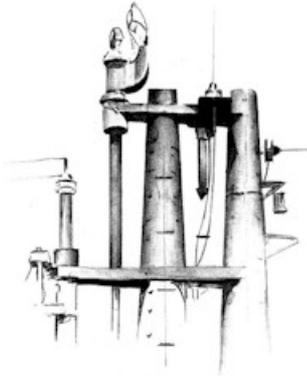


Charleston, South Carolina, Sub Vets news letter and Minutes

March 2004

UP PERISCOPE



Eternally grateful for those who preceded us and laid down their lives for our country, United States Submarines Veterans Incorporated, Charleston, South Carolina Base.

Base Meeting:

Thursday, March, 11, 2004. 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	Steve Nelms (Buddha) 843-563-7115
Base Vice Commander	Keith Schnebel 843-851-7334
Base Secretary	Roger Gibson 843-875-4933
Base Treasure	George Lisle 843-559-4242

Special Officers **Phone number**

Chief of the Boat	Bill Roberts 843-875-0191
Public Affairs	Richard Cleeve 843-899-4563
Chaplain	Bill Kennedy 843-875-3109

Sub Vets WWII Liaison	Barnwell Chaplin 843-556-4333
Membership Chairman	Jerry Stout 843-871-9533
Newsletter Editor	Roger Gibson 843-875-4933
Nuclear Historian	Ed. Simokat 843-873-1709
Veterans affairs	John Nichols 843-873-5897

Attention on Deck! Base Commander Steve Nelms called the meeting to order. Let us pledge our allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Base Chaplin, Bill Kennedy

Opening prayer, Thank you God for letting us gather tonight. Guide our leaders to make wise decisions and help every member to understand your will and your ways.

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

The final Patrol



March, WWII Subs Lost At Sea

- USS Perch (SS-176) March 3, 1942
- USS Grampus (SS-207) March 5, 1943
- USS Triton (SS-201) March 15, 1943
- USS Kete (SS-369) March 20, 1945
- USS Tullibee (SS-284) March 26, 1944
- USS Trigger (SS-237) March 26, 1945

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 February 12th meeting

Base Commander:

We will deviate from our regular meeting format and allow Randy Bognar to cover the **Amberjack** services this Saturday; decision were made to have the service at the James Island Christian due to the bad weather, Discussion with WW11 Sub-vets assigned tasks and what to bring, muster at 1300, Roger and Randy will be at the church at 1130 to set up. Directions are in the news letter. Hope to see you there to support this function and to pay respect to our lost shipmates.

New people! Will you introduce your selves, R.J Lavern, Dana Johnson, Bob Lowe, Richard McCloud, William Patterson, Richard Kohler, Carl Hicks, Morgan Miller, Larry Green, Thomas Lufkin, and finally his wife let him come to our meeting Jim Kirby **Welcome aboard!**

Public affairs officer Richard Cleeve

Web site, <http://www.ussvich.org/>

Not at the meeting

Base Chaplin, Bill Kennedy

Nothing to report, Jim Eckles reported that one of our members Don Wikeen has moved in the Helth South facility (Assisted Living) and we know he would like a visit from one of us. He is Qualified for the Holland Club as he received his Dolphins in 1954 they pinned on by

Admiral Ozz.

Treasurer

Monies were discussed, bills paid, new members joining.

Base Secretary

Some email problems (still), remember shipmates you have to clean out your email boxes once and a while! and yes I know I sent the news letter three times if you know how that was done let me know, also I was also badgered by one of the members Stacy Power that this secretary eliminated his Microsoft program out of his computer when I was assisting him on some problems on his computer, nice try!
Motion to accept the minutes, this was seconded and passed.

COB

Working party for Little David, this will be covered by the base commander. 26 of this month a presentation at the Navy Hospital on Tri-care, this is for you older people.

