

## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1130 on May 9, 2015 at P J Skidoo's Restaurant in Fairfax, VA and welcomed all members and guests.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Alvin Anceravage, Stephen Bishop, Debbie Bishop, Art Bivens, Marcy Bivens, Cindy Boyko, Dan Burke, Hank Chiles, Howard Chatham, Cathy Chatham, Bill Clement, Dave Cooper, Dan Cooper, Betty Cooper, Delbert Ennis, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Linda Evcic, Robert Frick, Susan Frick, Mickey Garverick, Ruth Garverick, Bob Glover, Earl Griggs, Brian Haller, Pat Haller, Ginger Haskell, Steve Jaeger, Darlene Jaeger, Brad Kratovil, Paige Kratovil, Richard Lowry, Vickye Lowry, Chuck Martin, Ed Mattran, Mike Naughton, Mary Lou Naughton, Paul Nelson, Tim Oliver, Joe Phoenix, Ross Sargent, Lorraine Sargent, Gary Smith, Mike Varone, Anita Varone, Roy Walker George Wallace, Penny Wallace, Lawrence Woodworth, Lawrence Woodworth, Lola Woodworth, and Noel Woodworth. (52 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.

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

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

### MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the April meeting were previously distributed by e-mail and a motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes as written.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented his report:

Starting balance: \$5,803.88

Ending balance: \$5,875.14

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Treasurer's report.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

The **Base CDR** presented a summary of the topics of discussion at the most recent **Executive Board Meeting**: recruiting efforts; final plans for today's Holland Club event; boat sponsorship; plans for future K4K visits; the Eagle Scout recognition program; finalization of the Base challenge coin; and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Dale Daly City, VA.

The **COB** reported that we recently participated in an Eagle Scout Court of Honor and the next Court of Honor will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup> in Vienna, VA.

Steve Jaeger reported on **Base Membership**: 85 members now with Antonio Poblete as our newest member. He also noted that we have 35 Holland Club members (two are WW II members), 39 regular members, and 11 associate members.

**K4K Program** chairman, Steve Bishop, reported that the latest visit to Fairfax Inova Hospital's pediatric oncology ward was in April, and the next planned visit there would probably be in late July. Ross Sargent is working with the hospital staff to get us the requisite executive permissions to conduct similar K4K visits at the University of Virginia's Medical Hospital in Charlottesville, VA. We also made a K4K presentation to a young man who is an oncology out-patient whom Ross and Loraine Sargent met recently at the UVA hospital.

**SUBLEAGUE**: Tim Oliver, NSL Executive Director, announced that the classified Spring Symposium is next week and the Fall Symposium will be held Oct 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Falls Church Fairview Park Marriott. The next Capitol Chapter summer luncheon is TBD. CSIS and USNI are co-sponsoring a Maritime Security Dialogue on "The Future of the Silent Service" by VADM Michael Connor, CSL, on May 14<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. He also reported that the Battle of Midway Celebration will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA.

The **Regional Director**, Mike Naughton, reported that the Capitol Base will be holding their Tolling of the Boats ceremony on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1100 at the F-4 Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. The 2015 National USSVI Convention in Pittsburgh is scheduled for Sep 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The USSVI website includes a link to the Convention site where you can sign up for the convention and make hotel reservations.

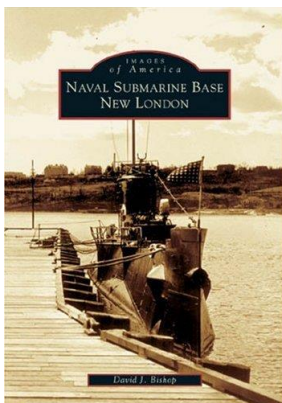
## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The Lorton 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade will not be held this year. We are making plans to participate in the Dale City, VA parade. Details will be provided soon.

The base challenge coin has gone into production and we should receive them in the next week or two.

The CDR thanked Steve Bishop, Chuck Martin, Brian Haller, and Mike Varone who joined him in the field day held at American Legion Post 162's facility in Lorton last month.

Two more items that will be up for auction at the November Base meeting are: the Images of America book on *Naval Submarine Base New London* and the bullet casings submarine.



The next meeting will be back at Post 162 on June 13<sup>th</sup> and our guest speaker will be from PMS 415 – the Undersea Defensive Warfare Systems Program Office.

