

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, DEC 10, 2016**

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1100 on Dec 10, 2016, at American Legion Post 162 in Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Debbie Bishop, Steve Bishop, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Nate Compton, Bob Glover, Darlene Jaeger, Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, Mike Naughton, Mary Lou Naughton, Ginger Oliver, Tim Oliver, Anita Varone, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth. (18 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The COB, Mike Varone, 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 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

The COB tolled the ship's bell twice for the twenty-one USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

IN MEMORIAM: STSCS(SS) Carey Dorset, USN, (ret) went on eternal patrol November 23rd. Carey spent his first ten years of service on surface ships, then transferred to submarines and was soon made the LPO of his first submarine's sonar gang. He retired after 20 years of naval service then joined American Systems Corporation for his second career. At ASC he worked for Howard Chatham supporting NAVSEA and submarine training systems. He will be missed.

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. The Immediate Past Base CDR Howard Chatham and Secretary Steve Bishop tallied all votes cast.

SYNOPSIS OF THE BOOK "THUNDER BELOW" by Rear Admiral, USN (ret) Eugene Fluckey, by Steve Bishop. This historical moment is not about a boat and men lost in December, but rather about a heroic boat and a teaser for our NOVA Base guest speaker for March, 2017.

The USS Barb (SS-220) was the submarine that sank the most tonnage according to Japanese records. For war patrols 8 thru 12, Eugene Fluckey became the most decorated submarine skipper ever – he earned the Medal of Honor, Four Navy Crosses, and Two Presidential Unit Citations. Moreover, COMSUBPAC, Charles Lockwood, said that CDR Fluckey conducted the "best patrol of the war." His aggressive tactics showed the way for others and changed how our

submarines fought the Japanese enemy.

Examples of his daring tactics were:

- Patrolling enemy waters on the surface rather than at periscope depth in order to find more targets
- Routinely going inside the 10 fathom curve
- Entering enemy harbors at night to wreck havoc and torpedo ships at anchor
- Installing a 5-inch rocket launcher topside and using it to bombard six industrial cities
- **Creating an eight man saboteur squad to go ashore in Japan to destroy a train and the main railroad track used for carrying both men and war materiel.**
- Using the appropriate weapon on all enemy targets (guns for sampans, torpedoes for ships, and rockets for cities and industrial plants.)
- Stealing navigation charts from captured / destroyed sampans to replace the outdated US Navy charts
- Pre-planning his destruction strategy at intelligence HQ in Pearl Harbor before going on patrol.
- Ramming merchant ships to destroy them when the Barb was all out of ammunition.

At our March 2017 meeting, Tim Richard, the son of Jim Richard, a second class motor machinist and one of the eight train saboteurs on the USS Barb, will be our guest speaker. Tim served as an ET2 (SS) on the USS Lapon (SSN-661); at SUBTRAFAC, Norfolk; and then on the Emory Land submarine tender. Tim has stories to tell us and artifacts to show us from the USS Barb and from Eugene Fluckey. Tim is a member of both NSL and USSVI Hampton Roads Base. We intend to invite other USSVI bases to attend this March meeting when we can all learn more about one of our true submarine heroes.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the November meeting were distributed by e-mail. No comments or corrections were noted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, reported that last month's base bank account balance, including Walmart funding, was \$ 6,230.48. The current balance is \$ 6,530.83. However, \$1,254.21 of that amount is Walmart grant restricted-use funds, so the base funds are \$5,276.62. He reminded us that 2017 National and Base dues are due now. Annual dues are \$40.00 per member (\$25.00 for National and \$15.00 for Base).

An early bird drawing was held and the free Base dues winners for 2018 are:

Regular member: Dennis Moore

Associate member: Debbie Bishop.

The Base treasurer presented the recommended NOVA Base budget for 2017. Paper copies were available on each table during the meeting. The yearly revenue and expense format is in accordance with USSVI National guidelines. Additional line items for revenue and expenses have been added this year for Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) accounting. **The 2017 budget was approved by the membership, as presented.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Board: The Executive Committee met November 30th and discussed:

- Membership
- 2017 Holland Club initiation
- 2017 dues receipts and finalization of the proposed budget for 2017
- K4K Program
- Website
- Scouting Recognition Program
- Youth Outreach Program
- PAO items
- Finalization of the 2017 events calendar, and
- Plans for the holiday luncheon at Madigan's restaurant.

Vice Commander:

- George Wallace reported that:
 - We are looking at potential venues with better accessibility for holding the Holland Club Induction luncheon.
 - A survey was emailed out to membership for seeking your ideas for venue, food choices, and cost preferences. Please respond to the survey so we can scope our search for a venue.

