



Carolina Piedmont Base of the USSVI presents the

# Piedmont Periscope

Issue 1104

April 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.

## Burnsville Event coming in May

The Burnsville Memorial Event will be held the weekend prior to Memorial Day weekend.

This year do to changes in the property ownership, we will not be at the same location. This year the main event will be at the Skyline Village Inn. When they are full they will make reservations at a "Sister" Inn just a few minutes away.

The gathering of NC Subvets to honor the Boats Lost at the Memorial on Moonshine Mountain on Saturday May 21. With Saturday's agenda as follows:

1000 NC SUBVET Meeting

1130 Lunch at Western Sizzlin (on your own)

1400 Memorial Service on Moonshine Mountain

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

1800 Catered Meal @ the Skyline Village Inn Hospitality Room

-Hospitality Room will be open during the day Saturday.

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

The cost is \$25 per person for the meal and such. Lodging is extra, of course. Please let Steve Bell know as soon as possible so an accurate head count may be obtained. Note: the rooms at the Skyline are full, but the over-flow Inn still has space.

## Lost Boats for April

*"Sailors, rest you oars"*



USS PICKEREL (SS 177) -April 3, 1943

USS GRENADIER (SS 210) -April 22, 1943

USS GUNGEON (SS 211) -April 18, 1944

USS SNOOK (SS 279) -April 8, 1945

USS THRESHER (SSN 593) -April 10, 1963

## There's a new group in town (well in the Carolinas)



On April 2nd a group of motorcycle riders from the Carolina Bases of the USSVI traveled to Hartsville, SC to organize and form the CAROLINAS CHAPTER of the Silent Service Motorcycle Club (SSMC). Riding motorcycles is a hobby for many, including submariners. Riding with friends is a lot of fun; riding with shipmates is even more fun.

It takes 7 members to form a Chapter and we have 9 and some more to recruit. Our members and their Bases are:

Dale Moses – Carolina Piedmont

Ronald Sagaert – SSMC

Joseph Peek – Carolina Tarheels

John Wardean – Carolina Tarheels

James Simon – Carolina Coastal

Arnold Kirk – Carolina Piedmont

Mike Adams – Denizens of the Deep (Base Commander)

Robert Bickford – Carolina Piedmont

John Herina — Carolina Coastal

Dale will serve as the Chapter President, while Mike Adams serves as Vice President. Ron Sagaert will serve as Secretary/Treasurer.

Ride will be setup regionally and the regional member will act as Road Captain.

If you ride come and join us! Ladies and friends can join as associate members.

We hope to support some of the area parades riding along with the Boat and Torpedo. That big set of “fish” on the back of an SSMC vest is impressive and may bring in some of those “fence-sitters” that are submariners but won’t join. To be a SSMC member you must be a member in good standing with the USSVI. Let’s grow together. – Moe(SS)



Above—Arnold, Mike and Ron are getting ready to ride.

Right—The group poses



## Carolina Piedmont Contacts

Base Commander	Steve Bell
1st Vice Commander	Mike Hubbell
2nd Vice Commander	Vacant
Base Secretary	Jack Jeffries
Base Treasurer	Lee Hickerson
Chief of the Base	Howard Dachs
Base Chaplin	Raymond Fritz
Base Storekeeper	Jeff Nieberding
Holland Club	Walt Sealy
Coordinator	
Newsletter Editor	E. Dale Moses

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704-248-7610

## CO's Stateroom

I would like to thank the Carolina Piedmont Base membership for both the privilege of serving as your Base Commander for almost the last two years and now for the honor of being able to fill that same position for the next two years. I only hope that I live up to the expectations you have for me.

As we near the event we are hosting for the Burnsville weekend, I again am asking for items for our raffle that weekend. We have a few now, but more is better for the raffle. This, and the 50/50 we will be having is our only money maker for this event. I would like for those that have not sent in their registration (and fee) to please to do that so we can plan the meal accordingly.

I will be going to Florida to represent Carolina Piedmont Base at the USSVI Southeast Regional Conference the week after our next meeting. I am sure that a good time will be had while there, but I feel that it is proper that our base be represented at the various functions that are held throughout USSVI.

As most of you know, we have been accepted to the Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte on May 10 to do our Kap (SS) 4 Kid(SS) program. I am very excited about this as we should be allowed to go there about 4 times a year. This will allow many of our membership to participate in this program. Even more important is the fact that we have the opportunity to reach out to more children with various medical problems. I believe we are filled up for our May adventure there, but we will return a little later in the year so if you did not make it on the attendees this time, there will be another time shortly.

Keep posted on the parade schedule that the NC Subvets participate in. The next one coming up by the time you read this should be the one on Memorial Day in Thomasville. That is a late morning parade and there will be time to still make it to the ball game we have been invited to that day. If you have not made a parade yet, try to attend one, they are really a fun event to participate in and it mostly just requires a little of

your time.

Again, I would like to thank you for your trust in me as being your Base Commander for the last two years and for the next two years. But after that, I think it is time for someone else to step up and have the enjoyment that I have had.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 23 April 2011 and I hope to see as many of you as possible. Please make note that there will not be a meeting of the Carolina Piedmont Base in May.



**Carolina Piedmont  
Base Commander  
Steve Bell**

## Charlotte Knights



## Let Go Out to the Ballgame....

You still have time to get those Charlotte Knights tickets of the Memorial Day (evening) game. This year we wanted better seats and went for \$12 seat behind the dugout. Great opportunity to take the folks visiting you for the weekend on a night out and watch some great baseball from these up and coming stars of tomorrow. They play at 7:15 with your Carolina Piedmont Base Color Guard presenting the Colors.

