

TORPEDO ALLEY



Vol. 2, No. 3

March 2006

Newsletter of Charleston Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



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"



Base web page: www.ussvicb.org
National web page: www.ussvi.org

Base Meeting:

Thursday March 9, 2006
Social hour & board of directors Meeting at 1800
General meeting at 1900

Location:

VFW Post 3433, 10154 Bellwright Rd.
Summerville, South Carolina. Phone 843-871-0607

Base Officers		Phone Number
Commander	Steve Nelms	843-563-7115
Vice Commander	Keith Schnebel	843-851-7334
Secretary	Jerry Stout	843-871-9533
Treasurer	George Lisle	843-559-4242

Special Officers		Phone Number
Chief of the Boat	Dave Mueller	843-553-2775
Public Affairs	Richard Cleeve	843-899-4563
Sub Vets WWII	Barnwell Chaplin	843-762-6945
Nuclear Historian	Ed Simokat	843-873-1709
Veterans Affairs	John Nichols	843-873-5897
Chaplain	Bill Kennedy	843-875-3109
Membership	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Holland Club	Bob Lowe	843-573-9045
Little David Project	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Roving Reporter	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Scholarship	Jim Yates	843-873-0246
Newsletter	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Storekeeper	Paul Viering	843-797-2623

Minutes of the February 2006 meeting

Opening Ceremony: Base Commander, Steve Nelms calls to order. Quorum was present and the meeting was commenced at 1900.

Introductions: New persons were introduced including Shipmates Drew Telfar, Tim Vandermore, Gary Campbell, Dennis Fuqua, Ken Curtis, David Gleason, Lucian Rudd, Bill Erickson, Dave Limets, Scott Hogan, Steve Lucas. Welcome aboard.

Treasurer: Financial report given by George Lisle.

Secretary: January meeting minutes read in detail. A motion was made and seconded; no discussion. Minutes approved.

Storekeeper: Paul Viering reported that he has organized all of his products into a central notebook, where shipmates can see samples. The store is fully stocked.

Chaplin: Chaplain made his report on the binnacle list. Stacy Powers is recovering well; Mike Mulkey had bypass surgery and is back in the hospital. Our prayers go out to all of our shipmates and families for a quick recovery.

Public Affairs: The USSVICB web site has the most recent photographs of the Co-ed Casino Afternoon. Take a look at www.ussvicb.org. If any members have input to the design and/or content please email, call or see Richard Cleeve.

SubVets WWII: Lee Allison made the presentation and put out: The next meeting will be held at Ryan's on February 17, 2006 at 1200. All are encouraged to attend. Any USSVICB member made participate as an Associate Member. Dues are only \$10.00.

Veteran's Affairs: Nick Nichols was present at the meeting and was introduced by the Base Commander. He reminded all who attended that there are changes in the works for Tri-care and information is available from different sources. He reminded all Vets to pay attention to the RAO summary that is published weekly, as there are news events that affect our Health Care and other Retired benefits. Reports are available on-line or through the VA. There is much information that all veterans can use, including pay, VA benefits, Military records, Tri-Care for Life.

Base Commander: Buddha used his time to introduce all Officers and Special Assistants of Charleston Base. Members introduced were Rich Sparger (Cook), Bobby Lowe (Holland Club), Michael Emerson (Float Chairman), Ben Heber (Assistant Float Chairman), Paul Viering (Storekeeper), Carl Chinn (Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor), Nick Nichols (VA

Hunley Memorial: Ceremony to be held February 17, 2006. We would like a big showing. See Charlie Rook if you can attend. Uniform of the day is Khaki pants, white shirt, Submarine (blue) tie and blue blazer.

Amberjack: Ceremony to be held March 25, 2006 at White Point Gardens. More information to follow.

Carolina Trusses System has donated enough Trusses to house and cover the Float. A working party will be started to build the pole barn. A thank you letter was sent to Carolina Trusses for their generous donation.

Float: A proposal is being drafted that will outline the amount of work and money necessary to refurbish the Submarine Float that will take place over the winter months. The plan is to raise the physical height of the Submarine to about 18-24 inches of where it is today. This will then make the Submarine more visible to the General Public and also allow more seating for Vets directly on the float.

Holland Club: No Report.

