

Volume 1 - Issue 2
Apr-May-June 2014



DESERT "1MC"

THE COLLECTIVE NEWSLETTER OF USSVI'S WESTERN DISTRICT 1

Created By Perch Base, Phoenix, AZ for ourselves and Barbell Base, Yuma, AZ; Bullhead Base, Albuquerque, NM; Gudgeon Base, Prescott, AZ; Tautog Base, Casa Grande, AZ; Tucson Base, Tucson, AZ; White Mountain Base, Snowflake, AZ and White Sands Base, La Luz, NM.



USSVI CREED

Our organization's purpose is . . .

"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.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today."

Western District 1 Shipmates:



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Commander WD-1
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Welcome to Edition 2! We are hoping to expand on the success of last quarter's edition and have the participation of all bases. Remember, the success of the newsletter rests on the shoulders of all district members. Please do your part!

As I write this, all End of Year reports have not been submitted. This input by each and every base is very important to the financial reporting of our National Organization. This newsletter will be published after the deadline, so please make sure they are submitted in a timely fashion next year.

Perch Base will be sponsoring a district picnic on Saturday, May 10, 2014, at the White Tank Mountain Regional Park in the Phoenix area from 1100 until 1500. Put the date on the base's schedule of events and plan on attending. It will be a great time to meet district shipmates! There will be more detailed information to follow. See all of you there!



Editor's Comments "Desert 1MC"

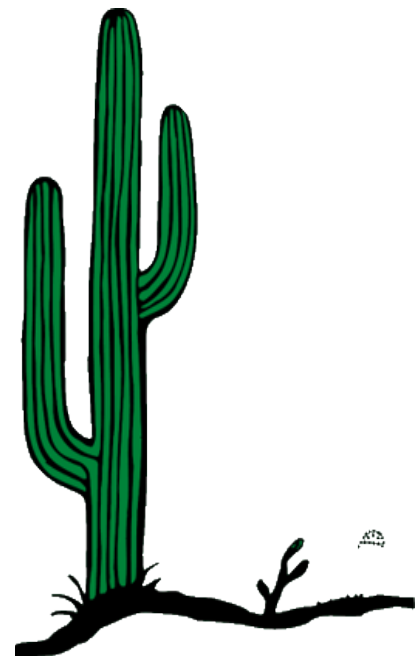
I am very pleased that this quarter we received 100% import from all of the bases in the Western District 1. But, as you can see from some of the quality shown in material submitted by some bases, the best way to send in your Base's information is as follows:

The text should be Microsoft Word format. Any pictures, should be JPEG files that come with your text. If you have a particular layout that you want to have shown in the newsletter, go ahead and send me a PDF file of the finished product. That's fine. But I also need the text and the picture files as separate attachments to your email.

Thanks again for the great input and will get even bigger and better the next quarter.

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Brothers of the 'Phin

2014

We're all going to San Francisco!

We are expecting one of the largest gatherings of our brethren for the 50th Anniversary of this great organization. We will be welcoming veterans from USSVI, along with our shipmates from World War II.



San Francisco Airport
Hyatt regency Hotel
1333 Bayshore Hwy.
Burlingame, CA. 94010
Ph. No. (650) 696-2650



Take time to visit:
The San Francisco Zoo
USS Pampanito (SS-383)
USS Hornet (CV-12)
Fisherman's Wharf
and much, much more!



Join us in America's Most Popular City

**What better way to celebrate the USSVI Golden Anniversary than
with the Golden Gate
"San Francisco 2014"**

Convention to be hosted by Mare Island Base of USSVI

For more information checkout the convention website:
<http://www.ussvgoldenanniversary2014sf.org>

LEST WE FORGET THOSE STILL ON PATROL

THOSE BOATS THAT WENT ON "ETERNAL PATROL" DURING APRIL, MAY AND JUNE

May 23, 1939

USS Squalus (SS-162)

26 men lost

While conducting test dives off Portsmouth, NH, the main engine air induction failed with resultant flooding. After the much-reported rescue and recovery of the ship, she was re-commissioned as the USS Sailfish.

June 20, 1941

USS O-9 (SS-70)

34 men lost

While in the process of test dives off Portsmouth, NH with sister ships O-6 and O-10, O-9 failed to surface. Flooding, which led to exceeding test depth caused the hull to crush. The actual hull location was located - but remains a secret - in 1997.

June 19, 1942

USS S-27 (SS-132)

no loss of life

She was on the surface in poor visibility, charging batteries and drifted into the shoals. When she could not be freed and started listing, the captain got the entire crew to shore (400 yards away) in relays using a 3-man rubber raft. The entire crew was subsequently rescued.

April 3, 1943

USS Pickerel (SS-177)

74 men lost

Reports on her loss are conflicting but she probably was sunk near Honshu (Japan) by Japanese ASW ships.

April 22, 1943

USS Grenadier (SS-210)

4 lost as POWs

She was attacked by Japanese aircraft near the Strait of Malacca, survived but was damaged beyond repair. The crew abandoned ship, were taken prisoner, and all but four (4) survived the war.

May 28, 1943

USS Runner (SS-275)

78 men lost

She had departed Midway, headed for the Kuril Islands and was never heard from again. Japanese records do not shed any further information on her loss.

June 12, 1943

USS R-12 (SS-89)

42 men lost

She was lost near Key West, FL during a practice torpedo approach. The cause was probably due to flooding through a torpedo tube. The CO and 2 other men on the bridge survived, as did 18 crew members on liberty at the time of the accident.

June 1, 1944

USS Herring (SS-233)

83 men lost

On her eighth war patrol, Herring headed for the Kuril Islands patrol area. She later rendezvoused with Barb (SS-220) and then was never heard from or seen again. Japanese records prove that she sank two merchant ships at anchor in Matsuwa Island on the morning of 1 June 1944. In a counter-attack, enemy shore batteries scored two direct hits on the submarine's conning tower and "bubbles covered an area about 5 meters wide and heavy oil covered an area of approximately 15 miles."

June 14, 1944

USS Golet (SS-361)

82 men lost

Japanese antisubmarine records available after the war revealed that Golet was the probable victim of a Japanese antisubmarine attack made 14 June 1944. These records mention that the attack brought up corks, rafts, and other debris and a heavy pool of oil, all evidence of the sinking of a submarine.

June 26 – July 4, 1944 USS Runner (SS-275)

78 men lost

Runner disappeared between June 26 and July 4th with the loss of 78 men. Runner was on her 3rd war patrol probably due to a mine. Prior to her loss, she reported sinking a freighter and a passenger-cargo man off the Kuriles. This boat's last known ship sunk happened on June 26th, so she probably hit that mine on or after that date but before July 4th, when she was scheduled back at Midway.

April 8, 1945

USS Snook (SS-279)

84 men lost

Snook was lost while conducting her ninth war patrol, in the South China Sea and Luzon Strait. It is believed that she was sunk by Kaibo Kans (carrier escort ships) Okinawa, CD-8, CD-32 and CD-52. It has also been suggested that Snook may have been lost due to one of five Japanese submarines were which also lost in April–May 1945. One candidate is



Japanese submarine I-56.

