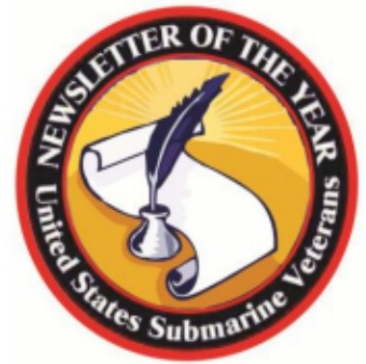


Piedmont Periscope



Piedmont Periscope

Holiday 2013

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USSVI Purpose/Creed

Our Purpose: "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."

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various pro-

jects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."

Lost Boats for November and December

USS CORVINA (SS 226)	November 16, 1943
USS SCULPIN (SS 191)	November 19, 1943
USS ALBACORE (SS 218)	November 7, 1944
USS GROWLER (SS 215)	November 8, 1944
USS SCAMP (SS 277)	November 9, 1944

USS CAPELIN (SS 289)	December 02, 1943
USS F-1 (SS 20)	December 17, 1917
USS S-4 (SS 109)	December 17, 1927
USS SEALION (SS 195)	December 10, 1941

"Sailors, rest your oars"

CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Steve Bell



It is now time to close out 2013. I would say we have had a pretty good year at Carolina Piedmont. We have again received some awards, increased our membership, had a wonderful annual picnic, and the list just goes on. Thanks to all of you for your support in each of these. Speaking of membership, now that it is December, we are rapidly closing in on when those that have not paid their dues will become delinquent. I cannot believe any Submarine Sailor wants that tag (again for some). As I write

this article, we have 25 members who still owe base dues and 26 that owe national dues.

There are some that owe only base, some only national, and some both. We need to get those dues into Raymond Zieverink, our Base Treasurer, so that he can get those funds to where they belong. We do not want to lose even one member, so please get your dues in.

And yes, it is also time for all of us to be in a rush as Christmas rapidly approaches.

Please be careful and don't rush too much.

We want you to be able to enjoy the season. By the time you read this, we will be right on top of our Christmas dinner at the

VFW. It is too late now to sign up for it, but I am sure it will be a good time for all.

The parade season closed out for us in Asheville this year. That was really a nice parade. However, it was cold in the mountains. I forgot to calculate for the wind and brought the wrong jacket. In any case, it is all done for the year and I would guess the first parade of the 2014 season will be a St Patty's Day parade.

Not sure how that schedule will play out, but stay tuned, we will let you know when we know.

Next year will be a National Election year for USSVI, as well as the organizations 50th anniversary. I do hope

you read the biographies of those running for office as well as whatever amendments are proposed that make the ballot and vote accordingly. Voting is easy on the USSVI website (the hard part is logging on). I hope we can even do better than we did in 2012 as a base.

I want to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you will all continue to help Carolina Piedmont Base continue at the stellar pace in 2014 that we have had in the past. We really have a pretty good thing going here.

— Steve

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	Ray Zieverink	ziev_ssn661@yahoo.com	803-324-1414
Chief of the Base	Rick Pettitt	chirp@ctc.net	704-784-1654
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



XO's Stateroom — Vice Commander Jack Jeffries

I want to take this time to wish each member and their family a Merry Christmas and a Blessed Prosperous New Year. We are slowly receiving dues for 2014, a reminder for those that have not renewed as of yet, if National does not receive your dues by 1 January you will be put on the dink list, if they have not received dues by the end of January, you will be dropped from the National roster,

that means you will also be dropped from our base roster. In order to belong to a base you have to be a National member in good standing. A brief reminder that Base dues is \$10 and National dues is \$20, if you are in doubt as to your status check with our Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink 803 324 1414 or email at ziev.ssn661@yahoo.com, he needs enough time to get the National dues to National by 1 Jan. Carolina Piedmont is proud of our retention rate and we don't want to drop anyone. PLEASE GET IT IN. We have now begun our school visits to present "The Submariner's Story",

I was accompanied by Paul Myers for a visit to the NJROTC unit at Sun Valley High school and by Rick Petitt to Cuthbertson High in Waxhaw NC, if you have a school (middle or high school) in your area, get me the information and I will contact them to line up a visit. If you are interested in visiting a school, let me know. The visits are scheduled during the school hours. Well I guess I will see you all at the Prime Rib dinner that the VFW in Fort Mill on 14 Dec, meeting at 1700, meal at 1730, hope to see you there. - Jack



When did this Flag fly in Our Nation's History? Find out on Page 14. Did you know that no US Flag has ever been retired? All are still "legal" Flags to fly and represent our Country.



October Kaps-4-Kids took Moe(SS), Colleen Moses, Cmdr Steve Bell, and Coordinator/Vice Cmdr Jack Jeffries to Victory Junction for Kaps-4-Kids. If you have never attended this is something you have to experience.

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.

Machinery One — Mike Hubbell, Base Secretary**Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes****For October 26, 2013****-Call Meeting to Order**

1900 hours, Base Commander Steve Bell called the meeting to order.

-Invocation

Walt Sealy gave the Invocation.

-Pledge of Allegiance

Steve bell lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

-Tolling of the Boats

This month's Tolling was given by Walt Sealy and Rick Petitt.

-Member Introductions

There were 26 members present.

-Reading/Approval of the last meeting minutes

The motion was made and carried to accept the September Minutes as posted in the October issue of the Piedmont Periscope.

-Reading/Approval of Treasurer's report

Ray Zieverink gave the Treasurer's Report of October. After a brief open discussion, the motion was made and carried to accept the report as read.

As of October 28th, 2013 the following funds were available.

Current Balance:	\$7,522.85
Kaps4Kids	\$2,470.67
Memorial Restoration Fund	\$ 542.50
USSVI Scholarship Fund	\$ 273.80
General Base Fund	\$4,235.88

-Old Business

None

-New Business**-War on Terrorism Memorial (Brick)**

Steve Bell reviewed the efforts to raise monies for a memorial in Holly Springs, NC. The cost of a brick will be \$50.00. A motion was made and seconded for the Base to purchase a brick. Motion passed. Treasurer is

Base Minutes (con't)

to forward the money to the Treasurer of the Nat Greene Base who is coordinating for all bases within North Carolina. Those interested in the purchase of an individual brick can go to the website [HTTP://www.thatsmybrick.com/eaglescoutdg/design-brick.php](http://www.thatsmybrick.com/eaglescoutdg/design-brick.php).

-SK Report (Calendars)

Jeff Nieberding reported that he is taking orders for the USSVI 2014 Calendars. Jeff will only be ordering enough calendars for those who requested and prepaid for them. Those members who want a calendar must contact Jeff. ASAP.

-Good of the Order

-K4K Report

Dale Moses reviewed the recent Kaps4Kids visit to Victory Junction. Dale and Colleen expressed the joy they experienced during their visit. 40 caps and various other items were given out to the children. This visit's camper were children with blood disorders. Moe, Steve and Jack all expressed their thanks for the Base's continuing efforts to fund this worthy cause and to encourage those members who can attend one of the events to do so. Those interested please contact Steve Bell or the Base K4K Chairman Jack Jeffries.

-Memorial Day 2014

Steve Bell reviewed the current plans for the NC Subvets' participation in the 2014 Memorial Day Parade in Washington DC. At this time the Carolina Piedmont Base will not be sending the Color Guard to participate due to lack of available personnel. The NC Subvets Torpedo Float has been selected for one of the floats to be submitted for the parade in Washington DC. Also, Steve Bell discussed the program on the 24th of May at the Navy Memorial regarding the dedication of the plaque that USSVI purchased. Further details of our state participation will be forth coming. Interested members should watch for details in the Piedmont Periscope and the NC Subvets' All Clear newsletters.

-Veteran's Day at Saluda Trail School

Jack Jeffries invited those members who can attend to come to the Saluda Trail Middle Scholl in Rock Hill, SC on November 7th. The event will last from 0830 until 1430. Various military displays and units will be present. Details and any changes will be forwarded to the membership via e-mail.

