

TORPEDO ALLEY



VOL. 18 #6

JUNE 2022

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

Base Meetings:

BOD: Jun 2, 2022

Membership: Jun 9, 2022

Location:

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

Newsletter & PAO

Ed Stank

843.568.2148



Base Commander	<u>Mike Ciesielko</u>	843.324.0011
Vice Commander	<u>Tom Lawson</u>	843.327.3282
Secretary	<u>Gordon Long</u>	843.214.2353
Treasurer	<u>Ricky Collins</u>	843.276.4861
Chief of the Boat	<u>Rick Sparger</u>	843.553.5594
Chaplain	<u>Nick Nichols</u>	843.452.3189
Webmaster	<u>Nick Nichols</u>	843.452.3189
Veterans Affairs	<u>Tom Lawson</u>	843.327.3282
Membership	<u>Larry Knutson</u>	843.860.1155
Scholarship	<u>Carl Chinn</u>	843.437.5515
Storekeeper	<u>Woody Woodsmall</u>	304.676.8356
Historian	<u>George Scharf</u>	843.873.3318
Public Affairs	<u>Ed Stank</u>	843.568.2148
Nuclear Historian	<u>Rick Carlson</u>	843.875.4030
Holland Club	<u>Bill Freligh</u>	843.553.1115
Social Media Coord	<u>Lewis Leal</u>	843.270-8870
Kaps for Kids	<u>Mike Emerson</u>	843.302.2650
Fleet Reserve Rep	<u>Skip Chilton</u>	843.793.4896
Base Photographer	<u>Glenn Little</u>	843.797.1867
Comptroller	<u>Rick Wise</u>	843.276.0899
CRAMA Coord	<u>Butch Bryar</u>	843.224.9121
Hunley/Housatonic	<u>Harry Nettles</u>	843.514.1448
Patriots Point POC	<u>Rusty Pickett</u>	843.762.3888
Cold War Mem POC	<u>Rodney McKanna</u>	843.851.3415
Scout Recog Prog	<u>Dick Koehler</u>	843.553.2171

Table of Contents

2	Boats on Eternal Patrol
2	From the Editor
2	Upcoming Base Events
2	National Website Information
3-5	From USSVI National
6	Humor
6	New American Submarine
7-8	For The Good Times
9-13	June Base Meeting Minutes
13	First Female COB Selected



Submarines Lost During the Month of June

USS HERRING (SS-233)	June 1, 1944 – 8th war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 83 SOULS
USS R-12 (SS-89)	June 12, 1943 – practice torpedo approach near Key West FL	LOST WITH 42 SOULS - 21 SURVIVORS
USS GOLET (SS-361)	June 14, 1944 – 2nd war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 82 SOULS
USS BONEFISH (SS-223)	June 18, 1945 – 8th war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 85 SOULS
USS S-27 (SS-132)	June 19, 1942 – grounded off Amchitka Island Alaska	NO LOSS OF LIFE
USS O-9 (SS-70)	June 20, 1941 – foundered off Isle of Shoals NH	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 33 SOULS
USS RUNNER (SS-275)	June 30, 1943 – 3rd war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 78 SOULS

SEVEN Boats and 403 Men Lost

Submarines Lost During the Month of July

USS S-28 (SS 133)	July 4, 1944 – Training Exercise	LOST WITH ALL HANDS 49 SOULS
USS ROBALO (SS 273)	July 26, 1944 – 3rd War patrol	LOST WITH 77 MEN; 4 DIED AS POW'S; 81 SOULS
USS GRUNION (SS 216)	July 30, 1942 – 1ST War patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS 70 SOULS

THREE Boats and 202 Men Lost

From the Editor

The United States celebrated its 246 years of Independence and each decade has brought our country new challenges. I pray that we work together to lead this country to garner new freedoms for not only us, but the rest of the world.

Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting
 June 2 1800
 FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek

Charleston Base Meeting (Social Hr starts 1800)
 June 9 1900
 FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek
 Presentation of Scholarships

Father's Day
 June 19

Independence Day
 July 4th 1130 Meal Time
 FRA Indoor Picnic FRA Home

Charleston Base Board of Directors Meeting
 July 7 1800
 FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek

Charleston Base Meeting (Social Hr starts 1800)
 July 14 1900
 FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek

Information of all Charleston Base Events is on www.ussvicb.org

=====

NATIONAL WEBSITE INFO FROM CHARLESTON BASE WEBMASTER

Base Members,
 I have had many questions about accessing the USSVI National Website. As most of you know by now, National is having a complete remake done on the USSVI website. When this began we were told the old website would go away in June and we wouldn't have anything to use until late July-August time-frame.

