



Vol. 14 No. 8

August 2018

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

Base Meeting:

BOD: August 2 1800
 Membership: August 9. 1900

Location:

FRA Branch 269
 Low Country Home
 99 Wisteria Rd.
 Goose Creek, SC



Base Commander	Ralph Rohrssen	843.670.2135	Chief of the Boat	Joe Lunn	843.747.5368
Base Vice Commander	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011	Veterans Affairs	Ken Curtis	843.797.1268
Secretary	Gordon Long	843.214.2353	Membership	Larry Knutson	843.860.1155
Treasurer	Gordon Williams	843.553.3015	Scholarship	Carl Chinn	843.437.5515
			Storekeeper	Ken Hutchison	843.553.0935
			Historian	George Scharf	843.873.3318
			Public Affairs	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Chaplain	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Events Coordinator	Rick Sparger	843.553.5594
			Holland Club	Bill Freligh	843.553.1115
			Newsletter	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Webmaster	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Kaps for Kids	Bill Kennedy	843.875.3109



Submarines Lose During the Month of August

USS BULLHEAD (SS 332)	August 6, 1945 – 3 rd War Patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS – 84 SOULS
USS FLIER (SS 250)	August 13, 1944 – 2 nd War Patrol	LOST WITH 83 SOULS; 8 MEN SURVIVED
USS S-39 (SS 144)	August 13, 1942 – 3 rd War Patrol	NO LOSS OF LIFE
USS HARDER (SS 257)	August 24, 1944 – 6 th War Patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS – 79 SOULS
USS COCHINO (SS 345)	August 26, 1949	NO COCHINO LOSS OF LIFE; ONE CIVIL- IAN LOSS; USS TUSK LOST 6 SOULS DUR- ING THE RESCUE
FIVE Boats and 253 Men Lost		

Table of Contents

From the Editor	2
From USSVI National, Regional and District	3
Charleston Base Meeting Minutes	6
Submariners' Legacy Award to Class 1803	9
I Will Salute	10
Undersea Warfare News	12
Advertisements	16

Upcoming Charleston Base Events

CPO Selectees SubVets Breakfast	Thursday, Sep 6	0600	Cracker Barrel, N. Charleston
Board of Directors Meeting	Thursday, Sep 6	1800	FRA Branch 268, Goose Creek
Base Meeting	Thursday, Sep 13	1800	FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek
Victory House Visit	Tuesday, Sep 18	1000	Carpool from VFW Bellwright Rd.

Information on all these events are on the base website www.ussvicb.org/events/index.html

From the Editor

The surgery I had planned to put off until the first of the year will probably take place in October so I may not be able to do the things I planned to do for the base then. These are 1) Little David maintenance at the Berkeley Museum in Moncks Corner, 2) Submariners' Legacy Award Presentation on October 19 and Tolling the Lost Boats at Coastal Coffee Roasters on Nov. 11.

Please consider stepping up to help with these.

From USSVI National

Normal message traffic from USSVI will be published each month in the newsletter. If the message is of immediate interest to the membership it will be sent out by the Base Secretary. Messages are arranged in the order received

SubVet News - #2018-052: American Submariner Magazine
Submitted by: Michael Bircumshaw on 7/29/2018

Shipmates,

The transition to the new editorship is well underway for the American Submariner, however, there were issues with the "Cloud" and none of the Links connecting to the photos normally included in the magazine were recoverable. Therefore, I am not certain of exactly when we will be printing the Third Quarter edition of the American Submariner. It is looking like early September at this moment and there for the below listed Boat reunions will most likely not be on the streets before the reunion. I am sending out this POC to keep you and to make sure you always get the info you deserve.

USS George C Marshall (SSBN-654) 8/15/2018 to 8/17/2018 Groton, CT:

Gregory C. Kane gkane@aol.com 860-989-1426.

USS Albacore (AGSS-569) 8/9/2018 to 8/12/2018 Portsmouth, NH:

John Don Gandiello gandiello@sbcglobal.net 317-441-8843.

USS Archerfish (SSN-678) 8/30/2018 to 9/1/2018 in Groton, CT:

John J. Carcioppolo gumba700@comcast.net 860-514-7064.

Let me thank those of you who sent me the next ten years of material for the magazine. I am sure I will be asking for more soon. I will get to all which is deemed "printable" by our large editorial staff and get them out in the order received. Prepare to go to Flank!

Best,

Michael

National Editor, American Submariner (2005-2010 & 2018-AI Fin)

SSN-588, SS-339, SSN-590, SSBN-601, SSN-646, SSBN-620 COB ('60-'70)

SubVet News - #2018-053: IMPORTANT! Online voting
POC Managers forward ASAP
Submitted by: Tom Conlon on 8/2/2018

Shipmates:

Online voting for the 2018 USSVI National Election is now live. The poll opened at 0001 today – August 1, 2018. Voting will continue until 2359 October 10, 2018.

Members may vote by logging on to the USSVI web site – ussvi.org – and clicking on the "Vote in National Election" button.

Base Commanders: You may bring a laptop to a Base meeting and members may vote at the meeting. Members may assist other members in voting, but each member must cast his own vote.