-December Meeting (12/14/2013)

Steve Bell reminded all hands that this year's Christmas Meeting will be held on December 14th, 2013, at the VFW in Fort Mill. Dinner will be provided by the VFW for \$10.00 a plate. Steve informed the members that this will be a short meeting and that only the Blessing and the Tolling of the Boats will be conducted. This is will be a dinner and a Christmas party. Those attending must get their reservations in not later than the next scheduled Base meeting on November 16th, 2013. This is to allow the VFW to order and prepare the food. Steve reminded all hands that there will not be any tickets sold at the door the night of the Christmas Party.

-VFW Fish Fry

The Fort Mill VFW will be holding a Fish Fry fundraiser on November 9th. The fry will be from 1300 to 1700 and the cost is \$8.00 per plate.

-USSVI 50th Year Anniversary

Steve Bell reported that to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of USSVI a special Challenge Coin and Patch has been designed and ordered. At the time of the meeting the National Storekeeper had not set the pricing.

Base Minutes (con't)

Steve felt the price would be \$15.00 for the coin and \$7.00 for the patch, and both for \$20.00. Steve or Jeff Nieberding will provide further details, when available.

-Veteran's Day Parades

Steve Bell reported on the up coming parades that the NC Subvets will be participating in November.

November 9th, Winston-Salem, NC

November 10th, Highpoint, NC

November 11th, Asheboro, NC

November 23rd, Asheville, NC

-Navy On-Line

Rick Petitt reported that U-Tube.com has a video called "Any Other Monday". This is a video interview of a Navy Corpsman who conducted CPR on victims of the Navy Yard shootings. Rick felt that all hands should view this interview.

-Burnsville Memorial Up-date

Steve Bell reviewed the current status on ceding the memorial to the NC Subvets. Currently the paper work has been forwarded to Tony for his review and acceptance.

-Autism Walks Review

Steve Bell reported that Base donations were far below expectations. This year the Base raise a total of \$350 for the Autism fund. Steve reminded all that in years past we have raised upwards of \$2000 for this event.

-Next Meeting

The next Base meeting will be on November 16th, 2013 at the VFW in Fort Mill. Dinner at 1730 and the meeting will begin at 1900.

-Benediction

The Benediction was given by Walt Sealy.

-Motion to Adjourn

The Motion to Adjourn was made and accepted to close the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by

Michael Hubbell, Carolina-Piedmont Base Sectary

Carolina-Piedmont Base Minutes

For November 16, 2013

-Call Meeting to Order

1900 hr. Base Commander Steve Bell called the meeting to order.

-Invocation

Base Minutes (con't)

Shipmate Walt Sealy gave the Invocation.

-Pledge of Allegiance

Steve Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

-USSVI Creed

Steve Bell recited the Creed.

-Member Introductions

There were 20 members present and 1 guest.

-Reading/Approval of the last meeting minutes

The motion was made to accept the minutes for the October meeting as posted in Emails sent to the membership. The motion carried.

-Reading/Approval of the Treasurers Report

Base treasurer Raymond Zieverink gave the report for November 2013. The Motion was made to accept the report as read, the motion passed.

Current Balance	\$7,618.15
Kapss4Kidss	\$2,470.67
Memorial Restoration Fund	\$ 542.50
USSVI Scholarship Fund	\$ 306.80
General Base Funds Available	\$4,298.18

-Old Business

-Brick

Steve Bell reviewed the purchasing of the of memorial brick. Since the approval of the purchasing of the original brick, Steve has received a notice of a larger brick with the NAVY Seal included for \$200. After a brief discussion, it was decided to keep with the original brick at a cost of \$50 as approved at the prior meeting.

-New Business

-Sailor of the Year

Steve Bell reviewed the Sailor of the Year program and the Base participation over the years. After a brief discussion the motion was made to donate \$250 for the 2014 Sailor of the Year Awards. The motion carried.

-SK Report

-USSVI 50th Anniversary Challenge Coin and Patch

Steve Bell reviewed the Challenge Coin and Patch. The Coin is \$15.00 each, the patch is \$7.50 each, and both can be ordered for \$20.00 a pair. Steve reported that the initial USSVI order of 500 each has already sold out. The USSVI National Storekeeper has reordered additional coins and patches. Base Storekeeper Jeff Nieberding will be taking orders, all members wanting coins and patches please contact Jeff.

Base Minutes (con't)

-2014 Ship's Calendars

Jeff reported that the calendars have arrived, those who have ordered calendars are to contact Jeff.

-Good of the Order

-Asheville Parade (11/23/13)

The NC Subvets will be participating in this year's Asheville NC parade. Those members wishing to attend should check the NC Subvet's Website for time and place.

-Piedmont Periscope News letter

Dale Moses reminded all members that the dead line for the December Holiday Issue of the newsletter is due by December 10th. Dale also requested that all members try to submit holiday memories and thoughts for the issue.

-Bilge Rat Productions

Moe and Raymond reviewed the visit to Crescent Ridge. Moe requests materials for the 2014 "Hee Haw" show. Foremost is the need for fencing material as a prop of the "cornfield" skit. Anyone able to help with this please contact Moe. Any suitcases and music stands will also be greatly appreciated.

-Flag Stars

Raymond Zieverink reported on presenting Flag Stars to fellow veterans on Veteran's Day. Those members wishing to have Stars to present should contact Cindy Petitt.

-School Visits for 2014

Jack Jeffries reported on preparing schedule for 2014 of school visits. Jack will be sending out details, times and dates via Email and the newsletter. The upcoming program will be covering both the WWII and the Cold war era. All members are encouraged to participate in this program when possible.

-December Meeting (12/14/13) (Dinner at 1700)

Steve Bell reminded all hands that this year's December Meeting will be a short meeting prior to the meal. The dinner will be provided by the Ft. Mill VFW at a cost of \$10.00 per person. All hands are again reminded that they must pay in advance not later than December 9th. Payment can be made at the bar any time prior to the 9th. Howard Murray reported that this year's meal will be Prime Rib.

-Benediction

The benediction was given by Walt Sealy.

-Motion to Adjourn

The motion was made and passed.

Respectfully Submitted by

Michael Hubbell, Base Secretary

Chaplain's Corner - Ray Fritz, National Chaplain



And to our Jewish Shipmates



This is truly a wonderful time of the year but for far too many folks it may not be so wonderful. Jobs, physical needs, personal and emotional difficulties, and/or death of loved ones all tend to dampen the celebration and rightfully so. In those moments, in those sort of circumstances, we can find the strength and the courage to go on in

the words of the Apostle Paul:

Philippians 4:11b-13 NKJV *I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹²I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

May you know and experience God's providential grace in whatever you may be facing and may you find peace, strength, and courage in the One Who knows all about you. May He bless you, in all things, as you celebrate Christmas.

Hanukkah (I thought you might find this of interest concerning this important Jewish celebration):

November 27 in the evening – ends December 5 in the evening. The first candle of the Menorah is lit at nightfall on November 27; the eighth candle is lit at nightfall on the last night, December 5.

Nov. 28 will be the first time - almost ever - that the two holidays will

share the same date on the calendar, and according to Live Science, it won't happen again for about 70,000 years. This is the first time it has happened since the late 19th century (1800s for those who don't recall).

Read more: <http://www.wjla.com/articles/2013/11/hanukkah-2013-thanksgiving-hanukkah-fall-on-rare-same-day-97344.html>

Hanukkah, pronounced *xanu'ka* in Modern Hebrew is known as the *Festival of Lights* and *Feast of Dedication*. It is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire of the 2nd century. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar.

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a unique candelabrum,

the nine-branched Menorah or Hanukiah, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. The typical Menorah consists of eight branches with an additional raised branch. The extra light is called a shamash (Hebrew: שמש, "attendant") and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest. The purpose of the shamash is to have a light available for practical use, because using the Hanukkah lights themselves for purposes other than publicizing and meditating on the Hanukkah is forbidden.

Christmas: (Let's take a short quiz)

#1: Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem:

- a. on a camel
- b. in a wooden cart
- c. in a Volkswagen
- d. with Joseph walking and Mary riding a donkey

The answer is:

#2: When Joseph and Mary finally arrived in Bethlehem, the innkeeper's actual words to them were:

- a. "Why didn't you

**To contact Ray for your Chaplain needs —
Chaplain Ray - raysabode@bellsouth.net**

make reservations?”

b. “Please use my stable.”

c. “There is no room for you in the inn.”

