

Piedmont Periscope



Issue 1211

November 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.

The Kings Bay Memorial Service was a great time. The Kings Bay Base works well with the Navy resources that is made available. I was at one time an active member of the Kings Bay Base back in 2005 and 2006. They utilize the Navy for a lot of things. Many things the inland Bases depend on "pure volunteers" to for, the Navy steps up and provides assistance. Get it while you can.

The only problem that I heard about via one of our members, was a conflict between a certain coastal Base in South Carolina, who were very obnoxious after a few rounds, and a female



Lost Boats for November

"Sailors, rest your oars"

Kings Bay Report

MCPO.

Now we at the Carolina Piedmont Base treat our ladies with respect. They are involved with our Base as much as our Base members. Our SubVettes support us and we support them. And I believe in mixed company, as we were in at Kings Bay, that nothing should be said that you would not say in front of your wife, daughter, or granddaughter. But there was some foul language being used that should have been saved for the after battery or at least the engineroom.

There were wives of departed shipmates present. They did not need

to hear that kind of talk.

Maybe there should be a "cuss kitty" and every time a cuss word is said loud enough for the next table to hear it, that a dollar be place in it for the Scholarship Fund. Heck, that one Base could have funded some freshman a whole year at an Ivy League school.

Anyway, what a great Memorial Service, great Steak feed by the Goat Locker, and great Low Country Boil by the Fraternal Order of Eagles. And Thank You Kings Bay Base for putting this all together as you do each year. I know it takes coordination. I was there once. — Moe (SS)

USS CORVINA (SS 226)

USS SCULPIN (SS 191)

USS CAPELIN (SS 289)

USS ALBACORE (SS 218) November 7, 1944

USS GROWLER (SS 215) November 8, 1944

USS SCAMP (SS 277)

November 16, 1943

November 19, 1943

November 23, 1943

November 9, 1944

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CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



Seems like just yesterday I was writing the newsletter article up. That is what happens when you have a good time. And that is exactly what we did in Kings Bay this year. We did not have a large turnout from our base there, but will say we had two new couples show up. I think they both had a great time, but I am going to let them tell you about that at our next meeting. Speaking of our next meeting, it will be a week earlier in the month than normal. It will be on the 17th. The VFW will be putting on the dinner. Check in the newsletter for the notice

for the time. If you are there at our normal time, it will not hurt a thing. I think the **dinner is being served at 1800.** Cost is \$6. This is our way of letting the Post make a few bucks off of us. The same will happen in December, but the meal and cost of it may be different. Stay tuned for that one.

After my submission of this article, we are scheduled to attend a Veterans Day event at the Saluda Trail Middle School in Rock Hill, SC. We are honored that they invited us. This is kind of a "show and tell" event. So I am sure those attending can handle that. We also will do our first visit to the Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital in Concord, NC. That gives us three places to conduct our Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) pro-

gram. And we have a request in to try to get back to Levine Children's Hospital prior to the end of the year. We also have a couple of parades on Veterans Day weekend, one in Lexington, NC and one in Asheboro, NC. I hope I get to see some of my base members at these. They are always good, even though these might be a little on the cool side.

Since I am now your
District Commander as
well, I will be doing my
best to keep you up-todate on things happening
within USSVI. I will put
it out at the meetings
(which will show up in
the minutes) and also the
required District Commanders newsletter
(which will not even be
close to the quality of
this newsletter, information only) that I will be

putting out a few times a year.

A few things to keep in your mind for the near future. Next year is election year within our base. There will be a call for nominations in the early part of the year. If you are interested in an office, please let me know. Nominations will open early in the year, close around our March meeting, and the voting will be via e-mail and close prior to our April meeting so we can announce the winners. Those members will be sworn in at Burnsville in May. And speaking of Burnsville, another event to plan for. We will go into the winter before you know it and then coming out of it our parade season starts First parades are around St Patties Day. Try to get (con't on page 3)

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XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries



CAROLINA PIED-MONT ROCKS, this is has been a great month for us. We conducted the KAP(SS)4KID(SS) program with Jim and Liz Harris, at Victory Junction for the 3rd time this year. This was the 10th visit for us. We were also invited to participate in a program at Saluda Middle School in Rock Hill SC where the school was honoring veterans from all branches of the military. It was quite impressive with the presentation of the POW/MIA ceremony, Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of GOD BLESS THE USA by the school choir. Friday the 9th of

to some, you will be glad you did.
It is that time of year again to remind those that pay annual dues that 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

November we are scheduled to present the K4K program at Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital in Concord NC. As the Base Coordinator for the program, I would like to thank you for your contributions for this important program.

Now let me put on my membership chairman hat and remind you that if **you have not sent** in your dues, both Base and/or National dues we have until the 31st of December to get it to National, if they do not get it by the end of January they will drop you from the National roster.

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 send your dues to our Treasurer, Lee Hickerson. I want to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. If you travel, please be careful I do hope that all of

you have a wonderful weekend there. I am sure there are pounds to be gained just waiting for most of us. 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.

We are proud that we are able to hold base dues at \$10.00 per year, most Bases are \$15.00 or \$20.00.

