



**STATE**  
**COMMANDER'S CORNER**  
**.U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS OF**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**

"Spring is here, The grass is riz, I wonder where de flowers is?" Well, they're not here. How come is it that when I sit down here at the computer to compose my epistle for the ALL CLEAR the weather gets so nasty? Here on the Outer Banks the wind has been blowing a gale for two weeks from the N.E. With the ocean temperature about 48 degrees the wind chill is about 35 degrees. And, of course, rain to boot, mostly sideways. No wonder the flowers hesitate to come out. I haven't been warm since last October. That doesn't help in getting rid of a hacking cough and a stuffy nose. Oh well, next July we will be complaining about the heat.

I guess the big news event that happened was the Navy Commendation Medal award to Wheeler "Johnny" Lipes. This is being reported elsewhere and I won't elaborate except to say that N.C. SubVets were well represented at the ceremony. John Herina made a video of the proceedings and I have been making DVD copies from that tape. Anybody that wants a copy let me know and I will get it to you when I have

enough.

After leaving Camp Lejune Rose Mary and I visited with Everett and Margaret Morgan who live nearby at Cape Carteret. They have a nice place on the water near the ICW (that's Intercoastal Waterway for landlubbers). We enjoyed their overnight hospitality.

The April 2, Elizabeth City, meeting was attended by 45 hardy souls. Naturally, it rained in the morning but the sun came out in the PM and the wind started to blow. But that didn't spoil the camaraderie of the group. The usual contingent of our Virginia friends failed to attend but the SE Regional director, Ed Kracker, and June, were there and brought Pete Sococo whom we haven't seen for a while. Pete recently lost his First Mate. Howie Rice, our ex-state commander, sec.-treasurer (all at the same time), that we also haven't seen for a while, hitched a ride with Mike Burkholder and his group. Clair Blakeley came in from Md., and we had several guests. The meeting was conducted in the usual order starting at about noon with the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer. The Commander welcomed our members and guests. The excellent meal was buffet style and considering the quantity consumed must have been enjoyed by all. Before everyone fell asleep there were a round of introduction. Rose Mary Small read a tribute to Louise Rice, who passed away March 1. Tolling of the lost boats for Jan. thru March was read by Duane Gow and Bill Morris tolled the bell. After a minute of silence Don Small read a thank you letter from the Veterans History Project for sending the taped interview of Jim Harbin. It is hoped that many more taped interviews can be made in the near future. Chaplain Whelan announced plans for an S-28 newsletter to encourage reuniting those who served on that boat before she was lost. Bill also reported on efforts to resolve the disposition of the Burnsville Memorial.

Chuck Jensen announced that the June meeting would be at the Burnsville site and if you haven't got your reservation at the Nu-Wray Inn yet you better get going. Pat Collins conducted the raffle. First time visitor Tom Kelly won the 50-50 dollar prize. The meeting ended with a closing prayer. The Wheeler

Lipes award ceremony was shown on a large screen provided by the hotel. Dusty Lathrop provided a taped newscast of women interviewed for the Women's Veterans Project, Dusty being one of those shown. She served in the Women's Army Corp (WAC) in WWII.

Hope to see you all in Burnsville.

**Don Small**

## USSVI COMMANDER CORNER



Shipmates,

By the time that this issue of the All Clear is received by you, Dick Kanning will be our new District #3 Commander. Dick will be assuming this position during the Joint USSVI District #3 and WWII Southeastern Region Meeting held in Virginia Beach April 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to Dick as he assumes this important responsibility.

Since the beginning of the year, we have had a working meeting at Cary in February. Highlights from this meeting were:

- 1 Dick Kanning will chair the Burnsville Meeting Planning Committee comprised of Charlie Cross, Milt Stark, Bob Hopkins, and

Will Harvey. Details of the upcoming Burnsville Meeting in June are in this issue of the All Clear as well as a registration form.

- 2 What to do with Ollie Thompson's Mk 14 torpedo has been deferred until the next working meeting. Jim Myers brought the torpedo to Cary for those attending to see it. In the meantime, Jim is storing it at his house.
- 3 Dick Kanning reported that we have passed the 200 mark in getting the required 300 requests for the NC Subvet License Plate.

