



NORTH CAROLINA SUB VETS



October-November-December 2003

North Carolina Chapter Officers

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Membership Rules

MEN - ANNUAL DUES: \$15.00 - LIFE MEMBERS: - \$10.00 YEARLY: MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
WWII SUBMARINE VETERANS OF NC & MAIL TO: JIM MYERS;4905 REIDSVILLE RD, WALKERTOWN NC 27051-9774
WOMEN - ANNUAL DUES: \$8.00 LIFE MEMBERS:\$3.00 YEARLY: MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
WIVES OF WWII SUBVETS OF NC & MAIL TO: MARGARET MORGAN; 107 CLUB CT; CAPE CARTERETE NC 28584

Eligibility

US SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII - Restricted to those officers and enlisted men of US Navy Submarine Crews and Relief Crews, who were on active duty between December 7, 1941 & December 31, 1946. **Associate Membership** - may be issued to ANY person by vote of the chapter or State Commander. NO NATIONAL DUES SHALL BE ASSESSED. Must pay \$10.00 yearly base dues. He may subscribe to national publications at the \$10 prescribed rate. Associate members cannot vote on any level higher than the local chapter. They cannot hold any office higher than the local chapter. **WIVES OF SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII** - RESTRICTED TO wives or unmarried widows of men eligible for membership. **WIDOWS MAY RECEIVE THE POLARIS FREE OF CHARGE BY LETTING THE COMMANDER KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST. TO RECEIVE THE ALL CLEAR, CONTACT THE EDITORS.**

Purpose

Organized to perpetuate the memory of those shipmates who gave their lives in submarine warfare, to further promote and keep alive the spirit and the unity that existed among crewmen during WWII, to promote sociability, general welfare and good fellowship among its members, to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America.

USSVI NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL BASE OFFICERS

National Commander	John Peters 98-1547 Akaaka St. Aiea HI 96701-3051 K1er@lava.net	808 484 9748
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Treasurer	Bobby Harvell 1807 Colonial Ave. Greensboro, N.C. 27408 bobacus@netzero.net	336 768 0770
Membership Chairman	Bob Werner 150 Wood Wedge Way Sanford, N.C. 27332-8354 Bobwerner150@hotmail.com	919 499 2210
Chaplain	Bill Whelan, w.whelan@worldnet.att.net	919 467 6623

Membership Rules

MEN- ANNUAL BASE DUES: \$10.00; NATIONAL DUES: FIRST YEAR \$20.00 AND \$10.00 THERE AFTER. LIFE MEMBERSHIP VARIES WITH AGE 65 + \$50.00; 55-65 \$100.00; 45-55 \$150.00; Under 45 \$250.00. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: USSVI TARHEEL BASE BOB WERNER 150 WOOD WEDGE WAY, SANFORD, N.C. 27332-8354.

ELIGIBILITY

USSVI: To have served and qualified on a United States Submarine.

OUR 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 of America.”

WEB SITE <http://ncsubvets.rodent-web.com>



STATE
COMMANDER'S CORNER
.U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS OF
NORTH CAROLINA

September 18, 2003. Hurricane Isabel has been approaching, a Cat. 5 storm. As it nears the coast the winds diminish to Cat 4, and then Cat 3 or less. Then it struck the east coast of North Carolina with devastating effects in certain areas, particularly power outages. Here in Point Harbor the wind blew a gale and we had some rain, and some trees snapped off, but no major damage was sustained, we dodged the bullet again. The trusty generator worked for 4 days providing refrigeration, lights and especially WATER. The neighbors even tapped on to keep their fridges going. If you have a computer and want to see some great pictures go to www.kittyhawkfreepress.com and/or www.hatterasharbor.com/report.

September 27, 2003. In spite of all the disaster, 54 hardy SubVets from NC and Va showed up at Gardners BBQ for our quarterly meeting, 7 guests came from Va. Chuck Jensen brought the Mini-Sub for all to see. Our

next to most senior member, Ben Grimes, 88, brought his lovely daughter, Barbara. Our most senior member is Jim Harbin, who was not able to be there. Howie Rice is close behind, still driving at 86, brought his lovely wife, Louise. Not to leave anyone out but to mention a few who we don't see too often, Jean Parker, Joe Howard Clark, Al Bremer, Lin Sutton, Clair Blakley, and Dusty Lathrop were present. We really miss those shipmates who are not able to come together with us!

At 12.00 noon the meeting started, as usual, with the Oath of Allegiance and the opening prayer. Again, as usual, the meal of BBQ, fried chicken, hush puppies, potatoes, Brunswick stew, tea, and I don't remember what else, was consumed with relish and great gusto!

Before everyone fell asleep the meeting commenced with a round of introductions followed by the Tolling of the Boats for July, August and September (Shorty Lebonville and Bill Morris) and a minute of silence.

Commander Don gave a short description of the Burnsville Memorial activities and read a short thank you note from Jewel Flowers, wife of Harrell Flowers, thanking us for the flowers we sent her on the day of the memorial service.

