

**MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE
MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, Oct 13, 2018**

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1100 on Oct 13, 2018 at American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Bishop, **Debbie Bishop**, **Cathy Chatham**, Howard Chatham, Bill Clement, **Bob Glover**, Brian Haller, **Pat Haller**, **Denise Harrower**, Steve Jaeger, **Darlene Jaeger**, **guest speaker Jim Kuiken**, **Alyssa LaHanier**, **Lance LaHanier**, **Jackson LaHanier**, Chuck Martin, **Ed Mattran**, **Paul Nelson**, Mike Niblack, **Joe Phoenix**, **Marie Phoenix**, **Mike Varone**, and **Woody Woodworth**. (23 total)

■ **Holland Club Member**

■ **Associate Member**

■ **Guest**

The Chief of the Boat, Mike Varone, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Base Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation.

After a moment of silence, The Base Treasurer read the list of boats lost in the month of October. These were:

USS Seawolf (SS-197).....	Oct 03, 1944
USS S-44 (SS-155)	Oct 07, 1943
USS Wahoo (SS-238)	Oct 11, 1943
USS Dorado (SS-248).....	Oct 12, 1943
USS Escolar (SS-294).....	Oct 17, 1944
USS Shark (SS-314)	Oct 24, 1944
USS Darter (SS-227).....	Oct 24, 1944
USS Tang (SS-306).....	Oct 25, 1944
USS O-5 (SS-66).....	Oct 29, 1923

The Chief of the Boat tolled the bell twice in Remembrance of the 25 USSVI NOVA Base members on Eternal Patrol.

In Memoriam:

CAPT Kurt MacGregor Trautman, USN, Ret. – 6/19/18

CAPT Ernest J. “Zeke” Zellmer, USN, Ret. – 8/27/18

CAPT Charles W. Stone, Jr. USN, Ret. – 8/28/18

RDML Thomas J. Porter, USN, Ret. – 8/28/18

Jack C. Ford – 9/3/18

CAPT Richard “Hass” Moyer, USN, Ret. -- 09/07/18

CAPT Duane F. Greenhoe, USN, Ret. – 9/15/18

HISTORIAN:

Woody Woodworth presented an historical moment about the USS Wahoo (SS 238):

Transcribed from page 338, in the “Lost Boats” section of U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS, WORLD WAR II, VOLUMN IV

WAHOO was one of the Submarine Force's most valuable units during her seven patrols, and her feats have become submarine legend. She sank 27 ships, totaling 119,100 tons, and damaged two more, weighing 24,900 tons, in the six patrols completed before her loss.

WAHOO returned to Pearl Harbor from her sixth war patrol on 29 August 1943 with the dejected air peculiar to a highly successful submarine which suddenly could not make her torpedoes run true. In twenty-eight days away from port, seven of them spent in her assigned area in the Sea of Japan, WAHOO had expended ten torpedoes in nine attacks without inflicting any damage on the enemy. Her skipper Cdr. D.W. Morton, returned to port to have the torpedoes changed or checked, and requested that WAHOO be sent back to the Japan Sea for her seventh patrol.

On 9 September, WAHOO again departed Pearl. She topped off with fuel at Midway and left there on 13 September heading for the dangerous but important Japan Sea. WAHOO was enter the Japan Sea about 20 September. She was to head South and remain below 43 degrees North after 23 September, and below 40 degrees North after 26 September. SAWFISH was to follow WAHOO, entering the Japan Sea about 23 September and patrolling the area north of WAHOO.

No transmission was received from WAHOO, either by any shore station or by SAWFISH, nor was she sighted by SAWFISH after she left Midway. She had orders to clear her area not later than sunset 21 October 1943, and to report by radio after passing through the Kurile Island chain en route to Midway. This report was expected about 23 October, but Midway waited in vain. By 30 October, apprehension was felt for WAHOO's safety and an aircraft search along her expected course was arranged. When this revealed nothing, WAHOO was reported missing on 9 November, 1943.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the September 2018 meeting were previously distributed by e-mail. There were no comments or corrections and were accepted as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, reported that:

• Beginning Cash on Hand	\$	8,180.84
• Receipts:	\$	85.00
- Revenue-Sale of Items		
- Revenue-Raffles (50/50)		
- Donations-Base		
• Expenditures:	\$	405.58
- Base Meeting Expenses (Dixie Bones Luncheon)		
• Ending Sub-Total	\$	7860.26
- Minus Remaining Walmart Grant rest. use funds		(\$1,169.40)
• Grand Total (Discretionary)	\$	6,690.86
• NOVA USSVICF K4K Total:	\$	922.44

MEMBERSHIP

NOVA Base has 80 members

- 40 Holland Club members
 - o 3 World War II members
- 30 Regular members
- 10 Associate members

CHAPLAIN REPORT

- Art Dunn went on Eternal Patrol on 29 Sep 2018
 - o Date Born: 3/29/1946
 - o USSVI Base Memberships: Redfish and NORTHERN VIRGINIA
 - o Joined USSVI: 2001
 - o Boats Served on: AS-37, SS-341Qualified in submarines on the USS Chivo (SS-341) in 1970 and was a CAPT when he left the Navy.

- Darlene Jaeger's mother, Genevieve Johler, will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery on 24 OCT 2018. Attendees should meet at the Ft Myer Old Post Chapel at 1200 for a 1245 service and follow-on procession to the Columbarium. Reception to follow at the Carlyle America Restaurant, 4000 Campbell Ave Arlington, VA 22206. **Please RSVP/ notify the Jaegers at penutjoe@verizon.net if you plan to attend the reception.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Base CDR summarized the discussion at the **Executive Board** meeting held on October 3rd, including:

- Membership
- The 2019 Base budget
- K4K plans
- Base website
- NJROTC program
- Scouting Recognition program
- 2019 Base Officer Election

VCDR: Nothing to report (NTR)

COB: NTR

Public Relations: Mike Varone reported:

- Delegate Timothy Hugo and former Delegate Rich Anderson are in discussions to propose a bill in the 2019 VA General Assembly to name a road or bridge honoring U.S. Submarine Veterans. Delegate Hugo has the naming request on his list but there's a big tax bill in the works. If Del. Hugo cannot get to it, he will pass the naming request to a veteran in the General Assembly.

