



THE DECK LOG

USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE

FEBRUARY 2023



USSVI Creed

Section 1: 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 may be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments, and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Camaraderie

Section 2: In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, USSVI shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for our mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. The USSVI supports a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

Perpetual Remembrance

Section 3: The organization engages in various projects and deeds that bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. USSVI also endeavors to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services United States submariners performed and how the sacrifices of lost shipmates made possible the freedom and lifestyle American enjoy today

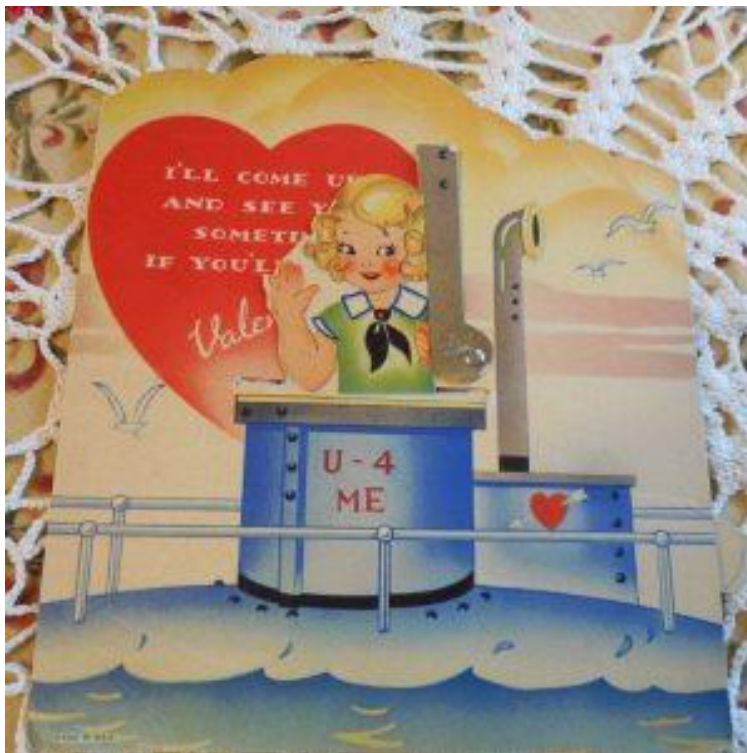


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EDITOR'S DESK



The Deck Log is a monthly publication of the Central Texas Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. It is delivered via email in Mi-crosoft Publisher PDF format to the Base Membership. A printed copy is mailed via USPS to those shipmates requesting a mailed copy.

Deck Log Editor

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U.S. Submarine Service

JOIN USSVI

Have you ever worn the proud symbol pictured above? Are you related to, or know someone who is wearing, or has worn, Submarine Dolphins?

Visit our Web Site at:
<https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/>

USSVI WEB SITE: <https://www.ussvi.org/>

BASE WEB SITE: <https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org/>

FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentraltexas/>

INSTAGRAM: [ussvi.centraltexasbase](https://www.instagram.com/ussvi.centraltexasbase)

BASE MEETINGS - Base meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at M/SGT Ben D Snowden VFW Post 8587, 1000 N College St, Georgetown, TX 78626. We hold a quarterly social in lieu of a Base Meeting in March, June, September and December.

The original design for the U.S. Submarine Force insignia approved in 1924 by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Acting Secretary of the Navy, is still in use today.



2021
Rick Mitchell
Bill Scott

2017 Tom
Williams

2010, 2014,
2017, 2020

2020 Base

2020
Bob Steinmann,
Hubert Jackson

2012, 2013, 2016,
2018, 2019, 2020,
2021, 2022

NATIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

A listing of Internet information addresses of the various organizations as places to obtain information on national items of interest. Shipmates, you are invited to add to the list (just let me know via email of any you use), so over time it would become more comprehensive.



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



<http://www.ussvi.org/base/CentralTexas.asp>
<https://www.facebook.com/ussvicentraltexas/>



<http://www.csp.navy.mil/>



<http://www.navytimes.com/>



<http://www.military.com/>



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



Sub Vet Store (americommerce.com)



<https://www.sublant.usff.navy.mil/>



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



www.navyleagueaustin.org



www.navyleague.org



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



www.moaa.org



www.shiftcolors.navy.mil



<http://www.va.gov/>



<http://www.submarinesailor.com>



<http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/Pages/default.aspx>



<http://isausa.org/>



<http://www.dfas.mil/>



<https://www.silent-service-challenge-coins.com/>

SILENT RUNNING - FEBRUARY

"I can assure you that they went down fighting and that their brothers who survived them took a grim toll of our savage enemy to avenge their deaths." Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, USN



USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 4th war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. Barbel sent a message reporting that she had been attacked three times by enemy aircraft dropping depth charges and would transmit further information on the following night.



USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.



USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser. She reported having been forced down on the 13th by two destroyers, and that she had recovered an enemy aviator from the water and taken him prisoner. All further messages to the vessel remained unanswered.



USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 27, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.



USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. She carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942. Trout topped off with fuel at Midway and was never heard from again. Japanese records indicate that one of their convoys was attacked by a submarine on 29 February 1944 in the area assigned to Trout. Possibly one of the convoy's escorts sank the Trout.

We Remember - For those who gave their lives in the defense of our country - **We Remember**





USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE NEWS

BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT



Shipmates,

It was great seeing so many of you this month at our base meeting. We had about 35 in attendance including 3 visitors. Keep this up and we will have to start meeting in the larger hall there at the VFW. Thank you for your support and coming out. A great way to start. Welcome to our visitor from the North (Fort Worth) Don Hirshenhofer the Cowtown Base Cdr. and to our 2 guests, Joe Musgrave who served on the Sea Poacher with Hubert and Charles Gurtz who served on the Kamehameha.

I just wanted to say again how much we appreciate your membership and continued support of the base and organization. I know we are all at different points in our life and we can't or don't want to attend every meeting, event or whatever and that's fine. Your membership is important to us and hopefully we will put on a slate of events that may work for your schedule and interest. All though this year was the toughest one yet, Thank You for getting your dues renewed and in on time. I thought we may be losing one or 2 of you but as of this writing it appears everyone is up to date. Thank You!

At this month's meeting we talked about a lot of things coming up and they will be listed in the calendar on the base Web Page www.ussvicentraltexasbase.org and on our FB Page along with the calendar in this newsletter but heres a few highlights. Mark your calendar now and try to attend.

Feb 15th – Base Meeting
 March 18th - Social
 April 13-16 - Lonestar Subvet Round-Up
 April 19th – Base Meeting
 April 22nd – Red Poppy Parade
 May 17th – Base Meeting
 May 29th – Tolling Ceremony in Taylor

Last thing I wanted to share with you this month is about the USSVI Charitable Foundation (USSVCF). USSVI is a 501(c)19 and USSVCF is our 501(c)3. The USSVCF supports some causes you may be aware of such as the Kasp(SS)4Kid(SS) program, the College Scholarship program, and the Brotherhood Fund. All 3 of those, members of our base have directly benefited from. Other areas you may not be completely aware of is the Building Fund which helps support our clubhouse in Groton, The Library Fund which helps maintain a library we have in Little Rock Arkansas, and the Memorial Fund which helps support memorial around the country. The USSVCF also is a way that bases that have large projects can have a way to set up their own sub account for tax free donations which prevent them from having to create their own 501(c)3 which allows more money to be earned as the interest is earned on a much larger scale. One small source of income for the USSVCF as many of you heard is going away and that is the Amazon Smile program. This is not to bash on them as through that program tons of money was earned for many orgs but just to note that the USSVCF cannot continue to function without a various sources of income. For many years we have been fortunate to have various means of income and keep the foundation solid and it still is but we are looking for more area of support and one of them we have not really asked for much was from our members. Many of us support all sorts of organizations so why not consider many setting up a small \$10/month (or more?) tax deductible recurring donation. You can do this and learn more about the USSVCF on their website www.USSVCF.org It's a great way to do something to support Submarine Veterans and their Families.

Thank You again for all your support and everything you each do!

Rick Mitchell - 512-639-0035 - rmitch2@yahoo.com

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USSVI CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MINUTES – JANUARY 19, 2022

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Location: Georgetown VFW Post 8587, Georgetown, TX and Zoom.

Meeting opened at 19:02 by Rick Mitchell, Central Texas Base Commander.

E-Board was present

No Meeting in December, No Minutes

Sailing List: LOCAL 29 and Zoom 5+

Binnacle List: Bill Bellinghausen, John Roberts, Bob Steinmann, Jack Odom, Chuck Trahan, John Kilgore II, ET2

Chuck Malone: Led the base in our opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Gene Hall

Tolling of the Boats – January: Rick Mitchell with Gene Hall Tolling the Bell

USS Silversides SS-236: (Eric Heter) Provided a good presentation detailing the history of the USS Silversides 4th War Patrol. Commissioned 15 Dec 1941, decommissioned on 17 Aug 1945 and is currently at the USS Silversides Museum in Muskegon, MI.

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer’s Report: Virgil Claycamp

Current Total Funds as of 1 Jan 2023

1 Dec 2022 \$32,228.00

General: \$28,397.95
Memorial: \$3,830.05

1 Jan 2023 \$30,707.80

General: \$27,176.81
Memorial: \$3,830.99
Uncleared Checks (\$300.00)
Balance on Hand: \$30,707.80

Storekeeper’s Report: Virgil Claycamp

2023 Submariner Calendars are available for \$10 each. The Base Challenge coins are available for \$10 for members.

Kaps 4 Kids (Shawn O’Shea) 9 November event held at McLane’s Children’s Hospital, Temple, TX. The Dell Children’s Hospital is the next planned visit; contact Shawn O’Shea if you are interested in participating. Working on the next visit after Dell will be in Temple, hopefully Feb/Mar.

