

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012**

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1100 on May 12, 2012 at the American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Dex Armstrong, Steve Bishop, Art Bivens, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Nate (Doc) Compton (new member), Doris Faber, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Bob Glover, Brian Haller, Darlene Jaeger, Steve Jaeger, Richard Lowry, Paul Nelson, Terry Nelson, Tom Perrault, Willie Petruy, Gary Smith, CAPT Michael Stevens of PMS 450 (guest speaker), Angel Stevens, Sam Stevens, Ray Stone, George Wallace, and Penny Wallace. (25 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The COB, Dex Armstrong, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation.

The CDR read the list of boats lost in the month of May. These were:

USS Lagarto (SS-371)	May 3, 1945
USS Scorpion (SSN-589)	May 22, 1968
USS Squalus (SS-192)	May 23, 1939
USS Stickleback (SS-415)	May 30, 1958

GUEST SPEAKER

CAPT Michael Stevens of PMS 450 (Virginia Class Program Office) presented an unclassified overview of the Virginia class submarine program. His charts and presentation provided a thorough picture of how these magnificent ships are performing today and what block improvements are planned going forward.

The Base Commander presented CAPT Stevens with a Pride Runs Deep challenge coin as a token of our appreciation for this wonderful presentation. CAPT Stevens agreed to transmit a formal copy of the Virginia class presentation to the Base Commander.

HISTORICAL MOMENT

The Base Commander, filling in for his ailing brother, Ralph, presented a short synopsis of the demise of the USS Lagarto (SS 371).

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the April meeting were distributed by e-mail and hard copies were available on each table. Minutes were approved by the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented the following:

Starting balance: \$ 4,250.76

Ending balance: \$ 4,311.45 as of May 12, 2012.
The Treasurer's report was approved by the membership.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Base Commander noted that the main topic of discussion at the most recent Executive Board Meeting was the potential future speakers for base meetings. Candidates include: PMS 435 (George Wallace to get his boss to speak), Norman Polmar, our members who are WW II vets, and our resident authors (at least three are active members). The next EXCOM meeting will be held on June 6th.

Membership Report by Steve Jaeger: 87 members, with Doc Compton as our new member today.

COB: Dex passed out the WW II museum brochure. He reported that he had several Italian Navy jumpers that he was willing to give to anyone wanting them. He has also spoken to the PJ Skidoos management regarding optional salad and dessert prices – there would be an additional \$3 charge for these items for our Holland Club luncheon.

Public Relations / Veterans . The Base Commander reminded us all of the nice article that appeared in the local press in Prince William county about the Tolling of the Boats ceremony. The article was distributed by e-mail to the membership.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) The date for our next visit to Fairfax Hospital's pediatric oncology ward will be in October 2012. Penny Wallace was presented with the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) pin for participating in the April visit to see "our kids". Penny spoke and encouraged all members in attendance to go next time as she found it very rewarding.

In the absence of a **NSL** official, the Base CDR announced that the Submarine Technology Secret Symposium will be held May 15-17 at JHU APL. The Submarine League luncheon date is TBD because of the major renovations in progress at the Army Navy Country Club.

There were no announcements from the **District Commander Mike Naughton**. However, the Base Commander noted that the 50th anniversary of the USSVI will be celebrated with the Memorial Day parade in Washington DC in 2014. The Capitol Base will observe their Tolling of the Boats ceremony at 1100 on Saturday, May 19 at the F4 memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. He also reported that Mike is the de facto Northeast Regional Director as he is running unopposed for the position this year.

There were no other officer reports.

OLD BUSINESS

We still have NOVA Base business cards.

September USSVI Convention in Norfolk – Sign up at the USSVI national website. If the Marriott hotel is full when you book your room, the Sheraton is directly across the street.

SCORPION Symposium – The planned May symposium was postponed and plans are being made for a dive to be conducted in October 2012. Paul; Boyne is looking for helpers (on land - not divers).

RADM Mike Yurina has confirmed to Steve Bishop that he will be our guest speaker for the Holland Club luncheon at PJ Skidoos in Fairfax on Nov 10, 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

News from National:

1. Start planning for the 2014 Memorial Day Parade in Wash DC - it's the 50th anniversary of the USSVI.
2. USSVI is asking for donations for the USSVI memorial plaque for the Navy Memorial in DC.
3. Both the CO and the COB of the USS Columbia have been relieved for cause recently.
4. The Groton base security force had 14 of its sailors arrested for drug charges recently.
5. Two submariners have been selected for Rear Admiral Lower Half: CAPT Robert Burke (PERS 42) and CAPT David Hahn (PMS 425).

The Guest speaker for May 12th meeting will be Jimmy Lee, NAVSEA 07TR.

The Binnacle List currently includes:

Rod Puffer; Peggy Williams (broken hip); Joe Phoenix; and Ralph Chatham (stroke during business travel to FL lead to discovery of brain cancer).

For the Good of the Order, the CDR read the list of birthdays for May: Wayne Baldwin 10th, Ron Williams 14th, Mark Reithmeier 16th, Sue Shannon 24th, Gary Smith 27th, and Bill Clement 28th.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Gary Smith, who donated the winnings back to the Base.

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

The CDR adjourned the meeting 12:13 PM .

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by
Stephen C Bishop
Secretary, USSVI Northern Virginia Base