

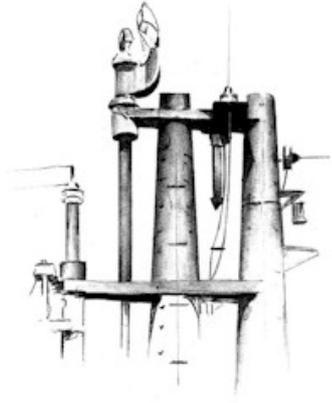
# Charleston, South Carolina, Sub Vets news letter and Minutes November 2003

Newsletter Editor

Ed. Simokat

843-873-1709

## UP PERISCOPE



### Attention on Deck!

Meeting called to order 1900 by the Vice Commander **Keith Schnebel**. Let us pledge our allegiance to the flag of the **United States of America**.

**Moment of silent prayer, the Tolling of the bell for those lost on patrol.**

### The final Patrol



### Base Meeting:

Thursday, November 14, 2003. Social hour & board of directors Meeting, held @ 1830  
General meeting @1900.

### Location:

VFW Post: 3433 @ 10154 Bellwright Rd.”  
Off Hwy 78”, Summerville, South, Carolina.  
Phone 843-871-0607

### Base Officers                      Phone Number

|                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Base Commander<br>(Buddha) | Steve Nelms<br>843-563-7115    |
| Base Vice Commander        | Keith Schnebel<br>843-851-7334 |
| Base Secretary             | Roger Gibson<br>843-875-4933   |
| Base Treasure              | George Lisle<br>843-559-4242   |



**Hough Gill**



Lord, this departed shipmate with dolphins on his chest is part of an outfit known as the best. Make him welcome and take him by the hand. You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land. So, heavenly Father, add his name to the roll of our departed ship mates still on patrol. Let them know that we who survive will always keep their memories alive.

### Special Officers                      Phone number

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chief of the Boat     | Bill Roberts<br>843-875-0191     |
| Public Affairs        | Richard Cleeve<br>843-899-4563   |
| Chaplain              | Randy Bogнар<br>843-552-1679     |
| Sub Vets WWII Liaison | Barnwell Chaplin<br>843-556-4333 |

### November Subs Lost:

Albacore (SS-218) November 7, 1944,  
Growler (SS-215) November 8, 1944, Scamp  
(SS-277) November 9, 1944, Corvina (SS-226)  
November 16, 1943, Sculpin (SS-191) 19  
November 1943, Capelin, November 23, 1043

## USSVI Creed

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, Pledge loyalty and Patriotism to the United States Government

### Cob

The board was polled “we have a **“Quorum”** Base Commander, Vice Commander, Secretary and Treasurer present.

## Minutes of the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting

### Base Commander

Meeting called to order, new people! Will you stand up and introduce your selves: PM Smith, Linn Rogers, Thomas Skorepa, William Buxton and Ronald Willis, welcome aboard. Jason Russo Grandson of Jim Eckles home on leave from the USS Pasadena after a long deployment in the Gulf, he is a new father which makes Jim a great grandfather (that’s Old)!

Sad news from WWII veterans, note from his daughter Sabrina Gill in North Carolina, her father Hough Gill has passed on, **Rest your oars Shipmate!**

### Base treasurer

Monies were discussed, no further inputs

### Vice commander;

Nothing to put out

### .Base secretary

Email list! On display to verify, there are only about five people we can not reach, these are marked in **orange** please correct the errors, sign the log book, we have about 55 members at the meeting we need a accurate count! Motion to accept minutes/ newsletter, this was seconded and passed. New people see me after the

meeting. (I’m still missing some of the new people if you don’t see me after the meeting I cant get your name) I know someone by the name of Rob but Rob who?)

### Public affairs officer

The only thing to add, the web site has a new section, **“Reunions”** if you want information put out on our website send it to Richard, if you want photo’s he can scan them also, you supply the details and Richard will put the information on the site. The web site is;

<http://www.ussvicb.org/>

### Sub-vets WWII, Barnwell Chaplin.



**Swede Hanson**, home from the hospital and at home, he had a heart attack but is now at home and on the mend, his daughter and son have been staying with him during his healing. Next meeting is October the 16<sup>th</sup> at Ryan’s steak house in Summerville, from now on the WWII sub vets will meet the **third Thursday every other month**, so the next meeting will be in December but this meeting will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> due to the closeness of Christmas the from then on the third Thursday. Cob asked Barnwell to inform the base members about associate membership in the WWII sub-vets. Charleston base members are welcomed to join and become associate members if interested contact Randy Bogner or Barnwell.



