

MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE

MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY AUGUST 12, 2023

The Base CDR, Brian Haller, called the meeting to order at 1033 on August 12, 2023, at American Legion Post 364, Woodbridge, VA 22192. He welcomed all members and guests attending in person and on Zoom.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

James Bertine, Steve Bishop, Joe Castell, Catherine Chatham, Howard Chatham, Robert Frick, Mickey Garverick, Bob Glover, Steve Jaeger, Bill Johnson, Mark Kenny, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Paul Nelson, Mike Niblack, Tim Oliver, RADM Scott Pappano, Chief Randy Tran, Michael Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth (22 total)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

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

The Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation

After a moment of silence, the VCDR, George Wallace, read the boats lost in the month of August. These were:

USS S-39 (SS-144)	13 Aug 1942
USS Flier (SS-250)	13 Aug 1944
USS Harder (SS-257)	24 Aug 1944
USS Bullhead (SS-332)	6 Aug 1945
USS Cochino (SS-345).	26 Aug 1949

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEMBERS WHO DEPARTED ON ETERNAL PATROL SINCE OUR LAST BASE MEETING:

- **Alvin V. Anceravage**, Submarine Veterans of World War II member and USSVI Holland Club and Life Member. Qualified on USS Narwhal (SS-167) (was V-5), 1944. Served aboard USS Dolphin (SS-169), Puffer (SS-268), and Trumpetfish (SS-425). Departed on his Eternal Patrol on July 10, 2023.

- **Arthur C. Bivens**, USSVI Holland Club and Life Member. Qualified on USS Quillback (SS-424), 1957. Served aboard USS Patrick Henry (SSBN-599), Scamp (SSN-588), Robert E. Lee (SSBN-601), George Bancroft (SSBN-643), and as Commanding Officer of Sam Houston (SSBN-609). Departed on his Eternal Patrol on July 19, 2023.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEMBERS WHO DEPARTED ON ETERNAL PATROL IN AUGUST:

- **Donald Payton Basham**, USSVI Holland Club and Life Member. Qualified on USS Salmon (SSR-573), 1963. Departed on his Eternal Patrol on August 15th, 2013.
- **Richard J. Laulor**, USSVI Holland Club and Life Member. Qualified on USS Halfbeak (SS-352), 1955. Departed on his Eternal Patrol on August 30, 2017.

The COB tolled the bell twice in remembrance of the 41 USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

IN MEMORIAM:

- RM1 (SS) Frank P. Dorchak Jr., USN - February 13, 2022
- CDR Paul E. Kimball, USN (Ret) - February 15, 2023
- CWO3 Valery "Val" C. Keaveny, Sr., USN, Ret. - May 29, 2023
- FTSM (SS) Donald J. St. Charles, USN, Ret. - May 31, 2023
- CAPT Kenneth Highfill, USN (Ret) - June 4, 2023
- CAPT Robert David Rish, USN, Ret. - June 5
- CAPT Dean W. Kiess, USN, Ret. - June 13, 2023
- ETC (SS) John E. Traxler, USN (Ret) - June 18, 2023
- CAPT Robert L. Bovey, USN (Ret) – July 8, 2023
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MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were distributed by e-mail. Minutes were accepted as promulgated.

TREASURER’S REPORT

NOVA Base Treasurer's Report for August 12, 2023

● Beginning Cash on Hand:	\$12,041.54
● Plus Receipts:	
•NFCU Dividends (June and July)	\$0.20
•Donation to Base from June 50/50 Raffle	\$41.00
•Donations to Base from Beavers	\$41.00
•Donation to USSVCF Scholarship Fund Martin	\$20.00
•Base Dues 5 years John Newton	\$75.00
•National Dues 5 years John Newton	\$140.00
● Minus Expenditures:	
•Reimbursement to Steve Bishop for Longevity Pin mailing	\$44.47
•Payment to National for USSVCF Scholarship Fund	\$20.00
•Payment to National for John Newton Dues	\$140.00
● Ending Cash on Hand:	\$12,154.27
Minus Local K4K Restricted Use Funds	\$1,379.40
● Total Local Discretionary Funds	\$10,774.87
● USSVCF NOVA Base K4K Balance	\$3,054.10
● Total K4K Funds (Local + USSVCF)	\$4,433.50

The report was accepted as presented.

