

Piedmont Periscope



Issue 1210

October 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.

Commander "Pins" Dolphins on Two Sailors

At the October meeting, Base Commander Steve Bell pinned Dolphins on two Sailors who never received their Dolphins in the method that most of us usually received ours. Most of us received our "fish" by the Skipper pinning them on at Quarters in front of the rest of the crew.

Well, Ed Erb and Hal Rutter never received their Dolphins in that manner. See the story provide by Mike Hubbell on page 27.

Jim Schenk and John Rupertus presented Ed at the September and Hal at the October meeting with models of their Boats.



Lost Boats for October

"Sailors, rest your oars"



USS O-5 (SS 66) October 11, 1923
USS S 44 (SS 155) October 7, 1943
USS WAHOO (SS 238) October 11, 1943
USS SEAWOLF (SS 197) October 3, 1944
USS ESCOLAR (SS 294) October 17, 1944
USS DARTER (SS 227) October 24, 1944
USS SHARK II (SS 314) October 24, 1944
USS TANG (SS 306) October 24, 1944

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CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



What a wonderful time was had at our annual outing at the Jeffries Ranch. I would like to thank Jack and Carol for use of their facilities and their hospitality. I would like to thank Paul and Sandra Myers for taking care of the major part of the food preparation. Thanks to Al Westbury for the entertainment, some really enjoyed that beyond belief. And thanks to all who helped get the tents, tables, and chairs set up. This event just seems to get bigger and better each year. For those that missed it, you might want to consider putting it on your calendar for next year.

For those heading to Georgia at the end of the month, we look forward to having a good time down there as well. It is always good to remember those we have lost. It is always a very good ceremony that they put on down there. Also lots of good food and good times with old shipmates and new found friends. We have some K4K events coming up, but I will leave that for Jack to boast about. I realize the opportunities are small to be able to attend some of these due to the limitations put on us by the various organizations, but if you get the opportunity to attend, I highly recommend it. We may have opportunities, besides parades, for events during Veterans Day. Stayed tuned for that and if you have the opportunity to partici-

pate, please do. Elections for our base officers are just around the corner. Call for nominations will be at the beginning of the year with the election to follow. Elected officers will be sworn in at the 2013 Burnsville event in May. I encourage each of you to consider trying for one of the positions. I also ask you to think who you would really like to have in each of our elected positions for the two year term they will be serving. It is important to have people in those positions that are willing to put forth the necessary effort. I can say that the current officers have done that, but there is nothing wrong with others stepping up. Think about that The annual Pearl Harbor Banquet is being hosted by the Nat Greene Base

this year. It is being held in Clemmons, NC (just outside of Winston-Salem). Another worthwhile event to attend. Again, I encourage you to consider attending this one. The tolling ceremony is really nicely done.

Our meeting in November will be the third Saturday instead of the fourth. This is due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Also, we are having the VFW put on the meal for us. A way of us helping them make a few bucks from us. We do the same in December, except our meeting is nothing more than the blessings and the Tolling of the Boats, unless there is something urgent (which has not happened yet). When you read this, we will be very close to the Autism Speaks walk. (Con't on Page 3)

Carolina Piedmont Contacts

Base Commander	Steve Bell	usnret82@carolina.rr.com	704 824 3510
Vice Commander	Jack Jeffries	jcckjeffries@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

XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries



CAROLINA PIED-MONT ROCKS, I would like to thank all who came to the September meeting here at our place. I didn't get a count of those attending but somewhere in the neighborhood of 75-80, we even had members Ron and Pat Busila bring their RV from Virginia as well as John and Sandi Wardean and their RV. John and Sandi were returning to their home from a trip to Newfoundland. Once again Al and Sandi Westberry had his karaoke equipment here and we enjoyed singing thru the evening. The Bilge Rat production group put on a whale of a per-

(con't from page 2)
If you have not donated to this cause, I ask that you go online (per instructions previously put out and on the NC Subvets website) and help out this worthy cause. It is that time of year again to remind those that pay annual dues that

formance and many thanks to them for the entertainment. Once again the Ladies put on a SU-PER spread of food and if you left here hungry, it was your fault.

We have events scheduled for the months of October and November. we go to Victory Junction the 20th of October and have on the agenda to go to Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital the 9th of November and we are scheduled to participate in the Veterans Day Celebration at the Saluda Middle School in Rock Hill the 7th of November.

Once again I have to beat the drum about annual dues being due, if you owe National/Base dues, please send it to Lee Hickerson 8410 Clear Meadow Lane Charlotte NC 28227. I would like to welcome Tom Krpata to the group, we are growing and I would like to have each

it is now time to get your 2013 dues in, both National and Base. That is \$30 total, \$20 for National, and \$10 for the Base. It is nice when we don't have to hound individuals and also even nicer to get it in before the end of the year. Please help us out on this and either pay at a meeting or

and every one to recruit a new member, spreading the word about our base is easy, just wearing a Submariner cap or jacket really produces, Hey Bubblehead from unlikely places. Each member of the base is on the membership team. The base election is coming in the spring so if you would like to nominate someone for a position or better yet if you would like to have your name on the ballot for a position, be thinking about it, the new election master for the base is Jeff Nieberding, more on this matter later, just wanted to start the thought process for now. Once again I would like to "Thank You" for supporting our **AWARD WINNING** base, and welcome any suggestions for the base you may have.

Jack

send your dues to our Treasurer, Lee Hick-erson.
I ask all of you to take care of yourselves, look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. May God bless all of you and help keep you safe.
- Steve

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.

Flag Trivia—Where did this Flag fly in our Nation's history? See Page 23



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Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes

For September 22nd, 2012

-Call Meeting to Order

1430hrs the meeting was called to order by Base Commander Steve Bell at the home of Jack and Carol Jeffries.

-Invocation

The Invocation was given by Walt Sealy.

-Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Bell.

-Tolling of the Boats

The Tolling of the Boats was presentenced by Walt Sealy and Paul Myers.

-Member Introductions

There were 25 members and one visiting USSVI member present.

-Reading/Approval of the last Meeting Minutes

The motion to accept the Minutes of the Base Meeting held on August 25th, 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 of September 22nd, 2012 the following funds where available to the Base.

CURRENT BALANCE	\$6,118.70
MEMORIAL RESTORATION FUNDS	\$ 542.50
KAPS-4-KIDS	\$1,691.05
USSVI SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 69.65
BASE FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$3,815.50

Lee further reported that the Sea Chest raffle ticket sales at this year's USSVI National Convention netted \$1,010. As per agreement \$100 will be forwarded to the Hampton Roads Base.

-Special Presentations

John Rupertus and James Schenk presented Hal Rutter with a scale model of his qual boat the U-2513.

Steve Bell awarded Silver Enlisted Dolphins to RM3(SS) Hal Rutter, who qualified in 1946 aboard the U-2513. Steve also awarded Silver Enlisted Dolphins to TM1(SS) Ed Erb who qualified in 1944 aboard the USS Ronquil (SS-396). Steve reminded all members that when they were qualified in submarines, they were only given patches to wear on their uniforms.

-Old Business

Color Guard Shoulder Cords

Dale Moses reported that gold shoulder cords had arrived and was being issued to members of the Carolina -Piedmont Base Color Guard. Dale reminded guard members to add the button to the left shoulder of their vests, to facilitate the wearing of the cords at events.

-New Business

Sailor of the Year

As USSVI District Commander, Steve Bell requested a donation from the district in support of the SOY Program. The monies raised will go to the runners up in this year's competition. Steve noted that Federal Law places a \$200 limit to be awarded to each recipient. Any excess funds will be forwarded to the Chief Petty Officer Association at Hampton Roads to help defer the costs of the SOY Awards Night Dinner and program expenses. The motion was made and seconded to make a donation of \$250 from the Base Funds. The motion carried.

Autism Speaks

Lee Hickerson reviewed the efforts for this year's event. Lee reports that we are well behind in contributions this year. Lee reports that this year's event will be held at the Z Max Dragway in Charlotte. Thus far we have 3 confirmed walkers participating. Any members wishing to make a contribution to this worthy cause may do so by contacting Lee or by going to the Autism Speaks website and going to the NC Subvets link. A motion was made and seconded to make a donation of \$250 from the Base Funds. The motion was carried.

-Store Keeper's Report

Jeff Nieberding reported that the 2013 USSVI Calendars had arrived; all members who had ordered calendars should see him. Jeff also reminded the membership that he has Base window stickers, Challenge Coins and various patches for sale. He further noted that all items currently on hand have been paid for, and all future sales of these items will go to the Base Funds.

