



Vol. 16 No. 2

February 2020

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

Base Meeting:

BOD: February 6, 1800

Membership: February 13, 1900

Location:

FRA Branch 269

Low Country Home



Base Com- mander	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011	Chief of the Boat	Joe Lunn	843.747.5368
Base Vice Com- mander	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282	Veterans Af- fairs	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282
			Membership	Larry Knutson	843.860.1155
Secretary	Gordon Long	843.214.2353	Scholarship	Carl Chinn	843.437.5515
Treasurer	Gordon Wil- liams	843.553.3015	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 Coordi- nator	Rick Sparger	843.553.5594
			Holland Club	Bill Freligh	843.553.1115
			Social Media Coordinator	Lewis Leal	843-270-8870
			Newsletter	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Webmaster	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Kaps for Kids	Mike Emerson	843.302.2650



Submarines Lost During the Month of February

USS BARBEL (SS 316)	Feb. 4, 1945 – 4 th War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 81 souls
USS SHARK 1 (SS 174)	Feb. 11, 1942 – 1 st War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 59 souls
USS AMBERJACK (SS 219)	Feb. 16, 1943 – 3 rd War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 72 souls
USS GRAYBACK (SS 208)	Feb. 27, 1944 – 10 th War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 80 souls
USS TROUT (SS 202)	Feb. 29, 1944 – 11 th War Patrol	Lost with all hands – 81 souls
Five Boats and 373 Men Lost		
H.L. HUNLEY	Feb. 17, 1864	Lost with all hands – 8 souls

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Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Base BOD Meeting	Monday, March 5, 1800	FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek
Base Meeting	Thursday, March 12 1900	FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek
NPS Graduation	Friday, March 20, 0800	NEX Parking Lot

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

From the Editor

WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR!

.Work on the Little David proceeds. So far we have replaced about a dozen boards with 10 left to go. We will probably be painting in early May.

From USSVI National

Normal message traffic from USSVI will be published on the Charleston Base Website 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

Grits and Groceries Raffle

The Scholarship Committee will run a raffle at the March meeting. Imagine that!

This month will be a raffle for \$50 gift card to Harris Teeter grocery store and \$30 gift card to Top Dawg Tavern.

Harris Teeter has two locations in Summerville; Dorchester Road and Bacon's Bridge Road. They also have locations in West Ashley on Bee's Ferry Road, Sam Rittenburg Boulevard, Savannah Highway and various other locations in the area. Top Dawg Tavern is a local eatery on Dorchester Road near Lowe's Home Improvement Center. Top Dawg Tavern is the perfect place to grab a bite to eat, have a drink, and enjoy time together with friends and family; serving fresh, high quality food with a smile. Hang out on the outdoor patio and enjoy a drink from our full bar with a wide selection of local craft beers. TVs throughout the restaurant, including a jumbo projection screen for all the big events.

Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Winner to be drawn at the end of the March meeting.

Charleston Base Challenge Coins

As always, remember the Scholarship Committee has challenge coins available for \$12 each. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund.



Rummage Sale benefitting the Admiral Osborn Scholarship Fund

Information below. To donate items for the rummage sale please contact:

Carl Chinn at 843-437-5515 or Marty Sessler at 843-200-3109 or Rick Sparger at 843-345-5595

**** Note:** Please, no clothing, shoes, bedding, linens or draperies.



TO BENEFIT THE
CHARLESTON SUBMARINE VETERANS'

Admiral Osborn Scholarship Fund



The Scholarship Committee will hold a HUGE sale of miscellaneous household goods, tools, sports, toys, etc. Deals galore!

All proceeds go to the United States Submarine Veterans Charleston Base's Admiral James Osborn Scholarship Fund. Scholarship is available to tri-county high school seniors with a relationship to a qualified submariner. ****To donate items call 843-437-5515****

Date: Saturday, May 2, 2020 (Rain date May 9th)

**Where: 1825 Old Trolley Rd
Summerville, SC**
(Rodney's Rockets/Halloween Express)

Time: 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.



The US Navy's new nuclear cruise missile starts getting real next year

February 20, 2020

By: Aaron Mehta

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. — The Pentagon intends to create a program of record for a new nuclear-armed, submarine-launched cruise missile in its next budget request, with the goal of deploying the weapon in 7-10 years, according to a senior defense official.

Speaking on condition of anonymity during a visit to Minot Air Force Base this week, the official noted that the department is going through an analysis of alternatives, or AOA, process for the weapon, which was first announced during the rollout of the Nuclear Posture Review.

