



Carolina Piedmont Base of the USSVI presents the

Piedmont Periscope

Issue 1103

March 2011

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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.

The Carolina Piedmont Base has been asked again to present the Colors on Memorial weekend for the Charlotte Knights. This year the game will be on Monday at 7:00 PM. We get a group rate and members have requested to have better sets than last year; so we have requested the group rate for the box seats. It will cost us only \$12 per person but we need at least 20 to get this rate. So far about 10 seats have been requested. Let's get as many as we can and watch some future stars play some great baseball.

Lost Boats for March

"Sailors, rest you oars"



Let's go to the Ballpark!

Contact Moe(SS) at donutdad@carolina.rr.com or at 704-248-7610 to reserve your seat. Friend and family are welcome to be your guests.

Also, if you are interested in being part of the

Color Guard, let Moe (SS) know.

They said we can present the Colors for other games also. So let's be seen and be proud of what our Base does for the area. Some Sub Sailor will see us and ask about joining.



USS F-4 (SS 21)	March 25, 1915
USS H-1 (SS 28)	March 12, 1920
USS PERCH (SS 176)	March 3, 1942
USS GRAMPUS (SS 207)	March 5, 1943
USS TRITON (SS 201)	March 15, 1943
USS TULLIBEE (SS 284)	March 26, 1944
USS KETE (SS 369)	March 20, 1945
USS TRIGGER (SS 237)	March 26, 1945

Beware! Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is not the VA

Veteran Affairs Services (VAS):

An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. This organization is not affiliated with VA in anyway. Websites with the name "vaservices" immediately after the "www" ARE NOT part of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Government agency. Do not go to them or if approached or called, do not offer them any information concerning

yourself or data on other veterans. Keep in mind that the real VA website ends in —.gov! Be aware that the Department of Veterans Affairs does not randomly call veterans, nor does it ask veterans for information which it does not already have—like Social Security Numbers. In particular, if you have not dealt with the VA previously—and in person—and all of a sudden, you receive a call from someone saying they are with the VA or something similar sounding, hang up the phone. Also, do not respond to emails which suggest that

they are from the VA. The VA never conducts official business nor asks for personal information by email. VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of

VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Michael G. Daugherty, Staff Attorney, Department of Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel (022G2)810 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20420. [Source: Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, VSO Liaison Kevin Secor msg. 23 Feb 2011 ++]

Carolina Piedmont Contacts

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1st Vice Commander	Mike Hubbell	Mleohub@aol.com	803-628-1908
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Base Secretary	Jack Jeffries	jckjeffries@interlink-café.com	704 -764-5211
Base Treasurer	Lee Hickerson	ssnret@carolina.rr.com	704-573-9480
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Hey Sailor!

Put Down that remote, put your Boat hat on, and get out there and support your Carolina Piedmont Base!! Or you'll be on the next stores loading party.

- COB

On the PA system: 'Cleanup on aisle 25, we have a husband down.

A husband and wife are shopping in their local Wal-Mart. The husband picks up a case of Budweiser and puts it in their cart.

'What do you think you're doing?' asks the wife.

'They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans he replies.

'Put them back, we can't

afford them demands the wife, and so they carry on shopping.

A few aisles further on along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and puts that in the basket. What do you think you're doing?' asks the husband.

'It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful,' replies the wife.

Her husband retorts: 'So does 24 cans of Budweiser and it's half the price.

That's the last he remembered.

CO's Stateroom

As most of you know, Moe started our Flag Etiquette program at two elementary schools last month. This was well received by both schools and I am sure we will have more in the future. Thank you very much Moe. This, added to our submarine lectures, is really a good thing for these young people. But most importantly, any of you can participate in these. When the call comes out for volunteers for a given event, don't be afraid to step up to the plate.

Our Burnsville event is all set now. It is scheduled for 20 and 21 May. We have had to move hotels due to an issue with the Pinebridge Inn. They have new owners and now they no longer

allow alcohol to be consumed like we are accustomed to doing. So we found a new place just down the road from there and all is looking good. We have sent out the registration forms, so if you plan on attending, please get them in as I need to have a dinner count by the beginning of May.

Speaking of the Burnsville event, I am looking to have a raffle of items that folks have made. Both Lee Hickerson and myself have (or are making) something for this raffle. If any of you have some skill, and I am sure that some of you do, please donate something for this raffle. It takes more than just a couple of us to make this a worthwhile raffle.

It is parade season for us now. I put out the tentative schedule at the meeting as well as had it sent out to all of you. They are a lot of fun, so if you can make them, come on out and enjoy the day with some of your shipmates. And as the details of each are known, that information will be put out to you.

Recruiting new members is the responsibility of each of us. So if you happen to know anybody that is qualified and not a member of USSVI, talk them into joining. At least have them investigate the organization. It matters not if they become a member of our base. It is good for us all just to increase the overall strength of the organization.



**Carolina Piedmont
Base Commander
Steve Bell**

As various events become known we will get the information out to you. So do stay tuned to us. We intend to continue to increase our community events and the more we have, the more opportunity you will have to participate in some of them. I look forward to seeing more of you at these events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 26 March 2011 and I hope to see as many of you as possible.

