

Piedmont Periscope



Issue 1207

July 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.

I LOVE A PARADE!!

I did not see 76 trombones, but both the Troutman and the Faith Parades were great parades. If you missed them, you missed the heat, but you also missed your shipmates.

It started on Saturday prior to the 4th with the Troutman parade. The North Carolina SubVets were the Grand Marshalls. Seats right up front on a special float were our WWII guys in the place of Honor right where they should be. All the rest of us were seated behind them.

Our ladies rode the MK-14 Torpedo float behind us, followed by the submarine float. All had plenty of water to drink



Lost Boats for July

"Sailors, rest your oars"

and we all stayed cool.

After the parade, many of us mustered at Fat Boy's in Mooresville for lunch.

On Independence Day, as I prefer to call it, the NC SubVets went to Faith, NC. First we mustered in the parking lot at Lowe's at exit 76 in Salisbury and met the floats.

About 0830, we boarded the float/vehicles and headed to our line-up spot in Faith. There we did something we all learned very well in the Navy; "hurry-up and wait".

Again, we had plenty of water along and some sun screen. It was a long line to get onto Main Street.

But once on to Main, the

crowd was great. I heard on the news over 30 thousand people. Many standing, thanking us for our service. Veterans saluting us. If we saw a Veteran, we'd salute him and thank him for his service. Teasing the regular Navy guys about being "targets", but thanking them for being there doing their job.

I reminded several kids to pick-up the Flags they had laid on the ground. That sort of reminded the parents and people around them too that we Veterans respect that Flag.

I was pointing out several Flags that were displayed incorrectly on houses that we passed. That's why Flag Etiquette needs to be taught in school. People just don't know sometimes, they are not trying to be disrespectful.—Moe

USS GRUNION (SS 216) July 30, 1942

USS S 28 (SS 133)

July 4, 1944

USS ROBALO (SS 273) July 26, 1944

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CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



What a wonderful honor it was for the NC Subvets to be the Grand Marshals of the Troutman parade. A little hot, but we had probably our largest amount of attendees for any parade. It was followed a few days later on the 4th at Faith. That is really a great parade to be in. I'll tell you again, if you have not participated in a parade, you really do not know what you are missing. It is really great to do that and the folks that attend them are so appreciative for our service. Really makes you feel good. So consider coming out for the next one in Newton, NC on the 16th of

August. You will not regret it.

As you all should know by now, the National election is well underway. As I type this, we have had 28 members vote electronically and 2 via the paper vote. The process is really very simple. If you have trouble, give somebody a call. Jack has walked several through people through getting to the election page. It can be done in a matter of a few minutes. Of course it will take you longer to read up on the candidates and amendments so vou know who/what you are going to vote for. Remember, this is your organization, so voting is important. Just like I would expect all of vou to vote in the November election (no matter who you support), this is important to us as

well.

We received our new challenge coins in and our Base SK has them. Since the company messed up my first order (wrong metal), they corrected it and made us new ones in antique silver. And because of the hassle I went through earlier this year with them (under different management and ownership), they gave us the messed up order, which are in antique bronze. Nothing wrong with them, but it was not what we ordered. All these are available for sale. Because of the circumstances, the price of the silver ones are \$10 and the bronze ones \$5. That basically gives us the same profit on all the coins. So check with Jeff and get yourself a coin or two. For those out of state, if you want

them, I think we can figure out a S&H cost and get you covered if you desire.

The National Convention is just around the corner now. If you have not turned in your registration form, you will not be able to attend the banquet. It is filled up. Rooms are scarce as well, but they have an overflow hotel down the street (Courtyard) at the same price. As you can tell, this is going to have a large attendance. We are manning the registration desk on Tuesday, 4 September as a base. We are also going to raffle off a 'sea chest' that Lee made. For those that have not seen one, they are truly a work of art. We hope to make a few bucks for our treasury.

For some of your long range planning, our

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meeting this year at Jack's place will be in September vice October. Another major event for us in the Carolinas is the Pearl Harbor Dinner which will be held in the Greensboro area on 8 December. This is a good event for you to take a weekend and attend. I have been to a couple of these and this event is really worth-while.

It is time for me to start beating the drum regarding membership dues.

We have somewhere around 40 members who will own dues for 2013. Most are both National and base, but some are just base. If you have doubt whether you owe or not, check with Jack, he will be happy to tell vou. But I think most of you know and it would really be appreciated if you would put it on your list of things to get done and get it in to us. It too is simple; if you attend a meeting, just give the money to Lee. If you

cannot attend a meeting, then just write a check and drop it in the mail to Lee (his address is in the roster that you have). This is one of the hardest things we go through and you could sure make it easier for us if you desire. Thank you.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and hopefully at some of the other events that are held outside our base. Enjoy the summer and stay cool.

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



IT IS HOT. Not just the weather, but the Base. We were proud to represent the Carolina Piedmont Base at the parade in Troutman where the NC Subvets was selected to be the Grand Marshals. We were proud to have a good turnout not only the Subvets, but also the spouses had their own float we also participated in the parade at Faith where the crowd as always welcomed us with cheers and

THANK YOU FOR YOU SERVICE chants.

We have several events scheduled for the month of July. We plan on presenting our skits to the residents of the Plantation Estates on the 21rd and also on that day we have an Eagle Scout presentation in Huntersville. It is time once again for our annual visit to Camp Corral where we will present the Submariner Story for 3 consecutive Wednesdays, the 18th, 25th and 1st of August. We are expecting to have about 350 campers total. These campers are dependents from the Ft. Bragg and Camp Lejeun area. The camp is being sponsored again this year by Golden

Corral.

The USSVI National election is now under way and we have only 29 primary members that have voted so far, we now have 79 primary members including 2 new members from our last meeting, Torrance Adams and Jim George. I urge each primary member to VOTE, if you have any problem with the procedure, please contact me and I will help you. This is also a good time to

This is also a good time to get your dues out of the way, why wait until the last minute it won't cost you any more now than later and really make it a lot easier on me in the final rush.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for

your support of our AWARD WINNING BASE and we strive to continue the success of YOUR BASE. - Jack

Flag Trivia—Where did this Flag fly in our Nation's history? See Page 21

(see page 19) - This is a good one!!



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Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

BASE MEETING 23 June 2012

1900- Meeting called to order by Commander Steve Bell.

Invocation given by Chaplain Ray Fritz.

Pledge of Allegiance

Tolling of the Boats lost during May and June conducted by Chaplain Fritz and COB

Paul Myers.

Member introduction 26 members present including 2 new members that submitted applications, Torrance Adams and Jim George

Reading of previous meeting minutes, Not read but approved and seconded as published in Piedmont Periscope.

Reading of Treasurers report- Account Balance \$5945.23, Memorial Restoration fund, \$442.50, K4K fund \$1591.05, Scholarship fund 342.65 Half Way Night fund \$77.25. Available funds \$2691.25.

