



Vol. 20 No. 02

February 2024

Newsletter of Charleston Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

Base Meeting:

Newsletter & Little David Phil Nunnally 843.518.8301

BOD: Feb 1, 2024

Membership: Feb 8, 2024

Location:

FRA Branch 269
Low Country Home
99 Wisteria Rd.
Goose Creek, SC



Base Commander	Mike Ciesielko	843.324.0011
Vice Commander	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282
Secretary	Gordon Long	843.214.2353
Treasurer	Ricky Collins	843.260.8299
Chief of the Boat	Anthony Mazza	912.322.8224
Chaplain	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
Webmaster	Nick Nichols	843.452.3189
Veterans Affairs	Tom Lawson	843.327.3282
Membership	Larry Knutson	843.860.1155
Scholarship	Carl Chinn	843.437.5515
Storekeeper	Woody Woodsmall	304.676.8356
Historian	VACANT	
Public Affairs	Dave Harvey	812.773.1312
Nuclear Historian	Rick Carlson	843.875.4030
Holland Club	Bill Freligh	843.729.3524
Social Media Coord	Lewis Leal	843.270.8870
Kaps for Kids	VACANT	
FRA Rep	Ken Hutchinson	843.793.4896
Base Photographer	Glenn Little	843.797.1867
Comptroller	Rick Wise	843.276.0899
Hunley/Housatonic	Tom Holcombe	843.514.1448
Patriots Point POC	Rusty Pickett	843.762.3888
Cold War Mem POC	Rodney McKanna	843.851.3415
Scout Recog Prog	Dick Koehler	843.553.2171
Recreation	Johnny Brown	843.276.8264
License Plate Coord	Ed Stank	843.568.2148
Special Events Coord	Tom Holcombe	843.514.1448

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Submarines lost during the month of November

USS Barbel (SS-316)	4 February 45	81 Souls Lost
USS Shark (SS-174)	11 February 42	59 Souls Lost
USS Amberjack (SS-219)	16 February 43	72 Souls Lost
USS Grayback (SS-208)	26 February 44	80 Souls Lost
USS Trout (SS-202)	29 February	81 Souls Lost

5 Boats and 373 Souls lost

USS Shark (SS-174) Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific

After having transported Admiral Hart and other officials from Manila to Surabaya on her first patrol, SHARK, commanded by Lt. Cdr. L. Shane, Jr. departed on 5 January 1942 for her second war patrol. She saw a torpedo, fired at her by an enemy submarine on 6 January, miss.

In anticipation of a possible enemy attack at Ambon Island, ComSubsAsiatic told SHARK to contact Dutch submarines at the harbor entrance of that island. On 25 January, SHARK was advised that heavy air raids on Ambon might indicate that an enemy landing force was moving toward the island.

Two days later SHARK was ordered to take station as part of a submarine group performing reconnaissance of a major enemy move south through Molukka passage. On 29 January, because another move toward Ambon was indicated, SHARK was ordered to cover the passage to the east of Lifometola. The next day this was enlarged to include the area to Banka Passage. On 2 February SHARK reported to Surabaya that she had been depth charged 10 miles off Tifore Island and that she had missed on one torpedo attack.

Five days later SHARK reported an empty enemy cargo ship heading northeast. In answer to these messages, Surabaya pointed out that such transmissions contained little information of use in appraising the situation, and that they might very possibly reveal to the enemy a position to avoid. No further messages were received from SHARK.

**USS Shark (SS-174)
Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk
by enemy surface craft in the Pacific**

She was told on 8 February to proceed to Makassar Strait via the north coast of Celebes, and later was told to report information. Nothing further was heard from SHARK and on 7 March she was reported as presumed lost.



**Upcoming Base Events
See www.ussvicb.org for details**

Upcoming Charleston Base Events

Board of Directors Meeting	Feb 1, 2024	FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek
Base Meeting	Feb 8, 2024 (Social Hour—1800)	FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek
H.L. Hunley / Housatonic Memorial service	Feb 17 (Details below)	Sunrise Presbyterian Church Sullivan's Island
FRA Breakfast	Feb 17 0900-1100	FRA Branch 269, Goose Creek

H.L. Hunley Memorial Invitation to all Submariners

The Confederate Heritages Trust, Inc. Hunley/Housatonic Memorial Service
Map to [Sunrise Presbyterian Church Sullivan's Island](#)