Chaplin's Corner—Raymond Fritz, Base Chaplin

.Burned Offerings

We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. —

1 Thess. 1:2-3

I once quipped, in an evening worship service, that my wife worshiped me because she gave me 3 burnt offerings a day. To say the least, she really didn't appreciate the comment and the next Sunday, before going to the evening service, she served me

burnt pop tarts!



I was reminded of that, this week, when I received the following e-mail.

When I was a kid, my Mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made

Comm Center— Jack Jeffries, Base Secretary

CAROLINA PIEDMONT MINUTES

26 FEBRUARY 2011

1900- Meeting called to order by Commander Steve Bell. Invocation given by Chaplain Ray Fritz. Pledge of Allegiance. Tolling of the Boats lost during the month of February by Chaplain Ray Fritz. Introduction of members present, 28 present, Introduction of new member Dave Peck.

Previous meeting minutes approved as published in Piedmont Periscope. Seconded

Reading of Treasurers report- Balance- 2592.77, Memorial Restoration Fund-238.50,

Kaps4Kids fund-523.30, Scholarship Fund- 86.00, Available funds-1714.97 Approved, seconded

Old Business- none

New Business-

Motion made and seconded to pass the hat for SOY award. \$200.00 collected; check to be sent to District Commander Dick Kanning.

Discussed St Patrick's Day parade in Charlotte 19 March. Specific details to be published when received. Motion made and seconded to repay Glenn Harris for entry fee.

Discussed Massing of the Colors to be held in Greenville, SC 6 March. Walt Sealy, Jack Jeffries, Dale Moses and Glenn Harris to attend.

Opened the floor for nominations for the upcoming base elections, nominations received were:

Base Commander- Steve Bell, Vice Commander-Jack Jeffries, Treasurer- Lee Hickerson,

Base Secretary Mike Hubbell.

Nominations to remain open until close of March meeting, if you want to nominate anyone for these positions, contact Glenn Harris, Election supervisor.

Bob Bickford and John Wardean volunteered to take charge of the aluminum can drive.

Storekeeper's report- Displayed laser cut wood patches that can be purchased thru SK as a fundraiser. Cost to be \$35.00. More details will be published

Good of the Order-Owners of Skyline Village Inn made a presentation of their facilities where we can reserve rooms and have the use of the facilities for our annual gathering of NC Subvets to honor the Boats Lost at the Memorial on Moonshine Mountain. Information and registration forms will be forwarded.

Discussed the Kaps4Kids visit to Victory Junction 5 March.

Discussed the Flag Awareness program and results of the presentations made at schools in Ft. Mill and Lowell.

Passed on information about upcoming parades. Dates are to be published in Piedmont Periscope as well as upcoming All Clear.

Gave report on Submarine History presentations that were presented in the month of February.

Made a report on Eagle Scout presentations attended during the month of February.

Next meeting scheduled for March 26 2011

2020- Motion to adjourn, seconded. Benediction offered by Chaplain Ray Fritz.

Jack Jeffries, Base Secretary

Chaplin (con't)

breakfast after a long, hard day at work. On that evening so long ago, my Mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed!

Yet all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my Mom and ask me how my day was at school. I don't re-

member what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit. He ate every bite of that thing... Never made a face nor uttered a word about it!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my Mom apologize to my dad for burning the bis-

cuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burned

CPB travels to Greenville SC to present Colors

Members Jeff Nieberding, Glenn Harris, Dale Moses, and Walt Sealy traveled to Greenville to present our Base and National Colors during the Scottish Rite's Massing of the Colors.

The area was represented by over 30 units presenting their Colors. Many JROTC and ROTC units participated in the annual event.

It is very "moving" to see all the Colors and the youth, that is under great "peer-pressure" being teens, honoring our Nations National Emblem, our Flag.

This event will occur in Columbia and Rock Hill in the near future. If you have not seen a Massing of the Colors, contact Walt Sealy for the timing of these events. It is worth the drive.



Flag Trivia—
Where did this
Flag fly in our
Nation's history?

Need Supplies?

The Supply Shack- Jeff Nieberding the SK.

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

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.

Jeff Nieberding and Moe(SS) present the Base Colors. Photo by Glenn Harris.



Chaplin (con't)

biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times. Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else. But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults - and choosing to celebrate each other's differences - is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today... That you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where

a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

"Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil - it has no point."



The COB on the USS Skate was a WW2 Subvet and life aboard was similar to that of a WW2 sub. The single guys (I was one) lived aboard the boat 24/7, even while in port and the meals were terrific! Then I got married ... we had our 1st Thanksgiving meal aboard the Skate in 1959.

Diana was new at cooking. So, in my ignorance, I gave her a cookbook that I had purchased a few years before! Wasn't that a nice gesture? I must tell you that through our years together she has been a terrific cook and, except for the smart aleck inci-

dent mentioned above, she has **not** given me many burnt offerings. However, not counting the time spent at sea, I realize that she has faithfully fixed, through the years, approximately 56,000 meals for our family - and most of those meals for a family of six!