**Binnacle List:** Please keep the following in your prayers: John Gluck, Bruce Miller, Tony Poblete, Ray Stone, Anita Varone, and Reb Wooten.

**For the Good of the Order,** the CDR read the list of birthdays for May: Bill Clement, Mike Harmody, Robert Miller, Joanne Pasquinelli, Mark Riethmeier, Sue Shannon, Anita Varone, Penny Wallace, Ron Williams, and Ruri Wooten.

The **Base CDR introduced our Guest Speaker** for the Holland Club Ceremony, **Vice Admiral Daniel L. Cooper.** A 1957 graduate of the Naval Academy his initial posting was onboard the USS Chilton (APA-38). His submarine service began in 1959 aboard the diesel submarine USS Trigger (SS-564) where he earned his dolphins in 1960. Later he served as OPS Officer on the USS Haddo (SSN-604), XO on the USS Simon Bolivar (SSBN-641), and in 1972 he assumed command of the USS Puffer (SSN-652). From 1976 to 1979 he was the Commander of Submarine Squadron TEN in New London CT, and from 1986 to 1988 he served as Commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force. Other shore assignments included Assistant to the VCNO, Comptroller of NAVSEA, and his last assignment as Assistant CNO for Undersea Warfare. Since his retirement from naval service in 1991, he has held numerous positions including a Director for the NFCU, President of the NSL, Director and Vice Chairman of the BOD for USAA, and as Under Secretary for Benefits in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

VADM Dan Cooper spoke to us all about his love of submarines and the men (and now women) who have served in them. He found the best part of joining the submarine service was the “quality of personnel” who volunteered for and then served in subs. He came here today to speak to his kind of people who have “done stuff and done it well.” He spoke of his times communicating with and to ADM Rickover. Each time it seemed that with ADM Rickover, “No news is not bad news”. He also spoke about his relationships and one-on-one meetings with some elected representatives in their offices. One time, after VADM Cooper testified on the Hill on submarine matters, two IL Senators (un-named) were interested in the submarine force and while one listened to him and wanted to hear about submarine force issues and what Congress could do to help, the other had his own agenda and only talked of his hometown issues; two weeks later that second Senator addressed the Admiral as “General” to his face. (Awkward???)

The Base CDR thanked VADM Cooper for his presentation and presented him with an USSVI challenge coin.

The CDR stated that the reason for this special meeting is to show our appreciation, to recognize, and to thank three of our shipmates by inducting them into the prestigious United States Submarine Veterans Holland Club: **Hank Chiles, Earl Griggs, and Woody Woodworth.**

Before the Induction, all Holland Club members in attendance were asked to stand so they too could be recognized. Holland Club members Anceravage, Bivens, Burke, Ennis, Ettner, Frick, Glover, Nelson, Phoenix, Sargent, and Smith all stood and received a round of applause.

The Base CDR called the three inductees forward to the head table. Then, for each, the CDR read their biographies, the VCDR read and presented the USSVI Holland Club certificates and cards,

the Secretary presented the patch, the COB presented the yellow hat, and the Treasurer presented the coin. A large poster depicting their qualification boats was also presented to each of them.

**Henry G. Chiles, Jr.**, a 1960 graduate of the Naval Academy, first served onboard USS Borie (DD-704) and then went through submarine and nuclear power training before being assigned to the USS Triton (SSN-586) where he qualified in submarines in 1964. His next assignments were as Engineering Officer on the USS Tecumseh (SSBN-628B), Material Officer for Submarine Squadron 15, and XO on the USS Drum (SSN-677) PCU. He then served at the U.S. Naval Activities, UK (and earned a BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford; 11 years later he also earned his MA from Oxford). Going back to sea he commanded USS Gurnard (SSN-662). His next assignment was as Special Assistant to the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program in charge of the PCO course. In 1983 he took command of Submarine Squadron 3, was promoted to rear admiral (lower half), and took command of the Naval Training Center San Diego. In 1986 he became the Director, Strategic Submarine Division and Deputy Assistant CNO for Undersea Warfare. Next up was command of Submarine Group 8 and NATO's Commander Allied Submarines Mediterranean. He received his second star during this assignment and from 1990 to 1993 he served as COMSUBLANT and NATO's Commander Allied Submarines Atlantic. The next assignment was as Deputy Commander-in-Chief and Chief of Staff for the U. S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM). Upon being promoted to Admiral in 1994, he took command of STRATCOM, a position that he held until his retirement in 1996.

