



# USS Virginia Base Deep Water Gazette

Second Quarter 2016

The Little Base That ~~can~~ Does



**To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.  
Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.**

---

## Base Commander

Greetings fellow undersea warriors and welcome to the tenth edition of our quarterly newsletter. I offer John Mosticone my usual “Well Done” for



volunteering to produce these newsletters, which are very much appreciated. We finished our dues collection period down seven members despite the ‘above and beyond’ efforts of our Treasurer and Membership Chair, Jim Lencalis. We have several new members on the horizon but we always hate to lose any of our “brothers of the ‘phin”. Our membership as I write this stands at 47 which includes one Associate Member. Let’s continue to do our best to recruit other submariners and also join your shipmates at meetings as often as you can. This is going to be a short column because Della and I have both been sick (me with severe Bronchitis and her with Pneumonia) so along with my shoulder surgery we missed the February and March meetings. I should be at the April meeting but will miss the May meeting. Greenboard!

### **JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL\**

BC Kenn McDermott requested a date other than May so he could attend and Project Manager Bob Kutzenberger has confirmed July 9<sup>th</sup> as the date we will hold a special meeting at the Virginia War Memorial to recognize and

dedicate the USSVI flag we presented to the Memorial, which has now been hung. Bob’s contact at the Memorial was able to get the foundation to waive the rental fee for our meeting because our organization provided them with many of the Sub Vets in a film that they show and that we will be able to view the day of the tour. Here’s a photo of our flag hanging in the auditorium, second to last row:



We will be providing more specifics as we get closer to this meeting date.

### **AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE TENASKA VIRGINIA GENERATING STATION**



Member Robert Mayfield has again invited the Base to meet at the power plant he manages!

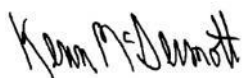
Robert will be providing us with a complimentary lunch and would appreciate knowing how many of us will attend so be on the lookout for an RSVP e-mail prior to this meeting. The plant is located near Scottsville in Fluvanna County. The photo above is of the gang who attended our April 12, 2007 meeting at the plant. We will be providing more specifics as we get closer to this meeting date.

### MEMBER RON IRONS NOW ON ETERNAL PATROL

We did not get the word when Ron passed away and only learned about it when Jim Lencalis was trying to track down members who had not yet renewed their dues. He spoke with Ron's wife Reba and learned that Ron died back in November, 2015. I called to offer our condolences but she wasn't home so I left her a voice mail, which included an offer to invite her to a special memorial service I would conduct at one of our meetings. She returned my call but spoke with Della because I was out cutting wood and she said she would like that – plus she gave Della her new address because she would be moving. I've tried to contact her again but now get a message that her phone number is no longer in service. I'm going to try writing her a letter to the new address Della got from her when they talked and I'll let everyone know how this develops. Ron was a retired RM1(SS), having served in the USN from 1958 to 1986. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Reba and her family.

Greenboard/Straightboard and all the best!

Mac



LT, USN (Ret)

## Boats Lost This Quarter



### APRIL --

**USS Pickrel (SS-177)** was lost on **3-Apr-1943** with the loss of **74 crew** when it was sunk within lume of Shiramuka Light off Honshu. (AKA Shiranuka Light)  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*  
Remarks: *Ros discusses date discrepancy.*

**USS Grenadier (SS-210)** was scuttled **22-Apr-1943** after serious damage by aircraft near Penang, ~ 10 Miles West of Lem Voalan Strait **61 crew were taken prisoner, 57 survived the war.**  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*  
Remarks: *No losses in the scuttling operation, all crew rescued by Japanese forces.*

**USS Gudgeon (SS-211)** was lost on **18 April-1944** with the loss of **80 crew** when it was sunk off Saipan near Maug Island.  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*  
Remarks: *Loss declared after 14 May 44. Ostlund says his research shows loss northeast of Iwo Jima. On 18 April. WDR date spread 4-7-44 to 5-12-44*

**USS Snook (SS-279)** was lost sometime after **8-Apr-1945** with the loss of **84 crew** when it was sunk within 100 miles East of 18° 40N; 111° 39E, near Hainan Island

Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*  
Remarks: *R states missing after 8 April. Ros states could have been later up to late May. WDR gives date spread of 4-8-45 to 4-20-45*

**USS Thresher (SSN-593)** was lost on **10-Apr-1963** with the loss of **129 crew and yard workers** when it was sunk while on sea trials near Isle of Shoals.

