



Carolina Piedmont Base of the USSVI presents the

Piedmont Periscope

April 2017

Sections of the USSVI Creed

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USSVI Creed

Nearly 4,000 submariners have sacrificed their lives on the altar of American freedoms. It is the primary mission of USSVI to perpetuate their memory through memorials and "tolling the boats" memorial services. Per the USSVI Constitution Article III the Purpose/Creed consists of three sections:

Creed:

Section 1: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their 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.

Camaraderie:

Section 2: In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI provides a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. The common heritage as Submariners is strengthened by camaraderie. USSVI supports a strong United States Submarine Force.

Perpetual Remembrance:

Section 3: The organization engages in various projects and deeds that bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice.

USSVI also endeavors to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services United States submariners performed and how the sacrifices of lost shipmates made possible the freedom and lifestyle Americans enjoy today.



*Lost Boats for April
"Sailors, rest your oars"*

USS PICKEREL

(SS 177) April 3, 1943

USS GRENADIER

(SS 210) April 22, 1943

USS GUNGEON

(SS 211) April 18, 1944

USS SNOOK

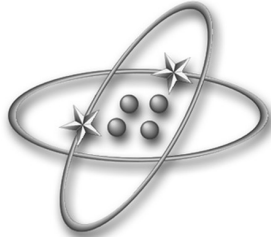
(SS 279) April 8, 1945

USS THRESHER

(SSN 593) April 10, 1963



CO's Stateroom— Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Pettit



Commander's Stateroom

April 2017

Hope everyone had a great Easter this month. Spring is one of my favorite times of year with the trees and flowers blooming and the weather warming up. There are lots of activities coming up and I look forward to a great spring and

summer starting with the Burnsville event next month.

This was an eventful month for some of our USSVI activities that I was happy to participate in. First I was asked to perform our Eagle Scout presentation for a young scout in Stanley, NC. If you have not been to one of these presentations or if you would like to be involved, please contact me and I'd be happy to introduce you to one of the best community service activities we offer. It gives a real life perspective on the accomplishments of the Eagle Scout and is always greatly appreciated by the Eagle Scout, family and friends.

This presentation was by far the best and most important one I have been associated with because the Eagle Scout has already joined the US Navy and is going to serve onboard a US Nuclear Submarine as a Machinist Mate, A-Ganger. The scout and his whole family were so grateful for the recognition. The scout's,

Navy Recruiter was in attendance as well as dozens of other veterans from all services. The service was an hour long but it took me two hours to leave due to all the Sea Stories that were shared.

The second event was a military appreciation event at Shelby High School. In attendance were Jack Jeffries, Lee Hickerson, Bob Schilke, and myself. We met dozens of other veterans and military organizations and made a lot of new friends in the process.

I encourage all of you to get involved in one or more of our activities and enjoy the camaraderie that we all share.

Rick Pettit



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**XO's Stateroom —
Vice Commander
Jack Jeffries**

Spring has sprung, the only things I would like to report is that at our March meeting we had two new members join us, John Schons and Chad Gordon,

John was RM2(SS) qualified on SSBN 655 in 1971. Chad was MM1(SS) qualified 2000 on SSN 773, welcome to them both.

The Bilge rats will present their Show at Plantation Estates in Matthews NC on April 22nd.

Steve Bell conducted an Eagle Scout program in Gastonia NC and Rick Petitt conducted an Eagle Scout

program in Stanley NC.

Rick, Steve White and I will present the Submariner Story at the Ft. Mill High School on May 5th trying to put together different teams in different area for these programs, please let me know if you have thoughts on this matter.

Please make note that the new MEETING TIME IS 1830 WITH MEAL STILL AT 1730, Looking forward to seeing you the next meeting 22 April.

Stay Safe,

jack



Chief of the Base



From The COB—Joel Sparnon MM2(SS)



Note from the Editor,

The COB is now traveling for his civilian job and will return next time with short note...

RM2(SS)



Transition help!

1. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Two to three hours after you fall asleep, have your wife whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble "Sorry, wrong rack".

2. Repeat back everything anyone says to you.

3. Spend as much time as possible indoors and avoid sun light. Only view the world through the peep hole on your front door.

4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub and move the shower head down to chest level. Shower once a week. Use no more than 2 gallons of water per shower.

5. Buy a trash compactor and use it once a week. Store garbage in the other side of your bathtub.

6. Sit in your car for six hours a day with your hands on the wheel and the motor running, but don't go anywhere. Install 200 extra oil temperature gauges. Take logs on all gages and indicators every 30 minutes.



