

USSVI Charleston Base Meeting Minutes April 2016

The attendance for the April 2016 meeting was 101 members.

Opening Ceremonies: The meeting was called to order by Base Commander Rick Wise. A quorum was present and the meeting started at 1858. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost in April was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols. The USSVI Creed was read by Base Secretary Vice Commander Rick Sparger. Rick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting.

Base Commander: Rick Wise introduced Ed Stank to present the Distinguished Submariner Award for the Charleston Base to our Chief of the Boat, Ken Hutchison

Holland Club Induction: Rick Wise introduced Holland Club Chairman Bill Freligh. Bill explained the meaning of the Holland Club and read the certificates that would be presented to each of the inductees. With the aid of Rick Wise, Bill presented the certificates

LT Howard J. Anderson, CDR Walter M. Bailey, FTSM/SS Thomas Clark, EMC/SS Thomas Cyrek
LT Joseph Giannetto, TM1/SS Robert Gillitzer, MMCS/SS Herman Maula, YNC/SS Roger Rader
LT William Rumer, YNCS/SS Carl E. Smith, STC/SS Walter F. Zeigler

The following received their 55 year Rocker: FTSM/SS Richard Alkire, TMC/SS Robert K. Curtis
TMCS/SS Miguel Emerson, TMC/SS Richard E. Koehler, MMCS/SS Herman Maula, TMCS/SS
Gordon E. Williams.

The following received their 60 year Rocker: EMCM/SS Terry L. Trump, CS1/SS William H. Weaver

The following received their 65 year Rocker: CSCM/SS Stacy Power

The following received their 70 year Rocker: QM1/SS Walter Curtis, STM1/SS William L Jones

Following the presentations photographs were taken to be posted on the base website

www.ussvicb.org. The guests were thanked for attending and the asked to leave so that the business meeting could be held.

After the guests left the meeting continued.

Introductions: The following men introduced themselves at the meeting: EMCS (SS) Kwock G. Kam
Qual Boat: USS Sea Leopard SS 483. ETC (SS) Ronald Lazor, Qual Boat: USS John Adams SSBN
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Secretary: Base Secretary Mike Ciesielko reported that the March meeting minutes had been published in the newsletter and on the base website. Mike asked the group for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Butch Bryar made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by Jay Pierce

Treasurer: Base Treasurer Mike Welch gave a report on the Charleston Base finances. The base financial report is now located as a password protected file on the base website under Documents and Resources. The password is the same as needed for the Sailing List

Vice Commander: Rick encouraged everyone to attend next year's Amberjack ceremony. The attendance this year was horrible.

Special Events: SUBVETS Picnic is scheduled for May 7th. It will be a joint FRA & SUBVETS Picnic held at the CRP area.

Chaplain and Webmaster: Base Chaplain and Webmaster Nick Nichols gave the following report:

Submarines Lost During the Month of April

USS PICKEREL (SS-177)	April 3, 1943 – 7 th war patrol	Lost with all hands – 74 souls
USS SNOOK (SS-279)	April 8, 1945 – 9 th war patrol	Lost with all hands – 84 souls
USS THRESHER (SSN-593)	April 10, 1963 – sea trials	Lost with all hands – 129 souls
USS GUDGEON (SS-211)	April 18, 1944 – 12 th war patrol	Lost with all hands – 79 souls
USS GRENADIER (SS-210)	April 22, 1943 – 6 th war patrol	76 POWs; 72 survived the war

Five Boats and 370 Men Lost

**Master Chief Fire Control Technician, Submarines, Robert Grabowski,
United States Navy Retired
Shipmate Departed on Eternal Patrol – April 13, 2016**

April Report

Highlighted boat of the month:

Gudgeon was probably lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men SE of Iwo Jima, but may have been sunk on May 12, 1944 in another attack on an unidentified submarine and heard by several other submarines in the area. Winner of 5 Presidential Unit Citations, Gudgeon was on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack. Gudgeon was the first US submarine to go on patrol from Pearl Harbor after the Japanese attack. On her first patrol, she became the first US submarine to sink an enemy warship, picking off the submarine I-173.

- **FTCM(SS) Bob Grabowski** departed on Eternal Patrol yesterday. His daughter has informed me that his plans were to be buried at sea. It seems that Bob might have had a stroke sometime the week of March 21st. When discharged from the hospital, he went to Spartanburg to stay near his daughter and passed away there. If there is a local memorial service I will issue my standard email with the info.
- **Karen Ilgenfritz** passed away on April 7th. Her funeral was this past Monday and several SUBVETs attended.
- **Jim Lowman's** grandson has cancer.
- **Beetle Bailey** is still at the campground doing well. Has a doctor appointment next week and should head home after that.
- **Luke Murphy** is at LifeCare Morningstar rm 104. He expects to be able to go home toward the end of the month.
- **Fred Woodley** is having problems with his right shoulder. The Orthopedic surgeon says shoulder is worn out. He is on restricted duty at work. The problem is affecting his sleep.y
- **Ray Bryant** is home - cell phone - 843.817.9510 - please call before going to visit
- **Clell Hutchinson** is home on hospice and not doing well but would like to have visitors and short calls. Please call Catherine before visiting.