Our base meeting this month is the 17th because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, the December meeting is also the 3rd Saturday, the 15th. This month the VFW will be providing the meal, this way we can pay them back in a small way for the use of their facility free of charge so please make this meeting if at all possible.

To all of our members and their families I want to wish each of you a safe and pleasant Holiday period.

Jack

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



November
17th
Dinner at
1800 hours!!

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Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes

Oct 27, 2012

1900- Meeting called to order by Commander Steve Bell. 28 members present.

Invocation given by Chaplain Ray Fritz.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Commander Bell.

Tolling of the Boats presented by Chaplain Fritz and COB Paul Myers.

Introduction of members present.

A special presentation of plaques presented to Subvettes and Subvets from Hampton Roads for our help with the Annual Convention.

The minutes from last meeting were approved and seconded as published in Piedmont Periscope.

Treasurers report was given. Balance on hand \$6137.70. Memorial Fund \$542.50. K4K fund \$1831.05. Scholarship fund \$110.65. Available funds \$3653.05. Approved and seconded.

Old Business- None

New Business- Commander Bell read the revision of Base By-Laws concerning eligibility of Association membership to conform with the National By Laws. Approved and seconded as read.

SK report given by Storekeeper Jeff Nieberding. He has many new patches available to order.

Good of the Order- Commander Steve Bell explained that he now has accepted the duty of District Commander of the South Eastern District One relieving Dick Kanning.

Jack Jeffries presented that the base has been invited to participate in Veterans Day celebration at Saluda Middle School in Rock Hill, SC 7 November. All members are invited to attend.

K4K presentation was announced by Jack Jeffries.

Base member Jim Harris and Subvettes Member Liz Harris were in attendance with Jack and Commander Bell for this the third presentation this year at Victory Junction. A letter explaining what it meant for their participation was read by Commander Bell.

There are two parades scheduled over the Veterans Day holiday, Lexington NC on 10 Nov and in Asheboro, NC on 11 Nov.

A report on the Autism Walk was presented by Commander Bell, donations collected for



this event totaled \$855.

Membership Chairman Jeffries stated that both National and Base dues are now due, please send dues to Treasurer Lee Hickerson, 8410 Clear Meadow Lane, Charlotte NC as soon as possible. Members not current by 31 January will be dropped from the National Roster.

Commander Bell read a letter of Thanks from the SSMC President Dale Moses thanking the Base for the donation of Base Challenge Coins as raffle prizes.

Members discussed changing the date of submitting the Scholarship Fund donation be forwarded at the end of year to coincide with our submitting of our report.

We discussed the new Tolling of the Boats brochure that National intends to make available.

The Base donated cash to the Subvettes base in the amount of \$206.00 that was collected at the meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Joel Tuchfeld.

2015-**Benediction** presented by Chaplain Fritz. Motion to adjourn-seconded Jack Jeffries for Mike Hubbell





New members

Welcome Aboard

Joel Sparnon— Joel qualified on the USS Pargo SSN-650 in 1993 and lives in Mooresville, NC with his wife Karen. We welcome you both to the Carolina Piedmont Base.

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



Saluda Trail Middle School Veterans Program

Steve Bell, Jack Jeffries, Walt Sealy, and Ray Fritz were at the Saluda Trail Road Middle School for their annual Veterans program from 0830 until 1330. They even provided us with a very good meal in the cafeteria. (see picture on Page 20).

We met many great young people who will perhaps serve in the military someday. I know that whenever I am able to attend one of these special events I am encouraged by the young people that we meet. These bright young people are the future of this country.

Americans have reelected President Obama to a 2nd term

The apostle Paul in his letter to young Timothy urges Timothy and other followers of Christ to pray for those who are in positions of leadership.



We must be in prayer for President Obama, his administration, and for the members of Congress. They face enormous challenges in this country and abroad. The prayers of the people are important to them and to the future of this great country.

1 Timothy 2:1-6 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time of the year. If you look in the stores it looks like 'the Forgotten Holiday.' There is very little commercial value in Thanksgiving. It is difficult to make a profit off thanksgiving! There are some things like decorations but not much else other than turkeys. Stores clear the shelves of Halloween 'stuff' and immediately fill them with Christmas 'stuff.' But don't despair! Thanksgiving isn't about 'stuff' it's about being thankful. Let us all be thankful for the bountiful blessings we have received at the hand of the Lord!



Lincoln's 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation that follows is taken from the collection of Lincoln's papers in the Library of America series, Vol II, pp. 520-521. The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties. which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the everwatchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been

To contact for
Your Chaplain
needs —
Chaplain Ray at
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preserved with all nations,

order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle, or the ship; the axe had enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American People.

I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And. I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace,

harmony, tranquility and Union.

Alraham Lencoln

May God's richest blessings be upon you, your family, and your loved ones and may your home and hearts be truly filled with thanksgiving.

Hurricane Sandy Rick Petitt is in NY helping the recovery efforts. Remember him and others who are with him in prayer.

him in prayer.