May 3, 1945 USS Lagarto (SS-371) 86 men lost

Lagarto, along with the submarine Baya were engage in heavy contact with enemy ships near the outer waters of the Gulf of Siam. At 15:00 on 3 May 1945, Baya sent the first “of numerous contact reports to Lagarto.” By 23:47, “having sent Lagarto contact reports almost half hourly with no receipt,” Baya decided to go it alone. Again, however, the Japanese escorts drove off Baya when she attacked during the mid watch on 4 May, again saving their charges from destruction. Post-war examination of Japanese records revealed the most likely reason for Lagarto’s silence. One of the two escorts made an attack on 3 May against a submerged submarine in 30 fathoms of water at Lagarto’s probable position.

June 18, 1945 USS Bonefish (SS-223) 85 men lost

While operating in a wolf pack, Bonefish requested and received permission to conduct a daylight submerged patrol of Toyama Wan, a bay farther up the Honshū coast. The boats were equipped with new mine detecting equipment. The attack group was to depart the Sea of Japan via La Perouse Strait on the night of 24 June. Bonefish did not make the scheduled pre-transit rendezvous. Japanese records reveal that a 5,488 ton cargo ship was torpedoed and sunk in Toyama Wan on 19 June and that an ensuing severe counterattack by Japanese escorts brought debris and a major oil slick to the water’s surface. There can be little doubt that Bonefish was sunk in this action.

May 30, 1958 USS Stickleback (SS-415) no loss of life

On 28 May 1958, Stickleback was participating in an antisubmarine warfare exercise with a destroyer escort and torpedo retriever boat in the Hawaiian area. The exercises continued into the afternoon of the next day when the submarine completed a simulated torpedo run on the DE. As Stickleback was going to a safe depth, she lost power and broached approximately 200 yards ahead of the destroyer escort. Silverstein backed full and put her rudder hard left in an effort to avoid a collision but holed the submarine on her port side. Stickleback’s crew was removed by the retriever boat and combined efforts were made by the destroyer escort, Silverstein, soon-arriving ships Sabalo (SS-302), Sturtevant (DE-239), and Greenlet (ASR-10), to save the stricken submarine. The rescue ships put lines around her, but compartment after compartment flooded and, at 18:57 on 29 May 1958, Stickleback sank in 1,800 fathoms of water.

April 10, 1963 USS Thresher (SSN-593) 129 men lost

It is believed a brazed pipe-joint ruptures in the engine room. The crew would have attempted to stop the leak; at the same time, the engine room would be filling with a cloud of mist. Water leaking from the broken pipe most likely causes short circuits leading to an automatic shutdown of the ship’s reactor, causing a loss of propulsion. Procedures at the time would have shutdown steam propulsion. Loss of sufficient motive power and added weight (flooding) caused the ship to sink past crush depth.

April 24, 1988 USS Bonefish (SS-582) 2 men lost

On 24 April 1988, Bonefish was exercising with the guided missile frigate Carr 160 mi (260 km) off the coast of Florida. While the sub was submerged, seawater began leaking onto cables and electrical buses in a battery supply cable-way. Electrical arcing between cables caused an explosion which flashed into a fire within minutes. Bonefish was surfaced and its crew ordered to abandon ship. Eighty-nine crew members were rescued by whaleboat and helicopter crews from Carr and the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy. Three sailors were killed. The damage to Bonefish was deemed too extensive to warrant repair, and a decision was made to decommission her and dispose of her via scrapping.

May 22, 1968 USS Scorpion (SSN-589) 99 men lost

At the time of her sinking, there were 99 crewmen aboard Scorpion. The best available evidence indicates that Scorpion sank in the Atlantic Ocean on 22 May 1968 at approximately 1844Z after an explosion of some type, while in transit across the Atlantic Ocean from Gibraltar to her home port at Norfolk, Virginia.

Odd Nautical Facts #1

- *The first submarine to fire on a battleship was Flying Fish (Donaho) Sept. 1942, damaging a Kongo class BB.*
- *Dollar for dollar and man for man, the submarine is the country’s most economical weapon. Comprising only 1.6 percent of the Navy’s World War II personnel, the submarine service accounted for 55 percent of all enemy shipping destroyed.*
- *The first submarine to fire on an aircraft carrier was Trout (Ramage), damaging Taiyo, August 28, 1942.*
- *The first Japanese ship to be sunk by gunfire was by Triton (Kirkpatrick), near Marcus Island on Feb. 17, 1942. At the time, Kirkpatrick was the youngest skipper to get command at Pearl.*
- *The first man to die in submarine gun action was Michael Harbin, on Silversides, May 1942.*
- *The first rest camp for submarine crews was established at a military encampment at Malang, in the mountains of Java, 89 miles from Surabaya. Three days were allotted to submarine crews there in January 1942.*

RULES FOR RENDERING HAND SALUTE OF U.S. FLAG

Law Now Allows Retirees and Vets to Salute Flag

Old Law:

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

New Law:

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow non-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag.

A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008.



Here is the actual text from the law:

SEC. 595. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS.

Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

- (A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;
- (B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and
- (C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart;

Side note: the Navy has never traditionally worn headgear indoors (with a few exceptions.) Therefore, should we salute at indoor events?



Eternal Patrol

April 24, 1988

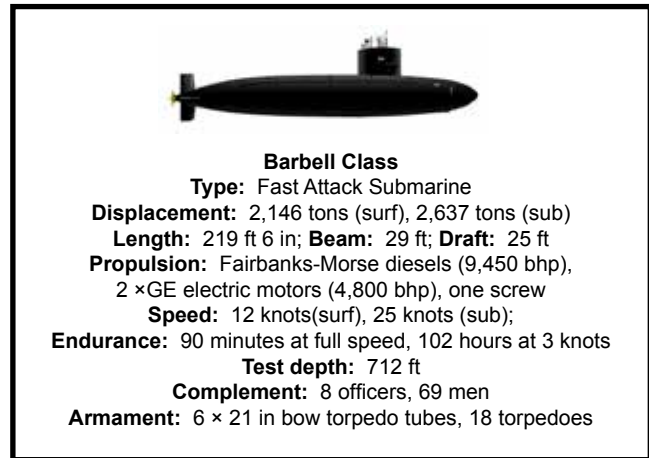
Editors Note: Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.

The Final Patrol

Lord, this departed shipmate with dolphins on his chest
Is part of an outfit known as the best.
Make him welcome and take him by the hand.
You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land.
So, heavenly Father add his name to the roll
Of our departed shipmates still on patrol
Let them know that we who survive
Will always keep their memories alive.



USS Bonefish (SS-582) **April 24, 1988** **2 men lost**



USS Bonefish (SS-582) was a Barbell-class submarine of the United States Navy, and was the second U.S. Navy submarine to be named for the bonefish.

The contract to build her was awarded on 29 June 1956 to the New York Shipbuilding Corporation of Camden, New Jersey and her keel was laid down on 3 June 1957. She was launched on 22 November 1958 sponsored by Mrs. Lawrence L. Edge, widow of Commander Lawrence Edge, who was lost with his ship, the first Bonefish, in 1945. She was commissioned on 9 July 1959 with Lieutenant Commander Elmer H. Kiehl, USN in command.