**If you still want tickets call Moe(SS) at 704-248-7610 or email at [donutdad@carolina.rr.com](mailto:donutdad@carolina.rr.com).** So far I have the following going:

Moses (2), Dachs (2), Hickerson(1), Fritz (2), Myers (2) Jim Harris(2), Jeffries (3), Bell (2), Petitt (2), Rupertus (4), Tuchfeld (1), Murray (3), and Glenn Harris(2). That's 28 and the man is holding 40 seats for me and can get more. **Invite your friends, co-workers, etc.** Let's have a CPB night with the Knights!! - Moe(SS)

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

**CAROLINA PIEDMONT BASE- 26 March 2011**

**1900-** Meeting called to order by Commander Steve Bell,

- Invocation by Walt Sealy. Pledge of Allegiance, Tolling of the Boats by Walt Sealy.
- Member introduction, 34 Attendees, Introduction of new member Al Westberry.
- Minutes from previous meeting approved as published in Piedmont Periscope.

**Treasures report-**Balance \$3519.02,

- Memorial Restoration \$268.50; K4K \$718.30; Scholarship fund \$213.25; Burnsville Registrations \$400.00; Funds available \$1918.97

**Old Business-**

- Election Coordinator Glenn Harris closed nominations for new base officers.
- Nominations are: Base Commander Steve Bell, Vice Commander Jack Jeffries, Treasurer Lee Hickerson, Secretary Mike Hubbel.
- Officers to be sworn in at Burnsville
- . Discussed trading Carolina Piedmont Challenge coin with Requin Base. Approved and seconded.
- Discussed how to display challenge coins from other bases as we trade for them. we may purchase a display case to display at the meeting place.

**New Business-** None

**Good of the Order:**

- Steve Bell announced that the Piedmont Periscope has been submitted to National for consideration for an award.
- Tom Kelly was recognized for his contribution to the base as base photographer, Commander Bell presented him with a certificate of appreciation as well as an ATTABOY patch.
- KAP(SS)4KID(SS) projects were discussed.
- Upcoming events discussed were Levine Childrens Hospital. We will be able to have 10 members for each session. Volunteers should get in touch with Jack for the 10 May presentation.
- Jack presented the possibility of members going to the Corral Camp in Elorbee, NC during the month of July, more info when he gets it.
- Discussed the upcoming gathering at Burnsville, there will be 2 50/50's and one big raffle. Cost of raffle tickets to be \$5 each , 3 for \$10. Members are urged to bring items to be raffled.
- There will be no BASE meeting in the month of May due to us being at Burnsville. This is a NC Subvets gathering and a short meeting of the NC Subvets will be held.
- Next Meeting of Carolina Piedmont scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> .

**2005-** Motion to adjourn, seconded. Benediction given by Jim Schenk

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## Have You Heard? Underway

A young ensign had nearly completed his first overseas tour of sea duty when he was given an opportunity to display his ability at getting the ship under way. With a stream of crisp commands, he had the decks buzzing with men and soon, the ship had left port and was streaming out of the channel.

The ensign's efficiency has been remarkable. In

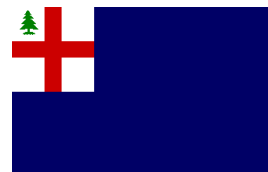
fact, the deck was abuzz with talk that he had set a new record for getting a destroyer under way. The ensign glowed at his accomplishment and was not all surprised when another seaman approached him with a message from the captain.

He was, however, a bit surprised to find that it was a radio message, and he was even more

surprised when he read, *"My personal congratulations upon completing your underway preparation exercise according to the book and with amazing speed. In your haste, however, you have overlooked one of the unwritten rules - make sure the captain is aboard before getting underway"*

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

(see page 13)



## Debunking some Military Myths

**The folds of the American flag do not have significance.**

Spiritual or religious meanings have been given to each of the folds, so they take on a life of their own, but they are wrong. Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, is the law of the land regarding the handling and displaying of the American flag. It does not include anything regarding the significance or meaning of folding the flag. The code was first adopted by Congress in 1923 and revised numerous times.

Traditional flag etiquette prescribes the following: Before an American flag is stored or presented, its handlers should twice fold it in half lengthwise; then, from the opposite end of the blue field, make a tri-

angular fold and continue to fold it in triangles until the other end is reached. As most of our readers know, the folded flag takes the shape of a triangular pillow with only the blue canton field showing on the outside. It takes 13 folds to create this effect: two lengthwise folds and eleven triangular ones. That's where the misinformation comes in. The 13 folds have nothing to do with the 13 original states, or the final shape of a cocked hat, or because each of the folds is endowed with special meaning. Folding the flag in this way simply provides a dignified ceremonial touch that distinguishes folding a U.S. flag from an ordinary object – for example, a bed sheet – and results in a pleasing, easy-to-handle

shape. The 13 folds are coincidental. Here are instructions for how to correctly fold a flag: <http://www.paradestore.com/flaginfo.aspx>

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs issued a statement on October 20, 2007 saying that any recitations at the graveside of a veteran can reflect the wishes of the family. In other words, if the family wants the meaning of the folds to be included, it can be.



## Need Supplies?

**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.

## Chaplin's Corner

Chaplin's Corner – Ray Fritz, Base Chaplain

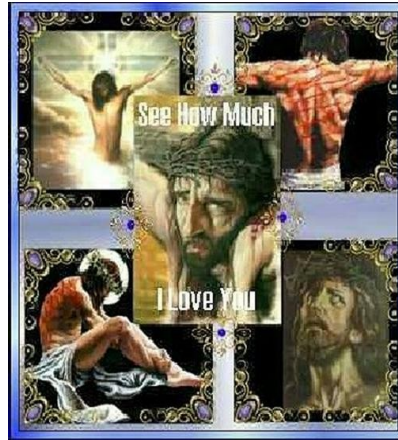


**It's Friday, but Sunday is coming!**

*Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.<sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.<sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.<sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.<sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.<sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. – Matthew 28:1-6 (ESV)*