Remember, your vote is your voice in the makeup of our organization's "Command Team."

Tom Conlon
Election Master

Shipmates:

The POC reference the memorabilia from the Bowfin Base (Banners and Plaques) was meant for USSVI members and bases. Maggie Curtain of the Bowfin Museum is being inundated with emails requesting items from non sub vets and other individuals. If anyone has passed the information on to others outside USSVI, please contact them and let them know that while we appreciate their interest, the items were intended for USSVI subvets only.

SUBJ: VETERAN INFORMATION FOR USSVI BASE MEMBERS

Remember: DCs: These messages are a benefit to USSVI members and not necessarily just those who retired from the Navy. Please direct to all base members and especially newsletter editors, Base Commanders, and web site managers. This is being sent to DCs and Eboard members only. DCs Must forward to their Bases please.

..... All veterans may be able to shop in commissaries and exchanges in the future, if Defense Department officials are successful in pushing their proposal. Officials have asked Congress to allow veterans who haven't already earned the shopping benefit as retirees, as well as civilian employees, to be able to shop in the stores, said Stephanie Barna, special assistant to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. The proposal would include an additional user fee of between 1 percent and 5 percent for those non-core groups to be able to shop in the commissary, she said. "But we think they'd still be getting an incredible deal. It also helps, even if only slightly, to distinguish them from our core group," she said, speaking at a forum on Capitol Hill of the American Logistic Organization. It's unlikely the change will happen this year, she said, as members of Congress wait to see how things settle out with commissaries during the reform efforts. VA Death benefits

- 1. Most Veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable are eligible to receive a headstone, marker or medalion, at no cost to the applicant.**
- 2. A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased Veteran who served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces.**
- 3. VA burial allowances are flat rate monetary benefits that are generally paid at the maximum amount authorized by law for an eligible Veteran's burial and funeral costs. A VA regulation change in 2014 simplified the program to pay eligible survivors quickly and efficiently. Eligible surviving spouses of record are paid automatically upon notification of the Veteran's death, without the need to submit a claim. VA may grant additional benefits, including the plot or interment allowance and transportation allowance, if it receives a claim for these benefits.**
- 4. Service-Connected Death • If the Veteran died on or after September 11, 2001, the maximum service-connected burial allowance is \$2,000. • If the Veteran died before September 11, 2001, the maximum service-connected burial allowance is \$1,500. • If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, VA may reimburse some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased Veteran's remains.**
Non-Service-Connected Death • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2017, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$762 for a plot. • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2016, but before October 1, 2017, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$749 for a plot. • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2015, but before October 1, 2016, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$747 for a plot.

More than 130,000 veterans are receiving letters on how to apply for refunds of taxes they paid on disability severance pay dating back to 1991 — a minimum of \$1,750 per veteran.

While exact estimates were not available, because each veteran's payout varies, the government could be paying out a minimum of \$228 million in tax refunds, if all those eligible file claims.

The eligible veterans will have a year after the date of their letter from the Defense Department to file a claim for the refund, or three years after filing their tax return that reported the disability severance pay, whichever is later. Survivors of those who paid the taxes are also eligible for the refund, which would be paid to the estate of the veteran.

.....WASHINGTON — House lawmakers on Monday advanced plans to create a new branch of Veterans Affairs operations focused on economic opportunity, a move that advocates say could better highlight employment and education programs at the department.

Veterans advocates have pushed for the new economic opportunity administration in recent months amid concerns that the benefits administration is too overwhelmed with disability compensation and pension claims to focus on education programs, post-military jobs efforts and a host of other resources.

The new agency would be stood up beside the department's three existing administrations — the Veterans Health Administration, the Veterans Benefits Administration and the National Cemetery Administration — and lead by an under secretary "charged with administering the many benefits available to veterans beyond disability claims and pensions."

“The fourth administration is not more bureaucracy, but a focus on the education benefits and transition as veterans,” House Veterans’ Affairs Committee Chairman Phil Roe, R-Tenn., said before Monday’s vote. “I think it’s one of the most critical things we do.

..... There some “Veteran” charity scams out there. The FTC is targeting the following: Help the Vets Inc, American Disabled Veterans Foundation, Veterans Fighting Breast Cancer, Vets Fighting Breast Cancer, Military Families of America and Veterans Emergency Blood Bank, Veterans of America, Vehicles for Veterans, Saving Our Soldiers, Donate your Car, Donate That Car, Act of Valor, and Medal of Honor. Do NOT contribute to these organizations.

WASHINGTON — The Senate approved a measure Wednesday that will allow more veterans to shop at discounted, on-base stores. All Purple Heart and Medal of Honor recipients, former prisoners of war and veterans with disabilities connected to their military service, as well as veteran caregivers, would be eligible to shop at commissaries, according to the legislation. The measure was included in the \$716 billion National Defense Authorization Act that the Senate approved by a vote of 87 to 10. The bill will now go to President Donald Trump for his signature. As of Nov. 11, 2017, the military began allowing all honorably discharged veterans to shop at online exchanges, increasing the benefit to nearly 20 million potential customers. However, the change didn’t apply to brick-and-mortar stores. In addition to allowing more veterans to use on-base commissaries and exchanges, the measure will enable them to access lodging facilities that fall under military Morale, Welfare and Recreation services.