-Good of the Order

Letter of Appreciation

Steve Bell reported that our base was presented with a Letter of Appreciation for our ongoing participation and support of the National Holland Club program. The letter was awarded to the Base during the Holland Club Breakfast during this year's National Convention at Norfolk, VA.

CPB SubVettes President's Award

The SubVettes President Sandra Myers presented the 1st Annual Gloria Myers Award to Cindy Petitt for her efforts in support on behave of the SubVettes and the Base. The Gloria Myers Award is named in honor of the late Edith "Gloria" Myers, one of our first SubVettes and mother of Paul Myers.

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CPB Cruise

Sandra Myers reminded all those attending this year's cruise that they are scheduled to depart on October 11th.

National Convention Reports

South Eastern District 1

Base Commander Steve Bell has been sworn in as SED1 District Commander. Steve Bell will continue as Base Commander until Base Elections have been held and the new Officers have been sworn in. Our outgoing District Commander Dick Kanning has been elected and sworn in as USSVI Regional Director.

USSVI Constitution and Bylaws

Steve Bell reported on the Director's Meeting and Annual Business Meeting held during this year's Convention. As a result of the approval of all amendments' voted on this year, some changes will have to be made to the Base C&B to stay in conformance with those changes made to the National C&B. Steve reported that at this time our Base is not in conflict with the new changes, but to prevent any possible conflicts the Base Board will make those changes as needed. Steve explained that the most important issue for both the bases and for the national organization was to comply with Federal regulations for veterans' organization status. Complete details will be forthcoming in the Piedmont Periscope.

ISA/USA Submarine Vets

Steve Bell reported that during the ISA/USA meeting held during the Convention, Butterbean (Tarheel Base Vice-Commander) has accepted to position of Membership Chairman. Expect much more information on the ISA/USA in upcoming issues of the NC Subvets/Tarheel Base's All Clear newsletter.

National Elections

Steve Bell reported on the results of this year's USSVI National Elections.

National Commander: T. Michael Bircumshaw

National SR, Vice Cmdr.: Carl Schmidt
National JR, Vice Cmdr.: Al Singleman
National Secretary: Tom Conlon

National Treasurer: Richard McPherson

USSVI National Chaplin

Base Chaplin Ray Fritz has been appointed as the USSVI National Chaplin.

Membership Renewal

Steve Bell reminded all members to start getting your 2013 due in ASAP. Under the new rules, USSVI will drop those who do not get there dues in on time. National and Base dues are \$30.00 total.

Kaps-4-Kids

Jack Jeffries reports that the Base will be visiting Victory Junction on the 20th of October. The base will is planning a visit to the Levin Children's Hospital in the near future. The date has not yet been set; Jack will send our E-mails once the times have been set. Jack also reported that the base will also be adding the Jeff Gordon Children Center to our K4K program, details on dates and times will be e-mailed by Jack.

Kings Bay Memorial Service

Steve Bell reported that those wanting to attend this year's annual Tolling of the Boats at Kings Bay Naval Base to get their registrations in ASAP. The Navy Lodge is now accepting reservations, off base lodging is also available.

Base Officer Elections

Steve Bell reminded all members that election for CPB Officers will be in 2013. All Base officers are up for election, nominations will be made in early 2013. Voting will be completed in April, 2013. The elected officers will be sworn in during the annual Burnsville NC Subvets Meeting. Jeff Nieberding will be the election master.

News Letter

Dale Moses reminded that the newsletter deadline will be October 18th.

-Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Carolina-Piedmont base will be held on October 27th, at the VFW in Fort Mill. After the meeting the VFW will be having a fund raiser and Bilge Rat Productions will put on their show for the VFW.

-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



Welcome Aboard

Tom Krpata—Tom qualified in '75 on the Simon Bolivar (SSBN-641) and lives in Union, SC with wife Janet. Tom also served on DD 818, SSBN 363, SSN 705, and SSN 755 and was as MM1(SS).

Don't forget to pay your 2013 Base and National Dues by December 31, 2012

Send them to Lee Hickerson

8410 Clear Meadow Lane Charlotte NC 28227

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Chaplain's Corner - Ray Fritz, National Chaplain



October 2012
Well, it's good to be on the mend. Most of you know that thirteen days ago I had a total right hip joint replacement. I am now worth more than ever!

I am really thankful for all our Subvet family. Thanks to everyone who prayed for us and who came to visit and who sent cards or called. It was not a "walk in the park." The surgery was easy – I don't remember a thing. The next 3 days I call the "Torture chamber," necessary but really painful. At home, the next 6 days were suffering and agony, **NOT** from the incision but because my system shutdown and my abdomen cried out for relief. I wanted an early Christmas present! Friday evening things began to return to normal and now I am doing well.

As I was lying in the hospital bed and as I did the necessary therapy my thoughts turned to



the brave men and women who are recovering from the wounds of war and their loved ones as they watch the agony of recovery. How horribly painful it must be for them.



Next my thoughts turned to the many children the base family has been involved at Lavine Children's Hospital, Victory Junction, Camp Coral, etc. You have seen the smiles and the agony and pain and heartache that is often theirs. You see, mine misery was elective... these children did not choose their circumstances.

Next my thoughts turned to shipmates like Glenn Harris, who has had a rough journey to recovery, and others from the base who deal with discomfort and illnesses every day.

The results of my surgery have been very good and I am eternally thankful. A scripture came to mind from the

Old Testament book of Jeremiah. Although the message is to the Jews who were in exile I believe that God's word is for His children who are going through the valleys of life – what we might call islands of exile as well.

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

We know that, just as with the Jews, not all will return home safe, which is sad indeed. Many of our brave men and women have and will return home with lifelong wounds, both physical and mental. Many of the children will not be with us as long as we would like but their bravery is an inspiration to us to do more.

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

Dear God,
Bless those who serve
beneath the deep,
Through lonely hours
their vigil keep.
May peace their mission
ever be;
Protect each one we ask
of You.
Bless those at home who
wait and pray
For their return by night
or day.
Amen
One last word:



In just a few short weeks I believe we face the most significant election of my lifetime and perhaps the history of this country. I believe whoever is elected will affect the next 50 to 100 years and set the course of this country toward socialism [even dictatorship as impossible as that may seem] or freedom. That may seem extreme to some of you but I believe what Mr. Tytler said in the years before the American Revolution was correct:

A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form

of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that moment on. the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits the public treasurv with the result that a democracy always collapses over lousy fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. The average of the world's great civilizations before they decline has been 200 years. These nations have progressed in this sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; from faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to Complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependency; from dependency back again to bondage. -Alexander F. Tytler – 1770 - Cycle of Democracv

Before you take me to task just ponder his words carefully. This is not political, it is moral and ethical and I believe the national debt is a chain around our children's lives. It is evil and morally wrong and presidents from both sides of the isle are

guilty.

Be sure to vote wisely. The future of America and the future of our grandchildren are at stake.

God bless you all and thanks again for your thoughtfulness to me. *Chaplain Ray*

From the COB



I hope all had a good time at Jack's I know Sandra and I sure did. Thanks for all the hard work all did to make the September meeting. I am trying to adjust to sleeping in since my retirement and doing the "honey-do list" that Sandra has for me. Take care shipmates hope to see you and the next meeting.—Paul Myers

Lexington Veterans' Day Parade

Parade is on Saturday, November 10th. We will meet at Lexington High School (26 Penry Street, Lexington, NC) to stage for parade at 9:00 am with the parade starting at 11:00 am. There will be a BBO lunch at the Yarborough Restaurant after the parade. All Veteran entries are at the front of the parade and the politicians are at the back.

IF YOU STILL
INFO ABOUT
KINGS BAY
PLEASE CONTACT
STEVE OR JACK.
YOU STILL HAVE

A LITTLE TIME

DON'T FORGET

LEFT.

After the October meeting Bilge Rat Productions will be putting on their "HALFWAY NIGHT SHOW". This is the Show that they take to the area Assisted Living Homes and the VA Nursing Home in Salisbury. If you haven't seen it, stick around.

We are putting this on to help the VFW POST 9138 raise funds. There will be a 50/50 raffle and maybe some drink specials. Don't forget about their 32" Flat Screen TV raffle—\$5 a chance only 120 chances sold— STAY and HAVE FUN!!

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Pat Busila Dee and Hal Rutter Chaplin Ray Fritz



October

Vicki Simerly 10/05

Howard. Murray 10/12

Paul Myers 10/13

Andrew Miller 10/14

Clarence Senn 10/14

Jack Anulies 10/25

Gary Cruzan 10/25

Ma Bell 10/25

David Holm 10/28



"Diplomacy is the art of saying 'nice doggie' until you can find a rock."