Our thoughts and prayers are for those who are still suffering the ravages of hurricane Sandy. We must not only pray for them, but donate to the Red Cross or other charitable organizations, such as the Salvation Army, Samaritan's purse, churches, etc. that are working with the people in need. (con't on pg 20)

From the COB



Retirement life is really great. We went to Kings Bay and a great time was had by all. I even met a World War II vet who remembered my Dad on the Thornback, wow what a small world. Sandra and I will be going to the VA in Johnson City, TN to deliver the supplies for winter to our homeless Vets. Hope to see you soon shipmates. Happy Thanksgiving to All— Paul Myers, COB



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Pat Busila
Glenn Harris
National Chaplin Ray Fritz



November

John Wallace 11/11

Anna Tuchfeld 11/12

Raymond Zieverink 11/16

Charles Cross 11/19

Marvin Beaver 11/20

Glenna Hubbel 11/21

Ron Hatley 11/29



"Do the best you can, and don't take life too serious."

- Will Rogers

November

Betty Carol and Torrance Adams 11/10

Cindy and Rick Petitt - 11/13





SubVettes—President Sandra Myers

Hello Sassy Sisters,
I hope this finds all
healthy and happy. I
know many of us
have family and
friends up north and I
pray that they are doing much better.
There will be no
cooking for us ladies
at the November or
December meetings.
The meal will be provided by the VFW as
fund raiser for them.

Please do not forget your secret sister; recruiters; candy for the USS North Carolina; and socks and throws for Operation Warmth to be sent around December 1st.

We just got back from the Kings Bay Memorial and I must say it was a very good time you

should think about going next year. The Kings Bay group treated everyone with much respect and kindness I really

felt honored to have got to be a part of that event. Take care and may God Bless You and Yours. -Love Sandra



Penne with Chicken and Asparagus

Ingredients:

1 (16 ounce) package dried penne pasta (choose whole grain if possible)

5 tablespoons olive oil, divided 2 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves - cut into cubes

salt and pepper to taste garlic powder to taste

1/2 cup low-sodium chicken broth 1 bunch slender asparagus spears, trimmed, cut on diagonal into 1-inch

pieces

1 clove garlic, thinly sliced 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese

Directions:

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to boil. Add pasta, and cook until al dente, about 8 to 10 minutes. Drain, and set aside.

Warm 3 tablespoons olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Stir in chicken, and season with salt, pepper, and garlic powder. Cook until chicken is cooked through and browned, about 5 minutes. Remove chicken to paper towels.

Pour chicken broth into the skillet. Then stir in asparagus, garlic, and a pinch more garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Cover, and steam until the asparagus is just tender, about 5 to 10 minutes. Return chicken to the skillet, and warm through.

Stir chicken mixture into pasta, and mix well. Let sit about 5 minutes. Drizzle with 2 tablespoons olive oil, stir again, then sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

Nutritional Information: Servings Per Recipe: 8

Amount Per Serving: Calories: 332, Total Fat: 10.9g, Cholesterol: 20mg, Sodium: 117mg, Total Carbs:

43.3g, Dietary Fiber: 3.1g, Protein: 16.7g



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VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

Deadline for

the next issue of the Piedmont Periscope will be December 6th. Please have all items to Moe(SS) at ppeditor@ carolina.rr.com by then.

Your Veteran News From the RAQ Bulletin

South Carolina DOR Data Breach: State and federal officials confirmed to WLTX, The Greenville News, and USA TODAY that one of the South Carolina Department of Revenue's servers was hacked by someone in a foreign country. The agency is responsible for 32 separate state taxes, licenses, and your state income tax returns, and that contains South Carolina resident's information. The first breach occurred on August 27, 2012 in which allegedly no information was taken at that time On 10 OCT the SC Division of Information Technology informed the Dept. of Revenue of a potential cvber attack. On 16 OCT investigators uncovered two attempts to probe the system from September. In mid-September, two other intrusions occurred, and the hacker got data for the first time. The extent of the breach was massive: an estimated 3.6 million Social Security numbers and 387,000 credit and debit card numbers were exposed. Just 16,000 of these credit card numbers were not encrypted: however, none of the

Social Security numbers For perspective, there are almost 4.7 million South Carolinians, according to the 2012 U.S. Census, meaning three out of four people's Social Security numbers were compromised. State Law Enforcement **Division Chief Mark** Keel told WLTX that this is one of the biggest investigations he has ever been a part of in his career. They have been working to secure taxpayers information. The state is offering credit counseling to those affected. Anyone who has paid taxes since 1998 should call 1-866-578-5422. The phone line is busy, but keep trying, you will get through and the process takes about 10 minutes. Alternately, you can request an access code to use at http:// www.protectmyid.com/ scdor. Mandiant, a top information security company, says they are assisting in the investigation. They are also helping to secure the state's system, and are installing new equipment and software. Meanwhile, Governor Nikki

Haley promised action

against the person re-

sponsible. "I want that

man just brutalized," she said. "I want him slammed against the wall." Haley issued an executive order where she outlines areas where she wants the state's cyber security to improve. According to the state Inspector General at present there are no mandatory standards for information security in the state. Only recommended policies which are optional for state departments to use. The WLTX news clip can be viewed at http:// www.wltx.com/news/ article/206768/2/Hacker-Takes-Millions-of-SC-Citizens-Personal-Info. [Source: WLTX News Report 26 Oct 2012 ++] **ROA Editors Note:** The IG and GAO have repeatedly issued similar reports on government agencies warning of weaknesses in our nation's Data security systems. The public has no control over protecting themselves from Identity theft occurring in these agencies and little recourse in recouping losses that could result from unauthorized release of their personal data/financial records. If

the government cannot guarantee protection, imagine the weaknesses that exist in your banking and credit institution's security systems. Readers who have not yet obtained identity theft insurance are advised to do so A number of companies providing this coverage can be found on the internet. One, "Lifelock" offers a 25% discount to the military community.

