



Vol. 15 No. 10

October 2019

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

**Base Meeting:**

BOD: October 3, 1800  
 Membership: October 10, 1900

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



|                     |                 |              |                    |               |                                      |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Base Commander      | Mike Ciesielko  | 843.324.0011 | Chief of the Boat  | Joe Lunn      | 843.747.5368                         |
| Base Vice Commander | Tom Lawson      | 843.327.3282 | 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     | Jerry Stout   | 843-568-5923                         |
|                     |                 |              | 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)<br>843.276.0899 (C) |
|                     |                 |              | Webmaster          | Nick Nichols  | 843.452.3189                         |
|                     |                 |              | Kaps for Kids      | Bill Kennedy  | 843.875.3109                         |



# Submarines Lost During the Month of October

|                                    |   |   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>USS SEAWOLF (SS-197)</b>        | October 3, 1944 – 15 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol | Lost with all hands –100 souls (83 crew and 17 Army)        |
| <b>USS S-44 (SS-155)</b>           | October 7, 1944 – 5 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol  | Lost with 56 souls – 2 men became POWs and survived the war |
| <b>USS WAHOO (SS-238)</b>          | October 11, 1943 – 7 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol | Lost with all hands – 80 souls                              |
| <b>USS DORADO (SS-248)</b>         | October 12, 1943 – New - training             | Lost with all hands – 77 souls                              |
| <b>USS ESCOLAR (SS-294)</b>        | October 17, 1944 – 1 <sup>st</sup> War Patrol | Lost with all hands – 82 souls                              |
| <b>USS DARTER (SS-227)</b>         | October 24, 1944 – 4 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol | No loss of life   |
| <b>USS SHARK II (SS-314)</b>       | October 24, 1944 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> War Patrol | Lost with all hands – 87 souls                              |
| <b>USS TANG (SS-306)</b>           | October 25, 1944 – 5 <sup>th</sup> War Patrol | Lost with 78 souls – 9 men became POWs and survived the war |
| <b>USS O-5 (SS-66)</b>             | October 29, 1923 – near Panama Canal          | Lost with 3 souls   |
| <b>Nine Boats and 563 Men Lost</b> |   |   |

## Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| From the Editor   | 2  |
| From USSVI National, Regional and District              | 3  |
| What is the Little David and Why Do We Maintain It?     | 3  |
| Scholarship Raffle                                      | 4  |
| The Worst Submarine Disaster Gets Memorial at Arlington | 4  |
| Navy Announces Re-establishment of TM Rating            | 5  |
| Pentagon Want To Keep Shaking Up Navy, Marines          | 6  |
| October Base Meeting Minutes                            | 7  |
| Advertisements  | 12 |

## Upcoming Charleston Base Events

|                        |                            |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Base BOD Meeting       | Thursday, Nov 6, 1800      | FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek       |
| Veteran's Day Ceremony | Monday, Nov 11, 1030       | Cty Office Bldg, US-17A & US-78  |
| Tolling the Lost Boats | Monday, Nov 11, 1300       | Coastal Coffee Roasters, S'ville |
| Base Meeting           | Thursday, October 10, 1900 | FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek       |

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

## From the Editor

During a semi-annual visit to my Dermatologist, once they get you they NEVER let go, a spot on the left side of my nose was determined to be Basal Cell Cancer. I scheduled the surgery the week after we returned from our annual visit to Arkansas and Oklahoma. Since I had already had four Basal Cell sites removed I figured it would go pretty much as those had. BOY WAS I WRONG!

The first indication was when the surgeon noted another site just above the site I came for. When this proved to also be cancer he said "This is going to be a little complicated." Six hours later they had removed the skin from the left side of my nose and a section of cheek about 1/2" wide adjacent to the nose. He loosened the skin from my left cheek and stretched it to cover the cheek section and brought down skin from my forehead to cover the nose. The skin from the forehead was still attached so I had a bold supply. They bandaged me up covering my left eye, cheek and whole nose. I kept that for a week so I had a very hard time doing anything else since wearing glasses was very difficult. I ended up removing the nose piece and taping them to the bandage.

