



# USSVI Northern Virginia Base



## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 1101 on March 13, 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, William Clement, John “Bud” Cunnally, Tom Denton (USSVI Tri-State Base CDR), Robert Glover, Brian Haller, Steve Jaeger, Chuck Martin, Bruce Miller, Paul Nelson, Tim Oliver, Mark Riethmeier, Mike Varone, George Wallace, Penny Wallace, and Woody Woodworth (19 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 March. These were:

USS F-4 (SS-23)	March 25, 1915
USS H-1 (SS-28)	March 12, 1920
USS PEARCH (SS-176)	March 3, 1942
USS GRAMPUS (SS-207)	March 5, 1943
USS TRITON (SS-201)	March 15, 1943
USS TULLIBEE (SS-284)	March 26, 1944
USS KETE (SS-369)	March 20, 1945
USS TRIGGER (SS-237)	March 26, 1945

The **CDR** then tolled the ship’s bell twice for the 31 USSVI Northern Virginia Base members on Eternal Patrol.

**IN MEMORIAM:** CDR William Sidner, USN, Ret—1/22/2021; CDR Robin (Bob) Starck, USN, Ret—1/27/2021; MSCS(SS) Herbert H. Saunders, USN, Ret—2/3/2021; CAPT James Michael Kuzma, USN, Ret—2/5/2021; CAPT Gerald E. Green, USN, Ret—2/13/2021; MOMM3(SS) Jack Livingston Herron, USN, Vet—2/26/2021; CAPT Russ Keller, USN, Ret—2/28/2021; ET1(SS) John Henry Lehman, Jr., USN, Vet—3/5/2021.



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## MEETING MINUTES

The February 2021 NOVA Base meeting minutes were previously distributed to the membership. The CDR asked whether there were any additional comments or discussions for the February 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: \$ 10,499.36
- Receipts: \$ 385.08
  - Dues—Annual Base
  - Dues—Annual National
  - Donations—Base
  - Interest/Dividends
  - Money from National
- Expenditures: \$ 550.00
  - Dues to National
  - Other-Other (Including other Payments to National)
- Ending Sub-Total: \$ 10,334.44
  - Minus Remaining Walmart Grant Restricted Use Funds (\$1,169.40)
- Grand Total (discretionary) \$ 9,165.04
- NOVA USSVICF K4K Total: \$ 3,054.10
  - We received \$1000.00 in 2020

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **Executive Board** meeting was held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, via Zoom. The meeting agenda included:

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

As **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, provided that the Base received a Thank You Note from Joyce Grimes.



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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** presented by Steve Jaeger: 81 members comprising:

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

The **KAPS 4 KIDS** Chairman, Steve Bishop:

- K4K visits have been suspended until further notice.
- The K4K Chairman had been in contact with Fairfax INOVA to discuss a Base donation of iPads or tablets. Monetary donations only and would be received by the corporate office who would then purchase iPads or tablets. Steve Bishop provided that no common room was available for video presentations. Zoom presentations could be accommodated, but Steve would need assistance in creating the presentations.
- Steve Jaeger asked whether INOVA was our primary hospital, and Steve Bishop confirmed that Fairfax INOVA was the Base's first and primary K4K hospital.

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

- Storekeeper has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, 2021 USSVI Calendars, 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 an interest in purchasing any submarine-related merchandise.

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

- No issues with the Base website.
- Base speakers and presentations are now on the Base website.
  - Go to the USSVI Northern Virginia Base website at [www.ussvinova.org](http://www.ussvinova.org).
  - Scroll down the home page until you reach the Photo Album/Presentations section.
  - Click on the Presentations hyperlink listed in the second bullet.
  - A new page will open up with the list of available presentations and the hyperlink for viewing the presentation.
  - Select the presentation(s) you wish to view and click on the associated hyperlink.

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

- North East Region Biennial election for District Commanders
  - Nominations for the position of North East Regions District Commanders commenced on March 1, 2021, and goes through April 15, 2021.
    - Nominations received to date are one for Districts 1, 2, and 4; and no nominations received for Districts 3 and 5.
    - Nominations are to be sent to Les Altschuler at [DirectorNERegion@outlook.com](mailto:DirectorNERegion@outlook.com) (preferred) or mailed to Les Altschuler, ENRD, at 228 N Pondview Blvd, Monroe, Twp., NJ 08831-5541



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- The election for NE District Commanders will be held from May 15, 2021, through June 30, 2021.
- Results will be announced at the National Convention.
- The current NE4 District Commander is Arthur “Art” Glover.

The Base **CDR**, provided the following:

- 2021 USSVI National Award Program:
  - National Award Nominations opened as of 1 February.
  - Individual award submissions end 30 April 2021.
  - Newsletter of the Year award submission end date is 15 May 2021.
  - See the 2021 USSVI Awards Manual for guidelines for nomination submissions.
  - Harold W. (Bill) Scott, II, STSC(SS) USN, Ret., is the USSVI National Awards Chair.

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

- NSL Capitol Chapter:
  - The next Capitol Chapter meeting is TBD, but the speaker may be Rear Admiral Lorin Selby.
  - If you have missed meetings, you can still see and hear the guest speaker’s presentations by visiting [https://capitol.navalsubleague.org/?page\\_id=30](https://capitol.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](https://app.etapestry.com/cart/NavalSubmarineLeague_1/default/index.php)
- Corporate Member Days:
  - Scheduled for 20 April 2021.
  - Virtual event is available to corporate member employees.
  - For registration information contact your Corporate Representative to the NSL or contact [corpmem@navalsubleague.org](mailto:corpmem@navalsubleague.org).
- 2021 Technology Symposium “Balancing Capability and Force Structure for High-End Combat”:
  - Scheduled for in-person 20-22 July 2021.
  - If in-person not possible, an on-line conference format will be offered, and classified presentations will be recorded and included in the distribution of the Symposium proceedings.