- February 17, 2024
- 1830 Muster at church
- 1900 Memorial begins
- We will be participating and will need volunteers
- Uniform will be Charleston Tuxedo (Blue blazer with dolphins, light blue shirt, dark or dolphin tie and khaki pants.)
- Please bring a warm coat and a small flashlight...it's usually cold & dark on the beach

Pictures below from last year's event



AN OLD FASHIONED NAVY BREAKFAST

Saturday - 17 February

0900 - 1100

\$10.00 per plate

Held at the FRA

View any updates at [269 Branch/Unit Upcoming Events \(fra269gc.org\)](http://269 Branch/Unit Upcoming Events (fra269gc.org))

Ken Hutchinson stated the SubVets were a major percentage of attendees at FRA Branch 269 events and is proud for us to continue that tradition



Low Country Branch 269

99 Wisteria Road, Goose
Creek, SC 29445



Low Country
Misfits



Proudly
Presents

An Old Fashion Navy Breakfast

Scrambled Eggs, Red SOS, Chipped Beef on Toast, Grits, Bacon, Sausage Links, Pancakes,
Biscuits, Fruit Cocktail, Milk, Coffee and Orange Juice

Saturday 17 February 2024

\$10 Per Plate

0900 Till 1100

**After Battery Future Events
Mark your calendars now**

CHARLESTON BASE SUBVETS OYSTER ROAST

- Saturday, March 16, 2024
- The After Battery
- 120 Sawdust Lane
- Dorchester, SC 29437

Base Provided:

Oysters, Frogmore Stew, Chili, Hot Dogs and Beverages

Please RSVP to Johnny.Brown@comcast.net with number of Oyster Eaters and number of Non-Oyster Eaters so we can have plenty for everyone. All are welcome to bring their favorite Oyster Roast side dish or dessert to share.

See details at [USSVICB Home Page](#)

After Battery Hog Roast Week

- Starting Tuesday April 16 through Friday April 19 daily events
- Saturday April 20 hog roast
- More details to come

After Battery Weekly Wednesday 1700 dinner

- Everyone is invited
- 120 Sawdust Lane, Dorchester, SC
- See details at [The After Battery Home](#)

The After Battery is located in the small town of Dorchester off HWY 78 between Summerville and St George. My wife Wendy was born and grew up in Dorchester

After Battery Hog Roast 2023



From the Editor
Contact me at newsletter@ussvicb.org

As we get into 2024, I continue to look for news articles that will either inform or inspire you BUT I continue to ask for your help with input.

This is our base newsletter, not mine, so I want to hear your comments and ideas. We have over 200 base members who together can provide a wealth of information

I will continue to look for articles locally and nationwide that affect our community and provide those details to you. Email the Newsletter if you find articles.

Important Information for You and your Loved Ones to Know

How to reach the Veterans Crisis Line

- Dial 988 Then Press 1
- Text message to 838255
- WWW.veteranscrisisline.net
- Confidential support 24/7/365

An extensive list of [VA Information](#) on our Base Website

[Death Notification Checklist](#) Located on our Base Website

Important Information for You and your Loved Ones to Know

This is some great information for you to make sure your family is aware of. Please share with them and other shipmates not in our base. The other thing I want to note is if you are signed up to login and handle your DFAS myPay online then you need to be sure that info is included in your important papers for your family after your passing.

The time surrounding the death of a loved one is a difficult period in anyone's life. In addition to grief, the time is full of uncertainties and change. At DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay, we realize that the status of pay and entitlements is one of those areas of uncertainty. Thanks for your feedback and ideas, we've made some improvements to help smooth the process for survivors and beneficiaries. We are pleased to announce that we've created a shareable PDF checklist for the process that follows the death of a retiree. The checklist includes all the pertinent information about the required forms and supporting documents, along with important reminders. The checklist also provides helpful tips on how to submit the documents to DFAS. You can find the "What to Do When a Military Retiree Dies" Checklist on our new Quick Tools page. The checklist can be found toward the top of the page: <https://www.dfas.mil/raqquicktools> We also added much more information to our webpage on DFAS.mil for reporting the death of a retiree and the next steps your family will need to take. For example, for survivors of military retirees who previously chose to cover one (or more) family members under the Survivor Benefit Plan, there are instructions for annuitants on how to claim and begin their SBP annuity. Report a Retiree's Death - <https://www.dfas.mil/retdeath>

Provided by email from Chaplain Nick Nichols.

