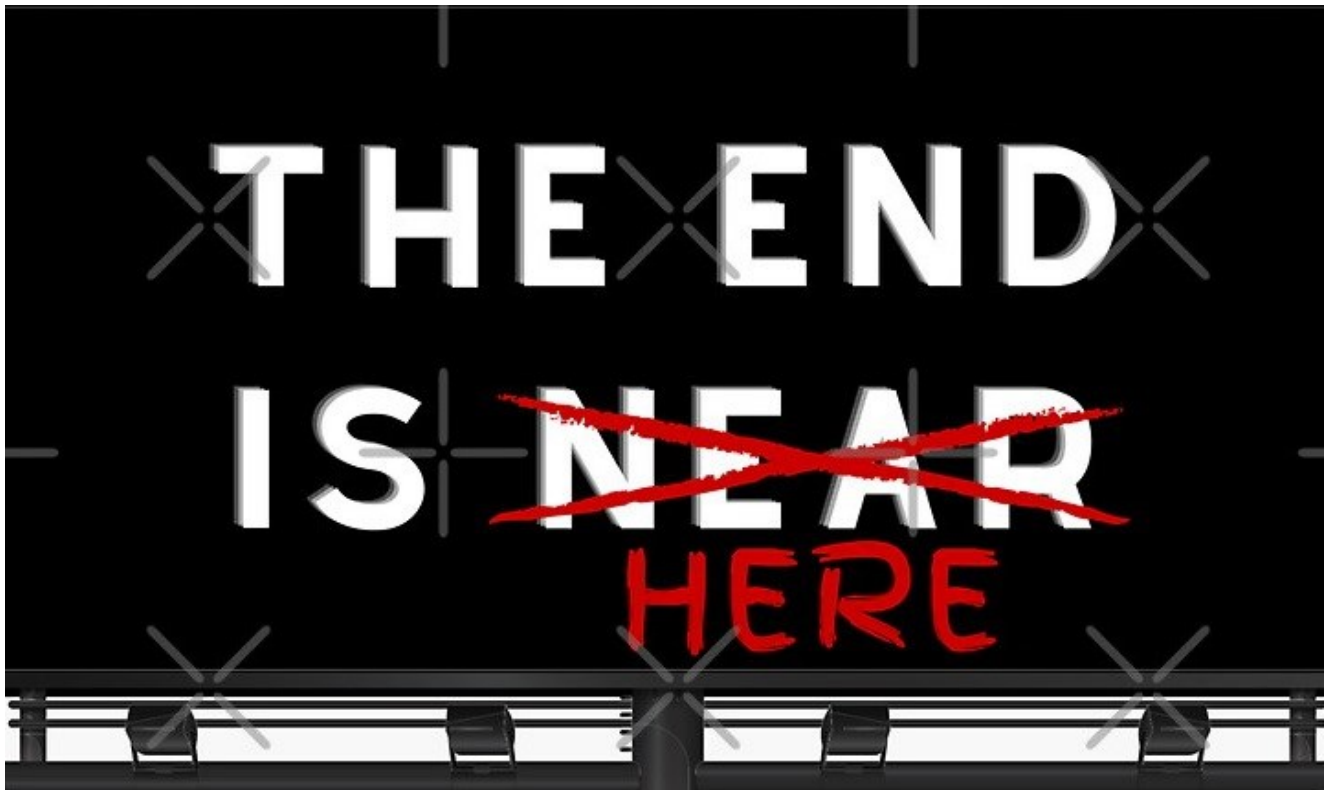


May 2025

# CORVINA BASE NEWS

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## 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.

Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

Base Commander  
 Danny T. McHugh  
 310-946-7000  
 torpedotube@hotmail.com

Vice Commander  
 John Hulsey  
 408-375-7238  
 jahulsey@garlic.com

Secretary  
 Eric Meagher  
 323-4020  
 Zeero@att.net

Treasurer  
 Bill Brehler  
 527-7521  
 williambrehler@sbcglobal.net

COB  
 Ted Fanning  
 443-787-5770  
 tbeforeed@gmail.com

Recruiting  
 John Hulsey  
 408-375-7238  
 jahulsey@garlic.com

Chaplain  
 Mark Smith  
 775-300-9079  
 msmith@cmenv.com

Newsletter/Web  
 Norm Peterson  
 322-5193  
 1971tr6@charter.net

POC  
 Dave Aunkst  
 410-7266  
 corvinabasedk.reno@outlook.com

K4K Chairman  
 Roy Johnson  
 775-629-9947  
 rp.mjohnson08@gmail.com

Past Base Commander  
 Rick Johns  
 392-1615  
 rickjohns060@gmail.com

## BOOSTER CLUB John Malloy



Kaps  
 Booster Club

## Shipmates on Eternal Patrol

### 2001

Harry Wellman CS1 (SS)

### 2002

Harry Sembagh EN3 (SS)

Stanley Blair ICC (SS)

### 2003

Melvin Phillips ET1 (SS)

### 2004

Boyd Tieslau TM3 (SS)

