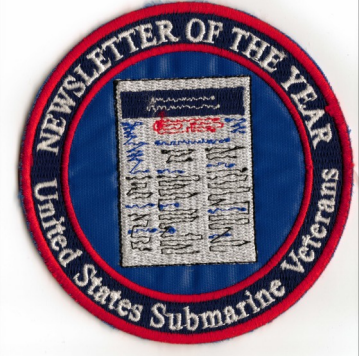


Piedmont Periscope



Piedmont Periscope

April 2013

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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.

On April 16th I got a chance to present our Base's Flag Etiquette program to about 30 Cub Scouts, Scout leaders, and some parents of Cub Scout Pack 1. Pack 1's Charter organization is the Holy Comforter Episcopal Church located on Park Rd. Their Cubmaster is Quincy Acklen. I was contacted by Jeff Williams-Tracy.

The group was a little younger than I usually present to, but well mature for their age and receive the material well. As usual, I get a little "long winded" (no not Moe(SS)) and had to hurry at the end, but



Lost Boats for April

"Sailors, rest your oars"

FLAG ETIQUETTE

overall I think they enjoyed the presentation.

I have been giving these presentations since 1995 and I truly enjoy talking to the kids of all ages when I present this program. That includes "kids" in the Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, etc. This program is availability to all area groups, so if your youth group at your church needs a speaker, or your grandson's fifth grade teacher is looking for someone to talk Flag Etiquette, have them give me a call.

Other Bases reading this Newsletter, I made this program available to all Bases

at the 2012 National Convention. It has not shown up in the National Magazine yet, but contact me and I'll make sure you get the raw PowerPoint to allow you to customize it to your Base. It doesn't matter who gets the credit for program, it matters that the program gets presented and our Flag gets the proper respect for the blood that was shed for it to keep us all Free. — Moe(SS)

Baseball game May 27
\$13/ticket—Moe(SS)

USS PICKEREL (SS 177) April 3, 1943
USS GRENADIER (SS 210) April 22, 1943
USS GUNGEON (SS 211) April 18, 1944
USS SNOOK (SS 279) April 8, 1945
USS THRESHER (SSN 593) April 10, 1963

CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



I have had a fairly full month since our last newsletter. We went to Charleston for the Southeast Regional Convention. I must say it was really a great time. The meeting was very short (if you can believe that), so really nothing to put out regarding that. However, as has been sent out via e-mail, a Charleston Base member is starting up the process to try to get Submarine Plates for South Carolina. I am just trying to get a count to give him. I am sure this process will not be a short one. At some point, once they really get organized, there will probably be a contest of some sort regarding the

design. Stay tuned on that one. In any case, Charleston was mostly social. That made for a great time. If you ever get down there, do not overlook going to the Hunley. That was very interesting. Well worth seeing. It does look like one of our fellow NC bases will host the 2014 convention. I have already lined up the guest speaker for that event. I also think we will all (all NC bases) kick in some to help them out. They will have the lead, but am sure they will appreciate assistance with both the registration desk and the hospitality room. We will just have to see what and if they want any assistance. From Charleston, came home, did the laundry, then headed to Norfolk for the Submarine Birthday Ball. That was a

very enjoyable event.

The active duty guys really treat the veterans very well.

Even though not here just yet, will be off again this weekend coming up to Wilmington, NC to attend the BB-55 (USS North Carolina) reunion banquet. It appears this may be their last one as it is getting difficult for many of them to travel. We are going there to honor a different branch of our WWII veterans. As was put out before, our District received the Regional Directors District Award again. This happens because of what each base within the district accomplishes. I am sure the Carolina Piedmont did their fair share in that. Well done to you all.

We also did a trip to Levine Children's Hospital and what a joy that is.

However, I will let Jack

talk about that.

We are rapidly approaching our annual Burnsville event. Everything is set up, just need to get the drinks and snacks. If you are planning on going, now is the time to get your registrations into me. I am sure we are going to have a good time as usual. We look forward to seeing most of you there.

Our elections concluded last month at our meeting. I have to thank you all for having the confidence in me to keep right on going as your Base Commander. It was not my plan to go past four years, but circumstances were such that it just happened again. I am honored to be your Base Commander, however, at some point, someone else needs to step up and give me a break. I also

Carolina Piedmont Contacts

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

think I can speak for the other officers elected that they appreciate your confidence as well. I will admit that we do have a pretty good thing going for our base. Guess if it isn't broke, then don't fix it. But, new leadership at times is also a good

thing. Dale is working extremely hard at getting our new "Halfway Night" show, put on by the Bilge Rat Productions, underway. It is the third theme or show for that group. He can always use to have some backup people. It is

really difficult to get all the team members together on the same day for both rehearsal and the actual shows. Having some backups would surely help. So if you are not part of the cast right now, please consider at least volunteer-

ing to be a backup. I know Dale would appreciate that very much. I look forward to seeing most of you at our next meeting on the 27th. Please keep safe as we need each of you in good health. May God bless you and the United States of America.

XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries



CAROLINA PIEDMONT ROCKS- The base has been fairly quiet since the last Piedmont Periscope except for getting things ready for our annual weekend visit to the Monument located on Moonshine Mountain scheduled for 17-18 May, if you still need to make reservations please contact me. If you have not visited yet, it is a fun filled trip with plenty of action. We want all members to attend if possible. I will be sending more info out as we get closer to the date.

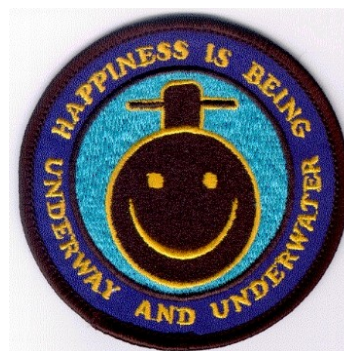
We would like to welcome Bob Schilke to the base. Bob qualified in

1990 aboard the USS Albuquerque and resides in Ft Mill with his spouse Paulette. Bob was RM2 (SS) we can sail with a full radio shack.

We were excited by our visit to Levine Children's Hospital where we honored 18 patients with Kaps and Certificates making them Honorary Submariners. If can please make an effort to join us on our next visit.

Our base would like to conduct a survey concerning how you receive the American Submariner magazine. This is important survey where costs can be lowered for the National program. Please do all a favor and let me know if you want the magazine in the hard copy or if you would like to have it on line. If you go online you can view all the past copies of the magazine. It is also very

important that your snail mail address is correct, if it is wrong, then it adds to the National cost of paying for the magazine to be returned as undeliverable and the return postage is first class this is very expensive. Please review your National roster and let me know of any changes. If you have trouble getting the National roster open once again let me know and I will try to help you. Until next month may GOD BLESS YOU, Jack



The Supply Shack- Jeff Nieberding

Carolina Piedmont Jackets are still available to order, several members have ordered theirs already. 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 25



Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary

Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes

For March 23th, 2013



Call Meeting to Order

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

Invocation

The Invocation was given by Base Chaplin Ray Fritz..

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steve Bell.

Tolling of the Boats

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

Member Introductions

There were 28 members present.

- Base Group Photo for the USS Thresher Anniversary

Tom Kelly took a group photo of base members and our wives to be included in the online web-cast of the 50 Year Anniversary of the loss of the USS Thresher.

Special Presentations

Holland Club Inductions: Walt Sealy inducted Shipmate Dave Peck inducted into the Holland Club for 2013, in recognition for being Qualified in Submarines for 50 years.

Reading/Approval of the last Meeting Minutes

The motion to accept the Minutes of the Base Meeting held on February 23rd, 2013 in Carolina-Piedmont Periscope News Letter, with one correction (the date of the next meeting was corrected to read 23 March 2013) 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 March 23rd, 2013 the following funds where available to the Base.

