



Vol. 2, No. 12

December 2006

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

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### 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.ussvich.org](http://www.ussvich.org)

National web page: [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org)

#### Base Meeting:

No meeting in December

#### Location:

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

| Base Officers  |                   | Phone Number |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Commander      | Steve Nelms       | 843-563-7115 |
| Vice Commander | Carl Chinn        | 843-875-3098 |
| Secretary      | Ronnie Kerstetter | 843-553-9235 |
| Treasurer      | George Lisle      | 843-559-4242 |

#### Special Officers

#### Phone Number

|                      |                           |              |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Chief of the Boat    | Marty Sessler             | 843-871-1536 |
| 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 "Friar Tuck" 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 |
| Alcohol & Gaming     | Dave Mueller              | 843-553-2775 |



## Merry Christmas!

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 Minutes of the November

**Scholarship:** Jim Yates was not present. A hand made Afghan will be raffled out starting at tonight's meeting, with the proceeds

## 2006 meeting

**Opening Ceremony:** Base Commander, Steve Jelms, called the meeting to order. A quorum was present and the meeting was commenced at 1900.

**Introductions:** New persons were introduced; Michael Kay, Dom Bellon, Jim Morrison, Roy L. Massey Sr. Welcome aboard.

**Treasurer:** George Lisle gave the treasurer's report.

**Secretary:** Ronnie Kerstetter asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from last month. A motion was made and seconded; no discussion. Minutes approved.

**Storekeeper:** Paul Viering gave the storekeepers report. Paul asked that "if you ordered anything, pay for it, and pick it up".

**Chaplain:** Jim Yates is recovering from multiple bypass heart surgery. Ray Murphy's wife Betty C. Murphy died in Orangeburg. She was the past South Carolina Commander of the Wives of Submarine Veterans of World War II. We will send a donation to the church that was recommended in her name.

Rodney Mckanna is recovering from a serious traffic accident. His temperature is back to normal and holding steady. He may be going to a private room soon and would appreciate your support and prayers to aid in his recovery.

Harry Sims, one of our members from Harleyville lost his vision while driving, but got home safely. He will have a tumor removed on his pituitary gland. If anybody is sick and needs help contact either Bill Kennedy or Marty Sessler

**Public Affairs:** Richard Cleeve has the April, June, and July activity pictures ready for the website.

**Sub Vets WWII:** Sy Maybe, Swamp Fox Chapter resident, reported that the next Swamp Fox Chapter meeting will be 14 December. The Swamp Fox Journal is now on the web.

**Veteran's Affairs:** John Nichols discussed the following topics that will be on the website; Tricare long term care, Medicare rates, medical mistakes, VA is promoting that Vets wear metals and service ribbons to promote patriotism, COLA updates, health care enrollment update, VA co-pay changes.

**Membership:** Carl Chinn reported that Charleston Base Sub Vets has 240 members as of tonight. We are within 97 members of being the second largest base in the nation. Keep on recruiting. Annual dues are due by 1 January. Please pay your dues as soon as possible.

**Nuclear Historian:** Ed Simokat was present and encouraged members to consider the impact of any motions that are being considered. Don't be so quick to approve everything.

going to the scholarship fund. The Afghan is red, white, and blue and was made by Clyde Peters' sister-in-law.

**Fleet Reserve News:** No report.

**Chief of the Boat:** Dave Mueller gave the COB report. We had 100 people to sign in tonight. That is the highest number ever for a monthly meeting. We make our money by selling depth charge tickets and from social nights. Support social nights if you can. The average turn out for social nights is 24. The average person buys 4.6 depth charge tickets per monthly meeting to support our organization. The COB thanked all that helped to make the Hog Roast a success. Dave "No Neck" Mueller has resigned as Chief of the Boat as of tonight. Marty Sessler is the new COB in training.

**Base Commander:** Buddha thanked No Neck for his past service as the COB. There will be no monthly meeting in December at the VFW due to the Christmas Party on 2 December at Gatherings. Two Mark14 torpedoes are available if we can come up with the \$3,500 for shipping costs. Call Buddha with any ideas on the Mark14's and possible submarine related support issues at the Military Museum in downtown Charleston.

