

# TORPEDO ALLEY



Vol. 6, No. 11

November 2010

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

#### Base Meeting:

November 10, 2010

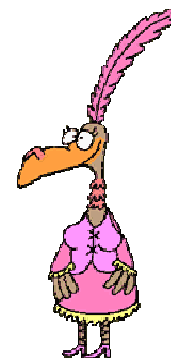
Social hour 1800, General Meeting 1900

#### Location:

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 269, Low Country Home  
 99 Wisteria Rd.  
 Goose Creek, South Carolina. Phone 843-569-2962

Special Officers		Phone Number
Chief of the Boat	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Public Affairs	Ed Stank	843- 569-6012
Veterans Affairs	Jim Morrison	843-832-9716
Chaplain	John Nichols	843-452-3189
Membership	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Holland Club	John Lookabill	843-797-2991
Scholarship	Jim Yates	843-873-0246
Newsletter	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Storekeeper	Ken Fuhr	803-413-3657
Webmaster	John Nichols	843-452-3189
Historian	George Scharf	843 873-3318

Base Officers		Phone Number
Commander	Paul Viering	843-797-2623
Vice Commander	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Secretary	Ed Stank	843- 569-6012
Treasurer	Terry Trump	843-873-9563



## Minutes of the October 2010 meeting

Attendance for the October 14, 2010 meeting was 103

**Opening Ceremony:** Base Commander called the meeting to order. A Quorum was present and the meeting was commenced at 1900.

**Introductions:** New people were introduced; William Sparks EN2(SS), Charles Vincent ETCM(SS) Retired, MMCS(SS) James Gulick Retired. Welcome aboard.

**Secretary:** Asked for and received approval of last month's minutes.

**Treasurer:** Terry gave the treasurer's report.

**Storekeeper:** A DILLIGAFF will be available.

**Chaplain:** Nick Nichols presented the chaplain report and requested that the membership update their Page 2, get your pictures taken at the conclusion of the meeting and take a look at the Website as updates are very frequent

October Report:

- Holly Shanks, great-granddaughter of Rick and Jean Wise, is doing well.
- Walter Job had a triple bypass and is home recovering.
- Judy Hutchison has been released from the hospital and is home recovering.
- Roger Rader was admitted to the hospital after our last meeting due to anemia caused by his cancer treatments.
- Walt Deal was admitted to the hospital after our last meeting due to heart problems. After some tests he was released.
- Tom Yingling's father passed away on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Bob Bruce had his cancer surgery and is home recovering.
- Linn Rogers had artery and vein surgery on October 7<sup>th</sup> and is now home recovering.
- Larry Rosselot had his left knee and right hip replaced on October 12<sup>th</sup>. He is now beginning the long recovery process.
- Willie Jones was in the VA hospital on October 11<sup>th</sup> for a procedure.
- Stacey Power was in the hospital with a pulmonary embolism. He went home on October 7<sup>th</sup> with medicine to dissolve the blood clots.
- Mike Karriker had some tests done for minor chest and jaw pains. The tests turned out negative and now he's awaiting further results to determine the problem.
- Glen Fleming, who is not a Charleston Base member, has been fighting throat cancer. It has spread to his tongue and his tongue had to be reconstructed. He's now awaiting a possible 2<sup>nd</sup> surgery.
- Jim Loveday fell last week and broke his wrist.

**Fleet Reserve:** Larry Cox reported the Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of October there will be another Honor Flight to Washington DC. The flight will return to Charleston at 7:00 PM and their visit to the WWII memorial amongst other national monuments. All members are encouraged to be at the airport and welcome home these brave men.

General Livingston, Medal of Honor recipient will be the FRA's guest speaker for the Memorial Day Services at Plantation Memorial Gardens on Highway 17A. All Submarine Veterans are invited to attend.

The Car Wash, Garage and Bake sale was a success. The FRA has reached its goal of \$2500 to donate to the Honor Flight. As a result of these efforts we will be sending a Guardian from the Branch. Raffle tickets will be sold in the near future for \$20.00. This is a \$500.00 Value. Those interested in being a Guardian on the Spring 2011 flight, check with the bartender at the FRA in the near future. All money received will be donated back to the Honor Flight.

