



The Below Decks Watch

The Official Newsletter of the Coastal Carolina Base of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. (USSVI)
2014 USSVI Class III Newsletter of the Year!



Newsletter of the Year! 2014 USSVI Class III

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.



The Coastal Carolina Base of the USSVI Newsletter, "The Below Decks Watch" was selected as the 2014 Newsletter of the Year for Class III size bases. District Commander, Steve Bell, informed CCB Commander Charlie Backes by email from the USSVI Convention in San Francisco of the award. He congratulated Base Commander Backes, the editor of "The Below Decks Watch" and the members of the Coastal Carolina Base for this accomplishment.

Commander Bell continued that he is very proud of the Submarine Veterans of USSVI Southeast Region District One which received the following awards:

- Category II Newsletter of the Year - Carolina Piedmont Base - "Piedmont Periscope"
- Category III Newsletter of the Year - Coastal Carolina Base "The Below Decks Watch"
- Overall Newsletter of the Year - Carolina Piedmont Base - "Piedmont Periscope"
- Meritorious Award - Carolina Piedmont Base
- Robert Link Awards

• John Rupertus	Carolina Piedmont Base
• Joe Clark	Nat Greene Base
• Gordon Banks	Tarheel Base
• Bob Saenz	Hampton Roads Base
• Thom Beach	USS Asheville Base

Congratulations to all NC SubVets for a job well done!

*Qualified in U.S. Submarines?
 You are welcome to attend our meetings and join our Base!
 Meeting Dates and Locations in Calendar on page 33
 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 3rd Thu or Sat of the Month
See Base Calendar on Page 33 for
More Details and Special Meetings



Base Commander's Corner

By Charlie Backes

As the days grow shorter and we move into the cooler part of the year let me tell you about some things going on with the Coastal Carolina Subvets.

In July we had a wonderful experience at the annual July 4th parade in Southport. We all sweated a lot as we waited for the parade to start, but the wait was worthwhile. I wish there were more of you there to suffer with us. After the parade most of us shared a picnic atmosphere on Chuck and Joy Fletcher's boat at the marina. It was a long time for me since I ate a meal on a gently rolling floating object. It did bring back some memories of being in the middle of the Med for a meal.

In August we had a brunch meeting at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Southport. This was a very constructive meeting at which Jim Simon was welcomed into the Holland Club. 50 years, Jim, that is a long time ago. Congrats!

We also conducted some regular business after the brunch. One item that I brought up was the support of the Kramer House that is being built by the Step Up For Soldiers organization in Wilmington. Kramer House will be used by returning veterans as they attend school and re-enter civilian life. Once they are finished with school the house will be vacated and available for use by the next veteran. We voted to support this effort by paying for the hot water heater. I have informed the head of the Step Up organization and he will provide us with more details. If someone in our group can get a deal on a large hot water heater let me know.



Base Gear Available
Story on Page 15



Do You Have Your SubVet License Plate Yet?

Forms available at meetings and at the following link:

<https://edmv.ncdot.gov/VehicleRegistration/SpecialPlate/Detail?PlateID=21#term=>



From The Vice Commander

By Chuck Fletcher

This years third quarter has been quite active to date.

We started out with the Southport 4th of July parade . Our float was transported to the Deep Point Marina in Southport where I reside aboard the motor vessel SEA NEST. All the trimmings and flags were attached and we were off to the show. We received great Kudos.

After the parade we returned to the marina to luncheon on SEA NEST.

The August regular meeting was held at the Southport Trinity United Methodist Church. A Brunch was served. We had a well attend- ed showing which included wives.

This was an initial attempt spread our area. of activities so as to make it more attractive to a greater number of shipmates to attend. I am going to suggest that we appoint a group made up of members from the outer boundaries of member region. This group could meet and study and suggest programs and activities to increase our social and fra- ternal interactions.

Coastal Carolina Base Outreach Meeting

**August 16th
Southport, NC**

The Coastal Carolina Base has members ranging from the Shalotte area in the south to Swansboro in the north and Kenly to the west. In an effort to reach out to members in the outer areas of the CCB Membership, Commander Back- es has encouraged CCB attendance at events outside of the greater Wilming- ton area. Recently the CCB participated in the Official North Carolina 4th of July Parade in Southport and held a Base meeting at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Southport. Vice Commander Chuck Fletcher and his wife Joy hosted the Brunch meeting, organizing a meet-



Continued on Page 6

Book of Members

The Book of Members project contiunes 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 16](#)). Please get your write up in to Charlie so we don't have to write these for you!

backestc@charter.net



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>	



CCB Outreach Meeting...continued

ing place and a wonderful brunch for the attendees. Joy and friends from the church prepared and served the brunch to



the 19 attendees and guests. The food



was excellent and enjoyed by all.

The meeting included presentation of the Holland Club award patch and certificate to Member Jim Simon. Jim served as



an IC man on the *USS Sarda SS 488*, *USS George Washington Carver SSBN 656* and

the *USS Sunfish SSN 649*. He qualified on the *Sarda* in 1964. Congratulations Jim!

Commander Backes informed the attendees that the Belk fundraiser in the spring of 2014 raised over \$700 for the base. He continued that there will be another similar Belk fundraiser in November and encouraged members to support it and help participate in it. Bill Underwood will attend the kick off meeting at Belk's in Wilmington on September 27th. Members should contact the Belk's in Jacksonville and Shallotte to coordinate the fundraiser in those areas.



To continue the effort to reach out to CCB Members, the attendees agreed to participate in the upcoming Veterans Day Parade in Jacksonville on Saturday, November 8th and to participate in the Holiday Parade in Oak Island on December 6th as well as the Holiday Parade in Wilmington on December 7th. Members are encouraged to mark their calendars and plan on joining their fellow submarine veterans at these upcoming events, especially if the event is in your area. The purpose of these outreach meetings is to encourage fellowship among our members and promote awareness of the submarine service and the importance of the contribution of the silent service to our nations security. Please join in with your fellow submarine veterans!

Pride Runs Deep!



Chaplain's Corner

By Bill (Butterbean) Dixon



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TEMPTATION

James: 1-12, Blessed is the man that endureth (webster: to hold out, to get through) **temptation** (webster: tempts or entices you to do anything) **for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life** (matthew: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it) **which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

Matthew: 6-13, And I lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Mark: 14-38, Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

Watch in Mark 14-38: Luke 21-38, tell us to: Watch therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Flesh in Mark 14-38: Romans 7-18: (Paul) tells us: For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Luke 7-13: They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have not root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

THIS VERSE IS REALLY A BIG ONE CLAIM THIS ONE AND USE IT WHEN YOU ARE TEMPTED

1 Corinthians 10-13: There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer (permit) you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

2 Peter 2-9: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

Deliver in 2 Peter 2-9 is explained in

Psalms 34-15: The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

34-16: The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

34-17: The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

38-18: The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

34-19: Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all. Contrite in 38-18; Webster says, crushed in spirit by a feeling of remorse or guilt.



Coastal Carolina Base Member Birthdays

July Birthdays

John Williamson Larry Kostbade Bill Schmauss

August Birthdays

*Michael King Robert Liland Willie Willems
Frank Blackmon Ron Bixby Emmett Redmon*

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*

A Very Happy Birthday & Many Returns!

