



May 2006
Volume 12 - Issue 5

**What's "Below Decks"
in the Midwatch**

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<http://perch-base.org>

Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

MAY ETERNAL PATROLS

USS Squalus *	SS192	May 23, 1939	26 men
USS Runner	SS275	May 29, 1943	78 men
USS Lagarto	SS371	May 3, 1945	85 men
USS Stickleback	SS415	* May 30, 1958	none

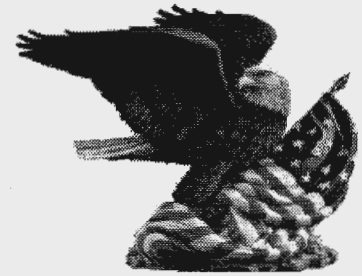
* The Squalus was recommissioned as the USS Sailfish in 1940.

REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2006
American Legion Post #105
3534 W Calavar Rd.
Phoenix, AZ

The Perch Base USSVI is not able to totally support itself financially on the dues collected from its members. There has, to date, been no successful and ongoing plan since the base was formed to produce any other steady and effective source of income. Therefore, the Base has relied on additional donations from members -- usually given at membership renewal -- for its survival. Listed below are those charitable givers, known as the Booster Club.



2006 Booster Club



A. H. "Bob" Nance	Adrian Stuke	Alan Miller	Billy Grieves
Bradley L. Butler	Bruce "Robie" Robinson	Butch DeShong	Charles Greene
Dave Harnish	David Carpenter	Doug LaRock	Edgar Brooks
Chuck Emmett	Joseph Hawkins	Edward J. Hawkins	Emil Schoonejans
F.J. "Ted" Asbell	Frank Rumbaugh	Gary Bartlett	George L. Crider
George Long	George Petrovitz	Glenn Herold	Harold C. Lister
Harry Heller	Jack R. McCarthy	James Denzien	James L. Wall
James W. Newman	Jerry N. Allston	Jim Nelson	John Cash
John Messersmith	John T. Hellem	John Zaichkin	Joseph Bernard
Kenneth Becker	Kenneth R. Anderson	L. A. "Mike" Keating	Lester Hillman
Mel Rycus	Paul V. Miller	Ray Samson	Raymond Marshall
Raymond Schaeffer	Reynaldo Atos	Richard Bernier	Richard Simmons
Robert A. Lancendorfer	Joe Oretaba	Robert Lents	Robert May
Roger Cousin	Roger M. Miller	Roger R. Miller	Ron Kloch
Ronald Beyer	Royce Pettitt	Stanley Rud	George Debo
Stephen Hough	Terry Martin	W. Scott Prothero	William L. McNay
Wayne K. Smith	Wayne Braastad	Walter Blomgren	Tim Moore
Thomas Moore	Stan Reinhold	Ronald Zomok	Robert Hanson
Ray Lee Graybeat	Milton Magart	Mike Simpson	Larry M. Rankin
Kenny Wayne	Ken Schonauer	Joseph R. Mullins	Jim Thomson
Jerry Yowell	James Edwards	Jack S. Kimball	Harry Ellis
Edward Wolf	Davy Jones	Darrell Lambert	Clair E. Prokupek
Buck Crouch	Joe Errante	Bob Gilmore	George Marions
Burtis Loftin	Layne Rumbaugh	Denny Kerton	Scott Fraser
Gerald Holloway	Nick Pappas	Wayne Pettes	John M. Welsh



**BASE OFFICERS
COMMANDER:**

Tim Moore
5751 W. Bloomfield Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85304-1832
(602) 574-3286
seawolfssn575@qwest.net

VICE COMMANDER:

Stan Reinhold
8318 North 97th Ave.
Peoria, AZ 85345-3709
(623) 536-6547
sreinhold@cox.net

SECRETARY:

Edgar Brooks
1517 Eagle Crest Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86301-5424
(928) 778-4069
etbrooks62@aol.com

TREASURER:

Jim Denzien
2027 South 85th Ln.
Tolleson, AZ 85353-8752
(623) 547-7945
jdenzien@cox.net

COB:

