

To the Mereno Family

Kathleen, Patricia, Timothy, and families, please accept our condolences on Bill's passing.

You knew him as Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather. The memories of Bill in those roles, will be the ones you will always cherish.



We knew him as a friend, mentor, and shipmate. Again, our condolences and prayers to all of you.

***Bill, blue skies, fair winds, and following seas.
Rest your oars shipmate. We have the watch.***

The Hampton Roads Base Membership



HAMPTON ROADS BASE

≈ CURRENTS ≈

Website Address: <https://www.hrb-ussvi.org>

Facebook Address: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/USSVIHRB/>

01 January 2020



Issue No: 20-01

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Our Creed:

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.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."

From the Base Commander

Shipmates:



We had a great Christmas party this year and I want to thank everyone that helped make it successful. It truly was a team effort and so many pitched in from bringing snacks, putting up decorations and when in a time crunch helped served the meal. I heard a lot of mess cranking jokes that hopefully Santa did not hear! As 2019 ends and 2020 comes into view, I would like to thank all of you for attending the monthly meetings when you are able. Our membership continues to grow so please keep wearing your Navy Submarine gear and keep some cards handy in your wallet to pass out. Fran and I hope you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

V/R

Ted



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From the Secretary/Treasurer

Well, time marches on and it is now 2020; I hope all of you had a safe and sane New Year's celebration. I wish all a healthy, happy, safe, and prosperous year. May your joys be many and your sorrows few.



The annual dues renewal drive continues and will conclude at the end of this month. I'm to the point that I've been calling everyone who still needs to pay Base and/or National dues for the 2020 calendar year and beyond; the next step is a snail-mail letter.

Anyone whose dues are not current for 2020 by the end of January will be dropped. As of this writing, 93 of 113 members who have to, have already renewed their membership by paying their dues, thank you. So far, we've had two members drop their membership because they are moving out of our area and do not want to maintain dual Base membership.

The induction of Base Officers will be at our 18-JANUARY-2019 meeting and currently, Steve Bell, the National Junior Vice Commander will be conducting the induction ceremony. Come to the meeting and see the ceremony.

The **Annual Base Individual Sponsor Program** (for 2020) is now open for anyone who wishes to support the Base. If you have any questions about how the program works just speak with any elected Base Leadership member or member of the Base Executive Board. Contact me to make a donation and become a Base Sponsor.

Applications for the HRB 2020 – 2021 Scholastic Scholarship can now be submitted and they must be in by email no later than 15-APRIL. If you have any dependents that are eligible for the scholarship make

sure they get their application in. If you need another set of application documents, send me an email and I will get them to you.

That will be all from me for this month. As always, if you need something, don't hesitate to email me or call me so I can help you out. I'm only as far away as your computer or the other end of your phone. Finally, don't forget about our regular monthly meeting at FRA #60 on 15 January. We want to see you there, otherwise...

~ Stay Safe & Stay Well ~

EMCS(SS) Craig S. Werner, U.S.N. (Ret.)
Hampton Roads Base Secretary & Treasurer

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Boats Lost in January

We remember.... We Honor



her.

USS S-36 (SS 141): Lost on January 20, 1942 with no loss of life, on her 2nd war patrol. She ran hard aground on a reef and radioed for help. The entire crew was rescued by a Dutch ship after they scuttled



USS S-26 (SS 131): Lost on January 24, 1942 with the loss of 46 officers and men in the Gulf of Panama, on her 2nd war patrol. She was rammed by the USS PC-460 and sunk within seconds. The CO, XO, and one lookout on the bridge, were the only survivors.



USS ARGONAUT (SS 166): Lost on January 10, 1943 with the loss of 102 officers and men of Rabaul, on her 3rd war patrol. While attacking a convoy, she torpedoed a Japanese destroyer who along with 2 other destroyers depth charged her. As she tried to surface, the destroyers sunk her by gunfire.



USS SCORPION (SS 278): Lost on January 5, 1944 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.



USS SWORDFISH (SS 193): Lost on January 12, 1945 with the loss of 89 officers and men somewhere near Okinawa, on her 13th war patrol. Probably was lost to a mine.



Winter Holiday Party- 2018

Again, the Virginia Beach Sand Castle was the site of our annual holiday party. About 65 members and guests attended the festivities that lasted into the waning hours of Saturday 14 December.

As can be seen from the photos below, good food, good drinks, good friends, good times were enjoyed by all attendees.

Beverly Galles outdid herself this year. She took so many pictures that only a small sample can be included here. Especially note that Fran Vorce is holding a custom-made paddle that will forever preclude her being up S___ Creek without a paddle.





You can find and down load more pictures at:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xwHOqKhck6ojr9jCCIJ9At9tJRA_seAX

BRAVO- ZULU to TEAM FRAN !!





Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) News



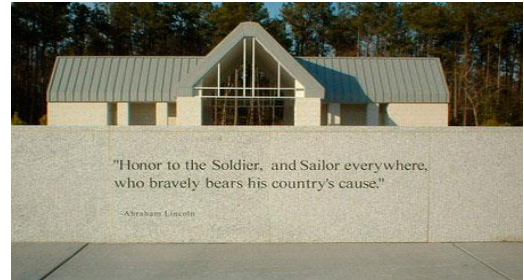
On 17 December the team mustered four, Sid Sidlovsky, Bob McClaren, Joe Demnicki and Craig Werner. They lightened the day of two boys, six girls and their families. The children ranged in age from five days to thirteen years. Although it is sad that eight children were seen, the good news is that two were going to be going home later that day.



The next visit is tentatively slated for 21 January.



HORTON WREATH PICKUP



The exact date of the early January Wreath Pickup is undetermined at this time. The expected window is 4 to 6 January, depending on the weather. We will get the word out as soon as we hear.

Welcome Aboard

At our 21 December meeting two new members joined us.

ET1(SS) Michael Kurash joined the Navy in 2003 and served over 10 years. He earned his dolphins while aboard USS Ohio (SSBN- 726) in 2004.



He also rode USS Kentucky (SSBN-737) and USS Michigan. (SSBN-727).



SK2(SS) Roy Larsen is transferring in from the Northern New Jersey Base. Roy joined the Navy in 1964 and served over six years. He qualified while aboard the USS Tigrone (AGSS-419).



Roy also served aboard USS Tench (AGSS- 417), USS Ling (SS-297) and USS Sea Robin (SS-407).

Hall of Fame Selection

This year's winner: USS Spearfish (SS-190).



Spearfish was launched on 29 October 1937 at



Electric Boat, and commissioned on 17 July 1938 under the command of Lieutenant C.E. Tolman, Jr.

She was in Manila Bay on 7 December (8 December Manila time) and almost immediately went on her first war patrol. She started her second patrol 7 February from Surabaya, Java. Partly thru that patrol she embarked 12 members of the Asiatic Submarine Fleet staff for transport to Freemantle Australia.

On her third patrol she sank two Marus. Then on 23 May she went in to Corregidor to evacuate 27 people including several nurses. She was the last submarine to visit Corregidor prior to its capture by the Japanese.

Spearfish made a total of ten war patrols. On her last patrol from 12 November 1944 to 24 January 1945 she did photo recon of Iwo Jima and nearby Minami Jima. On 19 December she was assigned to lifeguard duty for a B-29 strike on the home islands. That day she made the first submarine rescue of a downed B-29 crew. Seven of the plane's crew of eleven were picked up and transported to Saipan.

Spearfish returned to Mare Island on 27 August 1945. Subsequently, she was decommissioned on 22 June 1946. Her scrapping occurred in October 1947.

Upcoming Events

January 2020

18: Base Meeting

21: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP

February 2020

15: Base Meeting

18: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP

19: NSL Meeting

March 2020

21: Base Meeting

24: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP



April 2020

15: NSL Meeting

18: Base Meeting

21: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP

May 2020

16: Base Meeting / Holland Club Induction

19: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP

TBD: Scorpion Memorial

TBD: WWII Memorial & Hall of Fame

25: 136th Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade

June 2020.

17: NSL Meeting

20: Base Meeting/Picnic/Scholarship Announcement

19: KAP(SS) 4 KIDS(SS) @NMCP

HRB January Birthdays

03: Earl Densten; Mike Lamy

05: Harry M. Allison, Ken Karr

08: Walter Ganey, Rich Corey, Ed Bourne,
David Hinkle

10: Ron Hyson

11: Jim Gazard

12: Alford Crowder

14: Bob Philips

18: Al Budd, **HRB Commissioned 1998**

19: Ruben Holstrom

20: Tony Franzitta

21: Moses Pollard

23: Brian Krammes, Harry Biela

24: Tom Thompson, Vance Braziel

26: Bob Frye

27: James Beauchamp

28: Denny Olson, Robert Tobin, Brian O'Neill

29: Alan Stubbe

30: Frank Snyder, David Yoh, Glen Little,
Curtis Thompson, Dennis Myers



January Historic Events

Jan 1909: Ship Fitter First Class George H. Wheeler and Boatswains Mate William H. Gowan display bravery and extraordinary heroism while fighting a hotel fire and keeping it from spreading in Coquimbo, Chile. For their actions on this occasion, both men are awarded the Medal of Honor.

22 Jan 1941: During World War II, USS Louisville (CA 28) arrives at New York with \$148,342.212.55 in British gold brought from Simons Town, South Africa, to be deposited in American banks.

27 Jan 1942: Submarine USS Gudgeon (SS211) becomes the first US Navy submarine to sink an enemy Japanese submarine in action during World War II.

4 Jan 1943: USS Shad (SS 235) sinks German minesweeper M 4242 (ex-French trawler Odet II) in the Bay of Biscay.

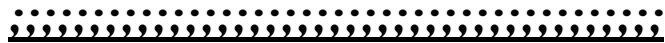
14 Jan 1943: USS Gudgeon (SS 211) lands six men, 2,000 pounds of equipment and supplies on Negros Island for first resupply mission for a submarine.