Parade (Tom Sprague): The next event will be the Red Poppy Festival in Georgetown on 22 Apr 2023. Float should be ready, if not we’ll borrow one.

Membership (Chuck Malone): 80 Current Members, 49 USSVI National Life, 41 Base Life, 40 Holland Club, 2 losses due to moving from area and 1 due to non-renewal.

Memorial (Gene Hall): The Conex box with the MK-14 had been left unlocked by Round Rock and homeless folks had made it a temporary shelter. No damage to the items inside and has been properly secured. Tom Williams questioned whether we should relocate and display the MK-14 since Round Rock seems to be stalled.

Birthdays 2023: 2Jan David Paulson, 19 Jan Bob Lind, 20 Jan Craig Russell and 24 Feb Dylan Gray.

Unfinished, Ongoing and Old Business

December Christmas Party

Was a great success with approximately 75 in attendance at the Cotton Country Club, Granger, TX Pictures are on the base web page. If you have comments or suggestions for future events let Rick Mitchell know.

Sailor of the Year: Carl Repp was voted by the membership as the 2022 Sailor of the Year.

OLD Business:

Wreaths for Vets: The Annual Wreath Laying at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen was held between 19 and 26 Nov 2022.

Base Officers:

All of the individuals on the slate were elected unanimously.

Base Commander: Rick Mitchell - incumbent
Vice Commander - Chuck Trahan
Treasurer - Virgil Claycamp, incumbent
Yeoman – Frank Abernathy, incumbent

NEW Business:

Budget Review and Approval for 2023

Rick noted that input concerning the Base Budget has been asked for since Oct 2022.

A handout showing Budget information from 2020 through 2022 and the proposed Budget for 2023 was handed out at the meeting. After discussion by those present, the proposed budget was adopted. Bill Scott placed a motion to approve the Proposed 2023 Budget, the motion was seconded by Gene Hall and unanimously approved by those present.

Base Float (Rick Mitchell):

Jake Ferrigan, Dylan Gray and Mike Gauthier and Rick Mitchell have been working on the new base float and it should be ready by the Red Poppy Festival in Georgetown in April.

Future Meetings:

The next meeting is on 15 Feb 2023 and will be in person ONLY at the VFW Post.

Moving forward we intend on doing only one Zoom meeting quarterly.

Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct will be in person with Zoom
Feb, May, Aug, Nov will be in person only at the VFW Post.
Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec will be Socials.

Red Poppy Festival 28-30 April

Georgetown, TX. Parade will be on 29 April at 1000, line up will be around 0800.

We will ask for RSVP for those needing to ride on the trailer; the parade is a great event with lots of community support, but is fast paced.

Lonestar Subvet Round-Up (San Antonio, TX)

13-16 April. The Menger Hotel is the event hotel. Tolling at the Alamo (VADM Bird, Donna Jackson), Elvis at the Welcome Aboard, Banquet.

Register ASAP for a chance to receive Free Parking. Info is Online here:

[Lone Star Subvet Round-Up – Central Texas Base \(ussvicentraltexasbase.org\)](https://ussvicentraltexasbase.org)

Memorial Day Tolling

Taylor, Texas with City Support. Will be at Memorial Park which has a large covered area in the event of rain.

The Guest Speaker will be MMCM(SS) Duane Ariola. Taylor City Council Member, American Legion Vice Commander. Retired in 2005 and is a Taylor High School Alumni.

July 4th Event

The plan is to be in the parade in Round Rock. We hope to have a static display and booth at Old Settlers Park. More information as we get closer to the date.

Tom Williams:

Still have issues with National Website and Tim Carlisle could use help with this if you have any expertise in website design, database/website implementation.

National Convention will be 29Aug-1Sep 2023 in Tucson, AZ.

Western Region Round-Up will be 27-29 Apr 2023.

The Eagle Scout Program has is being run by Tim Pacl.

A new Naval Sea Cadet program is being run by Mike Milnovick of the Ohio Base.

DOTS Pretzels gives \$500 worth of pretzels to a designated Boat for after \$1000 of pretzels is purchased.

National Awards is being handled by Bill Scott.

Tom W recommended signage at the Alamo to indicate that the Tolling Ceremony at the Alamo to let folks know the solemn nature of the Tolling Ceremony.

Good of the Order

50/50 Raffle – \$56 of the \$112 was won by Bill Scott

Next Meeting – 15 Feb 2023 in Person Only at the VFW 8587 Post in Georgetown.

