

TORPEDO ALLEY



Vol. 2, No. 1

January 2006

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



USSVI Creed

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government"



Base web page: www.ussvicb.org
National web page: www.ussvi.org

Base Meeting:

Thursday January 12, 2006
Social hour & board of directors Meeting at 1800
General meeting at 1900

Location:

VFW Post 3433, 10154 Bellwright Rd. "Off Hwy 78"
Summerville, South Carolina. Phone 843-871-0607

Base Officers		Phone Number
Commander	Steve Nelms	843-563-7115
Vice Commander	Keith Schnebel	843-851-7334
Secretary	Jerry Stout	843-871-9533
Treasurer	George Lisle	843-559-4242

Special Officers		Phone Number
Chief of the Boat	Dave Mueller	843-553-2775
Public Affairs	Richard Cleeve	843-899-4563
Sub Vets WWII	Barnwell Chaplin	843-762-6945
Nuclear Historian	Ed Simokat	843-873-1709
Veterans Affairs	John Nichols	843-873-5897
Chaplain	Bill Kennedy	843-875-3109
Membership	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Holland Club	Bob Lowe	843-573-9045
Little David Project	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Roving Reporter	Rick Wise	843-875-5559
Scholarship	Jim Yates	843-873-0246
Newsletter	Carl Chinn	843-875-3098
Storekeeper	Paul Viering	843-797-2623

Minutes of the December 2005 meeting

Base Commander, Steve Nelms, Master of Ceremonies welcomed all Submarine Veterans, spouses and guests to the annual Sub Vets Christmas Party. He espoused his appreciation and recognition to all those that assisted in the setup, cooking and takedown of the Party. Specific thanks go to Sparger for the coordination, cooking and facilitation of the event at the Elk's Club.

Santa Claus made a surprise appearance and again thanked all that attended. Santa was dressed in extremely Hawaiian festive apparel and looked great! Keeping in the holiday season and keeping everything clean, Santa passed out the door prizes to all the grown-up good girls and boys.

From the COB



The ladies' and men's casino afternoon is set for Sunday 1/29/2006 at 1300 (1:00 PM). We will have at present poker, blackjack, Texas holdem, acey deucey, pool and satellite big dish TV. The men's donation is \$5/ head, but the ladies on this day are free. We want to have more games, but so far we haven't heard from people as to what games they would like. We have only heard from 12 ladies as to their preference and all those except one were for poker and blackjack. One person asked about canasta but we haven't had any one else show interest in it. I really expected to have some pinochle and hearts players, but so far have not heard from any. Any card game that anyone wants to play if you will tell us in advance we can have the cards and accessories to play it. The food and snacks are always free and adult beverages are served for a meager donation. We always have some sort of lunch for everyone, but the menu has not been set as of yet. We hope to get some response from you on games and how many will be coming. That will help with the planning. These games are for men and women together and stakes will be set at the table from penny ante to whatever. The men's casino nights have been going well and we have these every other Wednesday and will continue to do so. If we have a good turnout at this combined event we may do it monthly as well. Since most of you have been to the barn we have made a lot of changes. We put down a solid floor, we have a new heater, and A/C is coming soon, a pool table completely restored, the bar is taking shape but

In summary, Gary Semler received the depth charge, Jerry Stout received the Canadian Club whiskey, Roger Gibson received the scotch, Frank Young received the gedunk and Roger Rader received the weeklong stay at Buddha's Condo.

All other formal reports were deferred to the January Meeting, which will be held at January 12, 2006 at 1830. Be there, Aloha!

**** End of the minutes for December, 2005 ****

Base Chaplin, Bill Kennedy



If you are going to get sick please let me know!

Membership and Dues Information:

If you have not paid your dues, you are now officially on the Dink List! We have over 60 members in that list. Dues are payable by 1 January. If your 2006 dues are not paid by 1 April, National will remove you from their sailing list.

If you miss a meeting and need to pay your dues you can mail them to:

Carl Chinn
217 Brailsford Road
Summerville, SC 29485

If you have any changes to your membership info (address, phone, e-mail, etc.) please let Carl Chinn know at chasbasemembernews@sc.rr.com or carlc@sc.rr.com or call 875-3098.