- Will Rogers

October

Susan and Tom Kelly – 10/2

Yolanda and Larry Lynch - 10/12

Carol and Jack Jeffries - 10/20

Monica and Howard Dachs - 10/22





SubVettes—President Sandra Myers

Hello Sassy Sisters,

Hope all is well with you and yours. We are doing great. Paul seems to be adjusting well to retirement, other than his wake up time but I will work on that.

We have about 30 cookbooks to sell plus. Clarence still owes us 50. Our meal for October is another "this and that"; just bring what you would like.

Please do not forget your recruiters and Sassy Sis-

ter gifts, as you know December we will reveal who each others are I know I have had a great one once again

Sometime after the first of November I will be going to the Veterans Hospital in Johnson City to take our supplies to our veterans.

I would like to congratulate Cindy Petitt on her award for her hard work for our great base

Take care and May God Bless You and Yours.

- Sandra

"Sorry looks back. Worry looks around. Faith looks

up." - from God's Little Instruction Book



Cranberry Salad

Original Recipe Yield 8 servings

Ingredients:

1 tablespoon butter 3/4 cup almonds, blanched and slivered

1 pound spinach, rinsed and torn into bite-size pieces

1 cup dried cranberries 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds

1 tablespoon poppy seeds 1/2 cup raw sugar

2 teaspoons minced onion 1/4 teaspoon of paprika

1/4 cup white wine vinegar 1/4 cup cider vinegar

1/2 cup vegetable oil



Directions:

In a medium saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Cook and stir almonds in butter until lightly toasted. Remove from heat, and let cool.

In a large bowl, combine the spinach with the toasted almonds and cranberries.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the sesame seeds, poppy seeds, sugar, onion, paprika, white wine vinegar, cider vinegar, and vegetable oil. Toss with spinach just before serving.

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VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

Deadline for

the next issue
of the
Piedmont
Periscope
will be
November 8th.
Please have all
items to
Moe(SS) at
ppeditor@
carolina.rr.com
by then.

Your Veteran News From the RAQ Bulletin

WWI Memorial Peace Cross: The forty-foottall Memorial Peace Cross, which wellknown landmark that has served as a gateway to Bladensburg and Hyattsville, Maryland for over 85 years, is in jeopardy. The monument, which sits on state property, honors 49 men from Prince George's County, Maryland who lost their lives during World War I. The cross was dedicated on July 13, 1925, by the American Legion. A bronze tablet at the base of the monument contains the unforgettable words of Woodrow Wilson: The right is more precious than the peace; we shall fight for the things we have always carried nearest our hearts; to such a task we dedicate ourselves. At the base of the monument are the words. Valor, Endurance, Courage, Devotion. At its heart, the cross bears a great gold star. The American Humanist Association, a Washingtonbased group, is calling for the cross's removal, arguing that a religious image on public land violates the constitutional principle of the separation of church and state. Veterans organiza-

tions and some community groups have vowed to fight to keep standing. Meanwhile, the local park and planning commission is researching the legal issues. For more information on the Memorial Peace Cross. visit the Change.org website http:// www.change.org/ petitions/marylandnational-capital-park-and -planning-commissionsave-the-historicalbladensburg-peace-cross -war-memorial, the Waymaking.com website http:// www.waymarking.com/ waymarks/WMK1G, and the Historical Marker Database http:// www.hmdb.org/ Marker.asp? Marker=5187. [Source: Military.com article 24 Sep 2012 ++1

USS North Carolina (BB-55): The Battleship North Carolina in Wilmington, North Carolina flies the national ensign daily and is pleased to fly one for you from the ship's foremast on your special occasion or in memory or honor of your loved one. Flags are flown at no charge except to cover shipping fees, if needed. Flown on the specific date of your

preference, the flag, provided by you or purchased through the Ship's Store, will fly high above the North Carolina and then be returned to you with a personalized signed certificate from the Executive or Assistant Director. The North Carolina also offers its facilities as a gratis site for traditional military ceremonies such as re-enlistments, retirements, promotions and memorial celebrations. Usually held on the Fantail of the Ship, inside spaces are available for inclement weather days. Included at no extra cost are chairs, table and podium/sound system. Call the ship to fly a flag for a loved one or for ceremonial reservations at (910) 251-5797. For more information, visit the Battleship North Carolina website at http:// www.battleshipnc.com or Facebook site http:// www.facebook.com/ NCBB55 or Twitter.com/battleshipnc. [Source: Military.com 24

VA Fee-Basis Care Update 01: Fee-basis care may be authorized to treat service-connected disabilities when VA has determined that available

Sep 2012 ++]

VA facilities do not have the necessary services required for treatment; the veteran is not able to access VA health care facilities based on geographic constraints or due to medical emergencies; or when it is economically advantageous to provide treatment using fee basis. These determinations are left to local management because they are in the position to best apply these considerations. All fee requests are reviewed individually to determine the entitlement of veterans in accordance with established Veterans Health Administration guidelines and to determine clinical urgency. You may be eligible for a fee basis ID card if

- You have a service connected disability;
- You will need medical services for an extended period of time; or
- There are no VA health care facilities in your area.

On 14 SEP the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health held a hearing titled, "VA Fee Basis Care: Examining Solutions to a Flawed System". The meeting opened with the Honorable Ann Marie Buerkle, Chairwomen's following comments:

"Recent years have seen tremendous growth in VA's Fee Care program, with independent assessments estimating growth of close to 300 percent from fiscal year 2005 to today. Unfortunately, however, as the program has continued to grow. so have the management and oversight problems that have plagued the system through which the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides care to veterans outside the walls of a VA facility. It is seriously flawed, if not altogether broken. In the last three years alone, the VA Inspector General has issued no less than seven separate reports detailing in-depth the serious deficiencies and challenges the Fee Care Program faces, including inadequate fiscal controls that have resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in improper payments. Further, last September, the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) issued a white paper on VA's Fee Care Program that drew alarming conclusions about VA's ability to effectively manage and oversee care and services under the

program.

According to NAPA: VA's Chief Business Office has exercised limited and ineffective oversight of the Fee Care Program; the Program itself lacks operational objectives, performance goals, or, a clearly defined strategy for managing expenditures; and, VA doesn't understand what services are being procured through the Fee Program and at what cost. There have been some bright spots. Congressionallymandated pilot programs – Project HERO and Project ARCH - have shown promising results in achieving a more patient centered, coordinated, and costeffective delivery model for fee care. Small pockets of success - despite VA's reluctance to implement and utilize these programs to the fullest intent of Congress. Recognizing the substantial deficiencies with the Fee Program, VA has begun implementing two new initiatives – the Patient -Centered Community Care (PCCC) Program and the Non-VA Care Coordination (NVCC) Program. The Department is going to testify today that these two initiatives will address all of the challenges the Fee Program faces and, "... ensure veterans receive effective and efficient non-VA care seamlessly."

I wish that I could believe that was true. However, given the history of failure we've seen already, I have serious reservations that the actions VA is taking will address the core challenges VA faces and not simply lead to further fragmented care and an inability to deliver quality care in rural communities Most notably, VA lacks the information technology (IT) and administrative services solutions essential to establish in-house the clinical information sharing and electronic claims processing vital to a successful carecoordinated and veterancentric program. VA spent approximately \$4.6 billion dollars to purchase care in the community for veteran patients last fiscal year. That is billion, with a "b." We cannot afford to allow VA to continue to flail and struggle to test new programs in an inherently flawed system. We cannot rely on promises from VA that they can finally get it right.

Our veterans are everywhere; VA can't be. And, at the end of the day, what fee care is about is the effective and efficient delivery of care to veterans where they need it, when they need it. Page 14 Piedmont Periscope

VETERANS NEWS by the RAQ Bulletin

Got a Story?
Sent it to
Moe(SS)
at
ppeditor
@
carolina.rr.com



Getting it right is about honoring their preferences, choices, and daily lives as well as their service to our country.

Getting it right is about telling a Vietnam or Korean-era veteran that he doesn't have to travel 4 hours to the nearest VA medical center for his cancer treatments. He can go to a hospital closer to his home and spend the time he would have spent on the road getting better. Getting it right is about telling a Gulf War veteran that she doesn't have to take a day off of work to drive to the VA clinic two towns over for a physical. She can go to the doctor down the street if she would prefer and get to work on time. Getting it right is about telling a young veteran, recently home from Iraq or Afghanistan, that he doesn't have to wait all day in a VA waiting room to see his doctor. He can choose another provider who can see him now and spend the afternoon with the people he missed while he was overseas.

