

Carolina Piedmont Base of the USSVI presents the

Piedmont Periscope

Issue 1107

July 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.

Things We Know, but Need to Pass-on to Gain Membership

Sometimes we take things for granted. I always tell members to pass-on our newsletter to potential new members. So let's take a few paragraphs to tell 'em who we really are: Nearly 4,000 submariners have sacrificed their lives on the altar of American freedoms. It is the primary mission of USSVI to perpetuate their memory through memorials and "tolling the boats" memorial services. Per the USSVI Constitution Article III the Purpose/Creed consists of three sections: Creed

Section 1: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That

Lost Boats for July

"Sailors, rest your oars"



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.

Camaraderie

Section 2: In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI provides a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. The common heritage as Submariners is strengthened by camaraderie. USSVI supports a strong United States Submarine Force.

Perpetual remembrance

Section 3: The organization engages in various

projects and deeds that bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. USSVI also endeavors to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services United States submariners performed and how the sacrifices of lost shipmates made possible the freedom and lifestyle Americans enjoy today.



USS GRUNION (SS 216) July 30, 1942 USS S 28 (SS 133) July 4, 1944 USS ROBALO (SS 273) July 26, 1944 Page 2 Piedmont Periscope

CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



It is that time of the year for us to start reminding those that renew their membership annually to do just that. So if you are one of those, please consider renewing your annual membership early. This would prevent us from the end of the year hassle that has become an annual event for me. I appreciate your consideration. We picked up two new members at our last meeting and I would like to welcome them both to our organization. We have several projects that are ongoing and hopefully they will become part of your life as well. Most are very self rewarding.

Our National Convention is just around the corner now and for those that may be planning on attending, now is the time to get yourself registered and get your reservations in. But more importantly is the convention next year. As most of you know, it will be in Norfolk, VA, and our brother base within our district is the host. They have asked us to help with manning the registration desk during the event. So those that are planning on attending, see if you can plan in a couple of hours to help out on that project. Also, I have received permission from them for us to raffle the "sea chest" that Lee Hickerson has made. He made one for the District Meeting we hosted two years ago and let me be the one to tell you, it is

really nice. So we will need a little assistance on managing those tickets up there. Any/all help regarding these efforts will be very much appreciated. We will be sending in a check for \$500 (probably done by the time you read this) to the USSVI Charitable Fund for use within their scholarship program. You can feel good about this. Just remember, we are trying to help the future of our county here. But just as important, whether you helped or not, keep this in mind for your children or grandchildren in the future. They can apply just like anyone else can for a scholarship from USSVI. The only real requirement is the one applying be a child or grandchild of a USSVI member. Of course

there are the typical educational items as for any scholarship as well as applying and following the necessary items there, like some sort of essay. I would love to see one of our children/ grandchildren become a recipient of a scholarship from USSVI. Our next meeting is on 23 July and by the time that gets here we will have another visit at Victory Junction completed and also be two thirds complete with the Camp Corral effort. We might even have the next Levine visit scheduled by then, depending if we can get certain administrative items complete with them by then. In any case, we look forward to reporting that to our membership. And since it is summer and many will be doing vacations, please be

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careful out there, we want you back at our meetings. And just as important, enjoy yourselves



In a City restaurant: "OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK AND WEEKENDS."

XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries

I just wanted to wait until we returned from Victory Junction presentation to make a report. Lee and Judy Hickerson accompanied us for this presentation. There were a total of 61 camper and we awarded each one with a Honorary Submariner Kap, Certificate and a museum boat picture. I am happy to announce that we had 2 new members at our last meeting. A great meal was enjoyed by all. We plan to attend the parade in Troutman on July 2nd and also the parade in Faith on July 4th. We are scheduled to conduct Submarine presentations at the Camp Corral located in Ellerbe. NC on three dates, 5 July, 19 July and 2 August, there will be about 125 campers at each session. If possible I would like to have volunteers from our base help with the presentations. We also will have members of the Nat Greene base there with our parade floats when possible.

These campers are going to be the children of service personnel that have been WIA or KIA and we want to make it as memorable as possible. The staff has invited us to have the evening meal with the campers about 1700 and make the presentation beginning at 2000. The camp is located at 1296 Mallard Drive Ellerbe NC 28338 if you want to put it into your GPS. It is about 3 miles east of RT 220 at exit for Millstone Road. I appreciate the volunteers to help with the Financial Audit, Mike Toomey and Paul Myers and also for Marvin Beaver and Jim Schenk volunteering to help with the Ways and Means Committee. If anyone has an idea for generating fund for Carolina Piedmont, please contact myself, Jim or Marvin. As coordinator for KAP (SS)4KID(SS) I would like to thank you for your donations, I just received word from Mike Hubbell that he

carried a load of aluminum to the recyclers and received 120.00 k4k fund. I would like to close by asking each of you to try and find another Submariner that would be interested in joining us.



Sailor vs. Marine

An old Sailor and an old Marine were sitting at the VFW arguing about who'd had the tougher career. "I did 30 years in the Corps," the Marine declared proudly, "and fought in three of my country's wars.

Fresh out of boot camp, I hit the beach at Okinawa, clawed my way up the blood-soaked sand, and eventually took out an entire enemy machine gun nest with a single grenade. As a sergeant, I fought in Korea alongside General MacArthur. We pushed back the enemy inch by bloody inch, all the way up to the Chinese border, always under a barrage of artillery and small arms

fire. Finally, as a Gunny Sergeant, I did three consecutive combat tours in Vietnam. We humped through the mud and razor grass for 14 hours a day, plagued by rain and mosquitoes, ducking under sniper fire all day, and mortar fire all night. In a firefight, we'd fire until our arms ached and our guns were empty. then we'd charge the enemy with bayonets!" "Ah," said the Sailor with a dismissive wave of his hand, "lucky bastard! All shore duty, huh?"