The new remake website is still not available but all is not without hope. You can now access what was the old USSVI website using a different URL. National did say they were trying to get the site transferred to another platform in order for members to have access to it. Looks like that was accomplished. If you read and paid attention to the bulletin sent out concerning the National USSVI voting about to take place, you would notice that you are directed to the USSVI website via a different URL.

That being said, there is now a New [OLD]

website you can use by going to the URL of www.ussubvets.org to gain access to most all of the features of the site we were using.

If you are one of the few members who corrected your profile online **PLEASE DO NOT DO THAT ON THIS WEBSITE.** Send any changes you would have made to either me [webmaster@ussvicb.org] or Larry Knutson [membership@ussvicb.org] and we will make note. The changes will be made once the NEW website is online.

Any questions please email me and I'll try to explain to your satisfaction.

=====

USSVI NATIONAL AND REGIONAL

2022 USSVI National Convention in Buffalo, NY

As all of you should know, the 2022 National Convention will be held this year in Buffalo, NY.

The on-line registration is
<http://ussviconvention.org/2022/>

INFORMATION

From: **Wayne E Phillips**
<waynephillips.ser2dc@yahoo.com>
Date: Tue, Jun 28, 2022 at 1:27 PM
Subject: ESR D2 Annual Activities Report
To:

Base POCs: Attached is the ESR D2 Annual Activities Report and copies of the D2 Bases 2021-2022 Annual Activities Report. The USSVI Annual Report is being prepared based on each district's by each Regional Director, which will be compiled into a National Report. Our reports have been sent for archive also.

All District 2 Bases completed their 2021-2022 Annual Activities Report and submitted to me on time. For this I am truly grateful. Many thanks and BZ to you all. Commanders, give your Base Secretaries a BX and a salute for me.

Forward this email to your Base members using the Bcc address bar and add my email address.

Thanks, *Wayne E. Phillips* (former USN TM2(SS) Launcher Tech)

Forwarded by Wayne E. Phillips (former USN TM2(SS) Launcher Tech)

USSVI ES2 District Commander (2017 - Present)
USSVI District Commander of the Year (2021-2022)
USSVI Denizens of the Deep Base Commander (2021 - Present)

This is an official USSVI email communication.
A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skillful Sailor.

National Bulletin:

Please have this provided to your bases, and have the bases notify you when this is done. thank you Ken Nichols ESRD

Base Commanders,

In reference to the National Bulletin NEWS-01: Website Bulletin sent out earlier today.

Please inform your Base Members this reconstituted New Old Website

www.ussubvets.org is the site we will all use in the interim between today and when the new more modern Blackbaud Website becomes active which is tentatively set for a timeframe between the end of August or first part of September.

All updates to member profiles will be done on this site www.ussubvets.org "not the old ussvi.org site" which will be shut down completely on June 30th. All data on the old ussvi.org site will be lost at that time. The old website ussvi.org is **NOT** to be used by anyone.

Emphasize to all of your Base Members and your Base Tools Managers have important it is for them to check individual profiles and update wherever necessary.

The New Old Site ussubvets.org still has a couple of areas (example - American Submariner Page) that need to be reworked, so be patient and we will get to them as time permits.

As also mentioned in today's earlier National Bulletin, We will be conducting our 2022 National Election on this refurbished website in lieu of using third party software. The process and button locations will be identical to previous national elections. More detailed Instructions will be sent out under separate cover a few days before the election ballot is opened on Friday, June 24th.

Thanking all of you in advance for your cooperation, Wayne Standerfer USSVI NC

From: Wayne E Phillips
<waynephillips.ser2dc@yahoo.com>
Date: June 20, 2022 at 12:26:04 PM EDT
Subject: Fw: **USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-023**
Reply-To: Wayne E Phillips

<waynephillips.ser2dc@yahoo.com>

National Election Time:

Base POCs: Ensure that each of your Base members receive a copy of this email follow up. Forward this email to your Base members using the Bcc address bar and add my email address.

If you cannot vote by computer, use the paper ballot in the *American Submariner* magazine, current issue and mail it in. Mailing and computer instructions are provided below. **Election begins at 00:00:01 AM, June 24, 2022 and ends 2359 PM, August 15, 2022.** Votes before or after these times and dates will not be counted.