Sailing List: Base Members and Visitors: Local at the VFW Post 8587 (29): Don Atkins, Harry Boyer, Bill Brinkman, Virgil Claycamp, Jack Collins, Frank Espinosa, Mike Gauthier, Gene Hall, Eric Heter, Harold Jackson, Huber Jackson, Colin King, J. Weldon Koenig, Joe Kruppa, Chuck Malone, Fred Maynard, Brian Eaton, Rick Mitchell, Shawn O’Shea, Bill Scott, Roy Silva, Tom Sprague, Chuck Trahan, Harry Ullmann, Derald Vogt, Tom Williams, John Zieser and Frank Abernathy. Two Visitors: Joe Musgrave and Charles Goertz.

Zoom Participants (6): Sam Amato, Joe Keller, Chris Munn, John Odom, Carl Repp, Don Hirschenhofer

Meeting Adjourned by Rick Mitchell, 2034 hours

Minutes submitted by Frank Abernathy, Yeoman, 28Jan2023

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BASE TREASURER’S REPORT

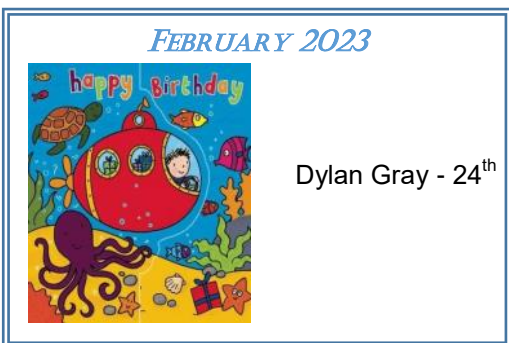
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15 January 2023

Financial Report for Period Ending 11/30/2022

Beginning Balance - 12/1/2022	\$32,228.00
RBFCU Checking (General Fund)	\$27,176.81
RBFCU Savings (Memorial Fund)	\$3,830.99
Cash to be deposited	\$00
Un-cleared Checks	-\$300.00
Ending Balance - 1/1/2023	\$30,707.80

Submitted: Virgil Claycamp, Treasurer



<i>CENTRAL TEXAS BASE MEMBERSHIP</i>	
Report presented to Base Commander w/copy to the Yeoman.	
Members listed in Central Texas Database	81
Regular Annual Members	23
National Life Members	49
Base Life Members	41
Holland Club Members	40
Associate Members	1
Dual Members	3
Prospective Members:	0
War Veterans	70
Members pending:	0
Submitted: Chuck Malone, Membership	

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STOREKEEPER CORNER
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The Central Texas Base (CTB) Supply Store is open for business. The Supply Store can obtain most of the items you need for memorabilia, your vest, gifts for others, etc. You can order them from the Storekeeper at a meeting or online at vclaycamp@yahoo.com. CTB can often get items at a lower than normal price, so you save money. The SK can search the net to find out-of-the-ordinary items, for all branches of the service. When requesting a ship's patch, tell the SK which coast you served on board, as the patches are often different for each coast.

They're here! Our new Base Challenge Coins are now available, and they only cost \$10! Thanks to Shelly Saxon at (SS) Challenge Coins for helping us with this project and Bill Scott for getting this done.

The Base E-board is working on a way to inform you of the SK items in stock and prices and a way for to you purchase them either at the in-person meetings, or via an online email system to the SK for in-stock items.

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BINNACLE LIST
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We ask Lord, in your Son's Name, that you be with our Brother's and Sister's who are sick and ask that you hold them in your arms and heal them so that they might again join us around our table. In your Son's name, We pray, Amen.

John Roberts, Bob Steinman, Jack Odom (knee), Bill Bellinghausen, Chuck Trahan (back surgery 1/26), John Kilgore II ET2 RIP 1/3/23 (Friend of Frank A.), Other Shipmates not CTB members?

Please keep us informed of any person who should be listed. These are the people that we know about, so please e-mail any E-Board member if you know of any member or his family that might be in crisis. Also please keep the Base Chaplain, Shipmate Bob Steinmann informed as well.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS
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Unless otherwise promulgated, the Base Monthly meetings will be held in-person and/or a combination of in-person and Zoom meetings.

18 January 2023, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

15 February 2023, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

18 March 2023, Central Texas Base Quarterly Social, Details TBD

13-16 April 2023, 2023 Lonestar Subvet Round-up, The Menger Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Lone Star Subvet Round-Up - Central Texas Base (ussvicentraltexasbase.org)

19 April 2023, Monthly meeting Central Texas Base, VFW Post #8587, 1000 N College St., Georgetown, TX 78626, 1900 meeting. In-person and Zoom.

28-30 April 2023, Red Poppy Festival Parade, Georgetown, TX, 29 April @ 1000 with line up at 0800.

29 May 2023, Memorial Day Tolling of the Boats Ceremony, Taylor, TX. Details TBD.

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KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)
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Baylor Scott & White McLane Children's Medical Center - Temple, is opening up for outside visitors and events like Kap(SS)4Kid(SS).

An event was held On 9 November there. Bob Steinmann, Harold Jackson, Harry Ullmann, Rick Mitchell and Shawn O'Shea were in attendance and were well received. They also made an Honorary Submariner of a young man while in the waiting area before their scheduled meeting.