5 Jan 1944: USS Omaha (CL 4) and USS Jouett (DD 396) were summoned to engage the German blockade runner Burgenland under the guise of SS Rio Grande. Gunfire and scuttling charges, sank the German ship.

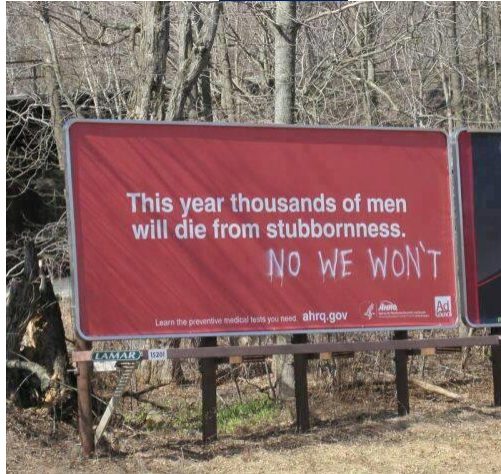
14 Jan 1944: Five U.S. Navy submarines sink five different Japanese vessels in and around the Pacific Ocean. USS Albacore (SS 218) sinks Japanese destroyer Sazanami 300 miles off Yap; USS Scamp (SS 277) sinks the tanker Nippon Maru off Sorol Island; USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks tanker Kenyo Maru southeast of Palau; USS Seawolf (SS 197) sinks tanker Yamazuru Maru off Okinawa, and USS Swordfish (SS 193) sinks transport Yamakuni Maru off Hachijo Jima.



22 Jan 1961: USS George Washington (SSBN 598) completes the first operational voyage as a fleet ballistic missile submarine, staying submerged 66 days.



Humor



USWN ARTICLES

USS Arizona and USS Oklahoma to Sail Again, Navy's Acting Secretary Says

4 Dec 2019 - The Honolulu Star-Advertiser | By [William Cole](#)

Navy ships named USS Arizona and USS Oklahoma will return to active duty with the announcement by Acting Secretary of the Navy Thomas Modly that two new Virginia-class attack submarines will be named after American heroes of the greatest generation who perished on the famed Pearl Harbor battleships.

The move brings back into service the hallowed ship names 78 years after both were badly damaged in the surprise Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941. Most of the Navy casualties that day came from losses on those two ships.

"I am honored and humbled to name the next two Virginia-class nuclear fast-attack submarines to be built as the USS Oklahoma (SSN-802) and the USS Arizona (SSN-803)," Modly said in a release. "It is my fondest wish that the citizens of the great states of Arizona and Oklahoma will understand and celebrate our Navy's desire to memorialize the 1,177 heroes who perished in USS Arizona (BB-39) and the 429 more in USS Oklahoma (BB-37) in Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941."

Modly added that "there is no greater honor I can think of for the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the nation than to build and commission into active service two state-of-the-art American warships carrying the spirit of those heroes of the greatest generation, as well as that of their families and the Grand Canyon and Sooner states as they sail through a new American maritime century."

Approximately 1.8 million people annually visit the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, which includes the USS Arizona, USS Oklahoma and USS Utah memorials, six officer bungalows, three mooring quays, and the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

"Today is a proud day for Arizona," Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey said in a release. "It's been nearly 80 years since the attacks on Pearl Harbor, which resulted in the sinking of the USS Arizona and deaths of 1,177 of her crewmembers. This ship and the name, 'USS Arizona,' hold special meaning for our country, its history and the people of Arizona--and today, that legacy begins a new chapter."

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Putin wants to build up Russian Navy's combat potential in coming years

Not Attributed. TASS (Russia). December 2

The Russian Navy should build up its combat potential in coming years, President Vladimir Putin said on Monday.



"In the coming years, it is necessary to actively build up the Navy's combat capabilities. This largely depends on the planned delivery of frigates and submarines upgraded for employing Tsirkon hypersonic missiles to the Navy's combat structure," the Russian leader said while opening the 14th series of meetings on defense.

This task requires achieving coordinated work of the government, the military command, the defense industry and research organizations, the president stressed.

The hypersonic weapons in the Fleet are becoming extremely important to maintain strategic stability, Putin noted.

The Russian leader also stressed the need to continue the deliveries of destroyers and universal amphibious assault ships to the Navy.

"I request you to report in detail today about how the work on ships of new projects and their armament is proceeding," Putin said, addressing the meeting's participants.

In his State-of-the-Nation Address to the Federal Assembly on February 20, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that the work on the Tsirkon hypersonic missile was proceeding as scheduled. As the Russian leader said, the Tsirkon is capable of developing a speed of Mach 9 and its striking range capability can exceed 1,000 km. The Russian leader also said that the Tsirkon could strike both naval and ground targets. Experts say the Tsirkon hypersonic missile cannot be intercepted by any existing air defense capabilities.