CURRENT BALANCE	\$5,840.33
MEMEMORIAL RESTERATION FUNDS	\$ 542.50
KAPS-4-KIDS	\$1,921.05
USSVI Scholarship Fund	\$ 46.00
BASE FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$3.330.78

Old Business

None

New Business

-USS Thresher 50th Anniversary Assistance

Steve Bell reported to the membership that on April 6th the Thresher Base will present a web-cast of the 50th Anniversary of the loss of the USS Thresher. As a result of the Sequester, funding from the Navy for this event was cut off. Thresher Base-USSVI requests that the bases help fund this once in a life time event. The national Commander assures the membership that excess funds will be returned to the bases (Post meeting note is the funding levels were met and excess would be used for future Thresher Memorial Services). Steve

Base Minutes (con't)

Bell passed the bucket for individual donations. The motion was made and seconded for a Base Donation of \$200.00 plus the funds raised in the bucket is sent to the Thresher Base to help cover their costs for this memorial event. The motion passed, and a total of \$450.00 will be sent by check on Monday (3/25/2013).

-USS Scorpion Memorial Service Sponsorship

Steve Bell reported on the 99 for 99 programs for the upcoming Memorial Service for the USS Scorpion. Steve Bell further reported that he had already made a donation of \$99.00 in the name of the Base. The motion was made and seconded for Steve Bell to be reimbursed from Base Funds. The motion carried.

-Store Keeper's Report

Jeff Neiberding reports that he has Base Challenge Coins, Patches, Stickers and a few 2013 USSVI Calendars' available.

Good of the Order

-Base Officers Elections-

Base Commander Steve bell opened the floor to nominations for the Carolina-Piedmont Base elected officers. As no new nominations have been added, Jeff Nieberding closed nominations and held the Base Officer's Elections. The following shipmates are the elected officer for the 2013/2014 term. They will be sworn in during the NC SUBVETS Meeting in May at Burnsville.

Base Commander – Steve Bell

Vice Commander – Jack Jeffries

Base Secretary - Michael Hubbell

Base Treasurer - Raymond Zieverink

-Burnsville 2013

Steve Bell reminded all members that the Annual NC SUBVETS meeting in Burnsville, NC will be held on May 17th and 18th, 2013. Registration forms have been sent to all members via E-mail, Steve requests a prompt response for those planning on attending. Steve reminded all those interested that a few rooms at the Skyline Village Inn were still available. Also the overflow hotel was also still available.

-Regional Convection

Steve Bell reminded the membership of the upcoming Convention on April 7th thru April 11th, in Charleston SC. He stated that a few rooms at the host hotel might still be available.

-Lost Boat Brochures

Steve Bell reported on the follow up on the brochures. USSVI National has ordered a production run of 10k brochures. Steve Bell ordered 200 for the base at a cost of \$15.00. He expects delivery before our next meeting.

-Color Guard Update

Steve Bell reported on the efforts by Dale Moses and the members of the Color Guard to produce a video for the Carolina Panthers. This video was made as an audition for the honor to present the Colors at the opening of a Panthers football game in Charlotte. The Carolina Panthers organization will review the videos submitted in late spring or early summer.

-Memorial Day Weekend

The membership was reminded that the NC SUBVETS will again participate in this year's Thomasville Memorial Day Parade. Further details will be sent out by Jack Jeffries. After the parade those interested may join with the Color Guard as they present the Colors before the Knight's baseball game in Fort Mill. Ticket prices are \$13.00. Members were reminded to tell the ticket office that you are with the SUBVETS.

-Kaps-4-Kids

Tom Kelly reported on his experience during the Victory Junction visit. Jack Jeffries also reminded the

Base Minutes (con't)

members of the upcoming visit to the Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte. This visit will be at 1400 on April 16th. Up to 8 additional members and wives are encouraged to attend this worthy function. Please contact Jack if you wish to attend. The Base is planning on additional events at the Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital as well. Jack will contact the membership with the upcoming dates when they become available.

-Rock Hill Massing of the Colors

Walt Sealy reviewed the purpose of the Massing of the Colors. All members are encouraged to attend the Massing of the Colors at the Rock Hill High School Auditorium at 1500 on April 28th, 2013. The CPB Color Guard will be presenting our American Flag and the base flag. USSVI National and base Chaplin will be giving the invocation.

-Eagle Scout Program

Tom Hulme reported on the expansion of the USSVI Eagle Scout program. Tom is a Scout master himself. This program recognizes the top achievement of the Boy Scouts of America. The USSVI as added those young women in the Girl Scouts and those in the Sea Scout programs. Steve Bell noted that the Base will continue to support this program and will expand it to these other worthy groups.

-News Letter

The award winning Piedmont Periscope News Letter deadline for April will be April 18th, 2013.

-Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Carolina-Piedmont base will be held on April 27th, 2013 at the VFW in Fort Mill. Dinner will start at 1730. The SUBVETTES will be providing the meal again this month.

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

From the COB - Paul Myers



Thank you for letting me be your COB this past year. I truly feel blessed to have such a great group to be part of. Rick Petitt will be taking over this position . May God Bless you and yours.—
Paul





Picture taken at Levine Children's Hospital: Seated Ma Bell, Lady J (Carol Jeffries) Back from left-Rick Petitt, Steve Bell, Jim Taylor, Jack Jeffries, John Wardean

New members

Welcome Aboard

Bob Schilke— who qualified on the USS Albuquerque SSN 706 in 1990. He now lives in Ft. Mill with his wife Paulette. Welcome both of you to the Carolina Piedmont Base.

Chaplain's Corner - Ray Fritz, National Chaplain



Fellow subvets and subvettes,

Happy Anniversary Submarine Service

**April 11, 1900 – April
11, 2013**

We have just celebrated two of the most important festivals of the Christian/Judeo calendar:



Easter for the Christian
and

Passover [[Pesach](#)]
(PAY-sahkh)] for Jews.

For the follower of Christ, the Passover is significant in that we believe Jesus was the Passover Lamb of God. I pray you had a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover.

USS Thresher SSN-593

By the time you read this there will have been a memorial service of the 50th Anniversary of the loss of the USS Thresher

SSN-593. Thresher was lost on April 11, 1963. This is the invitation:

USS THRESHER (SSN 593)

**TOWN of KITTERY,
MAINE - FLAG DEDICATION IN MEMORIAM - 50th**

**50th Annual USS
Thresher Memorial Service**

**hosted by USSVI
Thresher Base**

**Saturday, April 6, 2013
at 1 p.m.**

Portsmouth High School

**You can find all the details
on this well done site:**

<http://threshermemorialkit-tery.sharepoint.com/Pages/THRESHER-BASE2013SERVICE.aspx>



**THRESHER MEMORIAL PROJECT GROUP &
KITTERY MAINE IMPROVEMENT FOUNDATION**

**REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE AT
THE PERMANENT MEMORIAL DEDICATION
CEREMONY FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LOSS OF THE
USS THRESHER (SSN 593)**

**9:00am, SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 2013
MEMORIAL CIRCLE, US ROUTE 1
KITTERY**

RSVP

**tmpg2013@gmail.com
207-451-0747**

**Please note number attending and if frail, elderly, or
disabled support is needed**

See details in enclosed Event Protocol and Program



To contact Ray for your Chaplain needs —

Chaplain Ray

raysabode@bellsouth.net



Mark Your Calendars:

Sunday, April 28 -
"Massing of the Colors"
 Ceremony at the Rock Hill High School at 3:00 PM.

Plan now, to join us, and bring family and friends with you!

Walking with the Wise

When the USS Nautilus SSN(571) and the USS Skate SSN(578) made their historic ventures for the first time, under the Polar Icecap in 1958 they were entering uncharted waters. It was summertime and there were openings in the ice so that the ship could be surfaced but it was till uncharted waters.