I have scheduled a long desired return visit to Dell Children's Hospital here in Austin, TX on February 7, 2023 to put a smile on those children's faces.

Anyone interested in joining the Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) team, and want to volunteer to get on the roster to attend one of our events, please contact me at 702-682-9170 or soshea77@outlook.com.

Shipmate Shawn O'Shea, Chair, Kap(SS)4Kid(SS)

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

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INSPIRATIONAL. NOT A JOKE

Shared last year on Facebook

"Some years ago, I was stuck on a crosstown bus in New York City during rush hour. Traffic was barely moving. The bus was filled with cold, tired people who were deeply irritated with one another, with the world itself. Two men barked at each other about a shove that might or might not have been intentional. A pregnant woman got on, and nobody offered her a seat. Rage was in the air; no mercy would be found here.

But as the bus approached Seventh Avenue, the driver got on the intercom. "Folks," he said, "I know you have had a rough day and you are frustrated. I can't do anything about the weather or traffic, but here is what I can do. As each one of you gets off the bus, I will reach out my hand to you. As you walk by, drop your troubles into the palm of my hand, okay? Don't take your problems home to your families tonight, just leave them with me. My route goes right by the Hudson River, and when I drive by there later, I will open the window and throw your troubles in the water."

It was as if a spell had lifted. Everyone burst out laughing. Faces gleamed with surprised delight. People who had been pretending for the past hour not to notice each other's existence were suddenly grinning at each other like, is this guy serious?

Oh, he was serious.

At the next stop, just as promised, the driver reached out his hand, palm up, and waited. One by one, all the exiting commuters placed their hand just above his and mimed the gesture of dropping something into his palm. Some people laughed as they did this, some teared up but everyone did it. The driver repeated the same lovely ritual at the next stop, too. And the next. All the way to the river.

We live in a hard world, my friends. Sometimes it is extra difficult to be a human being. Sometimes you have a bad day. Sometimes you have a bad day that lasts for several years. You struggle and fail. You lose jobs, money, friends, faith, and love. You witness horrible events unfolding in the news, and you become fearful and withdrawn. There are times when everything seems cloaked in darkness. You long for the light but don't know where to find it.

But what if you are the light? What if you are the very agent of illumination that a dark situation begs for? That's what this bus driver taught me, that anyone can be the light, at any moment. This guy wasn't some big power player. He wasn't a spiritual leader. He wasn't some media-savvy influencer. He was a bus driver, one of society's most invisible workers. But he possessed real power, and he used it beautifully for our benefit.

When life feels especially grim, or when I feel particularly powerless in the face of the world's troubles, I think of this man and ask myself, "What can I do, right now, to be the light?" Of course, I can't personally end all wars, or solve global warming, or transform vexing people into entirely different creatures. I definitely can't control traffic. But I do have some influence on everyone I brush up against, even if we never speak or learn each other's name.

No matter who you are, or where you are, or how mundane or tough your situation may seem, I believe you can illuminate your world. In fact, I believe this is the only way the world will ever be illuminated, one bright act of grace at a time, all the way to the river."

Author unknown



SHIPMATES IN ACTION

USSVI Central Texas Base

1/11/23

A few shipmates got together for breakfast at **Rosa's Cafe** in Round Rock. Behind all of that gray hair and in a few cases, shiny heads is a lot of wisdom and some of the best folks around. Thank You Rosa's for your part in providing some color! Next up is our **CTB February Monthly Meeting** on the 15th at the Georgetown VFW as usual. See the calendar of events.



January Base Meeting



30 shipmates at our base meeting 1/18/23 at the Georgetown VFW hall. Missing Mr. Roy Silva who was behind the camera and 8 shipmates on line

Thanks for the great turnout this week. Great way to start the year off.

We had 2 guests and 1 visitor present and hopefully soon they will decide to be more than guests, but wel-

come regardless to:

Joe Musgrave who served on the Sea Poacher with Hubert Jackson.

Charles Goertz who served on the USS Kamehameha from 69-75.

Don Hirschenhofer visiting from the Cowtown Base. BC up there and a Trumpetfish Sailor.

It was great meeting you both and seeing you Don!

We swore in our E-board for this year. Welcome Aboard **Chuck Trahan** as our new VC and thank you the **Gene Hall** for his time as our outgoing VC.

Tom Williams, our Regional Director shared news and answered questions.

We approved our 2023 budget.

We talked about our upcoming events:

- 15 February 2023 February Base Meeting
- 18 March Base Social - Looking for ideas.
- 13-16 April Lonestar Subvet Round-Up Lone [Star Subvet Round-Up](#)
- 19 April Base Meeting
- 22 April Red Poppy Parade (Georgetown)
- 17 May Base Meeting
- 29 May (Memorial Day) Tolling Ceremony in Taylor Texas
- 17 June Base Social
- 4 July (or 3rd) Round Rock 4th of July Parade.