Coastal Carolina Base Members on Eternal Patrol

James Tobin Lawrence H. Dunn Phyl Hauck

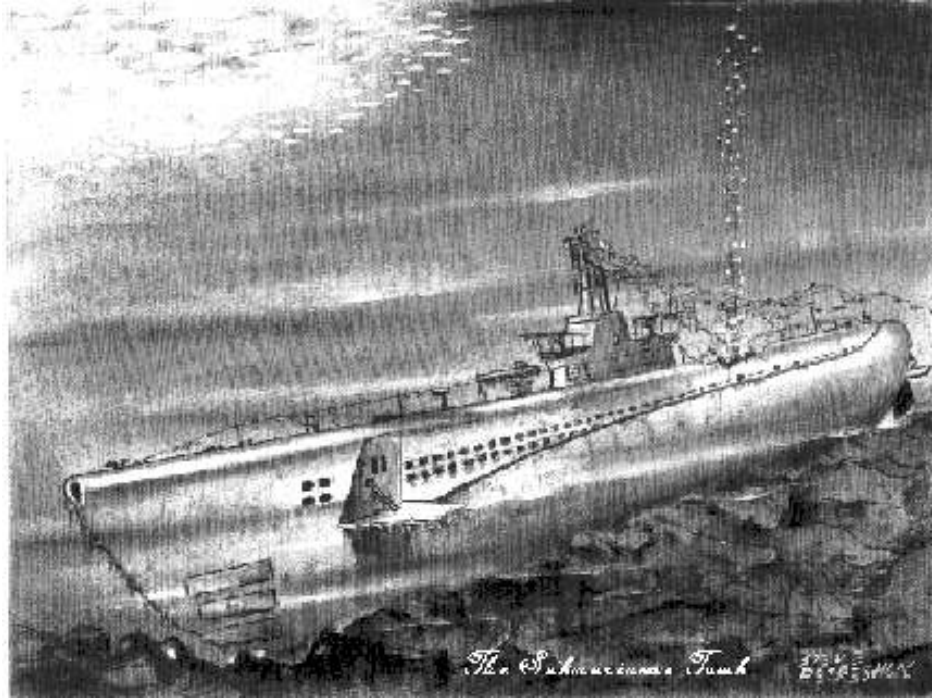
Navy Hymn for Submariners

*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.*



A Tribute to the Lost Boats

Lost Boats Memorial



drawing by: Stephen Petreshock

1993 MEMORIAL SERVICE SPEECH by: Billy Grieves at Anaheim, CA

There is a story...a story not easy to tell. And yet one that must be told.

There was no one in the entertainment field more admired and appreciated by the American G.I. than Bob Hope. Bob was once asked why he did it; why he continued to travel all over the world, giving so much of his time and energy to entertain our troops. And his answer was this: "Because you've got to be there. You can read about it in the press, or you can see it on the screen, but if you really want to know what our boys are going through, you've got to be there." And so it was with us.

World War II has been well documented; stories, books, movies but the full story of the submarine service has never been told... nor can it be. Can gut— wrenching fear be recorded by a camera? Can interminable fatigue and discomfort that goes on for days and weeks on end? And what about dedication to duty.... and the deep fraternal bond that was forged only among men who took our submarines to war? We know they can't.. and this was the story of the submarine service.

And now as we look back on it all it's like an observer of a darkened stage; all the players are gone and the huge theater is empty. And yet, out of the emptiness, there still echoes the excitement, the laughter, and the sadness that was part of the play. But supposing our observer should leave the theater and step out onto the busy street. Would a passing stranger be able to understand his faint half-smile as he recalls some cheerful part of the story? Or would that stranger be able to hear the haunting melody of the theme that keeps echoing through the background of his



Tribute to the Lost Boats...continued from page 9

mind? To understand it you had to be a part of it, you had to be there.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, many of our Navy men were left with a feeling of deep, PERSONAL loss. For several days after the attack a heavy pall of gray smoke hung like fog over the entire harbor and the Navy shipyard. And as we sailed slowly past Battleship Row and viewed the horrifying destruction: The Arizona, on the bottom; the Oklahoma, capsized and keel up; the West Virginia; the California; the Maryland; the Pennsylvania; the Tennessee; and others, all heavily damaged and some still burning with smoke pouring from their bowels, the men just stood at the rail, most did not speak. These were not ships that belonged to some remote population back in the States who just happened to have built them and paid for them with their tax money. Many of the men felt, "This is MY Navy and these are MY ships and the Japanese have destroyed them." It left a sense of fury that for some has never entirely abated.

And then the war progressed... and one by one, 52 of our submarines were sent to the bottom. And now the sense of loss became even more personal and we said, "Those were MY shipmates." And this is the story that must be told. It is a story of great suffering, a story of tremendous sacrifice, a story of heroic achievement. To that end, we have erected memorials all across this country.

There is a tiny island out in the Pacific. It is one of a small group of islands known as French Frigate Shoals. And it lies about half way between Pearl Harbor and Midway Island. Those of you who were involved with the navigation of our boats; you who were officers, or quartermasters, or signal men, will remember them clearly because we passed them either to port or starboard whenever we put in or out of Pearl on war patrol. And on this tiny island is an abandoned Coast Guard Station. One of its former occupants was so taken by the beauty and serenity of the place that he left a note in a wooden box which was subsequently recovered and recorded. The message of this note, with some modification, would make an appropriate addition to each of our memorials. It would impress upon future generations It would impress upon future generations our purpose in putting them there. Here is the message:

*Walk softly.
Walk softly, stranger.
You stand on holy ground.*

As you journey across this broad and beautiful land from sea to shining sea, you cannot help being moved by the wonder of the things you see:

Historic New England with its rocky coast and frothy surf, still breathing an aura of whaling ships and sailing days; The majestic mountains of the west with their towering peaks and pink spires and the sun gleaming off granite cliffs rising sheer for thousands of feet; The grandeur of the old south with its flowering trees and scented air and golden beaches that dazzle the eye; The dynamic west coast with its cloud-piercing mountains looming over the shore and curving roads that overlook the sea.

This is the beauty that is America, the wonder that is America. It is your God-given inheritance to use and enjoy at your pleasure. But these pathways to the good life did not come free of charge.



Commander's Corner... Continued from page 2

The members at the meeting were also informed that we received our certificate of participation in the 21 Day Flag Salute sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. This is the fifth year we have participated in this event.

I also asked the members who are willing to do so to contact their local high school and talk to the JROTC commander to see if they can stop by and talk to a class or two about submarine service. I have done this in the past and the cadets have showed an interest- at least as much interest as a teenager can show.

Two events are coming up in which I hope you take part. One is the Veteran's Day parade in Jacksonville. The float is already in Richlands and is ready to go. What we need are a good supply of sailor veterans to show up and let the Marines know we are veterans too.

The second event is the Belk fund raiser. We have again been invited to participate in the fall fund raiser. Ticket will be sent out later this year. If you receive them please purchase them and send in the money right away since this is pure profit for the base; there are no cost associated with these tickets. If a member works the day of the sale we also earn a share in the profits from the sale. Last spring I worked the sale and earned the base an additional \$160+.

Lastly, I want all of you to take pride in the newsletter you are reading. At the national convention we received the top prize for Division III sized bases for our newsletter. Our editor, Bill Underwood, does a great job with it. Thanks Bill for the great job you do and the notice you bring to our base.



Vietnam Building Deterrent Against China In Disputed Seas With Submarines

Reuters, Sep 7

HONG KONG – Vietnam will soon have a credible naval deterrent to China in the South China Sea in the form of Kilo- class submarines from Russia, which experts say could make Beijing think twice before pushing its much smaller neighbor around in disputed waters.



A master of guerrilla warfare, Vietnam has taken possession of two of the state-of-the-art submarines and will get a third in November under a \$2.6 billion deal agreed with Moscow in 2009. A final three are scheduled to be delivered within two years.

While communist parties rule both Vietnam and China and annual trade has risen to \$50 billion, Hanoi has long been wary of China, especially over Beijing's claims to most of the potentially energy-rich South China Sea. Beijing's placement of an oil rig in waters claimed by Vietnam earlier this year infuriated Hanoi but the coastguard vessels it dispatched to the platform were always chased off by larger Chinese boats. The Vietnamese are likely to run so-called area denial operations off its coast and around its military bases in the Spratly island chain of the South China Sea once the submarines are fully operational, experts said. That would complicate Chinese calculations over any military move against Vietnamese holdings in the Spratlys or in the event of an armed clash over disputed oil fields, even though China has a much larger navy, including a fleet of 70 submarines, they added.

"Sea denial means creating a psychological deterrent by making sure a stronger naval rival never really knows where your subs might be," said Collin Koh of Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies. "It is classic asymmetric warfare utilized by the weak



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.