The Bonefish conducted trials and training off the New England coast until the spring of 1960. On 1 April 1960, she departed New London, Conn., to join the Pacific Fleet. On 23 May, the submarine reported for duty with Submarine Division 33 (SubDiv 33) at Naval Station San Diego, California. She operated out of that port until 16 September, when she embarked upon her first deployment to the western Pacific. While in the Far East, the warship participated in various 7th Fleet exercises and visited ports in Japan, the Philippines, the Marianas, and at Hong Kong. Bonefish concluded her first tour of duty with the 7th Fleet on 13 March 1961 when she arrived back in San Diego. The submarine conducted normal operations out of San Diego until 4 October, when she entered the Mare Island Naval Shipyard for her first regular overhaul. She completed repairs on 6 March 1962, and resumed operations along the west coast at that time.

In May, the submarine again headed for the western Pacific for a deployment quite similar to her first cruise in Oriental waters. She returned to San Diego in December and began an extended upkeep period. In February 1963, Bonefish moved to a new home port, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. During the summer of 1963, she made a two-month cruise to the western Pacific, returning to Pearl Harbor in August. After four months of operations in the Hawaiian Islands, the submarine headed for the Far East again in January 1964. That tour of duty ended with her return to Oahu in July. Following a post-deployment stand-down and local operations, she entered the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for a regular overhaul.

Repairs occupied her time during the remainder of 1964, and local operations in the Hawaiian operating area took

(continued on next page)

up the entire year of 1965. In April 1966, Bonefish deployed to the western Pacific for the fourth time. In addition to taking part in 7th Fleet training exercises, she also operated in the Gulf of Tonkin. The seven-month Far Eastern assignment ended in November when she reentered Pearl Harbor. Bonefish resumed normal operations after the post-deployment rest and upkeep period. That employment lasted until October 1967, when she headed back to the Orient. There, she engaged in 7th Fleet training evolutions and made port visits at Hong Kong, in the Philippines, and in Japan. April 1968 saw her back at Oahu resuming local operations. In September, the submarine entered the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for her regular overhaul.

Repairs occupied her until June 1969, and post-overhaul trials and refresher training followed. In November, the warship voyaged back to the western Pacific, and the normal round of exercises and port visits ensued. She concluded that cruise at Pearl Harbor in June 1970. Following seven months of operations out of Pearl Harbor, Bonefish departed that port on 9 February 1971 on her way back to the Far East. Her activities included the usual port visits and exercises as well as a tour of duty with Task Force 77 (TF 77) in the Gulf of Tonkin. She returned to Hawaii on 10 August and, after post deployment stand-down, resumed operations in the Hawaii operating area. For exceptional performance during the 1969-1970 WestPac, BONEFISH was awarded a Meritorious Unit Citation for readiness.

That deployment lasted until 7 February 1972 when she began another regular overhaul at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. That repair period lasted through the year, and a material casualty to the snorkel piping system during sea trials in March 1973 extended it into July 1973. In July, the submarine went to sea for refresher training. Thereafter, local operations occupied her for the next 10 months. On 24 May 1974, she stood out of Pearl Harbor for yet another assignment with the 7th Fleet in Far Eastern waters. Bonefish returned to Pearl Harbor from that routine deployment on 7 November and began 13 months of local operations.

On 6 December 1975, the submarine departed Oahu bound for the Orient. During that tour of duty, she participated in exercises with units of the Korean and Taiwanese navies as well as with elements of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force. She concluded 7th Fleet assignments on 25 April 1976 when she stood out of Subic Bay on her way home. The warship arrived back in Pearl Harbor on 15 May. After a four-week stand-down and a brief period of operations, Bonefish entered the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard on 26 July. The repairs and modifications took nearly a year to complete. She emerged from the shipyard on 25 June 1977 to begin post-overhaul refresher training.



Bonefish conducted training out of Pearl Harbor until early November. On the 8th, she put to sea for San Diego, her new home port, and reached her destination on 18 November. She remained in port for three weeks to allow crewmen to settle into the new home port. On 6 December, the submarine began operations along the California coast. She spent the first 20 weeks of 1978 conducting various training exercises out of San Diego. On 17 May, Bonefish put to sea for the western Pacific. Once again, she made the usual port visits and conducted exercises with units of friendly navies. The warship ended the deployment with her arrival back at San Diego on 28 October. She then conducted type training and other exercises along the California coast for the remainder of the year and into 1979.

During the first five months of 1979, Bonefish underwent a regular overhaul at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. On 1 June, the submarine embarked upon a deployment to South America. The voyage took her through the Panama Canal to the Caribbean Sea. She visited Trinidad, Tobago, Curaçao, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Netherlands Antilles before re-transiting the canal. Thereafter, Bonefish stopped in Ecuador, Peru, and Chile. Throughout the cruise, the warship conducted UNITAS exercises with the armed forces of the countries visited. At the end of the South American deployment, she resumed normal operations out of San Diego, and that employment occupied her time for the remainder of 1979 and during 11 of the 12 months of 1980.

On 8 December 1980, Bonefish stood out of San Diego on her way to duty with the 7th Fleet. The usual calls to Far Eastern ports punctuated her periods at sea engaged in training missions. The submarine ended that cruise at San Diego on 14 July 1981. Following the normal post-deployment leave and upkeep period, she resumed operations along the west coast of North America. That employment continued until 8 June 1982, when Bonefish departed San Diego on her way to the east coast. She transited the Panama Canal on 23 June and arrived in Naval Station Charleston, South Carolina, her new home port, on 6 July. On 11 August the submarine put to sea to participate in NATO exercises in the North Atlantic. At the end of those operations, she visited Hamburg, West Germany, and Portsmouth, England, before returning to Charleston on 9 October.

Normal operations out of Charleston occupied Bonefish for the remainder of 1982 and during the first three weeks

of 1983. On 25 January, the submarine commenced a 14-month overhaul at the Charleston Naval Shipyard. She resumed active service in the western Atlantic and West Indian operating areas on 5 April 1984 and remained so engaged through the end of the year.

On 24 April 1988, Bonefish was exercising with the guided missile frigate Carr 160 mi (260 km) off the coast of Florida. While the sub was submerged, seawater began leaking onto cables and electrical buses in a battery supply cable-way. Electrical arcing between cables caused an explosion which flashed into a fire within minutes, with temperatures in the battery spaces reaching 1,200° Fahrenheit. The heat was so intense that it melted crew members' shoe soles in the spaces above. Bonefish was surfaced and its crew ordered to abandon ship. Eighty-nine crew members were rescued by whaleboat and helicopter crews from Carr and the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy. One Search and Rescue Swimmer/Navy Diver (Navy SPEC OPS) from HS-7, Anti-Submarine Warfare Operator Third Class(AW3) Larry Grossman spent over three hours in the ocean and was credited with personally saving 19 lives. He later received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for Heroism. This medal is the highest non-combat decoration awarded for heroism by the United States Department of the Navy and is higher than a Bronze Star in the Navy Order of Precedence. With the fire extinguished, Bonefish was subsequently towed into Charleston, South Carolina by salvage and rescue ship Hoist. Three sailors—Lieutenant Ray Everts, Petty Officer 1st Class Bob Bordelon, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Marshal T. Lindgren—were killed.



The damage to Bonefish was deemed too extensive to warrant repair, and a decision was made to decommission her and dispose of her via scrapping.

Bonefish was decommissioned on 28 September 1988. She was struck from the Naval Vessel Registry on 28 February 1989 and disposed of by scrapping on 17 August 1989. The hull of the Bonefish was later purchased by Northrop Grumman, for marine concept testing purposes.

