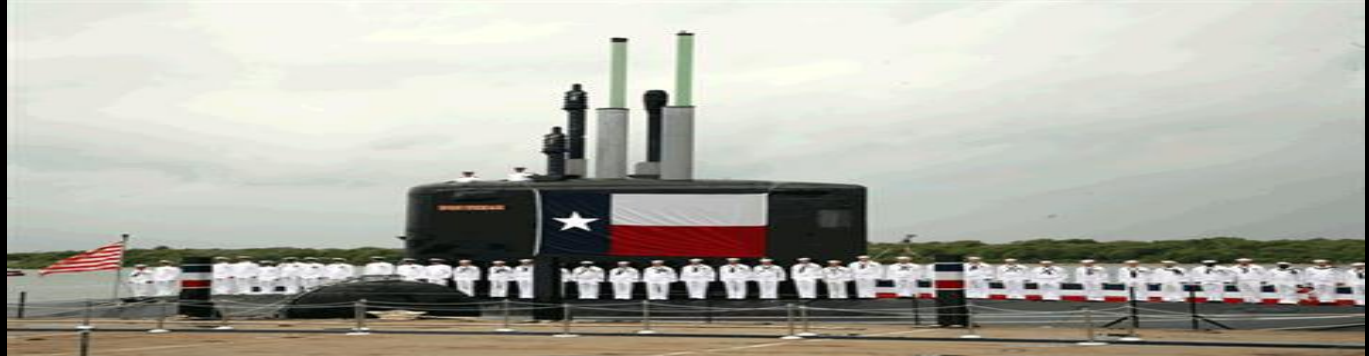


STRYKER SIGNALS

San Antonio, Texas

September 2006



USS TEXAS COMMISSIONING

The commissioning of the USS Texas (SSN 775) was held in Galveston, Texas on Saturday, September 9th. Several thousand invited guests joined the officers, crew, and dignitaries for the ceremony. Under threatening skies, patriotism was high and business was brisk for sales of USS Texas shirts and under memorabilia prior to the commencement of the ceremony. Following the introduction of the 19 platform guests, the following made individual speeches in honor of this momentous occasion: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, Senator John Cornyn, President of Northrop Grumman Newport News – Mike Petters, President of General Dynamics Electric Boat Division – John P. Casey, Chief of Naval Operations – Admiral Michael McMullen, and the boat's Sponsor, First Lady Laura W. Bush. Photos from the commissioning ceremony may be found in the photo gallery on the USS Texas website – www.usstexas.org. The contingent from P.C. Stryker Base included 12 base members and 27 guests of base members. Twelve base members and their guests received an excellent tour of the USS Texas on Sunday, September 10th with the duty section present. Barry Martin notes, "Compared to the boat I was on, it was Stars Wars. Everything in the control room is computer driven. The drive the boat with a joystick and they have auto pilot. The only (feature) that looks like a control room (of old) is the chart table and charts."

RAFFLE DRAWING FOR USS TEXAS LITHOGRAPH

On Friday, September 8th, Frank and Francine Simpson, Barry and Jennelle Martin, and Frank and Gretta Lister attended the C.O.'s Reception held at the Moody Gardens Hotel. This event was sponsored by the Houston Navy League and attended by many dignitaries including First Lady Laura Bush who as the boat's Sponsor gave a rousing speech in honor of the USS Texas and those that serve on her. Frank Simpson and Frank Lister shared the duties of presenting the oil painting and proceeds from raffle ticket sales in the amount of \$2,479.22 to the skipper of the USS Texas for the MWR fund. The winning raffle ticket was drawn at the SubVets picnic held at Seawolf Park on Saturday, September 9th. The Cavalla Base Commander, Mike Pullen, drew the winning ticket which belonged to Barry Martin. Barry elected to keep the lithograph to display in his home and he generously donated the framed oil painting to the USS Texas Crews Mess/Lounge.