Appeals Modernization: VA’s Progress One Year Since Enactment of the Historic Law

• Posted on August 24, 2018 by Donnie La Curan in Veteran News

Today marks one year since President Donald J. Trump signed into law one of the most significant statutory changes in decades to affect the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Veterans it serves.

The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017 (Appeals Modernization Act) was signed Aug. 23, 2017, aimed at transforming a complex, frustrating appeals process into one that is simple, timely and transparent.

“Before reform, Veterans experienced a complicated appeals system that was buried in several layers of law,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “The Appeals Modernization Act has since allowed VA, with the help of our partners, to design a new process that offers greater choice to Veterans and faster decisions from VA.”

Today, VA is working toward full implementation of the law, scheduled to take effect in February 2019. The new system features three differentiated lanes from which a claimant may choose in seeking review of a VA denial (or partial denial):

- Higher-level review;
- Supplemental claim;
- Appeal to the Board of Veterans’ Appeals (BVA) –.

Veterans are already benefiting from the new process. In November 2017, VA began the Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP). RAMP allows Veterans with an eligible, active appeal to choose between two of the three new lanes now. Implementation of BVA’s appeals lane for Veterans who have appealed their RAMP decision by VBA is expected to begin in October 2018.

To date, more than 40,000 Veterans have chosen RAMP, and more than \$45 million in retroactive benefits has been paid to Veterans. Additionally, BVA has issued more than 73,000 decisions thus far in fiscal year 2018, a historic high, and is on track to deliver over 81,000 decisions to Veterans by the end of the fiscal year.

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base
Minutes of Business Meeting
9 August 2018

Opening Ceremonies:

The July 2018 Base Meeting was called to order by Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko in the absence of Base Commander Ralph Rhorssen with a quorum of officers and a total of 79 members present. The meeting started at 1900 with the sound of the diving alarm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko and recited by members in attendance.

The Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost during the month of August was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols.

=====

Electronics Technician Senior Chief - Submarines, Paul A. Viering – US Navy Retired – Departed on Eternal Patrol – July 17, 2018

The USSVI Creed was read by Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko and then, he welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Introductions of New Attendees:

One man was present in the meeting for the first time:

Steve Curtiss – IC Electrician – Qualified on USS WAHOO in January 1967

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Ronald Lamon presented his request for USSVI Charleston Base to be part of a Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast. He has contacted the major towns of Berkeley County (Goose Creek, Hanahan and Moncks Corner) as well as the Berkeley County Sheriff's office. He wants to plan this event for a Saturday at the end of September or beginning of October. He has not contacted the small Berkeley County towns but will not turn them away if they show up. He is asking USSVI Charleston Base, FRA and Marine Corp Association to each provide \$150 for the effort. Ron stated that if the cost exceeds \$450, then he will cover the difference. He does not have an accurate number of guests, although the BCSO estimate put it at about 80. Ron is therefore planning for 100 people. He wants to keep it small for the first event and is limiting it to officers in Berkeley County even though some in the room want to include Dorchester County. Larry Cox pointed out that the FRA does quarterly events where they have 180-200 people. Preparations for this start a week ahead of time and it is a lot of work. Larry stated that you cannot guess at the number of people who will come. It must be limited to a certain group but you must have an accurate head count. Rick Sparger echoed the effort that is required saying that this is a worthy cause but he thinks that the cost and the amount of work has been underestimated. Again, Ron said that he will cover the cost above \$450. Rick said that perhaps Ron could hire the cooks at the FRA galley. Ron will explore this possibility but it will take more than the two of them. Ron has not, as yet, prepared a list of what food will be served. Mike Ciesielko acknowledged that this is a good cause and asked the membership to see Ron after the meeting. Meanwhile, Ron has been asked to obtain a head count, have a menu prepared and present this again at the next Base meeting in September. Throughout all of the discussion, there was no motion presented.

Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko requested someone to take over the job as Hunley/Housatonic Coordinator due to the passing of Paul Viering – Harry Nettles volunteered for the task. Many Thanks to Harry especially since getting a turnover will not be possible!!

Secretary – Gordon Long:

ONE ADDITION RELATED TO LAST MEETING – Rick Sparger provided \$100.00 to the Scholarship Fund from his July Depth Charge winnings to the Treasurer at the BOD Meeting last week. He had won the July Depth Charge in absentia after leaving his tickets in care of Marty Sessler. Rick did have some damage to electrical and electronic items in his home during the lightning strike, but the house itself is okay.

The Minutes from the USSVI Charleston Base July Business Meeting have been published and promulgated. There were no additions or deletions. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer – Gordon Williams:

The Treasurer's Report has been published and promulgated. There were no additions or deletions. The report was approved. The contribution from Rick Sparger will show up on the next Treasurer's report.

Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

August 12, 1958 - USS Nautilus completes first undersea voyage to North Pole – 59 years ago

August 12, 2000 - Soviet Submarine KURSK sank in Barents Sea – loss of all hands – 18 years ago

August 14, 1945 - VJ Day – Victory in the Pacific – 72 years ago

Highlighted boat of the month:

USS FLIER SS250 was lost while on her 2nd war patrol with the loss of 78 crew members. Flier was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank within less than a minute. 13 survivors, some injured, made it into the water and swam to shore. 8 survived and 6 days later friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin.