The answer is:

#3: The place where Mary and Joseph placed newly-born Jesus was:

a. a wooden cradle

b. a hammock

c. a feed trough

The answer is:

#4: The number of angels that spoke to the shepherds was:

a. a heavenly host

b. one

c. none

The answer is:

Well, how did you do?

Here are the answers:

A#1: [None of the above] Joseph . . . went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem . . . in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. Luke 2:4-5 (No donkey mentioned)

A#2: [None of the above] Luke 2:7 simply says . . . there was no room for them in the inn. (No innkeeper is men-

tioned)

A#3: [c – a feed trough]

Literal translation of the word “phaten” or “manger”. It was a trough carved in the stone in which the owner could put hay for the animals to eat. There would be no fire as is often depicted in pictures – that would be a fire hazard!

A#4: [b – one] One angel spoke. Luke 2:10-11 . . . *the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; “for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”*

He was then joined by a host of angels who began singing. Luke 2:14, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

We pray you had a truly Happy Thanksgiving.

We hope to see you all in December (the Lord willing).

Allow me to leave you with a few verses from the Scriptures:

Luke 2:10 *And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy*

that will be for all the people.

Luke 2:11 *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:14 *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”*

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

Romans 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

2 Corinthians 9:15 (KJV) *Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.— Chaplain Ray and Diana*

This

Space

Is

Blank

Because

You

Did

Not

Send

In

A

Story

Sit

Down

And

Write

!!

It's history!





From the COB - Rick Pettit

This is my favorite time of year and why not? The past few weeks were so jammed packed with wonderful events. Kings Bay WWII reunion was spectacular. We met new friends and old friends from years ago and it was such a great event to share with our friends. The food, parties, Sub tours

and camaraderie was the best. Follow that up with Thanksgiving with family and it just doesn't get any better. During the Thanksgiving holiday I met Sub Vet USSVI members 700 miles from home and it was like homecoming all over again. We have so much to be thankful for and we must always remember that we are able to celebrate this wonderful time

because of all the sacrifices of our predecessors, many who served in the US Navy and the Submarine Force. I remember their service constantly and am so proud to be a part of this great Navy community.



T'was the Night Before Christmas-Submarine Style

T'was the night before Christmas, and what no-one could see,

The men with the dolphins were under the sea.

Most of the crew was flat on their backs,

Snoring and dreaming all snug in their racks.

Those men on watch were making their rounds,

Some manning the planes or listening for sounds.

Back in maneuvering or down in the room,

They all hoped the on-coming watch would come soon.

I'd finished some PM's whose time was now

due,

And hoped for some sleep, even an hour or two.

Against better judgment I took a short stroll,

And found myself wandering into control.

The Nav had the Conn, the COW was in place,

The COB had the Dive and a scowl on his face.

The helm and the planes were relaxed but aware,

The QM and ET were discussing a dare.

To comply with the orders the Nav told the Dive,

To bring the boat up with minimum rise.

The orders were given

and soon they were there,

At periscope depth with a scope in the air.

The QM confirmed our position with care,

The broadcast was copied, we brought in some air.

The Nav on the scope let out a small cry,

He shook his head twice and rubbed at his eyes.

He looked once again to find what it was,

That interrupted his sweep and caused him to pause.

Try as he might there was nothing to see,

So down went the scope and us to the deep.

I asked what it was that caused his dismay,

He sheepishly said, "I'm

embarrassed to say."

It could have been Northern Lights or a cloud,

Or a meteorite he wondered aloud.

But to tell you the truth I guess I must say,

Whatever it was it looked like a sleigh.

And though it passed quickly and never was clear,

I almost believe it was pulled by reindeer.

We laughed and teased him and I got up to go,

When our moment was broken by "Conn, Radio."

They told us a message was just coming in,

We looked at the depth gauge and started to grin.

"Radio, Conn, I feel safe to say,

Your attempt at a joke is too long delayed.

If it had been sooner it might have been neat,

But I doubt we're receiving at four-hundred feet."

"Conn, Radio, you can come down and see,

We're not playing games to any degree."

I headed aft with nothing better to do,

Surprised by the fact it was still coming through.

It stopped and was sent
to control to be read,
The Nav read it slowly
and scratched at his
head.

Then again he began but
this time aloud,

To those that now
waited, a curious crowd.

"To you Denizens of the
Deep and men of the sea,
Who risk your life daily
so others stay free.

I rarely have seen you on
this, my big night,

For far too often you are
hidden from sight.

But purely by luck I saw
you tonight,

As your scope coaxed
the plankton to glow in
the night.

And lucky for me I've
finally won,

The chance to say thanks
for all you have done.

I know that you miss
your families at home,

And sometimes you feel
as if you're alone.

But trust what I say and
I'll do what's right,

I'll take something spe-
cial to your families to-
night.

Along with the gifts I'll
take to your kin,

I'll visit their dreams and
leave word within.

They'll hear of your
love, and how you miss
them,

I'll tell them that soon
you'll be home again.

It might not be much I
know that is true,

To thank you for all the
things that you do.

But I'll do what I can,
while you do what's
right,

Merry Christmas to all,
and to all a goodnight."

I asked for funny Christ-
mas Stories from your
Navy Days or time you
were on the Boat.

Rav Zieverink:

My Christmas Story oc-
curred in Dec 1982. My
wife Linda, Daughter
Amy (age 3) and I went
to our usual church
Christmas tree lot to pick
out a fresh Christmas
tree for our home. It was
a cold, damp, drizzle Fri-
day night after a long day
at work as we drove to
the church lot. I explain
to my daughter that once
we got there, I would get
out, look around and se-
lect a tree. I would then
bring the tree to the car
for her approval since the
weather was such that we
did not want her to be
expose to the elements.
Amy was ok with this.
So, at the church lot eve-
rything went as planned.
I found a tree, brought it
to the car for Amy's and
Mom's approval, which
they approved, paid the
lot attendant and we tied
the tree to the car roof.
Leaving the tree lot, Amy
became very emotional
and was crying in the
back seat. I ask her what
was the problem, did she
not like the tree. She told
be the tree was fine. I
then asked her what was
the matter. She said,
"Daddy, it doesn't have
any lights on it."

Dale Moses:

One of my last Christmas's
in the Navy had me and
my family in upstate New
York at the Nuclear Power
Training Unit. I was the
Section LPO in M-Div at
the time and we had the
day shift working rotating
shift-work. It was decided
that we were manning a
"skeleton-shift" meaning
that only watch standers
had to be in to man their
watches with their stu-
dents.

My crew decided that
since I was married and
had kids, and I had always
covered their "butts" when
needed was going to re-
ward me and keep me off
the watchbill. We had
enough "single-johns" for
staff pick-ups and sea re-
turnees that was okay with
me. I had another First-
Class that could take
charge and call me if I was
needed during the shift.

I remember there was no
snow on Christmas Eve.
My four-year old was wor-
ried that Santa would not
come because that was no
snow. Also I was sup-
posed to go to the
neighbors and get some
hay to leave for Santa's
reindeer. At least this was
the story the six-year old
neighbor boys told her;
and to leave it outside by
the steps.

(con't on Page 24)



Holland Club Member in the Spotlight— Jim Harris



Our Holland Club member this month is Jim Harris. Here is Jim's story: Jim and his wife Liz have lived in Fort Mill, SC for the past 16 years and now call it home. They have been married 51 years and have a daughter, Donna, and a son, Ryan, and four grandchildren.

Jim joined the Naval Reserve at the Knoxville Reserve Training Center in May 1956 while still a junior in high school in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. His reserve unit had a special Submarine Introduction and Study class that had around 10 members. He joined the class and decided immediately he wanted to be a submariner, so he signed up for a 2 week sub school as his first summer cruise in the summer of 1956. He passed the SA requirements while still in high school and elected the 8 week sub school the summer after he graduated. Jim entered college at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville that fall and majored in Electrical En-

gineering. He made Seaman some time during that year and signed up for Officer Candidate School (OCS), figuring it would be a good idea to be an officer, plus he had 2 years of active duty he had signed up for that was deferred as long as he was an Officer Candidate. He attended the first of two 8 week OCS courses in Newport, RI between his freshman and sophomore years at UT. During the fall quarter at UT he began to think through where he wanted to go with his life and decided he probably didn't want to spend the first 8 years out of college as an officer in the Navy, plus it was hard for OCS grads to get submarine assignments. So, he dropped out of the OCS program in December 1958. By the first week in January, 1959 Jim had his orders to report to the Naval Base in Charleston, SC to begin active service. Since he had already attained the rate of Seaman he was not required to attend Boot Camp, so he asked for and was assigned to the Sub Base at Norfolk. Jim knew through a reserve shipmate, already

on active duty, that the USS Requin SSR-481 was scheduled for conversion from SSR to SS in the summer of 1959, so he ask for and was assigned to the Requin when he reported to the tender USS Orion in Norfolk.

