



Ex communi periculo, fraternitas = From common peril, brotherhood

First Quarter 2013

ALL CLEAR is the award winning quarterly publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) Tarheel Base, with input from and shared with all other USSVI bases in North Carolina – the NC Subvets.

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**2012 National Winner
Newsletter of the Year**

Please feel free to submit inputs anytime. A formal request for inputs is typically sent out a couple of weeks in advance of the deadline for the next issue.

To take advantage of the information available on the Internet and the NC Subvets website, many links have been included throughout the newsletter. Just click on the provided buttons to navigate to the associated web page.

BUTTON

USSVI CREED AND PURPOSE

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 and its Constitution.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.



USSVI Website

NC Subvets Website



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LOST SUBMARINES - FIRST QUARTER

JANUARY

USS Scorpion (SS-278)

Lost on January 5, 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.



USS Argonaut (SS-166)

Lost on January 10, 1943 with the loss of 105 officers and men off Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Japanese destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gun fire.



USS Swordfish (SS-193)

Lost on January 12, 1945 with the loss of 83 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.



USS S-36 (SS-141)

Lost on January 20, 1942 with no loss of life on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled her.



USS S-26 (SS-131)

Lost on January 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS Sturdy (PC-460) and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.



FEBRUARY

USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on February 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived 3 depth charge attacks.



USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on February 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.



USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on February 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser.



USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on February 27, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.



LOST SUBMARINES - FIRST QUARTER (cont.)

FEBRUARY (cont.)

USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on February 29, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. She carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942.



MARCH

USS Perch (SS-176)

Lost on March 3, 1942 near Java with no immediate loss of life, while on her 1st war patrol. She survived 2 severe depth chargings in less than 200 feet of water by 3 Japanese destroyers. The crew abandoned ship and scuttled her. Of the 61 officers and men taken prisoner, 53 survived the war.



USS Grampus (SS-207)

Lost on March 5, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men, on her 6th war patrol. She was lost in Vella Gulf, sunk after engaging 2 Japanese Destroyers.



USS H-1 (SS-28)

Lost on March 12, 1920 with the loss of 4 men as they tried to swim to after grounding on a shoal off Santa Margarita Island, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. Vestal (AR-4) pulled H-1 off the rocks in the morning of 24 March, only to have her sink 45 minutes later in some 50 feet of water. She was originally named the USS Seawolf before becoming H-1.



USS Triton (SS-201)

Lost on March 15, 1943 with the loss of 74 men. She was sunk north of the Admiralty Islands during a fight with 3 Japanese Destroyers. Triton was the 1st boat to engage the enemy in December 1941 off Wake Island, sinking 9 ships, 1 submarine and a destroyer.



USS Kete (SS-369)

Lost on March 20, 1945 with the loss of 87 officers and men at the end of her 2nd war patrol. Probably sunk near Okinawa, by a Japanese submarine that itself was subsequently lost.



USS F-4 (SS-23)

Lost on March 25, 1915 with the loss of 21 men. She foundered 1.5 miles off of Honolulu when acid corrosion of the lead lining of the battery tank let seawater into the battery compartment, causing loss of control. F-4 was the first commissioned submarine of the U.S. Navy to be lost at sea. She was raised in August 1915.



USS Tullibee (SS-284)

Lost on March 26, 1944 with the loss of 79 officers and men, on her 4th war patrol. It's believed she was a victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. The lookout was the only survivor and he survived the war as a Japanese prisoner.



USS Trigger (SS-237)

Lost on March 26, 1945 with the loss of 91 officers and men, on her 12th war patrol. She was lost during a combined attack by Japanese antisubmarine vessels and aircraft. Trigger ranked 7th in total tonnage sunk and tied for 8th in number of ships sunk.



LOST SUBMARINES - FIRST QUARTER (cont.)

For much more information, click the [Lost Boats](#) Button on the [USSVI Website](#) Home Page.

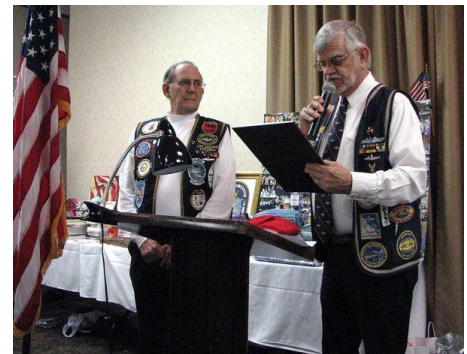
PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DINNER

On Saturday, December 8th, the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner was held at the Village Inn located in Clemmons, NC and was hosted by the Nat Greene Base for the first time. The last time the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner was held there was in 2002. Overall, the Inn did work with us to have the noise from the adjacent banquet room minimized during "Tolling the Boats," which was the main reason we stopped using this location for the dinner after 2002.

Actual attendance at this year's dinner was 77, which included the guest speaker Capt. Pete Graef and his wife Carol, as well as Pat Collin's daughter and granddaughter. Base members from 4 of the 6 USSVI Bases located in North Carolina were represented. WWII Subvets George Bass, Joe Clark, Charles Stevenson, and Bill Whelan were also in attendance and Capt. Graef mentioned the boats that George, Joe, Charles, and Bill served on during WWII as part of his remarks, as well as his experience as the last Commanding Officer of the USS Parche SSN 683. Parche is the most decorated ship in U.S. Navy history, receiving a total of nine Presidential Unit Citations and ten Navy Unit Commendations. The submarine also received thirteen Navy Expeditionary Medals during her thirty years of service.

Hoppy Hopkins and George Base did the POW/MIA table ceremony and added to the traditional "Tolling the Boats" was Hoppy playing Taps after all of the boats had been tolled.

Fred Gunter and his wife Jennette did an outstanding job hosting the hospitality room with plenty of snacks always available. Ray Moore headed setting up the table decorations including the submarine silhouettes used for the "Tolling the Boats" as well as developing and printing the dinner's program. Mike Runkle handled the sale of 50/50 raffle tickets as well as collecting bids for the silent auction. Mike Burkholder and his wife Mariann were able to attend this year allowing Mike to once again provide the questionable history of many of the door prizes (most of which were re-gifted items) as he used to do when he headed up the dinner each year before moving to Fort Wayne.



Dick Kanning (left), USSVI Southeast Region Director and Steve Bell (right), Southeast District 1 Commander participated in the program

Jim Myers presented a shadow box containing a NC Subvets Patch and Kris Bridges presented a replica Civil War Pottery Mug to Capt. Pete Graef and Steve Bell presented a Navy Christmas Ornament to Carol Graef as tokens of appreciation for their attendance at the dinner. Steve Bell presented to Dick Kanning a Letter of Appreciation from all the Southeast District Base Commanders for Dick's leadership and support during his many years of service as the District Commander and wished him the best of luck in his new leadership role as the USSVI Southeast Region Director. Steve Bell swore in "Butterbean" Dixon as the 2013 Tarheel Base Commander as well as Bill Lowe for another term as the Tarheel Base Secretary. George Bass presented Jim Schenk a new vest he purchased for him.

Joe Schmidt from the USS Asheville Base donated a hand carved set of dolphins that he carved out of black walnut for a silent auction with the proceeds going to a new maintenance fund for Joshua's Angel Center. Jim Myers' daughter Rene Armstrong won the auction with a bid of \$200.00 and gave the dolphins to Jim as a Christmas Present. Marge Kanning provided two hand knitted scarves and Mike Runkle provided several pictures in addition to the cash prize for the 50/50 raffle. Also Bill Lowe won a hand tooled leather purse made by Steve Bell as one other raffle prize. The 50/50 raffle money winner was Eugene "Pox" Ipox USS Asheville Base Commander.

[PH Dinner Pictures](#)

[Boats in PH on December 7, 1941](#)

2012 KINGS BAY WWII SUBVETS MEMORIAL SERVICE

There were 13 NC Subvets attending this year's event. Only 31 WWII Subvets were able to be there this year, which is down from 47 in 2011. The CO of the base gave an excellent speech as part the memorial service followed by the "Tolling of the Boats." Music was provided by members of the high school choir. The USSVI Kings Bay Base again manned the hospitality room at the Cumberland Inn. Friday night steak night at the CPO Club was well attended. As you can see in some of the pictures, the Low Country Boil put on by the local Eagles Club was a big hit again as usual.