Old Business- Steve explained the situation with the base challenge coins manufactures of our coins made them from the wrong metal, they then made them of the correct metal, silver, and shipped us a new order of 100 coins. We can keep the 100 wrong ones, Bronze metal, at no cost. The price for the bronze coins was set at \$5.00 and new Silver coins at \$10.00

New Business- Steve explained briefly the USS Omaha Sail Project and their request for donations to establish a memorial with the sail and rudder. Members voted and seconded a motion to send \$100.00 to the memorial.

Steve explained that the NC Subvets have been invited to be a non-voting member of the NC Veterans Council. The annual fee is \$100 and is to be split among all the NC bases. However, approval has not been received by all bases at this time. A motion was made and seconded, then approved by the membership for the base to provide our \$20. The \$20ation to stay in house until further info is received that the other bases have approved and we are going to join the organization.

SK Report-Storekeeper Neiberding brought up the matter of SC Veterans Pin. Die to make pins at \$75-\$100. He has checked with other SC bases to see if there is any interest in program, nothing yet. Members brought up the subject of ownership of die if we proceed with the project. Jeff will check with the vendor regarding use of the die we pay for. Matter was tabled until further info is received

Good of the Order- Dale Moses informed members of Poker Run being sponsored by the VFW post on 14 July, anyone interested contact the post.

The matter of the National election was explained and it was stressed as to its importance, if anyone has trouble voting they should contact Jack to guide them through the procedure.

A report was given by Rick Petitt on the visit to Victory Junction Gang Camp, this was our 9th visit and we have one tentatively scheduled for the fall. During this visit, we presented KAPS and Certificates as well as Museum Boat pictures to approximately 95 campers.

We also this period visited with children at Levine Children's Hospital, Charlotte, NC. We visited



with about 20 children and presented KAPS as well as Certificates and coloring books to the children.

Dale Moses announced that our next skit presentation will be at Plantation Estates, where COB Paul Myers works on the 23rd of July, we are scheduled to debut the new Dragnet skit as well as Snoopy vs. the Red Baron skit. We are also scheduled to present the skits at the VFW after the October meeting.

Lee Hickerson gave a report on this year's Autism Speaks walk at the ZMAX Dragway in Charlotte on the 27th of October. Information on how to sign up for the walk as well as how to make donations and pledges for the event was passed out.

We have two parades scheduled for the July 4th period, Troutman on June 30th and Faith on the 4th of July. We are scheduled to be the Grand Marshal in the Troutman parade. Steve Bell announced that plans are already underway for the 2013 gathering at Burnsville and that he will address some issues with the hotel that were brought to our attention. More to come on that later.

We are scheduled once again to visit with the campers at Camp Corral the 18th of July, the 25th of July and the 1st of August. Members interested in joining with us please let Jack Jeffries know. There will be info given via email as to the time and how to get there. This is an opportunity for us to present the Submarine Story to dependents of personnel from Camp Lejeun and Fort Bragg. We will have members from the other NC bases present as well as both of the NC Subvets floats.

Steve asked Howard Murray and Dale Moses that our plaques and certificates that were taken down during the renovation of the VFW be returned to us so we can have them all in one place until we can get them all put up again.

Benediction given by Chaplain Fritz 2020- Motion to adjourn and seconded

Respectfully,

Jack Jeffries, Vice Commander

No Nuns

Three nuns were attending a Braves baseball game. Three men were sitting directly behind them. Because their habits were partially blocking the view, the men decided to badger the nuns, hoping they'd get annoyed enough to move to another area.

In a very loud voice, the first guy said, "I think I'm going to move to Utah there are only 100 nuns living there."

Not to be outdone, the second guy yelled," I want to move to Montana. There are only 50 nuns living there."

The third guy yelled, "I want to go to Idaho. There are only 25 nuns living there."

The mother superior turned around, looked at the men, and in a very sweet and calm voice said, "Why don't you go to hell...there aren't <u>any</u> nuns there."





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Chaplain's Corner - Ray Fritz, Base Chaplain



Pinch-Hitting for Chaplain Ray this month is Jim Schenk Carolina Piedmont member and Nat Greene Base Chaplain, thanks Jim for filling in.

As The Summer Passes

As the Dog Days of summer have their way with us, I remember working as a young man in the hav fields of my former home in the farm country of central NY State. My buddy and I would attempt to set a record for the number of bales that could be safely stacked on a hay wagon. I think that our all-time record was around 140. It was hot work in the field, but mowing and stacking away the hay away in the barn's upper loft was nearly the hottest place that I have ever been, and the closer you stacked toward the ceiling, the more concentrated the heat was as the sun beat down upon

the approaching roof of the barn. The Maneuvering Room on the old diesel boat was hot, but not that hot. Every time that I want to complain in general of the overheated summer days, I merely have to remember how our deployed soldiers have it in temperatures that will never be matched in this country, and that with being burdened down with many of pounds of equipment, accoutrements, and gear that is essential for each human fighting unit performing as an efficient force. Sure, we have airconditioning here stateside to ease our sufferings, and some days it is well for us to seek out cool places as we work or run errands. I am always thankful to God that most stores and businesses are relatively cooler than the outdoors. Some people have airconditioned automobiles; mine once was but not any more. I can see others on the by-ways that have their windows rolled down and identify with their discomfort, but you know, if my windows were up and I was enjoying the comforts of efficient automo-

bile air conditioning, little would I notice the people who did not have any, while I was flitting about being cooled in my trekkings. I am not saving that I have not had a car with an AC. just cars that the AC was not working, and not having the means to correct the issue. The Lord gets me by in many ways that I have to be thankful for, and I thank Him each day. For myself I thank and praise Him, and pray for others that need prayer, much more than I ask anything for myself, and believe me, if you want the Lord to hear you, you had better be in touch with the Holy Spirit that operates from your heart. If God does not speak to you personally, then you had better check-up. Life is not to live as we see fit: life was created by God and if we are not earnestly in prayer, He will not hear us. Oh, He still loves us to be sure, but if we stray from His word, the Holy Spirit in our hearts will be stifled and eventually unhearing in our advocating behalf. Pray for each other; help and love each other that is what we were placed on this Earth for.

The planet is not some random happening that a plate tectonics scientist or wellmeaning evolutionist tells you. This Big Blue Marble was created by the Lord with the spoken word, and He has made us in His image to do His work over the course of our lives. When you hear that little voice telling you that something is less than what would be the right thing to do in any situation, that is the Lord trying to get through to you. If you disobey, your answering for it later will be not so well for you. Seek the Lord and know his word and ways, for someday all knees will bend and all of God's children will call out His name in praise. Be forewarned folks – the end-times are approaching fast. Read it for yourself in St. John's Revelation. It's coming folks, are you ready. Enjoy your summer, and stay cool.. - Chaplain Jim

To contact for
Your Chaplain
needs —
Chaplain Ray at
raysabode@
bellsouth.net





Above (both)— The NC SubVets on the Grand Marshal's Float. Below Left— Commander Steve and Jerry "License Plate" Leppart sitting in the back. Bottom Right— Five WWII SubVets ride in the Honor Seats.