Also in February, we had approximately 30 NC Subvets and wives attend the Navy Commendation Medal award ceremony for Wheeler "Johnny" Lipes at the base hospital located at Camp Lejeune. Johnny is a Tarheel Base member who lives in New Bern and he commented on how much he appreciated his fellow submariners attendance at the ceremony. See the article in this issue of the All Clear PAGES 12,13 &14, about Johnny and what he did to earn the medal.

We had a good turnout at the Elizabeth City for NC Subvets first quarterly meeting of this year. Since our WWII members have lead for this and the Rocky Mount meeting in September, I will let Don Small provide you with the details of what went on at this meeting.

We have 5 base members who become eligible and will be receiving the Holland Club Award this year. They are Pat Collins, Robert Dabbs, Paul Greene, Ken Gustafson, and Don Morton. This award will be presented at the first meeting that they are in attendance at.

I have scheduled a base working meeting for Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> at Gary's BBQ located in China Grove. Bob Hopkins has made the reservations with the details as follows:

*May 14, 2005 from 1100 - 1430 with lunch at 1200*

*Great buffet all you can eat menu, Pulled BBQ Pork, Grilled chicken breast, Potato salad, Baked Beans, Brunswick stew, Cole slaw, rolls, hushpuppy's, Dessert: Banana pudding, Coffee and Tea all for 10 bucks...*

*Directions I-85 south bound take exit 68 go 1.5 miles on Highway 29 Gary's is on the left or I-85 north bound take exit 68 at the top ramp go left to highway 29 south, 1.5 miles Gary's is on the left*

Since China Grove is located on the south side of Salisbury, I hope to see more of our members from the Charlotte area in attendance. It is your turn to have the meeting location closer than the folks north of Greensboro.

Items that will be on the agenda are the final plans for the June 4th Burnsville meeting and what should we do with the torpedo that Ollie Thompson had gotten from the Navy and is presently located at Jim Myers' house in Walkertown. Please send me any items that you would like discussed at the meeting so I can add it to the agenda.

Also, I would like to know who will be planning on attending, so Bob Hopkins can let Gary know how many people he will have to feed.

Let's have a good turnout for this meeting and also Burnsville.

Also the use of our parade submarine kicks off again this year with the Memorial Day parade in Thomasville. Once I get the details on this parade, I will get the word out to everyone.

CHUCK

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## USSVI VICE COMMANDER



With spring amongst us, it is a real flashback as to where winter went, and how fast our busy time(s) are upon us. The awards presentation for Johnny Lipes was a real pleasure and honor to attend. I'd been in correspondence with Johnny for over a year on this, and it proves that Submariners are a proud bunch. He did not need/ nor want any 'assistance' in this endeavor, as he had his way and association to get what he truly deserved. Way to Go, Doc Lipes! I did manage to find a tinted picture of the WWII Seadragon thru a friend. With that, and a ships patch like the Seadragon would have had, and a "Steel Boats-Iron Men" patch, I made a presentation plaque and sent it on to Johnny. His words to me were, "Once a Submariner..." he has always referred to me as a Broken Bar which is a term for Warrants, as he was.

The election for District 3 Commander, of which I was in the running for with incumbent Ron Williams (N VA Base) turned out to be unnecessary, as Ron pulled his name from the ballot. As such, I'll be the next D-3 Cdr, effective upon swearing in in VA Beach at the D-3 meeting. It is my intent to remain a part of the Tarheel Base and NCSubVets, as this is my home. I appreciate the votes of confidence from all of you !

I will state that I am impressed by our new ERD, George Boyle. He was present at Johnny Lipes award ceremony, hosted a ER district CDR's meeting in

Durham to which I was invited and attended, and he'll be in VA Beach for our D-3 meeting. I can state that things are happening and are going to happen in our Region that will be of benefit. As events firm up, I'll present in VA Beach.

Keep in mind; D-3 meeting in VA Beach in a month and our meeting in Burnsville in June. Plan on being there and participate! With the patriotic Holidays coming, I'm sure we'll be able to continue to proudly show our colors.

The 'Books for Boats' effort has netted me approx 100 such items. Thanks to you (especially Bill McKay) I've sent 2 dozen to the SSN-777. COB Bubba Jones wasn't sure they'd be really appreciated in that the boat is in new construction, so he had me hold off more pending the reception he gets. We did get a nice letter from the PCO, thanking us for our sponsorship and receipt of American Submariner. COB Bubba has set aside time to visit us in VA Beach!

