

MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2020

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1101 on July 11, 2020, and welcomed all members and guests. Due to social distancing requirements associated with COVID-19, the meeting was held using the Cisco Webex 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, Bill Clement, [Ric Guntang](#), Brian Haller, Chuck Martin, [Lou Maruzo](#), [Robert Maydwell](#), Bruce Miller, Tim Oliver, Mark Riethmeier, [Mike Varone](#), and [Woody Woodworth](#) (15 total).

 [Holland Club Member](#)

 [Associate Member](#)

 [Guest](#)

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

The CDR delivered the Invocation.

The VCDR, Brian Haller, read the list of boats lost in July. These were:

USS GRUNION (SS-216)	July 30, 1942
USS S-28 (SS-133)	July 4, 1944
USS ROBALO (SS-273)	July 26, 1944

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

IN MEMORIAM: CAPT William G. Clautice, USN, Ret.—June 2020; CAPT Robert R. Koehler, USN, Ret.—6/8/2020; VADM Edward Alan Burkhalter, USN, Ret.—7/1/2020.

MEETING MINUTES

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

On behalf of the Treasurer, Steve Jaeger, the CDR presented the Treasurer's monthly report:

- Beginning Cash on Hand: \$ 9,431.96
- Receipts: \$ 155.40
 - Dues-Life, Base and National
 - Interest/Dividends

- Expenditures: \$ 100.00
 - Dues to National
 - Expense-Events (2020 HC)
- Ending Sub-Total: \$ 9,487.36
 - Minus Remaining Walmart Grant Restricted Use Funds (\$1,169.40)
- Grand Total (discretionary) \$ 8,317.96
- 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 July 1, 2020, via Cisco Webex. The meeting agenda included:

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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT presented by the CDR: 83 members comprised of:

- 44 Holland Club members,
 - 4 WW II members
- 31 Regular members
- 8 Associate members
- Newest Member
 - CAPT Richard “Dick” Hamly, USN, Ret.
 - Joined the Navy in 1965 and retired in 1995
 - SS qualified in 1968 on the USS JOHN C. CALHOUN (SSBN 630)
 - Also served on the USS DRUM (SSN 677) and was the XO on the USS NEREUS (AS-17)
 - Naval highlights include six years at sea, ten years in shipyards, three years in the Pentagon, and 11 years in NAVSEA
 - Dick is an NSL Capitol Chapter member

The **Vice Commander**, Brian Haller, had nothing to report.

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

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

On behalf of the **CHAPLAIN**, Steve Jaeger, the CDR provided the following:

- EN3(SS) William Douglas deployed on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, for eternal patrol
 - Bill was a Holland Club member having worn his dolphins proudly for 63 years.
 - Obituary at: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/fredericksburg-va/william-douglas-9246150>

The **KAPS 4 KIDS** Chairman, Steve Bishop, reported that all K4K visits had been suspended until further notice due to the COVID-19 crisis. If K4K visits are reinstated, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for visiting members will be required.

The **STOREKEEPER**, Howard Chatham, reported

- Has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, and USSVI NOVA Base patches available for purchase
- Storekeeper also has National USSVI items for purchase
- Contact Howard at storekeeper@ussvinova.org if interest in purchasing National USSVI and NOVA Base merchandise

The **WEBMASTER**, Howard Chatham, reported no issues with the Base site.

The **USSVI Northeast Region Director**, Les Altschuler, provided the following:

- Encouraged all NOVA Base member to vote
- Recommended voting no on Proposed Amendment 2020-06 – Modifies Wording of USSVI Creed to correct grammar used in our purpose/creed. Rational is that wording changes will require updating all items that contained the creed at considerable cost.
 - Howard Chatham countered that the current wording must be changed as it is grammatically incorrect and an embarrassment to USSVI. Items that contained the current creed could be used and replaced as normal at a smaller cost. The CDR concurred.