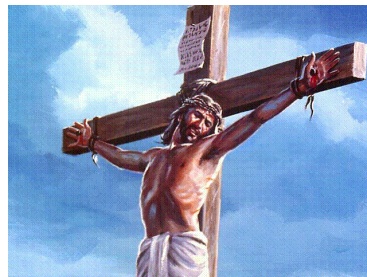
Christmas has little meaning without Easter! Jesus Christ came as the "Lamb of God" – a sacrifice for sin. Only because there was a resurrection could Jesus say,

*"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes [trusts] in me, though he die, yet shall he live." John 11:25 (ESV)*



It had been an eventful week and terrifying week to those who were close to Jesus. These women probably witnessed Jesus' triumphant entry into the city to the shouts of the cheering crowds, a week earlier [Palm Sunday]. Later in the week on Thursday [Maundy Thursday], we see Jesus with His disciples at the Last Supper. Following the supper Jesus agonizes in prayer on the Mount of Olives in the Garden of Gethsemane while His disciples slept. About 1:00 AM Jesus is betrayed by Judas with a kiss and He is led away for trial. At around 6:00 AM, Jesus stands before Pilate who sends Him to Herod. At around 7:00 AM Jesus is returned to Pilate and is sentenced to death. At around 8:00 AM Jesus is led away to Calvary where He is crucified the "third hour", 9:00 AM.

*And it was the third hour [9:00 AM] when they crucified him. Mark 15:25 (ESV)*



Mark tells us that:

*"There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the Younger and Joses, and Salome." Mark 15:40 (ESV)*

**It's Friday,  
but Sunday's  
coming!**



**Now it's Sunday!  
Because He  
Lives**

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus  
He came to love, heal, and forgive.  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.

Because He lives, All fear is gone.  
 Because I know He holds the future,  
 And life is worth the living just because  
 He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
 And feel the pride and joy he gives.  
 But greater still the calm assurance,  
 This child can face uncertain days be-  
 cause He lives. Because He lives, I can  
 face tomorrow.

Because He lives, All fear is gone.  
 Because I know He holds the future,  
 And life is worth the living just because  
 He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river,  
 I'll fight life's final war with pain.  
 And then as death gives way to victory,  
 I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He  
 lives.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.  
 Because He lives, All fear is gone!  
 Because I know He holds the future  
 And life is worth the living just because  
 He lives!

May God's Blessings be with you and  
 your loved ones,

**Chaplain Ray**

## Myths Debunked

**The music of "Taps" was not found in a dead soldier's pocket by his father.**

The story of the origin of the haunting melody we know as "Taps" is just that – a story. It is a beautiful legend but nothing more. The only place where the two stories come together is that "Taps" was first heard at Harrison's Landing in Virginia in 1862 during the Civil War.

"Taps" may be attributed to Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield, Commander of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, V Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, who decided his unit could use a new bugle call for particular occasions. He had been dissatisfied with the customary firing of three rifle volleys at the conclusion of burial ceremonies during battle. He also needed a way to give more meaning to the end of a soldier's day. It is possible, so this version goes, that he altered an older piece, known as "Tattoo," a French bugle call used to signal 'lights out.' With the help of his bugler, Oliver W. Norton of Chicago, the name "Tattoo" became "Taps" in its present form. Within months, buglers in both the Union and Confederate forces were playing it. Then, as now, it is an important element in military funeral ceremonies. Regrettably, the facts are not as dramatic or as moving as the legend

**No May  
 Meeting  
 See ya in  
 Burnsville  
 and at the  
 Ballgame!**



# New members Binnacle List

Welcome Aboard

Al Westberry

Stay well and fit

(okay, well is good enough)

## Happy Birthday to:

### 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



### May

Joel Tuchfeld 5/04  
Colleen Moses 5/05  
Glenn E. Harris 5/7  
Tom Coffman 5/9  
Larry Lynch 5/17  
Robert Boyd 5/18  
John Dainotto 5/19  
Calvin Reese 5/25  
Bob Bickford 5/30

If your birthday  
was missed,  
please notify  
Jack or Dale

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

### April

Mary and Bob Bickford  
- 4/21  
Judy and William Hick-  
erson - 4/23  
Karen and Michael  
Toomey - 4/24



### May

Ruth Ann Worth and Jim  
Schenk - 5/5  
Dorla and Hal Rutter - 5/26  
Colleen and Dale Moses -  
5/27

The income tax has made  
more liars out of the  
American people than  
golf has. - Will Rogers



## SubVettes

Hello Sassy Sisters,  
Hope you are doing well. Hopefully spring will return soon. Please remember your secret sisters and our recruiters. With so much danger in this world I feel like they could use a treat and a smiling face. Our meal is another "this and that" we do a great job with our meals and I thank you for all you do to make this happen. May is going to be a busy month for our

group with Burnsville and the Knights ballgame. Remember our troops in your prayers for their safety and May God Bless You and God Bless our great Country. Hope to see you soon.  
—Sandra



## Blueberry-Marmalade Crisp

Fruit crisps are heartwarming, homey, healthy desserts that are very easy to make. The hardest part of the preparation is deciding what fruits to use. This version is a lush blueberry and marmalade combination. Both the lemon zest and pieces of orange peel in the marmalade contain limonenes, which are phytochemicals with antioxidant activity.<sup>2</sup> pounds thick asparagus, tough ends trimmed

- 3/4 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
  - 3/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
  - 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
  - 3 tablespoons yellow cornmeal
  - Grated zest of 1 lemon
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into bite-size pieces
  - 6 cups frozen or fresh blueberries
  - 2 tablespoons cornstarch
  - 1/4 cup fruit-only orange marmalade
1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
  2. In food processor, combine oats, brown sugar, flour, cornmeal, lemon zest, and salt and pulse to just combine. Add butter and process 5 to 10 seconds or until mixture is crumbly.
  3. In medium bowl toss blueberries with cornstarch to lightly coat. Spread blueberries onto bottom of ungreased 8- x 8-inch glass baking dish.
  4. Dot blueberries with marmalade. Evenly top with oat mixture. Bake 45 minutes or until top is light golden. Cool on a rack.