Bob Gilmore
14300 N. 83rd Ave. #1033
Peoria, AZ 85381-4625
(623) 202-6256
rbgilmore@tecoenergy.com

STOREKEEPER:

Jim Nelson
9503 W. Spanish Moss Ln.
Sun City, AZ 85373-1741
(623) 972-1044
sub489@cox.net

MEMBERSHIP & WEBMASTER:

Ramon Samson
13210 N. Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3252
(623) 815-9247
rsamsonss328@cox.net

CHAPLAIN:

Warner H. Doyle
13600 W. Roanoke Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85338-2236
(623) 935-3830
d-hdoyle@worldnet.att.net

MIDWATCH EDITOR:

Chuck Emmett
7011 West Risner Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85308-8072
(602) 843-9042
chuckster41@earthlink.net

HISTORIAN:

James W. Newman
3422 North 51st Place
Phoenix, AZ 85018-6120
(602) 840-7788
jimnewman@qwest.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Ben Acosta
12614 W. Monterey Way
Avondale, AZ 85323-6601
(602) 935-7752
retiredjefe@cox.net

Sailing Orders



NEW PERMANENT LOCATION!

REGULAR MEETING

May 20, 2006

**American Legion Post #105
3534 W Calavar Rd.
Phoenix, AZ**

(Located at the northwest corner of
35th Avenue and Thunderbird, 1 block
north of thunderbird)



Are you an American Legion member but
not affiliated with our new host Post? Use
the form on the next page to change -- and
support -- Post #105.
Fill out the form and give it to any local Post
member (Bob Gilmore is one.)

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
MEMBER DATA FORM**

(Please use ink and print clearly using UPPERCASE letters) Date _____

Member ID # (9-digit) Dept Post #

Alpha Code

Name

(First) (MI) (Last) (Suffix)

MEMBERSHIP RECORD CHANGE

- Deceased
- Honorary Life Membership Awarded by Post
- Name Correction
- Paid-Up-For-Life Member (Purchased - for post use only)

(First) (MI) (Last) (Suffix)

New Address

Line 1

Line 2

City

State Zip Code

Telephone # - - **E-Mail Address:** _____

Date of Birth: - -

Month Day Year (4-digit) #Years for Paid Mbsp Year

War Era: (Mark the appropriate box with an "X." If more than one applies, please mark only the earliest War Era served.)

- 4/6/17 - 11/11/18 (WWI)
- 12/7/41 - 12/31/46 (WWII)
- 6/25/50 - 1/31/55 (Korea)
- 2/28/61 - 5/7/75 (Vietnam)
- 8/24/82 - 7/31/84 (Grenada/Lebanon)
- 12/20/89 - 1/31/90 (Panama)
- 8/2/90 - Cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Govt. (Persian Gulf)

Branch of Service: Air Force Army Coast Guard Marines Navy

Member Transferring from: Department (Alpha Code) Former Post #

Member Transferring to: Department (Alpha Code) New Post #

Signature - Post Adjutant
(Required for Transfers, Deceased, Hon. Life and Cont. Years changes)

Signature - Member
(Required for Transfer)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

From the Wardroom

Dear Shipmates,

In my April "From the Wardroom" article, I neglected to mention what a great success our annual picnic was this year. Those of you who attended know what a good time we had and those of you who didn't don't know what you missed. Good food, good friends, and good times . . . what more could you ask for. Shipmate Stan Reinhold, with the help of his wife Jane, catered the event and put on a spread that would make your mouth water. The Maricopa County Live Steamers Railroad Park was a perfect place for the event and the weather that day could not have been better. Everything turned out great and many thanks to Dave Harnish for arranging the place and thanks again to Stan for catering. We had about 60 attendees including shipmates from the Gudgeon Base in Prescott and the Tucson Base. I am hoping that we can hook up with our shipmates from the Gudgeon Base in July or August for a combined picnic and meeting.

Next I want to recognize and send out a very special thank you to shipmates, Dave Anderson, Jim Denzien, Glen Herrold and Jim Newman for their assistance in helping with the much needed maintenance and restoration of the Perch Memorial at the National Veteran's Cemetery. It has been a labor intensive task and these gentlemen deserve your gratitude and thanks for their effort. We have just about completed the re-grouting, sealing and cleaning to make the memorial shipshape for the Memorial Day Services. There are still some chores that remain to be done to complete the project and shipmate Bob Gilmore has also offered his assistance in completing the task which we will accomplish before Memorial Day.