A source in the defense industry told TASS in late 2018 that more than ten Tsirkon launches had been carried out against naval targets to ranges of several hundred kilometers since the start of the missile's trials. According to media reports, the missile firings from a sea platform were conducted in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Russian warships and submarines currently armed with Kalibr or Oniks cruise missiles are expected to carry Tsirkon hypersonic weapons. Russian Deputy Defense Minister Alexei Krivoruchko said on November 8 there were plans to deploy Tsirkon

missiles on the frigate Marshal Shaposhnikov currently undergoing modernization and on the Project 949A multi-purpose nuclear-powered submarine Irkutsk. Before that, Russian President Putin said that the corvette Greymashchiy might be armed with Tsirkon hypersonic missiles.

Russian spy ship lurking off US coast conducting 'unsafe operation'

Shawn Snow, Military Times, December 18

U.S. Northern Command and the Coast Guard have been tracking a Russian spy ship equipped with electronic surveillance gear that has been lurking off the East Coast of the United States.

On Monday, the Coast Guard sent out a Maritime Safety Information Bulletin warning boaters of reports of the Viktor Leonov operating in an "unsafe manner" off the coast of South Carolina and Georgia.

On Tuesday, the Coast Guard said the Russian ship was operating in USCG's Jacksonville, Florida, area of responsibility, which encompasses roughly 40,000 square miles of ocean and stretches nearly 190 miles of coast from Kings Bay, Georgia, to Port Malabar, Florida.

"This unsafe operation includes not energizing running lights while in reduced visibility conditions, not responding to hails by commercial vessels attempting to coordinate safe passage and other erratic movements," the Coast Guard posted on its bulletin.

"Vessels transiting these waters should maintain a sharp lookout and use extreme caution when navigating in proximity to this vessel. Mariners should make reports of any unsafe situations to the United States Coast Guard," the Coast Guard said in its safety message.

Adm. James Foggo III, the commander of U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Africa, told reporters Dec. 18 that the Russian spy ship was operating a "couple hundred" miles off the East Coast.



North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command told Military Times that they were tracking the Russian ship. "We are aware of Russia's naval activities, including the deployment of these intelligence collection ships in the region," Maj. Mark R. Lazane, a spokesman with NORTHCOM, told Military Times in an emailed statement. "While we won't discuss specific measures being taken, NORAD and ORTHCOM routinely conduct air and maritime operations to ensure the defense of the United States and Canada," Lazane said.

It's not the first time the Viktor Leonov has conducted intelligence operations off the East Coast off the U.S. In 2017, the Pentagon announced the Leonov was being trailed by a Coast Guard vessel but was operating in international waters.

"This is not something where we have seen where they have entered territorial waters, and as such it is lawful and very similar to operations we do," then-Pentagon spokesman Capt. Jeff Davis said about the Leonov in February 2017.

The Russian surveillance ship has been spotted conducting operations on the U.S. submarine base in New London, Connecticut, and other Navy bases in Florida and Virginia as far back as 1998, the Pentagon previously said. "They routinely deploy intelligence vessels worldwide to monitor the activities and particularly naval activities of other nations, but then again conducted lawfully in international waters and not unlike operations we conduct ourselves," Davis said in 2017 about the Leonov operating near the East Coast of the U.S. Foggo said that the Coast Guard reported that the Russian ship was not responding to signals or "bridge to bridge" radio communications and was running without lights on at sea. Those actions, Foggo said Wednesday, are risky. "NORAD and USNORTHCOM closely track vessels of interest, including foreign military naval vessels such as the Russian ship VICTOR LEONOV, in our area of responsibility," Lazane said.



Base Officers & Key Personnel

Base Commander: Ted Vorce
757-376-2458
tvorce@verizon.net

Senior Vice Commander: Gary Galles
757-714-2733
garygalles@hotmail.com

Junior Vice Commander: Adam Kingsley
757-535-4179
tk593@aol.com

Secretary & Treasurer: Craig Werner
757-373-3142
grumpyoldsquid@gmail.com

COB: (Vacant)

Storekeeper: Fran Vorce
757-376-2459
ussvi.hrb.storekeeper@gmail.com

Chaplain: Brian Krammes
757-621-2182
ussvihrbchaplain@gmail.com

Events Coordinator: Adam Kingsley
757-535-4179
tk593@aol.com

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Co-coordinators: Rich Corey
757-356-0134; Sid Sidlovsky 757-328-9796
rcorey1@charter.net, sidofva@gmail.com

Social Media Coordinator, Webmaster: Sam Stevens
757-814-7976
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Hampton Roads Base

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



*"To Perpetuate the Memory of our Shipmates, who gave their lives
in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."*

Regular Base Meeting Minutes for 21-DECEMBER-2019

Meeting was called to order by Base Commander, Ted Vorce at 11:15 hours and the normal meeting opening sequence was followed:

- A moment of silence for our departed brother and sister submariners was observed.
- **A word of sorrow for Mike York on the loss of his wife** – Base Commander, Ted Vorce.
- The invocation was made by Base Chaplain, Brian Krammes.
- The USSVI Creed was read by the Base Junior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Base Commander, Ted Vorce.
- The Tolling of the Boats Ceremony was read by Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner while the bell was rung by Base Junior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley.
- There were no members visiting from National Leadership, Region Leadership, District Leadership.
- There were two members from other Bases visiting.
- A round robin of introductions, led by Base Junior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley, was then held with all members present identifying themselves with their qualification boats along with introducing any guests they brought to the meeting.