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Comm Center— Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

Carolina – Piedmont Base Meeting

June 25th, 2011

Call to Order, 1900 hours by Base Commander Steve Bell.

Invocation was given by Chaplin Ray Fritz.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Bell.

The Tolling of the Boats and the USSVI Statement of Purpose was conducted by Ray Fritz and Paul Myers.

Member Introduction – 32 members and guests were present. Two new members where added, Jim Jerigan of Monroe NC and Tom Tidd of Concord NC.

Special Presentation

Steve Bell and Chaplin Ray Fritz presented Jack and Carol Jeffries with a Memorial Bible on behalf of the base membership to honor Carol's mother.

District Commander Dick Kanning displayed two USSVI awards given to our district recognizing our efforts on behalf of the national organization and the Submarine community. Dick also provided us with an update on both the 2001 and 2012 National Conventions. Also reported was the latest information on the Subvet License Plate bill now before the Governor. A special BZ went out to Jerry Libeler and Clarence Jordan for their efforts.

Base Secretary's Report

The reading of the minutes from the April 2011 meet was given by Mike Hubbell, and was approved as read.

Base Treasure's Report

The reading of the Treasurer's report was given by Steve Bell. After open discussion the report was accepted as read.

Base Funds as of June 25th, 2011

Balance \$4496.83 Memorial Funds \$288.50 Kapss for Kidss \$467.05

USSVI Scholarship Fund \$290.25 Available Base Funds \$3451.03

Special report by Steve Bell

Prior to the general meeting the Base Executive Board conducted its annual meeting to appoint non-elected base officers and members of special committees.

Paul Myers will serve as the Chief of the Boat.

Ray Fritz will continue to serve as the Base Chaplin.

Jeff Nieberding will continue to serve as the Base Store Keeper.

Jeff Nieberding will continue to serve as the Base Store Keeper.

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ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

First ~Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Got Talent??

Well here I go, I'll throw out another idea. Actually, it's now my idea. When I was in PA, the American Legion Riders put a "show" on for the Veterans at one of the local VA Hospitals. The year I was with them we did a "Hee-Haw" show, complete with set. I did Archie Campbell's Rinercella.

I know we have some talent in our Base, let's put together a "Half-way" night show? I know Jim plays guitar and sings. We can all be involved with some skits. Heck, I'll do Rendercella. If we can put together a 30 to 45 minute show and take to the VA in Salisbury and may Columbia, what a treat for those who have to be in that hospital.

I'd say may be around Veteran's Day timeframe. That would give us plenty of time for practice and any "sets" we might need. We can get family members involve also.

So if you can tell a joke, sing, dance, etc., let's get something started. I'll take charge, if no one else wants the job. I'll tell you half the fun we had was in the preparation and practices. We laughed our butts off.

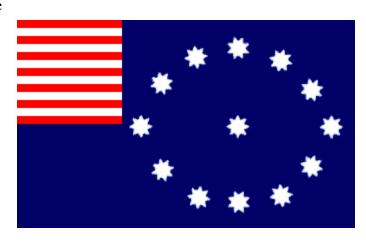
Let's get those ideas out, give me a call at 704-248-7610 or shoot me an e-mail at donut-dad@carolina.rr.com.

We are Qualified, we



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

(see page 13)



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 what you need.





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Chaplin's Corner



Freedom



We hope you all had a safe and Happy Independence Day! Someone was asked, "Does England have a 4th of July?" To which they said "No." But, of course they have a 4th of July. They don't have an Independence Day. One is a day in the calendar; the other is all about freedom.

The American Revolution was Costly

The American population during the Revolutionary war was about 2.5 million Colonists. During the war there were 1,546 military engagements with 50,000 dead, wounded, or imprisoned Americans. Freedom was not free. Since 1776, hundreds of thousands of Americans have given

their lives in the fight for freedom. We can do no less.



Modern Day Slavery

It's hard to believe that every day people choose to become slaves. Some people choose to take that first illegal drug or that first drink or that first cigarette and before long they have become enslaved. Some people choose to live beyond their means by borrowing or overextending a credit card and become slaves to the bank for years! Some people, who would otherwise be able to work, get onto the public dole and become slaves to the system.

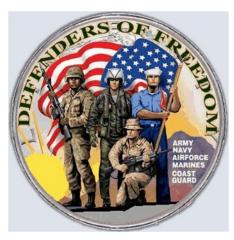
The truth is this: If anything enslaves you, whether by force or by choice, it is **NOT** of God! Chris-

tians should know that God wants them to be free!

Galatians 5:1 For <u>freedom</u> Christ has set us <u>free</u>; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of <u>slavery</u>.

How does someone who has experienced freedom lose it and become a slave? It's easy: Just don't stand up for that which enables freedom. Just give in to the temptation to partake (drug, drink and or government dole) and before long you have been enslaved. The irony is that Christ died to set men free and many of our Forefathers died to keep us free as a nation! Ignorance of the Word of God and Ignorance of our history helps to make us willing slaves.

Matthew 22:37-40 And he [Jesus] said to him, "You shall love the



Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and

first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

The Cost of Immorality and Evil vs. Security

The more <u>immoral</u> a nation's people become the more <u>freedom</u> is lost because more and more laws need to be enacted to deal with the increasing immorality. Because of fear the TSA now "pats down" 95 year old ladies in wheelchairs and demands she remove her depends! Does this fit what Benjamin Franklin said?

"Those who would give up essential Liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." -- Ben Franklin

A moral and ethical people don't need laws!

1 Peter 2:16 *Live as people who* are <u>free</u>, not using your <u>freedom</u> as a cover-up for evil, but <u>living as</u> servants of God.



Failure

We would not have many of the problems that we have today if so

many people had not been led down an easy path to financial ruin [the blame game is easy but in the final analysis we are responsible for our own decisions – that's what freedom is all about] and dependence rather than independence. Freedom, real freedom provides the opportunity to succeed or fail. Do you remember these words?