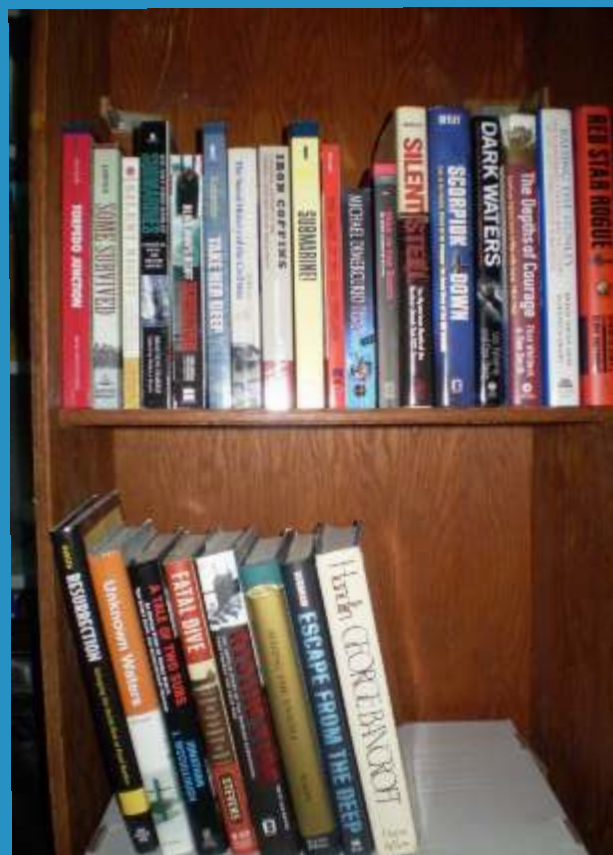
Coastal Carolina Base Library

Yes the Coastal Carolina Base has a Library. The library was started in 2011 to give members a place to put their books, movies and submarine artifacts so they can be enjoyed by other members. The library grew significantly in 2013 with the generous donation of 25 books by USSVI Life Member, Bob Montore.

Several other members have also donated books, movies and artifacts.

Below is a partial list of books in the Base Library. Members can check out a book by dropping an email to the Base Commander and the commander will bring it to the next meeting or agree to another way to pick it up.

Donate your submarine related books, movies, and artifacts to your base library!



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 Saifish]	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 Whistock 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	Prana: 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 Pulmar	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



SECNAV Names Virginia-class Submarine, USS Vermont

Date: 9/18/2014 11:53:00 AM

From Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus

BURLINGTON, Vt. (NNS) -- Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus hosted a ship-naming ceremony Sept. 18 to announce that SSN 792, a Virginia-class attack submarine, will bear the name USS Vermont.

Mabus named the submarine to honor the longstanding partnership its namesake state has had with the Navy.

"From our nation's beginning, the people of Vermont have tirelessly supported our Navy, enabling us to become the unparalleled fighting force we are today," said Mabus. "I am here on the banks of Lake Champlain, to once again honor the sailors and Marines who have come from this great state, and to honor your support of our Navy and Marine Corps and your naval history."

Vermont's Lake Champlain was the site of two critical historic naval battles. Under the command of Commodore Benedict Arnold, the 1776 Battle of Valcour Island had a profound impact on the outcome of the Revolutionary War, and during the War of 1812, the U.S. defended Lake Champlain against invasion from Great Britain in the Battle of Plattsburgh.

"The name USS Vermont has a long history in our Navy," said Mabus. "In honor of the victories on Lake Champlain, following the War of 1812, the first USS Vermont was laid down and became one of our nation's largest and most powerful ships. The second USS Vermont was one of our great battleships in the years before World War I, and was one of the ships that led the Great White Fleet around the world."

This is the first ship named for Vermont since 1920 when the second USS Vermont was decommissioned.

Virginia-class submarines provide the Navy with the capabilities required to maintain the nation's under-sea supremacy well into the 21st century. They have enhanced stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities, and special warfare enhancements that enable them to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements.

Virginia-class submarines have the capability to attack targets ashore with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and conduct covert long-term surveillance of land areas, littoral waters or other sea based forces. Other missions include anti-submarine and anti-ship warfare; mine delivery and minefield mapping. They are also designed for special forces delivery and support.

Each Virginia-class submarine is 7,800-tons and 377 feet in length, has a beam of 34 feet, and can operate at more than 25 knots submerged. It is designed with a reactor plant that will not require refueling during the planned life of the ship, reducing lifecycle costs while increasing underway time. The submarine will be built in partnership with General Dynamics/Electric Boat Corp. in Groton, Connecticut.



BURLINGTON, Vt. (Sept. 18, 2014) Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus delivers remarks during the ship-naming ceremony he hosted to announce the name of the Virginia-class attack submarine SSN 792, as USS Vermont. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Armando Gonzales/Released)



Sea Story **From an Anonymous "Spook"**

The fall of '77 while on a SpecOp on the USS Flasher (SSN 613), a fellow "Rider", R-brancher named Gerald Kenyon, shows up for the ride with a brand new belt buckle with dolphins affixed. A young seaman who was going through quals saw the shiny badge of achievement on CTR3 Kenyons belt and asked him if he was qualified and said if he wasn't he should remove the belt buckle at once. Kenyon, being the smart ass that he was, told him to f*** off and die, and further stated, if I spent my f***ing money on it, I'll damn well wear it if-and-when the f*** I want Well, obviously this didn't sit well with the boats crew. So a devious plan was put in place to teach Numbnuts Kenyon a lesson. A couple of days after we were underway from Ballast Point, the boat began to blow sanitaries from various heads. Kenyon, who was sitting on the mess deck playing cards, announced that he had to go take a leak. He asked one of the messmen which head was open. The guy stalled a moment while someone went back and removed the BLOWING SANITARIES - HEAD SECURED sign, and then told Kenyon that the aft head near the galley was open. So, Numbnuts Kenyon swaggered back to the head. As soon as he entered they put the HEAD SECURED sign back up on the hatch. (For you pukers who have never been on a boat before, Submarines have two, three, sometimes four, tanks that hold waste matter. To use the toilet or urinal, for example, after you do your business, you open a valve between the bowl and the sanitary tanks and then open a different valve to flush the waste into the holding tank. When the holding tanks fill up, One remains open for business. the others are emptied. The evolution is called "Blowing Sanитарies". To blow sanitaries, the valves between the tanks and the drains are closed and an external valve is then opened to allow high pressure air into the tank, the pressure forces the waste matter out into the sea. Kinda like the sub is taking a dump.) Okay, back to the sea story: Picture this, Numbnuts is standing at the urinal, finishes his business, and opens the valve to flush. There was a three second high pitched whistle sound followed by a very loud shriek from Numbnuts. Everybody on the messdecks was rolling on the floor howling when the XO strolls in and asks what everyone is laughing about. Right about then, Kenyon comes out of the head with neat line of piss and feces splattered from the top of his head down to the bottom of his shirt pocket. He is also holding his belt buckle in hand, which he ceremoniously lays on a table and states I won't be wearing these anymore Not only did Numbnuts have to sanitize and scrub clean the head, but the XO put him on report for failure to abide by the "HEAD SECURED" sign.

Vietnamese Submarines...continued



against the strong and something I think the Vietnamese understand very well. The question is whether they can perfect it in the underwater dimension."

Training Runs

Vietnam is not wasting time getting to grips with its biggest ever arms purchase, the centerpiece of a naval expansion program that state media has kept largely under wraps. From the sheltered harbor of Cam Ranh Bay – home to a massive U.S. military base during the Vietnam War – the first two submarines have recently been sighted plying the Vietnamese coast on training runs, according to regional diplomats. A Vietnamese crew is training aboard its third Kilo in waters off St Petersburg ahead of its delivery to Cam Ranh Bay in November, Russia's Interfax news agency reported last month. And a fourth vessel is undergoing sea trials off the Russian city's Admiralty Shipyard while the last two are being built. While regional military attaches and experts are trying to gauge how quickly Vietnamese crews are mastering the advanced submarines, some believe it won't be too long before Hanoi starts sending them further offshore into the South China Sea.

"The Vietnamese have changed the whole scenario – they already have two submarines, they have the crews and they appear to have the weapons and their capabilities and experience will be growing from this point," said Siemon Wezeman, an arms transfer researcher at the Stockholm International Peace

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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

Website now Available www.subvetsonline.com

Get a Shirt and Join the Loyal Order of the Red Shirts



Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Gerry Rowe

USS Henry L. Stimson



Paul Siverson

First Associate Member



Doug Mays

*USS Ben Franklin
USS Alaska*



Elmer Norwood

*USS Thornback
USS Triton*





Beware of the Dangling Participle

On his 70 th birthday, a man was given a gift certificate from his wife. The certificate was for a consultation with an Indian medicine man living on a nearby reservation who was rumored to have a simple cure for erectile dysfunction!

