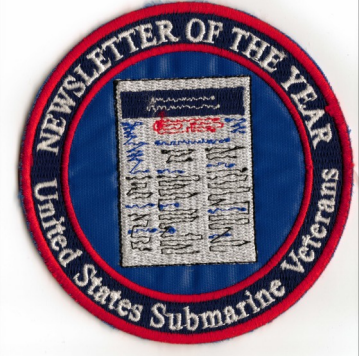


Piedmont Periscope



Issue 1205

May 2012

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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—Bigger and Better For 2012

During our April meeting Commander Steve reported that the Burnsville attendance was going to be up from last year. Well, last year was our 2nd year and we really enjoyed it; and would not miss it this year.

I think the Commander deserves a great amount of the credit for making the event such a popular one. BRAVO ZULU Steve!. Now remember, we will have no hard liquor in the meeting room. 'nuff said.

With that, I what to talk about my newest hobby; Bilge Rat Productions. It has been successful and we have had a lot of fun as a group travelling to the VA nursing

homes and other senior care centers around the area.

We have singers, joke and story tellers, actors, and most of all support people. I know I can't sing or play an instrument, but I know I have shipmates who can. I know I can write silly skits and I know I have shipmates that can improve on my ideas and do. I know I can make something out of almost nothing, I was a Nuke MM, and I know I have shipmates that can improve on my ideas.

That's my hobby. Making something out of nothing. But I need my shipmate's help. That's why I need more shipmates to get involved

with this worthwhile project. Just to see the smiles on the faces of those old folks. I hope someone like our group comes and visits me someday if I'm ever in a place like that.

So, if you can sing, play an instrument, tell some stories, or jokes, act in some skits, write some skits, make props, be a stage "mother"; great job if you were E8 or above; (just kidding, relax); we need you in our group.

We include our SubVettes too, but I'm not afraid to put on a dress and a wig as long as some A-ganger does get fresh, I've done it before and it makes the old folks laugh. Lord only knows how many more they have in them.—Moe (SS)

Lost Boats - May

"Sailors, rest your oars"



USS LAGARTO (SS 371)	May 3, 1945
USS SQUALUS (SS 192)	May 23, 1939
USS SCORPION (SSN 589)	May 27, 1968
USS RUNNER (SS 275)	May 28, 1943
USS STICKLEBACK (SS 415)	May 29, 1958

CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



It is now time for Burnsville 2012. I do hope those that wanted to go have registered. For those that are not attending, I hope you have as good of a weekend as we are going to have. Dale has promised us a preview of the new 'skit' for the 'half-way night' program. Looks very promising from what I have seen. I will admit that he really goes "all out" on this. For those that are not Life Members of USSVI, it is almost time to start thinking about your 2013 dues. I know, you 2013!!! We are not even half way through 2012 yet. Well, it sort of goes like this. Get-

ting folks to pay the next years dues (some anyway) seems to be a real struggle for those of us that have to keep asking for it. So maybe if I just throw an earlier reminder out there, just maybe, most will jump on it, send in their dues and get it over with. Trust me, I really do not enjoy harping over this. The cost is \$30 and it is to be sent to our Treasurer, Lee Hickerson. Make it easy on yourself, if you cannot afford Life Membership at this point (and I can see where the younger ones might feel that way), then look at the three or five year plan (just keep in mind that you cannot pay base dues past where National Dues are paid). You can save a few bucks and be on the 'good guys' list for a while.

The heavy part of the parade season is right on top of his. First will be the parade in Thomasville, NC on the May 28. That will be followed by the parade in Troutman, NC on June 30. And right after that on July 4 is the parade in Faith, NC. Times and muster places will be forthcoming via e-mail. Come on out and enjoy it with us. The crowds are really nice to us at all of these places. They give you a good feeling for the service you did for our country. The next edition of American Submariner should be out shortly. That is one you really need to look at closely. It will have the biographies of those running for National Office as well as the various Regional Directors (of course you can only vote

for the Southeast Region Director). Look these people over carefully. Also there should be some proposed amendments to our USSVI Constitution and By-Laws to vote on. Read those carefully. Then place your vote. It is easy and is done online. We will let you know when the voting opens (via e-mail). It is easy, just log-in to your USSVI account and I am sure the directions will be right there. Also, directions should be in the American Submariner as well. This is your organization, so please take the few minutes necessary and cast your ballot. It always feels nice when we see that our base has a decent percentage that has voted. We have had the fortune in the last few weeks to

Carolina Piedmont Contacts

Base Commander	Steve Bell	usnret82@carolina.rr.com	704 824 3510
Vice Commander	Jack Jeffries	jckjeffries@interlink-café.com	704 -764-5211
Base Secretary	Mike Hubbell	Mleohub@aol.com	803-628-1908
Base Treasurer	Lee Hickerson	ssnret@carolina.rr.com	704-573-9480
Chief of the Base	Paul Myers	holltkids@aol.com	704-28904650
Base Chaplin	Raymond Fritz	raysabode@bellsouth.net	803 831 7235
Base Storekeeper	Jeff Nieberding	jan7334@comporium.net	803-366-9255
Holland Club	Walt Sealy	walt_sealy@yahoo.com	803-327-5661
Coordinator			
Newsletter Editor	E. Dale Moses	ppeditor@carolina.rr.com	704-248-7610

award some more Eagle Scout certificates and patches. That is always an honor to be able to do that. If you know of any, let us know and I am sure we can work something out. We also have been to a school to provide submarine lectures. That too is a fun event. The last one we did we have received numerous 'thank you'

letters from the children. I will bring them to both Burnsville and our next meeting for you to read. Jack has lined us up to go to Levine on 6 June. I am sure he is still looking for volunteers to come with us. Just remember, if you went with us last summer, you cannot return until a year has past since your last visit. The

visit we had in October does not count as we did not go up to the hospital floors. Let Jack know if you are interested. This too is a worthwhile event that can make your heart feel good.