In February the USS Skate ventured once more into the waters under the Polar ice. This time there were no opening in the ice, only thin but we didn't know how thin. We trusted the captain, the navigator and everyone who used their skills to traverse the unknown and to successfully surface through the ice several times including at the North Pole.

Making that journey without the help of an inertial navigation system and well trained and qualified personnel could have been disastrous.

In life, how well we navigate is also dependent in large part on the quality and character of those we follow. The friends we choose, our trusted inner circle, can make or break us. We can also make or break them.

Growing up my parents would always caution: "Choose your friends wisely." In those days they would ask me who I was going to be with before they gave their okay. We did the same with our kids and we pray our kids are doing the same for our grandchildren. The influence of peers is profound - for better and for worse. As we grow older trusted friendships become even more significant.

The writer of Proverbs tells us this:

He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed. Proverbs 13:20

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who

sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

The book of Proverbs is all about wisdom - or skillful living that is good for young and old. It is a good book to introduce to our grandchildren. In it we read, repeatedly, about the importance of choosing the right friends. Those people we spend our time with will either make us more skilled at living or lead us into trouble. The Apostle Paul writes:

Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." 1 Corinthians 15:33

It really is clear and simple:

Walk with wise friends = get wiser.

Follow foolish friends = get into trouble.

There are three great principles in these passages that will help us be wise and walk with the wise:

Be a good friend. Do you want to attract faithful friends? Become the type of friend you want them to be. Don't like dishonest people. Don't be dishonest. Don't like people who gossip. Don't gossip. Don't like hypocrites. Don't be one.

Are you trustworthy and honest? You will be attracted to people who are trustworthy and honest. If you want friends who share your faith and are growing in their relationship with Christ, you'll need to focus on growing spiritually as well. Do you want friends who will help when life gets tough? Then be that to others: be loyal, believe the best in them and defend them when others want to tear them down. If you want friends who do the right things, then you do the right things. Jesus said: *"So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."* Matthew 7:12

Spend time with friends who are wise. It isn't difficult to figure out if a friend is wise. If you are a Christ follower, just ask yourself these four simple questions:

- Do they follow Jesus, and are they growing in His ways?
 - Do they do the right thing even when it's hard?
 - Do they make other people around them better? Do they stay close when times are tough?
- (Con't on Page 10)

(Chaplain Con't)
 Don't have too many friends. Now that may seem odd but can you ever have too many friends? We hear all the time that life is all about relationships. The answer is "yes" and "No." We need an inner circle of friends who are proven trustworthy over time. These people are our "Go to" people that we can count on to be honest with us no matter what. Jesus had a close relationship with Peter, James and John within the group of twelve. He had a deeper level of trust and closeness with them than He did with the rest.

Friends, who are truly wise, help us navigate life successfully. Perhaps more importantly, our being a wise friend brings life and hope to others as well.

A long, long time ago, when I was a kid.....

When I was a kid, my Mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work.

On that evening so long ago, my Mom placed a

plate of eggs, sausage and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed!

Yet, all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my Mom, and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that ugly burned biscuit.

He ate every bite of that thing... never made a face nor uttered a word about it!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my Mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits every now and then."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Mom put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burned biscuit never hurt anyone!"

As I've grown older, I've thought about that many times. Life is full of imperfect things and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything,

and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else.

But what I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults and choosing to celebrate each other's differences - is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

And that's my prayer for you today... that you will learn to take the good, the bad, and the ugly parts of your life and lay them at the feet of God. Because in the end, He's the only One who will be able to give you a relationship where a burnt biscuit isn't a deal-breaker!

We could extend this to any relationship. In fact, understanding is the base of any relationship, be it a husband-wife or parent-child or friendship!

Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket - keep it in your own.

So, please pass me a biscuit, and yes, the burned one will do just fine. – Author Unknown



The Golfing Preacher

There was this preacher who was an avid golfer. Every chance he could get, he could be found on the golf course swinging away. It was an obsession.

One Sunday was a picture perfect day for golfing. The sun was shining, no clouds in the sky, and the temperature was just right. The preacher was in a quandary as to what to do ... play golf or give the Sunday service.

Shortly, the urge to play golf overcame him. He called an assistant, told him he was sick and asked the assistant to take care of the Sunday church service for him.

He packed the car up and drove three hours to a golf course where no one would recognize him. Happily, he began to play the course.

An angel up above was watching the preacher and was quite perturbed.

He went to God and said, "Look at the preacher. He should be punished for what he is doing." God nodded in agreement.

The preacher teed up on the first hole. He swung at the ball and hit a perfect drive, straight as an

arrow, four-hundred yards right to the green, where it gently rolled into the cup (as they say in basketball, "nothing but net"). A picture perfect hole-in-one. He was amazed and excited.

The angel was a little shocked. He turned to God and said, "Begging Your pardon, but I thought you were going to punish him."

God smiled. **"I did! Think about it -- who can he tell?"**

May God bless you all day, every day!

Chaplain Ray

WANTED

We still need old wigs, suitcases, and anything that could be used for props for Bilge Rat Productions. Contact Moe (SS) at donutdad@att.net and he pick them up.

Also Moe is looking for some old lawn mower wheels for a private project for his grandkids. Will take the whole mower if that's how you want to get rid of it. I'll scrap it for you. Contact me at donutdad@att.net or call 704-248-7610. Us old MMs love to tinker and it gives me something to do when Colleen sends me to the garage.

Holland Club Member in the Spotlight



This month's Holland Club member in the Spotlight is Charlie Cross ICC (SS). Charlie is a primary member of the Nat Greene Base, but has been a long time member of the Carolina Piedmont Base. Charlie lives in Concord with his wife of over 56 years, Carolyn.

Charlie earned his Dolphins back in 1958 aboard the USS Crevalle SS-291. And served on many other boats during his 22 years of service, but let's see how he got there. Charlie grew up in Jamestown, NY and entered the US Navy Reserve while still in High School back in 1956. Charlie decided while in high school that the Navy might be a good place to get an education so out of high school Charlie did the old "kiddie-cruise from 17 to 21. Charlie was in San Diego for IC School and he and his wife went to Chula Vista to visit a old guppy boat, he believes was the USS Spinax. They both remember that dreadful smell. But Charlie had

told her that Submarine School was in New London and that would get them back to the East Coast, so Charlie put in for Sub School and the rest is history. Charlie first boat was the Crevalle in which he qualified and made IC3(SS). Charlie finished his kiddie-cruise and left, but stayed in the USNR. After being out for 6 to 8 months and not really finding real good jobs, Charlie decided to re-enlist. His next duty station was the USS Tigrone SS419. This was about the time the Navy was looking for us Nukes and Charlie was off to Bainbridge then to the S3G prototype in upstate NY (been there-down that to both places).

After prototype Charlie was now a nuke electrician and went to the USS Woodrow Wilson SSBN622 to do 6 patrols. Then is was off to IC "B" School and then to the yards on the James Monroe SSBN624 with 8 patrols after yard out of HI. Then back to the yards in Norfolk and one more patrol on the Monroe. By that time, Charlie only had a cou-

ple of months left and somehow got sent back to the yards in Norfolk to serve on SSBN631 (Ulysses S. Grant) for 2 months Newport News as their training Chief. After the Navy, Charlie took a job with Duke Power in Charlotte and worked in the Corporate Quality Assurance Office with another Carolina Piedmont Holland Club member, and Holland Club Coordinator, Walt Sealy. (I know, it's hard to believe Walt in QA? (ha)) Thank You Chief Charlie for your years of service, I know you taught someone that taught one of us along the way. Hopefully, we passed that knowledge on also.