EDITOR: A Perch Base shipmate has asked that I post this message as a service to boat sailors to which this may apply. Asbestos is the elephant in the room for a lot of us.

Shipmates: I believe the following correspondence from Franklin Shipmate Karl Feller merits your attention.

Best regards,

Len

From: karlfeller@juno.com

To: ssbn640blueyeo@aol.com

Sent: 1/13/2014 7:20:40 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

Subj: asbestos exposure

Dear Len,

I was on the Franklin starting in February of 1970 the crews were combined for a refueling overhaul. Recently I was diagnosed with asbestos in my lungs. Since it was discovered by a rather freak test I think a general warning would be appropriate. I thought you might be helpful. The test was a high resolution CT scan. A simple chest X-ray was not effective. I had a biopsy and confirmed it was asbestos encapsulated in calcium. In my case it is not yet malignant but it has given me shortness of breath and a chronic cough. This was my reaction but it could be much worse for others. Back when I was exposed there was little to no precautions or awareness of repercussions of exposure. As I remember it Electric Boat in New London, Connecticut ripped out asbestos lagging in engineering spaces and replaced it, so anybody going aft of the reactor compartment during that 18 month overhaul was exposed. I've contacted my old Div officer and the Engineer and XO at the time, but the crew is somewhat more of a problem and it's. Been 43 years. I'm hoping you might be able to help me put out a warning to our shipmates.

Thanks,

Lt. Karl M.Feller USN Retired

PERCH BASE ANNUAL PICNIC

(and ALL qualified submariners are welcome!)

On May 10, Perch Base will host its annual picnic at the White Tanks Regional Park just west of downtown Phoenix. Details will be later in one of our all-District “Cactus 1MC” flash bulletins. But the big point is it’s free! Perch Base is providing all the food and



Odd Nautical Facts #2

- The first TDC (Mark 1) was installed in the Cachalot.
- The Plunger was the first boat to sustain an “arduous” depth charge attack and survive.
- On August 17, 1958, the USS SKATE circumnavigated the globe in about fifty minutes. The SKATE was at a radius of about two miles from the North Pole at the time, and the distance traveled in the circumnavigation was about twelve miles.
- When the nuclear powered submarine USS SEADRAGON surfaced at the North Pole while charting the Northwest Passage in August 1960, the crew organized a baseball game. Because of Polar time differences, when a batter clouted a home run it would land in either the next day or in ‘yesterday’.
- The first Japanese casualty to American arms during WW-II was an aircraft shot down on Dec. 7th, 1941 by the Tautog.
- The first submarine force casualty suffered in WW-II was G. A. Myers, Seaman 2, shot through the right lung when Cachalot was strafed during the Pearl Harbor raid.
- The first “live” torpedoes to be fired by a Pearl Harbor submarine were fired by the Triton (Lent), 4 stern tubes fired on the night of Dec. 10, 1941.
- The first Pearl Harbor boat to be depth charged was the Plunger (White) on Jan. 4, 1942, 24 charges.
- The first “down the throat” shot was fired by Pompano on Jan. 17, 1942.
- The first Japanese warship to be sunk was torpedoed by **Gudgeon** (Grenfell) at 9 AM on Jan. 27, 1942, the IJN I-173 (SS).
- The first major Japanese warship lost to submarines during WW-II was the heavy cruiser Kako which fell victim to S-44 Moore) on Aug. 10, 1942.
- In September 1936, Cdr. C. A. Lockwood Jr., assumed command of SubDiv 13 composed of the new boats Pike, Porpoise, Shark and Tarpon.
- On December 31, 1941, Captain Wilkes evacuated Corrigidor on board the Seawolf to establish a new base at Surabaya, Java. Simultaneously Capt. Fife boarded Swordfish and sailed to Darwin, Australia.
- Expressing the view that Japan could not hope to be victorious in a war with the U.S., Admiral Yamamoto was “shanghaied” to the post of Commander of the Combined Fleet (from the Naval Ministry) to thwart a possible assassination at the hands of his many dissenters.
- A survivor of the Japanese carrier Kaga, at the Battle of Midway, told how some of his shipmates saved themselves by clinging to the air flask of a torpedo fired from Nautilus which hit the carrier and failed to explode, the concussion separating the warhead from the air flask.
- LCDR. Francis White was the only skipper who lost two submarines in combat, the S-39 and the S-44.



BARBEL BASE YUMA, AZ



Submarine Veterans Yuma – Barbel Base received a 1st place plaque at the annual Wellton AZ Pioneer Days parade Feb 1, 2014. Barbel Base participates in several parades and other events in the Yuma area each year. The base's approximately 1/10 scale model of USS Barbel is a popular attraction and has received numerous awards at local parades. The model and the Barbel Base Subvets are also sought after for events where the model is used in static display.

Members shown with the float are (left to right); Gordon Gullikson, Al Durkee, Jeff Lenz, John Wade, Joe Gavasso, Cary Poston, Larry Sullivan, LeRoy Vick, Stan VanWagner, and Ron Broadway.

Odd Nautical Facts #3

- The IJN I-176 (Cdr. Kosaburo Yamaguchi) was the only Japanese boat to sink an American submarine (Corvina) during the war.
- The last Japanese submarine to be sunk in the Pacific, the I-373, was torpedoed by Spikefish (Monaghan) on the morning of 13 Aug. 1945, in the East China Sea.
- As late as July 1945 Japanese guns on the cliffs of Lombok Strait shelled the Loggerhead as she proceeded through the strait on the surface
- In July 1945 Bugara (Schade) operating in the Gulf of Siam, sank 12 junks, 24 schooners, 16 coasters, 3 sea trucks and one naval auxiliary, all by gunfire.
- In the early morning hours of June 22, 1945, Barb, (Fluckey) fired a dozen 5-inch rockets into the town of Hokkaido from 5000 yards off shore.
- A Japanese prisoner, recovered from a wrecked aircraft by Atule (Mauer) had the following items in his pockets: 7 packs of Japanese cigarettes, 1 pack of British cigarettes, calling cards, ration books, club tickets, diary, note book, flight record and two magnetic detector tracers, with notes concerning them, a thick wad of money, a vial of perfume and a number of other personal items.
- On the night of 8-9 December 1944, in a coordinated attack with Sea Devil, Redfish heavily damaged the aircraft carrier Hayataka; ten days later she sank the newly built carrier Unryu.
- When Robalo was sunk, presumably by a mine, on 26 July 1944, five of her crew swam ashore and were captured by Japanese military police and jailed for guerrilla activity. They were evacuated by a Jap destroyer on 15 August and never heard from again.
- On 27 Oct. 1944 Rock fired 9 torpedoes at Darter, stranded on Bombay Shoal. In Feb. 1943 Tautog (Sieglaff) laid mines off Balikpapan, Borneo. In April 1944, the Japanese destroyer Amagiri struck one of these mines and sank. This was the same destroyer which rammed the PT-109, commanded by J.F. Kennedy.
- The first boat to be equipped with QLA sonar for locating mines, was Tinosa.



BULLHEAD BASE ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Bullhead Base New Mexico

In December we held a SOS breakfast. In January we had our annual business meeting and held base elections. All current board members were reelected:

Base Commander: Major Monochie
Vice Commander: Jay Schreffler
Secretary: Victor Mendoza
Treasurer: Bobby Reed

A presentation on Jules Verne's Amazing Journey was held. In February we had Breakfast at Jimmy's Café.