Paul Viering passed away on Tuesday, July 17, 2018. The viewing and family visitation on Friday evening was very well attended by the Base Membership.

Margie Deal fell on July 29th and broke her hip. She is Compass Health (used to be Health South.) She will be there 9-14 days in room 204. Visitors welcome after 1300 M-F and regular hours S-S.

JJ Fortier had his surgery on the 24th and was home on the 25th. As he said his recovery will be a long one. All calls are welcome.

Gordon Smith had surgery on the 20th and was home on the 23rd. He is sore but doing well. God is good brought him thru 2 cancer surgery.

Lee Young was in the hospital recently. He is now home. His granddaughter is going to be providing care for Lee and Carol.

Marvin Miller is doing well after ending up on the floor at the July meeting.

Mary Jane Baciocco, Adm. Baciocco's wife, passed away on June 30th in Cary NC. She will be buried in Annapolis MD.

Jed Alan Heames departed on Eternal Patrol on Tuesday, 31 July. He was not a member of SUBVETS. He served on WOODROW WILSON.

ENCM(SS) Leon 'Zeb' Steele departed on Eternal Patrol on Tuesday, 31 July. He was not a member of SUBVETS. He served on TRUMPETFISH, LAMPREY, SALMON and SEA POACHER.

Elmer Feezer's 1 (almost) 2 year old great-granddaughter, Liberty Grooms, passed away on Tuesday, August 7th as a result of accidental drowning in a swimming pool accident.

Rich Alkire fell 2 times Thursday morning. EMS & Fire Department responded both times to get him up. He has been told if he falls again he will have to be taken to the hospital. It was possible caused by a medication reaction.

Larry Cox has pancreatic cancer which has metastasized to his liver. He is having weekly chemo now.

Hampton Roads Base has started a new program where members check on other members who have not been at the meeting or are having health issues and can't get out. There is a list on the table of all our base members who are 80 or over. If you would like to participate in this program put your name beside the one you would like to call.

The Chaplain notified the membership that he still needs page 2s from many of us. He will be sending out the form via individual emails this month in hopes that he gets some of them back.

If you have a change of mailing address, phone number, email address please let the base leadership know about it.

We need to make sure all of our records are updated so we can make contact with you if we need to.

WEBMASTER – Nick Nichols:

The website officer's page has been updated with all of our current base officers and board members.

Website is constantly updated.

Make use of the EVENTS page on the Charleston Base website. All events that are put out to the membership via email will be listed and updated on the events page.

Membership – Larry Knutson

USSVI Charleston Base currently has 289 members. Larry will soon start collecting dues for next year.

Kaps for Kids – Bill Kennedy

The last "Kaps" trip Saturday, August 4, was successful. The group has visited 66 children and their parents so far this year. The next trip will be Tuesday, October 2 at 10am.

Bill gave "Kaps for Kids" patches that says, "Happiness is seeing a child smile" to Harry Nettles, Roger Gibson, Joe Lunn, Mike Emerson, John Flynn, Joe Hayes, Theron Irving, Jack Harden, Ken Hutchison and Rick Sparger in appreciation for visiting the children with him at the hospitals.

Veterans Affairs/DAV – Tom Lawson

New articles are posted on the Charleston Base website.

Locations to volunteer are: Weapons Station, Trident Medical Center and the VA Hospital in Charleston.

Drivers are especially needed for Summerville and Berkeley County areas.

Fleet Reserve Association – Larry Cox

Encouraged everyone to join the FRA. The regular meeting will be held on August 16, at 1900.

On Monday, August 13, at 1800, the FRA will be hosting General Livingston (MOH) who will be speaking at the

Vietnam Veterans of America meeting. He has written a book and will be signing them. The proceeds of the book will go to Patriot's Point.

The FRA bowling league will be going bowling on August 29 at Marrington Center.

Submarine Veterans of WWII – Mike Ciesielko

We are thankful that Stacy Power is able to attend the meeting this evening.

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

The new committee has raised about \$500 to date.

The drawing for the artist proof “Dophin” print comprise of 131 different submarine related rating badges and other items.

The drawing will be held at the end of the meeting tonight.

The Scholarship Committee will have an auction at the end of the meeting for a print of “The Kiss” – the iconic Times Square photograph taken on VJ Day, August 14, 1945.

The money from both of these shall go to the Scholarship Fund.

Nuclear Power School Awards – Rick Wise

The next NPS graduation will be on Friday, August 24. Muster at the Navy Exchange parking lot at 0800.

Public Affairs/Newsletter – Rick Wise

Nothing to report

Storekeeper – Ken Hutchison

If you provide him a shirt, he will have Dolphins and your name put on it for \$13.

Special Events – Rick Sparger

Nothing to report

COB – Joe Lunn

Enjoyed the trip with Kaps for Kids. It was uplifting.

Vice Commander – Mike Ciesielko

Base Commander is in Kentucky. He is working again and traveling.