The point is -- I have, too often, taken Diana and the things that she does for me and our family for granted. If you are guilty of the same sin, repent and change your ways. If you are not married then thank your mother! At any rate, it will do your marriage well. Thank you Diana!

PS - Her pop tarts now look like this (**most of the time**)!

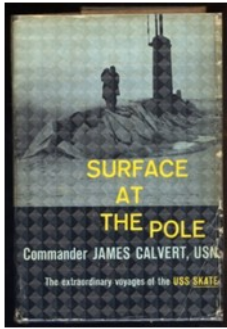
But the fruit of the Spirit



is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. - **Galatians 5:22**



March 17th, 1959



It was a long, long time ago in a distant place for the 1st time in history for a submarine. The Skate had been under the ice pack in the summer of 1958 when it crossed under the North Pole on 12 August at 0147Z. Then, on 18 August at 1935Z, she surfaced, through an opening in the ice, at floating ice station Alpha.

The USS Skate SSN-578 would then go on to become the 1st submarine in history to surface at the North Pole on 17 March 1959 at 1054Z. On those 30+ days and 3,000+ miles under the ice cap it broken through the ice and surfaced 15 times before returning to New London, CT to bands and shouts of “Welcome home!” from family and friends. We had been sitting on top of the world!

I was a fireman striking for Electrician’s Mate 3rd Class and had, for part of the journey, the job of mess cook. You all know what that is.

During that historic patrol under the ice cap, Captain James Calvert, USN held a memorial service for Sir Hubert Wilkins, an arctic explorer who had attempted to take a submarine (now civilian) under the ice in the 20s and 30s. His crew was so concerned at one point that they actually sawed the propeller shaft off one night to prevent him from proceeding!

When the Skate returned to port we found “Polar Bear Liners” for the inside of our jumpers! (Shown along with the beard).

I earned my dolphins while serving aboard the Skate. Captain James Calvert presented them to me on the pier at the Submarine Base in New London, CT.



Mess Cook Ray



Sir Hubert Wilkins



Wilkins’ sub Nautilus



New members Binnacle List

Welcome Aboard

Dave Peck

Anna Tuchfeld

Clarence Allan

Happy Birthday to:

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



April

Jolanda Lynch 4/02
Linda Zieverink 4/09
Paul Simerly 4/09
Donna Blassingham 4/11
Linda Crystal 4/14
Emma Howell 4/22
Dee Rutter 4/30

If we missed your birthday or a spouses birthday, please let us know.
—Jack or Moe(SS)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

March

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



April

Mary and Robert
Bickford - 4/21
Judy and William Hickerson - 4/23
Karen and Michael
Toomey - 4/24

CAROLINA PIEDMONT SUBVETTES

Hello Sassy Sisters hope you and yours are doing fine Spring is almost here and I will glad to feel the 70 degree weather again. If you read the National Spring Newsletter I hope you read the article I sent to the National president about our wonderful base I am very proud of us doing all the service projects plus are fun things we do for each

other and I THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. The cruise is all set up and ready to go and, I am looking forward to going. Remember our meal is another "this and that" which I know we all do a great job in making the meal so delicious. As a reminder don't forget your secret sister also remember any CDs or DVDs

for the hospitals and please continue giving the recruiters the treats from us. This is a personal note I would like to share with you our daughter Emily just got accepted to the nursing program at UNCP and we are so proud of her. Hope to see you at our next meeting. May God Bless You and May God Bless the USA..



Beef & Barley Soup

Using just a small amount of lean beef makes a satisfying soup but without loading up on saturated fat. We have purposely used chicken broth instead of beef broth, because canned beef broth tends to have a tinny taste. However, if you happen to have access to homemade beef broth, use that instead.

- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon plus 3 cups water
- 2 large onions, coarsely chopped
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 carrots, thinly sliced
- 2 large parsnips, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup pearl barley
- 2 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 6 ounces beef bottom round, cut into 1/2-inch chunks

- 2 teaspoons grated lemon zest
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

In a nonstick Dutch oven, heat the oil and 1 tablespoons of the water over medium heat. Add the onions and garlic, and cook, stirring occasionally, until the onions have softened, about 7 minutes.

Add the carrots, parsnips, and barley, stirring to coat. Stir in the broth, remaining 3 cups water, the oregano, salt, and pepper, and increase the heat to high. Bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer, cover, and cook until the barley and vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes.

Stir in the beef, cover again, and simmer until the beef is cooked through, about 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the lemon zest and juice.

Number of Servings: 4

This would be a great time in the world for some man to come along that knew something. - Will Rogers



Piedmont Funnies Page

Snotty Receptionist –

Provided by Jim Schenk

Yesterday I had an appointment to see the urologist for a prostate exam. Of course, I was a bit on edge because all my friends have either gone under the knife, or had those pellets implanted.

The waiting room was filled with patients. As I approached the receptionist's desk, I noticed that the receptionist was a large and unfriendly woman who looked like a Sumo wrestler.

I gave her my name, and in a very loud voice, she said, "Yes, I have your name here. You want to see the Doctor about impotence, right?"

All of the patients in the waiting room snapped their heads around to look at me, a now very embarrassed man.

