

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE  
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, August 10, 2013**

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1106 on August 10, 2013 at the American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

**MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Alan Amos, Debbie Bishop, Steve Bishop, Howard Chatham, Doc Compton, Tom Denton, Jim Deel, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Bob Glover, Brian Haller, Steve Jaeger, CAPT Tom Kearney (Vice Commander of NAVSEA and guest speaker ), Richard Lowry, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Mike Naughton (Regional Director), Mary Lou Naughton, Paul Nelson, Dave Oliver Jr. (new Member), Willie Petruy, Art Rosen, Ross Sargent, Lorraine Sargent, Mike Varone, George Wallace, and Penny Wallace. ( 27 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The COB, Chuck Martin, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation.

After a moment of silence, The CDR read the list of boats lost in the months of July and August. These were:

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| USS S-28 (SS-133)     | July 4, 1944  |
| USS Robalo (SS-273)   | July 26, 1944 |
| USS Grunnion (SS-216) | July 30, 1942 |
| USS Bullhead (SS-332) | Aug 6, 1945   |
| USS Flier (SS-250)    | Aug 13, 1944  |
| USS S-39 (SS-144)     | Aug 14, 1942  |
| USS Harder (SS-257)   | Aug 24, 1944  |
| USS Cochino (SS-345)  | Aug 26, 1949  |
| USS Pompano (SS-181)  | Aug 29, 1943  |

**HISTORICAL MOMENT**

Our Base Historian, Richard Lowry, presented a short synopsis of the demise of the USS Bullhead (SS 232) in the Lombok Strait near Bali, during her third war patrol. On her first war patrol she carried Mr. Sheridan, a war correspondent for the Boston Globe who documented the entire patrol. The ship was the last submarine lost in WW II. A Japanese K-51 airplane attacked and dropped depth charges close enough to kill all 84 crew members on the same day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of the June meeting were distributed by e-mail and were approved by the attendees. There was no base meeting in July as we marched in the Lorton July 4th parade instead.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented the following:

Starting balance: \$ 5,245.82

Ending balance: \$ 4,959.02 as of August 10, 2013.

The Treasurer's report was approved by the attendees.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** by Steve Jaeger: 84 members, including new member Dave Oliver, who joined today.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CDR:**

The Board Of Directors meeting was held last week: still getting nibbles on new members; discussed plans for this year's Holland Club initiation; decided to contact local NJROTCs regarding a submarine presentation later this year; we need to set up a nominating committee for 2014 officer elections; discussed preps for the Scouting Recognition and Sea Cadet events, and we are still working with the Legion for the September BBQ.

### **VCDR:**

The Holland Club honors have been sent to Don Basham, as he has left the hospital, is now in a nursing home and not likely to survive until November. We will have to send Dan Arquette's Holland Club materials to him, as he lives in Thailand, and will not be traveling back for the ceremony.

### **CHIEF OF THE BOAT:**

The profits from the 50/50 this month will go to the USSVI National Holland Club. Two weekends ago Howard Chatham, Chuck Martin, and Steve Bishop represented the USSVI NOVA Base at a unique Court of Honor for three Eagle Scouts which was combined with a Sea Scouts Bridge of Honor Ceremony for two Quartermaster Awards. All five awards went to three brothers in the same family, and the youngest brother is very close to earning his Quartermaster award! Their father was home on two weeks R&R from his deployment to Afghanistan. The combined ceremony was at 3 PM Sunday and the proud father was departing to catch his flight at Dulles to return to duty Afghanistan at 7 PM that same day.

**PAO/VETERANS AFFAIRS:** Mike Varone reported that the article about the Capitol Base's Tolling of the Boats Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery has been submitted to the American Submariner.

**K4K:** Steve Bishop reported that the next visit to Fairfax Inova Hospital will be the week of Veteran's Day. He displayed the six submarine books to be given to the hospital's pediatric activity coordinator, Holly Senn, our Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) coordinator. Each submarine book has an *Ex Libris* label from the NOVA Base inside its front cover, and the books should appeal to all of our special young friends there. Steve will deliver these books soon and will arrange the details of our ninth visit with Holly and her boss Jamie Gentile, Director of Child Life Services. During our last visit to these Kids, we made our hostess Holly an honorary submariner. During the next visit we intend to make Jamie an honorary submariner, too.

**CHAPLAIN:** Steve Jaeger read a nice thank you note received by the base from Ron Williams. Ron thanked us for our kindly worded sympathy card upon the death of his wife Peggy and for our generous contribution to the American Cancer Society in Memory of Peggy.