Many more pictures from Kings Bay

2013 KINGS BAY WWII SUBVETS MEMORIAL SERVICE

Below is an excerpt from an email from Keith Post, St Marys Sub Museum, with dates of event.

The Kings Bay Memorial will be Wed-Sat, 30 Oct to 2 Nov, with the on base Memorial Service on Friday, 1 Nov. The Eagles Low Country Boil should be on Sat 2 Nov. The Cumberland Island Inn will be the host motel (same motel as last several years, 2710 Osborne Rd, Saint Marys GA 31558, ph 912-882-6259)

This email is for planning purposes only. The official notification with registration form will sent out from the Museum sometime in the late spring or early summer.

SUBVETS GROTON BASE - USS THRESHER MEMORIAL PROJECT

From John Carcioppolo, Groton Base Commander

Shipmates,

This subject is important, so I wanted to only send this only subject in this broadcast.

Kevin Galeaz is a dual member of Groton Base. He is the Base Commander of THRESHER Base to the north of Groton.

I have known Kevin and his wife Robin for a good number of years. He is a hard working young man and he is very dedicated to "perpetuating the memory". In particular to perpetuating the memory of our Shipmates lost on USS THRESHER. He is very focused, committed and engaged with anything to do with remembering THRESHER.

Kevin has taken on this extremely important project to gain approval to place a commemorative memorial for those Shipmates lost on THRESHER at Arlington National Cemetery. He has an uphill fight on his hands, and he needs the support of everyone in this organization and many more to have his back in this fight.

The unfortunate loss of those men onboard THRESHER on 10 April 1963 was the spark necessary to start our organization U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS Inc. as a separate organization from the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS WWII. It was their tragedy that was needed to establish our organization committed to perpetuate the memory of ALL U.S. Submariners. It was their sacrifice that laid the groundwork for an organization of camaraderie for all Submariners who served before, during and after WWII that we enjoy today.

As we all know THRESHER's loss, and the loss of her crew also set in stone the foundation for the Submarine QA Program as we know it today. There is no way of knowing how the sacrifice of the crew of THRESHER helped save so many other lives in our Submarine Force today with the stringent controls of QA that were not in place before their loss.

USS THRESHER MEMORIAL PROJECT (cont.)

So I am totally behind Kevin's efforts to establish this memorial at Arlington to the crew of THRESHER and I'm asking you to join me. I firmly believe that as Submariners, and as members of USSVI all of us should get behind Kevin's cause because we owe it to those 129 souls who gave their lives for us.

Last night I spoke with Kevin and I committed the support of the Membership of Groton Base. I hope that you will take the little bit of time required to read the below description of this project, and then follow through and send the letter that he is requesting showing your support. There is no cost other than the cost of a stamp and an envelope and a small bit of your time. Then follow up with the email to let Kevin know you supported his position.

Back in 1998 and 1999 the USPS told the Submarine Force no with regards to a stamp commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Submarine Force. Submarine Veterans like you and I and many others outside our organization took the time to be part of a massive letter writing campaign, and we had our stamps. This worthwhile project is no different, except it is more significant and important. If we all do our part perhaps we will have an influence and this will be reality and a true tribute to our Shipmates. We have nothing to lose by trying.

Thanks in advance for your support and participation.

USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project

Submitted by: Kevin Galeaz on 11/15/2012

USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project Supporter's Letter Writing Campaign

Fellow USSVI Members,

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the USS Thresher tragedy, your help is needed to gain approval to place a commemorative memorial to the men lost aboard USS Thresher in Arlington National Cemetery.

Simply download the pre-written template letter from the webpage: <http://threshermemorial.org/template-letters.html>, or directly using one of the two links below:

PDF version:

http://threshermemorial.org/assets/uss_thresher_anc_memorial_project_supporter_template_letter.pdf

Microsoft Word version:

http://threshermemorial.org/assets/uss_thresher_anc_memorial_project_supporter_template_letter.docx

Sign and mail the letter to:

Ms. Kathryn A. Condon
Executive Director,
Army National Military Cemeteries
Arlington, VA 22211-503

Please send an email with your name to ThresherMemorial@gmail.com indicating you have sent a project supporters letter to Ms. Condon.

Kevin Galeaz
Project Director
USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project
<http://threshermemorial.org/>
ThresherMemorial@gmail.com
P.O. Box 4811
Manchester, NH 03108
603-268-0420



IMPORTANT DAY FOR ALL SUBMARINERS *** SPECIAL INVITATION

This year on April 10th, marks the 50th anniversary of the loss of the USS Thresher (SSN 593) with 119 sailors and civilians aboard.

A Special Ceremony of Remembrance will be held on Saturday, 6 April, at 1300 hours at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard where the Thresher was built.

Adm Richardson, Head of Naval Reactors, will be in attendance as will almost 1,000 other guests. You are also invited to attend.

If anyone in your Base, as a submarine veteran would like to attend in person, we need their full info by email before 1 March so all the tickets and other security details can be taken care of.

If you can't make it to Kittery, Maine, this Special Ceremony will be broadcast live via the DOD Video Department, on the Internet for all to share.

So we are asking you to take 3 actions before this ceremony:

1. Take a picture or a video of your Base and submit it along with an appropriate Memorial Statement to thresherbase@comcast.net before 1 March. These will be collated and shown to all the ceremony participants as a streamed video before the ceremony begins.
2. Invite your Base to watch this ceremony together, as it has such significance for all of us who steamed under the sea. You can get a large monitor or several and just join the ceremony at a URL which will be provided before the event.
3. If there are any Thresher family members who might live in your area, and they cannot attend the actual ceremony, we are asking that your Base provide a loaner PC to them with help so they can watch the ceremony live.

Your Memorial Statement along with the picture or video from your Base will provide evidence of the continuity that all Brothers of the Phin are part of.

Would you please send back an email to confirm that you will do this to fhood99@comcast.net as I am the Thresher Base secretary and am helping our Base Commander organize this part of the event.

Many of us can remember when the Thresher went down. As fellow submariners, this day is an important date in our long and storied history.

Pride Runs Deep,

Frank Hood
Secretary Thresher Base
Fhood99@comcast.net

UNIQUE LANGUAGE OF SUBMARINERS

Jargon is terminology that relates to a specific activity, profession, or group. Much like slang it develops as a kind of shorthand, to quickly express ideas that are frequently discussed between members of a group. In many cases this may cause a barrier to communication, as many may not understand (excerpt taken from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jargon>). I hope these terms bring laughter and rekindle some fond memories.

Angles and Dangles	Operating a submarine at steep angles of ascent and descent, and to perform rapid turns (a submarine in a tight turn will bank in the same fashion as an aircraft).
Bubblehead	Member of the submarine community. Frequently modified by members of the surface fleet with a specific additional adjective.
Messcrank (Crank)	Food service personnel provided by the ship's other departments (non-Supply dept) to perform work such as busing tables, washing dishes, etc.
Sea Story	A tale of nautical derring-do. Differs from a fairy tale only in that while a fairy tale begins "Once upon a time," a sea story begins "This is no s***."

TARHEEL BASE

ELECTION FOR TARHEEL BASE OFFICERS OF 2013

From Jim Davis, Tarheel Base Election Master

The voting period for election of the 2013 Tarheel Base Officers is over. Forty-five ballots were received with 100% yes responses for the candidates presented on the ballot. The elected USSVI Tarheel Base Officers for 2013 are as follows:

- Commander: Harold W. Dixon, Jr. (Butterbean)
- Secretary: William E. Lowe
- Vice Commander: John H. J. Cunningham
- Treasurer: David B. Campbell

COMMANDER'S CORNER

I would like to thank Gordon for his excellent leadership for the past two years. Chuck Jensen set the bar very high for Tarheel Base Commanders to follow. Jerry and Gordon certainly followed his example. I will do my very best to carry the ball forward.

I would like to thank the Tarheel Base officers and supporting staff that put their teeth into a job and do it very well. Thanks for staying at your posts for the upcoming year.

I appreciate the efforts of the members that go to all the NC parades and represent Tarheel Base. There are a handful of guys that make hospital visits, funeral attendance, and go to members homes.

We have members that work and support our Tarheel Base projects...