Jules Verne's Amazing Journey

Dear Shipmates, family and friends:

Yesterday's presentation of Jules Verne's Amazing Journey was an overwhelming success. We had over fifty people in attendance. Thank you for your support. Our presenters, Rick Walter and Andy Rogulich did an outstanding job. Their flow, delivery and enthusiasm were captivating and contagious. The feedback I received supports that they were right on target. You could have heard a pin drop. That should tell you something. Thank you gentlemen for sharing your in depth knowledge of Verne and connecting his vision to the submarines we know and love today. WELL DONE! If you could not attend this event, you missed a once in a life time opportunity. We raffled off two of Rick's newly translated books "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea." Mrs. Favret was the first winner and Dick Brown won the second. Rick graciously signed both copies. Dick will donate his copy to the CO of the USS New Mexico and it will accompany the crew on their next venture to the North Pole. How cool is that? I bet Mr. Verne will be quite honored. Dick reported that when the New Mexico reaches Ninety North, she will fire the ashes of our departed shipmate, Leo Davis, out a torpedo tube. Hand Salute, Leo you were an amazing patriot.

I did not know that Dick Boyle, the preeminent pioneer of under ice navigation and the creator of under ice warfare tactics would be in attendance. It was an honor and a pleasure to see him again. A few years ago I wrote and recorded a song dedicated to his historical accomplishments. It's called – "The Ballad of Dick Boyle." If anyone would like a free copy of that tune let me know and I will gladly email it to you.

We were also fortunate to have two former crew members of the USS Nautilus in attendance Ray Raczek and Jamie Deuel. Ray was aboard her on her first run to the North Pole. Jamie served her some years later. He shared a very interesting story about the day we almost lost the Nautilus off the coast of Boston, MA. Thank you, gentlemen for your service on this incredible vessel.

Gabriele Elli, an up and coming vocalist, performed a stellar rendition of "God Bless the USA." Well Done, my friend. Thank you for joining us.

After the presentations Rick Walter held a book sign and made a very generous donation to our base. Thank you, sir.

And lastly, I'd like to thank shipmate Tom Doering for loaning us his PA system for this event.

Smooth sailing – shipmates. See you on the next go-round.

Bobby Reed

New Mexico Boats

USS Albuquerque (SSN-706) is still in drydock for her 6-month overhaul in San Diego. Her CO, CDR Trent Hesslink, and three crewmen visited Albuquerque for two days in late January. All four were interviewed on radio. They also met with UNM ROTC midshipmen, Navy Leaguers, Chamber of Commerce and the Governor. USS Albuquerque won the Battle "E" award for her squadron.

(continued from previous page)

USS Santa Fe (SSN-763) returned from her WesPac deployment in January. About twenty Santa Fe'ans, including the Mayor, traveled to Pearl Harbor for the homecoming ceremony and congratulated the CO, CDR Tim Poe, and crew on a most successful mission. The crew is planning two visits to the sub's namesake later this year, plus a DV cruise.

USS New Mexico (SSN-779), under command of CDR Todd Moore, has been training for Arctic operations and is now on a mini-deployment that includes ICEX-2014. When she returns to Groton, two CS's will be visiting Las Cruces where they will be trained in New Mexico cuisine at La Posta de Mesilla. Plans are in the works for a DV cruise out of Florida and a crew visit later this year.

Before all three boats deploy next year, there is a plan to have all three CO's visit New Mexico at the same time. This will be difficult to schedule but there will not be many more opportunities as USS Albuquerque will be decommissioned in December 2015. At that point, New Mexico will just have to get by with two namesake submarines.

Dick Brown

James K. Polk Sail

Greetings SubVets,

Yesterday I spent an hour with Jim Walther, Director of the National Museum of Nuclear Science, to discuss the USS James K Polk (SSBN-645) sail project and to visit the construction site behind the museum building.

Construction has just started. Excavation for 13 support piers and footings is complete. Rebar & concrete (both donated) are next, likely next week. Paint chipping on sail components is also going on. Work is being done by Intel retirees in the Encore program and volunteers.

The sail weighs 60 tons. It arrived from Bremerton, WA on three flatbed trucks in 1999 at a transportation cost of \$25K (probably would be \$40K today). It became available and Jim snapped it up like he does other military hardware. In fact there are many new installations and work is underway by museum foundation staff to install a Russian MiG-21 surrounded by other US jets. There is no real connection between USS Polk and New Mexico or Albuquerque, except President Polk was a big advocate of western expansion, evidenced by the acquisition of Oregon, California and New Mexico territories and Texas Statehood during his term of office.

There will be a need for crane and welding services and Jim is hoping that Navy Seabees could help but he needs connections to pursue this. Navy League is helping with seabee contacts but if you know of any seabee welders, Jim would like to hear from you.

The project is more than just the sail. Polk's footprint will be life size – 425 feet long, 33 feet in beam. There will be over 4,000 dedication bricks (engraved with donor names) in three rows around the perimeter of the submarine. The museum has a Polaris A2 missile that it hopes to mount on the turtleback hull behind the sail. The sub's bow will point south. Total project cost is estimated at \$125K-\$150K and is scheduled for completion in the Aug-Sep time frame.

More donations are needed (about \$10K) and Charlie Kotan of the Polk Veterans Association reports that they have already raised over \$10K and are working on more. Jim is hoping local SubVets will also help as well as spread the word.

I mentioned the Chamber's and Navy League's potential interest in the USS Albuquerque sail in 2018 (ABQ is scheduled for decommissioning in December 2015). Jim might be interested in adding it to the museum collection if they get more real estate. In fact, they may be given six more acres of federal land directly south of the present federal property. If we pursue ABQ artifacts, Jim thinks we should also ask for the periscopes.

Remember, a lot of the work on the Polk exhibit is voluntary and submariners, being volunteers, are welcome to help bring the project to a successful completion.

Dick Brown

USS Lafayette (SSBN-616) Blue '64-'66

Bullhead Base Next Meeting

Pancake Breakfast at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial April 26 2014 1000 Breakfast \$5 per person Friend and Family are welcome to join us.

Major Monochie
Base Commander, Bullhead Base



GUDGEON BASE PRESCOTT, AZ

Editor: Gudgeon Base has decided to introduce their officers to the other District's Bases as their entry. This is the first one, introducing their Base Commander.

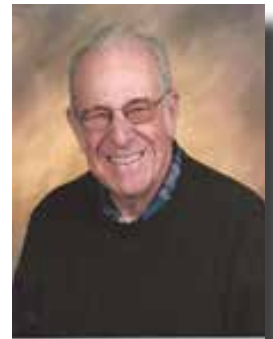
SUMMARY -- MEET YOUR BASE PERSONNEL **THOMAS D. WARNER** **ICC(SS) USN RET** **USSVI GUDGEON BASE**



I was born 15 November 1938 in Klamath Falls Or. At the age of five with the jobs that my dad could do we moved to Redondo Beach, CA. My childhood was spent in Redondo Beach, Hawthorn and Lennox, CA.

I graduated from high school in June 1956 from a Catholic Boys High School in Los Angeles, CA.