Thanks, *Wayne E. Phillips* (former USN TM2 (SS) Launcher Tech)
USSVI ES2 District Commander (2017 - Present)
USSVI District Commander of the Year (2021-2022)
USSVI Denizens of the Deep Base Commander (2021 - Present)

This is an official USSVI email communication. *A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skillful Sailor.*

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: noreply@ussubvets.org
To: wayne phillips.ser2dc
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 at 09:54:15 AM EDT
Subject: USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS: SubVet News - #2022-023

Date: 6/20/2022
To: Distribution List

=====
NEWS-01: Voting in the 2022 USSVI National Election instructions

Submitted by: Tom Conlon, USSVI Election Master on 6/20/2022

2022 USSVI NATIONAL ELECTION BEGINS

Voting in the 2022 USSVI National Election will begin at 00:00:01 AM, June 24, 2022. Voting will continue until 2359, August 15, 2022.

Online voting is via the newly reconstituted USSVI website (www.ussubvets.org). When voting begins, the "Vote in Election" button will be available. When you click on the button, you will get to the USSVI National Ballot. Once there, cast your ballot accordingly. There is also space to write in a candidate of your choice.

When you vote, you do so from your primary Base. The Regional Director vote reflects the location of your primary Base. This may be

different from the location of your residence. You can only vote for the Regional Director who represents the location of your primary Base.

There is one (1) Proposed Bylaws change. Vote "YES" or "NO" on the proposed change.

Candidate's Statements and the text of the Proposed Amendment are in the current issue of *The American Submariner*.

As always, you may vote by paper ballot. I must receive any paper ballots no later than August 10, 2022. This will allow me to count any "last minute" ballots. I will discard any ballots I receive after August 15th.

Mail-in Ballot Mail to:

**Tom Conlon,
USSVI Election Master
8 Davis Avenue
Harrison, NJ 07029**

You must complete your own ballot. We do not allow "proxy voting."

Base Commanders: You may print a supply of paper ballots and distribute them at a Base meeting. However, each member must complete their own ballot. You may collect the ballots and send them to me as a package. I must also receive that package no later than August 10th.

You may also bring a suitable computer to a Base meeting and members may vote using that computer. Again, each member must cast their own online ballot.

My goal is for as many members as possible to vote in our election. Remember: **Your vote is your "voice" in our organization's operation.**

Tom Conlon USSVI National Election Master



Submitted by Fred Woodley

A cool picture of Tinosa SSN 606 while we were on Unitas XXX in Recife Brazil! I was Chief of the Watch! Notice not every day was a blue-sky day! How little the 594's were!

Even though there are days I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, there's a reason the rear view mirror is so small and the windshield is so big. Where you're headed is much more important than what you've left behind.

Resources for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors.

VA's Health and Benefits mobile app enables Veterans to send secure messages to health care providers, view upcoming appointments, view claims and appeals status, upload documentation, locate VA facilities, download Veteran benefits letters to prove Veteran status, and more. Veterans can also login using fingerprint or face ID. [Download the app on iPhone or Android](#)

This is an excellent app to garner VA information and news.

=====

June 2022 Retiree Newsletter

Director's Message

Welcome to the June 2022 Retiree Newsletter!

Your Retired Pay Account Needs a Regular Checkup

Use this handy checklist to do a retired pay checkup.

New from DFAS: Helpful Customer Information Guides for Retirees and Annuitants

Our new customer guides explain how to use many of our time-saving tools, including Form Wizards, Online Upload Tools, Status Notifications, and our website. Download your guide today!

Are You Ready to Join the Fight? Authentication Apps are Your New Best Weapon

Director's Message Greetings from Cleveland! It's June, and here in Ohio the spring rains are gone and we're basking in warm summer

sunshine! We're not ones to brag, but California has nothing on us weather-wise, at least for the next couple months. While we know better than to brag about Cleveland weather except in summer, we will brag year round about the improvements we're making to transform DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay into an even more customer-friendly environment for you, our retiree customers. We're doing it with an ever-expanding list of streamlined processes and customer-friendly tools and communications. See the articles on our documentation upload tools and customer information guides in this issue.

For our Gray Area Retirees, we have updated information on how to keep in touch with DFAS and make the transition to retired pay as smooth and worry free as possible. See the article on special myPay accounts for Gray Area Retirees.

As we said in our last newsletter, January 2022 marked the implementation of Phase Two of the 2020 SBP-DIC Offset Elimination, and many annuitants saw further increases in SBP payments on February 1st. The final offset reduction is set for the February 1, 2023 payday, and we are working hard to ensure it comes off without a hitch. We also have an article explaining and updating those spouses affected by the elimination of the Optional Annuity for Dependent Children and reversion of the SBP annuity. It's important for you to regularly review and update your pay account because changes in your life can affect your pay. Please check out our article that highlights important information on how to keep your account current, including the convenience of using myPay. When you are changing bank accounts for your direct deposit, or changing an allotment, please pay attention to the tips in the article.

