



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1101 on September 12, 2020, and welcomed all members and guests. Due to social distancing requirements associated with COVID-19, the meeting was held using the Zoom web conferencing application. The CDR requested that members and guests provide him with an email to document attendance.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Joe Castell, Howard Chatham, Tony Cunningham, Art Glover (USSVI Northeast District 4 Commander), Brian Haller, Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, Robert Maydwell, Paul Nelson, Teresa Nelson, Tim Oliver, Mark Riethmeier, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth (16 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.

The COB read the list of boats lost in September. These were:

USS S-5 (SS-110)	September 1, 1920
USS S-51 (SS-162)	September 25, 1925
USS GRAYLING (SS-209)	September 9, 1943
USS POMPANO (SS-181)	Btwn September 17 and October 5, 1943
USS CISCO (SS-290)	September 28, 1943

The CDR then tolled the ship's bell twice for the 27 USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

**IN MEMORIAM:** CAPT David Everett Eldredge, USN, Ret—7/10/20; ENCM(SS) John David Cornell, Sr., USN, Ret—7/15/20; CAPT Edward E. “Buzz” Henifin, USN, Ret—7/25/20; LCDR Joseph Francis Sheltry, USN, Ret—8/7/20; ET1(SS) Glenn E. Harris, USN, Vet—8/14/20; STSCS(SS) Roger Lundin, USN, Ret—8/24/20.

### MEETING MINUTES

The August 2020 NOVA Base meeting minutes were previously distributed to the membership. The CDR asked whether there were any additional comments or discussion for the August minutes. Hearing no additional comments or corrections, the minutes were accepted.



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



The Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, presented the Treasurer’s monthly report:

•	Beginning Cash on Hand:	\$ 9,487.75
•	Receipts:	\$ 38.92
	- Donations - Base	
	- Interest/Dividends	
•	Expenditures:	\$ 89.30
	- Base Operating Expenses	
	- Other-Other (National Insurance, Donation to National HC)	
•	Ending Sub-Total:	\$ 9,437.37
	- Minus Remaining Walmart Grant Restricted Use Funds	(\$1,169.40)
•	Grand Total (discretionary)	\$ 8,267.97
•	NOVA USSVICF K4K Total:	\$ 3,054.10
	- To date, we have received \$1000.00 in 2020	

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **Executive Board** meeting was held on September 2, 2020, via Zoom. The meeting agenda included:

- Committee Reports
- Membership
- 2020 Holland Club
- 2020 Mid-Year Base Budget
- K4K Program
- Other Base events/calendar

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** presented by Steve Jaeger: 83 members comprised of:

- 45 Holland Club members,
  - 4 WW II members
- 30 Regular members
- 8 Associate members

The **VCDR**, Brian Haller, had nothing to report.

The **COB**, Mike Varone, had nothing to report.

The **PAO**, Mike Varone, had nothing to report.

The **CHAPLAIN**, Steve Jaeger, had nothing to report.



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



On behalf of the **KAPS 4 KIDS** Chairman, Steve Bishop, the CDR reported that all K4K visits had been suspended until further notice due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The **STOREKEEPER**, Howard Chatham, reported

- Has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, and USSVI NOVA Base patches available for purchase
- Storekeeper also has access to National USSVI SK, Submarine Ships Store and SubmarineShop.com items for purchase
- Contact Howard at [storekeeper@ussvinova.org](mailto:storekeeper@ussvinova.org) if you have interest in purchasing any submarine related merchandise

The **WEBMASTER**, Howard Chatham, reported no issues with the Base website, and reported that the National website had not yet been updated to reflect post-election Constitution/Bylaws changes.