- Cary's Adopt-A-Spot program
- Local Telethons
- Military Missions in Action

We have had our first attempt at an E-BOARD meeting. I believe it went well. We established that we would work only on one project at a time. Our first project is a Tarheel Base Budget. We formed a three-man committee with an advisor.

Congratulations to the Nathaniel Green Base for an excellent Pearl Harbor Dinner. Well done.

Congratulations to Dick Kanning on his selection to Regional Commander.

Congratulations to Steve Bell on his selection to District Commander.

Next Meeting:

Saturday, 06 April 2013 at 10:00 AM at
American Legion Post 67, 8523 Chapel Hill Road
(NC Hwy 54), Cary, NC

[Map and Directions](#)

For more information, visit our

[Tarheel Base Web Page](#)

All base meeting minutes are posted at

[Tarheel Base Meeting Minutes](#)

From tubes aft,
Butterbean



Bill "Butterbean" Dixon
USSVI Tarheel Base Commander

Base Commander

Bill "Butterbean" Dixon goldbow@att.net

Vice Commander

John H. J. Cunningham johnhjc@bellsouth.net

Secretary

Bill Lowe DGL05200@bellsouth.net

Chaplain

Bill Whelan wwhelan@nc.rr.com

Treasurer / Membership Coordinator

Dave Campbell ard30co@nc.rr.com

501 Competition Road, Raleigh, NC 27603

Please make checks payable to:

USSVI Tarheel Base

WELCOME ABOARD !!

Our Newest Tarheel Base Members

Craig Gorham retired from the Navy in 2002 and now lives in Holly Springs, NC. He qualified in submarines in 1992 as a Quartermaster aboard USS Narwhal (SSN-671). He also served aboard SSN-664, SSBN-627, SSBN/SSN-624, and DDG-66. He last served in the Navy as a Navy Counselor and is now an Employment Rep for Duke University.

Joe Pulwaski lives in Raleigh, NC. He qualified in submarines in 1971 aboard USS Sunfish (SSN-649). He also served on SSN-680.

HOLLAND CLUB NEWS

“Any Regular Member in good standing who has been designated “Qualified in Submarines” for fifty (50) years or more is eligible to become a member of the Holland Club within the organization.”

Details of the Holland Club are located in Section 4 of the [USSVI Constitution](#)

[Holland Club History](#)

Each of our bases has a list of Holland Club members posted on our website. Click the buttons below to view

[Albemarle Sound](#)

[Coastal Carolina](#)

[Carolina-Piedmont](#)

[Nat Greene](#)

[Tarheel](#)

[USS Asheville](#)

At the February Tarheel Base meeting, eleven Tarheel Base members were inducted into Holland Club. Membership in Holland Club is bestowed upon USSVI members who have reached their 50th anniversary after becoming qualified in Submarines. Seated left to right: Earl Buffalo, Robert Andrews, Gordon Banks, John Link, John Clark. Standing left to right: Cliff Snow, Jerry Leppart, Herman Strickland, Joel Daughtridge, Frans Van Baars, Bill Grogan.



USSVI MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY: To have served and qualified on a United States Submarine

MEMBERSHIP RULES: Dues are due by December 31st of each year for National and Base.

BASE ANNUAL DUES: \$15 (nominally, contact your base treasurer for more information)

NATIONAL DUES: Non-Life Member dues are 5 Years = \$90, 3 Years = \$55, or 1 Year = \$20

Life Membership varies with age: Up to 45 years old = \$500, 46-55 = \$400, 56-65 = \$300, 66-75 = \$200, 76 and up = \$100

NOTE: Contact information for each USSVI base in North Carolina is listed later in this newsletter

NATHANAEL GREENE BASE AND NC SUBVETS STATE COMMANDER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

[NC Subvets Website](#)

The Nathanael Greene Base had a great 2012 and is looking forward to an even better 2013. We have completed several projects at Joshua's Angels Center of the Carolinas, the 44 foot ramp for the handicapped kids to get up on the horses from wheelchairs. We also just completed closing in the tack area for the saddles and bridle gear. We donated hay, had a motorcycle ride and other fundraisers for the Center.

We participated in parades at Faith, Troutman, Nags Head, Asheboro, Raleigh, Lexington, Wilmington and Thomasville.

Our Kaps 4 Kids Chairman Mike Runkle had us at the Thomasville Children's Home, Camp Carefree, Person County Children's Camp etc.

We have donated to several USSVI requests for help.

The Nat Greene Base hosted the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner this year in Clemmons, NC where we use to meet all the time when the Tarheel Chapter held the PHR Dinner. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening especially having CAPT Graef as a speaker and Mike Burkholder doing the door prizes.

Our 2013 looks good in that we have 5 members becoming Holland Club members; we have all the parades to look forward to as well. Mike Runkle is working on several visits for our Kaps 4 Kids program. We will hold our Officer elections. Joshua's Angels Center will have more fundraisers and hopefully we will have a couple of Motorcycle rides hosted by our NC USSVI Motorcycle Club. We will be looking for other community projects to participate in to comply with our Motto and Creed.

As the Commander of the Nat Greene Base I wish to thank all of our members for their support and participation in our Base activities. As the oncoming NC Subvet Commander, I wish to thank all the Bases for their participation in the joint NC Subvet events and hope we can do it again this year with better participation from ALL Bases.

I would like to thank Steve Bell for his leadership the last few years as our State Commander. I also wish him the best in his new position as South Eastern District One Commander.

I have an agenda for this year and that is to get more participation in the Pearl Harbor Dinner in December and to visit each base and talk with the membership. I will endeavor to keep all information out there for your convenience.

We all wish Dick Kanning continued leadership in his new position as Southeastern Region Director. Let's all have thoughts and prayers for any of our members on the binnacle list.

Recruit, Recruit, Recruit! Butterbean's slogan is something we should all think about and try to do. Recruiting is not only getting new members but also talking to members about retention.

Hope to see you at a lot of the upcoming events.

For information on the next base meeting or past meeting minutes, click on these buttons:

[Nat Greene Base Web Page](#)

[Nat Greene Base Meeting Minutes](#)

Jim



James R. Myers III
USSVI Nathanael Greene
Base Commander
and
USSVI NC Subvets
State Commander,



Come and join us at our St. Patrick's Day parades



NATHANAEL GREENE BASE

Base Commander

James R. Myers III sublobo@triad.rr.com

Vice Commander

Charles Cross ccross1938@ctc.net

Secretary

Edward Galaviz egalaviz@triad.rr.com

Chaplain

Jim Schenk submareener@msn.com

Treasurer

Chuck Jensen chuck-focc@earthlink.net

4925 Warfield Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406

Please make checks payable to:

USSVI-Nathanael Greene Base

THE BATTERY WELL

You're sure to get a CHARGE out of this!

THE NAVY WINE TASTER

At a wine merchant's warehouse the regular taster died, and the director started looking for a new one to hire. A retired Navy Master Chief Petty Officer, well-oiled and with a rumpled look, came to apply for the position. The director wondered how to send him away. They gave him a glass of wine to taste. The old Chief tried it and said, "It's a Muscat three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers. Low grade but acceptable."

"That's correct," said the boss. "Another glass, please." "It's a cabernet, eight years old, south-western slope, oak barrels, matured at eight degrees. Requires three more years for finest results."

"Absolutely correct. A third glass." "It's a pinot blanc champagne, high grade and exclusive," calmly said the drunk. The director was astonished and winked at his secretary to suggest something. She left the room and came back in with a glass of urine.

The old Navy Chief tried it.

"It's a blonde, 26 years old, three months pregnant, and if I don't get the job, I'll name the father."