Lastly, I want to encourage all hands to attend the Memorial Day Service at the *National Veteran's Cemetery of Arizona*. See the announcement on

page 8 of this newsletter. Having had the opportunity to attend last year, I know that if you attend, it will be meaningful for all of you and your families and you will be glad you did. Just as we have since last Memorial Day, we continue to receive daily reminders of the tragic losses of our young men and women who continue to faithfully serve on foreign soil protecting the freedom and rights of others as well as our freedom and democratic way of life. We need to honor them and those who have fallen before. I look forward to seeing you at the Memorial Day Service.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore, Commander Perch Base USSVI

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April Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post # 105 Phoenix, AZ at 1245 hours, 15 April 2006. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander – Tim Moore.

The members were led in a prayer of Invocation by Dave Harnish, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard ceremonial opening. This was followed by a moment of silence for our passed shipmate, Harold Lister.

According to the sailing list, there were twenty-eight (28) members at the meeting. The Base welcomed new members David Anderson, Forrest Watson and Billy Burger after which David, Billy and Forrest briefed the attendees on their submarine experiences.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the March meeting be approved as published in the Base Newsletter, "The MidWatch." The motion carried.

Jim Denzien reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of April 2006. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Base Vice Commander – Stan Reinhold had nothing to report.

Base Chief of the Boat – Bob Gilmore was absent.

Base Chaplain – Howard Doyle absent.

Membership Chairman – Ramon Samson reported we had lost eight members from attrition, several members had transferred to other bases and four had not elected to renew their membership.

Webmaster – Ramon Samson had nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor – Chuck Emmett was absent.

Ship's Storekeeper – Jim Nelson had nothing to report.

Western Regional Director, Dave Harnish, reported on the Southwest Caucus of Sub Vets WWII held in Laughlin, NV last week April 12 thru 14. Jim Denzien and Dave Harnish attended to assist along with several members of US Sub Vets WWII from our chapter. Bill Grieves was a speaker at the caucus and gave the members present a short recap of the business that was discussed from the floor at the caucus.

OLD BUSINESS

The members were asked to consider a combination meeting and picnic, during the summer with Gudgeon Base in Prescott.

The float committee needs to meet and develop an action plan for the float overhaul.

The memorial committee met to check out the Perch Memorial, a working party consisting of Jim Denzien, Tim Moore, Glen

Harold, Jim Nelson and Dave Anderson will work removing the old grout at the memorial. After which a craftsman will re-grout the seams for \$ 300. Material costs are \$ 168; labor \$ 300 total is below the \$ 500 budgeted.

Members are urged to continue supporting of the Phoenix Society efforts in pursuit of the USS Phoenix sail for a local memorial.

We are waiting for a clarification on the date for Memorial Day services at the National Cemetery.

It was mentioned that Chuck Emmett should pick the issues of the "MidWatch" to submit for Newsletter of the Year and Website of the Year.

NEW BUSINESS

Shipmate Harold Lister passed away on March 30th. There will be a memorial service held for Harold on Saturday April 29th, 2006 at the Hampton Inn in Surprise, AZ.


GOOD OF THE ORDER

A "Boat Sponsorship" subscription of the American Submariner along with a monthly newsletter to the Veteran's Home here in Phoenix.

All members were reminded that the White Mountain Base Golf Tournament will be Saturday June 10, 2006 at 9 a.m.

Chuck Emmett did another outstanding job with the April MidWatch. We are publishing other Arizona bases newsletters in the MidWatch. This is a good move and will help us maintain a kinship with our fellow shipmates from around the state.

Our annual Picnic was a huge success. We had special guests from Tucson Base and Gudgeon Base in Prescott. As always Stan & Jane did an outstanding job in preparing our menu and setting up our catering. Dave Harnish did an

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outstanding job organizing the event at The Maricopa County Live Steamers Railroad Park. We had 50 – 60 people in attendance and everyone enjoyed it.

