



# Piedmont Periscope

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



August 2010 – Issue #7

Web Site: [www.ussvi.org/base/CarolinaPiedmont.asp](http://www.ussvi.org/base/CarolinaPiedmont.asp)

## USSVI Creed:

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of 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."



### Lost Boats for August

USS S 39 (SS 144)  
USS POMPANO (SS 181)  
USS FLIER (SS 250)  
USS HARDER (SS 257)  
USS BULLHEAD (SS 332)  
USS COCHINO (SS 345)

August 16, 1942  
August 29, 1943  
August 13, 1944  
August 24, 1944  
August 6, 1945  
August 26, 1949

We also mourn the loss of shipmate Gary Cruzan sent on Eternal Patrol July 20th

"Sailors, Rest your oars"

### **Who's Who & What's Where...**

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

### **The CO's Stateroom** – Steve Bell, Commander

Our National election is nearing an end. If you have not voted by the time you are reading this, please take the time to do so. It would be very much appreciated. Besides the results, this will be the last you will hear this from me this year.

However, now it is time for those that renew their dues annually, whether it is national, base, or both, it is time to start thinking about renewing. Last year we lost 4 members from our base as far as USSVI is concerned. We did have a couple change their primary, but still remained with USSVI. Even so, we had an overall gain for the year. I am hoping that we do not lose any members to USSVI this year. Please get your dues into Lee Hickerson soon. Thank you.

Our National Convention will occur shortly after this newsletter is out. Several of us plan on attending and I am sure we will represent you well. For those that are attending, please drive safely and enjoy yourselves. I hope to see each of you there (and I am sure I will).

For those that plan on attending, please do not forget about the parade in Newton. It is on a Thursday afternoon (August 19). This is another good one. As more details of events become available, we will be letting you know of them. I am proud to tell you that at most of these events, Carolina Piedmont Base is well represented.

Keep in mind that our October meeting will be held at Jack's house. That will be October 23. Mark that one on your calendar. Like all our meetings, the meal will be a feast.

Speaking of the meals, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our ladies for the meals they put on. They are just wonderful (and not necessarily helpful for the diet). If you are not attending the meals, you are missing not only good food, but a great deal.

Hope to see all of you at our next meeting, August 28.

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

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

No Report

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

### **Comm Center**- Jack Jeffries, Base Secretary

#### **MEETING MINUTES FOR 24 July 2010**

1900- Meeting called to order by Commander Steve Bell, Invocation given by

Chaplain Ray Fritz. Pledge of Allegiance, Tolling of the Boats lost in July

Member introduction 28 members present. VFW Post Commander thanked us for all we do for the post.

**\*Walt Sealy conducted** ceremony inducting John Wallace into Holland Club.

Presented Holland Club pin, card, Holland Club Patch, Holland Club certificate and Senior Sailor certificate.

**\*Reading of previous meeting minutes**, Approved as read.

**\*Treasurers report**-account balance 2992.82, memorial restoration fund 238.50, K4K fund 960.80, available funds 1793.52

**\*SK report**- still have a few calendars left at a reduced price. Explained the process for ordering jackets and A gang patches. Will take orders for 2011 calendars, price to be determined later.

**\*Old Business-** Dale Moses demonstrated a possible uniform for our Color Guard. Discussed the possibility of obtaining rifles for the Honor Guard, this was tabled for the time being until we can get more information. Steve Bell reported on our donation to the Maritime Museum in Sebring FL, and read correspondence from them thanking us for donation.

**\*New Business-** Discussed the purchase by Tarheel Base of canopy for shelter at parades. Base reimbursed Steve Bell 20.00 for money he forwarded to Jim Myers. Also discussed the purchase of tool box for stowing articles on float. We will send 25.00 for our share of purchase price.