The husband went to the reservation and saw the medicine man. The old Indian gave him a potion and with a grip on his shoulder warned, 'This is a powerful medicine. You take only a tea-spoonful, and then say '1-2-3.' When you do, you will become more manly than you have ever been in your life, and you can perform for as long as you want."

The man thanked the old Indian and as he walked away, he turned and asked, "How do I stop the medicine from working?" "Your partner must say '1-2-3-4,' he responded, "but when she does, the medicine will not work again until the next full moon." He was very eager to see if it worked so he went home, showered, shaved, took a spoonful of the medicine, and then invited his wife to join him in the bedroom.

When she came in, he took off his clothes and said, "1-2-3!" Immediately, he was the manliest of men. His wife was excited and began throwing off her clothes, and then she asked, "What was the 1-2-3 for?"

And that, boys and girls, is why we should never end our sentences with a preposition, because we could end up with a dangling participle.



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 16, 2014

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church Hall, Southport, NC

Coastal Carolina Base Submarine Veterans Meeting

When: August 16, 2014, at 1030 hrs

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church Hall, Southport, NC

Invocation: New Member, Elmer Norwood, gave the Invocation

Brunch: Attendees enjoyed a delicious brunch prepared by Joy Fletcher and friends.

Raffle: Frank Blackmon sold raffle tickets for a red, monogramed Base Logo Polo Shirt

Call to order: Base Commander Charlie Backes called the Meeting to order at 1100.

Attendees: Charlie Backes (Base Commander), Chuck Fletcher (Base Vice Commander), Bill Underwood (Base Secretary), Frank Blackmon (Base Storekeeper), Jim Simon, Steve Croom, Tom McFadden, Ron Bixby, John Norosky, John Williamson, Dick Gudis, Gerry Rowe, Elmer Norwood, and guests Joy Fletcher, Peggy Norosky, Lauren Bixby, Trudy Williamson, Pat Blackmon, and Mary Norwood,

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

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

Recognition of Chuck Fletcher for stepping up to take the Vice Commander Role: Commander Backes called Chuck Fletcher forward to recognize him for stepping up to fill the Vice Commander Role which was recently vacated by Jerry Hawks.

He presented Chuck with the "Vice Commander" rocker patch for his vest.

Tolling of the Lost Boats: Vice Commander Fletcher was assisted by Gerry Rowe in performing the "Tolling of the Lost Boats" for boats lost in the months of July and August. The first boat recognized in the ceremony was the S-28 which was lost July 4, 1944.

Recognition of World War II Submarine Veterans in Attendance: No World War II submarine veterans were at the meeting.

Holland Club Presentations: Commander Backes called Jim Simon forward and presented him with his Holland Club patch and certificate. Charlie also informed attendees that he also has the Holland Club Patch and Certificate for Howard Crist and will present it at the next Base meeting Howard attends.

Thank You to Chuck & Joy Fletcher: Commander Charlie and the attendees applauded Chuck and Joy Fletcher for organizing this special meeting in Southport. The location was perfect as was the delicious food. ***Thank you again Chuck & Joy!***

Motion to Approve Minutes from Last Meeting: Commander Jerry called for a motion to accept the published minutes from the July 19th meeting as written.

MOTION: Jim Simon offered a MOTION to accept the Minutes from the June 19th meeting of the Coastal Carolina Base as written and dispense with the reading of those Minutes. Ron Bixby **SECONDED** the MOTION and the MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote of the attendees.

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Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2014...continued

Submission of Bills and Receipts: No new receipts or Bills were submitted since the Treasurer was not present.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Terry Kuhn was not present at the meeting, but submitted the Treasurer's Report below:

Coastal Carolina Base USSVI		
Treasurer's Report for 3/21/2014 - 8/22/2014		
Beginning Balance:	3/7/2014	\$1,420.33
Income:		
Base dues:		\$80.00
National Dues:		\$120.00
Battleship funds:		\$300.00
Raffle income:		\$68.00
SE Sales:		\$20.00
Belk Fundraiser:		\$77.00
Misc. Donations:		\$200.00
SOI refund:		\$50.00
TOTAL INCOME:		\$1,585.00
Expenditures:		
Base National Dues:		-\$120.00
Battleship funds:		-\$400.00
Newsletter Costs:		\$102.11
National Ads:		\$65.63
NC Website:		\$4.00
Parades:		\$24.50
Misc. Expenses:		\$23.76
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$700.00
Reconciliation:		
Beginning Balance:		\$1,420.33
Plus Income:		\$1,585.00
Less Expenses:		\$700.00
Ending Balance:		\$2,305.33

Old Business

21 Day Salute to the Flag: Coastal Carolina Base participated in the Wilmington 21 Day Salute to the Flag on June 25th. Commander

Backes showed attendees a Patriot Service Award CCB received from the Knights of Columbus for participating in the event.

School Visits: Commander Charlie encouraged CCB Members to contact local high schools with ROTC programs and speak to the ROTC groups about the Submarine Service. Charlie suggested using Kevin Kesterson's video about submarine duty as part of the presentation. Ron Bixby added that there is an excellent National Geographic video about submarines available on Netflix for the same purpose.

Belk Fundraiser: The Commander informed attendees that CCB cleared over \$700 for participating in the Belk Fundraiser in Wilmington and Jacksonville. There is another Belk Fundraiser in November in which CCB plans to participate.

National USSVI Elections: Charlie read an email from the District Commander reminding all Base Members that the Polls close for the National USSVI elections on August 27th. CCB Members please log into the USSVI website and **VOTE!** It is important to the CCB that you **VOTE!**

New Business

By-Laws: Commander Charlie read a letter from the District Commander stating that any proposed changes to base by-laws must be prior approved by the District Commander.

National Insurance: USSVI has arranged for Liability Insurance that covers all USSVI Bases. The base must identify the events that the base will participate in each year. Each base will be asked to pay its share of the insurance policy.





Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2014...continued

Kramer House: Step-up-for-Soldiers is building a house in Wilmington to house returning veterans and their families while attending UNCW or Cape Fear Community College. Commander Charlie suggested that CCB sign up to purchase a hot water heater for the Kramer House. A plaque recognizing the CCB contribution will be placed on the water heater. The cost would be approximately \$350.

MOTION: Bill offered a **MOTION to allow the Commander to spend up to \$350.00 for the purchase of a Hot Water Heater for the Kramer House in the name of the CCB. In the event that the Hot Water Heater is already spoken for, Charlie is authorized to spend the allocated funds on another item for the Kramer House. John Norosky SECONDED the MOTION and the MOTION CARRIED by unanimous vote.**

Members can also volunteer to help build the Kramer House.

Patriots Day Picnic at the S-28 Memorial: Charlie suggested that since we have so many activities going on that this event be dropped from the Base Calendar for 2014.

Combat Mud Run October 2014: Charlie also mentioned that the next Step-up-for-Soldiers Mud Run will be in October and members are encouraged to volunteer to help with that event.

Jacksonville Veterans Day Parade: The CCB is registered to participate in the Veterans Day Parade in Jacksonville on Saturday, November 8th. Charlie would like to plan a social event somewhere in the Jacksonville area either before or after the Parade. More information will be sent out on these plans in October.

2015 USSVI Southeast Regional Convention: The 2015 Southeast Regional Convention of the USSVI will be at the Snug Harbor Base in Satellite Beach, Florida.

Christmas Parades: Commander Backes raised a question as to which Holiday Parades the CCB wants to participate in. Frank Blackmon and Dick Gudis strongly suggested participation in the Oak Island Parade again this year. Frank volunteered to head a committee to organize participation in the Oak Island Parade on December 6th. The group also expressed a desire to participate in the Wilmington Parade on December 7th. It was pointed out that some members may also travel to Raleigh to participate in the annual Pearl Harbor Day Dinner on the evening of December 6th.

