



ALL CLEAR



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NORTH CAROLINA SUBVETS

Third Quarter
2019

ALL CLEAR is the award winning quarterly publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) Tarheel Base, with input from and shared with all other USSVI bases in North Carolina - the NC SubVets.

USSVI CREED AND PURPOSE

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

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.

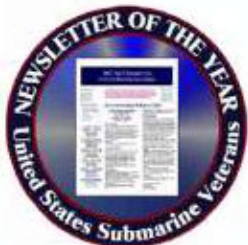
The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom

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2012 National Winner
Newsletter of the Year

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[United States Submarine
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DISTRICT COMMANDER'S /
TARHEEL BASE COMMANDER'S
"ALL CLEAR" COMMENTS



2019 SOUTH EAST REGION CONFERENCE, conducted late April early May was held in Cape Canaveral Florida. The host Florida Base did an exemplary job in preparing and hosting this conference. Many activities were planned and attended by the attendees. With the final night being an awards session and dinner. There were active duty personnel in attendance at the dinner who made presentations on the status of the submarine force, and with two dolphin qualified women giving their deck plate level experiences while serving in submarines. One of the events I attended was the "Sea Story" competition. I was able to provide a couple stories that I always like to tell, especially to civilians or non-Navy personal that provide some context to being a submariner and the capabilities and results of submarine operations.

Viewed from a business meeting aspect, we had two meeting that resulted in a great deal of discussion and a at least one regional decision of significance. One of discussion points that was verbally pencil whipped to death was member participation and recruitment. This was a specifically poignant issue as the attendance at this Conference was significantly less than when held at this venue a few years earlier. This subject then naturally flowed into the issue of recruiting new members. Membership attendance at base events and subsequently at district/regional and national events is decreasing, the failure of Hampton Roads Base's sponsorship of the 2018 SER Conference was a glaring example of the reduction in membership participation and the 2017 National Conference in Orlando was another high profile example.

The question, the elephant in the room so to speak, was why this lack of support for USSVI events. This precipitated the pencil whipping of the issue, with no real resolution nor in my opinion a clear understanding as to why much less how to reverse this trend. One thing that came to me while writing this article and trying to remember the ideas floated about during the pencil whipping process, was that the decreasing number of WWII veterans, who from my short time as a member of USSVI were a tight group, in which these veterans looked forward to these regional and national conferences were events providing opportunities to socialize and party with their shipmates. The regional conference Tarheel Base hosted in Raleigh was an opportunity for me to personally witness this activity where the hospitality room was constantly filled with, "socializing" subvets. The 2018 national conference and cruise, although well attended did not match that of the previously held cruise venue for attendance. Bottom line big picture, Steve Bell, National Junior Vice made a pretty self evident comment; keep doing what we are doing, do not quit in working to get higher membership involvement and in pursuing recruiting of new members.

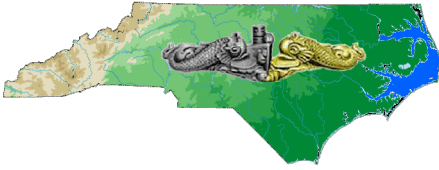
One of the things I brought up at the conference I believe and at the last Tarheel Base meeting, as base commander; is when recruiting or trying to boost membership participation was to reenforce the importance of the new recruits or members service in submarines and that getting that information to the general public as part of USSVI's Purpose. This is important for each member to remember and share. Boomer patrols are not glamorous, cruising around at three knots and constantly drilling does not diminish the missions importance to the strategic posture of the US. I tell members and anyone who will listen that at the fall of the USSR,

much intelligence became available to the west. One piece of information was that there were members of the Soviet Military and Civilian leadership that believed they could win a nuclear war with the US especially using a first strike plan. But cooler or more appropriately knowledgeable heads prevailed over those first strikers, in that even if successful at taking out the bombers and land base ICBMs, the retaliatory strike from the deployed US SSBNs would totally destroy the USSR militarily and industrially not to mention the hundreds of millions of casualties. I tell them for example, that multiple war heads were assigned to a single target to ensure its destruction in the event some of the boats are lost. But that was not going to happen because we were better than them, materially, operationally and in the level of training and quality of the crew. The major point to be made is even if you only did one enlistment and one deterrent patrol you made a difference. As for the fast attacks, TOP SECRET SCI prevents any discussion of the importance of their operations and the results. Remind them to think about their tours, patrols and special operations in that light.