**\*Good of the Order-** A review of Gary Cruzan's funeral was given. Steve once again stated the importance of voting in the USSVI National election. It was stated that although national dues was not due yet, we can start collecting it. We discussed the upcoming WWII Subvets Memorial service at Kings Bay as well as the National USSVI Convention. We have a parade coming up on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August at Newton NC more info will be published later. Dale Moses is still looking for articles to publish in the Piedmont Periscope. We briefly discussed the Annual Business Meeting coming up at the Convention, if we have any suggestions, to make they will be heard at the meeting. No suggestions at this time. Discussed the opening of the new base in Greensboro, the Nathanael Greene Base. Charter ceremony to be held 21 August at the Cardinal Golf and Country Club, all welcome to attend ceremony. Howard Murray discussed the renovation of the building and also the dinner dance to be held Aug 7<sup>th</sup> that will be celebrating the Murray anniversary.

50-50 was won by Jeff Nieberding. 71.00

Next meeting 28 Aug Benediction given by Chaplain Ray Fritz

2015- Motion to adjourn....seconded

J. Jeffries Base Secretary

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

**Keeper of the Coin** - Lee Hickerson, Base Treasurer  
Treasurer's Report

Current Balance	\$3,098.73
Restricted Funds:	
Kaps 4 Kids	\$931.05
Memorial Restoration	\$238.50

Base Funds Available           \$1,929.18

All bills paid, all monies deposited.

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

**Chaplin's Corner-** Raymond Fritz, Base Chaplin

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

**COB's Words** -Howard Dachs, Base COB

My movie pick for this month: Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World (2003) PG-13.

I am including a link to a revue of it that describes it very well and I hope that you can incorporate it.

[Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World](#)(2003) [PG-13](#)

Set off the coast of South America during the Napoleonic Wars, this thrilling maritime drama pits "Lucky" Jack Aubrey ([Russell Crowe](#)), captain of the *HMS Surprise*, and his close-knit crew against a French privateer equipped with better weapons. This action-adventure, which won Oscars for Best Cinematography and Best Sound Editing, is based on the novels of Patrick O'Brian and co-stars [Paul Bettany](#), [Billy Boyd](#) and [James D'Arcy](#).

This is the first movie in many years that I watched twice, intentionally! It is difficult to follow some of the dialogue since, as the review indicates, it is spoken in the English of its time but it is worth the effort to try. It is the best movie that I have seen that depicts life in the old navy even before my sailing days!

[http://townhall.com/columnists/CharlesKrauthammer/2003/11/14/master\\_and\\_commander](http://townhall.com/columnists/CharlesKrauthammer/2003/11/14/master_and_commander)

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

**The Supply Shack-** Jeff Nieberding

Carolina Piedmont Jackets are still available to order, several members have ordered theirs already. Just let the SK know and he'll fix you up with an order form.

USSVI vests are also available to order thru the SK.

Patches, the SK is now able to order patches from BC Patch LLC at wholesale prices. This is usually \$2 - \$3 less per patch than we normally see. Let the SK know if you need some.

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

**Editor's Note** -E. Dale Moses

Guys and Gals,

Great job from all of you. Thanks a bunch. But remember I always need "stuff", so all of you that didn't send me something there is always next month. Keep it coming, - Moe(SS)

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

CPB says

**Happy Birthday to:**

**August**

Steve Bell 8/07  
Diana Fritz 8/09  
Bob Bunney 8/14  
Rob Stalnaker 8/20  
Tom Kelly 8/23  
Janet Snyder 8/27  
Steve Clay 8/29  
Paul Trexler 8/29

**September**

Dale Moses 9/08  
Steven Rodgers 9/08  
John Wardean 9/09  
John Rupertus 9/10  
Kent Weekly 9/14  
Arnold Kirk 9/22  
Michael Toomey, Jr. 9/23

If we missed someone, please let Jack know!

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

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:**

Ma and Steve Bell - 8/15  
Ruth and Howard Murray - 8/17  
Jean and John Wallace - 8/18  
Vicki and Paul Simerly - 8/21  
Diana and Ray Fritz - 8/22  
Janet and Glen Snyder - 9/7  
Sandra and Paul Myers - 9/10

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

# Binnacle List:

No one to report – stay healthy

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

## Welcome aboard to new members

Al Allen

Ron Busila

Mike McGuffee



Welcome to your new Base!

