



The Below Decks Watch

The Official Newsletter of the Coastal Carolina Base of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. (USSVI)

A Busy Quarter and Now Time to Golf!

USSVI

Creed and 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 projects 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.



**Echo Farms Golf & Country Club
Wilmington, NC**

Now that we have enjoyed all the excitement of the Azalea Festival, the introduction of our new float at the Southport Fourth of July Parade and the Battleship Tribute to the Submarine Service it is time to relax and have fun at the Coastal Carolina Submarine Veterans Charity Golf Tournament! (Continued on page 7)

*Qualified in U.S. Submarines?
You are welcome to attend our meetings and join our Base!
Meeting Dates and Locations in Calendar on page 28
Bring your spouse!*

Newsletter Editor
Willam (Dog) Underwood

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Contents

Time to Golf	1
Base Commander's Corner	2
SubVet License Plate	2
From the Vice Commander	3
Book of Members Update	3
SSN 783 Commissioned	3
Lost Boats	4
Donation to Base Library	6
CCB Golf Tourney Update	7
SSN 777 Sea Story	8
Save the Clamagore update	9
Chaplain's Corner	10
Never Forget	11
Base Logo Shirt and Hat	12
Bonefish Grill Tribute	13
Minutes of August 17 meeting	14
Gems from Jim	19
USS Charlotte visits Yokosuka	20
Member Birthdays in Q3	20
The Ditty Bag	21
SSN 777 Update	22
Membership Statistics	23
Notable 3rd Quarter History	23
Current XUS Submarine News	24
CCB Calendar of Events	28
News from National Convention	28
Golf Tournament Flyer	29
Application to Join Base	30

CCB Base Elected Officers



Commander
Charlie Backes
910-791-0844

backestc@charter.net



Vice Commander
Jerry Hawks
910-642-8997

elhawksinc@earthlink.net



Secretary
Bill Underwood (Dog)
910-232-4209

bunder343@aol.com



Treasurer
Barry Turano
910-799-7995

b.turano1@charter.net

Base Officers above were elected by unanimous vote of Base Members for two year terms starting April, 2013.

64% of Members Voted.



Base Commander's Corner

By Charlie Backes

There are several activities going on at the local level that you should know about: the golf tournament, the mud run, shirts and stores and Bonefish Grill. Here are some details.

The golf tournament is the first that our base has attempted. We need golfers, lots of golfers. If you play, sign up and play on the 28th. If you don't play, sign up to help. We will need all the helpers we can get on tournament day. This is your base, help make it successful.

We hope to be able to give a hefty donation to Step Up for Soldiers from our golf tournament. Step Up for Soldiers is a local organization set up and run by local people who draw no pay for their efforts. They cover the whole of Southeast North Carolina and do a lot of good for veterans. In October Step Up for Soldiers will be conducting their twice annual *Mud Run*. Organizers will need help on the day of the run to man the various obstacles on the course.

I heard that this is one of the top *Mud Runs* in the country. After walking the course I can believe it. It is 3.5 miles of torture. I walked the course and was tired and I only looked at the obstacles. We will have another meeting just before the *Mud Run*, so you have some time to still sign up to help. The *Mud Run* will take place on October 19 at the course by the airport off north Kerr Avenue.

Our storekeeper, Frank Blackmon is working with Tom McFadden to set up a system that will allow us to purchase hats and shirts with the base logo on them. The Base logo will be embroidered on the hat and the shirt. The shirts are red and the hats dark blue. More on this later in this newsletter.

Bonefish Grill is a national chain of seafood restaurants. There are several Bonefish Grills located throughout North Carolina. The Subvet Bases in those locations are presenting the local Bonefish Grill with pictures of the USS Bonefish and asking that the pictures be displayed for diners to see. I have approached the managers of the local Bonefish Grill located on the corner of New Centre Drive and Market Street in Wilmington with the concept. More on this later.

Our library has blossomed recently with the presentation of over 25 books to our base by a life member Bob Montore. Thanks for the books, Bob!



Want this Cup?
Attend a Base Meeting
and buy raffle tickets
One cup raffled at each meeting

Proceeds support CCB activities and projects.



Base Logo Shirt & Hat Available
Story on Page 12



Do You Have Your
SubVet License Plate
Yet?

Forms available at meetings and at the following link:

<https://edmvsp.dot.state.nc.us/sp/ShowSpecialPlate?category=military&code=USN>



From The Vice Commander

By Jerry Hawks

Fellow Sub Vets,

The time has come to "Step Up For Soldiers"! Surely you remember when someone came to your aid while you were in service and after. Well, fellow sub-vets, it's time to return the favor. The CCB Annual Golf Tournament is fast approaching... we need golfers and we need volunteers. "Each one... reach one"! You obviously know a number of golfers. Invite them to participate on Saturday, September 28 at the Echo Farms Golf and Country Club in Wilmington. Proceeds benefit "Step Up For Soldiers." If you don't play, volunteer to help that day. It takes team work and we need you all to make the event successful. Call Jim Brindfield (910-619-5289) to volunteer.

Have you ever witnessed a Mud-Run? Sponsored by the "Step Up For Soldiers", the event requires a great deal of stamina. Toned athletes will compete in the 3.5 mile run on Oct. 19. Obstacles make the run an interesting one to watch. Come and lend your support to the entrants and volunteer to help the organization.

All eyes were on our submarine float as we paraded it past the throngs of onlookers at the Southport 4th of July parade. Continuous applause greeted the sub vets who rode on the float, applause that was meant as a thank you for our service. The float was also on display during Patriot's Day in July. I can see the float utilized during many public events, increasing awareness of the sub-vet organization.

Book of Members

The Book of Members project continues to progress. The base is collecting pictures of each member and autobiographical descriptions of each member's Submarine Service experiences. Base Secretary, Bill Underwood, is taking pictures of each member attending each meeting. Commander Backes displays the Book of Members at Base meetings to encourage participation.

We are still missing pictures and autobiographies for most of the Base Members. A suggestion was made at the last meeting to write the autobiography for those who don't submit one. In the true spirit of the submarine brotherhood, we have composed an autobiography for Dilbert Kilroy, TM3 (SS) [\(page 13\)](#).

Please get your write up in to [Charlie backestc@charter.net](mailto:backestc@charter.net) so we don't have to write these for you!



USS Minnisota (SS 783) Commissioned Sept 7, 2013

130907-N-XQ474-161 NORFOLK, Va. (Sept. 7, 2013) Sailors assigned to Virginia-class attack submarine USS Minnesota (SSN 783) man the rails after the order to "bring the ship to life" is given during the commissioning ceremony for Minnesota. Minnesota, the 10th ship of the Virginia class is named in honor of the state's citizens and their continued support to our nation's military. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Andrew Schneider/Released).

[Click here for Sea Trial video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3idHnmz0AQ)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3idHnmz0AQ>



Tolling of the Boats

At Each Base Meeting We Honor the U.S. Submarines and Crews that were Lost at Sea
Following are the Submarines Honored in the Third Quarter

Boats Lost in July

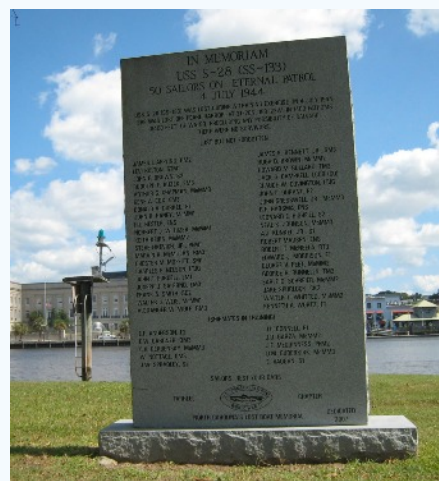
The Loss of the S-28

On June 20, 1944, LCDR J.G. Campbell assumed command of S-28, his first command. The ship had finished a normal upkeep period on June 12 and continued on her assigned duty of training enlisted personnel and engaging in sonar exercises with ships under control of COMDESPAC. On July 3, S-28, in accordance with orders from COMDESPAC, got underway from the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, to conduct a week's normal operations. During the day on July 3, S-28 acted as a target for anti-submarine warfare vessels until about 1700 local time. At that time she made two practice torpedo approaches on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter RELIANCE. On July 4 S-28 again carried out sonar exercises as on the previous day, and at 1730 again undertook a practice approach on RELIANCE. At 1730 S-28 dived about four miles distant from RELIANCE. At about 1805 RELIANCE made sound contact with S-28 at a range of 1700 yards. The range decreased to about 1500 yards and then steadily increased, as the bearing drifted aft. Although sound contact was temporarily lost by RELIANCE at 3,000 yards, she picked up the submarine again at 3,300 yards. At 1820, with range 4,700 yards, RELIANCE permanently lost sound contact with S-28. At no time during the approach or the ensuing sound search were distress signals from S-28 seen or heard, nor was any sound heard which indicated an explosion in S-28. When by 1830, S-28 had not surfaced or sent any signals, RELIANCE retraced her course and tried to establish communication with her. Although previous tests had showed that no difficulty would be experienced in exchanging messages by sound gear at ranges up to 2,000 yards, RELIANCE was unable to contact S-28. The Coast Guard vessel called in other vessels from Pearl Harbor at 2000, and a thorough search of the area was instituted, lasting until the afternoon of July 6, 1944.