After a week I got my left eye back and the bandaging was reduced to only covering the nose and forehead. I was able to drive again and found I could make a glasses holder to tape to the bandage. It is still difficult a little difficult to read sine if I don't have the glasses just right on the holder they fall off when I look down. In a couple of days I will get the strip from the forehead separated and when I get those stitches removed should be back to normal.

Because of this surgery I had to postpone the Little David Maintenance until November.

## From USSVI National

Normal message traffic from USSVI will be published on the Charleston Base Website [www.ussvicb.org](http://www.ussvicb.org) . If I see anything that should be brought to the notice of our non-computer members I will post it here.

## Nothing Received

### What is the Little David and Why Do We Maintain it?

The Little David is a replica of the CSS David, a low profile Torpedo Boat that was used in the defense of Charleston during the Civil War. The replica was built at what is now Trident Technical College for the 1970 South Caroling Tri-centennial. In 2004 Charleston Base was asked by Santee-Cooper to undertake the restoration of the replica. For 5 months 33 members (about half at the time) members of the Base worked to restore the replica. Below are pictures of the replica before and after the restoration.



In order to keep it from deteriorating we hold an annual working party to replace/repair items and paint.

## Admiral Osborn Scholarship Raffle

The Scholarship Committee ran a raffle for one year range membership to ATP Gun Shop and Range during the July and August meetings. Richard Sparger's ticket was drawn and he won. Richard has donated his prize back to the Committee to be raffled again. Here's your chance to win again! Christmas is coming, so remember if you're not a shooter it will make a great gift for kids, grandkids, friends, etc. If you have family and friends that want to participate, just bring their money to the meeting and purchase tickets for them too!

The Base Scholarship Committee will be running a raffle for one (1) night at the Base November meeting. Raffle will only run for one meeting with the drawing to be held at the end of the meeting. The raffle will consist of the following gifts to the winning ticket:

- One year gun range membership to ATP Gun Shop and Range
- One ATP Gun Shop and Range polo style shirt
- One ATP Gun Shop and Range long sleeve T-shirt
- One ATP Gun Shop and Range baseball cap
- One NEBO "The Lucy" 8 LED Flashlight
- One container Tannerite explosive target



Raffle is open to everyone; members and non-members. Ask your friends and neighbors! Winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the regular November meeting. If you will not be at the November meeting and want tickets see Rick Sparger, Marty or Carl.

Ticket cost is \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Go ahead and buy a dozen or so and support the Admiral James B. Osborn Memorial Scholarship!

If you are not a shooter, you can still support the scholarship fund by buying tickets. If you win, donate back to the fund, give to a shipmate or sell on your own. It's a win-win for you and the scholarship fund!

## The worst submarine disaster in US history is finally getting a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

*Julia Bergman, New London Day, September 26*

Judy Douglas has waited 56 years for this moment. Her brother Lt. John Smarz Jr. was one of the 129 men who died when the USS Thresher, the most advanced submarine of its era, sank to the ocean floor during a deep dive test on April 10, 1963, about 220 miles east of Cape Cod. The event remains the worst submarine disaster in U.S. history.

On Thursday, the 79-year-old Douglas, of Shelton, Conn., will gather with other family members of the deceased at Arlington National Cemetery for the unveiling of a memorial in honor of the Thresher crew and the submarine safety program that came afterward, which, Douglas said, she considers part of her brother's legacy. She and about 50 others will be taking a bus down from Norwich organized by the memorial fundraisers, who had raised \$60,000 in private donations for the marker.

"Long time coming," Douglas said of the memorial. "I mean it's going to be quite an experience." The effort to memorialize the 129 men was spearheaded by Kevin Galeaz, a submarine veteran who lives in New Hampshire. The memorial, which went through various levels of approval and ultimately was endorsed by the secretary of the Army, will be located on the Roosevelt Drive walkway that runs between the cemetery's welcome center and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Former chief of naval operations, retired Adm. John Richardson, is among those expected to give remarks at the dedi-

On Wednesday, before boarding a bus for the dedication ceremony, Douglas recalled how she'd been out shopping with her mother when she first heard the news about the Thresher. The song "Our Day Will Come" was playing on the radio.

"They broke in and said that the Thresher was missing," she said.

Her mother shut out the world after her brother was reported deceased but kept thinking he would eventually come home.