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

We are pleased to welcome Shipmate **John Wallace** into the **Holland Club**. John earned the title "QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES" In March 1960 aboard the U.S.S. Bream SS243.

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

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

### Autism Walks

Provided by Lee Hickerson

The Carolina Piedmont Base, USSVI is forming a walk team for the Autism Walks event on Saturday 9 October, 2010. The purpose of this event is to raise money and awareness for Autism Speaks to assist in the treatment of autism.

In 2009 Carolina Piedmont Base sponsored 2 of our own as walkers for a total of \$170.00.

The purpose for our base to build a team is to increase that amount. As a first year effort, I think a monetary goal of \$1,000.00 is achievable. I already have pledges of \$110.00 from a group of 10 of my friends. I realize that some of you will be returning from a voluntary deployment on the day of the walk and won't be able to walk but you could individually pledge any amount. If you are on the Stay Behind crew think about participating. You can join the team as a walker and solicit pledges from your friends or you could come to Charlotte Motor Speedway on the 9<sup>th</sup> to man a booth and support all the base walkers. Provided we can make the necessary arrangements we intend to have the parade floats set up and to hand out sub museum photos.

The local coordinators have informed us that they have never had any veterans' group form a team and they look forward to our participation so this event will have the dual effect of increasing public awareness of USSVI and inspiring other veterans groups to form teams.

If you will be able to walk, or want to volunteer in some other capacity, contact Lee Hickerson at 704-573-9480 or go to <http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=346477>, search for and sign up as a member of the team. Be prepared to discuss opportunities for base activities at the August meeting

Your Supporter ID: 299101681

Team: Carolina Piedmont Base USSVI

Autism Speaks 501 (C)(3) Tax Id #: 20-2329938

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

# THE SEPTEMBER MEETING IS ON THE 25TH AT THE VFW IN FORT MILL

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

## Tell your story

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

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

## **Going back to Sea**

The cruise is Monday October 4th thru Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup> and we are sailing to the Bahamas on the Carnival Fantasy out of Charleston. The cost for an inside cabin is \$300.50 and an outside cabin is \$400.50. A deposit of 200.00 per person will hold your reservation. You have until August 4th to reserve your cabin. To do so, call 1-866-721-3225 and ask for group booking # 55PZ08. For more information call Sandra at 704-289-4650. A valid passport is required.

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

## **Carolina Piedmont Base to form Color Guard**

By E. Dale Moses (Moe(SS))

After some thought and discussion, and by a show of hands at the July Base meeting, it looks like there is enough interest to start a CPB Color Guard. The membership wants to start with a CG and if all goes well, perhaps someday an Honor Team; but first you next the baby-steps.

For some reason, even though my feet get sore from my neuropathy, I still love to march as a unit. I started the Color Guard/Honor Team back in '04 with the Topeka-Jefferson City Base. At the time I was a member of the American Legion Post 95 Honor Team and assisted in its start also. I also was a Plank-owner of the American Legion Riders Post 820 Color Guard before moving here from Monroeville, PA.

The CPB had its first taste of the Color Guard "bug" at a Charlotte's Knights game on Memorial Day Weekend. The "team" did a great job presenting the Colors without any practice at all. All CPB members attending and the team were very proud and honored to make the presentation. We are hoping to do it again soon. And have a member trying to see if we can do the same for a Panther's game. What exposure that would be for our Base and I know we would gain some members.

If we want a strong Base, we need the members, and to get members we need exposure. We need to show the community that we exist. I always told people when I was active with Post 95 that, "We served our Country, and now we are serving our Community." We can present the Colors at area High School sporting event and assembles; we can present the Colors at pro-sporting events (basketball, hockey, NASCAR!!); we can do it for other civic groups; and we can do it in area parades.

How to start? Start by giving me a call (704-298-7610) or sending me an email ([donutdad@carolina.rr.com](mailto:donutdad@carolina.rr.com)). When I get enough members together, we'll set at time and place to practice. It will all come back to you in no time at all. If you have suggestions about where and when to practice let me know. The more we have on the team the easier it will be later on when some are out-of-town, sick, or just can't make a presentation. In other words, we need a lot of people. If you are on the fence about this, come to the first few practices and then decide.