Russel Scofield TMCS (SS)

### 2005

Richard Burdette LT. (SS)

Robert Rich EN1 (SS)

Donald Campbell TM2 (SS)

Francis Signore CSC (SS)

### 2006

Harold Lister EN3 (SS)

### 2007

James Avitt RM1 (SS)

### 2008

Larry Garrelts ETCs(SS)

Melvin Schreckengost ET2

Charles H. Massie TM1 (SS)

### 2009

Wayne F. Garrett ET2 (SS)

Elvin L. Morrison FTC (SS)

Erick Bjorum CWO(SS)

### 2010

Norm Snyder EM1(SS)

Charles Hyman MM2(SS)

James T. Wright III

Gordon Lane RMC(SS)

### 2011

Edwin V. Schalbert TMC (SS)

### 2013

Chester E. MacDowell TMI (SS)

Gerald Stratton ENC(SS)

Jerry D. Noma MM2(SS)

Richard Ekenberg, ETC(SS)

Richard C. Barringer SOSN(SS)

### 2014

Lowell Wapelhorst MOMM2(SS)

Jack Quade SMSN(SS)

### 2015

Bert Skidmore YN2(SS)

Frank Kenyon EM3 (SS)

Walter Lewis IC1(SS)

Bob Heaps IC2 (SS)

### 2016

James Jordan TMSN (SS)

Herbert "Doc" L. Starmer: HMC (SS)

### 2017

Rudolph (Rudy) Massenzi

Don Brown FTGC(SS)

Joseph Casten EM3 (SS)

### 2018

Leonard (Lenny) Stefanelli QM1(SS)

Lionel Schmidt STS1(SS)

### 2019

Primo Quarisa EN3 (SS)

Dennis Wiley MMCM(MDV/SS/SW)

Raoul (Bill) Noland EM2(SS)

Taggart Rogers LT(SS)

Thomas Utley MM1(SS)

Delmar Schwichtnberg CWO3(SS)

### 2020

2021 Rod Friedline ST1(SS)

William G. Parsons RM1(SS)

Jack C. Ely QM2(SS)

Richard R. Dentino EM3(SS)

### 2021

Oscar Rambeau QM3(SS)

Dale Poe EMC (SS)

James L. Stuart MMC

Kenneth M. McCray EN1(SS)

James Weaver SK2

### 2022

Dan Fawcett

### 2023

L. David Craig ETC(SS)

Bob Lewis TMSN(SU)

James Gibson LCDR(SS)

Clyde Webber ETNSN(SS)

### 2024

Arthur C. Akerson LCDR(SS)

### 2025

Ted Hanson EWC(SS)

Leif Larsen ST1(SS)



# Secretary's Minutes



## Minutes of Membership Meeting held 12 April 2025

**13:58:** Danny McHugh called the meeting of 12 members to order. Danny instructed Ted Fanning to dive the boat. Ted sounded the klaxon; all were asked to stand and Chaplain Mark Smith gave the invocation. Danny led the Pledge of Allegiance and recited the USSVI creed. The tolling of lost boats in April was played on the A/V equipment. A round of introductions was skipped but Corvina Plank Owner Larry Shipman introduced himself for the benefit of those members present who didn't know him. Danny mentioned that some members of the Corvina Board of Directors are absent today.

**Minutes:** Danny surveyed the membership for any correction to the minutes of the March Meeting. None were requested.

**XO Report:** John Hulsey reported that Corvina's attendance at the Nevada Legislature's Veteran's Day Even was less than ideal and, in the future, we will be more pro-active when coordinating member participation at special events.

**Secretary Report:** Eric Meagher asks that when members are to change address to please inform the treasurer who maintains the Corvina Base Roster and to use the "change of address kit" from the USPS. More returned mail is showing up in our PO Box than usual. [moversguide.usps.com](https://moversguide.usps.com)

**Chaplin Report:** Mark Smith relayed that Paul Allen, a plank owner of Corvina Base and a previous Chaplin is in hospice care after dealing with 5 or 6 years of Parkinson's Disease. The family advised Mark that visitors would not be appropriate at this time. [www.parkinsons.org](https://www.parkinsons.org)

**COB Report:** Ted Fanning has nothing to report.

**AdHoc Report:** John has nothing to report.

**Recruiter Report:** John will take recruiter duties over for now as we look for someone to take the job.

**Parade Report:** Roy Johnson is monitoring the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Virginia City, waiting for sign-ups to start. Registration is already open for the Nevada Day Parade in Carson City. <https://nevadaday.com/>  
<https://visitvirginiacitynv.com/parades/>

## Other Business:

**Honor Flight:** The Nevada Honor Flight is holding a fundraising luncheon right now as our meeting takes place. Danny's wife, Gretchen and John's wife, Katherine are in attending. <https://www.honorflightnv.org/>

**Torpedo Repair:** There are some spots of rust on the torpedo at the cemetery in Fernley. Arrangements are being made for reconditioning. Previously, the torpedo was taken away for deeper repair including a new powder coating. We will consider that more extensive treatment after the National Convention in 2027. <https://veterans.nv.gov/benefits-and-services/northern-nevada-veterans-memorial-cemetery>

**National Convention talk:** Rick Johns reported that the Cleveland Base made over \$60,000 from hosting the National Convention in 2024. He has obtained some good leads where to get sponsor money, including a possible grant from the State of Nevada. The convention committee will consider different levels of sponsorship. The convention committee will hold its next meeting towards the end of the year after we get seed money from National and a bank account is established. Eric reported that Frank Ely has the samples to make our National Convention Letterhead and other stationery. Our main income from hosting the National Convention will come from Sponsorships and Registration.