Comm Center — Tom Kelly, Base Secretary**March Meeting Minutes****CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Carolina Piedmont Base Commander Rick Petitt called the meeting to order @ 1900 hrs. at the VFW Post located in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

INVOCATION

Carolina Piedmont Base Chaplain Tom Hulme gave us tonight's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All joined together in saying our nation's Pledge of Allegiance.

USSVI CREED

The USSVI Creed was recited tonight by Jim Reeves.

TOLLING OF THE BOATS

Tolling for the lost boats in March was presented by Tom Hulme and Joel Sparnon.

MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

There were 32 members present at this month's meeting including 2 new first-timers who joined us tonight. We wish to welcome Chad Gordon from Mooresville and John Schons from Charlotte to our base.

Tonight, Raymond Fritz was recognized due to just over 58 years ago Ray was onboard the USS Skate (SSN-578) when it was the first submarine to surface at the North Pole on March 17, 1959.

MEMBER AWARDS**Holland Club**

There were 5 members recognized at tonight's meeting for induction into the prestigious Holland Club. The Holland Club recognizes members who have been qualified in submarines for 50 years or longer. Members Clarence Jordan and Joel Tuchfeld attending tonight's meeting and were presented with their Holland Club certificates. Members Paul Simerly, Jay Andress and John Rupertus also now qualified for 50 years did not attend tonight's meeting. Congrats to our newest Holland Club members.

Service Awards

10-Years: Members Paul Myers, Jack Jeffries & Paul Trexler

Attaboy Award

Member Al Westberry was awarded an Attaboy Award tonight for all his behind-the-scenes work with our bases' fall/picnic meetings where he sets up the outdoor sound equipment for music and our post-meeting karaoke entertainment. In addition, Al has donated equipment used for entertainment to the base for our continued future use. Thanks a bunch Al!

March Minutes Continued

READING/APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES

The February 2017 base meeting minutes were posted in the March issue of the Piedmont Periscope which was emailed out to members on March 23rd for review.

One correction was noted to February minutes related to the posted treasurer's report where the date listed for the current base balances was the January date from the previous meeting verses what should have been the date of February 18th for the current meeting. The actual dollar figures presented by the treasurer for February were listed correctly.

A motion was made to accept the February minutes as corrected; no further discussion and the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Base Treasurer Raymond Zieverink presented the treasury report thru March 25th, 2017 at tonight's meeting; see table below for actual figures.

One item to note was a donation was received in memoriam to the passing of Hal Rutter; the monies received were applied to our Kaps-4-Kids fund.

A motion was made to accept the March treasurer's report as presented; no discussion and the motion passed.

Category	Balances as of 3/25/2017	Last Reported Balances
Kapss-4-kidss Fund	\$911.50	\$810.50
Moonshine Mtn Memorial Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
NC Air Museum	\$117.00	\$117.00
Scholarship Fund	76.00	\$53.00
General Base Fund	\$5,087.08	\$5,102.21
Total Balances	\$ 6,191.58	\$ 6,082.71

SK REPORT

Our base storekeeper Jeff Nieberding was out of town this weekend so no SK report was given.

NOTE: Information about what our storekeeper can supply can also be read in each edition of our Piedmont Periscope publication.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Microphone for Bilge Rats

A new microphone was needed for use during our Bilge Rats productions. The cost of the new omni-

March Meeting Minutes

directional microphone and associated cables was \$154.01. A motion was made for the base to cover the cost of the new equipment after some discussion the motion passed.

Hal Rutter Shadow Box

After Hal Rutter's passing a shadow box was assembled using Hal Rutter's USSVI vest in honor of his service and presented to Hal's wife Dee; there was a cost of \$51.75 for the materials needed to make the shadow box. A motion was made that the base would split the cost of the materials with our bases' lady Subvettes. After discussion, we wanted to cover the entire cost of the shadow box from our men's treasury. The original motion was withdrawn and a new motion was made for us to cover the entire cost of the shadow box. We checked with the ladies first to make sure we didn't get ourselves in trouble (smart guys) and when they said okay the motion passed. :-)

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Base Officer Elections

Our election master Dale Moses reported the email votes were tallied to officially elect our persons to serve for the next two-year terms as base officers. Dale also reported there were no write-in names submitted.

Re-elected to serve as base officers for the next two years are:

Base Commander – Rick Petitt

Base Vice Commander – Jack Jeffries

Base Treasurer – Raymond Zieverink

Base Secretary – Tom Kelly

Congratulations goes out to our re-elected base officers; officers who attend will be sworn in at our May gathering at Burnsville.