Binnacle List

Kathy Boone

Al Vera (Paul Myer's Brother-in-law)

Happy Birthday to:

April

Janice Holm 4/01 Jolanda Lynch 4/02

Linda Zieverink 4/09 Paul Simerly 4/09

Donna Blassingham 4/11

Linda Crystal 4/14 Rudy Hernandez 4/14

George Birmingham 4/21

Emma Howell 4/22 Susan Kelly 4/22



"If Stupidity got us
into this mess, then
why can't it get us
out?"

” - Will Rogers



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

April

Mary and Robert Bickford - 4/21

Judy and William Hickerson - 4/23

Karen and Michael Toomey - 4/24



SubVettes—President Sandra Myers

Hello Sassy Sisters,
Hope all of you and yours are doing well. I mailed off 2 packages, one with the Chapsticks we discussed, and one that I found in a magazine with toothpaste and brushes to "Forgotten Troops" which that gives us another ser-

vice project. Our meal is another "this and that" please do not forget our recruiters, secret sisters and your pen pal from the spouses from USS North Carolina if you took one. Hopefully we will

see you at our April meeting but Paul and I are ready to go to Texas to be with his sister and brother-in-law should she need us since Al is ill with stage 4 cancer. May God bless you and yours.
Love Sandra



Meringue-Topped Strawberries & Rhubarb

Poaching brings out the flavorful strawberry and rhubarb juices with minimal effort. An airy meringue on top of the poached fruit is a healthy (and gorgeous) stand-in for a heavier whipped-cream or ice cream topping

Ingredients

Fruit

- 1 pound fresh or frozen (not thawed) rhubarb, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup sugar 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger, (optional)
- 2 cups (1 pint) fresh or frozen (not thawed) strawberries, hulled and halved or quartered,

Meringue

- 3 large egg whites, at room temperature, or equivalent dried egg whites (see Ingredient Note)
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar 1/3 cup sugar

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Stir rhubarb, sugar and ginger (if using) in a medium bowl. Divide the mixture evenly among six 8-ounce ramekins (see Variation). Place the ramekins on a baking sheet and cover tightly with foil. Bake until the rhubarb is softened, 25 to 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and remove the foil.
3. Carefully tuck strawberries between the chunks of rhubarb. (Do not stir or the rhubarb will break apart.)
4. Beat egg whites and cream of tartar in a large bowl with an electric mixer on medium until soft peaks form. Gradually add sugar and continue mixing until the egg whites are glossy and hold peaks. Spoon beaten egg whites over each portion of fruit. Use a thin spatula to spread the meringue into decorative peaks.
5. Return the ramekins to the oven and bake until the meringue is lightly browned, about 10 minutes. Let cool for at least 10 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Variation:

This dish can be made in a deep-dish pie pan instead of individual ramekins; the recipe and timing are the same.

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

**Deadline for
the next issue
of the
Piedmont
Periscope
will be
May 10th.
Please have all
items to
Moe(SS) at
Edi-
tor_periscope@
Att.net
by then.**

Your Veteran News From the RAQ Bulletin

WWII Submariners:

Jack Hoenes and his comrades who served on submarines during World War II know the number. Fifty-two. That is how many submarines sunk or were missing during the war. For

Hoenes, the number includes a submarine that could have taken his life. Nearly 375 officers and 3,131 enlisted men died on those ships. Hoenes was one of about a half-dozen veterans who attended the most recent meeting of the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. A plaque on a table at the meeting room in the Acker-Moore Memorial Post 4738/American Legion Hall Post 175 is inscribed with the names of 46 members who have died since the group has been meeting. "There aren't many World War II submariners left," said Ellis Augsburg, 88, of Akron, a member of the group who served on the USS Hawkbill. While the Northeast Ohio group continues to meet,

the national U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII disbanded last fall and gave up its charter, said Don Beach, 70, of Granger Township, the president of the group.

Even though Beach is an associate member because he served on the nuclear submarines USS Jack and Pollack years after the war ended, he is president because there was no one else who wanted to run the meetings. "Two to three submariners a day are dying nationally," he said, pointing out that only 2 percent of the sailors who served during World War II served on submarines. Beach's group is made up of eight World War II submariners, five of their wives and three of their daughters, eight widows of World War II submariners, and several associate members. One of the associate members is an Army veteran who used to bring a World War II submariner to the meetings and continued

coming after his friend died. The national group was formed in 1955 and chartered by Congress in 1981. He is not sure when the Northeast Ohio group got started. Beach, who retired from the trucking industry, said he has a great respect for his comrades who served on submarines before him. "In World War II, they didn't have snorkels on the submarines and they had to surface every day to run their diesel engines to charge their batteries, which left them as targets on the surface," he said. Comments from other members of the group included:

Jack Hoenes, 87, of Bay Village, who worked 42 years on the railroad as a dispatcher, was serving on the USS Trigger when he was asked if he wanted to switch submarines and serve on the USS Chub. The Trigger later would be sunk in the

war. "I figured the good Lord was on my side," said Hoenes, who went on three patrols in the Pacific during his time on the Chub.

Roland Romito, 87, of Broadview Heights served on the USS Sperry, a submarine tender, a ship that serviced submarines in the water. Romito estimates during his time as a radio repairman, he worked on radios on 32 submarines and he is sure some of those submarines never came back from the war. "You either came back or you didn't — there was no in between," said Romito, who worked in the auto parts business after the war, repaired car radios on the side and is still an amateur radio

operator under the call number W8GTJ. He joined the group right after the war. "I've seen a lot of them come and a lot of them go but I'm still here," said Romito, who grew up in Bedford.

Dewey Hansen, 86, of Peninsula, who owns Hudson Extrusions, worked as an electrician state-side on a school submarine where young sailors were trained to be submariners in 1944 and 1945. "It was good pay and good food," said Hansen, who added that submariners were paid 50 percent more than other sailors. He said it was a myth that it was super crowded on a submarine. "We had more cubic feet of space per man on a sub than they did on

an aircraft carrier," he said. Hansen, who grew up in upper Michigan, has lived in Peninsula for about 40 years.

Jim Bock, 87, of Warren, who served on the USS Corporal, which was commissioned in early 1945, has been a longtime member of the group. "It's quite a group of fellows but we are dwindling down," said Bock, who worked for the family-owned business Bock Transfer and Storage for 47 years, including several years as president.

Ellis Augsburg made five patrols on the USS Hawkbill and one frightening six-hour period still stands out in his mind. That was off the coast of Singapore in the South China Sea, when Japanese ships were close by. "One depth charge went off under our bow and blew our bow

out of the water," he said. The submarine dove to the bottom of the ocean. It remained there — only about 100 feet below the surface — for several hours to avoid detection. "They went back and forth over us," said Augsburg, who was a torpedo man on his submarine. "We got scared, of course," he said.

Lucille Hourigan, 88, of Warren, whose husband, Michael Hourigan, taught radar to sailors on submarines when he served in the Navy, still goes to the meetings. Her husband died four years ago. She worked as a photographer at a Pratt & Whitney aircraft factory as a "Rosie the Riveter" during the war but loves to spend time with her late husband's

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

Got a Story?
Sent it to
Moe(SS)
at
Edi-
tor_periscope
@att.net



submarine
pals. "They are
still nice to me,"
she said.

[Source: Akron Beacon
Journal | Jim Carney |
25 Mar 2013 ++]

Saving Money: There was a time when there was virtually no difference between consumer and business credit cards. But since the enactment of the CARD Act of 2009, consumer credit cards are covered by new protections, primarily affecting things like late and over-limit fees, as well as how interest rates are charged on balances. Business cards were exempt from many of these protections. If you carry a balance, you shouldn't be looking for a reward credit card, business or otherwise: You should find one with the lowest interest rate. But if you pay off your balance each month, and are looking for the best rewards, you might find them with a business card. Business cards offering better rewards. For example:

The Ink Plus Busi-

ness Card from Chase offers 5 points per dollar spent at office supply stores and on telephone, television, and Internet service. You can't get this deal from any of their consumer credit cards.