If you have Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage, it's also important to make sure coverage and beneficiaries are current. You can do that by verifying the SBP lines on your Retiree Account Statement, and we've outlined how in this article. Finally as a reminder, our local telephone numbers have changed as of June 1, 2022. The new numbers are listed near the end of the newsletter. We honor the service and sacrifices made by you and your family. We are proud to serve those who have served, and we wish you and your family a safe and happy summer

HUMOR

In World War II, a **German U-boat** was sunk because of a malfunctioning toilet.



Yes, this happened. By World War II standards, the **German Type VIIC submarine** was an advanced hunter of the seas. But one unlucky vessel of its class, the U-1206, sank during its maiden combat voyage after its **captain** used its high-tech **toilet** improperly

Don't touch that flapper!!!!

NEW AMERICAN SUBMARINE

The \$2.6 billion **USS South Dakota** (SSN 790), seen here in a photo illustration, is the newest, most-advanced addition to the US Navy's Virginia-class fleet of nuclear-powered, fast-attack submarines. The South Dakota was commissioned in February 2019 as the Navy's 17th Virginia-class submarine; the Navy hopes to have 66 Virginia-class subs by 2048.



FOR THE GOOD TIMES

"To get back to my youth I would do anything in the world, except exercise, get up early, or be respectable." - Oscar Wilde

"The older we get; the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for." - Will Rogers

"We must recognize that, as we grow older, we become like old cars – more and more repairs and replacements are necessary." - C.S. Lewis

"Old age comes at a bad time." – San Banducci “

"Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened." - Jennifer Yane

"Old age is like a plane flying through a storm. Once you are aboard there is nothing you can do about it." - Golda Meir

"I'm so old that my blood type is discontinued." - Bill Dane

"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened. - Mark Twain

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes, age just shows up all by itself." - Tom Wilson

"Always be nice to your children because they are the ones who will choose your retirement home."- Phyllis Diller

"I don't plan to grow old gracefully. I plan to have face-lifts until my ears meet." - Rita Rudner

"I'm at that age where my back goes out more than I do." - Phyllis Diller

"Nice to be here? At my age it's nice to be anywhere." – George Burns

"Don't let aging get you down. It's too hard to get back up." - John Wagner

"First you forget names, then you forget faces, then you forget to pull your zipper up, then you forget to pull your zipper down." - Leo Rosenberg

"Aging seems to be the only available way to live a long life." - Kitty O'Neill Collins

"Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need

all the preservatives they can get." – Robert Orben

"Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings, and you hope it isn't for you." - Ogden Nash

"It's important to have a twinkle in your wrinkle." – Unknown

"At my age, flowers scare me." - George Burns

"I have successfully completed the thirty-year transition from wanting to stay up late to just wanting to go to bed." – Unknown

"Nobody expects to trust his body much after the age of fifty." - Alexander Hamilton

"The years between 50 and 70 are the hardest. You are always being asked to do things, and yet you are not decrepit enough to turn them down." - T.S. Elliot

"At fifty, everyone has the face he deserves." - George Orwell

"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us... at age 40, we don't care what they think of us... at age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." - Ann Landers

"When I was young, I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties, I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then, and I'm labeled senile." - George Burns

"I complain that the years fly past, but then I look in a mirror and see that very few of them actually got past." - Robert Brault

"The important thing to remember is that I'm probably going to forget." – Unknown

"As you get older three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and I can't remember the other two." - Sir Norman Wisdom

"It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone." - Andy Rooney

"Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest." - Larry Lorenzon

"The older I get, the better I used to be." – Lee Trevino

"You know you're getting old when you can pinch an inch on your forehead." - John Mendoza

"I was thinking about how people seem to read the bible a lot more as they get older, and then it dawned on me—they're cramming for their final exam."- George Carlin

"I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap." - Bob Hope

"I'm 59 and people call me middle-aged. How many 118-year-old men do you know?"- Barry Cryer

"All men are the same age." - Dorothy Parker

"I don't do alcohol anymore—I get the same effect just standing up fast." – Anonymous

"By the time you're 80 years old you've learned everything. You only must remember it." - George Burns

"Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative." – Maurice Chevalier

"Getting older. I used to be able to run a 4-minute mile, bench press 380 pounds, and tell the truth." - Conan O'Brien

"I have reached an age when, if someone tells me to wear socks, I don't have to." - Albert Einstein

"Grandchildren don't make a man feel old, it's the knowledge that he's married to a grandmother that does." - J. Norman Collie

"You know you are getting old when everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work." - Hy Gardner

"When your friends begin to flatter you on how young you look, it's a sure sign you're getting old." - Mark Twain