Improvements to the CCB Float: Charlie suggested that the base consider adding a sign on the deck behind the sail on the submarine centerpiece identifying the sub as the USS North Carolina SSN 777. Bill commented that the sub was not really designed to look like the North Carolina. John Williamson suggested that the sign say "United States Submarine Service" since the float represents and is designed to attract attention to the Submarine Service. Charlie suggested that John Williamson and Frank Blackmon come up with designs for the sign and bring them to the next meeting.

Death of a CCB Member: Commander Backes announced that Phyl Hauck a member of the Coastal Carolina Base died on Monday, August 4, 2014 after a long battle with cancer. Phyl served in the Navy from 1968 to 1972 and qualified and sailed on the USS Woodrow Wilson SSBN 624. His family said that he was always very proud of his service in the Submarine Service and his fellow submarine veterans. Sailor, rest your oar!



Chief of Naval Personnel Talks Manning and Stability in Groton

By Lt. Timothy Hawkins, Submarine Group 2 Public Affairs

GROTON, Conn. (NNS) -- The Chief of Naval Personnel discussed manpower issues with crew members from two Los Angeles-class submarines during a pierside all-hands call June 11, which wrapped up a two-day visit to Groton, Conn.

Vice Adm. Bill Moran spoke to 150 Sailors from USS Toledo (SSN 769) and USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720). He also met separately with Groton-area senior enlisted leaders, waterfront support personnel, submarine school students, and other Sailors.

This was Moran's first trip to Naval Submarine Base New London since assuming responsibility for Navy manpower readiness last August.

"To come up here to the cradle of the submarine force here in Groton is really special," said Moran. "I think it's pretty clear from our [Chief of Naval Operations] just how important submarines are to the United States.

"He likes to say we have to own the undersea domain. We own it now, we have owned it for decades, and we've got to own it far into the future."

Moran arrived in Groton late Tuesday morning. He started off enjoying a lunch with enlisted Sailors from 20 different commands in the base galley.

"One of our number one priorities is to engage with the fleet," said Fleet Master Chief April Beldo, senior enlisted leader at Navy Personnel Command (NPC). Beldo and three other NPC personnel accompanied Moran.

"We want to get out here and understand if we're meeting Sailors' needs," she added.

The visit included walkthroughs of submarine maintenance and support facilities, Naval Submarine School training spaces, and a tour of Historic Ship Nautilus, the Navy's first nuclear-powered submarine.

After touring Virginia-class attack submarine USS Missouri (SSN 780) on Wednesday, Moran boarded Toledo to eat lunch with enlisted crew members.

"From what I've seen in the day-and-a-half I've been here in Groton, there is no doubt in my mind that we have the best

equipment and the best people. The training here is as good as I've seen anywhere in the Navy," Moran said to Toledo and Pittsburgh crew members who gathered around him on the pier following lunch.

Moran said his job is to make sure the Navy takes care of Sailors and their families. He discussed a 25 percent sea-pay increase that went into effect last month.

"All the sea-pay tables were bumped up 25 percent starting May 1," he said.

Moran also discussed recent changes to enlisted advancement policy, including a new formula for the Final Multiple Score (FMS) and changes to the Command Advancement Program (CAP).

On May 15, NPC announced the advancement exam will become the largest factor considered for advancement to E4 and E5 in the new formula, which increases the exam's weight by eight percent.

For advancement to E6, the Performance Mark Average (PMA) becomes the largest factor and will account for 50 percent of the FMS determination. PMA will account for 60 percent of the total FMS for advancement to E7.

"It's not all about performance, it's about more weight toward performance," said Moran.

"As you move up the line to chief, the value of the test goes down significantly and the value of your performance evaluations - how your chief's mess and command triad value your performance - goes up significantly."

CAP quotas haven't changed, said Moran. What has changed is that Sailors can only be capped between July and September.

"The real simple reason for that is if we know ahead of the September and March exam cycles what quotas have been filled up by the CAP in and throughout the fleet, then we'll have a better and more precise prediction about what the quotas will be like in September and March," he said. Moran also addressed questions from Sailors about rumored realignments for various ratings. In response he said, "We're going to stay where we are. We've had a lot of change in the last 10 years, and I'm interested in just stabilizing the force right now."

Master Chief Electronics Technician Joe Wilt, chief of the boat for Toledo, asked Moran to consider reestablishing the torpedoman's mate rating for submarines. The Navy merged torpedoman's mate for submarines with machinist's mate in 1997.

Moran said he would relay Wilt's request to senior Navy leadership this week.



KINGS BAY, Ga. (July 31, 2014) The Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) returns to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay following routine operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Rex Nelson)

Submarine Force Commemorates 4,000th Strategic Deterrent Patrol

Release Date: 9/19/2014 2:14:00 PM

By Kevin Copeland, Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic and Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, in conjunction with Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, commemorated the Submarine Force's 4,000th strategic deterrent patrol, Sept. 19, by conducting dual ceremonies in Bangor, Washington and Kings Bay, Georgia.

The first fleet ballistic-missile submarine USS George Washington (SSBN 598) was commissioned Dec. 30, 1959, and completed the inaugural deterrent patrol in January 1961. Since then, 59 SSBNs have been commissioned in the last 50-plus years. Having patrolled the waters worldwide, the ship has established itself as the most survivable, critical, and efficient element of our U.S. national security and the security of U.S. allies and partners.

"The ballistic missile Submarine Force and the capability it offers is as important and relevant in today's uncertain world as it was when the first deterrent patrols were conducted more than five decades ago," said Adm. Cecil D. Haney, Commander, U.S. Strategic Command. "Commemorating the 4,000th patrol allows us to honor not only the submariners who have achieved this milestone, but also to pay homage to the men and women of our strategic forces who are on watch every day providing our nation with a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent against those who might think to do us harm."

Along with strategic bombers and the intercontinental ballistic missiles, the SSBNs make up the third element of the United States' triad of nuclear deterrence. SSBNs are critical, stabilizing and efficient elements of U.S. nuclear deterrence and reassurance, and with their sea-based missile launch capability makes them the most survivable asset. They carry the majority of deployed U.S. nuclear warheads allowing them to stabilize deterrent relationships and render surprise attacks inconceivable.



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2014...continued

Year Stickers for Non-Life USSVI Members: Charlie announced that the Year stickers for the Non-Life USSVI Membership cards have come in. Those who need them should contact Terry Kuhn.

Newest Member Elmer Norwood: Charlie introduced Elmer Norwood who submitted a check for his initial dues at this meeting as CCBs newest member. Welcome to Elmer!



Open Floor

Submarine Memorials: Vice Commander Chuck Fletcher showed attendees a picture of the proposed submarine memorial in Chicago.

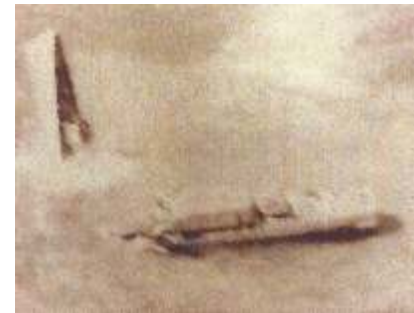
He brought it up as a concept that CCB might consider as an addition to the S-28 memorial at Battleship Park. He also spoke briefly about the "Manotowac Boats" of which 28 were built and when launched traveled across Lake Michigan, down the Chicago River and ultimately down

the Mississippi to the gulf. Several of our members served on "Manotowac Boats".

USS Clamagore: Steve Croom and Bill spoke briefly about new efforts to "Save the Clamagore". A drive to raise the funds to move the USS Clamagore SS 343 from Charleston to the Tennessee River near Knoxville has been started and is making some progress. This is great news for Clamagore veterans as well as all submarine veterans. The Clamagore has been destined to be sunk as a reef off of Florida since Patriots Point ran out of funds to maintain it in the Naval Museum at Patriots Point.

Sinking of the USS Charles A. Ware DD 865:

Ron Bixby brought in the following pictures of the USS Ware which the USS Birmingham SSN 695 sank with a mark 48 torpedo in the Caribbean on November 15, 1981.



Sea Stories:

Dick Gudis relayed a story about liberty in Germany. All the sailors struck out on liberty in their dress whites eager to meet the local girls. To their frustration they could not get anywhere with the girls. Later they found out that the local girls had been told to avoid American sailors dressed in white because sailors in white were VD patients.