### Chaplain: Randy Bognar

Not at the meeting; base commander brought up the topic we need a **volunteer** to fill in, this was discussed with Randy and he does not know when he will get off the second shift and cant make it to the meetings, the floor nominated “Eckles” he said he would be honored! This is an appointed position and involves extra duties.

**All hands** listen up Information on parades.

Christmas parade December the 4<sup>th</sup>, Thursday in Harleyville, (the trophies we won are on display) the parade in Summerville is December the 14<sup>th</sup> that is on a Sunday, further information will follow.

**Working party** at Steve's house, a critical problem the rain washed out the pipe line road that is normally used to move the float, so we need to trim the trees on his driveway the 18<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) at Steve's place.

### **COB:**

Have applications for Kings Bay WWII memorial services the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> of November the actual ceremony is on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of November you can be back in plenty of time for our parade Sunday November 9 2003; the parade gets underway at 1400 where the float will be we don't know as yet somewhere along King street. Drive your car to the Veterans parking lot and you will see the shuttle bus, catch a ride and look for our float, (for you nukes this means get off) when the parade starts we will end up back at the veterans hospital. Veterans Day parade for those who have not attended it is quite an event with the Outback providing the food at the end of the parade.

More info on the Kings bay memorial, there will be tours on one of the Boomers so have your ID with you. There are still some vacancies? But you might have to hot bunk!

Tuesday the 11 of November at 1100 in Summerville in front of the county building highway 78 and 17, also Santee Cooper is also scheduled for one not sure of the time as yet for that one George Gallagher will check on the time, we might be able to attend both!

Cards, Cob has printed for himself, on one side he has a set of Dolphins with information on meeting and dates and times and place, the other side he left blank, Cob will email you this and you can put what you would like on this side, if you have Microsoft word you can do wonders.

Base commander and Cob had a meeting about the Christmas party, we have had the party at the Eckles house, but we are getting to big, they

have found an other place to have the Christmas party, the Elks has been booked for the 13<sup>th</sup> of December we will supply the Turkeys and Hams, beer and soft drinks, and plan for other people to bring the pot luck side dish's or maybe buy some of these dish at the Bi lo or the Pig.

We will run a list at the next meeting, what we are trying to prevent is everyone bringing the same dish (like 10 dish's of green beans) we are trying to avoid this.

What time of the day do we want to have this? The consensus would be 1300 to 1800, but remember that we have to clean up after.

We have our first volunteer "Lindberg" thanks, the cost for the day is 150 dollars to rent the elks club, they have a fine facility we can bring our own "Booze" in also we will supply a map in the news letter. Anybody needing to discuss the time for the party, see Steve after the meeting.

Discussion on **Little David** "Civil war semi submersible" in Moncks corner, we need to know who is qualified to weld, cut and repair the steel hull, we need painters, wood workers, we have the equipment to do this job, but we need the people to accomplish this project and when finished to maintain it.

**Special announcement** from the Base commander: His friend Ed Simokat has been receiving a new treatment for his condition with a new medicine, Ed say's it is a miracle he **now is pain free for the first time in six years** and doesn't have to use his cane we are all happy for you Ed.

Additional info on Moncks corner project: **Steve** and the **COB** along with **George** will give them the list of items needed to complete this, and it looks like we will be supplied all we need.

**Curley** (Have a few calendars for eight dollars) not, the fifteen I put in the last news letter.

**Old business (None)**

**New business (None)**

**The good of the order**

Be sure you **sign the log book**, now from the corner Ed Simokat with words of wisdom to the troops as he reminisces about his younger years on what to do and what not to do when there's an alligator in a bar with you, if there is! Be sure you take a **new Nuclear Chief** with you and everything will be all right!

**No Neck Mueller** had a few comments to pass on to his shipmates it was a fantastic story, he also reminisced of by gone days on the beach and how he first met Jim Eckles at this special bar as he was waiting **for happy hour**, good job no neck.

**Base Commander** called on Jim Eckles to introduce our guest speaker. But Jim first had to explain to the troops why the subs had two torpedo rooms, the reason was when a torpedo man finished chow he had a fifty percent chance on getting to the right watch station.

Jim also covered the pay the new Navy gets and compared his pay as a LCDR to his grandson pay today, this was a shock to us old timers, the new Navy really gets a nice pay.

Jim **finally** introduced the guest speaker. **Barnwell** a World War Two Sub-vets stationed on the Sea Lion during their war patrols in the Pacific. Everyone was spell bound as the Barnwell spoke and history unfolded, from the sinking of cargo ships and picking up prisoners of war that the Japanese were transporting to their mainland to the chase and sinking the only battle ship by a submarine his (Sealion), but this patrol he (Barney) was held back due to an elbow operation, but told the XO as they left to go on patrol (I know you'll get a battle ship this run) and he was right. A lot of history was told to the members, what area, operations and boarding parties, depth charging and the cat and mouse game that went on, we will never be able to thank these world war two submarine veterans for what they did for us and our country, **Thank you!**

One more **new member** was introduced **Ben Rogers**, Welcome aboard.

