



# The Below Decks Watch

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



## *Happy Holidays!*



### **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.



### **Coastal Carolina Base in Oak Island Christmas Parade!**

Seven Members of the CCB made the inaugural appearance of the CCB submarine float in the Oak Island Christmas by the Sea Festival Parade on Dec 7, 2013.

The activities started early in the morning of the parade with the transport of the submarine centerpiece from Tom McFadden's garage on Paradise Island across the Fort Fisher Ferry to Frank Blackmon's house on Oak Island. The weather was



**Continued on Page 6**

### *Qualified in U.S. Submarines?*

*You are welcome to attend our meetings and join our Base!*

*Meeting Dates and Locations in Calendar on page 26*

*Bring your spouse!*

Newsletter Editor  
Willam (Dog) Underwood

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## CCB Base Elected Officers



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**Coastal Carolina Base**  
**Generally Meets Every Other Month**  
**on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu or Sat of the Month**  
**See Base Calendar on Page 26 for**  
**More Details and Special Meetings**



## Base Commander's Corner

By Charlie Backes

Several important events took place this quarter. We assisted at the "Step up for Soldiers" Mud Run and we participated in the Oak Island Parade. We also held our regular meetings in October and December. Participation in these events has been spotty, at best, and we could use more of you at these events.

The Step up for Soldiers Mud Run was an important event for us as we presented them with a check for over \$1300. to help them with their assistance to returning veterans. The organization is Step up for Soldiers, but they help any returning veteran who needs help. A couple of our members participated in the actual mud run.

The other big event we participated in was the Oak Island Christmas Parade. I along with Jim Brincefield, Tim Dolan, Chuck Fletcher, Dick Gudus, Frank Blackmon, and John Norosky assembled the float and then decorated it. The three ladies who rode along and assisted in the decorating were greatly appreciated. Frank's wife, Pat, had some very nice refreshments for the team as we decorated the float for the parade. The weather started out great with 65+ temperatures, but as we worked on the float we could feel the temperature dropping; it also started to mist heavily. By parade time the temperature was down to the low 50's. The lower temperatures along with the slight rain and wind made the ride unpleasant. However, there was a very nice crowd along the parade route that appreciated the submarine float.

I want to wish every member of the Coastal Carolina Submarine Veterans a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Holiday and a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!



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

Proceeds support CCB activities and projects.



**Base Gear**  
**Available**  
**Story on Page 11**



**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



**2013 - A Year of Firsts for the Coastal Carolina Sub-Vets**

Fellow Sub-Vets, our Base made great progress in our 2013 endeavors. As a fairly new base, we had a couple of firsts.

We rose to the occasion with a model of the SSN 777, a NC submarine Commissioned in Wilmington, NC. It was featured on our float in the Southport Fourth of July Parade and many members flanked the model. It was also an entry in the Oak Island Christmas Parade and will be featured in many parades in the future.

The 1st Annual Coastal Carolina Base Charity Golf Tournament was held on September 28th. The funds raised, over \$1,000, were contributed to Step Up for Soldiers and the Wounded Warriors Project. If a 2nd tournament is to be successful, we need much more participation in 2014. We really need to start now.

Kudos to Storekeeper Frank Blackmon and Tom McFadden for launching a Storekeeper's Site, [www.subvetsonline.com](http://www.subvetsonline.com), allowing for the purchase of Sub-Vet merchandise online. We invite you to visit our site, purchase our products and wear them proudly!

Many thanks to Sub-Vet Ron Bixby, owner and operator of Peppercorn's Food and Spirits in Wilmington for hosting our December 21st breakfast meeting. We conducted a lot of business and enjoyed a delicious breakfast. The only thing missing was SOME of YOU!

If we are to have a successful 2014 for our SubVet organization, it is important for all of our members to attend and participate. Our next meeting is February 20, 2014. The location is the First Baptist Church Activity Center, Independence BLVD, in Wilmington at 1900. SEE YOU THERE!

## **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner**



Our brothers in the Tarheel Base of the USSVI sponsored the Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance Dinner on December 7<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh at the NC State University Faculty Club. Six Coastal Carolina Base members were among the 86 attendees. Tom McFadden reported that the event "was incredible".

There were several interesting speakers. Jim Myers, Commander of the Nathanael Greene Base and Commander of the NC Subvets, spoke about the ac-

**Continued on Page 6**

## **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 12](#)). **Please get your write up in to Charlie so we don't have to write these for you!**

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## 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 Fourth Quarter**

Boats Lost in October	
<b>USS Seawolf (SS-197)</b> Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.	
<b>USS S-44 (SS-155)</b> Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.	
<b>USS Wahoo (SS-238)</b> Lost on October 11, 1943 with the loss of 79 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.	
<b>USS Dorado (SS-248)</b> Lost on October 12, 1943 with the loss of 78 when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was en route to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.	
<b>USS Escolar (SS-294)</b> Lost on October 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.	
<b>USS Shark II (SS-314)</b> Lost on October 24, 1944 with the loss of 90 when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1800 U.S. POWs on board.	
<b>USS Darter (SS-227)</b> Lost on October 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.	
<b>USS Tang (SS-306)</b> Lost on October 25, 1944 with the loss of 80 men in the Formosa Strait while on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage, and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR. O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.	
<b>USS O-5 (SS-66)</b> Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Ababgarez off the Panama Canal.	



## 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 Fourth Quarter

Boats Lost in November	
<b>USS Albacore (SS-218)</b> Lost on November 7, 1944 with the loss of 86 men when she was sunk off northern Hokkaido. Winner of two Presidential Unit Citations, Albacore was on her 11th war patrol and struck a mine while running submerged near a Japanese patrol craft that had detected her.	
<b>USS Growler (SS-215)</b> Lost on November 8, 1944 with the loss of 85 men when she was sunk in the South China Sea. Winner of two Navy Unit Commendations, Growler was on her 11th war patrol, and was lost while attacking a convoy, probably as a result of a depth charge attack or victim of a circular run by one of her own torpedoes.	
<b>USS Scamp (SS-277)</b> Lost on November 9, 1944 with the loss of 83 men near Tokyo Bay on her 8th war patrol. She may have been damaged by a mine and was trailing oil, which helped Japanese coast defense vessels locate her and destroy her with depth charges.	
<b>USS Corvina (SS-226)</b> Lost on November 16, 1943 with the loss of 82 men on her 1st war patrol when she was sunk just south of Truk. Corvina apparently was lost to the torpedoes of a Japanese submarine.	
<b>USS Sculpin (SS-191)</b> Lost on November 19, 1943 with the loss of 40 men near Truk on her 9th war patrol. Severely damaged by depth charges after attacking an enemy convoy, Sculpin continued to fight on the surface. When the captain was killed, the crew abandoned ship and scuttled Sculpin. 41 men were taken prisoner; only 21 survived the war. Among those not abandoning ship was CAPT Cromwell, aboard as a potential wolf pack commander, he rode the Sculpin down, fearing that vital information in his possession might be compromised under torture. For this, CAPT Cromwell was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.	
Boats Lost in December	
<b>USS Capelin (SS-289)</b> Lost on December 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men on her 2nd war patrol, but her exact location and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.	
<b>USS Sealion (SS-195)</b> Lost on December 10, 1941 with the loss of 5 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack.	
<b>USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)</b> Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickerell) (SS-22) off San Clemente, CA.	
<b>USS S-4 (SS-109)</b> Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 34 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding off Cape Cod near Provincetown, MA. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.	