"You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks." - Joel Plaskett

"There's one advantage to being 102, there's no peer pressure." - Dennis Wolfberg

"I've never known a person who lives to be 110 who is remarkable for anything else." —Josh Billings

"At my age 'getting lucky' means walking into a room and remembering what I came in for." – Unknown

"Old age is when you resent the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated because there are fewer articles to read." – George Burns

"The idea is to die young as late as possible." - Ashley Montagu

"You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there." - George Burns

"People ask me what I'd most appreciate getting for my eighty-seventh birthday. I tell them, a paternity suit." - George Burns

"Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician." - Anonymous

"I feel very young. At age 80 I had to learn to hold a spoon and walk upright again" - Ian Teuty

=====



**United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.,
Charleston Base Minutes of Business Meeting
9 June 2022**

Opening Ceremonies:

- The June 2022 Base Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko with a quorum of four officers and a total of 40 members. 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 June was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols.
- Submarines lost during the month of June:
 - o USS HERRING (SS-233) June 1, 1944 – 8th war patrol Lost with All Hands – 83 Souls
 - o USS R-12 (SS-89) June 12, 1943 – practice torpedo approach near Key West FL Lost with 42 Souls – 21 Survivors
 - o USS GOLET (SS-361) June 14, 1944 – 2nd war patrol Lost with All Hands – 82 Souls
 - o USS BONEFISH (SS-223) June 18, 1945 – 8th war patrol Lost with All Hands – 85 Souls
 - o USS S-27 (SS-132) June 19, 1942 – grounded off Amchitka Island Alaska No Loss of Life
 - o USS O-9 (SS-70) June 20, 1941 – foundered off Isle of Shoals NH Lost with All Hands – 33 Souls
 - o USS RUNNER (SS-275) June 30, 1943 – 3rd war patrol Lost with All Hands – 78 Souls
 - o Seven Boats and 403 Men Lost

Second Class Electronics Technician,
Submarines Robert William Hoizel,
U.S. Navy Veteran
Departed on Eternal Patrol on May 31, 2022

- The Creed of USSVI was read by Vice Commander Tom Lawson.
- Base Commander Mike Ciesielko welcomed members and guests to the meeting.
- ADMIRAL OSBORNE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:**
 - The Scholarship Committee Members, Chairman Carl Chinn and Rick Sparger, presented one award to recent high school graduate Chayse Cool – Granddaughter of Joe O'Saben – Graduated from Stratford HS – Will attend Charleston Southern University
- Introductions of New Attendees:
 - One new guest attended the Base Meeting for the first time this evening.
 - o Megan Hartman – LT – Qualified on USS Michigan SSBN727B – November 2019. She is

the first submarine qualified woman to have attended our meetings and is on active duty serving at NPTU.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Secretary – Gordon Long:

- The Minutes from the May Base meeting have been emailed directly to the Base membership and had been promulgated on the Base Website. No additions or deletions were noted. The May Base Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer – Ricky Collins:

- The Treasurer's Report for May was published and promulgated on the website. There were no additions or deletions. The report was approved as presented.

COB – Rick Sparger:

- COB spoke concerning the Anniversary of the Battle of Midway in WWII – June 4, 1942.

Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

- Highlighted boat of the month:
 - o USS HERRING SS-233 was lost on June 1st, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Matsuwa Island. HERRING was on her 8th war patrol and was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made 2 direct hits on her conning tower causing her loss. Before being sunk, she had sank a freighter and a passenger-cargoman. HERRING was the only US submarine sunk by a land battery.
 - There are several shipmates and family members who have given me information which they wish to be kept confidential at this time.
 - ET2(SS) Robert William 'Bob' Holzel, USN Veteran., 89, departed on Eternal Patrol on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. Bob was a Life member of USSVI [2011], member of Charleston Base [2013], and a member of the Holland Club. He qualified on USS TRUMPETFISH SS-425 in 1952 and also served on AMBERJACK SS-522. A note of condolence from Charleston Base was placed on the funeral home website. Bob's graveside service was held yesterday at 1100 at Riverview Memorial Park. A note of condolence was placed on the funeral home website.
 - CPO(SS) James Donald Phillips, Jr., 73, of Ladson, departed on Eternal Patrol on Friday, June 3, 2022. Jim was in the Navy for 23 years

serving on USS Andrew Jackson SSBN-619, USS Fulton AS-11, USS Kamehameha SSBN-642, USS Stonewall Jackson SSBN-634 and USS John C Calhoun SSBN-630. His service will be on Sunday, June 12 at Bryant Funeral Home, St. George, from 5:00-7:00 PM. A note of condolence was placed on the funeral home website.

