

USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2026

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1801 by Base Commander David Harvey and attended by Anthony Mazza, Tom Lawson III, Lewis Leal, Ed Stank, Woody Woodsmall, Tom Holcombe, Bob MacPherson, Larry Knutson, Phil Nunnally, Greg Landry, Gordon Long, Glenn Little, Nick Nichols and Art Sattler. Base member Bob Browning and Associate Members Linda Nichols, Dee Dee Harvey and JonAnn Sattler were also in attendance this evening.

NNPTC Coordinator – Anthony Mazza:

- Nothing to report.

Scholarship – Tom Lawson III:

- The certificates are printed and we will present two scholarship awards at the Base Meeting next week.
- After the awards are given we will have a little over \$6,000 balance remaining in the Scholarship fund.

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

- The Base Meeting video had no audio attached, however by using the audio recorded by the Secretary, Lou was able to assemble the video and get it out for the Base members to view.

SC License Plate Coordinator – Ed Stank:

- Ed stated he has seen SV license plate number 100 in the FRA parking lot.

Recreation – Ed Stank

- We will have a picnic at The After Battery on Saturday June 13. The menu will be hotdogs, hamburgers and barbequed chicken. Bring sides or desserts.
- We will have a jump castle/water slide for the children.
- Dave Harvey requested a working party on Friday to prepare.

Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall:

- Nothing to report.

Special Events – Tom Holcombe:

- Nothing to report.

Comptroller – Tom Holcombe:

- Nothing to report.

HL Hunley – Tom Holcombe:

- Nothing to report.

USSVCF – Bob MacPherson:

- Nothing to report.

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Membership – Larry Knutson:

- We currently have 240 members and are still fourth in membership of USSVI.
- The new USSVI website has some glitches that need correction.
- Base member Bob Browning requested to sponsor Mike Sprinkle as an Associate Member of Charleston Base. Mike was a Missile Tech and has quite a resume working on submarines, but was not a submarine sailor. Several Board members present also know him. Base Commander Dave Harvey asked the Board to approve the recommendation. There were no objections. Larry will provide Bob an application to complete.
- There was discussion regarding qualification for Associate Members. We all were reminded that a Base Member in good standing can sponsor any number of his family members but is allowed to sponsor only ONE non-family member. That individual MUST have had some significant relationship to submarines, such as is the case of an IMA technician who repaired equipment/systems aboard submarines.
- Nick Nichols noted that the Charleston Base Sailing List has the name of the sponsor for each Associate or Honorary Member. Again, each CB Member can only sponsor one non-family member.
- Base Standings [those with more than 200 members]: Charleston is #4 in USSVI membership. [AM = associate member]
 - Groton 1047 w/39 AM - 2) Hampton Roads 299 w/12 AM – 3) Bremerton 265 w/13 AM – 4) Charleston 240 w/17 AM

NPS Awards – Phil Nunnally:

- The most recent ceremony had more than 522 graduates.
- The next NPS graduation will be July 17. Meet at NEX at 0800 to carpool. Parking at the event is hard to find.

Little David – Phil Nunnally:

- Nothing to report.

Newsletter – Phil Nunnally:

- Nothing to report.

COB – Greg Landry:

- Nothing to report.
- Dave Harvey inquired about keys to the storage building. Currently, keys are held by Johnny Brown, Greg Landry and Gordon Long.
- Dave requested a key to the building. There are two tables at The After Battery marked SUBVETS that someone has checked out and has not returned to storage.

PAO – OPEN:

- Jerry is not present and is unable to continue as PAO due to health reasons.

Photographer – Glenn Little:

- Nothing reported

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Secretary – Gordon Long:

- Gordon is working on the Annual Activity Report which must be reported to National. He will send a review copy of the AAR before sending the final copy to National.
- Gordon noted the work needed for setup and teardown of items for the Base Meeting. Vice Commander Art Sattler stated that he will be in charge of the operation. Even so, more than one or two members should know where things are to be stored to keep from having displays damaged.
- Nick has posted the May BOD Meeting Minutes on the Base Website.

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.

ETERNAL PATROL

- None

BINNACLE LIST

- **Rick Wise** had his vocal cord augmentation and it went well. He can speak and with his vocal cords moved closer together it takes less breath to speak. Over time his voice may improve. [843.276.0899]
- **Kim Matthews** had a spinal stroke and has some paralysis. He is using a walker and a scooter to get around.