Before the meeting commenced a note penciled on a paper napkin was handed me by the waitress. She said a customer in another part of the restaurant had asked her to deliver it to whoever was in charge. With the note was a \$1 bill. I asked Chaplain Bill to read it to the assembled group. "Thanks for my freedom. I wish my 7 year old grandson was with me this morning so he could see you all and I could tell him again what you did for him. God bless each one of you".

Bill reported that Capt. Scott Waddell, former commander of the Greenville, has recently moved to Cary, NC, and hopefully he will be able to meet with us at the Dec. meeting. He (Bill) reported on the final patrol of two of our shipmates, Ned Osborn and Clinton Egerton. He also reported on the tragedy that befell John Cochran. John had an accident that broke

his back and left him a quadriplegic.

Jean Parker made a presentation to ex-commander Rose Mary Small from the wives of subvets, thanking her for her services during the time she was in that office. Included was a \$50 gift certificate at her favorite store, Belks.

Chuck Jensen informed the group about the SE Regional meeting next May 13-15 in Salisbury, NC. NC SubVets are hosting this event to be held in the Holiday Inn. More detailed information will be in future issues of All Clear. He also reported that there would be a TarHeel base meeting on Oct. 25, at China Grove, NC.

(Where the heck is China Grove?)

Mike Burkholder gave a report on the transportation arrangements to the Hunley Memorial service which is

reported in more detail elsewhere in this issue.

Wayne Powell also reported that lodging space was going to be scarce and get your reservations in now. Details in that department are also reported elsewhere in this issue.

Jim Myers reported that the USSVWWII dues for associate members and subscribers of the Polaris magazine would be \$10/yr. instead of the \$5 current assesment. This is due to the increased cost of printing and mailing the magazine.

Don Small reported on new member Wheeler (Johnny)

Lipes, a recent transplant from Texas to New Bern, NC. Lipes is interesting because he was the PHM on the Seadragon and performed an appendectomy on a shipmate while at sea in the war zone. Wheeler recently received an award in Washington and we hope he will give us details at the PH meeting in December.

Pat Colling gave a report on the Holland Club and made an award to Linwood Sutton, a certificate and card signifying 50 years qualified on submarines.

Numerous small gifts were won in the raffle. The 50/50 had a total of \$250, \$126 in two drawings won by Ben Grimes, \$75, and Tom Richey, \$51.

Dick Kanning gave a glowing report on the joint SubVets convention at Reno. I thought it was a waste of time except for the Bergall boat reunion. The meeting of the USSVWWII Regional Directors/State Commanders/Record Keepers was a total disaster. No attendance was taken, they don't know who was there, the main topic of discussion was concerning whether Bob Moore's name should be on the National Memorial East Wall of Honor. It is alleged that only those who gave their lives in combat should have their names here. Bob Moore apparently composed the inscription on the back of the wall. Much discussion followed, apparently with no resolution. Don Small reported on the NC SubVets Memorial dedication at Burnsville. The USSVWWII convention in 04 is scheduled for Houston, Tx., and 05 in Florida. These will not be joint affairs.

It was reported that USSVI conventions were to be in Saratoga Springs, NY, in 04, Kansas City in 05, Fort Worth in 06, and an Alaska cruise in 07. (Hope I live that long!) Several Sea Stories followed, several about the Goat and the Chicken. After some Bon Mots by Chaplain Brill (WOOOPS, Chaplain Bill), the meeting was adjourned, the ladies having a separate meeting, and the men assembling outside for pictures around the Mini-Sub.

We are deeply grateful to Randy Denson for arranging this wonderful meeting.

Don Small

SUBMARINER'S MEMORIAL

By John Marc Harina

Wonders never cease to amaze me. Of all the things in the world to see, you think you have seen it all, then on the side of a hill on a mountain switchback road is the fruit of one man's labor. A memorial to the 3505 submarine sailors and the 52 submarines lost in WWII.

This memorial, dedicated to those on "eternal

patrol", reflect the deeds of but one group of the "greatest generation" who volunteered for sub duty and took the fight to the enemy when the message "commence unrestricted warfare" was issued. The submarine force entered the war on 7 Dec., 1941, with the attack on Pearl Harbor. Two submarines, Tautog and Narwal, started that morning with 2 planes shot down. For some reason the Japanese went after battleships and not the sub pens. From that day forward the silent service embarked on a journey that was costly to the enemy and paid a high price in it's own fleet. It accomplished many missions and rewrote the book on attack procedures. The submarines aggressively searched for enemy targets, both merchant and warships, did lifeguard duty and transported top officers and civilians. One sub actually moved gold from the Philippines to Australia, while others did special operations. While on war patrol the first two years, faulty torpedos plagued the fleet but not the spirit, for the lifeblood of the sub was the crew. These gallant men braved many long hours to fire a torpedo and then endured many hours of retaliatory depth charging. If you could picture an obsolete S-Boat (WWI vintage) or even a modern 1940's fleet boat it still was all we had to counter the enemy's aggression, while rebuilding the fleet was underway. From the USS Sealion to the USS Bullhead (first and last subs sunk), each submarine did the best possible job it could. Commands like "clear the bridge, dive-dive, rig for silent running, make your depth 56 feet, up scope, bearing "mark", range "mark", angle on the bow, fire "one", fire "two", etc., down scope, rig for depth charge. These are just simple words to many but the heart of the WWII submarine.