Membership: Carl Chinn reported that there are 20-25 members who have not paid for 2006. Please pay your dues by the next meeting. Your dues are important to keeping the organization active. As of the meeting, there are 213 active members. This milestone is a significant achievement in the history of Charleston Base.

Nuclear Historian: No joke told again for the third month. A stand-in did attempt to make light of Jim Eckles, however it backfired.

Scholarship: Jim Yates reported that the 2006 scholarship drive is totally funded through the generous donations of the members. The scholarship application has been distributed for all tri-county high schools. Applications are due on April 15, 2006. A selection board has already been chosen.

Chief of the Boat: COB reported on the following: CDR (Ret) James Eckles is the Coupon Man. Secretary missed the reason why. 96 members have signed the book tonight. The Oyster Roast will be held March 4th, 2006 at 1300. According to an approved motion, \$5.00 a head (over 21) will be collected at the gate. If you are planning to attend, email, call or yell at the COB by Feb 22nd.

Casino nights are going well. The revenue from Casino is paying down the debt incurred due to the modernization of the bard. Again, only Casino Night monies are being used to improve the condition of the After Battery.

Representative), Rick Wise (Tunnel Rat and Little David Coordinator), Roger Gibson (All around Barn Tech) and Buck Owens (Builder).

Convention Program: All Sub Vets need to get out there and sell the advertising in the program for the upcoming convention. This is tremendous moneymaker for our group and it is not hard to sell them. Prices are very reasonable and artwork is very cheap for the average ad. Please get out there this month and help us make a difference. Lee Allison has more of the examples that can be brought to individual merchants.

A Bridge Stick is still needed for the pool table. Jim Eckles volunteered to obtain one for the barn. Thank you to Don Peterson for donating the pool sticks.

Steering Committee: No report.

Other members are always encouraged to volunteer to bring food for the Casino Nights.

Old Business: No old Business.

New Business: A working party will be held at the Barn to prepare for casino and to make accommodations for insulating the After Battery.

Good Of The Order: Depth Charge Drawing was held. Winner announced as Michael Emerson.

The Base Commander adjourned meeting at 1950.

**** End of the minutes for February, 2006 ****

From the COB



No input this month.

From the Base Commander



Many people have donated a great number of items to the After Battery. I'm sure all of these have a great history and deep meanings for those who have donated. It is hard to remember who all gave and what each member gave. I would like to publicly thank everyone who has made a donation whether it was plaques, chairs, signs, lights, etc. If I don't personally tell you, please know that everything is deeply appreciated. Sometimes a feeble mind is hard to overcome.

Buddha

****March Happenings!****

March 4, Oyster Roast at "The Barn", 1300 until...
\$5 per person at the gate.

March 12, Ladies & Men's Casino in the After Battery,
1300

March 25, Amberjack memorial, White Point Gardens,
1100



March Birthdays!

Allegretto	Anderson	Baciocco	Corcoran
Deschaine	Hix	Hodges	Johnson
Kopacka	Luther	Mcluskey	O'Saben
Sessler	Smith	Snyder	Spear

Combined Conference reminder!

USSVI Charleston Base, Denizens of the Deep Base

Base Chaplin, Bill Kennedy

Our Chaplin was in Trident hospital for a stint repair and insertion of another. He has recovered well and said he would send himself a card.



If you are going to get sick please let me know!

Membership and Dues Information:

February was a great month; we signed up 10 new members! If all the below listed guys renew their membership, we have 216 members.

If you have not paid your dues, you are STILL on the Dink List! We have 19 members on that list. Dues are payable by 1 January. If your 2006 dues are not paid by 1 April, National will remove you from their sailing list as will Charleston Base. Dues are \$20 for National and \$15 for Charleston Base.

If you miss a meeting and need to pay your dues you can mail them to:

Carl Chinn
217 Brailsford Road
Summerville, SC 29485

Here is the current Dink List:

Adinolfi	Becker	Cates	Dasch
Fledderjohn	Fulton	Garcia	Guptill
Hix	Hyatt	Loveday	Meyers
Minnaudo	Patterson	Presley	Rourk
Smith	Valdez	L. Wilson	

If you have any changes to your membership info (address, phone, e-mail, etc.) please let Carl Chinn know at chasbasemembernews@sc.rr.com or carlc@sc.rr.com or call 875-3098.