Dave Harnish introduced Lt. Col. Alan Gaugert, USAF (Ret.) who spoke of the similar adverse conditions we both operated in. It was informative, enlightened, and mixed with some great humor.


50 / 50 DRAWING

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Joe Hawkins (Groton Base); Ed Hawkins brother.

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans – Perch Base be adjourned. The motion carried. The closing prayer was offered by Dave Harnish and the meeting was adjourned at 1430.


Stan Reinhold
Vice Commander, Perch Base



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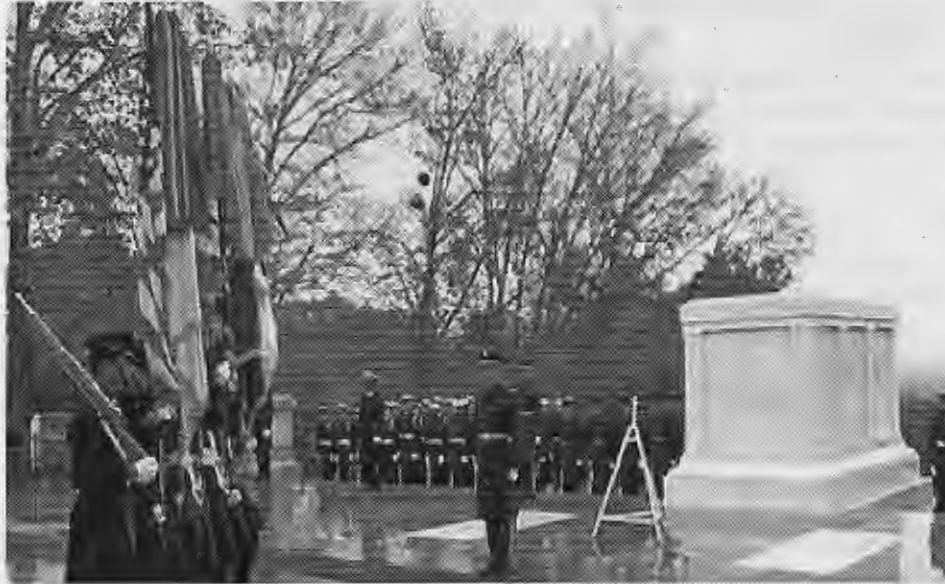
Naval Humor or, Littoral Laughter

A man fell asleep on the beach. He woke up several hours later and suffered severe sunburn to his legs and was taken to the closest hospital, which happened to be a U.S. Naval Hospital.

His skin had turned a bright red and was very painful and had started to blister. Anything that touched his legs caused agony. The lead on the medical staff at the naval hospital, that night, was a Chief Corpsman, in the emergency room. The Chief checked him out and then prescribed continued intravenous feedings of water, electrolytes, a mild sedative, and Viagra

Rather astounded, the 3rd class corpsman, who was with the Chief inquired, "What good will Viagra do him in that condition?" The Chief replied, "It'll keep the sheet off his legs."





Memorial Day Service

The Memorial Day Service will be held again this year at the *National Veteran's Cemetery of Arizona*, 23029 North Cave Creek Road (entrance is off of Pinnacle Peak Road) Phoenix, on Monday, 29 May 2006, at 0800 hours. The Arizona Submarine Veterans – Perch Base will be participating in the wreath laying ceremony again this year. I would suggest that all members attending the service be at the cemetery by 0730 hours. There will be a Bell Tolling Ceremony conducted at the SVWWII Perch Memorial following the regular service at the cemetery. All hands are encouraged to attend both ceremonies with as many family members as possible. This is an excellent opportunity to educate your children, grandchildren and other family members of the sacrifices made by so many brave Americans.

Tim Moore

Commander Perch Base USSVI



SUBVETTES MEETING MINUTES

April

The 25th monthly meeting of the SUBVETTES OF PERCH BASE we called to order by President Nancy Nelson at 12:25 hours on April 15, 2006.

The meeting was attended by eight members, one associate member, Carol Hawkins, and one guest, Pat Anderson, who we hope to have as a member soon — ten total in attendance.

