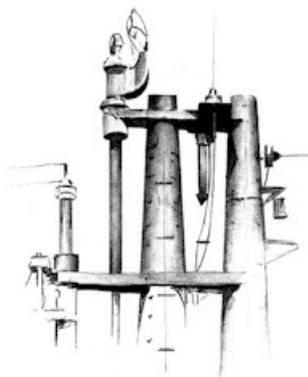


Charleston, South Carolina, Sub Vets news letter and Minutes

May 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, May 13, 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

<u>Base Officers</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
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
<u>Special Officers</u>	<u>Phone number</u>
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 843-762-6945
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: Dear God help us make decisions that will please you. Guide our course in a direction toward our goals. Give our leaders the wisdom and strength to lead us

Amen

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

The final Patrol



Donald Kopp



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.

May's Subs Lost

USS LAGARTO (SS-371) May 3, 1945

USS RUNNER (SS-275) May 28, 1943

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; Base Commander, Vice
Commander, Secretary present Treasurer absent.
"We have a "Quorum"

Minutes of the April 8th meeting

Base Commander:

Good evening; new people will you introduce
your selves: Charlie Watkins, Jerry Wagner,
Glen Smallwood and Theron Irving, **Welcome
Aboard!**

Base Secretary, next month **elections**, email
and attachments; learn how to open these
Petersen explained how he resolved his problem
oh yes clean out your mail box.. Motion to
accept the minutes, this was seconded and
passed by the members.

Vice Commander

Covered the practice for the pall bearers;
everyone that signed up showed up. Pall bearers
at tonight's meeting pick up a list of commands
that we will be using at the battery.

Remember the busses will be running at 0600 in
the morning and taking you to the battery; a
large parking area has been set up across from
the Magnolia cemetery. Remember the busses

are one way only; you will have to walk back to
your car or find another way.

Base Commanders assumption, after the
procession gets started the battery area will
probably be a ghost town, so ther should not be a
problem to have someone come and pick you up,
of course some of us will probably get stranded
and will probably have to go some where to get
a drink until you get someone to pick you up!

Vice commander

Comments on how we will proceed as we
approach the Civil War Memorial and set the
coffins down on the "Beers" if you get down
early we can practice a few steps, remember the
group leaders will take charge as we leave the
casket. Muster be at the area at 0700 latest, we
have to line up at 0745 to receive the caskets
from the hearses. "We will fine tune as needed"

Base Commander, once we leave the "Beers"
we are done. For the people who are walking in
the precession there will be person to direct you
to the staging area. Remember the pall bearers
you need to pick up your arm band and white
gloves, there will be tables set up.

Last Wednesday we were interviewed by
channel 5 at Steve's ranch and will be aired on
the following Wednesday.

Members were asked if another practice would
help us, the conscious was yes, the question was
asked what time, Wednesday evening at 1800 at
Steve's place.

Question brought up if any tapes would be
available on the interviews and of the funeral,
"action item (Billy Gadsden)" on the tapes.

Julian's son did the interviews from channel 5.
Any more questions about the Hunley! None!

Base Commander gave the treasurers report for
George Lisle, note to the Chaplin Bill Kennedy
about George, yes he does have prostate cancer
and will undergo radiation treatments so keep
tract of him please. George is in good spirits, so
let's keep him in your prayers.

Treasurer's report; yes we have some monies in
the bank.

COB

Has some yard covering for free, call him and
pick it up, wood workers next week on Little

David, planking and painting, check your email for the working parties.

Chaplin

Some input about the practice on Saturday for the Hunley funeral, I noticed that most of the torpedo men fell in love with that woman and were in awe of her leadership qualities, after a short discussion from her everyone listed and not a sound was heard except her voice. Paul sent me an email (note he also had a shirt on today) the email read

A true statement! Life is simple, either you are qualified or your not!

Sad News: Admiral Ozz has passed away, most of us knew about that, and we also lost Donald KOPP this last Monday.

Hospital info, Curley was in for back surgery you can see his stitches, Ed Simokat was at the meeting but left to go home he wasn't feeling to good and I wasn't given permission to give his speech tonight, a call from Ed Chandler Chaplin of the Aiken base, a Tom Antos is in MUSC with Leukemia. Arthur O Mealy and Jerry Madison will be in hospital for some operations so keep there guys in your prayers and if there is anything we can do let us know.

Richard Cleve public affairs officer

Web site is up and running, we are also making an album on the Little David from the start to finish, all those who took pictures we need them to put into the book, especially the rare ones with Jim Eckles using both hands. Two albums will be made up one for us and the other to the Berkeley museum this to show the progress that was done.

Jim Eckles discussed an outing he had with some Torpedo men and a party they had, had to do with Popsicle's.

Sub-vets WWII, Barnwell Chaplin.



