Shipmates,

This has been an eventful few months. The USSVWWII Maryland/DeMarVa chapter and USSVI, Chesapeake Base, hosted the South East Regional meeting at Ocean City, Md. in May. Jim Woomer, Md. State Commander is lucky to have such fine help as Mary Mullaney, Ramona Yost and Cheryl Yost. The Dunes Manor provided the space and the girls did the rest with plenty of liquid refreshments and too many calories in solid food. The hotel provided "Tea and Crumpets" every afternoon. The weather was not very cooperative with heavy fog most of the time but that didn’t dampen any spirits. As usual at a Regional meeting a Regional Director is "elected/selected/rejected/or just plain railroaded" into office. For the second year in a row that’s what happened, so you will have to put up with me as your illustrious Director for another year.

Rose Mary and I attended the Memorial Service at SubTra Fac at the Navy Yard in Norfolk on May 23rd. Except for the weather, it was a beautiful event, hosted by the Tidewater Chapter USSVWWII and the Navy. The guest speaker was Adm. M. Rindskopf, who gave a stirring account of his command of the Drum during WWII. Katherine McHone, Ladies Chapter Historian, SubVets WWII, and Don Small, S.E. Regional Director, presented the Memorial wreath to Master Chief Royal of the USS Hampton (SSN-767) to be committed to the sea on their next patrol. The usual goodies were served after the service, and the rain had fortunately stopped by then.

June 6, 1944, D-Day in Europe, June 7, 2003, D-Day in North Carolina, Dedication of the Submarine Memorial at Moonshine Mountain Estates, in memory of our lost Submarines and Shipmates, and of the late Harrell Flowers, CTM, who constructed the site. And what a day it was!! And, except for the weather (again), it was wonderful. After months of planning, everything fit together perfectly. It would take a whole issue of the "All Clear" to describe the event completely. The SubVets of N.C. hosted the memorial service. We are most grateful for the efforts of Joe and Susan Martin and Wayne and Marie Paul, residents of Burnsville, without whose efforts we couldn’t have pulled it off. Mac McCarty, of Chapter 57, DAV, Burnsville, provided the Color Guard, (without the 21 Gun Salute). Arnold McIntosh is the caretaker of the grounds on which the Memorial is situated and we are grateful to him for providing the flags and the bell and maintaining the property. Because of the rain, Burnsville Mayor Michele Lawhern very kindly agreed to let us use the courtroom of the County building for the meeting. This was a perfect alternate location. Wayne Paul obtained an excellent sound system setup and operated by Lyn Small. The NU WRAY Inn (est. 1833) was the perfect place for us to gather with a large common room and porch overlooking the town square. This place is a bed and breakfast so we had grits and eggs for breakfast. The hostess, Rosemary Chandler, kept us well supplied with cheese and crackers besides serving excellent meals. There were 72 lunch guests before the Memorial service.

Briefly, the ceremony went like this:

Welcome by Joe Martin who assumed the MC duties, and Blaine Whitson, who represented the Yancey County Commissioners. Opening introduction, Don
Small. Presentation of the Flag/Colors, Beki Taylor, representative for US Congressman Charles Taylor. This flag was flown over the Capitol Building in Washington, DC. Wayne Paul accepted the flag as the Yancey County Veterans Officer. The National Anthem was sung followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Sub Service recruit Joseph Murry. Chaplain Bill Whelan gave the Invocation followed by a minute of silence for our troops overseas. Mac McCarty, DAV, spoke briefly after which Blaine Whitson read a letter from Governor Mike Easley which is printed elsewhere in this issue of "All Clear". Command Master Chief Jeff Hudson from SubGru 10, Kings Bay, Ga., gave an excellent talk on the role of the submarine in today's navy. Bill Whelan gave a "I had a dream" speech which is presented elsewhere in this issue. Preamble of Tolling of the Boats read by Chuck Jensen and Mike Burkholder read the list of Lost Boats followed by a minute of silence. The courtroom in which we had this meeting was equipped with a LARGE BELL, which was "Donged" after each boat name was read. Bill Bradburn and June Kracker (National Chaplain, Wives of SubVets WWII) presented the wreath. Bill recounted the Patrols of the Gato (SS212) on which he and Chief Flowers served. Howell (Howie) Rice, a radioman aboard the S-29, recounted how he got the message of Unrestricted Warfare after Pearl Harbor. The program was closed by playing Taps, closing Prayer and singing the Navy Hymn.