Life on the Requin was a fun experience, cool officers, great COB and close knit crew. According to Jim they had some pain-

in-the ass assignments, but did get 5 days in Bermuda before they hit the Charleston yards in May. Jim qualified (got signed off) then went to Quartermaster A School in Newport graduating in October 1959. It was about this time Dex Armstrong came on aboard. You have probably read some of his exploits while a member of the crew. They are all true, but he did leave off a couple of real zingers.

Operations after the yards consisted of 4 weeks out usually shadowing Russian freighters and trawlers on their way to Cuba, didn't know they were carrying missiles, then 2 weeks in for up keep.

They also operated with land based anti-sub P2v's and S2F's and the Valley Forge's anti-sub squadron. They did do some fun things like a week in San Juan, a week as a tour boat for the Azalea Festival in Wilmington, a week in Fort Lauderdale for something?, and a May to Sept. "good will" cruise to the Med. He notes that it was not a hard life, in fact it was really pretty good, but he was glad to get out when January 1961 rolled around.



Came out of the yards in September.



Editor's Note: Jim wrote this story himself. This was a big help to me who was a little "under the weather" at the time I interviewed Jim on the phone. Sometimes I need all the help I can get. — Moe(SS)

Holland Club Member - Jim Harris

Jim came back to Oak Ridge got a job as Patrolman with the OR Police Dept., got married to Liz and settled down. After a couple of years on the force he was offered a Technical Illustrator position with Union Carbide at its Oak Ridge National Laboratory facility and drew pictures for technical publications for 3 years. It was about this time the GI bill kicked in so he left the Union Carbide job and went back to school at UT majoring in Accounting.

Jim graduated 2 years later in 1968 and took a position with the national public accounting firm of SD Leidesdorf & Co. at its Spartanburg, SC office. His big challenge then was to pass the CPA Exam,

which he did in the spring of 1969. After completing the required two years of experience, he was awarded his CPA Certificate in the summer of 1970. He continued to work at the firm until he was offered a position with one his clients in Atlanta.

Jim has moved Liz around quite a bit taking them from Spartanburg, to Atlanta, to Fort Mill, to Salisbury, to Greenville, SC and back to Fort Mill. He felt that all the moves were beneficial to his career moving from Controller to Chief Financial Officer before he left the corporate world in 1996 to join Tatum CFO Partners as a Partner. His partnership offered top level CFO and Executive Management services to clients, and he enjoyed the free-

dom that went along with being a contract service provider.

In 2008, Jim and several of his partners left Tatum and formed ER Executives LLC continuing the same service they had been offering before, but with less of the big firm hassle. Jim says he is not sure when the fun and challenge of work will end, but not anytime soon he hopes.

Jim and Liz both enjoy being with all the members of the Carolina Piedmont Base and look forward to many more years of the comradeship we all share.

Thanks Jim, not only for the great story, but for your service. Jim continues to service in the Base Color Guard; and Liz and Jim can usually be found at our meetings when not visiting those grandkids.

Answer to the Flag Trivia:

The 35-Star Flag: This Flag became the Official United States Flag on July 4th, 1863. A star was added for the admission of West Virginia (June 20th, 1863) and was to last for 2 years. The two Presidents to serve under this flag were Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865) and Andrew Johnson (1865-1869).

**December
Meeting
Dec 14th**

**Meeting at 1700
Dinner at 1730
Tolling of the
Boats and a
Prayer by the
Chaplain
Dinner by the
VFW**

**Music after
Dinner**

New members

None for December, are you asking?
We all need to do our part.

Binnacle List

None known

December

Ray Fritz 12/06

Glen Snyder 12/08

Doc Hopkins 12/12

Nadine Connelly 12/13

James Hanks 12/16

Charles Breese 12/23

Ron Busila, Charles Campbell , and

Jeff Nieberding 12/26

Happy Birthday



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

December

Barbara and Walt Sealy - 12/7

Sandy and Al Westbury – 12/7

Wendy and Jerry Paciorek – 12/19

Donna and Glenn Harris - 12/28

“Once a wants to hold Public Office, he is absolutely no good for honest work.”- Will Rogers



SubVettes—President Sandra Myers

Hello Sassy Sisters,
I hope all is well with you and yours. Paul and I missed the last couple of meetings but I must say we have had a great time. Retirement is good for us. We have decided to go until we are not able to go. We have missed our dear friends at Carolina Piedmont Subvets and Subvettes. Just so you know

we are not upset with any of you we are just having fun. Please have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year from our house to yours. At our December meeting we will reveal our Secret Sisters we have had this year. Please know we will draw again at the January meeting

for 2014.
Carol and I will get the boxes ready first of December. If you would like to join, give me or Carol a call or email. I have done several service projects at the beach in our behalf. Take care and may we all be thankful for all we have. Life is very short; too short to sweat the small stuff. I would like



to thank all of you for letting me be your voice this past year. Love to all of you, Sandra

Tex-Mex Broccoli

A simple cheese sauce sparked with the flavors of the Southwest dresses up nutritional broccoli florets. Serve as an accompaniment with turkey fajitas, black beans, and rice.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup low-fat (1%) milk
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 ounces pepper jack cheese, shredded
- 6 cups small broccoli florets

Preparation:

In large saucepan, combine milk and flour and whisk over medium heat until no lumps remain, about 1 minute.

Stir in mustard, salt, black pepper and cayenne, and cook, stirring frequently, until lightly thickened and no floury taste remains, about 4 minutes. Stir in pepper jack cheese and remove from heat.

Meanwhile, bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add broccoli and cook until crisp-tender, about 3 minutes. Drain well and transfer to a serving dish. Pour in cheese sauce and toss to coat well.

Nutritional Information

Number of servings: 4

VETERANS NEWS
by the RAQ Bulletin

**Deadline for
the next issue
of the
Piedmont
Periscope
will be
January 16th.
Please have all
items to
Moe(SS) at
Edi-
tor_periscope@
Att.net
by then.**

Your Veteran News From the RAQ Bulletin

USS North Dakota (SSN -784) ► Christened 2 NOV

The Navy will christen its newest a \$2.6 billion attack submarine North Dakota, Saturday, 2 NOV, during an 11 a.m. EDT ceremony at a General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Conn. It is the first Navy vessel to carry the name North Dakota in nearly a century. The christening coincides with the 124th anniversary of North Dakota becoming the 39th state of the Union. "Very nice birthday present, this great submarine," U.S. Sen. John Hoeven said at the ceremony. Vice Adm. Michael Connor, commander, Submarine Forces, will deliver the ceremony's principal address. Katie Fowler, wife of retired Vice Adm. Jeff Fowler, will serve as the ship's sponsor, break a champagne bottle against a plate welded to the hull, and officially christen the ship North Dakota. The North Dakota, designated SSN 784, honors the state's citizens and veterans as well as their military support from the Frontier Wars through the Cold War and the Global War on Terrorism. Seventeen North

Dakotans have been awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in combat. "The work of the more than a thousand shipyard craftsmen The North Dakota, designated SSN 784, honors the state's citizens and veterans as well as their military support from the Frontier Wars through the Cold War and the Global War on Terrorism. Seventeen North Dakotans have been awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in combat." The work of the more than a thousand shipyard craftsmen and engineers who built this boat has helped make the fleet stronger and our nation safer," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus. "Their dedication and expertise has the world's most advanced submarine on track to deliver in early 2014, giving the North Dakota the shortest construction span of any Virginia-class submarine to date."