The latest edition of American Submariner is now available on line, just log into

www.USSVI.org

and go to **USSVI Magazine**

on the left column, then click

Current Issue



COASTAL CAROLINA BASE

COASTAL CAROLINA BASE

Base Commander

Terry Kuhn ccbussvi@gmail.com

Vice Commander

Charles Backes backestc@charter.net

Secretary

Bill Underwood bunder343@aol.com

Chaplain

Bill "Butterbean" Dixon goldbow@att.net

Treasurer

Barry Turano b.turano1@charter.net

4901 Merlot Court, Wilmington, NC 28409

Please make checks payable to:

Coastal Carolina Base, USSVI

For information on the next base meeting or past meeting minutes, click on these buttons:

[Coastal Carolina Base Web Page](#)

[Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes](#)

ALBEMARLE SOUND BASE

ALBEMARLE SOUND BASE

Base Commander

Barry Danforth jbdanforth@roadrunner.com

Chaplain

Darrell McKinley Jr. darrellmckinley@gmail.com

Secretary / Treasurer

Ron Pervere ron@pervere.net

101 Clay Court, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Please make checks payable to:

USSVI Albemarle Sound Base

[Albemarle Sound Base Web Page](#)

USS ASHEVILLE BASE

USS ASHEVILLE BASE

Base Commander

Eugene C. Ipox ecipox@charter.net

Vice Commander

Art Barker a45barker@gmail.com

Secretary

R.T. Moore rtm48@bellsouth.net

Chaplain

Tim Kast tkast@mindspring.com

Treasurer

Joe Schmidt joe.schmidt@arvatusa.com

1 Hampton Drive, Weaverville, NC 28787

Please make checks payable to:

USSVI-USS Asheville Base

[USS Asheville Base Web Page](#)

[USS Asheville Base Meeting Minutes](#)

CAROLINA-PIEDMONT BASE AND SED1 DISTRICT COMMANDER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Shipmates,

This is my last newsletter article as your NC Subvets State Commander. I have been honored and very fortunate to have had this position for almost the last three years. Unfortunately for me, I feel as if I did not complete all of my goals. However, I think this organization is moving forward. I will turn the position over to Jim Myers, Nat Greene Base Commander, at the end of the year. I ask all of you to give him your full support during his term. I thank all of you for your support during my time as State Commander.

I am sure all of you have heard this, and sure it does not apply to all. But it is that time of year for those who owe dues, whether it is National, Base, or both, to send it in to your base. We really do not want to lose any of you. The sooner you send them in, the easier it is for those that have to deal with the administrative matters associated with dues.

This newsletter will be out a little earlier than normal. The reason is the information enclosed for the annual Pearl Harbor Banquet being hosted by the Nat Greene Base this year. I encourage each of you to consider attending.

We still have a couple of parades left this year. The next one is in Lexington (a new one for us) on 10 November. This is followed the next day by the annual parade on Veterans Day in Asheboro. Parades around Veterans Day just seem to be appropriate. Come out and join us for a parade.

I encourage each of you to try to recruit one new member during the next year. It matter not if they become a member of one of our bases (even though that would be nice). We are all responsible for obtaining new members for our organization. I know most of us know a submariner somewhere that is not a member of USSVI. The more members we have, the better all of us are. Yes, it increases revenues, but more importantly, it gives us more manpower to accomplish the goals of each base. So please try to get at least one, but more will be gladly accepted.

I hope to see many of you in Kings Bay this year. This is one of those events that really fulfills our creed in many aspects. It's always nice to see old shipmates, meet some new ones, and have some good food as well.

Again, I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Commander for the last three years. To me, it does not seem that it has been that long, but I have enjoyed it. However, that does not mean you have gotten rid of me. I know most of you know, but at the convention, I relieved Dick Kanning as the District Commander. So I will still be around.

The 2013 Awards Manual is now posted on the USSVI Website.

[USSVI Awards Manual](#)

I recommend that it be reviewed (very little changes) and that you submit members of your base and/or your base for awards that are deserved. It is difficult to receive an award if there is no submission. I am sure there are people and bases out there that are deserving of some awards. Our district has done well in the past with awards and it would be nice for that to continue.



Steve Bell
USSVI Carolina-Piedmont
Base Commander,
and
USSVI SED1 Commander

CAROLINA-PIEDMONT BASE

Base Commander

Steve Bell usnret82@carolina.rr.com

Vice Commander

Jack Jeffries jckjeffries@interlink-cafe.com

Secretary

Mike Hubbell mleohub@aol.com

Chaplain

Ray Fritz raysabode@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Lee Hickerson ssnret@carolina.rr.com
8410 Clear Meadow Lane, Charlotte, NC 28227
Please make checks payable to:

Carolina-Piedmont Base, USSVI

STEVE BELL'S COMMANDER'S CORNER (Cont.)

Speaking of Dick, I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for being our District Commander for some seven plus years. He did a fine job for us all. And that does not mean we will not see or hear from him anymore as he is now our Regional Director. Congratulations to Dick for moving up to that position. One of the things that keeps this fine organization moving, whether it is base, the state, district, region, or national, is the folks that are willing to step up and take on the jobs. We can always use those kinds of people.

The various holidays are just around the corner. I would ask that each of you be cautious if you travel during any of the holidays as we need each of you as members of our wonderful organization.

May God bless you and may God bless America.

For information on the next base meeting or past meeting minutes, click on these buttons:

[Carolina-Piedmont Base Web Page](#)

[Carolina-Piedmont Base Meeting Minutes](#)

Steve



HUMOROUS SUBMARINE BOOK

I am writing a Submarine Sea Story book that has been an on-going project for the past few years, for and about boat sailors. Progress has been slow, but at the present time there is about 1/4 of the material submitted and collated for publication from U.S. Submariners across the country. It would be nice to have some of my North Carolina Sub Vet members' humorous stories in-port or underway, in order to fill-out the remainder of the book. I will use your name and boat only upon request, and a large portion of the profits of this private venture will be donated back to USSVI. Please pass the word ...

Please include in the subject line, "Submarine Book", in case it goes to Junk Mail so I can catch it before it gets deleted. Thank you!

Jim Schenk submareener@msn.com



DOLPHIN SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that we now have an official one-stop website up and running for Scholar Applicants to apply for five scholarships available to the dependents of Submariners.

At www.subforcesscholarships.org, the website is designed to ensure that any applicant will be automatically screened for any possible scholarship for which they might qualify. Though DSF is providing the pre-screening, nothing as far the scholar selection process for any scholarship has changed. All documentation will be forwarded to each respective selection committee, and DSF will facilitate any further questions or clarification required.

This is a great step to make applying for the available aid more simple for our dependents. Any feedback is welcome as far as how to potentially change or improve the process. Many thanks to everyone for their support in this endeavor. Please direct any questions to (me - contact info below)

Amy-Beth Johnson
Executive Director
Dolphin Scholarship Foundation
Office: 757-671-3200 x114
Cell: 816-803-7341

4966 Euclid Road, Suite 109
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

ExecDirector@dolphinscholarship.org

PARADES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

2013 EVENT SCHEDULE		
DATE	DAY	DESCRIPTION
March 16 th	Saturday	St. Patrick's Day Parade in Charlotte
March 17 th	Sunday	St. Patrick's Day Parade in Kill Devil Hills (Nag Head)
April 7 th – April 11 th	Many	Subvets Southeast Regional Convention
April 13 th	Saturday	Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington
May 27 th	Monday	Memorial Day Parade in Thomasville
June 29 th	Saturday	Independence Celebration Parade in Troutman
July 4 th	Thursday	Fourth of July Parade in Faith
August 22 rd	Thursday	Old Soldiers Parade in Newton
Oct 30 th – Nov 2 nd	Many	Kings Bay WWII Subvets Memorial Service
November 11 th	Monday	Veterans Day Parade in Asheboro

Information updated when available on our website at <http://ncsubvets.org/>

NC Subvets Website

Person County Homes Picnic – By Mike Runkle, Nat Greene Base Kaps-4-Kids Coordinator

Held on Saturday, October 13th, it was a picnic of picnics with almost 60 kids having a ball with hay rides and bouncing air slides and lots of good food. The Person County Homes for children and adults with disabilities had a picnic for the residents and staff.

We were invited to share in the festivities as part of the Nat Greene Base's ongoing Kaps-4-Kids initiative.

The kids loved sounding the klaxons and seeing the photos and models of the submarines and getting their ball caps hats and Honorary Submariner Certificates. Nat Green Base members Jim Schenk and Joe Clark provided submarine photos two Klaxons and models of subs for the kids to see, my thanks for their help.



Also thanks to David Forsyth the director and staff Vicky Smith, Melissa Sheets, Benits Purcell, and Barbra Martin for their help. We were told by the director that the kids liked our display and wanted us to come back next year.

