

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

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1100 on September 14, 2013 at the American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

**MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**

Dex Armstrong, Debbie Bishop, Steve Bishop, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Doc Compton, Katie Compton, Abigale Compton, Lynn Crouch, Don Crouch, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Doris Faber, Bob Glover, Darlene Jaeger, Steve Jaeger, Richard Lowry, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Paul Nelson, Tim Oliver, Willie Petruy, Mike Varone, George Wallace, and Penny Wallace. ( 25 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-5 (SS-110)	Sep 1, 1920
USS Grayling (SS-209)	Sep 9, 1943
USS Pompano (SS-181)	Sep 25, 1943
USS S-51 (SS-162)	Sep 25, 1925
USS Cisco (SS-290)	Sep 28, 1943

**HISTORICAL MOMENT**

Our Base Historian, Richard Lowry, presented a short synopsis of the demise of the USS Grayling.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of the August meeting were distributed by e-mail and approved by the membership.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented the following:  
Starting balance: \$ 4,959.02  
Ending balance: \$ 5,020.24 as of September 14, 2013.  
Treasurer's report was approved by the membership.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** by Steve Jaeger: 83 members, after Don Basham departed on Eternal Patrol.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**CDR:** The Board of Directors meeting was held last week and discussed plans for the Holland Club initiation/luncheon, the establishment of the nominating committee for next year's officer elections (Art Bivens, Pete Petruy, and Mike Varone are serving on the committee), and they are drafting up the program schedule for 2014 so if anyone has any suggestions for speakers or activities they would like to see/do please contact one of the base officers.

**VCDR:** The Holland Club luncheon and initiation will be held at PJ Skidoo's restaurant in Fairfax, VA on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at 11:00 AM. The cost of this year's luncheon will be \$30 per person and the menu is: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Salmon, Petite Filet, or Prime Rib. An invitation to all hands will be sent out later this month.

**CHIEF OF THE BOAT:** The USS Minnesota was commissioned last week in Norfolk, VA. Chuck Martin attended the ceremony and brought back commissioning materials for display at the meeting. This is the 10th Virginia class submarine to be commissioned.

**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. We have been told by the editor that it will be in the next issue. We are waiting for pictures from the Sea Scout Bridge of Honor before submitting our next article.

**K4K:** Steve Bishop reported that the next Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) visit to Fairfax Inova Hospital will be the week of Veteran's Day. 89 of our 166 USSVI bases participate in K4K program and we will all be making visits to our special "Honorary Submariners" this same week. The date and time for our visit is Tuesday, November 12th, at 2:30 PM.

**SUBLEAGUE:** Tim Oliver, NSL Executive Director, reported that:

1. The Friday, September 20, 2013, luncheon will be held at the Army Navy Country Club and the guest speaker will be Ron O'Rourke of the Congressional Research Service; and
2. The Fall Symposium will be held on Oct 23 and 24th, 2013, at the Fairfax Park Marriott. Registration forms are available online and were mailed to all members

**DISTRICT CDR/REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT:** Mike Naughton is in Chicago attending his 50th high school reunion.

- The Base Commander reminded ALCON that the NE Region Business meeting will be held on October 5th at the Days Inn Gettysburg, PA.
- The Base Commander also reported the recent USSVI annual convention in Rochester, MN, was a success with Ed Ettner, two of Ed's daughters, Howard Chatham, and Mike Naughton attending.
- The Base Commander then elaborated some on the Groton Base issues/investigation as discussed at the convention.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **American Submariner Magazine Logo vote**  
- 94% of those voting are in favor of keeping the logo as is (out of 399 who voted, but that is only 3% of the total USSVI membership of 13,000 +).
- The Base received a certificate from USSVI Holland Club for our contribution to the national Holland Club (which gets no funding from the USSVI annual budget).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- The servers that host Decklog and the USSVI database are down for relocation. They should be back up by Monday.
- In light of the Groton base financial issues, this base's Executive Committee (EXCOM) is considering having an audit of our base treasury at the end of the year. Any volunteers with professional financial / CPA / accounting or legal experience who could bear a hand are asked to contact the Base Commander. Thank you in advance.
- The USSVI 2014 calendars are available with a "boomer" theme.
- MOAA is asking myPay to reconsider their onerous newly announced login changes.
- The USSVI 2014 convention information for Burlingame, CA (near San Francisco airport) is available on the USSVI website, although the forms download link is FUBAR.
- The USSVI 2015 convention will be held in Pittsburgh, PA.
- The USSVI 2016 convention will be held in Reno, NV.
- Funeral services for CDR Ralph Chatham will be held at 1300 on December 5, 2013 at the Old Fort Meyer Chapel.
- Dex Armstrong volunteered that Joe Phoenix was a great help and a great shipmate to Rod Puffer in Rod's last few months of illness. The Base Commander will attempt again to get Joe and Marie to re-engage with the base and its activities going forward. Dex will get us the details on the funeral plans for Rod. **Post Meeting Note:** the funeral date is November 22<sup>nd</sup> and will take place at the Old Post Chapel on Fort Myer.

## **BINNACLE LIST - PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Wayne Baldwin, Yuko Basham, Vickye Lowry, Reb Wooten (broken wrist) and CAPT Ray Coe.

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

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER ARE:** Alan Amos, Howard Chatham, Chuck Martin, and Dave Oliver.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Doris Faber.

Our next meeting will be held on October 12, 2013, and will be our annual Pirate Auction / Golden Flea market. We ask that you bring any treasures from your hold or home that you might want to part with, and think others might want to spend their filthy lucre on. The purpose of the auction is to raise funds for base programs, most specifically the Holland Club luncheon and induction in November.

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

The CDR adjourned the meeting at 11:41 PM.

At 12:00, we reconvened for a BBQ lunch at Dixie Bones in Woodbridge, hosted by "Tightwad" Jaeger and the base treasury. The Executive Committee had previously authorized the funding for this luncheon BBQ and planned on holding it at the Legion but due to circumstances beyond our control that could not be arranged. In any event our total bill came in below the budgeted cost. Thank you for that Dixie Bones and for an excellent meal!!

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