

## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024

The Base CDR, Brian Haller, called the meeting to order at 1041 on August 10, 2024, at American Legion Post 364, Woodbridge, VA, and welcomed all members and guests.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Dave Bell, Leslie Bell, Bruce Byrd, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, Bob Glover, Pat Haller, Brian Haller, Dick Hamly, Janice Leonard, Jeff Leonard, Josh Michael, Mark Riethmeier, Aaron Stroeh, Penny Wallace, George Wallace, Clifford Whitener, Lawrence Woodworth, and via Zoom, Mike Niblack and Tim Oliver (20 total; 15 members).

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The CDR led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary, Howard Chatham, delivered the Invocation.

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

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

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEMBERS WHO DEPARTED ON ETERNAL PATROL IN THE MONTH OF 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 CDR then rang the bell twice in remembrance of the 42 USSVI NOVA Base members on Eternal Patrol.

### IN MEMORIAM:

- CAPT Bartlett Clark, USN (Ret) - September 5, 2016

- CAPT Grant R. Garritson, USN (Ret) - April 2, 2021
- CDR Eugene G. Kreinik, USN (Ret) - May 13, 2021
- CAPT Michael A. McBride, USN (Ret) - August 21, 2021
- CAPT Joe D. McCune, USN (Ret) - April 11, 2024
- CDR Chris Deigel, USN - June 1, 2024
- CDR Russell A Preble, Jr., USN (Ret) - June 20, 2024
- CAPT John Sutherland Heffron, USN (Ret) - July 1, 2024
- STCS(SS) Charles "Chuck" Ford, USN (Ret) – July 1, 2024
- ETCM(SS) Tom Nutter, USN (Ret), COMSUBLANT Staff, 2004 NSL Distinguished Civilian Awardee – July 12, 2024
- ET3(SS) Les Altschuler, USN Vet. - July 13, 2024
- CAPT Stephen Johnson, USN (Ret) – July 17, 2024
- CAPT Sibley L. "Sam" Ward, III, USN (Ret) – July 23, 2024
- Sheila McNeill, Past President US Navy League, Past Board Member Naval Submarine League, Founder of the St. Marys Submarine Museum, Georgia State Senator – August 5, 2024

## TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer, Howard Chatham, presented the following:

### NOVA Base Treasurer's Report for August 10, 2024

• Beginning Cash on Hand:	<u>\$12,232.77</u>
• Plus Receipts:	
•NFCU Checking Account Dividends (June & July)	\$0.12
•NFCU CD Dividends (June & July)	\$41.15
•Donation to USSVCF Scholarship Fund - C. Martin	\$20.00
•Donation to Base from District Good of Order drawing	\$100.00
•Donation to Base from 50/50 raffle	\$35.00
•Donation to Base – C. Martin	\$30.00
•National dues – C. Whitener	\$85.00
•Base dues – C. Whitener	\$45.00
• Minus Expenditures:	
•Dues to National – C. Whitener	\$85.00
•Payment to National for USSVCF Scholarship Fund	\$20.00
•Reimbursement to SEC for mailing of Longevity Pins	\$19.04
• Ending Cash on Hand:	<u>\$12,465.00</u>

Minus Local K4K Restricted Use Funds	\$1,379.40
Minus NFCU 12-month Share Certificate (CD)	\$5,000.00
● Total Local Discretionary Funds	\$6,085.60
● USSVCF NOVA Base K4K Balance	\$2,135.41
● Total K4K Funds (Local + USSVCF)	\$3,514.81

The Treasurer’s report was accepted as read.

### MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the June meeting were distributed by e-mail and USPS. The minutes were accepted as promulgated.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** – The Executive Committee met on 31 July via Zoom. The meeting agenda included committee reports, meeting-related items, old business, new business, and meeting/event planning.

The **VCDR**, **Secretary**, and **Webmaster** had nothing to report. For the **Chaplain**, the Secretary reported that Joe Phoenix is not doing well and requested ALCON continue to keep Joe and Marie in their prayers.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

- Membership information
  - 92 Members
    - 50 Holland Club Members
      - 1 WW II Member
    - 33 Regular Members
      - 13 – Base Life Members
      - 20 – Base Annual Members
    - 9 Associate Members

Our newest member remains Clifford Whitener.