Veterans Affairs: Bill Clement reported that he and his wife have been out of the country while staying in Germany and Belgium in multiple lodgings for retired military. He would rate the lodgings with an “A”, but Space Available air travel is rated by him at only a “C minus” due to long waits and delays.

The Base CDR reported: The TRICARE Health Benefits and Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) open season for enrolling is from Nov 12 through Dec 10.

Storekeeper: Howard Chatham reported that he:

- Is taking orders for 2019 USSVI Calendars. Deliveries will begin several weeks after our orders are submitted. Calendar theme for 2019 is "Submarine Squadrons of the Atlantic Fleet".
- Has multiple 2018 USSVI Calendars' photos on the tables for you to take with you.
- Also has several submarine stickers and multiple USSVI NOVA Base patches for sale.

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

- Our recent visit was to:
 - Fairfax INOVA Children's Hospital in Falls Church, VA on October 10, 2018.
- Our next visit is to:
 - Walter Reed National Medical Center in Bethesda, MD on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 10:30 AM. Contact Steve Bishop at 703-895-8137 if you would like to join them. Park at the NEX garage and we will meet in Building 10/Eagle at 10:15.
- We provide to each child we visit a nice folder containing the “Honorary Submariner” certificate, instructions on arranging a submarine tour, a submarine-themed word search puzzle, a map of all submarine museums in the US, a USSVI NOVA K4K Coloring Book , as well as the Kap or Beanie or Do-Rag, and a challenge coin.

Scouting Coordinator

- Recent Eagle Scout Court of Honors: None
- Upcoming Eagle Scout Court of Honors: Eagle Scout Connor Given on Friday October 19, 2018 at 1900 in Gainesville, VA. Contact either the COB or CDR if you wish to attend the Court of Honor.

NJROTC/School Program Coordinator: Chuck Martin reported:

- Potomac Senior High School NJROTC is hosting their annual drill meet on 20 Oct 2018, we are looking for volunteers to assist again this year. Your help was greatly appreciated last year. It is the same format as last year's drill meet. Judges' brief will commence at 0730.
- Potomac Senior High School is at 3401 Panther Pride Dr Dumfries, VA 22026

Submarine League: The Base CDR reported:

- Upcoming NSL Events
 - 2018 Annual Symposium will be held 7-8 November at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA. Plan now to attend. To register go to

<https://www.navalsubleague.org/events/annual-symposium/> or open the NSL website (<https://www.navalsubleague.org/>) and click on the Events button followed by the Annual Symposium link. To make a reservation, use this link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/NSL36thAnnualSymposium>

- 2019 Submarine Technology Symposium will be held May 14-16, 2019.
- DC Area Submarine Community Fall Social will be held Friday November 16, 2018 at the Ft. Myer Officers Club.
- NSL Library –NSL has increased its library space and would be grateful if all NSL and USSVI members who have written books, especially if they involve submarines, would send a complimentary copy to the office for the library. Autographed copies would be even more exciting! Their mailing address is 1737 King St., Suite 600, Alexandria, VA 22314.

2018 USSVI National Election Results – Base CDR reported:

- National Commander:
 - Wayne Standerfer 1293 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 21 votes
 - **Elected: Wayne Standerfer**
- National Senior Vice-Commander
 - Jon Jaques 1284 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 16 votes
 - **Elected: Jon Jaques**
- National Junior Vice-Commander
 - Steve Bell 1291 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 17 votes
 - **Elected: Steve Bell**
- National Treasurer
 - Paul Hiser 1292 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 15 votes
 - **Elected: Paul Hiser**
- National Secretary
 - Ray Wewers 1281 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 9 votes
 - **Elected: Ray Wewers**
- Northeast Regional Director
 - Les Altschuler 241 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 4 votes
 - **Elected: Les Altschuler**
- Southeast Regional Director
 - Ken Nichols 278 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 2 votes
 - **Elected: Ken Nichols**
- Central Region Director
 - Tom Williams 383 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 13 votes
 - **Elected: Tom Williams**

- Western Region Director
 - Jim Denzien 383 votes
 - Write-in Candidates 8 votes
 - **Elected: Jim Denzien**
- Approve Proposed Revision to Constitution and Bylaws
 - Yes 1181 votes
 - No 156 votes
 - **Proposal passes**
- **Congratulations to the newly elected USSVI National Officers!**

2019 USSVI NOVA Base Election – Base CDR reported:

- Ballots for the 2019 USSVI NOVA Base Elections will be distributed at the November meeting and emailed to Base members after the meeting. Each member has the option of voting electronically or by paper. Ballots must be received by the Election Master by 1100 on December 8, 2018. The following positions will be on the ballot:
 - Base Commander
 - Base Vice Commander
 - Base Secretary
 - Base Treasurer
- Current Nominees are:
 - Base Commander – Chuck Martin
 - Base Vice Commander –
 - Base Secretary – Steve Bishop
 - Base Treasurer – Steve Jaeger

Votes will be counted and the results announced during the Base meeting on December 8th

OLD BUSINESS:

- ARIZONA SILENT SERVICE MEMORIAL PROJECT – Potential support includes purchase of pavers (4X8 - \$100, 3 lines; 8X8 - \$200, 6 lines) or sponsor a Lost Boat for \$500. To learn more about this project, please visit their website at www.arizonasilentservicememorial.org
- USSVI Scholarship Fundraiser – Frank Hood, Vice CDR of USSVI Marblehead Base has published a book titled "Poopie Suits and Cowboy Boots" that is about the day-to-day life aboard a US Navy submarine. All proceeds go to the USSVI Scholarship Fund. Our COB Mike Varone has read the book and he recommends it.
- The 2018 USSVI National Convention Caribbean Cruise Registration is still open! You may register and obtain more information by going to <http://www.ussvi-convention.org/2018/>
 - Convention/Caribbean Cruise is scheduled for October 21, 2018 through October 28, 2018.
 - The cruise will be departing from the Port of Ft. Lauderdale and making port calls to Half Moon Cay, Bahamas; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Cozumel, Mexico then returning to Ft. Lauderdale.

