

USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes

8 September 2016

The attendance for the September 2016 meeting was 97.

Opening Ceremonies: The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1900. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation was led by Chaplain Jones, CAPT USAF, visiting Chaplain. The Tolling of the Boats lost in September was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Vice Commander Mike Knaub. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

Introductions: The following men introduced themselves at the meeting: EMCM (SS) Eric Riddle Qual Boat: USS Daniel Boone SSBN 629. MAC (SS) Willie Sheperd Qual Boat: USS Pennsylvania SSBN 735. MTC (SS) Murray "Glenn" Bartlett Qual Boat: USS Simon Bolivar SSBN 641, ETNC (SEL)(SS) Patrick Hedburg Qual Boat: USS Charlotte SSBN 766, LT Norman Jones USS Longbeach CGN-9, Eric Raby MA(SEL) from NTPU, MMNC Eric Olsen Boat: USS Enterprise CVN-65, MMN(SEL) Steven Wilson Boat USS Ronald Reagan CVN-76

Secretary: Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the August meeting minutes had published in the newsletter and on the base website. Mike asked the group for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Ken Curtis made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Butch Bryar.

Treasurer: Base Treasurer Mike Welch gave his report. The base financial report is now located as a password protected file on the base website under Documents and Resources. The password is the same as needed for the Sailing List.

Chaplain and Webmaster: Base Submarines Lost During the Month of September

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| USS S-5 (SS 110) | Sep 1, 1920 – Practice Dive | No loss of life |
| USS GRAYLING (SS 209) | Sep 9, 1943 – 8 th War Patrol | Lost with all hands – 76 souls |
| USS S-51 (SS 162) | Sep 25, 1925 – Collision off Block Island | Lost with 33 souls; 3 survivors |
| USS CISCO (SS 290) | Sep 28, 1943 – 1 st War Patrol | Lost with all hands – 76 souls |
| USS POMPANO (SS 181) | September, 1943 – 7 th War Patrol | Lost with all hands - 77 souls |
| Five Boats and 262 Men Lost | | |

Engineman First Class, Submarines, Edgel Clevis 'Clete' Hash.,
US Navy Veteran and US Air Force Retired
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – August 11th, 2016

Senior Chief Electricians Mate, Submarines, William Max 'Al' Allen,
US Navy Retired
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – August 12th, 2016

Master Chief Machinist Mate, Submarines, Clell B. 'Hutch' Hutchinson,
US Navy Retired
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – August 27th, 2016

Master Chief Electricians Mate, Submarines, Donald G. 'Don' Mook,
US Navy Retired
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – September 5, 2016

**CDR, Chaplain Corps, Keith Edward Wooster,
US Navy Retired and Charleston Base Honorary Member
Departed on Eternal Patrol – August 15, 2016**

September Report

Highlighted boat of the month:

USS POMPANO (SS-181) was sunk between Sept 17 and Oct 5 with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably fell victim to a mine on or after September 25th. This boat's last recorded ship sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

- **EMCM(SS) Don Mook, USN Ret**, departed on Eternal Patrol September 5th. There will be a Memorial Service for Don here at the FRA tomorrow at 1300. SUBVET muster time is 1230. FRA will conduct their Two-Bell and SUBVETS will conduct their bell-tolling. Vickie wants to thank everyone who came to visit Don during his time in the hospital. Those visits meant a lot to Don but even more to her.
- **MMCM(SS) Clell B. 'Hutch' Hutchinson**, USN Ret, departed on Eternal Patrol on August 27th. SUBVETS conducted Bell Tolling at the visitation on Wednesday, August 31st.
- **EMCS(SS) William 'Al' Max Allen**, USN Ret, departed on Eternal Patrol on August 12th. SUBVETS conducted Bell Tolling at the memorial service on August 20th.
- **EN1(SS) Edgel Cletis 'Clete' Hash**, USN Ret, departed on Eternal Patrol on August 11th. SUBVETS conducted Bell Tolling at the graveside service on August 13th.
- **CDR (CHC) Keith Wooster, USN Ret.**, departed on Eternal Patrol on August 15th. SUBVETS attended his funeral service on August 18th. Keith was an honorary member of Charleston Base since Feb. 2009.
- **Bill Weaver** is at the VA and believed to be in the last days of his life. He had a blood clot move and go to his lung. Linda and I visited with him and Carol for over an hour yesterday afternoon. He is fully prepared and ready for his step from this life into the next to meet his God. When the time comes the funeral will be held at Russell FH in Moncks Corner and the SUBVETS and FRA have been asked to participate.
- **Gordon Smith** is in Health South for rehab; not sure how long he will be there. Visitors are welcome during visiting hours. He is doing well.
- **Jim Kimbrell** is now home and taking lots of meds due to being in the hospital with pneumonia.
- **Becky Robert's brother, Phillip Wright**, passed away in Asheville NC.
- **Mike Knaub** will have an ankle operation on Sept 16th to clean up the ankle infection.
- **Roger Gibson** is taking a reduced dose of chemo and seems to be doing OK.
- **Barbara Curtis** will be having cataract surgery on Sept 13th.
- **Fred Woodley** is being reevaluated for shoulder replacement and is on hold for his surgery.
- **Chuck Bohling** has major health issues and needs a wheelchair ramp. If you have one or know where to get one please contact the Chaplain.