Binnacle List – Base Chaplain, Brian Krammes:

- Al Friedman – He is home following Doctor's orders, recovering and rebuilding his strength.
- Al Keck – He is now in an Assisted Living Center in Tennessee being watched over by his daughter and grandson – no recent contact.
- Walt Kreger – is in the hospital recovering from an urgent stent emplacement because he collapsed when visiting his wife who is in the same hospital.
- Bill Mereno – He is under hospice care at home.
- Cletis Nester – He is recovering at home from a stroke and still is in need of back surgery.
- Clyde Russel – is having difficulties with oxygen absorption and balance
- Jim Taylor – He is still recovering at home from back surgery.

Secretary's Report – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner:

- The minutes of the 16-NOVEMBER Base Meeting were emailed out to all members on 17-NOVEMBER.
- All members are reminded to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in email address, snail mail address, phone number or any other personal statistics maintained by the Base.
- When you receive the monthly roster, please, look it over for corrections to your data and any blanks that you can fill in and get that information to me.
- I need everyone's help to keep everything up-to-date, for National and the Base, please, help me with this.
- I also need to know about any members who should be on the Binnacle list but aren't. If you need a member's identity badge contact Terry Pattison, in person or by email (TPattison@Cox.net), so that he can generate one for you..

- There is no further news on the new USSVI.org website.

Treasurer's Report – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner:

- The combined Base Operating and Investment Accounts opening balance as of 01-NOVEMBER-2019 was \$ 40,007.12.
- The Base Operating Accounts had an income for the month of NOVEMBER-2019 of \$ 2808.40.
- The Base Operating Accounts had expenditures for the month of NOVEMBER-2019 of \$ 2404.45.
- The Schwab One Investment account started on 01-NOVEMBER-2019 at \$ 22,820.07 and ended the month at \$ 22,839.47 for a net increase/decrease of \$ 19.40.
- The HRB Scholarship Program and General Operations Fund opened on 01-NOVEMBER-2019 at \$ 1027.83, after donations and expenditures totaling \$ 271.00, ended the month at \$ 1298.83.
- The HRB Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Program opened on 01-NOVEMBER-2019 at \$ 3820.86, after donations, expenditures, and interest totalling \$ 0.10, the program ended the month at \$ 3820.96.
- The HRB Emergency Relief Fund opened on 01-NOVEMBER-2019 at \$ 1218.53, after donations, interest, and expenditures, totaling \$ 25.03, ended the month at \$ 1243.56.
- The Storekeeper's Petty Cash as of the end of NOVEMBER was \$ 682.15.
- This has resulted in a net increase/decrease of \$ 403.95 in the combined Base Operating and Investment Accounts for the month of NOVEMBER-2019.
- The combined Base Operating and Investment Accounts ending balance as of the end of the month was
- \$ 40,555.70.

Store Keeper's Report: Base Storekeeper, Fran Vorce:

- I still have three 2020 USSVI Calendar please see me to buy one.
- All On-Hand merchandise is available for sale.
- Patches and other merchandise from National can be ordered through the Base Storekeeper.
- All the materials on the Help-Yourself table are no cost but feel free to make a contribution to the donations bucket, it helps and is appreciated.
- If you have something specific you need from the Base Store Keeper, send her an email (FVorce@Verizon.net).

Committee Reports:

- **Membership Committee** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner for Base Senior Vice Commander, Gary Galles:
 - The annual membership renewal drive has started and emails have been sent out to everyone who needs to renew their membership.
 - So far, 87 of 113 members who have to have renewed their dues.
 - The roster of all HRB members sent out on 08-DECEMBER-2019.
 - For a short period of time we were up to – 300 – members, then we found out we had lost **EN1(SS) Dale Craig** back on 01-NOVEMBER.
 - With gains and losses we are now at – 299 – members; last year at this time we had – 284 – members so this is a gain/loss of – 15 – members over last year and that's great!