The American Express Simply-Cash business card also offers 5 percent cash back on purchases from office supply stores and telephone services, and 4 % cash back on gasoline at U.S. stand-alone gas stations, including at Costco for purchases up to \$7,000 per year (1% thereafter). Better than most gasoline cards. 2% cash back at U.S. restaurants, and 1% back with all other purchases. There is no annual fee with your paid Costco membership.

You can get a business card even if you don't have a business. These cards are great for employees who travel on company business. They also make sense for anyone who has some form of home-based income. This could be selling things on eBay, freelancing, even babysitting. And once you have the card, you're free to use it for non-business purchases. You do not need an Employer Identification Number (EIN) to apply. When you fill out an application for a business credit card, it asks you to provide an Employer Identification Number, or EIN, the business equivalent of a Social Security number. If you don't have an EIN, however, as a sole proprietor, you're allowed to use your Social Security number instead. This isn't dishonest, it's what sole proprietors are supposed to do. In fact, many applications explain that customers should provide their Social Security number if they do not have an EIN. Bottom line, if you pay off your balance every

month, the best card is the one with the biggest rewards. If that's what you're looking for, there's no reason to exclude business cards from your search.

[Source: Money-TalksNews | Jason Steele | 10 Jan 2013 ++]

DoD 2014 Budget:

For the first time in four years, the Senate passed a budget resolution (S. Con. Res 8) outlining spending limits and priorities for the next fiscal year. Among other things, it envisions repealing the Medicare payment formula that now requires a 27-percent cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments as of Jan. 1, 2014. On issues directly affecting the military and veterans community, the resolution included provisions concerning:

Expanding eligibility for concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation;

Ending the deduction of VA survivor benefits from Survivor Benefit Plan annuities;

Protecting VA benefits from COLA cuts, including the "chained CPI" suggested by many COLA critics;

Extending VA health care coverage to qualifying dependent children until age 26; and

Improving veterans' access to health care in rural areas.

MOAA applauds the efforts of multiple senators who worked to include the latter provisions in the budget resolution. But it's important to understand it will be an uphill battle to get these changes into law. First, most were included in "contingent reserve fund" provisions. That means the sponsoring senator would like to see it happen, but it would have to be done on a budget-neutral basis — meaning something else must be cut to pay for it. That's why Congress hasn't done these things in the past — unwillingness to make the offsetting cuts. Second,

the House-passed budget resolution reflects dramatically different budget priorities than the Senate's. Given those dramatic differences, the likelihood of House and Senate leaders reaching a compromise seems slim. What's different this year is a recent law change to suspend congressional salaries if each chamber failed to pass a budget resolution. They've each now done that now, so their pay is safe. There was no penalty if they failed to agree. [Source: MOAA Leg Up 29 Mar 2013 ++]

Note of Interest:

WWII Sub. A German World War II submarine that was sunk with a crew of 48 has been found off Norway's coast during work on an oil pipe. The "U-486" was torpedoed and broken in two by a British submarine in April 1945 shortly after leaving the western Norwegian town of Bergen. There were no survivors. Lying at a depth of some 250 metres (820 feet), the wreck was found when Norwegian oil company Statoil was scouting the

area as a possible location to lay down an oil pipe. The submarine had a special coating on the hull. It was a synthetic rubber coating designed to significantly reduce its radar signal. The "U-486" lies some two kilometres (1.25 miles) from the German "U-864" submarine, which was also sunk in 1945 with dozens of tonnes of mercury on board, a dangerous cargo which has caused politicians headaches for years. They have been examining how to best limit the environmental risks posed by the mercury, hesitating between whether to lift the wreck -- it is also broken in two parts -- or to cover it in a hard sarcophagus.

[Source: Various 1-15 Mar 2013 ++]

Don't forgot! May 27th is Baseball Night at the Charlotte Knight Stadium— Seats ar \$13 per person— call Moe(SS) to reserve your seat prior to May 15th. Your CPB Color Guard will be presenting the Colors. 704-248-7610

Lost Boats— USS Grenadier SS-210



USS Grenadier (SS-210), a Tambor-class submarine, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the grenadier fish, relatives of cod that are very common in bathyal and abyssal habitats.

Her keel was laid down by Portsmouth Navy Yard in Kittery, Maine, in April 1940. She was launched on 29 November 1940 sponsored by Mrs. Walter S. Anderson, wife of the Director of Naval Intelligence and commissioned on 1 May 1941 with Lieutenant Commander Allen R. Joyce in command.

Pre-World War II service - On 20 June 1941 Grenadier participated in the search for O-9 (SS-70), which had failed to surface after a deep test dive, and was present two days later as memorial exercises were conducted over the spot where O-9 and her crew lay. After shakedown in the Caribbean Sea, Grenadier returned to Portsmouth on 5 November for refit. Less than three weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl

Harbor, she sailed for the Pacific to join the submarine fleet.

COMSUBPAC patrols, 1942 - Grenadier's first war patrol from 4 February to 23 March 1942 took her near the Japanese home islands, off the coast of Honshū, and brought her several targets but no sinkings. On 12 April Grenadier departed Pearl Harbor for her second war patrol, along the Shanghai-Yokohama and Nagasaki-Formosa shipping lanes. On 1 May she sank the soviet merchant ship "Angarstroy". On 8 May she torpedoed and sank one of her most important kills of the war, transport Taiyō Maru. Post-war examination of Japanese records showed Taiyō Maru to be more than just the ordinary transport; she was en route to the East Indies with a group of Japanese scientists, economists, and industrial experts bent on expediting the exploitation of the conquered territory. Their loss was a notable blow to the enemy war effort. On 25 May Grenadier was diverted from her patrol area to Midway Island, where she formed part of the submarine patrol line as the Ameri-

can fleet in a bloody but brilliant battle handed the Imperial Navy its first defeat in some three hundred years. Grenadier's third war patrol was in the Truk area, heavily patrolled by enemy ships and planes. Although she sighted some 28 Japanese ships, enemy planes effectively hampered her, and she returned to her new base, Fremantle, Australia, empty-handed.

Deployment to Australia - The Malay Barrier was the site of Grenadier's fourth war patrol from 13 October to 10 December. After laying a minefield off Haiphong, Indochina, the submarine made an unsuccessful attack on a large freighter. During the severe depth charging which followed, sea water seeped into the batteries; Grenadier's crew suffered headaches and

nausea from chlorine gas poisoning for the remainder of the patrol. To increase the misery, on 20 November Grenadier spotted a Ryūjō class aircraft carrier, escorted by a cruiser and a destroyer, heading through the Strait of Makassar too distant to shoot. Grenadier surfaced to radio the aircraft carrier's location and course to Fremantle in hope that another submarine could capitalize on it.