"We hold these truths to be selfevident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

No guarantees here, just opportunity to pursue.

2 Peter 2:19 They promise them <u>freedom</u>, but they themselves are <u>slaves</u> of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is <u>enslaved</u>.



Corruption

Now, here is the clincher! Many of those who are leading are themselves corrupt and they are

enslaved to power and money. There are good people in positions of leadership in our country but too many are there only for the power and prestige and money and not for the people. They talk a good talk but walk an evil path.

The Answer

Freedom requires eternal vigilance if we are to remain free.

May we be found on the side of God in our endeavors and may

America Bless God!

God bless you, Chaplain Ray & Diana





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New members Blittagle List

Welcome Aboard

Jimmy Jernigan Tom Tidd

Stay well and fit (okay, well is good enough)

Happy Birthday to:

July

Carol Jeffries 7/06

Mary Bickford 7/09

Libby Reese 7/09

James Halbert 7/11

Anne Trexler 7/18

Clarence Jordan 7/19

Greg Crystal 7/24

Michael Hubbell 7/28



If your birthday was missed, please notify Jack or Dale

"Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip." - Will Rogers

July



Emma and Robert Howell -7/15

SubVettes

Hello Sassy Sisters, Hello my fellow Sassy Sisters I hope all are doing well and trying to stay cool . Our June meeting I thought went very well with several visitors and getting a lot accomplished. Hope you and yours have a great 4th of July and safe travels. Please remember our recruiters and your " SECRET SISTER "I have a blast finding things for mine and receiving all the great things I get from mine. The ballots are coming

in for the national election slowly but surely and I thank you for your participation. The July meal is the normal "this and that" and we are wearing red, white and / or blue. Please do not forget our July service project for the V. A . in Johnson City Tenn. See you at the July meeting. Love Sandra



Middle Eastern Couscous & Chicken Salad

Couscous is small beads of pasta from North Africa, where it is served like rice. Couscous can be "cooked" by steeping it in boiling water or broth for just 5 minutes.

•1/2 cup chicken broth 1 small cucumber, peeled and diced

•2/3 cup couscous 1 small red onion, finely chopped

•1/4 cup (not oil-packed) sun-dried tomatoes, cut into small bits

1/4 cup mint sprigs, finely chopped

•2 cups coarsely shredded cooked chicken

breast 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar

•2 cups shredded Romaine lettuce 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

•1 large carrot, shredded 1 teaspoon ground cumin

•1 cup minced flat-leaf parsley 3/4 teaspoon salt

In small saucepan, combine broth and 1/2 cup water. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Stir in couscous and sun-dried tomatoes; cover and let stand 5 minutes.

Spread couscous and tomato mixture on a jelly-roll pan and place in freezer for 2 minutes to chill slightly. Transfer to salad bowl.

Add chicken, lettuce, carrots, parsley, cucumber, red onion, mint, vinegar, oil, cumin, and salt; toss to mix.

Number of servings: 4

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Piedmont Funnies Page

SUMBICH!

A filthy rich Florida man decided that he wanted to throw a party and invited all of his buddies and neighbors. He also invited Leroy, the only Redneck in the neighborhood. He held the party around the pool in the backyard of his mansion.

Leroy was having a good time drinking, dancing, eating shrimp, ovsters and BBO and flirting with all the women. At the height of the party, the host said, 'I have a 10 foot maneating gator in my pool and I'll give a million dollars to anyone who has the nerve to jump in.' The words were barely out of his mouth when there was a loud splash. Everyone turned around and saw Leroy in the pool!

Leroy was fighting the gator and kicking its ass! Leroy was jabbing it in the eyes with his thumbs, throwing punches, head butts and choke holds, biting the gator on the tail and flipping it through the air like some kind of Judo Instructor.

The water was churning and splashing everywhere. Both Leroy and the gator were screaming and raising hell. Finally Leroy strangled the gator and let it float to the top like a dime store goldfish. Leroy then slowly climbed out of the pool. Everybody was just staring at him in disbelief.

Finally the host says, 'Well, Leroy, I reckon I owe you a million dollars.'

'No, that's okay. I don't want it,' said Leroy.

The rich man said, 'Man, I have to give you something. You won the bet. How about half a million bucks then?'

No thanks, I don't want it,' answered Leroy.

The host said, 'Come on, I insist on giving you something. That was amazing. How about a new Porsche and a Rolex and some stock options?'

Again Leroy said no. Confused, the rich man asked, 'Well, Leroy, then what do you want?'

Leroy said, 'I want the name of the sumbich who pushed me in the pool!'

Watch those e-mail addresses!

A Minneapolis couple decided to go to Florida to thaw out during a particularly icy winter. They planned to stay at the same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years earlier. Because of hectic schedules, it was difficult to coordinate their travel schedules. So, the husband left Minnesota and flew to Florida on Thursday, with his wife flying down the following day. The husband checked into the hotel. There was a computer in his room, so he decided to send an email to his wife. However, he accidentally left out one letter in her email address, and without realizing his error, sent the e-mail. Meanwhile, somewhere in Houston, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a minister who was called home to glory following a heart attack. The widow decided to check her e-mail expecting messages fro m r elatives and friends. After reading the first message, she screamed and fainted.

The widow's son rushed

into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

To: My Loving Wife Subject: I've Arrived Date: October 16, 2005 I know you're surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails to your loved ones. I've just arrived and have been checked in.

I've seen that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

P. S. Sure is freaking hot down here!!!!

Der Nordakota Cow

Ole is a farmer in Minnesota. He is in need of a new milk cow and hears about a nice one for sale over in Nordakota. (That would be *North Dakota* for you non-Scandahoovians out there).

He drives to Nordakota, finds the farm and looks at the cow. He reaches under to see if

she gives milk. When he grabs the teat and pulls...the cow farts.

Ole is very surprised. He looks at the farmer who is selling the cow, then reaches under the cow to try again.