On October 30, the FRA will be holding a Halloween Bash.

**Base Historian:** No report

**After Battery:** Buddha reported that the Hog Roast went well and we had many fellow submariners visiting from out of area./\*8.

**Chief of the Boat:** Support the return of the Honor Flight on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Holly, the COB's Great Granddaughter, is doing well; thanks for all your support.

Upcoming events:

November 7 – Taste of the Town in Summerville which will include a Patriotism presentation by the SUBVETS, The SUBVETS normally perform the Tolling the Boats ceremony at 1400. Check the USSVICB Web site for updates

Christmas Party at the Gatherings, Last day for ticket sales is the November meeting. Tickets are \$15.00 for you and one guest. Additional tickets are \$20 each. Summerville Christmas Parade is Sunday December 12 Harleysville Parade is December 02.

**Base Commander:** Asked for a motion to donate \$1000 to the Swamp Fox chapter WW2 to help pay for the Lost Boats Memorial at Patriots Point, (Amberjack). Motion made, seconded, no discussion, passed.

**Nuclear Historian:** No report

**Old Business:** Rodney reported that they filled the Harry Davidson Three wheel bike with undies for the Homeless Veterans.

**New Business:** Bill Bates reported that November 2 is election day. Get out and Vote!!!

Gary Semlar reported that the WWII SUBVETS

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Several follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

If you know of shipmates or spouses from other bases who are having a difficult time, had surgery, etc. and would like for USSVI Charleston Base to send them a card please send their name and address to the Chaplain via email or phone call.

**Vice Commander Report:** No report

**Sub Vets WWII:** Executive Board to meet Monday @ 0900 at Perkins on Rivers Ave. The Bi-Monthly Meeting will be held at Ryan's in Summerville on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October at 11:30 AM. WWII Submarine Calendars and Lost Boat Cards are available for \$8.00/ea or both for \$15.00.

**Scholarship:** The USS Cobia model donated by Ken Hutchison will be raffled off at the annual Christmas Party. Tickets are \$5/ea and 6 for \$20.00. Challenge coins used to support the Scholarship fund are also available. Also Ricky Collins has a chest freezer for sale with proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

**Public Affairs:** No report

**Webmaster:** The website is constantly updated. If you have anything you want posted send it to Nick Nichols.

**Veteran's Affairs:** No report

#### **Veterans' Notes**

Aid and Attendance Special Pension – provides benefits for veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular assistance of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing or undressing, or taking care of the needs of nature.

It also includes individuals who are blind, or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity. Assisted care in an Assisted Living facility also qualifies. The A&A Pension can provide monthly payments of up to \$1,519 to a veteran, \$976 to a surviving spouse, or \$1801 to a couple.

Eligibility must be proven by filing the proper Veterans Application for Pension or Compensation. This application will require a copy of the veteran's Form DD 214 or Separation Papers, a Medical Evaluation from a physician, list current medical issues, net worth limitations, and net income, along with out of pocket medical expenses.

A Form DD 214 is issued to military members when they separate from Active Duty. The DD 214 was first issued in the 1950's, but "DD 214" has become a generic term for any Separation papers or Discharge from Military Service documents.

For complete information on this and other Veterans' Benefits, contact your local VA Regional Center, or County Veterans' Service

ceremony will be held in Kings Bay GA from 27-30 October.

#### **Good Of The Order:**

Bill Roberts reported that the Submarine Veterans District meeting will be held in Ocala next year and RV parking will be available at the Hotel.

The USSVI SEADRAGON Base of Central Florida is hosting next year's Regional Conference in Ocala, Florida.