Harrell Flowers was a chief torpedoman who served on the USS Gato during the war. He must have relived his experiences to memorialize his fellow submariners for he built this beautiful memorial to keep alive the memory of the submarines and their crews who wrote history, their epitaph "overdue and presumed lost". Harrell Flowers is now on his "final eternal patrol" up there with his fellow submariners, but he left us a remembrance far from the sea to remind us how free we are and the price paid by so many.

On June 7, 2003, US Submarine Veterans gathered at the Yancey County Courthouse to dedicate the memorial in Burnsville, N.C. It was truly an honor to attend and be among those who made history, their numbers dwindling as time goes by. But their memory lives on.

Do yourself a favor and reflect back in time to embrace our unique history and those who wrote it. It took all for victory and you might "thank them" for that. If you happen to be on Interstate 40 on your way to Ashville driving west, take 226N. (exit 83) to Rt. 19E., go west to Burnsville. Turn N. on 197, look for sign "Moonshine Mountain Estates", (about 3 miles), turn left at sign and go up the hill and when you think you are lost "Bingo", there it is. A place of honor far from the sea.

USSVI COMMANDER CORNER

Shipmates,

We had a good turnout as 34 members and guests

were at the August working meeting held in Cary, NC. Many thanks to Bill Whelan for making the arrangements for this meeting. Dick Kanning was elected Vice Commander for the remainder of 2003, so we now have a full complement of base officers. Mike Burkeholder is now the Base Storekeeper as he is more centrally located than Milt Starnes was in Asheville. Stop by Mike's car lot to see what he has in his supply locker. Also Joe Ratner, a new member, is now the Webmaster for the Tarheel Base Website. He is making a lot of changes to our website and it is looking good. Visit it at <http://ncsubvets.rodent-web.com> and give Joe feedback on what you like or dislike and any other suggestions you might have. Bob Wilson was inducted into the Holland Club. At the recent Rocky Mount meeting, Lin Sutton was also inducted into the Holland Club. Congratulations to both on achieving this milestone event. I sent a \$50.00 donation that was voted on and approved to the USSVI SubVettes (Women's Auxiliary) to help defray the costs of starting up this new organization. I did receive a thank you from their president. Those married base members need to check with your spouse to determine if there is enough interest in having a Tarheel Base Chapter. Rose Mary Small and some of the other Subgalleons could provide the experience needed to help start a chapter. We just need the interest from our spouses.

Mike Burkeholder and Wayne Powell are proceeding well in setting up arrangements for base members to attend the interment of CSS Hunley crewmembers next April. Mike has arranged for a charter bus from Greensboro with a stop in Concord for transportation to and from Charleston. The more members and their guests that sign up will lower the cost for all those riding the bus. Those of us going from the Piedmont area should take advantage of this bus, as it will be a great way to travel as a group.

Bob Werner has written an article in this issue of All Clear about USSVI National and Tarheel Base dues. It clearly outlines who and how much you will owe in dues for 2004 as well as where to send the money. Payment is due by January 1, 2004. We need to do better than some members did this past year as Bob

was still collecting dues for 2003 as late as June. Lets all have a goal to have our 2004 dues paid by their due date which is the end of this year.

For those members who do not have email, I hope you are getting important base information in a timelier manner from your communication contact. Also I want to thank all those members who have been assigned as a communication contact for their effort in passing information along.

Our next working meeting to be held on October 25th from 11:00 to 3:00 at Gary's BBQ in China Grove has been set up by Bob Hopkins. Directions are:

- 1 Going south on I-85 use exit 68 (China Grove/Rockwell) this is also Highway 29 south, go approx 1 mile Gary's is on the left, make U-turn at the stop light and there you are
- 2 Going north on I-85 also exit 68 top of ramp go left highway 152 and follow highway 29 south and follow the sign to Gary's which will be on your left make U-turn at the stoplight!!!!

One of the main agenda items for this meeting will be to discuss our hosting of the joint WWII Southeast Regional and USSVI District #3 Meeting next May in Salisbury. We will need to establish a committee to oversee the meeting plans and associated activities. Getting started early will go along way in making the meeting a success. Some preliminary work has already been done but there is still a lot to do.

I will be putting out the complete meeting agenda for the working meeting in early October as I am now waiting for your input. Lets have a good turnout as the menu that Bob sent me looks great and is a bargain for just \$10.00.

See you in China Grove,

Chuck

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



SHADES OF BURNSVILLE!

Not since CAPT Noah landed his ship, the ARK, on Mount Ararat many moons ago (actually 2400 BC) has there been such a glorious mountain-top experience for mariners (submariners, that is). We refer, of course, to the gathering of submariners on Moonshine Mountain, near Burnsville, NC, on June 7, 2003, to dedicate a handsome memorial to the 52 submarines lost during World War II. The memorial also serves as a monument to the submarine USS GATO (SS-212), considered by Harrell Flowers, who built the edifice, as being "his boat."

But let's return, in memory, to the ARK and a few comparisons to GATO.