GI Bill Update 130:

Sergeant Hayleigh Perez deployed to Iraq in January 2007 and returned back to Fort Bragg. North Carolina after a 15 month tour. She was honorably discharged in 2009, although her husband is still on active duty. Following her discharge, she decided to use her GI Bill benefits as a veteran to go to school. Perez enrolled in University of North Carolina, Pembroke. The university then told her that she did not qualify for in-state tuition rates. The Post 9/11 GI Bill only covers in-state tuition and the difference has to be made up out-of -pocket by the veteran. In-state tuition ranges from \$1,500 to \$3,700

while out-of-state students pay \$10,000 to \$20,000. One of the criteria that UNC uses to determine residency status is income tax filings. Because Perez had been a stay at home mom, she didn't have any recent NC income tax returns. She and her husband owned a house near Fayetteville and had been paying property tax, even when he was stationed with the Army in Texas. But because she was originally from Iowa and paid her state income taxes there during her military service. North Carolina won't recognize her as a resident.

Sergeant Perez and her husband have been living in North Carolina for the last seven years, are registered to vote and own a home there. That wasn't enough. The university said in a statement that the law, North Carolina G.S. 116-143.1, mandates specific criteria for determining whether a person may be considered a resident for tuition purposes. "The actual determination of residency is a complex legal matter," the university said. "It is the student's responsibility to provide the documentation necessary to support

his or her claims for instate residency for tuition purposes by the applicable deadlines. Supporting documents should show evidence of the student's physical presence in North Carolina for the requisite amount of time and creation of his or her domicile in North Carolina" Perez was given the opportunity to appeal the decision to the State Residency Committee. The committee upheld the university's decision that she was a nonresident. "I'm an American and I served our great country," she said. "My husband continues to serve and I don't have a state of residency if North Carolina is not considering me a resident"

Hers is not an isolated case. So far the Student Advocacy Group, that assists veterans has helped 32 veterans appeal their residency status with the University of North Carolina. However, there had been a movement in North Carolina to automatically grant in-state tuition status to illegals. In North Carolina, an estimated 1,500 illegal immigrants graduate each year from public high schools. But they cannot receive in-state tuition at public universities. But there has been a movement from within the state's university system to change

that. In 2007, UNC President Erskine Bowles said that illegal immigrants already are in the state and that creating another permanent underclass is not the right thing to do. Also, Chancellor James Moeser supports their success, saying, it's in the interest of the state to educate all of the people who live here to their highest potential. "They are honor students. In some cases, they are valedictorian(s) of our high schools," Moeser said. "Are we going to deprive this intellectual talent?"

Currently, thirteen states do offer illegal students in-state tuition rates. The move to grant illegals instate residency status has been blocked by the state's Republicans and now seems dead. In response to SGT Perez's claims, UNC Pembroke Chancellor, Dr. Kyle Carter issued a statement 22 OCT saying "On the issue of illegal immigrants: The University of North Carolina (UNC) is not considering giving illegal immigrants instate tuition benefits. UNCP complies with all applicable laws and does not treat undocumented

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VETERANS NEWS by the RAQ Bulletin

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



students as residents for tuition purposes. No change to that policy is being considered" North Carolina is home to a number of military bases including Marine Corps Base Camp Lajeune, Pope Air Force Base and Fort Bragg, home of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division and US Army Special Operations Command. Thousands of Soldiers Marines, Sailors and Airmen have deployed to combat from these bases while leaving their families behind. North Carolina has suffered 177 heroes killed in action since the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. It is little comfort that after their sacrifices, at least our servicemen and women have the same status as illegal aliens in the University of North Carolina. [Source: Examiner.com | Joseph Gilbert | 22 Oct 2012 + +1

Telemarketing Call Elimination Update 10: The U.S. Federal Trade Commission is challenging the public to create

an innovative solution

that will block illegal

commercial robocalls on land lines and mobile phones. As part of its ongoing campaign against these prerecorded telemarketing calls, the agency is offering a \$50,000 prize for the best technical solution. [FTC challenges innovators to do battle with robocallers. FTC news release, Oct 18, 2012] http:// www.ftc.gov/ opa/2012/10/ robocalls3.shtm. The FTC is also working with industry insiders and other experts to identify potential solutions. However, current technology still allows shady telemarketers to cheaply autodial thousands of phone calls every minute and display false or misleading caller ID information. Among these are the notoriously annoving calls from "Rachel from Cardholder Services." http:// www.ftc.gov/videolibrary/index.php/forconsumers/scam-watch/ robocalls:-all-therage/1910213405001? page=18 Since 1 SEP 2009, the only legal sales robocalls are ones that consumers have stated in writing that they want to receive. Political calls, survey calls, and charitable calls remain legal and are not

covered by the 2009 ban. Large-scale commercial robocalls typically involve financial fraud but can also become a colossal nuisance to the vast majority of recipients who reject what is offered. The FTC advises consumers who receive such calls to hang up rather than pressing a number offered to supposedly stop further calls. So far, the FTC has brought 12 enforcement actions, collected \$5.6 million in penalties, and shut down companies responsible for more than 2 billion illegal calls. For more information about the FTC's robocall initiatives refer to http://www.ftc.gov/ robocalls. [Source: Consumer