*Our 'Team' has been hard at work to develop plans and come up with an itinerary so we can get the word out early enough for your members to make plans to attend next April. Though we're actively working now on final 'tweakings', we believe we've come up with an exciting and rewarding plan for you and your Base Members to enjoy.*

*The 'host' Holiday Inn Express has been recently renovated, and both the rooms and nightly rate are outstanding!*

*Their switchboard is now OPEN to take room reservations, and the earlier your members register, the better it is for our planning. PLEASE help us with this, by encouraging your Members NOW to make plans to be with us in April of 2011.*

*Below you will find instructions from our Web-Master on pulling up the Information Flyer and the Conference Registration Form. We hope they are self-explanatory, but don't hesitate to get back with one of the 'contacts' listed if any questions exist.*

*Please 'push' our Conference at your up-coming Base Meetings, and encourage your Members to make plans NOW to attend. SEADRAGON Base is a relatively small Base, but we're fully committed to making this 2011 Regional Conference in Ocala to not only be memorable, but the best you and your Members have attended!*

*We look forward to having the full support of you and your Members in 2011.*

*Warmest regards,*

*Ivan L. Joslin*

*CAPT USN (Retired)*

*Base Commander*

Rick Sparger reported the Hog Roast went well and thanked everyone for all their help, including Charley Hudson and Gary Similar.

Rick reported he attended the Medal of Honor Ceremonies in for the 52 members of this elite group. The next meeting is in Louisville KY in 2011. When the living Medal of Honors size reaches 25 the group will be disbanded. A video on the ceremonies is available on the USSVICB Web site.

Louis Leal won the Depth Charge drawing of \$570.00 and donated \$150.00 to the Scholarship fund. Thanks Louis!

Office.

The Base Commander adjourned meeting at 2010.

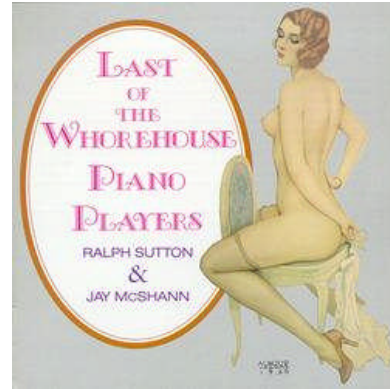
**District Commander:** No report

**Holland Club:** John Lookabill stated that all paperwork for induction into the Holland Club be completed by January 2011 and the ceremony would be held in April in conjunction with the Submarine Service Birthday.

**Membership:** 340 members.

**Little David:** Berkeley County Tractor Show is November 21 and 22 in Monks Corner.

**Newsletter:** Your name will be in the newsletter if you don't pay your dues.



*"Don't tell mom I'm a submariner, she thinks I play piano in a whorehouse."*



# NOTICE

***Our regular monthly meeting for November will be held on Wednesday, 10 November instead of 11 November!***

## November Submarines Lost:

USS Corvina	SS 226	November 16, 1943
USS Sculpin	SS 191	November 19, 1943
USS Capelin	SS 289	November 23, 1943
USS Albacore	SS 218	November 7, 1944
USS Growler	SS 215	November 8, 1944
USS Scamp	SS 277	November 9, 1944

### The Final Patrol

*Lord, these departed shipmates with dolphins on their chest,  
Are a part of an outfit known as the very best.  
Make them welcome and take them by the hand,  
You'll find without a doubt they were the best in all the land.  
So, heavenly Father, add their names to the roll,  
Of our departed shipmates still on patrol.  
Let them know that we who survive,  
Will always keep their memories alive.*



Barnette, G	Bergamo	Buxton	Gomez
Hubert	Kerstetter	LaForce	Langley
Lawson	Lehmann	Leonhardt	Litzenberger
Luttrell	McKanna	McLochlin	Miller, M
Morrison	Mueller	Munoz	Narowski
O'Brien	Pease	Power	Rader
Seal	Skinner	Starland	Stevenson
Versprill	Viering	Wilson, M	Wolfe
Wright			

### Annual Christmas Party



The Charleston Base Christmas Party will be on 4 December 2010. It will be held at the same location as the past 4 years; **Gatherings** in beautiful downtown Dorchester, SC.

# NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS!

November 7 – Patriotism In The Park, Azalea Park, Summerville. 1200 to 1600. We will have a Boat Tolling at 1330.

**November 10** – Regular meeting, 1900; social hour 1800

November 11 – Veterans Day Ceremony, Summerville County Services building on Main Street. Starts at 1030.



Same rules as always...

**you must have a ticket to attend** and **THERE WILL BE NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR!**

Cocktails at 1700, Dinner at 1830

Dress is not prescribed, come comfortable, as you desire. Coat and tie, slacks and shirt, etc.