First, we'll never forget the understandingly bursting-at-the-seams-with pride Bill Bradburn, who's known more familiarly as GATO Bill because GATO was his boat too during World War II. But, again, we're straying a bit.

Another digression: "someone" recently referred to the statue on the Square in downtown Burnsville, a statue to CAPT Otway Burns, a hero of the War of 1812. That someone said that CAPT Burns had probably never even heard of Burnsville. WRONG! The fact is that CAPT Burns turned to North Carolina politics following his at-sea days. And, in that capacity, he cast a tie-breaking vote in favor of allowing the formation of Yancey County. That Burnsville is the "seat" of Yancey County explains the connection. And mention of CAPT Burns' statue reminds us of the fitting caption on its base: "He guarded well our seas, let our mountains honor him." Submariners, whose boats are truly guardians of the seas, appreciate full well that sentiment, and use it to explain why there's a submarine

memorial in the mountains of North Carolina. And, again, we're digressing.

So back to the mountains, Mount Mitchell and Ararat (we couldn't find much information on Moonshine Mountain, so we picked nearby Mount Mitchell for comparison).

We all know about the mountains of North Carolina. Burnsville is 2815 feet above sea level: Mount Mitchell towers about Burnsville at an altitude of 6684 feet. But compare that to Mount Ararat: it peaks at 17,000 feet, and is located in Armenia, 200 miles north of the biblical city of Ninevah, and near the headwaters of the Euphrates River. To get some idea of the distance between Burnsville and Mount Ararat consider: if the GATO were able to travel by land and sea, and were to leave Burnsville, making its designed 20 knots, it would take nearly 17 days to travel as-the-crow-flies the 8000 miles to Mount Ararat.

Speaking of crows (like as the crow flies) reminds us again of matters marining. Like a ship's crow's nest, manned by its highest lookout. I don't remember calling our boat's periscope lookout stand the crow's nest, but some boats might have. The only bird I remember was the parrot brought aboard by some half-smashed torpedomen (that white parrot finally flew the coop when he--or was it a "she"--decided he'd/she'd had enough pressurizing each time they put pressure in the boat. We could go on thinking about animals by mentioning the goat locker (where there is a goat locker, there must be goats) and rabbits (for non-torpedomen, they are the devices used to drive torpedoes into their tubes, as replacements for the brawn used by WW II boats). And that goes without mention of the frozen "meats" (like Australian mutton) stowed in the freezer below the galley.

While we're on the subject of critters on board, we all know that CAPT Noah had two of each kind of bird and animal on board. That and enough food to keep them alive for the entire cruise was enough to keep his commissary officer working late just on the logistics. While we were in Burnsville, sitting with the rest of the guys on the porch upstairs, we marveled at the persistence of the pair of sparrows feeding their nested young 'uns in a nearby birdhouse. The closest my imaginings got to a sparrow carrying a worm was the dove that brought an olive twig to CAPT Noah to let him know that he could land the ARK on dry ground.

Have you ever compared the ARK and GATO physically? Like:

ARK GATO

Length, ft 450 312

Beam, ft 75 27

Displacement, tons 40,000 2424 (submerged)

Complement, off. 4 6 (on ARK, the 4 "officers" were men)

men 4 54 (on ARK, the 4 "men" were women)

Hull material gopher steel (gopher wood also called cedar)

Door(s) 1 (side) 4(top)

Window(s) 1 none

Surface speed (knots) 20.25 ? (wind-dependent)

About women aboard the two vessels, we thought initially that ARK had the edge. Gen. 6:18 mentions that CAPT Noah's wife (unnamed) was aboard, as well as the wives of his three sons--Shem (oldest), Ham (middle), and Japhet (youngest). (We're assuming each son had only one wife.) Incidentally, if Noah was the captain, Shem was probably the XO (they didn't need a navigator, since ARK couldn't navigate), Ham was probably the commissary officer, and Japhet was probably permanent mess detail. (And speaking of "mess" well....) To complete the thought, we discovered that GATO had women aboard, too: on her 5th patrol, in March 1943, GATO rescued 12 women and 27 children from Bougainville. In May they brought out more evacuees from Bougainville.

Like we mentioned earlier, the Burnsville dedication was on June 7, 2003. We wondered what GATO was doing on that same day 60 or so years before. This what we discovered:

June 7, 1942--GATO was nearing the end of her 1st war patrol.

June 7, 1943--It was the day after GATO's return to Pearl Harbor after her 5th war patrol.

June 7, 1944--It was midway of GATO's 9th war patrol, the highlight of which was transporting ComSubPac VADM Charles Lockwood to Midway.

June 7, 1945--GATO was in Pearl Harbor, 4 days after the end of her 12th war patrol, during which she rescued 12 Army aviators.

June 7, 1946--GATO had been decommissioned less than 1 month, her fighting days over.

We realize that we've rambled a bit, but we've gotta include this last GATO tidbit: her commissioning CO was LCDR W.G. Myers. This'll give our All Clear Editor Jim Myers something to work on: is he some kin to Commander Myers?

Oh, yes. Just remembered: Noah means "rest."
So we'll let this Corner rest.

Bless you.