That is what we are talking about today. And those stories – stories that my colleagues and I hear every day from veterans in our communities who are fed up – are what I want all of us to keep foremost in our minds this morning as we talk about how to make this program better and get it right."

The hearing heard testimony from a three member panel of DAV, VFW, and American Legion spokesman who basically concurred with the Chairwoman's comments and two other panels made up of various DVA representatives who basically defended VA's efforts in this area. The problem was thoroughly aired and it is now up to congress through legislation and/ or VA through policy reforms to take corrective action. [Source: http://veterans.house.gov/ printed-hearings 24 Sep 2012 ++]

U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII: The submarine veterans of World War II have seen this coming for a long time. At their national convention this month, 62 veterans attended where thousands used to go. The U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II disbanded at the end of its convention 7 SEP in Norfolk, Va. Local chapters now must decide whether to continue operating under another

name or to dissolve as well. This month in Groton, J. "Deen" Brown, state commander for Connecticut of the Submarine Veterans of World War II. announced to his fellow WWII submarine veterans that the Thames River Chapter has a new name. "Eastern USA Chapter U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII," he told members before their monthly luncheon at the U.S. Submarine Veterans clubhouse. "We simply have to face the fact that we're all getting older and, as we do so, eventually we simply cannot remain a viable national organization," said Brown, 90, of Oakdale. Walter "Gus" Kraus, the last national president, said the veterans who wanted to keep the national group going "until the last man is gone" prevailed in a vote three years ago. Two years ago, the vote was split. By this year's convention, some of the stalwarts had died, or their friends had. Of the 1,100 members, the youngest is 86. The oldest is 102.

It was difficult for the national organization to find members able to serve as officers and to complete all of the ad-

ministrative tasks. In their last roster, published 10 years ago, the pages listing the deceased members outnumbered those listing active members. "The guys said, 'I was all for staying. My shipmate came to the convention with me. He's gone now and I don't feel like coming," said Kraus, 91, of Crescent Springs, Ky. The national organization was established in 1955 to honor submarine veterans who served in World War II. Submarines were just 2 percent of the Navy's fleet then, but subs sank more than 30 percent of the Japanese navy and nearly 5 million tons of shipping. About 16,000 men served on submarine war patrols. The submarine force lost 52 boats and more than 3,500 men. After the sixth annual reunion of the national submarine veterans group, the membership grew rapidly. Memorials were erected. "There are memorials all over this country they've created," said retired Vice Adm. Al Konetzni, who has long been close with the World War II veterans even though he is not of that era. "These guys started in 1955 doing this for their buddies, so they would not be forgotten. It's a wonderful story of self-image. They said, 'Hey, we're going to do it, and we will do it."'

Kraus said the sub veterans considered themselves a unique group and that uniqueness forged a strong bond. The end of the organization, he said, also represents the "end of an era where we were able to get together and blow our own horn, remembering the circumstances under which we fought." Konetzni, who gave the keynote speech at the closing ceremony, said in an interview that the World War II veterans "lived the horror" and "lived the glory," but they do not need the administrative burdens of a federally chartered organization to preserve their memories. "They will never be forgotten, ever, ever, ever," said Konetzni, a former deputy commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "They gave us our traditions and our spirit. They were our leaders." Brown, who was state commander in the national organization, said the veterans who live locally enjoy getting together and want to continue as a group. The new name is intentionally broad, Brown said, because they expect veterans to join from other states when chapters disband. About 120 World War II submariners live in Connecticut. After Brown announced the national organization's decision and the name change at the luncheon, Warren Wildes said, "It was time."

Wildes, 86, of Groton was eating with LeRoy Webb, 88, of Mystic. "I hate to see them do it but the day had to come sooner or later," Webb said. He told Wildes he had just read in "Polaris," the official magazine of the organization, that a chief on the USS Moray, one of the submarines he had served on during the war, had died. "I used to take his girlfriend's picture and put it under my pillow," he said with a laugh at the prank he used to pull to irritate the chief. Webb said he served on 15 submarines in his career and was away so much that when his wife was asked how long she had been married, she cut the time in half. Both Webb and Wildes said they thought it was great that the local group would continue to meet. "We look forward to seeing our buddies every month and swapping lies," Wildes said. "Sometimes you hear the same stories over and over again,"

Webb said. "But they're still interesting."

Many of the World War II submariners are also members of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., which is open to all U.S. Navy submariners. The younger ones in that group began maintaining the memorials and conducting ceremonies when the World War II veterans could no longer do it. The local World War II veterans turned over the upkeep of the U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII National Submarine Memorial East to the Subvets Groton base and the city of Groton in 2005, said John Carcioppolo, base commander. Subvets willingly took on the responsibility. "The World War II guys are part of our heritage," Carcioppolo said. "And it's up to us to preserve that heritage." George Jones, 92, another World War II submariner who attended the luncheon, said it's important to him that the memorial is well taken care of because his friends' names are on its Wall of Honor. "I lost a lot of friends during the war and I came close myself," Jones, of Waterford, said. "I hope we will continue to be remembered for many, many years to come." [Source: Associated Press article 23 Sept 2012 ++]

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MITED STATES

USS *Wahoo* (SS-238) was a *Gato*-class submarine, the first United States Navy ship to be named for the wahoo, a dark blue food fish of Florida and the West Indies.

Her keel was laid down 28 June 1941 at the Mare Island Navy Yard, Vallejo, California. She was launched on 14 February 1942 (sponsored by Mrs. William C. Barker, Jr.), and commissioned on 15 May 1942 with Lieutenant Commander (Lt. Cmdr.) Marvin G. "Pinky" Kennedy (Class of 1929) in command.

Following fitting out and initial training along the California coast (which took her as far south as San Diego, California), *Wahoo* departed Mare Island on 12 August for Hawaii. She arrived at Pearl Harbor on 18 August and underwent exercise training until 21 August.

First patrol, August – October 1942 -On 23 August 1942 Wahoo got underway for her first war patrol,

Lost Boats— USS Wahoo SS 238

seeking Japanese shipping in waters west of Truk, particularly in the area between the Hall Islands and the Namonuito Atoll. On 6 September, her third day in the area. Wahoo fired three torpedoes at her first target, a lone freighter; all torpedoes missed because the ship turned toward Wahoo, apparently with the intent to ram. The submarine dodged, fearful of counterattack from the air.

She continued to patrol the Truk area until 20 September, when she decided to leave the southwest part of the patrol area and explore south of the Namonuito Atoll. Under a bright moon and clear sky, the submarine sighted a freighter and her escort. Wahoo launched three torpedoes; all missed. A fourth hit the target, which was thought to take a port list and settled by the stern. Four minutes later, a series of three underwater explosions wracked the freighter. Wahoo was chased by the escort but escaped by radically changing course in a rain squall. Though credited at the time with a freighter of 6,400long

tons, postwar analysis of Japanese shipping records by JANAC showed no sinking at this time or place.

Wahoo continued her patrol and sighted several airplanes, a patrol boat, and a tender but was unable to close on any possible targets. On 1 October 1942, the submarine extended her patrol toUlul Island, where she sighted several fishing boats. Within the next few days, Wahoo missed two of the best targets of the war. The first was Chiyoda (listed as a seaplane tender, she was in fact a mother ship to midget submarines), sailing without escort; Wahoo proved unable to reach a firing position. On 5 October, she sighted an aircraft carrier, believed to be $Ry\bar{u}j\bar{o}$, escorted by two destroyers. (In fact, Rvūjō had been sunk six weeks earlier in the Solomon Islands). Due to an approach lacking aggressiveness and skill, the target sailed away untouched. Two days later, Wahoo departed the patrol area. On 16 October, she made rendezvous with her escort and proceeded to Pearl Harbor, where she ended her first patrol on 17 October 1942.

She commenced refit the following day alongside submarine tender *Sperry*. *Wahoo* then shifted to Submarine Base Pearl Harbor for overhaul. There, a 4 in gun and two 20 mm guns were installed. Overhaul was completed on 2 November and, after three days training, *Wahoo* was again ready for sea.

Second patrol, November - December 1942 -On 8 November 1942, Wahoo got underway for her second war patrol, with Lieutenant Commander Dudley Walker "Mush" Morton also aboard for his prospective commanding officer (PCO) patrol. She arrived at her assigned area in the Solomon Islands, keeping Bougainville and Buka Islands in sight. On 30 November, the submarine spotted smoke at a distance of 8,000 yd; it was a lightly loaded freighter or transport with a destroyer escort on the port bow. Wahoo's approach was unsuccessful, and she proceeded east of Cape Hanpan.