**Last day to buy tickets is 11 November.** Buy early!

Ticket price: \$15 per person for member and spouse/girlfriend. \$20 per person for all other guests.



Our part of “Patriotism in the Park”:  
Charleston Base Boat Tolling Ceremony  
at 1330

## Membership Dues

2011 membership dues were payable on 1 October 2010. If you're not sure what you owe, contact Carl Chinn at [membership@ussvicb.org](mailto:membership@ussvicb.org) or 875-3098.

The following members are **ON THE DINK LIST**:

Abbott	Michael
Allegretto	Guido
Andersen	Douglas
Bolin	Randall
Bonow	David
Cahall	Gene

## Flu Shots for TRICARE Beneficiaries

Influenza vaccines are covered by Medicare at no cost to TRICARE for Life beneficiaries as long as they are administered by a Medicare provider who agrees to accept the Medicare-approved amount as full payment. Flu shots also are covered by TRICARE if obtained at participating TRICARE network pharmacies in the U.S. Beneficiaries should call ahead to their pharmacy to determine if it participates in the TRICARE program and has vaccines available. To find a participating pharmacy, go to [www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE](http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE) or call Express Scripts at 1-877-363-1303. For more information about seasonal vaccines and TRICARE, visit the flu page at the TRICARE website.

## Navy Offers New Pin

Seventy-one officers and three enlisted Sailors recently became one of the first groups to receive the information dominance warfare pin during a ceremony at the Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C. The new qualification is designed to give members of the Information Dominance Corps a broader understanding of information dominance outside of their specialties. Officers eligible for the information dominance warfare qualification have 36 months to earn the pin. The enlisted qualification program is currently being phased in throughout the fleet.



## We Are A Submarine Sailor

One of the benefits of growing old is the gift of time...  
Time to look back and revisit your collective 'Life

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Clark	David
Clift	Marvin
Coutu	Girard
Donofrio	Donald
Douglass	Peter
Erickson	William
Farr	Craig
Fletcher	Stephen
Gunnis	Glenn
Hamilton	Elton
Harbison	Robert
Higgins	James
Hunt	Danny
Hunter	William
Ianuzzi	Michael
Johnson	Edwin
Jones	William
Karriker	Michael
Kratz	Warren "John"
LaForce	Christian
Langley	Robert
Lanier	Dennis
Lavergne	R.J.
Litzenberger	Ron
Londergan	Donald
Lord	Avery
Luttrell	William
Mason	Larry
Miller	Marvin
Minaudo	John
Mook	Donald
Morrin	David
Niebeling	Roger
O'Callaghan	Thomas
Olsen	Odell
Ougourlian	Gregory
Peters	Clyde
Pruitt	William
Rackley	Emmett
Reid	James
Roehm	Louis
Slattery	Michael
Smith	Pinckney
Spagone	Daniel
Versprill	Philip
Waller	Rick
Watson	Lon
White	Howard
Wieland	Ralph
Zeigler	Walter

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Experiences.'

For old smokeboat sailors, that means time to shuffle through memories of pissing against the wind in faded soft dungarees, frayed raghats and zinc chromate-spattered broghans. You can close your eyes and be transported back to a time when men wore acid-eaten uniforms, breathed air worse than the primate house at a poorly managed zoo, whittled mold and rot off food of advanced age being reclaimed by the gods of putrifaction, and surgically carving off the stuff and eating it. You survived and built up an immunity that could handle leprosy, lockjaw and cobra bites. We survived. Submarine duty was rough.

Many of us 'hotsacked'. For those of you who missed that life experience, hotsacking was sharing sleeping arrangements (to put it in easily understood terms). A system that required lads at the entry level of the undersea service profession, to crawl onto a sweat-soaked flashpad just vacated by another bottom-feeding shipmate. Lads of today's modern technically advanced undersea service would find it damn near impossible to imagine a day when lads who hadn't showered in weeks, climbed a tier of racks sharing sock aroma on par with three-day old roadkill, with his bunkmates... A time when raghats communally shared blankets that looked like hobo camp hand-me-downs.

It was a time when the common denominator of the naval supply system was the cockroach, with the longevity of Jack LaLanne. Cockroaches that could deflect claw-hammered blows and could reach rodeo entry size.