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- Navy League Sea-Air-Space Expo still on track:
  - Scheduled for 1-4 August 2021.
  - STEM Expo will be held on August 1, 2021.
  - Location: Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center.
- 2021 Annual Symposium and Industry Update:
  - Scheduled for 17-18 November 2021.
  - Location: Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Alexandria, VA.
  - Registration information will be posted in September on the NSL website.

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 (500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Swedish Navy). Tentative dates are 22-26 May 2022 and there will also be a Baltic cruise offered to coincide with the Congress.
  - The website for the Congress [www.57isc.com](http://www.57isc.com).
  - 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.
- To join the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA Inc) visit their website [www.isausa.org/](http://www.isausa.org/).
  - Life membership to the ISA/USA is \$50.00.
  - The application is on the ISA/USA website.
  - There are 33 countries as members of ISA.

## Upcoming submarine reunions:

- USS SCULPIN (SSN 590)—March 25-28, 2021; Kath, TX
- USS TINOSA (SSN 606)—April 14-18, 2021; Charleston, SC
- USS BLUEFISH (SS 222/SSN 675)—April 22-25, 2021; Myrtle Beach, SC
- USS JALLAO (SS 368)—April 22-25, 2021; Philadelphia, PA
- USS WAHOO (SS 565)—April 29-May 1, 2021; Pensacola, FL

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

## OLD BUSINESS

- 2021 USSVI National Convention:
  - The convention will be at Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, 9939 Universal Blvd, Orlando, Florida 32819.
  - The convention dates are August 30-September 4, 2021.
  - The room fee is \$105.00 per night + tax. No Resort Fee will be charged, and the rates are good for stays from 27 August to 7 September. The cut-off date for Room Block is August 1, 2021. Reservations made after this date may be made at the Convention rate based on room availability.



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- Guests receive the following:
  - 25% off Green Fees, use of Spa, and most restaurants (excluding Headwaters, 18 Monroe Street retail items, ParTake, and Smooth Java. Discount does not apply to room service or alcoholic beverages).
  - Free WIFI in room and common areas.
  - Free self-parking (show name tag when leaving parking lot).
  - Free Handicap parking in the valet parking lot with handicap placard/tag (call hotel for a ride to the front desk).
  - \$2.00 draft beer in the hospitality room.
- The 2021-2022 USSVI Academic Scholarships:
  - Applications are being accepted for the August 2021-2022 academic scholarship cycle.
  - The deadline is May 15, 2021.
  - Eligible applicants include children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of a USSVI Member in good standing.
  - Apply at <http://subforcescholarships.smapply.io>
  - As a bonus, you can also apply for the Dolphin Scholarship Program on the same website.
  - 52 scholarships were awarded last year and ranged from \$100 to \$1500.
- The *American Submariner* 2021 First Quarter edition is now available.

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

## NEW BUSINESS

- The Base is conducting a fundraiser for Project-Mend-A-House:
  - The fundraiser will last from now until our April meeting on April 10, 2021.
  - Project-Mend-A-House is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is headquartered in Manassas, VA. They are the only non-profit organization in Prince William County that helps residents—mostly seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities—with home repairs that keep their homes safe and healthy, at no cost to them. Over 88% of the funds received are used in helping their clients. For more information visit their website at <https://www.pmahweb.org/>.
  - Donations given are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by IRS.
  - USSVI Northern Virginia Base has partnered with Project-Mend-A-House so that all funds donated will be used in helping Veterans and their families only.
  - The Base will match funds raised up to a \$100 limit.
  - To donate: Make the check out to Project-Mend-A-House then mail your donation check to our Treasurer at the below address:  
Steve Jaeger  
85 Denison St  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406
  - The Treasurer will consolidate donations received along with the Base's matching funds and submit the funds to Project-Mend-A-House after our April meeting.
  - Bill Lehan, our Base member, and his wife are volunteers for Project-Mend-A-House.
- *Deep Strike* by Rick Campbell will be released on March 16, 2021.



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- Arizona Silent Service Memorial Public Dedication Ceremony:
  - Saturday, April 17, 2021.
  - Commences at 1000.
  - Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, 1700 W. Washington St, Phoenix, AZ.
  - RSVP at [info@arizonasilentservicememorial.org](mailto:info@arizonasilentservicememorial.org)
- For the latest COVID-19 information in the Northern Virginia area visit one of the below websites:
  - State of Virginia – <https://vaccinate.virginia.gov>
  - Dept of Veterans Affairs – <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine>
  - 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, and none were provided.

## **The Binnacle List**

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Alvin Anceravage, Cathy Chatham, Brian Haller, Barbara Harmody, Joe Phoenix, Marie Phoenix, Tony Poblete, and Tom Perrault.

**For the Good of the Order**, the COB read the list of birthdays for March: David Gault, Norman Giggs, Steve Jaeger, John Lindstedt, Terry Nelson, Tom Perrault, Marie Phoenix, and William Truslow.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on April 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom and followed by our annual Tolling of the Boats ceremony.

The Chaplain delivered the benediction.

The CDR requested a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded and so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 1137.

After adjournment, the CDR called for a short 5-minute break after which a presentation of a 30-minute video: “NAUTILUS Behind the Scene: Operation Sunshine” would be given.  
(<https://www.facebook.com/USNSubforceMuseum/videos/175340600562752>)

Submitted by Joe Castell  
USSVI NOVA Base Secretary