### A Surprise for Ferry Travelers on Dec 7!



good with temperatures in the high 60's. Frank's wife, Pat, had prepared coffee and food for the crew to enjoy while assembling the float. As they were attaching the submarine centerpiece to the borrowed trailer, a cold front came through, dropped the temperature by 20 degrees and started to drizzle a cold mist. It was cold. But submariners are use to extremes.



The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas by the Sea Festival Parade started at about 1400 at the Oak Island Town Hall on 46<sup>th</sup> Street and kicked off the Southport/Oak Island Christmas by the Sea

Festival. The parade is a "hometown style" parade where you might see a dog pulling a wagon, a child dressed as a starfish, and/or a submarine with garland rigging. Despite the weather, the streets were lined with excited children of all ages. The CCB parade attendees were rewarded with a very warm and enthusiastic reception by parade attendees. Cheers and cries of "Thank you for your service" rang out as the float went by. Following the parade the float returned to Frank's house and the CCB crew disassembled the float and transported the parts back to storage.

A big **Thank You to Charlie, Jim, John, Dick, Frank, Tim and Chuck** for braving the tricky crossing of the Cape Fear and assembling the float in deteriorating weather to represent the Coastal Carolina Base at the Oak Island Christmas by the Sea Festival Parade



### Pearl Harbor Remembrance Dinner (Continued from page 3)

complishments of the NC Subvets in 2013. Captain Gary Davis also gave a very interesting talk about the history of the submarine service.



The tolling of the boats ceremony was particularly moving. Several subvets had made wooden models of each lost boat. These labeled models were placed on the dining tables with a lighted

candle placed by them. As each boat was tolled, a picture of the boat was displayed on the projection screen and the attendees at the table with that boats model extinguished the candle. "It was a very memorable experience" said CCB attendee Ron Bixby. A good time was had by all.



Butterbean, Commander of the hosting Tarheel Base and Base Chaplain for the CCB will also host the USSVI South East District Convention on April 7-10, 2014 at the same NC State University facility.



**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!**



### **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.



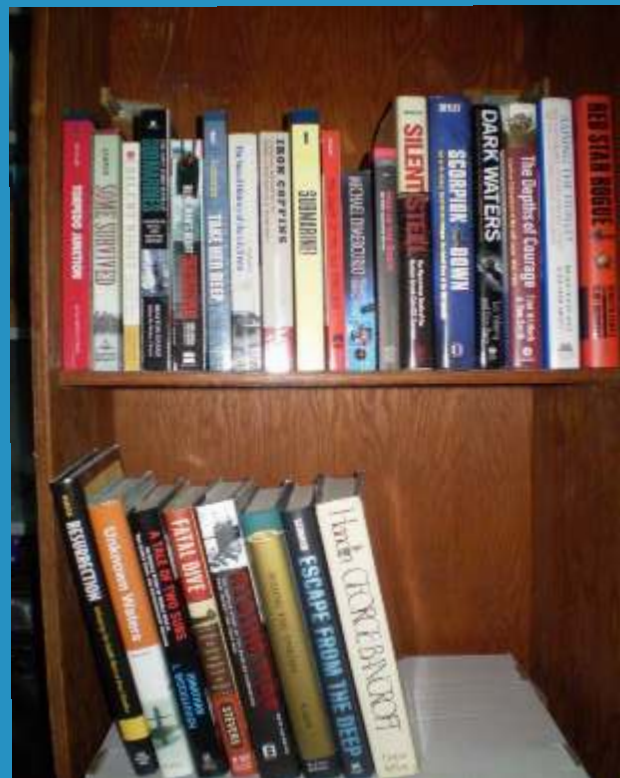
## **Significant Donation to CCB Library**

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](mailto:brcraignc@gmail.com).



No.	TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	Fiction or Non-Fiction	COPYRIGHT DATE	HARDCOVER OR SOFT
1	Escape From the Deep [USS Yang]	Alan 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	Fleet 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. L.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 Gronium]	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





## USS Dallas (SSN 700), Movie Star Submarine, Comes Home for Last Time



Kylie Iwan, left, rushes to embrace her boyfriend, MM2 Andrew McNally, as the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Dallas returns to the Naval Submarine Base in Groton Monday following a six-month deployment. This was the final deployment for the Dallas

### Had starring role in 'The Hunt for Red October'

**Groton** - The submarine that starred in "The Hunt for Red October," the USS Dallas, returned from its last overseas deployment Monday. Next year, after 33 years in the fleet, the Dallas will be inactivated. Tom Clancy's Cold War thriller made the Dallas famous, but in Navy circles it is better known for being the first attack submarine to carry a dry-deck shelter, which houses a vehicle for launching and recovering special operations forces.

"Of all the submarines that would be finishing up their service life, there are a couple out there that people know by name, and Dallas is one of them," said Capt. David A. Roberts, who commanded Dallas from 2007 to 2009. "It kind of adds to the moment. 'The Hunt for Red October' submarine we all know and love from the movies is going to be finishing up its service life soon." But, Roberts said, he always tells people who ask about the Dallas that it has "done a lot more than just being in the movies."

"Think about how the world has changed," said Roberts, who now leads the Submarine Learning Center. "The missions Dallas was built for initially back then, in the late 1970s and early '80s, are so much different than in 2013. And she has stood the test of time and been able to keep step with the changing world, the challenging world." The Dallas (SSN 700) returned to the Naval Submarine Base on Monday after operating in Europe and the Middle East and traveling more than 34,000 miles during nearly seven months at sea. While all de-

ployments are memorable, Cmdr. Jack Houdeshell, the current commanding officer of the Dallas, said the last deployment comes second only to the maiden deployment for a submarine. And on this deployment, Houdeshell added, the crew and the ship "showed the world what we can still do."

The Dallas will continue to support training and other missions until September, when the preparations begin in earnest for the decommissioning, Houdeshell said.

One of 42 Los Angeles-class attack submarines remaining in the fleet, the Dallas was commissioned in 1981 as the seventh member in a class of 61 submarines. It has deployed to every operational theater around the world ever since. The submarine circumnavigated the globe and transited the Panama Canal in 1984 and participated in Operations Desert Shield/Storm in the early 1990s. Master Chief Electronics Technician Tomas A. Garcia, who was the chief of the boat on Dallas from 2010 to 2012, said the Dallas was known for delivering Navy SEALs, but the equipment was removed shortly before he reported aboard. Guided-missile submarines and some Virginia-class submarines carry the dry-deck shelters now, he added. Roberts, Houdeshell and Garcia all said serving aboard Dallas was the highlight of their careers.

Garcia, a Texas native who is now the department master chief for Basic Enlisted Submarine School, led about 100 Naval Submarine School students to the pier on Monday so they could attend a submarine homecoming for the first time. "There is no better way for them to really get a full appreciation for what it means to deploy on a submarine," Garcia said. Seeing the families and feeling the excitement of the homecoming, Garcia added, "really drives home" the importance of the submarine force's missions and of the family support at home. Garcia said he also watched "The Hunt for Red October" with his family on Sunday night to celebrate the Dallas' impending arrival.

Seaman Jose Cruz, 19, cheered "Hooyah, Dallas" with his classmates as the Dallas arrived next to the pier. Cruz said he felt as if he was being welcomed into the traditions of the submarine force.

"For all of us," he said, "this will be something to remember."