BINNACLE LIST

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Francis “Terry” McNamara, Tom Perrault, Bruce Miller (heart issues)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER, BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST ARE: Steve Bishop, Frances Burke, Jeff Curren, Curtis Duncan, Christine Gault, Sue Maruzo, Joe Phoenix, Michael Tucci, Mike Varone, and Bill Waylett.

BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMEMBER THAT THE USSVI CONVENTION IS THIS MONTH IN TUCSON AUGUST 28 TO SEPTEMBER 3.

OUR NEXT BASE MEETING/EVENT WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 9th HERE AT POST 364 AND ON ZOOM, AFTER WHICH WE WILL HOLD OUR MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON AT TEXAS ROADHOUSE, 14389 POTOMAC MILLS ROAD, WOODBRIDGE, VA.

AFTER THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED, WE WILL HAVE OUR 50/50 DRAWING AND TAKE A 5 MINUTE BREAK AND THEN INTRODUCE OUR GUEST SPEAKER.

The Chaplain delivered the Benediction.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.

The 50/50 was won by Woody Woodworth who donated his winnings - half to the base and half to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you!!

The following items are included in these minutes for completeness, but they were not read during the meeting:

EXECUTIVE BOARD – The Executive Committee met on 2 August via Zoom. The meeting agenda included committee reports, meeting-related items, old business, new business, and meeting and event planning.

VCDR –

- NTR

COB –

- NTR

PAO – The COB and IPCDR attended the USSVI Tri-State Base meeting on August 5, 2023.

Treasurer -

NTR

Membership - [Membership Chair remarks as desired] –

- Membership information (new member Jonathan Woodall)
 - 83 Members
 - 44 Holland Club Members
 - 01 WW II Members
 - 30 Regular Members
 - 14 – Base Life Members
 - 16 – Base Annual Members
 - 09 Associate Members

Webmaster –

- NTR

K4K -

- NTR

Chaplain -

- NTR

Storekeeper –

- SK is taking pre-orders for the 2024 USSVI Calendar. No details yet on the calendar, but the expected price is \$10 per calendar plus shipping again

this year. If you are interested in ordering a calendar, please let him know by sending an email to storekeeper@ussvinova.org.

Scouting Recognition Coordinator –NTR

NE Regional/NE District 4 News - [NE Regional Director, EN4 District CDR, or Base CDR remarks as desired]

- I will be attending the 2023 USSVI National Convention in Tucson. If there is anything you would like for me to discuss with USSVI National Leadership please send an email to me at cdr.ussvine4@mail.com or send an email to the Brian Haller at cdr@ussvinova.org.
- USSVI is hosting a vendor table at the NSL 2023 Annual Symposium & Industry Update being held on 7-8 Nov 2023. If you are interested in staffing the table, please let me know.

NSL – 2023 Annual Symposium & Industry Update

- 7-8 Nov 2023, Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

ISA/USA

- Future Congress Locations –
 - 2024 Ireland (hosted by ISA/USA) – May 2024
- To join the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA Inc.) visit their website at <http://www.isausa.org/> for an application. Lifetime Membership is \$50.00.

Upcoming Submarine Reunions –

- USS Archerfish (SS 311/SSN 678) August 24-26, 2023, Groton, CT
- USS Angler (SS 240) September 24-28, 2023, Pigeon Forge, TN
- USS Benjamin Franklin (SSBN 640) September 19-22, 2023, Philadelphia, PA
- USS Bergall (SS 320/SSN 667) September 13-17, 2023, Cleveland, OH
- USS John Adams (SSBN 620) September 27-October 1, 2023, Fernandina Beach, FL

- USS Rasher (SS/SSR/AGSS 269) September 13-17, 2023, Buffalo, NY
 - USS Raton (SS/SSR/AGSS 270) September 20-24, 2023, Manitowoc WI
 - USS Sea Cat (SS 399) September 11-15, 2023, Springfield, IL
 - USS Lapon (SSN 661) September 14-17, 2023, San Antonio, TX
 - USS Lewis and Clark (SSBN 644) October 11-14, 2023, Kings Bay, GA
 - USS Henry L. Stimson (SSBN 655) October 11-15, 2023, Charleston, SC
 - USS Halibut (SSGN/SSN 587) October 15-19, 2023, Branson, MO
 - USS Triton (SSRN 586) October 26-29, 2023, Charleston, SC
 - USS Grayback (SS/SSG/LPSS 574) October 16-20, 2023, Las Vegas, NV
- **Call or Email the POC listed in the American Submariner to determine the status of the reunion.**