Good of the Order

Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson

I don't recall if, in the past, I told you that that submarine sailors are at least 50% smarter than other sailors! Want proof? First: Why has the MCPON resigned? He was a CT, but he thought his stuff was equal to that of a senior admiral, the CNO, his boss, who is – by the way – a submarine officer. Admiral Richardson was a past CO of the USS Honolulu (SSN-718).

Second: A member (Non-Qual) of the USS North Dakota shot himself with an M-16, in the shoulder. He probably forgot which end the bullet comes out of.

Now for the news flash of the month!!

Stormy Daniels and Queen Elizabeth went to the Pearly Gates on the same day. They met with St. Peter to find out if they would be admitted into Heaven.

St. Peter said, “Unfortunately, there's only one space available in Heaven today, so I must decide which one of you will be admitted.”

The angel asked Stormy if there was some particular reason why she should go to Heaven. Stormy took off her top and said, “Look at these. They're the most perfect breasts God ever created and I'm sure it will please God to be able to see them every day for eternity.”

The angel thanked Stormy and asked Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the same question. The queen walked over to a toilet; pulled the lever and flushed it without saying a word. The angel immediately said: “Okay, Your Majesty, you may go into Heaven.”

Stormy was outraged and asked, “What was that all about? I showed you two of God's own perfect creations and you turned me down. She simply flushed a commode and was admitted into Heaven! Would you explain that to me?”

“Sorry, Stormy,” said the angel, “but even in Heaven, a royal flush beats a pair, no matter how perfect they are.”

Mike Emerson

Has tickets for the Christmas Party. The tickets are still valid even though the wrong date got printed on the tickets.

Ken Curtiss

DAV Drawing – This year, there is a 3 day/2 night stay at Myrtle Beach Hilton, \$50 fuel ticket, tickets for two at the Alabama Theatre, tickets for two at the Carolina Opry, free meals at area restaurants for breakfast, lunch and dinner among

other things. The drawing is October 9. You do not need to be present to win. Tickets are \$5. See Ken after the meeting.

Rick Sparger

Read portions of email from Base Commander Ralph Rohrssen:

“Online voting for the 2018 USSVI National Election is now live... will continue until October 10...Members may vote by logging on to the USSVI web site... Base Commanders: You may bring a laptop to a Base meeting and members may vote at the meeting. Members may assist other members in voting, but each member must cast his own vote. Remember, your vote is your voice in the makeup of our organization’s “Command Team.” Tom Conlon, Election Master”. Even though the candidates are running unopposed, Rick encouraged everyone to vote for something.

Rodney McKanna

“Undie 500” is next month. Please bring NEW (in package) tee shirts, underwear and socks for men and women.

Drawings/Auction

FRA – won by Stacy Power

Dolphin Print (Don Stuart artist proof/framing by Donovan’s on Trolley Rd) – won by Doc Hopkins – Charleston Base member who lives in NC. (not present – sent Marty Sessler money to purchase tickets for him).

VJ Day Photo Print Auction – Congratulations to Beetle Bailey as the high bidder.

Depth Charge – Jimmy Legg – made \$100 donation to scholarship fund.

Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction, Vice Commander Mike Ciesielko announced adjournment of the meeting followed by three blasts on the diving alarm. The meeting was closed at 2012.

Charleston Base Presents Submariners’ Legacy Award to Nuclear Power School Class 1803



Charleston Base PAO Rick Wise presents Submariners’ Legacy Awards to ENS Matthew A. Charlton and MMN3 Jonathan Christy



Immediately after Rick advised MMN3 Christy, who is over 6’ tall, “Learn to duck!”

On August 24 the Charleston Base Submariners’ Legacy Awards were presented to ENS Matthew A. Charlton (GPA 3.92 and Officer Class 1803 Honorman) and MMN3 Jonathan Christy (GPA 3.95 and Enlisted Class 1803 Honorman). Both are submarine designated.

The guest speaker was VADM Bruce H. Lindsey, Deputy Commander, US Fleet Forces Command.

Also attending from Charleston Base was Harry Nettles.

I will Salute

Forty six years ago, I raised my right hand in a room full of strangers and pledged to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. I solemnly swore to do so while standing facing the flag that represents this country. For all of the years since then, that flag has played a central role in my life.

I watched her fly as a green recruit and came to understand she is more than just another piece of cloth. I watched her fly from the deck of many submarines and ships at bases all over the world. I listened with pride one night in Yokosuka Japan while a shipmate played Taps as we retired her for the day. I felt the crushing weight of seeing a comrade under her in a casket bound for home. I felt sadness at the deaths of so many veterans who also shared her as a final shroud.

It has never occurred to me that I would do anything but salute her when given the chance. My generation saw the rupture that was known as Vietnam and we saw the riots of the sixties. But the flag was an eternal symbol that gradually helped us to refocus. Now I see that it is becoming too common place that people feel they need to burn her and trample on her. They callously abuse the freedom and liberty we have preserved for them to use her as a blunt object with which to make their point. Politicians kneel and disrespect her for shallow and ignorant reasons. The courts have even given them license and liberty to do so.

But not me.

I WILL SALUTE.



I have seen her flying on a cloudless day over the graves of so many men and women who gave their last breath to protect her in places like Arlington and too many other cemeteries to count.

