



USSVI Northern Virginia Base



MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1104 on January 9, 2021, and welcomed all members and guests. Because of the 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

Les Altschuler (USSVI Northeast Regional Director), Steve Bishop, Joe Castell, Howard Chatham, Art Glover (USSVI Northeast District 4 Commander), Bob Glover, Brian Haller, Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, Robert Maydwell (Base Commander, USSVI Capitol Base), Bruce Miller, Paul Nelson, Tim Oliver, Mark Riethmeier, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth (18 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 VCDR read the list of boats lost in January. These were:

USS S-36 (SS-141)	January 20, 1942
USS S-26 (SS-131)	January 24, 1942
USS ARGONAUT (SS-166)	January 10, 1943
USS SCORPION (SS-278)	January 5, 1944
USS SWORDFISH (SS-193)	January 12, 1945

The CDR then tolled the ship's bell twice for the 29 USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

IN MEMORIAM: CAPT Thomas Alexander Dowell, USN, Ret—12/4/2020; CAPT Donald Lind Winchell, Jr., USN, Ret—12/6/2020; CAPT Cornelius "Neil" Francis O'Keefe, USN, Ret—12/29/2020.

INDUCTION OF 2021 BASE OFFICERS

The Immediate Past Base Commander, Howard Chatham, swore in the re-elected NOVA Base Commander, Chuck Martin

The NOVA Base Commander then swore in the other 2021 NOVA Base officers:

Vice Commander – Brian Haller

Secretary – Joe Castell

Treasurer - Steve Jaeger



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APPOINTMENTS FOR OTHER BASE POSITIONS

The Base Commander nominated the following members for Base appointed positions:

CHIEF OF THE BOAT – Mike Varone

MEMBERSHIP – Steve Jaeger

CHAPLAIN – Steve Jaeger

SUBMARINE HISTORIAN – Woody Woodworth

STOREKEEPER – Howard Chatham

WEBMASTER – Howard Chatham

KAPS 4 KIDS – Steve Bishop

SCOUTING COORDINATOR – Chuck Martin

PAO – Mike Varone

Vote taken by poll, nominations were approved with 15 votes for and none against.

MEETING MINUTES

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

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

- Beginning Cash on Hand: \$ 9,289.31
- Receipts: \$ 1,210.39
 - Dues—Annual Base
 - Dues—Annual National
 - Dues—Life Base
 - Dues—Life National
 - Donations—Base
 - Interest/Dividends
- Expenditures: \$ 460.48
 - Dues to National
 - Expense—Other (New NFCU Checks)
- Ending Sub-Total: \$ 10,039.22
 - Minus Remaining Walmart Grant Restricted Use Funds (\$1,169.40)
- Grand Total (discretionary) \$ 8,869.82
- NOVA USSVICF K4K Total: \$ 3,054.10
 - We received \$1000.00 in 2020
- We ended 2020 with two members delinquent for 2021 National, and three delinquent for 2021 base dues.
(*Delinquent numbers adjusted later under MEMBERSHIP REPORT.*)



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The **CHAPLAIN**, Steve Jaeger, provided the following:

- CAPT Francis Pasquinelli, USN, Ret. departed on eternal patrol on November 28, 2020.

The **CDR**, Chuck Martin, provided the following on CAPT Pasquinelli:

- Navy Biography
 - Commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy in 1956, served 28 years, retiring in 1984.
 - His first tour of duty was onboard the USS HARLAN R. DICKSON (DD-708). He attended Submarine School in 1958 and qualified for submarines on the USS ODAX (SS-484). Subsequent tours were on the USS TRUMPETFISH (SS-425), USS GUDGEON (SS-567), and USS SEA ROBIN (SS-407). He was the Commanding Officer of the USS PICKEREL (SS-524) from 1969-1971.
- USSVI Biography
 - Joined USSVI in May 1999
 - Joined USSVI NOVA in May 1999
 - A Holland Club member
 - A USSVI Life member

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **Executive Board** meeting was held on December 30, 2020, via Zoom. The meeting agenda included:

- Committee Reports
- Membership
- 2021 Holland Club
- 2021 Base Budget
- K4K Program
- Other Base events/calendar

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

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

The **PAO**, Mike Varone, provided the following:

- USS CLAMAGORE (SS-343) Restoration and Maintenance Association, Inc. (CRAMA)
 - The CLAMAGORE is not going anywhere since Patriots Point has found that the cost of reefing the submarine is very close to the cost of repair and has used the funds it had received to help finance some positions, they felt they could no longer afford to keep. CRAMA is working on a proposal on how they can help maintain the submarine.
- History of the Enlisted White Hat
 - MCPO Mark Hacala, USN, Ret., presents an interesting history on the enlisted cover on the Master Chief's Sea Chest YouTube channel. To view the history, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ctys86aNk1A&ab_channel=MasterChief%27sSeaChest



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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT presented by Steve Jaeger: 82 members comprising:

- 43 Holland Club members,
 - Frank Pasquinelli left on Eternal Patrol on 28 November 2020
 - 4 WW II members
- 31 Regular members
- 8 Associate members
- Newest Base Member:
 - STS1(SS) Michael Tucci, USN, Ret.
 - Enlisted in 1994 and retired in 2014.
 - Qualification boat—USS PROVIDENCE (SSN-719)
 - Served aboard the USS OKLAHOMA CITY (SSN-723) and USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSN-777)
- Outstanding 2021 Annual Membership fees:
 - 2 Base members for National Membership
 - 3 Base members for Base Membership
- Annual memberships expired on December 31, 2020.
- The CDR stated that had received a late email indicating one of the delinquent members would be renewing his membership which updated the delinquent members to 1 for National and 2 for Base.

The **KAPS 4 KIDS** Chairman, Steve Bishop, provided the following:

- The National K4K Chairman, John P. Riley, had provided Steve with information that Groton base was conducting visits virtually via Zoom by providing an iPad to the hospital and using PowerPoint presentations.
- Steve indicated that INOVA could not accept gifts like an iPad. All gifts need to be received by their corporate headquarters.
 - Brian Haller stated that tablets were less expensive than iPads and the Base might consider purchasing tablets and loan them to hospitals to conduct virtual K4K visits.
 - The Base CDR requested that Steve Bishop research this idea and report back to the EXCOM.
 - Steve Jaeger provided that if this proposal were accepted, the Base would need to develop an inventory process to account for the items.
- While the Base would not be applying for WALMART grants for 2021, grant procedures had changed and all WALMART grants would now be processed by the USSVI National Treasurer, Ken Earls. This change is required for providing appropriate tax ID to WALMART.
- T. Michael Bircumshaw was stepping down as the National Editor for the *American Submariner* magazine.
 - Les Altschuler provided that the new editor is Chuck Senior who has decades of experience.



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The **STOREKEEPER**, Howard Chatham, reported:

- Storekeeper has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, and USSVI NOVA Base patches available for purchase.
- 2021 USSVI Calendars initial order has been received and delivered.
 - Contact the Base SK to purchase/order a calendar or you can place an order directly using the ordering information in the first quarter of the *American Submariner* (page 47).
 - Members are encouraged to order through the Base SK. The Base receives a discount on bulk orders and receives a small profit from the sale.
 - The Base has five calendars in stock.
 - Cost:
 - From Base Storekeeper - \$10/calendar + shipping (if the SK needs to mail them to a member)
 - From National Storekeeper - \$10.95 +\$2.75 shipping.
 - The calendar theme is “Let’s Go To The Movies.”
- Storekeeper also has access to National USSVI SK, Submarine Ships Store, and SubmarineShop.com items for purchase.
- Contact Howard at storekeeper@ussvinova.org if you have interest in purchasing any submarine related merchandise.

The **WEBMASTER**, Howard Chatham, reported the following:

- No issues with the Base website,
- Ol Goat website is not operational yet.
- The National website has not been updated to reflect bylaws/constitution changes.

Les Altschuler, **USSVI NE Region Commander**, provided the following:

- First quarter of the *American Submariner* is online.
- The USSVI National Treasurer, Paul Hiser, is back to work after recovering from COVID-19.
- The EOY Financial Reports are due at the end of Jan. [Post Meeting correction – The report is due by March 1, 2021.]
- The status of the 2021 USSVI National Convention is unknown and may be canceled or postpone because of COVID-19. The CDR mentioned that the USSVI National Convention website states the host resort has reopened and is taking reservations; however, the Convention Committee is unable to develop a registration form because of the events vendors' status.
- Work has begun on the new National website; extremely complicated; no estimate as to when the work will be complete.

