

No minutes taken!

Our December meeting was held at the Elks Club in Summerville, a good time was held by all, we had in attendance approximately 115 members and wives along with the WWII Sub-vets.

The food was coordinated by Stacy Power, Lee Allison and Jerry Stout, with a variety of casseroles and deserts, our thanks to all who helped set up and on the Sundays clean up, "Question" has anyone seen Bill Roberts swing the swab? The reason I noticed as I was swabbing I heard this "Cracking" sound next to me it was Robbie and the noise was coming from his Knees and shoulders as he swung the swab but he made it, good job Bill.

The depth charge was won by John Dash and the Little David mirror was won by Walt Deal.

Two members were honored for their dedication to the base and for going the extra mile when needed, Bill Roberts and Roger Gibson, they were given a couple of presents as gesture of thanks (Bill is still smiling) I wonder why? But keep in mind there are a lot of other members that also go that extra mile and our thanks go to them also.

Things accomplished this year!

Besides our normal yearly functions, we had the **Hunley Burial in April**, for those who were honored to participate in the ceremonies I know it will always be remembered by you, to lift the remains of the **first submariners in the world** and place them in a place of honor prior to their burial, this will always be a part of you and we are now a part of history.

Little David

What a project this was for those who were involved it was fun and a lot of Dirty work, we had to strip it down and cut out the bad spots and weld in a new bottom plank and paint, oh yes for those who didn't use gloves when we painted it took a minimum of 10 days to see your skin "I Know". We had a lot of specialty people, one for example got the name of tunnel "Rat" that was Richard Wise he would disappear in the stern compartment and all you would see is two eyes looking at you, then we had straight line Ben "Heber" handy man with the torch, and PM

Smith who was always building sand castles and the nozzle gang at the wrong end of the nozzle, remember you don't stick your hand in front of the nozzle, it stings. The master carpenter Mike who built the conning tower and Stacy along with his riveting crew were drilling and installing planks, now this was tricky for the people in side, you had to be an the ball as the drill bits came through to insure you were not in the way.

While all this was going on, Freddie was in the kitchen cooking our lunch and trying to keep the dogs from eating it. "thanks for keeping us fed"

There were so many others involved we thank those who helped.

Little David was taken to Moncks Corner museum at the Santee Canal park, the rededication and reception held for those in the restoration crew.

Scholarship fund

In honor of rear Admiral Osborne, this was set up by Jim Yates along with the committee members; monies were donated (500 dollar) by the base members and will be a yearly function.

Blue Star Mothers

This was a group of mothers of our soldiers in Iraq, they were looking for assistance in sending Christmas packages to their sons and daughters in the war zone, the Air force chipped in with the transportation this allowed the monies to be used for Christmas stockings and packages, and we donated 270 dollars from the base members, good job.

Casino night



Neck

Buddha

This was established this year to get our members together have some fun food and camaraderie, we meet at the Ranch "Steve's" place in Dorchester, we have a lot of fun see if your wife will let you out for the night.

Membership

We are currently at around 176 active members with two more joining at the Christmas party, Jerry "Base Secretary" has sent letters and notices to members, resulting in paid up membership of all but approx 40 members, life membership was stressed in letters and news letters to get in before the dead line of January 2005 or you will be paying triple the amount, we had a good turn out and response, hats off to **Jerry**.

"Yes I know I owe some members new cards for life membership for our base"

Meetings

Our meetings have grown from when I first starting attending with the change in leadership and the "Laidback" atmosphere we conduct our sessions we have grown from about 15-20 attending to an average of 70-80 for each meeting and that's at least 10% not signing the attendance log, a special thanks to the VFW post for allowing us to have our meetings there, just remember when we are done to clean up the area your at.

Store Keeper

Curly, has kept us abreast in all the goodies needed to maintain our "Stature" and proper appearance, I know this takes a lot of time and effort our hats off to you and thanks.

Web Master

Richard Cleve has maintained our web page and all the inputs, for those who don't do much computer work it is not as easy as you think how he does it I don't know I'm still learning myself and haven't scratched the surface. Thanks Richard from all of us.

Chaplain's corner

We have lost some members this year and we have some members that need our prayers, our Vice Commander Keith has been in and out of the hospital, Robert Kotzke has been fighting his illness, George Lisle has had a rough road to follow this year and Curley Houck fell and broke his neck and James Madison in and out of hospital getting special treatments so we need to keep the prayer's going to our members, there is a lot of "Power" when we pray together the good Lord will listen.

Our Cob

Since taking over from Bill Roberts, Dave "Neck" has done a tremendous job our hats off to him even if we had to remind him to poll the board, but one thing was accomplished this year with special training any torpedo man now can hook the public address system with no trouble.

Parades and veterans functions

We attended all parades but one that was canceled (St. George) won first place at Harleyville, the Christmas parades were night parades and we has the float all decked out with lights all went well until the Summerville parade when we had to rig for reduced electrical power the problem has since been resolved. (Nukes can not hook anything up with out a procedure)

Sub-vets WWII



Our thanks

A reminder they have meetings every other month and welcome to attend and become an associate member, also the **Amberjack memorial** is up coming White point gardens On February 14, 2004: at 1300

Cob input



I hope everybody had a real good Christmas. The Christmas party had a super turnout and I think everybody had a real good time. I think we had every chair filled and next year we will have to find a bigger place at the rate we are growing. Thanks for all the help, so many participated in all kinds of ways to make this a successful party. In the first part of the New Year we are planning on having a garage sale with the profits going to the Sub

Vets Charleston Base. So if you have anything to contribute that you think we could sell and make a few bucks off of please let us know at the next meeting January 13, 2005. Also we need to have a place to have the sale. We need some inputs and suggestions for a good place in the area that we will have a good crowd of bargain hunters. So men think about this and give your inputs at the next meeting. I got a thank you letter from the Blue star Mothers for the donation that we made for Christmas gifts to the troops in Iraq. You guys were extremely generous on such short notice and I thank you again. I hope everybody has a Happy New Year and we will be having another casino night shortly. See you at the meeting on January 13, 2005

Items for sale

Sam Vlam has two magnetic Sub Vets magnetic sign for your car or truck 843-871-1559

Roger has a 4X8 Trailer with slated removable sides and two spare tires.

Our Armed Forces

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”



Farr, Hansen, Kirk, Mabie, Moore,
Simokat, and Welch

Happy birthday and for those I forgot, sorry.

Some little known facts

Ten Commandments

The real reason that we can't have the Ten Commandments in a Courthouse! You cannot post "Thou Shalt Not Steal," "Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery" and "Thou Shall Not Lie" in a building full of lawyers, judges and politicians! It creates a hostile work environment

Cows

Is it just me, or does anyone else find it amazing that our government can track a cow born in Canada almost three years ago, right to the stall where she sleeps in the state of Washington. And they tracked her calves to their stalls. But they are unable to locate 11 million illegal aliens wandering around our country.

Toilet Seat

It isn't widely known, but the first toilet seat was invented by a Polish scientist in the 18th century. The invention was later modified by a Jewish inventor who put a hole in the seat.

Hope you all had a good year, if any of you have inputs to the news letter send them to me, **if you want to send a letter to the editor feel free to vent your desire as long as it one line or less**, just kidding I know the Nukes will react! Keep tract of our shipmates that are sick and see what you can do for them