



***USSVI
Southern Colorado Base***

Steve McKee, Base Commander

Newsletter for February, 2011

Greetings, Everyone and belated

Happy St. Patrick's Day !

We enjoyed a fairly nice day for the St. Paddy's Day Parade in Colorado Springs and The Scorpion performed in its usual exemplary manner, drawing lots of attention and cheers as it passed along the parade route. The comfort index would have been much better but for a cool breeze which blew steadily the whole time. Steve and his group of Shriners must have felt it the worst as it tried to lift their kilts as they marched along. However, on the whole, it was a great parade. Thanks to all who made the effort to come out and participate and special thanks to Noralee and all the ladies who did such a great job with the leprechaun "skipper" and the other decorations of shamrocks, pot of gold hanging off the screw, etc. Thanks to Charlie Flood who navigated us through the parade route at the helm of Steve's truck, and thanks once again to Steve for the use of his truck.

We apparently had some interest in the club from a couple of individuals and we'll be trying to help and encourage them to come on aboard and join us in the near future. All in all, the float and

our enhanced visibility as a result of the parades we've participated in so far have generated more interest in our group as well as having energized our club as a whole. I don't think any of us can doubt that it has had a great positive overall effect. Let's keep up the good headway and enthusiasm.

Minutes of the February Meeting

The following are the minutes of the February Meeting thanks to Frank "YO" Richard, YNCS(SS), Ret., our base Secretary:

Minutes of Southern Colorado Base Submarine Veterans Monthly Meeting

Date: 19 February, 2011

Meeting called to order by Steve McKee, Base Commander

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Base Commander; Prayer by Chaplain Charlie Flood.

Members present: Steve McKee, Steve Iskra, Bernie Herpin, Frank Richard, Charlie Flood, Larry Leek, Paul Chestnut, Ken Andrew, Snuffy Hughes, Jim Hughes, Shawn LaCroix, Woody Woods

Ladies present: Linda Herpin, Elli Flood, Charlotte Hughes, Noralee Hughes, Lori Woods

Minutes of Last Meeting: Accepted as published in Base Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Read and Accepted

Old Business: Base Cdr reported that we were accepted for St. Patrick's Day Parade. Discussion on float for the parade followed. Ladies making decoration for the float. Charlie Flood will pull the float. Scorpion pamphlets printing being taken care of by Shawn LaCroix. Pamphlets to be handed out when people inquire about the Scorpion float rather than handed out by walkers in the parade. Signs/banners for the float were discussed as to placement and what was on them. Shawn LaCroix will be webmaster for our website and reported/discussed what will be on the website. On the website will be a build page, history page and base newsletter. Still need generator for float lighting and klaxon. Sound system and music for float discussed with the possibility of getting it at Goodwill store. Base Cdr will get CDs by Tommy Cox for the music and Shawn LaCroix will get sound system. Woody Woods is donating a CD player for the float. Need to get float from Base Cdr's home and get it to Snuffy's for sprucing up of the float. Need working party to get the float ready for Parade on the 5th of March Weekend. Need flags for float; get regulation flagpole from Affordable Flags and Fireworks. Jim Hughes is checking at Flags Are Us for regulation flagpole and stand. Motion made and passed to get needed flagpole and stand for \$100.00 or less. Base Cdr was very pleased with turnout and called for maximum participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

New Business: Base Cdr gave update on Joe and Jody Maurelli, and update on

Roger Frazier who has stomach cancer. Frank will visit Bryan's (Menningerode) house for an update on Bryan. Lori Woods gave an update on Gerald and Elaine Puls. Base Cdr reported that April meeting will be at Bambino's (2nd floor, elevator at south end) Platte and Circle Drive.

Adjournment: Motion made and seconded, motion passed.

Next Meeting: ST's PourHouse, Purcell Avenue South, Pueblo West



Commander's Comments

(Editor's apologies; my computer ate Steve's comments, so I'm adlibbing.)

Hello, all, and thanks for the great turnout at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. It was a great success thanks to all your hard work. The weather was a little cool, but otherwise a great day for a parade. Thanks for all the ladies' hard work on the decorations for the float and to the guys for getting her ready for the parade; she looked great. I hope everyone had a great time. Thanks, also, to those who came to the Shriner's for the meal afterwards. They were all glad to see you there.