**Pride Runs Deep Award:** After getting no response from the NJROTC at Damonte High School, Corvina Base contacted the unit, with 200+ members at Carson City High School to present a "Pride Runs Deep Award". Our panegyric of the cadet, selected by the NJROTC commander, included a certificate, a medal, and a \$250 cash award. The recognition was accepted warmly by the prize winner. We had a good turnout of Corvina Members present for the ceremony. <https://carson-njrotc.tripod.com/>

**Holland Club Awards:** Holland Club awards will be given at the June meeting. John sent e-mails to this year's recipients. Barry Wyatt, our district commander will attend that month's meeting.

**Lunch Bunch:** The next Lunch Bunch will be April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at La Mint, 770 South Meadows Parkway in Reno. <https://pholamint.com/>

**Break:** The meeting took a 10-minute break and afterwards our customary raffle was held in accordance with [Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 462 section 130.](#)

**250pm:** Mark led the benediction; Ted sounded the klaxon to surface the boat and Danny adjourned the meeting.

=====T

### hey Walk Among Us...

Back when I worked in a 24/7 call center, a guy called and asked:

"What hours are you open?"

Me: "Sir, we're open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week."

Him: "Okay, but is that Eastern or Pacific time?"

I stared at my screen for a solid 10 seconds before replying:

"Uh... Pacific."

He thanked me and hung up, probably feeling proud of himself.

### They Walk Among Us...

My sister has one of those emergency seatbelt cutters in her car—designed to save her life if she ever gets trapped.

She keeps it in the trunk.

### They Walk Among Us...

While working at a pizza place, I watched a man order a small pizza to-go.

Cook: "Would you like that cut into four or six slices?"

The man thought long and hard before replying:

"Better make it four. I don't think I'm hungry enough to eat six."

### Lost Boats in May

#### *USS Squalus* (SS-192)

lost on **23-May-1939** with a loss of **26 crew, 33 rescued**  
when it flooded and sank off Portsmouth, NH

#### *USS Lagarto* (SS-371)

lost on or shortly after **4-May-1945** with the loss of **88 crew**  
when it was sunk in off Malay Coast in or near the Gulf of Siam

#### *USS Stickleback* (SS-415)

lost on **30-May-1958** when it sank off Hawaii while being  
towed, after collision with *USS Silverstein* (DE-534)

#### *USS Scorpion* (SSN-589)

lost on **27-May-1968** with the loss of **99 crew** when  
it was sunk while in transit from Med, West of Azores

Video of boats lost

[https://youtu.be/Xfl1Hj\\_JUmo](https://youtu.be/Xfl1Hj_JUmo)





With heavy heart I have to report  
we lost Leif Larsen on April 28.

He will be missed by everyone.



# The meaning of TAPS

## DID YOU KNOW?

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which taps was played; this brings out a new meaning of it.

Here is something Every American should know.

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, 'Taps...' It's the song that gives us the lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes.

But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Elli was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Elli heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment..

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission from his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral.

The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate.

But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform.

This wish was granted.

The haunting melody, we now know as 'Taps' used at military funerals was born.

The words are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Verse	2 <sup>nd</sup> Verse	3 <sup>rd</sup> Verse
Day is done. Gone the sun. From the lakes From the hills. From the sky. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.	Fading light. Dims the sight. And a star. Gems the sky. Gleaming bright. From afar. Drawing nigh. Falls the night.	Thanks, and praise. For our days. Neath the sun Neath the stars. Neath the sky As we go. This we know. God is nigh

I too have felt the chills while listening to 'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along.

I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before.

Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country.

## THE END IS HERE

After 25 years I knew this day would come. Except for a couple of years when Leif was doing the newsletter, I put a total of 276 issues. Seems like a lot when I look at it that way.

Time makes many things change.

1. Receiving less input for the newsletter
2. Less items from the news and internet for articles to use. After all submarines are the “silent service” and don’t want to talk.
3. We now have a web site and a Facebook page which fits the world of today of instant news.
4. Last, unfortunately finding a reduced interest in reading the newsletter.

Eric will still be taking the minutes at the base meetings which will be sent out as an e-mail and published on the website. Lost boats and shipmates on eternal patrol will be added to the web site.

The web site can be accessed at:

<https://usscorvinabase.org/>

The Facebook site can be accessed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/514173077641591>

Thank you for allowing me to spend these many years with you.

Norm  
Editor

Doesn't mean it's over. Maybe a special one once and awhile.