Again, hope to see you in Burnsville. If not, then the next meeting. Take care, we need all of you. May God bless you all.

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.

XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries



CAROLINA PIEDMONT

ROCKS...WOW, This has been a busy month for the Base, we had members participate at the parade in Wilmington; 3 separate Eagle Scout presentations; presented the Submariner story at Western Union Elementary School; and purchased 5 tickets for Active duty personnel to attend the All-Star race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Thanks for all who helped with these projects.

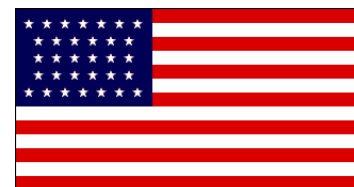
We are preparing for our annual visit to the Burnsville area where

we pay tribute at the monument for the boats lost in WWII. This event is spectacular and looking forward to a large crowd. We are the host for this North Carolina Subvets event. It gets better each year.

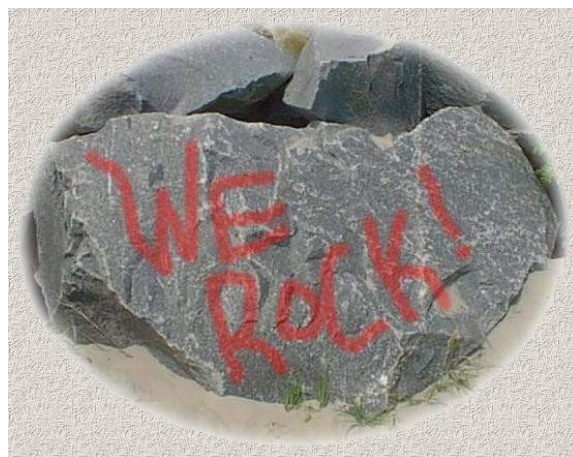
How about Dale Moses? He has another skit put together, Snoopy and the Red Baron, he is in the process of writing another skit, Dragnet. These skit bring pleasure not only to the people we present them to, but also to the base members that attend them. Thanks Moe, we sure do appreciate all you do for the base.

Lady J and I just returned from my boat reunion that was held in Greensboro, several of Carolina Piedmont members also attended, Al Allen, Bill King Ron Busila, Larry

Lynch, and Tom Carr. Tom masterminded the whole reunion and what a job he did. Since we were there for the Kentucky Derby we had a Derby party with the traditional Derby Hat contest. Lady J won the ladies' section and Ron Busila won the men's section. Bill King won the raffle for the cut-away of the Nat Greene. Just goes to show you, even at boat reunions, CAROLINA PIEDMONT ROCKS.



Flag Trivia—Where did this Flag fly in our Nation's history? See Page 13



Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes

For April 21st, 2012



-Call Meeting to Order

1900hrs the meeting was called to order by Base Commander Steve Bell.

-Invocation

The Invocation was given by Base Chaplin Ray Fritz.

- Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Bell.

- Tolling of the Boats

The Tolling of the Boats was presentenced by Ray Fritz and Paul Myers.

-Member Introductions

There were 21 members present.

-Reading/Approval of the last Meeting Minutes

The motion to accept the Minutes of the Base Meeting held on March 24th, 2012 as posted in Carolina-Piedmont Periscope News Letter was made and seconded. The motion carried.

-Reading/Approval of the Treasurer's Report

The Treasure's Report was given by Lee Hickerson.

As April 21st, 2012 the following funds where available to the Base.

CURRENT BALANCE	\$6,089.45
MEMEMORIAL RESTERATION FUNDS	\$ 288.50
KAPS-4-KIDS	\$1,456.05
USSVI SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 342.62
BURNSVILLE MEETING	\$1,560.00
HALFWAY NIGHT	\$ 77.78
BASE FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$2,442.25

-Old Business

CPB Challenge Coins

Steve Bell reported that the new owner of the company that makes the Base Challenge Coin has re-opened the business. The new order will include a \$55.00 price increase. The Board agreed to accept this increase. The current price to the membership for these coins will remain the same. Steve Bell has placed an order for 100 coins. Funds will remain in the base account until the coins are received.

-New Business**Let the Troops Race**

Steve Bell reported that the Base received a request from the Charlotte Motor Speedway. The CMS has a program to provide active duty personnel with free tickets to NASCAR races held in Charlotte. CMS requests a donation of \$20.00 per ticket. The motion was made to donate \$100.00 from the Base General Fund to provide 5 tickets. The motion was carried. Steve Bell directed Lee Hickerson to cut a check and make the donation.

-Store Keeper's Report

Jeff Nieberding reported that a partial order of the North Carolina Veterans Pins has arrived. Pins are being sold for \$5.00 each.

-Good of the Order**Kaps-4-Kids Report**

Jack Jeffries reported that the base will be visiting the Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte on June 6th, 2012. Up to 8 or 9 base members will be allowed to attend the worthwhile event. The membership was reminded that for health of the children, the hospital restricts the number of visitors we can bring. Steve Bell also asked that you're in good health the day of the visit, we do not want expose the children to anything. Interested members should contact Jack Jeffries for more details.

Halfway Night Performance

Dale Moses reported the newest show featuring Snoopy and the Red Barron will be previewed at Burnsville. Dale also hinted that "Elvis" may also put in an appearance. All members are encouraged to participate in these shows.

