

"To Honor Those Who Serve, Past, Present, and Future".

"The USSVI Submariner's Creed"

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the

United States of America and its Constitution.







OUR ORGANIZATION

OUR FOUNDERS

OUR BROTHERHOOD

Our Mission

The organization will engage in various projects 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 lifestyles we enjoy today.



Scheduled Meetings

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of each month at:

GOLDEN CORRAL
6612 CLINTON HIGHWAY,
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
Dinner & Social Hour @ 1800
Meeting @ 1900

INDEX OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE OFFICER / COMMITTEE MEMBER LISTINGS 2 SMB MEETINGS, NEW MEMBERS, CALANDARS AND LOCAL INFO 3 LOCAL HAPPENINGS, ADS, TERMINOLOGY AND VETERANS INFORMATION 4 **BASE OFFICERS REPORTS** 5 LATEST MEETING ADJENDA & VETERANS DEATH BENEFITS INFO. 6 LOST BOATS OF JANUARY 7-9 LOST BOATS OF FEBRUARY 10-11 JIM TIDD FUNERAL & 4 NAVY DIVER MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS 12 KARNS CHRISTMAS PARADE AND JUST 1 MORE ARMY/NAVY GAME 13 SUBMARINE MUSEUMS & FUTURE BOONDOGGLES OF THE MONTH 14-15 APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP IN USSVI

SNORKEL EXHAUST INDEX

January & February 2019



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SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE OFFICERS



BASE COMMANDER Marlin E. Helms, Jr. HOLLAND CLUB CHAIR





Qualified MM1(SS) USS SPADEFISH (SSN-668) Qualified MM1(SS) USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663)



BASE VICE-COMMANDER Robert (Bob) Childs





Qualified MMC (SS) **USS Nautilus (SSN 571)** November 1967 **USS Theodore Roosevelt** (SSBN 600 - Blue Crew) July 1970



BASE SECRETARY **Martin Wesley**



Qualified QM2(SS) USS CUBERA(SS-347) in 1968



WEBSITE MASTER Stuart McGlassen





Qualified ET2 (SS) 1988 **USS TENNESSEE (SSBN-734)**



CHIEF OF THE BOAT Terry McBride, EMC(SS) (Ret.)





Qualified EM1(SS)

USS MARYLAND (SSBN-738)



BASE CHAPLIN David Pope, EAWS USS T. Roosevelt (CVN-71) COMSUBGRU-9, FP DET. 2





David is an Associate **Member of Smoky Mountain** Submarine Base



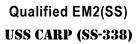
STOREKEEPER Jim Burkholder





BASE TREASURER JIM ROCK







Qualified MM1(SS) **USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN 619)**



PROGRAM CHAIRMAN **Andy Armbrust**



Qualified MM1(SS) USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663) in 1975



NEWSLETTER EDITOR & BASE PHOTOGRAPHER **Bruce Eltzroth ET1(SU)**

USS SCULPIN (SSN-590)



Bruce is an Associate **Member of Smoky Mountain** Submarine Base.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, USSVI

Meetings, Greetings, Gatherings & Other Stuff

JANUARY & FEBRUARY - 2019

Scheduled Meetings

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the **3rd Thursday** of each month at:

Golden Corral 6612 Clinton Hwy.

Knoxville, Tennessee 37912



Meetings and Happenings



New Members:None This Period

January 15 - Jan/Feb Newsletter Deadline February 2 - Ground Hog Day

February 2 - Ground Hog Day February 14 - Valentines Day February 18 - Presidents Day

February 21 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)

The	200
	Snorkel Exhaust

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Published 6 times annually at the Base's website: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Smoky-Mountain-Submarine-Veterans/273222054302

March 5 - Mardi Gras

March 6 - Ash Wednesday

March 10 - Daylight Savings time Begins

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

March 21 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs) April 1 - Next Newsletter Deadline

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	(Jan15)		1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

February 2019

March 2019						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1					



LOCAL HAPPENINGS



SMB Library Books, DVD's and Magazines Ed Sandifer -HT1(SS)

Base Librarian

Ed has agreed to bring several items to our monthly meetings. There are over 100 books in our library - check some out!



Tennessee Submarine Veterans License PlateTake a copy of your DD-214 when you go to get yours.



The Ad below is for the "Vest Lady"

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Who Already Have.

