



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

Shipmates-Subgalleons,
"How did we win the war with this bunch of clowns?"
Direct quote from Howie Rice, after an exchange of
barbs between Chaplain Bill and Commander Small.
If you weren't at the Elizabeth City meeting you
missed a good time. John Herina came into my shop
today (Tuesday) and said "what a good meeting", and
I think it was everyone's sentiment. Some folks drove
almost 400 miles, one way, to be with us, some others
almost confined to wheel chairs were there. If you can
in anyway possible share our time together you should
do it, because--you know why!

A total of 49 broke bread with us at the luncheon.
Dick Baker and Al Keck, Tidewater Chapter, came
and represented the Va. group, who usually come "en-
mass".

Jim Woomer, Md. state commander and his lovely
wife, Kathryn, came from Arbutus, Md. A new
member of Inc, Bob Fellows, I hope was suitably
impressed. When the door prizes were drawn, Bob
Wilson, single, was asked which prize he wanted.

Unfortunately, we didn't have his choice available.
Bob Govern, Inc member, won the 50/50, about 80
dollars. Bob Werner read the boat names and Bill
Morris rang the bell for the "tolling of the boats"
ceremony. Bill Whelan read a "school prayer" which
was very appropriate, considering our political
climate, which I hope he sends to the "All Clear" for
publication. Bill also gave a report on some of our
members on the "Binnacle List". I think it is of the
utmost importance for us more mobile members to
keep up with those who are not so fortunate.

That's it for this issue of "All Clear", I could go
on for a few more pages but because this is an
abbreviated issue I'll say "keep a 1/2 bubble off".

Don Small

USSVI COMMANDER CORNER



Shipmates,

I was sorry that I had to miss the Elizabeth City
meeting last month, but I had already committed to a
trip to Florida that had been scheduled since early last
year. From the email that Dick Kanning sent me,
sounds like I missed a great meeting. Speaking of
meetings, the planning committee that Dick Kanning
is chairing has really got the "ball rolling" for the
upcoming WWII Regional & USSVI District Joint

Meeting to be held in Salisbury next month. A registration package has been sent out using both email and the U.S. Postal System. Dick is already receiving completed registration forms back. A copy of the registration package is included in this issue of the All Clear. There will be a number of activities available during the 3 days of the meeting. Having already sampled Gary's Bar-B-Que at last year's China Grove Working Meeting, I am looking forward to another meal served by them. If you are planning on attending, you need to send in your registration form to Dick as soon as possible. There will be an event patch given to the 1st 50 USSVI or WWII members who have registered so don't wait and miss out getting a patch.

We will be having a working meeting in Cary on Saturday April 24th to finalize preparations for the joint meeting that the NC Sub Vets will be hosting in Salisbury next month. It is important that everyone make a real effort to attend as there is a lot of details still to be work out and we need to identify who will do what. The meeting will be held from 1130 to 1430 at Errico's. Bill Whelan has reserved a room there for our meeting. Errico's now have a new buffet - pasta, pizza, full salad bar, and soft drinks for the cost of \$10.00 (includes tax and tip) that is only a dollar more than what we have had in the past. For base members who have not met there before, the following are directions to Errico's located at 132 Kilmayne Drive:

Traveling I-40 east use exit 287, right on to North Harrison Avenue at bottom of exit ramp or traveling I-40 west at bottom of exit ramp left on to North Harrison Avenue. It becomes South Harrison Avenue after crossing Chapel Hill Road (NC 54). Left on to Dry Avenue then right on to Kildaire Farm Road. 1st right after crossing SW Maynard Road is Kimayne Drive. Errico's is on right in a strip mall.

Also this month, a number of base members will be traveling to Charleston, SC for the interment of the last crew of the CSS Hunley. This will occur on Saturday April 17th. Wayne Powell has been following the preparations for this the past year and has kept the base up to date on the latest news about it. Some of us going will be traveling there on a

charter bus that Mike Burkholder has setup. Wayne has also set up a dinner at the Trawler Restaurant Friday April 23rd for those base members in Charleston.

As you can see, we have a pretty busy schedule for April and May. Because of this, it was decided to skip Burnsville this year. We will be meeting there next year in early June. For long term planning purposes, plan on Elizabeth City in March, Burnsville in June, Rocky Mount in September, and Greensboro in December as the standard timeframes and locations for our quarterly meetings.

