

USSVI – Charleston Base Executive Board Minutes

March 7, 2013

Meeting called to order at 1801 by Base Commander Carl Chinn. Attending are Carl Chinn, Jerry Stout, Rick Wise, Terry Trump, Nick Nichols, George Scharf, Ed Stank, Ken Hutchison, John Kratz, Rick Sparger, Steve Morawiec and Willie Jones.

Terry Trump stated that the audit of the Treasurers records has been completed. He said a recommendation is coming to institute a system of checks and balances in that the cash and everything coming in would go to a separate individual, such as the Base Secretary, who would record it and turn it over to the Base Treasurer.

Ken Hutchison reported that the float has been returned to Marty Sessler's. The float has the new cover installed and travelling with the cover installed is not a problem. Ken has the spare cover. He will bring the float to the Oyster Roast.

Jerry Stout had nothing to bring up.

George Scharf reported his computer had been hit by a virus and he had lost the information stored on it. Nick Nichols said he still had the items that were lost.

Rick Wise reported that the minutes of the February meeting have been given to Steve Morawiec for the newsletter. He had a question if anyone had a problem with him contacting them if there was a question about what they meant during a meeting. There were no objections. During a later discussion he asked that if the Executive Board has some new business for a base meeting that it be sent out to the membership prior to the meeting. He also stated he was removing his name for consideration as Base Commander.

The Little David working party will be 0900 Saturday, March 30.

John Kratz stated everything was on track for the Holland Club inductions at the April meeting. There are 18 members to be inducted. Friends and relatives are invited to attend. He will contact each individual to find out if they will attend.

Ed Stank reported that he has submitted an article to American Submariner on the Hunley Memorial Service. He plans on sending the picture that will be taken at the Oyster Roast for the Thresher Memorial Service on April 6 to the American Submariner. Friday there will be a ceremony for the WWII SubVets at Marrington Elementary School.

Steve Morawiec had reported he had picked up another advertiser for the newsletter and that the advertising was covering half the cost of the newsletters. We are now able to take credit cards for purchases by invoice. We are waiting for the ability to swipe the cards.

Nick Nichols reported Wayne Skinner is now in a room and is up for visitors and phone calls. He has pictures for the Massing of the Colors to put on the website. The Massing of the Colors will be placed on the base event calendar for the first Sunday in March. He had some information for the PAO on getting articles to the Combined Base Charleston Newsletter. David Taylor has asked if the base is interested in setting up an Honor Guard Rifle Detail. The board asked that David provide more information on what would be entailed before presenting this to the base. Nick has also been approached by some base members complaining about the abusive use of cussing at base meetings. He asked that the board discourage this by example.

Rick Sparger is going to send out an e-mail asking members to bring their vest to the Oyster Roast for the group picture with the float. He said that the storage shed for the base items is unsatisfactory. We have items that we will probably never need and he needs the Executive Board or membership to decide on what to get rid of. Everything is on track for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah on March 16. The float will leave for Savannah at 1000 Friday, March 15. The Quality Inn in Hardeeville, SC will be the base of operation. The information on lineup will be put out at the March meeting.

Carl Chinn asked how to handle the items that were given to the base to raise money for the Scholarship Fund. The board decided to go with a raffle. New challenge coins have been ordered to raise money for the fund. These are different from the old coins. We need to do something with the base ice machine. The board decided to see if there was interest in moving it to the Cooper River Partners location.

New Business: A picture of base members with the float and of the members at the March base meeting will be taken and sent for use in the USS Thresher Memorial Ceremony and podcast on April 6 at Kittery, Maine. The Executive Board will recommend that the base makes two \$99 donations for two members lost on USS Scorpion SSN 598 for the memorial service on Friday, May 24. Recommended names of crewmen were STS1/SS Harold R. Snapp, Jr. and FTG1/SS John M. Wallace.

A vote was taken for the 2012 Distinguished Submariner and the majority of votes received were for Carl Chinn.

A discussion was held about the status of by-laws amendments that have been submitted. Five amendments have been received and are being considered by the By-Laws Committee. The By-Laws Committee will make recommendations to the Executive Board on the changes after working with the members who submitted the amendments to get any questions or conflicts answered.

The meeting was adjourned at 1931.