



Piedmont Periscope

The official newsletter of the
Carolina Piedmont Base of the
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



February 2010 – Issue #1

Web Site: www.ussvi.org/base/CarolinaPiedmont.asp



Lost Boats for February

USS SHARK (SS 174)	February 11, 1942
USS AMBERJACK (SS 219)	February 16, 1943
USS GRAYBACK (SS 208)	February 26, 1944
USS TROUT (SS 202)	February 28, 1944
USS BARBEL (SS 316)	February 4, 1945

“Sailors, Rest your oars”

Who's Who & What's Where...

Base Commander –	Steve Bell	usnret82@carolina.rr.com	704 824 3510
1 st Vice Commander -	Mike Hubbell	mleohub@aol.com	803-628-1908
2 nd Vice Commander	Bob Bickford	bobbickford@comporium.net	803-980-0111
Base Secretary	Jack Jeffries	jcckjeffries@interlink-café.com	704 -764-5211
Base Treasurer	Lee Hickerson	ssnret@carolina.rr.com	704-573-9480
Chief of the Base	Howard Dachs	howard@autodax.com	803-631-5051
Base Chaplin	Raymond Fritz	raysabode@bellsouth.net	803 831 7235
Base Storekeeper	Jeff Nieberding	jan7334@comporium.net	803-366-9255
Holland Club Coordinator	Walt Sealy	walt_sealy@yahoo.com	803-327-5661
Newsletter Editor	E. Dale Moses	donutdad@carolina.rr.com	704-248-7610

The Carolina Piedmont Base meets the 4th Saturday of the month, normally at the VFW in FT. Mill, SC

The CO's Stateroom – Steve Bell, Commander

In the back of this newsletter is the registration form and necessary information for the upcoming Burnsville Memorial Service being held 21/22 May. The actual service is May 22. I have 30 rooms set aside for us at \$57.25 plus tax. Have also set up a buffet dinner for Saturday evening (1800) and will be a home cooked meal, catered buffet style. Please get the information out to your people as soon as you can. Cutoff is May 1 so that I can either turn rooms back in and also give a head count for the meal. For those that did not attend last year, we actually had a pretty good time up in the mountains, even if there is not much there. Of course there were a lunch of sea stories being told. Thanks, Steve Bell, Carolina Piedmont Base Commander

----- Get Involved with the Base-----

XO's POD – Mike Hubbell, Sr. Vice-Cmdr –

No report this month.

---- Pride Runs Deep; at Carolina Piedmont Base -----

1st LT's Locker – Bob Bickford, Jr. Vice-Cmdr

No report this month

---- Pride Runs Deep; at Carolina Piedmont Base -----

Comm Center- Jack Jeffries, Base Secretary

Carolina Piedmont Base Minutes - 23 January 2010

1900- Call to order by Commander Steve Bell, Invocation by Walt Sealy, Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem sung by Joel Tuchfeld, Tolling of the Boats given by Walt Sealy, Intro of members present, 32 members present.

- Held a ceremony honoring Bill Holzendorf and Arnold Kirk's induction into the Holland
- Club honoring at least 50 years qualified in Submarines. Ceremony officiated by Walt Sealy
- Reading of both November and December meetings minutes. Both approved and seconded.
- Reading of Treasurers report. Amount on hand-\$3134.04, Burnsville Memorial Fund \$1284.50, KAPS4KIDS-\$347.00, Refreshments-\$105.00. Base Funds available-\$1397.54- Approved and seconded.
- SK report - We have a few 2010 calendars remaining \$8 each.
- *New Business-Passed the hat for funds to donate to Dick Kanning for distribution to the runners up in CSL SOY awards. \$100.00 collected and given to Charley Cross for Dick.
 - Briefly discussed St. Patricks Day parade in Charlotte 13 March. Motion and Seconded to reimburse Glenn Harris \$50.00 registration fee.