As the weather is now getting better, it is time to start using our parade submarine again. If you hear about any parades, that would be suitable for us to participate in, let me know as soon as possible so we can get the word out and make plans. A lot of time and effort was put into building the parade submarine so we need to use it. I will be taking it to the USSVI National Convention at Saratoga Springs NY in September for use in the parade that has been scheduled there. Hope we have good number of base members going so we can have a good showing in the parade.

CHUCK

USSVI VICE COMMANDER

We now have 195 of the needed 300 applications needed for the North Carolina Sub Vet License Plate. Let me know if you want to participate.

Dick Kanning

SUBGALLEON CORNER

On March 27, 2004 the Subgalleon chapter met at the Quality Inn in Elizabeth City, N.C. Eight members were present. Jean Parker, Rose Mary Small, Dusty Lathrop, Deane Morris, Anne Whelan, Margaret Morgan, Sylvia Williams and Doris Le Duc. Doris and Don drove 400 miles one way to get to our meeting. Vice Commander Jean Parker presided over the meeting. Commander Claire Blakley was not able to make the meeting because of illness. The main item on the agenda was to select a slate of officers for the 2004-2005 year. After much discussion, we decided to keep the current officers for another year. If we can't find anyone to fill the positions next year, we will have to turn in our charter. Rose Mary Small gave the treasurer's report.

Beginning Balance April 10, 2003	-----	\$1424.27
Current Balance March, 2004	-----	\$1435.27
Expenses---National Dues	-----	\$ 235.00
Two Gifts @50.00 each	-----	\$ 100.00
Total	-----	\$ 335.00
Income-----Member Dues	-----	\$ 321

We currently have 31 paid members.

Respectfully submitted: Jocelyn Bradburn,
Treasurer

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Rose Mary Small,
Secretary.

“A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!”

Good food, good friends and good weather were the order of the day. 49 hardy souls came to the luncheon in Elizabeth City.

The Quality Inn was very accommodating and the food was bountiful.

Thank you, Jean, for all you did.

Congratulations are in order for Dusty

Lathrop. While she was in E. City a Great-Grandbaby was born.

Claire Blakley welcomed two new arrivals into the family. Her son Russell, [we met him In Rocky Mount] became the father of twins.

Health problems prevented Shorty and Dalline Lebonville from coming to E. City Dalline thinks they will be able to make it to Salisbury.

Don's XYL Rose Mary

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



ONCE A SUBMARINER...!

Saturday night, March 20, we received a phone call from SubVet Bill Lowe. A neighbor had just told him that there would be a memorial service the next day in Raleigh for a North Carolinian who had lost his life aboard the Confederate submarine HL HUNLEY in February 1864. A flurry of late-night phone calls resulted in six North Carolina submariners gathered for the service the following afternoon. Joining Lowe and your Chaplain were Bob Govern, Dick Kanning, Wayne Powell, and Ken Sigworth, their colorful vests standing out in sharp contrast to the drab Confederate-uniformed soldier and sailor and black-clad mourner enactor who escorted the remains of Boatswain's Mate James A. Wicks.

From the lying-in-state in the rotunda of the North Carolina Museum of History to the return of his remains to the vehicle awaiting the return trip to Charleston, the service was tastefully somber and appropriate. Listening to the eulogy, we feel certain that none of us submariners felt anything but a closeness, a brotherhood with Boatswain Hicks. A series of "Thank you for your service" handshakes offered by an onlooker led us to understand that our service, like Wicks', was, except for the 140-year time lapse, comparable and equally important and appreciated. We could not but relate to the occasion the 2nd line of the traditional Doxology, "Praise Him, all creatures (all submariners) here below." We could not but imagine Wicks and his seven HUNLEY shipmates looking down from "above," smiling at each other knowingly, and whispering, "Thank you for remembering us." We could not but imagine the feelings of the HUNLEY crew in those last moments: Feelings of fear--"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." (Ps. 34:4.) Feelings of threatening disaster--"I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place." (Ps. 118:5.)

Feelings of facing a crisis--"Let us therefore come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain Mercy, and find Grace to help in time of need." (Heb. 4:16.)

Feelings of weariness--"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28.)

Our major regret was that the local news media chose not to give the memorial sufficient coverage to permit a larger turnout. This regret was voiced at the Museum before the service. It was not until a full week later that a Dennis Rogers column entitled, "Hunley Crewman Our Own," and a picture of the enactors appeared in print locally.