Two days later, a slick appeared in the area where she had been operating, but the extreme depth exceeded the range of available equipment. The slick, which was unmistakably made by diesel oil, was the only sign of S-28. The Court of Inquiry which investigated the sinking determined that S-28 sank shortly after 1820 on July 4, 1944 in 1400 fathoms of water. Because of the depth of the water, salvage operations were impossible. The Court recorded its opinion that S-28 lost depth control "from either a material casualty or an operating error of personnel, or both, and that depth control was never regained. "The exact cause of the loss of S-28 cannot be determined." The Court found, further, that, "the material condition of S-28 was as good or better than that of other ships of her class performing similar duty," and that "the officers and crew on board S-28 at the time of her loss were competent to operate the ship submerged in the performance of her assigned duties." It was stated that the loss of S-28 was not caused by negligence or inefficiency of any person or persons.



U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II
assigned *USS S-28 (SS-133)* to the State of
North Carolina

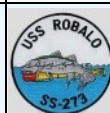


The memorial to the *USS S-28* is located in
the southeast corner of the Battleship North
Carolina Memorial Park in Wilmington,
NC



USS Robalo (SS-273)

Lost on July 26, 1944 with the loss of 84 crew members while on her 3rd war patrol. She struck a mine about 2 miles off the coast of Palawan. Three men survived and swam ashore, then imprisoned by the Japanese. Unfortunately, they were put on a Japanese destroyer and lost when that destroyer was sunk.



USS Grunion (SS-216)

Lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 crew members while on her first war patrol near Kiska Harbor. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again. Her loss remains a mystery.



Boats Lost in August

USS Bullhead (SS-332)

Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 crew members in the Lombok Strait while on her 3rd war patrol when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. Bullhead was the last submarine lost during WWII.





Tolling of the Boats

**At Each Base Meeting We Honor the U.S. Submarines and Crews that were Lost at Sea
Following are the Submarines Honored in the Third Quarter**

Boats Lost in August (continued)	
<p>USS Flier (SS-250) Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 80 crew members while on her 2nd war patrol. Flier was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank within less than a minute. 13 survivors, some injured, made it into the water and swam to shore. 8 survived and 6 days later friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin.</p>	
<p>USS S-39 (SS-144) Lost on August 14, 1942 after grounding on a reef off Rossel Island (Yela), New Guinea while on her 5th war patrol. The entire crew was able to get off and rescued by the HMAS Katoomba.</p>	
<p>USS Harder (SS-257) Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 84 crew members from a depth charge attack by a minesweeper near Bataan while on her 6th war patrol. Harder had won a Presidential Unit Citation for her first 5 war patrols and CDR Dealey was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously. Harder is tied for 9th in the number of enemy ships sunk.</p>	
<p>USS Cochino (SS-345) Lost on August 26, 1949 after being jolted by a violent polar gale off Norway caused an electrical fire and battery explosion that generated hydrogen and chlorine gasses. In extremely bad weather, men of Cochino and Tusk (SS-426) fought to save the submarine for 14 hours. After a 2nd battery explosion, Abandon Ship was ordered and Cochino sank. Tusk's crew rescued all of Cochino's men except for one civilian engineer. Six sailors from Tusk were lost during the rescue.</p>	
Boats Lost in September	
<p>USS S-5 (SS-110) Lost on September 1, 1920 when a practice dive went wrong and she sank bow-first, with her stem showing above the water. In a dramatic adventure, her exhausted crew was rescued during the next few days. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful. S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned.</p>	
<p>USS Grayling (SS-209) Lost on September 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men near the Tablas Strait. Grayling was on her 8th war patrol and sank two ships before being lost. Her loss may have been operational or by an unrecorded attack.</p>	
<p>USS Pompano (SS-181) Pompano was sunk (between Sept 17 and Oct 5) with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol. Possibly lost on Sept 17, 1943. Japanese records show that a submarine was sunk in her patrol area on 17 September by air & depth charge attack off the Aomori Prefecture near Shiriya Zaki. Before being lost, she sank two enemy cargo ships. The exact cause of her loss remains unknown, but she probably was sunk by the air/sea attack above or fell victim to a mine on or after 9/25/1943. This boat's last recorded ship (Taiko Maru) sunk happened on Sept 25th, so she probably hit a mine on or after that date but before Oct 5th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.</p>	
<p>USS S-51 (SS-162) Lost on September 25, 1925 with the loss of 32 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island.</p>	
<p>USS Cisco (SS-290) Lost on September 28, 1943 on her first war patrol with the loss of 76 men in the Sulu Sea west of Mindinao possibly sunk by Japanese bombs and depth charges.</p>	



The Coastal Carolina Base is a proud to be one of the six USSVI bases that comprise the United States Submarine Veterans of North Carolina, aka NCSubVets!



October 19, 2013



USSVI Who We Are

We are all United States Submariners! Whether currently Active, Retired, Reserve or a Honorably discharged veteran, we all were and some still are members of the elite under-seas fighting force of the United States Navy. We are all volunteers who passed stringent testing, challenging training and we proved our mettle when we earned the coveted designation **"QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES"**. Whether your dolphins are gold or silver, there is no expiration date on the back of that precious pin.



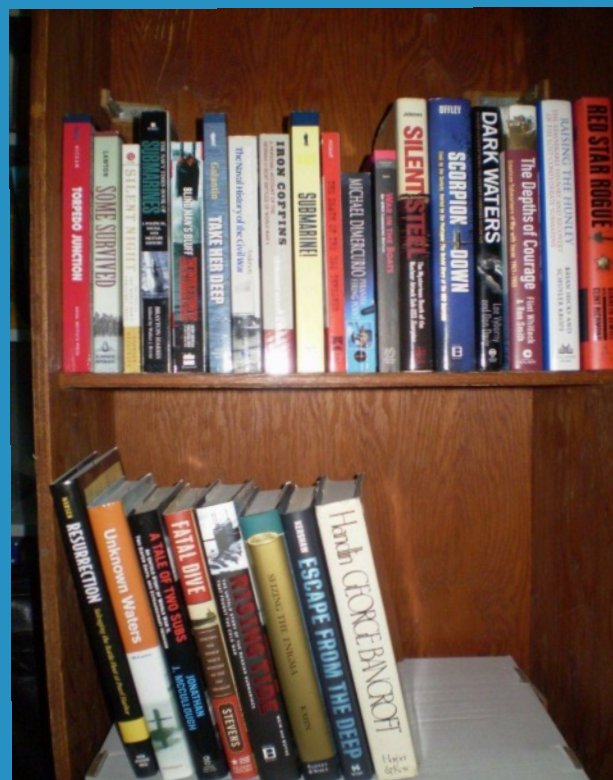
Significant Donation to CCB Library

The Coastal Carolina Base Library grew significantly this quarter with the generous donation of 25 books by USSVI Life Member, Bob Montore. Bob contacted us after reading in one of our Newsletters about the establishment of the Base Library.

The books Bob donated are all in very good condition, cover a wide range of interests to fellow submariners, and were well organized and categorized as seen below.

Bob, we deeply appreciate your donation and sincerely hope you will be able to join our Base in the near future.

Members, please follow Bob's lead and contribute to our Base Library. Any Member can check out books by contacting Brian Craig at brcraignc@gmail.com.



No.	TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	Fiction or Non-Fiction	COPYRIGHT DATE	HARDCOVER OR SOFT
1	Escape From the Deep [USS Tang]	Alex Kershaw	NF	2008	H
2	Silent Steel [USS Scorpion]	Stephen Johnson	NF	2006	H
3	Seizing the Enigma	David Kahn	NF	1991	H
4	A Tale of Two Subs [Sculpin and Sailfish]	Jonathan J. McCullough	NF	2008	H
5	Red Star Rogue	Kenneth Sewell with Clint Richmond	NF	2005	H
6	Iron Coffins (has underlines on some pages)	Commander Herbert A. Werner	NF	1969	S
7	Raising the Hunley	Brian Hicks and Schuyler Kropf	NF	2002	H
8	Dark Waters [NR-1]	Lee Vyborny and Don Davis	NF	2003	H
9	Unknown Waters [USS Queenfish]	Alfred S. McClaren	NF	2008	H
10	The Navy Times Book of Submarines	Brayton Harris	NF	1997	S
11	The Depths of Courage	Flint Whitlock and Ron Smith	NF	2007	H
12	Submarine!	Edward L. Beach	NF	1946	S
13	Blind Man's Bluff [USS Seawolf]	Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew	NF	1998	S
14	Scorpion Down	Ed Offley	NF	2007	H
15	Take Her Deep	Adm. I.J. Galantin, USN [Ret.]	NF	1997	S
16	War in the Boats	Capt. William J. Ruhe, USN [Ret.]	NF	1994	S
17	Fatal Dive [USS Grunion]	Peter F. Stevens	NF	2012	H
18	Pirana: Firing Point	Michael D. DiMercurio	F	1999	S
19	Some Survived [Bataan Death March]	Manny Lawton	NF	1984	S
20	By Sea and by River [Civil War Naval History]	Bern Anderson	NF	1962	S
21	Torpedo Junction	Homer H. Hickam, Jr.	NF	1989	S
22	The Death of the USS Thresher	Norman Polmar	NF	1964	S
23	Rising Tide [Cold War Russian Subs]	Gary E. Weir and Walter J. Boyne	NF	2003	H
24	George Bancroft - The Intellectual as Democrat	Lilian Handlin	NF	1984	H
25	Resurrection - Salvaging the Battle Fleet at Pearl	Daniel Madsen	NF	2003	H



The Coastal Carolina Submarine Veterans Charity Golf Tournament

**For the Benefit of Two Local Charities,
Step Up For Soldiers and Submarine Veterans Inc.**

www.stepupforsoldiers.org

www.ussvi.org

Come join us on Saturday, September 28 for 18 holes of golf on an enjoyable and challenging course; The plans are made for a great event. **We need a final maximum effort to recruit golfers, sponsors, and prizes to make the event have the maximum benefit to Step-Up-for-Soldiers and for our Base.**

We have arranged use of the practice facility and range balls so you can bang the balls to your hearts content to get ready for the first Tee. You will get valet bag service at arrival and departure so you feel like a pro. You can purchase extra mulligans and register to play from the red tees.

