



UNITED STATES  
SUBMARINE VETERANS INC

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# 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 Constitution.”

21 September 2009

## Social

Our last social was at the home of Mrs. Bessie Locker of Del Rio, Texas. We express our heartfelt Thank You for her hospitality.

Our next social will be at the Clear Springs Restaurant on Loop 1604 between Stone Oak and Hwy. 281. The social is scheduled for Saturday, 17 October, and the time will be 1300 hours.

## Meeting

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

## Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Vice Commander Dave Shelley at 1352 hrs. A moment of silence was observed for those who are on Eternal Patrol, having paid the greatest price for our freedom.

## Invocation/Prayer

Frank Lister gave the opening prayer.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Vice Commander Dave Shelley.

## Reading of USSVI Creed

Read by Vice Commander Dave Shelley.

## **New Member Introduction**

There were three new members: James Wallace, Tom Hollingsworth, and Juan Molina.

## **Holland Club Challenge Coins**

John Buchanan and Jose Molina were given their Challenge Coins.

## **Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Accepted as written in the Stryker Signals.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Accepted as presented by Barry Martin

## **Old Business**

- A. The Nominating Committee nominated the incumbent officers for the year 2010. They are: Base Commander Frank Simpson, Vice Commander Dave Shelley, Treasurer Barry Martin, and Secretary Gary English.
- B. Volunteers were recruited for the Veteran's Day Ceremonies at Ft. Sam Houston. Volunteers are: Barry Martin, Dave Shelley, Larry Yano, and Gary English.
- C. Reminder that there will be a Tolling of the Boats Ceremony in Fredericksburg, Texas on 6 December, and a parade on 7 December.

## **New Business**

- A. A donation to the VFW Post 8315 in the amount of \$300 was approved.
- B. There will be a History Faire at the Harris Middle School in San Antonio on 3 October. Volunteers are: Frank Lister, Barry Martin, Gary English, and Larry Yano.

## **Other Information**

- A. Due to poor health John Lee and Capt. Eric Barr will probably not be attending future meetings.
- B. USSVI and USSVWWII have officially merged.

## **Benediction**

John Buchanan gave the benediction.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 1442 hrs.

## **Pumping the Humor Bilge**

Two ladies were waiting at the Pearly Gates for St. Peter to admit them. They introduced themselves as Alice and Bonnie.

Alice: How did you die?

Bonnie: I froze to death.

Alice: How terrible!

Bonnie: Oh, it wasn't so bad. When I stopped shivering I felt warm and just went to sleep.

Alice: I died of a massive heart attack. I knew my husband was cheating on me so I came home early one day to catch him red handed. He was sitting in the den alone watching TV. I ran all through the house; up in the attic, down in the basement, checking under beds and in closets. Finally I was so exhausted I just keeled over.

Bonnie: If you had checked in the freezer we would both still be alive!

A pastor's wife was expecting a baby, so the pastor asked the church for a raise. The church decided that whenever the pastor's family expanded so would his paycheck. About the time the sixth baby was on his way the church had another meeting. There was a lot of bickering and arguing about how much this could possibly cost the church. Finally the pastor stood up and said: "Children are a gift from God!"

A little old lady in the back pew stood up and said: "Rain is a gift also, but when we get too much of it we wear rubbers!"

A priest and a rabbi were sitting side by side on a long flight. Finally, the priest asked: "Is it still a requirement that you not eat pork?" The rabbi replied: "Yes, it is." "Have you ever fallen into sin by eating pork?" the priest asked. "Yes, once I ate a ham sandwich."

Then the rabbi asked: "Is it true that you have to stay celibate?" "Yes," answered the priest. "And have you ever fallen into the sin of the flesh?" The priest confessed he had.

After mulling this over for a few moments, the rabbi said: "Sure beats the crap out of a ham sandwich, doesn't it?"

An old priest was looking for a soft job to finish out his days. He applied to an Abby for a job, but the only thing they had open was working in the basement copying ancient manuscripts by hand. The priest took the job and reported to the basement. There he toiled hour after hour. Finally the head Friar went to check on him, and found him sitting at a table with his head on his arms crying hysterically. "What on earth is wrong?" asked the Friar. The priest replied between sobs: "The word is celebrate, not celibate!"

This is reported as a true story. A beautiful young lady was pulled over by a California Highway Patrol officer. He walked up to her car but before he could speak she said: "I guess it's my turn to support the Highway Patrolman's Ball?" The officer said: "Lady, the California Highway Patrolmen don't have any balls!" The patrolman got back in his car and drove off. The lady said she sat for about fifteen minutes before she could control the laughter enough to drive.

The following story is true...the editor knew the two officers involved. During the Berkeley Riots in the late 60s and early 70s two California Highway Patrolman were called upon to help with crowd control for the 7:00 PM curfew. They were caught by a photographer for the underground Berkeley Barb newspaper; one officer flashing the “V” peace sign and the other officer with the peace sign on one hand and flowers in the other hand. They were called into the Commissioner’s Office, but were not told why. Chuck and Ralph stood there as the picture was presented. Chuck said: “Sir, I remember that night well. It was the night there was a 7:00 PM curfew and it was 6:58 PM. I told the two hippies they had two minutes to get home, and Ralph said ‘that means both of you, and take these flowers with you.’ ” That’s how it went into the record book.

## **Notes of Interest**

Tim VeArd has a website, [www.decklog.com](http://www.decklog.com) that will link you by boat to former crew members. For example: Type in [www.decklog.com/ss-402.asp](http://www.decklog.com/ss-402.asp) (insert your boats three digit hull number in place of “402”).

Here is a “Morals Test” used to pick an employee for a job:

Question: You are driving down the road on a wild, stormy night. At a bus stop you see three people waiting for the bus.....

1. an old lady who looks ready to die
2. an old friend who once saved your life
3. the partner you have been dreaming about

There is room for only one passenger in your car. Which one will you pick up?

1. you could pick up the old lady and save her life
2. you could pick up the old friend you and pay him back for saving your life
3. you could pick up the partner of your dreams, but if you pick up either the old lady or the old friend you may never see him/her again

Out of 200 applicants the one who got the job said he would give his car keys to his old friend to drive the old lady to the hospital, and he would wait in the rain with the girl of his dreams.

It is said that a dog is man’s best friend. If you do not believe this, here is an easy experiment. Place your wife and your dog in the trunk of the car. Wait for one hour, then open the trunk. Which one is happy to see you?

After doing a little research for a Bible lesson, I came up with some facts. Astronomers use a unit of measurement call an “Astronomical Unit” or AU. This unit measures the distances in space, and is a mere 150 million kilometers or 93 million miles. Now how big and important are you and I? Another unit of measure is the parsec, about 19 trillion miles! There are an estimated 100 billion or more galaxies in the *observable* universe, each containing tens of millions to one trillion stars. Our sun is a “white dwarf,” one of the smallest stars. Feel insignificant yet? Remember, the God who created the stars loves you!