Our Raffle prize was a Bronzed Guardian Angel, appropriate to the Easter Holiday.

OLD BUSINESS

President, Nancy Nelson, apologized for her absence last month. She understands that the March meeting was not the most comfortable and requested a motion regarding where our meetings should be held.

Motion was made, that our meetings, from now on, should be held in the Chowder House Restaurant, which was voted and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

We discussed the lack of communication from our current National President. We feel that we need to have their input to effectively run our local Charter. Our new Associate Member, Carol Hawkins, who is a member of Groton Base, will express our concerns to Rita Krueel and hopefully expedite the situation.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

We apologize for not recognizing Muriel Grieves on her Birthday.

Happy Birthday wishes were sent to our May Babies:

Layne Rumbaugh – 5/10

LeeAnn Brooks 5/20

Linds Wall – 5/28

The Raffle prize was won by Muriel Grieves CONGRATULATIONS!!

All business being concluded, motion to adjourn was made by Kay Harnish and seconded by Jackie Hawkins at 1300 hours.

From Beyond the Wardroom

Perch Base SubVettes

I want to thank you all for your support for all your current officers. We are preparing for the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the National Veterans Cemetery, hope you can all attend.

Happy Birthday to all our June Babies:

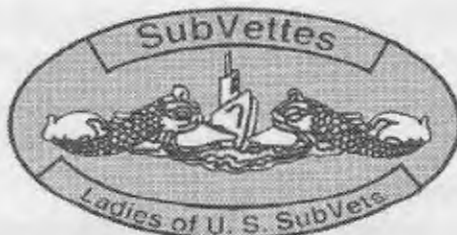
Sandy Bernard – 6/1

Jacque Hawkins - 6/6

Marge Robinson – 6/17

Sorry if I missed anyone

Our next meeting will be held at the Chowder House at 35th Ave. and Thunderbird at 12:30 PM. LETS ALL BE THERE.



Commander

Jim Clewett
PO Box 959
Snowflake, AZ 85937
(928) 536-7390
loji53@skyboot.com

Vice Commander:

Dick Jarenski
PO Box 9
Overgaard, AZ 85933
(928) 535-5405
rjarenski@aol.com

Treasurer:

Armand Deprins
PO Box 955
Snowflake, AZ 85937
(928) 536-6776
Simonne@frontiernet.net

Secretary:

Steve Day
5621 N. 19th St
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(602) 277-3877
stephen.day@cox.net

Storekeeper:

Doug Eddy
PO Box 688
Heber, AZ 85928
(928) 535 3388

**White
Mountain**



Base

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 Government.



Meeting Minutes

Members present at the March 18, 2006 meeting: Jim Clewett, Steve Day, Frank Nagle, Phil Caster, Armand Deprins, Dee LeFevre and Charles Jones

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM with an invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, reading of our creed, and tolling of the bell.

Dick Cranford was welcomed as our guest.

March minutes were read and accepted.

There is \$1,546.09 in the Treasury.

Golf tournament: will be a handicapped tournament, the hole in one prize will be \$10,000, the golf towels may be black printing on a white towel to keep the cost down, hole sponsors will receive a certificate from the Base.

The storekeeper has ordered hats and the patches are in and sell for \$6 each.

The next meeting will be at the Snowflake golf course May 20, at 11:00 am. Jim will be playing 9 holes (8 am tee time) before the meeting. Call him if you would like to play.

Dick Jarenski has a DVD with WWII archive footage (subs) and the capture of a German U-boat & other WWII footage and it is available if you would like to borrow it.

The June 17 meeting will be at G. N. Santi's at the Bison Ranch (Heber/Overgaard) and the float will be there.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Jim who donated the winnings to the base treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am with a closing prayer.

