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Perch Base USSVI

Flash Traffic

NUMBER: 05-07_2013 **DATE:** 05/24/2013

SUBJECT: June Chaplain's Column

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This is the June "Chaplain's Column" that was not included in the MidWatch.

Greetings

At the time of this writing, veterans organizations nationwide are preparing to memorialize those brothers and sisters who have departed this life, or gone onto "eternal patrol," as we submariners say.

I hope you all take the time to prepare your hearts and minds for this solemn occasion. Memorial Day should never be forsaken by the citizens of our great country, and our USSVI bases perform a vital civic duty in heralding the cry of public awareness.

May we continue to propagate the ceremonious display of gratitude toward those who served unselfishly. As stated, so eloquently, by the American poet, Thomas William Parsons: "On thy grave the rain shall fall from a mighty nation!"

Ave Deus,

Steve Leon

Binnacle List

Please keep the following crewmembers in your thought and prayers:

- DeWayne Lober- recovering from a ladder fall; undergoing physical therapy rehabilitation.
- Milton McNeill- undergoing chemotherapy for abdominal cancer.

Reflections on Life

Memorial Day

The finest tribute we can pay unto our hero dead today, is not a rose wreath, white and red, in memory of the blood they shed; It is to stand beside each mound, each couch of consecrated ground, and pledge ourselves as warriors true unto the work they died to do.

Into God's valleys where they lie at rest, beneath the open sky, triumphant now o'er every foe, as living tributes let us go. No wreath of rose or immortelles or spoken word or tolling bells will do today, unless we give our pledge that liberty shall live.

Our hearts must be the roses red we place above our hero dead; today beside their graves we must renew allegiance to their trust; must bare our heads and humbly say we hold the Flag as dear as they, and stand, as once they stood, to die to keep the Stars and Stripes on high.

The finest tribute we can pay unto our hero dead today is not of speech or roses red, but living, throbbing hearts instead, that shall renew the pledge they sealed with death upon the battlefield: That freedom's flag shall bear no stain and free men wear no tyrant's chain.

Collected Verse of Edgar A. Guest (www.appleseeds.org)

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