Veterans Day Flag Raising in Apex – By Dick Vopelak

What an impressive ceremony that was. When we signed in we listed our branch and time in service. Then we were individually called and received a round of applause. That was followed by the school band doing all of the services songs. Next they invited any pupil who had a parent serving in the military to come forward. I couldn't believe the number who did. The only explanation I can think of is the proximity to Fort Bragg. Then they asked anyone in attendance who had a father or mother who served to come forward. It seemed to me about half the faculty came forward. Lastly they pointed out how the students selling a patriotic trinket for thirty cents raised over \$600 for two veterans organizations. That's I lot of trinkets sold.

I left with the impression that if all our middle schools were like Apex we wouldn't have to be concerned about the future of our country.



Tarheel Base members (left to right), Dick Vopelak, Bill Lowe, Bill Whelan, and Jim Davis

Read and see more: [Apex Herald Article](#)

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Chaplain Jim Schenk
USSVI Nathanael Greene Base

Hearty greetings shipmates, from under the glorious blue skies of Carolina. The chilly air early each morning, as my fourteen-year-old Black Lab, Missy, let's me accompany her on her first walk of the day, works to remind me of things to come. Spring is my most treasured time of every year. It is the world waking up to a new season. The trees bud out and greenery begins again, after a long hiatus over the months of scolding winter, and all things are renewed. I forecast that our world will come to a new revival of God's Word especially when we are in most need of working together and becoming better people in His blessed name. You may say, "What is there to look forward to in a world so corrupt and back-sliding?" I say look to your Bible! My favorite acronym for the most popular book in all of worldly history translates as "Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth." There is more wisdom and pure path-of-life meaning in that book and most of it is written by authors who had a personal physical connection with our Lord.

Last autumn, having once been an avid camper, I once again yearned to sit by a campfire, even if it had to be in my own backyard. I pondered the possibilities and formulated a plan to build a fire-pit for getting rid of all the dead branches and blow-downs in my woods nearby, and being able to enjoy sitting by the fire while a soft glow warmed the evening hours. I harked back to great times singing and playing guitar with friends around reminisced campfires of yore. I decided that all I would need was a one foot cutoff of a pipe with a diameter of two feet, or so. I investigated the ways that I could make this happen and finally became enlightened by a friend at Church that said I should try a certain business that supplied culvert pipe to the road construction trade here in town. I stopped at the office and the office woman sent me to the yard to talk with the foreman. Perhaps I might find what I needed out there. The foreman and I traipsed through the yard into different areas of scrap and found nothing right away. As I was about to thank him for his time, he offered to look in one last place. We strolled to one of the dumpsters for culvert cut-offs, and coming within sight of its contents, I immediately espied the very piece that my mind's eye had perceived for this project. After it was loaded into my van, I thanked him for his help, and told him that he would make many people happier for his assistance. He also said there was no charge, what a blessing! It was a galvanized heavy-gauge steel corrugated piece of culvert about 2-1/2 feet long with a two foot diameter, perfect. I brought it home, and in the course of the next couple of days, dug a hole to insert it into. It was hard digging in this clay-based soil here, but I persevered and today I have a great area for personal and friendly communing with nature amongst friends and family. My neighbor, Paul, loaned me his electric chain saw and now I was in business. Presently there are enough stumps to sit on for a dozen or more people. Since the successful installation, honest physical exercise has begat many hours of relaxation in the simple act of sitting by the campfire. Come on over and enjoy it with me sometime, your invitation is open.

Watching the fire work its way around and through the limb wood is anathema for this crazy world and soothing the pains of Satan's daily whippings. It is the best place that I have for prayer and talking with Jesus. His Word is the same now as it was when he came to Earth and his promise is ever held out to each and every one of us. We have not, because we ask not. Be specific and earnest in your prayer and supplication to the Lord. If you don't then you had better have good Fire Insurance. God doesn't expect us to make promises we cannot keep, but He does expect us to have faith that He has made promises only He can keep."

I close with this prayer for all those who serve, as well as our veterans and retirees:

In the precious name of Jesus, we praise the Lord above for all that He has given us and all that is to come. As we approach the ever-apparent end times, we ask that you spread an extra cloak of protection to all of our Armed Forces, at home and abroad, as they protect and defend our enjoyed freedoms and our country's Constitution. The perilous times we are now in are brought upon us, as they ever were, by politicians; and it is the common man and woman, not the Legislative, Judicial or Executive branches that are providing their precious sons and daughters forward deployed and actively doing their duty in harm's perilous path. We offer our prayers that our country's leaders are to become wiser than they have shown recently, and that all decisions are guided by You, Lord. As our Submarine Force becomes ever stronger and technologically superior, let us rise above our foes and ask you dear Lord, to go forward with us to victory. Christians must be seen in 2013. In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we pray, AMEN.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

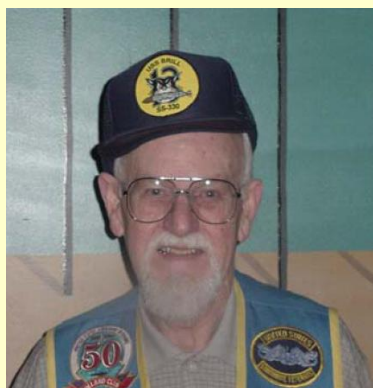
Perry Blake	Joseph Goarck	Jim Kinney	R.T. Moore	Kenny Stephens
Charles Boynton	Larry Gordon	James Mayo, Jr.	Roy Riley	Louis Stiles
George Cipra	Dick Gudis	John McKinley	Richard Ruff	Bill Whelan
John Cunningham	Fred Gunter	Gary Mitchell	Norman Skiles	Bill Widell
Don Eggleston	Frank Jones	Ray Moore	Ed Stank	Richard Wright
Delbert Ennis				

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

William Abbruzzese	Jim Davis	Gene Ipox	Jerry "Patch" Paciorek	Dick Vopelak
Hal Bazzle	James Dunn	Jack Jeffries	Hal Rutter	Jim Wallace
Carl Borup	Lee Eubanks	Dick Kanning	Milton Stark	Bob Werner
Harper Brame	Jim Harris	Jerry Leppart	Jim Taylor	William Wood
Jean-Loup Combemale	Bill Hengeveld, III	Dean McNeely	David Thommarson	

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Earl Buffaloe	Bob Govern	John Markiewicz	Arthur Rawson, Jr.	Russell Toy
Howard Dachs	Robert Green	Darrell McKinley, Jr.	George Roderick	George Treusch
Roy Duke, Jr.	William Hickerson	Jim Myers, III	Toy Russell	Sylvan Walliser, III
Dan Eddinger, II	Robert Howell	Ronald Pervere	Gene Rutter	Donald Wells
Kenneth Farrell	Boyce Kline	Rick Petitt	Joseph Sendek	Edward Wilson
Donald Godfrey, Sr	William Lewis, Jr.			



Chaplain Bill Whelan recently celebrated a birthday ...
Take a look at his birthday cake

Come on Bill, you can smile BIGGER than that!



CRIBBAGE TRIVIA FOR SUBMARINERS

Shared by National Chaplain Ray Fritz

Cribbage has been popular with mariners for hundreds of years, enjoying especially widespread play in the Navy during World War II. It was thought of as the unofficial game of submariners, who played round the clock as they patrolled for Japanese ships.

The most famous incident related to cribbage in the Navy occurred in 1943 aboard one of the war's most celebrated submarines, the USS Wahoo. For the Wahoo's fourth war patrol, it was ordered to head to the extreme northern reaches of the Yellow Sea, an area where no sub had gone before. The waters near the Dairen Peninsula were shallow, and crewmembers grew nervous as they glided into dangerous territory. To take their minds off the tension, the sub's commander, Dudley "Mush" Morton and his executive officer, Richard "Dick" O'Kane, began a game of cribbage. Morton dealt O'Kane a "Perfect 29" hand - four fives and a

CRIBBAGE TRIVIA FOR SUBMARINERS (cont.)

jack - the highest possible score for combinations in a single cribbage deal. Back-of-the-envelope calculations were done, and 216,000 to 1 were the odds thrown out as to the chances of that happening. The crew's spirits were bolstered by what they felt was a very lucky omen. O'Kane had his fellow officers sign the five cards and he framed them.