Shirley Gnodle, wife of John Gnodle, passed away on May 26th. John was a previous member of Charleston Base and Shirley attended many of Charleston Base functions prior to COVID. Services were private. A note of condolence was placed on the funeral home website.

Tom Skorepa sent an up-date to say he has been on a hades type roller coaster. Was told there was no cancer, and before he could get excited, was called by another doctor and told he needed to come back in because there was another test they wanted to do. It was up and then down like that for two more cycles, with the last one being surgery to retrieve a piece of lung along with lymph node for detailed pathology testing and then one more after that. He was then sent to the lung specialist today "the last doctor left". As he felt earlier, it "was not cancer". All testing confirmed that, but more like a low-grade bacterial infection. Will be seen in November for a follow up CT scan to see how things were going. PTL.

Tim France had his second knee replacement surgery on Jun 2nd. It was his right knee this time. He is recovering at home from Beaufort Memorial Hospital. So far, this one seems much more painful than the left one eighteen months ago but that may be faulty memory or just that I am eighteen months older. Appreciate your prayers!

Jerry Stout reported his tumor is shrinking and there is no need for a new trial at this time. There will be no radiation and any treatments will be performed at the Hollings Cancer Center here. He appreciates everyone's prayers.

Bill Kennedy has lung cancer.

Herb Anderson was in the hospital (Georgetown) with polymorphic ventricular tachycardia [unstable heart rhythm] in early-April. He was moved to MUSC the middle of April. He is now home recovering and feeling better each day.

Lee Rackley is not doing well. He enjoys talking to anyone who might want to call.

Bob Gay has been diagnosed with cancer and has begun his chemo.

Don Londergan is still in Cypress Place on Midland Pkwy in room 136.

Gene Weir continues his cancer treatments. Bob Snyder is still with palliative care.

Complete/update 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.

If you remember back in late December, I had a computer crash that lost all of the addresses in my email client. I have been able to find almost all of them but I'm still missing some for our EP widows. I just had an email from Ann Semler asking why I stopped sending her email. If you know of an EP widow that might still want to keep contact with us, please either send me her info or tell her to contact me so she can be reinstated.

'NEW' USSVI National Website. It appears progress is being made for the new website. At least things are moving in that direction. o Per a recent email from National, DO NOT attempt to change, modify, or load anything from the old site, even if you could gain access to it. The site has been taken down for merging with the new one.

o The old tools section (membership and updates of members and base info) is also down. Larry Knutson and I have been conducting backups for the current info in the system.

o National is hoping to have an alternate site we can use to input new members and conduct updates for our database.

o Larry and I will work together to ensure our info are kept as up to date as possible.

o July 30, 2022 through August 31, 2022: Our new website from Blackbaud is planned to go live between July 30 and August 31.

Something interesting: The USSVI National Commander has received a letter from the US Navy requesting that we relinquish our (USSVI) copyrighted insignia. We have learned that all of the US Armed Forces are attempting to obtain exclusive rights (copyright) of their individual insignias. It's really strange that our military never saw fit to do this when they developed/designed their insignias. The US Navy Submarine Service was organized in October 1900 with the commissioning of the USS Holland, SS-1, and much later came the development of our coveted 'Dolphins' pin. The USSVI designed our insignia, which includes the Dolphin pin, in 1966, two years after forming the organization. The US Navy is now wanting us to give up exclusive rights to the 'Pin'. The BOD approved the NC to communicate with the Law firm that we used for copyrighting our

insignia regarding this issue. More will be released when I learn of it. No additional data on this issue as of May 9, 2022.

- 2022 National Election: National election ballot is listed in the 2nd Quarter 2022 of the American Submariner. Election dates are included.
- Online voting is preferred
- Online 3rd party website link will be provided by email by June 24th
- Election starts 0001 on June 24th
- Election ends 2359 on August 23rd
- Paper ballots must be received by Election Master by August 23rd
- Election results will be announced at the National Convention. Read the ballot in your American Submariner magazine, page 19

Social Media – Nick Nichols for Lewis Leal:

- The May Meeting Video is online and able to be viewed by those with access.
- The Memorial Day Ceremony video is online on the Charleston Base YouTube Channel.

Submarine Veterans of WWII – Mike Ciesielko for Mike Emerson:

- Stacy Power is here tonight along with his son Casey. We are glad to see both of them this evening.
- Casey offered a Vietnam Veteran hat to anyone in the group. The decision was made to give it to Mike Knaubb.
- Stacy related a story from Vietnam.

Kaps for Kids – Mike Emerson Not present.

