



TARHEEL CHAPTER COMMANDER

NATIONAL WWII SUBVETS **REGIONAL DIRECTOR** **OF THE YEAR**

**Sept. 25, 2004-Rocky Mount, N.C.-
Gardners BBQ-Luncheon Meeting of the
NC SubVets**

Meeting called to order at about 12:10PM with about 60+ attending. After the usual formalities of welcome, Pledge of Allegiance and Blessing, lunch was served. There was plenty of BBQ, Chicken, Hush-Puppies, et. al., and it was served expeditiously. I queried Bob Hopkins as to which had the better BBQ, Gardners or "China Grove Bob's"? Reply-a tie.

After everyone was stuffed and before they fell asleep the meeting resumed in the usual order. Everyone was asked to introduce him/herself with some personal info, like boat qualified on, residence, wife or girlfriend-the usual. Mike Burkholder passed around his memorabilia, lest we forget what it was like on those fleet boats, a smelly diesel saturated rag. This was followed with the Tolling of the Boats lost

in June thru September. Bill "Butterbean" Dixon read the names and Ed Wilson tolled the bell and then a minute of silent to honor those lost shipmates and those currently engaged in the war zone.

Bill Whelan gave a report on the Houston National meeting. Total attendance is estimated at about 500-participation is usually 2000-3000. Briefly the following are the items of interest. Associate members of USSVWWII are now eligible to assume the position of State Commander, Life membership is going down to \$25, the next National meeting is to be at Lake Buena Vista, Fl., and at Laughlin, Nv., 2006, where the room rate is to be \$20. June Kracker, Ladies National Chaplain, presented Rose Mary Small with Commander of the Year, 2003, award. I was presented with a certificate for State Commander, 2004-2005. (At first I thought it said "4 More Years", but fortunately I was wrong). Bill also presented me with a plaque for the Regional Director of the Year, 2003-2004, from the US SubVets WWII. I was speechless to say the least!

Chuck Jensen gave a report on the USSVI meeting at Saratoga Springs. 13 Tarheel Base Members were present. Chuck and Mike Burkholder towed our parade submarine 750 miles each way, without getting lost. Chuck received a letter from the Cavalla Historical Foundation in Galveston, Texas, requesting donations to help cover the cost of lost boat plaques. This consists of a ring of plaques, commemorating each of the 52 Submarines lost in World War II. The ring is based on a compass design. \$400 was authorized to sponsor a S-28 Plaque, \$200 from WWII and \$200 from VI.

Howie Rice gave a short presentation on the talk he gave at the Salisbury Elementary school during our meeting there. He reported that there were 95 students present for his lecture which lasted about an hour. It is very gratifying to be able to do something like this for our future generations.

Many thanks to Randy Denson for making the meeting arrangements. Next meeting is the annual Pearl Harbor gathering in Greensboro on Dec 4. See you there.

Don Small

USSVI COMMANDER CORNER



Base Members,

For those who were unable to attend the USSVI National Convention in Saratoga Springs, NY, I thought it was a great convention even though it was the first one I had ever attended. Those base members in attendance who have been to other National Conventions said the same thing. We had a good representation of Tarheel Base Members there. Dick and Marge Kanning, Bob and Joyce Werner, Ollie and Terry Thompson, Bob Wilson and his daughter, Jim Myers, Pat Collins, Mike Burkholder, Bill Lowe, Bob Hopkins, Art Barker (our member from Tennessee), Dick and Shirley Meader, Larry and Sharon Johnston, and MaryAnn and myself.

Mike, MaryAnn, and I brought the parade submarine there on Thursday (750 miles/13 hours) and we didn't get lost, even with Mike navigating with the help on my computer generated route map. We came back on Sunday and our sub is now safely back in North Carolina after the 1500-mile trip much of the time at 65 - 70 mph. Jim Myers pulled the sub in the parade Saturday afternoon a half hour after it had stopped raining. Our National Chaplin had some strong prayers for the weather to break to allow for the parade. There were 6 other submarine floats besides ours in the parade. Ours was one of the best ones. The local folks really turned out for the parade, which was a first for a USSVI National Convention.