Sources: *Personal*

Remarks: *On line handling party when boat left Portsmouth. Dived regularly for survey.*



MAY --

**USS Squalus (SS-192)** was lost on **23-May-1939** with a loss of **26 crew, 33 rescued** when it flooded and sank off Portsmouth, NH.  
Sources: *R, D, SFLM*

**USS Lagarto (SS-371)** was lost on or shortly after **4-May-1945** with the loss of **88 crew** when it was sunk in off Malay Coast in or near the Gulf of Siam 7° 55N; 102° 00E. The Lagarto has been located and the US Navy is aware of her location and the condition of the hull.

Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*

Remarks: *Diveable water of less than 200 feet*

**USS Stickleback (SS-415)** was lost on **30-May-1958** when it sank off Hawaii while being towed, after collision with *USS Silverstein (DE-534)*. **All the crew were taken off prior to sinking.**

Sources: *R, D, SFLM*

**USS Scorpion (SSN-589)** was lost on **27-May-1968** with the loss of **99 crew** when it

was sunk while in transit from Med, West of Azores.

Sources: *R, SFLM*

Remarks: *Regularly dived for survey HMC Saville from Seadragon was Doc on Scorpion.*



JUNE --

**USS O-9 (SS-70)** was lost on **20-Jun-1941** with the loss of **34 crew** when it foundered off Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth NH, 42° 59' 48N - 20° 20' 27W  
Sources: *R, D, SFLM*  
Remarks: *Depth 400 feet. Reported dived 2001. Visibility nil, side scan sonar images only.*

**USS S-27 (SS-132)** was lost on **19-Jun-1942** when it grounded off Amchitka Island, 400 yds off island Near St Makarius Point (near Constantine Harbor), **all the crew were rescued.**

Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM*

Remarks: *Diveable water*

**USS R-12 (SS-89)** was lost on **12-Jun-1943** with the loss of **42 crew** when it foundered off Key West, 24° 24' 30N - 81° 28' 30"W

Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*

Remarks: *Reportedly dived, no published report seen yet.*

**USS Herring (SS-233)** was lost on **1-Jun-1944** with the loss of **80 crew** when it was sunk within shore battery range of Point Tagan, Matsuwa Island, in Kuriles.  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*

**USS Golet (SS-361)** was lost on **14-Jun-1944** with the loss of **82 crew** when it was sunk near 41° 04N - 14° 13E  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*  
Remarks: *R states NW of Honshu*

USS Bonfish (SS-223) was lost on **18-Jun-1945** with the loss of **86 crew** when it was sunk in Toyama Wan; Near Suzu Misaki; 37° 18N - 137° 25E;  
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*

## Meeting Minutes

### Meeting Minutes for the Month of March 2016

- Meeting was held at Anna's Restaurant & Pizzeria
  - Lasagna, pizza and salad were on the buffet menu
- 10 members and 3 guests were present
- Sandi Anderson won the 50/50 raffle and received \$20.00 and the Base received \$20.00.
- The ladies were excused.
- Base Storekeeper Bob Kutzenberger called the meeting to order with the traditional sounding of two blasts from the Diving Alarm and a good hearty "DIVE, DIVE" from all those in attendance. A word of prayer was offered.
- Opening ceremonies were led by Base Storekeeper Bob Kutzenberger and Base Secretary Bill Anderson
  - Pledge of Allegiance
  - Reading of the USSVI Creed
  - Tolling of the Boats Lost in March
  - 8 Boats were lost during the month of March with the loss of 425 crewmen
  - Birthdays for the Month of March
    - Mickey Loses
- Kenn & Della McDermott were not present due to Bronchitis and Pneumonia.
- Member Robert Mayfield has invited the Base to attend a tour and lunch at the Tenaska Power Plant.
- Treasurer's Report was read and approved
- Secretary's Report was read and approved
- Marie Padgett is still in a nursing facility
- Discussion on the War Memorial Flag was held. A motion was made and seconded to have our May meeting at the Virginia War Memorial, tour the facility and then adjourn

to a restaurant for lunch. The motion was approved.