The only place to get CUSTOM SEWN

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Jenny Dugan - Sewing Wench 757-318-0138 B4 8pm



VETERANS I NFORMATION FOR SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE MEMBERS





The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1078, meets at The Fellowship Church located at 3550 Pleasant Ridge Road, in Knoxville, TN on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6PM (1800 Hrs.)

All veterans may be able to shop in commissaries and exchanges in the near future, if Defense Department officials are successful in pushing their proposal. Officials have asked Congress to allow veterans who haven't already earned the shopping benefit as retirees, as well as civilian employees, to be able to shop in the stores, said Stephanie Barna, special assistant to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. The proposal would include an additional user fee of between 1 percent and 5 percent for those non-core groups to be able to shop in the commissary, she said. "But we think they'd still be getting an incredible deal. It also helps, even if only slightly, to distinguish them from our core group," she said, speaking at a forum on Capitol Hill of the American Logistic Organization. It's unlikely the change will happen this year, she said, as members of Congress wait to see how things settle out with commissaries during the reform efforts.

Navy Terminology Updates (03) & (04)

▶ Origins

Every profession has its own jargon and the Navy is no exception. For the Navy, it's *bulkhead*, *deck* and *overhead* and not *wall*, *floor*, and *ceiling*. Some nautical terminology has found its way into everyday use, and you will find the origins of this and some Navy terminology listed below. More Navy terminology will be added from time to time.

Feeling Blue (03)

If you are sad and describe yourself as "feeling blue," you are using a phrase coined from a custom among many old deepwater sailing ships. If the ship lost the captain or any of the officers during its voyage, she would fly blue flags and have a blue band painted along her entire hull when returning to home port.

Forecastle (04)

The appropriate pronunciation for this word is fo'ksul. The forecastle is the forward part of the main deck. It derives its name from the days of Viking galleys when wooden castles were built on the forward and after parts the main deck from which archers and other fighting men could shoot arrows and throw spears, rocks, etc.





BASE COMMANDERS REPORT MARLIN E. HELMS, JR. MM1(SS)





We had a busy fourth quarter with two Veterans Day parades in Knoxville and Clinton (covered in previous newsletters). We marched in the Karns Christmas parade but not the Oliver Springs parade, and since Thom Peschke was in the parade as Santa Claus, we were there in spirit. The Army Navy game was fun and there were a few Army boosters there unlike past games where Navy was favored... Hmmmm. We hope to march in the Music in the Mountains Spring parade (formerly the Dolly Parton Homecoming parade) on the third of May. The Secret City Festival will be the seventh and eighth of June this year more to come in the future. National has a new focus on membership and is no longer giving us a grace period for dues. That's not a big problem since it will only cause a brief gap in your access to sign into the national web site, but too much of a gap may cause you to miss a copy of the American Submariner magazine. If in doubt about your status please call me.

Fraternally,

Marlin Helms, Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base Commander

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT—BRUCE ELTZROTH - ET1(SU)

This two month period saw several Smoky Mountain Base members participate in the funeral of SMB member Jim Tidd held in Dandridge, TN (See Page 12); and also a Christmas Parade in Karns followed by the Army/Navy game at Just1More (See Page 13). We are always looking for additional BOONDOG-GLE FODDER so there is a list of all of the Submarine Museums in the U.S. that anyone can visit (See Pages 14 & 15). If anyone does visit one of these museums, please provide any photos and written input to me for the Snorkel Newsletter. Annual Dues are past due.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - ANDY ARMBRUST MM1(SS)

Andy Armbrust, Picnic Committee Chairman - (865) 300-3934 - Nothing to report this issue except that there will be a spring picnic later and he could use some suggestions on the location.



STOREKEEPERS REPORT - JIM BURKHOLDER EM2(SS)

We currently have the following items on hand for sale:

2019 USSVI Calendars are now available, you can pick them up at the next meeting or email me at: jimburkholder@reagan.com or call me at 865-317-1577 to get yours. Cost \$8.00 at the meeting, but if mailed \$9.00 to cover postage. Makes a nice Christmas present. Baseball caps w/SMB patch (White or Blue) - \$14.00. Straw Hat w/SMB patch - \$12.00. SMB Iron on Patches - \$7.00. SMB Logo Magnetic Car Plates - \$12.00. SMB Window Stickers - \$3.00. Smoky Mountain Base battery quartz wall Clocks - \$15.00. Remember all purchases support YOUR BASE.