Your DD-214 is now online at: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

Lois Keating
Office Manager



590 N. Alma School Rd Ste. #11
Chandler, AZ 85224 (480) 883-9822
Queen Creek: (480) 988-2699



Eternal Patrol May 28, 1943

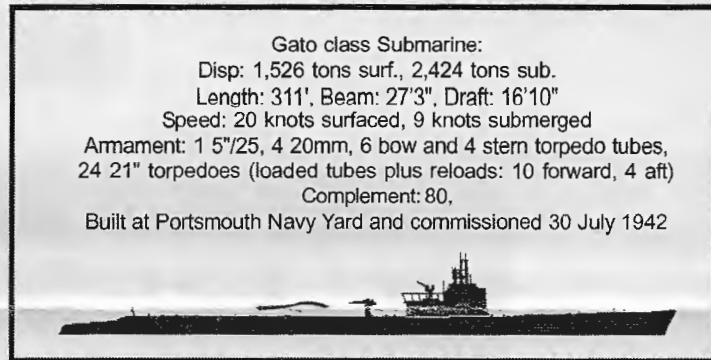
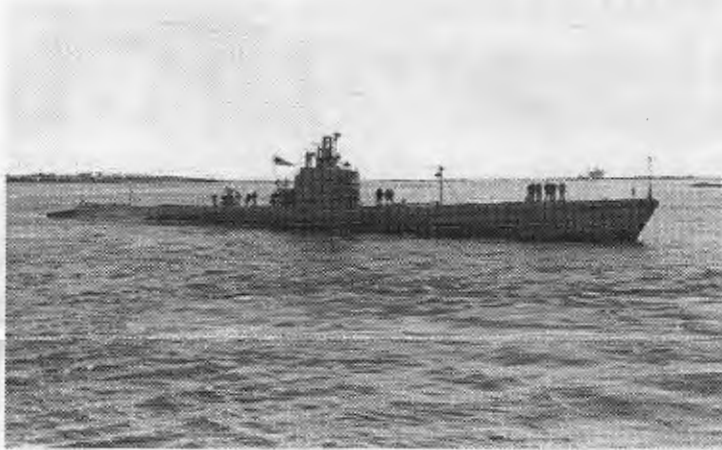
Editors Note: *Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.*

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.



U.S.S. *Runner* (SS-275) 78 men lost

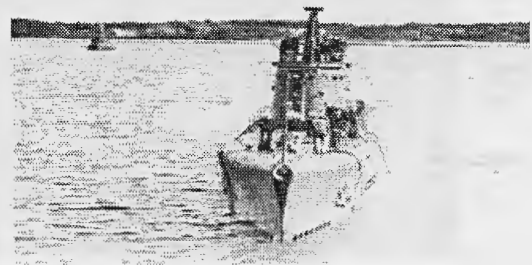


Gato class Submarine:
Disp: 1,526 tons surf., 2,424 tons sub.
Length: 311', Beam: 27'3", Draft: 16'10"
Speed: 20 knots surfaced, 9 knots submerged
Armament: 1 5"/25, 4 20mm, 6 bow and 4 stern torpedo tubes,
24 21" torpedoes (loaded tubes plus reloads: 10 forward, 4 aft)
Complement: 80,
Built at Portsmouth Navy Yard and commissioned 30 July 1942

USS *Runner* (SS-275) was a Gato-class submarine, the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the runner, an amberfish inhabiting subtropical waters, so called for its rapid leaps from the water.

Runner's keel was laid down on 8 December 1941 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She was launched on 30 May 1942 sponsored by Mrs. John H. Newton, and commissioned on 30 July 1942 with Commander Frank W. Fenno, Jr., in command.

Following shakedown out of New London, Connecticut, *Runner* departed the east coast in late 1942, and arrived at Pearl Harbor via the Panama Canal on 10 January 1943. Her first patrol, 18 January to 7 March, was conducted in the area between Midway Island and the Palau Islands. Five Japanese cargo ships were torpedoed on this patrol, but none was confirmed as being sunk. In making the last attack of the patrol on a freighter off Peleliu, she was damaged by a near miss from a bomb dropped from a patrol bomber. The concussion knocked out her sound gear and the power supply for both periscope hoists. *Runner* made her escape by a deep dive, the crew made emergency repairs, and the ship returned to Pearl Harbor for overhaul.