- Good of the Order-Commander Steve Bell held an executive committee meeting where we discussed membership renewal. Mike Hubble was appointed to contact 6 members dink on base dues. Lee Hickerson presented a list of current members dues status both National and Base. It is possible we may lose 5 members due to non-payment of National dues.
 - Tickets were sold for a chance to win a Laser cut plaque of the USS NORTH CAROLINA. Drawing to be held at district meeting at Elizabeth City.
 - Discussed upcoming Massing of the Colors to be held in Greenville SC 7 March. Anyone interested contact Howard Dachs. There are 2 more massing of the Colors events scheduled, one in Columbia and one in Rock Hill. Dates to be published later as well as POC's.
 - Steve discussed upcoming District meeting scheduled for 4-6 March at Elizabeth City. Steve also informed us of Regional meeting scheduled for 25-29 April at Panama City, Fl. We also discussed upcoming District meeting at Burnsville scheduled for 21-22 May. Steve announced that the Saturday evening meal will more than likely be catered. Prices will be published later.
 - Briefly covered upcoming meeting 2 Feb with director of Autism unit for participation of base at Lowes Motor Speedway this fall. Plans for KAPS and Honorary Submarine Certificates, as well as, museum boat photos were discussed. More info to given at later date. Members discussed the possible formation of coordinators for Eagle Scout presentations in the area. Feasibility of project to be explored. Next base meeting is scheduled for 27 March
- Feb. Benediction given by Walt Sealy.

2020 Motion to adjourn. Seconded.

----- Get Involved with the Base-----

Keeper of the Coin - Lee Hickerson, Base Treasurer

Thanks to all who kept their dues paid. We still have a few who owe base dues. That's a simple \$10.00. Don't make me hunt you down. All checks should be made out to Carolina Piedmont Base USSVI. Our bank doesn't accept checks made out to me for this account.

The current bank account status is as follows:

Balance	\$3,118.19
Restricted Funds	
Burnsville Memorial	\$1,284.50
Kaps For Kids	\$ 362.00
Refreshments	\$ 105.00
 Available Funds	 \$1,366.69

All deposits have been made and debt is 0.00.
Lee Hickerson

----- Get Involved with the Base-----

Chaplin's Corner- Raymond Fritz, Base Chaplin

I count it a sacred privilege to serve as chaplain of the Carolina Piedmont Base, USSVI. My desire is to be as responsive to the needs of the membership as much as possible. I am a retired pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. As chaplain, I will respect your faith in helping wherever and whenever possible. Only if asked about my faith, I will tell you.

In order to serve you better I need certain information which will be held in confidence. Most of your other personal information is available to me from the Base roster. A simple piece of paper or an e-mail with the following information will be very helpful:

Your Name

Emergency contact person – Name and Phone
Religious affiliation - Example: Protestant, Baptist, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, none, etc.
Name of Pastor, Priest, Rabbi, etc.
Hospital you would normally go to in an emergency

Thank you,
Chaplain Ray
raysabode@bellsouth.net

Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. James 5:14 NIV

----- Get Involved with the Base-----

COB's Words –Howard Dachs, Base COB
No report this month

----- Get Involved with the Base-----

The Supply Shack- Jeff Nieberding
No report this month

----- Freedom, is not Free, Support our Troops-----

Holland Club Happenings - Walt Sealy- Holland Club Coordinator
No report this month

---- Pride Runs Deep; at Carolina Piedmont Base -----

Editor's Cut - Dale Moses

Welcome to the first issue of the Carolina Piedmont Base Newsletter. Not sure if the name “Piedmont Periscope” will stick. The Commander wants to discuss the newsletter name at the next meeting, it’s your newsletter so if you have a better name bring it to the February meeting.

Some of you might ask, “Who is this new guy, and what is he up too?” Well, I really ain’t up to nothing. If I’m a member of a group, I usually get involved in some manner. I started out as a member of the Topeka-Jefferson City Base. I served as Secretary and Honor Team Commander before moving to GA. There I was a member of King’s Bay Base. After being laid-off there, I went back to work for Westinghouse in Pittsburgh. I served as 2nd Vice, Commander, and newsletter editor (USSVI 2008 Newsletter of the Year). Last August, Colleen and I moved to Charlotte with Westinghouse. I am also a Life Member of the American Legion and served at Post and District positions.

I believe that our Veterans deserve the best. I also believe that we, as the Navy’s “cream of the crop” are obligated to lead the way and set an example for other Veteran’s organizations. We need to honor all Veterans and not just our own. They did there job too, even thought they did not have the privilege to do it under the sea.

I think we have some outstanding programs started, I know we can do more. It’s not work, it’s fun to serve side-by-side with your shipmate. That’s the way we honor those who gave all, by volunteering a little of our time. Our society has become one of “throw some money at it” and the problem will go away. It’s easy to give money, but harder to give time; and the feeling lasts longer.

Okay, I’ll get off my soapbox and tell you all that this is your newsletter. I need your help to keep the information flowing. I need your “sea-stories”. If you don’t write them down, someday they will be lost. They are part of your history, and you are part of our history. So on some rainy day, put the remote down and write about YOU. Your grandkids will love the real you, so write. Try to keep it clean, but write about that liberty you had in Pearl; your first dive; or whatever.