T R O U T M A



New members

Welcome Aboard

Torrance Adams— Qualified aboard the USS Providence SSN 719 in 1990; and also served on the USS Pittsburgh SSN720 as a RM2(SS). Torrance lives in Rock Hill with his wife Betty Carol and children.

Jim George—Qualified aboard the USS Nevada SSBN 733 in 1986 where he served as an EM1(SS). Jim lives in York with his wife Barbara.

Ed Dunton—Qualified aboard the USS Woodrow Wilson SSBN 624 in 1993 where he served as LT. Ed lives in Tega Cay with his wife Jennifer.

WELCOME ABOARD to both of you, we hope you continue to serve our Communities by helping with our various Base programs.

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Pat Busila Glenn Harris

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

Tom Holland 7/25

Michael Hubbell 7/28



"There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works."
- Will Rogers

July

Nancy and Arnold Kirk -7/4

Jim and Liz Harris - 7/14—50 Years!

Emma and Robert Howell - 7/15





SubVettes

Hello Sassy Sisters,

Hope you are staying nice and cool. The recipes are coming in slowly but surely. I hope all have participated. Our July meal is our usual "this and that." Our service project for July will be to bring an item for a box for Jefferv Hickerson. Just in case you do not know he is the son of Lee and Our Sassy Sister Judy. Jeffery is serving on the USS Cole and I ask you

pray for him and his shipmates for their safety.

I do not know about you ladies but this HEAT is killing me. I am more of a cold weather girl. With this heat, Sisters, we could MELT, as sweet as we are.

The trip to the Veterans Hospital in Johnson City was a success they were very grateful for our contributions. We also visited 12 recruiter offices

from all the branches Johnson City, Kingsport, and Bristol. We got some items for the guys to give to the kids at Camp Corral at for their visit.

Thanks for all you do and may God Bless you and yours. Hope to see you soon.

Love Sandra





Creamy Avocado Potato Salad

Try a healthier (and prettier) potato salad this summer. Loaded with fiber, potassium, heart-healthy fats, you and your guests are sure to enjoy this vegan potato salad sans the mayo.

Ingredients:

2 lbs yukon gold potatoes, cut into 3/4 inch chunks

1-2 Tbsp cilantro 1 clove of garlic, peeled

1 ripe avocado 1 Tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

Juice of 1/2 lime 1/2 tsp salt

1/4 tsp ground cayenne pepper (optional) 1 small Roma tomato, seeded and chopped

1/4 small red onion, finely diced 1/4 English cucumber, finely diced

Directions:

Put the potatoes in a pot and cover with cold water. Cover the pot and bring the water to a boil. Lower the heat to a rolling boil and cook for 10 to 15 minutes, until the potatoes are easily pierced with a fork, but still firm. Drain and rinse with cool water; drain and set aside.

Meanwhile, place the garlic clove and cilantro in the food processor and process for about 10 seconds. Add the avocados flesh, olive oil, lime juice, salt, and cayenne into the food processor and puree until smooth, scraping down the sides with a spatula as needed.

Put the potatoes, tomato, onion, cucumbers in a large mixing bowl. Add the avocado mixture and mix well, being sure not to mash the potatoes. Taste and add more salt and lime juice, if desired.

Yield: About 5 cups (~6 servings, 3/4 cup each)



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Piedmont Funnies Page

A U.S. Navy Captain was about to start the morning briefing to his staff. While waiting for the coffee machine to finish brewing; the Captain decided to pose a question to all assembled. He explained that his wife had been a bit frisky the night before and he failed to get his usual amount of sound sleep. He posed the question of just how much of sex was "work" and how much of it was "pleasure?"

A Lieutenant Commander chimed in with 75%-25% in favor of work. A Lieutenant said it was 50%-50%.

A Lieutenant JG responded with 25%-75% in favor of pleasure, depending upon his state of inebriation at the time.

There being no consensus, the Captain turned to the Seaman who was in charge of making the coffee and asked for HIS opinion?

Without any hesitation, the young seaman responded, "Sir, it has to be

100% pleasure.

The Captain was surprised and as you might

guess, asked why?

"Well, sir, if there was any work involved, the officers would have me doing it for them."

The room fell silent.

God Bless the enlisted man.

LITTLE GIRL ON A PLANE

An atheist was seated next to a little girl on an airplane. He turned to her and said, "Do you want to talk? Flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger."

The little girl, who had just started to read her book, replied to the total stranger, "What would you want to talk about?"

"Oh, I don't know," said the atheist. "How about why there is no God, or no Heaven or Hell, or no life after death?" as he smiled smugly.

"OK," she said. "Those could be interesting topics but let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass. Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, but

a horse produces clumps. Why do you suppose that is?"

The atheist, visibly surprised by the little girl's intelligence, thinks about it and says, "Hmmm, I have no idea."

To which the little girl replies, "Do you really feel qualified to discuss why there is no God, or no Heaven or Hell, or no life after death, when you don't know sh*t?" And then she went back to reading her book.

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A senior man on a Moped, looking about 100 years old, pulls up next to a doctor at a street light. The old man looks over at the sleek shiny car and asks, 'What kind of car ya got there, sonny?'

The doctor replies, "1500+hp Porsche 917/30. It cost half a million dollars!"

'That's a lot of money,' says the old man. 'Why does it cost so much?'

'Because this car can do up to 320 miles an hour!' states the doctor proudly.

The Moped driver asks, 'Mind if I take a look inside?'

'No problem,' replies the doctor.

So the old man pokes his head in the window and looks around. Then, sitting back on his Moped, the old man says, 'That's a pretty nice car, all right... But I'll stick with my Moped!'

Just then the light changes, and the doctor decides to show the old man just what his car can do. He floors it, and within 30 seconds the speedometer reads 160 mph. Suddenly, he notices a dot in his rear view mirror. It seems to be getting closer! He slows down to see what it could be and suddenly WHOOOOSSSHHH! Something whips by him going much faster! What on earth could be going faster than my Porsche?' the doctor asks himself. He presses harder on the accelerator and takes the Porsche up to 250 mph. Then, up ahead of him. he sees that it's the old man on the Moped! Amazed that the Moped could pass his Porsche, he gives it more gas and passes the Moped at 275 mph and he's feeling pretty good until he

looks in his mirror and sees the old man gaining on him AGAIN! Astounded by the speed of this old guy, he floors the gas pedal and takes the sports car all the way up to 320 mph. Not ten seconds later, he sees the Moped bearing down on him again! The Porsche is flat out, and there's nothing he can do!