- Northern Virginia Base member Steve Bishop will attend the April meeting and discuss the Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) program.
- Jim Lencalis discussed the K9s 4 Warriors program
- Bill Anderson presented the 2016 Field Day of the Past, which will be held on September 17, 17 & 18. Bill is asking for \$250.00, \$100.00 for the space and \$150.00 for tickets. A motion was made, seconded and approved.
- Bob Markie, a perspective member, was in attendance and in his honor we did a group Bio. Bob is a retired HMCS(SS).
- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1430

Respectfully  
Bill Anderson  
Base Secretary

## TREASURERS REPORT

Balance as of 12 December: **\$3271.81**

### DEPOSITS:

50/50 from 2-13-16 meeting **\$ 25.00**

Store Keeper sales from  
2-13 meeting **\$ 10.00**

**TOTAL: \$ 35.00**

### EXPENDITURES:

Postage Stamps **\$ 9.80**

**TOTAL: \$ 9.80**

### PAYMENTS PENDING

No pending expenditures **\$ 00.00**

**TOTAL: \$ 00.00**

**Decrease from 1-1-16 to 2-1-13: \$ 42.80**

**Notes: As of this report: Four members have been dropped from USSVI and USS Virginia Base as of 2-1-16**



**One member, Maury Baughn, Life Member USSVI has not paid Virginia Base dues. He has been contacted by an additional Email.**

*James C. Lencalis*

James C Lencalis

Treasurer

*(Additional reports available upon request)*

## COB's Locker

"Field days will continue until moral improves"

**Our Base COB position is presently open** and we are looking for an able body



## Chaplin's Corner

**Corinthians 4:16-18** So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.



**Welcome Aboard**

**Help us fill this space!**

## Holland Club

**Welcome to the Holland Club**



## Holland Club Members

Pat Rodgers	1951 SS-482
Warren Rucker	1951 SS-523
"Doc" Smith	1956 SS-476
John Leonard	1957 SS-339
Mickey Martin	1957 SS-352
Bill Hiesley	1957 SS-403
Paul Benton	1958 SSR-269
Dick Brown	1959 SS-424
Ron Irons	1959 SS-394
Dave Kratch	1959 SS-405
Richard Moore	1960 SS-269
Thurman Register	1961 SS-523
Bill Wellner	1961 SS-422
Dick Kanning	1962 SS-240
Kenn McDermott	1962 SS-385
Bob Stolarz	1962 SS-395
Tom Chaffee	1963 SS-331
Bill Lewis	1963 SS-272
Ron Randolph	1963 SSBN-617
Al Ptaszniak	1964 SSBN-610
Sanford Harvey	1964 SS-488
Doug Blaha	1964 SSN-584
Bob Kutzenberger	1964 SS-214
Bill Besley	1965 SS-423
Steve DuBosky	1965 SSBN-641

## Base Eternal Patrol

Jack Winn (founding Commander)  
 Sid Padgett (WWII sub vet)  
 Bob Mitchell FTC (SS), USN (Ret)  
 John C. Miller, RM2(SS)  
 Ron Irons, RM1(SS), USN (Ret)

## Crew Birthdays this quarter



Bill Besley	4/11
Thurman Register	4/12
Mickey Martin	4/19
Patrick Rodgers	4/22
Tom Knight	4/25
John Mosticone	5/16
Robert Mayfield	5/23
Warren Rucker	6/03
Chris Knaggs	6/03
Cary Carroll	6/03
Pete Fortier	6/05
Greg Mason	6/05
Tom Critelli	6/17
Dourg Blaha	6/22

## Upcoming Events

Base Meeting	4/09
Base Meeting	5/14
Base Meeting	6/11

## Elected Officers:

Commander – Kenn McDermott  
[kennmcd@pewterguy.com](mailto:kennmcd@pewterguy.com) 434-286-2529

Vice Commander – Pete Fortier  
[pe4tier@gmail.com](mailto:pe4tier@gmail.com)

Secretary – Bill Anderson  
[ftb1ss@comcast.net](mailto:ftb1ss@comcast.net)

Treasurer – Jim Lencalis  
[j.lencalis@comcast.net](mailto:j.lencalis@comcast.net)

## Appointed Officers:

Newsletter Editor - John Mosticone  
[jmosticone@gmail.com](mailto:jmosticone@gmail.com) 434-242-9747

