



USS Virginia Base Deep Water Gazette

First Quarter – January 2014

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

Kenn McDermott

I'm very pleased to be able to contribute to our very FIRST USS Virginia Base Deep



Water Gazette newsletter - and I want to start my column by thanking John (JohnnyMos) Mosticone for volunteering to be our first Newsletter Editor. John was also the winner of our contest to come up with a name for the new newsletter, which garnered him the grand prize we had offered - a free buffet at Anna's! This will be a quarterly publication beginning in January, 2014 with an Adobe PDF version being e-mailed to all members along with a posting to our web site and hard copy mailings to those who don't have Internet access. Thanks John!

I also want to begin this New Year by thanking all of you. This Base can only be as successful as the collective effort put forth by its members - and the "Little Base That ~~can~~ Does" has managed to plug along year after year because of your support. Since taking the helm from Commander Rob McNamara after his heart attack back in 2007 (I believe I

finished Rob's term in 2007 and I know I was sworn in for a full term in January 2008) it has been my privilege and honor to serve as your Base Commander these past six years - and I thank you for reelecting me to serve what I plan will be my seventh and last term in 2014.

I also want to thank those members who have stepped forward to serve as officers with me over the years, particularly two who have chosen to finally take a break this year - Bill Wellner and Mickey Martin. Bill served as our Base Secretary since it was chartered as an official division of USSVI back on July 25th, 2002 - and Mickey stepped up to take my place as Vice Commander back in 2007 - thanks guys! Another round of thanks go out to our Treasurer, Jim Lencalis; our COB (and soon to be Vice Commander) Pete Fortier; our incoming Secretary, Bill Anderson; our Storekeeper, Bob Kutzenberger; the chair of our Nominating Committee, Thurman Register; and the chair of our Ways & Means Committee, (the 50/50 guy) John Lamsens. I thank all of you! While I'm on the subject of officers - I feel the Base should have a Chief of the Boat and since Pete offered to fill Mickey's slot as Vice Commander his position of COB is now unfilled. We could

also use a Chaplain, as well as several other positions that have never been filled as far as I can tell. If you are interested in serving in either of these positions - or in some other way - please let me know.

This is also a good opportunity to note the passing of an era in that Bill & Carol Wellner, having hosted the past ten out of ten annual Sub Vet picnics at their lovely home in Amelia, will take a well-deserved respite from this event. Thanks Bill & Carol - we appreciate all that you have done! The annual picnic has been a highlight every year for our Base - and this is as good a time as any to ask for volunteers to host this event and/or suggest an alternative (like meeting in a park somewhere or having the affair catered, etc.). We can discuss this at our meetings - but I feel that continuing our tradition of a fall picnic would be preferable to discontinuing it.

I really like our new monthly meeting venue, Anna's Restaurant & Pizzeria, on Hull Street in Midlothian. The room is large and the buffet has been well received. The unofficial consensus is that the pizza and spaghetti are winners and so we're going to stay with those - plus the tossed salad and drinks - as our "standard" - at least for a while - with lasagna instead of the spaghetti as an alternate every other month. Just think of every second Thursday as Italian night with pizza, spaghetti (or Lasagna) and the camaraderie you can only get with fellow submariners who speak the language and share similar experiences. If you haven't attended a meeting yet, or for some time, please join us at Anna's - where ***"The Undersea Warrior Elite Meet & Eat"***.

The only order of business I can think of as I write this is the upcoming USSVI SE Regional Conference 2014 in Cary NC April 7-11 (Monday through Friday). I had forwarded the preliminary info on this conference in my November 10th e-mail to all members and mentioned that Della and I plan on attending. I attended one of these smaller conferences back in May of 2009 when it was held in Mooresville, NC and we thoroughly enjoyed it. The conflict for our Base with this particular event is that it occurs during the week of our second Thursday meeting on April 10th and since I'll be attending the conference Pete Fortier has agreed to run our meeting on April 10th - THANKS PETE!

I had forwarded an update on this conference to all members via e-mail on January 14th with an updated agenda and registration form. That information/form is now on our web site in the 1MC section, is shown as a link in this newsletter and is also attached as the last page to this newsletter. (When in doubt, over route).

In closing let me wish everyone a very happy, healthy and blessed New Year. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our 2014 monthly meetings at Anna's - and please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you with anything throughout the year. God bless - Greenboard/Straightboard and all the best!