Suddenly, the Moped plows into the back of his Porsche, demolishing the rear end. The doctor stops and jumps out and unbelievably the old man is still alive. He runs up to the banged-up old guy and says, 'I'm a doctor.... Is there anything I can do for you?'

The old man whispers, 'Unhook my suspenders from your side view mirror!'

On January 9 a group of bikers were riding west on I-74 when they saw a girl about to jump off a Peoria bridge, so they stopped. The Harley leader, George, a big burly man of 53, gets off his bike, walks through the gawkers, past the State Trooper, and says, "What are you doing?"

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

While he didn't want to

appear "sensitive," and he didn't want to miss a be-a-legend opportunity either so he asked "Well, before you jump, why don't you give me a kiss?"

So, with no hesitation at all, she leaned back over the railing and did just that and it was a long, deep, lingering kiss followed immediately by another one

After she's finished, George gets approval from his group, the onlookers, and even the State Trooper, says, "Wow!

George says "That was the best kiss I have ever had, Honey! That's a real talent you are wasting, Sugar Shorts. You could be famous if you rode with me. Why are you committing suicide?"

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

The onlookers are still unclear whether she jumped or was pushed!

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Darn getting old isn't what it once was!

There was a bit of confusion at the store this morning. When I was ready to pay for my groceries, the cashier said,

"Strip down facing me." Just as I was making a mental note to complain to my congressman about Homeland Security running amok and ready to argue I noticed how pretty she was and thought maybe there was hope for me yet so I did just as she had instructed. When the hysterical shricking and alarms finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to my credit card. I have been asked to shop elsewhere in the future. They need to make their instructions to us seniors a little clearer!

TELL ME THIS WON'T HAPPEN TO ME An elderly Floridian called 911 on her cell phone to report that her car has been broken into. She is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher: "They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!" she cried. The dispatcher said, "Stay calm. An officer is on the way." A few minutes later, the officer radios in. "Disregard." He says. She got in the back-seat by mistake."

FAMILY

Three sisters ages 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together. One night the 96

vear old draws a bath. She puts her foot in and pauses. She yells to the other sisters, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?" The 94 vear old vells back, "I don't know. I'll come up and see. "She starts up the stairs and pauses "Was I going up the stairs or down?" The 92 year old is sitting at the kitchen table having tea listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says. "I sure hope I never get that forgetful, knock on wood." She then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door"

I CAN HEAR JUST FINE!"

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day. One remarked to the other, "Windy, isn't it?" "No," the second man replied, "It's Thursday." And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a beer."





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VETERANS NEWS by the RAQ Bulletin

Deadline for
the next issue
of the
Piedmont
Periscope
will be
August 16th.
Please have all
items to
Moe(SS) at
ppeditor@
carolina.rr.com
by then.

Your Veteran News From the RAQ Bulletin

North Carolina Vet Homes Update 01:

The North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs will open two skilled nursing facilities for veterans in the next several months, expanding the state's capacity to care for its elderly soldiers. The new homes, each with 100 beds, are in Kinston and Black Mountain. "It's going to be great to have this space available," said Greg Hughes, chief of social work for the Durham VA Medical Center, which will oversee the medical care provided at the home in Kinston. The one in Black Mountain will be administered by the Asheville VA Medical Center. Other skilled nursing facilities for veterans are located in Salisbury, Fayetteville and within the Durham VA. Each of the those has from 100 to 120 beds. The new homes were built with a combination of money from the state and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA set aside \$14.6 million for the home in Black Mountain, near Asheville, and \$12 million for the one in Kinston. The federal money was from

the 2009 American Re-

covery and Reinvestment Act. The properties belong to and are administered by the state, with each resident receiving a per diem from the VA. Depending on their financial need, some veterans' stays are paid entirely by the VA. Others make a partial payment using personal funds, Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance.

Each of the new homes is expected to employ 150 to 170 people. Tim Wipperman, assistant secretary for the state Division of Veterans Affairs, said the new homes will have all private rooms, arranged in "neighborhoods" of 12 to 14 residents, each with its own dining room, day room, living room and outdoor area. Larger groups of residents will be able to gather in bigger common areas when needed. "We're trying to make them as home-like as possible," Wipperman said. The homes include such amenities as a therapy pool with a treadmill built into the bottom. The homes are designed to accommodate both long-term residents and patients who need therapy to be ableto return to

other living arrangements. North Carolina has about 766,000 veterans. "The need is pretty significant," Hughes said. "I think there probably will be a waiting list."To be eligible for admission to a North Carolina Veterans skilled nursing facility a veteran must:

☐ Have served in the Armed Forces for other than training purposes.

☐ Have been discharged under honorable conditions from the United States Armed Forces.

☐ Have resided in the State of North Carolina 24 months prior to be date of application.

☐ Be referred by a licensed physician and be in need of skilled nursing care.

To find information on admission to North Carolina's new skilled nursing facilities call (919) 807-4250, Fax: (919) 807-4260, mail North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs, 1315 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1315

or complete the General Inquiry form online at http://www.doa.nc.gov/ vets/contactus.aspx. For

information on the existing State Veterans Nursing Homes or assistance with the admission process, refer to the following:

☐ Fayetteville Facility: NC State Veterans Home, 214 Cochran Avenue, Fayetteville, NC 28301Tel: 910-482-4131

□ Salisbury Facility: NC State Veterans Home, W.G. Hefner Medical Center, 1601 Brenner Avenue, Building #10, Salisbury, NC 28145 Tel: 704-638-4200 ext. 204, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 599, Salisbury, NC 28145.

[Source: The News & Observer Martha Quillin article 19 Jun 2012 ++]

Non-VA Facility Care:

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently announced a change in regulations regarding payments for emergency care provided to eligible veterans in non-VA facilities. More than 100,000 Veterans are estimated to be affected by the new rules, at a cost of about \$44 million annually "This provision helps ensure eligible Veterans continue to get the emergency care they need when VA facilities are not available," said Secretary of Veterans

Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. The new regulation extends VA's authority to pay for emergency care provided to eligible Veterans at non-VA facilities until the Veterans can be safely transferred to a VA medical facility. Non-VA Care is medical care provided to eligible Veterans outside of VA when VA facilities are not available. All VA medical centers can use this program when needed. The use of the Non-VA Care program is governed by federal laws containing eligibility criteria and other policies specifying when and why it can be used. A pre-authorization for treatment in the community is required for Non-VA Care -- unless the medical event is an emergency. Emergency events may be reimbursed on behalf of the Veteran in certain cases. Refer to the Emergency Non-VA Care brochure at http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov/ brochures/ Fee Veteran Brochure.p df for further elaboration. There are five categories of Non-VA Care Programs. Information on each is available at: ☐ Pre-authorized Outpatient Care http://

www.nonvacare.va.gov/ preauthout.asp ☐ Pre-authorized Inpatient Care http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov/ preauthinpt.asp ☐ Emergency Care of Service-Connected Conditions http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov/ unauth.asp ☐ Emergency Care of Non-Service-Connected Conditions http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov/ ecnsc.asp ☐ State Home Per Diem Program http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov/ state-homes.asp Non-VA Care is used when VA medical facilities are not "feasibly available." The local VA medical facility has criteria to determine whether Non-VA Care may be used. If a Veteran is eligible for certain medical care, the VA hospital or clinic should provide it as the first option. If they can't -- due to a lack of available specialists, long wait times, or extraordinary distances from the Veteran's home -- the VA may consider Non-VA Care in the Veteran's community. Non-VA Care is not an entitlement program or a permanent treatment option. VA operates 121 emergency departments

across the country, which provide resuscitative therapy and stabilization in life-threatening situations. They operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. VA also has 46 urgent care units, which provide care for patients without scheduled appointments who need immediate medical or psychiatric attention. For more information about emergency care in non-VA facilities refer to http:// www.nonvacare.va.gov. To locate the nearest VA medical center or clinic refer to http:// www2.va.gov/directory/ guide/home.asp. [Source: e-Echoes May-Aug &

Vet Toxic Exposure~Diesel: The World Health Organization (WHO) raised the status of diesel exhaust from 'probable carcinogen' to carcinogen. The risk of getting cancer from diesel fumes is small, but since so many people breathe in the fumes in some way, the science panel said raising the status of diesel exhaust to carcinogen from "probable carcinogen"

www.nonvacare.va.gov

Jun 2012 ++]

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VETERANS NEWS by the RAQ Bulletin

was an important shift. "It's on the same order of magnitude as passive smoking," said Kurt Straif, director of the IARC department that evaluates cancer risks. "This could be another big push for countries to clean up exhaust from diesel engines." Since so many people are exposed to exhaust, Straif said there could be many cases of lung cancer connected to the contaminant. He said the fumes affected groups including pedestrians on the street, ship passengers and crew, railroad workers, truck drivers, mechanics, miners and people operating heavy machinery. The new classification followed a weeklong discussion in Lyon, France, by an expert panel organized by the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The panel's decision stands as the ruling for the IARC, the cancer arm of the World Health Organization. The last time the agency considered the status of

The last time the agency considered the status of diesel exhaust was in 1989, when it was labeled a "probable" carcinogen. Reclassifying diesel exhaust as carcinogenic puts it into the same category as other known hazards such as asbestos, alcohol and

ultraviolet radiation. The U.S. government, however, still classifies diesel exhaust as a likely carcinogen. Experts said new diesel engines spew out fewer fumes but further studies are needed to assess any potential dangers. "We don't have enough evidence to say these new engines are zero risk, but they are certainly lower risk than before," said Vincent Cogliano of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He added that the agency had not received any requests to reevaluate whether diesel definitely causes cancer but said their assessments tend to be in line with those made by IARC. Experts in Lyon had analyzed published studies, evidence from animals and limited research in humans. One of the biggest studies was published in March by the U.S. National Cancer Institute. That paper analyzed 12,300 miners for several decades starting in 1947. Researchers found that miners heavily exposed to diesel exhaust had a higher risk of dying from lung cancer. Lobbyists for the diesel industry argued the study wasn't credible because researchers didn't have exact data on how much

exposure miners got in the early years of the study; they simply asked them to remember what their exposure was like. Further restrictions on diesel fumes could force the industry to spend more on developing expensive new technology. Diesel engine makers and car companies were quick to point out emissions from trucks and buses have been slashed by more than 95 percent for nitrogen oxides, particulate and sulfur emissions. "Diesel exhaust is only a very small contributor to air pollution," the Diesel Technology Forum, a group representing companies including Mercedes, Ford and Chrysler, said in a statement. "In southern California, more fine particles come from brake and tire wear than from diesel engines." A person's risk for cancer depends on many variables, from genetic makeup to the amount and length of time of exposure to dangerous substances.

Some experts said the new cancer classification wasn't surprising. "It's pretty well known that if you get enough exposure to diesel, it's a carcinogen," said Ken Donaldson, a professor



amounts to two-thirds of

of respiratory toxicology at the University of Edinburgh who was not part of the IARC panel. He said the thousands of particles, including some harmful chemicals, in the exhaust could cause inflammation in the lungs and over time, that could lead to cancer. But Donaldson said lung cancer was caused by multiple factors and that other things like smoking were far more deadly. He said the people most at risk were those whose jobs exposed them to high levels of diesel exhaust, like truck drivers, mechanics or miners. "For the man on the street, nothing has changed," he said. "It's a known risk but a low one for the average person, so people should go about their business as normal .You could wear a mask if you want to, but who wants to walk around all the time with a mask on?" [Source: AP Ben Margot article 13 Jun 2012 ++]

DoD Fraud, Waste, & Abuse: Even though
Congress has refused, so
far, to go along with the
Pentagon's request to
raise TRICARE fees and
co-pays (except for pharmacy co-pays), there
continues to be a drumbeat in Washington to
raise TRICARE fees and

cut back on retiree benefits. According to DoD officials, unless they can cut over \$12 billion over five years from the cost of TRICARE, DoD will have to cut active duty personnel even more from what is currently planned. So it's interesting that Washington Post columnist Walter Pincus has recently written a number of columns of how the Pentagon wastes money. Pincus points out that the Senate Armed Services Committee was able to find hundreds of millions of dollars to move around from one program to another in order to get the kind of Pentagon budget they wanted.

One of the specific examples he used is the cost overruns for the F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter that is supposed to be the backbone of our air combat arms force for the next 20 years. According to Pincus, because of the way the Pentagon decided to buy the F-35 it has ended up costing an additional \$7.9 billion and is almost three years behind schedule. And the additional costs are not over yet. If the writer's math is correct, that "mistake" by the Pentagon, which so far has cost \$7.9 billion,

the amount that DoD says it must cut from its health care budget for retirees. And remember, that \$7.9 is only for the cost overrun caused by mistakes the Pentagon made in the way they decided to do business. Pincus goes on to point out that one of the Army's budgets for ammunition in 2011 didn't need \$75 million it had been given, so it gave it back. Another budget for ammunition had \$37 million more than it needed because of a pricing change. Then there are the expenditures for projects the Pentagon no longer wants such as the added \$91 million to keep open plants working on the M1A2 Abrams tank program, a production line that the Pentagon wanted to close. Congress won't let them because of the jobs in various states that the programs provide. Add these on to the \$7.9 billion and suddenly we're up to almost \$8.1 billion. And on and on it goes. The point, which The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) has been making for years, is the Pentagon does not know where it spends all of its money because it is impossible, under their current business practices, to audit their books. Now, on top

of that, mistakes made in budgeting cost extra billions of dollars each year. And yet they say that unless they can make cuts in retiree health care they'll have to cut the active duty force even more than they already plan to do. Nonsense. Before Congress ever considers allowing DoD to cut retiree health care, it should first require the Pentagon to more accurately audit its books to establish actual funds available to meet their mission [Source: TREA News for the Enlisted 22 Jun 2012