- **WE'RE STILL #2!!!** I've looked over the membership numbers nationally again and, as of now, we still hold 2nd place in membership nationally by – 12 – members.
- We need to keep up the good work of bringing in new members; we need one more to get to 300 members before the end of the year.
- As a reminder, anyone on Active Duty that is qualified to wear dolphins may join USSVI at no charge through the end of 2020, If you have any questions contact Craig.
- From now until the end of the year, new members (other than active duty) who join through 2020 will pay \$45.00 for their dues (National - \$30.00 & Base - \$15.00).
- If you have any suggestions of ways to increase our membership and meeting attendance please let the Base leadership know of it.
- Anyone who thinks they are due a USSVI Longevity Pin should see Craig after the meeting.
- **Scholarship Committee** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner for Base Senior Vice Commander, Gary Galles:
 - The application, instructions, and hints for the HRB 2020 – 2021 Scholastic Scholarship were sent to everyone by email. If you need another set, send an email to Craig to let him know.
 - As a reminder, applications can be submitted after the first of the year.
- **Program & Events Committee** – Base Junior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley:
 - Recently Completed Events:
 - There was a K4K visit at NMC-P on Tuesday, 19-NOVEMBER.
 - There was a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 Saturday, 07-DECEMBER-2019.
 - There was a FRA #60 meeting here Wednesday, 11-DECEMBER-2019.
 - There was a K4K visit at NMC-P on Tuesday, 17-DECEMBER-2019.
 - The Base Winter Holiday Party last weekend at the Sandcastle Hotel.
 - There was a NSL meeting, Wednesday, 18-DECEMBER-2019.
 - Our December Base meeting is here today.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

- Pending Events:
 - There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 4-JANUARY.
 - There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 8-JANUARY.
 - We will have a Base meeting here at FRA #60 at 11:15 hours, Saturday, 18-JANUARY.
 - We have a scheduled K4K visit at NMC-P on 21-JANUARY.
 - Sailor-of-the-Year Presentation Ceremonies will be sometime late JANUARY or early FEBRUARY.
 - There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 1-FEBRUARY.
 - There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 12-FEBRUARY.
 - We will have a Base meeting here at FRA #60 at 11:15 hours, Saturday, 15-FEBRUARY.
 - We have a scheduled K4K visit at NMC-P on 18-FEBRUARY.
 - There will be a NSL meeting, 18:30-20:00 hours, at the Norfolk Room, Sewells Point Golf Course, Wednesday, 19-FEBRUARY.
 - There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 7-MARCH.
 - There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 11-MARCH.
 - We will have a Base meeting here at FRA #60 at 11:15 hours, Saturday, 21-MARCH.

- There will be a K4K visit at NMC-P on 24-MARCH.
- There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 4-APRIL.
- There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 8-APRIL.
- There will be a NSL meeting, 18:30-20:00 hours, at the Norfolk Room, Sewells Point Golf Course, Wednesday, 15-APRIL.
- We will have a Base meeting here at FRA #60 at 11:15 hours, Saturday, 18-APRIL.
- We have a scheduled K4K visit at NMC-P on 21-APRIL.
- The 120th Submarine Birthday Ball will be in APRIL at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.
- There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 2-MAY.
- There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 13-MAY.
- We will have a Base meeting here at FRA #60 at 11:15 hours, Saturday, 16-MAY.
- The Holland Club Induction Ceremonies FOR YEAR GROUP 1970 will be during our May meeting.
- We have a scheduled K4K visit at NMC-P on 19-MAY.
- The Submarine Memorial and Hall of Fame Boat ceremonies will be in MAY at SLF Norfolk.
- The 52nd anniversary of the loss of USS SCORPION will be in MAY.
- The 136th Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade in Portsmouth is in MAY.
- There will be a Field Day to clean-up the grounds and such here at FRA #60 starting at 08:30 hours, Saturday, 6-JUNE.
- There will be a FRA #60 meeting here at FRA #60 at 19:00 hours, Wednesday, 10-JUNE.
- There will be a NSL meeting, 18:30-20:00 hours, at the Norfolk Room, Sewells Point Golf Course, Wednesday, 17-JUNE.
- The Base Picnic Meeting and Scholarship Award Announcement will be here at FRA #60 on 20-JUNE
- **Ways and Means Committee** – Base Junior Vice Commander, Adam Kingsley:
 - Enrollment for the new fund raising program by sponsorship opened at our Winter Holiday Party.
 - This program will be in effect for the 2020 calendar (fiscal) year.
 - If you have any questions about the program you can ask any member of Base leadership.
 - If you want to sign up for the program please, see the Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner.
 - Submarine Pens are available for sale; see the Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner, after the meeting to purchase your pens, \$1 each or 6 for \$5.
 - If you have suggestions for any other income streams let Base Leadership know of them.
- **Public Relations and Publicity Committee** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner:
 - A reminder for everyone, please wear your HRB ball caps and other USSVI logoed clothing (shirts, jackets, etcetera) when running around and about town. - We want to be seen, to get our name out in the community and to promote our public image.
 - We're well into the fall/winter season and windbreakers or jackets are going to be used more and more, having one with the USSVI and/or the HRB logo and/or name would help, contact Jenny.
 - I have the new generic HRB business cards for everyone get rid of your old ones and pick up a pack of new cards.
- **Newsletter Committee** – Base Newsletter Editor, Marlin Boyle.
 - If you have anything for next month's newsletter, get it in by the twenty-fifth of this month.
 - All new members need to see the Newsletter Editor, Marlin Boyle to have their picture and give a simple biography to be included in the newsletter.
- **Website and Social Media** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner for Base Webmaster, Sam Stevens