SMB TREASURERS REPORT - JIM ROCK MM1(SS)

Treasurers Report: Jim Rock

On **Nov. 18th** our bank balance was **\$1,773.75**.

As of **JAN. 17th**, we had a balance of **\$1,204.71**.









SMB Meeting Agenda - Marlin Helms





Smoky Mountain Base of USSVI, Inc. - Meeting Agenda

Date: January 17, 2019 Time/Location: 1900 hrs, Golden Corral, 6612 Clinton Hwy. Knoxville TN

Call to Order

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

USSVI Creed: "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Of America and its constitution."

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for 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.

"Tolling of the Bell" - January.

USS Scorpion (SS-278) - January 5, 1944 - 77 Men Lost USS Argonaut (SS-166) - January 10, 1943 - 102 Men Lost USS Swordfish (SS-193) - January 12, 1945 - 89 Men Lost

USS S-36, (SS-141) - January 20, 1942 - No Men Lost

USS S-26, (SS-131) - January 24, 1942 - 46 Men Lost







Members are requested to sign in on the log.

Member Introductions: Member introductions (new and previous) for new members and guests.

Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes - "Wes" Wesley.

Treasurer's Report — Jim Rock Correspondence - Marlin Helms

Committee Reports:

Library - Ed Sandifer

Membership - Marlin Helms

Newsletter - Bruce Eltzroth

Social Committee - Andy Armbrust

Storekeeper - Jim Burkholder

Web Site - Marlin Helms/Stuart McGlasson

Old Business — USSVI and SMB Dues are Overdue

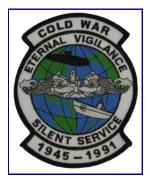
New Business/Good of the Order -

Next Meeting: - 1900 hrs, Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Golden Corral, 6612 Clinton Hwy. Knoxville, TN

Motion to adjourn -







-



VA Death benefits

1. Most Veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable are eligible to receive a headstone, marker or medallion, at no cost to the applicant.

2. A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased Veteran who served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces.

3. VA burial allowances are flat rate monetary benefits that are generally paid at the maximum amount authorized by law for an eligible Veteran's burial and funeral costs. A VA regulation change in 2014 simplified the program to pay eligible survivors quickly and efficiently. Eligible surviving spouses of record are paid automatically upon notification of the Veteran's death, without the need to submit a claim. VA may grant additional benefits, including the plot or interment allowance and transportation allowance, if it receives a claim for these benefits.

Non-Service-Connected Death • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2017, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$762 for a plot. • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2016, but before October 1, 2017, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$749 for a plot. • If the Veteran died on or after October 1, 2015, but before October 1, 2016, VA will pay a \$300 burial allowance and \$747 for a plot.



Lost Boats of January



USS Scorpion (SS-278) - January 5,1944

SS-278 Battle Stars







77 Men Lost

The USS Scorpion (SS-278) was a Gato-class World War II era submarine. The namesake of the USS Scorpion is an order of arachnids having an elongated body and a narrow segmented tail bearing a venomous sting at the tip. On December 29, 1943, the Scorpion, captained by Commander Maximilian G. Schmidt, departed Pearl Harbor for her fourth and final war patrol. On January 3, 1944, she fueled at Midway Island and then headed for her assigned patrol area in the Yellow Sea and the northern East China Sea. On the afternoon of January 4, 1944, she reported that one crewman had sustained a simple fracture of the upper arm and requested a rendezvous with the USS Herring (SS-233), which was then in her vicinity and en route back to Pearl Harbor from her sixth war patrol. On January 5, 1944, the Scorpion attempted to transfer the injured crewman to the Herring for return to Midway, however heavy seas made it impossible to do so. The Scorpion reported the situation "Under control" before midnight and the Herring sailed for Midway. The Scorpion was not seen or heard from again. When no report was received from her by February 24, 1944, she was ordered to make a radio transmission acknowledging receipt of the dispatch. No acknowledgement was received. The Scorpion was presumed lost on March 6, 1944. The Navy Department issued the following press release regarding the Scorpion's loss: Navy Department Communiqué 513, March 22, 1944 - The submarine USS Scorpion is overdue from patrol and must be presumed to be lost. The next of kin of casualties of the Scorpion have been so notified.