Membership – Nick Nichols for Larry Knutson

- We currently have 267 Charleston Base Members.
- Nick provided Base standings: Groton – 1160; Hampton Roads – 272; Charleston – 267; Bremerton – 253; Requin – 191; San Diego – 171; Long Island - 154

National Awards – Mike Knaub

- Not present. VA – TOM LAWSON
- Coming in January 2023, the Veterans Affairs Life Insurance will provide guaranteed acceptance for life insurance coverage. All veterans age 80 or younger with a VA disability rating of 0 to 100 percent are eligible for VALife with no time limit to apply and it does not require medical exam. Some veterans, age 81 or older may also be eligible in certain circumstances. The coverage is incremental and is from \$10k to \$40k. Premiums are competitive with the private sector

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

- Challenge coins are available.
- No raffle tonight.
- There are some historical naval prints on the side table which are available for whoever wants them, FREE!

Special Events – Rick Sparger

- Armed Forces Day at the Air Force Base picnic grounds was attended by a few Base members on Saturday, May 21. Rick thanked the men that came out to help him clean the float to make it presentable for this event. These were: Ken Hutchison, Tom Lawson, Fred Woodley and Beetle Bailey,
- Some young guys that had just recently graduated from Boot Camp visited the float while at the AFB. They were planning to go into the submarine service and asked a lot of questions. Also, at the event, there was some challenging times as the tent had to be physically held down to keep it from blowing away with the wind.
- The float does need a new cover.

Fleet Reserve Association – Ken Hutchison

- Ken Hutchison announced that he will become the President of the Fleet Reserve Association #269.
- Skip Chilton will be the Home Committee chair.
- Stacy Power noted that the Fleet Reserve has a voice in Congress.

COB – Rick Sparger

- Ed Johnson is going to 644 reunion in Bremerton July 13-17 and will be stopping by the Horse & Cow. He will purchase challenge coins for anyone who wants one. \$10 per. He will pay and then you pay him back at the August meeting. [Secretary's Note: Change of Plans – Due to health reasons, Ed will not be traveling to Bremerton, WA for the reunion and will not be able to get the challenge coins and T-shirts.]
- COB welcomed our first submarine qualified lady to the Base meeting.

Recreation – OPEN

- Nothing reported

CRAMA – Rick Wise for Butch Bryar

- Butch met with Senator Tim Scott and requested a meeting of all who want to save the Clamagore on Thursday June 16 at 1300. You do not need to be a member of CRAMA.
- Glenn Little spoke with Nancy Mace's office about the Clamagore.

Nuclear Power School – Rick Wise for Ray Sparks

The next NPS graduation is Friday July 22 at 0800. Muster at Exchange parking lot to carpool because of limited parking.

Newsletter – Ed Stank

The Base Newsletter was published tonight. SOME GOOD NEWS!! The State of South Carolina will no longer tax your military retirement.

Public Affairs – Ed Stank

We had a really good turnout to the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Summerville Cemetery. He is planning to get an article in American Submariner about the event.

Articles for the Amberjack ceremony and the Holland Club Induction have been submitted to American Submariner.

Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall

Nothing to report.

Vice Commander – Tom Lawson

Nothing to report.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko

Mike stated that he enjoyed the Armed Forces Day celebration at the AFB.

Good of the Order

Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson

Not present.

After Battery – Rick Wise for Ray Sparks

Nothing to report

Friends of the Hunley – Lindsay Nelson

He has a magazine from Friends of the Hunley available.

For those who want to order Hunley items, Lindsay provided a discount code for online orders.

Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko

Nothing to report

Raffle Info – Carl Chinn

Lou Leal donated a bottle of bourbon to the Scholarship Committee which he received from a Hyman G Rickover reunion. It is a special bottling for the Rickover and may be of interest to some at NPS.