OLD BUSINESS

- MOAA is encouraging their members to write to their congressmen opposing changes to restrict eligibility for burial in Arlington National Cemetery.
- The NOVA Veterans Association and Dulles Area Transportation Association provide free transportation to medical appointments to Veterans who are disabled or over the age of 65.
 - Coverage areas are Alexandria, Arlington, Eastern Loudoun, Fairfax, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park, and Prince William.
 - Contact by phone at 703-659-0788 or by email at melissa@novavets.org

NEW BUSINESS - None

RADM Scott W. Pappano

Program Executive Office Strategic Submarines

Rear Admiral Scott Pappano is a native of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He is a 1989 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering and holds a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At sea, Pappano served

aboard USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705), USS Albuquerque (SSN 706), USS Michigan (SSBN 727) (Gold), and USS Ohio (SSGN 726). He commanded USS Buffalo (SSN 715) while forward deployed in Guam.

Assignments ashore include duty with Commander, Submarine Development Squadron 12 Tactical Action Group; onboard X-Daniel Webster (MTS 626) at Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit Charleston, South Carolina, military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy; and executive assistant to the Director, Programming Division (N80) on the Navy Staff.

After selection as an acquisition professional, he served in the Special Operations Forces Mobility Program Office (PMS 399); as executive assistant to Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; and as major program manager for the Strategic and Attack Submarine Program Office (PMS 392). RADM Pappano was assigned as program executive officer, strategic submarines in October 2021. His previous flag assignments include Commander, Naval Undersea Warfare Center and Director, Comprehensive Test Facility and program executive officer, Columbia.

Pappano served on teams that have been awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Navy "E" Ribbon.

The Base CDR read the above biography and introduced the Rear Admiral, who spoke without a script or projector. His remarks included the following, and we left out the later "Chatham House Rules" part of his discussion, per his request.

This is a very unstable and unknown world out there today. We have the United States and two other great powers out there. (China and Russia). This is much like the verge of WW II in 1938 where we had crazy people in Germany and Japan. Are we ready? We are ready but we need to be more ready.

Strategic nuclear power works. It is the bedrock of our defense and deterrence. 70% of our country's warheads are on the SSBNs.

The Ohio class of SSBNs were built for 30 years of service. We have now stretched some of them out to 42 years. Only the USS Kamehameha (SSBN 642) has lasted that long.

We have to have 10 SSBN's strategically loaded out at all times. We are looking at seven Ohio Class life extension programs to remain viable. The SSGNs (Ohio, Michigan, Florida, and Georgia) will be cannibalized soon to keep the others going.

"Pray for Peace, but Prepare for War" is our job. The pacing threat is in the Pacific – it is China. It will be maritime war. The Chinese plan to put our carriers and our carrier task forces at risk first. Our submarines will be the pointed end of the spear in the Pacific for any war with China.

Building more submarines faster is an industrial base issue. The government was not strategic about the submarine industrial base. We need both a work force development effort and a technology insertion effort. We also need to outsource the building of some less complex modules for the submarine shipyards to get to better build rates in the future.

In a question and answer period, we heard:

Q – Compare the US vs. the Russian and Chinese submarines. The Russian subs are as good as we are, but the Chinese are excellent at stealing stuff from us. They have loads of shipyards. They learn very quickly.

In 1938, President Roosevelt started a massive shipbuilding program before the WW II entrance by the US. This shipbuilding ramp up helped us to win in the Pacific. Today, the federal

government can spend \$ 40 Billion as a gift to Ukraine, and it can spend \$ 1Trillion on infrastructure. Where is the federal government's money for shipbuilding?

Chatham House Rules.....

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Bishop

Secretary



The Base CDR, Brian Haller, presents Rear Admiral Scott Pappano with a Northern Virginia Base Challenge coin and thanks him for his presentation.