Even though Saratoga Springs is not near the coast, they really welcomed all the USSVI convention attendees.

The national election results were: Tom Conlon - National Commander, Jim Foote - National Senior Vice Commander, Patrick Householder - National Junior Vice Commander, Gordon Clark - National Secretary, and Jon Jacques - National Treasurer. Sorry to report that George Boyle was elected Eastern Region Director instead of our own Dick Kanning. The percentage of all USSVI members voting this year was around 30% compared to 22% the previous year. Even though I was disappointed that not all our members voted with Dick being on the ballot, we did have almost 50% participation which is well above the average for this year. All the proposed amendments on the ballot passed. If you are not a USSVI life member, I strongly encourage you consider changing your status from annual to life now as the dues will be going up for 2005. The new national dues structure effective for 2005 is as follows:

- 1 Non-life dues are 5 years/\$90, 3 years/\$55, or 1 year/\$20.
- 2 Life dues are up to 45 years old/\$500, 46-55 years old/\$400, 56-65 years old/\$300, 66-75 years old/\$200, or 76 years and over/\$100.

You have up until the end of this year to become a life member at the current rates

Dick and I attended the National Board Meeting where Dick discussed our new NC Subvets Charter. The board will make it available as a model for other bases to use when considering becoming a joint organization with a WWII chapter at a local level. One of the amendments that were passed was changing to a 2-year term for National Officers. At the board meeting, it was unclear if the 2005 National Officers will be filling a 2-year term now or it will not start until the next election. The board will have their lawyer review constitution and by-laws to determine when the 2-year terms become effective.

Speaking of 2005 officers, our current 2004 base officers have all agreed to serve another term of office in their current capacity if re-elected. Any other base

SUBGALLEON CORNER

member who is also interested in serving as one of the 2005 base officers needs to let me know so that your name and desired position can be put on the ballot for this year's election. I plan on using the same method for 2005 as was done last year. We will use an email ballot for voting. For those base members not having email, a ballot will be mailed to them with instructions on how to return their completed ballot. Additional information will be provided via email and the word passed on by the communication contact for our members not having email.

Supporting our Sub Vet Charitable Foundation is one of the ways we in USSVI honor our fallen hero's and support our creed, which reads "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government. "

The national goal is again to raise \$ 10.00 per member this year. This amounts to less than 20 cents per week per member to support the various programs, which include our Scholarship Program, Memorials, Brotherhood, Museum Sub support, and Sub Vet library. Because USSVCF is an IRS 501(c)(3) foundation, donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. For those who want to contribute online, visit <http://www.ussvcf.org/>. There is an option to donate via PayPal there for all the specific funds plus the general fund, which is at <http://www.ussvcf.org/general.htm>. I strongly suggested that each Tarheel Base Member support this goal of \$10.00. For those members who don't want to make their contribution online, you can mail your check to Bob Werner and he will forward the funds to National.

Upcoming events are the Asheboro Veterans Day Parade on November 11th and the Peal Harbor Memorial Dinner Meeting on December 4th. See Mike Burkholder's article in this issue of the ALL CLEAR that provides all the details.

Hope to see a lot of you at the parade next month.

CHUCK

Let me start by saying, thanks to everyone who sent me their love and kind words. Not only was I in pain I was also feeling down about missing the regional. The pain eventually went away and the card and messages really lifted my spirits.

Now back to the news. Due to my problem, [abscessed tooth], our granddaughter's wedding and other commitments, we did not go to the National. So, I have no first hand news to report. June Kracker, our regional director and National Chaplain, reported that the position of secretary for the national was open and she nominated Gail Shaffer. The Southeast region now has three members on the National Executive Board. Although Gail is now living in Texas she is a member of the Tidewater chapter. Past president Bev Dunn submitted a resolution. The resolution concerns eliminating the funding of the scholarship fund. I am sure you will be reading about this resolution in the next Dolphinette.

Our September meeting in Rocky Mount was well attended. Randy and Theo did great job. This year the tables were arranged differently and we had more waitresses to serve us. The food was excellent as usual.