At the last meeting I wore a uniform that was put together for the Riders Color Guard. It looks a lot like the Post 95 and the Topeka-Jefferson City Base's uniform. It's a low cost easy to make uniform. It's a pair of black slacks, black shoes and socks, and a white uniform shirt with epaulets and a few patches. The shirt is about 25 to 30 bucks and the patches, shoulder rope, etc. are less than 15 bucks, the white belt is about \$5, and the gloves are about the same as the belt. So for around 60 dollars plus the cost of some type of "cover", you have a real decent looking uniform. We can cover the cost ourselves, or put together some type of fund-raiser.

For TJC Base, we bought about \$250 dollars of prizes (tools, TV, etc.) and sold tickets. We netted over \$1200. For TJC, the National Storekeeper got us a special price on the USSVI covers, with the Base name on one side and, in that case, Honor Team on the other side. The cover costs more than the shirt. If we can get some help for our ladies, we can get the patches on the shirts, or find someone that will sew them all the same.

We, the Color Guard team members, will need to decide on our uniform as to what we want for colors, patches, etc. The goal is to be uniform, that's why our vests are out. Our vest is our personal history and has no place at an event or a memorial service. The focus is on the Flag, or deceased, and not us as individuals. I like to wear my vest too, I'm proud of where and when I served.

We may want to add some "parade" rifles, comfortable Flag harness, the State Flag, Navy Flag, etc. That too will take some funding or donations.

So if you are interested, even a little, give the ol' Moe(SS) a call. Or if you have questions, you can call. I work a regular job, so if I have time you do to, and It's best to get me in the evenings.

Also, I have a Flag Etiquette program that I have been presenting for almost 15 years. It's free and is great for our youth (9 and older please). Great to Scouts, Church youth groups, 4H clubs, Lions Club, Rotary, Elks, etc. I have about 5,000 students under my belt. You can call me to schedule that also. I'll present this on behave of the Base and welcome you to come with me to present the 45 minute program.

A sample uniform:



Long sleeves are the best, covers up the "permanent reminder of a temporary feeling" (tattoos). Standard web belt, white gloves are in my pocket. On the right shoulder is a rocker that says "Color Guard". Below the rocker is a POW/MIA patch. The right sleeve has the Flag on it. The ascot comes in many colors, some suggested a light blue. The shoulder rope comes in many colors. Navy blue and gold might look nice. The covers on the epaulets are navy blue Boy Scout tabs. We can get other colors and styles. Dolphins are a MUST! A CPB patch in a medium size would go nicely over that right breast pocket. The cover is a black beret that we wore for the Riders CG. I'm wearing it here to look like an old "Flat Hat". (I never got one of those), I added a small set of "fish". By the way, the shirt is a police officer's shirt.

As I said, the members will have to vote on the uniform and cover. So let's get started. – Moe(SS)

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

# Piedmont Funnies Page

----- Sometimes don't you just miss the bilge? If you think about it, life was so simple then. -----

An aged farmer and his wife were leaning against the edge of their pig-pen when the old woman wistfully recalled that the next week would mark their golden wedding anniversary.

"Let's have a party, Homer," she suggested. "Let's kill a pig."

The farmer scratched his grizzled head. "Gee, Ethel," he finally answered, "I don't see why the pig should take the blame for something that happened fifty years ago."

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

The school of agriculture's dean of admissions was interviewing a prospective student, "Why have you chosen this career?" he asked.

"I dream of making a million dollars in farming, like my father," the student replied.

"Your father made a million dollars in farming?!" echoed the dean much impressed.

"No," replied the applicant. "But he always dreamed of it."

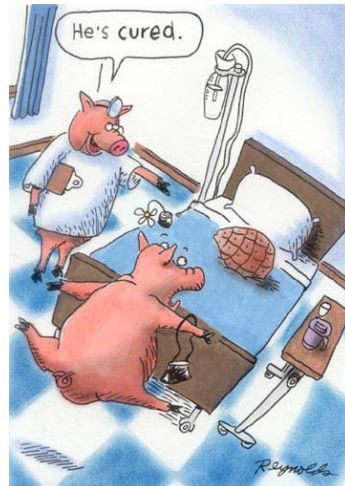
----- Pride Runs Deep -----

My pregnant daughter and her husband were checking out a new birth facility that was more like a spa. The birthing room had a hot tub, soft music and candlelight.