A special thank you goes out to Dale Moses for coordinating re-election of our base officers.

Meeting Time Discussion

Two Aspects of this Discussion:

First discussion of our fall/winter meeting times: We tabled until later in the summer the possibility of moving our late fall and winter meeting times up to the afternoon to allow members the ability to drive in the daylight. This discussion will continue again after summer is over. There would have to be coordination with the VFW to open their doors earlier.

Second discussion was changing our normal start of our meetings to earlier: A recommendation was to move the start time of our meeting to earlier (change from 1900 to 1830). Our mealtime would continue to start at 1730 and clean-up has normally been finished by 1830 so members agreed on a trial-basis to start our monthly base meeting at 1830 in lieu of 1900 which would be immediately after our clean-up is finished.

March Meeting Minutes

Jack Jeffries sent out an email on March 31st to base members notifying them that our next base meeting (on April 22nd) will start at 1830. This message is especially for those members that won't make the pre-meeting meal.

Victory Junction Visit

Steve, Rick and Joel & Karen Sparnon traveled for a chance to meet the special kids at Victory Junction for our first visit of the year. Rick mentioned this happens to be our 8th year now being able to participate at these gatherings of special children.

Victory Junction is special because it allows children to do anything they are capable of doing related to sports or entertainment. Victory Junction's motto is "NO-NO" – meaning there's nothing these children can't do.

Joel reported the special time they all had with the children including some great one-on-one time. There was a talent show this visit where the children performed various kinds of entertainment including singing, dancing and funny jokes.

Our next Victory Junction visit will be during the "Nascarival" weekend where Jim and Liz Harris have been invited to attend.

Bilge Rats-Update

We had two Bilge Rats shows since last meeting, one on Sat. Feb. 25th at the Crescent Heights Senior Living Center in Concord NC and the other on March 25th was at Plantation Estates in Matthew where there were over 60 guests at the show who really got into the spirit of things!

Our next Bilge Rat show is on April 22nd at the Terrace Ridge Assisted Living in Gastonia at 10:30 AM. This will be our last show of the Weather Channel parody.

Next season the Bilge Rat production crew will be performing Hee Haw Revisited.

Color Guard Events, Eagle Scouts, Sub Education Programs-Updates

On April 30th at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill SC at 3 PM there will be the next Massing of the Colors event. Dale will be contacting members of the base color guard to determine their availability. It is also noted that anyone from the base can attend this event which is quite the patriotic affair.

Dale reminded us our color guard will have the privilege of presenting the colors at the Charlotte' Knight's BB&T ballpark in May for the Memorial Day weekend. The date for this event is Saturday, May 27th at 7 PM. Contact Dale for tickets for this event; tickets are very reasonable at \$18 per seat.

Since last meeting, Steve Bell presented an honorary submariner certificate and patch to a brand-new Eagle Scout at the Antioch Lutheran Church in Dallas, NC.

Next school submarine presentation will be at Fort Mill on Thursday, May 4th

SERD Regional Convention

And More March Meeting Minutes

Since our meeting on the 25th of March, Steve Bell has had to cancel our South East Regional Conference due to not enough attendees signing up for this event. See Jack Jeffries email sent out on April 4 related to the cancelation of this conference.

Moonshine Mountain-Updates

Dale prompted us about the Halfway Night festivities when we meet on the 19th & 20th of May at Moonshine Mountain. On Friday night, there will be either a karaoke night or if enough musicians with instruments show up there will be a jam session. The top award for the Halfway night festivities is the coveted Crusty Sock Award.

Reminder the raffle of the submarine model will be held at Burnsville that weekend. Tickets are still available at \$5 each with proceeds going to the Burnsville Memorial Restoration Fund.

OPEN IMC

Dale Moses, who is also a member of the VFW post where we meet, says they have movie nights at the VFW and we're always welcome to join them for that gathering.

Tom Hulme reminded us of prayer needs for Jim Schenk and Robert Howell. Robert's wife Emma said he would love to have visitors stop by to say Hi.

PIEDMONT PERISCOPE

All hands are reminded that any news items they want to be included or considered for the next issue of the Piedmont Periscope newsletter that all submissions need to be sent to Robert Schilke no later than the 15th of each month.