LT, USN (Ret)



Boats Lost This Quarter



JANUARY --

USS S-36 (SS-141) was lost on 20-Jan-1942 when it was destroyed after grounding on Taka Bakang Reef in Makassar Strait, Indonesia, Near Makassar City, the crew were all rescued.

USS S-26 (SS-131) was lost on 24-Jan-1942 with the loss of 46 crew when it was sunk after ramming by USS PC-460 in the Gulf of Panama, 14 miles west of San Jose Light.

USS Argonaut (SS166) was lost on 10-Jan-1943 with the loss of 105 crew when it was sunk off Rabaul near 05° 15N; 153° 50E; (Another location given as 5° 40S; 152° 02E) S

USS Swordfish (SS-193) was lost on or after 12-Jan-1945 with the loss of 90 crew when it was sunk near Yaku Island off Kyushu, water <600' deep near island; (27° 00 N; 128° 40 E).

FEBRUARY --

USS Shark (SS-174) was lost on 11-Feb-1942 with the loss of 59 crew when it was sunk East of Manado, Celebes

USS Amberjack (SS-219) was lost on 16-Feb-1943 with the loss of 72 crew when it was sunk off Rabaul; Last Contact at 5° 05S; 152° 37E

USS Scorpion (SS-278) was lost on 1-Feb-1944 with the loss of 77 crew when it was sunk East China Sea.

USS Grayback (SS-208) was lost on 26-Feb-1944 with the loss of 80 crew when it was sunk near 25° 47N 128° 45E.

USS Trout (SS-202) was lost on or after 29-Feb-1944 with the loss of 79 crew when it was sunk near 22° 40N; 131° 45 E, middle of Philippines Basin.

USS Barbel (SS-316) was lost on or after 4-Feb-1945 with the loss of 81 crew when it was sunk in southern entrance to Palawan Passage 7° 49.5N; 116° 47.5E Palawan.

MARCH --

USS F-4 [ex-SKATE] (SS23) was lost on 21-Mar-1915 with the loss of 19 crew when it foundered off Honolulu Harbor.

USS H-1 (SS-28) was lost on 12-Mar-1920 with the loss of 4 crew when it Grounded, Magdalena Bay, Mexico, was sunk in 9 Fathoms while being towed off.

USS Perch (SS-176) was scuttled on 3-Mar-1942 30 Miles NW Soerabia, Java 60 crew were taken prisoner, 52 survived the war. Sources: R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR
Remarks: All crew survived sinking and were rescued by Japanese forces. Reportedly the wreck has been located and dived. No written report seen.

USS Grampus (SS-207) was lost on or after **5-Mar-1943** with the loss of **72 crew** when it was sunk in the Blackett Strait; Possibly in Vella Gulf, last contacts at 4° 55S; 152° 30 E

USS Triton (SS-201) was lost on **15-Mar-1943** with the loss of **74 crew** when it was sunk at 0° 09N; 144° 55E

USS Tullibee (SS-284) was lost on **26-Mar-1944** with the loss of **79 crew** when it was sunk in operating area just north of Palau. **(One man was taken prisoner and he survived the war)**

USS Kete (SS-369) was lost sometime on or after **20-Mar-1945** with the loss of **87 crew** when it was sunk somewhere between 29° 38N; 130° 02E and Midway.

USS Trigger (SS-237) was lost on **28-Mar-1945** with the loss of **91 crew** when it was sunk in area 32° 16N 30° 40N by 132° 05E-127° 50E, (Maybe near 32° 16N; 132° 05E).
Sources: *R, D, Ros, SFLM, WDR*



District Commander Steve Bell



I am really happy to see the USS Virginia Base Deep Water Gazette get started. This makes it 50% of the bases within our District have a newsletter. I feel it is really a good way to keep our shipmates connected, especially those that for whatever reason cannot make your meeting.

Even though a quarterly newsletter, there is still a lot of work that goes into making a newsletter. It takes more than just the editor too. Each member can provide assistance to the editor. If he asks for articles, help him out. If he wants jokes, send him some (he can always stockpile them if necessary). I am sure that as time goes on, the newsletter will expand and he will need more from the membership. So please help him out as he asks for it.

I now input an article for three newsletters plus my required District Commander quarterly newsletter. So I am sure that I repeat myself (seems to me that I do) and you may read things from me more than once.