He grabs another teat, pulls, and the cow farts again. Milk does come out however, so after some discussion with the cow's owner, Ole decides to buy the cow and takes it home.

When he gets back to Minnesota, he calls over his neighbor, Sven, and says, 'Hey, Sven, come look at dis ere new cow I yust bought. Pull her teat, and see vat happens.'

Sven reaches under, pulls the teat - and the cow farts

Sven looks at Ole and says, 'You bought dis here cow in Nordakota, didn't yah?'

Ole is very surprised since he had not told Sven about his trip.

Ole replies, 'Yah, dats right. But how'd yah know?'

Sven says, 'My wife's from Nordakota'



Three friends married women from different parts of the country.

The first man married a woman from Alabama. He told her that she was to do the dishes and house cleaning. It took a couple of days, but on the third day, he came home to see a clean house and dishes washed and put away.

The second man married a woman from
South Dakota. He gave
his wife orders that she
was to do all the cleaning, dishes and the cooking. The first day he
didn't see any results, but
the next day he saw it
was better. By the third
day, he saw his house
was clean, the dishes
were done, and there
was a huge dinner on the
table.

The third man married a girl from Kansas...... I ordered her to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, lawn mowed, laundry washed, and hot meals on the table for every meal. The first day I didn't see anything, the second day I didn't see anything but by the third day, some of the swelling had gone down and I could see a little out of my left eye, and my arm was healed enough that I could fix myself a sandwich and load the dishwasher. I still have some difficulty when I pee. I think I'll recover okay.



A women writes - Why I'm Divorced...

Last week was my birthday and I didn't feel very well waking up on that morning. I went downstairs for breakfast hoping my husband would be pleasant and say, 'Happy Birthday!', and possibly have a small present for me.

As it turned out, he barely said good morning, let alone ' Happy Birthday.'

I thought.... Well, that's marriage for you, but the kids.... they will remember. My kids came bouncing down stairs to breakfast and didn't say a word. So when I left for the office, I felt pretty low and somewhat despondent.

As I walked into my office, my handsome Boss Rick, said, 'Good Morning, lady, and by the way Happy Birthday!

It felt a little better that at least someone had remembered. I worked until one o'clock, when Rick knocked on my door and said, 'You know, It's such a beautiful day outside, and it is your Birthday, what do you say we go out to lunch, just you and me.

I said, 'Thanks, Rick, that's the greatest thing I've heard all day. Let's go!'

We went to lunch. But we didn't go where we normally would go. He chose instead a quiet bistro with a private table. We had two martinis each and I enjoyed the meal tremendously.

On the way back to the office, Rick said, 'You know, It's such a beautiful day. We don't need to go straight back to the office, Do We?'

I responded, 'I guess not. What do you have in mind?

He said, 'Let's drop by my place; it's just around the corner.'

After arriving at his house, Rick turned to me and said, If you don't mind, I'm going to step into the bedroom for just a moment. I'll be right back.'

'Ok.' I nervously replied.

He went into the bedroom and, after a couple of minutes, he came out carrying a huge birthday cake. Followed by my husband my kids, and dozens of my friends and co-workers, all singing 'Happy Birthday'.

And I just sat there; on the couch. COMPLETELY NAKED.

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The Badge of Honorable Discharge

At the June meeting, Shipmate Walt Sealy came up to me and showed me a pin that he was wearing on his vest and asked me if I knew what it was. I answered "the Ruptured Duck" pin. He said of all the people that he had asked, I was the only one who knew the correct answer.

I thought that it might be a worthy newsletter item. I found out that our entire Base is eligible to wear the "Ruptured Duck". Read on. – Moe(SS) The Honorable Discharge Lapel Pin ("The Ruptured Duck") is the official emblem of Honorable Discharge for all service branches of all eras. It replaces all previously issued Honorable Discharge lapel pins or buttons and is retroactive to the Revolutionary War. Honorably Discharged personnel of all four military service branches (and Coast Guard personnel during wartime assignment to the War Department, Navy Department or Department of Defense) are eligible. The Pin may be worn on civilian clothing. The Pin should be displayed among military medals in shadow boxes. See "Common Myths About The Ruptured Duck" for information

about its name origin. GENERAL INFORMA-TION: The War Department adopted this honorable discharge emblem for wear on the uniform of all military personnel who are discharged or separated from the service under honorable conditions. The emblem will supersede all previously authorized Honorable Discharge emblems and devices. This pin will be worn as a badge of honor indicative of honest and faithful service while a member of the Armed Forces. At the time of honorable discharge or separation from the service, the emblem will be permanently affixed on the right breast of all the outer clothing centered immediately above the pocket with the long axis of the lozenge horizontal. Honorable Discharge status is awarded to personnel killed in action. DESCRIPTION: A gold color metal lapel button 7/16 inch in height and 5/8 inch in width, a Dexter eagle with wings displayed perched within a ring which displays thirteen vertical stripes with a chief, the Dexter wing of the eagle behind the ring, the sinister wing in front of the ring.



Background: The lapel button may be worn only by a person who served honorably.

War Department General Order No 13, dated 9 Jun 1925, authorized the wearing of the badge by individuals named and fully described by the design of the badge. It was also described in Regulations No 600-35, dated 31 Dec 1926, but was not illustrated in the Regulations until 10 Nov 1941.

In a May 1943 the lapel button was described as being "all of blue plastic," and then on 28 Jul 1943 a change prescribed "all of gold plated plastic." NOTE: The lapel button was created and produced during a period when the War Production Board had issued a restrictive order prohibiting the use of metal for the manufacture of such purposes. Therefore, plastic was decided upon for substitution and because of quick production. Originally a blue design was produced. As the work proceeded it was evident



that the design would not be discernable against a blue suit. Before the lapel button was furnished to any individual, action was taken to gold plate all buttons. The words "National Defense" were also dropped from the description in the changes.