During his career, Admiral Chiles received the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, five Legion of Merit medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and a Naval Academy Alumni Association Distinguished Graduate Award in 2008.

Admiral Chiles is a member of the board of advisors of the National Military Family Association and the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation. He has chaired the National Nuclear Security Administration Advisory Committee and was the Distinguished Professor of Leadership at the Naval Academy. He served on the Strategic Advisory Group at STRATCOM, chaired the study panel for the Ohio Replacement Program, consulted for Sandia National Laboratory, and was the National Chairman of the Submarine Centennial Celebration.

**Norman Earl Griggs**, a 1953 graduate of the Naval Academy, first served on the USS Rowe (DD-564), then on the USS Tiru (SS-416) where he qualified in subs in 1957. After that he was on the commissioning crew of the USS Scorpion (SSN-589), XO on the USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN-601), and CO of the USS Nautilus (SSN-571). He also had shore duty tours in the Office of the CNO and the Director of Defense Research and Engineering as well as a stint at the Naval Postgraduate School earning a MS in Operations Research. Upon retiring as a Captain in 1976 after 23 years of service, he attended George Washington University attaining a *Juris Doctorate* from their National Law Center in 1979. He is a member of the Virginia State Bar Association, spent 25 years as a partner in a northern Virginia law firm, is a past president of the McLean Bar Association, has been the legal counsel for the Naval Submarine League for 20 years, is a former Director and Vice President of the McLean Citizens Association, a former Director of the McLean Citizens Foundation, held various leadership positions at Trinity UMC in McLean and is an accomplished harmonica musician.

**Lawrence “Woody” Woodworth** joined the Navy in July 1956. After Sonar “A” school and Submarine School he reported aboard USS Sablefish (SS-303). He qualified in August 1958

while on a barrier patrol in the Denmark Straits. He remained on board Sablefish under three skippers and advanced from SOSN to SO1(SS). He was transferred to Fleet Sonar School Key West in July 1962 for duty under instruction where he and his family rode out the Cuban Missile dustup. He graduated from AN/BQQ-1 Integrated Sonar "C" school the end of March 1963 with orders to the USS Thresher (SSN-593). These, of course, were modified the end of April 1963 to the USS Tullibee (SSN-597). Next he was sent TAD to SUBPAC then on to USS Plunger (SSN-595) in 1964 for SUBROC and AN/BQQ-2 operations in the Wake Island Missile Test Range. He transferred later that year to USS Dace (SSN-607) for duty as leading sonar chief. His next assignment was to COMSUBDEVGRU TWO (staff) in 1966 and TAD back to USS Dace for two months that summer. In August he transferred to U.S. Naval Training Center San Diego for further transfer to OIC Palomar College, San Marcos, CA for duty under instruction in the Pilot Navy Associate Degree Completion Program (ADCOP). He completed an AA degree and was transferred to Fleet ASW School San Diego as lead instructor for AN/BQQ-2 Sonar System. He next was assigned to the Submarine Surveillance Equipment Program (SSEP) Sub Base New London in March 1971 where he closed out his Naval career in 1975 after being promoted to STCM(SS) and conducting 22 sonar calibration trials on various SUBLANT fast attacks. Lawrence then spent the next 29 years providing support to the Navy's upgrades to fast attack sonar systems.

Each inductee spoke a few words about his time in the submarine service and what it meant to him and his family. All three were thankful for and humbled by this Holland Club honor and ceremony today. CAPT Earl Griggs specifically commented that the positive programs this base was participating in to support the Northern VA community reflected well on today's submarine force and the US Navy.

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

The Base CDR thanked Penny and George Wallace for coordinating this Holland Club Event. Thanks to the anonymous donor who picked up the luncheon tab for the Holland Club attendees .

The CDR reminded ALCON that the next meeting will be on June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1100, at American Legion Post 162 in Lorton, VA.

The meeting was adjourned at 1222.

All attendees then enjoyed a PJ Skidoo's served luncheon of: Petite Filet Mignon, Prime Rib, Lemon Chicken, or Broiled Salmon.

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