



UNITED STATES
SUBMARINE VETERANS INC



STRYKER SIGNALS

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. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States and its Constitution.”

January-February, 2009

Social

Our next social will be a Valentine’s Day social gathering at the Chama Gaucha Brazilian Steakhouse, 18318 Sonterra Place. Take 1604 west bound frontage road between Stone Oak and Blanco. Allow \$50 for dinner for two plus wine. RSVP to Barry Martin by 11 February at (830) 885-5080 or blmartin@gvtc.com.

Meeting

The next meeting will be at the VFW Post #8315 (1000 FM 78, Schertz) will be 15 March starting with a Pot Luck lunch at 1300 hours. Guests and family are always welcome.

Invocation

Invocation was asked at 1300 hours.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Base Commander Frank Simpson.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by BC Frank Simpson.

Reading of the Creed

Frank Lister read the Creed

Swearing in of Base Officers

Frank Simpson, Base Commander
Dave Shelly, Base Vice Commander
Barry Martin, Base Treasurer

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Gary English, Base Secretary

New Member Introduction

Walt Malone and wife Linda were introduced. Walt served with Phil C. Stryker, Jr. on the Trieste.

Special Recognition

John Buchanan received the Senior Submarine Service Award for World War II. He was on the USS Cachalot (SS 170) which was moored near the dry docked USS Pennsylvania (BB 38) on 7 December 1941. John is the last known living member of the crew, although there may be one more.

Special Guest

Bobby Broderick from the Turtle Base and 4D Vice-Commander visited the Base Meeting, and had some remarks to make.

Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Secretary's Report

Report on Christmas Social.

Treasurer's Report

Barry Martin gave the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

- A. Lost Boat board discussed. We will use it at the Tejeda Middle School History Faire.
- B. December social discussed.
- C. Memorial for Adm. Grojean in Fredericksburg was discussed. There was a good turn out of submarine veterans, and in a "uniform" of black pants, white shirts, vests, and hats, we looked sharp!

New Business

- A. Tentative schedule for 2009 approved.
- B. History Faire will be Saturday, 4 April 2009 at Tejeda School on Evans east of Hwy. 281.
- C. Planned February Valentine's Day social.
- D. D4 Commander would like us to host a District meeting in Fredericksburg in April.

Kommander's Korner

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I want to thank all who made the effort to attend RADM Grojean's Memorial service in Fredericksburg, Texas, 3 January 2009. As the staff of the Nimitz Foundation told me you all looked very sharp and lent a measure of dignity to the memory of RADM Grojean. I think the turnout was great. Thank you all very much and a hearty Bravo Zulu to all.

Next was the very nice turn out at the first business meeting of 2009. I was very pleased to see so many members there, especially since Forth District Vice-Commander Bobby Broderick, Central Region Division USSVI was in attendance. He was impressed with our turnout and the knowledge of Stryker Base submarine sailors. Again, I express my personal thanks to all who made the meeting. It means a good start to the year 2009.

Sincerely,

Frank Simpson

BC Phillip C. Stryker, Jr. Base, USSVI

The National Park Service, US Department of Agriculture-National Forest, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and others have a new pass. They have replaced the Golden Age, Golden Access, and Golden Eagle passes with an America the Beautiful Annual pass. The fee is \$80. For more information visit www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm or <http://store.usgs.gov/pass>.

For the Good of the Order

- A. Triton Base (Houston, TX) is shuttered as of 31 December 2008. Base has 46 members but no leaders. Base was started by John Fredericks (deceased) who also helped start the Stryker Base.
- B. Scorpion Memorial Base in San Angelo, TX will most likely shut down soon. Darrel Rushing, former member of Stryker Base, is the Base Commander.
- C. For long range planning:
 1. August Social is planned for Del Rio, TX.
 2. Dedication of the Nimitz/Bush Wing of The Museum of the Pacific War will be on 7 December 2009.
 3. Army Navy Game will be on 12 December.

Benediction

Benediction.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1428 hours.

Tribute to Adm. Grojean

These sayings were taken from the Admiral and given at the memorial by his son, Peter Grojean. There are some real nuggets in them.

- A. First, don't ever take advice from people over 70. You won't like it, it'll be out of date, and it will give them something to gripe about. Remember people over 70 love to gripe.

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- B. Next, wear sunscreen. It will keep you looking younger, and it may save your life. This is good advice given by scientists under 70 so you can rely on it.
- C. Look at yourself in the mirror at least once every day. Happy with what you see? Don't worry. It's going to get worse.
- D. Not only don't worry about your looks,but just don't worry. If you must worry, do it knowing that it's a down payment on Prozac. There are so many things that will go right instead of wrong.
- E. Do something a little outrageous every day. Don't do something dumb. There is a fine line. Try to figure out which is which. People over 70 will let you know.
- F. Sing.... If you don't think it sounds so good, try it in the shower; but sing a lot.
- G. Don't be reckless with other people's hearts. Don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.
- H. Remember the compliments you receive. Forget the insults. If you succeed in doing this, tell me how.
- I. Throw away your old bank statements. (My wife added this.)
- J. Buckle-up.
- K. Don't waste your time on the following: jealousy, hubris, guilt, and hatred.
- L. Get plenty of calcium. Be kind to your hips. You'll miss them when they're gone.
- M. Whatever you do, don't congratulate yourself too much, or berate yourself either.
- N. Enjoy your body. Use it every way you can. Don't be afraid of it or of what other people think of it. It's the greatest instrument you'll ever own.
- O. Dance, even if you have nowhere to do it but your living room.
- P. Get to know your parents. You never know when they'll be gone for good.
- Q. Be nice to your siblings. They're your best link to your past and the people most likely to stick with you in the future.
- R. Read beauty magazines and hope.....after 70 read the Bible and hope.