Base Commander, district four patch's give your name to “Curley” the district four convention will be held in Jacksonville Florida, April 29-may 2, sponsored by the first coast base in Jacksonville, we are going to have a lot of people go down there and make our presentation for to sponsor the next convention in Charleston area, this has to be submitted at the 2004 convention to get it approved, there are plenty of registration forms at the desk, reminder that the rooms are filling up fast so get them in.

An-other note that the rooms for the national convention in Sarasota are about 150 dollars and up, so you might want to look for alternates places.

Sailing List, we are missing a lot of membership (Life) numbers from national check with Jerry or Roger, we would like to keep this up to date.

Curly, info on the new patch and pin for longevity, they are in 1 year 5 year all the way up to when this organization got started, how we determine the longevity? It will be up to the individual, these are nice patches.

Base commander; any body qualified in 1954 let the Base secretary know as we need to submit the paper work to National; so far we have Kirby, Capt. Wikeen, and Simpo, and a couple of others will be able to submit the paper work in August, remember you must be a **life member** in national **one (1) year** before you are eligible.

Tax Raffle

This was brought up at the last meeting two dollars a chance, Sue Eckles will do the tax's and the monies will be donated to the base, a poll was taken to see who would buy a ticket 22 hands, that's only 44 dollars, this will be tabled until next year, one member (Benny Steel) offered the base 100 dollars if Sue would do the tax's for him so he is our winner!

Dolphin Ties, See Curley for your ties

Sub-vets WWII, Barnwell Chaplin.



Reminder

Amberjack memorial!

On February 14, 2004: at 1300 hours, moved to James Island Christian Church due to bad weather. **WW11 Sub-vets** meeting February 19th at Ryan's in Summerville, time at 1200 hours. USSVI members are welcome to come and join to be an associate member,

"Massing of the Colors"

Sunday March 7th, 2003 at 1500 U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc. and U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II will be participating in a program called "Massing of the Colors" at the Citadel in the Summerall Chapel. There are over 51 organizations that will be present "promoting" Love of Country and Flag!" along with remembering all members of service. Any questions **please call Randy Bognar at 552-1679 or 442-7794** on his cell.

Torpedo man's association

Chairman & treasurer no neck **Muller** speaking for his members; to the Board Members USSVI donated 100 dollars to the treasurer if we could keep a certain individual from speaking out during the meeting, the base commander said this might be hard to do and monies would probably have to be returned!

Hunley Funeral

Listen up things have changed, we originally had 90 volunteers we were going to half at the Battery and the other half at the cemetery we were suppose to also walk along with the caisson's to the cemetery, this has all changed

and has been taken away from us, so understand this, we will be at the Battery only!

Release of liability form from each one that is going to participate must print your name and sign must be an original form, check at the bottom if you are a pall bearer or if you will be walking in the precession. Uniforms! If you are going to walk in the precession the uniform is what we have on now, blue shirts vests and ball cap, Kaki pants comfortable shoes. The pallbearers blue blazers with dolphins over your vest pocket, white shirt dolphin tie Kaki pants and leather shoes dark brown or black no ball cap.

Rehearsal April 3rd 1300 hours at John Wesleyan Methodist church on 17 west Ashley road Charleston, SC. **"you must be at the rehearsal"** if you can not attend the rehearsal you can not participate in the funeral! We have had volunteers that had to drop out due not being able to make the practice so we went down the list to the next person. These are the Hunley rules and not ours. Get your signed copy of the non liability tuned by next week this means anybody, pallbearer or if you're walking in the precession you must have one!

We also need to know how many people are going to be walking in the precession; this list must be turned in to the commission.

Before you leave tonight be sure you check with Keith, he has the forms also have him verify yours before you leave!

Does everybody understand that we have to play by their rules, it is an honor to be selected to participate in this function, and this will be televised all over the world!

Question was brought up about signing the original in blue in, reason that the copy machine comes out black, we are not going to worry about that.