Well as you can see by my diarrhea of the written word, just what the verbal pencil whipping must have been like during these two meetings. In the end with the realization that reduced attendance is at present a fact of life, the attendees voted to go to a SER Conference every two years which means the next one will be held in 2021. Discussions also addressed that the next base to take on the SER Conference would be a Mississippi Base and it would be probably in Biloxi MS where there is a large casino complex. I did two sub overhaul tours in Pascagoula MS at the shipyard there, it will be interesting to see what changes have taken place. We were asked to push support for this forthcoming event. The last part of this issue concerning the SER Conference that comes to mind was the hosting of these SER Conferences. We may need to look at assigning a district or base to host this event if no bases volunteer or to spread out this responsibility. Now relative to that issue, I and Chuck Jensen discussed this, and if district one/North Carolina gets the nod, that we look upon this assignment as a North Carolina event. Get all NC bases involved to support. I also thought that we should look at having it around April 11th, and schedule a submarine birthday ball as part of the closing night's dinner. Just some thoughts.

Additionally we will be returning to Orlando FL at the same complex /venue that our 2017 National Conference was held. The Hotel agreed to reduce the loss amount due to them if we brought the conference back to their complex and at the same rates as were listed in 2017. This financially for the visitor is a very good deal. Here again we are asked to advertise and push support for this event.

Overall I have to say that the conference was a success where highlighting these issues and discussing them was important, even if only in a regional context. As I try to catch up and get my visits to bases in for this calendar year I will bring up these issues for each base to consider as part of the overall planning of base activities, always with the USSVI Purpose in mind. I wish fair winds and following seas to all bases for the remainder of this year.



State Commander's Comments

SHIPMATES: For all shipmates who attended the May 2019 Moonshine Mountain Memorial service I trust you had an enjoyable weekend, a big BZ to the Asheville Base for their excellent event. I would like to encourage each and every base that has an event planned in their schedule to ensure that ALL North Carolina Bases are invited to attend. Any event large or small is worthy of an invitation which will increase the camaraderie of our North Carolina Subvets members.

The 2019 National Convention will be August 14-20 in Austin Tx. To all shipmates attending, have a good time and enjoy yourself. Bring home a Souvenir Magazine for your base. For the first time North Carolina Subvets will have an ad in the Magazine. As I sent out in an E-mail stating how the ad will be paid for. The ad costs \$150.00 which The Tarheel Base has fronted the cost and I have requested that each base send a contribution for their share ($\$150.00 / 7 \text{ bases} = \21.43 per Base) suggest each base send a donation of &20-\$25 to the Tarheel Base treasurer.

The "All Clear and North Carolina Subvets website" that is being managed by Joe Peek is a great means of communication between our state base's, let's make use of these avenues of communication.

Other upcoming events are the Kings Bay memorial service in October, Pearl Harbor memorial service in December. Shipmates have a great summer, be careful of the heat and stay cool. Hope to see you at your meetings and events.

Jerry Emerson

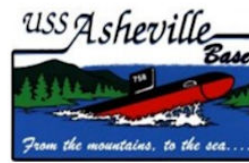
North Carolina Subvets

State Commander

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC

NORTH CAROLINA SUBVETS BASES

Ad



SEND OUR BEST WISHES TO THE CENTRAL TEXAS AND BRAZOS VALLEY BASES
FOR HOSTING THE 2019 USSVI NATIONAL CONVENTION IN AUSTIN ,TEXAS

SMOOTH WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS

North Carolina Bases & Officers

Albemarle Sound

Base Commander: Frank Jones III
Sr. Vice Commander: Ronald J. Pervere
Secretary: Matthew L. Cinkovich
Treasurer: Matthew L. Cinkovich

Nathanael Greene

Base Commander: Raymond Moore
Vice Commander: Al Zilinski
Secretary: Edward Galaviz
Treasurer: Chuck Jensen

Carolina Piedmont

Base Commander: Richard Petit
Vice Commander: John Jefferies
Secretary: Tom Kelly
Treasurer: Raymond Zieverink

Tarheel

Base Commander: David Campbell
Vice Commander: Jim Davis
Secretary: Bill Lowe
Treasurer: Tom McFadden

Coastal Carolina

Base Commander: Gerald Rowe
Vice Commander:
Secretary: William H. Underwood
Treasurer: Terry L. Kuhn

USS Asheville

Base Commander: Joseph R. Schmidt
Vice Commander Jerome B. Hoffart
Treasurer: Rich Cox
Secretary: James A. Secord

Old North State

Commander: Vince Sievert
Vice Commander: Joe Goarck
Secretary: Jack Murray
Treasurer: Dennis Cloutier



USS Asheville Base Officers are sworn in at the Big Lynn Lodge



The USS Bass 677 Story

by Will Iwaniuk, MMC(SS) USN Ret.
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On 16 March 2019, NCSubvets' Old North State Base conducted a launching ceremony for their new float. The float is a 1/12 scale model of a Sturgeon class fast attack submarine. Members of Tarheel Base were also in attendance. The launching ceremony was capped off with a catered dinner.