Next-generation attack submarines allow the Navy to maintain undersea supremacy well into the 21st century. They have improved stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and special warfare enhance-

ments that will enable them to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements. The North Dakota will have the capability to attack targets ashore with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and conduct covert long-term surveillance of land areas, littoral waters or other sea-based forces. Other missions include anti-submarine and anti-ship warfare; special forces delivery and support; and mine delivery and minefield mapping. The Virginia-class is 7,800-tons, 377 feet in length, has a beam of 34 feet, and can operate at more than 25 knots submerged. It is designed with a reactor plant that will not require refueling during the planned life of the ship – reducing lifecycle costs while increasing underway time. To view the ceremony via live webcast, go to: www.navy.mil. [Source: DoD Press Release No. 760-3 Oct 31, 2013 ++]





The Virginia-class attack submarine North Dakota

VAMC Columbia SC Update 01 ► Delays & Dust at Hospital Resolved

After a CNN investigation into patients who were left waiting too long for care and a WIS-TV investigation into a lack of surgeons at the hospital, officials at the Dorn VA Hospital claim many of the issues they were having have been fixed. Nine families in South Carolina have filed suit against Dorn VA over delay of care issues. Another 30 tried, but their cases didn't meet the criteria -- cases where patients were left waiting too long, and in some cases died. A statement from the VA says the Veterans Health Administration reviewed cases nationwide and created "processes and oversight mechanisms" to prevent issues from

happening at Dorn and other VA centers. "The consult delay at Dorn VAMC has been resolved," said the statement. "Additional staff have been hired to meet the demand for services and consults are tracked daily to ensure timely care is provided." VA officials also say 55 cases at the hospital were reviewed and they found 20 veterans were "adversely affected by delays in care. As a part of this review, it was determined that there have been a total of 6 deaths associated with the patients' underlying malignancy"

On a separate issue officials say the operating rooms should reopen next week, nearly two months after dust particles were found on supplies. Authorities said a disintegrating filter

caused the dust. The operating rooms at the Dorn VA Center were shut down on 18 OCT and surgeries were moved to other offices outside the hospital. Officials say the dust was part of a special filter that disintegrated. The maker of the filter told the VA it has never seen anything like that happen. Workers thoroughly cleaned the operating rooms, while doctors reviewed more than 1,000 operations going back to the summer. They found six infections, but determined none of them were caused by the dust. The operating rooms are set to reopen 2 DEC. [Source: WISTV.Com | Jennifer Emert | & Seattle PI | 22 & 25 Nov 2013 +]

DoD Benefit Cuts Update 25 ► All Conus Commissary Closing Plan Requested

Tasked by Defense Secre-

tary Chuck Hagel to find ways to preserve force readiness amid sharply falling budgets, his comptroller and the Joint Staff have asked the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) for a plan to close all stateside base grocery stores, say military resale community sources. Time will tell if this is just the loudest warning shot yet fired by a department desperate for budget relief, or if stateside commissaries, still enormously popular with military families and retirees, are viewed by current military leaders as a costly relic burdening a financially stressed force. Under Secretary of Defense Robert Hale, the department's top financial adviser, and Air Force Lt. Gen. Mark F. Ramsay, director of force structure, resources and assessment for the Joint Staff, reportedly requested the plan in a meeting with military personnel policy and commissary officials.

It was to be briefed soon to Deputy Defense Secretary Ashton Carter and Adm. James Winnefeld,

VETERANS NEWS

by the RAQ Bulletin

vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Another high hurdle if the plan is to be included in the Obama administration's fiscal 2015 defense budget request would be approval from the Office of Management and Budget and the White House. The military resale industry already has reminded Hagel in a letter that on 7 AUG at Camp Pendleton, Calif., President Obama told Marines that closing commissaries is "not how a great nation should be treating its military and military families." Also, First Lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden, the vice president's wife, have for several years led a nationwide initiative in support of military families, called Joining Forces. It is hard to imagine them staying

silent as action is taken to end prized discounted grocery shopping on base. Commissaries rely on taxpayer subsidies of \$1.4 billion a year to operate 247 stores worldwide. They now face their gravest threat in decades because of the budget sequestration tool formula in the 2011 Budget Control Act, and Congress' failure to replace it with a balanced debt-reduction deal.

Military leaders have testified often this year that they can't roll back weapon programs or shrink the force fast enough to absorb — in a balanced way — the \$50 billion a year in cuts demanded from sequestration. So operations, maintenance and modernization dollars are decimated to achieve near-term savings. Training and readiness are plummeting, say the service chiefs. In that environment, commissaries have become "ground zero" for deeper cuts, said an industry official. Those dollars are coveted to support other needs such as flying hours, ship streaming

days and troop unit rotations to combat training centers. Closing almost 180 stateside stores could free up \$800 million to \$900 million annually, by some estimates. Asked to confirm if Hale requested a plan to close stateside commissaries, Navy Cmdr. Bill Urban, a DoD press officer, said Hagel "has made it clear on numerous occasions that all cost-cutting efforts need to be on the table for [DOD] to meet the spending caps associated with the 2011 Budget Control Act. At this time, no final decisions have been made on the ... fiscal 2015 budget submission. Therefore, it would be inappropriate to discuss any specific budget decisions."

At a hearing 20 NOV of House armed services subcommittee on military personnel, its chairman, Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) asked DeCA Director Joseph H. Jeu about a directive the agency got from defense leaders in February ordering an independent study to cut commissary costs up to 28 percent. Wilson, who

promises to defend the benefit, asked when Congress could see the study. "Due to sequestration," Jeu said, "the department is reviewing all of its programs and nothing, including commissaries, is off the table." Jeu declined to discuss the directive or study further. But another witness did, Thomas T. Gordy, president of the Armed Forces Marketing Council, which represents brokers doing business with military stores. Gordy testified his group was encouraged over the summer to hear that the department was considering cuts for DeCA lower than 28 percent.

"However," he said, "in recent weeks we understand the Joint Staff has asked DeCA to look at cutting its budget 33 to 66 percent." Gordy revealed three ideas DeCA weighed in recent months that would lower patron savings but preserve stateside stores.

One would double the patron surcharge, from 5 percent to 10 percent of the cost of goods sold.

A second would increase commissary prices worldwide by 2 percent to 3 per-

cent, enough to cover agency costs for shipping goods to overseas stores.

A third is an “enhanced commissary” model that would allow stores to sell wine, beer and health and beauty products at a profit, to offset the cost of store operations. Critics worry this one could endanger base exchanges, which operate for profit. Some exchange profits fund morale, welfare and recreational facilities on bases.

With support from industry, commissaries have been shaped into a model of efficiency for the entire department, argued Patrick Nixon, president of the American Logistics Association, which represents manufacturers and vendors of products sold in base stores. Though commissaries have shared in the pain of sequestration, including furloughs and hiring freezes, Nixon said, “that may not be enough to feed the budget beast. Some defense planners want far more. They seek to reduce the com-

missary budget far beyond that being asked for any other defense program.” Commissaries save patrons more than 30 percent off supermarket prices, Jeu testified, with average annual savings for a family of four of almost \$4,500. Rep. Joe Heck, R-Nev., asked Jeu to react to the cost-saving ideas Gordy described and criticized. Each would lower patron savings, Jeu said. But Heck noted that doubling the surcharge, for example, would lower savings for a family of four by only \$225 a year, to \$4,225, to help preserve the benefit. Given fiscal challenges, hard decisions are needed, Heck said.