Then the sun came out!!! Numerous people took advantage of the beautiful afternoon weather to visit the Memorial site.

The formal wreath presentation at the Memorial site was done on Sunday, June 8. At about 11AM 11 members and their families gathered to leave the wreath and pose for "Photo Ops". It was a beautiful day and the view from the property was spectacular to conclude a near perfect weekend.

There were a number of members who regularly attend SubVet functions who were absent from our recent event and some members who we haven't seen recently were there. Charlie and Grace Brockhausen have recently moved to Florida and we wish them well. Their new address is published in this All Clear issue. It was too far for Jean Parker to come to and she didn't have anyone to drive her. She hates to miss meetings. We have not seen Len and Lee Jackson in quite some time but try to keep them up to date on "doings" by All Clear, e-mail and phone. Rose Mary and I stopped by Mocksville for a short visit with Jim and Evelyn Harbin. Jim's legs are giving him trouble but he has still got it all together "upstairs"! We are going to try to get his memories written up. Joe Howard Clark was not able to attend but we appreciate his very generous contribution. We missed the wit of Ben Grimes. Ed and June Kracker from Tidewater Chapter represented our friends from Virginia. We enjoyed the company of Mary McCrary after so long in not seeing her. Gene McCrary was a long time member and recently was called on Eternal Patrol. And we made a new acquaintance with Ramona Keays, recently moved to Western N.C., from the Submarine Museum at Kings Bay/ St. Mary's, Ga. All those other members of the NC SubVets who were not there, we missed you. I have a picture slide show on CD with many scenes of the recent activity that I will be distributing to everyone who has the facility (computer) to view it.

Don Small
Shipmates,

The dedication of the NC Sub Veteran Memorial at Burnsville was a complete success. Although the dedication of the memorial had to be held indoors because of the weather, it was a very impressive service. Many thanks to Don Small, Joe & Susan Martin, and Wayne Paul (Yancy County Veteran Affairs Officer) for their great effort to make this event happen.

Upcoming events include marching in Greensboro’s 4th of July Parade where I expect our parade submarine will make its debut. Our next meeting will be on Saturday August 9th at Errico’s Restaurant located at 132 Kilmayne Drive, Cary, NC. The meeting will be from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and includes a pizza buffet: salad, pizza, and soft drinks for $8.00.

In my e-mail communication announcing that I was stepping up to be your base commander, I said one of my initiatives would be focusing my efforts on improving communication within our organization. This can easily be accomplished with the use of e-mail on the Internet. Although the majority of our members have e-mail capability, there are some members that do not. I am proposing to assign those members without e-mail to a members who does. It will be the responsibility of these members having e-mail to pass on important information they received via e-mail to their assigned member without e-mail by telephone or mail. Assignment will be within the same city or town wherever possible but at least within the same telephone area code. Bob Werner and I have reviewed our sailing list to verify the accuracy of the members’ listed e-mail addresses. We have found some that are no longer valid. To make this initiative work, we all need to do our part in keeping the base sailing list accurate. Whenever you have a change in your address, phone number, or e-mail address, it is important that you notify Bob Werner or myself in a timely manner so corrections can be made. I am also requesting Dave Thommarson (our webmaster) to keep the information on our web site accurate. With everyone’s cooperation, I am confident that this initiative will be a success.

