

## USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

The attendance for the February 2016 meeting was 103 members.

**Opening Ceremonies:** The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1857. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost in February was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Secretary Vice Commander Rick Sparger. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

**Military Honors Ceremony:** Nick Nichols announced the Commencement of the Military Honors Ceremony for RMCM/SS Gary Lynn Samples. Taps was played while the Flag was folded and presented to the family.

**Introductions:** The following men introduced themselves at the meeting: CTCR (SS) Doug Beauregard Qual Boat: USS Honolulu SSN 718. MM (SS) Kinney

**Secretary:** Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the January 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. Butch Bryar made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by George Fuchs.

**Treasurer:** Base Treasurer Mike Welch gave a 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

**Vice Commander:** Recognized Stacy Powers receiving an award for 60 years of continued service with the FRA.

**Special Events:** Subvets Picnic is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>. It will be a joint FRA Subvets Picnic.

**Chaplain and Webmaster:** Base Chaplain and Webmaster Nick Nichols gave the following report:

### Submarines Lost During the Month of February

USS BARBEL (SS 316)	Feb. 4, 1945 – 4 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 81 souls
USS SHARK 1 (SS 174)	Feb. 11, 1942 – 1 <sup>st</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 59 souls
USS AMBERJACK (SS 219)	Feb. 16, 1943 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 72 souls
USS GRAYBACK (SS 208)	Feb. 26, 1944 – 10 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 80 souls
USS TROUT (SS 202)	Feb. 29, 1944 – 11 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 81 souls

### Five Boats and 373 Men Lost

H.L. HUNLEY                                      Feb. 17, 1864                                      Lost with all hands – 8 souls

Master Chief Yeoman, Submarines, David L. Hansen,  
United States Navy Retired  
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Master Chief Radioman, Submarines, Gary L. Samples,  
United States Navy Retired  
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Chief Fire Control Technician, Submarines, Abel 'Abe' Urias Jenkins,  
United States Navy World War II Veteran  
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Lieutenant Commander, Submarines, David E. Rein,  
United States Navy Retired  
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Lieutenant Commander, Submarines, James George Yates,  
United States Navy Retired  
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

## **February Report**

### **Highlighted boat of the month:**

AMBERJACK was lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. While off the coast of Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser. One additional man was killed earlier on the last patrol.

- **YNM(SS) Dave Hansen** departed on Eternal Patrol on Saturday, 9 January. SUBVETS conducted our Bell Tolling Service on 15 January.
- **RMCM(SS) Gary Samples** departed on Eternal Patrol on 14 January. His memorial service was held at the FRA and SUBVETS conducted our Bell Tolling Service on 16 January.
- **FTC(SS) Abe Jenkins** departed on Eternal Patrol on 20 January. His funeral service was held on 26 January. SUBVETS conducted our Bell Tolling Service and Flag Folding/Presentation.
- **LCDR Dave Rein** departed on Eternal Patrol on 5 February. His memorial service will be held here at the FRA tomorrow at 1300. FRA will conduct the Two Bell and SUBVETS will conduct our Bell Tolling and Flag Folding/Presentation.
- **LCDR Jim Yates** departed on Eternal Patrol on 6 February. His memorial service will be held Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 1400 at James Dyal Funeral Home Summerville. All hands will be notified as normal sometime the first of the week. SUBVETS will be conducting our Bell Tolling Service and Flag Folding/Presentation.
- **Mildred Wiggins** called me Tuesday to say they wanted to thank Charleston Base SUBVETS for their kindness and support, and for their attendance at the visitation for their daughter Angie. (**Chaplain note:** shipmates, your caring and compassion does make a difference in a grieving family's life.)
- **Willie Jones** is at Pruitt Health Moncks Corner for rehab after being in the VA for pneumonia and a fall at home. He is doing well and doctor said he should be able to go home next week.
- **Luke Murphy** is at LifeCare, Dayspring rm 205 for rehab after suffering a light stroke in mid-January. Getting stronger each day. Expects to be there until the end of February.
- **Ray Bryant** has been in and out of the hospital a couple of times since last meeting. He has been approved for a liver transplant and has been called in one time already but the donor organ was not suitable.
- **Larry Cox** has been in the hospital a couple of times with pneumonia/bronchitis but is better and recovering.
- **Dot Campbell** is regaining her strength and is scheduled for open-heart surgery on the 18<sup>th</sup>. This will be a 7 hour procedure.
- **Mike Emerson** has had surgery on his right shoulder. Once recovered from that he will be having his left shoulder surgery.
- **Margie Deal's** sister, Stella Duke, passed away on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

- **Christine Stout** was had a heart cath and no blockage was found. She is home and doing well.
- **Rich Koehler** had his bladder surgery at Trident today. He is in rm 709, up walking and doing well.
- **Clell Hutchinson** is home on hospice and not doing well. Catherine told me that Clell would like to have visitors and short phone calls. Due to his breathing issues he can't talk very long before he is out of breath so if you call him please only talk for a few minutes. If you plan on visiting please call first and check that he is up to a visit. Also, if you have a cold or you're sick please don't visit. He'll understand if you just call to say hi and that you're thinking of him. Cards will also be welcome.