Schedule: September 28, 2013

Location: Echo Farms Golf & Country Club

4114 Echo Farms Boulevard

Wilmington, NC 28412

www.echofarmsnc.com

Registration: Start time 11:30 AM

Tee time: Carts scramble at 1:00 PM

Format: Scramble, 4 person teams

Chick-fil-A: Box Lunch on arrival

Good Prizes and Goody Bags

Deadline: Payment on or before Saturday, September 21

Cancellation: 50% refund until noon, Tuesday Sep 24

Checks made payable to: Submarine Veterans, Coastal Carolina Base

Sign Up now to enjoy and have fun with everyone!

**Please contact Bernie Maguire (bermaguire@aol.com) or
Jim Brincefield (jab39@att.net).**

Members We Need Your Help to Make the Golf Tournament Successful!

- **Special Base Meeting on Thursday, Sep 19 to make final arrangements - Max effort for the tournament - Please Attend!**
- **Need more foursomes registered - Print attached registration form and recruit golfers (co-workers, businesses, restaurants, veterans, friends, etc.)**
- **Need donated items for the Goody Bags - golf balls, golf towels, key rings, pins, etc. from individuals and businesses**
- **Need additional hole sponsors - have 10 hole sponsors but need at least 8 more**
- **Need items for a silent auction the day of the tournament. Bring items to the Sep 19th meeting - suggestions are golf items, tools, general items etc.**
- **Would like to have donations of brownies, etc. for desert for the golfers and volunteers**
- **Need volunteers to help on the 28th with registration tables at the event**
- **We want to make it fun for all involved - the more fun and reward, the more word of mouth pull for future Base events**

SSN-777 Sea Story

By New Member Tim Dolan HM1 (SS/SW/AW)

BROACHING THE USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777)

October 2012, while performing workups for ORSE, we were off the coast of Hawaii in our OP Area. I had qualified Pilot in May of that same year and had regularly stood the watch during our various underways since then. We had just finished a drill set requiring the boat to snorkel using the diesel. We occasionally ran a fire drill to initiate this action, mainly so our A-Gang personnel could maintain proficiency. My Copilot had the procedure pulled up to secure snorkeling, this was supposed to be the last drill set of the day during the afternoon watch. Using the "point, read, operate" procedure he was closing out our actions, with the Officer of the Deck over his shoulder, ensuring we were performing the actions correctly.



Suddenly we had a report come across the 4MC: "Emergency Report, Emergency Report! Steam is coming out of the diesel, suspect a flooded diesel!"

My copilot and I immediately looked at each other thinking this was another drill set, but the funny thing was in all our drills, we had never completed a flooded diesel drill during our ORSE workup. Suddenly the CO storms into Control, points at me and gives the order "Pilot, Broach the ship!". Without missing a beat I replied "Broach the ship, Aye sir!", took manual control of the planes and pulled full rise. The ship came to a stop on the surface and I was ordered to continue to pull rise until troubleshooting could commence to keep the snorkel and exhaust out of the water. As it turns out, DE-3, one of our interlocks for the exhaust had failed and was allowing water to leak by directly into the diesel itself. The leak and influx of water filled the entire Machinery room with steam. The CO ordered all ahead full and to make way to Pearl Harbor, HI. I held full rise for 2-3 hours, still maintaining our rig for dive lineup. The end result, a month before ORSE, A-gang had to take apart and rebuild an entire diesel. We did it, and completed our ORSE, but no member of A-gang got a great Thanksgiving that year. I like to say I broached the ship 3 times during my tour, twice on accident, and once on purpose.

Patriots Point Is Considering Its Options for the Fate of the Submarine *USS Clamagore SS-343*



MOUNT Pleasant — For more than 30 years, the submarine Clamagore has served as a tourist attraction at Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum. But the last surviving vessel of its type may soon go underwater one last time. “She needs a lot of work,” said Mac Burdette, executive director of Patriots Point. “The ballasts are paper thin and the hull is in better shape, but we don’t have the money to fix it.” He estimates the cost to repair the 1945- commissioned submarine at \$5 million to \$6 million, money the state agency doesn’t have and most likely won’t come from the state since Patriots Point still owes more than \$8 million on the last ship the state saved from sinking into Charleston Harbor.

That leaves two options, Burdette said Friday. One is to see what has to be done for it to become an artificial reef off Florida, he said. The other is to see if anyone else wants it. Asked if there was any consideration for a third option about repairing it, Burdette said, “I can’t see us going to the General Assembly and asking for money. There are other more important areas to spend that money.” The state loaned Patriots Point \$9.2 million in 2009 to repair the destroyer Laffey, which sprouted so many leaks it was close to sinking in the harbor before it was hauled up the Cooper River for refurbishment that same year. Shiny as new, it returned to Patriots Point in January and took over the Clamagore’s berth parallel to the World War II-era aircraft carrier Yorktown.

The 322-foot-long submarine was moved to the south end of the carrier in January and has been off limits to visitors since then. Once a new gangway is installed, it should reopen by Fourth of July festivities, Burdette said. Unlike the Laffey and Yorktown, the Clamagore never saw combat. But Burdette said visitors enjoy going inside the submarine to imagine what the living conditions were like in the cramped quarters. The Clamagore, named for a fish, called Charleston its home base until 1959 and came to Patriots Point in 1981 as a museum piece. It was decommissioned in 1975 and is the nation’s last remaining GUPPY type III diesel-powered submarine. GUPPY stands for Greater Underwater Propulsion Program.

Word of its possible demise brought sadness to former sailors of the ship. “It pains us to think it is going to be towed away and maybe made into a reef,” said George Bass, treasurer and past president of the USS Clamagore SS343 Veterans Association. “We would hate to see it go.” The group, which once boasted several hundred members, meets every other year in Mount Pleasant for its reunions. Last year 102 attended. Bass, 85, of Salisbury, N.C., served on the submarine from 1948 to 1957 and is keenly aware of the Clamagore’s state of disrepair. “It’s in terrible condition,” he said. He also knows that Patriots Point doesn’t have the money to repair it. He has asked congressmen and senators, even media mogul Ted Turner and other well-heeled businessmen for the money, to no avail.

“They all say Patriots Point took it and they should take care of it, but they will never get the funds,” he said. “They will have a hard time paying off the loan on the Laffey.” Bass believes they are now fighting a losing battle. “I guess they will tow it out and make a reef out of it,” he said with resignation. “That would be sad,” fellow Clamagore veteran Michael Burk, 62, of Ohio said. “As everybody gets old, though, I don’t know who is going to take it.” Burdette said the board will decide on the Clamagore’s fate in about three months, but it could take up to a year for it to move, especially if it becomes a reef. The sub still has batteries and possibly some fuel that would have to be removed, Bass said. “It would have to be cleaned up,” the former submarine electrician said.

The Patriots Point board also approved the agency’s \$9.6 million spending plan for the new fiscal year starting July 1, including \$425,000 for advertising, an increase of \$250,000 over the current outlay.



Chaplain's Corner

By Bill (Butterbean) Dixon

Revelation 4-11: Says

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Gen 1-26: and God said, let us make man in our own image, after our likeness.

Gen 1-27: so God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

**Ps19-1: The Heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
(For God's pleasure.)**



Coastal Carolina Base Members on Eternal Patrol

James Tobin

Lawrence H. Dunn

Navy Hymn for Submariners

*Bless those who served beneath the deep,
Through the lonely hours the vigil they had to keep,
May eternal peace their mission ever be,
Bless each one we ask of thee,
Comfort those who at home who waited and prayed,
For their return night and day.*



Never Forget September 11, 2013 by Reynaldo Leal

For the past 12 years, 9/11 has been a time to reflect on what is important in our lives, hope for peace and acknowledge the fact that there are people in this world who want to do us harm. It's an emotional anniversary for those who were at Ground Zero, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania, and for the millions of Americans who watched the non-stop coverage on TV. While the initial shock of those terrorist acts has faded away for many of us, it is important to realize that it motivated an entire generation of Americans to answer the call to serve their country in the decade that followed.

There were several factors in my decision to join the Marine Corps, and although 9/11 was not as big of a reason as it was for some of my friends, it did play a role in my enlistment. Now, as I look at the young men and women who continue to serve in Afghanistan, I can't help but notice that some of them were in kindergarten or first grade when I made my decision to be a



Yes, time has passed since 9/11 and with it many of our collective wounds have healed. But we still have an obligation to support those who continue fighting the battles that stem from that day with policy and practice that will show future enlistees how much this country values service.

VA takes this obligation seriously and its dedication to Post 9/11 who join the military.

I saw VA's evolution of care for PTSD & TBI throughout the years, and saw the stigma associated with asking for mental health care end in many ways. Like almost one million of my peers, I used the Post 9/11 GI Bill to get a degree and improve my life after war. I also used the five years of free medical service every OIF, OEF and OND Veteran receives from VA during the time it took me to graduate. Military service wasn't always easy, and I sometimes wonder if the sacrifices were worth it, but as I look back on the last 12 years I can see how the country has grown in its appreciation of those who join the military.