Charlotte Knights games

Dale Moses reported that the Carolina-Piedmont Base will be presenting the Colors at the Charlotte Knights baseball game on May 26th, 2012. Ticket prices are \$13.00 per person for the game. Dale also requested volunteers to present the Colors before the game. Interested members should contact Dale.

Parades

The NC Subvets will again participate in the Memorial Day Parade in Thomasville NC. The parade will be held on May 28th, e-mails will be sent out with full details.

-Autism Walks

Lee Hickerson reminded that the Base will once again participate in the Autism Walks event at the Charlotte Motor Speedway this year. This event will take place on October 27th, 2012. Further details will be coming.

-News Letter Deadline

Dale Moses reminded all members the deadline for May's newsletter is May 10th, 2012.

-Next Meeting

Because of our annual Tolling of the Boats at Burnsville NC, there is no scheduled meeting of the Base for the month of May. The regular meeting of the Carolina-Piedmont Base will be held on June 23rd, 2012 at

the VFW in Fort Mill, SC.

-Benediction

The Benediction was given by Ray Fritz.

-Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Hubbell, Base Secretary

Idle Thoughts—Provided by Jim Schenk

I planted some
bird seed; a bird
came up; now I
don't know
what to feed it.

I had amnesia
once – or twice.

I went to San
Francisco; I
found some-
one's heart.
Now what?

Protons have
mass? I didn't
even know they
were Catholic.

All I ask is a
chance to prove
that money can't
make me happy.

If the world
were a logical
place, wouldn't
men be the ones
to ride horses
side-saddle?

What is a "free"
gift? Aren't all
gifts free?

They told me I
was gullible,
and I believed
them.

Teach a child to
be polite and
courteous in the
home, and when
he grows up,
he'll never be
able to merge
his car onto the
freeway.

Experience is
the thing you
have left when
everything else
is gone.

One nice thing
about egotists:
they don't talk
about other peo-
ple.

My weight is per-
fect for my height
– which varies.

I used to be inde-
cisive. Now I'm
not sure.

How can there be
self-help
"groups"?

If swimming is
good for the fig-
ure, how do you
explain whales?

Is it me – or do
buffalo wings
taste like chicken?

Cruise for Bermuda

Royal Caribbean cruise lines .ship "Enchantment of the Seas" leaving out of Baltimore on October 12 for 6 nights. The phone number to call is 1-800-465-3595, be sure to mention our group name "Carolina Piedmont" and group number 8019784. We get \$50.00 per cabin ship board credit. We will have a meeting room but we would have to pay extra if they bring food or beverages to us. So I say take the room and bring drinks and food when or if we want to go to meeting room. We can bring it from the Lido Deck should we want to go there. All prices are per person, an inside cabin is \$826.83, outside is \$936.83, and a balcony \$1386.83. We will be able to get more money for every 8 double-occupancy rooms. A deposit is \$500.00 per person with balance due 75 days before we cruise; or you can pay in full. Another option is to choose the \$50.00 deposit and the balance of deposit due (\$450.00) is due 60 days after the first \$50.00 deposit. Gratuities are \$69.90 per person if you pre pay we are guaranteed to be able to set at the same table at dinner which is at 6 pm. Please do the deposit it will be held till March 5th. We can take vans for the 8 hour drive with no overnight stay needed. We can divide van rental, gas and parking between us. If you need any further info call me @ 704-289-4650 or email me @ holltkids@aol.com. Thanks, Sandra



Winners of the Derby Hat contest at the Nat Greene reunion. (L to R) Ron Busila, Lady J, and Tom Carr.

New members Binnacle List

Welcome Aboard

Happy Birthday to:

MAY

Joel Tuchfeld 5/04
Colleen Moses 5/05
Donna Harris 5/05
Glenn E. Harris 5/07
Tom Coffman 5/09
Larry Lynch 5/17
Robert Boyd 5/18
John Dainotto 5/19

Calvin Reese 5/25
Sandra Jordan 5/26
Bob Bickford 5/30

If your birthday was
missed, please notify
Jack or Dale



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

MAY

Ruth Ann Worth and Jim Schenk - 5/5
Andrew and Marianne Miller 5/6
Dorla and Hal Rutter - 5/26
Colleen and Dale Moses - 5/27



“Ancient Rome declined because it had a Senate; now what's going to happen to us with both a Senate and a House?”
- Will Rogers

SubVettes

Hello Sassy Sisters,
Hope you and yours are doing well. I am looking forward to Burnsville as we had a blast last year and I know this year will be great too.

Please bring the items for the V A in Johnson City to June meeting. I am planning to go after our meeting to deliver them. Paul got us a case of small bars of hand soap so at least we have that and toothpaste with brushes.

Please do not forget your Secret Sisters and our Recruiters.

We have no official meeting so we will not have a meal so Sisters enjoy your break.

I have not heard any more news about our little mascot. I know he has not been doing well and is Levine Children's Hospital. I ask you please pray for him, his parents and his doctors.

I know we are due to pay on our cruise June 14th. so if you need to do the same please do not forget. I have no way of knowing since the arrangements were made between you and the cruise lines.

Take care and May God Bless You and Yours.
And May God Bless Our Great Country the USA.

HAPPY MOTHERS
DAY TO MY DEAR
SASSY SISTERS,



LOVE SANDRA



Ranch Guacamole

You get all the rich creaminess of the avocado but with much less fat and fewer calories. We promise that you (and your picky kids) won't notice because the peas provide great body and texture.

