



Vol. 15 No. 6

June 2019

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

Base Meeting:

BOD: June 6, 1800
 Membership: June 13, 1900
Location:
 FRA Branch 269
 Low Country Home
 99 Wisteria Rd.
 Goose Creek, SC



Base Commander	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011	Chief of the Boat	Joe Lunn	843.747.5368
Base Vice Commander	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282	Veterans Affairs	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282
Secretary	Gordon Long	843.214.2353	Membership	Larry Knutson	843.860.1155
Treasurer	Gordon Williams	843.553.3015	Scholarship	Carl Chinn	843.437.5515
			Storekeeper	Ken Hutchison	843.553.0935
			Historian	George Scharf	843.873.3318
			Public Affairs	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Chaplain	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Events Coordinator	Rick Sparger	843.553.5594
			Holland Club	Bill Freligh	843.553.1115
			Newsletter	Rick Wise	843.875.5559 (H) 843.276.0899 (C)
			Webmaster	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
			Kaps for Kids	Bill Kennedy	843.875.3109



Submarines Lost During the Month of June

USS HERRING (SS-233)	June 1, 1944 – 8 th 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 – 2 nd war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 82 SOULS
USS BONEFISH (SS-223)	June 18, 1945 – 8 th 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 – 3 rd war patrol	LOST WITH ALL HANDS - 78 SOULS
SEVEN Boats and 403 Men Lost		

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Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Base BOD Meeting	Cancelled	FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek
Base Meeting	Thursday, July 11, 1900	FRA Branch 269 Goose Creek

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

Other Happenings of Interest

From the Editor

There are two amendments to the Charleston Base Bylaws up for vote at the July meeting. These are included in the Charleston Base Meeting Minutes in this edition. The first removes the membership of members of US Submarine Veterans of WWII since the organization no longer exists. The second changes the voting members of the Board of Directors removing the Base Historian and Veterans Affairs Officer and replacing them with the Special Events Coordinator and Recreation Committee Chairman. The basic idea is that the officers being removed are more informational in nature while the replacements are involved in Base events. I concur with both changes and hope you will vote for them.

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.

Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act H.R. 553, the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act ([https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/553...](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/553)) has gained enough support in the House to move forward!

Further traction is occurring in the Senate for their version of the bill as well (<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/622>)

A big THANK YOU to MOAA for spear-heading support for this legislation, and Congressman Joe Wilson for sponsoring this bill!

Veterans -please contact your legislators and ask that they support this bill!

<https://whoismyrepresentative.com/>

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 –Update

This week there is a very important vote coming to the House. Both the Majority and Minority leadership has agreed to suspend the House rules and to vote on H.R. 299–Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, as amended (Sponsored by Rep. Mark Takano / Veterans Affairs Committee). By a Suspension of the Rules, as in both party leadership teams have no problem with the bill. Therefore, it comes straight to the floor and is required to get 2/3 majority of the House to pass and they do not get amended. This is used on noncontroversial bills every single week. I am hearing that the bill is expected to pass. If passed, the bill will go to the Senate to act. At my upcoming meeting I plan on bringing up the Court Decision that told the VA that these claims have merit and should be acted on. However, the court also stated that “boots on the ground” was a moot point. My opinion, and my alone, is I don’t see the VA acting on this until they have legislation that has cleared the House and Senate and the President’s signature.

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Dave David A. Hill

Veterans and Military Liaison

Congressman Ted S. Yoho, DVM

House Agriculture Committee House Foreign Affairs Committee

Proudly Serving Florida’s 3rd Congressional District

New Admiral Osborn Scholarship Raffle

The Base Scholarship Committee will be running a new raffle starting at the July meeting. Raffle will run for two meetings with the drawing to be held at the end of the August meeting.

The raffle will consist of the following gifts to the winning ticket:

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



Raffle is open to everyone; members and non-members. Ask your friends and neighbors! Winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the regular August meeting. If you will not be at the August meeting be sure to write your name and/or phone number on the back of the ticket that goes in the jar! See Rick Sparger, Marty or Carl. Ticket cost is \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Go ahead and buy a dozen or so and support the Admiral James B. Osborn Memorial Scholarship!