"You know when something like that happens, that's what you do, you wait for them to knock on the door because you don't have anything to prove that they're gone," said Douglas, who brought with her a copy of the Aug. 11, 1963, edition of the Evening Sentinel, a newspaper based in Ansonia, Conn., the front page of which reads in big letters, over the fold: "Hope dies for 129 men on sub." The page features an article with a picture of her brother, the headline of which reads, "Shelton Navy Lieutenant missing on Navy sub."

Her brother, who was 33 when he died, left behind his wife and three small children, two of whom will be at the memorial dedication.

Several former crew members also are expected to attend, including 82-year-old Ira Goldman of Waterford, who would have been on the Thresher if he hadn't gone to a Navy training school for machinist's mates.

Goldman has kept a Thresher scrapbook, which includes biographies of the crew members and photos and articles from major milestones in the submarine's life. Family members who were too young to remember their deceased relatives have relied on him for information.

The Navy has said the most likely cause of the sinking was a failure in either a pipe, a pipe valve or a hull weld, causing flooding near the engine room. In response to the tragedy, the Navy created a program that developed new submarine safety standards, known as SUBSAFE, that's still in existence today. No submarine certified under the program has been lost.

"This memorial not only perpetuates memories of men lost, but also the submarine safety legacy that has and continues to protect the lives of the men and women who serve on our nation's submarines," Galeaz said.

A retired Navy captain, James Bryant, in early July filed a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the Navy, seeking records related to the sinking of the submarine, which, he has said, could help shed light on possible causes that have not been made public.

Bryant, who was hoping to get the information before the dedication ceremony, said by phone Wednesday that he is meeting with Navy officials in Washington on Thursday morning to try to resolve the suit.

Galeaz said the families are mixed on whether they want to re-examine the loss. Some still are curious about what happened, while others see no value in releasing more information to the public.

Douglas said she believed the Navy's version of what happened and didn't seem interested in finding out any potentially new information.

## **'Man the Torpedoes!' Navy Announces Re-establishment of Torpedoman's Mate Rating**

*Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs, Navy.mil, September 30*

**WASHINGTON** -- Navy announced the re-establishment of the Torpedoman's Mate rating (TM) in NAVADMIN 225/19, to be released Oct. 1.

According to the naval message, re-establishing the rating will renew the heritage and pride of the submarine TM.

"The Torpedoman's Mate rating was disestablished in 1995, but based on feedback from the fleet we are bringing it back," said Capt. Angela Katson, branch head of Enlisted Force Shaping Plans and Policies. "In the spirit of heritage, and Sailor 2025 initiatives, we are returning to the use of the original Torpedoman's Mate rating badge."

During an All Hands Call that took place at Naval Base Kitsap in Bangor, Washington, then-Chief of

Naval Operations Adm. John M. Richardson fielded questions from Sailors on the possibility of re-establishing the TM rate in April. Shortly after, the Navy began the process to approve re-naming the Machinist's Mate (Non-nuclear, Submarine Weapons) (MMW) rating to Torpedoman's Mate.

"I think the Navy bringing back the TM rating is going to pay incredible dividends," said MMWCS Heath Mangrum the force torpedoman at Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic. "The excitement level amongst the Sailors is through the roof. It's the right time for a change like this to light the fire under our Sailors, and embrace the heritage in the rating."

The Torpedoman rating was established in 1921 and renamed Torpedoman's Mate in 1942. Following the success of the submarine force in WWII, the rate remained until 1995 when it was merged into the Machinist's Mate rating.

"Although there are similarities between a Machinist's Mate and a Torpedoman's Mate, the TM's main focus at sea is weapons handling, force protection and maintaining an incredible level of proficiency in ordnance, small arms and the upkeep of those systems," said Mangrum.

TMs are responsible for all phases of weapons loading, unloading and storage on all classes of submarines. This includes torpedoes, Tomahawk missiles and countermeasure devices. A TM works on high pressure air and hydraulic systems to maintain loading and launching capabilities for torpedo and vertical launch tubes.

The re-establishment of the general rating is solely administrative in nature, but will require a rating badge change for affected Sailors. The TM rating badge will be the same one in use when the rating was disestablished in 1995.