Houdeshell said Monday was an emotional day because he was thrilled to see his family and see the sailors reunited with their families, especially in time for Thanksgiving, but he also knew that after he brought his ship in "she's not going to go out and do it again."

"I think the real measure of the Dallas is the crews that served on the Dallas and have gone out throughout the fleet," he said. "Even when the ship is gone you will still have the Dallas spirit out in the fleet from the sailors that served on board."

The submarine itself may live on too, as a centerpiece for a maritime museum. A nonprofit foundation, the Dallas Maritime Museum Foundation, plans to build a museum featuring Navy ships and other vessels named after the city.

"As much as I hate to see my old ship eventually be decommissioned," Roberts said, "I think memorializing her in Dallas would be a perfect ending to a great career."

By Jennifer McDermott

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# Chaplain's Corner

By Bill (Butterbean) Dixon

## Hebrews Chapter 1,2-3:

**Heb 1-2: Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.**

**Heb 1-3: Who being the brightness of his glory,** (Exodus 40-34: Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.) **and the express image** ( 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor 4-4: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God, should shine unto them.) ( Col 1-15: Who is the image of the invisible God.) **of his person,** (John 14-9: Jesus tells Philip: he that hath seen me hath seen the Father). **and upholding all things by the word of his power,** ( John 1-3: All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.) ( Eph 3-9: from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.) **when he had by himself purged ` our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.**



## 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.*



## Cold War Sub to Go on Display at Museum as its Military Missions Remain Secrets

Published November 13, 2013 Associated Press



In this Feb. 2007 file photo provided by the U.S. Navy, the research submarine NR-1 is moored at U.S. Naval submarine base, in New London, Conn. The nuclear-powered NR-1, launched in Groton in 1969, was one of the most secretive vessels in the U.S. undersea force. It was taken out of service in 2008 and disassembled, its reactor disposed of. Now the Navy has collected pieces of it for an exhibit at a submarine museum in Groton, where it was based for the duration of its service life. (AP/US Navy)

GROTON, Conn. — It could dive deeper than any other submarine, and when it reached the ocean floor, the one-of-a-kind Navy vessel could roll on wheels with lights illuminating the depths outside its windows. The nuclear-powered NR-1, launched in Groton in 1969, was one of the most secretive vessels in the U.S. undersea force. It was taken out of service in 2008 and disassembled. Now the Navy has collected pieces of it for an exhibit at a submarine museum in

Groton, where it was based for the duration of its service life.

It was known primarily as a research vessel, but it also carried out a range of military missions that remain under wraps even to-day. Veterans who served aboard the tiny sub during the Cold War say that it was one of the most fascinating assignments of their careers — but that not even their wives know all the details.

Toby Warson, who served as commander from 1970-73, said he once led the sub on a hazardous military operation in the Mediterranean. The mission, code-named "Raccoon Hook," earned him a distinguished service medal, he said, but he has had to keep the details to himself. "I finally had to quit wearing the ribbon because when I walked into the officers' club, everyone asked how I got it, and I couldn't tell them," said Warson, who lives in Camas, Wash. "They thought I was being cute. I wasn't being cute. I just didn't want to go to jail."

The missions that have been declassified include work on an undersea submarine-detection network, mapping of the ocean floor, and the salvage of parts of the space shuttle Challenger, which exploded over the Atlantic in 1986. The 140-foot-long submarine — a pet project of Adm. Hyman Rickover, the father of the nuclear Navy — was powered by a custom-built miniature nuclear reactor and could dive to 3,000 feet. The crew of about 10 men could stay at sea for as long as a month, but they had only frozen TV dinners to eat, bathed once a week with a bucket of water and burned chlorate candles to produce oxygen. The sub was so slow that it was towed to sea by a surface vessel, and so tiny that the crew felt the push and pull of the ocean's currents. "Everybody on NR-1 got sick," said Allison J. Holifield, who commanded the sub in the mid-1970s. "It was only a matter of whether you were throwing up or not throwing up."

It carried no weapons, but it had unmatched capabilities. In an era when submarine crews tapped undersea cables and deployed with spies in a cat-and-mouse game with the Soviet fleet, NR-1 set itself apart with a narrow, deep-diving hull and a retractable arm with a claw that could grab objects on the ocean floor. Retired officers who served on NR-1 during the Cold War said as many as half its missions were of a military nature. The Navy's History and Heritage Command in Washington and submarine force headquarters in Norfolk, Va., said they searched but could not find mission records requested by The Associated Press, and the veterans say they have to assume details remain classified until they are told otherwise.

In the Navy's "silent service," every submarine operates in secrecy, but Rickover protected his NR-1 in particular by sharing details of its development and capabilities on a need-to-know basis. The cloak was pulled back by publicity of exploits including a 1976 mission to recover an F-14 fighter with a newly developed missile that had rolled off the deck of an aircraft carrier. Rickover envisioned multiple submarines like NR-1, but the cost got in the way. In today's Navy, unmanned submarines have come so far that the sub force commander, Vice Adm. Michael Connor, said they could carry out operations that once might have gone to NR-1.

"That's the type of thing that an unmanned vehicle can do much more efficiently than designing a new class of submarine for that specific mission," Connor said in an interview. "That's a prime example of how we leverage things like unmanned vehicles." Michael Riegel, a former commander of the Groton base who also served as an officer aboard NR-1 in the 1970s, said he would expect a range of reactions if and when all the submarine's secrets are revealed.

"Some will probably say 'Gee, that wasn't out of the ordinary,'" he said. "Some will say 'Gee, that was really slick what they did.'"





## Base Hats and Shirt Available

Our Base Parade Float debut at the North Carolina 4<sup>th</sup> 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



**Website now Available** [www.subvetsonline.com](http://www.subvetsonline.com)

## VETERAN DESIGNATION ON NC DRIVERS LICENSES

From Jerry Leppart, Coastal Carolina Base Member

Hello Subvets, the implementation of a "TEMPORARY" Veterans designation for your Drivers License happened Monday, 10/7/13. I stopped by one of the local Drivers License spots in Raleigh on Tuesday. Those folks didn't seem to know a whole lot about it and referred me to the main DMV office in downtown Raleigh. I stopped there today and was referred to a "Hearing Officer" who didn't know a whole lot about it but she took my name and cell number and said she would research it...I didn't hold a lot of hope. She proved me wrong as she called me a couple hours later...so here's what I found out...

If you go to renew or replace your current license, a "TEMPORARY" sticker will be placed on the back of the license. You must "REQUEST" the Vet designation and MUST prove you're a Vet by showing your DD214 and you must have been HONORABLY DISCHARGED. Bear in mind, you won't get your new or replacement license immediately, thus the "REQUEST." Remember DMV now mails your license to you which you should receive within 2 weeks of the time you submit your request for replacement or renewal. If you're only replacing your license, there's a \$10.00 fee. She didn't know if there's a fee for a renewal license...thought it was free...Imagine that. Didn't know what the PERMANENT Vet designation would look like and that won't be implemented until the Jan / Feb 2014 timeframe.

**REMEMBER, DD214 is a MUST.**



## ***WOMEN TO BE ASSIGNED TO FAST-ATTACK SUBMARINES BY JANUARY 2015***

Jennifer Hlad, Stars and Stripes, Oct 16

The USS Virginia and the USS Minnesota will be the first two gender-integrated fast-attack submarines, the Navy announced Tuesday. Six women - four nuclear-trained officers and two supply corps officers - will report to the subs by January 2015, after completing the nuclear submarine training pipeline, according to the Navy.