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

The Only Enlisted Submariner to Ever Receive the Medal of Honor Locked Himself Inside a Sinking Submarine



For those who sail beneath the surface of the sea, there are few greater fears than permanently descending to the depths alive. The movies would play this horror scene out time and time again as you watched the sailors press their faces to the ceiling of a room slowly filling with water.

But for one such man, that was the fate he chose for himself when he voluntarily locked himself inside a sinking submarine descending to the bottom. For his actions that day, Henry Breault would become the first and only Submariner to ever receive the Medal of Honor.

In the Fight

Torpedoman First Class Henry Breault was born in Connecticut at the turn of the century in 1900. Born to be a sailor, Breault would enlist in the Royal Navy at the age of 16 in order to serve in World War 1 before America joined the fray.

Over the next 4 years, he would learn the art of seamanship and naval tradition from those who have historically done it best. After his tour with the Royal Navy, Breault joined the United States Navy in 1921.

And while the years in between the World Wars were a comparatively peaceful time for America, the United States Navy was frequently sent into forward areas as the nation was increasingly becoming a world power. As such, the scene for this heroic action would take place not in a war zone, but right outside of the Panama Canal in October of 1923.

For Henry Breault was a crew member of the submarine USS O-5 when his ship was part of a column of submarines heading for the canal. It was at this moment that a ship carrying bananas would help this man earn the Medal of Honor. Literally, a ship carrying bananas.

The steamship US Abangarez which was under the control of the United Fruit Company made a series of navigational errors and struck the USS O-5 directly in the side opening up a hole of ten feet or more allowing water to gush inside. Slashing through one of main ballast tanks, the O-5 rolled to port and then to starboard before beginning its descent to the bottom.

But as fortunate would have it, they weren't exactly sailing over the Mariana Trench. For it was but 42 feet of water that separated the surface from the bottom, but that was plenty to send a man to Davy Jones Locker if need be.

To the Bottom

With the USS O-5 sinking fast, Breault actually found himself in the fortunate position of having a relatively easy escape when the call to abandon ship was given. Working in the torpedo room, he quickly worked his way up to the main deck and was prepared to jump to safety when he realized a fellow crewmate had been sleeping below just before the collision.

With open and safe sea just a short distance away, he looked at safety and then looked back at a sinking submarine descending to the bottom and he chose the sinking submarine.

Heading back down the ladders to retrieve his crewmate, he caught up with the then much awake Chief Brown who was unaware of the order to abandon ship. They attempted together to make their exit, but the rising water impeded any attempt.

Wading through the water on board, they made their way to the torpedo room and Breault latched the door shut just before the ship's battery exploded. They were undeniably trapped underwater and any attempt at rescue would have to come from above.

Much thanks to the shallow depth, rescue and salvage efforts began immediately. While that might have been of little comfort to Breault and Brown who didn't know their current depth, it gave hope to the Naval forces converging on the scene.

Approximately 4 to 5 hours later, salvage crews were banging on the hull under the hopes of hearing signs of life when Breault responded with metal pings of his own. Time was of the essence and the only manner in which they could be rescued in this day and age would be to lift the entire submarine from the bottom.

From the Depths

In another stroke of luck, some of the heaviest floating machinery around was near the Canal. One of the largest crane barges in the world, the Ajax, was in the region and quickly made way to the site. It took multiple attempts with many broken cables, but the USS O-5 was eventually able to be lifted.



Ajax hauling up USS O-5 (SS-66)

With a great sigh and much applause after 31 hours trapped under sea, the torpedo room hatch had been opened and emerged one Chief Brown and a future Medal of Honor recipient Torpedoman First Class Henry Breault.

It remains to be seen what causes some men to flee and others to run towards the sound of danger. But for a sailor with the opportunity at survival to knowingly risk entombment at the bottom of the ocean is a gallant feat worthy of the highest honor.

Much of the world will merely watch these scenes play out in the movies and cringe as the water reaches the ceiling and the sunken sailors gasp their last breath. But for Henry Breault, he knew that very well could have been the permanent end of his watch.

Breault was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1924 by President Calvin Coolidge. He would go on to serve 20 years in the Navy before falling ill and succumbing to a heart condition on December 5th, 1941.



Henry Breault just after receiving his Medal of Honor, 8 March 1924

Having died just two days before Pearl Harbor, one can't help but think that the man who joined a foreign Navy just so he could fight would have been ready. And if need be, we know for a fact he would lock himself in a sinking submarine to save a brother in arms.

