



**Vol. 14 No. 12**

**December 2018**

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

**Base Meeting:**

BOD: NA  
 Membership: NA  
**Location:**  
 FRA Branch 269  
 Low Country Home  
 99 Wisteria Rd.  
 Goose Creek, SC



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Base Vice Commander	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011	Veterans Affairs	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282
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 Lost During the Month of December

USS CAPELIN (SS-289)	December 2, 1943	1 <sup>st</sup> War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 76 souls
USS SEALION (SS-195)	December 10, 1941	Bombed in Philippine Shipyards	First submarine lost in World War II Loss of 5 souls
USS F1/CARP (SS-20)	December 17, 1917	Collision with USS F3 (SS-22)	Loss of 19 souls
USS S4 (SS-109)	December 17, 1927	Rammed by USCGC Paulding	Lost with all hands – 40 souls

Four Boats and 140 Men Lost During the Month of December

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### Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Information on all these events are on the base website [www.ussvicb.org/events/index.html](http://www.ussvicb.org/events/index.html)

### From the Editor

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

I writing this on December 22, so it's been 33 days since my heart surgery. Everything is going well but I have a long way to go. I'll be restricted to lifting more than 10 pounds for another month and my sternum will not fully heal for 5 more months so I should restrict how much I try to lift.

Thank you for your prayers and messages following the surgery.

God bless you and have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!



Your Editor, Rick Wise at the Charleston Base Christmas Party

## 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

**Subject:** SE Conference Update

Jay,  
Congrats on your election as the SE District 4 Commander.

As you may know, Snug Harbor base is sponsoring the 2019 SE Conference here in the Space Coast (Cape Canaveral). My name is Shawn Brown, Snug Harbor Base's Treasure and the coordinator for this event.

FYI – the Space Coast Submarine Birthday ball is going to be held on 4 May 2019 at the Cape Canaveral Radisson.

To support the birthday ball, we are running our SE Conference as close to 4 May as possible and at the same Cape Canaveral Radisson. Presently we are aiming for 30 Apr – 3 May but due to room pricing we may have to move the dates to the left (earlier).

We intend to keep the SE Conference separate from the Submarine Ball for meetings and activities.

We ran the last Space Coast SE Conference at the same Radisson back in 2015 so they are familiar with myself and Snug Harbor.

I talked to the Radisson hotel today and they can support our activities and dinner. Normally we have to reserve the Radisson with a \$500 deposit but the Radisson was able to take the deposit that the Submarine Birthday Ball is supplying to cover both events. This is excellent for us since there was not any "Seed" money to start this.

I will be asking the other SE Bases to donate some money to support the SE conference (in lieu of the Seed money).

The main reason that I'm writing you is to let you know what meetings I have scheduled so far with the Radisson and to get yours and Ken's input whether we need any other meetings:

- Base Officer Meeting
- Holland Club Breakfast
- Men's Brunch
- Ladies Brunch
- Welcome to the SE Conference greeting meeting
- The Dinner

Anything that we missed?

Between meetings we will have events/tours such as:

- Kennedy Space Center tour (my companies manager is an Astronaut and we are going to see if he is willing to join the tour).
- Two casino boat rides
- Veterans Museum tour

This just names a few – our core planning group is going to review these events/tours and see if we can come up with something new for the conference.

We are hoping to get the same support we received the last time that we sponsored this event so wish us luck.

If you have any concerns, suggestions or ideas please let me know.

Shawn D. Brown  
ETCS(SS) Retired  
Snug Harbor Base

Since there is no Base Meeting in December there are no minutes but here is the Chaplain's report. Good evening and Merry Christmas to everyone. Some updates on our shipmates:

**Rick Wise** had his aortic valve replacement surgery is doing so well that he is with us tonight.

**Mike Welch** had a 6 way bypass in early October and is doing so well that he is with us tonight.

Many of our members are having serious health problems.

The USSVI National Chaplain, Bill Dixon from Tarheel Base, had a serious stroke last week. He has been fighting for his life and is now stabilized with a defibrillator. The family asks that we pray for him.