But as usual, I recovered quickly and said, in an equally loud voice, "No, I've come to inquire about a sex-change operation, but I don't want the same Doctor that did yours."

The room erupted in applause.

Don't mess with old retired guys.....

Another from Jim...

The Biker Kiss

A tough looking group of outlaw bikers were riding when they saw a girl about to jump off a bridge so they stop.

The leader, a big burly man, gets off his bike and says, "What are you doing?"

"I'm going to commit suicide," she says.

While he did not want to appear insensitive, he didn't want to miss an opportunity he asked "Well, before you jump, why don't you give me a kiss?"

So, she does and it was a long, deep lingering kiss.

After she's finished, the biker says, "Wow! That was the best kiss I have ever had. That's a real talent you are wasting. You could be famous why are you committing suicide?"

My parents don't like me dressing up like a girl....."

Charlie's wife, Lucy, had been after him for several weeks to paint the seat on their toilet. Finally, he got around to doing it while Lucy was out.

After finishing, he left to take care of another matter before she returned. She came in and undressed to take a shower. Before getting in the shower, she sat on the toilet. As she tried to stand up, she realized that the not-quite-dry epoxy paint had glued her to the toilet seat.

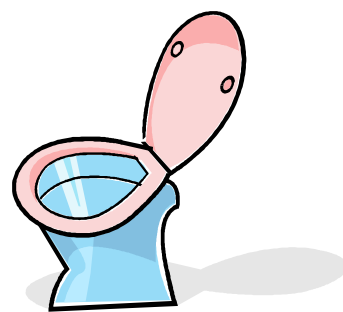
About that time, Charlie got home and realized her predicament.

They both pushed and pulled without any success whatsoever. Finally, in desperation, Charlie undid the toilet seat bolts. Lucy wrapped a sheet around herself and Charlie drove her to the hospital emergency room.

The ER Doctor got her into a position where he could study how to free her (Try to get a mental picture of this.). Lucy tried to lighten the embarrassment of it all by saying, "Well, Doctor,

I'll bet you've never seen anything like this before."

The Doctor replied, "Actually, I've seen lots of them. I just never saw one mounted and framed!!!"



Don't try this at home

I went out with some friends last night and tied one on. Knowing that I was wasted, I did something that I have never done before. I took a bus home. I arrived home safe and warm, which seemed really surprising as I have never driven a bus before.



Tomato Patch

An elderly Italian gentleman lived alone, and he wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was hard.

His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent,

I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days.

Love, Papa

A few days later he received a letter from his

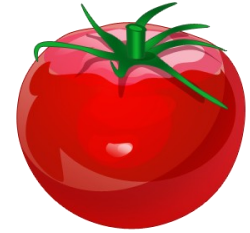
son.

Dear Pop,

Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.

Love, Vinnie

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left.



That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Pop,

Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.

Love, Vinnie

The Last Nickel

A father walks into a restaurant with his young son. He gives the young boy 3 nickels to play with to keep him occupied.

Suddenly, the boy starts choking, going blue in the face. The father realizes the boy has swallowed the nickels and starts slapping him on the back.

The boy coughs up 2 of the nickels, but keeps choking. Looking at his son, the father is panicking, shouting for help.

A well dressed, attractive, and serious looking woman, in a blue business suit is sitting at a coffee bar reading a newspaper and sipping a cup of coffee. At the

sound of the commotion, she looks up, puts her coffee cup down, neatly folds the newspaper and places it on the counter, gets up from her seat and makes her way, unhurried, across the restaurant.

Reaching the boy, the woman carefully drops his pants; takes hold of the boy's testicles and starts to squeeze and twist, gently at first and then ever so firmly. After a few seconds the boy convulses violently and coughs up the last nickel, which the woman deftly catches in her free hand

Releasing the boy's testicles, the woman hands the nickel to the father and walks back to her

seat at the coffee bar without saying a word.

As soon as he is sure that his son has suffered no ill effects, the father rushes over to the woman and starts thanking her saying, "I've never seen anybody do anything like that before, it was fantastic.

Are you a doctor? "

'No,' the woman replied, 'I'm with the IRS.

PUZZLED?

A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbor and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get started."

Her neighbor asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's

finished?"

The little silver haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster."

Her neighbor decides to go over and help with the puzzle. She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster."

He takes her hand and says, "Secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea, and then," he said with a deep sigh ... "Let's put all the Corn Flakes back in the box."

As It Should Be – by Carol Jeffries (8 Nov89)

All the goals and dreams in life
we set forth to do we ask the Lord
above to guide and direct us in
what we pursue

We know that with patience and
time and faith within ourselves,
the Lord, will shower us and fail-
ure will not prevail. The clouds
will disappear and sunshine
shows through.

In all we strive to do, nothing is
impossible through good works
and deeds, we know that God
meets all our needs

Through tests of tribulations and
trials, frowns will disappear and
there will be smiles

Knowing, striving to do our very

best, the Lord gives us at the end
of the day a peaceful rest

May we never tarry nor set aside
to reach our destinations we have
inside

To do the best and sometimes be-
yond, to be a winner in all we
have set forth to achieve, how
glorified we can look to others
and show “we believe”.