Thanks for everything you all do!

Rick Mitchell

512-639-0035

Base Commander Central Texas Base

[Central Texas Base – Web Page](#)

[USSVI Central Texas Base | Facebook](#)

District Commander CD4 (Texas)

[USSVI National Web Page](#)

[United States Submarine Veterans | Facebook](#)



District Commander Rick Mitchell is at [USSVI Heart of Texas Base](#)

1/28/23

Good time today at our base meeting. Good to catch up with old shipmates and meet new ones. Richard B., won a cool handmade pen and Jerry won our 50/50. Thanks to Coach's for hosting us. Looking forward to next time here at Coach's Smoke BBQ in downtown Waco. Meeting starts every 4th Saturday at 1100 and good food shortly after.





USSVI OFFICIAL BUSINESS

National Commander Bulletin

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

2023 Q1 American Submariner Available

NC Bill Andrea [via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com](mailto:blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com), Jan 5, 2023

Shipmates,

The 2023 1st edition of the American Submariner Magazine is now posted online. Sign in to either website, www.ussvi.org or www.ussubvets.org, to access it.

Best wishes,
Bill Andrea NC

USSV Charitable Foundation

From the Desk of the United States Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation President

www.ussvcf.org

Do you want to be a part of the building of your Charitable Foundation?

We are searching for a few people to assist your US Submarine Veterans Charitable Foundation to achieve its next plateau. This month we are celebrating 22 years as a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization.

Backup support is critical; we need your assistance.

Our funds, listed in alphabetical order:

Brotherhood

Assist our current Fund Manager, Ken Nichols, with administering the Brotherhood Fund. This is an activity that always covers all bases. When a shipmate suffers, this fund stands by to help in some way. The time involved is generally low, some months with almost no activity. Some months it can be more, depending on what is happening in the country – think of hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and other disasters. Experience necessary: strong email and phone usage can be helpful. A desire to help is necessary.

Building

We currently have one building, and it is old and in need of updating and modifications. We may need to acquire a new or another building sometime, but this fund supports our Groton Base building for now. The experience needed is a background in commercial building maintenance and modifications. Almost any commercial building experience would be helpful. The time involved is minor. You would be working with our Building Fund Manager, Jon Jacques.

General

The General Fund Manager is the Charitable Foundation's Treasurer. This position is critical, and the time involved is growing. We are looking for someone with experience in bookkeeping and accounting and familiarity with Quickbooks. This puts you in the middle of the operations of the Charitable Foundation. The time involved would be from as little as a few hours per month to a few hours per week. This could consist of a team of treasurer and one or two assistants. You would be working with our Treasurer, Randy Stein.

Legacy

The Legacy Fund is critical to the long-term operation of the Charitable Foundation. We are looking for someone understanding the Time Value of Money. If you understand Endowments, Estates, and the time value of money, then we need you. The time involved is minor almost none, except for the time spent thinking and planning. You would be working with Jon Jacques.

Library

Our library is in North Little Rock, Arkansas, on the Arkansas River. This is, in effect, an archive of books. The backup library Fund Manager should have easy access to this park. The time involved is minimal., working in conjunction with Joe Mathis.

Memorial & Museum Boat

Ray Wewers has been the Memorial & Museum Boat Fund Manager for many years and has a lot of information about how this fund operates. The time involved is small, but from time to time can become focused as various projects come to fruition. Familiarity with project planning and management would be helpful.

Scholarship

Dr. Alan Fickett is the Scholarship Fund Manager. This fund is one of our more active funds, in the past few years, we have awarded several hundred scholarships. We recently added a new concept of Vocational Scholarships, and we anticipate increasing scholarship applications. The time involved can be relatively low for about 6 or 7 months of the year and then quite busy for several months from spring to late summer. Experience should include exposure to scholarships and various schools and universities. This could expand into a team of two or three working alongside Dr. Fickett.

Contacts:

- Brotherhood Fund – Ken Nichols – ken2lorna@bellsouth.net
- Building Fund – Jon Jaques – jjaques@bellsouth.net
- General Fund – Randy Stein – rstein02@gmail.com
- Legacy Fund – Jon Jaques – jjaques@bellsouth.net
- Library Fund – Joe Mathis – rnc95ret05@gmail.com
- Memorial Fund – Ray Wewers – raywewers@gmail.com
- Museum Boat Fund – Ray Wewers – raywewers@gmail.com
- Scholarship Fund – Alan Fickett – alan.cfsubvets@gmail.com
- Any Fund – Ken Earls – kenearls.ss@gmail.com

Respectfully,
Ken Earls
President, USSVI Charitable Foundation



National Commander Bulletin

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

New Website and Database

NC Bill Andrea via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 1/20/23

Shipmates,

It has come to my attention that some of you are focused on using the new Blackbaud website and tools system. Tim and his technical team are in the process of resolving a number of significant issues with Blackbaud encompassing both the database and website functions.