Grenadier's fifth war patrol, under the command of LCDR John Allison Fitzgerald, between 1 January and 20 February 1943, brought her considerably better for-



tune than earlier patrols. A 75-ton schooner fell victim to her deck guns 10 January, and two days later Grenadier sighted a small tanker with a barge in tow. Judging the target not worth a torpedo, she slipped silently into the column behind the two Japanese ships. At dusk she battle surfaced. With binoculars lashed to the deck guns as sights, she raked tanker and barge sinking them immediately. The remainder of her patrol, along the Borneo coast through shallow and treacherous waters, was hampered by fathometer failures. She conducted an aggressive attack on two cargo ships 22 January but did not sink them. The battle-tired submarine departed Australia on 20 March on her last war patrol and headed for the Strait of Malacca, gateway between the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Patrolling along the Malay and Thai coasts, Grenadier claimed a small freighter off the island of Phuket on 6 April. She remained in the area and late in the night of 20 April sighted two merchantmen and closed in for the attack. Running on the surface at dawn

21 April, Grenadier spotted, and was simultaneously spotted by, a Japanese plane. The sub dived, and as it passed 130 feet her exec commented "we ought to be safe now." Just then, bombs rocked Grenadier and heeled her over 15 to 20 degrees. Power and lights failed completely and the fatally wounded ship settled to the bottom at 270 feet. She tried to make repairs while a fierce fire blazed in the maneuvering room. After 13 hours of sweating it out on the bottom Grenadier managed to surface after dark to clear the boat of smoke and inspect damage. The damage to her propulsion system was irreparable. Attempting to bring his ship close to shore so that the crew could scuttle her and escape into the jungle, Commander Fitzgerald even tried to jury-rig a sail. But the long night's work proved futile. As dawn broke, 22 April, Grenadier's weary crew sighted two Japanese ships heading for them. As the skipper "didn't think it advisable to make a stationary dive in 280 feet of water without power," the crew began burning confidential documents prior to abandon-

ing ship. A Japanese plane attacked the stricken submarine; but Grenadier, though dead in the water and to all appearances helpless, blazed away with machine guns. She hit the plane on its second pass. As the damaged plane veered off, its torpedo landed about 200 yards from the boat and exploded. Loss - Opening all vents, Grenadier's crew abandoned ship and watched her sink to her final resting place. A Japanese merchantman picked up eight officers and 68 enlisted men and took them to Penang, Malay States, where they were questioned, beaten, and starved before being sent to other prison camps. They were then separated and transferred from camp to camp along the Malay Peninsula and finally to Japan. Throughout the war they suffered brutal, inhuman treatment, and their refusal to reveal military information both frustrated and angered their captors. First word that any had survived Grenadier reached Australia on 27 November 1943. Despite the brutal and sadistic treatment, all but four of Grenadier's crew survived their two years in Japanese hands. Grenadier received four battle stars for World War II service.

SERVICE

provided by Walt Sealy

I become confused when I hear the word **"Service"** used with these agencies:

Internal Revenue **'Service'**

US Postal **'Service'**

Telephone **'Service'**

Cable TV **'Service'**

Civil **'Service'**

Federal, State, City, & public **'Service'**

Customer **'Service'**

This is NOT what I thought **'Service'** meant.

But today, I overheard two farmers talking, and one of them said he had hired a bull to **'Service'** a few cows.

BAM!!! It all came into focus. Now I understand what all those agencies are doing to us.

You are now as enlightened as I was.

USSVI Constitution and Bylaws

Here a little more of the USSVI Constitution and Bylaws. As I stated in January we'll do a little each month and the Constitution will be here on the left side and the Bylaws on the right side. The Constitution Article VII is rather long and rather than split it, I'll continue it on Page 19. Now Section 5 on Associate Members was new last September, so read it over. — Moe(SS)

Constitution (continued from March issue)

ARTICLE VIII -- MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1. Every member of the organization will pay membership dues as prescribed in the organization's Bylaws.

Section 2: Dues are due and payable on January 1st each year and remain effective thru December 31st the same year

Section 3. Bases may charge Base Dues as prescribed by their local Base By-Laws.

Section 4: New Member annual dues may be set on a declining pro-rata monthly schedule to be determined by the Board of Directors and published to the bases.

Section 5: Those members with 35 years of continuous membership in USSVI shall be classed as Senior Members, be publicly recognized and considered Life Members for national dues purposes if they are still annual dues members.

Next—Article IX— Structure



Bylaws (continued from March issue)

ARTICLE V -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS (Con't)

Section 2. SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER

The duties of the Senior Vice-Commander shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Assist the National Commander in the discharge of his duties.
- b. Assume the duties of the National Commander in the event of his absence, illness, or call to eternal patrol.
- c. Execute the powers and authority of the National Commander, when required, in the absence of the National Commander.
- d. Serve as a member of the Board of Directors.
- e. Act as Chairman for the Ways and Means Committee.
- f. Act as Chairman for the Audit Committee.
- g. Serve as a member of the Scholarship Committee.
- h. Be responsible for the content, publication, and distribution of the National Publication.
- i. Prepare and present an annual report relative to the operation of his office at the Annual Business Meeting.
- j. Work up, keep current and pass on, immediately to his relief a "Turn Over" folder, including all official correspondence, records, and official materials assigned to his care.

More next month, starting with the duties of the Junior Vice Commander. Remember you can always find the entire National USSVI Bylaws at USSVI.org.

History of the Challenge Coin—Supplied by Steve Bell

There are many examples of traditions that build camaraderie in the military, but few are as well-respected as the practice of carrying a challenge coin—a small medallion or token that signifies a person is a member of an organization. Even though challenge coins have broken into the civilian population, they're still a bit of a mystery for those outside the armed forces.

WHAT DO CHALLENGE COINS LOOK LIKE? - Typically, challenge coins are around 1.5 to 2 inches in diameter, and about 1/10-inch thick, but the styles and sizes vary wildly—some even come in unusual shapes like shields, pentagons, arrowheads, and dog tags. The coins are generally made of pewter, copper, or nickel, with a variety of finishes available (some limited edition coins are plated in gold). The designs can be simple—an engraving of the organization's insignia and motto—or have enamel highlights, multi-dimensional designs, and cut outs.

CHALLENGE COIN ORIGINS - It's nearly impossible to definitively know why and where the tradition of

challenge coins began. One thing is certain: Coins and military service go back a lot farther than our modern age. One of the earliest known examples of an enlisted soldier being monetarily rewarded for valor took place in Ancient Rome. If a soldier performed well in battle that day, he would receive his typical day's pay, and a separate coin as a bonus. Some accounts say that the coin was specially minted with a mark of the legion from which it came, prompting some men to hold on to their coins as a memento, rather than spend them on women and wine.

Today, the use of coins in the military is much more nuanced. While many coins are still handed out as tokens of appreciation for a job well done, especially for those serving as part of a military operation, some administrators exchange them almost like business cards or autographs they can add to a collection. There are also coins that a soldier can use like an ID badge to prove they served with a particular unit. Still other coins are handed out to civilians for publicity, or even sold as a fund-raising tool.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL CHALLENGE COIN...

MAYBE - Although no one is certain how challenge coins came to be, one story dates back to World War I, when a wealthy officer had bronze medallions struck with the flying squadron's insignia to give to his men. Shortly after, one of the young flying aces was shot down over Germany and captured. The Germans took everything on his person except the small leather pouch he wore around his neck that happened to contain his medallion.

The pilot escaped and made his way to France. But the French believed he was a spy, and sentenced him to execution. In an effort to prove his identity, the pilot presented the medallion. A French soldier happened to recognize the insignia and the execution was delayed. The French confirmed his identity and sent him back to his unit.

One of the earliest challenge coins was minted by Colonel "Buffalo Bill" Quinn, 17th Infantry Regiment, who had them made for his men during the Korean War. The coin features a buffalo on one side as a nod to its creator, and the Regiment's insignia on the other side. A hole was drilled in the top so the

men could wear it around their necks, instead of in a leather pouch.

THE CHALLENGE - Stories say that the challenge began in Germany after World War II. Americans stationed there took up the local tradition of conducting "pfennig checks." The pfennig was the lowest denomination of coin in Germany, and if you didn't have one when a check was called, you were stuck buying the beers. This evolved from a pfenning to a unit's medallion, and members would "challenge" each other by slamming a medallion down on the bar. If any member present didn't have his medallion, he had to buy a drink for the challenger and for anyone else that had their coin. If all the other members had their medallions, the challenger had to buy everyone drinks.

THE SECRET HANDSHAKE - In June 2011, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates toured military bases in Afghanistan before his impending retirement. Along the way, he shook hands with dozens of men and women in the Armed Forces in what, to the naked eye, appeared to be a simple (Con't on Page 24)

Piedmont Funnies Page

Hell of a Day

There I was sitting at the bar staring at my drink when a large, trouble-making biker steps up next to me, grabs my drink and gulps it down in one swig.