The positive erases the negative,
faith reverses failures, to where
failures are lessons we learn from
To have reached the top:, but be-
gan on the bottom

To attain, achieve and accomplish
the tasks we set forth within our
minds and hearts and to be an ex-
ample of belief in us, as a human

being,

Start to give love and thanks to the
one above, for allowing us to
dream, reach our goals and to love
May each day be brought many
new ventures and with all we at-
tain, count it as blessings of gain,
from the impossible to possible,
knowing we gave

It our very best, even though it was
a trying test, for we held within,
the need to succeed

To sow the seeds of believing,
trusting, having faith are blessings
given unto us, and in the Lord
above, we fully trust.

For without his glorious presence,
where would we stand, but alone
and absent from our beliefs.

Saving some money at the Pump

The last time you were at
the pump, you probably
noticed the price of gas is
creeping towards \$4 a gal-
lon and it may reach \$5 a
gallon. Get used to the
idea. As the world econ-
omy improves, rising
world demand for oil, cou-
pled with a weak dollar,
virtually guarantees higher
prices. Just as predictable
as higher prices at the
pump are the plethora of
articles you'll soon start
seeing offering advice to
save on gas. As you did
the last time prices spiked,
you'll see ideas like
—shop around, —slow
down or —use a gas
credit card that offers re-
bates. If they sound fa-

miliar, that's because
you got them in 2008.
To bring you up to date
on advice you may have
heard or already knew,
here's a condensed ver-
sion recently culled from
the internet:

□ Pay Cash if you can
get a discount for it.

□ Fill up at a warehouse
club. Usually runs five
to ten cents per gallon
cheaper.

□ Weight. Take the ex-
tra weight out of your
car. Just 100 unneces-
sary lbs. in your car can
make your car 2% per-
cent less efficient on gas
mileage. This effect is
more prevalent in

smaller vehicles.

□ Motor oil. You can
improve your gas mile-
age by 1–2% by using
the manufacturer's rec-
ommended grade of mo-
tor oil. For example, us-
ing 10W-30 motor oil in
an engine designed to
use 5W-30 can lower
your gas mileage by 1–
2%. Using 5W-30 in an
engine designed for 5W-
20 can lower your gas
mileage by 1–1.5%.
Also, look for motor oil
that says "Energy Con-
serving" on the API per-
formance symbol to be
sure it contains friction-
reducing additives.

□ Tune-up. Fixing a car

that is noticeably out of
tune or has failed an
emissions test can im-
prove its gas mileage by
an average of 4%.

□ Tire alignment. Gas
mileage increases as
rolling resistance de-
creases. Total alignment
sets all four wheels par-
allel which, along with
proper inflation, mini-
mizes rolling resistance.

Tire pressure. You can
improve your gas mile-
age by up to 3.3% by
keeping your tires in-
flated to the proper pres-
sure. Under-inflated tires
can lower gas mileage
by 0.3% for every 1 psi
drop in pressure of all

four tires.

□ Air filter. Replacing a clogged air filter on an older car with a carbureted engine may improve fuel economy 2 to 6% under normal replacement conditions or up to 14% if the filter is so clogged that it significantly affects drivability. Replacing a clogged air filter on cars with fuel-injected, computer-controlled gasoline engines does not improve fuel economy but it can improve acceleration time by around 6 to 11%. This kind of engine is prevalent on most gasoline cars manufactured from the early 1980s onward.

□ Don't use high octane gas unless your car is pinging. The octane rating of gasoline is the measure of how much fuel can be compressed before it ignites, rather than it being ignited by spark. Using the incorrect octane level fuel in your vehicle can negatively affect fuel economy and the engine itself.

□ Don't top off your tank and make sure your gas cap is tight.

□ Gas tank level. Change in mileage is insignificant on filling up half empty versus empty tanks. Weight of

15 gallons of gas is about 93 lbs so filling up at lower levels could decrease average weight of the car with a minimal increase in mileage. Every car built for sale in the U.S. since about 1966 has a fuel tank evaporation emission control system. It is designed to siphon off fuel tank fumes, filter them through an activated charcoal canister and vent them to the air filter or the intake manifold. From there the fumes are sucked into the engine and burned.

□ Poor driving practices can lower your mileage by up to a third. Aggressive practices include speeding, heavy braking, rapid acceleration and "jackrabbiting".

□ Gearing. Staying in the upper rev range in each gear for extended periods can consume massive amounts of gasoline.

□ Hills. If you're coming to a hill, it's best to accelerate before it, rather than while on it. Also, using a lower gear going uphill saves gas.

□ Rough Roads. Gravel and unsealed roads play havoc with fuel economy and are also far less safe than tarred roads. Avoid them where you

can.

□ Braking. Every time you apply your brakes, you lose the momentum built up by burning gas at acceleration. The less braking you do, the more momentum you conserve.

□ Watch traffic and traffic lights ahead of you so you can anticipate slowdowns and avoid stops.

□ Windows. Keep closed. Driving with the windows down creates drag which means that your engine has to work harder to keep your car at the current speed; this burns more gas than if you just ran your air conditioner.