Yield: Makes 10 servings (serving size: about 2 tablespoons)

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 cup frozen peas | 1 ripe peeled avocado, seeded |
| 1 lemon, juiced | 1 chopped, seeded, tomato |
| 1/2 cup finely chopped red or sweet onion | 1 Jalapeño pepper, seeded and minced |
| 2 to 3 minced garlic cloves | 3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro |
| 1/2 teaspoon sea salt | 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper |

Preparation:

Slightly thaw frozen peas at room temperature.

Place peas in a blender or food processor; process until smooth. Set aside.

Mash avocado with a fork or potato masher in a medium bowl. Add in the lemon juice, tomato, onion, Jalapeño, garlic, and cilantro. Season with sea salt and black pepper. Add prepared peas and mix well.

Cover tightly and refrigerate for several hours. Serve with an array of fresh vegetables such as bell pepper strips, jicama, summer squash, and cherry tomatoes.

Variation:

You can also use steamed broccoli florets, asparagus tips, or edamame in place of the peas.



Piedmont Funnies Page

Psych 101 supplied by Jim Schenk

If you start with a cage containing five monkeys and inside the cage, hang a banana on a string from the top and then you place a set of stairs under the banana, before long a monkey will go to the stairs and climb toward the banana.

As soon as he touches the stairs, you spray all the other monkeys with cold water. After a while another monkey makes an attempt with same result ... all the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. Pretty soon when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys will try to prevent it. Now, put the cold water away.

Remove one monkey from the cage and replace it with a new one. The new monkey sees the banana and attempts to climb the stairs. To his shock, all of the other monkeys beat him. After another attempt and attack, he knows that if he tries to climb the stairs he will be assaulted.

Next, remove another of

the original five monkeys, replacing it with a new one. The newcomer goes to the stairs and is attacked. The previous newcomer takes part in the punishment...with enthusiasm.

Then, replace a third original monkey with a new one, followed by a fourth, then the fifth. Every time the newest monkey takes to the stairs he is attacked. Most of the monkeys that are beating him up have no idea why they were not permitted to climb the stairs. Neither do they know why they are participating in the beating of the newest monkey.

Finally, having replaced all of the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys will have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, none of the monkeys will try to climb the stairway for the banana.

Why, you ask? Because in their minds...that is the way it has always been!

This, my friends, is how Congress operates...and is why, from time to time, all of the monkeys

need to be REPLACED.



Little Susie goes home from school and tells her mom that the boys keep asking her to do cartwheels because she's very good at doing them.

Mom said : "YOU should say NO - they only want to look at your undies".

Susie said: "I know they do... that's why I hide them in my backpack"!!



Above: the little boy who asked Susie to do cartwheels—obviously a future Submarine Sailor!



One morning a blind bunny was hopping down the bunny trail and tripped over a large snake and fell right on his twitchy little nose. "Oh please excuse me," said the bunny. "I didn't

mean to trip over you, but I'm blind and can't see."

"That's perfectly all right," replied the snake. "To be sure, it was my fault. I didn't mean to trip you, but I'm blind too, and I didn't see you coming. By the way, what kind of animal are you?"

"Well, I really don't know," said the bunny. "I'm blind, and I've never seen myself. Maybe you could examine me and find out."

So the snake felt the bunny all over, and he said, "Well, you're soft, and cuddly, and you have long silky ears, and a little fluffy tail and a dear twitchy little nose. You must be a bunny rabbit!"

The bunny said, "I can't thank you enough. But by the way, what kind of animal are you?"

The snake replied that he didn't know either, and the bunny agreed to examine him, and when the bunny was finished, the snake asked, "Well, what kind of an animal am I?" The bunny had felt the snake all over, and he replied, "You're cold, you're slippery, and you haven't got any balls...."

You must be a politician."



The only cow in a small town in Poland stopped giving milk. The people did some research and found that they could buy a cow from Moscow for 2,000 rubles, or one from Minsk for 1,000 rubles. Being frugal, they bought the cow from Minsk. The cow was wonderful. It produced lots of milk all the time, and the people were amazed and very happy.

They decided to acquire a bull to mate with the cow and produce more cows like it. Then they would never have to worry about the milk supply again. They bought a bull and put it in the pasture with their beloved cow. However, whenever the bull came close to the cow, the cow would move away. No matter what approach the bull tried, the cow would move away from the bull and he could not succeed in his quest.

The people were very upset and decided to ask the rabbi, who was very wise, what to do. They told the rabbi what was happening. "Whenever the bull approaches our cow, she moves away. If

he approaches from the back, she moves forward. When he approaches her from the front, she backs off. An approach from the side and she just walks away to the other side."

The rabbi thought about this for a minute and asked, "Did you buy this cow from Minsk?" The people were dumbfounded, since they had never mentioned where they had gotten the cow.

"You are truly a wise rabbi," they said. "How did you know we got the cow from Minsk?"

The rabbi answered sadly, "My wife is from Minsk."



Provide by Jack Jeffries

Joe wanted to buy a motorcycle. He doesn't have much luck, until one day, he comes across a Harley with a 'for sale' sign on it. The bike seems even better than a new one, although it is 10 years old. It's shiny and in absolute mint condition. He immediately buys it and asks the seller how he kept it in such great condition for 10 years.

'Well, it's quite simple really,' says the seller, 'whenever the bike is

outside and it's gonna rain, rub Vaseline on the chrome. It protects it from the rain.' (true story) And he hands Joe a jar of Vaseline.

That night, his girlfriend, Sandra, invites him over to meet her parents. Naturally, they take the bike there. But just before they enter the house, Sandra stops him and says, 'I have to tell you something about my family before we go in.' 'When we eat dinner, we don't talk. In fact, the first person who says anything during dinner has to do the dishes.'

'No problem,' he says. And in they go.