[Source: Consumer Health Digest #12-36 Ot 18 2012 ++]

HMS Ambush: The British launched the world's most sophisticated and powerful nuclear submarine 5 January 2011. The HMS Ambush, the second of seven planned Astute class submarines, cost one billion dollars to build. She weighs 7400 tons, is 291ft long, as wide as four doubledecker buses, and 12 storey's high. Some of her unique features are:

☐ Carries 38 Tomahawk cruise missiles capable of hitting targets 1,200 miles away ☐ Her sonar can detect vessels moving 3,000 miles away on the other side of the ocean ☐ Powerful nuclear reactor allows her to cruise non-stop for 25 years ☐ Her propellers are said to make less noise than a baby dolphin — making her virtually undetectable to enemy vessels. \square She is able to make oxygen and fresh water from seawater, to keep the crew of 103 alive in time of crisis. ☐ Her nuclear-powered engine will propel her through the water at more than 20 knots. ☐ She is so hi-tech the giant submarine doesn't even need a periscope Ambush also has a more human side. One of the benefits of the submarines being so much bigger than their predecessors is that the crew will be the first in the Navy to have their own beds. Submariners at present work round the clock and have to "hot bunk", or share a bed with someone on the opposite shift pattern, one sleeping while the other one works. But conditions are still hardly luxurious. The captain is the only man who has his own

room and wash-hand basin. The bunks for everyone else are stacked three high, with the middle bed the favored choice - the top one is harder to get in to and the bottom one means being close to people's feet, which after 90 days without fresh air is not a desirable place to be. Each submariner has one small locker to keep all his worldly goods in during the 10 week tours. There are five showers and five toilets for the sailors. The new design a huge improvement, but it will still be a special kind of person who can live on a submarine.[Source: Various 4 Oct 2012 ++] **COLA 2013 Update 02:** Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for nearly 62 million Americans will increase **1.7 percent** in 2013, the Social Security Administration announced 16 OCT. The 1.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits that more than 56 million Social Security beneficiaries receive in January 2013. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2012. Some other changes that

take effect in January of



each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$113,700 from \$110,100. Of the estimated 163 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2013, nearly 10 million will pay higher taxes as a result of the increase in the taxable maximum Information about Medicare changes for 2013, when announced, will be available at http:// www.Medicare.gov. For some beneficiaries, their Social Security increase may be partially or completely offset by increases in Medicare premiums. The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated at http:// www.socialsecurity.gov/ cola. [Source: SSA Fact Sheet http:// www.socialsecurity.gov/

pressoffice/factsheets/e

HAPPY THANKSGIV-ING To All Our Readers And Remember Our Sailors and All our Troops That are away from Home this Thanksgiving Protecting <u>US</u> While we Enjoy Our Freedom. I remember being at Sea during this time of year, do you?

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Lost Boats— USS Growler SS 215



USS Growler (SS-215), a Gato-class submarine, was the third ship of the United States Navy named for the growler, a large-mouth black bass. Her keel was laid down by the Electric Boat Company of Groton, Connecticut. She was launched on 2 November 1941 (sponsored by Mrs. Robert L. Ghormley), and commissioned on 20 March 1942 with Lieutenant Commander Howard W Gilmore in command.

First patrol (June – July 1942) - Growler's first war patrol began 29 June 1942 as she cleared Pearl Harbor for her assigned patrol area around Dutch Harbor, Alaska; topping off at Midway Island on 24 June she entered her area on 30 June. Five days later she saw her first action; sighting three destroyers. Growler closed them submerged, launched her torpedoes and then surfaced. Her torpedoes struck the first two targets amidships putting them out of action, and hit the third in the bow but not before that target had launched two torpedoes at Growler. As the Japanese torpedoes "swished down each side", Growler dived deep, but no depth charges followed. The Japanese destroyer Arare was sunk, and the other two Kasumi and Shiranui were severely damaged. Growler completed her patrol without finding any more targets, and on 17 July berthed at Pearl Harbor.

Second patrol (August - September 1942) - On 5 August 1942 Growler began her second and most successful war patrol, entering her area near Taiwan on 21 August. Two days later she conducted a submerged night attack on a freighter, surfacing to give chase when both torpedoes ran under the target and failed to explode; the freighter's quick exit into shallow waters prevented Growler's gun attack. Patrolling amidst a large fishing fleet on 25 August, Growler sighted and fired at a large passenger freighter but all three torpedoes missed; after a three-hour depth charge attack, in which some 53 "ash cans" were dropped. Growler surfaced and almost immediately spotted a convoy.