“We requested \$5 million in FY20, which Congress gave us. There’s nothing in the ‘21 budget because we’ll just continue to use the \$5 million to do the AOA,” the official explained. “But in FY22, I hope that you’ll see a budget request that will begin the program of record for the sea-launched cruise missile.”

“You put these on submarines, the Russians won’t know where they are,” the official added. “They’ll hate it. They’ll absolutely hate it.”

As part of the Nuclear Posture Review, rolled out in early 2018, the Trump administration said it would seek two new nuclear capabilities: a low-yield warhead for the submarine-launched ballistic missile, and a sea-launched nuclear-capable cruise missile. The first goal is complete, with the warhead, known as the W76-2, deployed for the first time in late 2019.

The official said the department is still sorting how much money the program might cost, but pointed to the estimated price tag for the Long Range Standoff Weapon — or LRSO, a new air-launched cruise missile — as a rough estimate. That weapon is projected to cost the Defense Department about \$8 billion to \$9 billion and a similar amount for the National Nuclear Security Administration, which is charged with developing the warhead, the official said.

“Do you put it on a surface ship? Do you put it on a submarine? Do you use a new missile or an existing missile? How far does it have to travel? We’re looking at all of this. And then you also have to look at the concept of operations. How you want them to operate? Do you store the weapons on the sub all the time, or do you bring them into port and bring them in a crisis?” the official said.

Strategically, adding the cruise missile would allow the nuclear-armed Navy to go from 12 ships to 20 or 30, which would be “huge” in changing the strategic calculus for China and Russia, the official noted.

The official emphasized that the weapon doesn’t need to be a brand-new design, saying: “It doesn’t have [to] be a big deal” to design and procure.

“The SLCM [submarine-launched cruise missile] doesn’t have to be a big deal. Could be the same warhead. We’re going to look into that,” the official added.

A conventional Tomahawk weapon has a rough range of 1,250–2,500 kilometers, and the range on the new SLCM would likely be longer, as a nuclear warhead weighs less than a conventional payload. The Navy is already investing in its Next Generation Land Attack Weapon, which could provide a more updated system on which to base the SLCM. The warhead could be a modification of the W80-4, the warhead from NNSA that will be paired with the LRSO.

Critics of the idea argue that another nuclear weapon adds little to the arsenal, while eating into a naval budget that is already under strain.

“A new SLCM would be a costly hedge on a hedge,” said Kingston Reif of the Arms Control Association. “The United States is already planning to invest scores of billions of dollars in the B-21 [bomber], LRSO and F-35A [fighter jet] to address the [area-access/area denial] challenge. The

Navy is unlikely to be pleased with the additional operational and financial burdens that would come with re-nuclearizing the surface or attack submarine fleet.”

Additionally, “arming attack submarines with nuclear SLCMs would also reduce the number of conventional Tomahawk SLCMs each submarine could carry,” Reif said.

Regardless of the details for the weapon, the official expects the Pentagon is 7-10 years away from deploying the new SLCM — and that’s if Congress backs the plan. Democrats have raised objections to the Trump administration’s plans for new nuclear weapons before, but ultimately did not block the W76-2 project from moving forward.

“I don’t know if Congress is going to make a big deal about it or not because there’s really no money involved” in fiscal 2021, the official said. “But it is a new weapon system, and unlike the W76-2, where you’re replacing a large warhead for a small warhead, here you’re actually introducing more deployed capabilities. But again, it’s 7-10 years.”

When the Nuclear Posture Review was rolled out, officials emphasized that the SLCM could be used as a bargaining chip in arms control negotiations with Russia. Despite a number of arms control agreements being on the ropes, the official this week again argued that the SLCM could “give us some leverage to bring [Russia] back to the arms control table.”

JUST FOR FUN



Courtesy of the Carolina Piedmont USSVI Base and ET1(SS) George Birmingham.

CPO Standards

Contributed by: Mike McCaffrey, Admiral (retired USN)

Never forget this, a Chief can become an Officer, but an Officer can never become a Chief. Chiefs have their standards!

Recollections of a Whitehat.