In closing, Wear your colors! A hat has netted our base 3 members just from me wearing one. Our base and chapter are ours and yours. No unit, however large or small, will survive without participation.

Dick Kanning

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## **SUBGALLION CORNER**

Let me start this column by setting the record straight. I have been spelling the name of our organization incorrectly. Subgallion is the way it's spelled on our charter. Thanks to Jean Parker our charter is framed and I am looking at it now. The North Carolina chapter of the wives of submarine veterans of WW II was granted a charter in 1982. Since that time, it has been in very good hands. The question now is how long can we keep it? Every member has served on the executive board. At the present time we have only three members on the board. Fortunately the workload is light. Our regional director, June Kracker, has been

very helpful and supportive. The most important position on the board is the treasurer's. We have the best. Jocelyn Bradburn does it all. She keeps the records, takes care of the money, sends in the control reports and reminds us when to pay our dues. Thank you Jocelyn. So to answer my question, I think we are good to go for another year.

I think everyone had a good time at the E. City luncheon. The food was great as usual. We had 42 North Carolinians and 3 Virginians attending. [Ed and June Kracker and Pete Sococo]

The Subgallions had a short business meeting. Jocelyn gave the treasurer's report and alerted everyone about her dues status. After lunch Don Small showed a DVD of Mr. Lipes receiving his commendation award and a video of Dusty Lathrop being interviewed for women in service during WWII history project.

It was with great sadness we paid tribute to our good friend and sister Subgallion. When Howie Rice spoke of his lovely wife Louie, his best friend and his dancing partner, there wasn't a dry eye in the room. Jean Parker told of her long friendship with Louise and passed around a picture of her and Louise that was taken at Rocky Mount. Louise will always be remembered for the lovely and gracious lady she was. We shall miss her.

Dalline and Shorty Lebonville had planned on coming to E. City, but the long ride would have been too much for Dalline. Our past state commander, Claire Blakley came from Md. We are very pleased that she is going to keep her membership in N.C. The Le Duc's came from Eastern shore Va. They are keeping their N.C. membership too.

Don and I are looking forward to the June meeting. Hope to see you there

State Commander  
Rose Mary

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



### THERE, BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD...!

Pete McFadyen, a quartermaster, and your Chaplain have something in common: we knew each other, we both served aboard the submarine BRILL, we both lived in Waterford, CT, and we both worked at Electric Boat. Pete McFadyen and North Carolina submarine veterans have something in common: we all have a tie with the submarine S-28, one of the 52 "lost boats." Pete was assigned to the S-28 on 3 July 1944, but remained ashore the following day to take a physical (S-28 went down, all hands lost, that following day). For us North Carolina submarine veterans, the S-28 is our assigned lost boat. Our charter? To perpetuate her memory and the memories of her crew. Pete set sail on his final eternal patrol on 13 March. His grandson, Jason Barnes of Shepherdstown, WV, read a touching, although not original, eulogy at Grandpa Pete's funeral mass. With a few, very slight changes, that eulogy, entitled, "Grandpa's Hands," could very well apply to any of us when we reach that point in our lives. It could apply, not only to us, but also to our Silent Partners. Though lengthy, we feel it worth repeating in its entirety.

### GRANDPA'S HANDS

Grandpa, some 80 plus years, sat on the patio bench. He didn't move, just sat with his head down staring at his hands. When I sat down beside him, he didn't acknowledge my presence, and the longer I sat, the longer I wondered if he was OK. Finally, not really wanting to disturb him but, at the same time, wanting to check on him, I asked if he was OK. He raised his head, looked at me, and smiled. "Yes, I'm fine. Thank you for asking," he said in his clear strong voice.

"I didn't mean to disturb you, Grandpa, but you were just sitting here, staring at your hands, and I wanted to make

sure you were OK," I explained.

"Have you ever looked at your hands?" he asked. "I mean REALLY looked at your hands." I slowly opened my clenched hands and stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up. And then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands, as I tried to figure out the point he was trying to make.

Grandpa smiled and continued.