War Department Circulars 187 and 318, dated 19 Aug 1943 and 7 Dec 1943, respectively, provided for gratuitous issue of the button to personnel honorably discharged since 9 Sep 1939.

In a directive dated 13 May 1944, the War Department General Staff authorized the Honorable Service Lapel Button to be manufactured in gold color metal or gold plated plastic. On 24 Nov 1947, the lapel button for service rendered prior to 8 Sep 1939, is rescinded the only the lapel button for service rendered since 8 Sep 1939, was valid. Credits: http://

www.amervets.com/ replacement/ duck.htm#sam

Meeting Dinners

Are dinners prior to our meetings are usually "pot-luck". Our ladies, who take pretty good care of us and support our efforts as well as their own projects, put together a great meal.

It is pot luck and everyone that attends the dinner should contribute something, whether home-made or storebought.

The meal also is one of our main fund raisers. A six dollar donation is suggested for each person eating. From that six dollars, a dollar goes to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. The remainder is divided between the Base membership and the SubVettes membership.

All in all, the money is put to good use supporting the activities of both groups. The meals are always great and there are usually plenty for those who wants seconds

So please, if you are going to attend the meal, please bring something and please contribute to our causes. You're not going to get that great of deal at any restaurant. And you'll be supporting great causes.

Color Guard

Since we eat at 1730 and our Base meetings start at 1900, that leaves some time to visit. But I invite all of you to come out to the parking lot after the meal and do a little Color Guard practice. We try to stay in the shade as much as possible.

There is nothing difficult about what we are doing, it all comes back from Boot Camp and we try to keep it simple.

People are starting to get more involved and we even let members watch for free!.

The ladies are invited also. You know, ladies, you could be the first SubVettes unit with a Color Guard. Something to think about, especially when the 2012 National Convention is really just a few hours drive for us next year.

So I invite the ladies to watch and get involved. The American Legion Riders Group that Colleen and I were members of in PA had ladies on our team. The public loved it.

As we get more interest and do more we'll talk about standard dress for the team(s).-Moe(SS)

Parade Info

A walk team has been established for the 2011 Walk Now for Autism Speaks. The team is the NC SUBVETS team. We hope to enlist members to participate in the walk and solicit pledges to raise money for Autism Speaks. You can join the team or support a walker at this link: NC SUBVETS Team page http:// www.walknowforautism speaks.org/faf/home/ default.asp?

After you sign up to be on the team you can direct your family, friends, or anyone who wants to see you walk 4.5 miles to the link to pledge their donation or you can collect cash and checks and turn it in on the day of the walk. The Walk is 3 laps around Charlotte Motor Speedway on Saturday 8 October, 2011. More info Page 16.

ievent=460844.

Cruise Reminder!

If you are going on the cruise in October the balance needs to be paid on or before August 2!



Answer to the Flag

Trivia: This is the Easton Flag from Easton, Pennsylvania. The legend attached to it is that it was displayed on 8 July 1776 for the reading of the Declaration of Independence in Easton, Pa. There is no documentation for this. In reality it is in all likelihood the Company Color of Capt. Abraham Horn's Militia Co. from Easton raised during the War of 1812. The original survives at the Easton Public Library.

Deadline for the August issue will be the 15th. I will be on vacation and will publish as soon as I return. So expect the August issue to be just a few days later than normal.

Page 14 Newsletter Title

Base Minutes (Con't)

The Audit Committee has been appointed and will consist of the following persons.

Jack Jeffries Base Vice Commander

Paul Myers

Mike Toomey

A Ways and Means Committee has also been formed with the purpose of establishing additional ways to raise funds for Base programs. The committee will be headed up by Jack Jeffries, and volunteers are requested to join this committee.

Old Business - None

New Business

USS Drum Restoration: The base voted to donate \$100.00 to the USS Drum to help offset the cost of restoration.

USSVI CF Scholarship Fund: Steve Bell asked to donate \$500 to the Scholarship Fund; this would require using an additional \$210 from the Base funds. During the open discussion John Wardean passed the hat and the membership donated the necessary monies to meet the \$500 donation. Steve Bell withdrew the request for base funds, and the donation was voted on and approved.

Store Keepers Report

Interested persons should place their orders with Jeff Nieberding for the 2012 Submarine Calendar. It was noted that this one will have US boats.

Good of the Order

District Commander Election - Ballots were passed out by the COB and collected.

National Convention – Will be held as planned in September in Springfield MO.

Kapss for Kidss – Jack Jeffries gave a review of our efforts for the Victory Junction Gang and the Levine Center. Those who can attend these events are asked to contact Steve or Jack.

Camp Corral – Steve Bell and Jack Jeffries explained the Golden Corral Restaurant's efforts to support the children of wounded or KIA veterans. These events will cover 3 week period. Jack and Steve are asking for volunteers to help with our presentation. Those who can attend are asked to contact either Jack or Steve.

Burnsville 2011 Report - Steve Bell gave an overall review of the weekend's events. Steve also reported that all most all arrangements for next year's meeting are almost completed.

District Meeting in Elizabeth City NC- The fall district meeting will be held on October 15th, 2011. Check the District Soundings for further information and details.

The next meeting of the Carolina-Piedmont Base will be at 1900, July 23rd, 2011. Dinner at 1730.

The Benediction was given by Ray Fritz.

A Motion to Adjourn was given and approved.

The following volunteered to serveas members of the Ways and Means committee: Marvin Beaver and Jim Schenk

Submitted By

Michael Hubbell

Carolina-Piedmont Base Sectary

A Cowboy sitting in a saloon one Saturday night recognized an elderly man standing at the bar who, in his day, had the reputation of being the fastest gun in the West.

The young cowboy took a place next to the old-timer, bought him a drink and told him the story of his great ambition.

"Do you think you could give me some tips?" he asked.

The old man looked him up and down and said, "Well, for one thing, you're wearing your gun too high. Tie the holster a little lower down on your leg."