Until officially notified, the only time the new (Blackbaud) website is to be used is for matters concerning this year’s 2023 convention in Tucson.

Tim works hard to answer the large number of emails he receives every day, and he has a more than full-time job at the same time. Shipmates, what is needed here is patience, not unwarranted stone-throwing and criticism as some folks are prone to do.

Please bear in mind that the rebuilt old site <https://ussubvets.org> is the currently active system that should be used for all of your normal research and data entries.

Tim’s priorities, as set by me and the National Leadership, are:

1. A fully functioning website and database for use by the National organization
2. 2023 Convention website support (which should now be working correctly)
3. Developing the secondary website for Eternal Patrol, Decklog, and other items.
4. Anything else that develops while completing the above three items.

It took us 10 years to find a doable replacement for the old website – Tim and team have only been working on this project for 10 months tops. Please give them the courtesy of letting them complete everything without undue harassment.

V/R Bill Andrea, NC



USSVI National Bulletin

From the Desk of National Commander Bill Andrea

Annual and Life Membership Dues

NC Bill Andrea via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com 7:26 AM

Shipmates,

National Term (Annual) Dues

- 5-Year Term: \$115.00 to \$140.00
- 3-Year Term: \$ 70.00 to \$85.00
- 1-Year Term: (Jan through Dec) \$25.00 to \$30.00

For members joining in the last quarter, 1 Year Term is \$5.00 (Oct through Dec) and \$30.00 (Next year's term January through Dec) for the follow-on year for a total of \$35.00.

National Life Dues

- 76+ Years: \$100.00 to \$120.00
- 66 through 75 Years \$200.00 to \$240.00
- 56 through 65 Years \$300.00 to \$360.00
- 46 through 55 Years \$400.00 to \$500.00
- Up to 45 years \$500.00 to \$600.00

This increase will go into effect on 1 April 2023, at which time updated application forms will be posted and the PPM updated.

V/R
Bill Andrea NC



USSVI National Bulletin

From the Desk of the USSVI National Awards Chair

2023 National Awards Manual

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN RET., via blackbaudemail.netcommunity1.com, 1/26/23

Note: This message has been sent to all USSVI Members.

Shipmates,

The 2023 National Awards Manual is posted on the old website, www.ussubvets.org, under “Documents” and “Manuals”.

It is also posted on the new website, www.ussvi.org, under “Members” and “Manuals”

(You must be signed in to access it from the new site)

The manual has been revised and includes several changes, and editorial modifications are similar to the changes that took place last year. One item that was changed referred to the Newsletter of the Year Award Nominations timeline being deleted, and the delivery milestone for all nominations has changed. It is required to be sent to the National Awards chair no later than 30 April 2023. The 2022 Selection Committee members are being asked to continue in that role for 2023.

Note the important timelines and deadlines for submitting USSVI National Awards Nominations.

Honored to Serve,

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN RET.
USSVI National Awards Chair
Chief of the Boat, USSVI Central Texas Base
CTB Newsletter Editor,
512-826-8876



U.S. Naval Undersea Museum

U.S. Navy Submarine Service - SSN's

1/8/2023

On this day in 2005, submarine USS San Francisco (SSN 711) collided with a seamount traveling at flank speed — unaware of mountain's presence because it was missing from the navigation chart being used. The head-on crash ruptured the submarine's forward ballast (buoyancy) tanks and flooded its sonar dome. Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Ashley died of head trauma and 70 other crew were injured.



With great effort, San Francisco's crew regained positive buoyancy, executed an emergency blow, and kept the sub afloat to return to drydock for temporary repairs. San Francisco survived this terrible accident due to the Submarine Safety (SUBSAFE) Program, which works to ensure that submarines can recover from flooding incidents.

Because San Francisco's pressure hull remained intact and her reactor had been refueled a few years earlier, the U.S. Navy chose to make repairs. The submarine's damaged bow section was replaced with the bow from USS Honolulu (SSN 718), allowing San Francisco to serve for another eight years (and leading to the nickname "Honofrisco").

The resilient San Francisco is now a moored training ship, MTS 711, at [NPTU Charleston](#).

USSVI Central Texas Base is with H. Bill Scott.

1/16/23

A little recent History from 2013. At our base meeting Bill Scott relieves Harold Jackson as Base Commander. Also, a picture of Harold swearing in the base officers that year. 2023 [CTB January Monthly Meeting](#) is this Wednesday. Hope to see you there! left to right: Harold Jackson - Past BC, Bob Steinman - Yeoman, Bill Scott - Base Cdr, Jack Bellinoff - Treasurer, Bill Brinkman - Vice Cdr.



NR-1



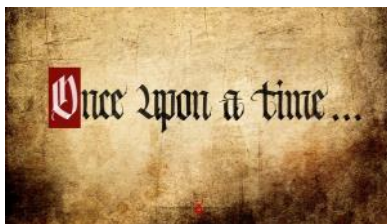
From a submarine shipmate.