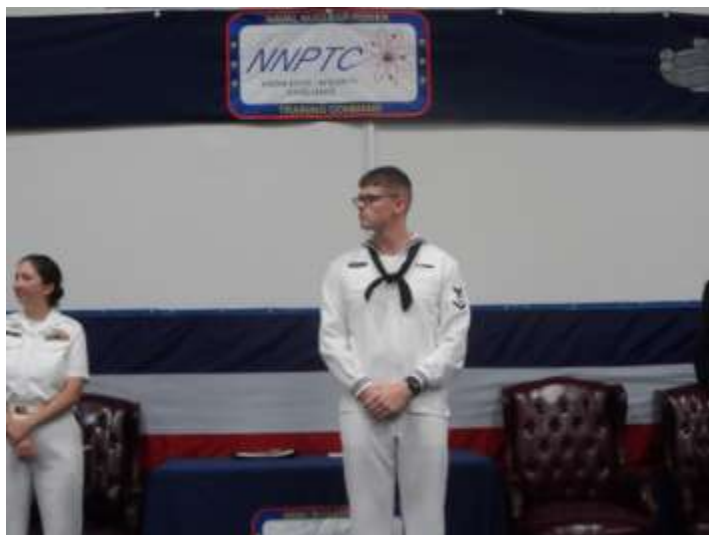
A big Thank You to Carl Chinn for sending this!

Charleston Base Presents Submariners' Legacy Award to Nuclear Power School Class 1902

On Friday, June 7 members of Charleston Base presented the Submariners' Legacy Award to ENS Samuel Haber and ETN3 Skylar Vanderwoude.




ENS Samuel Haber




ETN3 Skylar Vanderwoude

Faith is knowing that the actuating air flask will have enough power to cycle the EMBT valves right after you hear "flooding in the engine room"

Hope is what you feel as the boat broaches and you hope there is enough buoyancy to keep you on top



Love is the feeling you have for your shipmates that stopped the flooding before it was too late despite their fears and the freezing cold water impeding their progress.



The Submariner's Prayer
is the chain that threads all three together.

www.theleansubmariner.com

UNDERSEA WARFARE NEWS

Both Russia and US point fingers after warships almost collide

Mark D. Faram, Navy Times, June 8

American and Russian officials blamed each other for a near collision of two warships on Friday.

"At roughly 11:45 local time, the guided-missile cruiser Chancellorsville and the Russian anti-submarine destroyer Admiral Vinogradov crossed paths in the Philippine Sea," Cmdr. Clay Doss, spokesman for the U.S. 7th Fleet in Japan, told Navy Times by phone.

Doss said the American warship was recovering its helicopter and maintaining "a steady course and speed" when the Udaloy-class destroyer Admiral Vinogradov moved from "behind and to the right" of the U.S. vessel and "accelerated and closed to an unsafe distance of 50 to 100 feet."

Doss said the Russian maneuver forced the Chancellorsville to "execute all engines back full and to maneuver to avoid collision."

"We consider Russia's actions during this interaction as unsafe and unprofessional, certainly not in accordance with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea," he said.

That's not the way Moscow portrayed the incident, which Russian officials said occurred in the East China Sea.

Quoting the Russian Pacific Fleet's news service, Tass alleged that the near-collision happened when a U.S. carrier strike group and a Russian "task force" were "heading in parallel directions.

Moscow's account claims the "Chancellorsville suddenly changed its course and crossed the Admiral Vinogradov destroyer's course some 50 meters away from the ship," which was "forced to conduct an emergency maneuver."

The Russian Pacific Fleet had "voiced a protest to the US vessel's command, stressing that such steps are unacceptable," according to Tass.

The Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser Chancellorsville transits the Pacific Ocean during a training exercise with other U.S. Navy warships. (Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Anaid Banuelos Rodriguez/Navy)

The Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser Chancellorsville transits the Pacific Ocean during a training exercise with other U.S. Navy warships. (Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Anaid Banuelos Rodriguez/Navy)

Doss would only say that the Russian account was "not true" and that the U.S. crew was "safe and operating in accordance with the rules of the road and it was their maneuvers that forced us to take action to avoid collision."