Also Nick asks everyone to update your Page 2's.



January 11th Base Meeting



General Livingston, Medal Of Honor Recipient

January 19, 2024

We had a great turnout and the Sangaree Middle School band, orchestra, chorus and poetry readers were awesome!

Gen. Livingston's message to the Middle School was inspiring. I hoped they listened.



Election Year 2024

Our Webmaster and Chaplain Nick Nichols provided this information by email in January.

[Home - SC Votes - South Carolina Election Commission](#)



SOUTH CAROLINA

HOW TO VOTE IN THE 2024 PRIMARY ELECTIONS

KEY PRIMARY DATES

Democratic presidential

Early in-person voting:
Monday, Jan. 22, to Friday, Feb. 2

Absentee ballot request due:
Tuesday, Jan. 23

Primary day:
Saturday, Feb. 3

Republican presidential

Early in-person voting:
Monday, Feb. 12, to
Thursday, Feb. 22

Absentee ballot request due:
Tuesday, Feb. 13

Primary day:
Saturday, Feb. 24

State office and congressional

Early in-person voting:
Tuesday, May 28, to Friday, June 7

Absentee ballot request due:
Friday, May 31

Primary day:
Tuesday, June 11

SUBMARINER MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

The submarine community has eight Medal of Honor recipients. Starting this month I will detail one awardee each month.

HENRY BREault TORPEDOMAN SECOND CLASS

- CONFLICT/ERA: INTERIM 1920 - 1940
- UNIT/COMMAND: U.S. SUBMARINE 0-5
- MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. NAVY
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: OCTOBER 28, 1923
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: LIMON BAY, CANAL ZONE, PANAMA

For heroism and devotion to duty while serving on board the U.S. submarine 0-5 at the time of the sinking of that vessel. On the morning of 28 October 1923, the 0-5 collided with the steamship Abangarez and sank in less than a minute. When the collision occurred, Breault was in the torpedo room. Upon reaching the hatch, he saw that the boat was rapidly sinking. Instead of jumping overboard to save his own life, he returned to the torpedo room to the rescue of a shipmate who he knew was trapped in the boat, closing the torpedo room hatch on himself. Breault and Brown remained trapped in this compartment until rescued by the salvage party 31 hours later.

See more details at [Henry Breault | Interim 1920 - 1940 | U.S. Navy | Medal of Honor Recipient \(cmohs.org\)](https://cmohs.org)

HENRY BREAUT TORPEDOMAN SECOND CLASS



Old Fart Pride

- Old Farts are easy to spot at sporting events; during the playing of the National Anthem. Old Farts remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them.
- Old Farts remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 plus Peacekeeping Missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Vietnam.
- If you bump into an Old Fart on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an Old Fart on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Farts trust strangers and are courtly to women.
- Old Farts hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.
- Old Farts get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies.
- Old Farts have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren.
- It's the Old Farts who know our great country is protected, not by politicians, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.
- This country needs Old Farts with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country and decent values.
- We need them now more than ever. Thank God for Old Farts!
- Pass this on to all the "Old Farts" you know.
- I was taught to respect my elders....It's just getting harder to find them.

Provided by shipmate Jim Lewis

Return of the Pig Boats

Charleston Base Members, many of you remember the old website, PIGBOATS.COM. It has not been active for several years. That has now changed. Received this from The Lead Submariner blog and thought all of you would be interested.

The return of Pigboats.com - A Photographic Essay of United States Navy Submarines 1900-1940

Published by Mister Mac – Naval Chief Warrant Officer (retired), Submariner, Lean and Six Sigma Consultant, Master Trainer, Master Story Teller, Writer
View all posts by Mister Mac

Happy December!

If you are a fan of submarines (and who isn't) you will be happy to know that one of the granddaddies of all submarine sites is back up and running. The publishers have cleaned off the binnacles from the hull, topped off the fuel tanks and cleared the decks of all fouled gear.

I spent some time navigating around the updated site and was pleased to see the many new gadgets. It is easy to use and will be great for researching the history of our submarine force. There are a number of links to external submarine resources as well. SO, if you are seeking information for your own research, this is a great place to start.

Here is the link to the page:

[https://pigboats.com/index.php?title=Main Page](https://pigboats.com/index.php?title=Main_Page)

Thanks go to Ric Hedman & David Johnston for providing this great resource.



What's going on in politics?