Sub Vets World War II:

USS Amberjack Memorial Service
Saturday March 25, 2006, 1100 Hrs.
White Point Gardens (Battery) downtown Charleston
Uniform:
Blue Shirt
Kahki Pants

(Aiken) and the Southern Region WWII Submarine Veterans will be hosting the *Combined Conference of USSVI Eastern Region Districts Four & Six and Southern Region Sub Vets WWII* in Charleston, May 3-7, 2006. See registration form in the January issue or on our web site. You can book rooms at the hotel any time. The conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel Charleston Airport, on Rivers Ave. at Aviation. All base members are reminded that we will need many volunteers to make this conference a success. More information to follow.

Combined Conference Book

Our conference book ad sales are not what they could/should be. This effort can be a tremendous source of extra money for all 3 bases involved. It will help us cover the cost of the various activities for the conference and strengthen our coffers for future necessities. All hands need to help in selling advertisements. Ads can be sold to individuals as boosters or to any business or organization that wants to get their name out there. If you need sample materials to show to potential advertisers, see Lee Allison. He has full size samples of the book and ad sizes/prices. When you get ads AND payment, send/deliver it to Carl Chinn or get a hold of him and meet somewhere. He can be reached at 875-3098 or carlc@sc.rr.com. Be sure to get payment for the ads! No tickee, no washee!

Deadline for the sale of book ads is March 15. That's only about 3 weeks. We need ads!!

Answer to Who is this handsome devil? From the February issue.

He is none other than our own Panama Jack Stevenson!

A Submarine

Born in the shops of the Devil,
 Designed in the brains of a fiend,
 Filled with acid and crude oil,
 And christened "a Submarine"

The poets send in their ditties,
 of Battleships spick and clean,
 But never a word in their columns,
 Do you see of a Submarine

So I'll try to depict our story,
 In a very laconic way,
 So please have patience to listen,
 Until I have finished my say

We eat where'er we can find it,
 and sleep hanging up on the hooks,
 conditions under which we're existing,

Sub Vet Shirt
 Vest
 Shoes

If you do not have any of the above, please come and help us memorialize our fellow Submarine Brothers!

Questions: Call Randy Bognar (843) 442-7794



**Public Affairs Announcement
 Richard Cleeve**

Pictures of the Hunley-Housatonic service are now on the web site. The application for the Admiral Osborne scholarship is also on the web site.

March Submarines Lost:

- USS F-4 (SS 21) - March 25, 1915
- USS H-1 (SS 28) - March 12, 1920
- USS Perch (SS 176) March 3, 1942
- USS Grampus (SS 207) March 5, 1943
- USS Triton (SS 201) March 15, 1943
- USS Tullibee (SS 284) March 26, 1944
- USS Kete (SS 369) March 20, 1945
- USS Trigger (SS 237) March 26, 1945

*".....they were young,
 Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
 They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted.
 They fell with their faces to the foe.
 Bravely they died. In proud remembrance we salute them."*

Special "Thank You"

A special thank you is order for the following businesses who have kindly donated to Charleston Base:

- To Carolina Truss Systems for their donation of trusses for a new pole barn to protect our float.
- To Applied Industrial Technologies for their kind donation of wheel bearing materials to refurbish our float.
- To Outback Steakhouse for their door prize donation for our inaugural Co-Ed Casino Day.
- To Ms. Francis Klein for her cash donation.

Whenever possible please use the businesses that have been generous to our organization!

are never published in books

Life in these boats is obnoxious,
and that is using mild terms,
We are never bothered by sickness,
there isn't any room for germs

We are never troubled with varmints,
there are things even a cockroach can't stand,
and any self-respecting rodent,
quick as possible beats it for land

And that little one dollar per dive,
We receive to submerge out of sight,
is often earned more than double,
by charging batteries at night

Machinists get soaked in fuel oil,
Electricians in H₂SO₄,
Gunnermates with 600W,
and torpedo slush galore

When we come into the Navy Yard,
We are looked upon with disgrace,
and they make out some new regulations,
to fit our particular case

Now all you Battleship Sailors,
When you are feeling disgruntled and mean,
just pack your bag and hammock
and go to "A Submarine."

Anonymous

Originally published in 1918 in a New London Sub Base
newspaper