Hope you like this first issue, but remember, you can make it better. Also send in any ideas on the format, etc. – Moe(SS)



Happy Birthday to:

February

Sandi Wardean 2/03
 Hal Rutter 2/09
 Jack Jeffries 2/13
 Jerry Paciorek 2/13
 Cindy Petitt 2/17
 Monica Dachs 2/18
 Sandra Myers 2/18
 Jim Harris 2/26

March

Bob Saenz 3/01
 Rick Petitt 3/05
 William Hickerson 3/07
 Howard Dachs 3/14
 Judy Hickerson 3/15
 Ruth Murray 3/15
 Barbara Sealy 3/24
 Robert Howell 3/30

----- You are not too old to join in the FUN, come to a meeting!! -----

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

February: Linda and Greg Crystal - 2/5 Linda and Raymond D. Zieverink - 2/24

March: Sandi and John Wardean - 3/1 Libby and Calvin Reese - 3/31

If you find a Birthday or Anniversary incorrect or missing, please contact Jack Jeffries with the correcting information.

----- Wear your Dolphins - you earned them! -----

Binnacle List:

Please keep Moe(SS) informed – donutdad@carolina.rr.com

----- Pride Runs Deep -----

Welcome aboard to new members:



James Halbert
 Tom Salts
 Myles Blassingham
 SubVettes: Colleen Moses

We more need names here – Just ask if they belong!

----- Pride Runs Deep -----

Tell your story

We need stories. Your shipmates want to hear them. Please email them to me at donutdad@carolina.rr.com or mail them to: Dale Moses, 14826 Ashlight Dr. Charlotte, NC 28278.

Why they called them "Poopy-suits"

By E. Dale Moses MM1(SS)

The Navy Submarine Force has, or at least had when I was in, a set of coveralls that were nick-named "Poopy-suits". They were a one-piece, low lent dark blue uniform that had Velcro for the main fastener. I thought they were called Poopy-suits because the long sleeves tended to fall in the commode if you weren't careful. But I have my own definition of why they are called the "Poopy-suit".

My definition starts with my second patrol. We were two patrols out of the shipyard and all of the guys that had extended for the yard had done their one patrol after and was gone. Suddenly, I was an "old Salt", or a least a mid-Salt. There were only a few guys, two First Class MMs to stand Engineerroom Supervisor (ERS), we had some more senior guys than I working on quals for ERS. They were the Engineerroom Upper Level (ERUL) watches who needed someone to fill their place on the watchbill first. That's where I was, I had just qualified ERUL that very day with my checkout from the Engineer and my first watch was the mid-watch, of course.

Well the ERSs had been in Port and Starboard at sea for weeks and needed a break. To help them catch-up on sleep and such the Engineer got permission to secure the ERS on the mid-shift. So I'm on my first ERUL watch, it's mid-watch, and there is no ERS. I'm the senior MM in engineering spaces. My Engineering Watch Supervisor (EWS) was an RC (that's Reactor Controls for you smoke-boat guys) Division LPO. They always put him with the "heaviest" MM they could 'cause those ETs don't know much about steam and machinery that rotates.

Things are going well, I'm in the middle of taking my 0200 logs, when I hear a noise coming down the port side. Then I hear the Eng, who had the Conn, over the IMC "Captain to the Conn, Captain to the Conn"; shortly followed by the Collision Alarm. The noise stops, but so did we.

We were doing our normal patrol 1/3 bell putting a 3 knot hole in Med at the time. Then Conn orders up ahead standard. Okay, that starts the main engines a bouncing like I have never seen them, even at a flank bell. We were making turns for 12 knots, doing 3. I was watching the oil temperatures on the mains increasing as the both engines were jumping.

Sometime in the madness, the EOOW must have called for help to lay aft, because the entire 20 guys from M-div was back there monitoring oil temperatures on all the bearings, breaking out DC gear, just in case, etc. This went on for about 5 minutes, but seemed like forever. Then it was done.

Not sure what we were dragging and perhaps I'll never know. But I know I have my own personal definition of a "Poopy-suit.- Mose

--- Write down your stories, or they will be lost someday! ---

The Men Who Wore The "Pin"

by Bob 'Dex' Armstrong

They returned, Thousands of them. No, they numbered in the hundreds of thousands... Faces weather beaten, tanned. Smiling as they stepped down from trains all over America. Smiling that smile, universally recognized as that 'Damn!! It's great to be home!' smile.