Number of Servings: 6



## Great Little Tips (stolen from the Goat Locker)

**Use Empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords.** It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll what appliance it belongs to.

**To remove old wax from a glass candle holder,** put it in the freezer for a few hours. Then take the candle holder out and turn it upside down. The wax will fall out.

**To clean artificial flowers,** pour some salt into a paper bag and add the flowers. Shake vigorously as the salt will absorb all the dust and dirt and leave your artificial flowers looking like new! Works like a charm!

**Spray your TUPPERWARE with nonstick cooking spray** before pouring in tomato based sauces and there won't be any stains.

# Piedmont Funnies Page

Each Friday night after work, Bubba would fire up his outdoor grill and cook a venison steak.

But, all of Bubba's neighbors were Catholic...and since it was Lent, they were forbidden from eating meat on Friday.

The delicious aroma from the grilled venison steaks was causing such a problem for the Catholic faithful that they finally talked to their priest.

The Priest came to visit Bubba, and suggested that he become a Catholic.

After several classes and much study, Bubba attended Mass and as the priest sprinkled holy water over him, he said, 'You were born a Baptist, and raised a Baptist, but now you are a Catholic.'

Bubba's neighbors were greatly relieved, until Friday night arrived, and the wonderful aroma of grilled venison filled the neighborhood.

The neighbors called the Priest immediately, and, as he rushed into Bubba's yard, clutching a rosary and prepared to

scold him, he stopped and watched in amazement.

There stood Bubba, clutching a small bottle of holy water which he carefully sprinkled over the grilling meat and chanted: You wuz born a deer, you wuz raised a deer, but now you is a catfish.

## Quotable "QUOTES"

**I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.- Groucho Marx**

**My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying.- Rodney Dangerfield**

**My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe.- Jimmy Durante**

**Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement. - Mark Twain**

**I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap. - Bob Hope**

## Lawyers provided by Jim Schenk.

If you ever testify in court, you might wish you could have been as sharp as this policeman. He was being cross-examined by a defense attorney during a felony trial. The lawyer was trying to undermine the police officer's credibility

Q: 'Officer --- did you see my client fleeing the scene?'

A: 'No sir. But I subsequently observed a person matching the description of the offender, running several blocks away.'

Q: 'Officer -- who provided this description?'

A: 'The officer who responded to the scene.'

Q: 'A fellow officer provided the description of this so-called offender. Do you trust your fellow officers?'

A: 'Yes, sir, With my life.'

Q: 'With your life? Let me ask you this then officer. Do you have a room where you change your clothes in preparation for your daily du-

ties?'

A: 'Yes sir, we do!'

Q: 'And do you have a locker in the room?'

A: 'Yes, sir, I do.'

Q: 'And do you have a lock on your locker?'

A: 'Yes, sir.'

Q: 'Now, why is it officer, if you trust your fellow officers with your life, you find it necessary to lock your locker in a room you share with these same officers?'

A: 'You see, sir -- we share the building with the court complex, and sometimes lawyers have been known to walk through that room.'

The courtroom EXPLODED with laughter and a prompt recess was called. The officer on the stand has been nominated for this year's 'Best Comeback' line -- and we think he'll win.



## Another Lawyer Joke from Jim Schenk

A lawyer and a senior citizen are sitting next to each other on a long flight. The lawyer is thinking that seniors are so dumb that he could get one over on him easily. So, the lawyer asks if the senior would like to play a fun game. The senior is tired and just wants to take a nap, so he politely declines and tries to catch a few winks. The lawyer persists, saying that the game is a lot of fun.... "I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer,

you pay me only \$5.00.

Then you ask me one, and if I don't know the answer, I will pay you \$500.00," he says. This catches the senior's attention and, to keep the lawyer quiet, he agrees to play the game. The lawyer asks the first question. "What's the distance from the Earth to the Moon?"

The senior doesn't say a word, but reaches into his pocket, pulls out a five-dollar bill, and hands it to the lawyer. Now, it's the

senior's turn. He asks the lawyer, "What goes up a hill with three legs, and comes down with four?"

The lawyer uses his laptop to search all references he can find on the Net. He sends E-mails to all the smart friends he knows; all to no avail. After an hour of searching, he finally gives up. He wakes the senior and hands him \$500.00.

The senior pockets the \$500.00 and goes right

back to sleep. The lawyer is going nuts not knowing the answer.

He wakes the senior up and asks, "Well, so what goes up a hill with three legs and comes down with four?"

The senior reaches into his pocket, hands the lawyer \$5.00, and goes back to sleep.



## Always tell the truth

A pilot gets home late...

He left home about 8:30 a.m. to do some work in his hanger at the airport with his friends. On the way out the door he answered his wife's "what time will you be home?" question with "probably about 1:30, I'll have lunch at the airport."

1:30 came & went, 3:00 passed, 6:15, still not home, finally at about 7:00 pm he rolls in the driveway, and presents his wife with a pizza, and begins the apologetic story.

I finished cleaning the plane about 11:30, had lunch, and I started home, when alongside the road I saw this attractive girl with a flat tire on her car. I stopped to help, got the tire changed, and looked around for a place to wash

my hands. She offered money, but I refused, so she suggested that I at least allow her to buy me a beer. She said there's a tavern just up the road, and they have a restroom, you can clean up a bit. I agreed to stop, we had a beer, then another beer, then a couple more, and I realized that this girl was not only pretty, she was very friendly, and a good companion to spend time with. Before I knew it, we were in the motel next door having sex. And that is why I am so late getting home.

His wife looked him right in the eye and said "don't lie to me; YOU WENT FLYING, DIDN'T YOU?"