After lunch and the intros and the raffle and the reports, June Kracker said she had a special announcement to make. You can imagine my surprise when June told me I had been given the award for Commander of the Year, 2003. This award belongs to all the Subgalleons. Considering our ages and the miles that separate us we do a good job of holding this chapter together.

Deane Morris gave us an update on Dalline Lebonville's condition. Dalline had a cornea transplant. She is slowly recovering and doing OK. It is difficult at our luncheon meetings to find the time and the place to have our meeting. This time was no exception. We did manage to find an empty table and a few minutes. Jean Parker conducted the meeting. The main order of business was to update our personal files. Jean checked the current roster and found that many of the newer members had never filled out a form and that a lot of the old member's forms needed to be updated. Maybe we'll be able to

sort things out at the Pearle Harbor meeting. Members attending the Rocky Mount meeting were: Louise Rice, Jean Parker, Theo Denson, Sylvia Williams, Margaret Morgan, Mary Ritter, Deane Morris, Rose Mary Small and June Kracker. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Greensboro.

Rosemary Small

NATIONAL BASE
COMMANDER OF THE YEAR
2003

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



WE HAD A DREAM!

How many of our readers remember the last time this Corner featured a dream? We checked filed copies of our Corners. We had to go back about a year, but finally found it in the July, August, September issue of "ALL CLEAR." We delivered our "dream sermon" in the Burnsville, NC, Court House on Saturday, 7 June 2003, during dedication services for the North Carolina Submarine Veterans' memorial. It was constructed by the late Chief Torpedoman Harrell Flowers in honor of his boat, GATO. Not only did it memorialize GATO, but it also memorialized the 52 U.S. submarines that were lost during World War II.

Our dream told about a group of us (North Carolina Submarine Veterans) locating a MK 14 torpedo while on an outing, and requesting that it (the torpedo) be given to us to add to Chief Flowers' already impressive memorial on Moonshine Mountain. Unfortunately, we awoke before learning of the response to our request.

Again, unfortunately, we're no closer to acquiring a torpedo for the Burnsville memorial than we were just over a year ago. However, we continue to seek both a torpedo and formalization of the memorial site as representative of our efforts to perpetuate the memory of the 52 "lost boats" and their gallant crews.

WE HAD A(NOTHER) DREAM!

Yesterday, we received the usual "I need your input for 'ALL CLEAR' ASAP" e-mail from Jim Myers.

We hit the sack without any intention of doing anything except getting a good night's sleep. But it was not to be. Some time between "Now I lay me down to sleep" and reveille, WE HAD ANOTHER DREAM. Rather, WE HAD MORE THAN ONE OTHER DREAM. Now bear with us, it may get a bit confusing.

We were at a SubVets meeting. It looked like Rocky Mount. Randy Denson was at the end of one table counting through a large pile of money (a couple MP's were nearby to ensure that he didn't skim off a dollar here and there for his favorite charity). There was the usual large group of Tidewater submariners and their silent partners: we distinctly recall one rather "unsilent" partner who was saying something about different parts of a chicken's anatomy, offering a two-for-one deal for a leg. Then two awesome plaques (representing national honors) were awarded: one to Rose Mary Small for being the Ladies' State Commander of the Year, and the other to Don Small for being the Men's Regional Commander of the Year. We spontaneously cheered Rose Mary and Don for having been so honored. That's when the dream soured: as the meeting adjourned, we overheard both say sadly to no one in particular, "We don't know what to do. We're both burned out. I guess we'll just have to give up our charters." In the background, we heard several "Don't look at me's." We awoke. We think we awoke. Maybe we just dreamed we awoke, but actually we remained asleep and it was really part 1 of a multi-part dream.