They were home again... those that were left. The survivors of a generation who left their homes and families to undertake the obligation of freedom-loving men to go into combat and ultimately defeat some of the most vile proponents of evil. They wore the story of their deeds and where they had been in rows of multi-colored, mute reminders above their pockets. What they had seen, What they had done and the personal losses they had suffered, would forever be in their minds when they looked up at their national colors floating gently in the breeze.

They are rapidly passing into the cold pages of history. The awesome respect in which they were held a half-century ago has given way to the gentle view point of the Monday Morning Quarterbacking of those who have grown up in a world of safety and extravagance, Of promiscuity and excess made possible because of their self-sacrifice.

Soon it will be impossible to find a combat pilot who stared at oncoming aircraft through a rotating propeller blade... A sailor who passed 40 mm shells to a loader in a battleship gun tub... A soldier who carried rifle ammo in eight round clips and ate crap that assembled dog food out of an olive drab can, In a Dutch ditch, In the rain. Men who fought wars that lasted years, rather than days and ended with a clear-cut result. For those of us who rode boats that went below the surface, there were men who rode our boats when the close aboard sound of fifty pounds of TNT detonating would be clearly heard through several inches of steel. That 'steel' was U.S. built pressure hull and audible public prayer could be heard in every compartment. And when it was over, hardened men could hug each other, secure in the knowledge that no one would feel that they might be gender-confused.

These same men knew the sound of torpedo hits and the telltale sound of the result of such hits as the bulkheads of an enemy target collapsed while the enemy vessel made its way to the bottom. Pressure-folding steel is a sound most of us will never hear, thanks to what these men did.

They had executed their war way beyond the established battle lines... Deep within the home waters of the Jap Empire. At a time when the Jap emperor and his militaristic toadies were assuring their easily duped people that they were secure, the people of Japan witnessed their merchant ships burning all along their coastal horizons. Ships, whose burning hulks were disappearing nightly, compliments of our Undersea Warriors.

So they returned. What was left of them. They crossed the brow of boats that wore freshly painted enemy flags... flags that chronicled their kills... a silent statement of their contribution to our victorious effort in the Pacific. It may have been a Silent Service, but little Jap flags painted on the sides of conning towers made it clear that the presence of our submarine force had been felt.

And above the jumper pockets of the men crossing to the pier, could be found the sterling silver representation of a submarine. The pin itself and each star worn below it, represented a war patrol which resulted in excess of ten thousand tons of enemy shipping sent to the bottom. The man or men who wrote the requirements for the awarding of that insignia wrote those requirements in such rigid and specific terms that the pin has never been watered down and reduced to the Crackerjack' prize that so many other military badges have become.

Today, the U.S. Submarine Combat Patrol Pin remains a symbol of men who have gone to sea and have drawn blood in defense of their country and way of life at the risk of their personal safety, If not the sacrifice of their futures.

Someday, the powers that decide such things, will come to their senses and will stop naming our submarines after geographical locations and hack politicians and start naming our undersea warships after the heroes who wore 'The Pin'. Why they feel compelled to look elsewhere when we have such towering heroes of our own makes no sense to this old E-3. They named a whole class of tin cans after Admiral Arliegh Burke, proving that they can do it right... at times. But, the men who parked torpedoes in the sides of so many enemy ships, held no inflated sense of their own importance. When you try to thank the old meat-eaters, they always reply with, "Hell, I was young, scared and just doing my job."

Volunteering for submarine duty in wartime has never been routinely expected of U.S. Sailors. Volunteering has never been an exercise in goat-roping the timid and reluctant. The Draft Board never forced any citizen to fill the ranks of the Submarine Service. Any man, who found wartime employment inside a pressure hull, was there because he put himself there. "Just doing my job." Right.

Who in their right mind would choose a line of work that included> sitting, sweat-soaked in darkness, 400 feet below fresh air and sunshine listening to canisters of high explosive detonate and shatter gauge faces and incandescent bulbs? No, can't buy, "Just doing my job."

To buy that, would mean that our Submarine Force was comprised of the world's largest collection of complete raving lunatics. The last idiot who called a World War II submariner a complete lunatic is still trying to get used to his new glass eye, figuring out how to talk with his new teeth and walk upright.

They are ours. They handed us an unblemished record of service 'faithfully performed'. A gallant record of deeds performed by incredibly brave and dedicated men.

Their ranks thin daily. We do not have a lot of time left to buy them a beer! Listen to their amazing stories and thank them for what they gave us and left in the pages of the history of The United States Navy.