It has been over a year since Mike Burkholder, Pat Collins, Ed Galaviz, and Bobby Harvell went to Baltimore to get our parade submarine. Due to the outstanding efforts of Bobby Harvell, Joe Clark, and his friend Ed Bare the parade submarine has been completed. We will be using it in the upcoming 4th of July Parade in Greensboro. Attached are some photos of our new submarine. Note it has two hull numbers (S 28 & SSN 777) to commemorate our memorial boat and the new USS North Carolina. We will have available to pass out, a flyer that will give the general public information about our organization and the two hull numbers.

See you in Cary,

Chuck
SUB GALLEON CORNER

Subgalleons
Another year of submarine meetings and conventions is coming to a close. I would like to share with you a few of my observations of the last year.
The most notable memory I have of the National in Buffalo was of course the beauty of Niagara Falls.
However, just as memorable, but for a different reason, was the length of the men’s business meeting. {Three hours]
Next comes Rocky Mount. A great crowd.
Good food, but the men’s meeting took so long we were asked to leave because they had another party waiting to get in.
No one will forget the Pearl Harbor Memorial Meeting. No power, almost no rooms at the hotel, dogs and kids running through the halls. In spite of all that, we had a wonderful ceremony.[ No men’s business meeting]
Here it is March already. If its March the meeting is in Elizebeth City, and we always have a group of our friends from Virginia join us.
The subgalleons had a business meeting after the luncheon. We elected our new officers for the coming year. Since I was busy with the women’s meeting I couldn’t keep tabs on what the men were doing.
Oh, I forgot one important affair Don and I went to The Virginia Christmas Party.
The tidewater chapter Christmas party was in Virginia Beach. The food was outstanding, but the entertainment was stimulating. As the young belly dancer gyrated through the tables the whistles and clapping could be heard all over the hotel.
The highlight of the evening was when she wrapped her scarf around Howie Rice’s head and he neatly folded it and followed her around trying to give it back to her,
May 5,6, &7 we went to Ocean City Md. for the regional. North Carolina was well represented. The Dunes Hotel was very accommodating and host state, Maryland, did a great job. Every afternoon tea was served in the main lobby. Silver tea service and china teacups added to the ambiance. I joined a group of submarine sailors. They were in the midst of a very serious conversation.” Was the tea too weak? Did it steep long enough? What flavor was it? And were you having it with lemon or milk? ”What, no war stories!
Our memorial program was solemn and moving. It reminded us that the purpose of these meetings is to honor the lost boats and their crews.
The dedication of the Burnsville N.C State Monument is covered extensively else were in this issue of the All Clear. Some time in the future I’ll share some of my observations of the event. In closing I would like to say that Frank”Buddy”Allen shall be greatly missed. He was a good Buddy in the true sense of the word.

Rose Mary Small

PS. June Kracker conducted the women’s regional meeting in 4 min. Can you men beat that?

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER
I HAD A DREAM

That day, we toured the Nautical Naval Museum, where we chatted with several submariners. We overate the seafood at Fisherman's Wharf. We returned to our motel at Marina Beach, and hit the sack early, with thoughts of the harbor tour scheduled for the next day dancing through our heads.

The it happened: like Jacob in the Bible (Genesis 28:11-12), I HAD A DREAM.

My dream was as realistic as any I've ever had. But it differed from Jacob's dream. Jacob, you remember, dreamed of angels, traveling up and down a ladder connecting heaven and earth. I've always pictured that ladder to be like those on a submarine, connecting the control room and conning tower, or connecting the conning tower and the bridge, or between the crew's mess and topside, or even those in the torpedo rooms.

Suddenly, I was wide awake. And, even worse, I couldn't get back to sleep. I looked at my watch: it was 1:41 a.m. (that's 0141 hours). I was intrigued with my dream. I knew that I'd forget it if I didn't document it. So I turned on the light, found a pen and paper, and started writing.

The Dream

I was one of a group of SubVets, touring in a launch on a lake in North Carolina. (Probably Lake Norman.) We passed a small group of people on the shore, standing around a torpedo. (I recognized it immediately--it was a MK 14 torpedo.) Naturally, we pulled to shore, got out, and asked what was going on.