"What do you think?" she said.

He looked around. "Isn't this how we got here in the first place?"

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



And who is this?  
Winner gets a free  
year's  
subscription to  
the Piedmont  
Periscope

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

A young Navy officer was in a bad car accident, but due to the heroics of the hospital staff the only permanent injury was the loss of one ear. Since he wasn't physically impaired he remained in the military and eventually became an Admiral. During his career he was always sensitive about his appearance.

One day the Admiral was interviewing three Master Chiefs for the Force Master Chief position. The first Master Chief was a Surface Navy type and it was a great interview. At the end of the interview the Admiral asked him, "Do you notice anything different about me?" The Master Chief answered, "Why yes. I couldn't help but notice you are missing your starboard ear, so I need to know whether this impacts your hearing on that side." The Admiral got very angry at this lack of tact and threw him out of his office.

The next candidate, an Aviation Master Chief, when asked this same question, answered, "Well yes, you seem to be short one ear." The Admiral threw him out also.

The third interview was with a Submarine Service Master Chief. He was articulate, extremely sharp, and seemed to know more than the other two Master Chiefs put together. The Admiral wanted this guy, but went ahead with the same question, "Do you notice anything different about me?" To his surprise the Submarine

Service Master Chief said, "Yes, Admiral. You wear contact lenses." The Admiral was impressed and thought to himself, what an incredibly tactful Master Chief! And how do you know that?" the Admiral asked.

"Well Sir, it's pretty hard to wear glasses with only one f\*\*\*ing ear!"

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

**Jim Schenk says:**

I was reading a book about life on the USS Sturgeon SSN637, and when the author talked about his mess-cooking days, I was reminded of a story that happened to me the first time I mess cooked on the Diesel boat. The Chief of the Boat was there at first call this one day and because he was a 30+ year man, I was in absolute awe of him when measured against my having achieved a paltry 2 years in the Navy at that point of my six year enlistment. I was serving the family style dinner to the crew in port, and I spilled a bowl of corn all over the Chief. It was most embarrassing to me, but one of the A-gangers in the back hollered out, "Corn on the COB," and the whole boat rocked with the laughter; even the COB had to laugh. I was glad that it wasn't creamed corn that day.

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

**Sandra shares a true story:**

In 1994 Paul was on a Med run on the Bluefish SSN675 we were living in Summerville SC at the time. We had a really bad storm with a lot of rain which in return left me with it literally raining in the den so when I got to talk to Paul on the phone from La Madalena he told me not to worry it would be ok not knowing exactly what it was like. I was in tears not knowing what to do so I called one of his buddies from the John C Calhoun and the only thing Danny could only tell me was Sandra "shit happens " The next day Danny and another friend of Paul's, Bucky and a few more guys that I did not even know, came over and fixed my roof and got all the water out of the den, the price of the repair was cooking the meals. This is what friends and shipmates do looking out for each other. Now Danny is in Michigan and Bucky's in Memphis and we still try to help each other and treasure their friendship.

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

King Ozymandias of Assyria was running low on cash after years of war with the Hittites. His last great possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond in the ancient world. Desperate, he went to Croesus, the pawnbroker, to ask for a loan.

Croesus said, "I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it."

"But I paid a million dinars for it," the King protested. "Don't you know who I am? I am the king!"

Croesus replied, "When you wish to pawn a Star, makes no difference who you are."

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

Back in the 1800's the Tate's Watch Company of Massachusetts wanted to produce other products, and since they already made the cases for watches, they used them to produce compasses. The new compasses were so bad that people often ended up in Canada or Mexico rather than California. This, of course, is the origin of the expression -- "He who has a Tate's is lost!"

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

A famous Viking explorer returned home from a voyage and found his name missing from the town register. His wife insisted on complaining to the local civic official who apologized profusely saying, "I must have taken Leif off my census."