- Website Statistics since last meeting:
 - Number of New Site Members approved since last meeting – 2
 - Total number of website member/users – 95
 - Number of unique visitors to the site in the last 30 days – 101 (^26%)
- Facebook Statistics
 - New Page members last 30 days – 03
 - New Page Interactions last 30 days – 185 (+22%)
 - Total Page “Likes” – 1081 (^40)
 - Total Members – 176 (+2%)
- If there are any members who do not know the URL for the Base Website it is in the Base Newsletter every month.
- **Submarine Memorial and Hall of Fame Committee** – Committee Chairman, Ken Swan:
 - The HoF selection will be during the program portion of this meeting.
- **Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Committee** – Committee Co-Chairman, John Sidlovsky.
 - We did a K4K visit Tuesday, 19-NOVEMBER.
 - We had a crew of – 6 – for the visit.
 - We met with – 4 – boys and – 5 – girls, aged 1 month through 15 years old.
 - We did a K4K visit Tuesday, 17-DECEMBER.
 - We had a crew of – 4 – for the visit.
 - We met with – 2 – boys and – 6 – girls, aged 5 days through 13 years old.
 - Our next scheduled K4K visit is Tuesday, 21-JANUARY-2020
 - Anyone wanting to make a donation specifically to the Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) program should get it to Craig and make sure you specify it's for the Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) program
- **Hampton Roads Base Emergency Relief Fund Committee** – Committee Chairman, John Sidlovsky:
 - We've had no requests for financial assistance since our last meeting.
 - If you are in need of financial help, as per our Bylaws, contact any member of the committee.
 - Anyone wanting to make a donation specifically to the Emergency Relief Fund should get it to Craig and make sure you specify it's for the Emergency Relief Fund or drop it into the ERF Donations Box on the booze table.
- **SCORPION Memorial Committee** – Committee Chairman, John Donaldson:
 - Nothing to report this meeting.
- **NORFOLK Sail Committee** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner for Committee Chairman, Gary Merryman:
 - Anyone who is willing to help with this project should contact the Committee Chairman, Gary Merryman.

Old Business:

- Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner for Base Senior Vice Commander, Gary Galles – Plans for the restoration of parade trailers.
 - We will do these major restorations after the first of the year.
 - These will require more than one work session and we will need work crews for each session.
 - Contact Gary or Sid to volunteer.

New Business:

- Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner – The new Base Sponsorship Program:
 - As the Base grows and our activities increase so does our cost of continued operation.
 - So that we can continue to operate as we have and support our ongoing endeavors we need to increase our income commensurately.
 - To that end, we have started an annual program of individual Base sponsorship.
 - Members are invited and encouraged to help support the Base by becoming an individual sponsor at one of the several different sponsorship levels.
 - Each of the nine levels of sponsorship will have certain perquisites based on the level, these include.
 - Winter Holiday Party tickets.
 - Summer Picnic tickets.
 - Either 50/50 Raffle or Booze Raffle tickets.
 - Recognition on the Base website.
 - Recognition in the Base newsletter.
 - In addition, every sponsor will be recognized by a new Base I.D. showing they are a Sponsor.
 - This program is for the calendar year 2020 and is now open anyone who wishes to support the Base.
 - If you have any questions about how the program works just speak with any elected Base Leadership member or member of the Base Executive Board.
 - Contact me to make a donation and become an individual Base Sponsor.
 - If you wish to make your donation anonymously, that too can be arranged.

Program:

- Selection of the 2020 Hall-of-Fame Boat by member vote – HoF Committee Chairman, Kern Swan:
 - USS GUARDFISH (SSN-612) re-nominated from last year by Ron O'Donnell – 11 votes.
 - USS HENRY CLAY (SSBN-625) nominated by Dave Duffié – 6 votes..
 - **USS SPADEFISH SSN-668) nominated by Domenick Missaggia – 25 votes.**
 - USS ATLANTA (SSN-712) re-nominated from last year by Bill Heron – 15 votes.
 - USS PROVIDENCE (SSN-719) re-nominated from last year by Sam Stevens – 6 votes.
- Election of Base Officers for 2020 & 2021 – Nominations Committee Chairman, Brian Daugherty:
 - Candidate for Base Commander – Ted Vorce
 - Candidate for Senior Base Commander – Gary Galles
 - Candidate for Junior Base Commander – Adam Kingsley
 - Candidate for Base Secretary and Treasurer – Craig Werner
 - As there were no nominations other than the serving officers a motion was made to proceed with the election by Bud Warren and seconded by Bob Saenz.
 - The election was held by voice vote.
 - **The serving officers were re-elected with no negative votes and no abstentions.**