□ Air Conditioner. The air conditioner draws its power from the engine which uses some gas, but with most of today's cars, this use of gas is minute. The air conditioner can decrease the fuel economy of your car up to 20% in some vehicles, but it depends on the type. Driving with the air conditioner is more fuel efficient than driving with the windows down.

□ Ride the slipstream. Not recommended. Drafting, while it creates better gas mileage for truckers, creates increased risks for drivers

Answer to the Flag Trivia:

The Bennington Flag is easily identified by a large '76' in the canton, recalling the year 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was signed. Another distinctive feature of the Bennington flag is the arrangement of the 13 stripes, with white being outermost (rather than red being outermost as in the current flag). Also, its stars have seven points each (instead of the current five).

of smaller vehicles.

□ Engine warm-up. If needed, less than a minute is adequate.

□ Idling. If you have a reliable vehicle, don't let your car idle for more than 30 seconds - switch it off. Around town this can save you a substantial amount of fuel over the year and not to mention a huge amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

[Source: Money-TalksNews Stacy Johnson article 8 Dec 2010 ++]

From Helicopters to Submarines

This is from the local newspaper many years ago. It seems though our Base member Bob Bunney had a life before the Submarine Service.

Spec. 5 Robert C. Bunney, son of Mr. And Mrs. Earl Bunney of 416 Oaklan Dr., has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart for meritorious service in Vietnam.

He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions while serving with the Fifth Infantry Division a crew chief/gunner on a helicopter.

The citation for his Distinguished Flying Cross reads as follows:

“For heroism while participating in aerial flight evidenced by voluntary actions above and beyond the call of duty: On February 11, 1971 In Quang Tri Province, Republic of Vietnam, Spec. 4 Bunney distinguished himself by exceptionally valorous actions while serving as crew chief aboard a OH-58A light observation helicopter.”

“Reconnoitering an area where another scout helicopter had taken intense enemy fire, Spec. 4

Bunney’s aircraft also became the target of enemy .50 caliber machine guns and intense automatic small arms fire from a battalion size enemy force. He immediately directed extremely accurate suppressive fire into the anti-aircraft positions, silencing the enemy fire and enabling the aircraft to withdraw without damage.”

“Artillery and airstrikes were called in and again Spec. 4 Bunney’s aircraft entered the area to assess bomb damage and remark enemy positions. Flying low level, the aircraft encountered very intense enemy fire all quadrants. Spec 4 Bunney simultaneously marked and returned pinpoint accurate fire into the enemy gun positions. Subsequently, the aircraft was disabled by enemy fire and the pilot auto-rotated down.”

“Although the aircraft was moving at slight forward speed and provided an excellent target for the enemy, Spec. 4 Bunney suspended himself from the aircraft in order to more effectively suppress enemy fire. As a result none of the crew was injured by hostile fire.”

“Spec. 4 Bunney’s heroic actions were inkeeping with the highest tradition of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the U.S. Army.”

The local soldier received the Purple Heart for being wounded in action the same day.

Spec. 4 Bunney was also commended for action against the enemy on October 8th, 1970, near the Laotian border.

In addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart, he has also received the Air Medal with V, Basic Air Medal, I-21, Army Commendations, National Defense Ribbon, Vietnamese campaign and service ribbons and crew member badge.

He is now stationed at Ft. Bragg.

A 1969 graduate of Williams High School, Spec. 5 Bunney entered the Army in June 1969. He served in Vietnam from November 1969 to December 1979 and from January 1971 until wounded in February.

Thanks Bob for both your services and for



being active with the Carolina Piedmont Base

Our Shipmate -Bob Bunney



Another Carolina Piedmont Cruise?

Hey Carolina Piedmont,

I am looking at putting another cruise together and would love some input as to where you would like to go, and the time frame. Also what port would you like to leave from. Its about 525 miles to Cape Canaveral. I will be waiting for your feedback. my email is HOLLT-KIDS@aol.com and phone number 704-289-4650.



We need your stories

Every Boat Sailor has stories. You can find one, clean it up and peck it into an e-mail and send it to donutdad@carolina.rr.com

It's winter time, you can't work outside, but you can talk a half-hour and type up a story.

We won't even care if it true or not.—Moe(SS)

Next
Meeting:
Ft. Mill at
VFW Post
9138

March
26th
At
5:30 PM

VETERANS NEWS

by the RAQ Bulletin

Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day:

Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) last week sponsored a resolution designating 30 MAR as —Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day! The proposed resolution S.RES. 55, presently has 5 cosponsors. It states and resolves that the Senate:

(1) honors and recognizes the contributions of veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces in Vietnam during war and during peace;

(2) encourages States and local governments to also establish 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day'; and

(3) encourages the people of

the United States to observe 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day' with appropriate ceremonies and activities that:

a. provide the appreciation Vietnam War veterans deserve, but did not receive upon returning home from the war;

b. demonstrate the resolve that never again shall the Nation disregard and denigrate a generation of veterans;

c. promote awareness of the faithful service and contributions of such veterans during their military service as well as to their communities since returning home;

d. promote awareness of the importance of entire communities empowering veterans and the families of veterans to readjust to civilian life after military service; and

e. promote opportunities for such veterans to assist younger veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in rehabilitation from wounds, both seen and unseen, and to support the reintegration of younger veterans into civilian life.