Chaplain Bill

SAILORS REST YOUR OARS

EDWARD D. OSBORNE

Edward D. (Peck) Osborne, 81, of 1106 Pump Station Road, Kannapolis, NC, died Friday, August 29, 2003, following a period of declining health. Visitation was from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Whitley's Funeral Home in Kannapolis. The funeral service was held at 3 p.m. Sunday, August 31, at Whitley's Funeral Home Chapel with The Rev. Otis Snow officiating. Interment followed in Westlawn Memorial Park, China Grove, NC.

"Born January 24, 1922, in Cabarrus County, NC, he was the son of the late A.O. Osborne and Laura Keller Osborne. He was a lifelong resident of the area. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II as a Motor Machinist's Mate First Class aboard the submarines USS O-6 (SS-67) and USS COBBLER (SS-344). He was employed by Duke Power Company as a supervisor until his retirement in 1985 after 20 years of service. He was a member of Memorial Methodist Church. He was educated in the Cabarrus County Schools.

"Peck was preceded in death by his wife, Sarah Cline Osborne, and a son, Michael.

"Survivors include two brothers, Jack Osborne and wife Betty of Kannapolis, and O.C. Osborne and wife Grace of Kannapolis; grandchildren Gabe and Nichole Osborne; and two great-grandchildren."

Peck Osborne's oar is at rest.

GROVER BROWN

SANFORD - Grover Nathan Brown, U.S. Navy retired, died Tuesday (9/30/03) at his home.

Born in Lee County, he was a son of the late Elizabeth Graffelfner and Grover N. Brown Sr. He was preceded in death by a daughter in 1958, Frances Hope Brown, a sister, Janice Stover, and a brother, Garland W. Brown.

He was a member of East Sanford Baptist Church where he served as a deacon and Sunday School director, and was on the grounds and building committee. He was a life member of the VFW, Submarine Veterans of USA, Inc., American Legion, Fleet Reserve Assn., and the Seven Seas Club, and the Holland Club (an honor bestowed to those who qualified on submarines for more than 50 years). He retired from the U.S. Navy, serving in the Submarine Service for 20 years.

Surviving are his wife, Frances Medlin Brown; daughters, Karen Jean Whitaker and Sallie Ann Davis, both of Sanford; sons, Dennis Leon Brown and Grover Michael Brown, both of Sanford; a brother, Albert Brown of Sanford; a half-brother, Joseph Sanders of Virginia; a sister, Betty Austin of Hampton, Va.; 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Nine of us (wife Anne was the 10th) gathered in Sanford today to tend lines as shipmate Grover Brown set sail on his final eternal patrol.

It was an impressive celebration of Grover's life.

Bob Werner arranged for the pallbearers, all in uniform: colorful vests, white shirts, blue trousers, black shoes, and dolphin ties. The crew, in addition to Bob, consisted of Pat Collins, Brian Flynn, Ed Galaviz, Dick Kanning, Bill Lowe, Wayne Powell, Dave Thommarson, and your Chaplain. We sat as a group for the service, formed two lines in the foyer, accompanied Grover to his transport, then from his transport to graveside. Following a submariner's prayer, a Book of Memories was presented to Grover's widow Jean,

followed by Dick Kanning's klaxon blasts. A pair of NROTC graduates from Chapel Hill, elegant in their stiffly starched whites, reverently folded the colors in the customary triangle and presented it to Jean. Then followed a rifle salute by a contingent from Fort Bragg.

The cemetery portion ended with a powerfully eloquent rendition of taps which said to attending family, shipmates, and friends, "All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh!"

Grover's oar is at rest.

Chaplin Bill

I would like to thank you and all the Sub Vets that escorted my father. What you did was provide a friendly and nice farewell that will always be remembered. My Dad thought highly of all of you and wanted you to be a part of his farewell.

I have seen my father leave on a many of patrols, but there are three I will remember most – two were a last for him. I remember his last WesPac patrol on the Plunger SSN595. As it got underway, we left and went up on a hill and watched it pass the subgates leaving Pearl Harbor. We shed tears but deep down we knew he would be back in six months or less. The other was on the Plunger as well. She left port and was gone a month maybe even less. The wives network alerted my mother the Plunger was returning under secrecy ((and was supposedly to get repairs to her damaged periscope – the story was they hit an iceberg but the truth is I think they surfaced under a Soviet ship – and leave again)), but the wife network had somehow gotten word and was at the pier awaiting the arrival. It was a big surprise for the Skipper and anyway they canceled the rest of the patrol.

The sad part of this is we know he will be patrolling forever and even though I am thankful he does not have to be in pain anymore we will remember it as one of the better patrols thanks to you and the rest of his friends and shipmates.

I have often read or heard that to be the oldest son of a Chief should come with a return policy, As the oldest child and the first born son of a Chief in the US Navy, I have seen some of the most demanding challenges a kid could see. As he pushed me to succeed and as he pushed me to meet the demands required for college as he laid out the law and provided the severe punishment (which seemed to be milder and milder

for each successive child, although they may disagree ☺) only a demanding father and sailor would know how to do, I can only hope to be half the man he turned out to be. All his children took it hard, but as I look back I think my youngest sister Sallie, my mother, and I took it the hardest we will always be grateful for your help and please pass on our thanks to all the Sub Vets.