In the late 50's, the submarines built in the twilight years of World War II were rapidly approaching an advanced age comotose state. The navy quit making many of the replacement parts for these seagoing antiques, so we cannibalized the boats in line heading to the scrapyard. It was like harvesting organs from a dead Rockette to keep the chorus line going. After decommissioning, the old boats would have electricians and machinists crawling all over them with shopping lists and wrenches.

Memory is a wonderful God-given gift. There were sunrises and sunsets, rolling seas, visits to exotic places, and ladies with loose panty elastic and no AIDS. There were consumable combustibles on par with the liquids that propel hardware to outer space.

It was a time when the world's population loved the American submariner. Boatsailors in port meant good times, hell-raising and calling in the night shift at the local brewery. It was a time when the United States Navy had no recruitment problems, paid no incentive money and had to kiss no butts to entice grown men into accepting their manly obligation to their nation. Men signed up for undersea service, motivated by patriotic obligation, a sense of history and adventure, and to

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### **Veteran Appreciation**

Applebee's Restaurant - Free dinners to veterans throughout Veterans Day November 11th; selections will

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be from a new Veterans Day menu.

Outback Steakhouse - Free Blooming Onion and beverage.

Golden Corral- Free buffet dinner from 5-9 p.m. on Nov. 16 to anyone who has ever served in a U.S. military uniform.

In celebration of Veterans Day 11 Nov 2010, Subway is showing its thanks with free six inch subs to all Veterans or Active Duty members.

Krispy Kreme - One free doughnut of any variety.

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## Great Videos

### Submarine Training Film circa 1967

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WyQsOi0Lyg>

### Characteristics of the Nuclear Submarine circa 1972

<http://www.navytv.org/media.cfm?c=775&m=3704&s=143&>

### Pre-WWII Navy Recruiting Film

<http://www.navytv.org/media.cfm?c=787&m=3705&s=143&>

### USS Seadragon: Under the Ice

<http://www.navytv.org/media.cfm?c=37&m=3536&s=37&>

### Submarine Physical Principles

<http://www.navytv.org/media.cfm?c=37&m=3493&s=37&>

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## Navy Names First Sub Assignments For Women

The Navy has announced the first four submarines that will accept 24 female officers beginning December 2011. Until then, crew "docs" are getting refresher courses on women's health.

The first boats are the USS Wyoming (SSBN 742) and USS Georgia (SSGN 729), out of Kings Bay, Ga., and the USS Maine (SSBN 741) and USS Ohio (SSGN 726), from Bangor, Wash. The Trident boats are Ohio-class, nuclear powered, guided and ballistic missile submarines. Each has two crews, and each crew be assigned three female officers, according to a Navy release.

"Two of the women will be submarine officers, and the third female officer will be a warfare qualified supply officer," said Lt. Rebecca Rebarich, spokeswoman for Commander, Submarine Group Ten, out of Kings Bay.

"They will be assigned to their first submarine duty station after completing training, which consists of nuclear power school, prototype training and the Submarine Officer Basic Course."

follow the gallant submariners who rode the boats against the Japanese empire. We wanted to wear the distinctive insignia universally recognized as the symbol of the most successful and demanding submarine service on earth.

We were proud. We had a right to be. We were accepted as the downline fraternity brothers of the courageous men who put Hirohito's monkey band all over the floor of the Pacific. We rode their boats, ate at their mess tables, slept in their bunks and plugged the ever-increasing leaks in the hulls they left us. We patted the same barmaid butts they had patted when they were far younger and half as wide. We carved our boats names and hull numbers on gin mill tables in places that would give Methodist ministers cardiac arrest.

We danced with the devil's mistress and all her naughty daughters. We were young, testosterone-driven American bluejackets and let's face it... Every girl in every port establishment around the globe both recognized and appreciated the meaning of a pair of Dolphins over a jumper pocket. Many of these ladies were willing to share smiles and body warmth with the members of America's undersea service.

It was a time when the snapping of American colors in the ports of the world stood for liberation from tyranny and the American sailor in his distinctive uniform and happy-go-lucky manner, stood for John Wayne principles and a universally recognized sense of decency, high ideals and uncompromised values.