Just as we will never forget the lives lost in New York City, Pennsylvania and at the Pentagon, we should never forget those who rose to the challenge after the dust settled and made a commitment to keep the country safe and shift the battle zone abroad.

Marine. Marines salute during a flag raising ceremony at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Sept. 11, 2013. (Courtesy of U.S. Marine Corps)



Base Hats and Shirt Available

Our Base Parade Float debut at the North Carolina 4th of July Parade in Southport was a big success. However, several of our float riders noted that other military based floats looked sharp with a more uniform attire (matching shirts and hats). Commander Charlie discussed the concept with Member Tom McFadden, proprietor of Perfect Promotions & More in Apex, NC. Tom brought mock-ups of the proposed shirts and hats to the August 17 meeting. At the meeting attendees liked the ideas and Tom agreed to work with Base Storekeeper Frank Blackmon to make the shirts available to Members at a reasonable price. The hats are dark blue and the shirts are red, each with high quality embroidered Base patches on them. Buy from Base Storekeeper and Base gets a commission on sale.

Shirt Price = \$20

Hat Price = \$15

Storekeeper Contact cblackmon@cc.rr.com



FORGOT MY GLASSES ...

Yesterday, my daughter again asked me why I didn't do something useful with my time. Talking about my "doing something useful" seems to be her favorite topic of conversation. She said that she was "only thinking about me", and suggested that I go down to the senior center, and hang out with the other old guys.

I did this.

When I got home last night, I decided to teach her a lesson about staying out of my business.

I told her that I had joined a parachute club.

She said, "Are you nuts? You're 76 years old, and you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?"

I proudly showed her that I even had a membership card.

She looked at it and said, "Good grief Dad, where are your glasses!

This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club."

I told her, "Then I'm in real trouble because I've signed up for five jumps a week."

She fainted.

Life as a senior citizen is not getting any easier, but sometimes it can really be fun!



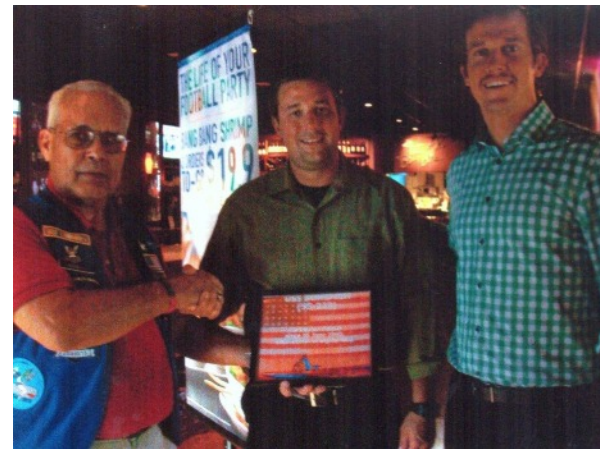
Bonefish Grills to Memorialize *USS Bonefish SS-582*

What a great meal it was! Mary and I went to the Bonefish Grill in Wilmington to present the restaurant with a Memorial Picture of the USS Bonefish that was lost during WWII. USSVI sub bases are making presentations to Bonefish Grills throughout the state of North Carolina.

I had earlier met with the manager, Mr. Bryan Abel, and discussed the possibility of making the presentation. He was very enthusiastic about receiving such an item and promised to place it where it can be seen by his diners. On Friday we met with Bryan and his assistant manager, Mr. Drew Goff, at the restaurant.

We made the presentation with Mary taking the picture. We then stayed and ate a delicious meal. The service was way above average and the food was great. If you are going out to eat someplace, I recommend that you stop by the Bonefish Grill in Wilmington to eat the really good food and see the commemorative picture of the USS Bonefish hanging on their wall.

Bryan also took an application for our golf tournament and is considering sponsoring a hole as well as bringing a team.



Charlie Backes



Book of Members Autobiography of the Quarter Don't Make Us Write Your Story Like We Had to Write Dilbert's!

Dilbert Kilroy TM3 (SS)

I was going to the drug store and went in the wrong door into the Navy recruiter. Before I could get out, I had joined the Navy. I was in Great Lakes for 6 months and went through boot camp three times. For some reason I had trouble marching in time with the others. Finally, I got out

of boot camp and went to Torpedoman A school. To my surprise I graduated top of the class and then was sent to sub School in New London. While at sub school, I accidentally set fire to the Escape Training Tower and was immediately transferred to the *USS Pickle (SS 69)* which was in the Philadelphia shipyard. I spent most of my time there wandering the base looking for a nosepiece for a water slug. Apparently they are in high demand and very hard to find. I would get there just after the last one had been picked up. On the boat I stood topside watch for 4 years. The worst was in January and February on the 00-0400 or the 0400-0800 watches. It was so cold I had 5 sets of foul weather gear on. Once I fell overboard into the Delaware and bobbed around for an hour before the oncoming watch pulled me out. Finally, the Captain had a guard shack moved on to the deck for the topside watches. It was so warm that the first night I had watch, I fell asleep and, when the Engineering Officer came on board at 0315, I was startled and accidentally shot him in the foot. He threw the guard shack overboard. I finally got qualified 4 days before my enlistment was up. My mother was worried that I would get seasick, but I never did. It might have been because we never went to sea.



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2013

Location: The Golden Corral Restaurant, New Centre Drive, Wilmington, NC

Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

When: August 17, 2013, at 0900

Location: Golden Corral Restaurant, New Centre Drive, Wilmington, North Carolina

Call to order: Base Commander Charlie Backes called the meeting to order promptly at 0900.

Attendees: Charlie Backes (Base Commander), Jerry Hawks (Base Vice Commander), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Bill Dixon (Base Chaplain), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper), Terry Kuhn, Ron Bixby, Howard Crist, George Depta, Richard Schrum, Jim Brincefield, Bob Bozart, Kevin Kesterson, Andy King, John Norowski, Tom McFadden, Bob Govern, Bill Lowe, Phil Brown, Mark Siewert, new member Jason Howell and guest Tom Russell, Founder of Step-Up-for-Soldiers.

Invocation: Bill Dixon, Butterbean, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Backes led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: Each attendee stood and introduced themselves and gave their qualification boat and year.

Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance:

There were no World War II Submarine Veterans in attendance.

Tolling of the Boats: The Tolling of the Boats ceremony for boats lost in the months of July and August was performed by Vice Commander Jerry Hawks, and Ron Bixby. The first boat covered was the S28 (SS 133) which is the lost boat assigned to the North Carolina Subvets. It was lost on July 4th 1944 off the coast of Hawaii with 50 men on board. The S-28 survived 7 war patrols.

Holland Club Presentations: Bob Bozart was presented with his Holland Club certificate and patches at this meeting.



Special Presentation to Past Base Commander Terry Kuhn:



Base Commander Charlie Backes presented outgoing Base Commander Terry Kuhn with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the Base as Commander.

Approval of the Minutes from the June 20, 2013 Meeting:

MOTION: Bill Dixon offered a MOTION to accept the published minutes of the June 20th meeting as written and dispense with the reading of those minutes. Phil Brown SECONDED the Motion. The Motion PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees and the reading of the minutes was dispensed.

Submission of Expenses and Base Communications:

Base Commander Backes recounted the July 13th event at



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2013 Continued

the Battleship and submitted a receipt for taking the SSN 777 Plank Holder Special Guests to dinner that evening. He also submitted receipts for bunting for the front of the float and for a plastic storage container for the banners and accessories for the float.

MOTION: Bill Dixon offered a MOTION to reimburse Commander Backes for these expenses. Phil Brown SECONDED the MOTION and the MOTION PASSED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

Base Commander Backes also discussed the Call for Donations for a Sailor in Need that was made by Commander Jim Myers in July. The CCB raised \$175.00 which was submitted to Commander Jim. Bill Lowe informed the group that the North Carolina SubVets Group raised over \$3,000.00 for the Sailor in Need. Base Commander Backes read a letter of appreciation and thanks from the grateful SubVet to the attendees.

Treasurers Report: Base Treasurer, Barry Turano, was not at the meeting, but he submitted the following report through Commander Backes:

Treasurers Report 6/16/2013 through 8/16/2013	
Beginning Balance 6/16/2013	\$295.91
Income:	
Dues	\$110.00
Raffle income	\$28.00
"Sailor in need" donations	\$175.00
* Full Sponsor donation Registers	\$100.00
* Half sponsor donation Preston	\$50.00
* Donation from Reeds Jewelers	\$500.00
* *Golf tournament entries	\$810.00
Total income	\$1773.00
Expenditures	
USSVI National Dues	\$60.00
Charles Backes (outgoing Commanders gift)	\$50.00
FedEx Office Golf flyers	\$44.19
Exxon (Fuel cost. Transport float from Wilmington to Battleship. From Battleship to Carolina Beach (Tom Mc Fadden) for storage. Return trailer to Richard Schrum in Richlands. From Richlands to Wilmington 197 total miles)	\$70.69
Jim Meyers (Sailor in Need)	\$175.00
FedEx Office Golf flyers (2 nd run)	\$44.19
Total all expenses	\$444.07
Reconciled	
6/16/13 Cash on hand	\$295.91
Deposits	\$1773.00
Total	\$2068.91
Less expenditure (\$444.07)	
Ending Balance	\$1624.84
*Golf Tournament Donations	
Registers \$100.00	
Preston \$50.00	
Reeds Jewelers \$500.00	
**Golf Tournament Entries	
Don Ruch (team)	
Cindy Merrell (team)	
Jack LaBruyere (team)	

COB Report: Commander Backes informed attendees that, since our last meeting, we received a rather large donation of submarine and navy books to the Base Library. A list of the donated books is listed under **Base Library** below in these minutes.

