

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, Aug 11, 2012**

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1100 on Aug 11, 2012 at the American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Alan Amos, Dex Armstrong, Debbie Bishop, Steve Bishop, Art Bivens, Paul Boyne, Capt Brougham (guest speaker PMS 397) , Tom Brougham (speaker's father) Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Doris Faber, Steve Jaeger, Karl Kaufman, Richard Lowry, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Mike Murphy, Lisa Murphy, Mike Naughton (District Commander), Mary Naughton, Paul Nelson, Terry Nelson, Tom Perrault, Willie Petruy, Gary Smith, Ray Stone, David Tellet, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Tina Wujick . (31 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The COB, Dex Armstrong, 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 August. These were:

USS Bullhead (SS-332)	Aug 6, 1945
USS Flier (SS-250)	Aug 13, 1944
USS S-39 (SS-144)	Aug 14, 1942
USS Harder (SS-257)	Aug 24, 1944
USS Cochino (SS-345)	Aug 26, 1949
USS Pompano (SS-181)	Aug 29, 1943

GUEST SPEAKER

CAPT Brougham, Program Manager for the Ohio Replacement Program (PMS 397) spoke on the history of the SSBN fleet, submarine rescue systems, the need for the Ohio Replacement Program, and the current status of the Ohio Replacement Program. Designing the new ship and its systems for automating manufacturing should the save the taxpayers money and still deliver the needed submarines. At the end of his prepared talk the Captain and his two senior staff members, Tina Wujick (deputy) and David Tellet (naval architect), answered questions from the members. At the conclusion, the Captain's father said he had learned more from his son's talk today on what his son does for the Navy than his son had ever told him before. The Base CDR presented the Captain with a Pride Runs Deep challenge coin to thank him for today's briefing.

HISTORICAL MOMENT

Our Base Historian, Richard Lowry, presented a short synopsis of the demise of the USS Grunion (SS-216) . The ship was lost off the Aleutian Islands, near Kiska Island, Alaska. The ship may have been a casualty of its own circling torpedo. The submarine was found in the Bering Sea in August 2007.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the June meeting were distributed by e-mail. There was no base meeting in July as we marched in the Lorton July 4th parade instead. Minutes of the June meeting were approved by the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented the following:

Starting balance: \$ 4,401.99

Ending balance: \$ 4,373.62 as of August 11, 2012.

Treasurer's report was approved by the membership.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Base Commander summarized the discussion at the recent Executive Board meeting, including: 1. Vice Commander Paul Nelson is coordinating the induction of two base members into the Holland Club. Bruce Miller's father will be inducted at the National Convention in Norfolk, and Lee Turner will be inducted at our Base ceremony at PJ Skidoo's restaurant in Fairfax, VA on November 10, 2012. 2. Base Commander will temporarily take on the Base newsletter and Base website responsibilities after he retires from his real job. 3. Discussion was held on potential guest speakers for next year's programs. 4. Potential By laws revisions and establishing the Nominating Committee for next year's officer nominations will be discussed at the August EXCOM. and 5. The next EXCOM meeting will be held on August 29th.

Membership Report by Steve Jaeger: 87 members.

COB: Dex has seen Rod Puffer and reports he is not doing well.

Public Relations / Veterans: Nothing to report.

Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) Steve Bishop announced that our next visit to Fairfax Hospital's pediatric oncology ward will be in October, 2012 during the week following our regularly scheduled Oct 13th meeting. He mentioned that Joe Phoenix had contributed money to the Base's Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) effort . Anyone else wanting to contribute to this cause can write a tax deductible check to USSVI NOVA Base to help defray the costs of the pink and blue "honorary submariner" ball caps we provide to these special kids. We are one of about 85 USSVI bases that participate in this national program to visit local area hospitals.

SUBLEAGUE: The CDR announced that the fall NSL Symposium will be held October 17 and 18.

District Commander Mike Naughton: Mike announced that the USSVI national elections are in progress and the American Submariner has the ballot and amendment information- please vote. The District USSVI convention will be in Dover, DE on October 5 and 6, 2012.

There were no other officer reports.

OLD BUSINESS

We still have NOVA Base business cards for your use in recruiting new members.

A submarine social / dinner was held at Neighbor's restaurant in Vienna on July 21st. Seventeen members and guests were there for dinner, drinks, and authorized submarine movie / promotional videos.

September's USSVI Convention will be in Norfolk – Sign up at the USSVI national website. If the Marriott hotel is full when you book your room, the Sheraton is directly across the street.

RADM Mike Yurina has confirmed that he will be our guest speaker for the Holland Club luncheon at PJ Skidoos in Fairfax on Nov 10, 2012.

USSVI acknowledged the Base's donation to the Memorial Plaque or "Plaque" as indicated in their letter to us.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Start planning for the 2014 Memorial Day Parade in Wash DC - it's the 50th anniversary of the USSVI.
2. News from National: The elections allow you to vote on line or by paper ballot found in the American Submariner. Several clarifications have been sent out from National.
3. Pictures of you when you served and now (head shots preferred) are requested to be posted at the USSVI website. If you forward your picture(s) to Howard Chatham, he will cause them to be uploaded for you.
4. George Wallace announced that his second book, "Firing Point" is published and now available for sale in bookstores and on Amazon.com.
5. Ray Stone will be donating a full set of DVD's on the series "Silent Service" to the National USSVI at the convention.
6. The base CDR asked for any issues members had that could be forwarded to National USSVI for the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in Norfolk. Paul Boyne brought up the Project 589 and his concern for the re-opening of the investigation into the cause of the loss of the USS Scorpion. Members Paul Boyne, Ray Stone, and Richard Lowry spoke on the merits of asking USSVI to support requesting the US Navy to re-open the investigation in as much as newer technologies are now available to conduct such a search and investigation. The base membership approved this request. **Post meeting update:** The Base CDR sent the Base's Scorpion request to USSVI national, copy to all base members by e-mail, it was added to the agenda for the Annual Business Meeting, and approved overwhelmingly but the attendees at the convention.
7. 2013 USSVI calendars are now available for \$11.95.
8. All SSBNs were awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation (MUC) for service from 7/16/07 to 1/28/11.
9. There has been some online hacking of the USSVI National website, so if you haven't voted, you can do so with the printed ballots available in your American Submariner magazine.

The Binnacle List currently includes:

Rod Puffer; Joe Phoenix; Cathy Chatham; Lorraine Sargent; and Ralph Chatham.

Please include the families of the following in your prayers: former CNO Admiral Watkins; Admiral Tindal; and Paul Southwick.

For the Good of the Order, the CDR read the list of birthdays for August: Steve Bishop, Francis Burke, Sue Maruzo, Joe Phoenix, Lorraine Sargent, Mike Varone, and Bill Waylett.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Penny Wallace, who donated the winnings back to the Base, earmarked for the Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) program. THANK YOU!!

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

The CDR adjourned the meeting at 12:44 PM .

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