Joe is shocked. Right smack in the middle of the living room is a huge stack of dirty dishes. In the kitchen is another huge stack of dishes. Piled up on the stairs, in the corridor, everywhere he looks, dirty dishes. They sit down to dinner, and sure enough, no one says a word.

As dinner progresses, Joe decides to take advantage of the situation. So he leans over and kisses Sandra. No one says a word. So he reaches over and fondles her breasts. Still, nobody says a word. So he stands up, grabs her, rips her clothes off, throws her on the table and makes

love to her, right there in front of her parents. His girlfriend is a little flustered, her dad is obviously livid and her mom horrified when he sits back down, but no one says a word.

He looks at her mom. 'She's got a great body,' he thinks. So he grabs the mom, bends her over the dinner table, pulls down her panties, and does her every which way but loose right there on the dinner table. After she has a big climax, he sits down again.

Now his girlfriend is furious and her dad is boiling, the Mom is pleasantly beaming. But still, total silence.

All of a sudden there is a loud clap of thunder, and it starts to rain. Joe remembers his bike, so he pulls the jar of Vaseline from his pocket.

Suddenly the father shouted. 'I'll do the dishes!!'



My neighbor knocked on my door at 2:30 am this morning, can you believe that. 2:30am?! Luckily for him I was still up playing my Bagpipes.

I saw a poor old lady fall over today on the ice!! At least I presume she was poor - she only had \$1.20 in her purse.



Chaplin's Corner - Ray Fritz, Base Chaplain



Happy
Mother's
Day

Diana and I wish all the mothers Happy Mother's Day! Look ladies, what I am about to say you already know! God has given you an awesome task which is made much more difficult because men [us] do not often get it.

The Apostle Paul's message to Titus is very clear. He writes...

[Titus] Your job is to speak out on the things that make for solid doctrine. ²Guide older men into lives of temperance, dignity, and wisdom, into healthy faith, love, and endurance. ³Guide older women into lives of

reverence so they end up as neither gossips nor drunks, but models of goodness. ⁴By looking at them, the younger women will know how to love their husbands and children, ⁵be virtuous and pure, keep a good house, be good wives. We don't want anyone looking down on God's Message because of their behavior. ⁶Also, guide the young men to live disciplined lives. Titus 2:2-6 (TMNT)

No sermon here and no exposition... just a couple of points.

First, Titus has been given a tremendous task, which all true ministers of the Gospel have yet today. He is to guide older men, guide older women, and guide young men. What about younger women?

Second, God places on the older women [not old!] the task of being good role models who will influence the younger women and, in so doing, teach them how to be loving wives, mothers, and homemakers so that God's mes-

sage will not be maligned.

Ladies, if you have been faithful to your vows and been instrumental in keeping your marriage and family together, I congratulate you! If you have done this for 30, 40, or more years you really need to be congratulated! This is especially true if you were married while your husband was serving aboard submarines.

Now, men! I can't let you off the hook! Diana and I were married while I was aboard the U.S.S. Skate. It made short patrols but we spent 9 to 10 months at sea a year nonetheless. I saw young wives leave and go back home, never to return. It wasn't an easy life for either the men or the wives.

I love Diana and appreciate her hard work in helping raising our four children and preparing almost 56,000 good meals during our 52 years of marriage. I once told our congregation that she worshiped me because she gave me three burnt offerings a day! Of course that was **not** the thing to say, especially since she was

sitting there in front of me. My next meal was burnt Pop Tarts! [Which I really did deserve].

Ok men! Here is the scoop! Love, honor, and respect your wife if she has been faithful to her vows and has made your house a home. They were there when we were at sea and they have been there when we have been at home. They have stayed with us and loved us in spite of our faults [speaking only for myself here] and they deserve a great Mother's Day! Give it to them!



We will miss you all at Burnsville this year. We will be in Oregon with our oldest son and his family. Have a great time, drive safely, and have a blessed Memorial Day celebration. See you in June.

God bless you, Chaplain Ray

Happy
Mother's
Day

Stephen Wrightisms –

Provided by Jim
Schenk

If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous erudite scientist who once said: "I woke up one morning, and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates." His mind sees things differently than most of us. Here are some of his gems:

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 5 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 - If you want the rainbow, you got to put up with the rain.
- 9 - All those who believe in psychokinesis, raise my hand.

10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met.

12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?

13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?

14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.

15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.

16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.

18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.

19 - I intend to live forever.... So far, so good.

20 - If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?

21 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

22 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

23 - My mechanic told

me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."

24 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your name.

25 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

26 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

27 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

28 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

29 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

30 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.

31 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.

32 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.

33 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.

34 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

35 - If your car could travel at the speed of

light, would your headlights work?



Comedian

Stephen Wright

Who usually never cracks a smile during his delivery

Answer to the Flag Trivia:

The 32-Star Flag: This Flag became the Official United States Flag on July 4th, 1858. A star was added for the admission of Minnesota (May 11, 1858) and was to last for just one year. The only President to serve under this flag was James Buchanan (1857-1861).

Deadline for the June Issue will be the 15th.

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

THANKSUSA SCHOLARSHIPS

.Veteran Support Organizations (09): Military children and spouses can access more scholarships through ThanksUSA, an organization that supports military families. Since 2006, it has awarded 2,200 need-based scholarships totaling about \$6 million. By the end of 2011, it aims to distribute another 500 scholarships valued at \$1.5 million. This charity had a somewhat unusual beginning: two sisters, ages eight and 10, wanted to do more to support the country's war fighters. They developed an idea to tie that support to a national treasure hunt game that would also teach U.S. history and values. Though anyone can play the online game for free, participants are encouraged to make a donation to help fund the scholarships. Private donations and events make up the remainder of the funding. Certain educational institutions participate as well, offering reduced tuition rates or scholarships through the program. Kaplan University is offering 50 percent off four years of tuition at their online school to spouses who meet the award criteria.

