

## MINUTES OF THE USSVI NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022

The Base CDR, Chuck Martin, called the meeting to order at 10:47 on November 12, 2022, at American Legion Post 364 in Woodbridge, VA, and welcomed all members and guests. Base member Tom DeBenedetto introduced himself.

### MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Bishop, **Cathy Chatham**, **Howard Chatham**, Tom DeBenedetto, **Mickey Garverick**, **Bob Glover**, Brian Haller, **Pat Haller**, Chuck Martin, **Tim Oliver**, Mark Riethmeier, **Mike Varone**, George Wallace, **Penny Wallace**, and **Woody Woodworth** (15 total)

 **Holland Club Member**

 **Associate Member**

 **Guest**

The Base COB, Mike Varone, led all hands in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Base Chaplain, Mickey Garverick, delivered the Invocation.

After a moment of silence, the Base Vice Commander, Brian Haller, read the list of boats lost in November. These were:

USS Corvina (SS-226)	Nov 16, 1943
USS Sculpin (SS-191)	Nov 19, 1943
USS Albacore (SS-218)	Nov 07, 1944
USS Growler (SS-215)	Nov 08, 1944
USS Scamp (SS-277)	Nov 16, 1944

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA BASE MEMBER(S) WHO DEPARTED ON ETERNAL PATROL IN NOVEMBER:

- **Francis (Frank) C. Pasquinelli**, Holland Club and Lifetime SUBVET Member. Qualified on USS Odax (SS-484), 1959. Departed on his Eternal Patrol on November 28, 2020.
- **Raymond "Ray" Woodbury Stone**, Holland Club and Lifetime SUBVET Member. Qualified on USS Carp (SS-338), 1964. Departed on his Eternal Patrol on November 19, 2019.
- **Lloyd A. Safford**, Qualified onboard the USS Irex (SS-482). Departed on his Eternal Patrol on November 8, 2001.

The COB then tolled the ship's bell twice in Remembrance of the 35 USSVI NOVA Base members on Eternal Patrol.

### IN MEMORIAM:

RADM Albert Kelln, USN, Ret. – 17 Oct 2022;  
RADM Jon Michael Barr, USN, Ret. – 26 Oct 2022;  
VADM James A. Sagerholm, USN, Ret. – 3 Nov 2022.

## SUBMARINE HISTORY

The Base Historian, Woody Woodworth, read excerpts from the USS PAMPANITO (SS-383) Third War Patrol report. The reading is amended to these minutes.

## MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the October 2022 meeting were previously distributed by e-mail. There were no comments or corrections, and they were accepted as presented.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Base Treasurer, Howard Chatham, reported:

NOVA Base Treasurer's Report for November 12, 2022	
• Beginning Cash on Hand:	\$10,791.55
• Plus Receipts:	
•NFCU Dividends (October)	\$0.09
•Donation to Base from October 50/50 Raffle	\$35.00
•Sale of Calendars and Other Items	\$45.00
•Base Dues	\$140.00
•National Dues	\$180.00
•Donations to USSVCF Scholarship Fund - Glover	\$35.00
• Minus Expenditures:	
•Reimbursement to SK for Challenge Coin Purchase	\$208.90
•Payment to USSVCF Scholarship Fund	\$35.00
•Payment to USSVI for Liability Insurance	\$25.00
•Payment to USSVI for Annual Dues	\$180.00
•Reimbursement to SK for Ball Caps purchase	\$57.75
• Ending Cash on Hand:	\$10,719.99
• Minus Local K4K Restricted Use Funds	\$1,379.40
• Total Local Discretionary Funds	\$9,340.59
• USSVCF NOVA Base K4K Balance	\$3,054.10
• Total K4K Funds (Local + USSVCF)	\$4,433.50

The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD** – The meeting was held on 2 November via Zoom. The meeting agenda included committee reports, Holland Club, meeting-related items, old business, new business, and meeting/event planning.