Keith "Vice Commander"

Read the names of all the selected pallbearers we had a few that couldn't be contacted, but we will continue to follow through.

Old Business

Charley Rook, **Hunley memorial**, 17th of February still need a couple of Volunteers, meet at the Presbyterian church at 1830, remember the blue blazer with dolphins white shirt dolphin tie if you have one and Kaki pants and dark shoes.(this is at Breeches inlet on Sullivan's island

Store keeper "Curley"

Some one owes him 15 dollars please fess up and pay Curley! (Or was it Curley owed some one 15 dollars)

Rodney: Submarine cold war memorial Discussion on the granite bench for the memorial with both the USSVI and the WW11 Swamp fox engraved the bench. Randy (Swamp fox Secretary) has not brought this up as yet to the Swamp fox chapter, Lee Allison and Barnwell said it would probably be brought up at the meeting this week on the 19th then the vote for the WW11 will be taken then. Discussion followed if should table or vote? More discussion on the price 600 dollars for us and 600 dollars for the swamp fox chapter, should we vote or not! Rodney we should vote one way or the other, comments from a member that it would take a chunk out of the treasury, the conscientious from the members is to go ahead and vote for our half of the bench, George Lisle made a motion to fund our half for the bench this was seconded and passed by the members with two opposed., Motion is Passed!

Committees needed

We have one so far **float committee** “Mike Emerson” is in charge.

Remember we voted for **Quarterly functions**, but we don't seem to have any Volunteers!

Where are you? We need to plan a quarterly function for family get together, excludes working parties

Discussion followed, manual work and brain work some of us cant do heavy Manuel work but we still have a brain where we can plan various functions, assign who does what and when, we need directors and followers. We are looking for a volunteer for our recreation committee!

Stacy what month and when, we have a list, Stacy then Volunteered to head the picnic committee along with **Guido**, finally we will get some good Italian sausage.

Repair Officer Comments (Eckles)

Ben Heber, during the work on Little David caught his pants on fire with the torch and caused quite a bit of damage a collection was taken up to get the poor shipmate a pair of pants good job Jim

Little David Up date!

Bottom was cut out and sand blasting followed, now it looks like a spaghetti strainer, Bill Kennedy's friend Jamey Clayton has

volunteered to supply and weld the bottom for us, he has taken the measurements and has ordered the steel needed to make all the welding repairs on this vessel the steel will be rolled to the proper size so we will send an email out for a working party during the week, we are limited on what we can do until the welding is complete, so we will be assisting the welder.

Article in the Summerville scene

For all those who read the article we had good pictures, but! There were a lot of descriptions in the history, the reporter informed the world that this was an original submarine “first error” we pulled it out of the Cooper River, then as things progressed, a phone call from the builder of the replica (Jerry Pester) to us about the miss reporting of the facts, and we informed him that we knew it was a replica and the reporting was in error, a letter was written to the editor of the Journal scene, and of course a immediate response was written.

Reporters will write what looks good and use “Spin” to make the article interesting, so what we now have is a contest at the moment and a lot of finger pointing so this issue must be resolved. Jerry Stafford at Santee Cooper asked Steve Nelms to muster all his **Tact** and his **political correctness** and talk to the editor of the Summerville scene (can you imagine that!).

Contact was made and we were appreciative of all the press we got and the beautiful pictures but we really need to straighten some things out, and we are not here to throw rocks at each other, we are doing this for the community and would like to invite you (The Editor) to see first hand what we are doing, with this said the editor accepted the invitation to come to the site and see first hand what the sub-vets are doing.

The next large working party we are not sure, we have to get the bottom plate welded in so there will be a small working party in the middle of the week. Jerry Stafford was out looking at the work done so far and stood up in the bottom and (typical ward room) said it would be nice if we had a hatch in here we could bring special tours and look in from the bottom, “Steve didn't have the heart to tall him that when it goes back it will be only and high as its foundation (foot and a half at most).