Your Chaplain took the liberty of e-mailing columnist Rogers, expressing thanks for the column, but expressing regrets of its poor timing. Rogers' e-mailed response was a terse, "...glad you liked the column. I, too, wish I had known about it in time, but the information didn't get to me until the ceremony was over."

We advised Rogers of the memorial service and interment of the eight HUNLEY crewmembers in Charleston on April 17, and expressed the hope that the April event would be given more prompt and complete coverage by the local press.

After all, this is part of the history of the United States of America.

THE DOLPHINETTE

The February Dolphinettes (yes, we know it's supposed to be just for the ladies), which arrived today (March 30), is one of the best yet. On page 6 is a good picture of Pete and Carpathia Sococo of the Tidewater Chapter. The picture was snapped at Kings Bay in November. We take this means of expressing the condolences of North Carolina submariners to Pete on the passing of Carpathia March 13. We feel particularly close to Pete, since he and I both served aboard BRILL.

You know the old saying, "The husband's always the last to know." Well, that's how we felt when we turned to page 11. The entire page was devoted to the January 23rd Golden Anniversary of Oliver and Terry Thompson. Yes, OUR Oliver and Terry. It included a picture of the couple in their festooned-for-the-occasion home. We won't try to describe the goings-on here: read the full account for yourself, then show it to your kids (if you want to make them feel bad about not doing something similar for you).

We stopped again at page 18. It was a full page article by John Marc Harina (an SSBN622 sailor) on North Carolina's submarine memorial in Burnsville. It told of our dedicating it on June 7, 2003, and gave directions to Moonshine Mountain for those desiring to eyeball the handiwork of GATO sailor Harrell Flowers. Again, read the full account for yourself. You'll not regret it.

Our congratulations to Dolphinettes Editor Gloria Unrein of Denver, CO. Keep up the good work: you have more than your share of male readers.

THE BINNACLE LIST

We regret having to report our folks on the Binnacle List, but that's life. We like it far more to be able to report the names of those feeling better. At our successful meeting in Elizabeth City, we were delighted to welcome the Morrisises--Bill just a month after open heart surgery and Deane after a bout with pneumonia (Deane's major complaint was cabin fever). The weather helped us all out of the doldrums--it was the first meeting E-C meeting in years when the pool was uncovered. We sadly reported the passing of Ben Grimes on February 16--we attended his services and delivered a bronze marker and Book of Memories to widow Ruth.

Others on the List were: Oliver Thompson, improving following a heart problem that involved a cardiac defibrillator; Gaylon Thomas, our former artist in residence, now in Roanoke, VA; Johnny Lipes of New Bern, recovering from "whipple surgery" but otherwise enjoying "living in heaven with an angel" (Angel Audrey, that is)--he's still looking forward to receiving a medal from the Surgeon General for his WW II underwater appendectomy; Pearl Harbor Survivor Jim Harbin surviving a damaging fall, feeling some better, and back in an assisted living facility (near enough to the local police station to keep him out of trouble); Ruby Coward (widow of Pearl Harbor Survivor Bob) living comfortably in Lynchburg, VA, enjoying daily visits from her son; and Len Jackson of Wilmington, in constant pain and awfully tired, but determined to prove wrong those who tell him that he'll never walk again.

FRIENDLY FIRE

There's been an awful lot in the local and national press of late concerning "Friendly Fire."

Somehow, despite understanding the seriousness of such happenings, we can't get worked up about it like some folks.

Very few submariners have not experienced friendly fire--fortunately many of our "friends" are not infallible.

But we do understand as do the families of sailors who

paid the ultimate price aboard the submarines:
DORADO--sunk by friendly aircraft;
TULLIBEE--sunk by own torpedo;
SEAWOLF--sunk by friendly destroyers; and
TANG--sunk by own torpedo.
Our prayers to families of all submariners--past, present,
and future.

Chaplain Bill

GUNNY MORRIS REPORT

Bill Morris reported after the Elizabeth City meeting that HISTORY WAS MADE TODAY. This was the first time ever that during the "TOLLING OF THE BOATS" the USS Perch was announced as scuttled with 6 crewmembers died in POW camp which is correct. BRAVO ZULU Bill and Bob Werner. Turk Turner should be very proud now.

USSVI MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

ATTENTION !!!!!

