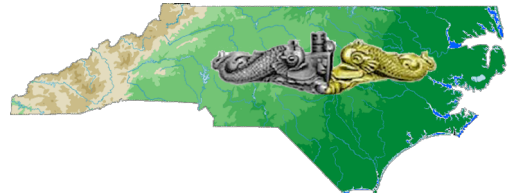


# All Clear



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NORTH CAROLINA SUBVETS

2023 Second Quarter

## NC Subvets Float S-28 Finds New Home



S-28 at Greensboro Parade 2003

**North Carolina Submarine Veterans float commissioned 2003 has come out of mothballs to be USS Asheville Base's new float. Pictured are Tarheel Base members and the float in Greensboro for the Fun Fourth Festival Parade.**

ALL CLEAR is the award winning quarterly publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) sharing information from all USSVI bases in North Carolina

## 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.

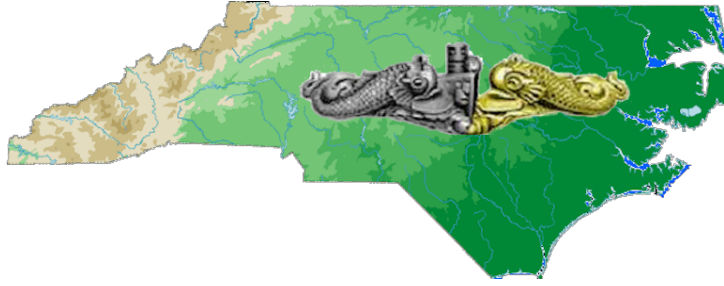
The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.

North Carolina Submarine Veterans are Proud Members of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. USSVI.org

### Contents:

Homepage photo of <b>S-28 at Greensboro Parade 2003</b>	Pg. 1
USSVI Creed and ALL CLEAR contents	Pg. 2
From the NC SubVets State Commander	Pg. 3
NC Submarine Veterans Leadership	Pg. 4
Calendar of Events	Pg. 5
Silent Service Memorial Bench	Pg. 6-7
Old North State Base Surface at the Blooming Day Parade	Pg. 8
Carolina Piedmont Base Picnic	Pg. 9-10
Moonshine Mountain Memorial 2023	Pg. 11-14
Our First Parade Float in Action ... Again!	Pg. 15-16
Chaplain's Report	Pg. 17
Lost Boats	Pg. 18-19





## North Carolina Subvets Commander's Report

SHIPMATES: Our oldest son, Jerry JR. passed away after a long fight with cancer, He was 59. Peg and I are coping as well as possible. I thank all my Subvets Shipmates for their condolences and prayers.

The Torpedo Float is in its new home in Winston-Salem thanks to Fred Gardner the Nathanael Greene Base Commander. The float is presently scheduled To participate in the Veterans day parade in Morhead City on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Asheboro parade on November 11<sup>th</sup>. As of today that is all the Float is scheduled for.

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Old North State will be hosting a program feathuring the author Charles Hood who with his brother co-authors the books (Sub Tales) This event is open to all submariners and famely members, if you plan on attending please let me know.

It is my intension to resigns the position of NC SUBVETS STATE COMMANDER at the Moonshine Mountain Memorial next year (2024) it has been interesting, however age is becoming an issue. Any one interested in this position can contact me for information. E-MAIL OR PHONE (252) 419-0124

Thank You  
Jerry Emerson  
NC SUBVETS  
STATE COMMANDER

My e-mail [nkiv368jle@gmail.com](mailto:nkiv368jle@gmail.com) phone (252) 419-0124

# **North Carolina Submarine Veterans Leadership**

**District Commander ES1 - Vincent S. Sievert**

**NC SubVets Commander - Jerry Lee Emerson**

## **Albemarle Sound**

Commander: Frank Jones III

Sr. Vice Commander: William R. King

Secretary: Matthew L. Cinkovich

Treasurer: Matthew L. Cinkovich

## **Old North State**

Commander: Vince Sievert

Vice Commander: Mike Sears

Secretary: John E. Murray

Treasurer: Dennis Cloutier

## **Carolina Piedmont**

Commander: Richard Pettit

Vice Commander: James F. Goins

Secretary: Tom Kelly

Treasurer: William Strand

## **Tarheel Base**

Commander: Jim Davis

Vice Commander: Richard L. Cimino

Secretary: Leland Kuntzman

Treasurer: Tom McFadden

## **Coastal Carolina**

Commander: Scott L. Powell

Vice Commander: Kevin Kesterson

Secretary: William H. Underwood

Treasurer: Terry L. Kuhn

## **USS Asheville**

Commander: Joseph R. Schmidt Sr.

Vice Commander: Eugene Ipox Jr.