“We have got to look at the cost-benefit of each one of these, and I would encourage you to take that kind of perspective,” he told Jeu. [Source: Stars & Stripes | Tom Philpott | 21 Nov 2013 +]

DoD Mobilized Reserve 20 NOV 2013 ► Decrease of 2,344

The Department of Defense announced the current number of reservists on active duty as of 20 NOV 2013. The net collective result is 2,344

fewer reservists mobilized than last reported in the 1NOV 2013 RAO Bulletin. At any given time, services may activate some units and individuals while deactivating others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease. The total number currently on active duty from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve is 32,650; Navy Reserve 4,138; Marine Corps Reserve 1,993; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve 7,457; and the Coast Guard Reserve 376. This brings the total National Guard and Reserve personnel who have been activated to 46,614 including both units and individual augmentees. Since 911 there have been 884,786 reservists activated for duty. At <http://www.defense.gov/documents/Mob%20Weekly%20Report%2020Nov%2013.pdf> is a cumulative roster of all National Guard and Reserve personnel who are currently activated. [Source: DoD News Release No. R-028-13 dtd 20 Nov 2013 ++]

Military Trivia ► Historical Look at Diesel Boat Service

There have been many major changes in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service life since the WWII Diesel Boat Era. It might be interesting historically to note some of them. The attachment to this Bulletin titled, “**Historical Look at Diesel Boat Service**” provides a collective attempt at recollection of what was after the passing of a half-century. For some of the older submariners it should refresh some memories. Hopefully, the good will outweigh the bad. [Source: USSVI Connecticut Chapter | Michael Skurat | 17 Nov 2013 ++]





USS *Albacore* (SS-218) was a *Gato*-class submarine which served in the Pacific Theater of Operations during World War II, winning four Presidential Unit Citations and nine battle stars for her service. During the war, she was credited with sinking 13 Japanese ships (including two destroyers, a light cruiser, and the aircraft carrier *Taihō*) and damaging another five; not all of these credits were confirmed by postwar JANAC accounting. She also holds the distinction of sinking the most warship tonnage of any U.S. submarine. She was lost in 1944, probably sunk by a mine off of northern Hokkaidō on 7 November 1944. *Albacore* was the second vessel of the United States Navy to be named for the albacore. Her keel was laid on 21 April 1941 by the Electric Boat Company in Groton, Connecticut. She was launched on 17 February 1942 (sponsored by Mrs. Elwin F. Cutts, the wife of Captain Cutts), and commissioned on 1 June

Lost Boats— USS *Albacore* SS-218

1942, Lieutenant Commander Richard C. Lake (Class of 1929) in command.

1942 - Following shake-down, the submarine proceeded *via* the Panama Canal to Pearl Harbor and, from that base on 28 August 1942, began her first war patrol, to waters of the north and northeast pass through the coral reef which surrounds [Truk](#). On 13 September, *Albacore* sighted two cargo vessels in column and prepared for her first combat action. She made a submerged approach and fired three [torpedoes](#) at the leading ship and two at the second. One or two torpedoes hit on the first ship; none struck the second. *Albacore* claimed to have damaged the leading vessel. Her next enemy contact came on 1 October when she made a night surface attack on a Japanese tanker. She expended seven torpedoes and scored two hits. Although the tanker appeared to be low in the water, she was still able to leave the scene under her own power. On 9 October, *Albacore* spotted a *Shōkaku*-class aircraft carrier escorted by

a heavy cruiser and a destroyer, but the submarine was depth charged by the escorts and forced to break off her pursuit. The next day, she attacked a freighter. One torpedo hit the mark, and 12 minutes after firing, the sound of two heavy explosions caused the submarine's crew to presume they had downed the vessel. Beginning on the mid-morning of 11 October, *Albacore* was depth charged numerous times. At 1548, the conning officer finally spotted the Japanese attackers, two submarine chasers and an airplane. A third ship equipped with sound gear joined the group and continued the hunt. The ships crisscrossed over *Albacore*, close enough for propeller noise to reverberate throughout her hull and compelled her to proceed at silent running, with her ventilator fans shut down. After a chase of nearly seven hours, the Japanese ships disappeared astern, and *Albacore* then surfaced to clear the immediate area. The next day, *Albacore* headed for Midway Island. Although she had had several op-

portunities to score during the patrol, *Albacore* was not credited with any damage to Japanese shipping. The submarine arrived at Midway Island on 20 October and commenced a refit. With her refurbishing completed and a new Oerlikon 20 mm cannon installed, *Albacore* sailed on 11 November for her second patrol. Her assigned areas were the St. George's Channel, New Britain, along the east coast of New Guinea to Vitiaz Strait, and the Dallman Pass off Madang harbor. On 24 November, the submarine spotted a convoy of two cargo vessels. *Albacore* maneuvered into position and fired two stern tubes, but neither torpedo found its target. Two days later, on 26 November, *Albacore* herself became the quarry. Two Japanese destroyers depth charged her and the explosions caused numerous small leaks around the cable packing glands in the pressure hull. After a two-hour chase, the Japanese retired, and *Albacore* shifted her patrol area to Vitiaz Strait. Another golden opportunity arose on 13 December, when *Albacore* found

three Japanese destroyers. She released a three-torpedo spread but again was unsuccessful. On 18 December, *Albacore* was stationed off Madang. The submarine discovered what seemed to be a transport and a destroyer.

Albacore torpedoed the "transport," and it exploded in a mass of flames and sank. *Albacore* had in fact downed *Tenryū*, and the second Japanese cruiser sunk by an American submarine in World War II. *Albacore* put into port at Brisbane, Australia, on 30 December.

1943 - After an overhaul of her engines, *Albacore* got underway on 20 January 1943 to begin her third patrol. Off the north coast of New Guinea, she spotted 11 targets in as many days. The first group, encountered on 20 February, consisted of a destroyer and a frigate escorting a minelayer. *Albacore* fired ten torpedoes and believed she had sunk the destroyer and damaged the frigate. In the following days, *Albacore* attacked one tanker, several freighters, and another destroyer. Of eight torpedoes expended during these actions, all missed their targets. When *Albacore*

ended her patrol at Brisbane on 11 March, she was credited with sinking one destroyer and a frigate for a total of 2,250 tons.

Albacore was briefly dry-docked for repairs and underwent refresher training before sailing for a fourth patrol on 6 April. This time, her area was around the Solomon Islands and Bismarck Islands and off the north coast of New Guinea.

While she sighted several convoys, she recorded no hits. *Albacore* returned to Brisbane on 26 May. While *Albacore* was being refitted at that port, Lieutenant Commander Oscar E. Hagberg relieved Lieutenant Commander Lake in command of the submarine. On 16 June, *Albacore* was underway for her fifth patrol and waters surrounding the Bismarcks and the Solomons. During this patrol, she sighted three separate convoys and attacked two. *Albacore* claimed to have damaged a transport on 19 July but the submarine failed to sink any vessels. *Albacore* arrived back at Brisbane and began a refit alongside *Fulton*.

On 23 August, *Albacore* left to patrol roughly the same area as on her previous assignment. She

spotted a Japanese submarine on 31 August but was unable to press home an attack. On 4 September, she encountered a two-ship convoy protected by two escorts and sank one of the ships, *Heijo Maru*, with three torpedo hits made shortly after the initial contact. The submarine then pursued the other vessel for the next two days but was able to inflict only minor hull damage on her target. She terminated her patrol at Brisbane on 26 September.

Albacore's seventh patrol began on 12 October 1943. She fired six torpedoes at a large merchant ship on 25 October but recorded no hits. On 6 November, she received a report of a convoy which had been spotted by *Steelhead*, and began to search for it. On 8 November, the submarine found the convoy and started to track it. However, a plane from the Fifth Army Air Force bombed her and caused her to lose contact with the Japanese ships. The submarine sustained no damage.

Albacore was again bombed by American aircraft on 10 November. This time, the submarine suffered considerable damage. All auxiliary power was knocked out,

and the submarine was plunged into total darkness. The main induction valve went under water before it was shut, and it began filling up with water. *Albacore* plunged to a depth of 450 feet (140 m) before her dive was checked. For the next two and one-half hours, she bounced between 30 feet (10 m) and 400 feet (120 m) while at various attitudes. She finally managed to return to the surface with her trim almost restored. The submarine re-submerged, and it was decided to continue the patrol while simultaneously making necessary repairs. Following this ordeal, *Albacore* received orders to locate and attack *Agano*, which had been hit and damaged by *Scamp*. *Albacore* found *Agano* on 12 November and tried to attack, but Japanese destroyers held the submarine down with a four-hour depth charge barrage.

