

## USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

10 November 2016

The attendance for the November 2016 meeting was 79 members.

**Opening Ceremonies:** The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. 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 October was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

Rick Introduced Chief Schultz and announced that he would be reenlisting tonight.

**Introductions:** The following men introduced themselves at the meeting: LT (SS) Christopher Ham Qual Boat: USS Tucson SSN 770. EM3 (SS) Tom Thompson, Qual Boat Henry L Stimson, SSBN 655

**Secretary:** Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the October meeting minutes had 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 October meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Clyde Miller

**Treasurer:** Base Treasurer Mike Welch gave his report. 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.

### Submarines Lost During the Month of November

USS ALBACORE (SS-218)	November 7, 1944 – 11 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 85 souls
USS GROWLER (SS-215)	November 8, 1944 – 12 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 86 souls
USS SCAMP (SS-277)	November 16, 1944 – 8 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 83 souls
USS CORVINA (SS-226)	November 16, 1943 – 1 <sup>st</sup> War patrol	Lost with all hands – 82 souls
USS SCULPIN (SS-191)	November 19, 1943 – 9 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with 43 souls – 41 became POWs – 21 survived the war

### Five Boats and 399 Men Lost

#### November Report

##### Highlighted boat of the month:

USS SCAMP SS-277 was probably sunk on November 16, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay. On her 8th war patrol, she may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate and destroy her with depth charges.

- **Ray Bryant** called to say he's back home after being in the hospital for some tests.
- **Lee Young** emailed me to say that he found out he has Colon cancer and will keep me posted as to his surgery date.
- **Tom Skorepa** had knee surgery and is home recovering.
- **Fred Woodley** will be having his shoulder surgery after the first of the year.
- **Chuck Bohling** is now at home with hospice and is not doing well. Irene wife, says it's only a matter of time.

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:**

- 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.

**District Commander:** District Commander Ed Stank was not present

**Membership:** Larry Knutson reported that base membership is now 321 members.

**Kaps for Kids:** No report was given.

**Special Events Coordinator:** Parades first one is Elloree on 10 December. Summerville Parade on the 11<sup>th</sup> December. Mentioned that the menu is Ham and Prime Rib. Rick has tickets for sale for \$20.00 each.

**FRA:** Dues are going up January 1. Also Veterans Day the FRA will have an indoor picnic. On November 19<sup>th</sup> The FRA will be having a Lasagna dinner. The cost is \$10.00

**Submarine Veterans of World War II:** George Scharf acknowledged the 2 WWII SUBVETS present.

**Recreation Committee:** Joe Lunn was not present.

**Storekeeper:** Ron Chambers informed us that he has Submarine Bolo's for sale. He has the challenge Bolos for \$21.00 apiece. The new calendars are here. \$10.00 each.

**Veterans Affairs:** Ken Curtis had no report.

**Public Affairs:** Ronnie Kerstetter was not present.

**CRAMA:** Butch Bryar was not present..

**Chief of the Boat:** Ken Hutchison reported that Veterans Day we will have our memorial service. Dorchester County office building at 17A and 78. 1400 we will do the tolling of the boats at the Coffee Roasters in Summerville. The Ladson VFW will have their Veterans Day lunch. We are trying to gather gifts for the Victory house for Christmas. They will be making a visit Tuesday 15 November. The COB wanted to point out that we will be presenting the Legacy award Ceremony on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Base Commander:** Rick notified that the CRAMA membership expires on 31 December and he is asking for members to still join up. Membership dues are \$20.00

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The USSVICB proposed budget was proposed to the base and Rick asked for a motion to accept the budget as written. Nick Nichols made the motion and Ray Sparks seconded.

**Good of the Order:**

**After Battery:** Dave asked for help in saluting flags in the Lowcountry.

**Nuclear Historian:** Since our last meeting the world sure has changed:

The Chicago Cubs won the World Series (it only took them 108 years).

The "Wizard of OZ" top song has come back in popularity "Ding Dong the wicked witch is dead, The wicked witch, the wicked witch Ding dong the Wicked witch is dead"

The FBI has found some more emails on Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi's computers.

The election is over: Donald Trump has won the Presidential race but Hillary Clinton won the Popular Vote !

It seems that lately my life has been getting more complicated, and I want to thank those of you who are brave enough to still associate with me regardless of what I've become.

The following is a recap of my current Identity:

I was born white which makes me a racist

I am a fiscal and moral conservative which makes me a fascist.

I am heterosexual which makes me a homophobe.

I am non union, which makes me a traitor to the working class and an ally of big business.

I am Christian, which makes me an Infidel.

I am older than 60 and retired, which makes me a useless old person.

I think and I reason: therefore, I doubt much that the main stream media tells me, which makes me a reactionary.

I am proud of my heritage and our American culture, which makes me a xenophobe.

I value my safety and that of my family; therefore I appreciate the police and the legal system, which makes me a right wing extremist.

I believe in hard work, fair play, and fair compensation according to each individual's merits, which makes me privileged and anti social.

I, and my friends, acquired a good education without student loans and no debt at graduation, which makes me some kind of odd underachiever.

I believe in the defense and protection of the homeland by all citizens, Which makes me a militarist.

Please help me come to terms with this, because I'm not sure who I am anymore.

Newest Problem- I am not sure which bathroom I should use.

The **depth charge** was won by Ray Bryant.

The **FRA red ticket** was won by Don Donofrio.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Following the benediction by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2000.