"Well, whatcha' gonna do about it?" he says, menacingly, as I burst into tears.

"Come on, man," the biker says, "I didn't think you'd CRY. I can't stand to see a man crying."

"This is the worst day of my life," I say.

"I'm a complete failure. I was late to a meeting and my boss fired me. When I went to the parking lot, I found my car had been stolen and I don't have any insurance. I left my wallet in the cab I took home. I found my wife with another man... and then my dog bit me."

"So I came to this bar to work up the courage to put an end to it all, I buy a drink, I drop a capsule in and sit here watching the poison dissolve; and then you show up and drink the whole damn thing!

"But, Hell, enough about me, how are you doing?"

Now that's Funny!

A crusty old Submarine Master Chief found himself at a gala event hosted by a local liberal arts college.

There was no shortage of extremely young idealistic ladies in attendance, one of whom approached the Master Chief for conversation.

"Excuse me, Master Chief, but you seem to be a very serious man. Is something bothering you?"

"Negative, ma'am. Just serious by nature."

The young lady looked at his awards and decorations and said, "It looks like you have seen a lot of sea time."

"Yes, ma'am, a lot of sea time."

The young lady, tiring of trying to start up a conversation, said, "You know, you should lighten up. Relax and enjoy yourself."

The Master Chief just stared at her in his serious manner.

Finally the young lady said, "You know, I hope you don't take this the wrong way, but when is the last time you had sex?"

"1955, ma'am."

"Well, there you are. No wonder you're so

serious. You really need to chill out! I mean, no sex since 1955! She took his hand and led him to a private room where she proceeded to "relax" him several times.

Afterwards, panting for breath, she leaned against his bare chest and said, "Wow, you sure didn't forget much since 1955."

The Master Chief said, after glancing at his watch, "I hope not; it's only 2130 now."

Spanish Oysters

Provided by Jack

A big Texan cowboy stopped at a local restaurant following a day roaming around in Spain.

While sipping his wine, he noticed a sizzling, scrumptious looking platter being served at the next table.

Not only did it look good, the smell was wonderful.

He asked the waiter, "What is that you just served?"

The waiter replied, 'Si senor, you have excellent taste!

Those are called Cojones de Toro, bull's testicles from the bull fight this morning. a delicacy!'

The cowboy said, 'What the heck, bring me an order.'

The waiter replied, 'I am so sorry senor. There is only one serving per day because there is only one bull fight each morning.

If you come early and place your order, we will be sure to save you this delicacy.'

The next morning, the cowboy returned, placed his order and that evening was served the one and only special delicacy of the day.

After a few bites, inspecting his platter, he called to the waiter and said, 'These are delicious, but they are much, much smaller than the ones I saw you serve yesterday.'

The waiter shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Si, Senor. Sometimes the bull wins."

Two hunters got a pilot to fly them into the Canadian wilderness, where they managed to bag two big Bull Moose.

As they were loading the plane to return, the pilot said the plane could take only the hunters, their gear and one Moose.

The hunters strongly objected saying, "Last year we shot two, and the pilot let us take them both... and he had exactly the same airplane as yours."

Reluctantly the pilot, not wanting to be outdone by another bush pilot, gave in and everything was loaded. However, even under full power, the little plane couldn't handle the load and went down, crashing in the wooded wilderness.

Somehow, surrounded by the moose, clothing and sleeping bags, Stosh and Stan survived the crash.

After climbing out of the wreckage, Stosh asked Stan, "Any idea where we are?"

Stan replied, "I think we're pretty close to where we crashed last year !!!"

Provided by Al Westberry:

The light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could

have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman behind him was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do?' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me To Sunday-

School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk, so naturally...I assumed you had stolen the car."

Senior Thoughts

– Provided by Jim Schenk

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Now that I'm older here's what I've discovered:

1. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.

2. My wild oats have turned into prunes and all-bran.

3. I finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart.

4. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

Z. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

6. If all is not lost, where is it?

7. It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

8. Some days, you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant.

9. I wish the buck stopped here; I sure could use a few.

10. Kids in the back seat cause accidents.

11. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.

12. It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.

13. The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.

14. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.

15. When I'm finally holding all the cards, why does everyone want to play chess?

16. It's not hard to meet expenses . . . they're everywhere.

17. The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

18. These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter..I go somewhere to get something, and then wonder what I'm hereafter.

19. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

20. Three signs of getting old:

1. You memory begins to fade.

2. I cannot remember the other two.

Laugh, Might as Well!

(From Page 21)

exchange of respect. It was, in fact, a secret handshake with a surprise inside for the recipient—a special Secretary of Defense challenge coin.

Not all challenge coins are passed by secret handshake, but it has become a tradition that many uphold. It could have its origins in the Second Boer War, fought between the British and South African colonists at the turn of the 20th century. The British hired many soldiers of fortune for the conflict, who, due to their mercenary status, were unable to earn medals of valor. It was not unusual, though, for the commanding officer of those mercenaries to receive the accommodation instead. Stories say that non-commissioned officers would often sneak into the tent of an unjustly awarded officer and cut the medal from the ribbon. Then, in a public ceremony, they would call the deserving mercenary forward and, palming the medal, shake his hand, passing it to the soldier as a way of indirectly thanking him for his service.

SPECIAL FORCES COINS - Challenge coins began to catch on during the Vietnam War. The first coins from this era were created by either the Army's 10th or 11th Special Forces Group and were

little more than common currency with the unit's insignia stamped on one side, but the men in the unit carried them with pride.

More importantly, though, it was a lot safer than the alternative—bullet clubs, whose members carried a single unused bullet at all times. Many of these bullets were given as a reward for surviving a mission, with the idea that it was now a “last resort bullet,” to be used on yourself instead of surrendering if defeat seemed imminent. Of course carrying a bullet was little more than a show of machismo, so what started off as handgun or M16 rounds, soon escalated to .50 caliber bullets, anti-aircraft rounds, and even artillery shells in an effort to one-up each other.

Unfortunately, when these bullet club members presented “The Challenge” to each other in bars, it meant they were slamming live ammunition down on the table. Worried that a deadly accident might occur, command banned the ordnance, and replaced it with limited edition Special Forces coins instead. Soon nearly every unit had their own coin, and some even minted commemorative

coins for especially hard-fought battles to hand out to those who lived to tell the tale.

PRESIDENT (AND VICE PRESIDENT) CHALLENGE COINS - Starting with Bill Clinton, every president has had his own challenge coin and, since Dick Cheney, the vice president has had one, too. There are usually a few different Presidential coins—one for the inauguration, one that commemorates his administration, and one available to the general public, often in gift shops or online. But there's one special, official presidential coin that can only be received by shaking the hand of the most powerful man in the world. As you can probably guess, this is the rarest and most sought-after of all challenge coins.

The President can hand out a coin at his own discretion, but they are usually reserved for special occasions, military personnel, or foreign dignitaries. It's been said that George W. Bush reserved his coins for injured soldiers coming back from the Middle East. President Obama hands them out fairly often, most notably to soldiers that man

the stairs on Air Force One.

BEYOND THE MILITARY - Challenge coins are now being used by many different organizations. In the federal government, everyone from Secret Service agents to White House staff to the President's personal valets have their own coins. Probably the coolest coins are those for White House Military Aides—the people who carry the atomic football—whose coins are, naturally, in the shape of a football.

However, thanks in part to custom coin companies online, everyone's getting in on the tradition. Today, it's not uncommon for police and fire departments to have coins, as do many civic organizations, such as the Lions Club and the Boy Scouts. Even the Star Wars cosplayers of the 501st Legion, Harley Davidson riders, and Linux users have their own coins. Challenge coins have become a long-lasting, highly-collectible way to show your allegiance anytime, anyplace.

