

## **USSVI – Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**June 5, 2025**

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1803 by Base Commander David Harvey. Attending were Board of Directors members Glenn Little, Lewis Leal, Woody Woodsmall, Bill Freligh, Ed Stank, Tom Holcombe, Phil Nunnally, Anthony Mazza, Ricky Collins, Tom Lawson III, Larry Knutson, and Gordon Long.

### **Base Commander – Dave Harvey:**

- Dave welcomed members to his first Board Meeting as Base Commander. He will discuss Manitowoc after the Board Meeting.

### **Photographer – Glenn Little:**

- Will be going to Wisconsin to take pictures.

### **Social Media – Lewis Leal:**

- The May Base Meeting video is out.
- A separate video was produced for the Holland Club presentations.
- Lou is still working on the Amberjack (Lost Boats) video.

### **Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall:**

- Woody has obtained some more Navy 250year / Submarine 125year coins for USSVCF. Some were immediately claimed by a few men in the room.
- Woody will be absent from the July BOD and Base meetings.
- The guest speaker, Henry Rausch, will be at the July Base Meeting to promote his book. Tom Holcombe will be the POC in Woody's absence.
- The Embroidery Shop on Bacon's Bridge Road has been sold to another nearby business. Woody will contact them.

### **Holland Club – Bill Freligh:**

- Change of plans, we will not have the Holland Club presentation to Captain Rusty Pickett in June.
- Bill will be going to Manitowoc and will not be at the July Meetings.
- Bill talked about sponsoring submarines by sending them a subscription to American Submariner. He did not note which boats were unsponsored.
- Bill talked about sponsoring Charleston Base widows if they want to continue receiving American Submariner since the Eternal Patrol.
- Bill suggested that perhaps, the Associate Members could help with the Base widows.

### **Submarine License Plates – Ed Stank:**

- Ed reported that he has enough people onboard to submit the request for the Submariner SC license plates. He had initially contacted National about 501(C)3, but never received a response. This will now require a sponsor from one of the SC State Representatives before the paperwork can be submitted.
- Ed showed his initial design for the plate, but will have the improved version to present at the Base Meeting next week.
- Ed will let the Treasurer know when to write the check.

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### **Special Events – Tom Holcombe:**

- The float will be on a trailer rigged for transport to Manitowoc and will be unavailable for display at Freedom Fest on June 27.
- Tom will be requesting volunteers for events remaining this calendar year.

### **HL Hunley – Tom Holcombe:**

- Nothing reported.

### **NPS Awards – Phil Nunnally:**

- The next NPS graduation is tomorrow, June 6.
- If you want to go to the graduation, meet at the NEX parking lot at 0800 to carpool.

### **Little David – Phil Nunnally:**

- Nothing to report.

### **Newsletter – Phil Nunnally:**

- Nothing to report.

### **NNPTC Coordinator – Anthony Mazza:**

- Nothing to report.

### **Treasurer – Ricky Collins:**

- The Treasurer's report has been published. There was no change from last month except for the Investment Fund. Ricky is now in receipt of money that was received during his time out of town and will provide the update in the June report since he actually received the money in the month of June.

### **Scholarship – Tom Lawson III:**

- Tom has received no applications for the Scholarship funds this year.
- The balance in the Scholarship fund is currently
- There was much discussion about methods of getting info to possible qualified applicants.
- There was discussion about the minimum amount of award that will be presented and possibly an upper amount as well. There was more discussion about the monetary range and also age/grade range. We still have time to discuss this before next year.

### **Float Coordinator – Dave Harvey:**

- The float will be transported on a trailer – not towed - to Manitowoc.

### **Secretary – Gordon Long:**

- Nothing to report

### **Membership – Larry Knutson:**

- **Base Standings** [those with more than 200 members]: Charleston is #3 in USSVI membership. [AM = associate member]
  - Groton 1106 w/12 AM – 2) Hampton Roads 285 w/11 AM – 3) Charleston 248 w/12 AM – 4) Bremerton 244 w/12 AM – 5) Requin 206 w/20 AM

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### **Chaplain – Nick Nichols (not present but sent written report):**

There are several shipmates and family members who have given me information which they wish to be kept confidential at this time.