"The importance of a TM stems far beyond namesake," said Mangrum. "When the commanding officer is calling for a ready weapons posture, the TMs make sure all systems are locked, loaded and ready to go."

There will be no change to the Navy-wide exam policies for the rating beyond the change in name, and no change to the administration schedule of examinations will occur. Current policies exercised will continue unaltered. Additionally, there will be no changes to E-7 and above evaluation and selection board processes.

Sailor 2025 is the Navy's program to improve and modernize personnel management and training systems to more effectively recruit, develop, manage, reward, and retain the force of tomorrow.

## **Pentagon official wants to keep shaking up the Navy, Marines**

***Courtney Mabeus, Navy Times, October 26***

America's foes are becoming far too capable and the Navy and Marine Corps must start plotting unconventionally to undermine them, Under Secretary of the Navy Thomas Modly said Friday.

The National Defense Strategy, which calls for shaking up how the Navy deploys is "a step in the right direction," but Modly believes the sea services must make that operational in an era of great power competition keyed by the rise of China and Russia.

"It's a great tag line, I guess, but my perspective on this always has been that what happens over time is just the range of adversaries just get more diverse," Modly said.

Speaking during the annual Military Reporters and Editors conference at Navy League headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, Modly's wide-ranging address touched on the motives and methods of both proven enemies and potential foes.

He pointed to Al Qaeda's terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 and the immense destruction to America's economy by a small ring of non-state conspirators, and Russia's invasion of Crimea and ongoing efforts, including war, to undermine Ukraine's government.

"The Chinese are doing the same thing. They've got a strategic vision for what they see as their future and they're executing it in a very coordinated, nationally based way," Modly said

Addressing potential enemies like China, Russia, North Korea and Iran will require not only a military response but one that combines all elements of federal power, including diplomacy, cyberwarfare and economic tools.

“We have to think about ways to complicate their thinking, make them uncertain, make them doubt their capabilities,” Modly said. “That’s the full spectrum.”

Modly’s latest readiness snapshot for the Navy and Marine Corps came through an external audit by Ernst and Young. While the sea service maintains a 99.9 percent accuracy of its audits on individual warships, it suffered from a lack of information on its shore-based facilities, he said.

He disclosed that the audit team found a warehouse in Jacksonville, Florida, last year that contained more than \$126 million in F-14 Tomcat, P-3 Orion and P-8 Poseidon parts.

“Not only did we not know that the parts existed, we didn’t even know the warehouse existed,” he said.

The Navy also needs to press industry to speed business reform and cut costs, Modly said, nodding at the “situation” with the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford as an example.

The first in its class, Ford has been beset by myriad systems problems and cost overruns that delayed the flattop from deploying until 2024, according to Capitol Hill testimony earlier this week by Vice Adm. Thomas Moore, the head of Naval Sea Systems Command.

“Part of the problem we have with the carrier is we only have one supplier for that,” Modly said, referring to Newport News Shipbuilding, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries, the nation’s sole builder of aircraft carriers.

“Who else are we going to go to? If they don’t perform, your ability to hold them accountable is very, very difficult.”

Modly’s comments come as Navy Secretary Richard Spencer and Rep. Elaine Luria, a Virginia Beach Democrat and retired surface warfare officer, traded barbs over the Ford in recent days. But Modly insisted his comments weren’t meant to bash Newport News Shipbuilding but were borne out of frustration stemming from the “shared responsibility” between the Navy and private industry.

“We as a Navy and as a Department of Defense have a lot to be held accountable for with respect to the Ford,” Modly said. “Certain decisions that were made to put in all those new technologies at once on a new platform and I think we’re accepting responsibility for it.”

## United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base Minutes of Business Meeting 10 October 2019

### Opening Ceremonies:

The October 2019 Base Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko with a quorum of four officers and a total of 64 members present. The meeting started at 1900 with the sound of the diving alarm.