Hills Bros. Coffee also is providing ThanksUSA scholarships. In each can of grounds, it has placed a coupon with a code. For every 100,000 codes entered online, it will donate 10 scholarships up to 50 total. It also counts "likes" on its Facebook page toward this goal. Michele Stork, executive director of ThanksUSA, says her organization has received five scholarships for this year and expects at least that number for next year. She hopes the public will help them reach the total number available. Stork explains that these scholarships help the military adapt to changing situations. For Guard and Reserve households, a call to duty interrupts normal paychecks, meaning that sometimes college plans in the family are put on hold. In the families of wounded troops, a spouse might suddenly become the sole breadwinner. "We help the family increase its long-term earning power while reducing the economic strain on the family," Stork says. The program also has ripple benefits through the military. According to Stork, most of the re-

cipients desire to give back to the defense community through their education. She shares that an education major went on to teach military children; science and technology majors plan to develop future military capabilities; medical majors intend to assist troops with physical or mental disabilities; and undergraduates have gone on to serve in the military after earning their degrees. Military families at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, receive their new computers courtesy of Operation Homelink. The organization distributes computers to family members of units preparing to ship overseas so they can stay in touch during the deployment. Anyone interested in applying for ThanksUSA scholarships can sign up on the website to be reminded when the program opens for 2012. All applications are accepted online from April 1 to May 15. Stork encourages people to ensure they fill out all the necessary forms and attach other necessary paperwork. She urges people to "apply, apply, apply." She also wants the military to know that people

are grateful. "We appreciate your service and understand the sacrifices that you and your families make every day," Stork states. But what if people have a hard time accessing the Internet because they lack a home computer? For many junior enlisted families, this is their reality, and beyond 50 applying for scholarships, it means they miss the best connection to their deployed loved ones. Operation Homelink helps remedy this problem by providing computers to those who need them. Founder and President Dan Shannon estimates that 10 percent to 15 percent of military families fall into this category. "In many cases, their computers may have broken, and they don't have the funds to replace them or in several cases, the service member took their only laptop with him, and the wife does not have one," he says. "To illustrate the need, I can tell you that I have met families who have driven five hours each way to come to one of our events to get a computer." For additional information on ThanksUSA refer to <http://www.thanksusa.org>. For

scholarship questions call (877) 849-878. [Source: AFCRA Veterans Focus Rita Boland article Nov 2011 ++]

Vet Toxic Exposure ~ Lejeune Update 27: A group of lawmakers, including Florida Sens. Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio have asked the Pentagon to investigate allegations the Marine Corps and Navy have concealed information about water pollution at Camp Lejeune from regulators and the public. More than 17,000 Floridians may have been exposed to highly contaminated drinking water at the Marine Corps base in North Carolina before 1987, Corps figures show. The Corps has requested in recent months that the federal agency studying contamination at the base redact portions of a public report showing the location of active water wells and water systems at Lejeune. The Corps says releasing that information poses a security risk. Critics of the Corps argue that withholding such information makes it impossible for other scientists to evaluate the report. They say it is an attempt to hinder work that may prove the Corps and Navy culpa-

ble in poisoning veterans. 35 "Some of our offices have received information indicating that the (Navy) and (Corps) have used (public records) exemptions to justify the withholding of key information contained in many of these documents from the public without adequate legal justification," the lawmakers said in a letter to the Pentagon's inspector general. "We want to ensure the reports provided to the public have not, and will not, omit critical information that would aid future scientific inquiry and most importantly, cause the public to doubt the transparency and integrity of this inter-agency process," the letter signed by six senators and three representatives said. The letter was signed by Rubio, a Republican, and Nelson, a Democrat; Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vermont, Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Kay Hagan, D-N.C.; and U.S. Reps. John Dingell, D-Mich., Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., and Brad Miller, D-N.C. So far, the inspector general has not said if it will investigate. The Corps said it has withheld nothing from the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry, which is leading efforts to research the water contamination and its health effects.

ATSDR scientists are currently working on a water model that will help determine the level of contaminants throughout Lejeune going back decades. In January, a technical report supporting that work was released and was redacted at the Navy and Marine Corps' request. "We support (ATSDR) and have given them full access to our data so they can seek science-based answers for our former residents and workers," said Capt. Kendra Hardesty, a Corps spokeswoman. "Secrecy would be counterproductive to this mission." Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and administrator of ATSDR, told lawmakers earlier this year that ATSDR did not have the expertise to determine if the redactions are necessary, so it agreed to withhold the locations of the water system infrastructure. He said location information was "scientifically unnecessary." But the scientist hired by ATSDR to help produce the report took the rare step of criticizing Frieden in a letter to ATSDR's director, saying Frieden's statement about scientific necessity "is patently false and ... bor-

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin



ders on the inane and silly." The scientist, Robert Faye, said the redactions "do indeed substantially compromise the technical and scientific integrity" of the report. An ATSDR spokeswoman said in a statement, "ATSDR has received all information necessary for completing" its Lejeune work. "Our science has not been compromised." [Source: Tampa Bay Times William R. Levesque article 13 Apr 2012 ++]

VA Outside Medical Claims Update 01:

Cleveland Davis' is a combat veteran who received the Purple Heart for injuries suffered in Vietnam. Christmas Day 2005, his head began hurting, and his speech became slurred. His family thought he might be suffering a stroke. They rushed him from his Charlotte home to nearby Carolinas Medical Center. Doctors found problems, including a blood clot next to his brain and severe circulation problems in his legs. Doctors amputated Davis' left leg, drained blood from the clot and kept him for more than a month for an array of tests and procedures. In early 2006, the bills started arriving. The hos-

pital said Davis was responsible for paying nearly \$200,000. Carolinas HealthCare System later sued Davis to collect on the bill. Davis contends that if the hospital had done its job properly, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs probably would have covered his medical bills. In court papers, he argued that the hospital didn't properly process the documents needed to submit the bills to the VA. But when the VA refused to pay, they say, the bill became Davis' responsibility.