**District Four Report:** Jerry Stout discussed that Bob Hayes, his counterpart in SubVets WWII, has resigned due to health reasons.

**Old Business:** Stan Standrich retracted the motion he made to provide automatic life membership to any member reaching the age of 75.

Christmas Party Saturday December 2nd. Social hour will start at 1700; dinner will be served at 1830. You must have tickets to attend.

**New Business:** A motion was approved for Charleston Base Sub Vets to provide the American Submariner magazine to each of the three area commands; Nuke School, the Training Unit, and the Naval Weapons Station. Details to be worked out by Buddha.

Motion approved to buy 10 aprons for the cooks on future Hog Roasts.

Motion approved to buy 8 more tables and another canopy for use at our quarterly events.

**Good Of The Order:** The depth charge drawing was held. The winner was Ken Hutchinson.

The Base Vice Commander adjourned meeting at 2020.

**\*\* End of the minutes for November 2006 \*\***

### From the Base Commander



Still looking for hard brass tubing. The requirements are:  
 1/2" to 2" in diameter with a wall thickness of 1/16" or less. I need  
 5 pieces, each 4 to 6 feet long.  
 Desire free or REALLY CHEAP!  
 We're still in need of insulation for the ceiling of *The After Battery*.

### \*\*December Happenings!\*\*

**NO MEETING in December!!!**

December 2 – Christmas party. 1700 at Gatherings

December 17 – Summerville Christmas Parade. Lineup no later  
 than 1730 (Line up spot will be posted at a later  
 date). Float will leave The After Battery at 1600



|             |            |          |          |
|-------------|------------|----------|----------|
| Bailey      | Baker      | C. Chinn | Colitte  |
| Collins     | P. Davis   | Eckles   | Emerson  |
| Evans       | Fulton     | Hayes    | Hopkins  |
| Horton      | Humbertson | Samples  | Schnebel |
| Semler      | Standrich  | Trump    | Vandiver |
| R. Williams | Zeigler    |          |          |

### Membership and Dues Information:

We're up to **242** members! We are currently number 5 in  
 base size, but we are only 10 fewer than number 3 and only  
 15 from number 2. We can do it! Keep on recruitin'!

Time to pay your 2007 dues. If you are unsure of what you  
 owe (regular national or base) please ask me! See me at the  
 meeting, e-mail or call.

**Dues are payable no later than January 1, 2007.**

Remember...No regular meeting in December.

So far only 17 have paid for 2007. **There are currently 121  
 members who still owe dues (local or local & national)!** We  
 dropped 8 members last year...let's not let that happen again!

**Pay by 1 January to stay off the dink list the dink list!**

Annual dues are \$20 for National and \$15 for Charleston  
 Base.

If you have any changes to your membership info (address,  
 phone, e-mail, etc.) you can now make those changes directly  
 on-line in the Sub Vets national database. If you make  
 changes, please let me know at  
**hasbasemembernews@sc.rr.com** or **carlc@sc.rr.com** or  
 call 875-3098. This is so we can keep our local information  
 current and accurate. If you want, I can make the changes for  
 you...just let me know.

### December Submarines Lost:

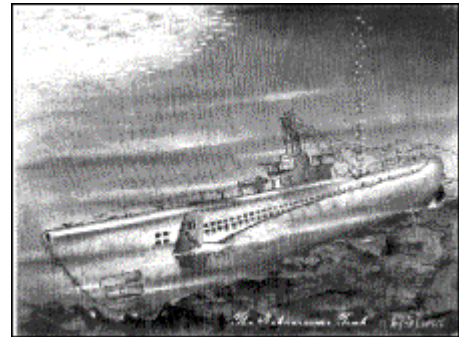
|             |        |                      |
|-------------|--------|----------------------|
| USS F-1     | SS 20  | December 17,<br>1917 |
| USS S-4     | SS 109 | December 17,<br>1927 |
| USS Sealion | SS 195 | December 10,<br>1941 |

### The Final Patrol

*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 shipmates still on  
 patrol.*