For the **Storekeeper**, the CDR reported:

- The SK is taking advance orders for the 2025 USSVI Calendars. Orders must be received by August 12th. To place your order, email the SK at [storekeeper@ussvinova.org](mailto:storekeeper@ussvinova.org).
- Also, contact the SK if you are interested in any of the multitude of items we have in the Base store or need to special order an item.

## USSVI AND NE4 DISTRICT NEWS

- Ken Nichols has been appointed as the Acting Northeast Region Director until the new Northeast Region Director can be sworn in during the 2024 USSVI National Convention.
- 2024 USSVI National Election voting is underway and ends on August 17 at 2359. Voting can be done online (preferred) or by paper ballot. See the American Submariner 2024 Second Quarter issue for ballot and additional information. The CDR noted that he had paper ballots available at the meeting.
- 2024 USSVI National Convention is August 19 – 24 in Cleveland, OH. The block of rooms at special rates of \$109/night has closed but there may still be rooms available. Book your room today. We look forward to seeing you there.

While we had technical difficulties connecting with Tim Oliver, on behalf of the **Naval Submarine League (NSL)** he requested that our members consider participating in the formation of a Sub Club for USS Virginia or USS Alexandria. Those who might be interested should contact him or Barbara Baker at the NSL (<https://www.navalsubleague.org/about-us/contact-us/> or 703-256-0891).

### Upcoming Submarine Reunions:

- USS Jallao (SS 368) Aug 15-18, 2024, Cleveland, OH
- USS Baton Rouge (SSN 689) Aug 22-25, 2024, Norfolk, VA
- USS Spadefish (SSN 668) Aug 22-25, 2024, Norfolk, VA
- USS Nathan Hale (SSBN 623) Aug 23-27, 2024, Cleveland, OH
- USS Thomas Edison (SSBN 610) Sep 4-8, 2024, Ft Myers, FL
- USS Guardfish (SSN 612) Sep 6-8, 2024, St. Marys, GA
- USS Halfbeak (SS 352) Sep 9-13, 2024, Branson, MO
- USS Sam Houston (SSBN/SSN 609) Sep 10-12, 2024, Buffalo, NY
- USS Pogy (SSN 647) Sep 11-15, 2024, Bremerton, WA
- USS John Marshall (SSBN/SSN-611) Sep 12-15, 2024, Little Rock, AR
- USS George C. Marshall (SSBN 654) Sep 18-21, 2024, Groton, CT
- USS John C. Calhoun (SSBN630) September 18-21 2024, Warwick, RI
- USS James K. Polk (SSBN/SSN 645) Sep 19-22, 2024, Myrtle Beach, SC
- USS Growler (SSG 577) Sep 20-22, 2024, New York, NY
- USS Clamagore (SS 343) Sep 22-26, 2024, Little Rock, AR
- USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN 601) Sep 24-29, 2024, Manitowoc, WI
- Navy Deep Submergence Group Assn. Sep 27-29, 2024, Silverdale, WA
- USS Nautilus (SSN 571) Sep 27 – Oct 1, 2024, Groton, CT
- USS Tiru (SS416) Sep 29 - Oct 1, 2024, Warwick, RI
- USS Angler (SS 240) Sep 29 – Oct 3, 2024, New London, CT
- USS Bang (SS 385) Sep 30 – Oct 3, 2024, North Little Rock, AR

- USS Cavalla (SS 244/SSN 684) Sep/Oct 2024, Groton, CT
- USS Patrick Henry (SSBN/SSN 599) Oct 3-6, 2024, San Antonio, TX
- USS Threadfin (SS 410) Oct 3-6, 2024, New Orleans, LA
- USS Lewis and Clark (SSBN 644) Oct 15-18, 2024, St. Marys, GA
- USS Chivo (SS 341) Oct 20-23, 2024, Kings Bay, GA
- USS Dogfish (SS 350) Oct 23-27, 2024, Kings Bay, GA
- USS Tunny (SS 282/SSN 682) Nov 6-10, 2024, San Antonio, TX
- In addition to the Jallao and Nathan Hale, the USS Tusk, Silversides, Kamehameha, Piper, Skate, and Ohio will be holding reunions at the USSVI annual convention in August.