It was in every sense of the term, 'A great time to be an American sailor'.

There were few prohibitions. They were looked upon as simply unnecessary. It was a time when 'family values' were taught at family dinner tables, at schools, the nation's playing fields, scout troops, Sunday school or other institutions of worship. We were a good people and we knew it.

We plowed the world's oceans guarding her sea lanes and making her secure for the traffic of international commerce. But at eighteen, let's face it... We never thought much about the noble aspect of what we were doing. Crews looked forward to the next liberty port, the next run, home port visits, what the boat was having for evening chow, the evening movie after chow, or which barmaids were working at Bell's that evening. We were young, invincible and had our whole lives ahead of us. Without being aware of it, we were learning leadership, acceptance of responsibility and teamwork in the finest classroom in the world... A United States submarine.

It was a simpler time. Lack of complexity left us with clear-cut objectives and the 'bad guys' were clearly defined. We knew who they were, where they were and that we had the means, will and ability to send them all off to hell in a fiery package deal. We were the 'good

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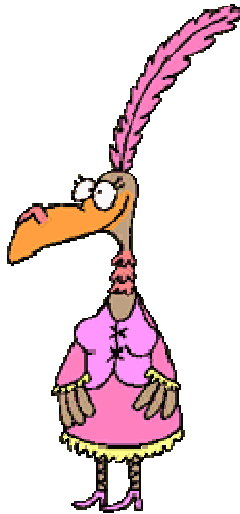
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The boats themselves are ready to accept women. "There's no modification required," she said, in an interview. "The accommodation is already there, as far as their berthing, or sleeping arrangement, and head," referring to restrooms.

But crews are getting some special training to prepare for the changeover. The onboard Navy corpsman, who act as each crew's only doctor, needs refresher courses on female health, Rebarich said.

Meanwhile, over the next year sub leaders including the commanding officer, executive officer, and chief of boat from all eight crews plan to visit Navy frigates, which parallel submarine demographics, to see how the surface fleet has successfully integrated women.

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### Admiral Osborne Scholarship Fund

How about helping out the scholarship fund? We are offering a Charleston Base Challenge Coin for sale. ALL proceeds go into the scholarship fund.

Coins only cost \$7 each. Available for an additional \$1 is a protective plastic capsule.

To get your coin(s) see Jim Yates, Julian Villegas or Carl Chinn.

Make sure you have one for "when you get challenged"! Buy several for great gifts!



guys' and literally wore 'white hats'.

What we lacked in crew comfort, technological advancements and publicity, we made up for in continuity, stability and love of our boats and squadrons. We were a band of brothers and have remained so for over half a century.

Since we were not riding what the present day submariner would call 'true submersibles', we got sunrises and sunsets at sea... The sting of wind-blown saltwater on our faces... The roll and pitch of heavy weather swells and the screech of seabirds. I can't imagine sea duty devoid of contact with these wonders. To me, they are a very real part of being a true mariner. I'm glad I served in an era of signal lights... Flag messaging... Navigation calculation... Marines manning the gates... Locker clubs... Working girls... Hitchhiking in uniform... Quartermasters, torpedomen and gunner's mates... Sea store smokes...

Hotsacking... Hydraulic oil-laced coffee... Lousy mid rats... Jackassing fish from the skids to the tubes... One and two way trash dumping... Plywood dog shacks... Messy piers... A time when the Chief of the Boat could turn up at morning quarters wearing a Mexican sombrero and Jeezus sandals... When every E-3 in the sub force knew what paint scrapers, chipping hammers and wire brushes were for... When JGs with a pencil were the most dangerous things in the navy... When the navy mobile canteen truck was called the 'roach coach' and sold geedunk and pogeys... When the breakfast of champions was a pitcher of Blue Ribbon, four Slim Jims, a pack of Beer Nuts, a hard-boiled egg, and a game of Eight Ball.

It was a time when, if you saw a boatsailor with more than four ship's patches on his foul weather jacket, he was at least fifty years old and a lifer. A time when skippers wore hydraulic oil-stained steaming hats and carried a wad of binocular wipes in their shirt pockets. In those days, old barnacle-encrusted chiefs had more body fat than a Hell's Angel, smoked big, fat, lousy smelling cigars or 'chewed plug', and came with a sewer digger's vocabulary.