Change in the meeting April 22 is the next meeting at Ryan's in Summerville at 1200 do to conflicts. The question was brought up about the running conflict with the Nukes but there are

welcome also. The WW!! Members would like some new people show up at the meetings our numbers are dwindling and you new associates would be welcomed.

Base Commander:

District (4) conference in Jacksonville Florida we have the registration forms at the desk Keith Con and a couple of other people, also the Aiken branch, we are going to make a power point presentation to put in our bid in at first we didn't have anybody to compete with but now we do the Biloxi Mississippi base is a contender.

Notice, from the nuclear school command, and the Charleston council of the Navy League they will start a series of meetings that will happen every eight weeks (from the Navy League)

Distinguished flag officers from submarine, surface forces aviation and others are coming to Charleston every eight weeks to talk to the graduating classes of the nuclear power school this is a two day evaluation they will be available Thursday evening to speak to other members of our Local Navy family.

Accordingly the Navy League or the Naval Submarine League will hosting cocktails followed by a dinner and a speech by these flag officers, they will probably use the recent renovated red bank club to host these events to maximize the opportunity for active daily members to hear the distinguished Navy Leaders, we will be working with Local MOAA and USSVI Chapters see to if they would be interested in attending these events this will be a exceptional opportunity to interact with active Navy and other service organizations. June the third is the first one, July 29, and Sep 23, and we will post the others in the news letter, if your interested and want to get the straight news instead of what we get from the news media, this would be a good opportunity. The Base commander was quite forward in what his thoughts are of the News Media!

DUES

Our list and phone tree is being updated monthly we have been carrying dinks on our sailing list for quit some time some people are seven years behind, National will drop you in April if you

get behind, then you must be reinstated yourself and start all over again. We give you the benefit of the doubt; May's news letter will have the names of the **DINK'S** after the news letter goes out with the name of all the Dinks and we get no response from you; we will drop you off our list and stop sending you the news letter, (unless you are invalidated)

Additional information, some of the members think if you a life member of national you're a life member of Charleston base, not so, but the option is available to become a life member of Charleston base, see the base secretary and/or the membership chairman. The bottom line is we are wasting money on stamps and post cards for individuals who don't want to participate.

Stacy!

Point suggested that after two issues of the news letter if they are not paid up, don't send the letter, this will be taken under advisement and discussed by the board members.

Cob

For the members that want to stop coming or don't want to be involved or just quit, please let Roger know so we can keep the list updated, most people join and have a good time but some just come to a couple of meetings and that's it, maybe they met a torpedo man and got intimidated with their big hairy knuckles and protruding lower jaw.

(Out of order) for old business

The picnic for the 24 is off at the Nelms ranch due to a prior commitment. So we will reschedule. Question brought up "if you're not going to be there why we can't still have the picnic" reason his neighbor shoots first! We will discuss this during new business.

Discussion: a few meeting ago we discussed and passed to purchases a bench along with the Swamp Fox Chapter for the Cold War Memorial, which has our logo and the Sub-Vets WW11 Logo engraved on the bench, Steve contacted Rodney and asked if the engraving had started, no was the reply; it was asked if they would hold up un till discussion with the members of WW11 And the USSVI on and additional engraving could be added, we would

like a motion from the members to add Admiral Osborn to the bench " in memory of Admiral Osborn" further discussion on what to engrave. (In memory of.....) and if there is an assessment for extra engraving we will take up a collection, but before it is etched in stone we want to see a drawing of it to be sure the members approve! "We want everyone to be happy. Does anyone have any problems with this we want to hear about it now! Rodney will bring the drawing if what the engraving will look like at the next meeting then we will vote on this issue. The motion is tabled until the next meeting.

Old Business

Jim Eckles will pay the dues of anyone (for next year) who brings in the most nukes, "no more torpedo men!

Ricky Collins hopes to bring in the most Missile techs.

Tax Preparation: the winner wished to inform the members how nice Sue Eckles was and how efficient and kindly she was in her job, and would recommend we do the same next year, but that would be up to Sue. There was also another member scheduled to see her.

Practice at the Nelms Ranch at 1800 Wednesday
Directions will be sent via email.(map).

Curley (store keeper)

The neck ties that were ordered, for those who did, "pick them up tonight" or they will be sold!

We have some new patches from National, beautiful for six dollars, also a new type of hat we can wear, more formal but thirty three dollars, but we are looking for a cheaper source, some other new ball caps at thirteen dollars, you can have different embroidery on the back of the hat, and some "Beer coolers" also we have vests in all sizes, see Curley.

Vice Commander

Reminder! The Hunley funeral there will be "**No Sun Glass's**".

New Business

Roger

Ships plaques, we have a source and patterns for almost all the subs, received the information from a retired Jallao shipmate, anyone interested

I'll give you the email address. Buddha also has a contact in Monck's corner and will check the details.