*Let them know that we who survive will always  
 keep their memories alive.*



*Some adult content below*



### Remember When....

Me and Willy were lollygagging by the  
 scuttlebutt after being aloft to boy butter up the  
 antennas and were just perched on a bollard  
 eyeballing a couple of bilge rats and  
 flangeheads using crescent hammers to pack  
 monkey shit around a fitting on a handybilly.  
 All of a sudden the dicksmith started hard-  
 assing one of the deck apes for lifting his poge  
 bait. The pecker-checker was a sewer pipe  
 sailor and the deckape was a gator. Maybe  
 being blackshoes on a bird farm surrounded by  
 a gaggle of cans didn't set right with either of  
 those gobs. The deck ape ran through the

## Membership Drive



### Target: *New Members*

Started in November was a membership drive for 2007. We have the potential of becoming the second largest base in the country with just a little bit of work. It will be easy to be number 3 'cause we're only 10 behind them. Who knows, we might someday surpass Groton Base!

Here's the deal: Recruit as many new members as you can. The guy who recruits the most new members before 1 April 2007 will get 2 years Charleston Base membership dues paid. If that guy is already a Charleston Base Life member he will get \$30 cash. In case of a tie, there will be a random drawing for the winner. Make sure that you let me know when you recruit a new guy, if he joins you get credit and I can track the numbers.

Carl

#### Tricare Website:

The Department of Defense launched **TRICARE.mil** as the official website site for all TRICARE information on 10 NOV 06. Beneficiaries can now go to one site to look up benefit information, schedule an appointment or track claims. Everything's in one place making the site easier to use. TRICARE.mil comprises five main content areas:

- My Health (TRICARE Online) - personal health information and online appointment scheduling for TRICARE Prime enrollees;
- My Benefit - TRICARE benefit information;
- MHS Staff - resources for Military Health System staff members;
- TRICARE Providers - information for TRICARE network providers; and
- The Pressroom - the latest news about TRICARE and the military health system.

In the next phase of website improvements, beneficiaries will be able to enter their profile and receive benefit information tailored to them. TRICARE expects this feature to be available next year.

#### Terminology Trivia

##### **Ornamental Sleeve Buttons**

The decorative bone buttons that are today sewn on many suit jackets, sports coats and blazers began as an effort by Lord Nelson to keep young midshipmen and cabin boys from wiping their noses on their sleeves.

In the days of sail, young boys, often as young as nine years old, would sign on sailing ships as cabin boys, usually becoming midshipmen as they got older. Many, particularly on their first voyages, would become homesick, tearfully tending to their duties in their fancy gentlemen's uniform. That uniform had no pockets for a handkerchief, so the young boys would, like all young boys, wipe their noses on their sleeves.

To break his cabin boys and midshipmen of this ungentlemanly habit, Lord Nelson had large brass buttons sewn on the sleeves of all midshipmen and cabin boy uniforms. The decorative value of the buttons were soon realized, and in short order, London tailors were

nearest hatch and dogged it tight because he knew the penis machinist was going to lay below, catch him between decks and punch him in the snout locker. He'd probably wind up on the binnacle list but Doc would find a way to gundeck the paper or

give it the deep six to keep himself above board.

We heard the skivvywaver announce over the bitch box that the breadburners had creamed foreskins on toast and SOS ready on the mess decks so we cut and run to avoid the clusterfuck when the twidgets and cannon cockers knew chow was on. We were balls to the wall for the barn and everyone was preparing to hit the beach as soon as we doubled-up and threw the brow over. I had a ditty bag full of fufu juice that I was gonna spread on thick for the bar hogs with those sweet bosnias. Sure beats the hell out of brown bagging. Might even hit the acey-duecy club and try to hook up with a westpac widow. They were always leaving snail trails on the dance floor on amateur night.

Now, for Land Lubbers OR those of you who may have forgotten:

lollygagging..... goofing off  
 scuttlebutt..... drinking fountain  
 aloft..... in the superstructure  
 boy butter..... Light tan grease or silicone grease  
 bollard..... Squat cylindrical fixtures attached to a pier or deck to secure mooring lines.  
 bilge rats..... Engineering ratings  
 flangeheads..... Enginemen  
 crescent hammers..... Crescent wrenches  
 handybilly..... P500 submersible pump  
 dicksmith..... Hospital Corpsman  
 hard-assing..... Giving someone a hard time verbally  
 deck ape..... Personnel assigned to the deck gang, usually Boatswain Mates  
 pogeys bait..... Any sweet stuff like candy, etc. (bought in the ge-dunk)  
 ge-dunk..... Place to buy pogeys bait  
 sewer pipe..... Submarine  
 gator..... Ships of the amphibious force  
 blackshoes..... Non-aviation ratings  
 bird farm..... Aircraft Carrier  
 cans..... Destroyers  
 gobs..... Sailors  
 hatch..... Doors, entrances through a bulkhead (wall)  
 dogged it..... Activate a handle that puts the locks into place