Davis is one of thousands of patients sued by Carolinas HealthCare. It's a bill-collection practice that most North Carolina hospitals have chosen to avoid. But officials say they are obligated to try to collect whatever they can from patients who can afford to pay. In Davis' case, the resolution of the dispute in 2008 proved costly. Davis said he agreed to pay \$700 a month for three years to the hospital and clinics that provided his care. After that, he said, he agreed to pay \$200 a month to the hospital. Those payments have been his single biggest monthly expense, he

says, and he still can't understand how the total bill climbed so high. Davis receives about \$4,400 a month from the VA. After exhausting most of his savings, he mortgaged his modest three-bedroom house in northeast Charlotte – valued at \$134,000 – which had been paid in full before his hospitalization. Otherwise, he says, there's no way he could make his monthly medical payments. For now, he closely watches expenses and cringes each time he sends his check to the hospital. "If I didn't have to pay this, I could pay my (other) bills without a struggle," said Davis, now 64. He has paid only a small portion of his bill so far. "I know I'll spend the rest of my life paying this."

Davis has been able to avoid bankruptcy – but not the stress associated with fighting the hospital. Officials with Carolinas HealthCare say the VA initially agreed that Davis was covered. But later, after Davis was discharged, the VA notified CMC it wouldn't pay for his care. Under federal rules, the VA will pay for emergency care in non-VA hospitals, but only until a pa-

tient is stabilized. After that, the policy says, the patient, a responsible party or the hospital should arrange for the patient's transfer to a VA facility. Carolinas HealthCare officials say they repeatedly contacted the VA regarding Davis' transfer, but the patient was never offered a bed. Carolinas HealthCare said in a statement that it tried to work with Davis and the VA but could never get the federal government to pay. "The patient legally remains responsible for payment of the care provided," the hospital said. Usually even-tempered, Davis doesn't try to conceal his feelings about CMC. "I don't ever want to go back there," he tells his wife and children. "If I get sick and the VA is full, take me straight to the funeral home." [Source: The Charlotte Observer Ames Alexander article 21 Apr 2012 ++]

Cleveland Davis



USS Scorpion Update 01: Shipwreck disaster experts are calling for a deep-sea expedition to a lost U.S. nuclear attack sub, the USS Scorpion, in an effort to verify a new theory on what caused the Cold War vessel to sink. The Scorpion was lost May 22, 1968, killing 99 men, about 400 miles south of the Azores Islands in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. The sub has been inspected by undersea recovery teams, including a visit in 1985 by oceanographer Robert Ballard before his team's discovery of the Titanic shipwreck. The cause of the sub's loss has remained hotly disputed. A Navy Court of Inquiry found "the cause of the loss cannot be definitively ascertained." "The families of those 99 men are still out there, and they want to know what happened," says former U.S. naval officer Paul Boyne, who presented a new mechanical explanation for the loss of the sub at a recent marine forensics symposium just outside Washington. Panelists at the event called for a summer expedition to the sub's wreck, led by P.H. Nargeolet, another Titanic explorer, saying it might put to rest a multitude of

theories about the Scorpion's demise -- ranging from a covert Soviet attack to a torpedo self-firing into the ship to a faulty trash disposal. Evidence for a more mundane explanation comes from the sub's propeller shaft, Boyne says. Undersea photographs show it rests about 20 yards outside the wreck on the seafloor, about 11,220 feet underwater. Boyne suggests that rubber bearings holding the propeller shaft failed, putting stress on the coupling connecting it to the engine. The coupling's bolts failed catastrophically during a deep test dive, the theory goes, spilling water into the sub too rapidly to allow ballast maneuvers to raise the ship to the surface. As support, Boyne points to the loss in 1963 of the USS Thresher, the only other nuclear submarine lost by the Navy. The Thresher suffered a similar crushing end but retained its propeller shaft within its hull. In its planned proposal to the U.S. Navy's Naval History & Heritage Command (NHHC) in Washington, the team would send a robot sub to the wreck to photograph the displaced shaft. The robot would send a small tethered camera into the ship's engine

room to examine the damage to the coupling bolts. Because the sub carried two nuclear-tipped torpedoes and a nuclear reactor, the Navy has periodically tested the water around the submarine for radiological releases, at least as recently as 1998. "What happened to the Scorpion isn't so much a mystery, as a secret," says Ed Offley, author of *Scorpion Down: Sunk by the Soviets, Buried by the Pentagon*, which argues for the covert Soviet sub attack explanation. Investigators who start from technical documents related to the ship's loss, typically differ with his interpretation, he says, which was based on interviews with Navy personnel. "It couldn't hurt to have a documented expedition to Scorpion," says Offley, who is not a member of the proposed expedition team. On May 27, 1968, family members of the USS Scorpion's crew waited on a Norfolk dock for the return of the submarine. At least 11 of them have joined in the call for the expedition. [Source: Stars & Stripes Dan Vergano 12 Apr 2012 ++]





Lost Boats— UAA Squalus

A Sargo class fleet submarine, Sailfish entered naval service in 1939 as the U.S.S. Squalus. On 23 May 1939, while conducting a test dive off Portsmouth, NH, Squalus sank in 243 feet of water when the engine room flooded through the main induction. The 26 men in the after part of the ship were drowned. Thirty-three others, including the commanding officer, LT Oliver F. Naquin, who were in the forward section, were left with the problem of getting to the surface.