In November 1956 I joined Submarine Division 11/7 in San Pedro, CA. 11/7 was one of two Reserve Divisions meeting in San Pedro. The first two week cruise (summer 1957) was to the Submarine Basic School at Hunter's Point, San Francisco. The second two week cruise was aboard USS Perch (APSS 313) out of San Diego, CA.



I went on active duty in September of 1958. I reported to Naval Station Long Beach for future assignment and to fill out my sea bag. First set of orders came in as "RPTCONASCUBIPOINTSUBIC-BAY;FFTATDISCCO". Needless to say that was not what I signed up for. My rate at the time was FA(SG). A call to the Reserve Training Station got those orders canceled and new ones were sent about a week later. Those orders were to USS Catfish (SS339). I spent four years on there with breaks for trips to IC"A" school when we were in port. We made two WestPacs; one in 59/60 and the second in 62. Both trips we were up a river somewhere in Vietnam doing some snooping. The boat spent two yard period in Vallejo and one in Hunter's, Point. In October 1961, I got married. On return to San Diego in 1962 I received orders to IC"B" school Great Lakes, ILL. Our oldest son was born at Great Lakes Naval Hospital. The next stop was the Reserve Training Submarine USS Pampanito (AGSS 383) in Vallejo, CA. We lived in Fairfield, CA. and our second son was born at Travis AFB hospital. Remember the old saw if you don't want to go somewhere put it first on your dream sheet. I did that and ended back at IC"B" School Great Lakes.

Next stop was USS Plunger (SSN 595) in Pearl Harbor, HI. During the four years aboard Plunger besides numerous trips west and northwest the boat also did an overhaul at Bremerton, WA. In 1969, while in Hawaii we adopted our first daughter.

My first shore duty was at SSC San Diego teaching IC"A" School. Besides teaching in "A" school I was involved with our two sons in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Our second daughter was adopted during this stay in San Diego.

Next assignment was back to Great Lakes for MK 19 gyro school and then to USS Hawkbill (SSN 666) home ported in San Diego. In 1975 the boat went for overhaul in Bremerton and then moved to Pearl Harbor.

In 1977 we were transferred back to SSC San Diego as staff at IC"A" School. I retired in July 1980 as ICC (SS). Turned down promotion to ICCS (SS), the detailer would only talk about a flat top on the East Coast. After 22.5 years West Coast and submarines it was not in the cards to make that change.

In the same month as my Navy retirement I also graduated from National University with a BBA. Shortly after retirement I went to work for General Dynamics, Convair Division. Convair at the time was making multiple versions of the Tomahawk Cruise Missile. I worked on the Ground Launch Cruise Missile (GLCM). (While working on the GLCM I obtained a MBA with

(continued from previous page)

an emphasis in Telecommunication Systems Management.) This system was given as bait for SALT 1. I then went to the Advanced Cruise Missile (ACM) program. This was an air launched missile, very stealth. After twelve years GD shut down operations in San Diego and I spent time at different companies and jobs until I retired at 65.

I married Sherrill Dee Smith of Redondo Beach, CA in 1961. She has made many moves with me during our trips cross country and to and from Hawaii. During this time she raised four children mostly without me.

I joined USSVI in San Diego and then joined Gudgeon Base in Prescott Valley. At this time I hold the position of Base Commander. I was also Membership and Chaplin for some period.

Would I do it all over? I'm not sure. The military has become so "Politically Correct" and just plain so political that I don't think it would be as much fun. Our second son retired from the Army as a W4 a few years ago. He did 8 years in the Naval Reserve while he was in college to pay tuition and then he spent 20 as a Helicopter pilot. He was getting very tired of the politics and lack of military decorum towards the end of his time.

Other thoughts:

1. I couldn't have done it without her. A good wife is great but a good military wife is the very best.
2. Being at sea and stationed everywhere but in the LA area has caused separation from the biological families. The kids have not gotten to know their cousins as well as they would have liked.
3. Moving from California and specifically San Diego after so many years to Prescott Valley was a difficult decision for both me and my wife. But now that we are settled in our home it is great.
4. My goal is to be an asset to the Base and that we can grow. With only about 12 active members it is difficult to get people to do the jobs that are required.
5. USS Catfish was transferred to Brazil and was beached by them after being damaged by the British in the Falkland Wars. USS Pampanito is the museum boat in San Francisco. Both Plunger and Hawkbill have been scrapped. I have seen photos of their reactor unit in storage in Washington. SSC San Diego was closed down in the 80's as part of one of the BRACs. NTC San Diego is no and urban section of San Diego. It does house a memorial to the 52 boast lost during WWII.
6. There is a Cold War memorial to submarines in Seattle. One of the sail planes off Plunger is part of the memorial. If you haven't seen pictures of the Seattle memorial you will have to look it up at: <http://faculty.washington.edu/jtyoung/fins.html>

Odd Nautical Facts #4

- *When Admiral Nimitz assumed command of the Pacific Fleet in Jan. 1942, he raised his flag on the submarine Grayling. Relinquishing command nearly four years later, he lowered his flag on the submarine Menhaden.*
- *America's first Japanese POW was Sub-Lieutenant Sakamaki, captured when his midget submarine, launched from the I-18, struck a reef in Kaneohe Bay and he swam ashore and surrendered.*
- *The second Japanese submarine sunk, a midget caught inside Pearl Harbor and sunk by the seaplane tender Curtiss, was later raised. Too badly damaged for intricate examination, it was used as fill-in material in the construction of a new pier at the submarine base.*
- *During 520 war patrols in 1944, submarines fired 6,092 torpedoes, more than in 1942-43 combined (5,379). Statistically it took 8 torpedoes to sink a ship in 1942, 11.7 in 1943, 10 in 1944.*
- *During 1944, 117 navy and air force personnel were rescued by U.S. Subs; The Tang (O'Kane) picked up 22 for the leader in this category.*
- *During 1944 Japan lost 56 submarines, 7 to U.S. Submarines.*
- *On Nov. 21, 1944, Sealion II (Reich) fired a salvo of fish at each of two BB's, the Kongo and Haruna. The Kongo was hit and sunk, but the DD Urakazi intercepted the fish meant for Haruna and was instantly sunk.*
- *Message to all submarines on 13 April 1944: "Until further notice give fleet destroyers priority over Maru types as targets for submarine attacks.*
- *During 1944 U. S. submarines sank 1 BB, 7 CVL's, 2 CA's, 7 CL's, 3 DD's and 7 SS's of the Japanese navy.*
- *So numerous were submarine attacks on the Singapore-to-Empire trade routes in 1944 that a common saying in Singapore was that "one could walk from Singapore to Tokyo on American periscopes.*
- *The last large merchantman to be sunk by submarine during WW-II was the Hokozaki Maru, sunk March 19, 1945 by Balao (Worthington).*



PERCH BASE PHOENIX, AZ

Visit our web site at:

www.perch-base.org



Perch Base meets the second Saturday of each month at the Dillon's Restaurant at 20585 North 59th Ave. just north of the Loop 101 in Glendale AZ.



Flash Traffics

. . . sent since the last listing (#12-02-2013)

Many other Bases wait and include USSVI notices and other breaking news in their newsletter. Perch Base has adopted a way to inform our Members almost immediately via electronic e-mails called *Flash Traffic*. Each issue of the **Desert 1MC** will list those that were issued during the previous quarter or since the last issue of the newsletter. The documents themselves are not publicly archived but they are available. Please contact me, the Base's Communications Officer if you wish a copy.