The project took about one year to complete from its inception in March, 2018. It was a strong, collaborative, team effort by all Old North State base members and some non-member volunteers. All hands pitched in on several days at the "dry dock" during final assembly. Final assembly included building keel blocks on which the ship would rest and travel.

The ship has several details to mimic a full- size submarine. The hull is painted to represent the colors as they would appear when the ship is in dry dock. The screw turns by means of a variable speed electric motor. It is equipped with a "periscope" that raises and lowers. Lastly, what submarine would be complete without an operating claxon?

Some folks have already asked if it would float and submerge. Although this has not been tested, the general feeling is that yes, it will float, at least for a while. The response to its submerging is yes, once for sure. This "submarine" will rest on its keel blocks for years to come, as a representation for many of what we all lived in for many months at a time. It will also help us to remember those who are on eternal patrol.



Brief Biography of the Author -William Iwaniuk MMC(SS) USN, Ret.

Chief Iwaniuk transferred to the Fleet Reserve in June, 1995 from USS Tennessee SSBN-734 Gold. He was assigned to 4 SSBNs and one SSN during his career. Chief Iwaniuk also served as a Navy Recruiter and NPTU instructor at S5G.

[Visit ncsubvets.org](http://ncsubvets.org) for more photos of the Bass

USS Asheville Base Report

Burnsville update: The day started off with a Holland Club inductee Rich Cox. All Holland Club members present took part in the ceremony. There was also an event for the ladies creating beading jewlrey.

Saturday Morning the quarterly meeting on NC SubVets was conducted. Base Commanders/representatives from Carolina Piedmont, Tarheel, Nat Green, Old North State and USS Asheville gave updates and what they have planned. Jerry Emmerson updated as NCSubVet Commander, Regional director, District commander and Jr Vice Commander from National all gave the group updates and status of the Nave and USSVI. USS Asheville Base Officers were sworn in. Planned updates for the memorial were discussed to put a new bottom base in this summer. A vote was conducted and passed to recognize the Hunley during the Tolling of the Boat Ceremony. The day continued to the Memorial Ceremony then the formal dinner recognizing all members from NC who departed on their eternal patrol during 2018. After dinner entertainment was a trivia quiz, a skit from the Asheville base with assistance from a few select others and karaoke. Asheville base has spent a lot of time preparing for the Moonshine Mountain weekend. Cleanup and practices.



Other Asheville Base activities: the Honor Guard participated in the SOCON Basketball tournament presenting colors for three games. Base conducted a memorial service for David Holm departing on his Eternal Patrol. Color Guard also presented colors and conducted rifle volley/Taps at the Memorial Day Service in Marshall, NC. Another Color Guard event was at the Asheville Tourist ballgame after Memorial Day. The annual Base Picnic is planned for July 27 down on the French Broad River with flag retirement ceremony. The base is starting a rifle drill team we'll see how that goes. As always if you are in the area give us a shout and come join us at our monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month at Ryan's in Asheville. To learn more about the Lost Boats Submarine Memorial at Moonshine Mountain at Burnsville, NC visit: <https://moonshinemountainsubmarinelostboats.wordpress.com/>

Heads up! Jim Seacord says reservations are already being taken for the 2020 Armed Forces Day weekend Moonshine Mountain Memorial. The registration form will be up on the NCSubvets.org website shortly.



North Carolina Submarine Veterans Events:

27 July - USS Asheville Annual Picnic

14 to 20 August- National Convention in Austin, TX (see website event calendar for more information)
includes reunions fo USS Lafayette, Tecumseh and Theodore Roosevelt

5 October - Tarheel Base Picnic

11 November – Veterans’ Day Parade in Asheboro, NC (Nathanael Greene Base)
Veterans’ Day Parade in Black Mountain, NC (USS Asheville Base)