"One thing we weren't aware of at the time, but became evident as life wore on, was that we learned true leadership from the finest examples any lad was ever given, Chief Petty Officers. They were crusty old bastards who had done it all and had been forged into men who had been time tested over more years than a lot of us had time on the planet. The ones I remember wore hydraulic oil stained hats with scratched and dinged-up insignia, faded shirts, some with a Bull Durham tag dangling out of their right-hand pocket or a pipe and tobacco reloads in a worn leather pouch in their hip pockets, and a Zippo that had been everywhere. Some of them came with tattoos on their fore-arms that would force them to keep their cuffs buttoned at a Methodist picnic.

Most of them were as tough as a boarding house steak. A quality required to survive the life they lived. They were, and always will be, a breed apart from all other residents of Mother Earth. They took eighteen year old idiots and hammered the stupid bastards into sailors.

You knew instinctively it had to be hell on earth to have been born a Chief's kid. God should have given all sons born to Chiefs a return option.

A Chief didn't have to command respect. He got it because there was nothing else you could give them. They were God's designated hitters on earth.

We had Chiefs with fully loaded Submarine Combat Patrol Pins, and combat air crew wings in my day...hard-core bastards who remembered lost mates, and still cursed the cause of their loss...and they were expert at choosing descriptive adjectives and nouns, none of which their mothers would have endorsed.

At the rare times you saw a Chief topside in dress canvas, you saw rows of hard-earned, worn and faded ribbons over his pocket. "Hey Chief, what's that one and that one?" "Oh hell kid, I can't remember. There was a war on. They gave them to us to keep track of the campaigns." "We didn't get a lot of news out where we were. To be honest, we just took their word for it. Hell son, you couldn't pronounce most of the names of the places we went. They're all depth charge survival geedunk." "Listen kid, ribbons don't make you a Sailor." We knew who the heroes were, and in the final analysis that's all that matters.

Many nights, we sat in the after mess deck wrapping ourselves around cups of coffee and listening to their stories. They were light-hearted stories about warm beer shared with their running mates in corrugated metal sheds at resupply depots where the only furniture was a few packing crates and a couple of Coleman lamps. Standing in line at a Honolulu cathouse or spending three hours soaking in a tub in Freemantle, smoking cigars, and getting loaded. It was our history. And we dreamed of being just like them because they were our heroes. When they accepted you as their shipmate, it was the highest honor you would ever receive in your life. At least it was clearly that for me they were not men given to the prerogatives of their position.

You would find them with their sleeves rolled up, shoulder-to-shoulder with you in a stores loading party. "Hey Chief, no need for you to be out here tossin' crates in the rain, we can get all this

crap aboard."

"Son, the term 'All hands' means all hands."

"Yeah Chief, but you're no damn kid anymore, you old coot."

"Horsefly, when I'm eighty-five parked in the stove up old bastards' home, I'll still be able to kick your worthless butt from here to fifty feet past the screw guards along with six of your closest friends." And he probably wasn't bullshitting.

They trained us. Not only us, but hundreds more just like us. If it wasn't for Chief Petty Officers, there wouldn't be any U.S. Navy. There wasn't any fairy godmother who lived in a hollow tree in the enchanted forest who could wave her magic wand and create a Chief Petty Officer.

They were born as hot-sacking seamen, and matured like good whiskey in steel hulls over many years. Nothing a nineteen year-old jay-bird could cook up was original to these old saltwater owls. They had seen E-3 jerks come and go for so many years; they could read you like a book. "Son, I know what you are thinking. Just one word of advice. DON'T. It won't be worth it."
"Aye, Chief."

Chiefs aren't the kind of guys you thank. Monkeys at the zoo don't spend a lot of time thanking the guy who makes them do tricks for peanuts.

Appreciation of what they did, and who they were, comes with long distance retrospect. No young lad takes time to recognize the worth of his leadership. That comes later when you have experienced poor leadership or let's say, when you have the maturity to recognize what leaders should be, you find that Chiefs are the standard by which you measure all others.

They had no Academy rings to get scratched up. They butchered the King's English. They had become educated at the other end of an anchor chain from Copenhagen to Singapore. They had given their entire lives to the U.S. Navy. In the progression of the nobility of employment, Chief Petty Officer heads the list. So, when we ultimately get our final duty station assignments and we get to wherever the big Chief of Naval Operations in the sky assigns us, if we are lucky, Marines will be guarding the streets, and there will be an old Chief in an oil-stained hat and a cigar stub clenched in his teeth standing at the brow to assign us our bunks and tell us where to stow our gear... and we will all be young again, and the damn coffee will float a rock.

