

### Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony – Glenn Little:

- Glenn presented another possibility for Charleston Base to participate in Naval Heritage activity. Aboard the Yorktown annually, there is a December 7 ceremony. At the last one which Glenn attended, there were about forty military organizations acknowledged. Charleston Base USSVI was not one. Base Commander request Glenn to obtain more information about this annual event.

## USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### **Nuclear Power School – Phil Nunnally:**

- Not present

### **Comptroller – Rick Wise:**

- Not present

### **Kaps for Kids – Mike Emerson:**

- Not present

Meeting was adjourned at 1904