Loss Possibilities: 1. The Scorpion probably struck a mine and sank sometime between January 5 to February 24, 1944, in the northern East China Sea or in the Yellow Sea. In August 1943, the Japanese had planted two hundred mines across the shallow mouth of the Yellow Sea. The location of the minefield was not known in the time period the Scorpion might have passed through it.

2. On February 26, 1944, the USS Steelhead (SS-280) and the Scorpion were each warned they were in close proximity to one another and that an enemy submarine might also be in the vicinity. However, it was later learned that the suspect submarine, I-174, was not in their area at the time of the warning. Therefore, the possibility of loss due to an unreported attack by a Japanese submarine is considered very unlikely.

Postwar examination of Japanese records did not provide any clues as to the *Scorpion's* fate and no conclusive explanation for the cause of her loss has ever been established. The reason for her loss remains a mystery. A list of the men lost with the *Scorpion* is maintained at http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-scorpion-278.htm. The *Scorpion* earned three battle stars for her World War II service. She was scored by JANAC with sinking 18,316 tons of Japanese shipping in four vessels. Her Alden-McDonald score is six vessels sunk for 18,567 tons and eight vessels damaged for 18,656 tons. The SORG score for the *Scorpion* is twelve vessels sunk for 26,400 tons and five vessels damaged for 30,000 tons.

USS Argonaut (SS-166) - January 10,1943

SS-166 Battle Stars





102 Men Lost

The USS *Argonaut* (SS-166) was a V-4 (Argonaut)-class World War II era submarine. The namesake of the USS *Argonaut* is a relative of the octopus - sometimes called the paper nautilus - which propels itself, underwater by expelling a jet of water. The name Argonaut may also have been inspired by the submarine of that name built in 1897 by Simon Lake which was the first submarine to navigate extensively in the open sea. Ultimately, the name is derived from the band of fifty heroes in Greek legend who sailed with Jason in the ship Argo to retrieve the Golden Fleece. The radio call sign of the USS *Argonaut* was NAN-ITEM-CHARLIE-TARE.

At the end of 1942, the *Argonaut*'s base of operations was changed from Pearl Harbor to Brisbane, where she would help carry out the many special Spyron missions General MacArthur tasked submarines with in the south Pacific area. The *Argonaut* was the fleet's largest submarine. She had originally been built primarily for mine laying. In September 1942 she had been converted into a troop transport capable of accommodating 120 men, and her hull classification symbol was changed from SM-1 (Submarine Minelayer) to APS-1 (Transport Submarine). Her new role as a Spyron transport suited her well. The USS *Tang*'s captain, Commander Richard H. O'Kane, who served four years aboard the *Argonaut*, said of her fighting capacity, "If a fleet boat were stripped of one battery, two engines, six torpedo tubes, and could use no more than 15 degrees of rudder, she would still have greater torpedo attack and evasion ability than *Argonaut*."

On November 24, 1942, the *Argonaut*, captained by Lieutenant Commander John R. Pierce, sailed from Pearl Harbor for her transfer to Task Force 42 at Brisbane. On December 9, 1942, she topped off at the Allied military supply and support base, naval harbor, and airfield on Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides archipelago. From there the Task Force 42 commander, Captain James Fife, ordered the *Argonaut* to patrol the southern approaches to Rabaul and be on the lookout for a Japanese convoy consisting of five freighters escorted by destroyers moving north from Lae to Rabaul. On January 10, 1943, the *Argonaut* spotted the convoy southeast of New Britain. A Japanese seaplane detected the submerged submarine and dropped two anti-submarine bombs. The IJN destroyer *Minekaze* then moved in and dropped depth charges. Soon the bow of the submarine broke the surface in what seemed to be a vain attempt to surface. The *Minekaze* and the IJN destroyer *Isokaze* pounded the injured submarine with battery fire relentlessly. The *Argonaut* slipped below the waves, never to be seen again, at 5° 40'S, 152° 02'E. By pure coincidence, a U. S. Army aircraft, returning to its base with empty bomb racks, was flying overhead and witnessed these events.



Lost Boats of January



USS Swordfish (SS-193) - January 12,1945

89 Men Lost

The **USS Swordfish** (SS-193) was a Sargo-class World War II era submarine.

The namesake of the USS Swordfish is a large fish with a long, sword-like beak and a high dorsal fin.

The radio call sign of the USS Swordfish was NAN-UNCLE-DOG-GEORGE.