Members: it's that time of the year to pay dues.
They are to be paid by Jan.1
Send your check Payable to USSVI TARHEEL BASE
to:
Bob Werner
150 Wood Wedge Way
Sanford,NC 27332

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 you 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 bobwerner@hotmail.com) immediately so I can forward the changes to the National Headquarters.**

Bob Werner
Membership Chairman.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL, MAY, JUNE

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.

APRIL

JOHN BLOM

WILLIAM E. EDWARDS

CLINTON W. EGERTON

KARL EVANS

ED GALAVIZ

ROBERT ATLAS HARRIS

BOBBY HARVELL

LEONARD JACKSON

WILLIAM F. McKAY

DONALD C. SMALL

ROBERT STOWELL

OLIVER L. THOMPSON

MAY

WILLIAM G. DRESSEL

ROBERT FELLOWS

DONALD R. HASELEY

CHARLES JENSEN
 JOSEPH E. MORGAN
 JOSEPH RATNER
 THOMAS RICHY
 KENNETH SIGWORTH
 LINWOOD SUTTON
 CHARLES B. TOLBERT
 LARRY C. TRAVIS
 HERMAN ZIEGLER

JUNE

ANDREW F. DELL
 DUANE E. GOW
 GRAIG HARDY
 STANLEY A. MOORE
 ROBERT JACKSON SLOOP

BOOSTER CLUB DONATIONS - 2004

NAME	DATE	AMOUNT
JOHN/SUZETTE RENFRO	8/9/03	50.00
BILL BRADBURN	8/9/03	30.00
BETTY LEASURE	8/12/03	10.00
BILL MORRIS	9/27/03	20.00
DONALD LEDUC	10/27/03	25.00
RAMONA YOST	11/13/03	15.00
KARL EVANS	1/4/04	20.00
MARY B. EVANS	3/2/04	15.00
EDWARD R. LLOYD	3/10/04	15.00
KARL EVANS	3/27/04	10.00
BILL MORRIS	3/27/04	10.00
JIM WOOPER	3/27/04	10.00
SHORTY & DALLINE LEBONVILLE	3/27/04	24.00
	TOTAL	254.00

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 2005 dues, Life members owe \$10, Annual members owe \$15 and Associates owe \$20, if you have not already paid your dues please forward all payments to Jim Myers, 4905 Reidsville Rd. Walkertown, N.C. 27051. We have 3 members still not renewed for 2004.

HERBERT FRANCOM ROY HALL
 DAVID THOMMARSON

USSVI TREASURER REPORT

First Quarter treasurer report:

Started year with	\$2874
Income	\$ 800
Expenses	\$ 907
Balance	\$2767

EDITOR'S NOTE

THIS APPLYS ONLY TO WWII VETS and ASSOCIATES

As an attempt to help all of us to remember our dues and time to pay them, we have a new way of informing everyone where they stand and keep it private to the individual. LOOK AT THE ADDRESS LABEL ON YOUR ALL CLEAR, SEE THE NUMBERS AFTER YOUR NAME, You are paid up to JULY of that year. Example: if 2004 is the number, you are paid up until July 2004 at which time your dues are due.

ANYONE RECEIVING THE ALL CLEAR NEWSLETTER AND DOES NOT RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES FROM CHUCK JENSEN PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH CHUCK OR JIM MYERS WITH YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO THAT YOU CAN BE ADDED TO OUR GROUP ADDRESS BOOK.

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. As an example Randy Denson has submitted an excerpt from his memories and it is on page 13.

USSVI 2004 CONVENTION

Northern Virginia Base is trying to get people interested in taking the AMTRAK to Saratoga Springs, NY for the convention this year.

I have contacted AMTRAK and they are willing to work with us. They will arrange for food and drink

and even reserve an entire car IF we get enough people interested.

Minimum number of persons required is 20. The train originates south (Miami) and travels north (New York City). If there is enough interest we may be able to convince AMTRAK to put on a special car in Miami and pick up our troops all the way to Saratoga Springs.

Otherwise our tentative schedule is as follows:

If you are interested in joining this Convention Special let me know. If there is enough interest I will contact AMTRAK with the expected number. I will NOT make your reservations; that will be your responsibility. I will let you know the train number and departing times for the trip north.

Let's make the convention and the trip a time we'll remember!

*Fraternally,
Ron Williams*

*District Three Commander USSVI
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phone: 703-866-0573 (H) 703-585-0573*