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

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

Submarines lost during the month of October:

|                              |   |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>USS SEAWOLF (SS 197)</b>  | <b>Oct 3, 1944 – 15<sup>th</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>Lost with all hands – 100 souls<br/>(83 crew and 17 Army)</b>       |
| <b>USS S-44 (SS 155)</b>     | <b>Oct 7, 1944 – 5<sup>th</sup> War Patrol</b>  | <b>Lost with 56 souls – 2 men became<br/>POWs and survived the war</b> |
| <b>USS WAHOO (SS 238)</b>    | <b>Oct 11, 1943 – 7<sup>th</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>Lost with all hands – 80 souls</b>                                  |
| <b>USS DORADO (SS 248)</b>   | <b>Oct 12, 1944 – New - Training</b>            | <b>Lost with all hands – 77 souls</b>                                  |
| <b>USS ESCOLAR (SS 294)</b>  | <b>Oct 17, 1944 – 1<sup>st</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>Lost with all hands – 82 souls</b>                                  |
| <b>USS DARTER (SS 227)</b>   | <b>Oct 24, 1944 – 4<sup>th</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>No loss of life</b>   |
| <b>USS SHARK II (SS 314)</b> | <b>Oct 24, 1944 – 3<sup>rd</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>Lost with all hands – 87 souls</b>                                  |
| <b>USS TANG (SS 306)</b>     | <b>Oct 25, 1944 – 5<sup>th</sup> War Patrol</b> | <b>Lost with 78 souls – 9 men became<br/>POWs and survived the war</b> |
| <b>USS O-5 (SS 66)</b>       | <b>Oct 29, 1923 – Near Panama Canal</b>         | <b>Lost with 3 souls</b>   |

**Nine Boats and 563 Men Lost**

**Chief Warrant Officer 3, Submarines, Lee Roland Young, United States Navy Retired, Shipmate Departed on  
Eternal Patrol – September 25, 2019**

The USSVI Creed was read by Vice Commander Tom Lawson

Base Commander Mike Ciesielko welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**Guest Speaker: Sue Kerver – Voluntary Service Manager – VA Hospital**

Spoke about the contributions of time by the volunteers.

Spoke of the current and planned facilities around the Low Country. One clinic will be in North Charleston to relieve some of the requirement to go downtown.

Informed the base membership of the current needs for volunteers – especially drivers but other tasks include golf cart shuttle driver and escorts to accompany patients to the appointment locations within the facilities.

Volunteers are asked to give minimum of four hours each week for a minimum of six months.

Spoke about the benefit that the Fisher House provides and the need for volunteers there.

Fielded questions from the members.

Left Base members some brochures about VA volunteer service.

More information can be found the VA Hospital website – <https://www.charleston.va.gov/>

**Introductions of New Attendees:**

Two men were present at the Base meeting for the first time:

Daniel Hutto – MMN3 – Student at Nuclear Power School – Has volunteered for Submarine Service

Greg Landry – MM1 – Qualified on USS Greenling SSN615 – 1987 – Also served aboard USS Canopus AS34, NSSF Groton, USS Billfish SSN676, USS Maine SSBN741, NRD Atlanta, NRS Charleston, USS Harry S. Truman CVN75. Also SW/AW.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

**Secretary – Gordon Long:**

The Minutes from the September Base meeting have been published in the Base Newsletter and promulgated on the Base website. There were no other additions or deletions to the September Base meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer – Gordon Williams:**

The Treasurer's Report for September has been published and promulgated on the website. There were no additions or deletions. The report was approved.

**Chaplain – Nick Nichols:****Highlighted boat of the month:**

Shark II was lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.

There are several shipmates and family members who have given Nick information which they wish to be kept confidential at this time.

**CWO3(SS) Lee Roland Young, USN Ret., 75**, departed on Eternal Patrol September 25, 2019 at Summerville Community Hospice Home. Lee joined the Navy in 1961 and retired in 1988, beginning as a TM and then commissioned as a Chief Warrant Officer 3. He was a Life Member of USSVI National and Charleston Base, Holland Club member, and a member of the FRA Branch 269, American Legion Post 166 and VFW Post 3433. He qualified in 1963 on GEORGE WASHINGTON SSBN/SSN 598 and served on STONEWALL JACKSON SSBN 634, HENRY CLAY SSBN 625 and FRANK CABLE AS40. A note of condolence has been placed in the online Funeral Home memorial website. Lee's memorial service was held Saturday, October 5 at Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens. Rick Wise stood in as Chaplain for the Bell Tolling Service.