It was something like what happened in John 21:9, when the disciples pulled their fishing boat to shore, when they saw Jesus there, standing by a fire.

One of the men in the group ashore, he appeared to be in charge, explained that this was his family's lakeside property, and they were readying the torpedo as a memorial to his Dad. His Dad, a submariner, a chief torpedo man, had departed recently on his final eternal patrol. In turn, he asked why we were so interested in their torpedo.

My Explanation

I explained that we were all submariners. We were members of a group called Submarine Veterans of North Carolina and were qualified in and had served aboard submarines in both war and peace. I went on to say that we were planning a dedication service for a submarine memorial in Burnsville, NC, on June 7.

I added that, before casting off on his final eternal patrol, Harrell Flowers, a former submarine chief torpedo man, had built an impressive memorial at his home on Moonshine Mountain in Burnsville. It memorialized the 52 submarines lost during World War II, as well as his own submarine, GATO. We had learned of the memorial quite by accident. BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.

Since the group seemed to be interested in our story, I continued. Chief Flowers' widow, Jewel, now lives in Key West, FL. She has given us permission to meet in Burnsville to dedicate the memorial to all submarines and to all submariners.

After exchanging e-mail addresses with the group ashore, I had a brilliant idea. The more I thought about it, the better I liked it. "The Burnsville site is beautiful," I said. "It has an impressive monument. It has an anchor and chain. It has a ship's bell. It has a flag pole. But we sure could use a MK 14 torpedo. I know it's rather short notice, but would you consider lending us your torpedo as part of the Burnsville memorial?"

UNFORTUNATELY, I awoke before hearing the shore group's response to my suggestion. I tried to go back to sleep, but couldn't...but I'm repeating myself.

With John 21:10 in mind, it was back to bed to sleep, perchance to dream AGAIN. In case you forget, John 21:10 tells what happens when His disciples come ashore to ask Jesus what he's doing standing beside the fire: "Jesus saith to them, bring of the FISH which ye have now caught."

Let us use Genesis 28:20-22a as a prayer: "And Jacob vowed this vow to God: 'If God will help and protect me and give me food and clothes, and will bring me back to my father, then I will choose Jehovah as my God! And this memorial pillar shall be a place of worship'."

Bless you,
Chaplain Bill
SAILORS REST YOUR OARS

Frank Allen

Your Chaplain takes this means of extending the sincere thanks of the Frank (Buddy) Allen Family to the NC SubVets for their support—both prayers and physical presence—during Buddy’s illness and passing. Eleven SubVets attended related services in Raleigh yesterday and today: Ray Barber, Mike Burkholder, Joe Clark, Pat Collins, Shorty Lebonville, Bill Lowe, Joe Morgan, Bill Morris, Wayne Powell, and Ken Sigworth.

The line handlers in their colorful vests and digger hats made an impressive sight as they tended lines as Buddy left on his final eternal patrol. Mike’s klaxon was put to good use at graveside, symbolizing Buddy’s burial and going to his eternal reward.

The Family will secure the SubVets bronze marker to the stone identifying Buddy and his wife Jessie. We also presented the Family a framed photo and brief history of Buddy’s boat, DRUM, on which he made four war patrols during WWII.

Buddy’s five sons (Richard, Philip, Paul, Bruce, and Jack) and their families were most kind and profuse in their thanks to NC SubVets for their attention.

Again, many thanks for your support.
Chaplain Bill

HOLLAND CLUB

Pat Collins reports that Linwood Sutton and Bob Wilson will receive their Holland Club Certificates at the Cary meeting if all show up. Congrats for 50 years of submarine service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

NOTE: If you do not see your Name in the appropriate month or missing please update your file on the Rosters of WWII and USSVI.