NEW BUSINESS

- The premier of ‘Hunter Killer’ is Friday October 26, 2018. You can watch the movie trailer at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnP_z3qXDCQ. The movie is based on the book, Firing Point, by George Wallace and Don Keith. The original book “Firing Point” is being re-titled and released as “Hunter Killer”.
- Upcoming submarine reunions include:
 - USS Barracuda (WAS K-1/SSK-1) – 10/16-20
 - USS Mackeral (SST1) – 10/16-20
 - USS Marlin (SST 2) – 10/16-20
 - USS Diablo (SS 479) – 10/20-24 Mt. Pleasant, SC
 - USS Batfish (SSN 681) – 10/24-28 Charleston, SC
 - USS Abraham Lincoln (SSBN 602) – 10/25-27 Kenosha, WI
 - USS Trumpetfish (SS 425) – 10/25-29 Summerville, SC
 - USS Sabalo (SS 302) – 11/11-14 San Diego, CA

The Binnacle List Please keep the following in your prayers: Susan Frick, Barbara Harmody, Tom Perrault, Tony Poblete, Lorraine Sargent, and Ray Stone.

For the Good of the Order, the Secretary read the list of birthdays for October: Al Anceravage, Louise Decker, Mike Kwiecien, Lou Maruzo, Ed Mattran, George Wallace, and the US Navy.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Chuck Martin who donated his winnings back to the Base. THANK YOU!!

The Benediction was delivered by the Base Chaplain.

The next meeting will be held on November 10, 2018, at American Legion Post 162 at 1100. Our guest speaker will be CAPT Keith Baravik, Program Manager, PMS 399

The CDR adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

After a short break, we assembled to hear our guest speaker, Sergeant Major Jim Kuiken, USMC (ret). At 1204, the Base CDR introduced Jim and his service dog Freedom:

Jim Kuiken

Served in the Marine Corps for 30 years 1973-2003 (Active & Reserve), retired from last post as the Force Sergeant Major of Marine Forces Pacific (the largest combatant command in the Marine Corps) during Operation Enduring Freedom Decorated, combat-wounded veteran of multiple wars/conflicts, from operations at the end of Vietnam, to the Gulf War, Bosnia, Kosovo, Operation Enduring Freedom and various others.



Awarded: Legion of Merit; Purple Heart; 3 Combat Action Ribbons

Civilian career spans over 30 years in law enforcement (state, local & federal), working drugs, gangs, counterterrorism and more, culminating as a Director (Senior Executive Service SES-6) with U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Appointed as the DHS Attaché and Country Director in Iraq, a diplomatic post (2005-2006), and subsequently, as Regional Director for the Middle East and Africa

Former Corporate Executive: Vice President of a mid-sized defense contractor, and later, President & CEO of two other Companies

Former Candidate for US Congress (TX-15)

Jim started by saying that he has a nephew who is a submariner. Jim served aboard the submarine tender USS Proteus (AS-19) in Guam from 1973-1977. He was delighted to speak today before submariners, some of his favorite American warriors. After retiring from his military and government law enforcement jobs, he has focused his energies on writing books, writing blogs, speaking to groups like ours today, and advocacy on the Hill on behalf of returning service members with medical and psychological issues who have left the service and have then been overlooked and forgotten by the federal government.

Regarding suicides of returning service members, the Veterans Administration (VA) has only about 30% of all service members in their data base. **Within that data base, there are some 22 suicides per day reported by the VA.** To put that number in perspective, **in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars over several years, we lost a total of 6700 US service members killed in action. However, 22 suicides per day yields more than 8000 US deaths per year to suicide alone.**

The suicide rate is lower for submariners than it is for ground soldiers and Marines. Jim is trying to assist many of those struggling with suicidal tendencies every day.

On a subject very relevant to submariners, Jim is an advocate for obtaining federal benefits for those submariners affected by Agent Orange on **Guam. If you served on a submarine or tender in Guam from 1966 to 1980, then you have been exposed to 19 ppm Agent Orange on Guam whereas Vietnam soldiers only had 10 ppm Agent Orange contamination.** Those who served ashore in Vietnam already get health benefits for Agent Orange exposure. We do not – YET.

Jim is advocating on the Hill to get Congress to acknowledge the scientific facts already on record that clearly show the military used burned fuel oil laced with Agent Orange to kill vegetation on the Island of Guam for more than 15 years on the Naval Base, in the forests, around all beaches and athletic fields, and along the entire fuel line leading from the USAF's Andersen Air base up north to the Navy's Apra harbor in the south to kill vegetation. This is much like VDOT spraying the sides of our roads today to kill vegetation around the guardrails (the grass turns brown from the petroleum product spray.) The residual drained into the two aquifers used for drinking water by all residents on the island.

If you drank water while on Guam, your body has been polluted with Agent Orange. It should be noted that the partial pressure of Agent Orange is less than that of water, so in a submarine or tender still or evaporator, the making of pure water from harbor water in a still / evaporator actually concentrates the Agent Orange and makes the dose of Agent Orange go up in the end product.

Senator Johnny Isakson, current Veterans Affairs committee chair, has been the big roadblock to getting veterans health protection for this Agent Orange health debacle on Guam. It seems the “Pay for” account is related to home mortgages and some time (20 years) ago he was a real estate agent and company executive for 22 years in Georgia..... ARGGGH. Jim refers us to the report, “Agent Orange Survivors of Guam” by Brian Moyer. Google it to read it.