## Going up...

A fifteen year old Amish boy and his father were in a mall for the first time.

They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked, Father, 'What is this '?

The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, 'Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is.

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat, old lady in a wheel chair moved up to the moving

walls and pressed a button.

The walls opened, and the lady rolled between them into a small room.

The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially. They continued to watch until it reached the last number... and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order.

Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blond stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly 'Son, go get your Mother'

## More Military Myths Debunked

**The truck of a military flagpole does not contain a razor, a match, and a bullet.**

The gold ball atop a military flagpole is called a truck. The myth of the razor, match and bullet in a flagpole truck relates to one being the last on a military base in case of a takeover. The razor is to cut the stripes apart on the flag. The match is to burn the flag remains. The bullet is to use on oneself in the pistol that is supposedly buried a certain number of paces in a specific direction from the flagpole. Or, maybe you've heard it's a match, a pencil and a .45 caliber round. It's still nonsensical – for a

whole host of reasons! The concept is nothing more than a fairy tale to instill values and dedication.

**The old dog tag notch was not put between a dead soldier's teeth.**

There are many explanations for the notch on the World War II and Korean Conflict dog tags – that "V" cut out on the short side of the tag across from the hole. Battlefield rumor held that the notched end of the tag was placed between the front teeth of battlefield casualties to hold the jaws in place. That may have happened, but there are no official instructions for such use. The only pur-

pose of the notch was to hold the blank tag in alignment on the embossing machine. The tag was placed face down and then stamped onto a piece of paper via carbon ribbon in order to transfer the soldier's information. The one used currently does not require a notch and, thus, the modern military dog tags are smooth on all sides.



## The COB's Movie pick—COCKLESHELL HEROES

The Cockleshell Heroes raided Nazi-occupied Bordeaux in [1942](#). The Cockleshell Heroes target was the harbour in Bordeaux. They succeeded in sinking one ship and severely damaging four others and doing enough damage to greatly disrupt the use of the harbour for months to come. Such was the significance of the raid, that [Winston Churchill](#) said that it helped to shorten to [World War Two](#) by six months.

For a number of months during the war, merchant ships had used Bordeaux to supply the German military that was stationed

in that part of France. German [U-boats](#) used the area as a base. Any supply ships that came through the English Channel could be dealt with but plenty of merchant ships were willing to sail to Bordeaux harbour via the Mediterranean and there was little the British Navy could do about it. A raid by [bombers](#) would have led to many civilian casualties – so this was excluded.

The task of the Cockleshell Heroes was simple – destroy as many ships in the harbour as was possible so that the har-

bour itself would be blocked with wreckage, thus rendering it incapable of fully operating as a harbour. This was to be called **Operation Frankton**.

The Cockleshell Heroes were Royal Marine [Commandos](#). These men got their nickname as the canoes they were to use were nicknamed 'cockles'. After months of training, they were ready to set-off for their target – except that none of them knew what their target was. This was only made known to them once the submarine HMS Tuna had surfaced

off of the French coast.

The twelve men that formed the Cockleshell Heroes were taken by submarine and dropped off the coast of Bordeaux. The plan was for the six teams of two men to paddle five miles to the mouth of the River Gironde, paddle seventy miles up it, plant limpet mines of the ships in the harbour and then make their way to Spain.

The raid started badly once the men were due to be dropped off by HMS Tuna. One of the canoes was holed as it was being made ready



on the Tuna. The two Royal Marines who were meant to have used this canoe – called ‘Cachalot’ – could not take part in the raid. It is said that Marines Fisher and Ellery were left in tears at their disappointment.

The leader of the raid was Major ‘Blondie’ Hasler. His partner was Marine Bill Sparks. Their canoe was code-named ‘Catfish’. As the canoes approached the mouth of the Gironde they hit a violent rip tide. The waves were five feet high and the canoe ‘Conger’ was lost. The two crew of Conger – Corporal George Sheard and Marine David Moffat – were towed by the other canoes. Once near the shoreline, both men had to swim to the shore as they were slowing down the remaining canoes. Neither men made it to the shore and they were assumed to have drowned.

The crew of the canoe ‘Coalfish’ – Sergeant Samuel Wallace and Marine Jock Ewart – were caught by the Germans and shot.

The crew of the ‘Cuttlefish’ – Lieutenant John Mackinnon and Marine James Conway – had to abandon their ca-

noe after it was damaged. They were also caught by the Germans, handed over to the Gestapo and shot.

With four canoes down, the raiders were only left with two canoes. Along with ‘Catfish’, ‘Crayfish’ was left crewed by Marine William Mills and Corporal Albert Laver.

By now, the Germans knew that something was up and they had done a great deal to increase patrols along the river. The two crew paddled at night and hid during the day.

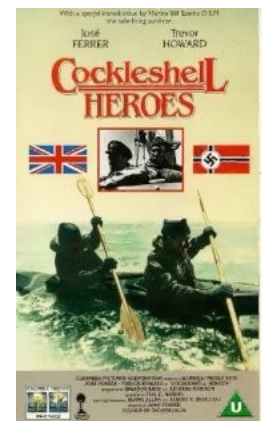
The two canoes got to the harbour. Here they were spotted by a sentry who failed to raise the alarm – possibly he mistook what he saw for driftwood as both crews remained motionless in their canoes as they had been trained to do.

The crew of both remaining cockleshells placed limpet mines on the merchant ships they found in the harbour. They had an eight minute fuse on them, giving the Marines time to get away. Both ‘Crayfish’ and ‘Catfish’ escaped on the tide. The damage to Bordeaux harbour was severe. Now the crews had to leave their ca-

noes, move on foot and link up with the French Resistance at the town of Ruffec. The Germans automatically assumed that the men would travel south to Spain. In fact, they travelled 100 miles north of Bordeaux – a journey that took them two months.