Storekeeper's Report: Base Storekeeper Frank Blackmon reported that he has a stock of Base patches and rocker panels available for purchase and that he is available to help Members order vests, patches, etc. He has been working with USSVI to build a Base Store on the National site.

Committee Reports:

Report on Status of Base Parade Float: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that the new parade float was a success at the 4th of July Parade in Southport and at the July 13th Battleship North Carolina Tribute to the Submarine Service.

Base Commander Backes asked for suggestions from members as to improvements that could be made to the float. The following suggestions were offered:

- Add a klaxon diving alarm – Terry Kuhn said he will borrow the Battleship klaxon for future events
- Allow for some subvets to walk along beside the float in parades
- Commission a special shirt for subvet parade attendees to give a more uniform appearance
- May need to touch up the water proofing on the centerpiece – once put in storage after the July 13th event water drained from the centerpiece for awhile

Report on Newsletter: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that a Special Edition of "The Below Decks Watch", the Base newsletter was sent to Members in late July due to the high level of Base activity in June and July. The next regular edition of the newsletter, the 3rd Quarter edition, will be issued in mid-September.

Public Relations: There was no public relations report at this meeting.



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from April 13, 2013 Continued

Book of Base Members: Commander Backes passed the Book of Base Members around to attendees resulting in several request by attendees for pictures to be taken. Commander Backes asked attendees again to please submit a short (one page) autobiography of their submarine duty and experiences. One attendee suggested that we just make up a biography, in true submariner style, for those members who do not respond with an autobiography.

Report on Golf Tournament Status: Jim Brincefield reported that progress continues on the Base's first sponsored Golf Tournament. Reed's Jewelers has agreed to donate \$1,000.00 to be the title sponsor for the tournament. Their donation will be \$500.00 in cash and \$500.00 in jewelry to be used as prizes. Chick Fil A from the Monkey Junction store will furnish box lunches for each tournament entrant. However, we still need a beverage cart sponsor. Members are encouraged to approach beverage companies and grocery stores about being the beverage cart sponsor.

However, the Golf Tournament Committee needs members to help recruit sponsors, door prizes, goody bag materials and, most of all, golfers to fill the four-somes. Your help is Needed!



Tom Russell, Founder of Step-Up-For-Soldiers

Jim introduced Tom Russell, the founder of Step-Up-For-Soldiers, to speak to the attendees about recent activities of Step-Up and about his prior experiences with charity golf tournaments. Tom suggested that the golf tournament committee go observe a few local golf tournaments to see what works and what doesn't. It makes a huge dif-

ference to the golfers if the sign in process and execution of the tournament are well organized.

The tournament will be held at Echo Farms Golf Club on Saturday, September 28th. Please call Jim Brincefield (910 619 5289) or Bernie Maguire (703 622 8376) ASAP to volunteer to help!

Tom McFadden volunteered to provide commemorative shirts for all the volunteers that sign up and help out on tournament day.

Old Business:

Recruiting: Base Chaplain and Recruiter, Bill Dixon, (Butterbean) had to leave early to get on the road back to Raleigh, but Commander Backes reported that Jason Howell joined the Base today. He also said the BB has several other potential members in his sights.

Commander Backes also reminded attendees that the Tarheel Base will be sponsoring the Pearl Harbor Dinner Meeting this year and it will actually be on Saturday, December 7th. He informed the attendees that the uniform for the dinner will be Red Shirts and the dinner will be in the Raleigh/Cary area. More details to come on the location!

Attendees were reminded that the Tarheel Base will be the host for the 2014 USSVI Regional Meeting which is being planned for the week leading up to the Azalea Festival. Members are encouraged to plan to attend this Regional meeting.

Base Budget: Commander Backes informed the attendees that the officers are working on a budget for the Base and will present it for review and approval as soon as it is complete.

Base Library: Commander Backes announced that Bob Montore, a non-member friend of the Base, contacted us to donate 25 books to the Base Library. A big thanks to Bob for his contribution!

Silent Service DVDs on Sale: Base Secretary Bill Underwood reported that DVD packages of the episodes of



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2013

Continued

the TV show Silent Service are available through Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper). The show was popular on TV in 1957 and 1958 and featured reenactments of real WWII submarine patrols. Many of us grew up watching these shows and became fascinated with submarines. The USS Sea Lion Base converted the records of the shows to DVD and sell them on their website. CCB contacted them and negotiated to purchase DVD sets at a reduced price so CCB will make 10% to 20% on Base Member purchases depending on volume. Member should contact Frank Blackmon, Base Storekeeper, to purchase.

Jim Brincefield suggested that the Base consider purchasing a set of the DVDs for the Base Library. No action was taken at this time.

Base Historian: Commander Backes asked for volunteers to become the Coastal Carolina Base Historian. The duties of the Base Historian would be to bring some relevant historical facts to the Base meetings. No one volunteered at the meeting, so Commander Backes asked that all Base Members consider stepping up for the position. As an example of what he would like the Base Historian to do, Commander Charlie read the following:

Advice from a Retired Husband

It is important for men to remember that, as women grow older, it becomes harder for them to maintain the same quality of housekeeping as when they were younger. When this becomes apparent, try not to yell at them. Some are oversensitive, and there's nothing worse than an oversensitive woman.

My name is Ron. Let me relate how I handled this situation with my wife, Carol. When I retired a few years ago, it became necessary for Carol to get a full-time job, along with her part-time job, both for extra income and for the health benefits that we needed. Shortly after she started working, I noticed she was beginning to show her age. I usually get home from the golf club about the same time she gets home from work.

Although she knows how hungry I am, she almost always says she has to rest for half an hour or so before she starts dinner. I don't yell at her. Instead, I tell her to take her time and just wake me when she gets dinner on the table.

I generally have lunch in the Grill at the golf club, so eating out is not an option for us in the evening. I'm ready for some home-cooked food when I walk through that door. She used to do the dishes as soon as we finished eating but now it's not unusual for them to sit on the table for several hours after dinner.

I do what I can by diplomatically reminding her several times each evening that they won't clean themselves. I know she really appreciates this, as it does seem to motivate her to get them done before she goes to bed.

Another symptom of aging is complaining, I think. For example, she will say that it is difficult for her to find time to pay the monthly bills during her lunch hour, but chaps, we take them for better or worse, so I just smile and offer encouragement. I tell her to stretch it out over two or even three days. That way, she won't have to rush so much. I also remind her that missing lunch completely now and then would help her figure. I like to think tact is one of my strong points.

When doing simple jobs, she seems to think she needs more rest periods. She had to take a break when she was only half-finished mowing the lawn. I tried not to make a scene. I'm a fair man. I told her to fix herself a nice, big, cold glass of freshly squeezed orange juice, and just relax for a while, as long as she is making one for herself, she might as well make one for me too.

I know that I probably look like a saint in the way I support Carol. I'm not saying that showing this much patience & consideration is easy. Many men would find it difficult if not impossible. Nobody knows better than I do how frustrating women get as they get older.

However, Chaps, even if you just use a little more tact and less criticism of your aging wife as a result of reading this article, I will consider that writhing it was well worthwhile. After all, we are put on this earth to help each other.

Ron died suddenly of a perforated rectum after publishing this letter. The police report says he was found with a Calloway extra-long 50-inch Big Bertha Driver II golf club jammed up his rear end with barely 5 inches of the handle showing. A sledge hammer was laying nearby.

His wife, Carol, was arrested and charged with murder. The all-woman jury took only 9 minutes to find her "Not Guilty", accepting her defense that Ron, somehow without looking, accidentally sat down on his golf club.

Local Flag Day Salute: Commander Backes informed attendees that the Base participated in the Wilmington Area Salute to Flag Day. Members Jim Simon, Bill Underwood, and Jim Brincefield joined Commander Charlie at the flag pole in front of the Wilmington City Hall at 0800 on June 28th to raise the flag, salute and say the Pledge of Allegiance to honor our country.

New Business:

Step-Up-For-Soldiers Mud Run: Past Commander Terry Kuhn informed the attendees that he has been working with Step-Up-For-Soldiers to support their upcoming Mud Run fund raiser. He asked for Base Members to volunteer to help prepare the course at 0800 on Saturday, August 25th at the National Guard Armory on North Kerr Street at the Airport. Contact Terry at etkfixr@bellsouth.net directly if you can help. He needs a head count as lunch will be provided for volunteers. The Mud Run is planned for October 19th.

Coordinated Shirts for Parade Float Attendees: Commander Backes noticed at the Southport parade that other military groups had the same shirts on which gave a sharper more finished look to the float and the group. Tom McFadden informed Charlie that he is in that business and could mock up some prototype shirts to show the Members. Tom had those mock ups at the meeting. They were red polo



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2013 Continued

shirts with the CCB patch on the left chest. Tom is going to work with Base Storekeeper, Frank Blackmon to offer the shirts and hats to Base Members for a reasonable price that would give a small % to the Base for each item ordered. Frank and Tom are targeting to have pictures of the items and the pricing available to be published in the upcoming edition of "The Below Decks Watch".