**VCDR** – Nothing to Report

**COB** – Nothing to Report

**PAO** – The PAO, Mike Varone, reported:

- Howard Chatham represented the Base at the City of Falls Church Veterans Day ceremony.
- Chuck Martin represented the Base at the Patriot Scuba & Patriots for Disabled Divers Veterans Day ceremony.
- Mickey Garverick participated in the Greenspring Village Veterans Day ceremony as the America Legion Post 123 Chaplain.
- Steve Bishop spoke about the U.S. Navy at the Lemon Road Elementary School in the classrooms for grades 1, 3, and 6.
- On behalf of the Base Officers, thank you to everyone who represented USSVI and the Base by attending a Veterans Day ceremony.

**Treasurer** – Nothing to Report

**Membership** – The Membership Chair, Howard Chatham, reported:

- Membership information
  - 80 Members
    - 45 Holland Club Members
      - 02 WW II Members
    - 27 Regular Members
      - 18 – Life Members
      - 09 – Annual Members
    - 08 Associate Members
  - Newest Base Member(s): Nancy O'Brien, Associate Member.
- For Base members who are not lifetime members, your Annual National and Base membership expires on December 31, 2022, and you need to submit your 2023 annual membership fees before that date unless you have prepaid for 2023. The Membership Chairperson sent out emails to those who need to renew their memberships for 2023 with the amount to submit.

**Chaplain** –If any NOVA Base member knows of a shipmate, or their family, in financial or mental distress please contact the Chaplain or the Base CDR so we can provide help.

**K4K** – The Kaps 4 Kids Chair, Steve Bishop, reported:

- K4K visits have been suspended until further notice.
- Steve presented the Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) materials to a senior engineer at Greenspring, where Steve, Mickey Garverick, and Art Bevins live. His eighteen-month-old child has leukemia and is undergoing his third chemo treatment regimen. This makes our 1021<sup>st</sup> visit since we started this outreach program.

**Storekeeper** –The Storekeeper, Mike Varone, reported:

- Storekeeper has USSVI NOVA challenge coins, submarine stickers, Holland Club pins and decals, and USSVI NOVA Base patches available for purchase.
- Three 2022 USSVI Calendars are available from the Base SK. The price is \$2 per calendar plus postage if mailed.
- 2023 USSVI Calendars are available from the Base SK. The price is \$10 per calendar plus postage if mailed.
- Contact Mike Varone, at [storekeeper@ussvinova.org](mailto:storekeeper@ussvinova.org) if interested in any items.

**Webmaster**

- Under the Links section, recent changes include:
  - Updated the USSVI National website hyperlink to the new URL of [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org)
  - Added a link to the USSV Charitable Foundation website.

**NE Regional/NE District 4 News** - EN4 District CDR Chuck Martin reported:

- National News
  - USSV Charitable Foundation is producing short videos on YouTube and currently, three videos have been produced. Hyperlinks to the videos can be found on the USSV CF website. The goal is to get 1000 followers and 1000 hours of viewing in the first year after which YouTube will place ads on the videos that generate funds for USSV CF.
  - USSVI National Website
    - The new USSVI National Website is now LIVE.
    - The first time you sign in you will be required to change your password.
  - Other USSVI Websites
    - The USSV Charitable Foundation website and 2023 USSVI National Convention website are both accessible without going through the USSVI National website.
      - USSV Charitable Foundation - [www.ussvcf.org](http://www.ussvcf.org)
      - 2023 USSVI National Convention - <https://www.ussvi.org/2023-ch>
  - St. Marys Submarine Museum has reopened.

- Region News – Nothing To Report
- District News - USS Torsk (SS-423) is reopened for tours in Baltimore Inner Harbor. USS Torsk is a Tench-class submarine built for the United States Navy during World War II. Armed with ten torpedo tubes, the Tench-class submarines were incremental developments of the highly-successful Gato-class submarines.