Having patrolled the Buka-Kilinailau Channel for 17 days, on 7 December, Kennedy de-

cided to patrol the direct route between Truk and the Shortland Islands for a few days. This proved fruitless, and Wahoo returned to her former hunting grounds, the Buka-Kilinailau Channel. On 10 December, while making her return trip, Wahoo ran across a convoy of three heavily loaded ships escorted by a destroyer. She chose the largest tanker as the first target and fired a spread of four torpedoes at a range of 700 yd. Although three hit, it took two hours for Kamoi Maru(5,300 long tons) to sink. The destroyer got too close and Wahoo started down before another attack could be launched. The destroyer dropped approximately 40 depth charges, none close. Rather than use the new SJ radar to mount a second attack, which might well sink the freighter, and possibly even the destroyer, Wahoo let them go on a northeasterly course and moved into a new area.

Four days later, a hospital ship was sighted headed for the Shortland Islands. Shortly after, *Wahoo* sunk a submarine that Kennedy identified as Japanese submarine *I-15*. On 15 December, *Wahoo* left the

area and looked into Kieta Harbor, Buka Island, and passed Moreton Light on 26 December for entrance into Brisbane, Australia, where she commenced refit the following day. On 31 December 1942, Lt. Cmdr. Kennedy was relieved as commanding officer for being unproductive; he returned to surface warfare. later commanding a destroyer during the Normandy Invasion with distinction. Morton, an uncommonly talented and aggressive submarine officer, replaced him.

Third patrol, January – **February 1943** - Wahoo was ready for sea again on 16 January 1943. She performed sonar tests in Moreton Bay with the destroyer Patterson before beginning her third war patrol. Three days later, the submarine passed into Vitiaz Strait en route to her patrol area. Wahoo's orders were to reconnoiter Wewak, a Japanese supply base on the north coast of New Guinea between Kairiru Island and coincidently, Mushu Island. There was one large problem: Wahoo had no charts of the harbor. However, it turned out that motor machinist's mate Dalton Keeter had bought a cheap school atlas while in Australia. It had a map of New Guinea with a small indentation labeled "Wewak".

With that as a reference, a blowup of the Navy chart was made.

On 24 January 1943, Wa-

hoo dove 2nmi north of Kairiru Island and proceeded around the western end to penetrate Victoria Bay. She sighted the Japanese destrover Harusame with RO-class submarines nested alongside. The destroyer was getting underway, so Wahoo fired a spread of three torpedoes at the moving target from 1,200 yd; all missed aft. Another torpedo was fired, but the destroyer avoided by turning away, then circled and headed for Wahoo. Wahoo turned toward the destroyer and at a range of 800 yd fired her last bow torpedo. This torpedo struck the destroyer amidships, breaking its back. Wahoo had no difficulty escaping the area. Despite heavy damage Harusame was beached and repaired.

The next day, *Wahoo* changed course for Palau. On 26 January, the submarine sighted the smoke of two ships. *Wahoo* obtained a position, launched two torpedoes at the leading ship and, 17 seconds later, two at the second ship. The first two torpedoes hit the *Fukuei Maru*. The third passed ahead of the second freighter, the fourth hit. Upon observing the

damage, Wahoo discovered there were two more ships; a huge transport, the Buvo Maru, and a tanker. The Fukuei Maruwas listing badly to starboard and sinking by the stern; the second ship was headed directly for Wahoo, at a slow speed. Ignoring this, Wahoo fired a three-torpedo spread at the transport; the second and third hit and stopped her.

Turning her attention to the second target, which was still headed for her, Wahoo fired two bow tubes "down the throat" to stop him. The second torpedo hit, but the target kept coming and forced the submarine to turn hard left at full speed to avoid being rammed. There followed so many explosions that it was hard to tell what was happening. Returning to periscope depth, Wahoo observed the Fukuei Maru had sunk; the second target was still moving, evidently with steering trouble: and the transport, Buyo Maru, was stopped but still afloat.

Wahoo headed for the transport and fired a bow tube; the torpedo passed directly under

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the middle of the ship but failed to explode. The sub then fired another torpedo which headed right for the stack and blew the target apart midships. The submarine then headed for the crippled freighter, which had formed up with a tanker, and both ships were moving away. Wahoo decided to let these two ships get over the horizon, while she surfaced to charge her batteries and attack the shipwrecked Japanese now sitting in about twenty lifeboats. Controversy still attaches to this action in that troops in the water may have been deliberately targeted by Wahoo. Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, the contemporary COMSUBPAC, asserts that the survivors were army troops and turned machinegun and rifle fire on Wahoo while she maneuvered on the surface, and that such resistance was common in submarine warfare. Richard O'Kane stated that the fire from Wahoo was intended to force the troops to abandon their boats and no troops were deliberately targeted. Clay Blair states that Morton opened fire first and the shipwrecked returned fire with handguns.

Whatever the case, Wahoo had mis-identified the survivors as Japanese. In fact, they were mainly Indian POWs of 2nd Battalion, 16th Punjab Regiment, plus escorting forces from the 26th Field Ordnance Depot. Of 1.126 men aboard Buyo Maru, just 195 Indians and 87 Japanese died in all, including those killed in the initial sinking. The low number suggests O'Kane's defense, that Morton fired only on the boats, may be correct. It proved a rare occurrence, in any event.

After some time, Wahoo moved away to intercept the two fleeing ships. She decided to attack the tanker first since she was as yet undamaged. With only four torpedoes left, the submarine fired two at the tanker, the second hitting her just abaft of midships, breaking her back: she went down almost instantly. Wahoo then turned her attention to the freighter and fired her last two torpedoes without a spread. They both hit. Fifteen minutes later, the freighter sank, having absorbed four hits from three separate attacks. Wahoo then set a course for Fais Island. Postwar, JANAC credited Wahoo with only three sinkings: the transport, Buyo Maru (5,300 tons), Fukuei Maru (2,000 long tons), and an unknown maru (4,000 long tons).

On 27 January 1943, Wahoo made contact with a convoy of eight ships, including two freighters and a tanker. Efforts to gain a position were foiled by a persistent destroyer escort who dropped six depth charges. The submarine had no option but to retreat since she had previously expended all torpedoes. It was on this occasion that Morton transmitted the famous message: "Another running gun battle today. Destroyer gunning, Wahoo running". The next day, Wahoo sighted Fais Island, and her plan to shell a phosphorite refinery was scrapped due to the untimely appearance of an inter-island steamer

The submarine left station and arrived at Pearl Harbor on 7 February, only 23 days after leaving Brisbane (most patrols were in the 60–75 day range). Prior to entering the naval base, *Wahoo* donned topside embellishments to celebrate her victory. A straw broom was lashed to her periscope shears to indicate a clean sweep. From the signal

halyard fluttered eight tiny Japanese flags, one for each Japanese ship believed to have been sunk by *Wahoo* to that point in the war.

Wahoo commenced refit by a tender relief crew and the ship's crew. On 15 February, refit was completed, and the submarine was declared ready for sea on 17 February. She then conducted two days of training and was drydocked at the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, on 21 February.

Fourth patrol, Februarv - April 1943 - On 23 February 1943, *Wa*hoo got underway for Midway Island, where she arrived four days later, topped off her fuel tanks, and headed for her patrol area. For Wahoo's fourth patrol, Morton was assigned to the extreme northern reaches of the Yellow Sea, in the vicinity of the Yalu River and Dairen, an area never before patrolled by U.S. submarines. One reason for this was the water was extremely shallow, averaging 120 ft. While en route to her patrol area. she conducted training dives, fire control drills, and battle surface drills. She had the unique experience of making the entire passage to the East

China Sea without sighting a single aircraft, thus making most of the trip surfaced. On 11 March, *Wahoo* arrived in her assigned area along the Nagasaki-Formosa and Shimonoseki-Formosa shipping routes.

On 19 March 1943, the shooting began with a freighter identified as Zogen Maru. A single torpedo hit broke the target in two; the aft end sank immediately, and the bow sank two minutes later. There were no survivors. Four hours later, Wahoo sighted another freighter, Kowa Maru, and launched two torpedoes. The first hit under the target's foremast with a terrific blast. leaving a tremendous hole in her side, but the bow remained intact. The second torpedo hit amidships, but it was a dud and did not explode. Two more torpedoes were fired, but the freighter maneuvered to avoid them.

Wahoo then patrolled off the Korean coast, just south of Chinnampo. On 21 March, she sighted a large freighter identified as Hozen Maru. She launched three torpedoes; the third hit the target amidships. She went down by the bow, sinking in four minutes, leaving approximately 33 survivors clinging to the debris.