Open Floor:

Patriots Point Mistake: Bob Bozart raised the issue that the memorial at Patriots Point in South Carolina has the *USS Barbero SSG 317* and the *USS Tunny SSG 282* are incorrectly listed at *SS 317* and *SS 282*. Bob has petitioned Patriots Point to correct this inaccuracy to no avail. Bob asked if other Members had connections in Patriots Point to help get the designation correct.

USS Clamagore SS 343 Status: Howard Crist asked what the status of the Clamagore was. The *USS Clamagore, SS 343* is currently a historic site in the Patriots Point Museum in Charleston, South Carolina. Patriots Point can no longer afford to maintain the submarine and plans to sell it as scrap to become a reef off Florida unless it can find an alternative museum or sponsor to maintain it. The Clamagore Veterans Association has been actively working with Patriots Point and various politicians and potential sponsors to *Save the Clamagore*. Thus far they have raised about \$40,000 and explored many avenues to save the Clamagore, but the fate of the Clamagore is currently bleak.

The Clamagore was launched in 1945 and decommissioned in 1975 and is the only remaining example of a GUPPY III conversion cold war submarine. If you have any suggestions to save the Clamagore, please provide them to <http://www.savetheclamagore.com/> or to George Bass, 110 River Birch Drive, Salisbury, NC 28146.

Holland Club Mug Drawing: At the end of the meeting the drawing for chances to win a Holland Club Mug was held. Jerry Hawks won the mug. The Base raised \$46.00 for the treasury in the raffle.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Phil Brown offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Bill Underwood **SECONDED** the motion and the motion **PASSED** by unanimous vote by the attendees and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Scheduled Base Event/Meeting

Heads Up! Commander Backes is contemplating calling another interim meeting in mid-September to cover Base activities related to the upcoming Golf Tournament. Date, Location and Time will be distributed soon!

The Coastal Carolina Base Charity Golf Tournament will be held on September 28th at Echo Farms Golf Club.

The next regular Base Meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 17th at 1900 at the First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, in Wilmington.

Base Calendar of Events

September 28, 2013	CCB Annual Golf Tournament at Echo Farms Golf Club, Wilmington, NC.
October 17, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
December 7, 2013	Pearl Harbor Meeting and Dinner in Cary, NC hosted by the Tarheel Base
December 21, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral Restaurant, on New Centre Drive, Wilmington, NC.



USS Razorback Reunion 2013: Engine Running

Engine #1 was started this past week for the USS Razorback and Redfish Reunion for only the second time since 1961.



Gems from Jim

Thought Provoking emails from Jim Brincefield



**It is Time to Get Serious
about our Base Charity
Golf Tournament!!
Golfers Needed!
Volunteers Needed!**

**Grab Your Balls and Meet Me at
the Echo Farms Golf & Country
Club on Carolina Beach Road in
Wilmington**

Special Meeting September 19th

Tournament Saturday, September 28th



Charlotte Visits Yokosuka during Western Pacific Deployment

From Commander, Submarine Group 7 Public Affairs

YOKOSUKA, Japan (NNS) -- The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Charlotte (SSN 766) arrived at Fleet Activities Yokosuka Sept. 12 for a port visit as part of its deployment to the Western Pacific.

With a crew of approximately 150, Charlotte has been conducting a multitude of missions and showcasing the latest capabilities of the submarine fleet.

"The officers and crew of the Charlotte are very excited to have the opportunity to visit our friends and allies in Yokosuka, and to engage with and learn about the local community and culture," said Cmdr. Andrew T. Miller, Charlotte's commanding officer.

"The Charlotte's crew has been working hard for several weeks and we're looking forward to some well-deserved relaxation in Japan," said Master Chief Electronics Technician, Scott A. Rossiter, Charlotte's chief of the boat. "Over 40 percent of the crew will be visiting Japan for the first time, so I hope they use this opportunity to experience as much of the culture as possible."

"I'm looking forward to having some liberty time in Japan," said Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Nathan Stanton. "We work hard on-board the ship day in and day out, and I'd like to experience all the great things Japan has to offer. I want to explore by trying new food, seeing new attractions, enjoying new scenery, and living the lifestyle of our Japanese hosts."

Measuring more than 360 feet long and displacing more than 6,900 tons when submerged, Charlotte is one of the most advanced nuclear fast-attack submarines in the world. This submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance, tactical missile strikes against shore targets, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, and irregular warfare.

Charlotte was christened Oct. 3, 1992, at Newport News Shipbuilding by Mary McCormack, the ship's sponsor. Charlotte was commissioned Sept. 16, 1994 in Norfolk, Va., and arrived at its current homeport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Nov. 17, 1995.

Coastal Carolina Base Member Birthdays

July Birthdays

John Williamson Larry Kostbade Bill Schmauss

August Birthdays

Don Hult Michael King Robert Liland Willie Willems

Frank Blackmon Ronny Armstrong

September Birthdays

Ricky Tart Phil Brown Jim Brincefield Steve Croom

Raymond Deming Charlie Engleberger Bernie MaGuire

Steve Fornicola Jim Simon Jerry Hawks Allan Toomer PK Kraus

Richard Meader John Norosky Emmett Redmon

A Very Happy Birthday & Many Returns!



The Ditty Bag

Contribute to the "Below Decks Watch" Newsletter

Please submit News, a Sea Story, Jokes (clean), cartoons, humorous anecdotes, alerts, local event notices, comments, Letters to the Editor, etc. by the end of February, May, August, or November to get your contribution in the next Quarter's Newsletter!

Submit to bunder343@aol.com

From The ByLaws

ARTICLE VI - DUES:

Base Membership Dues will be ten dollars (\$10.00) per fiscal year. Dues are due and payable effective the 31st of December each year.

Beginning on 1 January a non-renewed member is considered in arrears. Members shall have through 31 January to bring their status up to date. After the above listed dates, members who have not become current in status will be dropped from the rolls of the base. A paid up national member whose base dues are not paid by 31 January will be dropped by the base.

A member's dues may be remitted by a vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Belay That!

If you find errors in an issue of this Newsletter, please tell us about it! Send comments or clarifications to the email below and we will publish the corrections in the next issue.

bunder343@aol.com

*Click Here for
Cool Video of the USS North Carolina SSN 777
Support for the UNC Tarheels in the Quicken
Loans Carrier Classic Shootout on Veterans Day
2011*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEuRYbjGkGc>

PBS Nova Submarine, Secrets & Spies Video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgUIFY3QK4s&feature=youtu.be>

*The Coastal Carolina Base (CCB) of the North Carolina
Submarine Veterans is a Duly Sanctioned Chapter of
the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., a 501
(c)(19) Charitable Veterans Organization*



USS North Carolina SSN 777

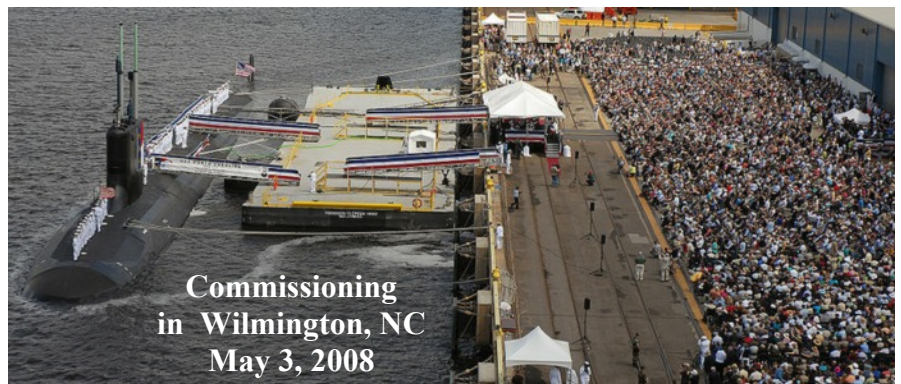
Name:	USS North Carolina
Namesake:	The State of North Carolina
Ordered:	30 September 1998
Builder:	Northrop Grumman Newport News
Laid down:	22 May 2004
Christened:	21 April 2007
Launched:	5 May 2007
Acquired:	21 February 2008
Commissioned:	3 May 2008

Homeport: Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

General characteristics

Class & type: Virginia-class submarine

Displacement: 7,800 tons
Length: 114.9 meters (377 feet)
Beam: 10.3 meters (34 feet)
Depth: 800 ft (244 m)
Propulsion: S9G reactor
Speed: 25 knots (46 km/h)+
Range: Essentially unlimited distance;
Complement: 134 officers and men
Armament: 12 × VLS (BGM-109 Tomahawk cruise missile) &
4 × 533mm torpedo tubes (Mk-48 torpedo)



CDR Richard Rhinehart - COMMANDING OFFICER USS North Carolina (SSN 777)

Commander Rhinehart, a native of Ellsworth, Ohio and is a 1992 graduate of Miami University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a 1994 graduate of the University of Michigan with a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering. While attending the University of Michigan, he was selected as a Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate and was subsequently commissioned in August 1994 in Pensacola, Florida.

Commander Rhinehart has served at sea as a Division Officer aboard USS PARCHE (SSN 683), Engineer of USS WEST VIRGINIA (SSBN 736) (GOLD), and Executive Officer of USS NORFOLK (SSN 714). His at sea experience includes three deployments to various theaters of operation and five strategic deterrent patrols.

Commander Rhinehart's shore duty assignments include service on the staff of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe in London, England where he served in the International Fleet Exercise Division and the staff of Commander, Submarine Squadron 20 in Kings Bay, Georgia, where he served as the Squadron Material Officer. His most recent assignment was on the staff of Commander, Submarine Forces, in Norfolk, Virginia where he served until July 2010 as the Executive Assistant to the Force Commander.

