

MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2016

The Base CDR, Howard Chatham, called the meeting to order at 1100 on 9 January, 2016 at American Legion Post 162, Lorton, VA and welcomed all members and guests.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Bishop, Cathy Chatham, Howard Chatham, CAPT Steve Debus, Ed Ettner, Mary Ettner, Steve Jaeger, Darlene Jaeger and her mother Guenevieve Johler, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Mike Naughton, Mary Lou Naughton, Paul Nelson, Michael Niblack, Tim Oliver, Mike Varone, George Wallace and Penny Wallace. (19 attendees)

■ Holland Club Member

■ Associate Member

■ Guest

The COB, Chuck Martin, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chaplain, Steve Jaeger, delivered the Invocation.

The CDR read the list of boats lost in the month of January. These were:

USS Scorpion (SS-278)	Jan 5, 1944
USS Argonaut (SS-166)	Jan 10, 1943
USS Swordfish (SS-193)	Jan 12, 1945
USS S-36 (SS-141)	Jan 20, 1942
USS S-26 (SS-131)	Jan 24, 1942

INDUCTION OF 2016 BASE OFFICERS

The out-going Base Commander Howard Chatham spoke about the honor of leading this NOVA Base for the last four years. He mentioned some of the accomplishments along the way and then thanked many fellow base members and associate members by name for their help. Howard then swore in the newly-elected NOVA Base Commander, Chuck Martin. After the swear-in, Howard passed down the line his "Commander" pin to Chuck. Hopefully this class act will start a new tradition for this base.



Chuck Martin then swore in the other newly-elected NOVA Base officers:

Vice Commander	George Wallace
Treasurer	Steve Jaeger
Secretary	Steve Bishop

The Base Historian, Richard Lowry, was not able to attend. Michael Niblack read the short historical vignette prepared by Richard on the demise of the USS Scorpion (SS-278). Built in



Portsmouth, NH, in 1942, she transited to Pearl Harbor and set out on her first war patrol in April, 1943. She spent her first three patrols chasing and killing freighters in convoys and then evading many depth charges from the convoys' escorts in both the East China and Yellow Seas. On her fourth war patrol she rendezvoused with USS Herring on the morning of January 5, 1944 but was never heard from again. It is believed she struck a mine when entering the Yellow Sea.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the December 2015 meeting had been distributed by e-mail to the membership. No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Starting balance: \$ 5,177.24

Ending balance: \$ 5,259.23

No comments.

The **Base Commander** presented a summary of the recent Executive Board Meeting. Major items included: potential new members, planning for this year's Holland Club, membership renewal, boat sponsorship, K4K visits, candidates for base appointed positions, restarting submarine briefings at schools / NJROTCs, upcoming Eagle Scout ceremonies, Wreaths Across America cleanup, potential articles for the American Submariner, and next month's Sweetheart Luncheon.

The **Vice Commander** spoke of the Holland Club initiation for Mickey Garverick and Tony Pobleto scheduled for May 14, 2016 at PJ Skidoos restaurant in Fairfax, VA at 1100.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Mike Varone to serve as COB** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved.

Membership Report by Steve Jaeger: 85 members. This total includes 36 Holland Club members, 38 regular members, and 11 associate members.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Mike Varone to serve as Public Affairs Officer (PAO)** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Steve Jaeger to serve as Chaplain** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Steve Bishop to serve as Kap(ss) for Kid(ss) chair** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved. The next Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss) visit should happen in late March, 2016 at Fairfax Inova Hospital. Then in April, we should visit the University of Virginia's Medical Center in Charlottesville, VA with the USS Virginia Base.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Howard Chatham to serve as Storekeeper** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved.

The Base Commander asked the attendees for approval for **Howard Chatham to serve as Webmaster** for the NOVA Base in 2016. So moved, seconded, and approved.

The Base has two open positions waiting for a volunteer to step up. They are: Scouting Program Coordinator and NJROTC/School Program Coordinator.

Tim Oliver, the **NSL Executive Director**, reported that a San Diego TV station recently ran a special interest story over three nights covering life aboard the USS Albuquerque. The NSL will hold their next Capitol Chapter luncheon on February 5th, their Corporate Member Recognition Days on March 9-10, the Submarine History Seminar (41 for Freedom) on April 6, the Submarine Technology Symposium on May 3-5, and the Annual Fall Symposium on October 26-27.