On 25 November, *Albacore* sank Japanese army transport *Kenzan Maru*. On her return to Brisbane on 5 December, Lieutenant Commander James W. Blanchard replaced Hagberg in command. *Albacore* departed Australia on 26 December to patrol north of the Bismarck Islands. She spot-

ted her first target on 12 January 1944 and sank *Choko Maru* with two separate torpedo attacks. Two days later, in company with *Scamp* and *Guardfish*, she blew up *Sazanami* (flushed by *Guardfish*) with four shots from *Albacore*'s stern tubes. Another destroyer pinned *Albacore* down and delivered fifty-nine depth charges, leaving *Scamp* and *Guardfish* free to pursue the three tankers; they succeeded in sinking one each. Following more than a fortnight of uneventful patrolling, the submarine headed home. She made brief fuel stops at Tulagi and Midway Island before reaching Pearl Harbor on 22 February. After three days of repairs to get her ready for the voyage, *Albacore* continued on to the Mare Island Navy Yard in Vallejo, California for overhaul. 1944 – *Albacore* left Mare Island on 5 May 1944 and held training exercises with *Shad*(SS-235) en route to Hawaii. *Albacore* reached Pearl Harbor on 13 May and spent the next two weeks on final repairs and training. *Albacore* began her ninth patrol on 29 May, and was assigned waters west of the Mariana Islands and

around the Palau Islands. In the next few days, she made only one contact, a Japanese convoy which she encountered on 11 June. But before the submarine could maneuver into attack position, a Japanese aircraft forced her to dive and lose contact. The Sinking of *Taihō* - On the morning of 18 June, two days after American forces began landing on Saipan, *Albacore* shifted from her position west of the Mariana Islands to a new location 100 miles further south. Admiral Charles Andrews Lockwood (ComSubPac) ordered this move in the hope of enabling the submarine to intercept a Japanese task force (under command of Admiral Jisaburo Ozawa) reportedly steaming from Tawi Tawi toward Saipan. At about 0800 the next morning, *Albacore* raised her periscope and found herself in the midst of Ozawa's main carrier group. Blanchard allowed one Japanese carrier to pass unharmed and selected a second one for his target. Once inside 5,300 yards, the submarine's Torpedo Data Computer started giving false information. To maximize the odds of a hit, Blanchard fired all

six bow tubes. The carrier was in the process of launching an air strike, and one of the pilots (Sakio Komatsu) intentionally dove his plane into a torpedo, setting it off early. Three Japanese destroyers immediately charged *Albacore*. While the submarine was diving to escape, her crew heard one solid torpedo explosion. About that same time, 25 depth charges began raining down on the submarine. Then Blanchard heard "a distant and persistent explosion of great force" followed by another. One of Blanchard's torpedoes had hit the carrier. It was Ozawa's flagship, Japanese aircraft carrier *Taihō*, 31,000 tons, the newest and largest in the Japanese fleet. The explosion jammed the ship's forward aircraft elevator; its pit filled with gasoline, water, and fuel. However, no fire erupted, and the flight deck was unharmed. The one torpedo hit on *Taihō* caused little concern on board. Ozawa still "radiated confidence and satisfaction" and by 11:30 had launched raids Three and Four. Meanwhile, a novice took over the damage-control work. He thought the best way to handle gasoline fumes was to open up the ship's

ventilation system and let them disperse. When he did, the fumes spread all through the ship. Unknown to anybody on board, *Taihō* became a floating time bomb. About 3:30 that afternoon, *Taihō* was jolted by a severe explosion. A senior staff officer on the bridge saw the flight deck heave up. The sides blew out. *Taihō* dropped out of formation and began to settle in the water, clearly doomed. Though Admiral Ozawa wanted to go down with the ship, his staff prevailed on him to survive and to shift his quarters to Japanese cruiser *Haguro*. Taking the Emperor's portrait, Ozawa transferred to *Haguro* by destroyer. After he left, *Taihō* was torn by a second thunderous explosion and sank stern first, carrying down 1,650 officers and men. No one on *Albacore* thought *Taihō* had sunk, and her skipper was angry for "missing a golden opportunity." After this action, *Albacore* was assigned lifeguard duty for planes striking Yap and Ulithi. On 2 July, *Albacore* shifted over to intercept traffic between Yap and the Palau Islands. The submarine spotted a wooden inter-island steamer loaded with Japanese civilians. *Alba-*

core decided to stage a surface gun attack. After ensuring the ship was afire, *Albacore* dived to avoid an airplane. The submarine surfaced soon thereafter and picked up five survivors.

Albacore put in to Majuro on 15 July. She was praised for an aggressive patrol and received credit for damaging a *Shōkaku*-class carrier.

American codebreakers lost track of *Taihō* after the Battle of the Philippine Sea and, while puzzled, did not realize she had gone down. Only months later did a prisoner of war reveal her sinking.

After a refit alongside *Bushnell*, the submarine began her tenth patrol on 8 August. Her assignment was the Bungo Suido-Kii Suido area, and, during this period, *Albacore* was credited with sinking two Japanese vessels, a cargo ship and a submarine chaser. The patrol ended at Pearl Harbor on 25 September.

Loss- *Albacore* left Pearl Harbor on 24 October 1944 (with Hugh Raynor Rimmer, Class of 1937, in command), topped off her fuel tanks at Midway Island on 28 October, and was never heard from again. According to Japanese re-

cords captured after the war, a submarine (presumed to be *Albacore*) struck a naval mine very close to the shore off northeastern Hokkaidō on 7 November 1944. A Japanese patrol boat witnessed the explosion of a submerged submarine and saw a great deal of heavy oil, cork, bedding, and food supplies rise to the surface. On 21 December, *Albacore* was presumed lost. Her name was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 March 1945.

Awards – *Albacore* won nine battle stars for her service and the Presidential Unit Citation for her second, third, eighth, and ninth patrols during World War II.

Source:
www.wikipedia.com



She came home with the hay on her wagon and put it by the steps. I was not working on that project fast enough, so she took charge (just like her mother). Oh great. Now I have to remember to take care of that before morning along with assembling all this “dolly stuff” for my two girls. Guess what? 14 inches of snow by six o’clock in the morning!

I got a call about 0615 from one of my MM2s who lived in an apartment complex about a half-mile from the farm house I was renting, “Mose, can you come get me on your snowmobile and take me to your house so I can get mine?” We both had snowmobiles that we had bought used in our little small engine repair side business that we ran out of my basement. He was the money-man, and I was the master mechanic.

I dressed and hopped on my snow-machine and went over and got him. The plows had not been out yet. I ask him if he want to take mine, since it was newer and bigger. He said no, and got his started and rode the ten miles to work and covered his shift.

He came back and spent Christmas with us. He

was “Uncle Tim” to the Girls. My daughter asked if Santa’s reindeer had eaten the hay she had left for them. The hay I had forgotten to cleanup, but luckily was covered with 14 inches of snow and I was able to take care of later. I told her “I think they must have, I surely did not see it this morning.” Which was truthful, I did not see the hay it was covered with 14 inches of that white stuff. You know, even after growing up in Michigan, I really don’t miss that “white stuff”. – Moe(SS)

Remember—

We’ll take your story anytime. It can be about your family, a shipmate, your first time at sea, whatever. The important thing is that you record this event for others to read. You may not consider that important, but it is a part of our history, write it down, pass it on so your great-great grandkids will have the right story. It’s important. — Moe (SS)

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. —Moe(SS)

ARTICLE XIII – QUORUM

Section 1. Twenty-one (21) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM).

Section 2. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a duly called meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Once a quorum has been established, no member absents himself shall destroy the quorum

Section 4. In the event of a quorum not being present, a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to some future time and date.

ARTICLE XIV – VOTING

Section 1. Each regular member shall be entitled to vote in the National Election, provided that the member is **in good standing**, both at the time his ballot is counted and on the date of the Annual Business Meeting.

1. Regular members in attendance at the Annual Business Meeting may vote on issues from the agenda and/or those presented on the floor.

2. Voting for National Officers and proposed amendments shall be done as prescribed in the National Bylaws. (C7/00)

Section 2. There shall be no voting by proxy; any member in good standing not voting will be considered as abstaining.

Next Month— Amendments.

Remember, you can access the entire USSVI Constitution and Bylaws on-line at USSVI.org. It's your organization, you can initiate change.

Bylaws (continued from October issue)

ARTICLE VI -- COMMITTEES

Section 1. DUTIES and DEFINITIONS

A. Duties of committees; committees function for the benefit of the organization and at the direction of the Board of Directors. All Committee Chairmen and all committee members, with the exception of those members listed by the position they hold within the organization, must first be approved or confirmed by the Board of Directors before the committee can operate.

1. Each committee shall have an operational manual for its committee which will outline the duties and procedures of that committee, its aims and goals, and operating procedures. The operating manual of each committee shall be submitted to the board for its timely approval. The board may also direct changes to the committee which shall then be put into its operating manual.

2. Committees shall also determine the need for an annual administrative budget, which may be funded through an annual budget request to the National Senior Vice-Commander for inclusion in the USSVI National Budget.