Our National Newsletter has a new editor (there are actually two of them, one editor and one that will provide him a large amount of assistance). I am sure he, like you, will have some learning curves with the new job. So let's give him the benefit of the doubt on the first couple of issues. I am sure he will get things turned around there. He also has deadline dates when issues are to be out and I suspect he will meet them.

This year (2014) is a National Election year. Please read the biographies of each person running for a National office and vote your heart. The same goes for the amendments that will be on the ballot. As I write this, I have no idea what might be there regarding amendments. However, the National Board of Directors will have a mid-term meeting in March and coming out of that I will know what they are and will be putting the information out to all.

Again, I want to congratulate your base on your newsletter. I have hopes of attending a meeting of yours in the very near future (depending on how schedules work out). I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and answering any of your questions.

May God bless each of you and your families and may God bless the United States of America.

Steve

MEMBERSHIP:

Annual USSVI and USS Virginia Base Dues collection is underway. An initial Email has been sent ONLY to those who owe dues. Two Emails were sent out one to those who owe USSVI and USS Virginia Base dues and one to those who just owe USS Virginia Base dues.

James C. Lencalis

Meeting Minutes

Of December 2013 on 12/12/2013

- Meeting is being held at Anna's Restaurant
- Pizza and salad are on the buffet menu
- 21 Members and 6 guest are present
- Pat Rodgers won the 50/50 and received \$50
- The ladies were excused
- At 1900 Base Commander Kenn McDermott called the meeting to order
 - Kenn McDermott gave the opening prayer
 - Sr. Vice Commander Elect/COB Pete Fortier lead the Pledge of Allegiance, USSVI Creed and Tolling of the Boats. Assisted by Base Storekeeper Bob Kutzenberger
 - 4 Boats were lost with the loss of 140 crew members for the month of December
- Birthdays for the Month of December
 - None - Mickey Wins
- Officer Induction will be held off until next month due to Nominating Committee Chairman Thurman Register being ill
- A discussion on naming of the news letter and a ballet was taken. The name "USS Virginia Base Deep Water Gazette" was accepted
- The newly redesigned ussvirginiabase.org website was, it at times, was very technical. Also points of the USSVI web site was brought to the attention of the members
- Base Treasurer Jim Lencalis presented an abbreviated Report (detailed report available for review)
 - Opening balance 1-1-13 = \$3,986.60
 - 2013 Base Expenses = **\$2,452.61**
 - 2013 Base Income = **\$2,830.00**
 - Closing balance 12-31-13 = \$4,363.99
 - Net gain for 2013 **\$377.39**
 - Four member have not yet renewed their memberships
 - Treasurer's Report was approved
- Doug Blaha shared his visit to the Spam Museum
- John Mosticone shared his visit to the finger lake region of New York state and the Curtiss Museum
- Kenn McDermott gave the Benediction
- The meeting was adjourned at 2015

Respectfully
Bill Anderson
Base Secretary

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 submariner to fill the position. Please contact the Base Commander if you feel you have a few minutes to contribute at the meetings.

Chaplin's Corner

Our base Chaplin position is presently open and we are looking for an able body submariner to fill the position. Please contact the Base Commander if you feel the calling to serve.



Elected Officers:

Commander – Kenn McDermott
kennmcd@pewterguy.com 434-286-2529
Vice Commander – Pete Fortier
p4tier@comcast.net
Secretary – Bill Anderson
ftb1ss@comcast.net
Treasurer – Jim Lencalis
j.lencalis@comcast.net

Appointed Officers:

Newsletter Editor - John Mosticone
jmosticone@gmail.com 540-672-4398
Ways & Means - John Lamsens
jlamsens@verizon.net
Nominating Committee - Thurman Register
thurman@tbrinc.com
Storekeeper - Bob Kutzenberger
kutzb@comcast.net 804-556-6932

Holland Club Members

Paul Benton	1958 SS-269
Dick Brown	1959 SS-424
Tom Chaffee	1963 SS-331
Bill Hiesley	1957 SS-403
Dick Kanning	1962 SS-240
Bill Lewis	1963 SS-272
Mickey Martin	1957 SS-352
Kenn McDermott	1962 SS-385
Richard Moore	1960 SS-269
Ron Randolph	1963 SSBN-617
Thurman Register	1961 SS-523
Pat Rodgers	1951 SS-482
Warren Rucker	1951 SS-523
"Doc" Smith	1956 SS-476
Bob Stolarz	1962 SS-395
Bill Wellner	1961 SS-422

Note: We will be inducting Doug Blaha, Sandy Harvey and Bob Kutzenberger into the Holland Club on May 8th, 2014. Please join us for that meeting & ceremony.