Laver and Mills, who were moving separately from Sparks and Hasler, were caught by the Germans and shot. With the help of the [French Resistance](#), Hasler and Sparks reached Spain and then Gibraltar. Even here, Sparks met problems. Hasler used his rank to get transported back to Britain. However, Sparks did not have such luck and was arrested. In fact the Chief of Combined Operations, Lord Louis Mountbatten, had assumed all the men were dead, so anyone claiming to be them would have been treated with suspicion.

Sparks was put under guard by the military police. However, he slipped these guards at Euston Station in London and, after visiting his father, made his way to the Combined Operations Headquarters.



### Answer to the Flag

**Trivia:** The "Bunker Hill Flag" with the blue field was an error made by a person coloring flag charts a couple of hundred years ago. The flag, representing New England, was correctly printed with heraldic hatching to indicate a red field, but it was colored blue by mistake. That one error has lived to this day as fact. The report by the North American Vexillological Association in the 1970's concluded that the Americans probably didn't carry any flag at Bunker Hill, they were such a rag-tag outfit. The most famous painting of the battle shows a flag with the red field with green pine tree in a white canton, no cross. Unfortunately, the British flag in the same painting has the St Andrew's cross in blue on a red canton, or some such mish mash. So the artist may not have been all that careful about his rendition of the New England flag. The same flag but with a circle of stars in the field is a copyrighted design by a company in Essex, Massachusetts, and is to represent the New England States. Nick Artimovich, 6 February 1996 –[visit www.fotw.net](http://www.fotw.net) for more flag info.

## Purple Heart Update 01:

The Army has announced a clarification in its guidelines for receiving a Purple Heart, with an emphasis on battlefield concussions being eligible for the medal. Official Army guidelines have long considered combat-sustained concussions a valid injury worthy of the Purple Heart, but in practice, it has been left to doctors or battlefield commanders to decide whether a blow to the head during combat warranted the medal. With recent studies on brain trauma, however, the rules have been revised to state what constitutes a concussion, with symptoms including momentary loss of consciousness or memory, dizziness, headache, nausea or light sensitivity. Medical treatment, also required for the medal, is defined by the rules to include merely rest and Tylenol. If you are a Soldier who suffered a concussion and feel you may not have been appropriately recognized for a Purple Heart, the Army urges you to re-apply through your chain of command. Veterans can call 888-276-9472 or email

[hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil](mailto:hrc.tagd.awards@conus.army.mil). [Source: Mil.com | Benefits article 21 Mar 2011 ++]

### Veteran Status:

Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AR) is taking another shot at better defining who can legally call themselves a veteran. An attempt at this during the previous Congress died when one senator blocked action. Pryor introduced a bill 4 MAR that has the full support of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). Current law requires someone to have served a certain period on federal status to qualify for full standing as a veteran. Someone who served 20 years in the National Guard or Reserve without that qualifying period is a military retiree, but not a veteran. Pryor's bill, Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act of 2011 (S.491), has been referred to the Committee on Veterans Affairs. The text of the bill reads, "Any person who is entitled under chapter 1223 of title 10 to retired pay for nonregular service or, but for age, would be entitled under such chapter to retired pay for nonregular service shall

be honored as a veteran but shall not be entitled to any benefit by reason of this section." Although it will not add any benefits and, therefore, has no cost to the government, the bill would allow someone who serves honorably for 20 years in the Guard or Reserve the simple privilege of legally being a veteran. Technically, a person who is not a legal veteran is not supposed to wear medals on Veterans Day, for example, or salute the playing of the national anthem, although this happens frequently, of course. [Source: NGAUS Washington Report 8 Mar 2011 ++]



## WWII Rationing—do you remember?

The rationing program was supervised by the Office of Price Administration (OPA). It was originally set up to control prices in August 1941 by Presidential Executive Order with the intent to control inflation. After the war 36 stated in December 1941, its powers were extended to include the rationing of key items, such as tires, automobiles, shoes, nylon, sugar, gasoline, fuel oil, coffee, meats and processed foods. 90% of retail food prices were frozen.

The main reason for rationing gas was save rubber. The Allies controlled about 80% of the world's oil production. The Japanese controlled most rubber production. In order to save rubber, gas was rationed. The tire re-cap business boomed.

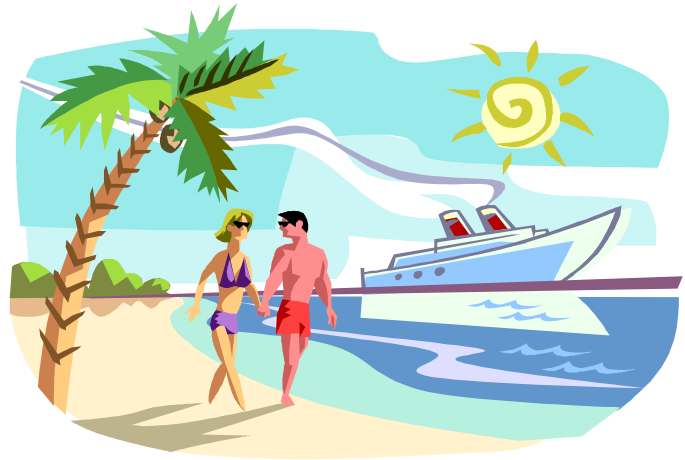
The most restrictive gas ration card was known as the 'A' card. It allowed the holder to purchase four gallons in a week. Persons who had 'A' cards were considered as non-essential users. By 1945 more than half the cars on the road had 'A' stickers. 'B' cards allowed eight gallons but you had to be classified as an essential worker, such as working in an war plant. 'C' cards were issued to physicians, ministers, mail carriers and railroad workers, and were pretty much unrestricted. 'T' cards were for truckers and were unrestricted. 'X' cards were also unrestricted and were for VIPs, such as members of Congress. The system led to the growth of the black market and counterfeiting. 'C' cards were the most counterfeited. In addition, the government decreed a "victory speed [limit]" of 40 mph but some open roads were posted at thirty five.