Women are already serving aboard the ballistic missile subs the USS Wyoming, USS Louisiana and USS Maine, and the guided missile subs USS Florida, USS Georgia and USS Ohio. The Navy in 2010 officially changed the policy that had previously prohibited women from serving aboard submarines. Since then, 43 women have been integrated into the sub force. "Female officers serving aboard Virginia-class submarines is the next natural step to more fully integrate women into the submarine force," Navy Secretary Ray Mabus said in a written statement. "There are many extremely talented and capable women with a desire to succeed in this field and the submarine force will be stronger because of their efforts."

In an all-hands call last week, Chief of Naval Operations Jonathan Greenert told sailors that the Navy will lay out a plan by May 2015 for integrating enlisted women into the submarine force. It is important to add female officers first, he said, so that younger sailors will have role models at sea. "But the fact of the matter is, we're going to do this," he said.

Vice Adm. Michael Conner, commander of Navy submarine forces, said he plans to integrate two more fast-attack submarines in fiscal 2016. Virginia and Minnesota are both home-ported in Groton, Conn., so he said he **plans to choose two Pacific Fleet submarines home-ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, in early 2014**. In May 2012, some of the first women to serve aboard U.S. submarines said the transition was going smoothly.

"At first, the guys were a little more timid just because they hadn't worked with females on a day-to-day basis, but after a week they warmed up and were just like brothers and sisters fighting for the bathroom, to get in in the morning," Lt. Britta Christianson said then. "We're all sailors, if I'm on a surface ship or a submarine."

Sounds like the North Carolina (SSN 777) may be next!



### **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 December 21, 2013

**Location: Peppercorns Food & Spirits, 2582 Castle Hayne Rd, Wrightsboro, NC**

### Coastal Carolina Base Meeting

**When:** December 21, 2013, at 0900

**Location:** Peppercorns Food & Spirits, Castle Hayne Rd, Wrightsboro, North Carolina

**Call to order:** Base Commander Charlie Backes called the Meeting to order at 0920.

**Attendees:** Charlie Backes (Base Commander), Jerry Hawks (Base Vice Commander), Butterbean (Base Chaplain), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper) and wife Pat, Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), District Commander Steve Bell and wife Ma Bell, Chuck Fletcher and wife Joy, Howard Crist, Terry Kuhn, Ron Bixby, Tom McFadden, George Stalker, Bill Lowe, Bernie Maguire, Tim Dolan and his guests Melissa and Windy, Bob Govern, and potential new member Elmer Norwood and his wife Mary.

**Invocation:** Butterbean gave the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Acting Treasurer, Terry Kuhn led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Introductions:** Each attendee introduced themselves giving their name, qualification boat and boasts served on.

**Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance:** There were no World War II Submarine Veterans in attendance.

**Holland Club Presentations:** There were no Holland Club award recipients attending at this meeting. The following Members have Holland Club Certificate Awards ready to be presented as soon as they attend a meeting:

Larry Kostbade  
Mike Ryan  
Allan Toomer  
PK Kraus

Base Storekeeper, Frank Blackmon informed attendees that he also has 5 and 10 year rocker patches for longer term Holland Club members.

**Approval of the Minutes from the October 17, 2013 meeting:**

**Motion:** Frank Blackmon offered a MOTION to accept the published Minutes of the October 17 meeting as written and dispense with the reading of those minutes. Bernie Maguire SECONDED the MOTION and the MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees and the reading of the Minutes was dispensed.

**Bills, Receipts and Communications:** Commander Charlie submitted receipts for \$15 for Ferry Fees to transport the Submarine Centerpiece to the Oak Island Parade and \$25 for pre-registration for the 2014 Azalea Festival Parade.

**Treasurers Report:** The Treasurers Report indicated the beginning balance for the Period was \$1,354.59 and the ending balance for the Period was \$1,508.48.

#### *Treasurers Report 10/18/2013 through 12/19/2013*

<b>Beginning Balance 10/18/2013</b>	\$1,354.59
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#### **Income:**

Dues	\$370.00
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Raffle income	\$36.00
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<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$406.00</b>
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#### **Expenditures**

USSVI National Dues	\$200.00
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That's my brick. Donation Sam Griffith	\$ 50.00
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Tar Heel base Subvets Newsletter)	\$ 2.11
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<b>Total all expenses</b>	<b>\$252.11</b>
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<b>Reconciled 10/18/13 Cash on hand</b>	<b>\$1354.59</b>
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Deposits	\$406.00
----------	----------

Total	\$1,760.59
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Total	\$1760.59
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Less expenditures	(\$252.11)
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<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$1508.48</b>
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## Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2013 Continued

**COB's Report:** No Report

**Storekeeper's Report:** Frank Blackmon, Base Storekeeper, reported that Base merchandise is now available online at [www.subvetsonline.com](http://www.subvetsonline.com). Frank has been working with Tom McFadden to get this site set up and have the materials available. Frank showed an example of a nice jacket with the USSVI Patch embroidered on the back and the CCB patch on the left breast. If you order materials for meeting delivery, there will be no shipping charge. If you order for delivery at your home, there may be additional charges for delivery. The initial items available on the site would be the following:

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Harriton Red Polo shirt(cotton/poly blend)<br>Sale Price \$20 | Base Cost \$17   |
| 2. Harriton Red Long Sleeve shirt<br>Sale Price \$13             | Base Cost \$23   |
| 3. Hat (made in USA)<br>Sale Price \$15                          | Base Cost \$13   |
| 4. Big Accessories Hat (NOT made in the USA)<br>Sale Price \$12  | Base Cost \$8.50 |

*Note – both hat styles are available in structured and unstructured. These can both be made available with the Coastal Carolina SubVets logo OR the USSVI logo. If you want to make personalization available I can add that as well (hat placement on sides or back), shirt placement on right chest. These can be offered at an additional cost and include an additional margin for the organization.*

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 5. "Better" quality shirt 100% Cotton, Red<br>Sale Price \$30 | Base Cost \$25 |
| 6. "Best" quality shirt 100% Cotton, Red<br>Sale Price \$35   | Base Cost \$29 |

\* 2XL and above will price a little higher but we will keep the margins so the Club donation amount is the same

He explained that members can order additional patches or Boat names on shirts, hats or Jackets for an additional charge.

### Committee Reports:

**Oak Island Parade:** Frank Blackmon reported that the Oak Island Parade Event was a very successful. They started preparing the trailer in warm weather. By the time of the parade a front had come through and the temperature had dropped and it was very cold. The attendees had a blast and the float was well received by the parade attendees. Commander Charlie informed attendees that the CCB intends to use the CCB float in the Azalea Festival instead of the NC Subvets submarine float.



**Pearl Harbor Day Celebration:** Tom McFadden reported that the Pearl Harbor Day Celebration in Raleigh on December 7<sup>th</sup> was an incredible event. There were 86 attendees at the NC State Faculty Club. At the dinner, Jim Myers spoke about the achievements of the NC Subvets. He reminded attendees that at the National Convention, the NC Subvets received a meritorious award. He also reported that recruiting overall was flat in 2013 and challenged attendees to recruit their fellow submariners. Captain Davis gave an inspirational talk about the history of submarines. Butterbean said that the tolling of the boats was particularly memorable in that there were small models of each boat on the dining tables, each with a lighted candle in front of it. As each lost boat was tolled, a picture of the boat was shown on the big screen and the attendees extinguished the candle in front of the model of that boat.







## Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2013

### Continued

Butterbean also took the opportunity to remind attendees of the Regional Meeting in the same venue, the NC State University Faculty Club, the week of the Azalea Festival. He encouraged attendees to at least come to the last day of the Meeting on Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Admiral Al Kaminski will speak at the Dinner.

**Budget:** Acting Treasurer, Terry Kuhn, and Commander Charlie Backes are working on a CCB Budget for 2014. The intent of the Budget is to plan for expected expenses and, by approving the budget, eliminate the need for votes to approve each budgeted expense that comes up during the year.

**Library:** Commander Charlie Backes asked Base Secretary Bill Underwood to publish the list of books in the Base Library again in the Fourth Quarter "The Below Decks Watch" Newsletter.

**Historian:** Commander Charlie reminded attendees that he is looking for a volunteer to act as Base Historian. The Base Historian would bring a bit of Submarine History to light at each Base Meeting. Howard Crist is considering taking the responsibility and will give Charlie a definite answer by the next Base Meeting.

**Public Relations:** There was no Public Relations report at this meeting.

**Book of Members:** Commander Backes encouraged attendees to turn in their biographies soon so we can keep the Book current.

### Unfinished Business

**Status of the Brick for the Memorial:** The Coastal Carolina Base has bought two bricks for the Memorial at Fuquay Varina, NC.

**Recruitment:** Butterbean thanked Chuck Fletcher for bringing potential new member, Elmer Norwood, to the meeting. He reminded attendees to get the name, email

address and phone number from potential recruits so he can follow-up with them effectively.

Butterbean also encouraged Members to work at getting existing Members to attend meetings. A big part of the purpose of the USSVI is to promote interaction and exchange between Members to remember those on Eternal Patrol and celebrate our common experience as submariners.

**Status of the USS Clamagore:** Base Secretary, Bill Underwood, updated the attendees that the situation for the USS Clamagore (SS 343) is not good. The latest information from the Clamagore Veterans Association is that Patriots Point still does not have funding to overhaul the submarine and is evaluating disposition options for the sub, including sinking it to become a reef of the coast of Florida.

**Sailor of the Year:** District Commander Steve Bell announced that District would like donations from the Bases to support awards for the runners up for Sailor of the Year.

**MOTION:** Butterbean offered a **MOTION to donate \$50.00 to the District for an award for the Sailor of the Year program as per the Districts request. Frank Blackmon SECONDED the MOTION and the MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.**

**Honor Flight Sponsorship:** Commander Charlie reported for Jim Brincefield that there are no longer any Honor Flight Hubs in North Carolina. The nearest Hub is Myrtle Beach. The next flight is scheduled for April 14, 2014 so, if the CCB plans to sponsor a veteran for that flight, we need to get the application in soon. The attendees agreed to table the discussion on this potential project until a future meeting in which Jim can provide more information.

### New Business

**Submarine Memorial in Chicago:** Commander Charlie informed attendees that the CCB has been approached to make a donation to support a memorial to Submarine Veterans on the Chicago River in Chicago. In the discussion,



## Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2013

Continued

Butterbean cautioned attendees that the CCB needs to be careful about preserving the bank account to support the direct needs of the Base.

**MOTION:** Butterbean offered a MOTION that the Coastal Carolina Base NOT make a donation to the Chicago Submarine Memorial. Frank Blackmon **SECONDED** the MOTION and the MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

**Forum on National Website:** District Commander Steve Bell informed attendees that USSVI is accepting nominees for USSVI Scholarships. He reiterated to attendees that you can't get a scholarship for deserving students in your area if you don't apply.

**Sea Stories Book:** Commander Backes informed attendees that Tommy Robinson's Book about Sea Stories is now available and the proceeds of the sale of the book go to the USSVI Scholarship Fund.

**Communications from the Hunley Preservation Society:** Commander Charlie informed attendees that he has received communications from the Hunley Preservation Society encouraging Base Members to visit the Hunley in Charleston, SC.

**New Proposal - JROTC Cadet of the Year:** Commander Backes informed attendees that he would like to start a local program for JROTC Cadet of the Year. He explained that JROTC Cadets, male or female, would apply for consideration and submit an essay, "What I Have Learned from JROTC". The winner would receive a Plaque and \$200 from the CCB. There would be one winner per year. A discussion ensued as to what JROTC programs would be considered for the CCB award. The CCB has active Members in it from the Cary area to the coast. This seems like a very large number of JROTC Programs to review applications from.

The idea will continue to be developed, refined and presented again at future meetings.

**Proposed Club Event Calendar for 2014:** Commander Charlie presented the proposed Calendar of Events for 2014 and briefly talked about each proposed calendar event. The

proposed calendar includes a number of additional dinner events to promote more interaction between Base Members.

### Open Floor

**District Commander Steve Bell Remarks:** District Commander Steve Bell wished attendees a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! He continued by informing attendees that the NC Subvets organization is very prominent in the USSVI and won 8 or 9 national awards in 2013. He encouraged CCB to think about Members that are deserving of a national award. Commander Bell continued that the write up is very important for any submissions. It takes a very thorough and well written description to win an award.

Regarding recruitment and retention, Commander Bell informed attendees that USSVI membership is flat and we need to drive recruitment of younger members.

Commander Bell encouraged CCB Members to visit the Submarine Memorial on Moonshine Mountain in Burnsville, NC in the Mountains north of Asheville. The memorial is threatened now because the land it is on has been sold. The NC Subvets is in the process of getting approval for an easement attached to the property to protect the memorial grounds for the future. The NC Subvets, and specifically the Asheville Base, would be responsible for upkeep and maintenance of the memorial. He encouraged CCB Members to attend the memorial service at this memorial on the weekend before Memorial Day.

Commander Bell informed attendees that the USSVI National Convention in 2014 is in San Francisco and in 2015 it will be in Pittsburg and encouraged CCB Members to plan to attend a USSVI National Convention.

He reiterated that the Regional Convention for 2014 will be hosted by the Tarheel Base in Raleigh. It is always fun with great sea stories and comradery.

Commander Bell also reminded attendees that the USSVI National Elections are coming up and that members should take the time to read the biographies of the nominees and vote for the most qualified for each position. It is very important to vote in the National Elections.





#### Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2013 Continued

Commander Bell also asked that CCB share its Newsletter with the other NC Base Commanders. It is an important idea exchange for each Base to be able to improve their communications with their Members. He mentioned that the "American Submariner" magazine has new editors and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Editions should be published soon

#### **Thank You to Ron Bixby for Hosting This Meeting:**

Commander Backes and attendees thanked Member Ron Bixby for hosting the Coastal Carolina Base as his restaurant, Peppercorns Food & Spirits is located at 2528 Castle Hayne Road, in Wrightsboro, NC. The restaurant was opened just for the Base meeting, had excellent food and a convenient location. The website is

<http://www.peppercornsfoodandspirits.com/>.

**Raffle:** Storekeeper, Frank Blackmon conducted the drawing for a Coffee Mug, a Cold War Patch, and another patch. Jerry Hawks won a patch, guest Elmer Norwood won the Cold War Patch and Frank Blackmon won the Coffee Mug.

#### **Adjournment:**

**MOTION:** Bernie Maguire offered a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Tim Dolan **SECONDED** the MOTION and the MOTIONED CARRIED by unanimous vote by the attendees and the meeting was adjourned.