Welcome Aboard

Todd Steadman
Cary Carroll (COB of USS Virginia)
Matt Washko

Our new associate member Curtis Anderson is the son of Bill Anderson

Base Eternal Patrol

Jack Winn (founding Commander)
Sid Padgett (WWII sub vet)



Crew Birthday's

Dick	Brown	1/4/37
Tom	Chaffee	1/8/43
Bob	Stolarz	1/9/43
Dave	Jonker	1/10/43
Gene	Knight	1/15/48
Jim	Glenn	1/13/62
Doug	Jenkins	1/19/64
Matt	Washko	1/11/84
Dick	Kanning	2/3/40
Sandy	Harvey	2/17/40
Ron	Randolph	2/3/43
Bob	Kutzenberger	2/25/43
Bill	Lewis	3/30/39
Herby	Ortiz	3/30/44
Bill	Wellner	3/18/61

Upcoming Events

01/09 Base meeting
 02/13 Base meeting
 03/13 Base meeting

Base Bulletin Board



Swearing in of 2014 USS Virginia Base officers at January 9, 2014 meeting

National Convention 2014

Welcome to the 2014 Golden Anniversary USSVI Convention in San Francisco. Download Plan of the Day and Registration form from the website linked below under "Registration" (The Download Forms link below does not work.)	September 1st to 7th, 2014 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Burlingame CA	 of meeting site	Contact: Steve Paganelli 
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Visit website:
<http://www.ussvigoldenanniversary2014sf.org/>
Download forms:
http://www.ussvigoldenanniversary2014sf.org/uploads/2014_Convention_Final_b.pdf

2014 Southeast Regional Convention

Hosted by USSVI Tarheel Base
 Monday April 7 - Friday April 11, 2014

@ Holiday Inn @ Cary, 5630 Dillard Dr, Cary, NC 27518
 Phone # 919-851-1220 & Reserve room directly with hotel, mention SubVets Group. Rate \$79 + tax per night, includes breakfast

For more information go to:

<http://www.ussviriniabase.org/files/81127633.pdf>

RAO BULLETIN 15 January 2014

Should Congress Reverse Pension Cut?

One of the best things Ronald Reagan did as president was to revamp federal pensions. Reagan foresaw the problems that unaffordable public benefits would cause over time — the same problems now afflicting many cities and states — and was determined to act. As a result, most federal workers hired after 1986 look forward to a very modest pension, one that is significantly reduced for people leaving before age 62. But one big group was largely untouched by Reagan's overhaul: members of the military. They are still on a plan so generous that it allows them to retire in their late 30s or early 40s and collect a pension, with cost-of-living increases, for the rest of their lives. This is accompanied by lifetime health coverage whose premium, \$460 per year for a family policy, has not risen since 1995 even as costs for everyone else have skyrocketed. In last month's bipartisan budget deal, Congress made some defensible trims in military pensions, prompting a howl of complaints from veterans groups. They protest too much. Way too much. The military pension system is not only extremely generous, it is also counterproductive. It drains defense money from today's troops and weapons. And while the system encourages some people to consider the military who otherwise might not, it also encourages them to leave early, taking their first-rate training to go double-dip by moving into a civilian government job. In any case, they can collect pensions — intended as old-age protection — in the prime of their working lives. The deal, crafted by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Senate Budget Committee Chairwoman Patty Murray (D-WA) would not alter those basics. After 20 years of service, regardless of age, a military retiree can expect a pension equal to 50% of final pay, with an additional 2.5 percentage points for each year of service beyond 20. 40% of service members have never seen a combat zone.