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carolina.rr.com

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Lost Boats— USS S-28 (SS-133)

USS S-28 (SS-133) was a S-class submarine of the United States Navy. Her keel was laid down on 16 April 1919 by the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation in Quincy, Massachusetts. She was launched on 20 September 1922, sponsored by Mrs. William R. Monroe, and commissioned on 13 December 1923, Lieutenant Kemp C. Christian in command. Inter-war period: Following shakedown exercises off the southern New England coast, S-28 moved south in March 1924 to join Submarine Division 11 (SubDiv 11), in the final exercises of that year's winter maneuvers in the Caribbean Sea. In April, she returned to New London, Connecticut, with her division and commenced local exercises which occupied the remainder of the year. With the winter of 1925, she moved south again; transited the Panama Canal. and, after the conclusion of Fleet Problem V, conducted in the vicinity of Guadalupe Island, she arrived in the Hawaiian Islands for a month's stay. In June, she moved east, to San Diego, California, where her division replaced another

which had been transferred to the Asiatic Fleet.
Into 1931, the submarine operated primarily off southern California de-

operated primarily off southern California deploying for fleet problems in the Panama Canal area in 1926 and 1929; for summer maneuvers near Hawaii in 1927 and 1930, and for regularly scheduled overhaul periods at Mare Island Navy Yard throughout the period. She departed the west coast for Hawaii in mid-February 1931, and on 23 February arrived at Pearl Harbor, whence she operated for the next eight and one-half years. In mid-1939, she was transferred back to San Diego, California, where she was based until after the United States entered World War II. World War II: On 7 December 1941, S-28 then a unit of SubDiv 41 — was undergoing overhaul at Mare Island. On 22 January 1942, the work was completed, and she returned to San Diego, where she resumed her prewar training activities for the Underwater Sound Training School. She continued that duty until the Spring, then was ordered north to the Aleutian Islands to augment its defenses.

On 20 May, S-28 with other submarines of her division — departed San Diego. Five days later, they stopped off at Port Angeles, Washington, then, continued on toward the newly established submarine base at Dutch Harbor, Alaska. On 29 May, however, as preparations were made to minimize a twopronged Japanese thrust against Midway Island and the Aleutians, the Sboats were directed to proceed to their stations. bypassing Dutch Harbor. 1st war patrol: During a quickly extinguished fire in her port main motor on the morning of 1 June, S-28 suffered minor damage. That evening, she parted company with her sister ships and their escort, and, the next day, she entered her assigned area and commenced patrolling the approaches to Cold Bay on the tip of the Alaskan Peninsula. On 3 June, the Japanese bombed Dutch Harbor to open the war in the Aleutians, and, within the week, they had occupied Kiska and Attu. On 12 June, S-28 arrived at Dutch Harbor, refueled, took on provisions, and headed west to resume her war patrol.

On 15 June, she crossed the International Date Line, and on 17 June after a two-day storm she sighted Kiska and set a course to intercept enemy shipping between there and Attu. On 18 June, she fired on her first enemy target — a destroyer— and was in turn attacked. Eight hours later, sounds of the destroyer's search faded out to the south. S-28 had survived her first encounter with Japanese antisubmarine warfare tactics.

2nd war patrol: Poor weather soon returned. and storms raged during 80% of her remaining time on station. On 28 June, she moored in Dutch Harbor and commenced refit. On 15 July, she got underway and again headed for the Kiska area. On 18 July, she reconnoitered Semisopochnoi, then moved on to Segula. Finding no signs of Japanese activity, she continued westward. On 20 July, she was ordered to take station on an 85 mile circle from Sirius Point prior to sunrise on 22 July, at which time the enemy's facilities on Kiska were to be bombarded. The bombardment was delayed, and S-28 remained on that more distant station until 30 July,

when she was ordered back into the Kiska area. On 18 August, having been unable to close any of the targets sighted during the latter part of her patrol, she returned to Dutch Harbor. 3rd war patrol: On her third war patrol — 16 September-10 October — S-28 returned to the Kiska area. She operated to the north of the island until 25 October; then, with the discovery of the enemy's development of Gertrude Cove on Vega Bay, she shifted to the island's southern shore. On the night of 6–7 October, she turned toward Unalaska; and, on the morning of 10 October, as she prepared to fire on an unidentified vessel, a ground in her fire control circuits caused an accidental firing from the No. 1 tube. That afternoon, S-28 arrived back in Dutch Harbor, whence she headed for home. She reached San Diego on 23 October, and provided training services for the West Coast Sound School and for the Amphibious Forces Training Group from 26 October-13 November. Then, during an overhaul, she received a fathometer, a Kleinschmidt distilling unit, and SJ radar. On 9 December, she again sailed north. On 16 December, she reported by radio to Task Group 8.5 (TG 8.5); and on 21 December she returned to

Dutch Harbor.

4th war patrol: Six days later, S-28 departed on her fourth war patrol. On 3 January 1943, she crossed the International Date Line, and on 5 January she entered her assigned area in the northern Kuril Islands. Moving down the Paramushiro coast, she patrolled in Onekotan Strait; then headed north again, and on 20 January passed Shumushu, whence she set a course for the Aleutians. 5th war patrol: During her fifth war patrol — from 6–28 February — *S-28* remained in the western Aleutians, patrolling across the Attu-Buldir-Sirius Point route and along the coast of Attu, particularly off Holtz Bay, Chichagof Harbor, and Sarana Bay. Poor weather and lack of speed, however, impeded her hunting. On her return to Dutch Harbor, S-28 was ordered south, and on 4 March she got underway for Esquimalt, British Columbia, where — from 15 March-15 April — she conducted sound tests and antisubmarine warfare exercises with Canadian Navy and Air Force units. She then continued on to the Puget Sound Navy_Yard for overhaul and superstructure modification work. On 27 June, she started back to Alaska, and on 13 July she

departed Dutch Harbor to

return to the northern Kuril Islands for her sixth war patrol.