## **THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES HAVE DEPARTED ON THEIR ETERNAL PATROL SINCE OUR 2017 CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT**

**First Class Torpedomans Mate, Submarines, Michael L. McLuskey  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol September 4, 2015**

**Second Class Motor Machinist's Mate, Submarines, Samuel Eugene Whatley  
US Navy World War II Submarine Veteran  
Departed on Eternal Patrol – November 28, 2017**

**Stewards Mate SN First Class, Submarines, William Lee Jones,  
US Navy World War II Submarine Veteran  
Departed on Eternal Patrol December 30, 2017**

**First Class Quartermaster, Submarines, Walter James Curtis,  
United States Navy World War II Submarine Veteran  
Departed on Eternal Patrol February 10, 2018**

**Chief Torpedomans Mate, Submarines, Vernon J. Freshour  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol March 1, 2018**

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

**Commander, Submarines, John R. Spear,  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol August 10, 2018**

**Lieutenant Commander, Submarines, Churchill James Campbell  
United States Navy World War II Submarine Veteran  
Departed on Eternal Patrol October 4, 2018**

**Senior Chief Engineman, Submarines, Michael Howard Bailey  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol October 9, 2018**

**Master Chief Radioman, Submarines, Larry Lyle Cox  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol October 21, 2018**

**Chief Missile Technician, Submarines, Luther F. Murphy  
US Navy Retired  
Departed on Eternal Patrol November 26, 2018**

***New Base Challenge Coins!***

The Scholarship Committee will have brand new Charleston Base challenge coins for sale starting at the January meeting. Not only are the coins great looking, they are functional too!

Help support our Admiral James B. Osborn Scholarship Fund with the purchase of a coin or several. Make great gifts and of course challenge coin give-aways!





# CHARLESTON BASE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The 2018 Charleston Base Christmas Party was held on Friday, December 14 at the Magnolia Ball Room of the Charleston Club at The Combined Base Charleston Air Force Base. Thanks to the effort and leadership of Ed Stank and help of several members of Charleston Base the party was a great success. I particularly enjoyed the date since it was my 50th wedding anniversary!

The staff of the Charleston Club were very hospitable and attentive. The space was large enough to meet all our needs.







## Admiral Osborn Scholarship Raffle

The Scholarship Committee will begin a new raffle starting at the January meeting. This raffle is for a remarkable DVD series titled **“Shipmates’ DVD Series”** put out by the Fleet Reserve Association and was made in conjunction with The History Channel and the A&E Television network. It includes the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. This impressive set contains 76 DVDs and covers a myriad of topics. See the list below for individual DVD titles.

The raffle will start at the January meeting with the drawing to be held at the end of the March meeting. Ticket cost is \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased at the meetings and will be available for sale at the bar in the Fleet Reserve. Help support our Admiral James B. Osborn Scholarship with your purchase of tickets for an incredible set of DVDs!

Battle History of the Navy	Coast Guard	Valor in War and Peace
Born Into War	Defending America	Tigers of the Sea parts 1,2,3
Second to None	Coast Guard	Hallowed Grounds
Fire and Water	The U.S. Coast Guard	Missile Submarines
Steel Walls of Freedom	On the Wings of Eagle	S-5: Doomed Sub
The Great Ships	Marines	Last Stand of the Tin Can Sail- ors
Cruisers	A Fellowship of Valor	Desert Storm
Coast Guard	Pacific Inferno	USS Intrepid Story
Battleships	Born In Blood	Naval Aviation
Frigates	Tragedy to Triumph	Spruance
Ships of the Line	From Tragedy to Triumph	Admiral Chester Nimitz
Aircraft Carriers	Making Marines	Admiral William “Bull” Halsey
Amphibious Assault	Alamo of the Pacific: Wake Island	150 years in Annapolis: Naval Academy
Submarines	Storm on the Horizon	Most Daring Mission of the Civil War
Destroyers	Guadalcanal	The Lost Evidence
PT Boats	Marine Corps Aviation	Iwo Jima
Gun Boats of Viet Nam	Old Breed Marine	Okinawa
Hero Ships	The Marine’s Marine – Chesty Puller	Tarawa
USS Arizona 1 & 2	Special Operations	Leyte
LST-325	Air Rescue	
USS New York	Blood Angels (Corpsmen)	
USS Enterprise	Air Group 16	
USS Hornet	Bloody Aleutians	
USS Constitution	Navy Seals	
USS Yorktown	Snipers	
World War II	One Shot, One Kill	
Wrath	World’s Deadliest Snipers	
Triumph	Sea Bees	
Battlefronts	Deep Sea Divers	
Infamy	Forward Air Controllers	
Korean War	Marine Raiders	
Retreat From Hell		
The Bitter Standoff		
Triumph to Tragedy		
Fire and Ice		