From the Base Storekeeper, Paul Viering

Pick up books (Red Star Rogue) at the January meeting. Check out the new selection of patches in the Ships Store. Those that have ordered vests please check and see if yours is ready.

Public Affairs Announcement from Richard Cleeve

I would like to know if any of our members download or print any of the photographs from the web site. If

not fully completed, a 40 case beer cooler with digital readout, satellite big dish TV, a liquor dispenser, an electric stove, new cabinets, new curtains, more comfortable chairs and many more new things since we had the hog roast. We call the gaming room the "After Battery" and we are giving it all the comforts of home. Any questions or desires to play a certain game, or to tell me that your coming with how many please give me a call or email. You can bring friends or neighbors if you care to. All ladies on this day free except drinks and all men \$5 /head, which includes free chow and a door prize. Everyone will have a chance at the door prize (1 door prize ticket per person). Please come and support us if you can so that our proceeds can provide us another free party just like the Christmas party, the hog roast and the oyster roast. Ladies Appreciation Day in the After Battery 1/29/2006 at 1300 HRS (1:00 PM)
 Later man,
 "Neck"

****January Happenings!****

January 29, Co-Ed Casino Day.
 "Ladies Appreciation Day" in the After Battery.



Coutu	Farr	Finch	Hansen
Isaman	Kirk	Mabie	Moore
Nuzum	Simokat	Valdez	Welch

Women Welcome On Submarines

THE HAGUE, November 30, 2005 - The Royal Navy is prepared to open the Submarine Service to women. The navy is thereby breaking with a long tradition. The navy's advice on opening up the service will be presented to Defence State Secretary Kees van der Knaap tomorrow. According to a navy spokesman, he will "undoubtedly approve" the plans. The navy bases its positive attitude on a survey of the situation in submarine services in other countries. In Norway and Germany, it has for some time been customary for women to form part of submarine crews. In Norway there has already been a female submarine commander. Labour (PvdA) woman MP Eijsink spent a week on HMS Dolfijn submarine last year by way of a trial. She concluded that women on submarines was a bad idea. "It will lead to tensions, and that could endanger safety," she said. State secretary Van der Knaap appointed the first female general this year. He

nobody does then I can reduce the size considerably to make the web download much faster. Let me know at the next meeting.

January Submarines Lost:

- USS S 36 (SS 141) January 20, 1942
- USS S 26 (SS 131) January 24, 1942
- USS Argonaut (SS 166) January 10, 1943
- USS Scorpion (SS 278) January 5, 1944
- USS Swordfish (SS 193) January 12, 1945

*".....they were young,
 Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
 They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted.
 They fell with their faces to the foe.
 Bravely they died. In proud remembrance we salute them."*

SSGNs Take Significant Step towards Rejoining the Fleet

By Team Submarine Public Affairs, 19 December 2005

Washington, D.C. - USS OHIO (SSGN 726), the Navy's first modern guided missile submarine, took a significant step towards rejoining the Fleet on 19 December 2005, when it arrived at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash., with a broom atop its sail to signify its clean sweep of the ship's initial sea trials.

The OHIO's Commanding Officer, Commander Michael Cockey, expressed satisfaction with the ship's performance and noted its great potential. "It's great to be completing an arduous overhaul and conversion period and moving on to demonstrating the tremendous capability this ship brings to the Fleet. The OHIO crew will be pioneers in tactics and employment of this amazing class of ships."

"SSGNs will provide us with one of the most capable and versatile strike options in the Navy," said Rear Adm. William Hilarides, Program Executive Officer for Submarines. "We are eager to have OHIO and her sister ships rejoin the Fleet."

OHIO is the first of four fleet ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) to be converted into SSGNs. Prior to the conversion process, each boat unloaded its complement of TRIDENT Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles. Twenty-two of the twenty-four missile tubes on each boat are being retrofitted to carry up to seven TOMAHAWK cruise missiles, for a maximum load out of 154 missiles per boat. The remaining two tubes are being converted into Lock-in / Lock-out chambers for use by Special Operations Forces (SOF). Each SSGN will be able to carry and support up to 66 Special Operation Forces for an

also wanted to include women in the Commando Troops Corps (KTC), but withdrew this plan following protests from these special forces.