6th war patrol:

Again, she patrolled off Paramushiro and in the straits to the north and south of that island. Again, she was hindered by the weather, obsolete design, and by mechanical failures. On 14 August, she headed east, and on 16 August she moored in Massacre Bay, Attu and commenced refit. 7th war patrol: The

7th war patrol: The late arrival of needed spares from Dutch Harbor delayed her readiness for sea, but on 8 September, *S-28* departed the western Aleutians to return to

Next Meeting is at then VFW" July 28th Carry-in Dinner at 1730 Meeting 1900



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Lost Boats— USS S-28 (SS 133)

the northern Kuril Islands. On 13 September. she entered her patrol area. On 15 September, severe smoking and sparking from her port main motor necessitated 14 hours of repair work. On 16 September, she transited Mushiru Kaikyo; and, on the afternoon of 19 September, she closed an unescorted freighter off the island of Araito. Her torpedoes missed their mark. The "freighter" turned and within minutes had delivered the first two depth charges of a 10minute attack. The Japanese ship searched the area for an hour then departed.

S-28 reloaded and continued her patrol. At 19:16, she contacted a second unescorted enemy vessel. At 19:43, she fired a spread of four torpedoes. At 19:44, two of the four exploded. The target took on a 30° list and began to go down by the bow. At 19:46, the 1,368 long tons (1,390 t) converted gunboat *Katsura Maru* Number Two sank, bow first, her stern vertical in the air. Five loud underwater explosions followed her disappearance. S-28 went deep and rigged for a depth

charging which did not materialize. Into October, S-28 hunted just north of Araito and off the coast of Kamchatka. On 5 October, she moved through Onekotan_Strait and continued her patrol on the Pacific side of the Kuril Islands. On 10 October, however, a crewman developed severe appendicitis, and she turned toward Attu one day ahead of schedule.

Loss: On 13 October, S28 moored at Attu. The next day, she departed for Dutch Harbor, whence, in November, she headed south to Hawaii. She arrived at Pearl Harbor at mid-month. and — after overhaul commenced training duty. For the next seven months, she remained in Hawaiian waters, providing training services. Then, on 3 July 1944, she began training operations off Oahu with the United States Coast Guard cutter Reliance. The anti-submarine warfare exercises continued into the evening of 4 July. At 17:30, the day's concluding exercise began. Contact between the two became sporadic and, at 18:20, the last,

brief contact with S-28 was made and lost. All attempts to establish communications failed. Assistance arrived from Pearl Harbor, but a thorough search of the area failed to locate the submarine. Two days later, a slick of diesel fuel appeared in the area where she had been operating, but the extreme depth exceeded the range of available equipment. A Court of Inquiry was unable to determine the cause of the loss of S-28. Awards: S-28 was awarded one battle star

for her services in World

War II

From the COB



I was able to go to the Troutman July 4th parade and I must say I was very impressed with the support we received from the parade goers. What a honor we had being the Grand Marshals which made me so proud of my service of 25 years. I would like to say a special thanks to the Petitt's for helping to make the grand marshal title come our way. I sure hope all are doing well with this extremely hot weather.



USS S-28 at Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Washington, on 24 June 1943 after a refit. Source—Wikipedia.org

Answer to the Flag Trivia:

Teach Flag Etiquette, I know quite a few fact about the American Flag. When John Rupertus told me that some guys were telling him of a Flag with 16 stripes, I said I never heard of such a thing. And now I know why, read on:

A little known odd fact about the history of Old Glory, is her sister, the forgotten Civil Flag of the United States.

The existence of the first U.S. civil flag came about in 1767 when members of the "Sons of Liberty" rebelled against the Stamp Act by turning the flag of the British East India Company on its side and then flew it on the "Liberty Tree". The "on its side" vertical stripes were then declared to represent individual sovereignty over the King of England. This new flag, also known as the "Rebellious Flag" and the "Common Law" flag, quickly became the flag of the American Revolutionaries. Ten years later, in 1776, George Washington introduced his "Grand Union" flag to represent his military during the Revolutionary War.

The first authorization of a U.S. flag came about on June 14th, 1777, when

Congress directed that a U.S. flag consist of 13 stripes, alternating red and white; that a union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation. Through usage, horizontal stripes were adopted for use over military posts and vertical stripes adopted for use over civilian posts. Most flag purchase orders were for the military version by the Federal government. Out paced by military purchases, civil flag orders were almost nonexistent as the cost was far more than most Americans could afford. Sightings of the Civilian Flag were rarely seen until U.S. Customs adopted the Civil Flag in its enforcement of tax collection and inspection in ports as opposed to acts of war against merchant ships. In 1790, Alexander Hamilton proposed armed shipping vessels to enforce customs duties in the nations shipping ports. Congress agreed and appropriated \$10,000 to maintain 10 revenue cutters (ships) to be placed under the charge of customs collectors. On March 2, 1799, Con-

gress revised the duties

of revenue cutters and

added authority to fire

upon other vessels if such vessels did not respond to a cutter's flag and a gunshot warning. On June 1, 1799, Oliver Wolcott, Hamilton's successor. submitted his flag design to President John Adams. His proposal defined the new Customs Flag with 16 stripes, one stripe for each State that had joined the Union by 1799 and turned the stripes vertical to show the civil nature of its use as opposed to a military nature. For the Union, Wolcott proposed using the Arms of the United States, the American Bald Eagle, over a white field. The final version was approved on August 1st, 1799. Although intended just for the Customs Office, the new civilian flag became adopted by customhouses and merchants to show their civilian nature as opposed to being under military control. The practice of using the Customs Flag as a Civil Flag became encoded in law in 1874 when Treasury Secretary William. A. Richardson required all customhouses to fly the Civil Flag. In 1915, the U.S. Coast Guard became an independent bureau from the Treasury Department,

absorbing the Revenue

Flag used by the cutter

Cutter Service. The Civil

service was modified and adopted under Coast Guard authority, losing its original significance of civilian authority, which by then, had been long forgotten as the Federal government acguired more control over the States and their citizens. By 1951, the original Customs Civil Flag had been phased out completely with another redesign. It is believed by some historians that the Civil Flag was discontinued after the Civil War when the federal government imposed military governments in the States and disbanded civilian government. As a show of its power over the States, Civil Flags were discontinued and Old Glory became the sole emblem representing the People of the United States of America, united under military (or admiralty) rule. For over 100 years, the Civilian U.S. Flag was flown by a select citizenry that could afford to buy them. While most were of the design of the Customs Bureau and its American Eagle, many continued to adorn the original look from 1777 with a constellation of stars on a blue field and with red and white vertical stripes. By 1900, the

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Civil Flag had all but disappeared except for the occasional use by the government's revenue cutters and more recently, the Coast Guard with a modified design. By 1980, nearly all documentation of the Civil Flag had been omitted in school text books and its existence left as a mystery in a few old photographs and a rare mention in classic books. [from www.civilliberties.com]

How do those dead bugs get into enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart, then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, "It's all right"? Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, "That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?"

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

The statistics on sanity say that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're OK, then it's you.