<i>Flash Traffic</i>	12-03-13	Perch Base Awards Banquet
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	12-04-13	USSVI News for Dec. 13
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	12-05-13	More Awards Banquet Info
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	12-06-13	Dec. 2013 Base Meeting Minutes
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	01-01-14	Reminder of Awards Banquet
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	01-02-14	Map to Awards Banquet
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	01-03-14	Change to Perch Base Constitution
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	01-04-14	Awards Banquet Reminder/Map
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	01-05-14	Laveeen Parade
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-01-14	USSVI News-01, -02, -03, -04 and Vet-1
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-02-14	Perch Base Elections - Ballot
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-03-14	January Base Meeting Minutes
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-04-14	Changes to Perch Base Web Page
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-05-14	Wickenburg Parade Details
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-05a-14	Wickenburg Parade Details - Update
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-06-14	Tale-of-Two-Cities Parade
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	02-07-14	Blank Sailing List Forms Available
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	03-02-14	ASSM Bill Status (in Legislature)
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	03-04-14	St. Patricks's Day Parade
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	03-05-14	Sub Vet News #2014-018
<i>Flash Traffic</i>	03-05a-14	Past Chaplain, Steve Leon

03-01 & 03-02 were never produced

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PAST-COMMANDER
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past-commander@perch-base.org

2014 Perch Base Operations Supporters

These are the Base members and friends who donate monies or efforts to allow for Base operation while keeping our dues low and avoid raising money through member labor as most other organizations do.



Jerry N. Allston
Kenneth R. Anderson
Reynaldo F. Atos
Steven Balthazor
Gary Bartlett
Richard Bernier
Ronald B. Beyer
Walter Blomgren
Edgar T. Brooks
Herbert J. Coulter, Jr.
Roger J. Cousin
Eugene V. Crabb
George L. Crider
Michael Dahl
Donald Demarte
James R. Denzien
Billy DeShong
Warner H. Doyle Jr.
James N. Edwards
Charles Emmett
Howard M. Enloe
Joe Errante

James Evans
Thomas J. Farley III
David G. Fledderjohn
Thomas E. Fooshee
James R. Foote
John A. Graves
Thomas "Tim" Gregory
Billy A. Grieves
William "Kelly" Grissom
Michael J. Haler
Robert N. Hanson
Eldon L. Hartman
David A. Heighway
Harry Heller
Herbert Herman
Glenn A. Herold
Theodore Hunt
David L. Jones
L. A. (Mike) Keating
Richard F. Kunze
Douglas M. La Rock
Robert A. Lancendorfer

Albert Landeck
Steve Leon
DeWayne Lober
Burtis W. Loftin
George Long
William Malda
Stephen A. Marcellino
Charles F. Marshall
Raymond Marshall
Dennis McComb
Angus H. McPherson
Alan H. Miller
Paul V. Miller
Tim Moore
Frank S. Morris
James F. Newman
James W. Newman
Royce E. Pettit
Jerry N. Pittman Jr.
Ernie Plantz
James Ratte

Dwayne Reed
Stanley N. Reinhold
Bruce "Robie" Robinson
Pete Sattig
Emil Schoonejans
Carl Scott
Rick Simmons
Wayne Kirk Smith
Steven K. Stanger
James Strassels
Donald Unser
Chris Urness
James L. Wall
Robert Warner
Forrest J. Watson
Rich Womack
George C. Woods
William Woolcott
John G. Zaichkin
Lisa Doubleday*
* Non Member Donor

PERCH BASE "SAILOR OF THE YEAR"



De Wayne Lober, Base Storekeeper was presented as "Sailor of the Year" at the 2014 Awards Banquet. The award recipient is selected by a special committee comprised of the current and past Base Commanders.



THESE ARE THE BIRTHDAYS WE CELEBRATE OF OUR PERCH BASE MEMBERS. SO WHY THE REALLY WEIRD ORDER? WELL, IT ACTUALLY IS HOW IT COMES FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP RECORDS. SO WE DIDN'T CHANGE IT. LOTS OF GUYS DON'T ACT THEIR AGE.



Jerome F. BECKER	April 2
James N. EDWARDS	April 16
Thomas "Tim" FARLEY III	April 18
David "Davy" L. JONES	April 30
Richard KUNZE	April 16
Tim MOORE	April 22
Ernie V. PLANTZ	April 3
Rick SIMMONS	April 14
Donald D. WALBAUM	April 16
James L. WALL	April 13
Steven BALTHAZOR	May 17
Ronald B. BEYER	May 12
George DEBO	May 21

Joseph J. HAWKINS	May 18
Stanley N. REINHOLD	May 7
Ramon SAMSON	May 8
Carl SCOTT	May 30
George C. WOODS	May 11
Donald DeMARTE	June 23
James EVANS	June 27
David J. FYOCK	June 20
Robert "Matt" HAYBALL	June 7
Steve LEON	June 5
James F. NEWMAN	June 3
James RATTE	June 20
John SCHLAG	June 2
Garry L. SHUMANN	June 8



Perch Base supports "Beaver Stripes" for our signage needs



PERCH BASE ACTIVITIES FOR THE QUARTER



ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET - FEBRUARY

We were pleased to have as our guest speaker, former CNO Vern Clark, Admiral USN ret (left photo.) We also presented a special quilt from the ladies of "Quilts of Valor" to our most senior member -- by years of being qualified -- Billy Grieves (left photo.)

WICKENBURG PARADE - FEBRUARY

Feb. 15 and the float and seven of us (I was taking the picture) in Wickenburg, AZ for the "Gold Rush Days" parade. Why the name? Not many people know that their local Vulture Mine was at one time the most productive gold mine in the country!



"TALE OF TWO CITIES" PARADE - FEBRUARY

The two cities are Phoenix suburbs Goodyear and Avondale and this was our second annual participation.



For more details and pictures of Perch Base, see our web page at:

<http://www.perch-base.org>

Arizona's Silent Service Memorial



“Honoring those officers and men who served their country in the Submarine Service of the U.S. Navy – the Silent Service.”



The Arizona Silent Service Memorial Project is making spectacular progress through our state legislature. As of publication time of this district newsletter, the bill to allow placement of the Memorial on state property in front of the capital (the Wesley Bolin Plaza) has cleared the Senate and several of the necessary House committees before it will be presented to the full House for passage. Once that is done, the bill goes to the governor where all indications are that she would not hesitate to sign it into law.

Once we know exactly where the monument will be placed, the actual finalize design can be completed and we will get some concept of the cost based on the size and the materials required.



DAVE HARNISH MEMORABLE SCHOLARSHIP

Perch Base is beginning a Dave Harnish Memorable Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 offered this summer to a single recipient prior to the fall semester.

The student applicant must be related to and sponsored by a Perch Base USSVI regular member in Good Standing or, if not “SS” qualified, must in addition be a current regular member of Submarine Veterans of WWII. The student can be the son or daughter, stepchildren, grandchildren, or a court appointed to a guardian of the sponsoring member. (Applicants must be unmarried and a high

school senior or graduate under age 21, or a student under age 23 enrolled in a full time course of study at an accredited institution of higher learning.)

The recipient will be selected by a Board comprised of Perch Base officers based on need and apparent scholarship aptitude. Further details on specific requirements and an application form will be announced later.