Stop and think for a moment about your hands, how they have served you well throughout the years. My hands, though wrinkled, shriveled, and weak, have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. They braced and caught my fall when, as a toddler, I crashed to the floor. They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child, my Mother taught me to fold them in prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They dried my children's tears and caressed the love of my life. They held my seabag and wiped my tears when I went off to war. They have been dirty, scraped, raw, swollen, and bent. They were awkward and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn daughters.

Decorated with my wedding band, my left hand showed the world that I was married and loved someone special. They wrote letters home and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and walked my daughters down the aisle.

Yet, they were strong and sure when I pulled my buddy out of the water and lifted a rock off my best friend's foot.

They have held children, consoled neighbors, and shaken in fists of anger when I didn't understand. They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day, when not much of any else of mine works real well, these hands continue to hold me up, lay me down, and fold in prayer. These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of my life.

More importantly, it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when He leads me home. And by my hands, He will lift me to His side, and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.

I will never look at my hands the same again. Now God has reached out and taken Grandpa's hands and led him home.

When my hands are hurt or sore, or when I stroke the face of my child or my wife, I will think of Grandpa. I know he has been stroked, caressed, and held in God's hands. I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel His hands upon my face.

Go ahead. Don't be ashamed. Look at your hands. There, but for the Grace of God...! Bless you,

Chaplain Bill

## USSVI MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

### ATTENTION !!!!!

Tarheel Base dues are \$10.00 annually and non-life USSVI members will also owe an additional \$20.00 for USSVI National dues for a total of \$30.00. For all Tarheel Base or USSVI National Dues make your check payable to "USSVI TARHEEL BASE". Send your check for either Tarheel Base or USSVI National dues to Bob Werner 150 Wood Wedge Way Sanford, NC 27332. I will forward your annual national dues to USSVI. Holland Club Members who are annual USSVI member no longer pay USSVI National dues after they are inducted into the Holland Club. WWII members who are non-life USSVI members owe \$20.00 national dues. WWII members of USSVI do not pay Tarheel Base dues (just WWII Tarheel Chapter dues). All USSVI dues are due JAN of each year.

If you have questions call me at (919) 499-2210 or send an email to me at [bobwerner150@hotmail.com](mailto:bobwerner150@hotmail.com).

Paying your dues on time will keep your American Submariner Magazine and the All Clear newsletter coming without any interruption. **NOTE: when an address change occurs, including email address changes, you must notify me (Bob Werner at (919) 499 2210 or 150 Wood Wedge Way, Sanford NC 27332 or bobwerner150@hotmail.com) immediately so I can forward the changes to the National Headquarters.**

In the first quarter we lost 5 members leaving us with 115 members. Lets be active and support your base.

Bob Werner  
Membership Chairman.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### APRIL, MAY, JUNE

NOTE: If you do not see your Name in the appropriate month or missing please update your file on the Rosters of WWII and USSVI.

#### APRIL

JOHN BLOM

MICHAEL DUNN

WILLIAM E. EDWARDS

CLINTON W. EGERTON

KARL EVANS

ED GALAVIZ

ROBERT ATLAS HARRIS

DONALD HUSTON

LEONARD JACKSON

WILLIAM F. McKAY

DONALD C. SMALL

ROBERT STOWELL

OLIVER L. THOMPSON

#### MAY

RONALD BEAUCHAMP

WILLIAM G. DRESSEL

ROBERT FELLOWS

ROY HALL

DONALD R. HASELEY

GEORGE HECKER

CHARLES JENSEN

TERRY KUHN

JOSEPH E. MORGAN  
 THOMAS RICHY  
 KENNETH SIGWORTH  
 LINWOOD SUTTON  
 CHARLES B.TOLBERT  
 LARRY C. TRAVIS  
 SCOTT WADDLE  
 HERMAN ZIEGLER

**JUNE**

ANDREW F. DELL  
 FREDERICK FORST  
 DUANE E. GOW  
 GRAIG HARDY  
 WILLIAM HARVEY  
 MANLY HUDSON  
 STANLEY A. MOORE  
 ROBERT JACKSON SLOOP