Commander Rhinehart is a graduate of the Joint Combined Warfare Course and the British Royal Navy Submarine Command Course, more commonly known as "Perisher." In April 2011, Commander Rhinehart relieved as Commanding Officer, USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777).

Commander Rhinehart's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



Base Membership Statistics

USSVI Life Members	26
Base Life Members	0
Holland Club Members	22
Primary Members	41
Associate Members	0
WWII Sub Veteran Members	2
Total Active Members in	61
Members on Eternal Patrol	2
Attendees at Last Meeting	21
% voting in Last Election	63



“The Silent Service”

TV Show DVDs available at

www.usssealion.com/sealion/silent_service_tapes1.htm

“I Ordered Mine and Love them!”

Notable Third Quarter History

SHIP'S POSITION			
U. S. S. <u>NAUTILUS</u>			
TO: COMMANDING OFFICER		DATE	
19150		3 August 1958	
LATITUDE		LONGITUDE	
90° 00.0' N		Indefinite	
BY (Indicate by check in box)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. N.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MK19	<input type="checkbox"/> RADAR
<input type="checkbox"/> SET	<input type="checkbox"/> DRIFT	DISTANCE MADE GOOD SINCE (Time) (Miles)	
—		Honolulu 4844	
DISTANCE TO		ETA	
North Pole		Zero	
TRUE HDG.		VARIATION	
180° MK19 HYD 3E MK23		0° 170° E	
MAGNETIC COMPASS READING (ENTER DEGT)			
<input type="checkbox"/> STD	<input type="checkbox"/> STEER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REMOTE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
DEVIATION		244 359	
126E		30° W	
REMARKS			
NGA DR σ = 0 N = 0			
NGA R1 = 0 R2 = 0 R3 = 1			
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED (Signature)			
LT Shepard M. Jander, USN			

Today in #USNavy history: USS Nautilus (SSN 571) became the first ship to reach the geographic North Pole while submerged in 1958. This is the navigator's report from [Naval History & Heritage Command](http://NavalHistory.com).

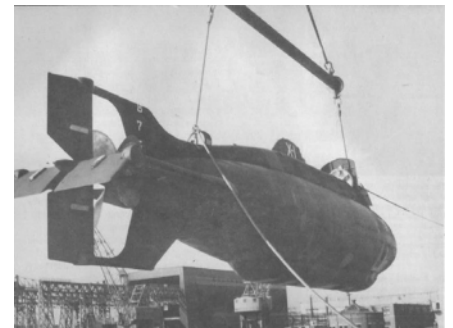


USS Thresher (SSN-593)

Entering the water for the first time, during launching ceremonies at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine, 9

Today in Undersea Warfare History (Jul 31, 1902), USS A-3 Grampus (SS 4) was launched by Union Iron Works, a sub-contractor for the John P. Holland Torpedo Boat Co. of New York; sponsored by Mrs. Marley F. Hay.

Photo # NH 65644 USS Grampus in drydock at the Mare Island Navy Yard, California



Today in Undersea Warfare History (Sep 7, 1955), USS X-1 (SS X1), the U.S. Navy's only midget submarine, was launched at Oyster Bay, Long Island by Jakobson's Shipyard.

Current International Submarine News

Inside the British Navy's new £1billion supersub: Deadly Hunter Killer submarine is capable of hearing a ship leaving port in New York while sitting underwater in the English channel.

**One of the world's most sophisticated and powerful nuclear submarines.
Carries dozens of cruise missiles capable of hitting targets 1,200 miles away.
Her sonar can detect vessels moving on the other side of the ocean.
Powerful nuclear reactor allows her to cruise non-stop for 25 years.
H.M.S. Ambush is so hi-tech the giant submarine doesn't even need a periscope.**

By [Sam Adams](#)

She cost around £1billion to build, has sonar so sensitive it can hear other vessels 3,000 miles away and carries a giant payload of 38 deadly Tomahawk cruise missiles. H.M.S. Ambush, the Royal Navy's newest nuclear attack submarine, is one of the most sophisticated and powerful vessels of her type ever built. The giant Astute-class sub, which was launched today, is so hi-tech she doesn't even need a periscope.

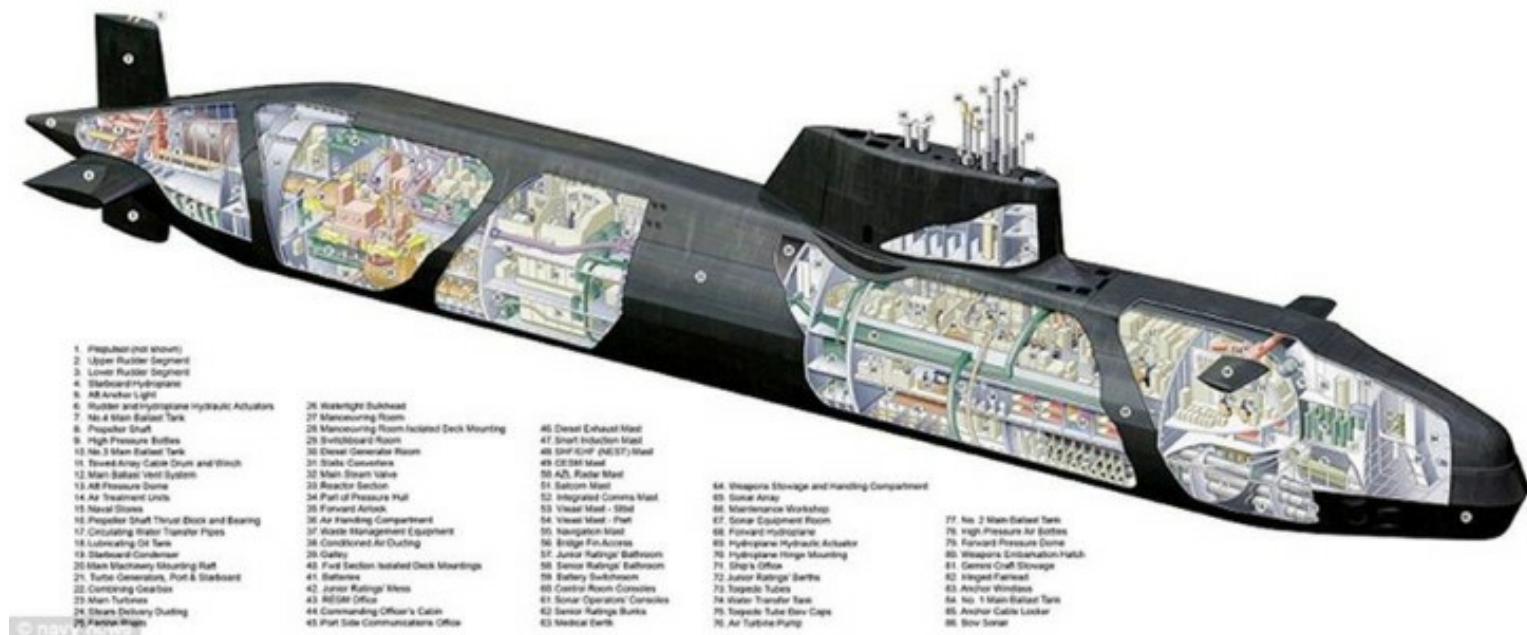


Awesome: H.M.S. Ambush, which was built by BAE Systems, is believed to be the world's most powerful nuclear attack submarine. Her huge weapons payload includes super-accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and Spearfish torpedoes for fighting other vessels.

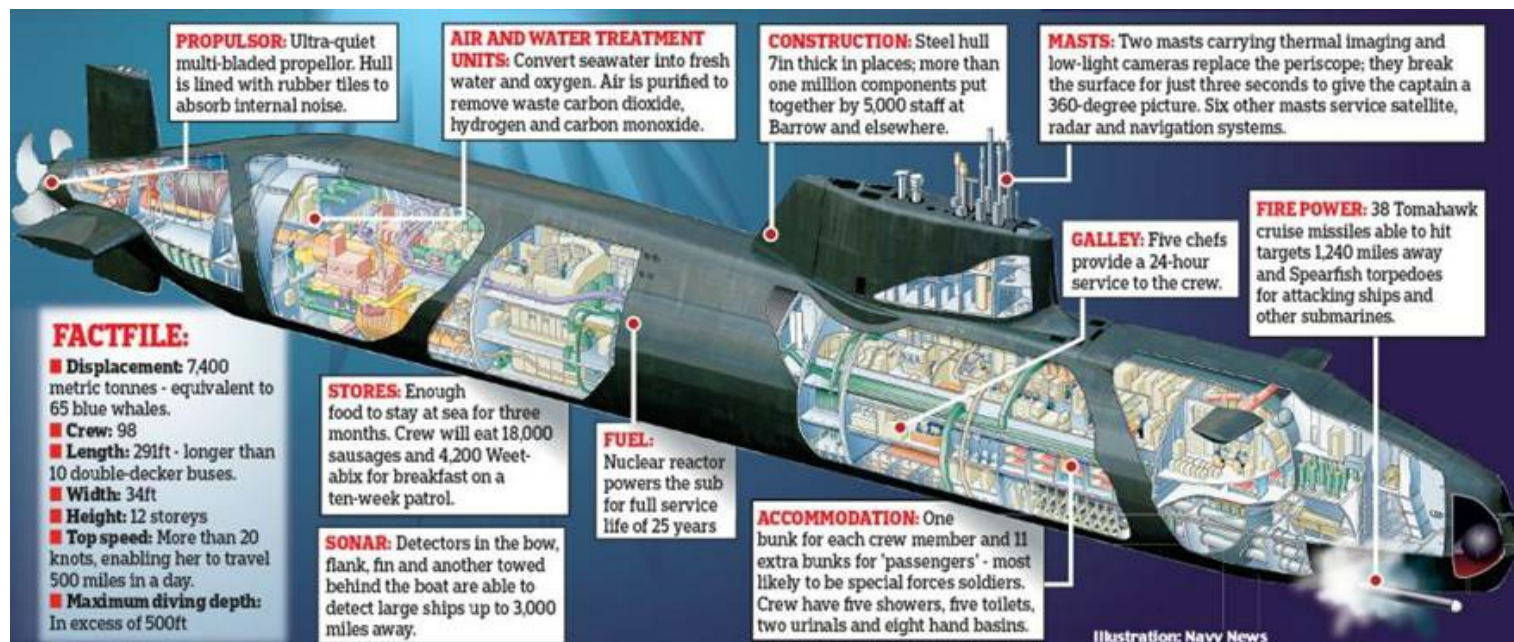
Success: The super hi-tech vessel has undergone rigorous testing ahead of today's launch. Despite her size the sub's 103 crew will be tightly packed, with some sleeping up to eight to a room in bunk beds.