Paint and preservation! The Dupont rep did a quick check and said we are almost ready for the first coat, but we need to get the welding done. Further information will follow.

Question to the members

Does anybody not know what the little David is? It's replica of a semi submersible used in the civil war, it was also used to tow the CSS Hunley during her testing. This replica sat the Berkeley museum for years and rotted out so the museum asked us if we could help and that it in a nut shell.

New Business

Vice Commander has the bill that covers retirement and disabilities, see **Keith** for the information.

The Good of the order

Ed Simokat in his untiring research into the behavior of the nuclear species has uncovered unusual patterns and rituals when their VRB is exhausted.



His study subject was a Nuke Chief who had squandered his Million dollars shipping over bonus, being desperate talked his wife into Hooking for him to bring home some money, so the price had to be decided on (100 dollars). The first car pulled up and she approached it, and of course this handsome torpedo man was in the car, very politely he asked "How Much" so back and forth discussing the cost so they agreed on a particle service, then when she saw what he had she went back to her husband and asked if she could borrow the monies for the full service, that is as polite as I can say, **you must** be at the **meeting** to get the **full benefit** of the story.

Jack Stevens to Ralph Luther who ran the reunion for the Sennet, a certificate was presented to Ralph from National for the contribution of 2000 dollars for the scholarship fund.

George Gallagher has pictures of a Russian submarine taken when he was at the Hamilton reunion at New London Conn. some of the unusual characteristics and the radar system and missiles.

Jim Eckles

Discussion about seasons, he and four Nukes were discussion about seasons along came a couple of torpedo men one with short with no

neck and one tall one looking over his class's as the story goes they were asked which season they liked, as we said before, you must be at the meeting to get the full benefit of these discussions.

VA Rep Nichols

Paper work was passed around on items of interest, be sure you check out the items, there will be a notebook at the meeting with the latest data.

Roger Lanegan

Read a book on the USS-S5 and the recovery, he also has a video if anyone is interested the video is 45 minutes.

COB

Discussion on home bound invalids and those in assisted living homes, the Cob and secretary are in support that these members shouldn't have to pay dues to our base, a motion was made by Stacy that we accept this, seconded and passed by all hands

Pictures

Cob is looking for pictures for someone in Texas to make an album See the Cob.



"Benediction" Base Chaplin, Bill Kennedy

Thank you, God for being with us during our meeting. Please watch over all submarine veterans. As we leave this meeting tonight guide our hearts and minds to perform your task and let us remember you in our daily lives. Please take a moment of silence to remember those that have gone before us and those that are onboard the boats and away from their families now serving as we have served. Amen

**** End of the minutes for February 2004 ****

Depth charge drawing, who won?

Remember shipmates, kick in some monies for the food and clean up your mess, your mom doesn't work here! Thanks Ben for kicking an extra 10 dollars to the tip jar.

From the Base Commander, secretary and cob listen up;

District four convention! In Florida two things, first fill out your registration to attend and/or pick one up at the next meeting in March., remember April 29-march 2 you need to register and get a room booked.

Second; Steve our base commander had a second meeting with the Aiken base on sponsoring the next convention in Charleston details were ironed out and will be covered as they progress.

Cob

News paper article that was in last Sundays terry Joyce column, was about the quarter scale Vietnam memorial wall coning to Charleston

Stacy Power has had back surgery

Wednesday Feb 26 at St Francis Hospital west he was doing all right the next day chasing the nurses down the hall. Soon as you stepped off the elevator you just followed the sea stories to his room, I think every nurse on the 4th floor is now qualified on submarines, Stacy is on medical leave under the care of Nurse Elaine.

Don Wikeen has moved into an assisted living home in N Charleston. He is at The Bridge assisted living home across the street from Trident Medical Center and behind Charleston Southern.. He is in room 132 which is in building 131. The address is 2590 Elms Plantation Blvd, N. Charleston SC 29406. The office phone number is 553-6342.