**Rick Wise** had MOHS surgery yesterday on his nose and face. He is home recovering and is not able to drive. The Little David maintenance has been moved to November. More info will be provided later.

**Judy Hutchison**, Ken's wife, had her biopsy and the results are that there is no cancer.

**Becky Roberts** broke her leg on Friday, September 27. She is now home in a leg brace and is scheduled for a full leg cast Thursday (today). Bill is the nurse, chief cook and bottle washer while she is recovering.

**Don Ort** had successful surgery on August 20, to improve circulation on the left side of his body and open the arteries that were blocked. Surgery was 9 hours and there were some difficulties with bleeding. He is fine but has trouble getting around and the healing is slow.

**Richard Walsh** went to Trident ER on Sunday, September 22, had foot surgery on Tuesday [9/24] and was released to home on Thursday [9/26]. He is doing well on his crutches and should be back at full speed in a month.

**Ed Stank** had his back surgery on September 23, and is now home and doing well. He was at the meeting tonight.  
**Joann Rohrssen** was in the hospital from September 5 until today as a result from complications of Gall Bladder removal and an infection that was septic. She has been moved to a long-term facility in Mt. Pleasant.  
**Don Londergan** is in Room 136 at Cypress Place. His phone number is now 843-990-3938.  
**Bob Snyder** was with us tonight. He is still receiving palliative care.  
**Ken Curtis** is still having his infusions. He has retired from his DAV work at the VA Clinic due to many doctors' appointments he could not continue to be there on a regular basis.  
**Tom Skorepa** had TAVR surgery for aortic valve replacement. He is home and doing well.  
**Walt Deal** went to the hospital earlier this week with shortness of breath. He is home now but will be needing several tests in the next few days.  
**Jim Loveday** is not doing well.  
**Tom Cyrek** has been admitted to the VA.  
Please complete your page 2 if you have not done so.

#### **Webmaster – Nick Nichols:**

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.  
Pictures will now be on the USSVI National website.  
VA Info from the speaker tonight will be linked to our CB Website.  
If you are in the VA Health System be sure to make use of the My HealthEVet website: <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>

#### **Submarine Veterans of WWII – George Sharf:**

Stacy Power is not here tonight.  
George has nothing to report.

#### **Social Media – Nick Nichols for Lewis Leal:**

Lou Leal was not able to make it to the meeting but sent the following info:  
Please "Like" the Base Facebook pages if you haven't done so, get your friends and family to "Like" the page too.  
"Like" and "Share" our posts on Facebook and Instagram (If you don't know how to do this, have your grandchildren show you). If you have a photo to share, or event to promote, email details to [social@ussvicb.org](mailto:social@ussvicb.org).

#### **Kaps for Kids – Bill Kennedy**

Thanked the Base members for providing crayons and coloring books; some of which were already given away at the visit to the Shriner's Hospital in Greenville just a couple of days ago – October 7. The group from Charleston Base included five men and were joined by two members from the Greenville Base and two Shriners.  
Thanked Mike Emerson and George Sharf for the work that they have done with Kaps for Kids – even leading several events by themselves.  
The next Kaps for Kids visit will be December 3 at McLeod Children's Hospital in Florence. Meet there at 1000.  
Contact Bill or Mike Emerson more information if needed.

#### **Membership – Larry Knutson**

The Base currently has 281 members.  
Annual Dues are due NOW. National dues are \$25 – Charleston Base dues are \$15.  
For some reason, a few LIFE MEMBERS still are continuing to pay dues each year. We will have to decide what to do with the money.  
National USSVI website states that dues can be paid online, but at this point, there is no provision on the National site to process the payment.

#### **VA – Tom Lawson**

Nothing to Report

#### **Scholarship – Carl Chinn**

The Middleton Gardens raffle will be held tonight at the end of the meeting.  
The Scholarship committee has Base Challenge Coins available.  
There will be something new next month.

### **Special Events – Rick Sparger**

Requests for pulling the float in various Christmas parades are now being received. The Harleyville parade is Thursday, December 5. Summerville is Sunday, December 8. Elloree is Saturday, December 14. Do not have the date for Ridgeville yet.

### **CRAMA – George Sharf for Butch Bryar**

Patriots Point is planning on reefing the Clamagore within two years, however the court case expected to be reviewed by the SC Supreme Court may take longer than that. The fight continues.