LONG TERM / ASSISTED LIVING / HOMEBOUND

- **Steve Curry** has AFIB and congenital heart failure and is on 24/7 oxygen. Also diagnosed with stage 3 cancer and began chemo on 15 April. Phone calls are welcome [843.270.9905]
- **Dave Woods wife, Fran**, is still recovering from a stroke in 2024 during a heart bypass.
- **Don Meadows** is confined to his bed much of the time but he hopes to make some base meetings. Has had foot surgery, with many more to come, to correct his problem. [843.475.7043]
- **Ed Simokat** is confined to his home and can't attend meetings. He is now on hospice care. Between hospice and home health he is covered just about every day. If you want to visit, please call first and talk to Judy. [843.810.0383]
- **Mike Knaub** is in assisted living on Daniel Island. His address is 514 Robert Daniel Dr. Rm 310, Daniel Island SC 29492-7375. You can contact Mike on his email mlk91444@yahoo.com or [843.795.6665].
- **Bill [Becky] Roberts** in D409 in the Villages of Summerville. Becky in the Greenhouse Memory Care Unit. His mailing address is: William Roberts, 201 W. 9th North Street, D409, Summerville, SC 29483-6715. Bill's email is cbussvicob@yahoo.com and his cell phone is [843.509.3962]
- Complete/update your page 2 if you have not done so.

Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- I have received 3 updated Duties & Responsibilities so far. Please get them to me by the July BOD meeting so we can discuss them. The three are a new one from Phil for the NPS Awards, one from the Webmaster and one from the Chaplain.

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- Any changes to your info on National can be updated by you or send the info to either Larry or me to get them made on National and local.

Base Job Descriptions – Nick Nichols:

- I have received 3 updated Duties & Responsibilities so far. Please get them to me by the July BOD meeting so we can discuss them. The three are a new one from Phil for the NPS Awards, one from the Webmaster and one from the Chaplain.
- These descriptions are primarily for your successor and are to be done in two parts:
 - What it is that you have to do.
 - Anything optional that you do.

Memorial Day Services – Nick Nichols:

- If you missed the Memorial Day services at the Funeral Home and at the Fleet Home I'm sorry. Both were great services. Admiral Tom Ishee made a fantastic presentation at the FRA.
- Also placing the flags on the graves on Memorial Day morning was a very meaningful event.

Contacts – Nick Nichols:

- You should have the names, phone numbers and email addresses of all BOD members in your phone contacts or use the link to the officers' page to get contact info.

Base Business Cards – Nick Nichols:

- Always carry a couple of the new base business cards at all times. On the back of the card are two QR codes, one for the Base and one for National.

FRA– Nick Nichols:

- The FRA Auxiliary is continuing the food drive.
- New rules we must follow at the fleet when attending a SUBVET meeting:
 - If you are an FRA member you can go into the bar area anytime you want to.
 - If you are not an FRA member, use the bartenders in our meeting room to order food and drinks.
 - If you bring a guest and you are an FRA member the guest can enter the bar area as long as you (the FRA member) sign them in the guest log at the bar.
 - If you bring a guest and you are not an FRA member then you and guest must stay in the meeting room unless an FRA member signs you into the guest log at the bar.
- If you are not an FRA member, consider joining. Support the FRA as they support SUBVETS by allowing our use of the meeting room.

Vice Commander – Art Sattler:

- Nothing to report.

Kaps 4 Kids – Art Sattler:

- Nothing to report.

Float Coordinator – Dave Harvey:

- The final welding on the float will be done tomorrow, June 5. After that it just needs some touch-up paint before it is ready to travel.

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Manitowoc – Dave Harvey/Tom Holcombe:

- On June 27, we will have the Fish Fry at the FRA to help defray the fuel cost for the trip.
- Dave will leave on June 28 towing the float to Manitowoc.
- The organizers have arranged for the float to park in front of the museum from July 1-3, then at the completion of the July 4 parade, it will return to its spot at the museum.
- 18 people are currently confirmed for the trip to Manitowoc. There may be a few more.
- Dave said that we got a lot of attention and recognition last year (2025), but we will not go to Wisconsin next year (2027).
- The parade for the event is July 4. They requested us to return with the float this year.
- Dave plans to tow the float to Manitowoc this year rather than have it transported by truck.
- Tom Holcombe already has folks booked for the 4BR AIR B/B that he has rented. If anyone cancels, he will let others know. With all of the folks going, others may consider getting together in another location or hotel.

Base Commander – David Harvey:

- Dave promoted the upcoming picnic at The After Battery.
- At the Base Meeting next week, we will conduct oaths of office for Vice Commander and Secretary.
- Also at the Base Meeting, we shall present the Scholarship Awards.
- Dave stated that he watched the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. Every veterans' organization was represented – 5,000 participants and 300 entries – except SubVets. Dave called someone at USSVI and asked why there was no SubVet participation in the event.
- Dave reminded everyone about Charleston Base tentatively holding the 2029 USSVI National Convention. There was a good bit of discussion regarding a recommended location and the services that they can or will actually provide based on previous submarine reunions having been held there. Especially of note was when Bob MacPherson stated that we must be careful since – at a recent reunion – his credit card was billed a large amount for unaccounted items.
- Dave talked about the USSVI National Convention in Corpus Christi, TX this coming September. It is at that event that he will provide information to USSVI for 2029. National will conduct further research, and at the 2027 Convention will make the determination where 2029 will be held.
- Bob Browning spoke briefly about usage of MAC flights when they are available.

Treasurer – Ricky Collins:

- Not present.

Holland Club – Bill Freligh:

- Not present

FRA – Ken Hutchison:

- Not present.

Meeting adjourned at 1848.