On her second patrol, 1 April to 6 May, *Runner's* primary mission was to lay a minefield off Pedro Blanco Rock. Successful in this mission, *Runner* proceeded to Hainan Straits, off the Chinese mainland. One freighter was torpedoed, and the sound of a ship breaking up was heard over *Runner's* sound gear, but the kill could not be confirmed. The submarine returned to Midway Island on 6 May 1943.



On 27 May, under command of Lieutenant Commander Joseph H. Bourland, she departed Midway for the Kuril Islands chain and waters off northern Japan. No report was heard from her. Captured Japanese records indicated that she sank the cargo ship *Seinan Maru* on 11 June in Tsugaru Strait off Hokkaido, and the passenger-cargo ship *Shinyu Maru* on 26 June off the Kuril Islands. *Runner* was declared overdue and presumed lost in July 1943 and struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 October 1943.



Chaplain's
Column



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Shipmate Harold who departed on Final Patrol March 30. There was a memorial service held for Harold on Saturday April 29, 2006 at the Hampton Inn in Surprise, AZ.



Submarines in History

USS Lagarto - New Discovery Helps Bring Closure Ceremony Brings Sense of Closure to USS Lagarto Families

Story Number: NNS060508-05

Release Date: 5/8/2006 5:17:00 PM

From Commander, Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

MANITOWOC, Wis. (NNS) — Families of crew members who served aboard the World War II submarine USS Lagarto (SS 371) gathered here May 6 to honor the men whose submarine went missing six decades ago and was only recently located by divers.

Lagarto was last seen May 3, 1945, in the southern Gulf of Thailand while preparing to strike an enemy convoy. Japanese records later indicated that the minelayer Hatsutaka reported sinking a U.S. submarine on that date.

Last May, nearly 60 years to the day after Lagarto was lost, British diver Jamie MacLeod reported finding Lagarto sitting upright in about 225 feet of water in the southern part the Gulf of

Thailand. MacLeod traveled to Wisconsin this weekend to attend the ceremony and to share his remarkable story with family members.

For Floyd Harrington of Lehi, Utah, the experience brought a much-needed sense of closure. Harrington was 10 years old when his brother, Motor Machinist's Mate 3rd Class George Clark Harrington, was killed aboard Lagarto. He carried a lot of uncertainty with him until he gathered in Manitowoc this weekend.

"It settled a lot of things," said Harrington. "We never knew what happened."

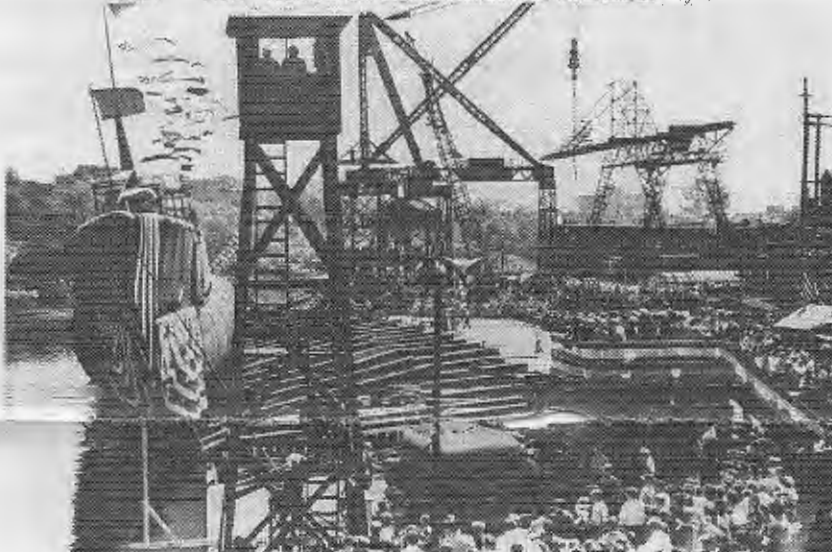
That was a sentiment echoed by many of the family members who attended the ceremony, hosted by the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc.

"For every single family here, this has been one of the most important events of their entire lives," said Nancy Kenney of Lake Leelanau, Mich., whose father, Signalman 1st Class William T. Mabin was lost on Lagarto.

Kenny, working with museum director Norma Bishop and her staff, have been successful in finding family members of 51 of the 86 men lost. More than 150 of the family members traveled to Manitowoc to attend the ceremony.