Brandon L. Cox, Berkeley County State Representative, introduced HR 3115 in 2022 and is expected to reach a vote this year. Currently South Carolina provides a tax credit for VA disability ratings at 100%. This bill when, when passed, will allow all VA benefits to be extended to all disability ratings.

SECTION 1. Article 25, Chapter 6, Title 12 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

Section 12-6-3810. A veteran who has a disability rating issued by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs is allowed a nonrefundable income tax credit equal to the product of his disability rating percent and his income tax liability. However, the amount of the credit may not exceed five thousand dollars each year. The department may require documentation that it considers necessary to administer the credit

After politics, we all need a little humor



**United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., Charleston Base
Minutes of Business Meeting
9 November 2023**

Opening Ceremonies:

- The November 2023 Base Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Mike Ciesielko with a quorum of four officers and a total of 48 members. The meeting started at 1901 with the sound of the diving alarm.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Vice Commander Tom Lawson and recited by the members in attendance.
- The Invocation and the Tolling of the Boats lost during the month of November was given by Base Chaplain Nick Nichols.
- Submarines lost during the month of November:

- ♦ **USS ALBACORE (SS-218) November 7, 1944 - 11th
War Patrol Lost with all hands - 85 souls**
- ♦ **USS GROWLER (SS-215) November 8, 1944 - 12th
War Patrol Lost with all hands - 86 souls**
- ♦ **USS SCAMP (SS-277) November 16, 1944 - 8th
War Patrol Lost with all hands - 83 souls**
- ♦ **USS CORVINA (SS-226) November 16, 1943 - 1st
War Patrol Lost with all hands - 82 souls**
- ♦ **USS SCULPIN (SS-191) November 19, 1943 - 9th
War Patrol Lost with 43 souls - 41
became POWs - 21 survived the war
5 Boats and 399 Men Lost**

**Torpedoman's Mate Senior Chief, Submarines
Richard Keith Sparger, USN Retired
Departed on Eternal Patrol on October 28, 2023**

FRA PRESENTATION:

Ken Hutchison (SubVets and FRA269 President) recognized FRA Leadership in attendance and introduced Laurie Bailey. She presented Nick Nichols with a Letter of Appreciation for his development of the new FRA269 web-site.

PATRIOTIC PROGRAM:

- Ralph Rhorssen introduced Steve Jones (Formerly at Stratford High School and now at Sangaree Middle)
- Steve Jones spoke about the Ralph Johnson Medical Center and the Medal of Honor Hallway at Stratford HS. After putting up 80 posters of men who had received this award (many posthumously), he contacted the Medal of Honor Society. General Livingston agreed to hold a dedication ceremony at Stratford in 2022. Steve Jones is currently teaching SC History at Sangaree Middle School. General Livingston has agreed to come speak to the children at that school. The event will be January 19, 2024 at 1000. All Charleston Base members were invited to attend as a guest of Steve Jones and the Principal of Sangaree Middle School.

Introductions of New Attendees:

- Two men were present at the Base meeting for the first time:
 - ◊ James (JD) Dendy – MSC – Qualified on USS Thomas Jefferson SSN618 – October 1981 – Also served aboard USS Stonewall Jackson SSBN634, USS Cincinnati SSN693, and USS Boise SSN764.
 - ◊ Wyatt Simmons – MS1 – Qualified on Tecumseh SSBN6228 – 1982

Old Business:

- 2024 BUDGET – Base Comptroller Rick Wise reviewed the budget. It had been posted on the Base Website for several weeks. Nick Nichols made a motion to accept the budget with several seconds. Motion carried.

New Business:

- NEW COB – With Rick Sparger's departure on Eternal Patrol, Johnny Brown was Interim COB. Base Commander Mike Ciesielko introduced Anthony Mazza as the new COB. Thank you Anthony for taking this position.
- We need someone to take the office of Special Events Coordinator.

Secretary – Gordon Long:

- The Minutes from the October Base Meeting were emailed directly to the entire Base membership and, published on the Base Website. There were no revisions. The October Base Meeting Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer – Ricky Collins:

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

Honorary Member:

- We are thankful to have Casey Power in attendance from Atlanta this evening.

Chaplain – Nick Nichols:

• Highlighted boat of the month:

- ◊ USS CORVINA SS-226 was lost on November 16, 1943 with loss of 82 men when she was sunk just south of Truk. After topping off with fuel at Johnston Island, she left and was never heard from again. Corvina was on her 1st war patrol and appears she was lost to the torpedoes of a Japanese submarine.