Master Chief John Norosky recounted several stories about his experience as a "spook". One story, of which John seemed to have suspicious knowledge, was about the USS Barbero SSG 317 and the USS Tunny SSG 282 docked in Mid-

[Continued on Page 28](#)



Gems from Jim

Thought Provoking emails from Jim Brincefield



I went into the Doctors office for my first rectal exam. His new blond nurse, Evelyn, took me to an examining room. She told me to get undressed and have a seat until the doctor could see me. She said that he would only be a few minutes. After putting on the gown that she gave me I sat down.

While waiting I observed there were three items on a stand next to the exam table:

A Tube of K-Y jelly,
A rubber glove
And a beer

When Dr. Putz finally came in I said, "Look Doc", I'm a little confused. This is my first exam. I know what the K-Y is for and I know what the glove is for, but can you tell me what the BEER is for?"

At that, Doctor Putz became noticeably outraged and stormed over to the door. He flung the door open and yelled to his new blonde nurse, "Damn it, Evelyn !!!

I said a butt light"





Vietnamese Submarines...continued from page 14

Research Institute (SIPRI). "From the point of view of Chinese assumptions, the Vietnamese deterrent is already at a point where it must be very real." As well as possessing shorter-range torpedoes, modern Kilos while submerged can launch sea-skimming anti-ship missiles that can travel 300 km (188 miles). Wezeman said SIPRI estimated that Vietnam had received at least 10 of the 50 Klub anti-ship missiles this year as part of the deal with Moscow, but there was no sign of any purchases of the Klub land-attack variant.

Zhang Baohui, a Chinese security specialist at Hong Kong's Lingnan University, said he believed Beijing's military planners were concerned about the submarines. "On a theoretical level, the Vietnamese are at the point where they could put them to combat use," he said. Neither China's Defense Ministry nor its Foreign Ministry responded to a request for comment. "Defensive" Weapons Senior Vietnamese military officials told Reuters they were satisfied with progress, saying training at sea and integration of the submarines into its developing naval force was going smoothly. They stopped short of confirming whether the first two were fully operational but stressed they would be used "defensively." "They are not our sole weapon, but part of a number of weapons we are developing to better protect our sovereignty. In that regard, the submarines will be defensive," said one military official in Hanoi who declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter.

That echoes public comments from Deputy Defence Minister Nguyen Chi Vinh who has repeatedly stated, without mentioning China directly, that Vietnam would not start a conflict in the South China Sea but if one began "we would not just stand back and watch." Vietnam – a traditional army power – has significantly expanded its navy in recent years, acquiring modern frigates and corvettes, mostly from Russia, that are equipped with anti-ship and anti-submarine weapons.

Hanoi has also embarked on a building program of ships based on Russian designs. Vietnam and China have a bloody history, fighting a brief border war in 1979. They clashed at sea in 1988 when China occupied its first holdings in the Spratlys. China also took full control of another South China Sea island chain, the Paracels, after a naval showdown with the then South Vietnam in 1974.

Former Western submariners watching developments said they were impressed with the apparent progress despite the enormity of the challenge for Vietnam in developing a submarine capability from scratch. By comparison, the Philippines, the other country most at loggerheads with Beijing in the South China Sea, has no submarines or modern naval surface ships or significant naval aircraft. Even before Vietnam took delivery of its first Kilo in January, Vietnamese submariners had been receiving training in Russia, Hanoi's Cold War-era patron. India's navy is also training Vietnamese crews at its INS Satavahana submarine center in Andhra Pradesh state, an Indian naval official told Reuters. India has operated Kilos since the mid-1980s. "It is not just about learning basic operational considerations, it is about the doctrine and tactics of how best to exploit these vessels – and making sure you've got a long-term program to build all this up," one Western submariner said.

More Advanced Than China's Kilos the diesel-electric Kilo is considered one of the quietest submarines and has been constantly refined since the 1980s. Vasily Kashin, a Moscow-based strategic analyst, said he believed Vietnam's Kilos were more technologically advanced than the 12 such vessels operated by China's navy, which obtained its last one a decade ago. Internal sound absorption had been improved, along with weapon control and loading systems, he said. Open source satellite images have shown Kilos alongside new Russian-built submarine wharves at Cam Ranh Bay, as well as a new dry dock for repairs. A medical facility for submariners has also been completed nearby, according to Russian media reports. Russian personnel are also stationed at a new Russian-built training center in Cam Ranh, which includes simulators of control, navigation and weapons systems. U.S. forces used the bay's sheltered features to build a vast airport and logistics base at the height of the Vietnam War in the 1960s, when Cam Ranh was part of the then South Vietnam.

By late 1978 it was in Soviet hands, as a victorious Hanoi signed over base rights to Moscow. In disrepair through much of the 1990s, the Russians could not negotiate an extension and departed in 2002. Across the harbor from the sensitive submarine facilities, the Vietnamese are expanding ship repair yards they hope will attract a range of foreign navies at commercial rates. The U.S. navy has sent several logistics ships for servicing but a more formal arrangement has yet to be agreed. Former Western submariners say Cam Ranh's location is perfect for Vietnam's Kilos. Not only is it the closest large port to the Spratlys to the south, it is also within range of the Paracels. And while much of the South China Sea is shallow and presents difficult operating conditions for submarines, Cam Ranh is close to some of the deeper water off the edge of Vietnam's continental shelf. "No-one should underestimate the Vietnamese – they have a clear threat and that gives them an extra incentive," said Wezeman of SIPRI.



Base Membership Statistics

USSVI Life Members	27
Base Life Members	0
Holland Club Members	24
Primary Members	41
Associate Members	1
WWII Sub Veteran Members	2
Total Active Members in	60
Members on Eternal Patrol	3
Attendees at Last Meeting	19
% 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. NAUTILUS
 125 COMMANDING OFFICER
 (Type of ship) DATE
 1915V 3 August 1958
 LATITUDE LONGITUDE
 90° 00.0' N Indefinite
 (Indicate by check in box)
☒ N6A ☒ MK19 ☐ B181 ☐ V1000
 SET DRIVE DISTANCE MADE GOOD SINCE (MARK) (MARK)
 — — Honolulu 4844
 DISTANCE TO
 North Pole Zero
 TIME 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
 180 MK19 3E MK19 0 170 E
 MAGNETIC COMPASS BEARING (LOCAL USE)
☐ STD ☐ LTR ☒ REMOTE ☐ OTHER 244 359
 DEVIATION 126E 30W ☐ ON ☒ OFF
 REMARKS
 NGA DR NGA
 σ = 0 R = 0
 μ = 0 R = 1
 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
 LT Stephen M. Jenkins, 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&HeritageCommand).



USS Thresher (SSN-593)
 Entering the water for the first time, during launching ceremonies at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine, 9 July 1960.

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.



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.



The Ditty Bag

Contribute to the "Below Decks Watch" Newsletter

Some Sub Sailor is Bound to Have a Good Sea Story!

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

The Basic Laws of Nature:

1. The female always makes the rules.
2. The rules can change without notice.
3. Males can't know the rules.
4. If the female suspects that the male knows all the rules, she must immediately change some of the rules.
5. The female never bears the blame for being wrong.
6. If the female is wrong, it is because of a flagrant misunderstanding which was a direct result of something that the male did or said which was wrong.
7. If rule 6 applies, the male must apologize for causing the misunderstanding.
8. The female can change her mind.
9. The male must never change his mind without the consent of the female.
10. The female has every right to be angry or upset at any time.
11. The male must always remain calm unless the female wants him to be angry or upset.
12. The female must never let the male know whether or not she wants him to be angry or upset.
13. If the female has PMS, there are no rules.
14. The male cannot diagnose PMS.

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



***Mark Your Calendar!
Share Your Pride
In The 2014
Veterans Day
Parade in Jacksonville
Saturday, Nov 8th***

*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***



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)

USS North Carolina SSN 777



USS North Carolina Conducts 'full spectrum' ops on Second AsPac Deployment

Kelvin Wong, Singapore - IHS Jane's Navy International

Key Points

- The Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine *North Carolina* (SSN 777) has completed an ASW exercise with the US Navy's EP-3 Orion and latest P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft.
- *North Carolina* docked at Changi Naval Base on 26 April for up to four days' crew rest and resupply before departing to continue its deployment.