The 2.7M dollars, which was provided to Patriots Point to scuttle the boat, was taken from the SC Education fund.

### **NPS – Ray Sparks**

The next Nuclear Power School graduation will be held on November 22 with Class 1905.

### **Fleet Reserve Association – Skip Chilton**

The FRA will have a cake cutting tomorrow to honor the 244th Navy birthday.

There will be a Halloween party on October 26.

On Veteran's Day, the FRA will hold an "Indoor Picnic".

There will be a drawing for a free dinner or a year of membership.

### **Public Affairs – Jerry Stout**

Jerry is soliciting ideas from Base members for public affairs. He is wanting to submit articles to American Submariner about Charleston Base events. Please contact Jerry with information about activities that should be published.

### **Newsletter – Rick Wise**

Not Present

### **Recreation – Ed Stank**

2019 Charleston Base Christmas party will be held at the FRA on Saturday, December 7 beginning at 1800 and ending at 2200. Menu selection will be: prime rib, stuffed pork chops and flounder. Two drinks will be provided. Other beverages will be provided. The FRA has waived the charge for the room cost. Volunteers will be needed to set up the room for the party. The tickets are \$20.00 per person [Secretary's Note: The ticket price in the September minutes was \$25 each. Clarification is recommended.]

Ed informed the Base that the Recreation Chair will be open on January 1. It is time for someone else to take over this position. We thanked Ed for his work as the committee and Base Commander Mike Ciesielko requested at least two members to take on the task of Recreation for the Base.

### **Storekeeper – Ken Hutchison**

We need to remember Veterans Day, which is just around the corner.

2020 Calendars are now available.

### **COB – Joe Lunn**

We do have Veterans Day coming up. Ken Hutchison provided details: Muster time is 1000 at intersection of Hwy 78 and 17A in Summerville. Nick Nichols reminded everyone that this event is on the Base website, listing what organization is responsible for each part of the event for the next several years.

### **Vice Commander – Tom Lawson**

Reminded everyone to clean up the tables following the meeting.

### **Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko.**

Mike asked the Base members to participate in events and plan ahead for what is being done. When he first joined Charleston Base, there was a lot of things going on: e.g. cookouts, oyster roasts etc. totaling about 4 or 5 events each year. We need to do more than

## **Good of the Order**

### **After Battery – Ray Sparks**

The Hog Roast in the Swamp will be April 19 – 25, 2020. Mark your calendars and don't plan any other events for that week.

The After Battery is open every Wednesday.

### **Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko**

Meet at the FRA next Saturday, October 19. Bring your rifles, pistols, ammo and paper targets. The group will leave at 0820 to go to Twin Ponds range.

### **Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson**

Not Present

### **Hunley Info – Lindsey Nelson**

The Hunley Newsletter has a couple of events listed:

Membership tours: November 1-2 from 1000-1700. Admission is free for Hunley Society members. Guest admission is \$5 each.

Oysters and Barbeque: Friday November 1, 1700-2200 at the visitor bus shed downtown. There will be a silent auction for a vacation certificate. Member tickets for are \$40. Guest tickets are \$45. These can be purchased on the Hunley website.

**Other** - There is a Mini Seahorse reunion this week

### **Drawings & Auctions**

SCHOLARSHIP Drawing – Gordon Williams

FRA Drawing – Mike Emerson

Depth Charge – Hermy Maula

### **Closing Ceremony**

Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.

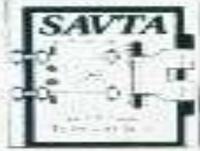
Base Commander Mike Ciesielko announced adjournment of the meeting followed by three blasts on the diving alarm.

The meeting was closed at 2018

## **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](http://www.rt2brarms.com)

[Info@RT2BRArms.com](mailto: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](mailto:swampfoxutilities@cs.com)



Kathy Sumner - MBA / Realtor – License# 91234

843.475.7431 – [KathyHSumner@kw.com](mailto:KathyHSumner@kw.com)

[www.SumnerPropertyGroup.com](http://www.SumnerPropertyGroup.com)

1180 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, Charleston SC 29407

**TABOR**  
Mortgage Group

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