Ways & Means - John Lamsens  
[jlamsens@verizon.net](mailto:jlamsens@verizon.net)

Nominating Committee - Thurman Register  
[thurman@tbrinc.com](mailto:thurman@tbrinc.com)

Storekeeper - Bob Kutzenberger  
[kutzb@comcast.net](mailto:kutzb@comcast.net) 804-556-6932

## Ships Store

See our  
Storekeeper, Bob  
Kutzenberger, at  
meetings to purchase your "stuff". Our  
Website Ship's Store is currently under  
construction, but be sure to visit it when  
you hear it is up at:

<http://ussvirginiabase.org/ship-s-store.html>



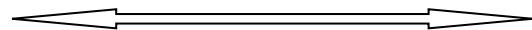
## Base Bulletin Board

### ***Submarine Veterans of World War II Memorial Service and Post World War II Hall of Fame Ceremony:***

Mark your calendars now for 1100 on 19 May 2016 at Submarine Learning Facility Norfolk (on the main naval base by what used to be D&S Piers) in order to attend the annual Submarine Veterans of World War II Memorial Service and Post World War II Submarine Hall of Fame Ceremony. This coordinated event is to honor our World War II Submariners and also honor a post World War II Submarine that contributed to the advancement of Undersea Warfare.

This year's selection for post World War II recognition is the ***USS BERGALL (SSN-667)*** the 84<sup>th</sup> nuclear submarine, 43rd SSN, whose namesake is the Diesel Powered Submarine the USS BERGALL (SS-320). A Sturgeon-class nuclear powered Attack Submarine, USS BERGALL (SSN-667) proudly served from commissioning on 12 Jun 1969 through inactivation on 6 Jun 1996. The Commissioning Commanding Officer, CAPT Bill Tally, USN (Ret) will be the guest speaker, with many former USS BERGALL Sailors planning to attend. We look forward to your support in perpetuating the memory of our shipmates.

There will also be a post ceremony picnic, so plan on joining us! If you have any questions, call Ken Swan or Dick Helm.



**From:** LAMARR A & KATHLEEN J  
**Subject:** 2016 Sub Vets Christmas Party  
**Date:** March 23, 2016 at 9:47:45 PM EDT  
**Reply-To:** LAMARR A & KATHLEEN J  
SEADER <[seaderl@bellsouth.net](mailto:seaderl@bellsouth.net)>

2016 Submarine Veterans Gulf Coast Christmas party is on!!!

Attached to the original e-mail for this was the new flyer for 2016 in both PDF format and WORD format. If you didn't get them, email Lamarr and he'll send them to you, but they are quoted below.

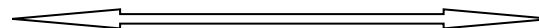
The party will be Thursday, Dec 8th through Saturday Dec 10th for the twelfth straight

year at the Holiday Inn Resort at Panama City Beach, FL. Saturday morning memorial service, Saturday evening banquet with Santa Claus and gifts.

Room rates still only \$59.00 per night plus tax. Rates have not increased in 12 years. Make your hotel reservations now and mail in your party registration form to Lamarr Seader at the address on the flyer.

Guarantee you won't have a better Christmas Party and you'll meet plenty of shipmates and old friends.

Lamarr A. Seader  
District Cdr. ERS3



### **VETERAN LEGISLATION 15 March 2016**

**H.R.90:** Veterans Healthcare Improvement Act. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct reviews of certain budget requests of the President for the medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Sponsor: Rep Brownley, Julia [CA-26] (introduced 1/6/2015) Committees: House Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 1/6/2015 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

-----  
**H.R.91:** Veteran's ID Card Act. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to issue, upon request, veteran identification cards to certain veterans. Sponsor: Rep Buchanan, Vern [FL-16] (introduced 1/6/2015) Committees: House Veterans' Affairs; Senate Veterans' Affairs Latest Major Action: 6/22/2015 Passed/agreed to in Senate. Status: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. Latest

Major Action: 07/20/2015 Became Public  
Law No: 114-31. (TXT | PDF) (All Actions)

From: [Bunder343@aol.com](mailto:Bunder343@aol.com)  
Subject: **Azalea Festival Parade and District Meeting on April 9th**  
Date: March 23, 2016 at 3:31:48 PM EDT

Fellow SubVets,

The Azalea Festival Parade is coming up on Saturday, April 9th in Wilmington, NC. The Coastal Carolina Base would like to invite our brothers from around the State to join us to participate in the parade and/or join us for the District SubVet luncheon meeting which will be held at Charlie Macgrooder's Restaurant in nearby Leland (<http://www.charliemacgrooders.com/>).