A US Navy (USN) Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine, USS *North Carolina* (SSN 777), docked at Singapore's Changi Naval Base on 26 April for crew rest and resupply after a four-month cruise in the Western Pacific region, where it had conducted a range of missions including an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise with the navy's newest P-8A maritime patrol aircraft (MPA).

The commanding officer of *North Carolina*, Commander Richard Rhinehart, told media during a press briefing that the vessel - the fourth-in-class boat - sailed from its home port in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to the Western Pacific theatre in December 2013.

"During the past four months at sea, we have exercised the full spectrum of operations that submarine forces are capable of, with the overarching goal of promoting peace and stability in the region alongside forward-deployed US forces or with our allies," he said, adding that *North Carolina* had made a port call at Naval Base Guam earlier during its deployment. While he was unable to provide further details on the specifics of the boat's activities for operational security reasons, he said that the Virginia-class SSN is designed to conduct a wide range of missions in littoral waters - particularly counter mine, intelligence gathering, and special operations support tasks - in addition to the conventional anti-ship and anti-submarine role that submarines typically carry out.



Coastal Carolina Base Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2014...continued

way Island to refuel. When the boats got underway, the captain found a goony bird had defecated all over his bunk in the CO Stateroom. John said that "he had heard" that if you have baggy dungarees and you put one wing down one leg and the other down the other leg a walk a little funny, a navy spook can smuggle a goony bird aboard a submarine; or "so he heard".

CCB Officers for 2015-2017: Charlie reiterated that he will not run again for Commander for the next term. He reminded attendees that the base elections will be coming up in February and Members should consider serving the base by running for one of the Base Officers. He said that Bill Underwood has indicated he would run for Commander and thanked Bill for stepping forward. He encouraged other members to consider running for Secretary, Treasurer and Vice Commander. He again thanked Chuck Fletcher for stepping forward to fill the VC office vacated by Jerry Hawkes and Terry Kuhn for filling the Treasurer Office vacated by Barry Turano. He also explained that Bill indicated he would continue to serve as the editor and publisher of "The Below Decks Watch" should he be elected Commander.

Raffle

Frank Blackmon asked guest Trudy Williamson to draw a ticket from a basket for the Raffle. Trudy drew one of Bill Underwood's tickets and Frank ordered a red Coastal Carolina Base monogrammed Polo Shirt for Bill.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Gerry Rowe offered a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Tom McFadden **SECONDED** the **MOTION** and the **MOTIONED CARRIED** by unanimous vote by the attendees and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Scheduled Base Event/Meeting

The next regular Base Meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 16th at 1900 at the First Baptist Church Community Center on Independence Blvd in Wilmington, NC.

Knoxville veteran trying to bring USS Clamagore to East Tennessee

Posted: Aug 14, 2014 5:30 PM EDT Updated: Aug 21, 2014 5:30 PM EDT

By Raymond Owens

We have an update on the efforts by veterans to save the USS Clamagore. The Clamagore is the Cold War submarine on display at Patriots Point. Currently Patriots Point is planning to have the sub sunk off the coast of Florida to become a reef. Veterans in East Tennessee are now trying to find a way to move the submarine to the Knoxville area to be part of a new museum. "We're excited that there are additional people wanting to save the Clamagore rather than make a reef out of it." Thomas Luftkin is president of the Clamagore Restoration and Maintenance Association. The group formed nearly 2 years ago to keep the Clamagore in the Lowcountry. At their meeting Thursday afternoon at the fleet reserve in Goose Creek, he said the news that a group of veterans in East Tennessee wants to move the Clamagore to the Knoxville area is good news "If that was the only viable option versus making a reef out of her, we'd be very much in favor of that." Josh Richardson is an Army veteran who lives in the Knoxville area.



He learned of the reef plan during a visit to Patriots Point. "Well, I think East Tennessee would be a good home because of the nature of the people of East Tennessee. We always can be counted on to answer the call in a crisis. And this is a crisis to lose a national historic landmark, and a memorial to the men and women who served this nation." Though this is at the beginning stages, Richardson envisions the USS Clamagore would be the centerpiece of an East Tennessee Military Museum to be built in the Knoxville area. Jim McCarter is one of at least two veterans in Knoxville who served on the Clamagore. "We were underway and when President Kennedy was shot." He loves the idea. "To think that we might be able to bring it here, is just unbelievable." Luftkin says his organization now has several large corporations who say they would either match or donate millions of dollars if his group gets control of the Clamagore and finds a place in

North Charleston. However, "we need to save this boat. If it can't come to North Charleston, which is absolutely what we desire, then Tennessee would be a good alternative."

Luftkin says their next step is to meet with leaders in North Charleston to determine if there is a specific location to move to, if indeed the finances to make that move become available. Patriots Point has a contract with the company that would sink the Clamagore so that it could be a reef. They say it would cost at least \$4 million to restore the submarine.



4000th Strategic Deterrent Patrol...continued

"Today, we celebrate a very special milestone in the undersea warfare community as we commemorate the 4,000th strategic deterrent patrol conducted by our fleet ballistic missile submarines," said Vice Adm. Michael Connor, commander, Submarine Forces. "Strategic deterrence has been the sole mission of the fleet ballistic missile submarine since its inception. As the sea-based leg of U.S. strategic deterrent forces, the current 14 Trident SSBNs carry more than 50 percent of the total U.S. strategic warheads. Today's concept of strategic deterrence seeks to deter attacks on the U.S. or its allies, dissuade adversaries from actions counter to stability, and peace, and to assure allies of the United States' commitment to their security."

The current fleet of Ohio-class SSBNs has already been life-extended and cannot be extended any further. They must be replaced by new class of SSBNs to meet the our future strategic commitments.

"The Sailors have done their part to ensure peace and the ships have done their part too as they now start to serve well beyond their original design service life," said Connor. "Now the country must do the same to continue to ensure the peace for our children and our children's children. We must build Ohio's replacement. There is no more important or more effective use of our national defense spending than to ensure that we build the 12 ships that will enable exceptional Sailors like you to guarantee the peace for future generations."

Vice Adm. Joseph Aucoin, deputy chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems, echoed Connor's concerns about the Ohio replacements.

"We as a nation are also demonstrating credibility through commitment to our deterrence strategy, the sustainment of the Ohio class and the procurement of the Ohio replacement. We must procure and maintain a force of Ohio replacement SSBNs, in order to keep them properly postured and positioned to be survivable and to ensure adequate target coverage."

While the material and mission readiness of the strategic deterrent fleet is primary focus areas, these elements would be mute without the personnel readiness of our Sailors. The professional and personal development needs of our Sailors and their families are critical aspects in recruiting and retaining our best and brightest to ensure mission accomplishment in the Submarine Force.

"The submarine is perhaps the most technological marvel ever! As we continue to build and develop new submarines they are becoming even more advanced - quieter, stealthier, going deeper, and armed with highly superior weapons systems," said Vice Adm. Terry Benedict, director, Strategic Systems Programs. "However, this is all for naught if not for the men and now women of the silent service. Equally - if not more important than the payload or the platform is the Sailor. Our Sailors have and will continue to protect and provide credible deterrence to those who would otherwise wish us harm."

In a letter sent to the Submarine Force, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus stated:

"It is my great honor to congratulate Commander, Submarine Forces and all the Sailors, civilians, and veterans of the Submarine Force who have dedicated themselves to achieving this significant milestone - our nation's 4,000th Strategic Deterrent Patrol. This milestone demonstrates not only the far-reaching importance of strategic deterrence to the security of the United States and its allies, but also the significant role the U.S. Navy plays in maintaining this posture.

"History shows us that it is difficult to predict the future of conflict. But it also shows us that we must always be prepared for the threat of conflict. So, I thank you, for protecting peace, promoting global security, and for all you do to ensure the safety of our Nation."



Tribute to the Lost Boats...continued

More than a million Americans down through the yellowing pages of history have sacrificed their lives for your irreplaceable legacy and your American way of life. For more than 3,500 of these who gave their lives on American submarines in World War II, there can be no rows of polished markers. Their tombs are buried in the silent depths of the oceans, forever rocked by the eternal tides of history. It is to them this place and this moment in time are dedicated.

Walk softly.

Walk softly, stranger.