NEXT BASE MEETING

The next base meeting will be held on the fourth Saturday in April on the 22th at the Fort Mill VFW. **REMINDER:** Our meal time will remain the same time starting at 1730 but our meeting time is now moved up to starting at 1830 (1/2 hour earlier than our usual meeting starting time).

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 2012 hours; the motion passed.

BENEDICTION

Tonight's Benediction was given by Base Chaplain Tom Hulme.

RAFFLE RESULTS

Tonight's raffle was won by our base Jim Harris!

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By:

Tom Kelly

Base Secretary

Chaplain's Corner, Tom Hulme



Hard to believe we are already 4 months into 2017, seems like it was just a few weeks ago we were wishing each other Happy New Year! But that's what I've always been told, the older you get the faster the days go by, and it is a reality we all must deal with and the reality is we don't get any time bonus our days are numbered by the Lord before we start this journey so we must hold each day as a treasure!

I am composing this Chaplains Corner after returning home from Easter Sunday Service and also as we celebrate our 29th Wedding Anniversary.....time really does fly by!

There seems to always be a need for more time and I continue on a frequent basis to discover that I cannot accomplish what I use to in the time I use to do it.....seems like things should get done quicker the more experience you have doing it, but the

reality is I move a lot slower than I use to!

I heard on a radio devotional a couple of years back, the opinion of the fellow that was giving the talk, conveyed that God didn't intend for us to multi-task, that multi-tasking is a development of the world and that we need to try to wean ourselves from the multi-tasking frenzy we are in and focus on fewer things. I have pondered that statement for the last couple of years many times.....

It is a novel idea, however reflecting back it seems the more technology advances the more demands are put on a person to multi-task. Life was a lot simpler before fax machines.....the first project that I was running with a fax machine, I couldn't believe it.....I talk to an engineer about a drawing that was neededand instead of waiting for an overnight package.....I had the drawing in minutes.....then came the Pager.....then the PC..... then the cell phone.....then the internet.....then e-mail and before you knew it, you were doing what use to take several people a lot more time, you were accomplishing in a few minutes.

Now that I am retired and reflect back on projects of the past.....I miss the time before fax machines, I don't recall hearing the word stress until somewhere in between the advent of the Pager and the PC!! (LOL) And now the amount of projects around the house make me wonder how I ever had time to squeeze work into the schedule!

But I do spend more and more time studying the Bible and looking for that focus.....16 Be joyful always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's

will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 Do not put out the Spirits fire, 20 do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 Test everything. Hold on to the good. 22 Avoid every kind of evil. 1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 5:22 NIV.

May God Bless you, your family, your home and "Our Country"

Hope to see you all at this month's meeting!

Be well and God Bless!

Tom L. Hulme

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Happy Birthday to the Silent Service: April 11, 2017

10 Things To Know About U.S. Navy Submarines
(NAVY LIVE BLOG 11 APR 17)

Happy birthday to our Silent Service!

117 years ago today, John Holland sold the 64-ton submersible Holland VI to the Navy, marking the beginning of our submarine force. Several months later, the submarine was commissioned as USS Holland (SS 1).

Here's a look at how submarines have continuously adapted in both quantity and quality to address more complex and rapidly evolving challenges.

Then...

1. The world's first submarine used in warfare, the 8-foot-long Turtle, debuted during the American Revolution. With an oak made, walnut-shell-shaped casing, it bobbed just below the water's surface. The one-person craft was paddled using a hand crank. It's objective was to attach an explosive to the hull of an enemy ship and get away before the explosion. In its one combat use, it failed to successfully attach the explosive, however it gave the Royal Navy enough of a scare that they moved their ships to safer distance from American Forces.
2. Experimentation in subsurface craft continued after the American Revolution, including a Confederate boat, Hunley, that sunk a Union warship. Still, it wasn't until 1900 that the Navy finally commissioned a sub. Even then the technology was rudimentary but continued to improve into World War II where the submarine came of age through legendary acts of heroism and warf-



The Supply Shack-

Jeff Nieberding - SK



Carolina Piedmont Jackets are still available to order, several members have ordered theirs already. Just let the SK know and he'll fix you up with an order form.

USSVI Calendars are also available with great Submarine pictures for each month.

USSVI vests can be ordered thru the SK as well. We can get 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.

US Navy Submarine Force Birthday Continued:

ighting excellence. Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz said, "We shall never forget that it was our submarines that held the lines against the enemy while our fleets replaced losses and repaired wounds."