I will be sending out a thank you email to them in a week or so please let them know for me
All the best and Godspeed to you and yours

Regards, and many thanks

Dennis Brown

CLINTON W. EGERTON JR.

Bill Morris reported that Clinton Egerton passed away 9/3/03. No obit was found, but the SubVets of WWII and the USSVI sends it regards to the Egerton family.
Clinton's oar is at rest

HOLLAND CLUB

At the Reno Holland Club meeting it was discussed about how the club had been standing on it's own for so long, but as time passes things change and expenses get bigger. So as a result it was voted on to ask all Holland Club Members to VOLUNTARILY Donate \$1 each year. Forward all donations to Pat Collins (Holland Club Chairman) at;

2849 Worm Ranch Rd.
Haw River, NC 27258

Bob Wilson and Linwood Sutton were awarded their Holland Club membership at the last two meetings.

CONGRADUATIONS!!!!!!

USSVI MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

ATTENTION !!!!!

It is now time to start planning on paying your 2004 dues, as they are due by January 1, 2004. Don't wait until later, or you will forget as this is the last All Clear issue to remind you before next year. **Do it now!!!**

Tarheel Base dues are \$10.00 annually and non-life USSVI members will also owe an additional \$10.00 for USSVI National dues for a total of \$20.00. For all Tarheel Base or USSVI National Dues make your check payable to "USSVI TARHEEL BASE". Send your check for either Tarheel Base or USSVI National dues to Bob Werner 150 Wood Wedge Way Sanford, NC 27332. I will forward your annual national dues to USSVI. Holland Club Members who are annual USSVI member no longer pay USSVI National dues after they are inducted into the Holland Club. WWII members who are non-life USSVI members owe \$10.00 national dues. WWII members of USSVI do not pay Tarheel Base dues (just WWII Tarheel Chapter dues).

If you have questions call me at (919) 499-2210 or send an email to me at bobwerner150@hotmail.com.

Paying your dues on time will keep your American Submariner Magazine and the All Clear newsletter coming without any interruption. **NOTE: when an address change occurs, including email address changes, you must notify me (Bob Werner at (919) 499 2210 or 150 Wood Wedge Way, Sanford NC 27330 or bob werner @hotmail.com) immediately so I can forward the changes to the National Headquarters.**

Thanks for the help.
Bob Werner
Membership Chairman.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

NOTE: If you do not see your Name in the appropriate month or missing please update your file on the Rosters of WWII and

USSVI.

OCTOBER

Harold Bazzle

Robert Black

George Cataldo

Alston H. Cheek

Joseph Howard Clark

Larry Cobb

Howard Dunn

Nelson Gainey

Larry Hauser

Renaud J. Lebonville

Donald Morton

Howell B. Rice

Joseph Kelly Ritter

Charles A. Stevenson

Robert Wilson

Robert K. Wyatt

NOVEMBER

Hugh Andrews

Charles Cross

Randolph B. Denson

Ben Grimes

James Harbin

Scott Hughes

William Lowe

Paul J. Stinson

TOTAL 110.00

DECEMBER

Frank Auerbach

Jerry Beckley

William T. Benedict

Vincent DeNicola

Charles F. Du Gan

Richard C. Evans

Norman R Guice

Robert F. Hopkins

Charles Eugene Johnson

Richard Kreh

Gary Lew

Edward R. Lloyd

Everett H Morgan

Wayne Powell

William Schneider

James Stanford

Gilbert Warren

Fenton Wells

BOOSTER CLUB DONATIONS - 2004

NAME	DATE	AMOUNT
JOHN/SUZETTE RENFRO	8/9/03	50.00
BILL BRADBURN	8/9/03	30.00
IN MEMORY OF JIM BLAKELEY		
BETTY LEASURE	8/12/03	10.00
BILL MORRIS	9/27/03	20.00

TREASURER'S CORNER

At the Reno Convention the WWII Executive Board voted to increase all ASSOCIATE and SUBSCRIBER member dues to \$10 vice \$5 in order to defer the cost of the POLARIS, this will be retroactive to Sept. 1, 2003.

July is the dead line for Renewal of WWII Sub Vet 2004 dues, Life members owe \$10, Annual and Associates owe \$15, if you have not already paid your dues please forward all payments to Jim Myers, 4905 Reidsville Rd. Walkertown, N.C. 27051. We have 16 members still not renewed.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Observation, I was fortunate to be able to attend the First Joint Convention of USSVWWII and USSVI. Without a doubt it was well planned and executed. This being my first convention ever I was in awl at the participation and dedication to the cause. The Tarheel State was well represented by Pat Collins, Dick Kanning, Don Small, Bob Werner, Ollie Thompson, Robert Wilson, Bill Morris, Vincent DeNicola and your's truly Jim Myers. It is my opinion that joint conventions would be a good thing for the future of WWII and USSVI.