Acting as the Base Historian, Commander Charlie stirred attendee's memories by giving a verbal quiz to the attendees. The quiz got attendees to think back to the 50's to answer questions such as "What prominent television show did the Beatles appear on their first trip to America?" and "What was the name of Red Skelton's Clown Character?"

#### **Next Scheduled Base Event/Meeting**

Base Officers are currently working on scheduling a Dinner meeting of Base Members near Valentines Day in February. More information to come in future communications.

The next regular Base Meeting will be on Thursday Evening, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd in Wilmington, NC.

#### **Call for 2014 Nominations for National and Region Elections March 1 2014 deadline for submissions.**

In accordance with the requirement of the USSVI-Constitution & Bylaws, The Nominations Committee Chairman Tom Conlon announces this call for 2014 National Election nominations for the following offices.

1. National Commander
2. National Senior Vice Commander
3. National Junior Vice Commander
4. National Secretary
5. National Treasurer
6. NE Region Director
7. SE Region Director
8. Central Region Director
9. Western Region Director

The nominations for the Region Director positions are included for convenience in this procedure. Any member in good standing (self nominations are allowed) may nominate any other member in good standing for any elected National Office, provided that the Nominee qualification for National Office shall be in accordance with Constitution Article XI Section 1 paragraph (b) and the nomination is accompanied by a letter from the Nominee indicating his willingness to accept the nomination, details of his qualifications in 100 words or less, and willingness to serve if elected.

The prerequisite for National Office is that

- A Nominee must be a Regular Member in good standing a minimum of thirty consecutive months.
- Nominees for Senior and Junior Vice Commander must have completed at least two years as a Member of the Board of Directors. (This includes all National Officers, Region Directors, District Commanders, past and present, who have met the two years in office requirement.)
- Nominees for National Commander must have completed at least two years as a voting member of the Board of Directors by the time they take office as National Commander (NC). (This includes all National Officers and the District Commander of the Year, past and present, who have met the two years as a voting member of the board requirement.) The term of office for all National officers will be two years or until a successor is elected.

**The nomination must be received by Tom Conlon, Nomination Committee Chair on or by March 1, 2014 by email at [tmconlon@comcast.net](mailto:tmconlon@comcast.net) or by mail at 8 Davis Ave, Harrison, NJ 07029.**



# Gems from Jim

*Thought Provoking emails from Jim Brincefield*



## 'Twas The Night Before Christmas - Submarine Style

**"Twas the night before Christmas,  
and what no-one could see,  
the men with the dolphins  
were under the sea.**

**Most of the crew was flat on their backs,  
snoring and dreaming all snug in their racks.  
Those men on watch were making their rounds,  
some manning the planes or listening for sounds.**

**Back in maneuvering or down in the room,  
they all hoped the oncoming watch would come soon.  
I'd finished some PM's whose time was now due,  
and hoped for some sleep, even an hour or two.**

**Against better judgment I took a short stroll,  
and found myself wandering into control.  
The Nav had the Conn, the COW was in place,  
the COB had the Dive and a scowl on his face.**

**The helm and the planes were relaxed but aware,  
the QM and ET were discussing a dare.  
To comply with the orders the Nav told the Dive,  
to bring the boat up with minimum rise.**

**The orders were given and soon they were there,  
at periscope depth with a scope in the air.  
The QM confirmed our position with care,  
the broadcast was copied, we brought in some air.**

**The Nav on the scope let out a small cry,  
he shook his head twice and rubbed at his eyes.  
He looked once again to find what it was,  
that interrupted his sweep and caused him to pause.**

**Try as he might there was nothing to see,  
so down went the scope and us to the deep.  
I asked what it was that caused his dismay,  
he sheepishly said, "I'm embarrassed to say."**

**It could have been Northern Lights or a cloud,  
or a meteorite he wondered aloud.  
But to tell you the truth I guess I must say,  
whatever it was it looked like a sleigh.**

**And though it passed quickly and never was clear,  
I almost believe it was pulled by reindeer.  
We laughed and teased him and I got up to go,  
when our moment was broken by "Conn, Radio."**

They told us a message was just coming in,  
we looked at the depth gauge and started to grin.

"Radio, Conn, I feel safe to say,  
your attempt at a joke is too long delayed.

If it had been sooner it might have been neat,  
but I doubt we're receiving at four-hundred feet."

"Conn, Radio, you can come down and see,  
we're not playing games to any degree."

I headed aft with nothing better to do,  
surprised by the fact it was still coming through.  
It stopped and was sent to control to be read,  
the Nav read it slowly and scratched at his head.

Then again he began but this time aloud,  
to those that now waited, a curious crowd.  
"To you Denizens of the Deep and men of the sea,  
who risk your life daily so others stay free.

I rarely have seen you on this, my big night,  
for far too often you are hidden from sight.  
But purely by luck I saw you tonight,  
as your scope coaxed the plankton to glow in the night.

And lucky for me I've finally won,  
the chance to say thanks for all you have done.  
I know that you miss your families at home,  
and sometimes you feel as if you're alone.

But trust what I say and I'll do what's right,  
I'll take something special to your families tonight.  
Along with the gifts I'll take to your kin,  
I'll visit their dreams and leave word within.

They'll hear of your love, and how you miss them,  
I'll tell them that soon you'll be home again.  
It might not be much I know that is true,  
to thank you for all the things that you do.

But I'll do what I can,  
while you do what's right,  
Merry Christmas to all,  
and to all a goodnight."

Adapted by Sean Keck





## ***THE SILENT SERVICE TV Series Now Available Free!***

Thanks to the generosity of USSVI Northern VA Base member Ray Stone, the the 1957 and 1958 episodes of the TV series "The Silent Service" [are available for downloading at this site www.olgoat.com](http://www.olgoat.com). The Silent Service is a documentary styled anthology series about the U.S. Navy's submarine fleet and their missions during World War II and the Korean War. Every episode was fact based and the realism of the show was elevated by the use of actual combat footage from the files of the United States Navy. In addition to the episodes, Ray has included copies of the press kits that were issued to the stations along with the films. He also included episode summaries which are handy in preparing notices / programs for individual viewing. All episodes are in MP4 format. Ray suggests downloading to your device rather than trying to view online. Each episode is about 30 min. in length so consider that when trying to download.



### **USSVI SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2014** The meeting dates are:

- Check in and registration on Monday, April 7
- Departure day is Friday, April 11

A block of rooms has been set aside at the HOLIDAY INN CARY, 5630 Dillard Drive, Raleigh NC 27518. Price is \$79.00 a night. Please deal directly with the Holiday Inn at 919-277-2011. Reference: Submarine Veterans.

[Please contact Bill "Butterbean" Dixon for more information.](#)

## **Coastal Carolina Base Member Birthdays**

### **October Birthdays**

***George Cataldo Tom McFadden David Crabb***

### **November Birthdays**

***Mike Ryan Bill Lowe Brian Craig Butterbean Tim Dolan  
Dominic Pacili George Depta***

### **December Birthdays**

***Mark Siewert JB Helms Michael Arcaro Everet Morgan***

***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](mailto:bunder343@aol.com)*

## **From The ByLaws**

### **ARTICLE V Membership** **Section 1 General**

- A. The Base is a chartered unit of the National Organization. To be a member of the Base, membership in good standing with "United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated" is required.
- B. A member is considered "in good standing" if both National and Local Base dues have been paid for the current year.
- C. Dues are due and payable effective the last day 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 organization. National Life members whose Base dues have not been paid by 31 January will be dropped from the Base. The Base membership may vote to remit or defer a member's dues in case of health or other reason.
- D. Members may join any number of Bases. One Base shall be selected as primary Base and all others as dual Base(s). Members may only vote from their primary Base in the District, Regional and National elections of the organization.