Treasurer: Richard L. Cox

Secretary: James A. Secord

## **Nathanael Greene**

Commander: Frank K. Gardner

Vice Commander: Rick Woodson

Secretary: David Lemy

Treasurer: Chuck Jensen

## **NC Subvets Calendar of Events**

1. July 8, 2023 Nat Greene Base Picnic - Triad Park Shelter near Carolina Field of Honor
2. Aug. 28-Sep. 3 - USSVI 2023 Convention Oro Valley, Arizona
3. September 30, 2023 North Carolina Aviation Museum & Hall of Fame's Annual Fly In
4. October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - Tarheel Base Picnic
5. November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 - Veterans Day Parade Morhead City
6. November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Veterans Day Parade Asheboro

**For updates to NC Subvets Calendar - [ncsubvets.org](https://ncsubvets.org)**



**The P-51 Swamp Fox flown by RT Dickson will be on display at the  
North Carolina Aviation & Hall of Fame Annual Fly In**





The Albemarle Sound Base of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc. dedicated its Silent Service Memorial Bench on the Edenton waterfront Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Installed in March, the bench pays tribute to those who died while serving as a submariner in the U.S. Navy, dubbed the "Silent Service." Mark Thesier, a member of the Albemarle Base Chapter of the U.S. Submarine Veterans and owner of Edenton Bay Cruises, helped spearhead the bench project, bringing it before Town Council last year. After council signed off on the idea, the Albemarle Base Chapter launched a fundraising effort that led to the bench's purchase. "This has all come out wonderful for us," Thesier said.

The bench will soon be surrounded by a brick walkway and a 25-foot tall flagpole will rise nearby.









**Carolina-Piedmont Base kicked off the picnic season with their April 15th. Commander Rick Petitt called the meeting to order at 1400 hrs at the Catawba Nuclear Station Park for the spring base picnic.**

**The meeting followed a fun picnic meal brought in by base families and the fine barbeque and chicken fingers we had from the Ol' Carolina Barbeque restaurant in Gastonia. Much thanks to Steve Bell for bringing in the BBQ and for Raymond Zieverink for making the arrangements for the food and to all our families who brought lots of great fixin's. There were 16 base members**

**and 13 ladies in attendance.**









## Old North State Float Surfaces at the Blooming Festival Parade



The Nashville Blooming Festival in Nashville, North Carolina, is a downtown community celebration that showcases the area's top artists and musical acts. The two-day extravaganza over Mother's Day Weekend (May 12-13) features a parade filled with floats and



marchers as well as performances from original and tribute country, funk and rock bands. There is also a crowning, talent competition and carnival.





## **Moonshine Mountain Submarine Gathering 2023**

**Members and guests from North Carolina Submarine Veterans Bases attended the May19-21 Moonshine Mountain Memorial. USS Asheville Base Commander, Joe Schmidt, did an outstanding job with Saturday's meeting of the bases and coordinating the Moonshine Memorial activities. Our thanks to the Sea Cadets who participated in the Tolling of the Bell Ceremony and honor guard. The Old Glory passage touched everyone. Again, the folks at Big Lynn did an excellent job hosting our gathering.**



**District Commander Vince Sievert speaks at the Saturday morning meeting. USS Asheville Base Commander Joe Schmidt is also pictured.**





Located between Spruce Pine and Little Switzerland of Hwy 221A, Big Lynn Lodge was host for the Moonshine Mountain Memorial 2023.

Local Sea Cadets did a fine job during the memorial service.





## OLD GLORY

"I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's halls of justice. I stand guard majestically over great institutions of learning.

I stand guard with the greatest military power in the world. Look up and see me. I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice. I stand for freedom. I am confident; I am arrogant; I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners, my head is a little higher, my colors a little truer. I bow to no one. I am recognized all over the world.



I am worshipped. I am loved and I am feared. I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years: Gettysburg, Shilo, Appomattox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, Guam, Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, in the Persian Gulf and a score of places long forgotten, by all but those who were there with me. I was there.

I led my Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. I followed them and watched over them.



They loved me. I was on a small hill in Iwo Jima. I was dirty, battle-worn and tired, but my Marines and Sailors cheered me. And I was proud. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries that I have helped set free. It does not hurt, for I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my own country. and when it is by those I have served in battle with, it hurts. But I shall overcome, for I am strong. I have slipped the bonds of earth and from my vantagepoint on the moon, I stand watch over the uncharted new frontiers of space.

I have been silent witness to all of America's finest hours. But my finest hour comes when I am torn in strips to be used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle - when I fly at half mast to honor my Soldiers, my Airman, my Sailors, my Marines, and - when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother, at the graveside of her fallen son or daughter.

I am proud. My name is "Old Glory." Long may I wave, dear God, long may I wave."