### **BINNACLE LIST**

Please keep the following in your prayers: Joe Castell, Steve Jaeger, Terry McNamara, Mary Miller (mother of Bruce Miller), Tom Perrault, Joe Phoenix, Tim Shannon, and Diane Whitener.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**, the CDR read the list of birthdays for August: Steve Bishop, Frances Burke, Jeff Currer, Curtis Duncan, Christine Gault, Sue Maruzo, Joe Phoenix, Michael Tucci, Mike Varone, and Bill Waylett.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

USS Groton Sail Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax exempt nonprofit organization focused on building a lasting public monument to celebrate their region's contribution to our nation's defense. The centerpiece of the monument will be the USS Groton's sail and rudder, which will serve as a permanent tribute to the Navy's submarine community, past, present, and future. The Foundation is now attempting to raise \$2 million to secure a site in Groton, Connecticut and to build the monument. They are selling pavers and taking donations at <https://grotonsail.com>.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Base needs to update our marketing materials. We have received several quotes from 2 printers. The EXCOM's recommendation is to have 100 copies of our updated brochure printed. The new brochure will have a perforation to tear off the "Request for Information" page. The quoted price from Digi Quick Print is \$229.20 for 100. There were no questions or discussion, and the purchase was approved by a show of hands from the members in attendance at the meeting.

The Base CDR then turned the podium over to the Master of Ceremonies for the **Holland Club Induction**, the Base Secretary. Howard noted that the reason for

this event was to show our appreciation, to recognize, to thank, and induct one of our shipmates, who was unable to attend the ceremony held earlier this year, into the prestigious USSVI Holland Club: TM3(SS) Jeffrey Leonard.

Before the Induction, all Holland Club members in attendance were asked to stand so they too could be recognized. These were [Bruce Byrd](#), [Howard Chatham](#), [Bob Glover](#), [Brian Haller](#), [Dick Hamly](#), [Woody Woodworth](#), and, via Zoom, [Tim Oliver](#), who all received a round of applause.

Howard then called the inductee to the head table and read Jeff's biography:

**TMCM(SS) Jeffrey Leonard, USN (Ret.)**

Jeffrey Leonard reported to Boot Camp in Orlando, FL in 1973. That same year he graduated from Submarine School and reported to USS James Madison (SSBN-627). He "Qualified in Submarines" aboard James Madison in 1974.

Jeffrey's subsequent sea duty assignments were USS Woodrow Wilson (SSBN-624), USS Richard B. Russell (SSN-687), USS Norfolk (SSN-714) and ultimately as Chief of the Boat on USS Minneapolis-St. Paul (SSN-708).

His shore duty assignments included two tours on COMSUBLANT Staff.

Jeffrey married the former Janice Kisloski in 1975. They have two sons: Jeffrey II and Andy and two grandchildren: Jeffrey III and Genevieve.

Jeffrey and Janice reside in Fredericksburg, VA.

Howard then read and presented the USSVI Holland Club certificates and membership card, the VCDR presented the Holland Club ball cap, patch, and coin, and the Base CDR presented the large qual boat poster.





Jeff noted that he was honored to have Cliff Whitener here as Cliff was one of those that signed his qual card on the Madison way back when. He also thanked his wife, Janice, for sticking by him for all those years in the Navy and since then too.

The CDR then announced that our next regular base meeting will be on September 14<sup>th</sup> at American Legion Post 364 in Woodbridge and on Zoom. Immediately following that meeting we will have our members appreciation luncheon at a venue TBD.

The Base Secretary delivered the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 1111.

**50/50 RAFFLE:** The raffle was won by Cliff Whitener who donated his winnings back to the Base. Thank you, Cliff!

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by  
Howard Chatham  
Secretary, USSVI Northern Virginia Base