- **Lynn Cousino** continues undergoing a more aggressive treatment regimen.
- **Larry Cox** is doing well after his stay in the hospital with pneumonia.
- **Thom & Linda Beach** are both doing well. Thom's liver transplant was a great success and Linda is recovering from her emergency appendectomy.
- **Roy Robertson** is having rehab for his broken hip.
- **Audrey Bognar**, Randy's mother, passed away March 15th. Service was held in Illinois.
- **John Thorston's** grandson, Matthew, passed away on Thursday, 17 March. John is a member of Charleston Base but currently lives in Virginia. The funeral was held on March 22. Not sure if anyone from the base attended.
- **Mary Wood** had knee replacement surgery and is home doing well.
- **Kathleen Smith** had surgery on her back and is home receiving physical therapy.
- **CC Cager** is still recovering from the motorcycle wreck. He is here tonight with us. They are trying to sell their house in Bonneau which is listed http://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/112-Woody-Ln_Bonneau_SC_29431_M52034-66121
- **Ernie Barwick's** brother passed away this afternoon at the Victory House.

Follow-ups were made on those who've had surgery or illnesses in the last couple of months along with the base sending additional cards.

WEBMASTER NOTES:

- Website is constantly updated.

District Commander: Ed relayed that the Victory House Picnic last Tuesday was a success.

Membership: Membership is now 315 members.

Newsletter: We need a volunteer for this position.

FRA: Larry Cox reported that the FRA will be hosting an old fashioned Navy Breakfast June 12th.

Storekeeper: Ron Chambers has Submariner Car decals.

Rec Committee: (Al Dempster, Mike Knaub and Elmer Feester) Al Dempster said Picnic is 7th May more info provided at the next meeting.

Veterans Affairs: Ken Curtis informed us that the Miracles will be at the performing arts center May 7th at 1830 veterans have free admission.

KapSS for KidSS: Bill Kennedy reported on the success of the KapSS for KidSS visit.

Scholarship: George Scharf reported that we finally found a place to hold the car show. It will be held on 1 Oct at the Publix parking lot on St James Avenue in Goose Creek.

Submarine Veterans of World War II: George Scharf encouraged everyone to join the WWII vets at the Golden Corral 21st April.

CRAMA: Butch Bryar had no report.

Election Coordinator: Joe Lunn asked the secretary if he is running again and Mike Ciesielko said yes. He then asked Rick Sparger if he was running again for Vice Commander and he respectfully declined. Elections are next month.

Chief of the Boat: Patriots Point POC is Richard Cox.

Ray Sparks announced the NTPU Legacy Awards will be presented 22 April.

The Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team plays on the 23rd of April. The game starts at 9am at the College of Charleston ballfield at Patriot's Point.

Base Commander: We need help from the base. Volunteers for officer positions and flag folders.

Old Business: There was a discussion that we have a sign on Old Orangeburg road that states this road kept clean by Charleston base SUBVETS. The discussion was to either man working parties to keep it clean or take the sign down. Rick Sparger made a motion to take the sign down and Ken Curtis seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mike Emerson volunteered to contact the Highway Department to get the sign taken down.

New Business: Joe Hayes brought up a discussion about a board function that was posted in the Board of directors meeting minutes. It was a heated discussion.

Good of the Order: Mike Ciesielko won the free year membership to the FRA.

The After Battery: No Report

Nuclear Historian: Rick Carlson reported:

NUCLEAR HISTORIAN 14 April 2016

As we all know Nuclear Power deals with "Science", and this is a science story.

A female instructor at Nuclear Power School, possibly a future submarine sailor was talking to her other half. With a seductive voice she asked her husband, "Have you ever seen Twenty Dollars all crumpled up?"

She gave him a sexy little smile, unbuttoned the top three buttons of her blouse and slowly reached down in her cleavage, crafted by a soft, silky, push up bra, and, pulled out a crumpled Twenty Dollar bill.

He took the crumpled Twenty Dollar bill from her and smiled approvingly.

She then asked, "Have you ever seen Fifty Dollars all crumpled up?"

"No I haven't," he said with an anxious tone in his voice.

She gave him another sexy little smile, unzipped her skirt, letting it drop to the floor and seductively reached into her panties and pulled out a crumpled Fifty Dollar bill.

He took the crumpled Fifty dollar bill and started breathing a little quicker with anticipation.

"Now," she said, "have you ever seen \$50,000 Dollars all crumpled up?"

"No way!" he said, becoming even more aroused and excited to which she replied:

"Go look in the garage."

The depth charge was won by Lee Young. He donated \$60.00 to the Scholarship fund

Benediction: Chaplain Nick Nichols gave the benediction.

Meeting Adjourned: Following the benediction by Nick Nichols, the Base Commander adjourned the meeting at 2024.