Combined Conference reminder!

USSVI Charleston Base, Denizens of the Deep Base (Aiken) and the Southern Region WWII Submarine Veterans will be hosting the *Combined Conference of USSVI Eastern Region Districts Four & Six and Southern Region Sub Vets WWII* in Charleston, May 3-7, 2006. See registration form in this issue. You can book rooms at the hotel any time. The conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel Charleston Airport, on Rivers Ave. at Aviation. All base members are reminded that we will need many volunteers to make this conference a success. More information to follow. See the attached registration form.

Combined Conference Book

Our conference book is planned and ready to sell advertisements to various businesses, submarine veterans organizations, private and whomever wishes to be a part of our conference. This will help us cover the cost of the various activities for the conference. All hands need to help in selling advertisements. Ads can be sold to individuals as boosters or to any business or organization that wants to get their name out there. If you need sample materials to show to potential advertisers, see Lee Allison. He has full size samples of the book and ad sizes/prices. When you get ads AND payment, send/deliver it to Carl Chinn. He can be reached at 875-3098 or carlc@sc.rr.com. Be sure to get payment for the ads! No tickie, no washee!

The holidays are over and it is now time to “get out and sell those ads”!

First Admiral Osborne Scholarship News

The following message was recently received from Meredith Reock’s mother. Meredith was the first recipient of our scholarship.

“I have so wanted to tell everyone how much we appreciated the scholarship money. Meredith has just completed her first semester at Clemson. I am pleased to pass on our good news. She received an A for biology, chemistry, calculus, CU101, and psychology with a total GPA of 4.0. I hope you all are as proud of her as we are. Her brother, Jeff Reock, currently serving on the Augusta, has challenged her to a repeat performance next semester! We shall see. Again thank you. Please pass this on to all who helped make this possible. May your New Year be blessed.

Sincerely,
Cheryl S. Pyatt”

extended period of time. These ships will have a specialized planning area, physical fitness equipment, and laser shooting ranges for use by the Operators. Further, SSGNs will be able to carry two Advanced SEAL Delivery Systems, two Dry deck Shelters, or one of each using the lock-in / lock-out chambers as their docking sites.

“The ability to carry a large Special Operations Force, coupled with its TOMAHAWK strike capability and inherent stealth characteristics make SSGN a unique and powerful platform for combatant commanders to carry out a variety of missions,” said Capt. David Norris, SSGN Program Manager (PMS 398).

In addition to the strike capabilities of SSGNs, the submarines will also have improved Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance equipment, enhancing their ability to carry out clandestine operations.

Due to its size and layout, SSGNs offer expanded living and training space for embarked SOF. This space includes increased bunk capacity as well as improved training and physical conditioning areas that allow the SOF operators to maintain their high operating capacity. Another advantage of SSGNs’ size will be its ability to carry an increased payload. In the future, this capacity will allow for the launch and recovery of unmanned undersea vehicles (UUVs). As new capabilities and equipment are developed, they can be inserted relatively easily into SSGNs thanks to its Open Architecture computing systems and the related ability to rapidly integrate new technologies and payloads. SSGN can also offer significant opportunities to serve as a test platform to develop future weapons, sensors, and operational concepts. “The added payload capacity of the SSGNs gives us mission flexibility and future capability options unlike anything we have ever had,” added Capt. Norris.

The SSGN conversion program is the first truly transformational program in the Navy. President George W. Bush made reference to it in his May 2001 commencement address to the U.S. Naval Academy, and since then the program will go from the first boat entering the shipyard to the last boat being delivered back to the Fleet in less than five years. SSGN embodies a new level of adaptable warfare that is suited for today’s security environment.

The three other submarines undergoing the SSGN conversion process - USS MICHIGAN (SSGN 727), FLORIDA (SSGN 728), and GEORGIA (SSGN 729) - are all slated to rejoin the Fleet by 2007.

Oyster Roast

Saturday, 17 January, at Elks Lodge 6 to 8 PM.

All the oysters, beer, hot dogs, chili, soft drinks and Karaoke you want, all for \$17.00.

Contact Bill Roberts 875-0191 NLT 10 January



You might be a Torpedoman if...