Rear Admiral Richard Hetherington "Dick" O'Kane. O'Kane has the distinction of directly participating in more successful attacks on Japanese shipping than any other fighting submarine officer during the war.

Good fortune did prevail on the patrol - at its end the Wahoo had set a record for the number of ships sunk. It continued for O'Kane too. When he was detached from the Wahoo and given command of the Tang, that sub broke the former's record for most ships sunk in a single patrol. And while he was captured by the Japanese when the Tang was sunk by an errant torpedo that circled back and hit it, O'Kane survived the war, and was awarded the Medal of Honor for his "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity" during his submarine's final operations.



O'Kane's lucky cribbage board has become an important submariner tradition; since WWII it has been passed along to the oldest active submarine in the United States Pacific Fleet. Once the sub is decommissioned, it is given to the next oldest submarine, where it is placed in the wardroom.

The famous crib board currently resides aboard the USS Bremerton SSN698, which launched in 1978.

ISA-USA INFORMATION / MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

We have received a request and invitation from the President of ISA-USA. If you might be interested please contact one of the two email addresses below. Lifetime dues for membership to ISA-USA is only \$50.

From: Ken Earls - ISA-USA <isa_usa500@msn.com>

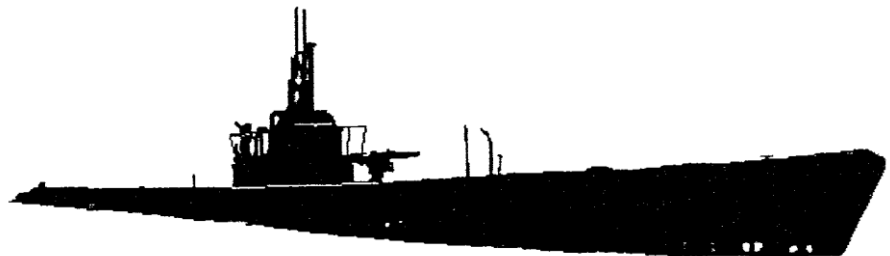
As you know, the ISA convention this year will be in Catania, Italy. Mr. Alexander Kuzmin will attend that convention. He is a retired Soviet submarine Captain 1st Rank, which is the equivalent to a U. S. Navy Captain.

Captain Kuzmin was aboard a Soviet fast attack when it apparently clipped the USS Nathanael Greene, SSBN 636 as the Greene was exiting Holy Loch, Scotland. According to scuttlebutt, this occurred in 1973 or thereabouts.

Captain Kuzmin will be in Catania and wants to meet Nathanael Greene crew members who were aboard for that incident.

There is a Nathanael Greene Association in North or South Carolina and we should probe them to see if we can generate any interest in joining our organization and/or traveling to Catania to meet Capt. Kuzmin.

Ken Earls
President, ISA-USA
928-772-0275 Home office
928-308-4488 Cell
isa_usa500@msn.com
www.isausa.org



USSVI NEWS

USSVI News articles are sent to your base's Point of Contact (POC) for email distribution and are available on the USSVI website using this buttons:

SubVet News

Flash Traffic

Veteran News

Charitable Fund

Some of the more interesting USSVI News articles are included below:

OFFICERS-01: 50th Anniversary of DEFCON 2: The Cuba Missile Crisis
Submitted by: Office on 10/18/2012

Base Commanders, the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis was the closest the world ever came to nuclear war. The United States armed forces were at their highest state of readiness ever and Soviet field commanders in Cuba were prepared to use battlefield nuclear weapons to defend the island if it was invaded.

On October 22, President Kennedy announced the discovery of the missile installations to the public and his decision to quarantine the island. He also proclaimed that any nuclear missile launched from Cuba would be regarded as an attack on the United States by the Soviet Union and demanded that the Soviets remove all of their offensive weapons from Cuba.

It would be an interesting historical discussion for your base meeting to have members discuss where they were and what they were doing during this very dangerous period during the cold war.

NEWS-01: Navy says submarine, Aegis cruiser collide
Submitted by: Office on 10/14/2012

The U.S. Fleet Forces Command said in a news release that the submarine USS Montpelier and the Aegis cruiser USS San Jacinto collided at about 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, 10/13/2012, during routine operations. No one was injured, and the extent of any damage to the vessels was not clear Saturday evening, said Lt. Commander Brian Badura of the Fleet Forces Command.

Go to link for the story ... <http://xfinity.comcast.net/articles/news-general/20121014/US.Navy.Sub.Collision/>

NEWS-01: U.S. Submarine Brass Touts Boomer Replacement Plans
Submitted by: Office on 10/20/2012

U.S. Navy submarine fleet admirals are continuing the clarion call for the proposed replacement of aging Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines (SSBN), touting the intended vessel advancements and emphasizing the need for the ships to meet the nation's strategic nuclear plans.

Go to http://www.aviationweek.com/Article.aspx?id=%2Farticle-xml%2Fasd_10_19_2012_p03-01-508445.xml

NEWS-02: Large Displacement Unmanned Underwater Vehicle Steaming Ahead
Submitted by: Office on 10/20/2012

The U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Research plans to take robot submarines to a new level. Current Navy unmanned underwater systems (UUS) are small vehicles controlled by an operator nearby, for missions lasting a few hours. The Large Displacement Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (LDUUV) will be large and highly autonomous, carrying out missions at long distances for months. It will act as a mothership, deploying and operating static and mobile sensors for persistent surveillance in coastal waters. Ultimately, it is likely to be armed.

Go to http://www.aviationweek.com/Article.aspx?id=/article-xml/DT_04_01_2012_p28-438621.xml

USSVI NEWS (cont.)

NEWS-01: Joe Lieberman to be named 'honorary submariner'
Submitted by: Office on 10/24/2012

GROTON, Conn. (AP) — U.S. Navy officials are recognizing U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman's support by naming him an "honorary submariner."

Officers including Rear Adm. Richard Breckenridge, commander of Submarine Group Two, are planning to make the presentation Wednesday in Groton when Lieberman visits the Naval Submarine Base and tours the newest submarine in the fleet, the USS Mississippi.

Officials at the base say they wanted to honor Lieberman's support of the submarine force, sailors and military families in southeastern Connecticut.

Lieberman, an independent, has been a U.S. senator since 1989 and is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. He is retiring at the end of this session rather than seeking re-election.

NEWS-01: New Era Of Sub Training Ahead With Opening Of Groton Facility
Submitted by: Office on 11/29/2012

Groton - From his post at the top of the submarine's sail, Lt. Andrew Pyle looked out Wednesday at the buoys that mark the entrance to New London Harbor. He saw New London Ledge Light to his right.

Sailboats darted in front of the submarine, and Pyle had to react. It began to snow, and the sea grew rougher.

But Pyle was not in a submarine returning to the Naval Submarine Base. He was in a building at the Naval Submarine School.

Go to the link for the story ... <http://www.theday.com/article/20121129/NWS09/311299572/-1/NWS>

NEWS-02: BZ to West Tennessee Base!
Submitted by: Office on 11/29/2012

Six members of the 74 member West Tennessee Base each contributed \$ 125.00 towards the Washington DC Memorial Plaque Project, bringing the total donations to \$ 8,071.00 to date!

BZ and thanks to Bob Medearis, Jerry Beckley, Johnny Pederson, Bill Buckingham, John Backus and Douglas Nunnery for their thoughtful gift to help us recognize and honor all American Submariners, living and on Eternal Patrol, at the "Quarterdeck of the Navy."

NEWS-03: Clamagore Base Established in USSVI
Submitted by: Office on 12/1/2012

Congratulations to Bob Dewar, Base Commander of the newly established USSVI Clamagore Base.

Administratively, this new base is assigned to the SE Region (Dick Kanning, Reg Dir) and SE Dist 4 (William "Doc" Sweaney, Dist Cdr.)

All 130 past crewmen of USS Clamagore (SS-343)in USSVI are invited to make Clamagore Base their own, in addition to whatever other base they currently belong to. Base dues at this time is a very affordable \$ 0.00 per year.

Contact Bob Dewar at ftss@cfl.rr.com to join our new base.

USSVI NEWS (cont.)