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USSVI 2006 NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Crew Member Chuck Woods represented the P.C. Stryker Base at the 2006 USSVI National Convention and accepted a plaque presented to the base and Frank Simpson for the efforts to ensure the commissioning of the USS Texas was conducted in Texas. The Tarheel Base Commander asked if Frank could give him some pointers on how he got that all accomplished.

At the Grand Banquet, FORCM(SS/SW) Dean Irwin, Sublant Force Master Chief, was the guest speaker. He presented a general overview of today's submarine force and its mission. He also talked about today's submariner's duties, training and the high reenlistment rate. He also informed us of some of the reenlistment bonus' these youngster's in today's Navy are receiving; up to \$100,000.

Forgot to tell you that the USS Razorback is tied up across the river and the local base has really done a fine job with its upkeep. I understand that the boat is approximately 80% operational. Worth stopping by to see if any of the member's ever get close to Little Rock.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – VETERAN’S DAY AT FT. SAM

Volunteers are needed to perform duties driving visitors to gravesites in golf carts and looking up gravesite locations at the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on Saturday, November 11th. This is a particularly special event this year because it is “Navy Day” and the Commander of the Atlantic Fleet will be present.

P.C. STRYKER BASE AWARDS PRESENTED AT AUGUST MEETING

P.C. Stryker Base website awarded Base Website of the Year.

Dave Shelley accepted certificate for P.C. Stryker Base Boat Sponsorship and Base Website of the Year

P.C. Stryker Base Crew Member – John Buchanan presented with award for Shipmate of The Year for District IV.

Central District 2006 Base of the Year Award presented to Acting Base Commander – Dave Shelley

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH

VFW Post 8315 – SCHERTZ, TX

PLEASE CONTACT MEAL COORDINATORS RE: PRE-MEETING POT LUCK DINNER

OCTOBER SOCIAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH

HOME OF ALVIN AND ANNE HERNANDEZ

THE HERNANDEZ' WILL BE PROVIDING GERMAN SAUSAGES AND FIXINGS. PLEASE CALL ANNE AT (210)455-6185 TO R.S.V.P.

DIRECTIONS: FROM LOOP 1604 NORTH, TAKE THE EXIT FOR BLANCO ROAD. GO ½ MILE SOUTH ON BLANCO ROAD TO RIGHT ON CANYON BROOK DRIVE. ENTER GATE CODE 9908 TO ENTER NEIGHBORHOOD. FOLLOW CANYON BROOK TO 5TH RIGHT ON CANYON BREEZE. THE ADDRESS IS 17418 CANYON BREEZE.

NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

VFW Post 8315 – SCHERTZ, TX

² LET’S HAVE A BOUNTIFUL POTLUCK AS A PRE-THANKSGIVING FEAST.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

SOUTH TEXAS SUB VETS

WWW.STRYKERBASE.ORG

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS INC.

WWW.USSVI.ORG

BASE STOREFRONT

STOREKEEPER: RUTH WALLING

BASE PATCHES FOR SALE

Base Patches for still available for purchase at a cost of \$8.00. Please contact storekeeper for any additional information or to purchase.

USSVI Calendars

This all-new contemporary 2007 U.S. Submarine Calendar honors our submarine past by featuring the 'transition' submarines-from the last of the combat diesels through the early nuclear powered boats. Order early, only 7 available

Minutes from the Meeting of 6 August 2006

Call to Order

Acting BC Dave Shelley called the meeting to order @ 1348 and the dedication was read.

Invocation

The invocation was given @1349.

Acting BC led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Members and Guest Introductions

- James and Betty Lou Mooring – Kerrville, TX
- Chuck and Pat Woods – New Braunfels, TX
- Chuck Woodman

The USSVI Creed was read .

Minutes from the 21 May 2006 meeting were accepted and promulgated.

Old Business

Secretary's Report

Base Secretary distributed newsletter electronically on 2 August 2006.

Guidance provided regarding mailing of newsletters to members without email addresses.

Report accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reported current balance of base funds and status of fund raising efforts for USS Texas.