As noted in the USSVI Commander Corner we have a

new webmaster Joe Ratner and our new web site is <http://ncsubvets.rodent-web.com>. He has been able to put the ALL CLEAR news letter on the site, please go to it and click on ALL CLEAR on the top tool bar. Let Joe and Jim Myers know what you think.

We are still looking for any and all History making, Funny, Unusual stories for the All Clear. Email or snail mail to me and I'll be glad to insert them in the All Clear.

HUNLEY TRIP

Hunley Interment Update

The Hunley interment is scheduled for Saturday at 0930 on April 17, 2004 in Charleston SC at White Point Gardens (The Battery). Staging for the funeral begins at 0800 and memorial begins at 0930 followed by the procession to Magnolia Cemetery at 1030. The procession is approximately 4.5 miles in distance and estimated to take 1 hour and 45minutes. A detailed schedule is provided below. All details have not been completed. I will keep you informed as I learn of them.

A group of rooms (25) have been reserved at Quality Inns & Suites at Patriots Point in Mt Pleasant across the river from Charleston.. You should call for reservations ASAP due to the expected number of persons attending the Hunley funeral and it is high season for tourism in the area. Call toll free 1-800-704-4480 directly to the hotel. Tell them you are with the NC Subvets group.

I have submitted 3 names (Joe Clark, Robert Hopkins, Ollie Thompson) to the carriage coordinator in Charleston so far to ride a carriage in the funeral procession. The coordinator stated they will have 4 carriages that will hold 16 persons each for a total of 64. The cost per person will be \$20 to be paid at the carriage on 4/17.

The Charleston Subvets is accepting volunteers for pallbearer. They need a total of 48 and some extras for relief. The **pallbearers** uniform is: no hat, white shirt with dolphin necktie (dark

blue/stripes/dolphins ie not western style string tie), Navy blue blazer, khaki pants and leather shoes (not tennis style shoes), and dolphins (ribbons are optional). So far I have 8 names for pallbearers (Wayne Powell, Joe Ratner, Brian Flynn, Robert Stowell, Jerry Emerson, Al Bremer, Lin Sutton, Dick Kanning).

Contact for the Hunley funeral is Wayne Powell (919-362-9498 or email: fbmer@aol.com).

Schedule/Info

§ 4/17/04 (Sat)– preceded by 8 day memorial period (one for each crew member)
o newspapers to provide background on different crew member each day
§ memorial begins at 1000 at White Point Gardens (Battery) – at approximately 1100 will proceed ~ 41/2 miles to Magnolia Gardens Cemetery with full military honors – each remains will be transported on individual caissons
§ Well worth attending no matter the level of participation
§ At 2000 burial ~2500 people attended and they expect 3 times that many this time.

MOTEL RATES

Rates \$119 + 11% Tax (suite – includes microwave/refrig.)
\$109 + 11% Tax (standard)
Breakfast hot – limited

Avail.

Only have 4 standard rooms (\$109) Rest are suites with refrig/microwave. A few are smoking 3 are handicapped accessible.

To reserve - call – 1-800-704-4480 - reference NC Sub Vets

TRANSPORTATION

- No transportation being provided to and from Battery to cemetery by committee.
- Transportation for Tarheel members from

Greensboro has been arranged. Bus will leave Greensboro stop at Concord and proceed to Motel in Charleston. The day of interment bus will go to Patriot Pointe and then on to Cemetary site and after proceedings will return to Greensboro. Contact Mike Burkholder for arrangements.

Sites to Visit

Hunley Submarine – located at former Naval Base

- Not open on 4/17/04 (will be open 4/16 and 4/18)
- Must purchase tickets on the internet (\$12 per ticket) – time of tour designated
- 20 persons per tour group
- They only sell tickets at facility to fill in unsold spaces per tour
- Can not sell Subvets a group time
- Have nice souvenir shop and interesting info external to tour area

Submarine Cold War Memorial – dedicated 12/02

- Located at Patriots point near entrance

They were Americans

Submitted by Brian Flynn

They were Americans. They were Americans and Submariners. Of all the crazy, mixed up emotions that have come out of the Civil War, these two facts about the crew of the C.S.S. Hunley are indisputable. When they are finally laid to rest next April after 140 years, these two facts are the ones that count.

There are those who will try to distort the importance of the burial; either by blowing it up or downplaying it, possibly with some kind of Yankee/Rebel/black/white slant to their rhetoric. For them, it won't be about honor, it will be about politics. And that will be a shame. They are missing the most important lesson that this funeral has to offer. For that I care less than that they will be distracting others from an important lesson. For all else, these were our countrymen.

Certainly I expect the Stars and Bars Confederate battle flag will drape the coffins; it is the flag of the Confederacy, the flag these sailors fought

under. It is important to remember, whether you agree with the goals of the Confederacy or not, whether you attach additional meaning to the flag, it remains an American flag. Not the flag of an entire country, but still a flag of Americans. It is the flag of a failed revolution, the flag of these sailors and it is no insult to anyone to use it to honor their sacrifice.

Certainly I expect Confederate re-enactors to lead the way during the burial. That also is right and proper. These people research and re-enact a period of our history that many others would rather see buried in the shadows of history. When 7 members of the time that they study are finally laid to rest in the soil of Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston, it is fitting that they are the primary organizers and participants. That they are allowing the United States Submarine Veterans of WWII and United States Submarine Veterans, Inc to participate and proudly bear the bodies of these sailors to their final peace is a tribute to their passion for a united country.