On December 22, 1944, the *Swordfish*, captained by Commander Keats E. Montross, departed Pearl Harbor for her thirteenth and final war patrol. She had received orders to patrol in an area off the Ryukyu Islands. She had also been outfitted with special equipment for a photo reconnaissance mission at Okinawa. After stopping at Midway Island to top off her fuel, she headed west for the big Japanese stronghold in the Nansei Shoto chain. On January 3, 1945, she acknowledged receipt of new orders to proceed to and to patrol near the approximate geographic position 30°-00'N, 132°-00'E until further notice. The reason for this move was to keep her out of harms way during a planned January carrier strike on the Ryukyus. Her acknowledgement of this order was the last communication ever received from the *Swordfish*. On January 9, 1945, she was ordered to proceed to the Nansei Shoto Archipelago to perform her special mission. Upon completion of the photographic and observation mission, she was told to proceed to the submarine base at Saipan, unless she was unable to communicate by radio, in which case she was supposed to return to Midway. When the *Swordfish* failed to appear at Saipan or Midway, and silence was the only response to radio messages sent to her, it became obvious she was lost. On February 15, 1945, she was reported as presumed lost due to unknown causes. The public announcement was made on May 4, 1945. Navy Department Communiqué No. 595, May 4, 1945: The submarine USS *Swordfish* is overdue from patrol and presumed lost. Next of kin of officers and crew have been informed.

Loss Possibilities: 1. The Swordfish was probably sunk by depth charges, on January 5, 1945, at the approximate geographic position 29°-25'N, 141°-07'E, which is southeast of Tori-shima island, an uninhabited volcanic island at the south end of the Izu Islands. On that date, near that location, at about 1705 hours, the 572-ton Japanese Army cargo vessel Shoto Maru was hit in the bow by a torpedo and sank at about 1906 hours. John D. Alden attributes this attack and the sinking to the Swordfish. The Japanese coastal defense vessel CD-4 conducted a counterattack with depth charges and reported that oil continued to rise to the surface for the next thirty hours.

- 2. The Swordfish possibly sank sometime after January 9, 1945, as a result of hitting a mine. During the first half of 1944, the Japanese had laid four minefields in the Okinawa area. On January 9, 1945, the Swordfish had been ordered to proceed to this area to complete a photographic reconnaissance assignment. This mission may have taken her into one of the minefields laid in 1944 or into freshly laid inshore minefields, planted to defend Okinawa beach approaches.
- 3. On January 12, 1945, the USS *Kete* (SS-369), while on station in the Okinawa area, reported a possible contact with a nearby submersible. The *Kete* was unable to positively identify the contact, but the *Swordfish* was expected to be in the vicinity at that time. About four hours later, the *Kete* heard the sound of a heavy barrage of depth charges. Japanese records reviewed after the war did not record the event heard by *the Kete*. But such a heavy barrage could have been aimed at the *Swordfish*. The bottom line is no one knows for certain what happened to the *Swordfish* or when it was lost. This long serving submarine and her valiant crew went down together leaving a significant record of accomplishments in their wake. A list of the men lost with the *Swordfish* is maintained at http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-swordfish-193.htm.

The Swordfish was scored by JANAC with sinking 47,928 tons of enemy shipping in twelve vessels. Her Alden-McDonald score is sixteen vessels sunk for 55,641 tons and four vessels damaged for 26,150 tons. Her SORG score is seventeen vessels sunk for 101,400 tons and nine vessels damaged for 61,900 tons. The Swordfish earned eight battle stars for her World War II service in her distinguished thirteen-patrol career. She sank the Atsutasan Maru, the first Japanese ship sunk by a U. S. submarine in the Pacific war.