During the lengthy Q&A session, Jim was asked “What was the hardest thing he had to do in the military?” (This was after saying he had locked in and out of submarines and had been inserted behind enemy lines for extended periods as a forward reconnaissance observer during multiple conflicts.) He responded that as the senior enlisted man at Camp Smith, Hawaii, for MEF 1 and MEF 3, constituting all fighting Marines in the Pacific, he had to stand up and man the US Central Command for the first Iraq War from within current MEF assets. **His hardest task then was telling the family of the first Marine killed in combat in Iraq that he had died in combat.** He personally visited the ~ 20-year old pregnant wife and young child of the dead Marine in military housing. Telling that family of their husband’s / father’s death was the hardest job during his 30-year USMC career. At that point, our NOVA Base USSVI member, Mike Niblack, volunteered that at the time, he was the Command Master Chief aboard the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) an Amphibious Assault Ship, and that that Marine was aboard his ship – it was indeed a sad time for all involved in war.



The Base CDR thanked Jim for his meaningful presentation and presented him with the USSVI NOVA Base Challenge coin.

After the meeting, Debbie and Steve Bishop had lunch with Jim and Freedom at Glory Day's Grill, just down the hill from Post 162. During lunch, Jim explained to us how his service dog Freedom and the loving people at **K9s for Warriors** saved his life. After the amazing career he had in the USMC as well as in local, state and federal law enforcement, Jim was at the end of his rope. He was burned out, was internally damaged due to war and had suffered traumatic brain injury, and was about to commit suicide. A friend intervened, had him psychologically tested and asked if he ever thought about having a dog as a companion. Well, that led to finding **K9s for Warriors** and his match with Freedom, his service dog and 24/7/365 companion.

K9s for Warriors pairs rescue dogs with military veterans suffering from:

1. Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD)
2. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and/or
3. Military Sexual Trauma (MST) (being raped by a fellow soldier / sailor...) **THERE IS MUCH MORE OF THIS GOING ON THAN WE EVER KNEW OR SUSPECTED!!**

Each dog is carefully selected and trained to become a service dog for an American Hero. As for Freedom, he was a 6-month old scrawny Black Labrador pup that was starved by its owner and then thrown out a car window in rural Kentucky. A local woman took him in and rescued him, nursed him back to health, and then donated him to **K9s for Warriors** in Florida.

The rescued dogs are trained to be service dogs in Florida, then the service members are brought there for training alone and then with their dog. There are more than 1200 remarkable volunteers at K9s for Warriors committed to socializing the dogs and warriors, and the program has had tremendous success.

K9s is devoted to our nation's heroes and to rescue dogs. It took Jim more than 4 months to get his dog Freedom. Increased outside donations could cause the service members' wait time to go down as the number of dogs in the pipeline goes up and the pipeline is widened with a larger facility and staff.

K9s for Warriors is a 501 C (3) nonprofit organization. All donations to it are tax deductible. CFC # 82286. Their mailing address is:

K9s For Warriors
114 Camp K9 Road
Ponte Verde, FL 32081

www.K9sForWarriors.org
(904) 686-1956

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

Attachments:

- Calendar of Events
- USSVI News
- Selected Undersea Warfare News Articles

Calendar of Events

October

19 October – Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Eagle Scout Connor Given

USSVI Northern Virginia Base will be honoring Eagle Scout Connor Given. His Eagle Scout Court of Honor is Friday October 19 at 1900 in Gainesville, VA. Contact the Base Commander for additional information.

20 October – Potomac NJROTC Annual Drill Meet

Potomac Senior High School is hosting their annual drill meet on 20 Oct 2018 and looking for volunteers. See information sheet for additional information.

21-28 October – 2018 USSVI National Convention Caribbean Cruise

The USSVI Convention/Caribbean Cruise is scheduled for October 21, 2018 through October 28, 2018. The cruise will be departing from the Port of Ft. Lauderdale and making port calls to Half Moon Cay, Bahamas; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Cozumel, Mexico then returning to Ft. Lauderdale.

24 October – Darlene Jaeger's Mother's inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery

Darlene Jaeger's mother, Genevieve Johler, will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery on 24 OCT 2018. Attendees should meet at the Ft Myer Old Post Chapel at 1200 for a 1245 service and follow-on procession to the Columbarium. Reception to follow at the Carlyle America Restaurant, 4000 Campbell Ave Arlington, VA 22206.

26 October – 'Hunter Killer' movie premiers

The premier of 'Hunter Killer' is Friday October 26, 2018. You can watch the movie trailer at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnP_z3qXDCQ. The movie is based on the book, Firing Point, by George Wallace and Don Keith.

November

7-8 November – 2018 Annual Symposium

2018 Annual Symposium will be hosted by Naval Submarine League on 7-8 November at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA. Plan now to attend. Registration is open on the NSL website.

10 November – USSVI Northern Virginia Base Meeting with Captain Keith Baravik as the guest speaker

USSVI Northern Virginia Base meeting will be held at American Legion Post #162 with Captain Keith Baravik as our guest speaker. The meeting begins at 1100.

11 November – Veterans Day

Veterans Day 2018 will be on Sunday, November 11th, 2018 and designated as a Federal Holiday on Monday, November 12th, 2018. 2018 marks the Centennial Commemoration of the end of World War I on November 11, 1918. The theme for the 2018 Veterans Day Poster is: "The War to End All Wars" and features a poppy and barbed wire. For Veterans Day guide of offers and events visit <https://militarybenefits.info/veterans-day/>

12 November – 2018 TRICARE Health and Dental Benefits Open Season

The TRICARE Health Benefits and Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) open season is from November 12 through December 10. During this period TRICARE Prime and Select members can change their health benefits and members of the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) [formerly TRICARE Retiree Dental Program] members can make changes to their dental provider. Visit Tricare.benefeds.com to learn more about FEDVIP open season and to sign up for email alerts. Learn more about the

TRICARE Health Benefits open season by visiting Tricare.mil/openseason.