After two hours of maneuvering, she failed to catch up with the main body of the convoy but did fire at and sink an ex -gunboat, Senvo Maru. No more ships appeared in this immediate area for three days, so Growler shifted to the east side of the island. First to fall victim was Eifuku Maru, a 5,866 ton cargo ship, which Growler sank within 40 minutes of first sighting her 31 August. On 4 September Growler sank Kashino, a 10,360 ton supply ship; three days later she sent two torpedoes into the 2,204 ton cargo ship Taika Maru, which broke in half and sank in two minutes. On 15 September Growler cleared her patrol area. and arrived back at Pearl 30 September.

Third patrol (October – December 1942) -

During refitting, new surface radar was installed, as well as a new 20 mm gun; thus equipped, Growler sailed from Hawaii for her new patrol area in the Solomon Islands across the key Truk-Rabaul shipping lanes. Her patrol area in these days of bitter fighting over Guadal-canal was almost continually covered by en-

emy planes and only eight enemy ships were sighted with no chance for attack. Growler cleared the area 3 December and arrived in Brisbane, Australia, on 10 December.

Fourth patrol (January - February 1943) - 1 January 1943 saw Growler sail from Brisbane. Entering her patrol area, again athwart the Truk-Rabaul shipping lanes, on 11 January, she waited only five days before sighting an enemy convoy. Maneuvering inside the escorts, Growler launched two torpedoes and saw them hit; then, as her war diary reports, she was in the unfortunate predicament of being about 400 yards from the destroyer and had to dive without being able to continue the attack. She was credited with sinking Chifuku Maru, a passenger/cargo ship. The patrol continued as normal with two further attacks, but no sinkings until shortly after 01:00 7 February when Growler stealthily approached a gunboat for a night surface attack. The small fast ship suddenly turned to ram. Unable to avoid the collision, Gilmore ordered

left full rudder and all ahead flank, and rammed the enemy amidships at 17 knots, bending Growler's bow 18 feet to the port side. As machine gun fire raked them at pointblank range, Commander Gilmore ordered the bridge cleared. As the commanding officer, Gilmore was the last to leave the bridge, but was grievously wounded before he could get below. Realizing that he was jeopardizing his boat's escape, he ordered "Take her down!". The XO, Lt Cdr. Schade, shut the hatch and dived the boat. By saving his command at the expense of his own life, Gilmore became one of the seven World War II submariners to earn the Medal of Honor. A seaman and another officer also lost their lives in this incident Severely damaged but still under control. Growler returned to Brisbane under command of her executive

officer (the "exec" or

mander Arnold F.

"XO"), Lieutenant Com-

Schade; she docked 17

February for extensive

repairs. Following the

nicknamed the Kanga-

roo Express, as the re-

fabricated bow had two

refit, the submarine was

nickel kangaroos as decorations.

Fifth, sixth, and seventh patrols - Growler's fifth, sixth, and seventh patrols, out of Brisbane to the Bismarck-Solomons area, were relatively uneventful, heavy enemy air cover and a lack of targets resulted in her coming home emptyhanded from all but the fifth, on which she sank the passenger/cargo ship Miyadono Maru. The seventh patrol was marred by trouble with the storage battery and generators, and on 27 October 1943, only 11 days out of Brisbane, she was ordered to Pearl Harbor (arriving 7 November) and from there to the Navy Yard at Hunter's Point, California, for an extensive overhaul and refitting. Eighth patrol (February –

April 1944) - Returning to the Pacific, on 21 February 1944, Growler departed Pearl Harbor, and after refueling at Midway Island, headed for her patrol area. However, a week out of Midway Island a typhoon's high seas and wind delayed her arrival to the patrol area. Once on station. Growler was again plagued by violent weather which made even periscope observation almost impossible. Growler returned to Majuro on 16 April

Ninth patrol (May – July 1944) - The submarine departed Majuro 14 May to

take up patrol in the Mariana Islands-Eastern Philippine Islands-Luzon area, where the first stages of the attack on the Mariana Islands and the Battle of the Philippine Sea were getting underway. Rendezvousing with Bang (SS-385) and Seahorse (SS -304) to form a wolfpack, she continued the patrol closing several targets but achieving firing position only once, when she sank the cargo vessel Katori Maru.

Tenth patrol (August -September 1944) - Her tenth patrol, out of Pearl Harbor on 11 August, found her in a new wolf pack, nicknamed "Ben's Busters" after Growler's skipper, Commander T.B. ("Ben") Oakley; in company with Sealion (SS-315) and Pampanito (SS-383), she headed for the Formosa Straits area. Aided greatly by reconnaissance and guidance from friendly aircraft, the wolf pack closed a convoy for night surface action 31 August; their torpedoes plunged the Japanese into chaos, with their own ships shooting at each other in the dark, but no sinkings were reported. Two weeks later, 12 September, the wolf pack sighted a second convoy and closed for torpedo action. A destroyer spotted Growler and attacked her, but the sub calmly fired a

spread of torpedoes at the oncoming destroyer. Heavily damaged by the torpedoes. the flaming destroyer bore down on Growler and only adroit maneuvering took the submarine out of the enemy's way; paint on the bridge was seared by the heat of the passing destroyer. Meantime Growler's other torpedoes and those of Sealion and Pampanito were hitting the convoy, and when Ben's Busters returned to Fremantle on 26 September, they were credited with a total of six enemy ships. Growler had sunk the destroyer Shikinami and the Japanese frigate Hirado; her companions also racked up two kills each. One of the sunken vessels was transporting Allied prisoners of the Japanese: the three submarines rescued over 150 Allied prisoners. This difficult operation had been carried out despite rough seas caused by an approaching typhoon.