COB: Nothing to report

Membership Report: Steve Jaeger reported there are 83 members of the USSVI NOVA Base.

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

PAO: Mike Varone reported that for the second time this year, we have had two articles published in the American Submariner. AS's 2016's fourth quarter issue includes these articles:

- USSVI NOVA 20th Anniversary Luncheon – Page 25
- Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) visit to Walter Reed National Medical Center – Page 31

Store Keeper: Howard Chatham reported inventory to include:

- 2017 USSVI Calendars – three available
- Base Challenge Coins – seventeen available
- 20th Anniversary Shot Glasses – three available

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss): Steve Bishop reported that:

- The team visited UVA in Charlottesville on November 18th
- The base will apply again in 2017 for Walmart Community grants from the stores that awarded grants to NOVA Base last year
- We are looking into designing a K4Ks coloring book
- In 2016 we visited 116 children bedside during 8 hospital visits

Scouting Coordinator: Chuck Martin reported that:

- The Base CDR recognized Eagle Scout Benton Hucksicker on November 19th at Fincastle, VA. In addition to presenting Benton with a certificate of accomplishment and a patch, the CDR gave him a short history on the USS Sculpin (SS 191). Then, after a

moment of silence, he also presented him with a photo of the boat in remembrance of the USS Sculpin being lost on the 19th of November 1943.

NSL: Tim Oliver reported that:

- Submarine Technology Symposium will be held on 9-11 May 2017 at Johns Hopkins University - APL.
- The 35th Annual Symposium will be held 1-2 November 2017 at Hyatt Regency Crystal City.
- All are welcome to join NSL in the Wreaths Across America – December 17th, 2016 – There are two opportunities that day:
 - **Arlington National Cemetery** – Gates Open at 0800; official ceremony at 0930; wreath placed at 1000
 - Can meet up with NSL members at 0800-0845. TAKE THE METRO!!
 - **Alexandria National Cemetery** – Meet at 1130; wreaths placed at 1200
 - MOAA Mt Vernon Chapter – POC: Bob Patrick, MVC Wreaths Across America representative, at patbobval@verizon.net or call at (703)964-6022

American Legion Post 162: The Base CDR reported that the Post will be holding a Tailgate party on Sunday, December 11th to collect for Toys for Tots and Fisher House; and, a Christmas Dinner at 7 PM on December 17th.

BASE OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

- Special thanks to Howard Chatham, Bob Glover, Brian Haller, and Steve Bishop for their support in conducting this year's election
- The results of the Base Officers Election for 2017 are:
 - Base Commander – Chuck Martin
 - Vice Commander – George Wallace
 - Treasurer – Steve Jaeger
 - Secretary – Steve Bishop
- The Officers–elect will be sworn in at the January meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- CVS Pharmacies, including CVS Target Pharmacies, are no longer accepting TRICARE. Walgreen's Pharmacies began accepting TRICARE effective 1 December 2016.
- 2017-2018 USSVI Scholarship information and applications are now posted on the USSVI website

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2017 USSVI Convention – RV'ers need to register with a campsite ASAP. Recommended campsites are:
 - Tropical Palms Resort and RV Park, 2650 Holiday Trail Kissimmee, FL 34746, (407) 396-4595
 - Orlando/Kissimmee KOA, 2644 Happy Camper Place Kissimmee, FL 34746, (407) 396-2400
- USSVI National has released guidance on the USSVI National Insurance policy coverage

- Starting next month, the Base will collect USSVI Scholarship voluntary donations at each meeting. Then in December the Treasurer will make a single donation from the Base to the USSVI Scholarship Fund.
- News from the Fleet and previous information e-mailed this month will be included in the e-mail forwarding these minutes.

The Binnacle List currently includes:

Delbert Ennis, Paul Nelson, Richard Lowry, Steve and Darlene Jaeger for Darlene's mom, Tony Poblete, Mike Naughton, and David Cooper.

For the Good of the Order:

Birthdays for the Month are:

Rich Carpel, Bud Cunnally, Carol Fannan, Frank Fannan, Susan Frick, Mickey 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: Mike Naughton was the winner.

The Chaplain delivered the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52.

Our next meeting will be on January 14th, 2017 at American Legion Post 162 at 1100. CDR John Vlattas, USN(ret), will be our guest speaker. He is the Program Manager for NAVSEA 073, Submarine Advanced Programs.

We 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

*May you and yours have a Merry and Bright
Holiday Season!*

USSVI Northern Virginia Base Officers