The Regional Director, Mike Naughton, informed us that:

- New membership applications are posted on-line and include the updated dues info
- USSVI again qualified for War Veteran Status
- We should all check our on-line profile at USSVI website; be sure to check the box if you served during any war time
- Burial at sea information is available at the USSVI website
- The USSVI National Convention for 2016 will be in Reno, NV on Aug 15-20th
- The 2017 National Convention site is still TBD, but it could be in Orlando, FL— on land or at sea....

OLD BUSINESS

Chuck Martin received a Letter of Appreciation from Ms. Diane Carter, the daughter of the WW II Navy veteran we helped with raking leaves in his yard back in November. She thanked the Base members for taking charge and moving out to assist her father.

The Base received a nice donation letter from INOVA Hospital for the anonymous gift of \$100 made during a recent K4K visit. Thank you, shipmate!!

NEW BUSINESS

The Base CDR reported:

The Wreaths Across America cleanup at Arlington National Cemetery will be held on January 23rd and will commence with a briefing at the Memorial Amphitheater at 0830. Anyone who wishes to assist in this effort is welcome. Plan to arrive early / take the Metro to avoid the crowds.

NEWS FROM THE FLEET:

- o Commander's Intent for the Submarine Force and Supporting Organizations has been published (www.comsubfor-usn.blogspot.com)
- o Force Master Chief Stephen Capps was named as SUBLANT Force MC
- o USS Emory S Land will join USS Frank Cable in Guam (2 tenders in Guam)
- o First four enlisted women graduated from Submarine School

- USS Georgia Blue crew CO was relieved for colliding with a buoy then running aground
- USS Oklahoma City CO was relieved for “lackluster leadership”
- Pentagon approved the RFP for Ohio Replacement Program design

The Binnacle List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers: the Jaeger family (loss of Steve’s mother), Art Bivens, Howard Chatham, Richard Lowry, Carla Petruy, Woody Woodworth, the family of RADM Arnie Lotring (death of their son Sean), and the family of CAPT Glenn Secrest.

For the Good of the Order, the CDR read the list of birthdays for January: Dan Arquette, George Billy, Hank and Anne Chiles, Sam Dunlap, Nader Elquindi, Bob and Susan Glover, Roger Hall, Bruce Miller, Mike Murphy, Einer Nielson, and Judy Perrault.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Mary Ettner and she donated her winnings back to the Base.
THANK YOU, MARY!!

The Benediction was delivered by the Chaplain.

Terry and Paul Nelson are once again coordinating the Sweetheart Luncheon event for us in downtown Lorton, VA. Terry reported that it will be held after our February 13th meeting at ~12:30 PM at the Fireside Grill restaurant. Please pay the Base Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, before you leave the American Legion facility. A flyer was created and distributed separately by e-mail. Please RSVP to Terry at sfon8v@verizon.net with your menu choices.

The CDR requested a motion to adjourn. It was so moved and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1145.



After a short break, the Base VCDR introduced CAPT Steve Debus, PMS 435, who spoke about the role of the Submarine Engineering Duty Officers (the “Subba Bubbas”). His colorful slide presentation was very informative and detailed. Some key take-aways were:

- EDOs are at the crossroads of acquisition leadership and technical excellence
- As 1.5% of the Navy officer corps, the EDOs execute about 30% of the Navy budget
- The 800 EDO officers lead a civilian workforce of > 70,000
- The Subba Bubbas mentor other submarine EDOs while working in submarine program management, new submarine construction, PEO Subs, SUPSHIP Groton, and SUPSHIP Newport News billets
- EDOs are constantly solving the Cost - Schedule - Performance equation
- The Subba Bubbas provide acquisition leadership by Building, Maintaining, and Modernizing today’s and tomorrow’s submarine force.
- For the first time ever, there are three EDOs serving as VADM’s in today’s Navy

The Base CDR thanked CAPT Debus and presented him with a USSVI NOVA Base challenge coin. Thank you!!!

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by

Stephen C Bishop
Secretary
USSVI Northern Virginia Base