Good of the Order:

- The new bell we started using at the Winter Holiday Party was donated by our member Bill Mulligan.
 - This bell has a true deep ring sound, thank you, Bill.
- **Review of boats lost in this month** – Base Secretary & Treasurer, Craig Werner:
 - USS F-1 (SS-20) in 1917
 - USS SEALION (SS-195) in 1941
 - USS S-4 (SS-109) in 1927
 - USS CAPELIN (SS-289) in 1943
- **Review of members' birthdays for the month** – Base Senior Vice Commander, Gary Galles:
 - Kevin Adams on 01-DEC
 - Roy Palmer on 01-DEC
 - Rick Shaw on 04-DEC
 - Rich Sutherland on 05-DEC
 - Reggie Erman on 08-DEC
 - Chris Clements on 09-DEC
 - Oscar Hudson on 10-DEC
 - Leo LaRue on 10-DEC
 - Charley Harvilicz on 11-DEC
 - Bill Jones on 12-DEC
 - Jake Grabowski on 13-DEC
 - Fred Seifert on 13-DEC
 - Ron Garner on 15-DEC
 - Dan Giel on 17-DEC
 - Mad Dog Haynes on 18-DEC
 - Tom Etter on 19-DEC
 - Larry Mantta on 23-DEC
 - Mervin Burlette on 24-DEC
 - Billy Bond on 25-DEC
 - Ron Busila on 26-DEC
 - Bob Driskell on 26-DEC
 - Mike Barrett on 28-DEC
 - Jerry Benbrook on 29-DEC
 - John Aldredge on 29-DEC
 - Dave DeCook on 29-DEC
 - Shawn Kaylor on 29-DEC
 - Mark Berner on 31-DEC
- The 50/50 raffle of \$ 143 was won by: Chris Fairbanks (the Base received \$ 143).
- The booze raffle was won by: Chris Fairbanks (the Base received \$ 132).
- Winter Holiday Party tickets raffle brought in: \$ 17.
- There was \$ 6 donated through the Donations Bucket for the Scholarship Program and General Operations Fund.
- Pen Sales brought in: \$ 15.
- There was a total of \$ 40 was donated for the Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) Program.
- There was a total of \$ 10 was donated for the Emergency Relief Fund.
- There were 63 - members and 7 - guests present at this meeting.

Our next Regular Base meeting will be at 11:15 hours, Saturday, **18-JANUARY-2019** here at FRA Hall #60.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 hours by Base Commander, Ted Vorce.

Fair Winds and Following Seas,



EMCS(SS) Craig S. Werner, U.S.N. (Ret.)

Hampton Roads Base Secretary & Treasurer

222-5 Sandpiper Drive

Portsmouth, VA 23704-1543

NEWSLETTER INPUT – Financial

The Annual Individual Base Sponsor Program *(for 2020)*

- The new Individual Base Sponsorship Program:
 - As the Base grows and our activities increase so does our cost of continued operation.
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 - In addition, every sponsor will be recognized by a new Base I.D. showing they are a Sponsor.
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 - If you have any questions about how the program works just speak with any elected Base Leadership member or member of the Base Executive Board.
 - Contact the Secretary & Treasurer to make a donation and become an individual Base Sponsor.
 - If you wish to make your donation anonymously, that too can be arranged.



Hampton Roads Base

United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

*"To Perpetuate the Memory of our Shipmates, who gave their lives
in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country."*



Annual Individual Sponsor Program (for 2020)

Sponsor Level	Benefits	Donation
COLUMBIA Class Sponsor	2 Christmas Party Tickets 4 Summer Picnic Tickets 8 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$500*
VIRGINIA Class Sponsor	2 Christmas Party Tickets 2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$300*
SEAWOLF Class Sponsor	1 Christmas Party Ticket 2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$200*
OHIO Class Sponsor	2 Summer Picnic Tickets 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$150*
LOS ANGELES Class Sponsor	1 Summer Picnic Ticket 3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$125*
STURGEON Class Sponsor	3 Raffle Tickets at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$100*
41 for FREEDOM Sponsor	1 Raffle Ticket at Each Monthly Base Meeting** Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$75*
NAUTILUS Era Sponsor	Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$50*
DIESEL BOATS FOREVER Sponsor	Name on Website Sponsorship Recognition Page Supports HR Base Operations and Scholarship Fund	\$25*

****Must attend meeting to collect raffle tickets, all tickets are for same raffle, 50/50 or Booze. *Donations are NOT tax deductible.**

<p style="text-align: center;">Hampton Roads Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. A 501(c)19 Veteran Organization, Tax ID №, 06-1007203</p>	<p>Base Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of each month (except March) at FRA Hall #60, 9601 1st View Street, Norfolk, VA 23503-1603 https://www.HRB-USSVI.org (Hampton Roads Base Website)</p>
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