To view more photos visit our website's post North Carolina Submarine Veterans Gathering at Moonshine Mountain 23 ([ncsubvets.org](http://ncsubvets.org))



## Our First Parade Float in Action ... Again!

Our first parade float saw action in the 2003 Fun Fourth Festival Parade in Greensboro and was placed in mothballs after the 2019 Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade.



How the parade sub arrived in North Carolina.



The S-28/777 took home the blue ribbon.





Tarheel Base SubVets escort the new float in the Greensboro



Twenty years later USS Asheville Base shows her off in the 2023 Marshall 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

## Chaplain's Corner

The tragic loss of the Titan submersible, while on a very deep dive, was sad, and we grieve for the five souls who lost their lives. We offer prayers of support and hope for their families, their friends and associates, and send our deepest condolences to all of those people.

Some of us have had a near tragic submarine incident when we were serving, and, as the Titan incident rolled out, we remember in detail what had occurred, and what might of happened.

But, by the Grace of God, the Father Almighty, we were indeed fortunate to have survived, which, I feel taught us a lesson about our faith. that is something that we will hopefully carry for the rest of our lives.

Lastly, we ask God to watch over our brothers who are experiencing health issues, to provide, hope, support and guidance to them throughout their situation.

Chaplain Gene Rutter

USSVI Tarheel Base





## LOST SUBMARINES - SECOND QUARTER

### APRIL

USS Pickerel (SS-177)	Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 74 men while on her 7th war patrol near the eastern coast of northern Honshu, sunk by a depth charge attack.
USS Snook (SS-279)	Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 84 men while on her 9th war patrol off the east coast of northern Formosa. Her loss remains a mystery, but she may have been sunk by a Japanese submarine.
USS Thresher (SSN-593)	Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep-diving exercises. 15 minutes after reaching test depth, she communicated with USS Skylark that she was having problems. Skylark heard noises "like air rushing into an air tank" - then, silence. Photos taken by Trieste proved Thresher had broken up in 1,400 fathoms of water, some 220 miles east of Boston.
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.
USS Grenadier (SS-210)	Lost on April 22, 1943 with no immediate loss of life while on her 6th war patrol in the Lem Voalan Strait west of Malaysia. She dove after being spotted by a plane, but was badly damaged by a bomb. After fighting back to the surface with no propulsion, she was attacked by another plane, which her crew shot down. When enemy ships arrived, the CO abandoned ship and scuttled the boat. 76 crew members were taken prisoner, 4 perished and 72 survived the war.

### May

USS Lagarto (SS-371)	Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer, which was then sunk by the USS Hawkbill two weeks later. Lagarto's wreckage has been located in the Gulf of Thailand.
USS Scorpion (SSN-589)	USS Scorpion (SSN-589) Lost on May 22, 1968 with the loss of 99 men while returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined and her wreckage has been located about 400 miles southwest of the Azores.
USS Squalus (SS-192)	Lost on May 23, 1939 due to a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. 26 men drowned in the after compartments, 33 crew members were rescued. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish.
USS Stickleback (SS-415)	During a training exercise with USS Silverstein (DE-534) on May 28, 1958, Stickleback experienced a loss of power and broached 200 yards in front of the Silverstein resulting in a collision with no loss of life. Stickleback sunk the next day, May 29, 1958.

### June

USS Herring (SS-233)	Lost on June 1, 1944 with the loss of 83 men while on her 8th war patrol near Matsuwa Island, Kuriles. She was conducting a surface attack when a shore battery spotted her and made two direct hits on her conning tower and causing her loss.
USS R-12 (SS-89)	Lost on June 12, 1943 with the loss of 42 men during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and two other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident. R-12's wreckage has been located off Key West, FL.
USS Golet (SS-361)	Lost on June 14, 1944 with the loss of 82 men while on her 2nd war patrol. She was apparently lost in battle with antisubmarine forces north of Honshu, Japan.
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 passenger-cargoman, Bonefish was subjected to a savage depth charge attack.

USS S-27 (SS-132)	Lost on June 19, 1942 with no loss of life while on her 1st war patrol when it grounded off Amchitka Island in the Aleutians. She was on the surface in poor visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore, 400 yards away, in relays using a 3-man rubber raft. The entire crew was then rescued by PBY aircraft.
USS O-9 (SS-70)	Lost on June 20, 1941 with the loss of 33 men when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth, NH.
USS Runner (SS-275)	Lost on or after June 26, 1943 with the loss of 78 men while on her 3rd war patrol. Prior to her loss, she reported sinking ships off the Kuriles, north of Japan on June 26 and is expected to have hit a mine on or after that date. She was expected at Midway about July 11, and not later than July 15.