God willing, I will be one of those pallbearers; I know not which of the seven I would bear, nor will it matter; they are equally important. And it will be an honor to carry a shipmate to his rest. Yes, I do consider all seven sailors to be shipmates because although I have never seen their faces, although they fought against the same government that I support today and against the Constitution that I have sworn to uphold, they were Americans and Submariners. They were some of the first submariners, the ones who laid the foundations of what submarines have become. From the beginning of the Turtle, the Hunley, through the Holland, WWII, the advent of nuclear power to the incredible sophistication of the Virginia class of tomorrow, we submariners share a bond of having fought the forces of the depths. And far too many of those we have lost will only ever have a grave shared with their shipmates, marked by the tangled wreckage of the boat they called home.

In closing this, I realize that as hard written the past is, the future is equally fluid. It is possible that a number of things can still derail the USSVWWII and USSVI participation in the services next spring. And, I pray that nothing will happen to cause anyone the question our participation. Our presence will add meaning to the sacrifice of the Hunley crew beyond

anything they could have imagined. By allowing modern submarine veterans to participate and to honor these seven men alongside the Civil War re-enactors, we will be able to remind everyone that these were not just sailors of a the Confederacy. They are our countrymen and our shipmates. Americans and Submariners.

Sailors rest your oars.

TRIVIA

Some little known American military history

The U.S.S. Constitution (Old Ironsides) as a combat vessel carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e. fresh water distillers).

However, let it be noted that according to her LOG. "On July 27,1798" the U.S.S. Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of RUM.

Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping." Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum.

Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine.

On 18 November, she set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchantmen, salvaging only the rum aboard each.

By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, although unarmed she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whiskey distillery and transferred 40,00 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then

she headed home.

The U.S.S. Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February, 1799 with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no wine, no whiskey and **38,600 gallons of stagnant water. GO NAVY**

WHEELER LIPES MOVES TO

NORTH CAROLINA

Wheeler Lipes moved last August from Texas to NC coast.

In 1942, aboard the submarine Seadragon in enemy waters, Lipes and two other crew members performed an emergency appendectomy on a young crewmate. The surgery was done with crude tools and a makeshift anesthetic.

"It's amazing," says Lipes now living in New Bern with wife Audrey. "After 61 years this story is still being printed and told and reprinted." The story goes as follows:

On Sept. 10, 1942, crewman Darrell Dean Rector of Kansas fell ill on his 19th birthday with appendicitis. The Seadragon, in waters off the coast of Indochina, was at least a weeks travel from the nearest Allied port in Australia.

The Seadragon's skipper, Lt. Cmdr. William Ferrall, obtained permission from Rector to form a surgical team. That task went to Wheeler Lipes, then 22, a pharmacist's mate who had observed a few appendectomies during his general medical training.

The team consisted of Lt. Norvell Ward, Lt. Franz Hoskins and Wheeler Lipes. The surgery was done on the wardroom mess table, and after two hours and 36 minutes the appendix was removed with a few hitches along the way. Needless to say a half-hour later Rector awoke and said, "I'm still in there pitching." Rector died later in the war on another submarine.

"That surgery changed my life, of course," Wheeler

says. "I didn't think anything about it then, really. I just did what we should do."

DECEMBER MEETING

NC SUB VETS

The annual Pearl Harbor memorial meeting will be held this year on Saturday December 6th, one day before the 62nd year anniversary of that day of infamy. Our guest speaker this year is Master Chief Jeff Hudson from the Trident submarine base in Kings Bay, Georgia.

Our meeting this year will be held in Greensboro at the Ramada Inn located at exit 210 off I-40 (airport exit). The motel is easy to find on the South side of I-40 on the service access road. From EAST turn left at end of off ramp then left at next stop light, from WEST go straight thru stop light at end of off ramp. Our special Subvets room rate will be \$56 plus tax. Please make your reservations directly with the motel and specify that you are with the Submarine Veterans. The phone number to the motel is (336)-668-3900. The hospitality room will be open at noon on Saturday. The Blue Ridge room is the name of the hospitality room and is adjacent to the lobby. Refreshments and fellowship there from noon till 6pm. At 6pm we will move to the Ballroom for the dinner meeting. Dinner will commence at 7pm following opening remarks and introductions. Dinner will be Beef Tips and Chicken CordonBleu with all the trimmings. Following the dinner we will have our annual tolling of the boats ceremony and guest speaker.

Please make your dinner reservations with Jim Myers WWII treasurer. The cost this year for dinner per person is \$23. (same as last year and this also includes tax and gratuity). When making dinner reservations, make check out to Subvets and include the names of who will be coming.

Mail to

Jim Myers
4905 Reidsville Rd
Walkertown, NC 27051

Looking forward to seeing you there this year as we always have a good turnout for this special meeting. Questions? call Mike Burkholder (336)-854-3730 evenings or (336)-292-8331 daytime.

Engines Forward: Burkholder

USS GATO
SS-312