**Needs 2 smoke detectors installed and two mirrors that need hanging.**

- **Bill Hall** is recovering from his last tumor surgery and is very grateful for all of our prayers and is asking for no visitors or phone calls until further notice.
- **Karen Igenfritz** has been receiving treatment for stomach cancer and it has now spread to some of her bones. Jack asks that you keep his family in your prayers
- **Kathy Smith**, PM's wife, has two pins in her back. One of the pins broke and she is in great pain and must have surgery to repair.
- **Karen McKanna**, Rodney's wife, will have surgery on the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **Jimmy Kimbrell** will have surgery on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

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:**

- Website is constantly updated.
- Latest Shift Colors can be found on the base website at:  
<http://www.ussvicb.org/documents/ShiftColors/2016%20Winter-Spring.pdf>

**District Commander:** Ed has progressed with the license plates. The Tags are going to be \$30.00 a year. The Process takes about two years.

**Membership:** Membership is now 311 members. About twenty members are delinquent in dues. Larry Knutson is taking over membership.

**Newsletter:** George Fuchs has stepped down as newsletter chairman. Steve Morawiec has relieved him. Steve will put the first one out by March.

**FRA:** Larry Cox gave us the following report. He announced That Elvis will be at the FRA on Saturday night. Tickets are 5 dollars a person. February 21<sup>st</sup> the old time Navy breakfast for \$5.00 each from 0900 to 1130.

**Scholarship:** George Scharf reported that the fund total is currently \$1704.00

**Submarine Veterans of World War II:** George Scharf reported that Willie would love to have Visitors. Stacy couldn't make it tonight because someone has to be with his wife. We had 2 other WWII vets present. Join the WWII vets at the Golden Corral 18 Feb.

**Storekeeper:** Ron Chambers had no report.

**Rec Committee:** Al Dempster had no report.

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

**Holland Club:** Bill Freligh had no report.

**CRAMA:** Butch Bryar had no report.

**Chief of the Boat:** Dave Rein will have an eternal patrol ceremony at 12:30 tomorrow. The FRA will be performing the two bell ceremony at the same time.

Ken stated that The Victory House trip is this Tuesday 16 Feb.

Wednesday 1830 is the Hunley Memorial Service.

Friday Feb 26<sup>th</sup> NMPTC Legacy award ceremony This is awards given to the Highest academic Officer and Enlisted Graduates.

Base Commander: reported that Bill Kennedy is volunteering for the Kaps for Kids program. He is planning a trip to the Florence Hospital in March.

We have a new Volunteer for the Rec Committee. Mike Knaub. Our rec committee members are Mike Knaub Elmer Feaster and Al Dempster.

Rick will send out an email for The Investment Fund.

Rick informed us that the Positions for Vice Commander and Secretary are up for reelection.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Good of the Order:**

**The After Battery:** Steve Morawiec spoke for Buddha and wanted to let everyone know the annual Hog roast is April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Nuclear Historian:** Rick Carlson reported:

The Family of a retired Master Chief with 30 years in the Submarine service reluctantly decided that at age 92, he needed more care than they could provide. The only decent place close to their home was a nursing home for retired military. They approached the facility and were told that, while Army vets got first choice, they would take vets of the other services if there happened to be an opening; which by good fortune there was.

A week after placing the retired sub sailor there, his sons came to visit. "How do you like it here pop?" they asked.

"It's wonderful" Said the old sailor. Great chow, lots to do and they treat everyone with great respect. "How so pop?" Well, take Harry, across the hall, 88 and was in the Aif Force. He hasn't worn the uniform in 30 years but they still call him General. Then George down the hall, used to lead the Army Band . Hasn't conducted a note in 40 years and they still call him Maestro. And Bob used to be a surgeon in the Navy, has not operated on anyone in 20 years and they still call him Doc."That's fine for the other guys, Pop, but how do they treat you"

"Me!" They treat me with even more respect. I am 92, Haven't had sex in 10 years and they still call me 'that fucking bubblehead'

Jimmy Legg discussed Patriot Guard Riders. They ride in memory of fallen heroes. They are invited by the family and provide a flag line. The family of the veteran are escorted to the gravesite.

Gordon Long informed us that the barbershop quartet is doing singing telegrams. They sing two songs and provide a card and a single rose. The cost is \$50.00

Fleet reserve drawing was won by Marty Sessler.

The depth charge was won by Charley Holycross.

**Benediction:** Chaplain Nick Nichols gave the benediction.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Following the benediction by Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2010.