Life fixes it so that by the time a stupid kid grows old enough and smart enough to recognize who he should have thanked along the way, he no longer can. If I could, I would thank my old Chiefs. If you only knew what you succeeded in pounding in this thick skull, you would be amazed. So, thanks you old casehardened unsalvageable son-of-a-bitches. Save me a rack in the berthing compartment."

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base Minutes of Business Meeting 13 February 2020

Opening Ceremonies:

The February 2020 Base Meeting was called to order by Vice Commander Tom Lawson with a quorum of three officers and a total of 61 members present. Base Commander Mike Ciesielko was away due to travel. The meeting started at 1900 with the sound of the diving alarm.

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

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

Submarines lost during the month of February:

USS BARBEL (SS-316) February 4, 1945 – 4th War Patrol Lost with all hands – 81 souls

USS SHARK (SS-174) February 11, 1942 – 1st War Patrol Lost with all hands – 59 souls

USS AMBERJACK (SS-219) February 16, 1943 – 3rd War Patrol Lost with all hands – 72 souls

USS GRAYBACK (SS-208) February 26, 1942 – 10th War Patrol Lost with all hands – 80 souls

USS TROUT (SS-202) February 29, 1944 – 11th War Patrol Lost with all hands – 81 souls

5 Boats and 373 Men Lost

H.L. HUNLEY February 17, 1864 Lost with all hands – 8 souls

Chief Radioman, Submarines, Jimmy Jack Legg, US Navy Retired – Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – January 28, 2020

The USSVI Creed was read by Vice Commander Tom Lawson.

Vice Commander Tom Lawson welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Introductions of New Attendees:

One man was present at the Base meeting for the first time:

Larry Krause – EM1 – Qualified on USS Torsk SS423 – 1963 – Also served aboard Triton SSN586 for five patrols.

Old Business:

Budget – Rick Wise

Rick had provided copies of the proposed 2020 Charleston Base Budget to each table for review. Rick made a motion to accept the budget. The motion was seconded by several unidentified members. Vice Commander Tom Lawson offered a period for discussion, but there was none. The motion was passed by a vote of the membership without objection.

Elections – Ken Hutchison

Ken reminded the Base members that this year, the offices of Vice Commander and Secretary are scheduled for election at the May Base Meeting. He currently has not received any, but is accepting nominations for these two offices. The successful candidate will assume the position in June.

OYSTER ROAST – COB

The Oyster Roast will be held at the FRA on February 29. Tickets are \$25 and are currently on sale and can be purchased at the bar. In addition, members are invited to bring chili for the cook-off. Rick Sparger will be bringing his fish stew. Wrist bands will be required for those eating oysters. Drinks will be available from the bar.

HUNLEY/HOUSATONIC – HARRY NETTLES

The Hunley/Housatonic ceremony will be held on February 17 at 1900 – Sunrise Presbyterian Church. Muster at 1830 – Uniform is Charleston Tuxedo but vests are permitted. After the service, the group will go to the inlet. Bring a coat and a flashlight.

New Business:

None

Secretary –Gordon Long:

The Minutes from the February Base meeting have been published in the Base Newsletter and promulgated on the Base website. There were no additions, changes or deletions to the February Base meeting minutes and were approved as written.

Treasurer – Gordon Williams:

The Treasurer's Report for February has been published and promulgated on the website. There was one change to update the balance of the Scholarship fund.

Clarification was provided regarding an entry regarding the advertisement in the Stratford yearbook.

There were no other additions or deletions.

The report was approved with the one change about the Scholarship Fund.

Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

Highlighted boat of the month:

USS SHARK (SS-174) was lost on Feb. 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. SHARK 1 was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.

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

Jimmy Jack Legg departed on Eternal Patrol Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Ralph A. Johnson Memorial Hospital. His service was held on Saturday, Feb. 8 at Dyal Funeral Home Summerville with 24 Charleston Base SUB-VETs and Ladies attending. Jimmy joined the Navy in 1961 and retiring in 1982. He was a Life Member of USSVI National and Charleston Base, a member of FRA Branch 269, a member of VFW POST 3509 and an active member of the Patriot Guard Riders. He qualified on USS HENRY L. STIMSON SSBN 655 in 1971, serving on the STIMSON twice, both Blue and Gold crews, JOHN ADAMS SSBN 620 and at Submarine Group SIX Charleston. Prior to entering the submarine service he served on USS GUARDIAN AGR 1 and earned a Purple Heart while serving in Vietnam with Inshore Undersea Warfare Group One Unit 3 at Qui Nhon [kwee nyawn] republic of Vietnam Naval Base. A condolence message was placed on the funeral home website.