I WILL SALUTE.



I have stood on the platform above the once mighty Arizona and cried while I read the names on the wall of honored dead. I have done the same at the inward most corner of the Vietnam Wall. In each case, I could look up and see her standing guard.

and with a promise to protect their children's future.

I WILL SALUTE.



While others choose to use her as a sad symbol of protest and a lightning rod for a never ending litany of real and perceived offences, I know her real meaning. Until my dying day when I can no longer stand, I will find the strength to straighten my body until it is properly ready to render honors one last time.

EVEN THEN, I WILL SALUTE.

Bob MacPherson July 27, 2018

Towed-Array Sonar Systems For Navy Submarines

John Keller, Military and Aerospace, July 31

Undersea sonar designers at L-3 Chesapeake Sciences Corp. in Millersville, Md., are building the U.S. Navy's next-generation towed-array sonar to enable Navy submarines to detect, track, and classify quiet, modern submarine threats in open ocean and littoral waters.

Officials of the Naval Sea Systems Command in Washington announced a \$26.6 million order to L-3 Chesapeake on Monday to build TB-29X towed arrays for Navy submarines.

The TB-29X is the future generation reliability improvement to the TB-29A. It is a 416 channel thin line towed array with an equivalent acoustic performance capability to TB-29A. The TB-29X is a thin line towed array passive sonar receiver that has the same form factor as the TB-29 array, yet offers increased capability, greater reliability and reduced

obsolescence.

Towed array sonar uses hydrophones towed on a cable trailing behind a submarine or a surface ship; it can be miles long. It's designed to keep the array's sensors away from tow vessel noise to improve its signal-to-noise ratio and its ability to detect and track faint contacts like quiet nuclear- and diesel-powered submarines and seismic signals.

Effective use of towed array sonar systems limit a vessel's speed, and crews must take care to protect the cable from damage. Current towed-array systems also are complex designs and need to be upgraded to maintain reliability while deployed, while stowed, and while reeling the array in and out of submarines and other marine vessels.

Related: Lockheed Martin to build towed-array sonar systems for Navy undersea surveillance of submarines

Compared with existing towed arrays, the L-3 Chesapeake TB-29X offers significant reduction in sensor power, internal component diameter, bend radius, and production costs.

The TB-29X submarine thin-line array is designed to reduce complexity, lower power, and improve robustness to withstand in-situ operations and stresses of handling systems.

Its performance telemetry, acoustic sensors, and electronics are designed to provide a ubiquitous solution across the spectrum of submarine, surveillance, and unmanned towed arrays. This multi-mission commonality for these high-volume and unique components provides cost savings from procurement to life cycle support.

On this contract L3 Chesapeake Sciences will do the work in Liverpool, N.Y.; Millersville, Md.; and Ashaway, R.I., and should be finished by November 2019.

Next steps for Hackensack submarine USS Ling unclear, as 10 feet of water sits inside

Melsanie Anzidei, Rodrigo Torrejon, The North Jersey Record, August 15

The damage caused by vandals to the USS Ling, a World War II-era submarine berthed in the Hackensack River, may be beyond repair.

Sometime in the past four days, vandals apparently climbed aboard the 312-foot-long submarine, cut locks and opened hatches to flood the submarine with Hackensack River water. The inside of the 2,500-ton vessel is inundated with as much as 10 feet of water, said Les Altschuler, vice president of the Submarine Memorial Association, and may not be salvageable, and the artifacts aboard the sub are probably destroyed.

"This boat is filled with water," Altschuler said. "If this boat was on the surface now, it would sink. That's how much water is in there. Enough to dive the boat."

But as local police search for the vandals, the future of the USS Ling remains unclear. Museum officials say they have their hands tied with how to move forward.

Museum officials are waiting for word from the U.S. Navy. But until then, the water is mixing with lubricants inside the vessel, which could cause some environmental damage.

"There are still some oils in the boat, and anything other than water can't be pumped in the river," Altschuler said. "That's why the Fire Department yesterday couldn't pump the water out, because of environmental reasons. You can't put it back in the river because of anything that might be in it."

Environmental experts, however, say the vessel should have been cleared of any damaging fluids inside years ago.

Hugh Carola, program director with the Hackensack Riverkeeper, said he did not expect the flooded vessel to be an environmental concern — so long as most of the mechanical fluids inside the vessel were removed.

"The main question will be: What is in the water?" Carola said. "From my understanding, all of the mechanical fluids were removed years ago. If there were any mechanical fluids in the boat, that would be my main concern."

If all fluids were removed, any residual oils or lubricants still in the vessel could be easily contained, said Carola. Residual fluids would likely float above the water, where they can be sucked off and transported to a hazardous waste site for disposal, he explained.

The ship was donated by the U.S. Navy to the museum, which is responsible for the vessel. The Navy still oversees what happens to the ship, and also inspects it annually, Altschuler said. The Navy, however, does not provide funds to maintain the ship.

A spokesperson for the Naval Sea Systems Command, which is in charge of vessels donated or loaned to organizations, did not return calls for comment.

Longtime city fixture

City officials on Wednesday condemned the vandalism against the submarine, which has been a fixture in the community for decades.