"Will that make me a better gunfighter?" asked the young man.

"Sure will," replied the old-timer.

The young man did as he was told, stood up, whipped out his 44 and shot the bow tie off the piano player. "That's terrific!" said the hot shot. "Got any more tips for me?"

"Yep," said the old man. "Cut a notch out of your holster where the hammer hits it. That'll give you a smoother draw"

"Will that make me a better gunfighter?" asked the younger man.

"You bet it will," said the old-timer.

The young man took out his knife, cut the notch, stood up, drew his gun in a blur, and then shot a cufflink off the piano player

"Wow!" exclaimed the cowboy, "I'm learnin' somethin' here. Got any more tips?"

The old man pointed to a large can in a corner of the saloon. "See that axle grease over there? Coat your gun with it."

A Homeless Man's Funeral

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Kentucky back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods. I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch..

I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late. I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play. The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played 'Amazing Grace,' the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished

I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

Apparently I'm still lost . . . it's a man thing.



The young man went over to the can and smeared some of the grease on the barrel of his gun.

"No," said the old-timer, "I mean smear it all over the gun, handle and all."

"Will that make me a better gunfighter?" asked the young man.

"No," said the old-timer, "but when Wyatt Earp gets done playing the piano, he's gonna shove that gun up your ..., and it won't hurt as much."



Page 16 Piedmont Periscope

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

Flag Presentation Update 07:

In Ohio a retired Army lieutenant colonel is in a skirmish with his homeowners' association (HOA) over the 14-foot flagpole he installed in his front yard. Other veterans are siding with 77year-old Fred Quigley, who served in Vietnam. An American Legion post held a flag-raising ceremony 22 JUN at Quigley's home in Macedonia, 15 miles southeast of Cleveland. Neighborhood developer Joseph Migliorini says Quigley is breaking a homeowners' association rule that doesn't allow flagpoles

but says flags may be flown from a holder on the front of a home. He contends "it wouldn't look good" if all the residents put flagpoles in their small front yards. He's offering to install flagpoles at the development's entrances. Quigley maintains his flagpole is a matter of free speech.

A similar altercation occurred in Richmond Virginia in DEC 2009 when the Sussex Square HOA threatened to take a 90-year old MOH holder (Col. Van T. Barfoot) to

court if he did not remove his flag. Upon learning of the controversy Democratic Senators Warner and Webb agreed that his service entitled him to display the flag in any manner he wanted and championed the vet's cause. Ultimately, the HOA agreed to stop their legal action against Van T. Barfoot. The retired Army Colonel is now free to fly the Flag in his front yard. [Source: Akron Beacon Journal Ed Suba Jr. article 23 Jun 2011 ++1

King (NC) Veteran Memorial

In North Carolina the City of King embarked upon the construction of a veterans memorial in 2003. The memorial is located in Central Park between the amphitheater and the newly constructed north parking lot off Kirby Road. The memorial is a five sided structure with a reflecting pool and fountains surrounded by a tile pavers walkway with the veterans names listed. The final cost for the memorial was \$290,000 and it was completed 10 NOV 04. The memorial has a number of flags flying from it. Until recently, one of those flags was a Christian flag -- a

white flag with a Latin cross inside a blue canton. A dispute over flags at the memorial began a year ago when a veteran of the Afghanistan war complained to the city about a Christian flag at the memorial. He said it violated the First Amendment and the doctrine of separation of church and state. In their letters to the City Council, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State and the American Civil Liberties Union urged the council to remove the Christian flag. Flying the Christian flag violates the First Amendment right to freedom from

government imposition of religion, the groups said.

In AUG 2010 the city council voted unanimously to keep the Christian flag anyway. A second vote was taken in September and they followed the advice of the city attorney to remove the flag. He had informed them that the Christian flag was unconstitutional and that they would have to pay a lot of money to defend themselves against a lawsuit that they would inevitably lose. After the council voted to remove the flag in September 2010, thousands of people rallied on the

behalf of the flag and criticized the city for taking it down. Subsequently, the council approved a policy to address the concerns of two factions in the city those who wanted a Christian flag flown at the memorial, and those who did not. Under the policy, the city holds a lottery each year to select 52 veterans to be honored, one for each week of the year. The lottery winners could pick any flag they want to fly at the memorial as long as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has approved the flag's symbols. Federal veterans affairs officials have sanctioned the sym-

bols of the Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish and atheist flags, among many others.

Steven Hewett, who won rights to the weeks of June 27, Sept. 5, Nov. 11 and Nov. 28 to honor himself and three brothers who also are veterans, said in his original application that he intended to fly the Christian flag at the monument, which has been the focus of controversy over whether religious symbols should mark the memorial. Then he said he planned to fly a Muslim flag the week of Sept. 5, which would include Sunday, Sept, 11, the 10th anniversary of the World Trade Center, Pentagon and Pennsylvania terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000. He then said in a statement 23 JUN that he will fly no flag during the four weeks. Hewett later backed off and said he would fly a Buddhist flag on Monday, then would fly a Jewish flag, an atheist flag and a Muslim flag in later weeks. "By doing so, I honor the service of all veterans," Hewett said. "Speaking with other individuals and veterans who are (of) the same opinion as I, we believe no religious symbols should fly over the Veteran's Memorial." In a statement, Hewett said: "It was my intent to honor veterans with symbols from three of the four major religions and one of non-belief; however, in doing so,

(Con't on Page 20)

Military Records/DD-214 Update 03:

Kiel Wisconsin resident Don Schneider spent decades hoping, praying, and fighting to obtain his discharge records from the Department of Defense who would not acknowledge his service in the Korean War. Schneider said to reporters that he remembers it like it was yesterday. "This is Sniper Ridge over here. This is all Chinese back here," he said, referring to his photo album. Drafted out of high school, Schneider entered the war as an Army Ranger in 1952. He spent 14 months in heavy combat. "Got shot at from the time I got there until the day I left." One night during the war, the Chinese ambushed Schneider's squad. Of the 12 soldiers, only Schneider and one other made it out alive. "Mortar round came in and landed right inside the pit, and all that was, pieces of bodies, they're gone." What Schneider didn't realize at the time is that his service records disappeared when the Chinese overran his unit's headquarters.