Doss said the U.S. presence in the area came as part of "routine operations" and the Chancellorsville's interaction with the Russian vessel was "strictly a ship to ship" encounter.

While Doss agreed it was "fair to say" the cruiser was operating as part of the Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group, there was no indication that either warship was close to other vessels at the time of the incident.

It's the second reportedly unsafe incident involving Russian and American forces in the past week.

On Tuesday, 6th Fleet officials accused a Russian fighter jet of dangerously buzzing a U.S. Navy patrol plane while both flew in international airspace above the Mediterranean Sea.

Adm. Robert Burke Now Vice Chief of Naval Operations

Ben Werner, USNI News, June 11

Adm. Robert Burke became the vice chief of naval operations, taking over the post from Adm. Bill Moran on Monday.

Until the end of May, Burke had been the chief of naval personnel, also a role he took over from Moran, who is scheduled to become chief of naval operations later this summer.

"It is an honor and a privilege for me to assume this responsibility," Burke said in a statement released by the Navy. "I look forward to continuing to serve our sailors as the vice chief of naval operations."

Before assuming his new job on Monday, Burke was promoted to the rank of admiral by Adm. John Richardson, the current chief of naval operations. Until Tuesday, the Navy had not released any information about Burke's promotion or Senate confirmation, including when Vice Adm. John Nowell relieved him as chief of naval personnel on May 24.

"Adm. Bob Burke brings a tremendous wealth of operational and personnel expertise to the job as the next vice chief of naval operations," Richardson said in a statement released by the Navy. "His work in 6th Fleet helped prepare our Navy for resurgent Russia. Most recently, as Chief of Naval Personnel, Bob's been a strong champion for our sailors – opening up new opportunities and putting

more and more power in the hands of our sailors. I look forward to serving with him at this new and important level.”

Burke, a native of Portage, Mich., earned a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in electrical engineering from Western Michigan University and the University of Central Florida. He has served on both attack and ballistic missile submarines including USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632), USS Maryland (SSBN-738) and USS Bremerton (SSN-698). Burke commanded USS Hampton (SSN-767) and was commodore of Submarine Development Squadron (DEVRON) 12 based in Groton, Conn., according to his Navy biography.

China And Russia Want To Control The ‘World Island’

James Stavridis, Bloomberg Opinion, June 11

In the classic 1980s comedy “Ghostbusters,” the heroes have one serious rule for using their powerful anti-ghost weapons, which emit long beams of specter-killing electrons: “Don’t cross the streams.” As the U.S. and its allies watch the continuing rapprochement between Russia and China, they would do well to heed that advice: each rival is dangerous, but as they converge they become a true global threat.

One concrete indication of this growing risk is the escalating boldness of the Russian Navy, which has been confronting U.S. warships around the world. Most recently, and dangerously, was the near-collision of the U.S. cruiser Chancellorsville and a Russian destroyer that made a reckless approach to within 100 feet in the western Pacific, waters that the Chinese are increasingly looking at as their own.

During the Cold War, for the most part, China and the Soviet Union kept a wary distance from each other. Over the past several years, however, under Presidents Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin, they are drawing closer and closer. This coalescing, possibly resulting in a unified block that dominates the Eurasian continent, may be the most important geopolitical trend of the 21st century.

Last fall, Vostok 2018, the largest military exercise the world has seen since the end of the Cold War, was conducted on the Siberian border between Russia and China. Hundreds of thousands of Russian troops were joined by Chinese soldiers; photos show Russian and Chinese officers hugging each other. Joint Russian-Chinese naval exercises are occurring with increasing frequency – not just in the Pacific, but also in the Baltic Sea and the Arctic Ocean. Last week, Xi and Putin spent days together in Russia, proclaiming themselves “best friends.” Economic and diplomatic alignments mirror the military marriage unfolding before our eyes.

The pairing has a certain logic. China is rising as a global power and has a vast population, yet lacks many vital natural resources. Russia is failing economically and has a falling population, but is loaded with timber, water, minerals, gold, oil and natural gas. They share a long border. And both are resolutely authoritarian states with effectively single-party and single-person rule. Above all, they share an antipathy for the West in general – with its pesky efforts to spread democracy and support human rights - and disdain for the U.S. in particular. That is enough in common for an increasing level of cooperation, if not (yet) a formal military alliance.