----- If you can read this newsletter, thank a Teacher; if you are reading it in English, thanks a Vet! -----

--- Put down the "remote" and get to a meeting! ---

PROPOSAL TO U. S. S. V. I. FOR ADOPTION OF AN OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONAL TARTAN

Provide by Lee Hickerson

The Smoky Mountain Base proposes that the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated (U.S.S.V.I.), adopt the Polaris Military Tartan ("PMT") as an official organizational symbol that will foster friendship, a sense of unity, camaraderie, and pride of membership in U. S. S. V. I.

History: The PMT was designed for the Polaris Missile Fleet in Holy Loch, Scotland, in 1964 by Alexander MacIntyre of Strone, Strone House, Argyll for the officers and men of the American Submarine base at the Holy Loch. Thus, Polaris class submarines were the first ships in history to have their own Tartan. The idea for a fleet Tartan came from Captain Walter F. Schleich, of the *USS Proteus* (AS19), who was Commander of Submarine Squadron 14.

Registration: Although Lord Lyon, the Scottish authority for approving Tartan registration in 1964, was initially appalled by the concept of a ship's Tartan, he ultimately authorized the PMT for use by all personnel attached to Polaris class submarines, support vessels, and shore-based support facilities located in the Holy Loch. The PMT was recorded with the Scottish Tartans Authority and has been recognized by subsequent registrars since then.

Description: The PMT is identified as "STA Ref. 222" and "STWR Ref. 222" in the database of Tartan patterns maintained by the Scottish Tartan World Registry. The navy blue represents the naval uniform; the dark green the depths of the oceans; and, the royal blue and gold overchecks represent the "Blue" and "Gold" crews who alternated on Polaris (and later Poseidon) class submarines.

Extended Use: After adoption of the PMT, the U. S. Navy converted to Poseidon class vessels. The PMT was then extended for use by personnel assigned to Poseidon class submarines, support vessels, and support facilities. There are no restrictions recorded on the usage of PMT, according to the Scottish Tartan World Registry.

Authority for Adoption: Smoky Mountain Base contacted the Scottish Tartan World Registry to inquire about authorized use and copyright. The Registry responded, "There is no authority with Tartan. Many tartans get used by those who they were not intended for initially." The registry provided as an example the Edzell Naval Base Tartan, which became the U. S. Navy Tartan.

Availability: If PMT is adopted by the U. S. S. V. I., any custom Tartan weavers worldwide can weave the pattern. Smoky Mountain Base contacted several weavers in the United States who indicated they would weave the Tartan in bulk, in a variety of fabrics, if sufficient orders were placed. Such items as neckties, bowties, vests, women's sashes, hats, skirts, and kilts could be created from the Tartan fabric.



----- Pride Runs Deep -----

NC Submarine Veteran License Plate Update

Our Sub Vet plate sits in the House finance Committee after passing the Senate and 1 reading in the House. All Bills must pass 3 readings each in the House & Senate and be approved by any other Legislative "Committees" that are deemed necessary. I sent a note to Rep. Pryor Gibson (Anson & Union County Rep.) who is one of the Co-chairman of the Finance Comm. asking when the Committee would meet on the Bill containing the Specialty Plates, S116. He replied "after the Transportation Oversight Committee (TOC) meets on the Specialty Plate "Commonality" issue. They were supposed to meet in the 2009 Oct / Nov timeframe to

discuss this issue....they never did. I've attended the Dec & Jan TOC meetings hoping they would discuss the Plates....they didn't, only discussed what great things the DOT & DMV have done in '09 and are planning in '10.

On Jan. 19th I sat down with House Speaker Joe Hackney, told him a little about the NC Sub Vets and asked for his support and to see if he could get the TOC & Finance Committees going. He said he would "put it on my Radar Screen." While there, I also picked up the support of Rep. Marilyn Avila who is the Rep. in my voting district in N. Raleigh.

I've sent a note on Jan. 19th to Senator Steve Goss (Alexander, Ashe, Watauga, Wilkes counties) and Rep. Nelson Cole (Rockingham county) who are the Co-chairmen of the TOC, asking if they had any idea when the Specialty plates would be heard. No response as yet.

The next TOC meeting is scheduled for sometime in March but no agenda has been set.

On Feb 4th, I sent a note to Senator Neal Hunt who originally submitted the Bill for the plate last Feb 3, 2009. Sen. Hunt is a member of the TOC. I asked him to "stir the pot" to get the Bill heard in the March meeting. He replied within 7 minutes of my note to him saying he would.

So we continue to wait. I fully intend to keep this item in front of our Senators & Representatives and will continue to send updates via e-mail.