## 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](mailto: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 donut-dad@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 is at**  
**Ft. Mill VFW Post 9138**  
**April 23th**  
**Eat at 1730**  
**Meet at 1900**

## VETERANS NEWS

by the RAQ Bulletin

### PROSTATE CANCER Update 09:

Men are being urged to carefully consider risks before undergoing prostate cancer screening in the wake of two large, long-awaited studies that did not produce convincing evidence that routine testing significantly reduces the chance of dying from the disease. Researchers reported 18 MAR the PSA blood test, which millions of men undergo each year, did not lower the death toll from the disease in the first decade of a U.S. government-funded study involving more than 76,000 men. The second study, released simultaneously, was a European trial involving

more than 162,000 men that did find fewer deaths among those tested. But the reduction was relatively modest and the study showed that the tests resulted in a large number of men undergoing needless, often harmful treatment. Together, the studies cast new doubt on the utility of one of the most widely used tests for one of the most common cancers. "Americans have been getting screened for prostate cancer because there is this religious faith that finding it early and cutting it out saves lives," said Otis W. Brawley of the American Cancer Society. "We've been doing faith-based screening instead of evidence-based

screening. These findings should make people realize that it's a legitimate question about whether we should be screening for prostate cancer."

Other experts were more circumspect, arguing that the European study did indicate at least some benefit for some men, and that the U.S. trial could eventually confirm those findings as it follows the men for longer periods. But they agreed that the new findings should prompt patients and their doctors to discuss the risks and benefits of the testing. "It shouldn't be a knee-jerk response to get tested," said Christine D. Berg of the Na-

### Long Term Care for VETS

The Department of Veterans Affairs needs to re-vamp its long-term care planning process or face shortages of funds and personnel, according to a report released by the Government Accountability Office last month. The audit of VA's strategic plan for providing institutional care in nursing homes and non-institutional care in veterans' homes or the community showed that VA underestimated cost projections and workload assumptions, which could lead to trouble in the future. According to GAO, VA has plans to increase workload to close gaps in non-institutional care by a factor of 167% between 2007 and 2013. In its FY

2009 budget justification, VA estimated that it will increase its long-term care spending over FY 2008 using cost assumptions that appear unrealistic, GAO says. VA estimated that spending for both nursing home and non-institutional care would increase by about \$108 million and \$165 million respectively. This would bring the total to \$4 billion for nursing home care and \$762 million for non-institutional care.

However, this increase was arrived at by assuming that nursing home costs would increase 2.5% in that year—a number that GAO considers unrealistically low. The GAO considers the VA's estimate of

the increase in costs for non-institutional care too low as well. In its 2009 budget justification, VA did not explain how it would increase the workload of long-term care services to meet its goal of a 167% increase by 2013 while keeping to such a low budget increase. The GAO report includes several recommendations to ensure VA's future projections do not leave the department coming up short. Those include using realistic cost assumptions and workload projects for estimating spending and providing a full report on which measures they are using for their estimates to increase transparency for Congress and for future

GAO audits. VA officials received an early copy of the report and agreed with the recommendation for more transparency; however, the change in administration occurred before the VA leaders responsible for the FY 2009 budget could comment on the specifics of the report. According to VA numbers, the department provided non-institutional long-term care to 41,022 veterans in 2007, and projects that it will be required to provide such services to over 109,000 by 2013. [Source: U.S. Medicine Stephen Spotswood article Mat 09 ++]



## Prostate Cancer (con't)

tional Cancer Institute, which sponsored the U.S. study. "We should be telling these guys to go talk to their physician and say, 'In light of the current evidence and what you know about me and my health, what should I do?' " Some researchers, however, remain supportive of routine testing, saying the U.S. study has flaws that could have limited its ability to detect a reduction in deaths. "I don't think that screening should be summarily dismissed based on these trials," said E. David Crawford, a urology professor at the University of Colorado at Denver who helped conduct the U.S. study and heads the Prostate Conditions Education Council, which promotes testing. "I think they say we should be more smart when we screen."

The findings address perhaps the most important and contentious issue in men's health: how best to detect and treat prostate cancer. The disease is diagnosed in more than 218,000 U.S. men each year and about 28,000 die of it, making it the most common cancer after skin cancer and the second-leading cancer killer among men. The PSA test, which measures a protein produced by prostate tissue called the prostate-specific antigen, has significantly increased the number of prostate cancer cases being caught at early stages. But it has been far from clear whether that translates into a reduction in deaths from the disease. Prostate cancer

often grows so slowly that many men die from something else without ever knowing they had it. Because it is not clear precisely what PSA level signals the presence of cancer, many men experience stressful false alarms that lead to surgical biopsies, which can be painful and in rare cases can cause serious complications.

Even when the test detects a real cancer, doctors are uncertain what, if anything, men should do about it. Many are simply monitored. Many others, however, undergo surgery, radiation and hormone treatment, which often leave them incontinent, impotent and experiencing other sometimes debilitating or even possibly life-threatening complications. "I know guys who are morbidly depressed because of the complications of their prostate cancer treatment," Brawley said. "I know three people who attempted suicide. I know widows of guys who died from their treatment. There are significant harms associated with over-treatment of prostate cancer." Because of the uncertainty, many major medical groups have stopped recommending routine PSA testing. Nevertheless, its use remains widespread, and many experts were hoping the two large trials would help settle the issue. [Source: Washington Post Rob Stein article 19 Mar 09 ++]

## A Michigan Story– Had to include it

As a North Bay trucker stops for a red light on Telegraph, a blonde catches up. She jumps out of her car, runs up to his truck, and knocks on the door. The trucker lowers the window, and she says, "Hi, my name is Heather, and you are losing some of your load!"

The trucker ignores her and proceeds down the street.

