

USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

The attendance for the June 2016 meeting was 85.

Opening Ceremonies: The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1859. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost in June was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Member Rick Sparger. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

Swearing in of Newly Elected Officers: District Commander Ed Stank swore in newly elected officers Mike Knaub as Vice Commander and Mike Ciesielko as Base Secretary.

Admiral James B. Osborn Scholarship Awards: The Base Commander introduced Scholarship Committee Chairman George Scharf. George introduced the other members of the Scholarship Committee, Ricky Collins and Gary Williams. He then presented the scholarships to the recipients. George Scharf presented a \$850 scholarship to Harrison Scott from Pinewood Prep. He will be attending Newberry college and his Sponsor is RMC(SS) Thomas I Scott. The next was a \$650.00 scholarship that went to Patrick Hall from Wayne County Day School. He will be attending Brevard College in NC. His Sponsor is EM1(SS) William Hayes. Last but not least was a \$500.00 scholarship awarded to Alexis McCullough from Goose Creek High School. She will attend the College of Charleston. Her sponsor is RMC(SS) Randy McCullough.

Following the presentations and pictures, Base Commander Rick Wise congratulated the recipients and thanked them and their families and friends for coming and asked the guest to leave so we could continue our meeting. Pictures may be viewed at:

<http://www.ussvicb.org/scholarship/2016%20scholarship/Admiral%20Osborn%20Scholarship%20Presentations.pdf>

Introductions: The following was new attendees to Charleston Base meetings: STS3(SS) Clyde Miller, Qual Boat: USS Conger SS 477; MM1(SS) Rich Burnett, Qual Boat: USS Abraham Lincoln SSBN 602

Secretary: Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the May meeting minutes had been published in the newsletter and on the base website. Mike asked the group for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Rick Sparger made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Charles Wood.

Treasurer: Base Treasurer Mike Welch gave a report on the Charleston Base finances. The base financial report is now located as a password protected file on the base website under Documents and Resources. The password is the same as needed for the Sailing List.

Vice Commander: Had no report

Chaplain and Webmaster: Base Chaplain and Webmaster Nick Nichols gave the following report:

Submarines Lost During the Month of June

USS HERRING (SS-233)	June 1, 1944 – 8 th war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 83 SOULS
USS R-12 (SS-89)	June 12, 1943 – practice torpedo approach near Key West FL	LOST WITH 42 SOULS - 21 SURVIVORS
USS GOLET (SS-361)	June 14, 1944 – 2 nd war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 82 SOULS
USS BONEFISH (SS-223)	June 18, 1945 – 8 th war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 85 SOULS
USS S-27 (SS-132)	June 19, 1942 – grounded off Amchitka Island Alaska	

NO LOSS OF LIFE

USS O-9 (SS-70) June 20, 1941 – foundered off Isle of Shoals NH
LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 33 SOULS
USS RUNNER (SS-275) June 30, 1943 – 3rd war patrol LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 78 SOULS

SEVEN Boats and 403 Men Lost

June Report

Highlighted boat of the month:

USS Bonefish (SS-223) Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men when sunk near Suzu Misaki. Winner of 3 Navy Unit Citations, Bonefish was on her 8th war patrol. After sinking a passenger-cargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack.

- **Rick Wise's** mother, Frances Lorene Owen Wise, passed away on May 18th at age 98.
- **Mike Emerson's** sister-in-law, Peggy Kuhn, passed away on May 17th.
- **Gerry Farr's sister, Betty Klinge**, passed away on May 19th in NV at age 89. This was his last sibling.
- **RAADM Stanley Catola** departed on Eternal Patrol in NV on May 20th. He was CO of Henry L. Stimson GOLD and was Commander Submarine Group SIX. He was a member of USSVI Base 51.
- **QMCS Jerry Holdridge** departed on Eternal Patrol on May 28th at the Veteran's Victory House Walterboro. He was not a member of USSVI.
- **Lee Allison's** memorial was well attended by the base membership. Sarah Campbell did an excellent job with the songs, as well as our guest bugle player doing a great job.
- **CS3/AW Andrew Meadows**, Don's son, is in Stage 5 Kidney Failure. They managed to get a line in his neck, and do some dialysis. He is still very weak, and mostly bed ridden. We are coordinating with the Kidney Foundation for a donor. The only place the military does transplants is Walter Reed. We will have to go there. Hoping the Fisher House can help us out for lodging. I pulled the Chief card and made sure the CMC provide a way for him to get to his dialysis and a way to get items for the diet he is on. Thanks to everyone for your thoughts and well wishes. Miss coming to the meetings. Night shift sucks. Don
- **Grant Hammett** age 13, Jim Lowman's grandson, has t-cell lymphoma and is undergoing intensive chemo.
- **Nancy Alkire** had cancer surgery in mid-May. Alkie reports the doctors feel they got all of the cancer. Nancy will have to undergo radiation treatments. She is doing well now.
- **George Scharf** will be having back surgery on June 16th.
- **Joe Hayes** had back surgery on June 2nd. He had a couple of setbacks but he's now at Health South for rehab. He is doing well and expects to be home soon.
- **Clell Hutchinson** is home on hospice and not doing well but would like to have visitors and short calls. Please call Catherine before visiting.

Follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

WEBMASTER NOTES:

- Website is constantly updated.
- Make note of emails that look suspicious and do not open any email if it looks strange and you are not expecting it.
- Make use of the EVENTS page on the Charleston Base website. All events that are put out to the membership via email will be listed and updated on the events page.

District Commander: District Commander Ed Stank reported that the National Convention is in Reno Nevada this year. He also mentioned that he will be traveling to the Victory house next Tuesday 21 June 2016

Membership: Larry Knutson reported that base membership is now 316 members.

Kaps for Kids: Bill Kennedy reported that he is going back to Florence July 12

Veterans Affairs: Ken Curtis reported that June 2nd a law was signed into effect. If you're under 65 you can deduct \$17,000 dollars. If you are over 65 you can deduct \$30,000 dollars. Read more at: <http://www.ussvicb.org/va/160611%20H.3147%20State%20Tax%20Exemption.pdf>

Public Affairs: Ronnie Kerstetter was not present.

Storekeeper: Ron Chambers reported that the BOLO ties are expensive however he has found a place that will charge you only \$10 if you supply a challenge coin to be put in the tie.

Holland Club: Bill Freligh was not present

FRA: Larry Cox reported that there is a comedy show on July 2nd at 8pm

NPS Awards: Ray Sparks reported that the next Nuclear power school graduation is June 17th.

Submarine Veterans of World War II: George Scharf reminded the base that Swamp Fox will have a meeting on Thursday, June 23 at 1100 at Golden Corral in North Charleston. \$12 per person.

CRAMA: Butch Bryar was not present.

Recreation Committee: Elmer and Al were not present.

Chief of the Boat: Ken Hutchison reported that ceremonies uniform is the Charleston Tuxedo. Which is Khaki pants light Blue button down shirt,, Submarine tie and Vest. He also reported that there is a little David working party tomorrow and Saturday.

Special Events Coordinator: Pulling the Float on the Fourth of July Parade on 2 July in Monks Corner.

Old Business: There was a Bylaw change for Membership - Ken Huchison made a motion to accept the changes as written and Mike Welch seconded. The base passed this on a voice vote.

New Business: It was discussed that there was a motion made at the last board of directors meeting. For annual recurring contributions that we give the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. 25 Dollars for Memorial Day and 25 Dollars for Veterans day Fair share contribution as an annual recurring item for food at the receptions. Ken Curtis made a motion that we accept it as written. Dan Hunt seconded and the Base passed the motion on a voice vote. There was an amendment to cap this motion at 75 dollars but it failed.

Good of the Order:

The After Battery: Steve "Buddha" Nelms was not present

Nuclear Historian:

Well, you and I may not be that great but we have been around for a few events.

Do you recall or were you there?

The loss of the USS Thresher, the Vietnam War, the attack on the USS Liberty, the capture of the USS Pueblo, the killing of JFK and then RFK, the USS Chopper deep dive, the loss of the Scorpion, Landing on the Moon, the first FBM patrol the USS George Washington, Skyjackers, our troops in Somalia without support, our Ambassador and troops in Benghazi, September 11th 2001 (Twin Towers), the USS Cole, the USS San Francisco and the Blue Angels and Thunderbirds have a crash on the same day. So when your grandkids ask what did you do in the Navy Grandpa...

Happy Father's Day

After some very exhaustive research, one of my star reporters has come to the conclusion that the New Navy has been changing its course. They don't understand plain old Navy Language:

Me and Willy were lollygagging by the scuttlebutt after being aloft to buoy butter up the antennas and were just perched on a bollard eyeballing a couple of bilge rats and flangeheads using crescent hammers to pack monkeyshit around a fitting on a handybilly.

All of a sudden the dicksmith started hard assing one of the deck apes for lifting his pogeey bait. The pecker checker was a sewer pipe sailor and the deck ape was a gator. Maybe being a blackshoes on a bird farm surrounded by a gaggle of cans didn't set right with either of those gobs.

The deck ape ran through the nearest hatch and dogged it tight because he knew the penis machinist was going to lay below, catch him between decks and punch him in the snot locker.

He'd probably wind up on the binnacle list but Doc would find a way to gundeck the paper or give it the deep six to keep himself above board.

We heard the skivvy waver announce over the bitch box that the bread burners had SOS ready on the mess decks so we cut and run to avoid the crowd when the twidgets and cannon cockers knew chow was on. With a big mug of bug juice, it sure beats the hell out of brown bagging.

Soon we passed the sea buoy and were balls to the wall for the barn. Everyone was preparing to hit the beach as soon as we doubled up and threw the brow over.

I had a ditty bag full of fufu juice that I was gonna spread on thick after a Hollywood in the rain locker for the bar hogs with those sweet bosnias. Might even hit the Acey-Duecey club and try to hook up with a West Pac Widow. They were always leaving snail trails on the dance floor on amateur night.

The depth charge was won by Jimmy Legg. He donated \$100 to the Scholarship Fund.

The FRA red ticket was won by Mike LeCompte.

Meeting Adjourned: Following the benediction by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2026.