I urge all who want to see this plate become reality to go to this website, http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/Committees/Committees.asp?sAction=ViewCommittee&sActionDetails=Non-Standing_468 and if any of these members are your Senators / Reps., send them a note asking that Senate Bill S116 be discussed in the March TOC meeting and make them aware of the Sub Vet Specialty Plate contained in that Bill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Leppart
NOT DEFEATED, JUST DELAYED



Veteran News – from the RAO Bulletin 1 February 2010

VA Graveliner Allowance: Public Law 104-275 was enacted on 9 OCT 96 which allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide a monetary allowance towards the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle to encase the casket for use in a VA national cemetery. Under VA regulation (38 CFR 38.629), the allowance is equal to the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners less any administrative costs to VA. The law provides a veteran's survivors with the option of selecting a Government-furnished graveliner for use in a VA national cemetery where such use is authorized. The average cost of Government-furnished graveliners is determined by taking VA's total cost during a fiscal year for single-depth graveliners that were procured for placement at the time of interment and dividing it by the total number of such graveliners procured by VA during that fiscal year. The calculation excludes both graveliners procured and pre-placed in gravesites as part of cemetery gravesite development projects and all double-depth graveliners. Using this method of computation, the average cost was determined to be \$264.00 for fiscal year 2009. The administrative costs incurred by VA consist of those costs that relate to processing and paying an allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner. These costs have been determined to be \$9.00 for calendar year 2010. Thus, the allowance payable for qualifying interments occurring during calendar year 2010 is \$255.00. [Source: Federal Register: 11 Jan 2010 (Volume 75, Number 6)] Notices Page 1454 ++]

Seniors Healthcare Costs: Seniors received no annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) for 2010, but drug costs and the premiums of prescription drug and Medicare Advantage plans are making some of the biggest jumps in years. Among those coping with the worst cost increases are nearly 11 million people enrolled in

Medicare Advantage plans. Premiums of those plans have increased from 25%-32% on average, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. But 667,000 people with Medicare Advantage plans had to find a new plan altogether for 2010. Insurers cancelled some plans in response to new government spending cuts and requirements. The average monthly premium of Part D drug plans also rose 12%, and many enrollees of those plans are paying higher co-payments or co-insurance costs. According to a study released in May 09 by The Senior Citizens League (TSCL), seniors' buying power has shrunk by 20% since 2000. If the Social Security COLA were based on the CPI-E, however, retirees with an average benefit of \$460 in 1984 would have received about \$12,856 more through the end of 2010.

TSCL is highly concerned that seniors are getting put through the wringer and the situation will continue next year. Government economists predict that there may be no COLA again in 2011. Healthcare reform legislation would require even deeper cuts to Medicare Advantage and changes to Part D that would raise premiums for high-income seniors under pending healthcare reform legislation. Unlike other senior advocacy organizations, TSCL is strongly opposed to healthcare reform provisions that raise premiums, and out-of-pocket costs of beneficiaries. TSCL believes that the steep increase in healthcare costs over the past year while the CPI went down and was minus (-1.7) through September 2009 vs. September 2008 is proof that the annual method of calculating the COLA is broken and must be replaced. TSCL strongly supports new legislation that would more fairly and accurately base the annual COLA on a "seniors" CPI and guarantee that beneficiaries receive a minimum COLA of 3% every year.

U.S. Representative Eliot Engel (D-NY-17) introduced the "Guaranteed 3% COLA for Seniors Act of 2009" (H.R.4193) in Congress on 3 DEC 09. It has since been referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Education and Labor, where it is pending further action. The bill, if signed into law, would amend the Social Security Act with regard to the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Social Security beneficiaries receive. Currently, the COLA is based upon the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners (CPI-W), which tracks the spending patterns of young, urban workers. This legislation would calculate the COLA based upon the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E), which tracks the spending patterns of seniors. Also, the bill would guarantee that the Social Security COLA is never less than 3%. [Source: TSCL Social Security and Medicare Advisor, Vol. 15, No. 2 dtd 25 Jan 2010 ++]

--- Put down the "remote" and get to a meeting! ---

Notes from the Cary Working Meeting held February 5, 2010

There were 28 base members attending today's meeting. Jerry Leppart reported that he continues to visit our legislators in Raleigh to keep them aware that we would like to be able to purchase the Subvet License Plates in the near future. When this actually happens is still unknown.

The base again agreed to donate \$100.00 to the runner-ups for the COMSUBLANT Sailors of the Year. Dick Kanning has been making these presentations for several years with the NC Subvets helping in providing the funds.