15 November – Kap(ss) For Kid(ss) visit at Walter Reed National Medical Center in Bethesda, MD

USSVI Northern Virginia Base Kap(ss) For Kid(ss) Team will be visiting Walter Reed National Medical Center in Bethesda, MD on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 10:30 AM. Contact Steve Bishop at 703-895-8137 if you would like to join them. Park at the NEX garage and we will meet in Building 10/Eagle at 10:15.

16 November – DC Area Submarine Community Fall Social

The DC Area Submarine Community Fall Social is being held Friday November 16, 2018 at the Ft Myer Officer Club.

Potomac Senior High School NJROTC Drill Meet

Potomac is hosting our annual drill meet on 20 Oct 2018, we are looking for volunteers to assist again this year. Your help was great appreciated last year. It is the same format as last year. Judges brief will commence at 0730.

For more information or to volunteer contact either

Chuck Martin
USSVI NOVA Base Commander
cdr@ussvinova.org
240-876-2641 (mobile)

or

MAC Robert A. George Jr. (RET)
Naval Science Instructor (NSI)
NJROTC Potomac High School
3401 Panther Pride Dr.
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-4314
georgera@pwcs.edu
george.rob.nsi@navyjrotc.us

USSVI News

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NEWS-01: Groton Base's Annual Thanksgiving Caring and Sharing notification.
Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 9/27/2018

Shipmates,

In keeping with our creed and in appreciation of our Active Duty Sailors who are serving our country, we are once again planning on providing our Thanksgiving Dinner at the Clubhouse. We estimate feeding nearly 1300 people including Active Duty Sailors, Submarine Veterans and our Local and State Law enforcement for their continued service to our community and country.

Contributions or gifts are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes.

The Thanksgiving Committee cannot accomplish this alone. This is a huge endeavor which takes donations, and many volunteers. We are asking our members to assist in this worthy cause. There are many areas where we need your help. Please take a moment to review the following list and, if possible, choose a task and volunteer a little time, food or monetary donation. We ask you to respond at your earliest convenience. We need your response no later than November 14th, 2018 so we may plan accordingly.

- Monetary Donations, no amount is too small.
- Volunteers for Thanksgiving Fundraiser at Groton Wal-Mart Saturdays 9/29/2018 and 11/03/2018 from 10:00am-4:00pm (2 hour shifts, if possible)
- Pickup/Delivery of supplies Thanksgiving week.
- Delivery of meals on Thanksgiving Day.
- Provide a homemade dessert (Thanksgiving Eve, or Thanksgiving morning).
- Donate a 14-16 pound fresh or thawed turkey (donating a fellow Member does not count) or donations of turkeys larger than 16 pounds. Donations may be made at the club up to 6 days prior to Thanksgiving. We need time to thaw frozen birds.
- Donations of cooked and unstuffed turkeys larger than 16 pounds (including drippings) either the night before or morning of Thanksgiving.
- Volunteers to cook large turkeys (larger than 16 pounds) and return to club either the night before or morning of Thanksgiving.
- Set-up the day before, serving during Thanksgiving Day, clean-up after Thanksgiving dinner or clean-up the next morning (Friday).
- We also need your help in identifying homebound who we can help by delivering them a meal. We cannot provide a meal to someone if we don't know about them.

Member/Donor Name: _____

Monetary donation amount: _____ Other Donation: _____

Volunteering for: _____ Times you can

Volunteer _____ Phone/email address:

_____ (Please Print Clearly) Please fill out and either return to the club or email to one of the POCs below.

Thank you in advance for all you do for SUBVETS Groton Base.

POCs: thanksgiving@ussvigroton.org Stan Mathis (860) 884-8857, Jeff Walsh cell: (860) 449-2103

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NEWS-01: Admiral Rickover Seminar
Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 10/1/2018

Subject: Invitation to USSVI from Admiral Rickover's STEM nonprofit

Below please find information about Admiral Rickover's STEM nonprofit and an invitation to USSVI members and chapters, particularly those in the Northeast.

When Admiral H.G. Rickover retired from the Navy, he knew the U.S. needed more bright, principled, technically excellent students to follow the pioneering example of those that served under his command on the Nautilus and at Naval Reactors. In 1983, Rickover established the nonprofit Center for Excellence in Education (CEE) to nurture students to careers of excellence and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

CEE will celebrate its 35th Anniversary on Oct. 12-14 in Cambridge, MA. USSVI members and interested guests are invited to the Center's 35th Anniversary panel tributes to Admiral Rickover from 4 – 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12 at the Broad Institute (415 Main. St., Cambridge, MA 02142). The first discussion will be moderated by Adm. William A. Owens, Vice Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, USN Ret., and will include as panelists Adm. Edmund Giambastiani, Vice Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, USN Ret. William L. Givens, Naval Reactors; Pf. Neil Todreas, KEPCO Professor of Nuclear Science and Engineering (Emeritus) at MIT; and Pamela L. Krahl, Capt., USN and alum of CEE's Research Science Institute '85.

A second Rickover-focused panel discussion from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13 at the Broad Institute, will be moderated by Bill Becklean, USN, Ret., who worked with Adm. Rickover at Naval Reactors from 1959 to 1966. Becklean's panel will include Tip Brolin, USNA, NR-1 Project Officer and Naval Reactors staff; Jack Cook, USN (Ret.), CO of USS Woodrow Wilson submarine; Mario Fiori, CO of Naval Underwater Systems Center (Ret.); and Pete Van Nort, USNA, Naval Reactors and Atomic Energy Commission veteran.