In June 1953, the Army sent him home with 100 dollars and a train ticket

to Chicago. Since he had eight years of active reserve to fulfill, he didn't worry about discharge papers. "And when the eight years were up I thought, well, I should get a discharge, so I'll go down to Milwaukee to the veterans outfit down there. They said, —We don't have any records that you were in service. OK, so that's the way it went. And on and on it went. He said, —My daughter, before she died, worked on it for almost 30 years trying to get it. She wrote to all kinds of Congressmen, you name it, senators, whatever. Thirty years she worked on it and no dice." Schneider even drove to the Veterans Administration Office in St. Louis, showing his pictures and letters he wrote to his wife. "I had written her that I was in a MASH hospital in South Korea and that didn't mean nothing." "They always said, 'Well, why don't you contact somebody you were in service with?' Well, there's only two of us out my squad that came home, the rest were killed, so there was nobody I could talk to."

(Con't on Page 20)



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

A: This Flag has reached it's end of service long before this. This Flag should be replace with a new Flag and be properly disposed. Flag disposals are done by the American Legion, VFW, and if in doubt, take it to your local fire department. You may dispose of a Flag discreetly yourself in a respectful manner.

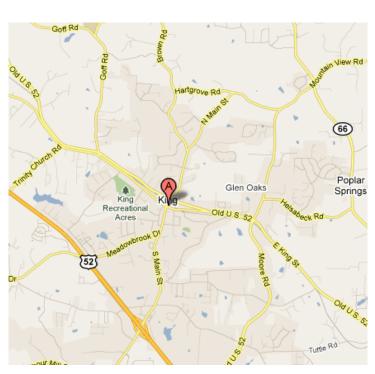
Page 18 Newsletter Title

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

King (con't)

I would not be honoring veterans of all faiths and traditions. I have brought attention to the fact that veterans are comprised of many religions, faiths and beliefs."

Many King residents have opposed Hewett's plans. Hewett's decision to fly no flags at the memorial still violates the city's policy, which states that residents requesting a flag to honor a family member who is a veteran must pick a flag that represents the veteran's faith tradition. The city Council is considering asking for a court injunction to prevent the city from allowing Hewett to fly no flag. [Source: Winston-Salem Journal John hinton article 24 Jun 2011 ++]



Discharge (con't)

Finally this spring a friend sent a registered letter to President Obama's office. In early JUN, Don Schneider, now 81 years old, received an honorable discharge, 58 years after last firing his weapon. "I tell you, it didn't really register, I think, three or four days before it really sunk in that I was discharged, that I finally got it, so it was a good feeling." Because his records were lost. Schneider was never paid for his two years of service. "I figured 13 cents an hour at that time, 24 hours a day, Uncle Sam owes me between \$68-70,000 which I'm never going to see. You know that, but that's the way I got it figured." But at this point in his life he says he's going to let that one go. He's just finally happy to have his discharge papers. [Source: ABC Green Bay WI WBAY-2 Jeff Alexander article 23 Jun 2011 ++]



Military Retirement System Update 03:

Once again, the military retirement system is coming under the scrutiny of budgeters and deficit reduction task forces. This time the assault comes from various fronts – from outgoing Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and incoming Secretary Leon Panetta to Vice President Joe Biden. Earlier this vear Gates stated, "Everything is on the table" for budget cuts. Panetta used the same line during his recent nomination hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee, urging more significant, program-specific changes rather than an across-the-board, salamislice budget cutting approach. Tasked by President Obama with finding over \$400 billion dollars in savings over the next 10-12 years, Gates has become a bit more specific on where some of the savings may be achieved – specifically the military retirement system. Gates has criticized the "one-size-fitsall" 20-year retirement structure and has directed the Defense Science Board to establish a working group to develop alternative op-

Military Retirement System Update 03: (con't)

tions. In his final hearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee last week, he noted, "70-80% of the force does not stay until retirement but leave with nothing," endorsing an early vesting system.

Even more ominous, multiple media reports have indicated military retirement cutbacks could be in play in ongoing deficit-reduction talks between administration and congressional leaders, headed by Vice President Joe Biden. Most current proposals are based on recommendations of the 2009 10th Ouadrennial Review of Military Compensation (QRMC), which included:

- □ Converting to a civilianized 401(k)-style system under which full retired pay wouldn't be paid until age 57-60
- ☐ Authorizing the services to make variable annual retirement contributions depending on changing retention and skill requirements
- ☐ Vesting retirement benefits after 10 years of service

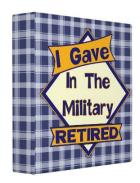
The last major revision to the military retirement system was in 1986 when Congress passed

the so-called REDUX system as part of an earlier budget-cutting drill. REDUX entailed far smaller cuts than the ORMC envisions. Under that plan, post-1986 entrants were to receive 40% of high-three-year average basic pay (vs. 50%) at 20 years of service. In contrast to the advocacy of current Defense leaders, then-Secretary Caspar Weinberger warned Congress that REDUX cuts would cause serious future readiness problems by undermining retention. He was proven right. A little over a decade later, Congress had to repeal REDUX when the Joint Chiefs of Staff complained it was hurting career retention. And that was in peacetime. Think what you will about the 20-year retirement system, the Military Officers Association of America believes it's the primary reason retention hasn't imploded over the last 10 years of unprecedented strains on career servicemembers and their families. The problem with proposals to cut overall military retirement costs while also implementing an expensive new 10-year vesting plan is that

there's only one place for that money to come from – the pockets of those who stay for a full career.