First Woman Gets her "Fish"

From the Washington Times Friday June 22, 2012—

Lt. Britta Christianson. Gold Crew supply officer for the guidedmissile submarine USS Ohio (SSGN 726), is presented with her Submarine Supply Corps "dolphins" by her commanding officer, Capt. Rodney Mills, during a ceremony at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard on June 22. Capt. Dixon Hicks. Ohio's former commanding officer. looks on. Christianson is the first female Supply Corps officer to qualify in submarines. (U.S. Navy photo by Chris Calnan/Released) A Navy lieutenant from Wisconsin on Friday became the first woman to serve on a Navy submarine and earn her "dolphin pin," a designation of her qualifications to work aboard subs. "I was honored to be given the opportunity to serve aboard a submarine, so receiving my dolphins is like icing on the cake for me," Lt. Britta Christianson, 30. said in a statement. Lt. Christianson will be awarded her dolphin pin during a ceremony Friday afternoon at the **Puget Sound Naval**

Shipyard in Washington, where she was stationed on the USS Ohio. She spent more than a year in training, which included a six-month deployment on the sub.

"It was a lot of hard work, but at the end of the day, two things bring us and our submarine home safely: knowledge of the submarine and our ability to execute the mission, and that basically sums up what dolphins are all about. I owe a lot of my thanks to my captain, chiefs and crewmembers, who trained me and helped me to learn my boat," said Lt. Christianson, a supply officer.

She is one of 24 women who were selected to take part in the Navy's first class of submarine officer training, after the Navy reversed its ban on women on submarines in 2010.

The 24 women were deployed to four submarines last fall - six women to each submarine, three on each of the submarine's two crews. Lt. Christianson was one of seven supply officers in the program.

"She was required to demonstrate knowledge in basic submarine operations, engineering fundamentals, perform damage control functions and qualify as a diving officer of the watch," said Lt. Ed Early, spokesman for Submarine Group 9, the unit to which Lt. Christianson was assigned.



Now I Wonder...?

Does the Crew get to "tack" those new Dolphins on the Lieutenant?

I can see the line forming up now. Tack the Dolphins on, then get in line for Captain's Mast.
Heck, we can't even call them a bunch of "weenies". (ha). Sorry, there is a pun intended. No disrespect to the Dolphins, I'm sure she earned them. Just being Moe(SS), Pride still runs Deep, maybe too deep for the modern Navy.



New Base Challenge Coins Available

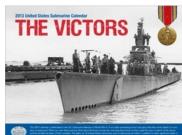


By Jeff Nieberding, Base Store Keeper

The Carolina Piedmont Base now has two types of Challenge Coins available. We have the traditional bronze coin and the newly arrived silver coins. The old bronze coins are available for \$5 and the new silver coins for \$10. You can obtain them from the base SK at meetings. If you desire to have the coins mailed to you, add \$3 to cover S&H and must be paid for upfront. Make the checks payable to "Carolina Piedmont Base USSVI".

Orders may be placed with the base Store-keeper:

Jeff Nieberding 498 Forestwood Rd Rock Hill, SC 29732 jan7334@ comporium.net



Also, let Jeff know if you will be wanting a 2013 Submarine Calendar (above). The cost will be about 8 bucks. You can contact Jeff at the meeting or at the same info at the left.

Supplied by J. Jeffries—

In a Detroit church one Sunday morning, a preacher said, "Anyone with 'special needs" who wants to be prayed over, please come forward to the front by the altar."

With that, Leroy got in line, and when it was his turn, the Preacher asked, "Leroy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"

Leroy replied, "Preacher, I need you to pray for help with my hearing."

The preacher put one finger of one hand in Leroy's ear, placed his other hand on top of Leroy's head, and then prayed and prayed and prayed a "blue streak" for Leroy, and the whole congregation joined in with great enthusiasm.

After a few minutes, the preacher removed his

hands, stood back and asked, "Leroy, how is your hearing now?"

Leroy answered, " I don't know. It ain't 'til Thursday."

A little old guy is walking around in a supermarket calling out, Crisco, Crisssssssscoooo!' Soon an assistant manager approaches and says, 'Sir, the Crisco is in aisle 3.

The old guy replies, 'Oh, I'm not looking for the cooking stuff. I'm calling my wife. She's in here somewhere'

The clerk is astonished.

'Your wife's name is Crisco?'

The old guy answers, 'Oh no, no, no! I only call her that when we're out in public!

'I see,' said the clerk.

'What do you call her at home?'

'Lard ass. '



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Carolinas Walk Now for Autism Speaks

In October 2011, the Carolina SUBVETS walk team raised almost \$2000.00 for Autism Speaks and exposed several thousand walkers to USSVI.

An opportunity exists for USSVI members in the Carolinas to again raise and donate money for Autism research and increase public awareness of USSVI. We have formed the 2012 Carolina SUBVET team and are looking for members to join the team and commit to gaining pledges for participation. On Saturday 27 October 2012 we will do a short (3 laps) walk (jog, run, skate, your choice) around Charlotte Motor Speedway. Or you can choose to donate personally or spread the word and get others to donate. More details are available on the website at the link below. Go to: http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/carolinas
On the Left look for these links:

Click here to Register for this Walk

Support A Walker

Click here to Join Carolina SUBVETS walk team.

Or follow these instructions.

Register For This Walk (Go here If you want to walk and raise money)

Clicking on this takes you to the Waiver /Agreement page. Click on I Agree after reading.

Click on Join A Team. In the middle of the next page enter Carolina SUBVETS in the empty space and click on search. When the page refreshes click on our team name.

At the top of the next page click on Join Our Team. Fill in the blanks on the following pages and then start telling you friends.

Support A Walker (Go here to donate money to one of the Carolina SUBVETS walkers)

Enter the name of a walker in the spaces provided and click Submit.

Click on the name when it comes up.

Enter the amount you wish to donate and click on Continue or below that is a link to a printable donation form you can mail in with a check or cash donation.

Join or Support a Team (Go here to Join the Carolina SUBVETS team if you are already registered)

Enter Carolina SUBVETS and click Submit. Follow the links to our Team page and click on Join Our Team.



WANTED

Any old luggage with wheels and pull handles that you are giving away or throwing out. Bilge Rat Productions, the Base's showman that travel to the area Assisted Living Homes needs these to store and carry their collection of props and equipment. Contact Moe(SS) at 704-248-7610 or at donutdad@carolina.rr.com—Thank you, thank you very much.— Moe(SS)







| Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|---------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Camp Coral | 19 | 20 PP Deadline | 21 Plantation Estates Show 1030 AM | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Camp Coral | 26 | 27 | 28Regular Base Meeting—Ft. Mill VFW 1730 dinner 1900 meeting | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | AUG 1 Camp Coral | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | PP Deadline Newton Parade | 17 | 18 | | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Regular Base Meeting—Ft. Mill VFW 1730 dinner 1900 meeting | | |

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! -