USSVI members, other Navy veterans, students of nuclear engineering, and interested guests are invited to attend the Center's tributes to Rickover and his legacy. [Click here for details.](#)

Note: The seminar will be video taped and available at a later date at www.CEE.org. The organizers request a RSVP; CEE's 35th Anniversary Rickover tribute events are free and open to the public. Please register with Rose Keating (rkeating@cee.org) or by calling (703) 448-9062 x249.

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NEWS-01: Convention cabin share request
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer on 10/5/2018

Kim Hedges the travel agent handling our 2018 Convention Cruise has received an inquiry from one of our members asking if anyone would consider sharing a cabin with him in order to reduce the cost. Please contact Kim if you would be interested.

Kim Hedges
360-475-3055
KimHedges@aaawa.com

Thank you,
Wayne Standerfer
NSVC

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NEWS-01: HUNTER KILLER MOVIE PREMIERS ON OCTOBER 26, 2018 Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 10/6/2018

A new submarine techno-thriller movie Hunter Killer is premiering on 26 October in theaters nationwide. The movie is based on the novel Firing Point co-authored by Northern Virginia Base Vice Commander George Wallace along with Don Keith. Starring Gerard Butler and Gary Oldman, the plot revolves around a Russia-US confrontation under the ice. The production enjoyed strong Navy support. In addition to being active in USSVI, George is also active in other veteran service organizations, currently serving President of the Capitol Chapter of the Naval Submarine League and President of the Mount Vernon Chapter of MOAA.

Submitted by:

Chuck Martin
Base Commander, USSVI Northern Virginia

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NEWS-01: USS THRESHER ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY (ANC) MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
Submitted by: John E. Markiewicz on 10/8/2018

Fellow USSVI Members,

On November 7, members of the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) Memorial Foundation along with USS Thresher family members will attend the ANC Remember & Explore Subcommittee meeting to listen to deliberations on our memorial proposal, answer questions and observe their vote, the first of six levels of approval needed.

Your help is requested prior to that meeting. Would you please contact your United

States Representatives & Senators, asking them to issue a letter of project support to Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera, Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries?

For examples of customized letters of support, including one submitted on our behalf from the members of the United States House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, please see the links at the bottom of the following web page:

<https://threshermemorial.org/template-letters.html>

See <https://www.senate.gov/senators/index.htm> & <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> for the contact information of your Senators and Representatives.

To date, ANC has received over 5500 USS Thresher ANC Memorial project support letters. If you or any of your Base members have yet to submit one, please do so now by downloading a letter from <https://threshermemorial.org/template-letters.html> and mailing to the address on the letter head.

If you have a direct connection to any of the men lost aboard USS Thresher, please use the editable Microsoft Word formatted letter to state your connection and include their photo. Customized letters with direct connection to the men lost will be archived at Arlington National Cemetery.

A letter of support containing signatures from NH Senators Shaheen & Hassan, Maine Senators Snow & King, & Massachusetts Senator Warren is ready for submission.

On behalf of the men lost, and their SUBSAFE legacy, Thank You!
Kevin

Kevin Galeaz
USSVI Thresher Base Commander
ThresherBase.COMDR@gmail.com
<http://www.ThresherBase.org>
603.785.6464

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NEWS-01: 2018 National Election Results
Submitted by: Tom Conlon, Election Master on 10/11/2018

Shipmates,

Voting in the National Election ended at 2359, October 10.

These are the results.

National Commander:	
Wayne Standerfer	1293 votes
Write-in Candidates	21 votes
Elected: Wayne Standerfer	
National Senior Vice-Commander	
Jon Jaques	1284 votes

Write-in Candidates	16 votes
Elected: Jon Jaques	
National Junior Vice-Commander	
Steve Bell	1291 votes
Write-in Candidates	17 votes
Elected: Steve Bell	
National Treasurer	
Paul Hiser	1292 votes
Write-in Candidates	15 votes
Elected: Paul Hiser	
National Secretary	
Ray Wewers	1281 votes
Write-in Candidates	9 votes
Elected: Ray Wewers	
Northeast Regional Director	
Les Altschuler	241 votes
Write-in Candidates	4 votes
Elected: Les Altschuler	
Southeast Regional Director	
Ken Nichols	278 votes
Write-in Candidates	2 votes
Elected: Ken Nichols	
Central Region Director	
Tom Williams	383 votes
Write-in Candidates	13 votes
Elected: Ken Nichols [CORRECTION: Tom Williams]	
Western Region Director	
Jim Denzien	383 votes
Write-in Candidates	8 votes
Elected: Jim Denzien	
Approve Proposed Revision to Constitution and Bylaws	
Yes	1181 votes
No	156 votes
Proposal passes	

Congratulations to the candidates. Thank you to all the members who voted.

Voting statistics will be available on the USSVI web site. Please print a copy for your information.

Regards,
Tom Conlon, Election Master

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NEWS-01: 2018 National Election Results by individual Bases, Districts and Regions.
Submitted by: Tom Conlon, Election Master on 10/14/2018

To obtain the number of members voting in the individual Bases, Districts and Regions, go to the website, www.ussvi.org and click on the green "Documents" button. Next, click on the blue "Organization" button. The results for the individual Bases and the individual Districts are at the bottom of the list. For the results for the individual Regions, go to the second page.

NOTE: Do not pay attention to the total number of members at the bottom of the chart, as that is an inflated number due to members that have dual and multiple memberships in 2 or more Bases. The actual number of votes however is correct, as the system would not let a member vote more than once.

Selected Undersea Warfare News Articles

USS Indiana Brought to Life, Commissioned in Port Canaveral **COMSUBLANT Public Affairs, Navy.mil, October 1**

PORT CANAVERAL, Fla. (NNS) -- USS Indiana, the third submarine to bear the name and third vessel to be named for the state, was brought to life by its sponsor, Diane K. Donald, wife of retired Adm. Kirkland Donald, the former director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion and commander, Submarine Forces, Sept. 29, 2018. Before giving the order to bring the ship to life, Indiana's sponsor had a few words to impart to those in attendance and any potential future adversaries. "Today we celebrate the time-honored tradition of placing USS Indiana into the service of our country. It has been the privilege of a lifetime to have a role in bringing this ship to life," Donald said, addressing the crowd and ship's company during the ceremony. "To anyone who wishes our nation harm, take heed, Indiana is taking the watch. Our new silent victors are Indiana strong."

