

USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

13 July 2017

The attendance for the March 2017 meeting was 80 members.

Opening Ceremonies: The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Ralph Rohrssen. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1900. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost in July was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko. Ralph welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

Introductions: The following introduced themselves at the meeting: EMC (SS) Lyndsay Nelson, Qual Boat: USS Cutlass SS 478. SK (SS) Don Schubert Qual Boat: USS Nathan Hale SSBN 623

Secretary: Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the June 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. Ken Curtis made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Rick Sparger.

Treasurer: Base Treasurer Gordon Williams gave his 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

Chaplain:

Submarines Lost During the Month of July

USS S-28 (SS 133)	July 4, 1944 – Training Exercise	LOST WITH ALL HANDS 49 SOULS
USS ROBALO (SS 273)	July 26, 1944 – 3 rd War patrol	LOST WITH 77 MEN; 4 DIED AS POW'S; 81 SOULS
USS GRUNION (SS 216)	July 30, 1942 – 1 ST War patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS 70 SOULS

THREE Boats and 200 Men Lost

July Report

Highlighted boat of the month:

GRUNION was lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 crew members while on her first war patrol near Kiska Harbor. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again. Grunion's mangled remains were found in the Bering Sea in 2006 off the Aleutian Island of Kiska.

- **MMC(SS) Michael Arthur Connor** departed on Eternal Patrol on July 6th in Goose Creek. He was not a USSVI member. A condolence message was left for the family on the Funeral Home Memorial website. Mike served on the James Monroe, Nathan Hale, James K. Polk, Von Steuben and Newport News. After Navy retirement, he worked in Public Safety for The Citadel until June of 2016 when he retired.
- **Ron Chambers** had surgery mid-June and is making a good recovery.
- **Tom Lawson** was diagnosed with walking pneumonia mid-June and is recovering.
- **Don Peterson** has throat cancer and must have three procedures that will help him swallow. His first procedure was done in mid-June.
- **Beetle Bailey's daughter, Diane**, has had her cancer recur. She has two spots on her liver and will be beginning chemo soon.
- **Jim Loveday** is here tonight and wants everyone to know that he is not on hospice as previously reported.

If you have a change of mailing address, phone number, email address please let the base leadership know about it. We need to make sure all of our records are updated so we can make contact with you if we need to.

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:

- Currently there are 5 ads on the Web site. I would like to encourage anyone that has a business to consider advertising through the base website and newsletter. The cost for an ad is \$25 for 12 months. If you would like to know more please see me or the Base Commander.
- Website is constantly updated.
- 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.

Chief of the Boat: Joe Lunn is gauging interest for an Oyster Roast. We will possibly have one in October. He is going to check into catering the event.

District Commander: Ed informed us he will not be District Commander after tonight. He is stepping down to concentrate on Charleston Base. National Scholarships were advertised yesterday.

Membership: Larry Knutson reported that there are now 304 members.

Kaps for Kids: Bill Kennedy reported that the Visit to the Florence was June 20th and it was a success. Kaps for Kids will be visiting the Shriners Hospital, Tuesday August 15th. There will be about 14 attending and around 50 Kids will be visited. Bill mentioned that Summerville Medical Center has a children's center. We will schedule a visit.

Veterans Affairs: Ken reported that if you use medication with a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance and the medication causes damage to your clothing you may be eligible for a clothing allowance. Ken has the forms.

FRA: Larry Cox mentioned that there is not a lot going on lately in the FRA due to summertime. The FRA branch meeting is next Thursday.

Submarine Veterans of World War II: George reported that the Luncheon we had at the FRA, 15 June, We had a good turnout. The Next one is 17th August.

Scholarship: Jack Harden gave us a \$100.00 check in memory of Scott Enos. And 200 additional dollars were donated in memory of Chief Enos.

NPS Awards: Ray Sparks announced that the graduation will be next Friday 21st July. Meet at the exchange parking lot at 0800.

CRAMA: No Report

Public Affairs: Rick Wise would like to start a letter to the editor.

Storekeeper: Ron Chambers had some items donated. Ron asked for donations for the items and all proceeds go to the Scholarship fund.

Special Events: Rick had no report.

Base Commander: Ralph Rhorssen informed us of a charge from Palmetto Primary Care which is a Chronic Care management charge. It's a charge for a recurring chronic condition like asthma. If you have this charge on your bill and you didn't ask for this service they will refund your money. You must call Palmetto Primary to get this charge removed.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Order: Larry Rosselot made us aware of the dealings of his previous employer The Space shop self-storage. They let Larry go for displaying the American Flag in their conference room. A friend of Larry's used the power of social media to voice displeasure with the Storage facility. Now there is an American Flag in their conference room.

The After Battery: Buddha let us know that there will be a hog roast in CT the first week in August.

Nuclear Historian: Ed Stank reported:

Not To Be Taken Lightly.

Now, as if everything else wasn't bad enough, we find out that beer isn't good for us?

Beer contains female hormones!

Last month, Montreal University scientists released the results of a recent analysis that revealed the presence of female hormones in beer.

The theory is that Beer contains female hormones (hops contain Phytoestrogens) and that by drinking enough beer, men turn into women.

To test the theory, 100 men each drank 8 large drafts of beer within a one (1) hour period.

It was then observed that 100% of the test subjects, yes, 100% of all these men:

- 1) Argued - over nothing.
- 2) Refused - to apologize when obviously wrong.
- 3) Gained - weight.
- 4) Talked - excessively without making sense.
- 5) Became - overly emotional
- 6) Couldn't - drive
- 7) Failed - to think rationally, and
- 8) Had - to sit down while urinating.

No further testing was considered necessary!!

Send this to the men you know to warn them about drinking too much beer.

Gun Club: Mike Ciesielko announced that we will try to schedule one in July

The Red FRA ticket was won by Gordon Smith.

The depth charge was won by Terry Trump.

Benediction: Chaplain Nick Nichols gave the benediction.

Meeting Adjourned: Following the benediction by Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2013.