SS-193 Battle Stars









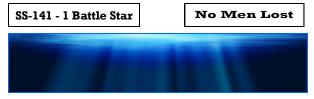


Lost Boats of January



USS S-36 (SS-141) - January 20,1942









USS S-36 (SS-141) was a S-1 class World War II era submarine. On December 30, 1941, the S-36, captained by Lieutenant John R. McKnight, Jr., departed Mariveles harbor for her second and final war patrol. Her orders were to patrol in Philippine waters before heading south to join the Allied forces gathering in the East Indies. On January 1, 1942, she sighted a small transport moored to the seawall at Calapan Harbor, Mindoro Island, fired one torpedo, and sank it. (The sinking of this vessel could not be verified in Japanese records, thus S-36 was never given credit for the kill.) In the days following this attack, S-36 moved southward and began to experience equipment failures that had a negative impact on the submarine's performance. On January 15, 1942, she spotted a Japanese destroyer in the Sulu Sea. Lieutenant McKnight ordered a crash dive, but due to equipment problems, her dive was delayed and the destroyer spotted her. The enemy destroyer dropped seven depth charges which exploded off both quarters of the S-boat. The explosions caused the loss of power control over the bow planes, gyro compass failure, blown fuses on the starboard lighting circuit, and broken lights in the motor room. When she reached 150 feet, her gyro compass was again working and she began turning slowly to starboard. The destroyer was kept astern. After several hours, she heard the last efforts of the destroyer to locate her. She surfaced, cleared the area and began making repairs. On January 17, 1942, she received orders to proceed to Surabaya, Java. She headed for Makassar Strait. The currents in the Makassar Strait are very strong and difficult to predict, making navigation hazardous. In addition, McKnight's charts were imprecise and incomplete. Just before dawn on January 20, 1942, S-36 ran hard aground on Taka Bakang Reef in the Makassar Strait. The hard hit on the reef holed S-36's hull, flooding the forward battery. McKnight broke radio silence and sent out a plain language call for help to all friendly men-of-war. The message was received by USS Sargo (SS-188) as she was nearing Surabaya. Her captain, Lieutenant Commander Tyrell D. Jacobs, tried unsuccessfully to relay the message to ComSubsAsiatic for five hours. The Sargo then headed for the Makassar Strait to help S-36. Sargo remained surfaced, relaying distress messages to friendly aircraft and surface ships. After Captain John Wilkes acknowledged receipt of the message, Sargo was recalled and a PBY Catalina was dispatched to survey S-36's condition. By radio McKnight told the PBY crew that with assistance he felt he could salvage S-36. The PBY therefore raced to Makassar City and requested assistance from the Dutch authorities, who promptly dispatched the Dutch launch Attla. The launch reached S-36 on January 21 and embarked two officers and twenty-eight men. The remaining crew stayed with S-36 in the hope she could be hauled clear of the reef. But conditions continued to worsen. All efforts to save the submarine were fruitless. McKnight decided to abandon her. The remaining crew rigged S-36 to flood and transferred to the Dutch ship SS Siberote, which took them to Makassar City. All hands reached Surabaya, Java on February 25, 1942, and were reassigned to other duties.

USS S-26 (SS-131) - January 24,1942







46 Men Lost

USS S-26 (SS-131) was a S-1 class World War II era submarine.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Captain Thomas J. Doyle, the commanding officer of the Coco Solo submarine base, on the Atlantic Ocean (northwest) side of the Panama Canal Zone, near Colón, Panama, was presented with a dual problem. In addition to the threat of German U-boat activity in the waters off Panama, on the Canal's eastern side, American submarines would also have to guard against a potential Japanese attack on the Canal's Pacific end. Accordingly, Captain Doyle ordered his submarines to patrol off the Pacific entrance of the Canal. A patrol line was established extending 800 miles from the Balboa district on the Canal's western end. American submarines made patrols from Balboa throughout the first year of the war without encountering any enemy vessels. However, it was in this area that the U.S. Submarine Force experienced its first operational loss of World War II. On January 24, 1942, the S-26, captained by Lieutenant Commander Earl C. Hawk, was sailing surfaced from Balboa to her patrol station in company with S-21, S-29, S-44, and escort vessel PC-460. At around 2210 hours, PC-460 flashed a visual message to the submarines advising them she was leaving the formation and that they should proceed to their assignments as ordered. Only S-21 received this message. A short while thereafter, PC-460 collided in the dark with S-26, ramming her starboard side near the after torpedo room. The S-boat sank within seconds in 300 feet of water. Three men who were on the bridge survived. Forty-six men went down with her. All rescue attempts were unsuccessful. Her hulk was not salvaged. A list of the personnel lost with S-26 is maintained at http://www.oneternalpatrol.com/uss-s-26-131.htm. S-26 is not credited with sinking any enemy vessels.



Lost Boats of February

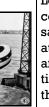


USS Barbel (SS-316) - February 4,1945



SS-316 Battle Stars

81 Men Lost



Lost on February 4, 1945, on her 4th war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported that she had survived 3 depth charge attacks. 10 officers and 71 enlisted personnel (a total of 81 men) were lost after Barbel sent a message reporting that she had been attacked three times by enemy aircraft dropping depth charges and would transmit further information on the following night. Barbel was never heard from again.