3. All committee chairmen shall annually submit a report of their operations to the National Secretary for inclusion in the committee reports; such reports to be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the pending National Convention.

B. Definitions of committees:

1. Standing Committees: Permanent committees that by their very nature require continuity.

2. Non Permanent Committees:

a. Annual Committees; Committees which shall be re-established at the start of each elective year.

b. Special Committees; Committees appointed as necessary, by the National Commander for a specific purpose.

Next Month Article VI Committees Section 2

Piedmont Funnies Page

On a bitterly cold April morning a husband and his wife in Minneapolis were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through."

So the good wife went out and moved her car. A week later while they were eating breakfast again, when the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through."

The good wife went out and moved her car again. The next week they were again having breakfast, when the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must . . ."

Then the electric power went out. The good wife was very upset, and with a worried look on her face she said, "I don't know what to do. Which

side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through?"

Then with the love and understanding in his voice that all men who are married to blondes exhibit, the husband replied, "Dear, why don't you just leave the car in the garage this time."

The Old Chief

The old Chief finally retired from the Navy and got that chicken ranch he always wanted. He took with him his lifelong pet parrot.

First morning at 0430, the parrot squawked and said, "Off yer hocks and don yer socks. Rev-eille"

The old chief told the parrot, "we are no longer in the Navy. Go back to sleep." The next morning, the parrot did the same thing. The old Chief told the parrot, "Look, if you keep this up, I will put you out in the chicken pen."

Again the parrot did it, and true to his word, the Chief put the

parrot in the chicken pen. About 0630, the Chief was awakened by one

heck of a ruckus in the chicken pen. He went out to see what was the matter.

The parrot had about 40 white chickens in formation and on the ground

lay 3 bruised and beaten brown ones. The parrot was saying, "By God, when I say fall out in dress whites, I don't mean f*cking Khakis!"

The Chinese Laundry

A man was walking through Chinatown when he noticed a sign reading: "Hans Schmidt's Chinese Laundry." Being of a curious nature, he entered and was greeted by an old Oriental man who identified himself as Hans Schmidt.

"How come you have a name like that?" inquired the stranger.

"Is simple," says the old Oriental man.

"Many, many year ago when come to this country, stand in immigration line behind a big German guy. Immigration

lady look at him and go, "What your name?" He say, "Hans Schmidt." Then she look at me and go, 'What your name?'" "I say, Sam Ting."

Understanding

Engineers

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer fumed, "What's with those guys? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!" The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!" The priest said, "Here comes the greens-keeper. Let's have a word with him." He said, "Hello George, What's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?" The greens-keeper replied, "Oh, yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime!." The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight." The

doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything she can do for them." The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

MURPHY'S OTHER LAWS

1. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
2. A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.
3. He, who laughs last, thinks slowest.
4. A day without sunshine is like, well, night.
5. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
6. Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
7. Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
8. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
9. It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end-to-end, someone from California would be stupid enough to try to pass them.
10. If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.

11. The things that come to those who wait, may be the things left by those who got there first.

12. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.

13. Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

14. God gave you toes as a device for finding furniture in the dark.

15. When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people, who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

A man walks into a bar. sits down and immediately hears a little voice that says, "Nice Tie". The man looks around and then hears, "Nice shirt".

The man, flustered, asked the bartender, "What's that voice?"

The Bartender replies,

"Oh that's the peanuts, they're complementary"

YOU HAVE TO LOVE A GOOD NURSE

A policeman was rushed to the hospital with an inflamed appendix. The doctors operated and ad-

vised him that all was well; however, the policeman kept feeling something pulling at his pubic hairs.

Worried that it might be a second surgery and the doctors hadn't told him about it, he finally got enough energy to pull his hospital gown up enough so he could look at what was making him so uncomfortable. Taped firmly across his pubic hair and private parts were three wide strips of adhesive tape, the kind that doesn't come off easily --- if at all. Written on the tape in large black letters was the sentence, "Get well soon from the nurse in the Landrover you booked for speeding last week."

Kind of brings tears to your eyes doesn't it?

Jim and Mary were both patients in a Mental Hospital.

One day, while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Jim suddenly jumped into the deep end. He sank like a stone to the bottom and stayed there.

Mary promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled Jim out.

When the medical director became aware of Mary's heroic act, he immediately

ordered her to be discharged from the hospital, as he now considered her to be mentally stable. When he went to tell her the news, he said, "Mary, I have good news & bad news. The good news is you're being discharged because since you were able to jump in and save the life of another patient, I think you've regained your senses". "The bad news is that Jim, the patient you saved, hung himself in the bathroom with the belt of his robe. I am so sorry, but he's dead."

Mary replied, "He didn't hang himself, I put him there to dry".

All joking aside -

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
And
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



Bilge Rat Production News—"HEE HAW" is Underway

Only one more show of the Halfway Night III series schedules for Plantation Estates on January 12th at 10:30 AM. It's hard to believe we are winding-down our third season and getting ready for our forth. Members are getting excited about the new show, which will be Hee-Haw.

It should be a fast-paced show with many of the old favorite skits, like "Grandpa, What's for Supper?"; the "Gloom, Despair, and Agony"; the Subvettes doing "Spreading Rumors"; "Charlie Farquharison"; the "Fence"; "Where Oh Where"; and of course, we can't leave out the "Cornfield".

We have some music by Jim Schenk, Carol Jeffries, Joel Tuchfeld, Jim George, and Sharon Weber scheduled in the show also, as well as a group gospel sing-a-long at the end of the show. For props, we'll have a moonshine still, that "explodes" at the end of the show; the Fence, Grandpa's Window, the Cornfield, and some others that we can throw-in as long as we can transport it. Howard and Monica Dachs are working behind the scenes

with Moe(SS), Colleen, and other volunteers over the Christmas break to make some of the props. We hope to show some of them off at the January or February meetings.

I asked for some items at work. I needs some bottles and such and my co-workers came through with some donations for items for the Hee-Haw Show. For odds and ends and monetary donations from Westinghouse employees: Mike Manning (muffin fan), Jane Faggioli, (wine bottles to make moonshine jugs), Brad Pearson (a set of Christmas lights for the moonshine still), and Jay Wellwood (who is also a Carolina Piedmont member – a cash donation for paint/materials). And to Bases members Al Westberry, Jim Harris, Paul Myers, and Rick Pettit who donated old luggage for the storage and transport of our props; which continue to collect in my attic, because we might need it again or can recycle it into something else. We thank all for your donations. And a special thanks to Howard Dachs for "finding" paint and primer at the dump for our project. And Ray

Zieverink for a small fan to maybe be used on the moonshine still.

Also a special thanks to Paul Myers for a cash donation to purchase materials for the HEE HAW Fence. We try to recycle, but at times we just cannot. Old building materials are also useful. If you are going to "toss-it" let us know, we can "toss-it" for you. Once a MM, always an MM; and before that, a poor Michigan farm boy.

Thanks everyone for your support, and we still need singers, pickers, etc. The "Donkey" will be painted on the "Fence" but with the "HAW" in Green letters. We hope to have a Carolina Piedmont Base Sticker adjacent to it.

The donkey will be about 18" wide and about that high also. We have the pattern, just waiting on the fence.

We are trying to build most of our items out of recycle or left-over materials. If you have some, let us know. 704-248-7610 or donutdad@att.net — Moe(SS)



We Don't Show Pics

I've been asked, "Why don't you put some pictures of the Shows you do at the Assisted Living Homes in the Periscope?"

Well the answer is that we really can't. We don't usually even take any pictures do to the fact that we have to respect the privacy of the residents and no publish their pictures. We are very careful when we shoot our video for YouTube that we shoot above there heads and only get the back of their heads in our video.

Our videos are on YouTube if you search for "Carolina Piedmont Base Halfway Night". You should get Halfway Night II and Halfway Night III. We do get stills from our shows at Jack's Picnic and the VFW benefit. We publish those, but cannot publish each one due to the size of the Periscope. Ray Fritz or Tom Kelly may have these as well as some of the other members.



Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14 SubVets/ VFW Dinner at Post 9138
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31	Jan 1 	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 PP Dead- line for January articles — 4 PM	10	11
12 	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 SubVets Meeting 1730 Meeting 1900 Dinner

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! -