3. Research and development to enhance the firepower, survivability and endurance of submarines continued after the war, culminating with perhaps the most significant technological advance in submarine history: the advent of nuclear propulsion. On Jan. 17, 1955, the crew of USS Nautilus (SSN 571) cast off lines and signaled the memorable and historic message, "Underway on Nuclear Power."

4. Late in 1955, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh Burke established a special project office charged with developing a fleet ballistic missile for sea launch. Just four years later, USS George Washington (SSBN 598) was commissioned. Within six months of commissioning, the ship successfully test fired two Polaris missiles and, within six months of that, deployed for the Navy's first strategic deterrent patrol. As of June 2014, U.S. submariners have completed more than 4,000 such patrols.

Now...

5. Today's Navy submarines are 100 percent nuclear powered - patrolling the depths of our oceans, taking the fight to our enemies and providing maritime security around the world.

6. We have 69 commissioned submarines - attack (SSN), fleet ballistic missile (SSBN) and guided missile (SSGN).

7. Our submarine force includes approximately 28,000 officers, enlisted Sailors, civilians and Reservists. In 2011, female officers began serving aboard U.S. submarines. On June 22, 2015, the Navy announced the selections of the first enlisted female submariners, marking a key milestone in the continued integration of women into the Submarine Force.

8. Our submarines are responsible for the #1 mission within the Department of Defense - strategic deterrence - accountable for approximately 50 percent of nuclear warheads.

Future...

9. The 12-ship Columbia class will replace the existing Ohio-class nuclear ballistic submarine force; the first patrol of the lead ship, SSBN 826, is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2031.

10. The Columbia class reached Milestone B Jan. 4, enabling the program to move into the engineering and manufacturing development phase, where the attention is on achieving an 83 percent design maturity prior to construction starting in 2021.

“Dive Deep, Dive silently and Patrol on....”

Para-viz Shots



Photos from Recent Events:



Eagle Scout Presentation:

Shelby High School



Future A-Ganger William J. Shue with recruiter

Jack Jeffries, Lee Hickerson, Bob Schilke and Rick Pettit



Missing in Action Presentation

New members

“Have you recruited your new members for the base yet?”

John Schons - RM1(SS) qualified on SSBN 655 in 1971

Chad Gordon - MM1(SS) qualified 2000 on SSN 773

Binnacle List:

Judy Hickerson

Rudy Olgas

Tom Hulme

Robert Howell

Gail Rybczyk

Monica Dachs

Dee Rutter

Happy Birthday to:

May:

Bob Bickford – 30 May

Robert Boyd– 18 May

Tom Coffman– 19 May

John Dainotto-19 May

Glenn Harris-7 May

Don Haseley-16 May

Bill King- 31 May

Larry Lynch– 17 May

Bill Quailes- 20 May

Calvin Reese- 25 May

Joel Tuchfeld- 4 May

Herman Zeigler- 28 May



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

May:

Dan & Mary Jane Capron– 4 May

Jim & Cathy Davison– 29 May

Jim & Marsha Goins– 20 May

Steve & Nanette Kortheuer- 4 May

Andrew & Marianne Miller- 6 May

Dale & Colleen Moses– 27 May

Zeke & Gail Rybczyk– 22 May

James & Ruth ann Schenk– 5 May

Paul & Lynne Trexler- 4 May



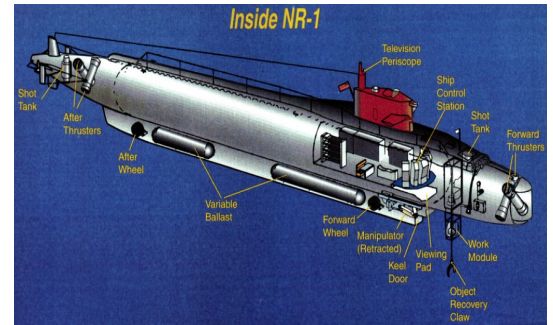
SubVettes Birthdays!



Colleen Moses—May 5
Susan Vera—May 27



Ladies,
SubVettes meet together at the same time as the guys at the VFW post. You have your own meeting room. So, please come and attend when your hub-by/significant other is off meeting with the guys.



From the school visit coordinator:

See Jack for the schedule of School visits. We want you there with us!

If you have not yet visited a school for a session, now is your chance. Tell your sea stories and answer questions about your boat life.



Piedmont Funnies Page

Heavy Weather by Bob 'Dex' Armstrong

Did you see "Das Boot" (The Boat)? Kraut U-boat flick... Great. If you haven't seen it and you rode smoke boats, do yourself a favor and rent the video.