Russia, however, ought to be careful what it wishes for. Chinese leaders look longingly at the boundless, unpopulated and resource-rich stretches of Siberia the way my dog looks at a ribeye steak. Putin, who is an annoyingly gifted tactician, may be making a strategic misstep by over-committing if he moves toward an official alliance. Over time, the dominant partner will certainly be Beijing, not Moscow. But for the moment, closer ties with China would provide Russia with new markets, political support and, above all, a counterbalance to the U.S.

As Europe continues to be pulled apart by various forces – Brexit to the north, Italian discontent with the European Union in the south, increasing authoritarianism in Poland and Hungary to the east – the continent’s ability to partner cohesively with the U.S. diminishes. Such weakness increases the value of the Chinese-Russian partnership in the eyes of the two participants. And the lure China’s “One Belt, One Road” initiative offers to smaller nations around the periphery of the Eurasian conti

continent only increases if it includes engagement with Russia.

An immense geopolitical shift of this nature was foreseen more than a century ago by the British geographer and geopolitical analyst Halford Mackinder. In a remarkable paper delivered to the Royal Geographic society in 1904, he laid out the “Heartland Theory” – that any nation (or nations) which could dominate the “world island” (Eurasia and Africa) would ultimately dominate the world. Around the same time, a countervailing hypothesis was set out by the American naval officer and strategist Alfred Thayer Mahan, holding that the sea powers – the U.S., U.K., Australia and their allies – would be able to compete with that dominant Eurasian power. While neither theory neatly or completely describes the current world, the basic pattern will be the geopolitical leitmotif of the 21st century. For now, this means the U.S. and its allies must pay attention to the growing cooperation between Russia and China; focus intelligence collection on understanding how far it is likely to go; do all they can to encourage a unified Europe; and strengthen the network of alliances, partnerships and friendships around the periphery of Asia.

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base Minutes of Business Meeting 13 June 2019

Opening Ceremonies:

The May 2019 Base Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko with a quorum of four officers and a total of 75 members present. The meeting started at 1900 with the sound of the diving alarm.

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

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

Submarines lost during the month of May:

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**

The USSVI Creed was read by Vice Commander Tom Lawson

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

Admiral James B. Osborne Scholarship Presentations – Scholarship Committee:

Base Commander Mike Ciesielko introduced the Scholarship Committee members.

Chairman – Carl Chinn / Members, Rick Sparger and Marty Sessler presented a certificate and a \$500 award check to each of these four college-bound students.

Collin Trump – grandson of Terry Trump. Collin lives in Livermore, CA and will attend San Diego State University. Terry received the award for his grandson. Carl Chinn read a letter sent by Collin thanking the Base for the award. Collin intends to study software engineering.

Reagan Bonniwell – granddaughter of Ed Stank. Reagan lives in Virginia Beach, VA and will attend James Madison University. Ed Stank has already been provided the award to present to his granddaughter there.

Jordan Campeau – grandson of Hermenegildo Maula. Jordan lives in Summerville, SC and will attend Clemson University. He was also accepted to Mississippi State University and University of South Carolina.

Noah Deal – grandson of Walt Deal. Noah lives in Ridgeville, SC and will attend College of Charleston.

Base Commander Mike thanked the Scholarship Committee and guests. The guests were then dismissed prior to continuing the Base meeting.

Introductions of New Attendees:

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

Brian Davy – ET2 – Qualified on USS Ray SSN653 – OCT 1988 – Also served aboard USS Frank Cable AS40

Bill Adams – MMC – Qualified on USS Capitaine AGSS336 – 1963 – Also served aboard USS Lewis and Clark SSBN644

Frank Russell – ET1 – Qualified on USS Sand Lance SSN660 – Also served aboard USS Fulton AS11 and USS Billfish SSN676

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Proposed Amendment to Charleston Base Bylaws, Article V Membership

Purpose: To do away with Article V, Section 2, Regular, Paragraph B.

“Anyone who is a regular member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II is eligible for Regular Membership in USSVI.”

Reasoning: Submarine Veterans of World War II formally shut down in September 2012. Removing this paragraph from the Bylaws in no way changes our commitment to honor and cherish those brave men who have gone before us.

Impact: There is no financial impact on our organization. Remaining World War II submarine veterans are not affected in any way.