"On behalf of Hackensack Mayor John Labrosse and the Hackensack council, we are outraged someone would commit such a crime and show such utter disrespect for our Armed Forces — especially to veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country," Thomas Tauchert of Vision Media Marketing, the public relations firm that represents the city, said in a statement. "We have faith in our city's police department and look forward to their investigation leading to the apprehension and prosecution of those responsible."

Councilman Leonardo Battaglia echoed the sentiments, saying he hoped the vandals would be found and punished.

"I'm really concerned, because it's something historic, related to the war and so many people who lost their lives," Battaglia said. "It's a shame."

Councilman Leonardo Battaglia echoed the sentiments, saying he hoped the vandals would be found and punished. "I'm really concerned, because it's something historic, related to the war and so many people who lost their lives," Battaglia said. "It's a shame."

But other city officials did not immediately respond to questions about the future of the USS Ling.

Messages to Labrosse, Deputy Mayor Kathleen Canestrino and Deputy Mayor David Sims went unanswered. Councilwoman Stephanie Von Rudenburg deferred questions to City Manager Ted Ehrenburg, who did not respond for comment.

The 312-foot, 2,500-ton, World War II-era submarine was the featured exhibit of the New Jersey Naval Museum, which occupied a trailer on land that was once headquarters of North Jersey Media Group, which was sold to Gannett in 2016 and publishes The Record. The Ling has been anchored off the riverbank behind the newspaper's former headquarters for decades.

The museum, which was closed in 2012 after floodwaters from Superstorm Sandy washed out the gangplank to the Ling, has been housed on that parcel since 1974, when the Borg family, which owned the newspaper, negotiated a deal to lease land to the museum for \$1 a year.

Jack Brown, a trustee of the New Jersey Naval Museum in Hackensack, home to the the USS Ling SS-297, boards the body of the submarine with members of the Hackensack police department to check out the damage on the submarine after it was recently vandalized. The hatches on the sub were opened allowing water to flood into the sub.

Museum officials, whose lease was terminated in 2016, agreed to vacate the property by Tuesday, after being served an eviction notice. But they say they have nowhere else to go. That is also true for the USS Ling.

The city does not have the financial means to step in and remove the vessel without help from other government entities, Battaglia said. When his children were younger, he said, he would take them to the Ling, and he doesn't want to see the vessel go to waste.

"I don't know if the city is in the position to spend millions of dollars to do something. The city doesn't have the money. We're trying to get tax relief for residents," Battaglia said. He added, "It should be everybody's effort. It's a shame."

Moving the Ling would be difficult, because the anatomy of the river has changed, said Carola, making it difficult for any tugboats or barges to get near the submarine to remove it. For that reason, the vessel is virtually stuck in the mud until an alternative solution is found.

Before this week, officials estimated that removing the vessel from the river could cost millions — an expense too steep for the volunteers in charge of the ship. Since news of the incident broke, some donations have trickled in for a GoFundMe campaign to collect funds to relocate or restore it.

"As an environmental advocate and student of history, this hits me two-fold. There is concern for the ecological health of the river. I don't expect there to be an environmental impact — I hope not," Carola said. "But the question remains: What happens now [with the submarine]? What were they thinking in 1973?"

[Navy Announces Rating Modernization Progress Update](#) **[Chief of Naval Personnel, Navy.mil, August 13](#)**

WASHINGTON – Navy released an update on the Sailor 2025 Rating Modernization's four lines of effort (LOE): Career Fields, Marketplace Force Management, Advancement, and Credentialing in NAVADMIN 196/18, Aug. 13.

The updates listed below provide a summary on the current status and way ahead of the four LOEs, but all personnel are strongly encouraged to read the NAVADMIN for greater detail on each topic.

Career Fields

The alignment of Navy ratings into 23 career fields and 12 broad communities has provided a foundation for future development of more flexible and sustainable career paths for Sailors. In October 2017, and March and June of this year, three groups of over 850 Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) codes were successfully converted to a new construct. More information about the revised NEC construct and communities and career fields can be found at <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/nec/Pages/default.aspx>.

Marketplace Force Management

Driven by the urgent requirement to update and modernize personnel systems, the Navy began to expand career fields, in order to transform enlisted force community and career management in the future.

A new "Navy Detailing Marketplace" is currently under development, through which the foundational elements of an automated personnel management system will tie Sailor enlistment directly to negotiations for a billet, which will then allow Sailors to reenlist or extend for that billet assignment. The marketplace will be a single system that uses the new NEC construct to better represent Sailors' qualifications, experience, and performance in the form of a resume. The "Sailor Resume" function will be available in the future under "My Record" on MyNavy Portal (MNP). Starting in Fiscal Year 2019, Sailors will be able to view all advertised billets for which they are qualified and to then submit a resume that includes: ASVAB scores, security clearance status, worldwide deployability, qualifications, evaluations, NECs earned, education degrees and training certifications. Ultimately, the resume function will provide the ability to better match Sailors to billets.

Advancement Process

Late in 2017, Navy senior enlisted leaders completed the first phase of the Advancement Exam Readiness Review (AERR) testing bank improvement plan by drafting advancement exam questions that match current and relevant rating-specific technical requirements with the hands-on, real-world knowledge and experience needed in the Fleet.