The **NE District 4 Commander**, Art Glover, provided the following:

- A NE District WWII member was looking for shipmates from USS BARB (SS 220). Discussion ensued that other members from different locations had reached out to the member's spouse and had provided a wealth of information regarding USS BARB.
- Post-mtg note: The USSVI Groton Base is assisting the member. If you have information, please provide it to Mr. Stephen Finnigan at the USN Submarine Force Museum:
  - Stephen Finnigan, Managing Director and Supervisory Curator, USN Submarine Force Museum, Box 571, Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, CT 06349-5571
  - Phone: 860-694-5631; Fax: 860-694-4150

**NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE (NSL)** Executive Director, Tim Oliver, and Capitol Chapter President, George Wallace, provided the following information on upcoming NSL and related events:

- The NSL Headquarters office has moved, and the address is 405 North Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
  - The phone number remains the same: 703-256-0891
- NSL Mentorship Program is growing! Encourage participation as either a mentor or mentee.
- Naval Submarine League (NSL) and related events:
  - 2020 Submarine History Seminar, 10 Nov 2020.
    - Registration is available on the Smithsonian Associates website at <https://smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/tickets/inside-cuban-missile-crisis-1L0311S>
    - NSL members get the same discounted price as Smithsonian Associates members if they enter this coupon code: 251877
    - They call the program **INSIDE THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS. We call it Nuclear Deterrence, or How a U.S. Submarine in the Mediterranean Helped Resolve the Cuban Missile Crisis!**



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



- NSL 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium & Industry Update 16-18 Nov 2020. This will be a virtual event.
- As updates are available, the information will be distributed.
- NSL Capitol Chapter is looking into having a virtual meeting in October 2020. Date TBD.

On behalf of the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA), President, John “Bud” Cunnally, the CDR provided the following:

- The ISA/USA website is [www.isausa.org](http://www.isausa.org)
- Registration for the next ISA convention in Sweden is in progress. Contact Bud Cunnally for details.
- Life membership to the ISA/USA is \$50.00 and the application is on the ISA/USA website.

The **VCDR** provided information on upcoming submarine reunions:

- USS ANGLER (SS 240)—September 13-16, 2020; Pigeon Forge, TN
- USS CHOPPER (SS 342)—September 16-20, 2020 Mobile, AL
- USS RASHER (SS 269)—September 16-20, 2020; LaPorte, TX
- USS GREENFISH (SS 351)—September 24-28, 2020; Gulf Shores, AL
- Deep Submergence Group—September 25-27, 2020; San Diego, CA
- USS MACKEREL (SST 1)—September 30-October 3, 2020; Little Rock, AR
- USS BARRACUDA (was K-1) (SSK 1)—September 30-October 3, 2020; Little Rock, AR
- USS MARLIN (SST 2)—September 30-October 3, 2020; Little Rock, AR
- USS VOLADOR (SS 409)—October 5-7, 2020; Las Vegas, NV
- USS SEA CAT (SS 399)—October 7-11, 2020; Summerville, SC
- USS HENRY L. STIMSON (SSBN 655)—October 7-11, 2020; Cincinnati, OH
- USS DIABLO (SS 479)—October 8-11, 2020; Groton, CT
- USS HALIBUT (SSN 587)—October 11-15, 2020; Fredericksburg, TX
- USS BATFISH (SSN 681)—October 14-18, 2020; Jacksonville, FL
- USS BERGALL (SS 320/SSN 667)—October 15-18, 2020; Jacksonville, FL
- USS FINBACK (SSN 670)—October 15-20, 2020; Charleston, SC
- USS DOGFISH (SS 350)—October 21-24, 2020; North Little Rock, AR

**Call or Email the POC listed in the *American Submariner* to determine the current status of the reunion.**

## OLD BUSINESS

- 2020 WWII Kings Bay Memorial Week is CANCELLED
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> book in the “Poopie Suits & Cowboy Boots” series by Frank and Charles Hood has been published and is available now. (Softcover for \$24.99 and e-Book for \$9.99). Written by 33 submarine veterans like yourself, “The Silent Service Speaks-Vol I”



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



contains 150 stories, replete with 314 pictures, that cover life on a boat from stem to stern.

- All proceeds go to our USSVI Charitable Foundations Scholarship Fund. You get a great read and help a deserving young person fund their efforts to get their degree, thus helping them for the entire rest of their lives.
- USSVI National Convention News:
  - 2021 National Convention will be in Orlando, FL, at Rosen Shingle Creek Resort
  - 2022 National Convention will be in Buffalo, NY
  - 2023 National Convention will be in Tucson, AZ

The CDR called for other items of old business and none were provided.