adding decorative buttons to frocks, coats, and dinner jackets. Though the buttons have become less gaudy, the practice continues.

### **Bell-Bottom Trousers**

The Sailor's bell-bottom trousers, which came to epitomize '60s and early '70s fashion, are actually a practical item for Sailors living aboard ship. The wide, flared, legs are easy to roll up when wabbing a deck or wading through slightly flooded spaces.



Veterans Day 2006

### **Special One Time Tax Credit On Your 2006 Tax Return**

When it comes time to prepare and file your 2006 tax return, make sure you don't overlook the "federal excise tax refund credit." You claim the credit on line 71 of your form 1040. A similar line will be available if you file the short form 1040A. If you have family or friends who no longer file a tax return AND they have their own land phone in their home and have been paying a phone bill for years, make sure they know about this form 1040EZ-T. What is this all about? Well the federal excise tax has been charged to you on your phone bill for years. It is an old tax that was assessed on your toll calls based on how far the call was being made and how much time you talked on that call. When phone companies began to offer flat fee phone service, challenges to the excise tax ended up in federal courts in several districts of the country. The challenges pointed out that flat fee/rate phone service had nothing to do with the distance and the length of the phone call. Therefore, the excise tax should/could not be assessed. The IRS has now conceded this argument. Phone companies have been given notice to stop assessing the federal excise tax as of Aug 30, 2006. You will most likely see the tax on your September cutoff statement, but it should NOT be on your October bill. But the challengers of the old law also demanded restitution. So the IRS has announced that a one time credit will be available when you and I file our 2006 tax return as I explained above. However, the IRS also established limits on how BIG a credit you can get. Here's how it works.

If you file your return as a single person with just you as a dependent, you get to claim a \$30 credit on line 71 of your 1040. If you file with a child or a parent as your dependent, you claim \$40.

If you file your return as a married couple with no children, you claim \$40.

If you file as married with children, you claim \$50 if one child, \$60 if two children.

In all cases, the most you get to claim is \$60 - UNLESS you have

penis machinist..... Hospital Corpsman  
 lay below..... To go to a lower level of the ship...below the weather decks  
 snot locker..... Nose  
 binnacle list..... Medical department list of personnel in a no duty or light duty status  
 Gundeck..... To falsify a record  
 deep six..... To throw overboard  
 skivvywavers..... Signalmen  
 breadburners..... Cooks (or stewburners or gut-robbers)  
 clusterfuck..... Self-explanatory (Chinese fire drill, to those less PC)  
 twidgets..... Men who work in electronics fields  
 cannon cockers..... Gunnersmates  
 balls to the wall..... Full speed ahead  
 barn..... Home port  
 hit the beach..... Go on liberty  
 doubled up..... Moored securely to the pier  
 brow..... Walkway from ship/shore/ship  
 ditty bag..... Small canvas bag issued to sailors to keep incidental in  
 fufu juice..... Cologne  
 bar hogs..... Young or old ladies who frequent sailor bars  
 bosnias..... Big Old Standard Navy Issue Asses  
 brown bagging..... Refers to married sailors who live off the ship while in port and bring lunch in a brown bag.  
 acey-ducey club..... Club for E5s and E6s (1st class PO & 2nd class PO)  
 westpac widow..... Women whose husbands are at sea  
amateur night..... Payday night

**Tricare Reimbursement Rates:** An updated list of the Tricare reimbursement rates is now available to beneficiaries. The changes for fiscal year 2007 include updated rates for inpatient mental health, residential treatment centers, partial hospitalization, hospice, and inpatient cost-shares for civilian hospitals. Tricare reimbursement rates are aligned with Medicare rates as set by Congress. However, Tricare does have some dispensations that may not be available to Medicare to ensure that beneficiaries continue to have health care available. Medicare premiums also change annually and now the Medicare Part B premium is linked to income. In 2007, individual

all your phone bills starting AFTER Feb 28, 2003 through July 31, 2006 (do not use any bills starting Aug 1, 2006), then you can add up the ACTUAL TAX AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR BILLS AND CLAIM THAT FOR A CREDIT.