Current International Submarine News (continued)



Super sophisticated: A cross-section of the sub shows the complexity of her design and the need to fit as much technology in as possible.



Her crew instead using a digital camera system to see above the surface when she is submerged.

Built by BAE Systems, she has enough nuclear fuel to carry on cruising for up to 25 years non-stop - giving her huge tactical flexibility. Her nuclear reactor is so powerful her range is only really limited by the need for maintenance and resupply. Astute-class submarines are the largest, most advanced and most powerful in the history of the Navy, boasting world-class

Current International Submarine News (continued)

design, weaponry and versatility. H.M.S. Ambush can travel over 500 miles in a day, allowing them to be deployed anywhere in the world within two weeks. The vessel is also one of the quietest sea-going vessels built, capable of sneaking along an enemy coastline to drop off special forces or tracking a boat for weeks.



Detailed: H.M.S. Ambush was fitted out with her sophisticated technology at Devonshire dock hall in Barrow-in-Furness Cumbria. She contains some of the most hi-tech weapons and sonar systems ever created.

H.M.S. Ambush: Her powerful nuclear reactor allows her to travel around the world without stopping. She can cruise for up to 500 miles in a day



Foreign forces will find it almost impossible to sneak up undetected by her incredibly powerful sonar equipment that can hear halfway around the world. Her Tomahawk missiles are capable of hitting targets up to 1,200 miles away - making her a vital weapon for Britain's armed forces. The sub's commander Peter Green, 47, said the vessel's capabilities are 'unparalleled.' 'This sub is a huge step forward in underwater operations,' he told the [Daily Mirror](#).

'Her listening ability is quite awesome. She has a sonar system with the processing power of 2,000 laptop computers.'

Current International Submarine News (continued)



Inside: The weapons room of the £1billion sub. Many details of her weapons system remain top secret.

Feeding the crew: The submarine's kitchen will be staffed by five chefs providing food 24-hours a day for her officers and crew.



Technology: Leading engineering technician Andrew Gee tests out the sub's steering system in the control room. 'It is possible this class of submarine is the most advanced in the world.'

Another Astute Class sub is currently undergoing sea trials and could be operational within a year. Many details of H.M.S. Ambush's weapons systems cannot be revealed for security reasons.

Most of her 103-strong crew live in bunk-beds measuring two metres by one metre, with up to 18 submariners sharing one room.

After today's launch H.M.S. Ambush will begin sea trials before eventually beginning operations.



COASTAL CAROLINA BASE CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
September 19,2013	Special meeting at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd , Wilmington, NC.
September 28, 2013	CCB Annual Golf Tournament at Echo Farms Golf Club, Wilmington, NC.
October 17, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
October 19, 2013	Step-Up-For-Soldiers Mud Run at the National Guard Armory on North Kerr Dr. In Wilmington, NC
December 7, 2013	Pearl Harbor Meeting and Dinner in Cary, NC hosted by the Tarheel Base
December 21, 2013	Regularly scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral Restaurant, on New Centre Drive, Wilmington, NC.

News from National Convention

District One Awards

Regional Newsletter of the Year - Tarheel "All Clear" and Carolina Piedmont "Piedmont Periscope" (2 different category sizes)

USSVI Newsletter of the Year - Carolina Piedmont "Piedmont Periscope"

Robert Link Award - Jerry "Patch" Paciorek, Tarheel Base

Robert Link Award - Kenn Mcdermott - USS Virginia Base

Robert Link Award - Dale Moses - Carolina Piedmont Base

Meritorious Award - Jack Jeffries - Carolina Piedmont Base

Meritorious Award - NC Subvets (Jim Myers State Commander)

Golden Anchor Award - Carolina Piedmont

Subvettes National Award - Carolina Piedmont Subvettes District Commander of the Year Award - Steve Bell, District Commander

"A big Congratulations to all. I thank all of you at the Bases for your support and efforts and that is the reason I received the DCOY award. WELL DONE to all." Steve Bell

National Conventions

2014 in San Francisco

2015 in Pittsburgh

2016 in Reno.



REEDS
Jewelers
presents:



The Coastal Carolina Submarine Veterans Charity Golf Tournament

**For the Benefit of Two Local Charities,
Step Up For Soldiers and Submarine Veterans Inc.**

www.stepupforsoldiers.org

www.ussvi.org

Come join us on Saturday, September 28 for 18 holes of golf on an enjoyable and challenging course; limited number of 20 foursomes; Sign up early; Three flights; Prizes for each flight; 501(c)3 Charitable Deduction; Echo Farms Golf & Country Club; fun for everyone; Beverage Cart; Door Prizes; one free mulligan per player; Captains Choice; Scramble; Golf Carts; Practice Facility; Bag of range balls and Valet bag service at arrival and departure.

Location: Echo Farms Golf & Country Club
4114 Echo Farms Boulevard
Wilmington, NC 28412
www.echofarmsnc.com

Schedule: September 28, 2013
Registration: Start time 11:30 AM
Tee time: Carts scramble at 1:00 PM
Format: Scramble, 4 person teams
Chick-fil-A: Box Lunch on arrival

Entry Fee: \$75.00 per individual player: \$270.00 per foursome
Sponsor a green or a tee: \$100.00
Deadline: Payment on or before Saturday, September 21
Cancellation: 50% refund until noon, Tuesday September 24
Red Tees and Extra Mulligans sold at check -in

Sign Up now to enjoy and support your local veterans!

ENTRY FORM

TO: Submarine Veterans, Coastal Carolina
c/o: Mr. Barry Turano
4901 Merlot Court
Wilmington, NC 28409-3663

Individual Player or

Team Captain:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email Address: _____

TEAM NAME: _____
Player #2: _____
Player #3: _____
Player #4: _____
Sponsor: _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

**Make Checks payable to:
Submarine Veterans, Coastal Carolina Base**

**For More information contact Jim Brincefield at
910-619-5289 or email to jab39@att.net**



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**Regular ☐ Life ☐ Associate ☐

OUR CREED: "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 & its Constitution."

With my signature below I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish proof of my eligibility for Regular membership, including my discharge under honorable conditions, and proof of my U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by the Base or the national Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. N. submarine qualified, I am applying as an Associate and my sponsor is indicated below.

? I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard _____ in _____ (Yr)
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)

? I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service) in _____ (Yr)

Name: (Print /Type) _____ **Address:** _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip Code:** _____-____ **Tel:** (____) _____-

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____/____/____

Your E-Mail Address _____ **Base/Chapter Desired:** _____

The Member Dues year runs from Jan 1st thru Dec 31st. Please indicate your term preference:

Nat'l Dues: 5 Yr term: \$ 90.00; 3 Yr term: \$ 55.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) \$ 20.00; (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): \$ 25.00

Nat'l Life: 76+ yrs = \$100.00; 66 thru 75 yrs = \$200; 56 thru 65 yrs = \$ 300.00; 46 thru 55 = \$400.00; Thru 45 yrs = \$ 500.00

Local Base/chapter dues are separate and additional. \$10.00 per year for the Coastal Carolina Base.

How did you find USSVI? ? Friend, ? Boat Assn, ? Local Event/News, ? Internet, ? Other
(_____)

Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member?: (Mandatory for Assoc Mbrs) _____
Associate Applicant is: ☐ Veteran ☐ Spouse of Veteran ☐ Other (specify) _____

YOUR U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Date Of Birth (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ **If other military service, What Branch?** _____

Highest Rate & Rank Attained: _____ **Mil Retired (Y/N):** ____ **On Active Duty? (Y/N):** ____

YR entered Mil Service: ____ **YR left Mil Service** ____ (Active/Inactive reserve time also counts.)

Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (Use back if you need more space.)

1. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____
2. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____
3. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____
4. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____
5. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____
6. _____	Hull# _____	From Yr. ____ to Yr. ____

Next of Kin: Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____ (Spouse, Partner, Son, Dau, Parent, Other)

Addr: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** ____ **Zip:** _____ **Tel:** _____
(Leave this address line blank if the same as your home address)

Upon completion, please deliver or mail your application with your check payable to
USSVI Coastal Carolina Base
Mail to: Barry Turano, 4901 Merlot Court, Wilmington, NC 28409