## NEW BUSINESS

- The USSVI National Election Voting results and statistics are now available on the USSVI National website.
  - USSVI NOVA statistics: # of Members – 68; # of Votes – 16; Percentage – 23.53%
  - USSVI NE District 4 statistics: # of Members – 349; # of Votes – 27; Percentage – 7.74%
  - USSVI North East Region statistics: # of Members – 5684; # of Votes – 255; Percentage – 4.49%
  - USSVI National statistics: # of Members – 8054; # of Votes – 1291; Percentage – 15%
- The Department of Defense is transitioning from its current paper-based Uniformed Services Identification (USID) card to a more secure, next generation USID card. Initial issuance of the Next Generation USID card began on July 31, 2020 at select DoD ID card facilities, with phased implementation at all DoD ID card facilities projected to be complete in December 2020. Currently issued USID cards remain valid through their expiration date. To limit the impact on ID card issuance facilities, individuals with an indefinite (INDEF) expiration date on their current USID card should wait until summer 2021 to have their Next Generation USID card issued. Additional information is amended to the meeting minutes.
- VA has recognized certain diseases as related to ionizing radiation exposure during military service. Veterans may be eligible for disability compensation and health care for these diseases. Their survivors also may be eligible for survivors' benefits. The URL and additional information are amended to the meeting minutes.
- The Annual Business Meeting minutes have been posted on the USSVI National website.
- Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) announces a limited reopening to visitors on Wednesday, September 9 to allow gravesite visitations to our veterans and families laid to rest in these hallowed grounds. ANC will open to the public from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Face coverings will be mandatory to wear while on cemetery grounds and social distancing is expected. Visitor screening will be conducted. Additional information is amended to the meeting minutes.
- For the latest COVID-19 information in the Northern Virginia area visit one of the below websites:
  - Arlington County – <https://www.arlingtonva.us/covid-19/>



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



- City of Alexandria – <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Coronavirus>
- Fairfax County – <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/covid19/>
- Prince William County – <https://coronavirus.pwcgov.org>

The CDR called for any other items of new business:

- The COB provided that the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico had reopened on 8 September.
  - The flags of IWO JIMA are now on display
  - Hours and information about the museum is available at their website: <https://www.usmcmuseum.com/>
- The CDR took a Zoom Poll asking if members would be willing to conduct Base meetings in person beginning in November. The results were 36% (5) voted “Yes”; 36% (4) voted “Yes with Social Distancing”; and 27% (3) voted “No”.

## **The Binnacle List**

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Steve Bishop, Delbert Ennis, Brian Haller, Barbara Harmody, Steve Jaeger, Mike Naughton, Tony Poblete, and Tom Perrault.

**For the Good of the Order**, the COB read the list of birthdays for September: Howard Chatham, Jim Kraut, Chuck Martin, Dave Oliver, Woody Woodworth, and the words that became our National Anthem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key during the Battle of Baltimore.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on October 10<sup>th</sup> venue TBD (American Legion Post 364 or Zoom).

The Chaplain delivered the benediction.

The CDR requested a motion to adjourn and it was seconded and so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 1139.

Submitted by Joe Castell  
USSVI NOVA Base Secretary



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



## NEXT GENERATION UNIFORMED SERVICES ID CARD

[HTTPS://WWW.CAC.MIL/NEXT-GENERATION-UNIFORMED-SERVICES-ID-CARD/](https://www.cac.mil/next-generation-uniformed-services-id-card/)

The Department of Defense is transitioning from its current paper-based Uniformed Services Identification (USID) card to a more secure, next generation USID card. The Next Generation USID card will incorporate an updated design and security features to deter counterfeiting and fraud and will be printed on a plastic cardstock. Initial issuance of the Next Generation USID card will begin on July 31, 2020 at select DoD ID card facilities, with phased implementation at all DoD ID card facilities projected to be complete in December 2020. USID cards are issued to retired and reserve members, dependent family members of Uniformed Services members, and other eligible individuals in accordance with DoD policy to facilitate access to benefits, privileges, and DoD bases. The Next Generation USID card does not change the populations who are eligible to receive the current card.

Currently issued USID cards remain valid through their expiration date. In an effort to limit the impact on ID card issuance facilities, cards will not be reissued solely for the purpose of obtaining the Next Generation USID card. Since the Next Generation USID card will not be available at all DoD ID card facilities until December 2020, and sites are currently operating under constrained conditions as a result of COVID-19 to keep both cardholders and operators safe, individuals with an indefinite (INDEF) expiration date on their current USID card should wait until summer 2021 to have their Next Generation USID card issued.