As the most modern and sophisticated attack submarine in the world, the submarine can operate in both littoral and deep ocean environments, and presents combatant commanders with a broad and unique range of operational capabilities. Indiana is a flexible, multi-mission platform designed to carry out the seven core competencies of the submarine force: anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, delivery of Special Operations Forces (SOF), strike warfare, irregular warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and mine warfare.

"I owe everything to my crew," said Capt. Jesse Zimbauer, commanding officer of Indiana, to those in attendance. "We have over 5,000 people in attendance today. You wouldn't be out here if you didn't have a lethal dose of patriotism. You cannot take a look at those Sailors dressed in their whites, standing on the backbone of the world's newest and most lethal submarine and not just stand up and cheer!"

Indiana is a part of the Virginia-class' third, or Block III, contract, in which the Navy redesigned approximately 20 percent of the boat to reduce acquisition costs. Indiana features a redesigned bow, which replaces 12 individual Vertical Launch System (VLS) tubes with two large-diameter Virginia Payload Tubes (VPTs) each capable of launching six Tomahawk cruise missiles, among other design changes that reduced the submarines' acquisition cost while maintaining their outstanding warfighting capabilities. While the crew of the submarine may only be 140, Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb indicated that the "whole" crew may not fit on board.

"So, as you are serving on this boat, know that your crew is a lot bigger than you may think. In fact, I'd like to say that this crew is 6.6 million strong. Because there are, in fact, 6.6 million Hoosiers who are proud of this USS Indiana. We are proud of and pray for every Sailor that makes up this crew."

After the ceremony, Indiana was opened up for tours to the general public, to include the crew's mess, the wardroom, control, and the torpedo room. It is there perhaps that the words of the Director of Naval Reactors, Adm. J. Franklin Caldwell, Jr. stuck home to the thousands who wouldn't normally step foot inside a nuclear-powered submarine.

"USS Indiana, and her sisters of the Virginia class, will maintain our edge in the undersea environment," said Caldwell as he addressed the attendees. "Soon Indiana will deploy her stealth, endurance and her flexibility to travel silently under our oceans protecting our nation. She will be collecting intelligence, preparing for battle, and, if necessary, striking from the deep without notice to defend our nation."

Indiana also has special features to support Special Forces, including a reconfigurable torpedo room which can accommodate a large number of personnel and all their equipment for prolonged deployments and future off-board payloads.

Also, in Virginia-class SSNs, traditional periscopes have been replaced by two photonics masts that host visible and infrared digital cameras atop telescoping arms, which are maneuvered by an Xbox controller. Through the extensive use of modular construction, open architecture and commercial off-the-shelf components, the Virginia class is designed to remain at the cutting edge for its entire operational life through the rapid introduction of new systems and payloads.

While USS Indiana may be the newest and most technologically advanced submarine in the world, to some, all the metal, tubes, wires and reactor are just machinery.

"The crew make up the soul of Indiana," said Senior Chief Charles Simonds, Indiana's chief of the boat. "Every single challenge this crew has been faced with, and there have been many over the past several months, has been dealt with extremely well. The crew are extremely proficient, extremely confident Sailors who know how to operate the submarine and I'd say that these guys are ready to go execute our nation's missions right now, and that is a lot to say for a new crew, and that makes me very proud and extremely fortunate to be a part of this team."

SSN-789 was built at Huntington Ingalls Shipyard in Newport News, Virginia, and is 7,800 tons and 377 feet in length, has a beam of 34 feet and operates at more than 25 knots submerged. It is designed with a nuclear reactor plant that does not require refueling during the planned life of the ship, reducing lifecycle costs while increasing underway time.

Sailors and Civilians Race Calculator Robots With Baltimore NJROTC NPASE, DVIDS Hub, October 4

BALTIMORE -- Sailors from USS Maryland (SSBN 738) along with engineers from Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division demonstrated calculator-controlled robots to students in the Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps at Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School on Oct. 4 as part of this year's Maryland Fleet Week.

The calculator-controlled robots, part of the science, technology, engineering and math outreach program at Carderock, allows students to program the robots to carry out a variety of tasks.

"School visits like this allow STEM professionals to meet and work with students on engaging, hands-on activities - to help develop their problem-solving skills, build their interest in STEM and give them a sense of what STEM careers are," said Charlotte George, Carderock's STEM and outreach director.

"It has been a wonderful opportunity to support this educational outreach event alongside the sailors of the USS Maryland," George said.

Sailors from USS Maryland also got a chance to talk to students and ask what life is like on a nuclear ballistic submarine.

USS Maryland Commanding Officer Cmdr. Jesse Pruett enjoyed the opportunity for his crew to be in the namesake's state talking to students about the ship and what they do.

"Community outreach is very valuable for not just the Navy but submarine forces as we are the height of technology," Pruett said. "It's really great to share mine and my crew's experiences using advanced technology on the ship to encourage students to be more involved

in STEM."

Capt. Martin Allard, NJROTC instructor at the high school said having Sailors and Navy civilians come to talk to the students plays an important role in shaping students' futures.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for these students to see another way in the game of life," Allard said. "All of the sailors here are engaged, talking with the students and listening, which is great."

The NJROTC program teaches students citizenship and leadership development, as well as maritime heritage and the significance of sea power.

"One of these kids is going to end up doing great things because of a visit like this," Allard said. Principal of Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School Jada Langston said that their NJROTC program develops strong leaders who step up to the plate.

"One of the things that the military provides is an opportunity to develop students' discipline, structure and gives them an opportunity to find inner confidence," Langston said.