In the movie, there is a scene where the boat closes with another U-boat in the North Atlantic. There is one helluva sea running and the lads on the bridge are wearing rain gear.

I got a little nostalgic... I loved heavy weather. I loved bouncing around in a butt-buster storm. I was blessed in that I never got seasick. I loved storms... You remember the kind with flat rain? Rain that was wind carried, came in dime-size drops and came in flat? Wicked stuff.

No one could invent an amusement park ride like heavy weather in the North Atlantic with 40 ft. seas running. Gray overhead, and wind drifted foam smacking hell out of you. If you could mate a roller coaster, a bucking bronco and a drunken marimba band, you might get close.

As I said, God blessed me in that I never got seasick. A lot of good men did... And did their job in spite of it. They are the ones who deserve admiration. I was an idiot who loved the 'rock n' roll' on the bridge. Loved to see the bow disappear, have green water smash up against the sail, then see the bullnose come slicing up through the swell.

Loved it. Like sex on a mechanical bull... Not that I ever engaged in that, but I have a wide angle imagination (Someone said that RamJet not only had done that, but did it with a mechanical paint mixer in each hip pocket).

"Roll you sonuvabitch, roll!"

"Pitch you sonuvabitch, pitch!"

Never failed. For some reason, the damn boat took a weird roll every time I passed the air manifold, and I hit it... Or it hit me in the right rib cage... All those raw valve stems, hammer valve handles and reducer bonnets - sort of a vertical Hindu torture rack. It owned me.

I don't want to enter the "National Clumsy Sonuvabitch Championships," but then again, nobody ever requested that I attend a command performance audition for the National Ballet. In heavy weather, I bounced around like a ping pong ball in a tambourine.

I would start up a ladder on an uproll, then the bottom would drop out and I would fly up like I was shot out of a cannon, and played the last ten ladder rungs like a xylophone, with my kneecaps.

I slept in the middle after rack next to the hull, outboard in the alley. The medic had a CRES sheet metal locker at the end of the passageway. If you bunked in the alley and were in your rack at sick call, you got treated to masterfully crafted bullshit explanations for injury, personally sensitive maladies, and hitchhiking critter populations. Over the years, I heard Pulitzer Prize contending stuff. I heard grown men tell things that only a mother and the most gullible sonuvabitch on the planet would believe. One fellow explained that a pineapple fell out of a pineapple tree and split his nose and lip. Doc explained that pineapples grow on the ground... "Oh hell Doc, Make it a watermelon tree and put some kind of Band Aid on it."

I get off the subject easily... As I was saying, I slept in the rack next to Doc's magical medical locker. The shelves in Doc's box were held in with pop rivets... The flat side of one rivet was boogered up and had a sharp edge. Once while I was racked out, dead to the world, the boat was rolling in heavy seas... My head would roll over next to the medical locker and the jagged pop rivet would etch little scratch tracks on my face. When they woke me up to go on watch, I looked like a Zamboanga bush man. My face looked like I

Heavy Weather Continued

had been in a sword fight and everybody had a sword but me. It took two months to get over that one... And the pop rivet got smacked flat and taped over.

Everyone stored junk in the overhead vent lines... Especially sea print film cases. When you started taking heavy rolls, all sorts of crap fell out of the overhead. If you want to duplicate the sensation of getting hit with a three reel 16mm. sea print film can, lay flat on the kitchen floor and have your wife stand on a kitchen stool and drop a bowling ball on your nose... That would be a close simulation.

In heavy weather, the cooks made 'Pick it up and carry it with you' chow... The best were meatloaf sandwiches. You could cram a couple in the pockets of your foul weather jacket along with a banana, and pick up a lidded cup of coffee. Life was good.

One night I was on the stern planes... Adrian Stukey had the bow planes. We were snorkeling at 65 ft. in heavy seas. We brought it up to 60 ft. because the head valve kept cycling, driving everyone nuts, and putting a helluva lot of water in the forward engine room (After the Cutlass passed a hundred feet once with the diving officer continuing to push the electrode bypass... We usually elected to show more snork. In heavy seas, the rising and falling swells gave enough sea returns to hide a gahdam totem pole).