---

### USSVI NEWS BULLETIN #2020-057: 2020 Nat. Election results posted on website

-----

Shipmates,

The 2020 National Election Results are available on the USSVI web site. There are two (2) documents “2020\_National\_Election\_Results\_Officers\_and\_C&B\_Changes.pdf” and “2020\_National\_Election\_Results\_by\_Regions\_Districts\_and\_Bases.pdf.”

They are on the USSVI web site at [ussvi.org](http://ussvi.org)>Documents>Elections

The voting statistics are by Regions, Districts and Bases. Please note: there is a discrepancy between the membership numbers in the Region and District reports and those in the Bases report. This is because those reports calculate membership differently. The number on the Bases report reflects the actual number of members who voted.

We believe that the Region and District reports include members who are dual members of one or more Bases. It was built into the software when the voting module was designed. We will address this issue in the design and build the new USSVI web site.

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

Regards,

Tom Conlon, Elections Master

---



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



## VA Public Health: Diseases Associated with Ionizing Radiation Exposure

[https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/radiation/diseases.asp?fbclid=IwAR1u5QMSIL6Z-F2LPY6QCJb1wi1ITdOKR10j1vdlhC7wZY76K8xPpJ6G\\_w8](https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/radiation/diseases.asp?fbclid=IwAR1u5QMSIL6Z-F2LPY6QCJb1wi1ITdOKR10j1vdlhC7wZY76K8xPpJ6G_w8)

VA has recognized certain diseases as related to ionizing radiation exposure during military service. Veterans may be eligible for disability compensation and health care for these diseases. Their survivors also may be eligible for survivors' benefits.

### *Presumptive diseases related to ionizing radiation*

For Veterans who participated in a radiation-risk activity during service (including "Atomic Veterans"), VA assumes that certain cancers are related to their exposure. We call these "presumptive diseases."

- Cancers of the bile ducts, bone, brain, breast, colon, esophagus, gall bladder, liver (primary site, but not if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated), lung (including bronchiolo-alveolar cancer), pancreas, pharynx, ovary, salivary gland, small intestine, stomach, thyroid, urinary tract (kidney/renal, pelvis, urinary bladder, and urethra)
- Leukemia (except chronic lymphocytic leukemia)
- Lymphomas (except Hodgkin's disease)
- Multiple myeloma (cancer of plasma cells)

These Veterans don't have to prove a connection between these diseases and their service to be eligible for disability compensation. Their survivors also may be eligible for survivors' benefits if the Veteran dies as the result of one of these diseases.

### *Other diseases associated with radiation exposure*

VA recognizes that the following diseases are possibly caused by exposure to ionizing radiation during service:

- All cancers
- Non-malignant thyroid nodular disease
- Parathyroid adenoma
- Posterior subcapsular cataracts
- Tumors of the brain and central nervous system

Eligibility for disability compensation or survivors' benefits depends on how much radiation the Veteran received and other factors, such as the period of time between exposure to radiation and the development of the disease. VA decides these claims on a case-by-case basis.

VA also will consider the possibility that other diseases not listed above were caused by radiation, if supported by medical or scientific evidence. To be eligible for compensation, VA must be able to establish that it is at least as likely as not that a Veteran's disease was caused by his/her exposure to radiation during military service.

### *Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)*

VA presumes amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) diagnosed in all Veterans who had 90 days or more continuous active military service is related to their service, although ALS is not related to radiation exposure.

---





## ANC Reopens to the Public for Gravesite Visitation Only

ARLINGTON, VA – Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) announces a limited reopening to visitors on Wednesday, September 9 to allow gravesite visitations to our veterans and families laid to rest in these hallowed grounds.

ANC will open to the public from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Face coverings will be mandatory to wear while on cemetery grounds and social distancing is expected. Several places of interest will remain closed to ensure health protection conditions including the John F. Kennedy gravesite, Memorial Amphitheater, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Karen Durham-Aguilera, Executive Director, Office of Army National Cemeteries and ANC, states, “As conditions in the National Capital Region have continued to improve, our goal is to provide increased access for the public to visit a loved one’s gravesite. We hope this limited reopening will better accommodate our visitors.”