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

- The NSL Mentorship Program has successfully concluded its pilot program and is ready to accept all NSL members into the program as a mentor, a mentee, or both! Send an email to staff@navalsubleague.org for more information or to sign up.
- NSL Capitol Chapter holding elections for President and Treasurer [Post meeting correction the positions were for President and Secretary] with online voting. [Post meeting note: The election is closed. George Wallace was re-elected as President and Dixon Hicks was re-elected as Secretary.]
- Move to the new building in August (407 North Henry Street).
- Reviewing all events due to COVID-19. Modified Naval Submarine League (NSL) and related events:

- 2020 Submarine History Seminar, in collaboration with the Smithsonian Associates – **Rescheduled** for 10 Nov 2020 as a virtual event.
- NSL 38th Annual Symposium 18-19 Nov 2020 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City. Note this event may be held virtually. NSL will be making final determination soon.
- As updates are available, the information will be distributed.

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

- USS SALT LAKE CITY (SSN 716) – August 13-16, 2020; Branson, MO
- USS TREPANG (SSN 674) – August 13-16, 2020; Groton, CT. Robert Maydwell reported this reunion has been canceled; to be rescheduled for a date in 2021.
- USS PICUDA (SS 383)—August 17-20, 2020; Memphis, TN
- USS QUILLBACK (SS 424)—August 17-20, 2020; Memphis, TN
- USS TRUTTA (SS 421)—August 17-20, 2020; Memphis, TN
- USS FLYING FISH (SSN 673) – August 20-24, 2020; Virginia Beach, VA
- USS RONQUIL (SS 396) – August 21-24, 2020; Tucson, AZ
- USS SALMON (SS 573)—August 21-23, 2020; Tucson, AZ
- USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) – August 23, 2020; Bremerton, WA
- USS RATON (SS 270) – August 24-28, 2020 Tucson, AZ
- USS BANG (SS 385) – August 26-30, 2020, Washington, DC
- USS SEADRAGON (SS 584) – August 27-29; 2020, Tucson, AZ
- USS SKATE (SSN 578)—August 30-September 3, 2020; Orlando, FL

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

OLD BUSINESS

- The Base's wall pictures damaged in the American Legion Post 162 fire have been restored.
- Check out the latest edition of the *American Submariner* for USSVI National Officer Candidate information and proposed changes to the Constitution & By-Laws for this year's USSVI National election. **The USSVI National Election Online Voting began on 18 June 2020.** The CDR reminded everyone that bios and information could be found in the *American Submariner*.
- USSVI National Convention News
 - 2020 National Convention in Tucson, AZ has been canceled and has been rescheduled to August 2023
 - 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 is open both online and by mail until August 17, 2020. Let your voice be heard by voting.
 - Remember that your voting options are based on your Primary base and Associate members are not allowed to vote in National elections.
- The CDR discussed the recent USSVI National website hacking. Nothing new. However, the CDR strongly recommended that all Base members change their National website password; use blind copy when sending email; and reminded everyone that National leadership will never ask you directly for money via a direct email. Any request for donations or monetary aid will be through communication with the Base leadership.
- Bruce Miller recommended to those NOVA Base members who are disabled veterans to investigate the Social Security Administration's disability program; especially if you are no longer able to work. It can be monetarily beneficial.

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

The Binnacle List

On behalf of the Chaplain, the COB asked that we keep the following in our thoughts and prayers: Steve Bishop, Delbert Ennis, Brian Haller, Barbara Harmody, Steve Jaeger, Mike Naughton, Tony Poblete, Tom Perrault, and Lorraine Sargent.

For the Good of the Order, the COB read the list of birthdays for July: Cathy Chatham, Bill Decker, Tom Fortier, Robert Gilmore, and Frank Pasquinelli.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on August 8th venue TBD (American Legion Post 364 or Cisco Webex).

The Benediction was delivered by the CDR.

The CDR requested a motion to adjourn and it was seconded and so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 1140.

Submitted by Joe Castell
USSVI NOVA Base Secretary