When the truck stops for another red light, the girl catches up again. She jumps out of her car runs up and knocks on the door. Again, the trucker lowers the window as if they've never spoken, the Blonde says brightly, "Hi, my name is Heather, and you are losing some of your load!"

Shaking his head, the trucker ignores her again and continues down the street. At the third red light, the same thing happens again.

All out of breath, the Blonde gets out of her car, runs up, knocks on the truck door.

The trucker lowers the window. Again she says, "Hi, my name is Heather, and you are losing some of your load!"

When the light turns green the trucker revs up and races to the next light. When he stops this time, he hurriedly gets out of the truck, and runs back to the Blonde. He knocks on

Her window, and as she lowers it, he says...

"Hi, my name is Kevin, it's winter in Michigan, and I am driving a  
SALT TRUCK!!!!!!!!!!"



Moe(SS) grew-up here



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

**A: The American Flag is below the other Country's Flag (Mexico). Both Flags should be flown at the same height. Be American's we believe all men and women were created equal, thus our Flags should be equal in stature. The only Flag to fly above the US Flag is the Church Pennant flow during Church services on Naval vessels (obviously not on underway submarines)**



## No May Meeting

You know we read the names of the Lost Boats a are meetings and we list them to honor them on the front of this newsletter, but do we take time to look at their story? So starting with this issue, I'm going to add a story for each boat. We'll start with the first boat for this month and the first boat for next month, etc.

I'll give Wikipedia most of the credit. Now if any of you served at some point or know a crew member please provide any input the you can come up with. - Moe (SS)

The Pickerel was a Porpoise-class submarine, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the pickerel, a young or small pike.

Her keel was laid on 25 March 1935 by the Electric Boat Company in Groton, Connecticut. She was launched on 7 July 1936 sponsored by Miss Evelyn Standley, and commissioned on 26 January 1937, Lieutenant Leon J. Huffman in command.

After shakedown, the new boat conducted training exercises out of New London, Connecticut

until getting underway on 26 October 1937 and heading, via Guantánamo Bay, Cuba to transit the Panama Canal on 9 November. Joining the Pacific Fleet, Pickerel operated out of San Diego, California, along the West Coast, and in Hawaiian waters. Subsequently transferred to the Asiatic Fleet, she prepared for war with a vigorous training schedule in the Philippines.

**World War II** : Upon receiving word of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, Pickerel - commanded by Lieutenant Commander Barton E. Bacon, Jr. - sped to the coast of Indo-China and conducted her first war patrol off Cam Ranh Bay and Tourane Harbor. She tracked a Japanese submarine and a destroyer but lost them in haze and rain squalls before they came in torpedo range. On 19 December, she also missed a small Japanese patrol craft with five torpedoes, before returning to Manila Bay on 29 December.

On her second patrol - from 31 December 1941 -29 January 1942 - conducted between Manila and Surabaya, the submarine sank Kanko

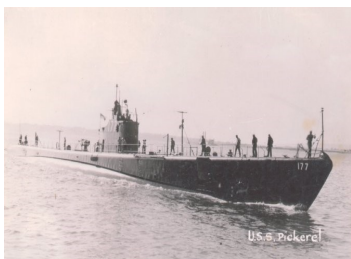
Maru on 10 January 1942. On her third war patrol - from 7 February-19 March - along the Malay Barrier and her fourth - from 15 April-6 June - in the Philippines, she failed to score.

Pickerel's fifth war patrol, from 10 July to 26 August, was a voyage from Brisbane, Australia, to Pearl Harbor for refit, with a short patrol in the Mariana Islands en route, during which she damaged a freighter.

On her sixth war patrol - from 22 January to 3 March 1943, she searched among the Kurile Islands on the Tokyo-Kiska traffic lanes. In sixteen attacks, she sank Tateyama Maru and two 35-ton sampans.

She departed Pearl Harbor on 18 March 1943 and, after topping off with fuel and provisions at Midway Island on 22 March, headed for the eastern coast of northern Honshū and was never heard from again. Pickerel was the first submarine to be lost in the Central Pacific area. She was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 19 August 1943.

Post-war analysis of Japanese records give conflicting suggestions about Pickerel's fate. The Japanese officially credit her with sinking Submarine Chaser Number 13 on 3 April and Fukuei Maru on 7 April, and give no official report of her destruction. Those records also describe an action off Shiramuka Lighthouse on northern Honshū on 3 April 1943 in which naval aircraft first bombed an unidentified submarine, then directed Shiragami and Bunzan Maru to the spot, where they dropped twenty-six depth charges. A large quantity of oil floated to the surface, which was often enough for Japanese ASW ships to believe their target was sunk. It is likely Pickerel's fuel oil bunkers leaked. Since there were several other ASW operations in the area in that period,[11] and Pickerel was the only American submarine in that area; one of these other attacks, sometime after 7 April, probably claimed her.



## No GREEN back then...

In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

That's right, they didn't have the green thing in her day. Back then, they returned their milk bottles, Coke bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled.

But they didn't have the green thing back her day.

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks.

But she's right. They didn't have the green thing in her day.

Back then, they washed the baby's diapers because they didn't have the throw-away kind. They dried clothes on a line, not in an en-

ergy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts – wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that old lady is right, they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

Back then, they had one TV, or radio, in the house – not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a pizza dish, not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for you. When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used wadded up newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right, they didn't have the green thing back then.

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty, instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled pens with ink, instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.


But they didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar and kids rode their bikes to school or rode the school bus, instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But isn't it sad that they didn't have the green thing back then?





Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Base Meeting at VFW Post 9138
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
May Day! May Day!	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 VFW Meeting	10	11	12	13	14VFW Breakfast 
15	16	17	18	19	20Burnsville	21Burnsville
22Burnsville	23	24	25	26	27	28 NO MEETING!
29	30 - Ballgame Presentation of the Colors	31	June 1	2	3	4

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!