Attached to the original e-mail was a map and a logistical plan for the events, but, in general, if you want to attend the parade, be at Charlie Macgrooder's parking lot at 7:30 am on April 9th. If you only want to attend the luncheon meeting, meet at Charlie Macgrooder's at noon on April 9th.

We need a good headcount to adequately prepare for the events. Please email Bill to let him know how many will attend from your group and the number of guests, if any.

Warm regards,

Bill Underwood  
Base Secretary & Newsletter Editor  
Coastal Carolina Base of the USSVI  
910-232-4209  
[bunder343@aol.com](mailto:bunder343@aol.com)

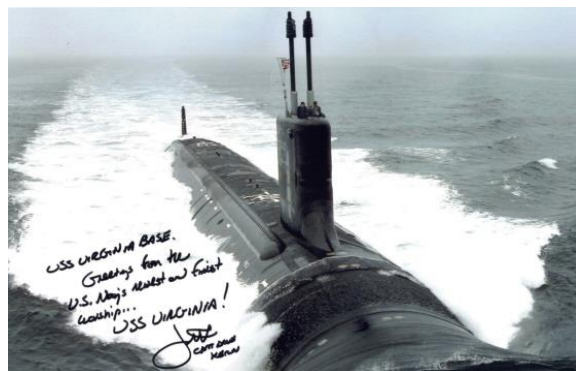
From: LAMARR A & KATHLEEN J SEADER <[seaderl@bellsouth.net](mailto:seaderl@bellsouth.net)>  
Subject: **2016 Gulf Coast Submaine Veterans Christmas Party**  
Date: March 26, 2016 at 8:21:59 PM EDT

The Gulf Coast Submarine Veterans Christmas Party is on!!!

This is our 12th year at the beautiful Holiday Inn Resort in Panama City Beach and the room rate is still \$59.00 per night + tax. You and your important other will have a thoroughly enjoyable three days and the staff will spoil you. We have great attendance and the banquet room is limited to 140 seats so send in your registration early and make your room reservations with the hotel. Be sure and tell them you're with the Submarine Veterans to get the \$59.00 room rate.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at [seaderl@bellsouth.net](mailto:seaderl@bellsouth.net) or call me at [850-529-8366](tel:850-529-8366). All registrations received by me by 31 October will be in the drawings for free room nights.

Lamarr A. Seader District Commander  
SER3 and John Duncan, Seawolf Base





## Reading Locker

Shenanigans-Submitted  
Via [imnosler@yahoo.com](mailto:imnosler@yahoo.com)

Not Going To Be Me!

The XO is usually the guy that promulgates the Skippers' policy on a boat, and sometimes these efforts can be met with a lot of push back from the crew. On one patrol, we were having a lot of flack about the movie schedule because the XO had made it clear we were going to adhere to a new policy without exception. The crew was not happy, and had made their feelings known to the Captain.

One evening one of our guys was working on some gear in the EE space forward of the Captain's state room, and as a result could hear a conversation the XO was having with the Skipper about the new movie policy. The XO was arguing that the crew's morale was being adversely impacted by the new policy, and he wanted to change it. Our Skipper wasn't buying it, and told the XO to buck up and weather the storm. An argument ensued, with the XO saying that he was being blamed for the Skipper's policy and was taking a lot of heat over defending it.

At that point, the Captain said: "George, there is only room for one ass hole on this boat, and it isn't going to be me!". That was the end of it, and we endured the policy after that.

### USSVI link to Amazon Smiles Program:

<https://www.facebook.com/USSVCF>

<https://smile.amazon.com/about>

### General Links:

<http://www.ussvirginiabase.org/naming-of-uss-virginia.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Virginia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Virginia)

### USSVI Facebook address:

<https://www.facebook.com/USSVI.NATOFFICE>

<https://www.facebook.com/USSVI.Submarine.Museum.online>

### USSVI

<https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

### USS Virginia Base:

<http://www.ussvirginiabase.org/>

<p><b>John Mosticone</b> <b>USS Virginia Base</b> <b>Newsletter Editor</b></p>
--