The good of the order

Mike Emerson, there is a site that sells various things on the life of a submarine sailor and also items for the Grand sons of a submarine sailor, see Mike for more details and the email address.

Cob

When you leave pick up your trash, glass's and bottles.

For those of us who enjoyed the nice snacks the girls do for us at our meetings, please beef up the tip jar. Last month the girls were not to happy for all the work they did, we had over 67 at the meeting and the girls only got 18 dollars not good guys.

Ben Heber

Has a Lab that is pure bread with papers went through field training but was gun shy, so we are looking for a good home for her.

Mike

At 10 this evening on ABC a program on some of the health benefits and a class action suit that is going on this will probably affect our benefits down the road.



Chaplin.



Closing prayer

Let us pray: Lord be our lookout for life as we depart tonight. Watch over our families and us

As we go about our daily lives. Lord be the spirit and guide for our armed forces, the men who are doing what we have done In your name amen

**** End of the minutes for April 2004 ****

Depth Charge drawing

\$45.00, ticket 085 Mike Stuffle is the winner.

Notes from the secretary

Dink List: Dink List: Dink List:

Alison, Anderson, Borup, Brown, Carlson, Cline, Comp, Dentzman, Evans, Freligh, Gawronski, Girard, Hill, Koebel, La Rose, Madison, Maples, Northrop, Milton, Pierce, Popik, Ryan, Spear, Strukely, Stump, Vandriver, Walsh, you guys are **Dink**, if I have made an error let me know.

Cob's stuff

A bit of disappointing news from Jacksonville, We didn't get next years District four convention. We had a great presentation thanks to Keith and Steve, Tim, and JD from Aiken. They did not have a presentation or any real program set up, but they had about **12 or more members** attending. The vote was 20 to 27. Does this tell you anything?

Bluntly we had a **PISS POOR TURNOUT** for two bases. Remember Gents the same old people can't do everything all the time, admittedly, we did not do a good job of advertising and getting the **word** out about the convention **to the troops**. Remember when an Item comes to the floor to **support a project** ask questions and support it if you vote for it!

I met a lot of new shipmates and visited with a few old ones. Come to think about it we were all quite **old**. Whitey Mack was our guest speaker for the banquet and John Macants, the son of the Permit captain of WWII was the luncheon speaker. They had all kinds of stuff for sale and free.

Remember the following names during our up coming national elections, John **Markiewicz; Candidate for USSVI National Secretary and George Boyle for Eastern Regional director.** They are both from district four and we need some say in national. District four has 1500 USSVI members over 1/3 of the entire eastern region.

The forms should be coming out soon. PLEASE! PLEASE! Read them carefully and vote. **Please bring your forms to the meeting or mail it to Buddha.**

Rick Wise and Roger Gibson have developed a new diet. It is called inside Little David on Bright Sunny Days.

I will have information on the International Sub Vet meetings. This year will be in Odessa and next year Argentina.

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Letter from Glen McConnell, president Pro Tempore, South Carolina Senate, to Steve Nelms

April 27, 2004

Dear Steve,

I did not want to let one more day pass without writing to express my deep and personal Appreciation for your tireless efforts on behalf of the submarine veteran participation in the funeral for the last crew of the H.L. Hunley submarine. I know that this took a lot of time, effort, and dedication but you will always know the vital role that you and your organization played in this memorable occasion.

I could not have been prouder of all the subvets as they marched forward with the caskets and performed so proficiently. Your participation was a true honor to those brave heroes and I know that they would have been as proud as I. You served your country well in the past and now you have proven your ability and desire to continue that commitment. I applaud each and everyone of you and hope that you will convey my feelings to every member of your organization.

Thank you seems so inadequate but please know that it is heartfelt. I salute you on a job well done!

With warmest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely, *Glen*
Glenn F. McConnell, President Pro Tempore
South Carolina Senate
Chairman, the Hunley Commission

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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 you 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 April and May
Carlson, Clarkin, Cline, Comp, DeWitt,
Gallagher, Gibson, Giannetto, Heber, Hill,
Hyatt, Houck, Lanegan, Lufkin, Mullin, Nichols,
O Meally, Paris, Patterson, Shoesmith, Sparger,
Sparks, Sutton, Van Cott, Vlam, Walsh, Wikeen,
to all happy birthday to you all.

The little David Project, thanks to the tireless effort of sub vets members who helped in this endeavor, much was accomplished from the start, from a rusting and rotted out “Replica” to what it is now, there are many credits to go around, not just one bat to all who chipped in and got involved, that's what a team effort is. Many man hours were expended from the start to the finish.

Tuesday the forth of May 4, 2004 was a productive on little David, and Wednesday will be the finishing touches, we started this project in December the ninth many man hours were expended, for all who helped we thank you



Start of the project, December 9th 2003



Finish in May 2004