Four hours later, Wahoo sighted the freighter Nittsu Maru. The submarine fired a spread of three torpedoes; two hit, one under the bridge and the other under the mainmast. The ship went down in three minutes. Four survivors ignored all efforts to rescue them. After collecting a few souvenirs from the scattered wreckage, Wahoo commenced a surfaced patrol, heading for Shantung Promontory. On 22 March, the submarine headed for the Laotiehshan Promontory, close to Port Arthur.

The following day, as Wahoo patrolled Laotiehshan Channel (also known as "Sampan Alley"), she found herself surrounded by targets. Wahoo sighted a medium-size ship, apparently a freighter, the collierKatvosan Maru, and launched one torpedo. This hit the target just under her bridge, immediately enveloping the target in a screen of coal dust. The maru settled fast and slowed down, vanishing in 13 minutes.

Wahoo set course for a point to the northeast of Round Island, off Dairen. In the vicinity of

the approaches to this port, the deepest water is about 300 ft, with an average depth of only 120 ft.

At 12:47 on 24 March, Wahoo sighted smoke and began to make her approach. At 19:49, she fired a spread of three torpedoes at a large tanker (identified as Takaosan Maru) which was fully loaded with fuel oil. The first two torpedoes exploded prematurely, and the one third missed. Wahoo fired a fourth torpedo which also missed. The target commenced firing deck guns at the American warship. The submarine surfaced after 14 minutes of ducking shots, gained position ahead, and dove. She fired another threetorpedo spread. One hit the engine room and sank the ship in four minutes.

The next day, Wahoo sighted the freighter Satsuki Maru. She launched two torpedoes; when both exploded prematurely, Wahoo "battle surfaced" to use her deck guns. She closed the target, raked her with 20 mm shells and struck her with almost 90 rounds of four-inch shells. The target caught fire in several places and sank in about one hour.

Wahoo left the following morning to investigate a ship on the horizon. This target proved to be a small diesel-driven freighter. The submarine commenced firing with her 20 mm and four -inch deck guns. The freighter tried to ram her, but Wahoo maneuvered clear, and then continued firing at the target, setting her ablaze from stem to stern, and leaving her dead in the water. The crew took turns looking through the periscope as the freighter sank.

Later that day, Wahoo sighted a 100 long tons trawler and again attacked with her deck guns. When all three of her 20 mm guns jammed, the Wahoo went alongside the riddled trawler and the sailors of Wahoo hurled homemade Molotov cocktails (gifts from the U.S. Marines at Midway Atoll) onto the trawler. Wahoo departed, leaving the fishing boat wrecked, spouting flame and smoke. On 28 March, while on the surface astride the Shimonoseki-Formosa shipping route, Wahoo opened fire with two 20 mm guns on two motor sampans. The targets did not sink but they were also left in a wrecked condition.

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On the following day, Wahoo sighted the freighter Yamabato Maru and fired two of her stern torpedo tubes. The first torpedo hit at the point of aim under the mainmast and completely disintegrated everything abaft her stack. The forward section sank in two minutes. The second torpedo was aimed at the foremast. but it missed because the first torpedo stopped the freighter in her tracks.

Wahoo surfaced, transited the Collnett Strait, and headed home, concluding a war patrol which topped the record to date in number of ships sunk. The American submarine command in Pearl Harbor reported that the "Japanese think a submarine wolf pack operating in Yellow Sea. All shipping tied up."

Meanwhile, the United States mounted its offensive against Attu, and Admiral Mineichi Koga returned his major units from Truk to Tokyo Bay a sortie to Alaska. Forewarned by American codebreakers that the Japanese intended to counter theinvasion of Attu by a major sortie of the I.J.N. fleet, COM-SUBPAC sent his top sub, *Wahoo*, to the Kuril Islandsto intercept it.

On 6 April 1943, *Wahoo* arrived at Midway, and she commenced a refit on the following day. On 21 – 22 April, she conducted training underway and was declared ready for sea on 25 April.

Fifth patrol, April – May 1943 - Wahoo began her fifth war patrol on 25 April, departing Midway under air escort for patrol areas via the Kuril Islands. The following day, she patrolled the surface and reconnoitered Matsuwa, taking photographs of the enemy installations, exploring southwest along the island chain and finding the islands barren and completely covered with snow and ice.

On 4 May, Wahoo proceeded to reconnoiter the northeast tip of Etorofu Island; she found nothing and changed course to the southeast. Morton positioned the boat to intercept the seaplane tender Kamikawa Maru. The submarine submerged and fired a spread of three torpedoes. The first hit between the stack and bridge; the other two missed. Kamikawa turned away and was making 11kn, with a slight list. (Kamikawa survived but was sunk May 29, 1943 by the

Scamp.) Wahoo continued on an easterly course, surfaced and continued her patrol of the Kurils southward.

Three days later. Wahoo sighted two ships hugging the shoreline on a northerly course, 12 nmi off the Benten Saki coast, and dove. She launched two torpedoes at the leading ship, followed immediately by a spread of four at the escort. The first torpedo hit the leading ship, Tamon Maru #5, under the stack and broke her back: the second missed ahead. The escort successfully avoided all four torpedoes fired at her and then escaped. The Tamon Maru (5,260 long tons) sank, and Wahoo proceeded down the coast.

The submarine submerged 1nmi off Kobe Zaki and sighted a three-ship convoy consisting of two escort vessels and a large naval auxiliary. *Wahoo* fired a spread of three torpedoes; two exploded prematurely, the third failed to explode. This ship got away, and *Wahoo* was forced down by the escorts.

On the night of 9 May 1943, *Wahoo* proceeded up the coast with the intention of closing Kone Saki. Radar picked up

two targets, soon identified as a large tanker and a freighter in column, evidently making the night run between ports without an escort. The submarine fired a spread of three torpedoes at the tanker and immediately thereafter a three torpedo spread at the freighter. Wahoo had two successful hits, and both ships went down; Takao Maru (3,200 long tons) and Jinmu Maru (1,200 long tons).

Wahoo cleared the area to the northeast in order to patrol the Tokyo-Paramushiro route; on 12 May, she sighted two freighters. She dove to gain position for a "two ship" shot where they would come by in column. She launched four torpedoes from 1,200 yd, but got only one hit. Morton fired his last two torpedoes. Nothing was seen of the first. The second hit under the bridge with a dull thud, much louder than the duds heard only on sonar but lacking the "whacking" noise which accompanies a wholehearted explosion. The other freighter opened fire with their deck guns and charged Wahoo. Both ships got away. Wahoo cleared the area to the east and set course for Pearl Harbor.

Wahoo's fifth war patrol was again considered outstanding in aggressiveness and efficiency. In ten action-packed days Wahoo delivered ten torpedo attacks on eight different targets. However, faulty torpedo performance cut positive results by as much as one-half

In these last three patrols, *Wahoo* established a record not only in damage inflicted on the enemy for three successive patrols, but also for accomplishing this feat in the shortest time on patrol: a total of 93,281 long tons sunk and 30,880 long tons damaged in only 25 patrol days.

Wahoo arrived at Pearl Harbor on 21 May 1943. The next day, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, the CINCPAC, came on board and presented of awards. Two days later, the submarine departed for the Mare Island Navy Yard, where she arrived 29 May to commence overhaul. From 11 - 20July, the submarine underwent intensive postrepair trials and training. On 20 July, squadron commander Captain John B. Griggs, Jr., came aboard and presented more awards. On the following day, Wahoo departed for Pearl Harbor, furnishing services for surface and air forces while *en route*. She arrived at Hawaii on 27 July 1943 and departed on 2 August for her patrol area. Four days later, *Wahoo* arrived at Midway Island, but she left on the same day.

Sixth patrol, August **1943** -On 13 August, Wahoo entered the Sea of Okhotsk, having completed the passage through the Etorofu Strait. She arrived in the Sea of Japan the following day and sighted three medium freighters headed south. The submarine launched one torpedo at the trailing ship; it missed. The next day (15 August), while still on the trail of those three freighters, Wahoo sighted a large freighter on a northerly course. Deciding to attack the larger, single target, the submarine broke off the pursuit of the three freighters, surfaced, and commenced tracking the new target, diving to make a submerged approach. Wahoo launched one torpedo; it hit at the point of aim but was a dud. She fired two more torpedoes. Both missed. Wahoo then swung around to bring her stern torpedo tubes to bear and headed directly for the target.