## Benediction

**Blessed those who served beneath the deep through lonely hours their vigils keep may peace the mission ever be protect each one we ask of thee bless those at home who wait and pray till their safe return by night or day, amen.**

**Depth charge drawing!** (Who won?)

## End of the minutes for October

**Cob:** We have a very busy schedule for the next couple of months that include many parades. The Christmas parades are in the first two weeks of December, two being night parades. We will be checking to find out who is willing to participate in which parade at the meeting. Attend as many as you want or can.

We will need assistance to help dressing up the float for the Christmas parades. We need the loan of two heavy duty batteries or a QUIET small generator (1200-2500 watt) to power the lights. We will put out the date for the working party at the next meeting (by email for those unable to attend the meeting). There will be a **map** included in the December news letter on directions to the Christmas Party.

**Base Commander:** Inputs for schedule of events for the next couple of months November and December **Listen Up.**

**November 7**, WW11 Sub memorial at Kings Bay.

**November 9**, Charleston Veteran day parade, at 1400. Park behind the Veterans hospital-Buss will run to the parade route (King Street) 1230 – 1315 – food after the parade.

**November 11** Veterans memorial service in Summerville at 1100 at the corner of highway 78 and 17A

**Moncks corner** Veterans memorial at Santee Cooper, Time at 1530.

**November 13**, Regular meeting

**December 4,** Thursday evening Harleyville parade at 1900, we will leave the farm at 1730 to go and line up and parade the float.

**December 6,** Saturday eve St George parades starts at 1900, we leave the farm at 1730 to go and line up and prepare the float – decide at the November meeting

**December 11,** noon at Ryan’s steak house WW11 Meeting/ Christmas party, bring presents for the old folks home

**December 11,** Regular sub-vets meeting.

**December 13,** Saturday, Sub-vets Inc. and Sub-Vets WW11 Christmas party at the Elk’s lodge in Summerville, map will be provided.

**Time 1300-1800 - Turkey/dressing/ ham provided, beer/soda’s/mix provided; if you want Booze or wine bring it! Bring a covered dish.** At the meeting in November we will post a list of what items are needed for covered dish’s please think about this about what you will bring so we can plan better (**we don’t want all the dish’s to be the same**) sign up at the meeting or please call or email, Roger Gibson, Steve Nelms or Bill Roberts our count of people is critical, if you don’t wish to bring a dish we will take donation, the deli’s have some nice dish’s so think about it.

**December 14,** Summerville Christmas parade at 1400; be there at 1300-1330 to prep the float the location to be determined.

**Special thanks** to all who helped at the tree trimmed, Richard Cleeve, Jim Eckles, Ed Simokat, Mike Emerson Stacy Power and Ben Heber, I hope I didn’t forget anyone.

**Notes from the Secretary!**  
**Continue Praying for our troops, Lord** Keep them out of harms way be with them always send your **angels** to watch over them.

#### Reminder

**Don’t forget that the end of the year is fast coming upon us and due’s are due for next year, so this is a reminder**



#### Store keeper “Curley”

Shirts, patches and other items are available at the meeting.



#### Happy Birthday

Chollet, Dentzman, Mc Kanna, Mueller, Munoz, O’ Brien, Pease, Power, Ryan, Vering and the oldest Jack Stevenson.



#### WW11 Subvets

From the meeting last month of the WW11 subvets, **Lee Alison** the state commander informed us that the cost of sending the Polaris magazine has gone up and that an assessment of five more dollars would be needed to continue to cover the cost increase of mailing, (this is for the associated members) he also brought a motion for their base to cover this cost, the three associates attending the meeting from subvets inc. said the cost should be paid by the associated members and the chapter keep their monies, its an honor to belong and the burden should **not** go the WW11 subvets.

#### Sick List:

**Raymond Murphy** from Orangeburg South Carolina will be getting a heart valve replacement and a by pass at the same time on Wednesday the 29th up in Columbia, keep our shipmate in your prayers.