Memorial Day Remembrance



Perch Base will conduct their annual Tolling for the Boats ceremony at the Phoenix National Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 26.



TAUTOG BASE CASA GRANDE, AZ

TAUTOG BASE



Tautog Base elected new officers at its January meeting and the "Traveling Dolphins" made sure the vote was counted accurately. Most of the officers agreed to continue serving in their current positions.



Denny Honodel continues as Commander



Clare Spiering as Vice-Commander



Leota Hopper is Secretary



Betty Long is Chaplain

Betty & George Long prepared lunch and everyone had their fill. George has been ill lately so it was also great to see them. Tom Sweeney (picture left) decided to join Tautog Base since he spends the majority of his time in the southwest.



Norn Short is the COB



Recent member Vince Degon was elected as Treasurer/Storekeeper



February was a busy month for Tautog Base. First we had our meeting with the "Traveling Dolphins" front and center (*above left.*) The Hoppers provided lunch and we all pigged-out. Founding base member, Stu Hopper, joined us after a long absence due to health issues (*picture center.*) And then it was parade after parade. On Saturday, February 15th, Tautog Base members participated in the Casa Grande Cowboys and Indians Parade. This parade was a first for the base and the response was superb.



TUCSON BASE TUCSON, AZ

COMMANDER

Joel M. Greenberg
joelgreenberg804@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

Ted Willis
tedaa7hx@mail.com



VICE COMMANDER

Dennis Ottley
dottley888@comcast.net

TREASURER

Glenn Linton
seadog617@yahoo.com

Our regular monthly business meetings are held the third Saturday of the month at Cattle Town restaurant at 1300, with lunch following the meeting. It is at 3141 E. Drexel, Tucson, AZ 85706.

We also have a "coffee & pastries" gathering, 0800 the fourth Saturday of the month at Cafe Tremelo, 7401 N. La Cholla Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85741.



Our focus is to remember our shipmates who have given their lives, perpetuating those memories of the departed shipmates, and participating in various projects and deeds that will bring honor to them and to the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.



WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

FIRST SATURDAY



The first Saturday of each month is set aside to honor our greatest heroes, our WW II submariners. We have a monthly breakfast with the remaining ambulatory submariners in our area. We see to it that wreaths are presented in their memory at civic ceremonies. We promote their memory to our local High School Navy JROTC as well. As the remaining members of the former WW II Submariners Cactus Chapter have donated their memorabilia to us, we see to it that their story is told in visual ways.



If you find yourself in Green Valley on a first Saturday morning stop by at 0900 at Jerry Bob's restaurant located at 1325 Duval Mine Road in the Safeway shopping center. You'll be glad you did!





Sacaton Iwo Jima Day Parade 02 February 2014

Our focus continues to be on telling the public about submariners through the display and parading of our scale model of the USS TUCSON (SSN-770). We participate in parades throughout Arizona and in Southern California, and we display the model at fairs, schools and shows, describing all the science, engineering and math required to serve in submarines.

Left Picture

Buck Crouch (L)
Carle Blackwell (R)



**WE SUPPORT OUR
TROOPS**

Right Picture

Ted Willis (rear)
Bruce Mitchell (front L)
Glen Linton (front R)

Recent Events



On 11 November 2013 our submarine model was awarded the Best Float Award at the Tucson Veterans Day Parade



On 20 December we were honored with the presence of Jim Denzien, District Commander at our Base Christmas meeting held at Cafe Tremelo. He held very informal but very informative discussion with the troops.



WHITE MOUNTAIN BASE SNOWFLAKE, AZ

White Mountain Base

Commander: Steve Day Stephen.day@cox.net
Vice Commander: Buck Biddle bucknrose@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Frank Nagle fnagle@wildblue.net
Secretary: June Kirk lj Kirk@frontiernet.net

Meetings are held at 11:00 a.m. the third Saturday of every month unless otherwise informed - contact us to confirm.

Meeting locations (rotate): March is at Licano's restaurant in Show Low.

Meetings are frequently held at the Heber American Legion.

July meeting is in Young for Pleasant Valley Days
(the Base float is in the parade).

The two major events of the year are the annual Holiday dinner (date and location TBD) and the White Mountain Submarine Veterans Charity Golf Tournament at the Snow Flake Golf Course on the first Saturday in August (Aug. 2.)

Definition of a Veteran

A veteran - whether active duty, retired, National Guard, Inactive Reserve, or Reserve - is someone who served their country and, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to and including my life".

That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.





WHITE SANDS BASE LA LUZ, NM

ALAMOGORDO, NM / LAS CRUCES, NM / EL PASO, TX

The base will have its next meeting the first Saturday in May in Las Cruces, NM.

No new base activity to report.

We lost our founding member and former Base Commander Shane Foracker; Shane made his final dive on February 17th, 2014. Shane's Bio is posted on the USSVI site. Shane lost his fight with cancer which he had been undergoing treatment for. Shane will leave a big gap in our base structure; he always had something going to keep the base involved.

Winter has been hounding us for months, was hoping that the northern base would close the gate from the Canadian cold blasts and let all enjoy an average winter & spring. I hitched-up my RV and departed NM in late January and headed southeast looking for warmer weather in Texas. None to be found and to lend fact to that; you could not find a small electric space heater in Lowes, Walmart, Ace hardware and Home Depot from San Antonio to Gulfport. Weather here in Gulfport is warming and no longer need a space heater.

Don Underwood, Commander

White Sands Base

Odd Nautical Facts #5

- *The last Japanese warship afloat in the South Pacific, the light cruiser Isuzu, was sunk by Charr (Boyle) after she was previously hit and badly damaged by Gabilan (Parham)*
- *The Flasher sank more tankers than any other submarine.*
- *The largest merchant ship sunk by submarines during WWII, the Tonan Maru #2 was sunk by Pintado (Clarey) on 22 August 1944.*
- *Except for those officers who received the Congressional Medal of Honor, Commander Davenport was the most decorated man of the war.*
- *During 1944, 14% of the CO's were relieved for non-productivity, 30% in 1942 and 14% in 1943.*
- *A total of 7 reserve officers achieved command of a fleet submarine in WW-II.*
- *United States Submarines destroyed a total of 1,314 Japanese ships during World War II, including one battleship, eight aircraft carriers, fifteen cruisers, forty-two destroyers, and twenty-three submarines. Against this score, fifty-two U.S. Submarines were lost.*
- *The USS SKATE (SSN 578) was the first vessel ever to surface at the North Pole, when on March 17, 1959 she surfaced there to conduct memorial services for the renowned Arctic explorer Sir Hubert Wilkins.*
- *USS SKATE and USS SEADRAGON, after affecting a historic rendezvous under the ice, surfaced together at the North Pole through an opening in the ice on August 1962.*
- *The first diesel engines built by Electric Boat for submarines were installed (1913) in the USS NAUTILUS and SEAWOLF, namesakes of the first nuclear powered submarines, also built by Electric Boat.*
- *Records of attempts to utilize submarine warfare go back to the earliest writings in history. Herodotus (460 B.C.), Aristotle (332 B.C.) and Pliny, the elder, (77 A.D.) mention determined attempts to build submersibles.*
- *The self-propelled torpedo, which gets its name from the eel TORPEDO ELECTRICUS, was invented by Robert Whitehead in 1868, a number of years before a practical submarine was developed.*



Covering Two Great States in the US Southwest



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