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

**See what you get when you don't send me enough stories? – Moe(SS)**

**Arlington National Cemetery Update 13:** Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) whose subcommittee is investigating potential contracting fraud at Arlington National Cemetery on 26 JUL said she believes 4,900 and 6,600 graves may be unmarked or mislabeled on cemetery maps. An internal Army investigation found at least 211 discrepancies between burial maps and grave sites at Arlington. The review found lax management of the cemetery and a reliance on paper records to manage the burial sites. At a news conference McCaskill said the number of burial site errors could be much higher because the Army report was limited to a small section of the cemetery. She called the growing scandal a matter of "heartbreaking incompetence" and said the military has spent more than \$5.5 million over seven years in its unsuccessful attempts to computerize the cemetery's burial records. "At the very essence here you have waste," she said. "There may be fraud - we don't know at this point." The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' subcommittee on contracting oversight, chaired by McCaskill, will hold a hearing in Washington on 29 JUL on its cemetery investigation. A key question is why the Department of the Army rejected an offer of help from the Veterans' Administration. The V.A. "keeps track of many, many, many more burial records than does the Army. V.A. offered the Army their system...instead, the Army tried to duplicate another system and in the process, failed dramatically, and failed the families, and frankly failed this country," McCaskill said. In addition to the Senate inquiry, Secretary of the Army John McHugh organized an independent panel led by former Sen. Bob Dole, R-Ks., to address the problems outlined in the report. People with questions about burial discrepancies may call the cemetery at (703) 607-8199. [Source: The Olympian Alan Zagier article 26 Jul 23010 ++]

**Military Stolen Valor Update 18:** A federal judge in Denver has ruled the Stolen Valor Act is "facially unconstitutional" because it violates free speech and dismissed the criminal case against Rick Strandlof, a man who lied about being an Iraq war veteran. On 16 JUL U.S. District Judge Robert Blackburn issued his decision ruling, "The Stolen Valor Act is declared to be facially unconstitutional as a content-based restriction on speech that does not serve a compelling government interest, and consequently that the Act is invalid as violative of the First Amendment." Strandlof, 32, was charged with five misdemeanors related to violating the Stolen Valor Act - specifically, making false claims about receiving military decorations. He posed as "Rick Duncan," a wounded Marine captain who received a Purple Heart and a Silver Star. Strandlof used that persona to found the Colorado Veterans Alliance and solicit funds for the organization. Actual veterans who served on the board were suspicious of his claims and the FBI began investigating. Robert Pepin, Strandlof's attorney, the ACLU of Colorado and the Rutherford Institute, a nonprofit civil liberties group, all filed briefs with Blackburn contesting the Stolen Valor Act. They argued that simply lying is not illegal. The Stolen Valor Act prohibits people from falsely claiming they have been awarded military decorations and medals. The act, signed into law in 2006, carries a punishment ranging from fines to six months in prison. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeremy Sibert had argued false statements made by Strandlof are not protected speech because they damaged the reputation and meaning of military decorations and medals. [Source: The Denver Post Felisa Cardona article 16 Jul 2010 ++]

**Medicare Scams Update 02:** Scammers are at it again, this time contacting seniors in an attempt to obtain personal information by asking them to reveal Medicare, Social Security or bank account numbers, or pay a fee to receive a \$250 Medicare rebate check. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging are getting reports of Medicare beneficiaries getting contacted by phone, mail or in person and asked for personal information in exchange for a \$250 Medicare rebate check. These one-time rebates are automatically mailed to Medicare recipients when they reach the Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage gap, also known as the —donut hole. Normally, a Medicare recipient will receive their \$250 rebate check within 45 days of reaching the \$2,830 expenses threshold for prescription drugs during a calendar year. Once that threshold is met, the recipient must pay all prescription drug costs until expenses reach \$3,610. That's when low-cost Medicare drug coverage at the catastrophic level kicks in. The \$250 rebate check is intended to help citizens offset the cost of prescription drugs. It was part of the health care reform legislation passed earlier this year. The new law addresses the gradual elimination of the —donut hole over the next few years. —We want to protect our seniors and are warning them to be on the alert for scam artists, said Sharon Gire, director

of the OSA. —These one-time Medicare rebate checks will be mailed to eligible individuals automatically and if contacted, seniors should not provide their personal information.¶