Now if you have your actual phone bills and come up with an ACTUAL TAX AMOUNT, you cannot use line 71 on your tax return. You have to complete a special form number 8913 and attach it to your tax return.

Individuals using the special form 1040EZ-T will have to attach this form 8913 also.

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**Thanks to the following donors for the Christmas Party:**

|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Jennaro's                 | Old South Carriage Co. |
| Tomato Grill              | Custom Wood Crafters   |
| Middleton Plantation      | Starbucks, Summerville |
| Lowertown Florist         | Edible Arrangements    |
| Rick & Colleen Collins    | Paul & Jenny Viering   |
| Charleston County Parks   | Charleston Accents     |
| Comingware Corelle Outlet |                        |

incomes will trigger premium increases at \$80,000, \$100,000, \$150,000 and \$200,000.

For married couples the premium rises when the income is double those amounts. However, this change will have no effect on Tricare costs or benefits for those who are also Medicare beneficiaries. Beneficiaries can view the updated reimbursement rates on the Tricare web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/tricarecost.cfm](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tricarecost.cfm).

**Tricare Reimbursement Rates Update 01:**

The updated 2007 cost shares for Tricare beneficiaries are now available from the Defense Department. Every year, the federal government tweaks the elaborate system that determines the amount doctors get paid for care and procedures, known as "reimbursement rates". Those changes, in turn, translate into changes in cost shares, or co-pays, for insurance beneficiaries. Tricare officials said this year's changes are few and small. A comparison of the 2006 and 2007 charts revealed an increase in charges for civilian in-patient skilled nursing facility care, such as nursing homes, from \$11 per day co-pay to \$14.80 per day under Tricare Standard and Extra. The daily charges for active-duty family members to receive in-patient care will also creep up 45 cents a day under the same plans. Tricare Standard beneficiaries will also pay more for in-patient care at low-volume behavioral health facilities. Rates now are \$181 per day or 25% of the billed charges, on top of 25% of the allowable charges for separately billed services. That is up from \$175 per day in 2006. There will be no increases for Tricare Prime beneficiaries, according to the charts.

The updated rates are available on the internet at

<http://www.tricare.mil/tricarecost.cfm>. For more detailed information and personal help, patients should contact their regional Tricare contractor. Tricare reimbursement rates are aligned with congressionally determined Medicare rates.

There are some differences, however, with Tricare picking up some costs that Medicare does not. For those carrying Tricare coverage that are also eligible for Medicare, income-based changes to Medicare premiums are coming in 2007. In 2007, Medicare premiums will increase when an individual's income hits \$80,000, \$100,000, \$150,000 and \$200,000. For married couples, premiums increases are triggered by double those amounts. Tricare officials said changes to Medicare Part B will have no effect on their Tricare coverage. Those who are eligible for Medicare and are enrolled in Tricare for Life have separate payment charts which can be found at

[www.tricare.osd.mil/tfl/tflcostmatrix\\_b.html](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tfl/tflcostmatrix_b.html).

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**Christmas Party comments from a member:**

You guys really know how to ruin the fun. It started when I got there and got a drink, it was Crown Royal and free. Thinking it was a mistake, I elected to try another and behold it was fee also. Then there is a poo poo table prior to dinner. Knowing I was going to get stale pretzels, behold lots of pickled things and veggies. Again, no charge. I tried it twice too.

Finally the dinner was ready. I was at table 2 thinking I was going to eat first but noooooooo, you have to mix it up and make me wait. Fully expecting empty platters with only beanie weenies to munch, behold again there was all kinds of food and it was still coming after I ate.

So...Take it from me, the both of you need practice on getting this right! I'm expecting to have the same terrible time in 2007 only with a NEW WOMAN in my life to share this unmemorable experience.

Thanks a lot