The submarine fired another torpedo which missed and must have broached and exploded before the end of the run. Wahoo soon sighted an Otori-class torpedo boat and commenced evasive action, letting the large freighter escape. She decided to move over on the Hokkaidō-Korea shipping route and spend the night and the following day transiting to that area.

On 16 August, Wahoo sighted a freighter headed south, but made another contact in a better position for attack. Shifting targets, she launched one torpedo at a medium-sized freighter. It missed. The next day, the scene was repeated with the same results. No pursuit was undertaken, in hopes of a loaded target heading south. However, Wahoo sighted a freighter heading north in ballast and commenced a submerged approach. Morton launched one torpedo which missed. Just as the torpedo left its tube, a southbound freighter passed close aboard this target, but the torpedo missed. Wahoo then surfaced and chased the southbound freighter. While pursuing this ship, the submarine sighted another tar-

get well ahead and away from the coast, so she again shifted targets. While tracking this new target, she passed two small northbound ships — one looked like a tug and the other resembled a tanker. Wahoo made a submerged approach and launched a torpedo at the medium-sized freighter. It was a miss. She fired again; still a miss, but this torpedo, probably broaching, exploded. The submarine surfaced and headed further out to

Within four days, twelve Japanese vessels were sighted; nine were hunted down and attacked to no avail. Ten torpedoes broached, made erratic runs, or were duds. In light of the poor torpedo performance, ComSubPac ordered *Wahoo* to return to base.

On 19 August, the submarine sighted a ship and commenced tracking, but she withheld she fire when her crew recognized the flag as Soviet (an ally of the United States at the time). Wahoo made for La Perouse Strait. The next day, she sighted a sampan and fired warning shots across the bow. When the sampan failed to stop, the submarine opened up on it with her

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20 mm and four-inch guns. The sampan was soon a wreck. Six Japanese fishermen surrendered and were taken on board as prisoners of war. Eight hours later, Wahoo opened fire on two more sampans, enveloping them in flames. Members of the crews jumped overboard but showed no desire to be rescued. Wahoo completed the passage of Etorofu Strait, and then arrived at Midway on 25 August. She immediately got underway for Pearl Harbor, and she arrived there on 29 August.

Seventh patrol, September – October 1943

-Morton, smarting from that last luckless patrol, asked to return to the Sea of Japan, and permission was granted. He elected to take a full load of the newly-arrived Mark 18 electric torpedo rather than chance the Mark 14 steam torpedoes might still be defective. Wahoo got underway from Pearl Harbor, topped off fuel and supplies at Midway on 13 September, and headed for La Perouse Strait. The plan was to enter the Sea of Japan first, on or about 20 September, with Sawfish following by a few days. At sunset on 21 October, Wahoo

was supposed to leave her assigned area, south of the 43rd parallel, and head for home. She was instructed to report by radio after she passed through the Kurils. Nothing further was ever heard from *Wahoo*.

On 5 October, the Japanese news agency Domei announced to the world that a steamer, the 8,000 long tons *Konron Maru*, was sunk by an American submarine off the west coast of Honshū nearTsushima Strait. with the loss of 544 lives. Postwar reckoning by JANAC showed Wahoo sank three other ships for 5,300 tons, making a patrol total of four ships of about 13,000 long tons. Japanese records also reported that on 11 October, the date Wahoo was due to exit through La Perouse Strait, an antisubmarine aircraft sighted a wake and an apparent oil slick from a submerged submarine. The Japanese initiated a combined air and sea attack with numerous depth charges throughout the day. Sawfish had been depth-charged by a patrol boat while transiting the strait two days before, and the enemy's antisubmarine forces were on the alert; their attacks apparently fatally

holed *Wahoo*, and she sank with all hands. Despite the assertions of Commander O'Kane, it is unlikely she was the victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Other speculation in some texts suggests that she may have struck a mine. She was declared overdue on 2 December 1943 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 6 December 1943

The loss of *Wahoo* caused profound shock in the submarine force. All further forays into the Sea of Japan ceased, and it was not breached again until June 1945, when special mine detecting equipment became available.

Wahoo earned six battle stars for World War II service.

The search for and locating of *Wahoo* -

Wahoo has long been believed to be resting in the Soya (La Pérouse) Strait between Hokkaidō, Japan and Sakhalin, Russia. Since 1995, the Wahoo Project Group (an international team of Americans, Australians, Japanese, and Russians, and led by a relative of Commander Morton) has been searching for her based on the available evi-

dence. Japanese Vice Admiral Kazuo Ueda, working with the Wahoo Project Group, examined the historical record and correctly predicted the location of Wahoo. In 2005, electronic surveys in the region yielded what turned out to be a U.S. *Gato*-class submarine in the Strait; in July, 2006, the Russian team "Iskra" investigated the site which contributed further evidence of location of Wahoo.

On 31 October 2006, the U.S. Navy confirmed that the images provided by the "Iskra" team are of *Wahoo*, the wreckage lying in about 213 ft of water in the La Pérouse (Soya) Strait.

On 8 July 2007, the U.S. Navy conducted a wreath-laying ceremony at sea for the crew of *Wahoo*. The ceremony was held on the confirmed site of the sinking of the submarine as a joint exercise with the Navy of the Russian Federation.

On 11 October 2007, the U.S. Navy held an official remembrance ceremony for the crew of *Wahoo*, conducted at the USS *Bowfin* Museum and Submarine Park at Pearl Harbor, and followed by a presentation

of the history of *Wahoo* search and discovery by the Wahoo Project Group.





Next Meeting is at October 27th Dinner at 1730 Meeting 1900

Halfway Night

Show
To benefit the
VFW to follow
our meeting so
stick around
and have some
fun!!!

Right—Skipper Mush Morton

Below—USS Wahoo



Answer to the Flag Trivia:

When Mississippi's Ordinance of Secession was signed on 9 January 1861, it was marked by a ceremony in which the 'Bonnie Blue Flag' was raised over the capitol building in Jackson. Among those who witnessed the event was an Irish comedian named Harry Macarthy, who shortly after wrote and performed the famous song, 'The Bonnie Blue Flag'.

Filip Van Laenen, 31 March 1998

A Toast to the Flag By John Jay Daly

Here's to the Red of itThere's not a thread of it, No nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it
From foot to head
But heroes bled for ti,
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it,
Bathing it Red.

Here's to the White of it-Thrilled by the sight of it, Who knows the right of it
But feels the might of it
Through day and night?
Womanhood's care for it
Made manhood dare for it;
Purity's pray'r for it
Keeps it so White!

Here's to the Blue of it—
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-Spangled dew of it,
Constant and true;
Diadems gleam for it,
States Stand Supreme for it,
Liberty's beam for it
Brightens the Blue!

Here's to Whole of It

Stars, stripes and pole of it,
Body and soul of it,
O, and the roll of it,
Sun shining through;
Hearts in accord for it
Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it,
Red, White, and
Blue!

Page 24 Piedmont Periscope

Piedmont Funnies Page

Supply by Steve Bell

Two brooms were hanging in the closet and after a while they got to know each other so well, they decided to get married.

One broom was, of course, the bride broom, the other the groom broom.

The bride broom looked very beautiful in her white dress. The groom broom was handsome and suave in his tuxedo. The wedding was lovely. After the wedding, at the wedding dinner, the bride-broom leaned over and said to the groombroom, I think I am going to have a little whisk broom!

"IMPOSSIBLE!" said the groom broom. "WE HAVEN'T EVEN SWEPT TOGETHER!"



From Jack Jeffries

WET PANTS

Come with me to a third grade classroom. There is a nine-year-old kid sitting at his desk and all of a sudden, there is a puddle between his feet and the front of his pants are wet. He thinks his heart is going to stop because he cannot possi-

bly imagine how this has happened. It's never happened before, and he knows that when the boys find out he will never hear the end of it. When the girls find out, they'll never speak to him again as long as he lives.

The boy believes his heart is going to stop; he puts his head down and prays this prayer, 'Dear God, this is an emergency! I need help now! Five minutes from now I'm dead meat.'

He looks up from his prayer and here comes the teacher with a look in her eyes that says he has been discovered. As the teacher is walking toward him, a class mate named Susie is carrying a goldfish bowl that is filled with water. Susie trips in front of the

trips in front of the teacher and inexplicably dumps the bowl of water in the boy's lap.

The boy pretends to be angry, but all the while is saying to himself, 'Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord!'

Now all of a sudden, instead of being the object of ridicule, the boy is the object of sympathy. The teacher rushes him downstairs and gives

him gym shorts to put on while his pants dry out. All the other children are on their hands and knees cleaning up around his desk. The sympathy is wonderful. But as life would have it, the ridicule that should have been his has been transferred to someone else - Susie.