Now is the time to make your final preparations and not put it off on your family. Only 2 of the last 6 SUBVET who died had page 2s or final preparations made.

Follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

WEBMASTER NOTES:

- 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.

District Commander: District Commander Ed Stank reported that he has the Charleston Base T-shirts at 13 dollars apiece. He is collecting membership dues.

Membership: Larry Knutson was not present. Rick Wise reported that base membership is now 320 members.

Kaps for Kids: Bill Kennedy was not present. No report was given.

Special Events Coordinator: Mentioned that the menu is trying to be finalized and hopefully we will have Turkey and Prime Rib. Rick is trying to coordinate an Oyster roast in addition to or in substitution of the Annual picnic. Rick and Ed Stank will be buying calendars for selling for the scholarship fund.

FRA: Larry Cox announced the FRA ten year anniversary. FRA will visit the Victory House on September 17th and will honor the Vietnam Veterans fiftieth Anniversary.

Submarine Veterans of World War II: George Scharf acknowledged the 2 WWII subvets present. Next Thursday 15 September is the lunch at the Golden Corral with the WWII Vets. The car show is postponed until further notice due to other car shows going on our original Date.

Storekeeper: Ron Chambers informed us that he has Submarine Bolo's for sale. He has the challenge Bolos for \$21.00 apiece. He also reported that there is a limited edition 75th Anniversary patch for Pearl Harbor attack.

Veterans Affairs: Ken Curtis had no report.

Recreation Committee: No report.

Public Affairs: Ronnie Kerstetter had no report.

Holland Club: Bill Freligh had no report.

CRAMA: Butch Bryar is in discussions with NAVSEA and Senator Campbell. The Clamagore will be here at least another 18 months.

Chief of the Boat: Ken Hutchison reported that the Scottish Rite Military association will be laying a wreath at the Submarine cold war memorial, 18 Sept 0900. The COB urged members to join the honor detail. It's more than flag folding, but is an honor for our dearly departed shipmates, wives and family.

Base Commander: Rick notified that the newsletter will be up later this month.

Old Business: None

New Business: Rick informed the base of the motion that was made to purchase 200 Holland club coins to be given to Holland club members. He asked for a discussion and many were given. There was a hands vote 46 for and 19 against.

Good of the Order:

Charlie Hudson reported that the Scottish games are going to be at Boone Hall plantation on the 17th of September.

Chief Select Matt Schultz reported that there will be a car wash at Hooters in North Charleston Saturday 10th Sept. On Sunday the Chief Selectees will be at the Victory House in remembrance of 9/11 On Friday the 16th will be the pinning Ceremony on the USS Yorktown.

Rick Sparger reported that Chief selectee Schultz will be reenlisting at our meeting Nov 10th.

Nuclear Historian:

In our past we have been taught some amazing things by our parents, our elders and our Chiefs... and maybe, possibly, I'm not really sure, butby an officer. Some of those things (remedies) are truly mind blowing and still are simple and effective today. It is our responsibility as older members of society to pass these remedies on to our children and young shipmates, and of course to young officers. How else will they possibly know everything.

Here are just a few to pass on:

1. The Chief is Always right!
2. For High Blood pressure sufferers – Simply cut yourself and bleed for a few minutes, thus reducing the pressure on your veins. * Remember to use a timer.
3. Avoid cutting yourself when slicing vegetables (or anything else) by getting someone else to hold the item while you chop!
4. Avoid arguments with Females about lifting the toilet seat by using the sink.
5. If you have a bad cough, take a large dose of laxative, then you'll be afraid to cough.
6. If you are choking on an ice cube, simply pour a cup of boiling hot water down your throat. Presto! The blockage will instantly remove itself.
7. You only need two tools in life. WD-40 and Duct tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use the WD-40. If it shouldn't move and it does, use the Duct tape. * This does not apply to Torpedomen they have a required Tool, not listed! A Hammer –The bigger the better!
8. A mouse trap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you hit the snooze button.
9. If you can't fix it with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.
10. Remember-Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.
11. Some people are like slinkies – Not really good for anything but they bring a smile to your face when pushed down the stairs.

This morning I was sitting on a park bench, next to a homeless man. He said he had been an instructor at Navy Nuclear Power School. So, I asked him how he ended up this way. He said, Up until last week, I had it all!!! A cook, Clean and Pressed clothes, TV, Internet, I went to the gym, Library, and the pool. I asked him, what happened? Drugs? Booze? Divorce? Naw, nothing like that, he said. My sentence was up, and they threw me out of prison.

The **depth charge** was won by Joe O'Saben.

The **FRA red ticket** was won by Bill Narowski.

Meeting Adjourned: Following the benediction by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2010.