NEWS-01: The first female unrestricted line officers to qualify in submarines
Submitted by: Office on 12/6/2012

Lt. j.g. Marquette Leveque, a native of Fort Collins, Colo., assigned to the Gold Crew of Wyoming, and Lt. j.g. Amber Cowan and Lt. j.g. Jennifer Noonan of Maine's Blue Crew received their submarine "dolphins" during separate ceremonies at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga., and Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Wash.

Go to link below for the story. http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=70940

NEWS-01: Sub with new design nears completion in Groton
Submitted by: Office on 12/8/2012

The first in a series of Navy attack submarines with a newly redesigned bow is nearing completion at Groton's Electric Boat, which says it is on track to beat production deadlines with the boat that will become the USS North Dakota.

Go to the link for the story ...

<http://www.boston.com/news/local/connecticut/2012/12/07/sub-with-new-design-nears-completion-groton/sC8ekRJBiknTx2sugEfUrK/story.html>

NEWS-01: 45th USS Scorpion Memorial
Submitted by: Mary Etta Nolan on 1/9/2013

The 45th year USS Scorpion Memorial will be held in Norfolk, Memorial Day weekend, 1000 Saturday 25 May 2013. Mary Etta Nolan, the COB's Daughter is running the affair.

Contact her for newsletter:

Mary Etta Nolan
487 Sandhill Road
Greenfield Center, NY 12833

or

MaryEttaNolan@msn.com

NEWS-01: Secret Nuclear Redesign Will Keep U.S. Subs Running Silently for 50 Years
Submitted by: Office on 1/18/2013

The U.S. Navy is betting the future of its submarine force on a secret and revolutionary nuclear drive system that aspires to be more efficient and quieter than anything under the water today.

The heart of the planned ballistic missile Ohio Replacement (OR) program will be built around a drive that will not need to be refueled for the 50-year life of the boats and cuts out potentially noisy direct mechanical connection to the drive train.

For the story, go to <http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2013/01/secret-sub-design/>

NEWS-02: US Submarine Veterans of WWII
Submitted by: Office on 1/21/2013

Al Konetzni, VADM Ret, delivered the Decommissioning speech for the SVWWII Organization when it closed at the Norfolk VA USSVI-SVWWII convention in 2012.

That speech is linked below.

https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Online_Organization_DECOMMWWIISV.PDF

USSVI NEWS (cont.)

NEWS-01: How a Member logs into the USSVI website

Submitted by: Office on 1/30/2013

A short video, linked below, explains how a USSVI member can log-in to the www.ussvi.org website so that member contact information in the online directory can be viewed.

In addition, the current or back issue AMERICAN SUBMARINER magazines can be read online when logged in.

<http://youtu.be/baZ7YdZmhcE>

There are a number of other helpful "How To" videos available for your viewing under the [VIDEO] Button at www.ussvi.org.

Just click the [WEBSITE HOW TO] button and whatever is of interest to you.

They include the USSVI Online Museum, how to find and contact any of our bases, how to find shipmates, where the memorials are located, searching the Eternal Patrol records, & finding Sub School records

NEWS-02: Your USSVI Record and next of kin

Submitted by: Office on 1/31/2013

Please give this message the widest distribution possible to your base members.

Shipmates, in our USSVI member record there is a place to enter our next of kin and how to contact them. It is an unfortunate reality that if and when we are called to eternal patrol, it is too late to provide that contact information and it becomes very difficult for the National or Base Chaplain to offer any comfort or support because they do not know who to contact.

We have had several shipmates pass over the bar this last week, and had no next of kin information recorded in their record.

If you have current next of kin already entered into your record, thank you and read no more.

If not, however, please help us and get your current next of kin information added to your record along with at least a telephone number so that we can offer support when that time comes along.

You can do this by updating your own record at www.ussvi.org, by notifying your Base Commander or membership person and ask him to have it added, or by sending it to the national office (ussvi@telebyte.net) with a similar request to add.

Thanks for helping us to ultimately help your next of kin.

NEWS-01: USS Golet Lost Boat Memorial Re-dedication

Submitted by: Office on 2/4/2013

After years of hard work trying to get the USS Golet lost boat memorial re-established in a place on honor in Louisiana, Dennis Gilbert and others of Redfish Base will rededicate this memorial and torpedo on March 9, 2013. NSVC Carl Schmidt will be in attendance to represent all the officers of USSVI.

BZ, Dennis Gilbert!

You are invited to join them for the Submariner Memorial Dedication on Saturday March 9, 2013 at the Jefferson Parish Veterans Memorial Square in Metairie, LA at 11 AM.

The video linked below tells the story ... <http://jeffersonparishla.swagit.com/play/01302013-639/#1>

THE SUB NET

Items on the Internet of Interest to Submariners – Just click the buttons below

WWII Sub Veterans on Final Dive	US Navy Sub Forces 2012 Year in Review	Kaps-4-Kids Video
Groton Submarine Base Security	New Hunley Evidence	Checking in on North Dakota (SSN 784)
Building a British Astute Class Submarine	CO, XO and Senior Enlisted Firings	Chinese Sub Story
Another Submarine Collision	Call for USS Scorpion Investigation	Submarine Quiz



The links below are to a two part series on
WWII Submarine Veteran and Tarheel Base member
Bill Edwards
as published by the Fuquay-Varina Independent

[Part 1: It Pays to Stay Calm on a Submarine](#)

[Part 2: Edwards Always Knew How to Keep His Cool](#)

USSVI CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

This foundation is the charitable arm of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. and was formed to further the creed of USSVI by assuming the responsibility of some of our USSVI activities which are charitable in nature.

The USSV Charitable Foundation (USSVCF) is administered by a Board of Directors made up of non-paid elected and appointed members. Expenses incurred by the Charitable Foundation are minimal and consist of expenses such as postage, certificates, website fees, stationary supplies, and informative brochures.

For more information, visit the USSVI Charitable Foundation webpage:

[Charitable Foundation](#)

CHARITABLE-01: Kaps4Kids on Tacoma TV
Submitted by: Office on 10/18/2012

Western Region Director John Mansfield is interviewed to explain the program. http://youtu.be/JJI_QI-jXn8

USSVI CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (C&B) SCHOOL OF THE BOAT

FLASH-01: Newly Revised Constitution and Bylaws are now posted online
Submitted by: Tom Conlon on 9/26/2012

The newly revised C&B are on the USSVI website. They include changes made by the PA's in the latest (2012) election cycle. The changes to the documents are highlighted in red."

The current version of the USSVI Constitution and Bylaws can be found by navigating the USSVI website as follows:

1. Go to the USSVI Home Page (<http://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>)
2. Click on the **Documents** button located on the left hand side
3. Click on the **Organization** button located on the left hand side
4. Select the 2012_USSVI_Constitution_Revised_September_9_2012.pdf link to view the constitution
5. Select the 2012_USSVI_Bylaws_Revised_September_9_2012.pdf link to view the bylaws

[USSVI Constitution](#)

[USSVI Bylaws](#)

USSVI 2013 NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 25 - September 2, 2013
Rochester, Minnesota

[2013 Convention Website](#)

The convention will be held at the Kahler Grand Hotel, which is located a stone's throw away from the World Famous Mayo Clinic. The Boat Reunions are currently scheduled to be at the Kahler Inn and Suite Hotel. The Rochester Marriot, Kahler Inn, and Suite Hotel are set up as alternate berthing for riders and hot rackers.

ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

Donald Hurst Wilson, III

March 1, 1946 - December 17, 2012

[Don's Obituary](#)

Don was a member of the Tarheel Base of USSVI, qualified on USS GATO (SSN-615) in 1971 and was a LT when he left the Navy. His widow, Constance N. Wilson, of 1112 Baslow Brook Court, Raleigh, NC 27614-8866, can be reached by phone at (919) 848-1111 or by e-mail at donwilson3rd@msn.com.

He had been fighting Merkel Cell Carcinoma (a rare neuroendocrine cancer) for 6 years and did not want anybody to know of his condition.

Eight Tarheel Base Subvets helped tend lines at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Raleigh as LT Don Wilson sailed on his Eternal Patrol. The eight rendered honors before sitting together at the Requiem, formed up and preceded the casket as it exited the church, and presented Don's widow Constance with the Tarheel Base's traditional Book of Memories.

The attending Subvets were Duane Gow, Bob Govern, Gerry Leppart, Bill Lowe, Gene Rutter, Ed Valentine, Dick Vopelak, and Chaplain Bill Whelan.