The establishment of the Professional Military Knowledge Eligibility Exam (PMK-EE) focuses the Navy Wide Advancement Exam (NWAE) on occupational knowledge and will serve as an eligibility requirement for advancement to paygrades E4/5/6/7. PMK-EE will be delivered electronically, and will be available via the MyNavyPortal (MNP) website beginning in October 2018.

The online Enlisted Advancement Worksheet (EAW), will automate the manual advancement processes and enable Sailors to review their worksheets before the exam and take charge of their advancement records. An EAW pilot, available through the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS), will be implemented with the Active Duty and Reserve spring 2019 advancement cycles.

The Senior Enlisted Advancement to Vacancy (A2V) pilot was announced in June and will fill senior chief petty officer and master chief petty officer priority billets using a spot advancement incentive, and will lead enlisted advancement modernization for exceptional Sailors in all paygrades with critical NECs in the future.

Credentialing

Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL) currently funds over 2,700 certificates/licenses with opportunities for Sailors in every rating. Navy COOL recently reduced the minimum service remaining on a Sailor's enlistment contract to earn credentials from 12 to six months, and expanded opportunity for Sailors to earn credentials mapped to an academic degree or technical education certificate. Additionally, there are more opportunities for Sailors to maximize their Navy training and qualifications toward attainment of U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) licenses, to include funding the Transportation Worker Identification Card. These opportunities are highlighted in a dedicated "USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) Credentialing" tab for ratings with applicable USCG license alignment on the Navy COOL website.

Sailors will be able to convert their military training records, billet assignment history and other credentialing data to a compatible civilian resume by the end of fiscal year 2019. Using those standardized data, Sailors can easily research information on civilian and federal occupations mapped to their ratings at <https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn> or via the Navy COOL app available on the Google Play store or iTunes.

The goals for Rating Modernization are to provide greater choice and flexibility for our Sailors with respect to detailing and training, to provide greater flexibility for the Navy in assigning highly trained personnel, and to increase professional alignment with civilian employers.

Rating Modernization supports Sailor 2025 initiatives through the goals of redefining career fields, improving talent management and the detailing process, offering more career choices, and expanding professional development opportunities. These initiatives are intended to increase Fleet readiness, sustainability, and fit.

FOR SALE

Charleston Base members who have items they wish to sell may send me the information for inclusion in the newsletter. Items will run for three issues or until I'm notified by the person submitting the ad that it is no longer needed.

Certified GSA Container Inspector
Past President of SC Locksmith Association
2004 Locksmith of the Year



Crackerjack Locksmith



Robert Temple
Journeyman Safe Cracker
Summerville, SC 29483

843-873-0767
H8SPVMT@GMAIL.COM

Robert Temple - Crackerjack Locksmith

Locked Out? Call Crackerjack!!! 843.873.0767



RT2BR Arms LLC

Firearms Transfers and Sales

Tom Clark
308 Mendenhall St
Summerville, SC 29483

Hours by Appointment
(843) 277-5309
Info@RT2BRArms.com
www.RT2BRArms.com

FIREARMS TRANSFERS

www.rt2brarms.com

Info@RT2BRArms.com Standard

Transfer Fee: \$20 USSVI Member \$15

SC CWP Holders: \$5 discount

MC SQUARED CABLES, LLC



MC SQUARED CABLES, LLC
MELISSA A. GORDON, CEO/OWNER
EDWOSB/EDVOSB/DAVOSB
101 KILKENNY AVE.
GOOSE CREEK, SC 29445
OFFICE: (843) 327-8967
FAX: (843) 569-1438

MC SQUARED Cables, LLC is an Economically Disadvantaged Woman/Veteran/Minority and Disabled Veteran-owned small business. We provide our customers with reliable cables that are physically and electrically appropriate for their applications, and conformant to the most demanding industrial requirements and military specifications. See [Flyer](http://www.ussvicb.org/business-discounts/MCSQUARED Business Description.pdf) at <http://www.ussvicb.org/business-discounts/MCSQUARED Business Description.pdf> for more information



Swamp Fox Utilities, LLC

Tim Curtis

Senior Estimator

Clearing * Grading * Water/Sewer *

Asphalt Paving

2080 Mendel Rivers Rd

PO Box 14

St. Stephen SC 29479

Phone: 843-567-3170

Fax: 843-567-6709

swampfoxutilities@cs.com



Kathy Sumner - MBA / Realtor – License# 91234

843.475.7431 – KathyHSumner@kw.com

www.SumnerPropertyGroup.com

1180 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, Charleston SC 29407

TABOR
Mortgage Group

A division of **ResMac**

Patrick Villegas
Loan Officer *"Specializing in VA Loans and VA Refinances"*
2000 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. Ste. 2020, Charleston, SC 29407
Patrick@tabormortgage.com
NMLS 1520207 (843) 224-9272

Patrick Villegas
Loan Officer *"Specializing in VA Loans and VA Refinances"*
2000 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. Ste. 2020, Charleston, SC 29407
Patrick@tabormortgage.com
NMLS 1520207 (843) 224-9272