The "cuts" come in the form of a reduction in cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs, by 1 percentage point each year until age 62. At 62, the full COLA would come back, and pensions would shoot up to where they would have been had the full COLA been in effect from the start. For example, a first sergeant retiring now at 40 with 20 years of

service would collect a pension of \$24,828. By the time he or she reached 61, it would have risen to \$39,507, and now would rise to \$32,464. The following year, it would be \$40,496 under both formulations, and would receive the full COLA thereafter. This approach would save taxpayer money and help reach budget targets. It also would discourage people from leaving early after the government has invested so much in them. The change would also make military pensions less wildly out of line with most Americans' experience. Private-sector pensions, to the extent that they exist at all, are routinely scaled back or frozen in ways much more dramatic than these changes. Certainly, protecting veterans impaired by their service is a different sort of issue. But the current system rewards all equally, including the 40% of service members who have never seen a combat zone. If Congress doesn't have the fortitude to stand by even this small tweak in military pensions, it doesn't bode well for the far bigger, tougher budget decisions that loom ahead. [Source: USA Today | Editorial | 1 Jan 2014 ++]

Note: Base Commander Kenn McDermott disagrees with the premise of this USA Today article - but decided to leave it in so members could see the "other side" of this argument.

Ships Store



Be sure to visit our Ships Store at:

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



Connection n Links

USSVI

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

USS Virginia Base:

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

USSVI Facebook address:

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

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

USSVI link to Amazon Smiles Program:

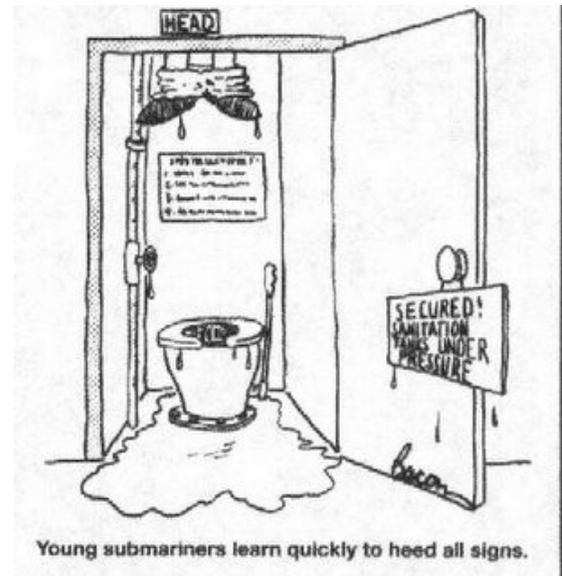
<https://www.facebook.com/USSVCF>

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

General Links:

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

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Virginia



*Do you have input for the
Monthly Newsletter?*

Send information to:

jmosticone@gmail.com

*Deadline for the next issue of the
Deep Water Gazette is:*

March 20th

Registration (cont.)

10 Thurs 1000 Tolling of the Boats Ceremony: Free
1130 Lunch; chicken Alfredo: \$10 ea x ___ = ___
Free afternoon and get ready for the Banquet.
1700 Reception at the NC State University Club followed
by Meeting, Guest Speaker VADM Al Konetzni, Dinner,
Door Prizes & Raffle Drawing.

Meal Choices for Thursday's Dinner are:

Choice 1 Black & Blue Sirloin: blackened 5 oz. Angus beef sirloin filet, blue cheese-panko
crusted, with roasted red pepper whipped potatoes & broccoli:

First name(s) _____ Choice 1 ___ x \$30 = _____

Choice 2 Chicken Masalas: sautéed chicken supreme, mushroom & sweet Masalas sauce,
roasted red pepper whipped potatoes and asparagus:

First name(s) _____ Choice 2 ___ x \$30 = _____

Note: Thursday dinner includes salad, hot French rolls, butter, tax, and gratuity.
Dessert is also included with meal:

Choice A French Silk Pie 1st name(s) _____ Choice A _____

Choice B Carrot Cake 1st name(s) _____ Choice B _____

Thursday's Reception & Dinner are at NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, NC 27606. This is only a ten minute drive from Holiday Inn. Directions will be
available at check-in.

Dinners Mon, Tue, & Wed are "on your own."
List of recommended local restaurants will be available.

Total Convention Cost \$ _____

Please keep copy for your records and return this form with the check payable to:

USSVI - Tarheel Base

Mail to: Dave Campbell, Tarheel Base Treasurer, 501 Competition Rd, Raleigh, NC 27603

Please mail registration & check **no later than** Mon, Mar 24 so that we may make timely final
arrangements.

Have a problem or question? Feel free to contact Butterbean Dixon:
Email - goldbow@att.net or phone# 919-467-7597

Thank you....and we look forward to seeing and welcoming you!