## **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](mailto:bunder343@aol.com)



**Special Christmas Video**  
**for Submariners**  
**Click Here to View!**  
**Check this out! It's really worth**  
**watching!**

**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>

***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:	<b>USS North Carolina</b>
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)



## USS North Carolina (SSN 777) Deploys for Holidays

*Raleigh News & Observer December 17, 2013*

While most families are preparing for the holidays, the crew of the USS North Carolina is scheduled to deploy this week from its home port at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

Destination? Somewhere in the western Pacific. Length of deployment? As long as needed, but based on past experience, probably six months. The USS North Carolina – a \$2.5 billion Virginia-class attack submarine – is the fourth ship to bear the Tar Heel State's name. The submarine is armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles to launch against land targets and torpedoes to unleash against other ships and submarines. It is also designed to conduct long-term surveillance of land areas, provide a covert taxi service for special forces, deliver land mines, work with battle groups and carry out other assignments. "We are incredibly fortunate to carry the great history of ships named North Carolina to sea and in particular, back to the western Pacific," Cmdr. Richard Rhinehart, the sub's skipper, said in an interview. The Pacific is where the most famous USS North Carolina – the battleship that was in service from 1940-47 – earned its 15 battle stars during World War II. It is now a popular state museum docked in Wilmington.

There were two previous USS North Carolinas. The first one (1824-1866) was a 74-gun man of war that was used in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. The second North Carolina (1908-1921) was a Tennessee-class armored cruiser that delivered medical supplies to Armenians who were victims of a massacre by the Turks, and which patrolled the Mediterranean during World War I. To keep the historic connection, Rhinehart said his sub contains pieces of teak from the decks of the World War II battleship. Some of the original teak has been inlaid into the submarine decking in the control room, the CO's stateroom, and the chief's quarters. The latest North Carolina was built by General Dynamics Electric Boat Division in Groton, Conn., and in Newport News Shipbuilding in Newport News, Va. It was commissioned in 2008 in Wilmington with guests that included veterans of the World War II battleship.

The sub has a crew of 126 enlisted men and 17 officers. Rhinehart said he is not allowed to discuss how long the USS North Carolina will be at sea, but he said its previous deployment was from December 2011 to June 2012.

The ship makes its own oxygen and freshwater, Rhinehart said. "Our endurance is limited only by the amount of food we can carry." Although this is Rhinehart's fourth tour on submarines, the USS North Carolina is his first command. An Ohio native, Rhinehart is a 1992 graduate of Miami University with a degree in mathematics, and he is a 1994 University of Michigan graduate with a master's in aerospace engineering. He also went to nuclear propulsion officer school. The USS North Carolina has been in port for the past six months undergoing maintenance while the crew received training. The sub is 377 feet long, weighs 7,800 tons, can travel at 29 miles per hour, and can go as deep as 800 feet. I asked the USS North Carolina's skipper if there is anything he'd like our readers to know.

"I'd like the citizens of North Carolina to know that I have the honor of commanding some of the nation's best and brightest sailors that our nation has to offer," Rhinehart said. "They can be proud of the dedication, devotion and duty that our sailors display day-in and day-out, all in defense of our nation. I know that I am."



## 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	57
Members on Eternal Patrol	2
Attendees at Last Meeting	23
% voting in Last Election	63



**“The Silent Service”**

**TV Show DVDs available at**

**[www.usssealion.com/sealion/silent\\_service\\_tapes1.htm](http://www.usssealion.com/sealion/silent_service_tapes1.htm)**

**“I Ordered Mine and Love them!”**

## Notable Fourth Quarter History



Today in Undersea Warfare History (Dec 23, 1943), USS GUAVINA (SS 362) was commissioned, with Lt. Cmdr. Carl Tiedeman commanding.



Today in Undersea Warfare History (Dec 22, 1965), USS LEWIS & CLARK (SSBN 644) was commissioned.

Today in Undersea Warfare History (Dec 19, 1959), USS SCORPION (SSN 589) was launched by General Dynamics Corp.'s Electric Boat Division, Groton, CT.



Today in Undersea Warfare History (Dec 18, 1959), USS ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN 601) was launched by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co.; sponsored by Mrs. Hanson E. Ely II.





## **Submarines in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941**

From USS Bowfin Museum & Park Website

**There were four U.S. submarines in Pearl Harbor during the attack:**

**USS Narwhal (SS-167)** - Moored starboard side to pier No. 4, Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

**USS Dolphin (SS-169)** - Moored port side to pier No. 4, Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

**USS Cachalot (SS-170)** - Moored port side to Berth 1, Naval Shipyard, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

**USS Tautog (SS-199)** - Moored port side to south side of pier No. 2, Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

*Please note: some sources list five submarines in Pearl Harbor during the attack, the fifth being USS Cuttlefish (SS-171). According to her official history, "She departed Pearl Harbor on 5 October 1941 and was in drydock at the Mare Island Navy Yard on 7 December 1941 when Japanese forces made their infamous attack on Pearl Harbor." At least one source lists USS Gudgeon (SS-211) as being present during the attack, but according to her official history, on that day "she was at sea and out of the attacking area."*

**USS Narwhal (SS-167)**

Completed fifteen patrols in World War II. Sank seven vessels for a total of 13,829 tons. Bombarded airfields and oil tanks with her six-inch gun, delivered supplies, landed and picked up agents, and evacuated a great number of civilians and POWs.



**USS Dolphin (SS-169)**

Completed three patrols in World War II. Performed reconnaissance in the Marshall and Kurile Islands, and served as a training vessel.



**USS Cachalot (SS-170)**

Completed three patrols in World War II. Conducted reconnaissance of Wake, Eniwetok, Ponape, Truk, Namonuito, and Hall Islands, and served as a training vessel.



**USS Tautog (SS-199)**

Completed thirteen patrols in World War II. Sank 26 vessels for a total of 72,606 tons, ranking her first among all U.S. submarines in number of ships sunk and eleventh in tonnage. Laid mines, landed agents, and bombarded island bases. Received three Naval Unit Commendations.