**NSL** – The NSL Capitol Chapter President, George Wallace, and the Base CDR reported:

- NSL Headquarters address is 405 North Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; the phone number is 703-256-0891
- Naval Submarine League (NSL) and Related Events
  - NSL Capitol Chapter
    - The NSL Capitol Chapter winter meeting
      - Date/Location: 16 December 2022 at the ANCC.
      - Keynote Speaker: Brad Neff, Deputy Director, Undersea Warfare Division, N-97
      - Cost:
        - Junior Officers and Junior Enlisted (O-4 and below, E-6 and below) - \$33
        - Advanced Reservations - \$38
        - At-the-Door - \$45
        - Midshipmen as always are free
      - Reservations: Send an email to Chapter Secretary, Dixon Hicks, [CapitolNSL1@outlook.com](mailto:CapitolNSL1@outlook.com), no later than 1600, 9 Dec
        - Include name(s) as you would like to see it on the preprinted nametag.
    - 2022 Submarine History Seminar was held on 20 Oct 2022. The topic was “Admiral Hyman Rickover, Engineer of Power”. NSL has a link to the webinar recording for viewing until 1 Jan 23. The link is located at <https://www.navalsubleague.org/events/history-seminar/>
    - 2022 Annual Symposium & Industry Update was held on 1-2 Nov 2022 and was a huge success. NSL celebrated its Ruby Anniversary (40 years) at the Symposium.
    - DC Submarine Association’s 2022 DC Submarine Area Fall Social is scheduled for Thursday, 17 November 2022 from 1730-2030+ at Bronson Bierhall in Arlington, VA. Tickets are \$30 per guest and come with heavy hors d’oeuvres and your first drink. Additional drinks are available for purchase. Submission of your RSVP, registration, and ticket purchase can be done via our registration page, <https://2022submarinefallsocial.rsvpify.com>. Direct any questions to either Schenk, Darren D LT USN DCNO N9 (USA) [darren.d.schenk.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:darren.d.schenk.mil@us.navy.mil) or Shorts, Samuel D LCDR USN CNO (USA) [samuel.d.shorts.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:samuel.d.shorts.mil@us.navy.mil).
    - The US Naval Academy Submarine Ball will be held on April 15 2023.

**ISA/USA** – The Base CDR reported:

- Future Congress Locations –
  - 2023 Unknown
  - 2024 Ireland (hosted by ISA/USA)
  - 2025 Unknown
  - 2026 France has expressed an interest
- To join the International Submariners Association of The United States of America (ISA/USA Inc.) visit their website at <http://www.isausa.org/> for an application. Lifetime Membership is \$50.00

### **American Legion Post 364 – The Base CDR reported:**

- Saturday, 19 Nov – Annual Senior Thanksgiving Feast from 1200-1500. Open to all.
- Saturday, 3 Dec – Record Show Mania from 1000-1700. Admission is \$3. Vinyl records and CDs are available for purchase.
- 1 Nov – 15 Dec – Toys For Tots drive.

### **Upcoming Submarine Reunions – The VCDR reported:**

- USS Birmingham (SSN-695) – 16-18 November; Las Vegas, NV
- **Call or Email the POC listed in the American Submariner to determine the status of the reunion**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- The 2022 TRICARE Open Season is an annual period where you can enroll in or make changes to your health, dental, or vision plans for 2023.
  - TRICARE Open Season (Health): 14 Nov – 13 Dec
  - Federal Benefits Open Season (Dental or Vision): 14 Nov – 12 Dec
- The NOVA Veterans Association and Dulles Area Transportation Association provide free transportation to medical appointments and COVID-19 vaccine appointments to Veterans who are disabled or over the age of 65.
  - Coverage areas are Alexandria, Arlington, Eastern Loudoun, Fairfax, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park, and Prince William county.
  - Contact by phone at 703-659-0788 or by email at [melissa@novavets.org](mailto:melissa@novavets.org)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- The 2023 Northern Virginia Base Officer Election.
  - Voting window
    - Opens shortly after this meeting.
    - Ends
      - In-person voting closes on 10 Dec at the start of the meeting.
      - All emailed or mailed ballots must be received by the Election Master by 2359 on 9 Dec.

- The Election Master for this election cycle is Chuck Martin.
- The floor was opened for nominations and the following members volunteered:
  - Commander – Brian Haller
  - Vice Commander – George Wallace
  - Treasurer – Howard Chatham
  - Secretary – Steve Bishop
- December's Meeting
  - Announcing the 2023 Base Officer election results
  - Tony Cunningham's Holland Club Induction ceremony
  - Please bring an unwrapped toy for donating to support the Post's Toys For Tots drive
  - Please bring any 2023 calendars for donating to support the MOAA's Calendar drive for the Washington DC Armed Forces Retirement Home; bring them to the meeting.
  - The NSL Capitol Chapter will participate in the DEC 17<sup>th</sup> Wreaths Across America event at Arlington National Cemetery.