Chaplain: Bill Kennedy



Another fine turn out for February's meeting, seventy plus, ROLLIN!!!! I guess the first thing should be the picture Roger had for the Chaplin's Corner in last month's newsletter. There is no way that could look like me. I don't have that much hair!!!

I had the opportunity to visit shipmate Capt. Wikeen last Saturday. He talked about his boats and showed me the coffee table presented to him, very impressive. He liked the plant that we gave him and I am sure he enjoyed the card as well. If you know of anyone that needs a visit or a call please let me know. The only problem I had was Jim E. had no idea and I will leave it at that.

The Amberjack Memorial was very nice. It included all submarines sank. The pictures of the boats added a lot to the service. I hope to see more shipmates at these types of functions. Its good to remember! The weather was poor that Saturday I believe that had a lot to do with the turnout.

If I can help, please call.
Thanks Bill



Compatriots:

The Memorial Service commemorating the 140th Anniversary of the successful attack upon the Sloop of War, USS Housatonic conducted by the submarine H. L. Hunley and her courageous crew was a moving experience. Clay Martin and Charley Rook are to be commended for organizing the service. The tide had run out and appeared to be slack, the breeze strong, visibility good, and the chill could be felt; all was much like it the conditions described as existing on that day in 1864. If you were present I am sure you must have felt some of emotion they experienced. As usual the musical renditions were given by Compatriots Stan Clardy, "Amazing Grace", and by Wayne Wilson as he

sounded “Confederate Tattoo” and “Taps” were superb. I am privileged to share the emotions of those who honor the cause for which they fought as well as of those who also honor the service in which they served. There is a bond of brotherhood among those who place themselves in the hands of God and venture into the unknown depths of the sea.

May our continued prayers be for Compatriots Harold Dukes, George Jacobs, Andy Langdale, and Elmore Marlow, Elmore recently fell at his home and is wheelchair bound; may they have a swift recovery. May the Lord bless them with his healing power! Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends. (St. John 15:13)
Continue Praying for our troops Lord Keep them out of harms way be with them always send your angel's to watch over them.



For our fallen Soldiers and Marines and Airmen thank you for your sacrifice, you laid down your lives for us that we may have peace what greater gift is there then one to give his life that we may live.

Thank you and God bless our President.

“Birthdays”



Happy birthday to you all, Allegretto, Anderson, Kopacka, Luther, Mcluskey, Northrop, O’Saben, Smith Mike, Snyder, and Spear,

Holland Club



50 years Qualified in Submarines.

We have received the paperwork for **Captain Don Wikeen**; arrangements will be made to present this award at the assisted living home. Paper work is being sent in on the following, **Kirby, Simpo, Wickenhoffer**, a reminder on the **rules**, I know some of you qualified 52-53-54, but you must be a life member in **National** for **one year** first then we submit your papers, some are eligible at the end of the year so if you fall in this bracket (two of you) remember the month you joined and let me know when your year is up. *Roger.*



From Curley,

“If you ordered a Dolphin tie and don’t pick it up this meeting it will go up for sale”

Dues

Were due in January, if you haven’t paid please see our new “membership Committee Chairman **Jerry Stout**” between both of us this should operate smoothly, remember we want **checks** if you bring “cash” you will have to fill out a slip with your name and amount you paid, then we can staple the monies to who it came from! also bring the **right amount of cash**, if you are a life member of National, it is \$15 for Charleston base, if you are a yearly member National and are current in your dues it is \$25 total, \$10 for National and \$15 for us, if you are a new member then it is \$35, \$20 for National (first year) and \$15 for Charleston, for those who are life members National and Charleston, sit back and Enjoy!

WW11 sub-vet meeting at Ryan’s on the 19th of February, the members voted to share the expense along with sub-vets Inc. to purchase a granite bench to be placed at the Cold War Memorial at Patriot’s point. The bench will have both the WW11 swamp fox and the USSVI Charleston base insignia.