Maryland Fleet Week is Baltimore's celebration of the sea services and provides an opportunity for the citizens of Maryland and the city of Baltimore to meet Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, as well as see firsthand the latest capabilities of today's maritime services.

Declining Commercial Nuclear Industry Creates Risk for Navy Carriers, Subs

Ben Werner, USNI News, October 2

<https://news.usni.org/2018/10/02/37045>

The Navy's ability to maintain and manufacture aircraft carrier and submarine propulsion systems is at risk, a panel of experts say, because the commercial nuclear industry has been in failing health for two decades.

Today, the Navy operates more nuclear reactors than the entire U.S. commercial reactor industry. The Navy's 101 reactor-powered carriers and submarines provide an unmatched advantage to operate around the world continuously. Building these reactors, though, relies on a shrinking pool of vendors, Adm. James Caldwell, the director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, said at the Nuclear Energy, Naval Propulsion, and National Security Symposium at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"The base is small. The base is healthy and capable of supporting our Navy propulsion needs. It's sustainable through the program of record, but it takes a lot of energy to sustain that," Caldwell said.

For example, the Navy only has one contractor making reactor plant heavy-components and only a handful of companies make the flow control, valves, pumps and other parts, Caldwell said. Several companies make reactor instrument controls.

The vendors the nuclear Navy relies on are being hurt by a retracting commercial nuclear power plant industry. Cheaper fuel alternatives, such as natural gas, are making it too expensive for power companies to run their nuclear plants, said Mike Wallace, a senior advisor at CSIS and former Chairman of the Constellation Energy Nuclear Group. Wallace also is a former Navy nuclear submarine officer.

As a result, today the U.S. has 98 commercial reactors, and Wallace expects this number will continue decreasing. With fewer commercial reactors operating, there is not enough business for the nuclear industry's vendors.

"We are continuing if not accelerating in a decline, impacting not only domestic nuclear energy but also the infrastructure to support naval propulsion and the infrastructure supporting

our weapons complex," Wallace said.

A solid 30-year shipbuilding plan and stable budget environment would signal to the nuclear industry they could earn a return on investing in new equipment or expanding their business operations, Caldwell said.

"What helps the commercial industry helps the Navy nuclear propulsion industry," Caldwell said. "More vendors mean more affordability; also means the ability to have some innovation that might help us out."

In 16 years - between 1946, when then Capt. Hyman Rickover was in charge of developing nuclear propulsion for the Navy, and 1962, when USS Enterprise (CVN-65) began its maiden deployment - the Navy went from considering a theoretical propulsion unit to operating the an eight-reactor ship larger than anything the world had ever seen, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson said during a keynote speech at the event.

"The speed this nation can achieve if we put our minds to it is just stunning," Richardson said.

Wallace was not so sure the commercial nuclear industry would survive. He doesn't see the federal government doing enough to ensure the health of these companies, which are vital to maintaining a nuclear Navy.

"Under current conditions, in the next 15 to 20 years we could see all commercial plants shut down in the U.S.," Wallace said. "It's a trend line down that, at some point, hits a click because you don't want to be the last one holding a commercial plant."

Meanwhile, Russia and China are rapidly expanding their state-sponsored nuclear energy industries, which include a robust export market, said William Ostendorff, a retired Navy captain and a visiting professor at the U.S. Naval Academy. Ostendorff is also a former commissioner of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Russia and China are building dozens of nuclear power plants around the world, in countries such as Turkey and Pakistan, Ostendorff said. The U.S. nuclear power industry is building two plants domestically and zero overseas.

"U.S. companies lack the capital and structure to emulate the Russia and Chinese models," Ostendorff said.

SUBASE to commemorate USS Wahoo, October 11

Submarine Base New London Public Affairs, The Dolphin, October 4

http://www.dolphin-news.com/news/subbase-to-commemorate-uss-wahoo-october/article_551dfccd-01c8-5cde-9a83-0dda8e6e3d0a.html

All members and friends of the Navy New London community are invited to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the loss of Cmdr. Dudley Morton and the officers and crew of USS Wahoo (SS-238). This special event will take place at 11 a.m., Oct. 11, in Morton Hall Gymnasium on Naval Submarine Base New London (SUBASE). Uniform for military attendees is uniform of the day.

Approximately 30 Morton family members and friends will be in attendance. Special guests are anticipated to include Mrs. Edwina Thirsher, daughter of Commander Morton; and, author Don Keith, who wrote "Undersea Warrior: The WWII Story of (Mush) Morton and the USS Wahoo."

Commander Dudley Walker "Mush" Morton was born in Owensboro, Ky., July 17, 1907, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1930. While there he received the nickname

"Mushmouth," later shortened to "Mush." Prior to the beginning of World War II, he served in USS Saratoga (CV-3): USS Chicago (CA-29): USS Canopus (AS-9): USS Fairfax (DD-93): and the submarines USS R-5 (SS-82) and USS S-37 (SS-142). Morton took command of USS Wahoo (SS-236) on Dec. 31, 1942, after her second war patrol. He aggressively conducted the boat and her crew through her next five patrols.

Between Jan. 26, 1943 and Nov.9, 1943, Wahoo was responsible for sinking 19 cargo and transport ships for a combined total of 55,000 tons. Morton and wahoo are credited with completing a number of (firsts) during the short 10 months that he commanded the submarine: first to penetrate an enemy harbor and sink a ship therein: first to successfully execute a down-the-throat shot: and, first to destroy an entire enemy convoy single-handedly.

Morton was reported missing in action, when Wahoo was presumed to be lost in December 1943. After the war, it was determined that while exiting the Sea of Japan through the narrow La Perouse Strait on her seventh patrol, Wahoo was sunk with all hands by Japanese air and naval forces on Oct. 11, 1943.

Awards Morton received include the Navy Cross with three gold stars in lieu of a second, third, and fourth award, and the Army Distinguished Service Cross.