Ruth Ann Carlson, Rick's wife and Erik's mother, passed away on Friday, Jan. 31, at Trident Hospital. Her service was held on Friday, Feb. 8 with many Charleston Base members attending. A condolence message was placed on the funeral home website.

Darlene Graham, James' wife, was taken to Trident on Feb. 8th with chest pains. Doctors found a 95% blockage in a main artery and put in a stent. She is recovering.

John Furst sent the following via Fred Woodley: My Pulmonologist threatened to hospitalize me if I do not shake this Bronchitis. She gave me a ton of medications, and if I am not better in 2 weeks, she will hospitalize me, and give me intravenous antibiotics. As it was, I got 2 shots in the butt. Needless to say, I will not be at Subvets tonight. Say hi to everyone for me. Have a good evening. I will keep you updated.
John

Ed Stank had neck surgery on Monday, Feb. 10th. He was discharged on Tuesday and is recovering. Ed was at the meeting.

Ed Simokat fell in late December and suffered a broken back. He had surgery to put in plates and steel rods. He is home continuing his recovery.

Stacy Power is recovering from his toe amputation.

Jim Loveday is home recovering from his fall around Thanksgiving 2019.

Don Londergan is in Room 136 at Cypress Place. His phone number is now 843-990-3938. Don was at the meeting.

Bob Snyder is home with palliative care.

Nick has Page 2s available. Please complete yours, 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. If any Base member is responsible for coordination of any Base event, then it is imperative that Nick is informed, so that the Base Website can be updated or corrected as needed.

Pictures will now be on the USSVI National website. Please take a look at your profile on the National site and update it if needed. Many have missing info.

Lowe's recently sent a message saying that if you use MyLowe's to claim a military discount, then you must update and verify your registration with them. Do this by signing onto the Lowe's website and logging in. The 2020 Submarine Birthday Ball will be held Saturday April 11 at the Marriott Downtown on Lockwood Blvd. Tickets for WWII Veterans are FREE. Regular price is \$35 per person. The theme for this year is USS Clamagore SS-343.

Submarine Veterans of WWII – Mike Emerson for George Scharf:

Stacy Power is not here tonight. No Report.

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

Not Present

Kaps for Kids – Mike Emerson

Mike has received from Bill Kennedy, enough crayons and coloring books to last a year.

There is a need for hats but the Base has only \$600 on budget for this. Hats from National are cheaper, but in order to add CHARLESTON BASE to the hats, we need someone who does embroidery, preferably as a side business instead of a commercial entity.

If any Base member would like to contribute to the Kaps for Kids embroidery costs, please contact Mike.

The next visit to McLeod is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18.

Flag Folding Duty – Mike Emerson

Mike is asking for someone to take over the flag folding duties at SubVet funerals. It is an honor to perform this duty and will take some practice to say the 20 words that are to be spoken to the family when presenting the flag.

Membership – Larry Knutson

The Base currently has 273 members. USSVI has removed 18 members from the National Sailing List because of unpaid dues.

Charleston Base currently ranks third at this time in membership behind Groton and Hampton Roads.

VA – Tom Lawson

Nothing to Report

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

Tonight's raffle will be for a \$25 gift card from Flowertown Florists and a \$30 gift card for Top Dawg Tavern.

The committee had a USS Thomas Jefferson hat available for the first one to make a donation to the Scholarship fund. It went to a new owner immediately during the meeting.

The Scholarship Committee will be holding a Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 2 to benefit the Scholarship Fund. The location will be on Old Trolley Road in the parking lot of Rodney's Rockets. Global Storage nearby has donated a small storeroom for items to be staged. To permit efficient use of space, creative stacking will be required. For this reason, everyone is asked to put small items in cardboard boxes and to hold your larger bulky items until the sale. The sale will run from 0800 to 1300. Setup will begin at 0500. The committee will need some extra help for setup and assistance during the day. The committee is asking for donations of household items (no clothing, linens, draperies etc.). Household items, tools, toys, sporting goods etc. are all good items to donate. Base members are encouraged to talk to their neighbors and friends to see if they may want to donate items for the cause. At the end of the day, any remaining items will be picked up by the Kidney Foundation truck and taken to their Thrift Store nearby. In the event of rain, the sale will be held on May 9. The committee is relying on the members to put out the word for the event. They have flyers, but will look into an advertisement in the paper. The FRA and VFW newsletters are also possibilities.