**Don't
Forget
The Baseball
Game
May 27th
7:15
Select seats
Just
\$13/per person
This is our 4th
year presenting
the Colors on
Memorial Day
Weekend.
Call Moe(SS)
704-248-7610
To reserve you
Seats prior to
May 15th
Or shoot him
an email at
Donut-
dad@att.net
Come on out
and support
your Base.**

THE LOVE DRESS

**Provided by Dick Kan-
ning**

A woman stopped by, unannounced, at her son's house. She knocked on the door then immediately walked in. She was shocked to see her daughter-in-law lying on the couch, totally naked. Soft music was playing, and the aroma of perfume filled the room.

"What are you doing?!" she asked.

"I'm waiting for Mike to come home from work," the daughter-in-law answered.

"But you're naked!" the mother-in-law exclaimed. "This is my love dress," the daughter-in-law explained.

"Love dress? But you're naked!"

"Mike loves me and wants me to wear this dress," she explained. "It excites him to no end. Every time he sees me in this dress, he instantly becomes romantic and ravages me for hours on end. He can't get enough of me" The mother-in-law left.

When she got home, she undressed, showered, put on her best perfume, dimmed the lights, put on a romantic CD, and lay on the couch, waiting for

her husband to arrive. Finally, her husband came home.

He walked in and saw her lying there so provocatively.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"This is my love dress," she whispered sensually.

"Needs ironing," he said. "What's for dinner?"

He never heard the gunshot.

EVENTS

Planning ahead for the Spring and Summer? Maybe this will help:

April 28, 3 PM—
Massing of the Colors—
Rock Hill
May 17 and 18—
Burnsville Memorial
May 27— Thomasville
Memorial Day Parade
May 27— Carolina Pied-
mont Color Guard pre-
sents Colors at Charlotte
Knights Game/Baseball
Game 7:15
June 30th—Troutman
Independence Day Pa-
rade
July 4th—Faith Inde-
pendence Day Parade
Look for e-mails for the
muster times and loca-
tions. We'll publish
them as they become
available here in your
PIEDMONT
PERISCOPE.

Answer to the Flag

The 25-Star Flag: This Flag became the Official United States Flag on July 4th, 1836. A star was added for the admission of Arkansas (June 15th, 1836) and was to last for just one year. The two Presidents to serve under this flag were Andrew Jackson (1829-1837) and Martin

**April Meeting
April 27th**

**Dinner at 1730
Meeting at
1900**

**Dinner pre-
pared by ours
SubVettes at
the cost of
\$6.00/person**

**Please remem-
ber to pay for
your meal and
help and sup-
port the Base
and it's
activities**

BURNSVILLE MEMORIAL SERVICE -2013

We invite you all to come to the Burnsville 2013 event on 17 and 18 May. The 17th is mostly just a day of getting together and enjoying the evening together. There will be plenty of snacks and drinks available at no additional cost to you and some Karaoke to top off the evening. The 18th will be an NC Subvets meeting, followed by lunch wherever you care to go. Many of us go to the Western Sizzlin a couple miles down the road from the hotels. It is also on the way to the memorial. We will have our Memorial Service at 1400. Most of you know where that is, but if this is a first time for you, you can ride with someone or just follow, your choice. The evening is a dinner put on by the main hotel (Skyline Village Inn) followed by Karaoke for your evening entertainment. Our reports back from various attendees said the entire weekend was well worth it. So make your plans early to come join us that weekend. The registration form is within this newsletter.

The room prices vary somewhat. Single rooms with balcony are \$85 a night, without balcony are \$69. Double rooms are \$99 with balcony and \$85 without balcony. Of course this cost is without tax. Verify your cost when you make your room reservation. This cost will apply to both hotels. Make your reservations at 704-517-6374 (Skyline Village Inn). If this hotel cannot accommodate you, he will take care of your reservations at the overflow hotel and let you know. Please make your reservations prior to 4 May 2013. We have a cutoff date of 3 May so we can all plan accordingly.

Fill out the registration sheet and send it to: Steve Bell, 138 Burton Hills Circle, Gastonia, NC 28054. Make your check payable to Carolina Piedmont Base – USSVI.

Come on out and enjoy the weekend with us. I doubt you will regret it. If you are just coming up for the service, we welcome you too. We look forward to seeing you in the mountains in May.— Steve Bell, Carolina Piedmont Base Commander



2013 NC SUBVETS Burnsville Memorial Service

17-18 May 2013

Pre-Registration Form – Cutoff Date 3 May 2013

Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Base _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Emergency Contact/

Telephone: _____

NO. TOTAL

Registration/Catered Meal, Saturday May 18 Per Person \$25 _____

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TEAR OFF THIS SECTION AS A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

Please make checks payable to: **CAROLINA PIEDMONT BASE – USSVI**

Mail check to: Steve Bell, 138 Burton Hills Circle, Gastonia, NC 28054

NO. TOTAL

Registration/Catered Meal, Saturday May 18 Per Person \$25 _____

Host Hotel: Skyline Village Inn, 12255 NC Hwy 226A (milepost marker 331 on the Blue Ridge Parkway), between Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine, NC.

Phone: 1-828-765-9394 or 704-517-6374 (preferable)

Directions to Hotel: I-40, Exit 86 (Route 226). Take this bending, curving road all the way to Little Switzerland. When you see the Blue Ridge Parkway overpass, take a left turn, it is the first building on the right.

Reservations: Reservations at the hotel are the responsibility of the individual (828-765-6276 or 704-517-6374). A special rate of approximately \$85.00 (plus tax) for most rooms (if you are doubling up with someone, there is an extra \$10 charge) is available for U.S. Subvets per night. Double rooms are \$99 and singles are \$69 (plus tax of course). This hotel has only 16 rooms but has made a deal with a hotel (Big Lynn Gap Motel) approximately 2 miles away for overflow at the same rate. Skyline Hotel will arrange for either hotel as appropriate. **DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL RATE IS 3 MAY 2013.** Check out the website at www.skylinevillageinn.com.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
2013 BURNSVILLE MEMORIAL SERVICE

FRIDAY MAY 17

1500-1800 Registration at Skyline Village Inn (just let Bell know you are there)
1600-?? Hospitality Room Open
Evening Meal will be on your own

SATURDAY MAY 18

1000 NC SUBVETS Meeting (Swearing in of Carolina Piedmont Base Officers)
1130 (approx) Lunch at Western Sizzlin (on your own)(for those that want to eat there)
1400 Memorial Service on Moonshine Mountain
1800 Catered meal @ Skyline Village Inn (downstairs)
1900 (approx) Karaoke for the evening (upstairs)

- We will caravan (or try to) to Moonshine Mountain from Western Sizzlin after lunch.
- Hospitality Room will be open during the day Saturday. After the service, there may be a showing of the latest Bilge Rat Productions Show.
- Evening meal is a buffet style meal prepared at the hotel.

COME OUT AND ENJOY SOME GOOD COMRADERSHIP, A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THOSE WE LOST ON WWII SUBMARINES, AND A GOOD HOME COOKED MEAL



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7	8 Region Conv. Charleston	—>	—>	11 Submarine Birthday! —>	12 —>	13 Wilmington Azalea Festi- val Parade
14 	15	16 Levine Children's Hospital	17	18 PP News- letter Deadline	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Base Meeting VFW POST 1730 Dinner 1900 Meeting
28	29	30	May 1 	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Newslet- ter Deadline	11
12 Mother's Day 	13	14	15	16	17 Burnsville	18 Burnsville Memorial
19	20	21	22	23	24	25

One way to support VFW Post 9138 is to attend their Sunday Morning Break-fast held on the **second Sunday** of each month from **8am to 11am**— Come on out! -