JULY

MICHAEL BURKHOLDER
PATRICK COLLINS
JAMES CORCORAN
ABRAM GOSEN
ELVIE JACKSON
JONES KENNEDY
GEORGE KNOUFF
DONALD LE DUC
RICHARD LEWIS
JOE MARTIN
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**TOTAL**

740.37
TREASURER’S CORNER

July is the dead line for Renewal of WWII Sub Vet dues, Life members owe $10, Annual and Associates owe $15, if you have not already paid your dues please forward all payments to Jim Myers, 4905 Reidsville Rd. Walkertown, N.C. 27051.

At the present time of printing WE HAVE 52 Members that are delinquent for their 2004 dues.

We still have 6 members that have not yet paid their 2003 dues. These 6 join the 7 other Members that are 2 to 4 years behind making 13 the total that have been dropped from the North Carolina Roster as of June 30. This may not change your status with National but you will have to deal with them DIRECT.

McMENEMIN, FRASER  MALINOFSKI, WARREN
CORRELL, CHARLES  GOSEN, ABRAM
HECKER, GEORGE  HOUSER, DANIEL

EDITOR’S NOTE

It was without a doubt the best of the best, I speak of the June 7th Memorial Dedication. It was planned and executed with everyone being in good hands all the way. The enclosed picture of those who went up on Sunday tells it all. A special thanks goes out to Wayne Paul of the Yancy County Veterans Office, Mac McCarty of the DAV of Yancy County, Joe and Sue Martin of USSVI N.C. Tarheel Base and our own Don Small WWII Tarheel Chapter Commander.

As editor to the All Clear I receive a lot of news letters from various Chapters, let me know if any of these would be of interest to you. I’d be glad to copy them and send them to you or present them at our meetings to look at. Let me know

We are still looking for any and all History making, Funny, Unusual stories for the All Clear. Email or snail mail to me and I’ll be glad to insert them in the All Clear.

Note to all USSVI Members:

All members that have an email address please UPDATE you address with Bob Werner at (919) 499 2210 or 150 Wood Wedge Way, Sanford NC 27330 or bobwerner@hotmail.com

DEDICATION OF WWII SUBMARINE MEMORIAL WINDOW

The U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation will dedicate a first of its kind bronze and stained glass World War II Submarine Memorial window on June 10, 2003.

Although the window will be dedicated to all of the U.S. Submariners of WW II, its focal point will be the USS Spikefish (SS 404), which was a Balao Class submarine. The Spikefish was commissioned to service in 1944, with the late Capt. Nicolas as its Commanding Officer.

The window is a gift of the Nicholas Family in honor of their father’s service to
the United States Navy in WW II.

The window, which measures six feet by eight feet, is a unique bronze sculpture with stained glass highlights. It is the creation of sculptor and artist Leo Irrera, who was assisted by Father Leo Pelkington in the window design.

The window will be dedicated at the U.S. Navy Memorial during an unveiling ceremony at 11 a.m.

Rear Adm. Mike Rindskopf, USN (Ret.), who served under Capt Nicholas during WW II, will be guest speaker. Adm. William J. Crowe Jr., USN (Ret.) Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation and Adm. Skip Bowman, Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, are also scheduled to speak at the unveiling ceremony. All are invited.

TARHEELS WELL REPRESENTED

Hi Bill.
I just wanted to let you know I returned this evening from Washington, D.C. where my wife Jean, my son Jim and I attended a dedication and reception at The U.S. Navy Memorial of a bronze stained window honoring the US Submariners Of World War II. The submarine depicted is the USS SPIKEFISH (SS-404). This window was the gift of the Nicholas Family honoring Capt N.J. Nicholas who was the first skipper of the boat. He served as skipper of the USS DRUM for the first 4 patrols.

There were a number of Subvets present and a considerable number of guests. The dedication was a success in my opinion.

The window is 6FT X 8FT with side lights on each side. The submarine is shown going through an open harbor net and between cables supporting a submerged mine field.

A number of admirals praised Capt Nicholas for his devotion to duty at a time when the U.S. needed men like him.