All of the shipmates on this binnacle list would really appreciate a phone call or even a card from their shipmates in the base. Contact information can be found on the Sailing List.

- **Al Dempster's** memorial service will be at Stuhr's Northwoods Chapel Greenridge Rd. on 14 June @ 11am. Pastor Sam Knight will conduct the service. We've had services with him before. FRA will conduct Two Bell and SUBVETS will conduct Eternal Patrol Bell Tolling. I have these participants: Dave Harvey present certificate; Greg Landry present shadow box; Bill Freligh will present the HC coin; Glenn Little will toll the bell.
- **Marty Sessler's** memorial service was held on 22 May with 40 base members & family attending the service. Marty's family was very appreciative of us being there.
- **Rick Carlson** was sent by his eye doctor to MUSC and diagnosed with a main blood vessel rupture behind his left eye causing him to have double vision. A procedure was done to stop the bleeding but he is not driving or doing much of anything.
- **Pete Garrison** sent an email saying he had not made meetings for awhile due to his lung issues. In 2021 he had pneumonia and covid causing lung scarring and reducing efficient to 50%. He's now on supplemental O2 and the amount he needs to be safe increased to double previously needed. His portable O2 machine runs at full capacity which reduces battery life but he now has three batteries so hopes to get to our meetings again.
- **Ron Snyder** was in the hospital after having a heart attack on May 22. He got home on May 27, is doing PT and getting stronger each day. Looking forward to getting back to going to the meetings. Thanks for all the prayers.
- **Kit Sparger** is at home and according to her son, Rick Jr., she is doing OK. Continuing to do treatments and so far, looks positive.
- **John Lookabill** will not require surgery for the pulled ligament.
- **James Graham Sr.** is at home recovering from the hospital stay with cellulitis in his knee starting from a bug bite infection.
- **Don Meadows** is confined to his bed much of the time. Even though he can't attend the meetings he does watch them on YouTube. His seizures are getting worse and more frequent.
- **Ken Curtis** is at home with Palliative Hospice care coming to the house several times during the week. He is in good spirits and welcomes phone calls and visitors. Please keep Ken and Barbara both in your prayers.
- **Al Stoll** is in Room 3 at the skilled Nursing section at the villages at Summerville rehab center at the end of West 9th North Street. He has a very hard time hearing so phone calls are not easy for him. If visiting before or after lunch is best time.
- **Marvin Miller** is at White Oak Manor. 9285 Medical Plaza Dr. Room 117. He is answering his cell 843.873.0564. This is behind Trident.
- **Bill & Becky Roberts** are living in the Villages, him in Cottage 606 with Becky in the Greenhouse Memory Care Unit. His mailing address is: William Roberts, 201 W. 9th North Street, Unit 99, Summerville SC 29483-6715.
- **Connie Dempster** is in The Bridge of Charleston Assisted Living. Mailing address is: Connie Dempster – Room 222, 2590 Elms Plantation Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29406. Apartment phone – (843) 793-1187.
- Complete/update your page 2 if you have not done so.

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### **Webmaster – Nick Nichols:**

- Info for boat reunions being held in Charleston can be placed on the home page of the base website. Send the info to [webmaster@ussvicb.org](mailto:webmaster@ussvicb.org)
- If you change any personal info, contact either Larry, Nick or the COB so the necessary changes can be made to national and local.
- “Shift Colors” has been discontinued. The new one is **Sailor for Life**, It will be delivered to you via email if you have a DFAS email address. Also, you can find the first two issues of this magazine on our base website on the Documents webpage.

### **Base Commander – Dave Harvey:**

- Dave thanked the Board for attendance this evening.

### **PAO – Bob MacPherson:**

- Not present

### **USSVCF – Bob McPherson:**

- Not present

### **Comptroller – Rick Wise:**

- Not present.

### **FRA – Ken Hutchison:**

- Not present

Meeting adjourned at 1857.