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

- **Erica Ciesielko, 34, daughter of Mike & Dawn**, passed away on Friday, 20 October, at home. A memorial service was held for her at the FRA on Saturday, 4 Nov. There were 13 SUBVETS and 9 wives in attendance.
- **Rick Sparger** went to SMC on Oct. 5th and diagnosed with sepsis on his kidney. He got home on the 16th and was feeling much better. He was taking IV through a PICC. On Saturday morning Oct 28th, Kit found him on the floor passed away. The memorial service was held on Sunday, Nov 5th at 1400 at Parks Funeral Home in Summerville. Burial was private. There were 61 SUBVETS, 21 wives, 12 FRA members along with 10 active-duty Sailors from NNPTC. There was standing room only. Rick had a Page 2 on file.
- **Francis Shepherd, 94, Fred Woodley's brother-in-law**, passed away in Michigan on Tuesday 31 Oct. Francis was a Korean War Veteran.
- **Margaret Rogers, wife of Linn Rogers (EP:2020)**, passed away on Nov. 6th.
- **Barbara Lisle, wife of George Lisle (EP:2009)**, passed away on Nov. 5th.
- **James Graham Sr.** had surgery this morning to remove the plates that were put in his foot during the earlier foot surgery

- **Tom Clark** had a biopsy for a spot on his kidney. The main cancer is aggressive Type B lymphoma growing around T8 and T9. Too much intermingled with T8 and T9 and spinal cord to consider surgery – chemo only. Had first round of chemo yesterday and feels really weak. Fortunately, as a designated “old fart” the chemo mix was toned down to account for age – and is expected to work for him. Getting a “port” installed on the 27th, then chemo every three weeks and rescan for a while. A kidney looks to be involved too, at this point waiting to see how that responds to the chemo as well. Prospects are good! Interesting side note – the steroid reduces pain and cancer, but causes hiccups. Big internal feel in your tummy. Solution? Eat Peanut Butter and they greatly lessen. Whoda thunk?
- **John Furst** has developed a Pancreatic Divisum and **santorinicele** which is cystic dilatation of a duct in the pancreas. This was caused by an undiagnosed birth defect. Arthroscopic surgery was used to install a Stent and remove the cyst. Two months later, they had to remove the Stent. That was last year. In January of this year, he suffered a stroke which affected the left eye. He could not see clearly for a couple of days and his right eye would not move for a few days. His vision has since returned to normal. He has lost at least 50% of his strength on his left side and is going to physical therapy to help regain strength and balance. He is now having the same Pancreatic problem that he suffered last year. The doctor said that it may return. Waiting to get an appointment.
- **Rick & Colleen Collins** are the proud grandparents of Amelia Grace Moser, 8 lbs 2 oz born Sunday Oct 8, 2023. Parents are Geoff & Sarah Moser. Sarah is Rick’s daughter. After spending some extra time in the hospital, Sarah and baby Ameilia are both home and doing well.
- **Marvin Miller** was hospitalized for a broken Hip socket Sept. 17th. Surgery was successful. He is now at Presbyterian Villages of Summerville Rm R5 for rehab. His phone number is 843-594-0170 He is doing better. Went to the doctor this past Tuesday and he was able to maneuver from his wheelchair to the table for his scan by himself. He couldn't have done that two weeks ago. Scan was good and the wound is healing nicely. He is having some intestinal problems but is hoping he can get his strength up to where he can go home soon.
- **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** is still at the VICTORY HOUSE in Walterboro. His phone number is 843.809.9417.

Webmaster – Nick Nichols:

- Lou Leal volunteered and was appointed to be the National Point of Contact with the base.
- 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>

Social Media – Lewis Leal:

- Nothing to report

Membership – Larry Knutson

- Annual Dues are due!! If you are one of the 80 unpaid Annual Members, then NOW IS THE TIME!!
- Members can send Larry a check made out to “USSVI”. Larry’s address is on the Base website.
- The report from Nick Nichols provided Base Standings [those with more than 200 members]:
- Groton 1169 - 2) Hampton Roads 283 - 3) Charleston 256 - 4) Bremerton 245