USS Shark I (SS-174) - February 11,1942

SS-174 Battle Star

59 Men Lost





On February 2, 1942, the **SHARK** reported to her base at Surabaya that she had been depth-charged ten miles off Tifore Island and had failed to sink a Japanese ship during a torpedo attack. Five days later, she reported chasing an empty cargo ship headed northwest. On February 8, the SHARK was ordered to proceed to Makassar Strait via the north coast of Celebes. Thereafter, the SHARK was never heard from again. On March 7, 1942, she was reported as presumed lost due to unknown causes. The official announcement of the SHARK'S loss was made on March 18, 1942. Japanese records reviewed after the war documented numerous attacks on unidenti-

fied submarines in the SHARK'S area at plausible times. On February 11, 1942, the Japanese depth-charged a submarine east of Menado, northern Celebes. On February 17, they attacked an unidentified submarine off Kendari. On February 21, an enemy sub chaser rammed a U. S. submarine in Manipa Strait (this report could not be confirmed). Based on the fact that on February 8 the SHARK had been sent to the area near Menado, she could have been the submarine the Japanese depth charged. Another report described an attack 120 miles east of Menado on February 11, 1942, at 0137 hours, by the IJN destroyer Yamakaze, which sank a surfaced submarine with deck gun fire.

USS Amberjack (SS-219) - February 16, 1943

SS-219 Battle Stars

72 Men Lost





Lost on February 16, 1943, on her 3rd war patrol off Rabaul. She was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser. She reported having being forced down on the 13th by two destroyers, and that she had recovered an enemy aviator from the water and taken him prisoner. All further messages to the Amberjack remained unanswered. This engagement resulted in the loss of 6 officers and 54 enlisted men. One (or more) men were killed on the previous patrol. Japanese aircraft were very much aware of the BARBEL'S presence. In her February 3rd message she stated she had been attacked by aircraft with depth charges three times. She was never heard from again after sending that message. Japanese records made available after the war indicated a submarine was bombed and sunk on February 4, 1945, in the South China Sea at 7° 49' 5.000" N, 116° 47' 5.000" E. This position is off Balabac Island, about midway between Borneo and southwest Palawan, where the BARBEL was patrolling. The Japanese claimed one hit near the bridge with one of the two 250-kilo bombs dropped.



Lost Boats of February



USS Grayback (SS-208) - February 26, 1944

SS-208 Battle Stars





80 Men Lost

Lost on February 26, 1944, on her 10th war patrol. The Grayback appears to to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit resulting in the loss of 80 men. During this patrol, she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons which resulted in a tie for 11th on the number of ships sunk. Japanese records reviewed after the war indicated that on February 27, 1944, the **GRAYBACK** torpedoed and sank the 4,905-ton cargo vessel *Ceylon Maru* at 31-35N, 127-47E. Sometime after this attack, the **GRAYBACK** was spotted surfaced by Nakajima B5N2 "Kates" of the Okinawa Naval Air Group. A direct hit was made on the submarine with a 250-kilo type bomb. The **GRAYBACK** exploded and sank immediately at 25-47N, 128-45E. Several Japanese antisubmarine vessels were summoned to the location and dropped depth charges over the spot where air bubbles were rising to the surface. Soon a lake of oil covered the surface measuring 100 meters wide and 250 meters long. If the **GRAYBACK** received ComSubPac's last message and headed home immediately, she would have been at the approximate position reported in the Japanese attack.

USS Trout (SS-202) - February 29, 1944

SS-202 Battle Stars







U.S. Navy / Marine Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon

81 Men Lost

The USS Trout (SS-202), under the command of LCDR Frank W. Fenno, Jr., was patrolling off Midway Island when the war broke out on December 7, 1941. She returned to Pearl Harbor on December 20, 1941. This was considered her first "war patrol". She would make 10 more war patrols under 3 different skippers. Patrols 1-4 under LCDR Fenno, patrols 5-8 under the command of LCDR Lawson "Red" Ramage and patrols 9-11 under the command of LCDR Albert H. Clark. She was lost on or about February 29, 1944, southeast of Okinawa in the Philippine Sea with 81 men aboard. She carried out several notable special missions, including transporting over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942. The USS Trout (SS-202) was awarded https://links.nipse.com/hree-Presidential Unit Citations, for her second, third, and fifth war patrols. Patrol Data and Captains for the USS Trout (SS-202):