Proposed Amendment to Charleston Base Bylaws, Article VII Officers

Purpose: To amend Article VII, Section 2, Appointed, Paragraph A.

As written:

The following Officers will be appointed by the Base Commander:

Amend to read:

The following Officers will be appointed by the Base Commander:

Chief of the Boat	Public Affairs	Scholarship
Chaplain	Storekeeper	Recreation Committee
Membership	Special Events Coordinator	Webmaster
Newsletter Editor/Publisher	Holland Club	

Reasoning: The positions of Recreation Committee Chair and Special Events Coordinator are a regular part of Base operations. These positions have been appointed as Officers for several years and should be added. The positions of Historian and Veterans Affairs, although important, are informational in nature and not directly responsible for Base operations and should be regarded as committees vice officers.

Impact: There is no financial impact on our organization

These two Proposed Amendments shall be presented again and a vote taken at the July USSVI Charleston Base Regular meeting under Old Business.

Cold War Memorial – USS Haddo / USS Pollack Vandalism – Nick Nichols

Nick read a request from Rusty Pickett (CWM POC) regarding a brass plaque which was stolen from the Cold War Memorial. Charleston Base is being asked to contribute to the replacement of the plaque; a total cost of about \$650. There is no known association for either Haddo or Pollack, which were the first two nuclear powered submarines to be stationed at the Charleston Naval Base. The Board recommends providing \$200 towards the replacement of the plaque. The balance of the replacement cost will be from Haddo or Pollack shipmates and the Naval Submarine League. To prevent future theft, the plaque will be attached using industrial epoxy rather than screws. John Lookabill made the motion to provide the \$200 with Butch Bryar seconding. The motion was passed.

Secretary – Gordon Long:

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

Treasurer – Gordon Williams:

The Treasurer's Report for May has been published and promulgated on the website. Gordon had been asked about the current balance in the account. He explained the two non-accessible funds (Scholarship and Cold War Memorial Maintenance and Preservation) and provided the working balance of the checking account. There were no additions or deletions. The report was approved.

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

S-27 (SS-132) was lost on June 19, 1942 when it grounded off Amchitka Island. She was on the surface in poor visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore (400 yards away) in relays using a 3-man rubber raft. The entire crew was rescued.

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

LDCR(SS) David Lloyd USN Ret. Departed on Eternal Patrol June 1. He was not a USSVI Member. Online condolence sent.

QM3 Warne McClelland, 93, departed on Eternal Patrol May 16 in Hilton Head. He served on the ODAX SS-484 during WWII but did not qualify SS. He was not a USSVI Member. Online condolence sent.

RM1(SS) Scott Buchheit, 57, departed on Eternal Patrol May 21. He was not a USSVI member. Online condolence was sent. After the Chaplain's report was presented, two Base members – Joe O'Saben (Scott was Joe's neighbor for several years) and Mike Ciesielko (Scott was Mike's boss for 15 years) – each gave a glowing remembrance of Scott about how good of an attitude he had to the end.

LCDR(SS) Charles Decker, USN Ret., 79, departed on Eternal Patrol May 20. He was not a USSVI member. Online condolence was sent.

ETC(SS) Richard Kennedy USN Ret., 68, departed on Eternal Patrol May 12. He was not a USSVI member. Online condolence was sent.

Marvin Wade McLendon, 77, departed on Eternal Patrol June 10. Served on USS BLUEGILL during the Vietnam War. He was not a USSVI member. Online condolence was sent.

Bob Snyder was diagnosed with prostate cancer 2 years ago and given 2 years to live. His cancer has spread to several organs and bones. Bob is home with palliative care but is also able to get out; his last sighting was at the After Battery on Wednesday. Would like to talk to you so give him a call. His cell #: 843.412.2530.

Soupy Campbell was in the hospital for 4 weeks and has been home 2 weeks. He is recovering and taking it easy. Requests no visitors at this point but would enjoy phone calls. Home: 843.871.2524 Cell: 843.810.3805. GW provided an update about Soupy.

Ken Curtis is still conducting his DAV sessions at the VA Clinic on Monday mornings.

Roy Robertson is in NHC Rehabilitation Center in West Ashley (2230 Ashley Crossing Dr, Charleston, SC 29414). He's been there for 4 months now. Very hard to understand his speech.