Notes of interest from Barnwell, WW11 tonnage sunk. 249 US Subs operated in the pacific with 2% of navy personnel they sank 1392 Jap ships, 5,639,000 tons, subs accounted for more then 50% of all ships destroyed. 52 subs lost with 3,500 men, casualty rate about 22%, that is six times higher then the rest of the fleet and the highest of any branch. Germany lost 781 U Boats, 28,000 men killed and 5,000 taken prisoner

### Hunley: Si Mabie

Dear FRIENDS of the Hunley: Starting this Monday, October 6, the Hunley scientific team will begin excavating the two ballast tanks of the interior of the world's first successful submarine. In July, a quarter panel in the forward ballast tank was removed in preparation for this excavation phase.

As a member of Friends of the Hunley, you can watch the excavation activities take place on our web-cams. To watch the excavation over the Upcoming weeks go to [www.hunley.org](http://www.hunley.org) <<http://www.hunley.org>>, enter your username and password, and then select **LAB CAM 2 or LAB CAM 3**.

Though archaeologists do not anticipate finding many artifacts within the ballast tanks, the Hunley has offered up many unforeseen discoveries. The earlier excavation phases uncovered a wide array of artifacts from the nineteenth century, including diamond jewelry, the crewmen's personal possessions, a Union identification tag, and Lt. Dixon's legendary gold coin.

The submarine is composed of three sections: a forward ballast tank, a central crew compartment, and an aft ballast tank. An iron wall (bulkhead) at either end of the crew compartment separates it from the ballast tanks. These bulkheads do not extend all the way to the top of the submarine, leaving a nine-inch opening between the ballast tanks and the crew compartment.

The nine-inch openings in the bulkheads between the crew compartment and the ballast tanks could not have left much room for cleaning. The tanks are not thought to have been used as a place to store anything as the crewmen would not want something to accidentally block the outflow pipe making it impossible to pump the water out of the tank.

During the excavation, Hunley staff are hopeful to learn more about how the ballast tanks were constructed and how the pumping system worked. For example, there may be internal bulkheads or baffles dividing the ballast tanks. We might also find additional iron ballast weights placed within the tanks to help level the submarine.

It is unknown how long this excavation will take as there may be challenges excavating these

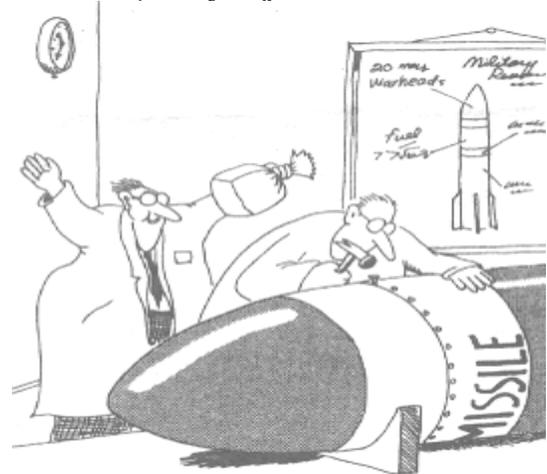
compartments since the ballast tanks will be difficult to access due to limited space.

Other research and projects currently underway due to YOUR support include:

The contents of the submarine have been preserved largely due to the vessel being buried relatively quickly in a low oxygen environment. After the recovery of the vessel in August of 2000, the entire submarine was filled with sediment. Although the sediment appears black to the naked eye, x-rays of the sediment show distinct layers. Staff archaeologists are hopeful that extensive studies of these layers, or strata, may provide clues as to how the submarine filled in and why the Hunley never returned after her history-making mission in 1864. In-depth forensic investigation of the crewmembers has been a priority and scientists began the detailed documentation of each crewmember's remains with the knowledge that they will be interred and inaccessible after April of next year. We will send more member updates as the ballast tank excavation progresses. As always, thank you FRIENDS for making the Hunley project possible.

Another note about the Hunley and the most recent the ceremony at magnolia cemetery where the tomb stones were set on the grave of the last five buried, **John Spear** (one of our members) set the head stones for them and has done many other projects, when we see john be sure to thank him.

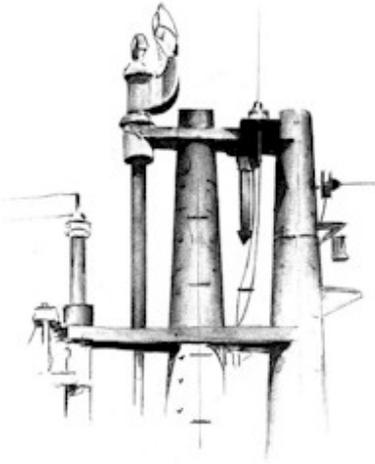
Steve, are you just about done?



Yes Ed I'm setting the last firing Pin in place.



**UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS  
INCORPORATED.  
CHARLESTON, BASE.  
120 SAWDUST LANE, DORCHESTER, SC.  
29437-2547**



**TO**