### **Comments on the Pearl Harbor Attack**

#### **by a World War II Submariner and Survivor of the Pearl Harbor Attack**

*Bernard Clarey, a lieutenant on 7 December 1941 and executive officer of the submarine USS Dolphin, was a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack. He spent all of World War II serving in submarines in the Pacific. He was also a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1973, he retired from active duty as Commander in Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet. This is his account of his experiences on 7 December 1941.*



**Thank you. That day of great tragedy and heroism, I was having breakfast at our home, about ten minutes from Pearl Harbor, and getting reacquainted with my 15 month old son, following a 58 day patrol off Wake Island. The submarine force of the Pacific Fleet had been conducting defensive patrols off Wake and Midway Islands since early July.**

**At 0900, I was scheduled to take over command duty on USS Dolphin. Just before 0800, I looked out toward Hickam Field from our hillside house and saw smoke coming from the hangers and many aircraft flying very low and fast in the vicinity. There were also many bursts of anti-aircraft fire visible over Hickam and Pearl Harbor.**

**We did not have our radio on at that time and I thought perhaps a plane had crashed or that the explosions came from the ammunition depot at West Lock.**

**My wife, my son, and I, departed immediately to get me to my submarine moored at the Subase. I turned on the radio at once and we heard of the attack. We took the back road to the base which in a few minutes gave us an overview of the horrible sight of battleship row and the smoke and fire from burning planes and buildings.**

**Concerned for my wife and son, I got out of the car on the highway leading to the Pearl Harbor Gate and told my wife I would call home as soon as I could. I hitchhiked to the base about a mile away, arriving about 0810. USS Dolphin's duty crew had manned all our machine guns and small arms and men were shooting at the enemy planes as they passed about 400 yards astern of our position at the pier. None of us expected to hit anything but we led the planes like good duck hunters. They were just too far away.**

**There were four submarines in port that morning, which had arrived two to four days previously from patrols at Midway and Wake. Two of the submarines were given credit along with a destroyer for shooting down one enemy plane. These submarines were undergoing repair and refitting period with some of their machinery dismantled and some removed for ship work. Few naval vessels are more vulnerable to air attack as a surfaced submarine with hatches open and electrical and water lines connected to the shore. Yet the four submarines caught at their Pearl Harbor base gave a good account of themselves that day and in the following four and a half years of the war.**

**On that fateful Sunday, the submarines of the Pacific Fleet were widely dispersed. Of the 22 which comprised the force, 16 were modern fleet type, up to date submarines. Six others were many years older. There also were 39 submarines in the Far East at the time based in Manila.**

**Throughout the attack, the officers and crew of the Submarine Base were in the thick of the fight. Those who were not manning guns were rushing ammunition to the gun crews, serving in the Navy Yard with fire fighting details or working with hospital and ambulance crews and rescue parties. Some 1500 blankets and 2000 mattresses were distributed to sailors of the shattered surface fleet. Divers from the escape training tank and the submarine rescue vessel Widgeon rushed to assist in the rescue of men trapped in damaged ships.**

**The Submarine Base itself did not come under direct attack that morning. In light of subsequent events in the war, the Japanese must have felt many times over that they should have knocked out the Submarine Base and as many submarines as possible.**

**Our submarines quickly took the war to the Japanese homeland sinking ships along its coast and cutting off supplies from the rest of Asia. Fifty-five percent of all Japanese shipping, about 5,000,000 tons, and 215 naval vessels totalling over 500,000 tons were sunk by our submarines. They also rescued 511 aviators who had been shot down by the Japanese in various attacks. These accomplishments were not achieved without sacrifices from our small force. We lost 52 submarines, about one fifth of our force, and over 3,600 personnel. The total submarine forces of the Navy were comprised of about 18,000 officers and men, only two percent of the Navy's wartime personnel.**



# ***Russia's Second Next-gen Nuclear Sub Enters Service***

Published time: December 23, 2013 04:12



On Monday, the Russian Navy's second Borey-class nuclear-powered submarine, the Aleksandr Nevsky, has entered service. The sub is part of a next-generation class that will be the backbone of Russia's sea-based nuclear deterrent for decades to come. The ceremony marking the submarine's entry into service was initially scheduled for Dec. 21, but was postponed by two days. Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu was the highest-ranking government official present at a navy shipyard in the northern city of Severodvinsk, for the ceremony of the Aleksandr Nevsky raising her new flag. *"The St. Andrew's flag raised today is the boat's combat emblem, which symbolizes her readiness to defend this nation's inter-*

*ests in seas and oceans,"* Shoigu said.

The submarine had been undergoing sea trials since October 2010 and completed them in September. It was also involved in test-firing Bulava intercontinental ballistic missiles, the designated nuclear weapon for all Borey-class subs. *"We had some 14 sea voyages. The boat proved to be quite reliable. She is also very fine in terms of speed and maneuverability,"* Vasily Tankovid, Captain first class of the Aleksandr Nevsky, told RT. Aleksandr Nevsky is the first series-built submarine of the class. Its predecessor, the first-in-class sub Yury Dolgoruky, has been part of the Navy since January.

*"Aleksandr Nevsky has completed all its trials. All the specifications laid out in the project have been fully confirmed,"* said Nikolay Semakov, chief engineer at the Sevmash shipyard, which builds Borey-class subs. *"I can assure you that the Navy is getting a modern boat on a par with its foreign counterparts."*

Two additional Borey-class submarines are currently in the making, with Vladimir Monomakh undergoing sea trials and expected to enter service next year and Knyaz Vladimir currently being built.

As many as eight submarines of the class may eventually be brought into service. Five of them, starting with the Knyaz Vladimir, will feature a significantly upgraded version of the Borey design. They can carry 20 of the solid-propellant Bulava ICBMs, as opposed to 16 for the original version.

The Borey-class subs are 170 meters long, can dive up to 450 meters and travel at speeds of up to 29 knots (54 kilometers per hour) when submerged. In addition to the ballistic missile launchers the subs are equipped with 533-millimeter torpedo tubes and carry RPK-2 Viyuga anti-submarine missile systems.

Each vessel has a crew of 107 sailors and officers, and are fitted with a floating rescue chamber to evacuate all personnel in an emergency.





# COASTAL CAROLINA BASE CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Day	Event
February 15	Sat	Valentine Dinner at Bonefish Grill
February 20	Thu	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd in Wilmington, NC.
	Sat	Pre-Azalea Festival meeting at 0900 at Peppercorns Food & Spirits, at 2528 Castle Hayne Road, Wrightsboro, NC.
March 22		
April 10	Thu	Regional USSVI Convention hosted by the Tarheel Base
April 12	Sat	Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington, NC and hosting District Meeting on the USS North Carolina
May 26	Mon	Memorial Day Ceremony at the S-28 Monument followed by a Base Picnic
June 19	Thu	Regularly Scheduled Meeting at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd in Wilmington, NC.
June 25	Wed	0745 Salute to the Flag at City Hall in Wilmington, NC
July 4	Fri	Official North Carolina 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular & Parade in Southport, NC
July 12	Sat	Battleship USS North Carolina Legacy Series Tribute to the Submarine Service.
August 16	Sat	Regularly Scheduled meeting at 0900 at a location to be determined in the Southport Area
September 1-7		USSVI Golden Anniversary National Convention in San Francisco, California
September 13	Sat	Patriots Day Picnic at S-28 Monument or Dinner
September 27	Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Coastal Carolina Base Charity Golf Tournament (Tentative Date)
October 12	Sun	Columbus Day Dinner at Location to be determined
October 16	Thu	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Activity Center on Independence Blvd in Wilmington, NC.
November 9	Sun	Veterans Day Celebration at the S-28 Monument followed by dinner
December 6	Sat	Oak Island Christmas Parade
December 7?	Sun	Wilmington Holiday Parade Possible Base Participation?
December 13?	Sat	Burgaw Christmas Parade Possible Base Participation?
December 20	Sat	Regularly scheduled meeting at 0900 at Peppercorns Food & Spirits at 2528 Castle Hayne Rd in Wrightsboro, NC.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. 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**

A photograph of a submarine, specifically the USS Scorpion (SSN-581), surfacing from the ocean. The conning tower is visible with the number "723" on it. The submarine is dark grey and the water is a deep blue. The text "Happy New Year!" is overlaid in a large, red, cursive font.

*Happy  
New  
Year!*