Non-Nuclear Historian – Harry Nettles

You are in the company of some of the greatest history that this world has ever seen. I am going to tell you about a guy that I served with. We'll call him Stuck Up. He was a Torpedoman. We're not really sure, but he was born somewhere in southern Alabama or the northern panhandle of Florida. This probably explains how smart he was. The boat that he was one was getting ready to make a Med Run and they needed a diver. They had one, but needed two, so he volunteered to go off to New London for Dive School. On a Sunday afternoon, about a week before he leaves for school, he is sitting around in his Barcalounger there in his living room and he is getting bored. To give you an idea how long ago this was, it was before St. James Blvd was completed all the way out to 17A. Crowfield was "The Place" in Goose Creek and also as far as the road went. So, he gets up from his Barcalounger and decides to go for a bike ride. Stuck Up gets on his dirt bike and starts heading out some of these old logging roads (that don't exist anymore) and while on one of them, he sees a fox come running out of the woods, thinking it could get past Stuck Up's bike before he got there. It was wrong! But it was also smart, because it did a hard right and now is paralleling Stuck Up, who saw the fox and thought, "I bet that fox would make a great pet." So, Stuck Up dives off of his little dirt bike, grabs the fox and now, they are wrestling in the ditch. Unfortunately, for Stuck Up, the fox did not take up with wrestling and it bit him. After being bitten, he let it go, where it immediately ran back into the woods from where it came. Stuck Up dusted himself off, got back onto his dirt bike and goes back home. Well, he is now back in his living room, sitting there in his Barcalounger. He looked at his hand, but started thinking to himself that the fox had bitten him pretty good and that he should go down to the Navy hospital to have it looked at. So, Stuck Up gets into his pickup truck and drives down to the Navy hospital. He is sitting there in the room, waiting for the doctor. The doctor came in with his clipboard, saying, "I hear your pet fox bit you." "Well, not exactly." "What do you mean?" Sighing, Stuck Up replied, "Well, I wanted the fox to be my pet, but he did not want to be my pet and when he bit me, I let him go." "So, you don't have the fox?" "No, sir. I do not have the fox." "I'll be right back," said the doctor as he left the room. A few minutes later, the doctor returned and told Stuck Up that he needed to be at the immunization clinic on Tuesday morning at 1000 for a rabies shot. Stuck

Up agreed to be there and when he showed up that day, he got escorted to the room, where he takes off his dungaree shirt and waits. The corpsman came in and verified his name and asked if he is ready for his shot. As he pats his arm, he replied that, yes, he was ready. The corpsman informed Stuck Up that he obviously did not understand, since the injection was not going to be in his arm. Thinking that now he is going to get stuck in the gluteal region, he groaned, but started unbuckling his pants. The corpsman stopped him and told Stuck Up to pull up his tee shirt and lay on the table. This confused him and he had to be told again. The corpsman left as Stuck Up laid on the table, but came back a couple of minutes later and planted a golf ball right underneath his breastbone. Stuck Up stated how much that hurt. The corpsman told him that he needed to come back on Thursday, and he would be given another shot because they do not know whether the fox had rabies or not. This did not please Stuck Up, but when he returned on Thursday, he brought a fox. The doctor asked, "Are you sure that this is the fox that bit you?" "I would recognize this fox anywhere," he replied. Well, they tested the fox for rabies, with the test coming back negative. So, Stuck Up did not have to get another golf ball planted underneath his breastbone, however, on Sunday, he was on a flight to New London, CT, for dive school and at 0600, they were out on a three-mile run! He thought about that he still had golf ball under there. So, he did not make and dropped out and they sent him back home. I guess we deployed with only one diver after all. I really did not keep track up that stuff back then. The lesson to be learned here is: DON'T PLAY WITH FOXES UNLESS YOU KNOW WHO THEY ARE.

Grateful – Joe O'Saben

□ Joe noted how pleased he is with his granddaughter and thanked the members of Charleston Base for treating her kindly. Joe thanked the Base for the Scholarship received.

Drawings & Auctions

- Scholarship "Nuclear Waste" – KEN LUX got the bottle of "Nuke Waste" since he had a Challenge coin.
- FRA Drawing – James Graham
- Depth Charge Drawing – Tom Lawson

Closing Ceremony

□ Chaplain Nick Nichols noted that, on this day in 1959, the USS George Washington, SSBN-598,


the first U.S. Navy nuclear powered fleet ballistic missile submarine was christened and launched at Groton, CT. Her nuclear capability was removed in 1983 and she was reclassified as SSN-598; serving until 1985. George Washington was later processed in the Nuclear Recycling section of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1998.

- Nick then led the group in a prayer of Benediction.
- Base Commander Mike Ciesielko announced adjournment of the meeting.
- Vice Commander Tom Lawson sounded three blasts of the diving alarm.
- Meeting closed at 2010.


15:56 📶 🔋

facebook.com

👍 Like 💬 Comment

 **Erich Simpson Sr.** shared a post. ⋮
17 hrs · 🌐

HooYah!!!!



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday ✓ June 8 at 12:58 PM · 🌐

This #WinWednesday, we honor Master Chief Information Systems Technician (Submarines) Angela Koogler, who is the first woman to be selected as the senior enlisted leader for a submarine (chief of the boat). Koogler reported to her first submarine, USS Michigan (SSGN 727) Blue crew in 2016, after a career as a Surface Information Systems Technician. She completed multiple deployments on Michigan and currently serves at Submarine Squadron 19, awaiting orders for her chief of the boat assignment (2022). [Read More](https://go.usa.gov/xzv8P) 👉

<https://go.usa.gov/xzv8P>