Base Challenge coins are still for sale. There are a few Holland Club bolo ties available.

Special Events – Rick Sparger

Charlie Hudson spoke about the request being made to Habitat for Humanity Restore (Formerly 84 Lumber) next door to the FRA for storage of the float. The corporate office is asking for more documentation including a lease agreement and a more extensive liability statement. It is possible that the Naval Submarine League has a lawyer who could provide assistance for us.

The float is ready for the Grits Festival in St. George.

A suggestion was made to have the float taken to the Submarine Birthday Ball for static display.

CRAMA – Butch Bryar

As of this date, we are still waiting on the decision from the judge.

It is time for all CRAMA members to get their dues paid.

NPS – Ray Sparks

The next Nuclear Power School graduation will be in late March. Ray will provide the date at the next Base Meeting on March 12.

Fleet Reserve Association – John Lookabil for Skip Chilton

The FRA will hold its Valentines Dance on February 15 with an Elvis impersonator to sing at the party.

Public Affairs – Jerry Stout

Nothing to Report

Newsletter – Rick Wise

Rick has been working as Newsletter Editor for four years and is asking for a relief as Newsletter Editor. It is not a difficult job.

Recreation – VACANT

No Report

Storekeeper – Ken Hutchison

Nothing to report.

COB – Joe Lunn

Tickets for the Oyster Roast to be held at the FRA are available now - \$25 each.

Vice Commander – Tom Lawson

Be sure to do a good cleanup tonight of your tables. Staff is shorthanded tonight.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko.

Not Present

Good of the Order

After Battery – Ray Sparks

The Hog Roast in the Swamp will be April 19-25, 2020. Lots of activities are planned.

Jimmy Legg – Theron Irving

Jimmy had told Theron the story regarding his Purple Heart: After removing the .38 caliber slug from his chest, the officials initially refused to grant the medal because it was thought to be “friendly fire”. The enemy in Viet Nam had stolen and captured all kinds of weapons and ammo. Jimmy took the case to Senator Strom Thurmond who got the medal for him.

Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson

It is good to be back, but no story tonight. Instead, Rick wished to express his gratitude for the Base members who came out “in mass” to represent SubVets at the funeral of his wife Ruth Ann. The funeral

director at Simplicity had said that hers was the largest funeral that they had put on since the facility had opened on Treeland Drive. That statement truly pleased Rick, whose wife was – with the exception of his first six years – with him throughout his entire Navy career. She was an ombudsman and did a fabulous job. According to the Commanding Officer, she was the only female member of the USS Sculpin. She was even given a name tag. She did some magic things that the even CO could not do. A brand new crew member had checked onboard and had no uniforms. The movers had taken everything – including his uniforms – and shipped it. The crew member had gone to them, but the company refused to let him have his uniforms. Their statement was, “You either take it all, or nothing.” The Captain said, “It’s okay, I’ll take care of this.” He called and was told the same thing – “...all or nothing”. The Captain called Rick’s wife. In fifteen minutes, she called him back saying, “Have the member down there in a half-hour. They will pull his uniforms.” Rick said that he has no idea what she did, but she got results. She really was an amazing lady and Rick wants to thank each one for being there. Rick will try to come up with a story for the Base Meeting next month.

US Navy Band – Gordon Long

Gordon advised the Base members of the Navy Band concert to be held at Charleston Southern University on February 27 as they stop on their Southeast Tour. Contact information at CSU was provided for obtaining the tickets – which are free but must be reserved.

USS Henry L Stimson Reunion – Nick Nichols

The USS Henry L Stimson Association will be holding a reunion from October 7-11 in Cincinnati, OH. There are quite a few things happening during this reunion. If you or someone that you know were on the Stimson, please look at the website www.ssb655.org for registration info.

School Board Candidate – Vice Commander Tom Lawson

Larry Guthrie was asked to stand briefly as Tom read information about Larry’s son Evan who is running for Dorchester County District 2 School Board.

Drawings & Auctions

FRA Drawing – Larry Guthrie
Scholarship Drawing – Bill Hayes
Depth Charge – Bill Roup

Closing Ceremony

Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.
Vice Commander Tom Lawson announced adjournment of the meeting followed by three blasts on the diving alarm.
The meeting was closed at 2006.

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.
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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](#) at

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