I'm a VETERAN!

To understand a Military Veteran, you must know:

We left home as teenagers or in our early twenties for an unknown adventure.

We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives.
We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew.
We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the Earth.
We found new friends and new family.
We became brothers regardless of color, race or creed.
We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad.
We didn't get enough sleep.
We smoked and drank too much.
We picked up both good and bad habits.
We worked hard and played harder.
We didn't earn a great wage.
We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events.
We didn't know when, or even if, we were ever going to see home again.
We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all.
We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others.
Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't.
Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't.
Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare.
We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.
We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie.
We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all.
We have dealt with victory and tragedy.
We have celebrated and mourned.
We lost a few along the way.
When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.
We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures.
We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people will never know, and few will understand.
We speak highly of our own branch of service, and poke fun at the others.
We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.
Being a Veteran is something that had to be earned, and it can never be taken away.
It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.
People see a Veteran and they thank them for their service.
When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.
So, from myself to the rest of the veterans out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country.
Try to remember the good times and make peace with the bad times.
Share your stories.
But most importantly, stand tall for you have earned the right to be called a Veteran.
I'm a VETERAN!



Fifty Dollars

Morris and his wife Esther went to the state fair every year, and every year Morris would say, 'Esther, I'd like to ride in that helicopter.' Esther always replied, 'I know Morris, but that Helicopter ride is fifty dollars, and fifty dollars is fifty dollars.'

One year Esther and Morris went to the fair, and Morris said, 'Esther, I'm 85 Years old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance.' To this, Esther replied, 'Morris that helicopter ride is fifty dollars, and fifty dollars is fifty dollars.'

The pilot overheard the couple and said, 'Folks I'll make you a deal. I'll take both of you for a ride, and if you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say a word, I won't charge you. But if you say one word, it's fifty dollars.'

Morris and Esther agreed and up they went. The pilot did all kinds of fancy maneuvers, but not a word was

heard. He did his daredevil tricks over and over again, but still not a word.

When they landed, the pilot turned to Morris and said, 'By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!'

Morris replied, 'Well, to tell you the truth, I almost said something when Esther fell out, but you know, fifty dollars is fifty dollars.'

Read more <https://oliviral.com/keanu-reeves-makes-a-rare.../>



Just found out that the company that makes yardsticks won't be making them any longer.



THE PLIGHT OF AGING...

Uncle Tom, an elderly man had dinner at a very nice restaurant.

After he finished his wine, he went to the men's room, then walked out through the bar.

It was a beautiful evening, so he decided to leave his car in the parking lot and walk home.

When he arrived at his front door, he realized he did not have his keys.

He finally figured they must be in his jacket pocket, which was still hanging in the restroom.

He walked back to the restaurant, found his jacket in the men's room, and realized he had left his hat on the table.

He strolled back to the dining room to retrieve his hat, and when he got to his table, his wife asked, "Is anything wrong? You took such a long time in there."

Copied from another source



Peeking Duck

Ughh... I hate to do this about a local business but feel you deserve to know.

** Be aware ** We ordered a Chinese takeout from a local place last night (I won't name them) just been to pick it up and as I was driving home, I heard the bags rustling and moving!!! I thought what the hell is that? Has something got in the bag? I thought I could see a little pair of eyes peering out I was driving so I leaned forward, picked up the bag, put it on the passenger seat and there it was again, more rustling and little eyes looking out behind the prawn crackers, I thought it's got to be a rat or a mouse or something, so I carefully pulled the bag down ... And there it was A Peeking Duck!!!

(copied from another source)





SHIPMATES IN ACTION

The Float is in the Shipyard
Getting ready for an underway in April at the Red Poppy Festival



CALLING ALL SUBMARINERS!

Come join us in San Antonio, TX April 13-16, 2023 for the 3rd Annual Lone Star Subvet Round-Up!

A gathering for all Submariners and their families and
celebrating the Submarine Force's 123rd Birthday



**Friday Evening Welcome
Aboard Party**
-Elvis Performance
-Snacks
-Submarine Movie
-Cash Bar

Saturday Banquet
-Cash Bar
-Plated Meal
-Guest Speaker

Tolling of the Boats Ceremony
at the ALAMO on the Plaza
Saturday Morning 1100 HRS!
-Guest Speaker
-Special Performance by Ms. Donna Jackson
-Its going to be Special, Don't Miss It!

Many other events planned
through out the weekend!
PLAN NOW to Come see your old
Shipmates and meet some new
ones!

Rooms for \$159/night @ The Menger Hotel
(requires 2 night stay)
[Click Here for Room Reservations](#)
Room Block closes 7 March, 2022

Camping is available a many
nearby campground including
numerous military bases

Many Great Door Prizes
throughout the weekend!

For more information
call 512-639-0035



Any Profits go to the
USSVI Charitable
Foundation