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

- Naval Submarine League (NSL) and Related Events



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- NSL Capitol Chapter held their December meeting via Zoom on the 17th with guest speaker Don Keith.
- The date for the next Capitol Chapter meeting is TBD but the speaker will be Rear Admiral Lorin Selby.
- If you missed either the October or December meetings, you can still see and hear the guest speaker's presentations by visiting https://capitor.navalsubleague.org/?page_id=30
 - October 2020 Meeting, Jonti Powis presentation
 - December 2020 Meeting, Don Keith presentation
- NSL Brick Campaign
 - You can contribute to the Capital Campaign by purchasing a brick for the patio at the NSL headquarters. This is an opportunity to display your name, your boat's name, the NSL logo, or a message up to 3 lines of 18 characters each. At \$140 each, an NSL brick would make a great gift! And it is a donation, so tax-deductible to the extent you can deduct charitable contributions.
 - To buy a brick, go to the NSL website...SUPPORT US...NSL SHOPPING...and place your order, or click on the link: https://app.etapestry.com/cart/NavalSubmarineLeague_1/default/index.php
 - Navy League Sea-Air-Space Expo still on track.
 - Scheduled for August 1-4, 2021
 - STEM Expo will be held on August 1, 2021
 - Location: Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center
- Since the SECNAV's announcement that the next Virginia-class submarine (SSN-804) will be named after the USS BARB (SS-220), NSL has been able to work with RADM Fluckey's family to obtain USS BARB memorabilia.
 - Memorabilia being cataloged.
 - One of the items may be USS BARB's battle flag.

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

- Upcoming International Submarines Congress:
 - 2022—Sweden (500th anniversary of the Swedish Navy)
 - 2023—Greece
 - 2024—Montenegro
 - USA has made a bid for hosting a future convention (2025/2026) to honor JP Holland in the Republic of Ireland with visits to his home in Clare.
- Worldwide ISA/USA Zoom meeting was held on December 19th. The Base CDR attended. The meeting had members present from as far away as Sweden. Another meeting was held today, January 9th.
- To join the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA Inc) visit their website www.isausa.org/
 - Life membership to the ISA/USA is \$50.00 and
 - Application is on the ISA/USA website.
 - There are 33 countries as members of ISA.



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Upcoming submarine reunions:

- None

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

OLD BUSINESS

- The Base Budget and Calendar of events were approved at the December meeting.
- Authors Frank Hood (USSVI member) and his brother, Charles Hood, have written a series of three submarine books: *Pooper Suits and Cowboy Boots*; *Sub Tales: Stories That Seldom Surface*; and *The Silent Service Speaks Vol 1*. Proceeds from the sale of the books go to our USSVI Scholarship Fund.

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

NEW BUSINESS

- The CDR ask the members in attendance if the Base wanted to purchase an NSL Brick?
 - Motion was made and seconded.
 - Discussions were conducted regarding adding the names of our remaining WWII veterans on the brick.
 - Vote was taken via poll; 15 votes for approval, none for disapproval.
- 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/>
 - 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.

- Tim Oliver noted that the *American Submariner* listed several boats still needing subscription sponsors.
 - Sponsorship is only \$30 a year.
 - Suggested that the Base consider challenging other bases to sponsor boats.
 - The Base CDR provided information that NOVA Base sponsors two boats (USS ALEXANDRIA SSN-757 and USS JOHN WARNER SSN-785).
 - Discussions ensued noting that both individuals and organizations can sponsor boats and naval activities such as NROTCs.
 - No motions were made on the suggestion.

The Binnacle List

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Brian Haller, Barbara Harmody, Mike Naughton, Tony Poblete, and Tom Perrault. Joe Phoenix was added by the Chaplain, Steve Jaeger.



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For the Good of the Order, the COB read the list of birthdays for January: Dan Arquette, George Billy, Hank Chiles, Sam Dunlap, Nader Elquindi, Bob and Susan Glover, Gary Grimes, Richard Hamly, Bruce Miller, Mike Murphy, Einer Nielson, and Judy Perrault.

The next regular scheduled meeting with John Lindstedt as guest speaker will be on February 13th via Zoom. See the presentation flyer on page 9.

The Chaplain delivered the benediction.

The CDR requested a motion to adjourn and it was seconded and so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 1155.

After adjournment, the CDR called for a short 5-minute break after which a virtual tour of the USS PAMPANITO (SS-383) a Balao class submarine, was taken. The tour was at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OC8XS1lllal>

Submitted by Joe Castell
USSVI NOVA Base Secretary



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FEBRUARY 13TH BASE MEETING PRESENTATION FLYER



History of the U.S. Submarine Force In World War II

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