Eleventh patrol (October – November 1944) - Growler's 11th and final war patrol began out of Fremantle on 20 October 1944 in a wolf pack with Hake (SS-256) and Hardhead

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(SS-365). On 8 November the wolf pack, again headed by Growler, closed a convoy for attack, with Growler on the opposite side of the enemy from Hake and Hardhead. The order to commence attacking was the last communication ever received from Growler. After the attack was underway, Hake and Hardhead heard what sounded like a torpedo explosion and then a series of depth charges on Growler's side of the convoy, and then nothing. All efforts to contact Growler for the next three days proved futile. The gallant submarine, veteran of seven successful war patrols, was listed as lost in action against the enemy, cause unknown. Possibly she was sunk by one of her own torpedoes, but it is probable that the convoy's escort, destroyer Shigure, and kaibokan (frigates) Chiburi and CD-19 sank her.

Growler received eight battle stars for her service in World War II.-Source Wikipedia.

Pictures: Growler underway; Growler after ramming; Growler's Ships Patch—Source Wikpedia.







The Black Telephone
(Supplied by Jack
Jeffries)

When I was a young boy, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall. The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was "Information Please" and there was nothing she did not know. Information Please could supply anyone's number and the correct time.

My personal experience with the genie-in-abottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer, the pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy. I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger. finally arriving at the stairway. The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up, I unhooked the receiver in the parlor and held it to my ear.

"Information, please" I said into the mouthpiece just above my head.

A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear.

"Information."

"I hurt my finger..." I wailed into the phone, the tears came readily enough now that I had an audience.

"Isn't your mother home?" came the question.

"Nobody's home but me," I blubbered.

"Are you bleeding?" the voice asked.

No, "I replied. "I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts"

"Can you open the icebox?" she asked.

I said I could.

"Then chip off a little bit of ice and hold it to your finger," said the voice.

After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked her for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math.

She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before, would eat fruit and nuts. Then, there was the time, Petey, our pet canary, died. I called, Information Please," and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was not consoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?"

She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, "Wayne, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in."

Somehow I felt better.

Another day I was on the telephone, "Information Please."

Information," said in the now familiar voice.
"How do I spell fix?" I asked.

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest. When I was

nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much.

"Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home and I Somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me.

Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about a half-hour or so between planes. I spent 15 minutes or so, on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking what I was doing, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information Please."

Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well. "Information"

I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying, "Could you please tell me how to spell fix?" There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, "I guess your finger must have healed by now."

I laughed, "So it's really you," I said. "I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?"

I wonder," she said, "if you know how much your call meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls."

I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and I asked if I could call her again when I came back to visit my sister.

"Please do", she said.
"Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered, "Information." I asked for Sally.

"Are you a friend?" she said.

"Yes, a very old friend," I answered.

"I'm sorry to have to tell you this, "She said.
"Sally had been working part time the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago."

Before I could hang up, she said, "Wait a minute;

(Con't on Page 20)

Next Meeting
is at
November
17th

Dinner at 1800 Meeting 1900

Spaghetti Dinner prepared by VFW Ladies Auxiliary at the cost of \$6.00 per person

Answer to the Flag Trivia:

This is the State flag of Michigan. The name Michigan is the French form of the Ojibwa word mishigamaa, meaning "large water" or "large lake". Michigan is the 8th most populous of the 50 United States, with the 11th most extensive total area. Its capital is Lansing, and the largest city is Detroit. Michigan was admitted into the Union on January 26, 1837, as the 26th state.

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Piedmont Funnies Page

Mother Superior was on her way to late morning prayers when she passed two novices just leaving early morning prayers on their way to classes.

As she passed the young ladies, Mother Superior said, "Good morning, sisters."

The novices replied,
"Good morning, Mother
Superior, may God be
with you."

But after they had passed, Mother Superior heard one say to the other, "I think she got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning."

This startled Mother Superior, but she chose not to pursue the issue.

A little further down the hall, Mother Superior passed two older sisters who had been teaching at the convent for several years. She greeted them with, "Good morning, Sister Martha, Sister Jessica, may God give you the wisdom for our students today."

"Good morning, Mother Superior. Thank you and may God be with you."

But again after passing, Mother Superior overheard, "She got up on the wrong side of the bed today."

Baffled, she started to wonder if she had spoken harshly or with an irritated look on her face. She vowed to be more pleasant.

Looking down the hall, Mother Superior saw retired Sister Mary approaching, step by step, with her walker. As Sister Mary was rather deaf. Mother Superior had plenty of time to arrange a pleasant smile on her face before greeting Sister Mary. "Good morning, Sister Mary, I'm so happy to see you up and about. I pray God watches over you today, and grants you a wonderful day."

"Ah, good morning, Mother Superior, I see you got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning."

Mother Superior was floored! "Sister Mary, what have I done wrong? I have tried to be pleasant but three times already today people have said that about me."

