

USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 2, 2025

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1800 by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko to prepare for the Southeast Regional Convention in February. Attending were Board of Directors members Phil Nunnally, Woody Woodsmall, Johnny Brown, Anthony Mazza, Ed Stank, Greg Landry, Dave Harvey, Bill Freligh, Tom Lawson, Rafael Guzman, Gordon Long, Larry Knutson, Ricky Collins, Lewis Leal and Nick Nichols.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko:

- Mike welcomed members to the meeting.

Little David – Phil Nunnally:

- Has five framed posters for SER door prizes.
- Nothing else to report.

NPS Awards – Phil Nunnally:

- The next NPS graduation is the week of the SER Conference.

Newsletter – Phil Nunnally:

- Phil has tickets for the Stingrays.
- If there is something that any member would like to see put into the CB Newsletter, please provide it to Phil at least two days before the end of the month. He goes to press before/by the first day of each month.

Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall:

- Woody showed patch design for SER Conference

Recreation – Johnny Brown:

- Spoke about PAO video – excellent.

NNPTC Coordinator – Anthony Mazza:

- The Sub Ball website will be on line by next week (January 9).
- The 2025 Sub Ball will be held on April 5 at the Trident Tech Ballroom.
- Tickets will be available for sale in January.

Submarine License Plates – Ed Stank:

- Ed has the application for the license plates. He is expecting \$3,500 to be supplied from the Investment Fund. With monetary support from other bases, the application could be submitted by early spring.

COB – Greg Landry:

- Got donations for SER conference.
- Met someone who wants to sponsor the SER. Need info on how to do this.

SE Regional Convention – Dave Harvey:

- Dave spoke about the fund raisers and the success/failures of each.
- Dave spoke about a National Sub Museum.

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- Dave spoke about arrangements with the FRA for fund raisers.
- We are not expecting vendors at the SER with insufficient time to make arrangements.

Holland Club – Bill Freligh:

- Nothing to report

VA – Tom Lawson:

- Nothing to report

Vice Commander – Tom Lawson:

- Nothing to report

PAO – Rafael Guzman:

- The Charleston Base video has been placed in multiple locations and is getting views.
- Rafael briefly explained the methods and platforms that he is using.
- Rafael has produced two new videos for January and will place the Charleston Base video at the end.

Secretary – Gordon Long:

- Nothing to report

Membership – Larry Knutson:

- We have 253 Charleston Base members.
- Nick Nichols provided the top Base Standings.
 - Groton 1175 - 2) Hampton Roads 287 - 3) Charleston 253 - 4) Bremerton 249

Treasurer – Ricky Collins:

- Provided updated Treasurer Report

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

- Please share the Facebook link. It has fund raising info on it.

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.
- **Tawnya Jennings, Bill's wife**, passed away on December 5th. Her service was on Dec 9th. We got the word too late to let everyone know.
- **Nancy Alkire, Richard's widow**, had a stroke in mid-Dec. They also found cancer while she was there. She passed away on Jan 1.
- **EMC(SS) Tom Cyrek, 79**, departed on EP at his daughter's home in Mt. Pleasant on Nov 18th. He joined the Navy in 1963 and retired in 1983. Life member of USSVI/CB as of 2011, HC member. Qualified on TANG SS-563 in 1966. Served on VOVADOR, LING, PICKEREL and TIRU. Also served on CANOPUS and 2 surface ships. His memorial service was held on Dec 27 with 19 SUBVETS and 8 SV family members (including two widows).
- **Jerry Stout** had surgery on Dec 27 to clean out the infection. He was discharged on Jan 2, home with a PIC line and wound vac for healing due to the aggressive infection. He will be

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on IV antibiotics for the next three weeks. Please thank all my shipmates for their cards, calls and prayers. No visitors, however a phone call would be nice. 843-568-5923

- **John Lookabill** went to Trident on Dec 23 and had a kidney stone busted on Dec 24 late. Spent Christmas in the hospital. Was home on Dec 27. Phone calls are OK.
- **Pat Davis** ended up in Roper St Francis ICU on Dec 20. Very low blood pressure. 2 days in ICU and 5 on a regular floor. Went home on the 27th with home health. Sees his primary care doctor on Dec 5th.
- **Mike Emerson** had another shoulder surgery on Dec 10 and the wife was in MUSC. They never found out what was wrong but she is being transferred to rehab this morning in Mt Pleasant.
- **Bob MacPherson** will be having eye surgery on Jan 6th.
- **Dave Harvey** will be having neck surgery on Jan 8th.
- **Ken Curtis** has been diagnosed with Stage 3 kidney disease. This is one step from needing dialysis. Home.
- **James Graham** was in Trident over Thanksgiving with respiratory issues. Had a heart cath on Nov 27 but no issues were found.
- **Marvin Miller** is at White Oak Manor. 9285 Medical Plaza Dr. **NEW Room 117. He is answering his cell 843.873.0564.** This is behind Trident.
- **Bill & Becky Roberts** are living in the Villages, him in Cottage 606 with Becky in the Greenhouse Memory Care Unit. His mailing address is: William Roberts, 201 W. 9th North Street, Unit 99, Summerville SC 29483-6715.
- **Al & Connie Dempster** are in The Bridge of Charleston Assisted Living. Mailing address is: Alan Dempster – Room 222, 2590 Elms Plantation Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29406. Apartment phone – (843) 793-1187.
- Complete/update your page 2 if you have not done so.

Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- If you change your number or drop your home line, please contact either Larry, Nick or the COB so that we can make the necessary changes locally and with National.
- Until told differently, continue to use the website of <https://ussubvets.org>

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko:

- Nothing else.

Scholarship – Tom Lawson III:

- Not present

Comptroller – Rick Wise:

- Not present

Photographer – Glenn Little:

- Not present

FRA – Ken Hutchison:

- Not present

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Special Events – Tom Holcombe:

- Not present

HL Hunley – Tom Holcombe:

- Not present

Kaps for Kids – OPEN:

- Not present

Meeting adjourned at 1909.