The cemetery’s most sacred mission is to lay our nation’s veterans and their families to rest. As of September 9, the visitation protocol is as follows.

---

## ANC VISITATION PROTOCOL

The following operational protocols will be **implemented as of September 9, 2020:**

### Access Within ANC

- ANC will be **open for gravesite visitation ONLY** from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. beginning on September 9, 2020.**
- The [Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#), [Memorial Amphitheater](#) and [President John F. Kennedy’s gravesite](#) remain closed to the public.
- The exhibits in the [Welcome Center](#) continue to be closed.
- [Arlington House](#), which is managed by the National Park Service, remains closed for a rehabilitation project.
- The Women in Military Service for America Memorial will remain closed to the public, but available for scheduled events only.

### Access Upon Arrival to ANC

- Visitors arriving by car may enter the cemetery on Memorial Avenue, park in the ANC [parking garage](#) and then proceed to the [Welcome Center](#) for [screening](#).
- Pedestrians arriving from the Arlington Cemetery Metro station may go directly to the screening lanes outside of the Welcome Center.
- The [ANC parking garage](#) will be available to passenger cars only. **No buses or tour groups** will be allowed entry in order to maximize social distancing.
- The Arlington Cemetery Metro station has been open as of August 23, 2020.

### Visitor Screening

- There will be [visitor screening](#) lanes **outside the [Welcome Center](#)** for direct access to cemetery grounds.
- A [visitor screening](#) lane will be provided **inside the [Welcome Center](#)** for restroom access upon arrival only. The Welcome Center will have one-directional traffic flow for visitors to enter the cemetery.
- ANC would like to kindly remind visitors that entering the cemetery through unofficial access points is considered trespassing, which is a federal offense.



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



## Restroom Locations

- Portable restrooms are available near the parking garage and on Roosevelt Drive near Section 7A.
- The Welcome Center will have one-directional movement for restroom access after visitor screening. No gathering or waiting inside is permitted. Exhibits remain closed.
- Columbarium Court, in Section 79.
- Columbarium 6 on York Drive, across from Section 62.
- Restrooms inside the Administration Bldg. on King Dr. are for funeral attendees only.

## Water

- Water bottle filling stations are available at many locations throughout the cemetery.
- Bottled water will be available for purchase at the temporary outdoor concession stand on the west side of the [Welcome Center](#), just past visitor screening.
- Note: If you are visiting the graves of loved ones in **Sections 11, 17, 18, 19 and 44**, please be advised that these sections are accessible only by foot due to the closure of McPherson Road for ongoing construction.

## The following operational conditions remain the same:

- [Family pass holder](#) access remains **8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** to visit a loved one's gravesite only.
- The [Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#), [Memorial Amphitheater](#), [President John F. Kennedy's gravesite](#) and the [Welcome Center](#) exhibits remain closed.
- Touring the cemetery in vehicles is not authorized. Family pass holders with vehicle access are reminded that visitation should be to a loved one's gravesite only.
- There is no tram service or gravesite shuttle service.
- ANC will continue to cancel and/or reschedule unofficial and [public wreath ceremonies](#) two weeks in advance by informing groups, embassies, honor flights and tour guides.
- Tour buses and school groups are not permitted.
- Temporary passes will not be issued at this time.
- **There are no changes to current funeral operations.** Please see our [Funerals](#) page for funeral attendee information.
- ANC's face covering policy, social distancing requirements and [ID checks](#) remain in effect. Face coverings are required at all times.

---

Charles "Ray" Alexander, Jr., Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, explains, "Arlington National Cemetery staff will be monitoring all aspects of the cemetery in order to prepare for a full opening in the near future. We are conducting internal assessments of the care and protection of our visitors. We will evaluate our standard operating procedures and efficiencies to ensure the outstanding visitor experience and high standards people expect when coming to the cemetery."

Virtual visitation is available through the new [ANC Education Program](#). Audiences of all ages may now discover lesson plans, walking tours and reading materials on topics that include [Exploring Arlington](#), [The African American Experience at Arlington National Cemetery](#) and [The Spanish-American War](#).

For more information, please visit @ArlingtonNatI on social media or contact our call center at 877-907-8585.