If you tried to build a plan to slash career retention, it's hard to conceive a better way than taking lots of money from people who serve a career in order to pay more to people who separate early. Imagine the impact if the QRMC proposals were in effect in today's wartime environment. A 10-year soldier facing a fourth or fifth combat deployment would have a choice between (a) taking the vested military retirement and leaving to pursue a civilian career or (b) having to serve decades longer (with who knows how many more deployments) before being eligible for military retired pay at age 57-60. What do you think would happen to retention then? Especially knowing the services let very few people serve that long – but force nearly all out of uniform between their early 40s and early 50s. Advocates for these initiatives seek to sugar-coat them by saying they wouldn't affect anyone now serving,

but would only apply to new entrants. That also was true of the REDUX system, and we know how that turned out. The only thing grandfathering the current force does is let retirementcutting leaders evade responsibility for their illadvised actions - by deferring the inevitable retention disaster for a decade and dumping it on their successors. MOAA believes it's essential to avoid repeating past mistakes that traded temporary budget relief for major national security risks. [Source: MOAA Leg Up 24 Jun 2011 ++]





Page 20 Piedmont Periscope



USS Grunion (SS-216)

was a Gato-class submarine that was sunk at Kiska. Alaska, during World War II. She was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for the grunion, a small fish of the silversides family, indigenous to the western American coast. Her keel was laid down by the Electric Boat Company in Groton, Connecticut on 1 March 1941. She was launched on 22 December 1941, (sponsored by Mrs. Stanford C. Hooper, wife of Rear Admiral Hooper), and commissioned on 11 April 1942 with Lieutenant Commander (Lt. Cmdr.) Mannert L. Abele, USNA class of 1926 in command. After shakedown out of New London, Grunion sailed for the Pacific on 24 May. A week later, as she transited the Caribbean Sea for Panama, she rescued 16 survivors of USAT Jack, which had been torpedoed by the German U-boat *U*-558, and she conducted a fruitless search for 13 other survivors presumed in the

Lost Boat—USS Grunion SS-216

vicinity. Arriving at Coco Solo on 3 June. Grunion deposited her shipload of survivors and continued to Pearl Harbor, arriving 20 June. Departing Hawaii on 30 June after ten days of intensive training, Grunion touched Midway Island before heading toward the Aleutian Islands for her first war patrol. Her first report, made as she patrolled north of Kiska Island, stated she had been attacked by a Japanese destrover and had fired at her with inconclusive results. She operated off Kiska throughout July and sank two enemy patrol boats while in search for enemy shipping. On 30 July the submarine reported intensive antisubmarine activity, and she was ordered back to **Dutch Harbor** Grunion was never heard from nor seen again. Air searches off Kiska were fruitless; and on 5 October Grunion was reported overdue from patrol and assumed lost with all hands. Her name was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 2 November 1942. Captured Japanese records show no antisubmarine attacks in the

Kiska area, and the fate

of *Grunion* remained a mystery for 65 years until discovery in the Bering Sea in August 2007 of a wreck believed to be the boat. In October 2008, the U.S. Navy verified that the wreck is the *Grunion*. The reason for her sinking is still a mystery.

Grunion received one battle star for World War II service.

Search for the Grunion Lt. Cmdr Abele left behind three sons, Bruce, John, and Brad, when the Grunion disappeared in 1942. For years, they engaged in a search for the final resting place of the ship. The search had been mostly funded by John Abele, founder of Boston Scientific, who began funding it personally after discussion with Robert Ballard (who declined to take part). The search was conducted mostly around the Aleutian Islands, an extremely volatile part of the sea.

A web site maintained by the Public Affairs Office of Commander Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) stated that Yutaka Iwasaki, "a gentleman in Japan," had a Web site with information about Japanese ships sunk dur-

ing World War II. According to a Japanese sailor and survivor of the Aleutian campaign, Yutaka Iwasaki, it is possible that on the morning of 31 July 1942 a troop transport, Kano Maru was attacked by Grunion. Only one of the sub's four torpedoes hit and detonated, and Grunion surfaced to finish her target by gunfire. However, Kano Maru returned fire with her own three-inch deck gun and .50-caliber machine guns. Allegedly, a single shell hit on Grunion's conning tower sank her. The cargo ship was later beached and abandoned. Investigators believe. however, that Grunion may have been hit by its own torpedo and then was trapped in an emergency dive configuration until it hit the ocean floor and imploded. In 2002, with Iwasaki's translation in hand, the search took on a new vigor, and with the enthusiastic cooperation of Japanese officials and veterans, the Abele brothers also began to search for several lost Japanese subchasers, CH -25 and CH-27, and the destroyer Arare, all of which sank in the same area.

In August 2006, an expedition led by Williamson & Associates onboard the ship *Aquila*, relayed sonar images to Bruce Abele. The images depicted a "smooth, oblong object with features that could be a conning tower and periscope mast". Subsequent imaging passes have revealed more detail about the object that could be the long-lost USS Grunion.

On 22 August 2007 USS Grunion was found by the search team in the Bering Sea off the coast of the Aleutians in about 1,000 meters (3,300 ft) of water. The findings were confirmed by the U.S. Navy on 3 October 2008. A memorial service was held in Cleveland, Ohio at the USS Cod on Saturday, 11 October 2008.



Wreckage of the Grunion found in 2008. Editor's note: Hopeful she'll stay where she's at and they won't try to raise her.—Sailors, Rest your oars.



Next Meeting is at Ft. Mill VFW Post 9138 July 23th Meal at 1730 Meeting at 1900



We need your stories



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

It's too hot to 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)







		Carolina Pie	dmont Base Calenda	r of Upcoming Ex	vents	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Carolina Pied- mont Base meet- ing 1730/1900
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	August 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 VFW Break- fast
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Carolina Pied- mont Base meet- ing 1730/1900
28	29	30	31	Sept 1	2	3

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!