**SUBLEAGUE:** In the absence of Tim Oliver, the Base Commander reported that the Fall

Symposium will be held on Oct 23 and 24th, 2013; and the Capitol Chapter Fall luncheon will be held on Friday, Sep 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

#### **REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT: Mike Naughton**

- Mike reported that the NE Region Business meeting will be held at the Days Inn Gettysburg, PA. This is a change of location, so check the website for program details if you plan to attend.
- There is a new USSVI base established in Williamsport, PA. They need some help with the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) certificates. Steve Bishop will respond to their POC Don Young.
- Mike discussed the Groton Base financial and leadership situation.
- In an even more somber report, Mike revealed that the USSVI National Treasurer has not yet implemented the accounting software that was purchased to make his job easier, and that the National books are not current. The USSVI National Treasurer has stepped aside, extensions for IRS reports have been granted, and the former National Treasurer has been appointed as the interim National Treasurer. An independent audit and a regularly scheduled independent audit of the USSVI books is being discussed by the National officers.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Participated with the Legion in the Lorton 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
  - Participants were: George and Penny Wallace, Paul and Terry Nelson, Steve Bishop, Mike Varone, Chuck Martin and his daughter Alyssa, Bruce Miller, and Howard Chatham
- Held our “annual” dining out last month and showed some vintage video of submarine operations in WW II.
  - Attendees were: Brian Haller, Steve and Debbie Bishop, Bill and Linda Clement, Art Bivens, George and Penny Wallace, Doc Compton, Paul and Terry Nelson, and Howard and Cathy Chatham
- Participated in the New Jersey South base ‘pignic’ and received the traveling dolphins
  - Signed and then passed along the gold and silver dolphins plaque to Mike Naughton of the Capitol Base.
- Alan Amos of Legion Post 162 presented to the Base with a certificate thanking us for our 2013 contribution to the 40/8 Carvelle Star program.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- USS Miami to be inactivated
- Admiral Cecil Haney will be shifting from Commander US Pacific Fleet to Commander US Strategic Command
- All that use myPpay should have received notice that login is now going to be horrific
- Silent Service TV show videos are available on Ray Stone’s website [www.olgoat.com](http://www.olgoat.com)
- USSVI 2014 convention info available at <http://www.ussvigoldenanniversary2014sf.org> but the registration forms aren’t up yet nor is the site accessible from the USSVI website
- If you’re planning to move to Naples FL or Williamsport PA bases have stood up there
- 8 hour watches and 24 hour days at sea are being tried on submarines. The USS Scranton liked the trial.

- The Three Lives of the USS Drum is a new book on Amazon by the man responsible for restoring the USS Drum memorial in Alabama.
- Wake for CDR Chatham this afternoon at Tysons Pimmit library
- We will be briefing Navy Sea Cadets at FT Detrick Sunday 8/11
- Post 162 memorial dedication ceremony 8/31. Three of the bricks are dedicated to Tim Shannon, Art Smith, and the USSVI NOVA Base.

### **BINNACLE LIST**

“Please keep the following in your prayers.”

Wayne Baldwin, Don Basham, Vickye Lowry, and Reb Wooten who just broke his wrist

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.**

Birthdays for the months of July and August were: Steve Bishop, Frances Burke, Cathy Chatham, William Decker, Christine Gault, Robert Gilmore, Sue Maruzo, Frank Pasquinesi, Joe Phoenix, Lorraine Sargent, Jeanie Truslow, Mike Varone, and Bill Waylett.”

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bruce Miller, who donated \$20 of his winnings back to the Base. The remainder went to the USSVI National Holland Club. THANK YOU!!

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

The CDR adjourned the meeting at 11:44 PM .

At 11:55, we reconvened for the Powerpoint presentation on NAVSEA by the Deputy Commander, Rear Admiral Selectee, Tom Kearney. He has served for 35 years in the US submarine force, rising from the enlisted ranks to second in command at NAVSEA, where he is in charge of \$35 Billion in appropriated and authorized Navy funding. As his mother told him, he "better not screw it up." Among his many tours of duty, the Admiral came to be the NAVSEA Deputy from the torpedo shop Program Manager, and before that command of the USS Alexandria, and the first Commanding Officer of the PCU USS Virginia. The breadth and depth of the NAVSEA programs reach into surface ship and submarine design, construction, refit, overhaul, maintenance, and retirement activities, is very extensive and is conducted in many states with many employees.

After the briefing and subsequent question and answer period, the Base Commander presented the Admiral with a USSVI challenge coin and thanked him for his time and this briefing.

The next base meeting will be on Saturday, September 14, at 1100, at the Legion Post 162's facility in Lorton. After the meeting we will have a barbeque luncheon paid for by the Base. It will be either catered by a Legion-approved vendor at the Post and we'll buy our liquid refreshments at the bar, or we will drive to a restaurant off the premises. Details are being finalized, but bring your appetites next month.

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