**Phone fraud warning signs:** When you give personal or financial information to unknown callers, you increase your chances of becoming a victim of telemarketing fraud. Some warning signs that you may be talking to a scam artist:

- They say that you must act —now¶ or the offer won't be good.
- They say that you must send money, give a credit card or bank account number, or have a check picked up by courier.
- They say that you don't need to check out the company with anyone, including your family, lawyer, accountant, local Better Business Bureau or consumer protection agency.
- They say that you don't need any written information about their company or their references.
- They say that you can't afford to miss this —high-profit, no-risk¶ offer.

**Avoid being a victim:** Medicare advises seniors to be wary of individuals who approach them with offers of good deals on Medicare prescription drug coverage. According to Medicare officials:

- Be wary of door-to-door salespeople. No one is authorized to come to your door uninvited with the purpose of selling you Medicare prescription drug coverage.
- Do not reveal personal health or financial information. Legitimate companies who sell Medicare prescription drug policies are not authorized to request personal information during marketing activities.
- Always protect your Medicare number. Like your credit cards and bank accounts, your Medicare number is personal and should not be given to strangers.
- Before you reveal personal information or sign a contract, confirm that the company is legitimate. Medicare has a list of approved companies, so it's easy to confirm that the company and coverage you choose is legitimate before you sign up or reveal financial information. If a salesperson pressures you to sign up without giving you time to check, run the other way.

Note: If you have questions about Medicare coverage, call 800-MEDICARE, or go online to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). If you suspect fraud, contact your local police or the Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General at 800-HHS-TIPS. [Source: Kalamazoo Gazette article 21 Jul 2010 ++]

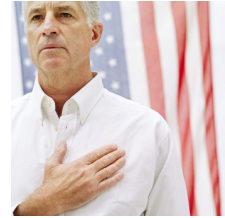
**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is a law that was enacted by the U.S. Congress in 1990 and signed into law by President George H. W. Bush, and later amended with changes effective 1 JAN 09. The ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. Among other things It addresses how the disabled are to be treated and accommodated in the areas of employment, public entities and public transportation, public accommodations (and commercial facilities), and telecommunications. It affords similar protections against discrimination to Americans with disabilities as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal. Disability is defined by the ADA as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity." The determination of whether any particular condition is considered a disability is made on a case by case basis. Certain specific conditions are excluded as disabilities, such as current substance abuse and visual impairment which is correctable by prescription lenses.

Kareem Dale, President Obama's White House adviser on disability policy during an interview on 24 JUL, said that advances in technology make revisiting the law a necessity. "When ADA was passed in 1990, the Web wasn't what it is now and technology wasn't what it is now," Dale. "The ADA and the law have to pick up with technology." Dale, who is legally blind, noted that he's unable to type in passwords or use certain authentication software on Web sites. But adding voice-recognition software might help, he said. The Justice Department also wants to make it easier for 9-1-1 call centers to accept text or video messages from disabled people and to find ways for movie theaters to offer movies with closed captioning. It may also consider mandating the use of more accessible office equipment and furniture, including accessible medical exam tables, chairs and scales and —talking¶ ATMs. "Our goal is to help level the playing field with disabilities to ensure that everyone has an opportunity," Dale said. [Source: Washington Post Ed O'Keefe article 26 Jul 2010 ++]



# FLAG FACTS

From wikipedia.org



The United States Flag Code establishes advisory rules for display and care of the flag of the United States. It is Section 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C. § 1 et seq). This is a U.S. federal law, but there is no penalty for failure to comply with it and it is not widely enforced — indeed, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that punitive enforcement would conflict with the First Amendment right to freedom of speech. A Flag Desecration Amendment has been proposed from time to time and, if ever passed into law, would override Supreme Court rulings on this matter. The following standards of respect for proper presentation of the flag should be followed:

- \* The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing, unless it is the ensign responding to a salute from a ship of a foreign nation. This tradition comes from the 1908 Summer Olympics in London, where countries were asked to dip their flag to King Edward VII: the American team flag bearer, Ralph Rose, refused in support of an Irish boycott over Great Britain's refusal to grant Irish independence, and teammate Martin Sheridan is often stated as famously proclaiming that "this flag dips to no earthly king. This tradition was codified as early as the 1911 U.S. Army drill regulations.
  - \* The flag should never be displayed with the union (the starred blue union) down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.
  - \* The flag should not be used as "wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery", or for covering a speaker's desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general (exception for coffins). Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.
  - \* The flag should never be drawn back or bunched up in any way.
  - \* The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
  - \* The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed, or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard.
  - \* The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, firefighters, police officers, and members of patriotic organizations.
  - \* Flag lapel pins may also be worn (they are considered replicas) and are worn near the heart.
  - \* The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind.
  - \* The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.
  - \* The flag should never be stepped on.
  - \* The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle, railroad train, or boat.
  - \* When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.
- The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.
- \* If the flag is being used at a public or private estate, it should not be hung (unless at half staff or when an all weather flag is displayed) during rain or violent weather.
  - \* When a flag is so tattered that it can no longer serve as a symbol of the United States, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner, preferably by burning. The American Legion, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA and other organizations regularly conduct dignified flag-burning ceremonies, often on Flag Day, 14 JUN.
  - \* The flag should never touch anything beneath it. Contrary to an urban legend, the flag code does not state that a flag that touches the ground should be burned. Instead, the flag should be moved so it is not touching the ground.
  - \* The flag should always be permitted to fall freely (This was not the case during the Apollo 11 moon landing when the US flag was reinforced by a horizontal bar at the top to allow full display even in absence of an atmosphere and the resulting lack of wind activity.)

[Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_Flag\\_Code](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Flag_Code) Jul 2010 ++]

Sure has been hot and I am hoping you are staying cool and are healthy and happy. Please remember that our dinner will be another "this and that" and you all do such a great job with the meal. I know you are tired of hearing my broken record but please don't forget your Secret Sister I really enjoy doing this, I think it is so much fun and such a joy to even look for goodies for mine. Paul and I have had a few health issues but we think we are doing better now and Emily is returning back to college. I know many of you know what we are going thru. I am going to go to the National Convention at the end of August and I take pride in representing you and the Carolina Piedmont Base. We are truly at great group. Paul and I love spending time with each of you. Take care and I will see you the 28th at our usual meeting place. May God bless you and yours and may God bless this great Nation we live in the USA., Sandra

## Ma Bell's Fruit Salsa

- 1 cup peeled/chopped cantaloupe
- 1 cup peeled/chopped mango
- 1 cup sliced strawberries
- 1/2 cup chopped cucumber
- 1/2 cup chopped green belled pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped red onion
- Small can of crushed pineapple
- Small can of corn
- 1 1/2 tablespoons of fresh mint
- 1 tablespoon of fresh basil
- 3 small limes (juice only)
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/4 teaspoon of salt

## Rules for Good Housekeeping (Especially for men!)

1. It is time to clean out the refrigerator when something closes the door from the inside.
2. Keep it clean enough for healthy, dirty enough for happy.
3. Never make fried chicken in the nude.
4. Do not engage in unarmed combat with a dust bunny big enough to choke the vacuum cleaner.
5. You make the beds, you do the dishes and six months later you have to start all over again.
6. If guys were suppose to hang clothes up, door knobs would be bigger.
7. My idea of housework is to sweep the room with a glance.
8. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.
9. Cobwebs artfully draped over lampshades reduce the glare from the bulb, thereby creating a romantic atmosphere.
10. When writing your name in the dust on the table, omit the date.



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15	16	17	18	19 Old Soldiers Parade	20	21 Nathanael Green Base 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Meeting Ft Mill 
29	30	31	Sept 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 VFW Breakfast! Ft. Mill
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Meeting Ft Mill 
26	27	28	29	30	October 1	2 10/09 - Autism Walk