**BOOSTER CLUB DONATIONS - 2004**

NAME	DATE	AMOUNT
BILL BRADBURN	8/7/04	25.00
<b>NC USSVI</b>	<b>10/5/04</b>	<b>672.00</b>
EVERETT ERB	10/22/04	10.00
ROBERT BLACK (CAPT)	11/10/04	10.00
SHORTY LEBONVILLE	12/04/04	20.00
BILL MORRIS	12/04/04	20.00
CHARLES MEYER, JR.	2/04/05	10.00
HAROLD STEED	2/09/05	5.00
JOHN BLOM	2/12/05	5.00
DONALD LE DUC	2/12/05	25.00
KARL EVANS	2/15/05	10.00
BILL BRADBURN	4/02/05	25.00
<b>NC USSVI</b>	<b>4/15/05</b>	<b>233.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1070.00</b>

**WWII TREASURER'S  
 CORNER**

**2005/2006 DUES, LET'S DO 100%**

**July is the dead line for Renewal of  
 WWII Sub Vet 2006 dues, Life  
 members owe \$10, Annual members  
 owe \$15 and Associates owe \$20, if  
 you have not already paid your dues  
 please forward all payments to Jim  
 Myers, 4905 Reidsville Rd.  
 Walkertown, N.C. 27051. See the note  
 in the Editors corner about where you  
 stand on DUES.**

**USSVI TREASURER REPORT**

Starting the Year	\$3955.68
Income 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	\$1093.18
Expense 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	\$ 1421.94
Balance end of Quarter	\$ 3626.92

## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

### **THIS APPLIES ONLY TO WWII VETS and ASSOCIATES**

**As an attempt to help all of us to remember our dues and time to pay them, we have a new way of informing everyone where they stand and keep it private to the individual. LOOK AT THE ADDRESS LABEL ON YOUR ALL CLEAR, SEE THE NUMBERS AFTER YOUR NAME, You are paid up to JULY of that year. Example: if 2005 is the number, you are paid up until July 2005 at which time your dues are due.**

Our Storekeeper informs me he has GOLD BUCKLES with Brown and Black Belts for the O types. Please contact Mike Burholder if you are in need of any of our Submarine trinkets.

## **THE TRADITION CONTINUES**

In May of 2004, Joel Gow, grandson of Duane & Millie Gow graduated from the U S Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD. Duane is a USSVI Life Member. Joel graduated 5th in a class of 980 midshipmen. He is now doing post graduate work in Monterey, Calif. When he finishes his post grad work in May he is scheduled to begin flight training at Pensacola, Florida. His grandfather (Duane Gow) tried to convince him to go to submarine school but he wants to fly. He did do one of his summer assignments aboard the USS Maryland.

Joel's younger brother, Erik, has now been accepted into the Naval Academy and will begin his studies there as a member of the class of 2009 in June. Maybe grandpa will be able to convince him to go for dolphins instead of wings!

Congratulations to Joel and Erik.

## **FAIRWELL DEAR LADY LOUISE**

Louise Hester Rice passed in the early hours of Monday morning, February 21, at Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home. She came to Winston-Salem with her father, Louis Reinhart Wolf and mother, Evelyn Carter Wolf and sister Jane from Baltimore in 1934. She was married to James William Hester in 1937 until his death in 1987. She married Howell Barbee Rice in 1989. She leaves behind daughters Carol Hester Tyndall and Nancy Hester Oakes and son, James William Hester Jr. Additional survivors are stepdaughters Linda Susan Davey and Elizabeth Anne Rice Ciccolella and stepsons Paul Andrew Rice and Timothy Stephen Rice. Also surviving are 13 grandchildren. Mrs. Rice attended the First Church of Christ Scientist in Winston-Salem for 67 years and was a tireless worker for the church. She was also active in the Republican Women's Club of Forsyth County for many years and enjoyed volunteering for several years at Reynolda House as a guide. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to The Salvation Army, 1255 Trade St., 27101, or Reynolda House Museum of American Art, 2250 Reynolda Rd., 27106.

## **NEED A RIDE**

Anyone who would like to attend any of the NC SUB VET meetings or working meetings and can't drive or does not have a way to get to the meetings can contact:::

**BILL LOWE AT [dg105200@bellsouth.net](mailto:dg105200@bellsouth.net) or  
CALL HIM AT (919) 851 3415**

Bill will get in touch with the USSVI Board Members and have someone contact you and arrange transportation to the meetings.

We intend to refine this process at our next working meeting so if you have any suggestions contact Bill or any of the USSVI Board Members and the subject will be discussed.