Jim Williams, 60 years old, non-USSVI/CB member, is still in the VA after 2.5 months. He broke his hip when he fell in his workshop and has undergone 5 surgeries. These all failed due to an infection in his bones. Nothing can be done. He is now in the VA hospital in the CLC area and will be there until end of life. He has a wife who has in remission cancer and a 42 year old mentally disabled son. If you are at the VA downtown for any reason try to stop by and talk to him for a few minutes.

Gordon Smith's cancer has returned. We are glad to see him here tonight.

Nick asked that if anyone would consider relieving him as Base Chaplain, he would like to talk to them. He has been Chaplain since 2007. It is not an easy job, but it is a fulfilling one.

Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

Website is constantly updated.

There is a new link on the Base website [**USSVI National Message Traffic**] which contains information from National USSVI, which we used receive via email. The information will stay up for a couple of months and then be removed. Make sure to check this link regularly.

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.

Submarine Veterans of WWII – Mike Emerson for George Sharf:

We recognized Stacy Power here tonight.

Stacy talked about his conversation with Admiral Richardson (CNO) at the Submarine Birthday Ball. When Stacy was COB aboard USS Sabalo SS302 in Pearl Harbor, he had trained Frank Kelso to be a submariner. Kelso eventually became CNO.

There will be a WWII Luncheon at the FRA on June 20.

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

Nothing to report

Kaps for Kids – Bill Kennedy

Not present

Membership – Larry Knutson

USSVI Charleston Base membership increased by two tonight. The Base now has 280 members.

VA – Tom Lawson

Nothing to Report

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

Charleston Base had previously received donations to the Scholarship fund in memory of Jack Harden. Carl has received two more totaling \$125. The short note included with each one was read aloud. Carl has already sent "Thank You" letters for these donations.

The Scholarship committee has a DVD entitled "Weapons of War – Missile Submarines" to auction tonight. The Scholarship committee has Challenge coins available.

SPECIAL EVENTS – Rick Sparger

Nothing to Report

CRAMA – Butch Bryar

A court date had been scheduled for June 20, but since the governor has vetoed the \$2.7M [that was to be provided to Patriot's Point], the court case will not happen. CRAMA representatives are meeting with a lawyer to work on some contractual papers regarding the Clamagore. Every man wearing dolphins should be on the CRAMA membership role. This is important to show interest from submarine veterans. Dues are only \$20 per year.

NPS – Ray Sparks

Nothing to report

Fleet Reserve Association – Skip Chilton

Elections were held last month. Installation of those officers will happen on June 14.

On Fridays, the FRA has a pool tournament and karaoke.

Public Affairs – JERRY STOUT

Nothing to Report

NEWSLETTER – Rick Wise

Nothing to Report

Recreation – Ed Stank

Ed was not present as he is in Virginia visiting his family members.

Rick Sparger noted that when the SubVets attended the River Dogs baseball game, Stacy Power was interviewed and shown on the big screen. When Stacy was introduced as a WWII submarine veteran, everyone in the stadium was on their feet in applause. Rick noted that there are still some dedicated patriots in our country. Theron Irving noted that it was GW that arranged the interview to be shown. Thank you GW.

Storekeeper – Ken Hutchison

Nothing to Report

COB – Joe Lunn

Joe has received a letter from the marketing director of Carowinds to various veteran's organizations. The park is offering incentives for all current and prior military members to visit. Carowinds is having military appreciation days from June 29 to July 7. By showing valid, active, inactive or retired ID card, park admission is free. Reduced ticket prices for family members are also available during these days.

Joe has visited a pulmonologist as recommended in the American Submariner article.

VA – Tom Lawson

The Chief Selectee Breakfast will be Wednesday, 28 August at 0600 at the Cracker Barrel in North Charleston. All Sub-Vet Chiefs are invited to attend.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko.

Nothing to Report

Good of the Order**After Battery – Ray Sparks**

Nothing to report

Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko

Mike will send an email when he schedules another shoot at Twin Ponds.

Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson

Not present.

Drawings & Auctions

FRA Drawing – Chuck Bradley

DVD Auction – Glenn Little

Depth Charge – Tim Esch – Donated \$100 to Scholarship Fund

Closing Ceremony

Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.

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

The meeting was closed at 1956.

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.

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