The attendees at the meeting agreed to participate in Charlotte's St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday March 13th. Details once known will be included in the upcoming issue of the All Clear. Also we will be participating in the Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington on April 10th. Again details once known will be included in the upcoming issue of the All Clear.

Everyone was again reminded to get their registration form to Jim Myers by February 19th for the Elizabeth City Joint Meeting to be held March 4th through March 6th. There won't be many more of these joint meetings with the WWII subvets as it is becoming increasing harder for them to travel because of their age.

The next working meeting will be held on Saturday March 27th at the VFW Hut in Cary.

Joint Meeting

The USSVI Albemarle Sound Base and USSV-WWII Tarheel Chapter are hosting this year's joint meeting at Elizabeth City.

Deadline for registration is this Friday February 19th.

If you are planning on attending, it would be helpful for Albemarle Sound Base, who is providing the food for the luncheon, to know how many attendees they can expect for their planning purposes.

Contact Jack for a registration form and agenda in case you misplaced the ones previously sent to you.

There won't be many more future joint meetings with our WWII subvets.

Burnsville Memorial Service Info

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2010 BURNSVILLE MEMORIAL SERVICE

FRIDAY MAY 21

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

SATURDAY MAY 22

1000 NC SUBVET Meeting
1130 Lunch at Western Sizzlin (on your own)
1400 Memorial Service on Moonshine Mountain
1800 Catered Meal @ Pinebridge Inn Hospitality Room

-We will caravan to the Memorial Site from Western Sizzlin after lunch is complete

-Hospitality Room will be open during the day Saturday.

-Evening meal is a **home cooked meal** and will consist of: Roast beef and chicken, mashed potatoes, two veggies, salad, rolls, desert, tea, lemonade, water and/or coffee.

COME OUT AND ENJOY SOME GOOD FELLOWSHIP, A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR OUR LOST WWII SUBMARINES, AND A GOOD HOME COOKED MEAL

----- Pride Runs Deep -----

Once again the Carolina Piedmont base was invited to Kyle and Patty Petty's Victory Junction Gang Camp to present caps, certificates and museum boat pictures to the children attending the camp. This was a special time for the children as it was Halloween. Each child as well as staff members were in costume for the special evening. We were invited to enjoy supper with the children, their parents and siblings as well as the staff. After the meal, the children were presented with the presents. To see the smile on their faces and joy of their parents was unforgettable. We have been invited back to the camp during the months of April and June as well as a future date in the fall. Thank You USSVI for starting this outreach program. The smiles on their faces is something we will not forget.



Pictured from left: Steve Bell-Base Commander, Rebekah Andrews-Camp Councilor, Nicole Connor-Camp Councilor, Jack Jeffries-Base Secretary

2010 NC Subvets Burnsville Memorial Service
21-22 May 2010
Pre-Registration Form – Cutoff Date 1 May 2010

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Base _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Emergency Contact/Telephone: _____

			<u>NO.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Registration Fee (Non-Refundable)	Per Person	\$ 5	_____	_____
Catered Meal, Saturday May 22	Per Person	\$15	_____	_____

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 Fee (Non-Refundable)	Per Person	\$ 5	_____	_____
Catered Meal, Saturday May 22	Per Person	\$15	_____	_____

Host Hotel: Pinebridge Inn, 207 Pinebridge Ave., Spruce Pine, NC
Phone: 1-800-356-5059

Directions to Hotel: I-40 Exit 86 (Route 226). Take this bending, curving road all the way to Spruce Pine. Cross over US 19, turn right on W. Tappan St. Stay on Tappan, a ballpark will be on the left, shortly after that on the right is the hotel. It is an old school building.

Reservations: Reservations at the hotel are the responsibility of the individual (1-800-356-5059). A special rate of \$57.25 (plus tax) is available for U.S. Subvets per night. We have 30 rooms set aside for us. **DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL RATE IS 1 MAY 2010.**

BROACHED (the CPB funny page)

Got a funny to share? Send it to donutdad@carolina.rr.com

JUST TO KEEP YOU UPDATED ON THE LATEST HITS.