Don's oar is at rest.



ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES (cont.)



Billy F. Williams

January 31, 1925 – December 21, 2012

Please remember World War II Subvet Billy Williams in your prayers. He had moved to the local Hospice House shortly before departing on Eternal Patrol.

Billy attended the recent joint convention of submariners in Norfolk and became increasingly ill (suffering from cancer) shortly following his return. He was an active member of the Tarheel Chapter of U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II from 1993 until the chapter gave up its charter, and was also a member of the Tarheel Base of U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Billy saw service during World War II aboard USS SEA POACHER (SS-406) and USS SEA FOX (SS-402) as a radioman.

Four Tarheel Base members were part a well-attended tribute to Billy Williams on 27 December 2012 at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church in Crisp, NC. Bill "Butterbean" Dixon, Bob Govern, Everett (and Margaret) Morgan, and Chaplain Bill Whelan. Chaplain Dixon (of the Coastal Carolina Base) presented a Tarheel Base Book of Remembrance to Billy's widow Sylvia. Chaplain Bill Whelan presented the traditional WWII Submarine Service bronze marker to Sylvia.

Conspicuous as part of a display on a table at the front of the church sanctuary was a framed picture of Billy with Tarheel Base member Randy Denson of Rocky Mount.

According to Billy's wishes, his body was donated to science at East Carolina University's School of Medicine and he was memorialized Thursday, 27 December 2012, at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church, 680 Edgewood Church Rd., Crisp (Macclesfield), NC.

His wife Sylvia can be reached by phone at (252) 827-5937. Her mailing address is P.O. Box 586, Pinetops, NC 27864.

Billy's oar is at rest.



John Matthis, as he shared his sea stories with the Tarheel Base

John Rice Britt Matthis

February 2, 1920 - February 8, 2013

[John's Obituary](#)

In addition to serving during World War II on HADDOCK, John served as a quartermaster aboard NARWHAL, PICKEREL, DRUM, and RUNNER.

John's life will be celebrated at First Baptist Church, 99 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh on Saturday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m. The family will receive friends after the service in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Please attend if you are able and wear your vest.

John's oar is at rest.



2013 BURNSVILLE MEMORIAL SERVICE

We invite you all to come to the Burnsville 2013 event on 17th and 18th of May. The 17th is mostly just a day of getting together and enjoying the evening together. There will be plenty of snacks and drinks available at no additional cost to you and some Karaoke to top off the evening. The 18th will be an NC Subvets meeting, followed by lunch wherever you care to go. Many of us go to the Western Sizzlin a couple miles down the road from the hotels. It is also on the way to the memorial. We will have our Memorial Service at 1400. Most of you know where that is, but if this is a first time for you, you can ride with someone or just follow, your choice. The evening is a dinner put on by the main hotel (Skyline Village Inn) followed by Karaoke for your evening entertainment. Our reports back from various attendees said the entire weekend was well worth it. So make your plans early to come join us that weekend. The registration form on the follow page of this newsletter.

The room prices vary somewhat. Single rooms with balcony are \$85 a night, without balcony are \$69. Double rooms are \$99 with balcony and \$85 without balcony. Of course this cost is without tax. Verify your cost when you make your room reservation. This cost will apply to both hotels. Make your reservations at 704-517-6374 (Skyline Village Inn). If this hotel cannot accommodate you, he will take care of your reservations at the overflow hotel and let you know. Please make your reservations prior to 4 May 2012. We have a cutoff date of 3 May so we can all plan accordingly.

Fill out the registration sheet and send it to: Steve Bell, 138 Burton Hills Circle, Gastonia, NC 28054. Make your check payable to Carolina Piedmont Base – USSVI.

Come on out and enjoy the weekend with us. I doubt you will regret it. If you are just coming up for the service, we welcome you too. We look forward to seeing you in the mountains in May.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 17

1500-1800	Registration at Skyline Village Inn (just let Bell know you are there)
1600-??	Hospitality Room Open
	Evening Meal will be on your own

SATURDAY MAY 18

1000	NC Subvets Meeting (Swearing in of Carolina-Piedmont Base Officers)
1130 (approx)	Lunch at Western Sizzlin (on your own)(for those that want to eat there)
1400	Memorial Service on Moonshine Mountain
1800	Catered meal @ Skyline Village Inn (downstairs)
1900 (approx)	Karaoke for the evening (upstairs)

- We will caravan (or try to) to Moonshine Mountain from Western Sizzlin after lunch.
- Hospitality Room will be open during the day Saturday. After the service, there may be a showing of the latest Bilge Rat Productions Show.
- Evening meal is a buffet style meal prepared at the hotel.



2013 NC SUBVETS BURNSVILLE MEMORIAL SERVICE

17-18 May 2013

Pre-Registration Form – Cutoff Date 3 May 2013

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Base _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Emergency Contact/Telephone: _____

		<u>NO.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Registration/Catered Meal, Saturday May 18	Per Person	\$25 X ____	= ____



TEAR OFF THIS SECTION AS A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

Please make checks payable to: **CAROLINA PIEDMONT BASE – USSVI**

Mail check to: Steve Bell, 138 Burton Hills Circle, Gastonia, NC 28054

		<u>NO.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Registration/Catered Meal, Saturday May 18	Per Person	\$25 X ____	= ____

Host Hotel: Skyline Village Inn, 12255 NC Hwy 226A (milepost marker 331 on the Blue Ridge Parkway), between Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine, NC.

Phone: 1-828-765-9394 or 704-517-6374 (preferable)

Directions to Hotel: I-40, Exit 86 (Route 226). Take this bending, curving road all the way to Little Switzerland. When you see the Blue Ridge Parkway overpass, take a left turn, it is the first building on the right.

Reservations: Reservations at the hotel are the responsibility of the individual (828-765-6276 or 704-517-6374). A special rate of approximately \$85.00 (plus tax) for most rooms (if you are doubling up with someone, there is an extra \$10 charge) is available for U.S. Subvets per night. Double rooms are \$99 and singles are \$69 (plus tax of course). This hotel has only 16 rooms but has made a deal with a hotel (Big Lynn Gap Motel) approximately 2 miles away for overflow at the same rate. Skyline Hotel will arrange for either hotel as appropriate. **DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL RATE IS 3 MAY 2012.** Check out the website at www.skylinevillageinn.com.

2013 U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS SE REGIONAL

SHERATON, NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

APRIL 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 – 2013

RESERVATIONS: (NLT 6 March 2013) 1-843-747-1900

HOTEL ROOMS: \$85.00 (plus tax)

NAME _____ GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

April 7 SUNDAY

Early Registration and Hospitality Room Opens
(Daily Free Libations and delicious Snacks)

APRIL 8 MONDAY

Circle if Attending

11:30 AM - All Hands Lunch @ FRA 269 **Yes No**

2:00 PM - Tour of NNPTU & Weps Station **Yes No**

APRIL 9 TUESDAY

10:30 AM - Men's Meeting / Luncheon **Yes No**

10:30 AM - Ladies' Meeting/ Luncheon **Yes No**

2:00 PM - CSS HL Hunley Submarine Tour **Yes No**

APRIL 10 WEDNESDAY

1:00 PM - WWII / USSVI Cold War Memorial Service **Yes No**

6:00 PM - Cocktails (cash bar) / BANQUET / Dance **Yes No**

APRIL 11 THURSDAY

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Depart Day / Hospitality Room Farewell

Registration Fee (per person) \$25.00 x _____ = _____

All Hands Lunch @ The Fleet (pp) \$15.00 x _____ = _____

Men's/ Ladies Luncheon (pp) \$15.00 x _____ = _____

CSS HL Hunley Sub Tour (pp) \$15.00 x _____ = _____

Banquet Dinner and Dance (pp) \$35.00 x _____ = _____

50/50 Depth Charge Drawing 1@\$1.00, 7@\$5.00, 20@\$10.00 = _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

Please Make Checks Payable To: Thomas S. Beach

Send To: Thom Beach, 1014 Live Oak Ave, Moncks Corner, SC 29461

Problems or Questions? Contact: thombeach@yahoo.com or 1-843-761-7134

LINKS: www.ussvicb.org www.sheratoncharleston.com www.fra269.org