"It is moving to know that even six decades after their death, the men who served in Lagarto are still loved and still missed," said Pacific Fleet Submarine Force Commander Rear Adm. Jeffrey Cassias, who delivered the keynote address at the ceremony.

Photo # NH 51206 Launch of USS Lagarto, at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, 28 May 1944

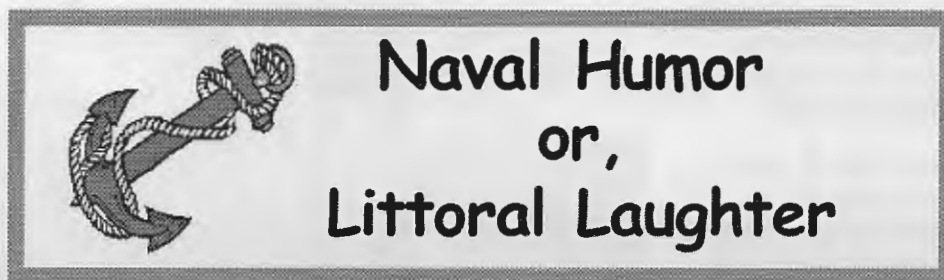
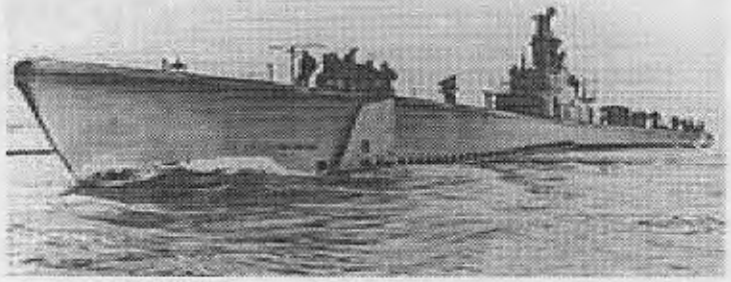


USS Lagarto (SS-371) launching, at the Manitowoc Shipbuilding Company shipyard, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, 28 May 1944

During the ceremony, there was a “tolling of the bell” for each of the 86 crew members, a gun salute, and a flag presentation to the family members.

The Navy plans to send the diving and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 50) to the site during exercise CARAT Thailand in June to attempt to confirm the discovery.

Lagarto was one of 28 submarines built in Manitowoc, Wis., and one of 52 submarines lost on patrol during World War II.



How to Write “Navy” and be Politically Correct . . .

...based on the new correspondence manual you’ll want to be non-gender specific:

- “Seaman” is now “seaperson”
- “Man the rails” is now “people the rails”
- “Man Aloft” is now just “working aloft”
- The musical group “Mannheim Steamroller” is now “Personheim Steamrollit”
- “Manning battle stations” is now just “populating critical need stations”. (Battle has such strong male connotations.)
- The “Gangway” shall become “group causeway” so as not to offend the sensibilities of, well, gangs.

A ship can no longer be referred to as “she.” Example: “Look at the lines on that frigate—she really rides well, huh?!” It now becomes: “Notice the lines on that vessel—it is very seaworthy isn’t it?”

The “reproduction machine” will hence be the “duplicate purveyor”.

No more breast line.

PETA has asked that we stop hurting camels during mooring.

DCPOs will stop using the MHC designation. Now they’ll simply be Covers With Lots of Bolts (CWLB)

No more screwdrivers—regular or special.

Man Overboard is history. Just say “Someone fell over the side!” Say it loudly and often—make it become second nature. Say it now in your workspace to accustom others to the loud guffaws it brought here.

Mess b-!-t-c-h and mess c-r-a-n-k are no longer correct. Just say Food Utensil Cleanliness Ass’t. (FUCA). Example: “Hey FUCA, we’re outta milk again!”

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

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Return To:
U. S. Submarine Veterans, Perch Base
13210 N. Lake Forest Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85351-3252

<http://perch-base.org>



8500641128-30 C014



REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2006
American Legion Post #105
3534 W Calavar Rd.
Phoenix, AZ