## **BINNACLE LIST**

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Alvin Anceravage, Cathy Chatham, Earl Griggs, Steve Jaeger, Francis McNamara, Tom Perrault, and Tony Poblete.

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER.**

Birthdays for the month are:

Rodey Batiza, Art Bivens, Anthony "Tony" Cunningham, Francis McNamara, Eva Waylett, and the United States Marine Corps

**The 50/50 raffle** winning ticket was drawn and the winner was George Wallace, who donated his \$40.00 winnings back to the USSVC Scholarship Fund. THANK YOU, George!

## **BASE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Saturday, December 10TH at American Legion Post 364 in Woodbridge at 10:30. After the meeting, we will have our 2022 Annual Holiday Luncheon, with a location to be determined.
- If you are able bring a new unwrapped toy to the meeting to donate to the Toys for Tots drive.

The meeting was adjourned at 1125.

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Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by  
 Stephen C Bishop  
 Secretary, USSVI Northern Virginia Base

## **INVESTIGATION INTO AT-SEA FORWARD TRIM TANK LEAK ONBOARD U.S.S. PAMPANITO (SS-383)**

U.S.S. PAMPANITO (SS-383)

Third War Patrol

Forward Trim Tank Leak from sea: detection, investigation, and resolution as described on pages 65 – 68 of the Third Patrol report at the following link.

[https://issuu.com/hnsa/docs/ss-383\\_pampanito](https://issuu.com/hnsa/docs/ss-383_pampanito)

As the Trim Tank Leak narrative started on 31 August 1944:

1000 (I) “While at deep submergence, sound reported a loud air noise forward. Made a good check for air leaks and found none. Diving Officer then found that Forward Trim had taken on about 2000 lbs. Suspected small spurt of water impinging on metal made the noise. This will severely hamper any evasive tactics. All hand attempted to locate trouble.”

On September 4, 1944, the CO provides the following:

1900 (I) “Leak in Forward Trim Tank worse and as yet it has not been located. The noise presented quite a serious problem and flooding forward trim as much as possible did not stop it. Lieut. H.T. FULTON, USNR. and E.M. STOCKSLADER, MoMM2c USNR., volunteered to go down in Forward Trim during a dive to locate leak. The prospect was risky but felt the results would be worth it as fairly sure the manhole cover didn’t leak and knew we could supply ample amount of air with 225 lb. blow. Arranged a set of signals and pumped dry for the test. Hoped the patrol planes would leave us alone tonight.”

1945 (I) “Surfaced.”

1950 (I) “Sent working party topside to remove manhole cover and put two men down inside. All work done efficiently and quickly and two volunteers safely inside with manhole secured. Removed manhole cover from after part of Forward Trim Tank in Forward Torpedo Room and attempted voice communication with forward part of trim tank.”

(unreadable) (I) “Dived slowly. A few tense minutes while we waited for word from men in tank. Levelled off at 60 feet. Finally established voice communications: everything alright. No leaks found at 60 feet. Gave Forward Trim a shot of air and went to 200 feet.”

(unreadable) (I) “Word came from men in tank that they had found the leak with water coming in around stuffing box, between stuffing box and bulkhead, where operating rod for outer torpedo tube door on #5 tube, went through forward bulkhead of Forward Trim Tank.”

(unreadable) (I) “Surfaced. Took men out of tank and replaced manhole cover and used a new gasket.”



#### 5 September 1944

0615 (I) “Dived on station. During the day prints of torpedo tubes studied and made preparations for repairing the leak after surfacing.”

1928 (I) Surfaced.

2015 (I) “A.C. HAUPTMAN, GM1c, USN., using a shallow water diving apparatus, went down in the void on starboard side of chain locker to tighten bolts holding stuffing box in place. Could reach all bolts except top one and tightened all of them. Hoped this would do.”

#### 6 September 1944

0617 (I) “Dived for day and found leak in Forward Trim Tank almost stopped but will have to get one remaining bolt tonight. Will try and rig special wrench.”

1938 (I) “Surfaced.”

2000 (I) “A.C. HAUPTMAN, GM1c, USN. dived the void again and after three attempts finally completed the job.”