Current balance for USS Texas donation was \$1,101.77 with an additional \$300.00 raised at the meeting.

One response to the advertisement for USS Texas art raffle tickets was reported.

Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The Normal Order of Business Was Suspended Following the Treasurer's Report for a Special Presentation by Guest – Ray Wilgeroth, District IV Commander

- Memorial Day Tolling of the Boats in Round Rock, TX had more than 100 attendees.
- P.C. Stryker Base website awarded Base Website of the Year.
- Dave Shelley accepted certificate for P.C. Stryker Base Boat Sponsorship and Base Website of the Year
- P.C. Stryker Base Crew Member – John Buchanan presented with award for Shipmate of The Year for District IV.
- Central District 2006 Base of the Year Award presented to Acting Base Commander – Dave Shelley
- Announcement -- P.C. Stryker Base nominated for USSVI National Base of the Year
- Announcement – Base Commander Frank Simpson nominated for National Shipmate of the Year

Old Business (cont'd)

Memorial Day Event

- P.C. Stryker Base members acted as drivers and lookup volunteers at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on Memorial Day.
- Certificates will be distributed at next Base business meeting in September.
- Cart Drivers and Look Up volunteers are needed for Veteran's Day in November. Frank Lister volunteered.

USS TEXAS Commissioning

- USS Texas commissioning scheduled for 9 September 2006.
- All members present confirmed receiving invitations to the commissioning.
- Invitation responses can be sent via the Internet or USPS.
- Ticket mailing begins August 14th.

- Hotel information available on USS Texas website.
- Raffle and check presentation to be made at C.O.'s reception on Friday – 8 September 2006
- Commissioning ceremony will be held at Pier 10
- Action Item – Barry Martin to send 501©3 form to Frank Lister's contact.
- Houston Navy League responsible for all commissioning-related activities
- Commissioning ceremony attire recommendations reviewed.
- Reminder – Salute the flag if you are a veteran.

Tolling of the Boats

- Report on Memorial Board progress by John Buchanan (new phone number 210-666-2966).
- John Lee assisted with repairs to the board.
- Barry Martin to provide items indicated by John Buchanan as needed to complete the board.
- Board to be displayed at September meeting.
- NROTC at Seguin High School likely not available for Tolling of the Boats; need to contact Smithson Valley High School and also check availability of NROTC in Fredericksburg (James Mooring will try to contact via Nimitz Museum).

New Business

USSVI National Meeting

- 2006 National Electoral ballots, mail or email, to Dave Shelley or cast ballots online at www.ussvi.org.

USS Texas Art Raffle

- Ticket sales lagging.
- Resolution passed to contribute \$703.82 for cost of ad in *American Submariner* and other raffle related expenses from Base Treasury instead of deducting from funds raised in ticket sales.
- Frank Lister to receive tax receipt for donation of \$400 to base from ticket printing costs.
- Pictures can be duplicated at cost of \$75-80 per print.
- Actual size of print is 18"X26".
- All proceeds from raffle ticket sales will be donated to the USS Texas MWR fund.
- Raffle winner will receive two pictures – one lithograph and one oil painting.
- Action Item – Barry Martin to send 501©3 form to Frank Lister's contact.

P.C. Stryker Base Meeting and Event Schedule

- Next Business Meeting -- 17 September 2006
- Next Base Social – Saturday 14 October 2006
 - Oktoberfest theme
 - Will be held at home of Alvin and Anne Hernandez
 - 17418 Canyon Breeze Drive San Antonio, TX
 - Telephone (210)-455-6185

Base Donations

- Voted to donate \$300 to VFW Post #8315 for facilities use (annual donation)
- Voted to donate \$500 to the Veterans Group of the San Antonio Area (VGSAA) to support fundraising for the construction of the "Soldier and Family Assistance Center" at BAMC.

For the Good of the Order

- Base patches and raffle tickets are still available for purchase

Benediction

The benediction was given by John Buchanan at 1508.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 1509.