23 November - Asheville Holiday Christmas Parade (USS Asheville Base)

7 December - Pearl Harbor Dinner at the NCSU University Club (Tarheel Base)

Binnacle List

- Frank Jones III
- Eugene “Pox” Ipox
- Al Langston
- M. B. Hudson



Eternal Patrol

- [John “Jack” Crosson Jr.](#) (81) - April 26 (Tarheel)
- [David Holm](#) (68) - April 18 Qualified in submarines on the USS Thomas A Edison (SSBN-610) in 1970 and completed 7 war patrols before leaving the Navy in 1973.
- [Charles M. Fletcher](#) (87) of Southport NC received his final sailing orders 5/1/2019 and departed on his final and eternal patrol. Chuck was born in 1932. He joined the Navy in 1952 and mustered out in 1960 as a nuclear trained ET1(SS). Chuck qualified in submarines aboard BOWFIN in 1953 (53-54) and also served aboard GUITARRO (54) preparing her for transfer to Turkey, BESUGO (54-55), NucPwr Schol 55-56, Nautilus (56-57) and SKIPJACK 58-59. Chuck was a Life and Holland Club member of USSVI Coastal Carolina Base and was serving as the Base Commander at the time of his death. He also was a dual member of the USSVI Groton Base.
- [Eugene “Pete” Peterman](#) (82)- June 30 (USS Asheville Base) Also known as “Doc”, he qualified on the USS Stonewall Jackson SSBN-634 in 1966 (HMC) and served aboard the USS Enterprise CVN-65 1971-73 (LCDR). *obituary posted on our website NCSubVets.org.*

Baseball

The Tarheel sponsored Cary Youth Baseball League team made the playoffs with a record of 6 and 6. They won the first playoff game against Butchers Market 13 - 5. Two days later they were eliminated by a throwing error in the bottom of the 7th inning. Well done to our team and base members who came out to support them!



The Tarheel Color Guard was invited to present colors at the ACC baseball championship game Sunday, 5/26. Due to the press being setup in our normal prep area, they put us in Wool E. Bull's private room. Great Job guys!



Lost Boats - Third Quarter

July

USS S-28 (SS-133)	Lost on July 4, 1944 with the loss of 49 men while conducting training exercises off Hawaii with the US Coast Guard Cutter Reliance.
USS Robalo (SS-273)	Lost on July 26, 1944 with the loss of 77 men while on her 3rd war patrol. She struck a mine about 2 miles off the coast of Palawan. 4 men survived and swam ashore, then were imprisoned by the Japanese.
USS Grunion (SS-216)	Lost on July 30, 1942 with the loss of 70 men while on her 1st war patrol. She radioed that she sank two sub-chasers and damaged a third, but was never heard from again.
USS Gudgeon (SS-211)	Lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack north of the Mariana Islands.. Believed to have been sunk during a submerged attack on a Japanese warship. Grunion's wreckage has been located off Kiska Island in the Aleutians. Believed to have been sunk during a submerged attack on a Japanese warship. Grunion's wreckage has been located off Kiska Island in the Aleutians.

August

USS Bullhead (SS-332)	Lost on August 6, 1945 with the loss of 84 men while on her 3rd war in the Lombok Strait off the Bali coast when sunk by a depth charge dropped by a Japanese Army plane. Bullhead was the last submarine lost during WWII. .
USS S-39 (SS-144)	Lost on August 13, 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 was rescued by the HMAS Katoom-ba
USS Flier (SS-250)	Lost on August 13, 1944, with the loss of 78 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She was transiting on the surface when she was rocked by a massive explosion (probably a mine) and sank in less than a minute. 8 men survived and made it to shore where friendly natives guided them to a Coast Watcher and they were evacuated by the USS Redfin 6 days later. Flier's wreckage has been located south of Palawan Island near the Philippines' Balabac Strait.
USS Harder (SS-257)	Lost on August 24, 1944 with the loss of 79 men while on her 6th war patrol near Bataan in the Philippines from a depth charge attack by a Japanese minesweeper
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.

September

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 through a hole cut in the hull in the tiller room. Salvage attempts were unsuccessful. S-5 settled to the bottom and was abandoned off the Delaware Capes, 40 miles offshore.
USS Grayling (SS-209)	Lost on September 9, 1943 with the loss of 76 men while on her 8th war patrol near the Tablas Strait in the Philippines to unknown causes .

USS Pompano (SS-181)	Lost on September 17, 1943 with the loss of 77 men while on her 7th war patrol off Honshu, sunk by enemy mine
USS Bonefish (SS-223)	Lost on June 18, 1945 with the loss of 85 men while on her 8th war patrol in Toyama Bay off the northern shores of Honshu, Japan. After sinking a passengercargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack .
USS S-51 (SS-162)	Lost on September 25, 1925 with the loss of 33 men when it was sunk after collision with SS City of Rome off Block Island, RI.
USS Cisco (SS-290)	Lost on September 28, 1943 with the loss of 76 men while on her 1st war patrol in the Sulu Sea, west of Mindinao in the Philippines, sunk by surface craft and aerial bombs



Happy 4th of July!