Hunley Coordinator – Tom Holcombe

- Not present

National Awards – Mike Ciesielko

- Nothing to report

VA – Tom Lawson

- Nothing to report

Scholarship – Carl Chinn

- Toast to Rick Sparger for all his work as COB and as Scholarship Committee member.
- The Rummage sale will be held on November 18. Halloween Express on Old Trolley Rd. Carl will be there at 0500 to start setting up. Got stuff? Bring it out! Anything not sold by 1 pm will be taken to the nearby thrift store.
- The Scholarship Committee currently has a raffle in progress for two tickets to the Glen Miller Orchestra concert at the Charleston Music Hall. The drawing will be held at the January Base Meeting.
- The print of the Hunley Crew was donated to the Confederate Museum.
- So far, memorial donations for Rick Sparger to the Scholarship Committee have totaled \$650.
- Gerry Starr also donated \$1000 to the Scholarship fund.
- Carl requested help for to get a BBQ grill to the Rummage Sale that John Lookabill wants to donate.

Recreation – Johnny Brown

- Johnny reported that a great time was had at the cookout at Marrington in October. Johnny thanked those involved in the cooking and clean-up of the event. We can't do these things without a lot of help. If you were not there, you missed out.
- The Base Christmas Party will be held at the FRA on Friday, December 1 beginning at 1700.

Fleet Reserve Association – Ken Hutchison

- The FRA will be sponsoring the Southeast Regional Convention as will be holding several fund raisers between now and October 2024. The first will be a BBQ on Veterans Day at FRA269.
- Ken noted that the relationship between the FRA and SubVets are intertwined, but he believes that we need to work together even closer. If you are not a member of "The Fleet", JOIN!

Nuclear Power School Awards – Phil Nunnally

- The next NPS graduation will be December 22.

Newsletter – Phil Nunnally

- Phil wants to get people more familiar with the Base members – especially those who are not the officers.
- If you have something that you would like put out, send it to newsletter@ussvicb.org.
- Phil would like to get some Sea Stories to publish in the Newsletter.
- If you have ideas for the Newsletter, please contact Phil.

Little David – Phil Nunnally

- Nothing reported.

PAO – Dave Harvey

- Has sent a letter to Colonel Freeman about the material condition at Mar-rington.
- Dave wants information about the organizations or work that Rick Sparger has been involved with so that he can get it published in American Subma-riner.

Convention Coordinator – ED Stank

- It will not happen next year as it would need to be done by March 2024.

License Plate Coordinator – ED Stank

- It costs \$6800 (non-refundable) to get started. Ed sent a letter to Senator Grooms in Columbia but has not heard back as yet. There are six bases in SC to coordinate with as well.

Hunley Memorial – Lindsay Nelson

- Nothing to report.

NNPTC Liaison – Anthony Mazza

- Nothing reported

Storekeeper – Woody Woodsmall

- Not present

COB – Johnny Brown

- Nothing to report

Special Events – Johnny Brown

- The Goose Creek Christmas Parade is December 9. Have not received paperwork yet. Will put the float together at 0800 for a start time of 0930.

Vice Commander – Tom Lawson

- Thanked Chaplain Nick Nichols for his work to support Charleston Base.

Base Commander – Mike Ciesielko

- Nothing to report

Good of the Order

Nuclear Historian – Rick Carlson

- Not present.

After Battery – Ray Sparks

- The Hog Roast will be April 20-27. This is the 20th Anniversary of The After Battery. Mark your calendars.
- We will have special T-Shirts this year. You can get any color that you want as long as it is navy blue.

Tolling of the Lost Boats – Rick Wise

- On Veterans Day, we will do a Tolling of the Boats at Coastal Coffee Roasters in Summerville.
- Feel free to come. They will have BBQ and feed you.

Gun Club – Mike Ciesielko

- Trying to get Palmetto State Armory to come to the January Base Meeting to show us what they have.
- Wants to schedule a shoot for the middle of January.

Non-Nuclear Historian – Harry Nettles

- Not present

WWII Ceremony – Ken Hutchison

- The ceremony starts at 1100. This is a VFW sponsored event that Charleston Base is participating in for the very first time. Be there no later than 1000, as it is crowded event.

Drawings & Auctions

Challenge Coin – Greg Landry won a bottle of Canadian Club

- FRA Drawing – Nick Nichols
- Depth Charge Drawing – David Taylor

Closing Ceremony

- Chaplain Nick Nichols led the group in a prayer of Benediction.
- Base Commander Mike Ciesielko announced adjournment of the meeting.
- Vice Commander Tom Lawson sounded three blasts of the diving alarm.
- Meeting closed at 2001.