It was a morning well spent and it brought back memories and I thought you would be interested in this event.

Have a happy father’s day.

Regards Walt Taverna

THOMASVILLE MEMORIAL PARADE

On May 26th the Thomasville Memorial Parade had a well representation of the N.C. Sub Vets. The following Crew Members made an excellent showing and had a flirtatious time with Miss Thomasville.

Tom Richey  Bill Bradburn
Pat Collins    Bill Morris (Gunny)
Mike Burkholder Harold Bazzle
Bob Hopkins    Don Morton
Joe Clark

NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Bill Klien, card no. 7846 is again running for National Recording Secretary. I lost the election in Buffalo in a very close vote in 2002. I have been a member since 1974. My qualifications are as follows:

Relief crew at Pearl and Midway
Three war patrols aboard Peto SS 265 plus six months after the war.
President and CEO of my Electrical Contracting Corp. for 26 yrs.
Past President of IES Illuminating Engineering Society
President and Governor of, National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) for 6 yrs.
Fellow of Academy of Electrical Contractors since 1982.
Trustee and Co-Treasurer of IEW Local 25 pension fund, a 50m dollar fund for 12 yrs.
Held all offices of Runner Chapter.
N.Y. State Commander for 2 terms.
Still Memorial Director of Runner Chapter.
N.E. Regional Director for 2 terms.
Past President and Chaplain of the National Cemetery Memorial Org.
Currently a Volunteer with over 3000 hrs. of credit at the Northport VA Medical Center.

Looking for your support at Reno 2003

Bill Klien

PARADE SUBMARINE

We had 19 tarheel base member participate in the 4th of July Parade in Greensboro. Our new submarine made its debut and was well received. I plan on towing it to our Cary meeting in August for those members to see it who couldn’t make today’s event

Chuck Jensen

By the way I just got home from the parade and am now holding in my nicotine stained fingers, our brand new “FIRST PLACE” ribbon. Presented to NC Submarine Veterans for “Most Patriotic” July 4th parade Greensboro, NC 2003. Hooray!!! First time out too!!

Mike Burkholder

This is the flyer that was past out to the general public:

This group is comprised of both WWII and post WWII submarine veterans. The primary purpose is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. A memorial honoring the 52 submarines lost during WWII and those crew members who died was recently dedicated in Burnsville, NC. The two hull numbers painted on the sail of the parade submarine commemorate the following:

S 28 (SS 133)

The keel of USS S-28 (SS-133) was laid down on 16 April 1919 by the Fore River Plant of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation a subcontractor of the Electric Boat Company of New York City, New York at Quincy, Massachusetts. The submarine was launched on 20 September 1922 and was commissioned on 13 December 1923 with Lieutenant Kemp C. Christian in command. The S 28 is the Memorial Boat for North Carolina.

S Class Characteristics

Length - 219 feet, Beam - 21 feet, Displacement - 1,000 tons
Speed - 14.5 knots (surface) & 11 knots (submerged), Depth - 200 feet
Armament - (4) 21 inch torpedo tubes & (1) 4-inch/50 caliber deck gun

The S-28 made 7 war patrols during WWII and sank one ship. On 4 July 1944 the ship was lost with all hands (50 Men) during a training exercise off the coast of Hawaii.

USS NORTH CAROLINA (SSN 777)

This will be the fourth ship of the Navy to carry the name North Carolina. The original was USS North Carolina (1820-1836), the second (ACR 12) (1908 - 1921), and the third (BB 55) (1940 - 1947). The battleship USS North Carolina received 12 battle stars for World War II service. This new ship is now under construction with launching expected late 2005 followed by commissioning in late 2007

VI RGINIA Class Characteristics

Length - 337 feet, Beam - 34 feet, Displacement - 7,800 tons
Speed - 25+ knots, Depth - 800+ feet
Armament - (4) 21 inch torpedo tubes & (12) vertical launch system tubes
The following page is a picture of the crew and the new Parade Sub just before launch of the parade.