We were at another SubVets meeting. Maybe it was one of our working meetings at Errico's Restaurante in Cary: there was a lot of food on the tables. It was Italian food (pastas, salads, pizzas), not the Rocky Mount favorites (barbecue, fried chicken, hush puppies, corn bread, Brunswick stew). Chuck Jensen was presiding and had just said something about how pleased he was that action had just been taken by the USSVWWII to permit associate members to help out by serving as state commanders (that means the meeting must have been after Rocky Mount). Well, it happened again, the dream soured. As though it were choreographed, EVERY associate member at the meeting jumped to his feet and volunteered to be the next Tarheel Chapter commander. We even noticed a few lady

associate members on their feet screaming to be heard. There was a lot of grumbling when they were all told that associate members could be nominated only when no regular member offered for office. Again, we awoke, before seeing anything resolved as far as our associate members are concerned. Then back, again, to the sandman's domain. Yes, there we were at another SubVets meeting. We noticed a calendar on the bulkhead (how about that, we remembered our Navy talk): it bore the date September 2005. It could have been either a regular meeting or a working meeting. Chuck Jensen and Don Small both presided: they explained that because of the nature of the business to be brought up, it would be wise to have two "steering wheels." The Nominating Committees was asked to give their separate reports. Each committee announced that, for the first time in memory, it had a full slate of officers to present for nomination. Not only that, but none of the nominations were holdovers from 2004-2005. Chuck and Don, both smiling broadly, asked the same question, "All those in favor of accepting the Nominating Committees' reports, say, 'Aye'." And again, the dream soured. The silence was deafening, not a single "Aye." Then, responding to Chuck's and Don's questioning looks, came Jim Myers' explanation, "You didn't ask for nominations from the floor." So Chuck and Don complied, "Are there any nominations from the floor?" In response, nearly everyone in room stood and started hollering: some nominated their shipmates, some themselves, others were even nominated by their Silent Partners. Again we awoke before finding out how the scene played out. This time we knew we were awake. Fully awake. And we dared not lie down again, just in case there was an as-yet-unviewed dream No. 4. In all honesty, there's only one way to close this dreamy Corner. We go to the scriptures, a slight modification of Acts 28:24, "And some believed the things which were spoken (written), and some believed not." On the other hand, truth is often stranger than fiction, and life stranger than dreams.

Bless you,
Chaplain Bill

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

Robert Black
George Cataldo
Joseph Clark
Larry Cobb
Barbara Dixon
Ricky Donohue
Nelson Gainey
Jimmie Graves
Larry Hauser
Renaud Lebonville
Louis Maruzo
Donald Morton
Howard Murray
Howell Rice
Joseph Ritter
Charles Stevenson
Buddy Tolbert
Robert Wilson
Robert Wyatt

NOVEMBER

Hugh Andrews
Charles Cross
Randolph Denson
Harold Dixon
James Harbin

Roynald Hatley

David Hendrix

Scott Hughes

Paul Stinson

William Lowe

DECEMBER

Frank Auerbach

William Benedict

Jerry Beckley

Vincent DeNicola

Charles DuGan

Richard Evans

Robert F. Hopkins

Charles Johnson

Richard Kreh

Gary Lew

Edward Lloyd

Everett 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
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 WOOSER	3/27/04	10.00
SHORTY & DALLINE LEBONVILLE	3/27/04	24.00
CHARLES JOHNSON	4/22/04	10.00
RAMONA YOST	4/30/04	10.00
GAIL & JACK SHAFFER	5/15/04	25.00
BRYCE YOW	5/26/04	30.00
NORMAN SKILES	6/25/04	15.00
BILL WHELAN	7/21/04	25.00
JONES KENNEDY	7/21/04	10.00
TOTAL		379.00

BOOSTER CLUB DONATIONS - 2005

NAME	DATE	AMOUNT
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BILL BRADBURN	8/7/04	25.00
NC USSVI	10/5004	672.00
TOTAL		697.00

NC WWII 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.

**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN
RENEWAL OF WWII SUB VET 2005
DUES ARE NOW DUE as of AUG
1st, 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 18
delinquents as of today.**

USSVI TARHEEL BASE TREASURER REPORT

September 2004 YTD

INCOME	10619.02
EXPENSES	7155.26
BALANCE	3463.76

ALL CLEAR EDITOR'S NOTE

If you did not notice we have a couple of very prestige awards given out at WWII National Convention.

Don Small was awarded with the National Regional Director of The Year.

Rosemary Small was awarded with the National Base Commander of The Year.

These two deserve a big Bravo Zulu from all for what they have done for the Chapter, Region and Base.