While the depth was within the practical limits for an ascent using the Momsen Lung escape gear, the cold water temperature, and the probability that anyone swimming to the surface would die of exposure before being found, caused Naquin to veto its use. By the time those aboard Squalus were sure there were ships above them, no one was in any condition to make a free ascent. The only option was to release the forward rescue buoy and wait for someone to come for them. In addition, it was possible to launch signal rockets at that depth, and it was

one of these, spotted by Squalus's sister boat Sculpin, that allowed them to be located that afternoon.

Contact was established through the telephone in the rescue buoy, which told the would-be rescuers that there were survivors. The phone line broke before much information could be passed, so a tug spent the rest of the afternoon dragging the bottom in an attempt to get a line on the sunken boat. This was accomplished, though they wouldn't be sure until the following day, when divers could be sent down.

On the morning of 24 May, the submarine rescue vessel U.S.S. Falcon moored over the sunken submarine. Falcon carried a team of divers, and a McCann Rescue Chamber. The divers were commanded by LCDR Charles "Swede" Momsen, who had invented both the Momsen Lung and the rescue chamber. After securing a cable to Squalus, the McCann rescue chamber—a large diving bell that could be secured to the escape hatch in the deck over the forward torpedo room, and was named after then Lieu-

tenant-Commander Allan McCann, who supervised final development after Momsen was reassigned to training duties—was used to bring up the survivors. The last trip, bringing up the final eight survivors, including LT Naquin, was delayed after a cable threatened to break, but eventually the chamber was brought up and the men rescued. After the cable was repaired, other trips were made to the sunken boat in an attempt to discover whether any other survivors might still be aboard, but the 33 rescued men were all who had survived. Naquin remained in the Navy, but was transferred to the surface fleet and never served in submarines again. He retired as a rear-admiral in 1955. Squalus was raised in the summer of 1939, and after repair was recommissioned as U.S.S. Sailfish on 15 May 1940, the name change reportedly at the suggestion of President Roosevelt. Lieutenant Commander Morton C. Mumma, Jr commanded the recommissioned boat through the end of her first war patrol. Sailors generally consider renaming a ship to be bad luck, but Sailfish—sometimes, despite

the objections of her subsequent commanding officers, called "Squalfish"—survived the war with a total bag of 40,000 tons, eventually being scrapped in 1948. In an ironic turn of fate, Sailfish sank the Japanese aircraft carrier Chuyo, which had been carrying half of the surviving crew members from Sculpin, which had located Squallus in 1939. Only one of those being transported by Chuyo survived and, along with the other survivors, spent the remainder of the war as slave laborers in Japan. One result of the Squallus sinking was redesigning the diving controls, so that the main induction and negative tank flood levers could be easily distinguished by touch even in total darkness. Though unconfirmed, one theory was that the vent operator had accidentally opened the induction when he attempted to close the negative flood valve, which is located next to it.



Tired of the daily routine of civilian life?

Do you long for the good old days in the service? Here's some things you can try to do at home to once again feel like you are back on a boat.

Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Two to three hours after you fall asleep, have your wife whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble "Sorry, wrong rack".

Set your alarm clock to go off at random times during the night. When it goes off, jump out of bed and get dressed as fast as you can, then run to your kitchen with the garden hose while wearing a scuba mask.

Have the paperboy give you a haircut.

Every so often, yell "Emergency Deep", run into the kitchen, and sweep all pots/pans/dishes off of the counter onto the floor. Then, yell at your wife for not having the place "stowed for

sea".

Use 18 scoops of coffee per pot and allow it to sit for 5 or 6 hours before drinking. Never wash any coffee cups.

Have a fluorescent lamp installed on the bottom of your coffee table and lie under it to read books.

Put on the headphones from your stereo (don't plug them in). Go and stand in front of your stove. Say (to nobody in particular) "Stove manned and ready". Stand there for 3 or 4 hours. Say (once again to nobody in particular) "Stove secured". Roll up the headphone cord and put them away.

Tag out the steering wheel, gas pedal, brake pedal, transmission and cigarette lighter when you change the oil in your car.

Every four hours, check all the fluid levels in your car and log the readings. Check the tire pressure and replace air lost from excessive pressure checks. Be sure to place red tags on ignition stating

"DANGER: Do Not Operate" while you perform these checks. Inform your neighbor as to placement of the red tags, the results of the checks, and have him repeat the checks because he did not see you perform them.







**Next Meeting is at then
"Burnsville Memorial"
May 19th
With the NC SubVets
Meeting 1000
Memorial 1400
Dinner 1800
Meeting 1900**



U.S.S. *Sailfish* off Mare Island, San Francisco, on 13 April 1943. This image shows her with her bridge modified to reduce her surface silhouette and add a forward anti-aircraft position. Official U.S. Navy photograph.



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 	14	15	16	17	18	19—Burnsville NC SubVets Mtg. Armed Forces Day
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Knights Base- ball — Presentation of Colors
27	28 	29	30	31	June 1	2
3	4	5	6 D-Day	7	8	9
10 	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21	22	23 Regular Base Meeting—Ft. Mill VFW 1730 dinner 1900 meeting
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

One way to support VFW Post 9138 is to attend their Sunday Morning Breakfast held on the second Sunday of each month from 8am to 11am—Come on out! - Mothers eat free on Mother's Day with a paid Breakfast!