It was a time where heterosexuals got married to members of the opposite sex or patronized 'working girls', and non-heterosexuals went Air Force... Or Peace Corps.

It was a good time... For some of us, the best time we would ever have. There was a certain satisfaction to be found in serving one's country without the nation you so dearly loved having to promise you enlistment bonuses, big whopping education benefits, feather bed shore duty, or an 'A' school with a sauna and color TV. It was a time when if you told a cook you didn't eat Spam or creamed chipped beef, everybody laughed and you went away hungry... And if you cussed a messcook, you could find toenail clippings in your salad.

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## Medal of Honor Convention



Our own Richard Sparger, volunteering at the convention

Our generation visited cemeteries where legends of World War II undersea service were issued their grass blankets, after receiving their pine peacoats and orders to some old hull number moored at the big silver pier in the sky. We were family... Our common heritage made us brothers.

There came a point where we drew a line through our names on the Watch, Quarter and Station Bill, told our shipmates we would see them in hell, shook hands with the COB, paid back the slush fund, told the skipper 'goodbye,' and picked up a disbursing chit and your DD-214. We went up on Hampton Boulevard, bought a couple of rounds at Bells, kissed the barmaids, gave Thelma a hug, then went out to spend the rest of our lives wishing we could hear, "Single up all lines..." just one more time.

By Bob 'Dex' Armstrong

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## Have You Heard?

The U.S. Navy answers the question: "Why did the chicken cross the road?"

Naval Education and Training Command (NAVEDTRA): The purpose is to familiarize the chicken with road-crossing procedures. Road-crossing should be performed only between the hours of sunset and sunrise. Solo chickens must have at least three miles of visibility and a safety observer.

Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS): Due to the needs of the Navy, chicken was involuntarily reassigned to the other side of the road. This will be 3-year unaccompanied tour and we promise to give the chicken a good-deal assignment afterwards. Every chicken will be required to do one road-crossing during its career, and this will not affect its opportunities for future promotion.

Naval Air Warfare Center (NAWC): This event will need confirmation; we need to repeat it using varied chicken breeds, road types, and weather conditions to confirm whether it can actually happen within the parameters specified for chickens and the remote possibility that they might cross thruways designated by some as "roads."

Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe (CINCUSNAVEUR): The purpose is not important. What is important is that the chicken remained under the OPCON of COMSIXTHFLEET and did not CHOP to the theater on the other side of the road. Without Chopping, the chicken was able to achieve a seamless road-crossing with near perfect, real-time in-transit visibility.

Naval Intelligence: What chicken?

Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIRSYSCOM):

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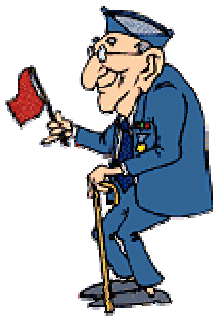
Remember,  
If you haven't got a smile on your face  
And laughter in your heart,  
Then you're just a sour old fart!



Fading light dims the sight  
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright  
From afar drawing nigh,  
Falls the night.

Day is done, gone the sun  
From the lakes, from the hills, from the skies  
All is well, safely rest;  
God is nigh.

Then goodnight, peaceful night;  
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright.  
God is near, do not fear,  
Friend, goodnight.



The chicken was instructed to hold short of the road. This road incursion incident was reported in a Hazardous Chicken Road-Crossing Report (HCRCR). Please re-emphasize that chickens are required to read back all hold short instructions.

Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWARSYSCOM): The "stovepipe" chickens of today will be replaced with a multi-function, supported, affordable, integrated and interoperable world-class chicken to warriors and supporting elements, enabling them to dominate the roads of today and tomorrow, as we move "Forward...From the Sea." Comptroller holds and corporate taxes, however, will require delay fielding for two years, unless Congressional plus-ups are approved.

NAVSEASYS COM's Chicken Systems Program Office (PMS400CSPO): In a partnering relationship with the client, helped the chicken by rethinking its physical distribution strategy and implementation processes. The CSPO helped the chicken change to continue meeting its mission. However, the actual crossing of the road has not occurred due to the number of action items still open from the meeting.