[Source: TREA Washington Update 25 Feb 2011 ++]

IRS/SSA Name Change:

If you changed your name as a result of a recent marriage or divorce you'll want to take the necessary steps to ensure the name on your tax return matches the name registered with the Social Security Administration. A mismatch between the name shown on your tax return and the SSA records can cause problems in the processing of your return and may even delay your refund. Here are five tips from the IRS for recently married or divorced taxpayers who have a name change.

□ If you took your spouse's last name or if

both spouses hyphenate their last names, you may run into complications if you don't notify the SSA. When newlyweds file a tax return using their new last names, IRS computers can't match the new name with their Social Security Number.

□ If you were recently divorced and changed back to your previous last name, you'll also need to notify the SSA of this name change.

□ Informing the SSA of a name change is easy; you'll just need to file a Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security

Card at your local SSA office and provide a recently issued document as proof of your legal name change.

□ Form SS-5 is available on SSA's website at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>, by calling 800-772-1213 or at local offices. Your new card will have the same number as your previous card, but will show your new name.

□ If you adopted your spouse's children after getting married, you'll want to make sure the children have an SSN. Taxpayers must provide an SSN for each depend-

ent claimed on a tax return. For adopted children without SSNs, the parents can apply for an Adoption Taxpayer Identification Number - or ATIN - by filing Form W-7A, Application for Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions with the IRS. The ATIN is a temporary number used in place of an SSN on the tax return. Form W-7A is available on the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov>, or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

[Source: IRS TAX TIP 2011-23 10 Feb 2011 ++]

Some Bills of Interest

H.R.648 : Pledge of Allegiance Saluting. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to authorize members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans to render a military salute during the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sponsor: Rep Terry, Lee [NE-2] (introduced 2/10/2011) Cosponsors (None)

Committees: House Judiciary

Latest Major Action: 2/10/2011 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

S.344 : Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2011. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Reid, Harry [NV] (introduced 2/14/2011) Cosponsors (7)

Committees: Senate Armed Services

Latest Major Action: 2/14/2011 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

To support this bill and/or contact your legislators send a message via

[http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=31190506&queueid=\[capwiz:queue_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=31190506&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

VA Caregiver Program Update 03

Nine months after President Obama authorized a broad expansion of benefits for those caring for service members severely wounded in the nation's two current wars, none of the assistance has materialized and it is caught up in a bureaucratic tangle that could shrink the number of families eligible for the help. Obama made care for military veterans and their families a priority in his role as commander in chief, and in MAY 2010 he signed into law a measure that for the first time would give cash assistance, counseling and fill-in help known as "respite care" to people overseeing the convalescence of wounded troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. As veterans and their families looked on during a White House signing ceremony,

Obama called the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act a "major step forward in America's commitment to families and caregivers who tend to our wounded warriors every day." But the Department of Veterans Affairs has since missed the 31 JAN deadline for fully implementing the program, leaving the families of wounded troops to wonder when the promised help will arrive. The delays appear to be, in part, the result of an overly optimistic assessment of how long it would take to get the complex program up and running.

Chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), along with 17 Senators from both sides of the aisle, have written to

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Jack Lew, to urge the Administration to carry out the law and begin providing supportive services to caregivers of wounded veterans. It has been reported that some family members of seriously injured veterans have had to leave their jobs and make tremendous sacrifices without training, counseling, and financial benefits. Senator Murray's letter is available on the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs website.

http://veterans.senate.gov/press-releases.cfm?action=release.display&release_id=d58b9621-6fa0-4ad8-95ff-3ee707041f5c. [Source: Washington Post Scott Wilson article 14 Feb 2011 +]



Q: What's wrong with the picture in above ?

A: "When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street." (Flag Code, Sec-

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON SSBN 598 SEA STORIES—By Joel Tuchfeld



These sea stories were written for the USS George Washington web page and can be found at: <http://www.ssbn598.mysitehq.com/seastories.html>.

On my first patrol on the GW, I was one of only four non-rated enlisted men. This meant that I had to mess cook the entire patrol.

I was ordered to the George Washington on 18 November 1966 after having completed the 359th graduating class of Submarine School in Groton Connecticut. I received my orders the day before the Washington's crew was to fly to Holly Lock Scotland where the boat was moored along side the submarine tender USS Simon Lake, (AS-33). I didn't know anyone on the crew but Yeoman, Fred Baisch YN2 (SS) gave me the scoop about the GW on the plane ride to Scotland.

The crew arrived at Prestwick Airport in Glasgow Scotland and was bussed over to Dunoon where we hopped onto a military ferry to the Simon Lake and the GW. I was the junior man on the boat so they assigned me a

bunk right by the head (bathroom) which was an experience unto itself. I was ordered to mess cook on the Simon Lake during the four day crew change over period between the gold and blue crew. I was on the best or blue crew as I was told. I then messed cooked for the entire ninety day patrol. Twenty six days in port for overhaul four days sea trials and sixty days out on patrol. It was fun....