## Charleston Base Presents Submariners' Legacy Award to Nuclear Power School Class 1805

Members of Charleston Base attended the graduation of US Naval Nuclear Power School Class 1805 at Naval Weapons Station of Combined Base Charleston. A total of 96 Officers and 333 Enlisted graduated. The Submariners' Legacy Awards were presented to ENS Nicholas English and ETN3 Joseph Duran by Rick Wise. Also attending from Charleston Base were Ray Sparks, Roger Gibson and Harry Nettles.



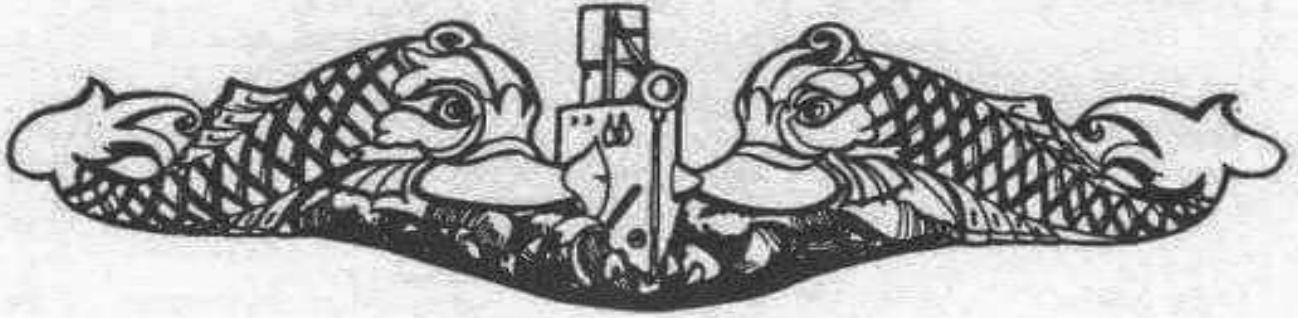
CDR Paul Rouleau, Director NPS, ENS English, ETN3 Duran, CAPT Peterson, CO NNPTC and RADM Mewbourne, Commander Military Sealift Command



Rick Wise presents award to ENS Nicholas English and ETN3 Joseph Duran

After submarine USS R-14 ran out of fuel and lost radio communications while searching for a missing ship in 1921, the crew stitched together blankets, hammocks and battery deck covers and then spent 5 days under sail to travel 120 miles back to Hawaii. The R-14's skipper received a letter of commendation from Submarine Division Commander, CDR Chester Nimitz.





## The Submariner

Only a submariner realizes to what great extent an entire ship depends on him as an individual. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, but it is so!

A submarine at sea is a different world in herself, and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of submarines, the Navy must place responsibility and trust in the hands of those who take such ships to sea.

In each submarine there are men who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to each other. These men are ultimately responsible to themselves and each to the other for all aspects of operation of their submarine. They are the crew. They are the ship.

This is perhaps the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as a submariner that he can escape the grasp of responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small, nevertheless, it is the spur which has given the Navy its greatest mariners - the men of the Submarine Service.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the proud and time honored title of ... Submariner.

### 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.



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