There we were, bouncing around in 60 ft. of surface turbulence, running the needles in the shallow gauges five and five... Adrian had the stern planes and as usual, was singing a Ray Charles song... "I'm Busted"... We were pitching around and roller coasting all over hell and half Georgia, when someone trying to make his way aft, bounced into something over near the I. C. board and everything went black. Black inside a submarine is definitely dark. I don't think it gets any darker than that. My old' man used to say, "It was darker than the inside of a well digger's wallet." It was at least that dark. Anyone who isn't a gahdam liar, will tell you he had a puckered vent. In that split second where everyone is fumbling around trying to locate the switches on the battle lanterns, Adrian yells,

"MAMA, IT'S A MIRACLE!! I'VE BECOME RAY CHARLES!!!"

Then we regained lighting and we were still laughing. Things never got so tough that Adrian Stuke couldn't make you smile. He has been my shipmate for 40 years... And married an absolute knockout of a gal. Janie is as lovely inside as she is outside. Why she puts up with the most untamed wildman on the planet only God and Janie know... Love 'em both.

Eating was always a hoot in foul weather with heavy seas running. Officers had fiddle boards, wooden table covers with holes cut out for their dishes. As the boat rolled, the dishes stayed on the table (not the same could always be said for the contents). The animals had red rubber mats. You know, 'hot water bottle' red rubber... On a good roll, you could still wind up wearing most of your meal.

I used to relieve guys who weren't that comfortable spending a couple of hours at the end of a dog chain in the shears. Loved the magnificence of that spectacle. Nobody can watch that display of natural forces and go below failing to believe in some kind of supreme power. You don't have to be real religious to know you've been close to something.

And if you were very lucky, when you dropped into the control room sopping wet and tried to unsnap your gear with half frozen prune fingers, the old man would look up from the chart table, finger his old burnt up pipe and say,

"Dex, tell Doc to break out brandy for the bridge watch."

There's nothing like a cup of 'bottom of the pot' coffee, a little brandy, the pounding of Fairbanks engines, and watching the steam coming off your socks draped over the engine cover.

Carolina Piedmont Base Awards

- 2009 Silver Anchor,**
- 2009 Golden Anchor,**
- 2011 Golden Anchor,**
- 2011 Newsletter of the Year,**
- 2011 Robert E. Link Award,**
- 2012, Newsletter of the Year,**
- 2013 Newsletter of the year,**
- 2013 National Newsletter of the Year,**
- 2013 Golden Anchor,**
- 2014 Meritorious,**
- 2014 Newsletter of the year,**
- 2014 National Newsletter of the Year**
- 2015 Golden Anchor,**
- 2015 Meritorious,**
- 2015 1st Runner up Newsletter Group 3**



Meeting Dinners

Our dinners prior to our meetings are usually “pot-luck”. Our ladies, who take really good care of us and support our efforts as well as their own projects, put together a great meal.

It is pot luck, and everyone that attends the dinner should contribute something, whether home-made or store-bought.

The meal also is one of our main fund raisers. A seven dollar donation is suggested for each person eating. From that seven dollars, a dollar goes to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. The remainder is divided between the Base membership and the SubVettes membership.

All in all, the money is put to good use supporting the activities of both groups. The meals are always great, and there are usually plenty for those who wants seconds.

So please, if you are going to attend the meal, please bring something and please contribute to our causes. You’re not going to get that great of deal at any restaurant. And you’ll be supporting great causes.

The deadline for the Periscope will be the 15th of next month. Thanks!

RM2(SS)



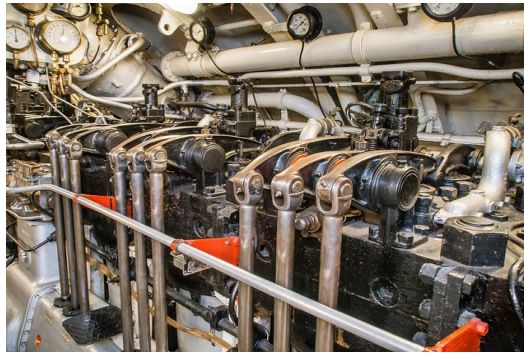
Base Commanders



Glenn Harris- 2007 to 2009







Steve Bell- 2009 to 2015

Rick Pettitt- 2015 to Present





Carolina Piedmont Base Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 April Easter!! 	17	18	19	20	21	22 Dinner & Base meeting VFW post  Bidge Rats— Planta- tion Point, Mat- thews
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1 May	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Subma- riner's Sto- ry—Fort Mill H.S.	13 VFW Breakfast 
14 Mother's Day 	15	16	17	18	19 Burns- ville— 19&20th	20 Armed Forces Day  <small>With Honor & Gratitude We Remember</small>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 No Meeting!!! 
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31	1 June	2	3

