

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, DEC 14, 2013**

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1109 on Dec 14, 2013 at the American Legion Post 162 in Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Alan Amos, Debbie Bishop, Steve Bishop, Art Bivens, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Albert Gagliardi, Brian Haller, Pat Haller, Rich Lowry, Chuck Martin, Regional Director Mike Naughton, Mary Lou Naughton, Paul Nelson, Terry Nelson, Mike Varone, George Wallace, and Penny Wallace (20 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

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

In the absence of the Chaplain, the CDR delivered the Invocation.

After a moment of silence, The CDR read the list of boats lost in the month of December. These were:

USS Capelin (SS-289)	Dec 2, 1943
USS Sealion (SS-195)	Dec 10, 1941
USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)	Dec 17, 1917
USS S-4 (SS-109)	Dec 17, 1927

BALLOTS

The Base CDR called for all ballots to be collected by the Secretary. Paper ballots were collected and tallied with the previously received paper and electronic ballots.

HISTORIAN

The Base Historian, Richard Lowry, read a piece of submarine history about the USS Capelin (SS-289). She was a new boat, having been both launched and commissioned earlier in 1943 on the East Coast. She completed one War Patrol in the Pacific, a refit in Australia, and then was most probably lost to Japanese mines in December, 1943 during her second War Patrol, with the loss of 76 men.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the November meeting and Holland Club induction were distributed by e-mail. One correction has been made - RADM Dave Oliver is a USSVI NOVA Base member (black font), not a guest (green font), as distributed in the original NOV minutes. The amended minutes of the November 2013 meeting were approved by the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, (something about family priorities overriding base interests), the Base CDR reported that the base bank account balance was \$ 5,578.26. A reminder that 2014 dues are due now. All dues payers who have paid by now are eligible for the drawing for free dues next year - one member and one associate member.

A drawing was held and the free dues winners for next year are:

Regular member: Steve Jaeger
Associate member: Penny Wallace

The Base CDR presented the recommended NOVA Base budget for 2014. Paper copies were available on each table during the meeting. Discussion mentioned that we have significant numbers of Holland Club inductees coming up near-term, so running with a high cash balance now has been a prudent course of action. Some of this cash balance on hand is intended to be used to offset the expected income shortfalls in future years. **The 2014 budget was approved by the membership, as presented.** Penny Wallace offered her editorial assistance in identifying spelling errors in the budget form and the Board accepted her offer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Board: The Executive Committee met earlier this week and discussed:

- proposed 2014 event calendar
- response from Dan Arquette regarding the receipt of Holland Club materials
- finalized the draft budget for 2014.

Membership Report: There are 84 members of the USSVI NOVA Base.

- 25 are Holland Club Members and of those, 2 are WW II submariners
- 49 are regular members
- 10 are associate members.

PAO: The CDR announced that a new editor has been selected for the American Submariner.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Steve Bishop reported that the November 12, 2013 visit to Fairfax Inova hospital's pediatric oncology ward was waived off based upon the recommendation of the nursing staff. The ward accommodates 18 special patients, but for the first time in the five years of our visits, only three children were in the cancer ward. Our K4K visit has been rescheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at 2:30 PM. Please muster at the Fairfax Inova first floor "blue" Women's / Children's lounge at 2:15 PM.

NSL: The Base CDR reported for Tim Oliver that the next NSL luncheon is scheduled for January 24, 2014. Tim now has NSL vest patches for sale at \$8 each.

Regional Director Mike Naughton:

- Mike announced that he will be running for re-election as USSVI Eastern Regional North Director.
- The USSVI 50th anniversary patches and coins are prepared and are for sale for \$20 to support the May celebration festivities here in Washington D.C.
- A Tolling of the Boats ceremony will be conducted by the Capitol Base and NOVA Base for the National USSVI on May 24th.
- The Memorial Day Parade will be on May 26th and USSVI should be marching in the parade (dress code will be announced).
- The Base CDR added that Mike is still appearing as a submarine spokesperson on Maryland Public TV's www.MMCTV.org on the program Inside Out.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Holland Club induction and luncheon held last month was a great success! All Holland

Club members in attendance were asked to rise to be recognized. Next year we will have nine new Holland Club members to be inducted, the largest class ever for our Base.

- The Scorpion Plaque has been completed, including a picture of our sponsored family's sailor. The plaque will be hung on the submarine wall in Legion Post 162's meeting room (to your right when you face the stage).
- Funerals were held recently for Rod Puffer last month and Ralph Chatham last week.

NEW BUSINESS:

The draft schedule of events for the base for 2014 was read. It will be distributed electronically with these minutes by the Base CDR. One event added this year is participation in the Falls Church Veterans Day Ceremony. The Base CDR attended it this year and was dragooned into the ceremony to assist in presentation of the wreath in memory of departed veterans.

USSVI National is looking for copies of Naval Submarine School graduation photos.

The Chicago and Crash Dive bases are developing a memorial to honor U.S. Navy submariners and commemorating the 28 submarines built in Manitowoc WI during WWII.

News from the fleet:

- Pentagon's Policy Bill will impact pension COLAs, will approve continued submarine build rates, and rejects BRAC deliberations this year
- USS Silversides will be the scene for a children's adventure movie
- Enlisted women will join submarines in 2016
- Flame-resistant coveralls are now being issued
- NAVSEA Headquarters are to remain in Navy Yard Building 197 after extensive renovations
- NR-1 exhibit will be added to the Submarine Museum in Groton, CT
- The VA class submarine payload module design has been selected
- USS Providence launched an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).

Mike Varone, resident spook, made a presentation to our Base CDR of a challenge coin for the newly founded Casper Society Internet Base.

ELECTIONS: The Secretary presented the election results tally to the current elected base officers. 29 votes were recorded from the 84 members. He then announced the results of the base elections for 2014 officers as:

Base Commander:	Howard Chatham
Vice Commander:	George Wallace
Treasurer:	Steve Jaeger
Secretary:	Steve Bishop

The Binnacle List currently includes:

Ruth Garverick (Post Meeting Note – she is off the list and in good health now), Joe Phoenix, and Gary Smith.

For the Good of the Order:

Birthdays for the Month are:

November: Rod Batiza, Art Bivens, Richard Lowry, Francis McNamara, Dennis Mohr, Benny Parker, Carla Petruy, and Eva Waylet.

December: Dex Armstrong, Rich Carpel, Mimi Cooper, Bud Cunally, Carol Fannan, Frank Fannan, Mickie Garverick, Sheila Gilmore, Pat Haller, Darlene Jaeger, Barbara Miller, Mary Lou Naughton, Mike Naughton, Tim Shannon, George Steeg, Ray Stone, and Mike White.

50/50 Raffle: Richard Lowry was the winner.

The next meeting will be on January 11th. Our Guest Speaker will be a representative from NAVSEA PMS 435 to talk to us on ESM / EW.

The Base CDR delivered the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Seventeen of us then met at Madigan's Restaurant on the waterfront in Occoquan, VA for a holiday lunch.

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