One of my jobs as a mess cook was to assemble all the cans of food necessary to feed the crew on a particular day. We stored the cartons of food in the torpedo room and the missile compartment. At the beginning of the patrol the boxes were stacked in a large contained area in the torpedo room all the way to the overhead, (ceiling). It was quite a chore getting a carton of canned food underneath ten other cartons! One day I was getting a little uptight having looked for one carton of carrots without finding them. I guess I was kind of cursing out loud when the C.O. walked by. Captain Ordell Smith had a great sense of humor and was

a former white hat (mustang) himself. He shouted out, "Who is making all that noise in there"? I didn't know it was the Captain so I shouted out a couple of choice expletives and was startled when I turned around and saw the C.O. staring at me. He said, "Have you ever been yelled at by a C.O. before?" I said "no Sir, but have you ever been cursed out by a carton of carrots Sir"? He walked away with a big grin on his face as I turned white as a ghost. Yes, I finally found the carton of carrots which I was so earnestly looking for.

During my second patrol, on one of our scheduled drill days, Captain Smith ordered me to remove the Amphenol connected to the Mk 45 torpedo and I did as ordered. This immediately caused an alarm. While I was making my escape out of the torpedo room, TM1 (SS) Walters grabbed me. Now Walters was a big guy and strong as an Ox. He just picked me up my jump suite collar and showed me off like a mother cat holding her kitten. Of course the C.O. saw this along with the entire torpedo room gang, drill

team, and everyone who was quartered up in the torpedo's room's, Hanging Gardens crews birthing area. Walters had caught the perpetrator and everyone had a good laugh at my expense. I was constantly reminded during the patrol by the guys to keep away from the Mk 45 torpedoes or else! Mess cooking was a lot easier than this I thought.

I was an Interior Communications (IC) striker during my second patrol. In fact, I took the IC exam and was rated by my third patrol. IC 1 (SS) Strom was my mentor along with MM 1 (SS) Gibson. They helped me out a great deal in both ships qualifications, IC, BCP and AEF qualifications. I had had already qualified on the top side watch and the fairwater planes and stern planes which steered our 381 foot nuclear powered vessel. One day Lt. Charles Williams, a transplanted Texan, was doing sit-ups near the BCP panel and just to the side of the periscopes. He saw me walking around the area and asked me how I was doing in ships qualifications. I said, "I am doing fine Sir." He then asked

me to find the nearest ship's Claxton in the compartment. I said, "yes Sir," and started looking. To my knowledge there was no Control Room Claxton. IC1 (SS) Strom however, got hold of me and said, "Tuck, we are going to place a Claxton right above the area where Lt Williams does his sit-ups. After we placed the Claxton up there and informed some well chosen crew members, the scuttlebutt got to the other officers and C.O. Lt. Williams did his sit-ups as usual and he noticed the Claxton up on the overhead. I think he assumed it was there all the time because he asked me where it was and I showed it to him. A few weeks later Strom and I took it down. By that time, just about everyone but Lt. Williams was in on the prank. One day Captain Smith said, "Charley have you seen the Control room Claxton?" Lt. Williams looked up and pointed toe the overhead and said, "It's up..."

Well, everyone in the control room started laughing and when the Captain left the area Lt. Williams said, "Tuck I don't get pissed I get

even." Lt Williams never did get even with me but we did laugh about it together a couple of patrols later.

A letter from the USS George Washington (SSBN 598) Blue July 1968

Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm writing this letter from the crews mess on the G.W. As I scan this thirty by twenty foot area, I see five tables, three of them parallel to each other and the other two perpendiculars to the three. These tables have been witness to countless meals, thousands of card games, hundreds of movies and numerous lectures and drills.

On the aft bulkhead (wall) a plaque reads. "USS GEORGE WASHINGTON Named for the first President of The United States of America Built by General Dynamics Corporation Electric Boat Division, Groton Conn. Authorized 20 January 1958 Keel Laid 1 November 1957 Launched 9 June 1959 Commissioned 30 December 1959."




In just nine days, I'll be saying goodbye to this magnificent mass of steel; its brotherly crew of 115 enlisted men and officers. I have been privileged to have spent four patrols fully two years of my life with these men and this glorious submersible.

Only submariners who have earned their Silver or Gold Dolphins can understand my feelings as this juncture. Every one of us has worked twelve hour shifts readying the boat for its sojourn. Then on our sixty days at sea, we drill day after day to keep our mines and bodies tuned for action. Each one of our 115 different actions joins in symmetry as smooth as the humming turbines which propel us through the seas. Each one of my shipmates has formed within me a bond of memories ever lasting.

Pride Runs Deep



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	14	15	16	17 	18	19 Charlotte Parade
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 CPB Meeting Ft. Mill 5:30 Dinner 7:00 Meeting
27	28	29	30	31	April Fool's 	2
3	4	5	6	7	9 	10— Breakfast at the VFW
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Base Meeting VFW Post 9138
25	26	27	28	29	30	May-Day

One way to support VFW Post 9138 is to attend their **Saturday Morning Breakfast** held on the **second Saturday** of each month from **8am to 11am**— Come on out!