The next meeting will be at ST's PourHouse in Pueblo West, (see directions in Frank's minutes), on March 19th from 1130 to 1330, come early and enjoy some good food and fellowship. The meeting will start at 1200.

I won't be there but someone will stand in for me. Have a great meeting.

Steve. (Hope I got most of it in, Steve. Larry)

Scuttlebutt and Sea Stories

I'm going to try a new column for the newsletter which will give everyone a chance to participate a little more. If you wish, you can send me a picture of your time in the SS along with names of those in the picture, where, when, etc., and I'll try to work it in at this location in the letter. I'll start the ball rolling with one of mine just to give you an idea of how it will work.



Editor on right with liberty buddy RM3, John Mansfield, relaxing in Hong Kong in early '64 after a grueling and cold northern WestPac run on the USS Menhaden SS377. John is author of "Cruisers for Breakfast", an account of the WWII war patrols of the Darter and Dace (recommended reading). We were both tired and ready to get underway for San Diego via Pearl and see some sweet U.S. soil and 'round eye' girls again. These nine month patrols would wear you down. Picture taken by Ed Davies, a Sub School classmate and shipmate on the Menhaden.

Good Reading

Here are a few great books about submarines that I've read and can recommend highly:

"Blind Man's Bluff" , by Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew

"The Silent War", by John Pina Craven

"Escape from the Deep", by Alex Kershaw

"Raising the Hunley", by Brian Hicks and Schuyler Kropf

"Typhoon", by Robin White

"Cruisers for Breakfast", by John G. Mansfield, Jr.

Note of interest: "Cruisers for Breakfast", a historical work about the WWII war patrols of the U.S.S. Darter SS227 and U.S.S. Dace SS247, as well as some information on the U.S.S. Menhaden SS377, was written by an old shipmate of mine on the Menhaden in the early '60s, John Mansfield. John and his brother, Don, were radiomen on the Menhaden and looked so much alike that it was sometimes hard to tell them apart, but they weren't twins.

(If you've read a good book or books recently and would like to recommend them, please let me know and I'll include them in the list. I'll need Title and Author's name. Thanks, Editor)

Chaplain's Corner



On behalf of our Base Chaplain, Charlie Flood, please consider the following:

Our world is in a great turmoil both from natural and man made disasters. The devastating quake and tsumami that has destroyed so many lives and property in Japan and caused nuclear power plants to jeopardize many more lives is tragic beyond words. The effects of all this will be felt by Japan and worldwide for decades to come. Conflicts in North Africa and the Middle east are expanding by the day. Never in recent history has the need for people all over the world to come together and live in peace been more critical than today. In the Bible we are always admonished to pray for peace. Take some time out of your busy schedule to just pause and meditate on these great world wide problems and ask for His mercy and peace to prevail.

“He hath showed thee, O man, what is good and what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and walk humbly with thy God.”
Micah 6:8

The following page is an announcement regarding the Submarine Banquet to be held in Lakewood:



**United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.
Rocky Mountain Base**

**ANNOUNCES THE
111th SUBMARINE BIRTHDAY
BANQUET**

TO BE HELD

**ON: 13 MAY 2011 - CASH BAR BEGINS AT 1800 - DINNER AT
1900**

**AT: HOLIDAY INN LAKEWOOD, 7390 W. HAMPTON AVENUE,
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**

GUEST SPEAKER: RADM Larry Marsh, USN-Ret. (SS)

**SPECIAL MUSIC FOR YOUR AFTER DINNER LISTENING
AND DANCING PLEASURE**

**HOLIDAY INN ROOMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT A SPECIAL
RATE**

-ALSO-

**USS GRAYLING (SS-209)
MEMORIAL SERVICE**

1100 ON SATURDAY 14 MAY 2011

AT SLOAN LAKE PARK, DENVER

**GUEST SPEAKER: Capt. Dan Branch, Jr. USN-Ret.
(SS)**

-Current National President Navy League-



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND BOTH

→ DETAILS AND RESERVATION INFO TO FOLLOW



See you all at the next meeting.

***Larry Leek,
Newsletter Editor***

Notes and Reminders