Sister Mary stopped her walker and faced Mother Superior. "Oh, don't take it personally, Mother Superior. It's just that you're wearing Father Murphy's slippers."

From Walt Sealy:

Young People forget that we old people had a career before we retired

Charley, a new retireegreeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharpminded and a real credit to the Company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you finally get here; but your being late so often is quite bothersome."

Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it."

"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear".

"Yes sir, I understand your concern and I will try harder".

Seeming puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up in the morning late so often?"

The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled. He chuckled quietly, then said with a grin, "They usually saluted and said, Good morning, Admiral, can I get your coffee, sir"?

TRUST A PILOT (from Al Westberry)

During a commercial airline flight an Air Force Pilot was seated next to a young mother with a baby in her arms. When the baby began crying during the descent for landing, the mother began nursing the infant as discreetly as possible. The pilot pretended not to notice and. upon disembarking, he gallantly offered his assistance to help with the various baby-related items.

When the young mother expressed her gratitude, the pilot responded, "You have a beautiful baby... and he sure was hungry!"

Somewhat embarrassed, the mother explained that her pediatrician said that the time spent on the breast would help alleviate the pressure in the baby's ears.

One day, in line at the company cafeteria, Joe says to Mike, "My elbow hurts like hell. I guess I'd better see a doctor."

"Listen, you don't have to spend that kind of money!" Mike replies. "There's a diagnostic computer down at Costco. Just give it a urine sample and the computer will tell you what's wrong and what to do about it. It takes ten seconds and costs ten dollars. It's lot cheaper than a doctor."

So, Joe deposits a urine sample in a small jar and takes it to Costco. He deposits ten dollars and the computer lights up and asks for the urine sample. He pours the sample into the slot and waits. Ten seconds later, the computer ejects a printout:

"You have tennis elbow. Soak your arm in warm water and avoid heavy activity. It will improve in two weeks. Thank you for shopping at Costco."

That evening, while thinking how amazing this new technology was, Joe began wondering if the computer could be fooled.

He mixed some tap water, a stool sample from his dog, urine samples from his wife and daughter, and a sperm sample from himself for good measure.

Joe hurries back to Costco, eager to check the results. He deposits ten dollars, pours in his concoction, and awaits the results.

The computer prints the following:

- 1. Your tap water is too hard. Get a water softener. (Aisle 9)
- 2. Your dog has ringworm. Bathe him with anti-fungal shampoo. (Aisle 7)
- 3. Your daughter has a cocaine habit. Get her into rehab.
- 4. Your wife is pregnant. Twins. They aren't yours. Get a lawyer.
- 5. If you don't stop playing with yourself, your elbow will never get better.

Thank you for shopping at Costco!

Provided by Al Westberry

A farmer was sitting on his porch one day when a young man drives up and comes to the door. "Sir, I was driving by and noticed you had a lot of milkweed in your pasture.

Would you mind if I went out and got some milk?"

"You don't get milk from milkweed!" the farmer replied.

"Oh yes," said the young man, "I have a degree in Agriculture from Texas A&M, I know all about it."

"Well, help yourself," said the farmer.

He soon saw the young man coming back to his car with two buckets full of milk.

The next day the farmer was again sitting on his porch when the same young man drove up. "Sir, yesterday when I was getting milk, I noticed you had some honeysuckle vine on the fence row. I wondered if you would mind if I got some honey?"

"You don't get honey from honeysuckle!" said the farmer. Again, the young man explained about his degree from A&M, so the farmer agreed to let him collect some honey. Soon the young man came back to his car with two buckets full of honey.

The next day the same young man drove up to the farmer's house. "Sir, yesterday when I was getting the honey, I noticed you had some pussy willow trees down by the creek."

The farmer said, "Let me get my shoes and I'll go with you!"

Provided by Steve Bell:

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

The Duty Continuation Page

(Con't from page 17)

did you say your name was Wayne?" "Yes." I answered.

Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called. Let me read it to you." The note said, "Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean."

I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant. Never underestimate the impression you may make on others. Whose life have you touched today? May you find the joy and peace you long for. Life is a journey. NOT a guided tour.

(Chaplain Ray from page 8)

You gift will make a difference.

Even in the midst of these things we have hope that God is in control even if we don't understand.

God's Words to those who

God's Words to those who will listen are these...

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.

God wants us to have a future and a hope. The only thing that stands in His way is our disobedience and our unthankfulness for the great things He has done.

Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, so that they may turn

from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' Happy Thanksgiving!

Chaplain Ray



Things that ruin a submariner's day



Thus ending the midwatch quick-draw competition.

Ray Fritz, Walt Sealy, Jack Jeffries, and Steve Bell participated at the salute to Veterans program at the Saluda Middle School in Rock Hill. There were about 850 students that honored the Vets during the program.



Next Meeting
is at
November
17th

Dinner at 1800
Meeting 1900
Spaghetti Dinner prepared
by VFW Ladies Auxiliary
at the cost of
\$6.00/person







Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11	VFW meeting 1900 hrs	13	14	15	16	17 Base Mtg VFW Dinner
18	19	20	21	Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1 DUES!!!
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Nat Greene Base Pearl Harbor Re- membrance Dinner
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Base Mtg VFW Dinner
16	17	18	19	20	21	22

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! -