At the USSVI Convention at Saratoga Springs New York the ALL CLEAR Newsletter was awarded 5th runner up in the Large Base Category of 41 to 80 members. A Plaque was presented and is in the hands of our Storekeeper along with our ribbons and other memorabilia for the NC Subvets.

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 2005 is the number, you are paid up until July 2005 at which time your dues are due.**

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

JALLAO (SS 368) REUNION

There will be a U.S.S. Jallao (SS 368) Reunion 17-21 May 2005 at Groton New London Conn.

Contact: Jerry Emerson 252 399-0440

Email: PJEmerson@simflex.com

**REFLECTIONS FROM 2004 USSVI
NATIONAL CONVENTION
SARATOGA SPRINGS NEW YORK**

AFTER FOUR YEARS OR SO OF MEMBERSHIP IN USSVI, I ATTENDED MY FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION. I THROUGHLY ENJOYED ALL ASPECTS OF THE "TRIP UP NORTH TO YANKEEVILLE". THE TOWN OF SARATOGA SPRINGS ROLLED OUT THE RED CARPET FOR ALL OF THE SUBVETS AND COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE HOSPITABLE. THE PRIME HOTEL AND THE HOLIDAY INN WERE GREAT LOCATIONS FOR THE VARIOUS LUNCH AND DINNER MEETINGS.

AS FOR THE TRIP TO AND FROM SARATOGA SPRINGS, I RODE IN JIM MYERS'S BIG A__ TRUCK WITH JIM, PAT COLLINS, AND BOB HOPKINS. PAT WAS THE NAVIGATOR AND HE GUIDED US ON A ROUTE THAT HE USED "BACK IN 02". AFTER ARRIVING IN SARATOGA SPRINGS, SOMEONE ASKED ME WHAT ROAD WE TOOK UP AND I REPLIED—IT WOULD BE BETTER TO SAY—WHAT ROAD DIDN'T WE TAKE!! BUT, SERIOUSLY, IT WAS A LONG TRIP AND AN ENJOYABLE ONE.

ACCOMADATIONS FOR THE FOUR OF US WAS A CABIN AT A CAMPGROUND ABOUT 10 MILES NORTH OF SARATOGA SPRINGS. MIKE BURKHOLDER JOINED US ON THE SECOND DAY. I ENDED UP WITH THE TOP BUNK ABOVE PAT COLLINS AND I WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE BAD DREAMS ABOUT CRAWLING IN AND OUT OF THAT BUNK WITHOUT A LADDER. DURING THE FIRST NIGHT I ATTEMPTED TO EXIT MY BUNK FOR A HEAD CALL. MY FOOT BECAME ENTANGLED IN PAT'S ASSISTED BREATHING HOSE, FORTUNATELY NO HARM WAS DONE.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE DURING THE CONVENTION WERE; A VERY NICE CONCERT IN A PARK BY A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL BAND, TOURING A MILITARY MUSEUM, WATCHING THREE LOVILY GALS PERFORM IN THE USO SHOW, AND MAKING A COUPLE OF VISITS TO A LOCAL WATERING HOLE, THE PARTING GLASS IRISH PUB WHICH HAS BEEN VOTED ONE OF THE TOP TEN IRISH PUBS IN THE U.S.A.. UPLE

ALL IN ALL, MY MOST REWARDING EXPERIENCE DURING THE 2004 USSVI CONVENTION WAS PARTICIPATING IN THE PARADE ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON. YOU

REALIZE THE THANKFULNESS OF A GREAT NUMBER OF AMERICANS FOR YOUR MILITARY SERVICE. A LADY ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE SHOUTED OUT IN MY DIRECTION—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE—**GOD BLESS AMERICA!!** THAT IN ITSELF WAS WORTH THE TRIP!!

BILL LOWE

**2005 WWII SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
AND USSVI DISTRICT THREE
CONVENTION**

The Regional and District Three Convention for Sub Vets INC and WW2 will be held from 27 thru 29 April 2005 at;

Suncastle Ocean Resort Hotel
1307 Atlantic Ave.
Virginia Beach, VA.

Room Rates will be \$59 + tax.

The of rest of the information is still in the planning stage.

TAKE CARE

ED KRACKER