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



World War II Veterans



This Place of Honor is dedicated to our Carolina Piedmont Base Brothers who have served in WWII

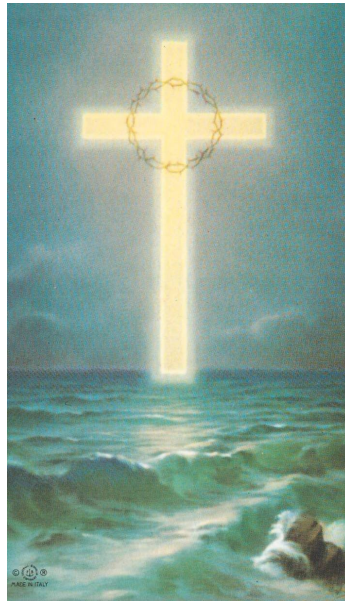
RM1(SS) Bill King - Qual Boat: SS-486 1959

RM3(SS) Hal Rutter - Qual Boat: U-2513 1946

TM3(SS) Don Haseley - Qual Boat: SS-244 1945



MEMORIAL



For our Carolina Piedmont Base Submariners who have left on their Eternal Patrol, taken gently into our Lords mighty everlasting embrace.



Heavenly Father: we pray to you for those on the perilous ocean that you will embrace them with your mighty protection and grant them success in all their rightful undertakings. Grant them in all hours of need to see that they have a God who remembers them, and grant them grace in the hour of danger to commit their souls into your hands. O Lord Jesus Christ, who can rebuke the storm and bring it to silence, and lay the roaring waves to rest, show them who call to you out of the deep that you hear their prayer and will save them. And finally bring us all home to your safe port where we can be with you to close of the age. Amen.

Rudolfo Hernandez— [MEDAL OF HONOR](#) CPL-MOH—Hope Mills, NC Passed away on 12/21/2013

Gary Lee Cruzan, LT—Hickory, NC, Passed away on 7/20/2010

Don Duncan, CDR - Charlotte, NC, Passed away 12/19/2016

Donald Morton, SN(SS) - Matthews, NC, Passed away on 9/22/2007

Everett Edward Erb Jr, TM2(SS) - Charlotte, NC, Passed away on 12/19/2013

Roger W. Fuller LCDR,- Tega Cay, SC, Passed away on 12/13/2007

Hal Rutter RM3(SS) - Fort Mill, SC, Passed away on 02/12/2017

Holland Club

Carolina Piedmont Base



New Holland Club Members this year:

Jay Andress CMDMC(SS) Qualified on USS Abraham Lincoln

Clarence Jordan EM1(SS) Qualified on USS Skipjack,

John Rupertus FTG2(SS) Qualified USS Atule,

Paul Simerly LCDR Qualified on USS Nathanael Greene,

Joel Tuchfeld IC2(SS) Qualified on USS George Washington



This Page is dedicated to our Submarine Brothers who have been qualified more than 50 years in the United States Submarine force.

Al Allen - MMCM(SS)

Jack Anulies FTB1(SS)

Steve Bell - RMCM(SS)

Perry Blake - IC3(SS)

Robert Boyd - RMCS(SS)

Ron Busila—MMC(SS)

Rudy Ogas - MM1(SS)

Charles E. Cross - ICC(SS)

Howard Dachs— IC2(SS)

John Dainotto - TM2(SS)

Donald W. Eggleston - ET3(SS)

Ray Fritz - EM1(SS)

James Hanks - MM1(SS)

Jim Harris - QM3(SS)

Ron Hatley - ET1(SS)

Don Hasley - QM3(SS)

William F. Holzendorf - CWO4(SS)

Robert Howell - EM1(SS)

Dan Jackson - MM1(SS)

Jack Jeffries - RM1(SS)

Gene Johnston - QMC(SS)



Terry Jones - CSC(SS)

Bill King - RM1(SS)

Arnold Kirk - YN3(SS)

Larry Lynch - MMCM(SS)

Bill Quailes MMC(SS)

David Peck Jr. - MTC(SS)

Otis W. Sealy - RMC(SS)

Stan Shultz— FTB2(SS)

Glen Synder - LCDR

Winborne Springs - SN(SS)

James Taylor - CWO4 (SS)

Tom Tidd - CDR(SS)

Michael J. Toomey, Jr. - CAPT(SS)

John Wallace - ETC(SS)

John Wardean - CWO4(SS)

Al Westberry - SO2(SS)

Steve White - MMC(SS)

Reb Wootten - LCDR

Herman Ziegler - EM3(SS)