Some of the artists of the 60's are revising their hits with new lyrics to accommodate aging baby boomers. They include:

Bobby Darin - Splish, Splash, I Was Havin' a Flash.
Herman's Hermits - Mrs. Brown, You've Got a Lovely Walker.
Ringo Starr - I Get By With a Little Help From Depends.
The Bee Gees - How Can You Mend a Broken Hip.
Roberta Flack- The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face.
Johnny Nash - I Can't See Clearly Now.
Paul Simon- Fifty Ways to Lose Your Liver
The Commodores - Once, Twice, Three Times to the Bathroom.
Marvin Gaye - Heard It Through the Grape Nuts.
Procol Harem- A Whiter Shade of Hair.
Leo Sayer - You Make Me Feel Like Napping.
The Temptations - Papa's Got a Kidney Stone.
Abba- Denture Queen.
Tony Orlando - Knock 3 Times On The Ceiling If You Hear Me Fall.
Helen Reddy - I Am Woman, Hear Me Snore.
Leslie Gore - It's My Procedure, and I'll Cry If I Want To.
And Last but NOT least: Willie Nelson - On the Commode Again

-----This is a no-sh*##er-----

Talking to a redneck at the gas station...he was real proud his sixth grade son was having sex with his teacher...then he remembered the kid was home schooled.....

-----This is a no-sh*##er-----

Let Me Tell You About My Weekend

An older, white-haired Boat Sailor walked into a jewelry store one Friday evening with a beautiful young gal at his side.

He told the jeweler he was looking for a special ring for his new girlfriend. The jeweler looked through his stock and brought out a \$5,000 ring. The Bubblehead said, 'No, I'd like to see something more special.'

At that statement, the jeweler went to his special stock and brought another ring over... 'Here's a stunning ring at only \$40,000' the jeweler said.

The young lady's eyes sparkled and her whole body trembled with excitement. The old man seeing this said, 'We'll take it.'

The jeweler asked how payment would be made and the old Sailor stated, 'by check. I know you need to make sure my check is good, so I'll write it now and you can call the bank Monday to verify the funds and I'll pick the ring up Monday afternoon,' he said.

Monday morning, the jeweler phoned the old man.

'There's no money in that account.'

'I know,' said the Bubblehead, 'But let me tell you about my weekend!'

Carolina Piedmont SubVettes



The President says:

Hello Sassy Sisters, hope your month is going your way. Please give Jack Jeffries a call at 704-764-5211, concerning your Secret Sister. We are having Jack to keep a duplicate list as a backup to ours. Our meal for the next meeting will be our specialty dishes that our friends and family rave over. Also please bring the recipe to share with each other. Please be thinking of service projects that we can do that are not too costly. Due to the economy, our personal budgets are down, but let's still let our military know we do care. We hope to see at the next meeting, may god bless you and yours; and by the way Happy Valentines Day. - Sandra

Let's Make Brownies:

You'll Need:

- 1 c unbleached flour
- 1 c confectioners' sugar
- 1/3 c unsweetened cocoa
- 3/4 t baking powder
- 1 1/2 oz semisweet chocolate, coarsely broken or chopped
- 3 T tub-style corn-oil margarine
- 1/2 c packed brown sugar
- 2 T light corn syrup
- 1 T water
- 2 t vanilla extract
- 2 egg whites
- Semisweet chocolate chips, melted (optional)
- Walnut halves (optional)



Directions:

It's hard to believe that brownies this chocolaty and moist can be low in fat. The secret to their chewy texture and tempting taste is a combination of cocoa, chocolate, and corn syrup. Stored airtight, these will keep for two or three days.

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Coat an 8 x 8-inch baking dish with nonstick spray.

Sift the flour, confectioners' sugar, cocoa, and baking powder into a medium bowl.

Place the chopped chocolate and margarine in a medium nonstick saucepan. Stir over low heat until the chocolate is just melted and smooth; be very careful not to scorch the chocolate.

Remove from the heat. Stir in the brown sugar, corn syrup, water, and vanilla until well blended.

Beat the egg whites into the chocolate mixture. Stir in the flour mixture just until well blended and smooth. Transfer the batter to the prepared dish, spreading it evenly.

Bake until the top is almost firm when tapped with a finger, 24 to 28 minutes. Transfer the pan to a wire rack and completely cool. Drizzle with the melted chocolate and garnish with the walnut halves, if desired. Cut into squares.



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 14 	15 	16	17	18	19 Deadline for Joint Meeting Registration	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 CP BASE Meeting 
28	March 1	2	3	4 SED1 meeting – Elizabeth City, NC	5 SED1 meeting – Elizabeth City, NC	6 SED1 meeting – Elizabeth City, NC
7 Greenville Massing of the Colors 	8	9	10	11	12	13 Charlotte St. Paddy's Day Parade 
14	15	16		18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 CP BASE Meeting 
28 Palm Sunday	29	30	31	April 1 April Fool's 	2 Good Friday	3