

Secretary – Gordon Long:

- The Minutes from the April Base meeting were emailed to all Base members. The Minutes have been published on the Base Website for download. There were no changes, additions or deletions. The Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer – Base Commander for Ricky Collins:

- The Treasurer's Report for April was published and promulgated on the website. There were no revisions. The report was approved as presented.

Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

- Highlighted boat of the month:
 - USS STICKLEBACK (SS-415) was LOST ON May 30, 1958 with no loss of life. STICKLEBACK sank off Hawaii while under tow after collision with USS Silverstein (DE-534). The entire crew was taken off prior to sinking.

There are several shipmates and family members who have given me information which they wish to be kept confidential at this time.

- **MMCS(SS) Donald Ross Londergan, 85, USN Ret.**, departed on Eternal Patrol on April 20th at the Cypress Square retirement community in Summerville. Don joined the Navy in 1957 and retired in 1975 after 18 years of service. He was a member of USSVI National [2012], a member of Charleston Base [2012], and a member of the Holland Club having been qualified for 67 years. Don qualified on ODAX SS-484 in 1957. He also served on TRUTTA SS-421, THOMAS JEFFERSON SSBN-618, GEORGE BANCROFT SSBN-643, SUNFISH SSN-649, GEORGE WASHINGTON SSBN-598, GRAYLING SSN-646 and HUNLEY AS-31. As noted in the obituary, a private memorial with immediate family is planned.
- **MSCM(SS) Thomas Henry Peterson, III, 82, USN Ret**, departed on Eternal Patrol on April 24, 2024 in Summerville. Thomas was a 30-year veteran retiring as a Command Master Chief. He was a member-at-large of USSVI but was not a Charleston base member. Thomas qualified on SEA ROBIN SS-407 in 1967. He also served on DOGFISH SS-350, THOMAS JEFFERSON SSBN/SSN-618 and MARIANO G VALLEJO SSBN-658. His service was held on April 27.
- **MTCS(SS) Dan M. Hunt, 74, USN Ret.**, departed on Eternal Patrol on April 30th at the Victory House in Walterboro SC. Dan joined the Navy in 1968 and retired in 1990 with 22 years of service. He qualified on USS JOHN C. CALHOUN SSBN-630 IN 1971. He also saw service on HENRY L. STIMSON SSBN-655, WOODROW WILSON SSBN-624 and GEORGE BANCROFT SSBN-643. Between 2014 and 2018 Dan was a USSVI & Charleston Base member. Dan's funeral service was Monday May 6 at Dial-Murray Funeral Home Chapel, 300 W. Main St., Moncks Corner, SC 29461.
- **Bob McNeish** had cataract surgery today on one eye and will have the other eye done on the 23rd. He doesn't expect any problems.
- **Rick Wise** (gave his own report) had surgery to remove two nodules from his right lung and later, 2 nodules from his left lung. The large nodules had the same sarcoma that caused the loss of his right arm. The smaller nodules in his left lung was ordinary, run-of-the-mill lung cancer. This is the fourth cancer that he is fighting. He requests prayers and has a PET scan scheduled for 4 June to find if there is other cancer in his body. The result will determine the continuation of his fight.
- **Ken Curtis** is still recovering from his fall in early April. He is home and still going to PT twice a week.
- **Tom Lawson** is now on O2 treatment. Having a difficult time breathing.
- **Fred Woodley** had a serious UTI and sepsis in early April. He was treated and released. His bladder test on 4.23 showed he was retaining urine in the bladder and the scope that was done showed narrowing of canyon walls. Bladder is clear of cysts. The only other point of concern is prostrate which will be followed for increased PSA. Dr Wingo (urologist) stated the only thing that can be done is an operation which would require a hospital stay. 6 month follow up appointment in October to rescan bladder and check PSA. This is a debilitating condition which can cause frequent UTIs and back flood of the kidneys. Scope was pretty painful even with anesthetics mostly due to the narrow aspect. I will keep you informed. Thanks for your prayers. Let everyone know I'm thinking of them!
In mid-April he had a biopsy on his right ear and the results came back pre-cancerous with no further action needed at this time.

- **Tom Cyrek** is at home with a home health nurse coming by each day. He is having more 'bad' time each day because of this Parkinsons. If you call do so between 1200-1400 so as not to interfere with his evening meds. In addition, his wife Gloria just had hip surgery and may need our help in the future to get Tom to his doctor appointments
- **Jerry Stout** continues his treatment. He has a PET scan on 25 May.
- **Al Dempster** and his wife, Connie, are in The Bridge of Charleston Assisted Living. His mailing address is: Alan Dempster – Room 222, 2590 Elms Plantation Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29406. They have a phone in their apartment – (843) 793-1187.
- **Thom Beach** has moved back to Summerville and is at the Blake at Carnes Crossroads. He is in room 108. His dialysis days are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Visitors are welcome. The address is 4015 2nd Ave., Summerville SC 29486.
- **John Glave** is a retired MMCS and a USSVI MAL HC living in Williston, SC. He qualified on the IREX SS482 in 1964 and also served on POLK, DANIEL BOONE, DACE, RAY, BLUEFISH, and SKIPJACK. He recently had a stroke and several mini-strokes. The doctors have given him only a few months. Robby Roberts gave me this info and said if you know him or want to just talk to him you can call him at 803-624-7086
- Complete/update your page 2 if you have not done so.

Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- If you change your number or drop your home line, please contact either Larry, Nick or the COB so that we can make the necessary changes locally and with National.
- Until told differently, continue to use the website of <https://ussubvets.org>
- The Lost Boats / Amberjack Crew / Submarine Birthday recognition service and bell tolling went very well and we had a good crowd for a change.

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

- Lewis read a letter from a man who attended the Amberjack/Lost Boats ceremony thanking Charleston Base for conducting this memorial event.

Membership – Nick Nichols for Larry Knutson

- We are still in the #3 spot behind Groton and Hampton Roads.
- **Base Standings** [those with more than 200 members]: Groton 1130 - 2) Hampton Roads 275 - 3) Charleston 255 - 4) Bremerton 240

National Awards – OPEN

- Base Commander Mike Ciesielko reminded everyone that there is a position available as National Awards Chairman. We did not submit any proposals for National awards this year.

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

- The current balance in the Scholarship Fund is \$12,807.
- The current raffle is for a model of a German U-Boat. The detail is outstanding, down to the rust on the hull. Tickets are 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held at the June Base Meeting.
- Challenge coins are available for \$12. At the end of the meeting we have a drawing which requires possession of a challenge coin.

Fleet Reserve Association – Ken Hutchison

- Ken reminded everyone of the upcoming Low Country Boil.
- The FRA also has raffle for a grill.
- If you are not a member of the FRA, Ken will be happy to correct that for you.
- The FRA will have a Memorial Day ceremony beginning at 1130 followed by an Indoor Picnic.

Election Coordinator – Ken Hutchison

- The votes were counted. Tom Lawson will remain as Vice Commander. Gordon Long will remain as Secretary. Ken thanked Ed Stank and Willy Williams for their candidacy.

Recreation – Greg Landry for Johnny Brown

- River Dogs game scheduled for May 24. We will be in Section 205 – Rows 2/3. Game start is 1905.
- Johnny is planning a picnic in September at Marrington.

NNPTC Liaison – Anthony Mazza

- Anthony thanked those who attended the Submarine Birthday Ball.
- The Sub Ball next year is already being planned and will be held on April 5, 2025. It is being planned for the Trident Tech Ball Room

Base Comptroller – Rick Wise

- Rick provided the Charleston Base First Quarter Budget Report.
- The Holland Club expenditures exceeded the budgeted amount since the Base had previously voted to pay for the Holland Club Hats, but they had not been included in the allotted amount.
- Due to Rick's health, he is in need of a replacement for this position. Tom Holcombe has volunteered and will be working with Rick.

Nuclear Power School Awards – Phil Nunnally

- The next NPS graduation will be June. Ed Stank will make the presentation.
- Meet in Navy Exchange parking lot 0800 to carpool in to the ceremony.

Newsletter – Phil Nunnally

- Nothing reported.

Little David – Phil Nunnally

- Phil thanked those who worked on the Little David. It sure looks better!
- There will be more work in the fall and next year.
- Phil has a Little David maintenance patch for those who helped with the work.

SC License Plates – Ed Stank

- Ed has received only a response from the Columbia Base.
- He will contact the others if no response by June.

Special Events – Tom Holcombe

- Nothing to report.

PAO – OPEN

- The position is open.

Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall

- Woody ordered more Patch/Coin sets

COB – Greg Landry

- May is Military Appreciation Month
- Friday – before Mother's Day – is Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- Armed Forces Week is May 11 thru May 18.
- Have not heard anything about bringing the float to Armed Forces Day at the Air Force Base
- Greg reminded everyone of the Low Country Boil at the FRA - \$12/plate.
- Dorchester County is holding a Memorial Day Ceremony at 1000 at the County Building on Main St. Charleston Base has no participation in the event except attendance.
- Greg received all of the Base History items from George Scharf. We are in need of a Base Historian.

VA – Tom Lawson

- Nothing to report.

Vice Commander – Tom Lawson

- Nothing reported.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko

- Mike thanked everyone for attendance at the Amberjack/Lost Boats Ceremony.

Good of the Order**Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson**

- Not present.

After Battery – Ray Sparks

- Ray thanked those who were at Hog Roast. There were about 190 people on Saturday, April 27.
- Be sure to thank Dave and Johnny for their cooking.
- Ray recommended that we no longer support the Boy Scouts since they have changed the name of the organization and their policies.

Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko

- Nothing reported.

Base Member Moving

- Base Member Ray Bryant reported that he is getting married on June 6 and will be moving to either GA or TN. Fair Winds and Following Seas Shipmate!!

Drawings & Auctions

- Challenge Coin Drawing – Gordon Long would have won, but did not have a coin.
- FRA Drawing – Lewis Leal
- FRA Drawing – Rodney McKanna
- Depth Charge Drawing – Anthony Mazza. Donated all but his expense to Scholarship Fund.

Closing Ceremony

- Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.
- Base Commander Mike Ciesielko announced adjournment of the meeting with a sound of three blasts of the diving alarm.
- Meeting closed at 1953.