You stand on holy ground.

Every country owes an enormous debt to those heroes who have given their lives to protect the freedom of its people. No country recognizes this more than Australia. The city of Melbourne is a city world famous for its many beautiful parks. More than 20% of this city is comprised of parks and gardens. In one of the most prominent of these located on the south side of Melbourne, they have erected a war memorial. They call it "THE SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE" and we have nothing in this country to compare with it. This shrine is really an edifice, a broad-based building seven stories tall constructed of white granite in the architecture of the ancient Greeks. The outside of this building is embellished with huge marble statues and fluted columns that cause the eye to sweep upward. The roof of the building is a truncated pyramid made of cascading layers of stone. Mounted on the top is a large bronze "Symbol of Glory." But herein lies the crowning distinction of this memorial: On one side of the roof, one of the stones is removable. But I'll get back to this later.

As you step through the massive bronze doors into the sanctuary, even the little children are admonished to speak in whispers. And you will notice that, except for an enclosed balcony around the first floor, this entire building, floor to roof, is completely hollow. Mounted in the very center of the marble floor is a large bronze plaque surrounded by a low carved-stone railing, about a foot high. But the plaque, itself, is depressed about a foot below the floor level. It is depressed so that anyone reading the words on that plaque must bow his head in reverence.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month is known as "Armistice Hour" in Australia. And it is on this day that the stone is removed from the roof. And at exactly 11:00 A.M., and for a period of four minutes, the sun's rays shine down through the opening and beam like a laser right on that plaque. The words on that plaque read "GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN." Just seeing it is a tremendously moving experience. It has a presence about it which seems to say, "THIS IS A HOLY SPOT WHERE VALOR PROUDLY SLEEPS."

Walk softly. Walk softly, stranger.

You stand on holy ground.

The final curtain on the play has fallen. And all that remains is for you and I to close the show. But, for us, there will always be the memory of the glory, and the triumph, and the tragedy that was part of the play.

And if some day some stranger should ask, "What was it like living and going through an attack on that submarine you were on?" There's just one answer you can give. "You had to be a part of it."



Tribute to the Lost Boats...continued

You had to be there."

The last page of a booklet obtainable at the Melbourne "Shrine of Remembrance" contains only these four lines of an Australian poem:

They were young, straight of limb, true of eye,
steady and aglow.

They were staunch to the end against odds un-
counted;

They fell with their faces to the foe.

Bravely they died. In proud remembrance we
salute them.

This is a 1993 Memorial Service speech by Billy Grieves at Anaheim, CA. Grieves is now 92 years old. He did 13 WWII war patrols in the Pacific, 11 on *Thresher (SS-200)* and 2 aboard *Lizardfish (SS-373)*. He left the Navy in 1945 as a TM1. I should add that Grieves is an excellent writer, as is shown here, of course. He also wrote an article printed in the March 2014 *American Submariner* magazine, about defective torpedoes on his second war patrol. Gordon Banks, former Commander of the Tarheel Base, read this tribute as a lead in to the Tolling of the Boats at the 2014 Southeast Regional Meeting in Cary, NC.



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.





USS North Carolina Deployment...continued

Cdr Rhinehart added that *North Carolina* had participated in an ASW exercise with USN EP-3 Orion and new P-8A Poseidon MPA in the Philippine Sea, approximately 300 n miles southeast of Okinawa, early on its deployment.

According to the USN, the 'Snapdragon' ASW exercise enabled *North Carolina* to understand the detection and emissions profile of the latest P-8A aircraft, which are on their first deployment to the Asia-Pacific region. Conversely, the exercise has also allowed the newly deployed P-8A crew to gain experience with the aircraft's ASW systems against a capable subsurface target that had proved to be "extremely quiet" and a "challenging target".



The Virginia-class SSN is the newest boat operated by the USN, with first-in-class vessel USS *Virginia* (SSN 774) commissioned in October 2004. Virginia-class platforms are 114.8 m long with a 10.1 m beam, and have a full-load displacement of 7,925 tonnes when submerged. The boats are fitted with four 533 mm bow torpedo tubes, and carry up to 24 Mk 48 Advanced Capability (ADCAP) heavy-weight torpedoes or Tomahawk Block IV sea-launched land attack

cruise missiles (SLCMs). The boats are also equipped with a 12-tube vertical launch system (VLS) to enable additional Tomahawks to be carried.

The USN currently operates 10 Virginia-class SSNs, and eight Block III platforms are currently under construction by General Dynamics Electric Boat (GDEB) and Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII) facilities in Groton, Connecticut, and Newport News, Virginia, respectively. The navy placed a USD17.6 billion order with GDEB on 28 April for 10 new Block IV boats that are expected to be delivered by 2023.

Speaking to *IHS Jane's*, Cdr Rhinehart said the Virginia-class SSN is superior, in terms of endurance and speed, to diesel-electric submarines (SSKs) such as those being acquired by regional navies. He explained that the Virginia class is equipped with a reactor plant that will last longer than the rated life of the hull, which means that the boat is virtually unlimited in terms of endurance range (notwithstanding the need to resupply the crew with food), whereas SSKs are required to surface and recharge their batteries periodically for continued operation.

"We also have the ability to travel at up to 25 kt underwater, and that additional speed advantage with our unlimited endurance far outweighs the abilities of SSKs," he said.

The presence of the Virginia-class SSN is representative of the US effort to rebalance its forces with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region, according to Cdr Rhinehart.

"The deployment of *North Carolina* to the Asia-Pacific represents the continued commitment of the US to regional security, by the continued deployment of the country's best technology and capabilities into the Pacific theatre," he said. Although he was unable to offer further details of *North Carolina*'s future activities, he revealed that the vessel will be at sea for "a few more months", noting that the vessel's first deployment in the Western Pacific lasted from December 2011 until June 2012.

"During our remaining deployment, we will continue to exercise and interact with other forward-deployed US forces as well as with our regional partners," he said.



COASTAL CAROLINA BASE 2014 CALENDAR

Date	Day	Event
February 15, 2014	Sat	Valentines Day Dinner at Bonefish Grill
February 20, 2014	Thu	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
March 22, 2014	Sat	Pre-Azalea Festival meeting at 0900 at Peppercorns Food & Spirits at 2528 Castle Hayne Road, Wrightsboro, NC
April 10, 2014	Thu	Regional USSVI Convention hosted by Tarheel Base in Cary
April 12, 2014	Sat	Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington, NC and hosting District Meeting on the USS North Carolina (BB55)
May 26, 2014	Mon	Memorial Day Ceremony at the S-28 Monument followed by a Base Picnic
June 19, 2014	Thu	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
June 25, 2014	Wed	0745 Salute to the Flag at City Hall in Wilmington, NC, 102 N 3rd St, Wilmington, NC
July 4, 2014	Fri	Official North Carolina 4th of July Spectacular & Parade and Picnic at the Fletcher's Yacht in Deep Point Marina, 1301 Ferry Road, Southport, NC
July 12, 2014	Sat	Battleship USS North Carolina Legacy Series Tribute to the Submarine Service 0900 to 1600 hours
August 16, 2014	Sat	Regularly scheduled meeting in Southport at 1030 at the Trinity United Methodist Church at 209 E Nash Street, Southport, NC
September 1, 2014	Week	USSVI Golden Anniversary National Convention in San Francisco, California
October 16, 2014	Thu	Regularly scheduled meeting at 1900 at First Baptist Church on Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC
November 8, 2014	Sat	Veterans Day Parade in Jacksonville, NC
November 9, 2014	Sun	Veterans Day Celebration at the S-28 Monument followed by dinner
December 6, 2014	Sat	Oak Island Christmas Parade
December 6, 2014	Sat	Annual Pearl Harbor Dinner at the NC State University Club on Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC
December 7, 2014	Sun	Wilmington Holiday Parade - Possible Base Participation
December 20, 2014	Sat	Regularly scheduled meeting at 0900 at Golden Corral on New Centre Drive in Wilmington, 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 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. ____

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)

Applicants on active duty are requested to provide a permanent home address.

**Upon completion, please deliver or mail your application with your check payable to
USSVI Coastal Carolina Base
Mail to: Bill Underwood, 302 Tall Ships Lane, Hampstead, NC 28443**



Never Forget!