000000000000000

Another one from Jack

At a wine merchant's warehouse the regular taster died, and the director started looking for a new one to hire.

A retired Chief Petty Officer, drunk and with a ragged dirty look, came to apply for the position. The director wondered how to send him away.

They gave him a glass of wine to taste.

The old Chief tried it and said, "It's a Muscat three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers. Low grade but acceptable."

"That's correct," said the boss. "Another glass, please."

"It's a cabernet, eight years old, south-western slope, oak barrels, ma-

tured at eight degrees. Requires three more years for finest results."

"Absolutely correct. A third glass."

"It's a pinot blanc champagne, high grade and exclusive," calmly said the drunk.

The director was astonished and winked at his secretary to suggest something. She left the room and came back in with a glass of urine.

The old Navy Chief tried it.

"It's a blonde, 26 years old, three months pregnant, and if I don't get the job, I'll name the father "

Jack's just full of them

SEX AFTER DEATH

A couple made a deal that whoever died first would come back and inform the other if there is sex after death. Their biggest fear was that there was no after life at all.

After a long life together, the husband was the first to die. True to his word, he made the first contact:

" Marion Marion "

"Is that you, Bob?"

"Yes, I've come back like we agreed."

"That's wonderful! What's it like?"

"Well, I get up in the morning, I have sex. I have breakfast and then it's off to the golf course. I have sex again, bathe in the warm sun and then have sex a couple of more times. Then I have lunch (you'd be proud lots of greens). Another romp around the golf course, then pretty much have sex the rest of the afternoon. After supper, it's back to golf course again. Then it's more sex until late at night. I catch some much needed sleep and then the next day it starts all over again"

"Oh, Bob! Are you in Heaven?"

"No -- I'm a rabbit somewhere in South Carolina."



The female dormitory will be out-of-bounds for all male students, so too the male dormitory to the female students. Anybody caught breaking this rule will be fined \$20 the first time. Anybody caught breaking this rule the second time

will be fined \$60. Being caught a third time will incur a hefty fine of \$180. Are there any questions?"

At this, a male student in the crowd inquires, "Er... How much for a season pass?"



A man who lived in a block of apartments thought it was raining and put his hand out the window to check. As he did so a glass eve fell into his hand. He looked up to see where it came from in time to see a young woman looking down. "Is this yours?" he asked. She said, "Yes, could you bring it up?" and the man agreed. On arrival she was profuse in her thanks and offered the man a drink. As she was very attractive he agreed. Shortly afterwards she said. "I'm about to have dinner. There's plenty, would you like to join me?" He readily accepted her offer and both enjoyed a lovely meal. As the evening was drawing to a close the lady said, "I've had a marvelous evening. Would you like to stay the night?" The man hesitated then said, "Do you act like this with every man you meet?" "No," she replied, "only

those who catch my eye."



A Short Beautify Love Story

A man and woman who had never met before, but who were both married to other people, found themselves assigned to the same sleeping room on a transcontinental train. Though initially embarrassed and uneasy over sharing a room, they were both very tired and fell asleep quickly, he in the upper bunk and she in the lower.

At 1:00 AM, the man leaned down and gently woke the woman saying, "Ma'am, I'm sorry to bother you, but would you be willing to reach into the closet to get me a second blanket? I'm a little chilly."

"I have a better idea," she replied, "being you're cold and I'm toasty warm, just for tonight let's pretend that we're married."

"Wow! That's a great idea!" he exclaimed.

"Good," she replied, "Get your own blanket!"

The End.



From Al Westberry

DIFFERENT WAYS OF LOOKING AT THINGS:

Two guys were discussing

popular family trends on sex, marriage, and family values.

Bill said, 'I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?'

Larry replied, 'I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?'

A little boy went up to his father and asked: 'Dad, where did my intelligence come from?'

The father replied, 'Well, son, you must have got it from your mother, cause I still have mine.'

'Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully,' the divorce Court Judge said, 'and I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week'

'That's very fair, your Honor,' the husband said. 'And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself.'

A doctor examining a woman who had been rushed to the Emergency Room, took the husband aside, and said, 'I don't like the looks of your wife at all.'

'Me neither doc,' said the husband. 'But she's a great cook and really good with the kids.'

Page 26 Piedmont Periscope

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)

The insignia of the U.S. submarine service is a submarine flanked by two dolphins. Dolphins, attendants to the Poseidon, Greek god of the sea and patron deity to sailors, are sometimes referred to as the sailor's friend. They were also chosen to represent the Submarine Service because of the characteristic way in which dolphins dive and surface. On 13 June 1923, Captain E. J. King, Commander, Submarine Division Three (later Fleet Admiral and Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, during WW II), suggested to the Secretary of the Navy via the Bureau of Navigation (now known as BuPers) that a distinguishing device for qualified submariners be adopted. He submitted a pen-and-ink sketch of his own showing a shield mounted on the beam ends of a submarine, with dolphins forward of, and abaft, the conning tower. The suggestion was strongly endorsed by Commander Submarine Division Atlantic. Over the next several months the Bureau of Navigation solicited additional designs from several sources. Some combined a submarine with a shark motif. Others showed submarines

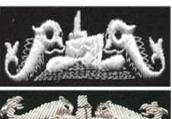
History of the Submarine Dolphins

and dolphins, and still others used a shield design. A Philadelphia firm, Bailey, Banks & Biddle (BB&B), which had done work in the field of Naval crests, was approached by the Bureau of Navigation with the request that it design a suitable badge. Two designs were submitted by the firm, one of which was the 1926 class crest from the Naval Academy. These two designs were combined into a single concept. It was a starboard angle on the bow view of an "O" class submarine, proceeding on the surface, with bow planes rigged for diving, flanked by dolphins in a horizontal position with their heads resting on the upper edge of the bow planes. On 20 March 1924, the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation recommended to the Secretary of the Navy that the design be adopted. The recommendation was accepted by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Acting Secretary of the Navy. His acceptance is dated March 1924. Today the original BB&B design is used by many manufactures without modification, while others choose to take some artistic license, especially in updating the class of submarine depicted.

The submarine insignia

was to be worn at all times by officers and men qualified in submarine duty attached to submarine units or organizations, ashore and afloat, and not to be worn by others. In 1941 the Uniform Regulations were modified to permit officers and men qualified who were eligible to wear the submarine insignia after they had been assigned to other duties in the naval service, unless such right had been revoked. The officers' insignia was a gold metal pin (gold plating over "sterling" silver, or bronze), worn centered above the left breast pocket and above the ribbons and medals. Enlisted men wore the insignia, embroidered in silk, white silk for blue clothing and blue silk for white clothing. This was sewn on the outside of the right sleeve, midway between the wrist and elbow. The device was two and three-quarters inches long. In 1943, the Uniform Regulations were modified to provide that: "Enlisted men, who are qualified and subsequently promoted to commissioned or warrant ranks, may wear enlisted submarine insignia on the left breast un-

til they qualify as submarine officers, at which time this insignia would be replaced by the officers' submarine pin." In mid-1947, the embroidered device shifted from the sleeve of the enlisted men's jumper to above the left breast pocket. On 21 September 1950, a change to the **Uniform Regulations** authorized officers the option of either a gold bullion embroidered sew -on insignia, or gold plated pin-on insignia. **Enlisted submariners** were given the option of either a silver bullion embroidered sew-on insignia, or a "sterling" silver (or silver plated), metal pin-on insignia for the dress uniform. This was in addition to the silk embroidered insignia sewn on the undress uniform.









Fun at Jack's Ranch





Above Left—Ron and Pat Busila traveled from Norfolk to attend the get together. **Above Right**—Cindy Pettit receives an award from SubVettes President Sandra Myers for all her hard work on SubVettes projects.

Center Left– Hal show off the model of the U2513 that he qualified on back in '46 while posing with Cmdr. Steve and John Rupertus. **Center Right**—The group sing-a-long at the tail end of the Halfway Night Show.

Bottom Left— The gals sing some Karaoke, what a night it was for singing we had fun!

Bottom Right— Linda Zieverink and Calvin Reese share the mic during a tune. Might be the same tune.













Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Base Mtg VFW— Halfway Nite Afterward
28	29	30	31 Head for Kings Bay	Nov 1 Kings Bay DUES!!!	2 Kings Bay	3 King Bay
4 Heading Home	5	6	7	8 Periscope Deadline	9	10
11	12 VFW meeting 1900 hrs	13	14	15	16	17 Base Mtg VFW
18	19	20	21	Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1 DUES!!!

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! -