- l- Patrolling Off Midway Island 07-Dec-41 to 20-Dec-41 LCDR Frank W. Fenno, Jr. returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 2-Transported ammo to Corregidor & embarked valuables to take to Pearl 12-Jan-42 to 03-Mar-42 LCDR Frank W. Fenno, Jr. returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 3-Off Honshu 24-Mar-42 to 17-May-42 LCDR Frank W. Fenno, Jr. returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 4- Off Midway 21-May-42 to 14-Jun-42 LCDR Frank W. Fenno, Jr. returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 5-Off Truk in Caroline Islands; ended at Brisbane 27-Aug-42 to 13-Oct-42 **LCDR Lawson P. Ramage.** returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 6-Solomon Islands 26-Oct-42 to 23-Nov-42 Departed Pearl Harbor returned to Brisbane.
- 7- South China Sea; ended at Fremantle 29-Dec-42 to 23-Feb-43 **LCDR Lawson P. Ramage.** Departed Brisbane returned to Fremantle.
- 8- Laid mines off Borneo 22-Mar-43 to 03-May-43 **LCDR Lawson P. Ramage.** Departed Fremantle returned to Fremantle.
- 9- Spyron missions in Philippines 27-May-43 to 20-Jul-43 **LCDR Albert H. Clark** Departed Fremantle returned to Fremantle.
- 10- Surigao & San Bernardino Straits; ended at Pearl for overhaul 12-Aug-43 to 04-Oct-43 Departed Fremantle returned to Fremantle.
- 11-Pearl / East China Sea.



James Francis Tidd

January 21, 1935 - December 20, 2018



Captain James Francis Tidd, United States Navy, Retired, passed away 20 December, 2018 due to complications from Alzheimer's disease. Born 21 January, 1935 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he was raised in Trenton, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Sharon Tidd; four children: James Tidd Jr., Elizabeth Worth, Barbara Tidd, and Paul Tidd; and two step-children, Brian Beausoleil, and Kelly Schmidt. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Lydia Tidd. He also leaves behind 8 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, and 4 step grandchildren. A 1959 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, he served with distinction in the undersea and surface divisions. He ended his Naval career as the commander of the U.S. Readiness Command #108 Mc Dill AFB Tampa, Florida. He served as a deputy sheriff from 1974 until 1985 in Hillsborough County, Fl. He was a life-long supporter of Scouting, and was an Eagle Scout. He was a Mason as well as a Shriner. He was an avid canoeist, small boat sailor, and hiker; was known as "The Gadget Man"; he successfully completed the Appalachian Trail and several other national trails. He was also a member of the Smoky Mountain Submarine Base Veterans and USSVI. Marlin Helms, Smoky Mountain Base Commander presented a proclamation of Eternal Patrol from the USSVI to his wife Sharon. A Memorial Service was held at Farrar Funeral Home chapel in Dandridge, TN at 3pm Saturday, December 29, 2018 with military honors.



















THIS MONTH IN UNDERSEA HISTORY

(Story and Photos courtesy of Naval Undersea Museum, WA)



Just seven Navy divers have ever earned the **Medal of Honor**, our nation's highest military award. Four of the seven received their medals 79 years ago this month, on January 19, 1940, for heroism during the rescue and salvage of USS Squalus (SS 192). Chief Petty Officers Orson L. Crandall and James H. McDonald directed diving operations and made difficult and hazardous dives as master divers. Chief Petty Officers John Mihalowski and William F. Badders manned the submarine rescue chamber during perilous descents to rescue survivors, and made hazardous dives during the salvage operation.

From left to right: Mihalowski, Crandall, Badders, and MacDonald.













2018 KARNS CHRISTMAS PARADE & ARMY/NAVY GAME - 12/7/2018

Once again the Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans brought out their 1/10th scale Andrew Jackson, SSBN-619 float for a local Christmas parade held in the Karns Community of Knoxville, TN. It was the first parade that SMB attended which authorized the "throwing of candy" to the kids on the side of the road. In photo #1, even Santa and Mrs. Clause were glad to see the SMB veterans, much to the delight of Stuart McGlassen. Photo #2 shows the float with the only decorations for the float that could be found on that particular day - red stockings hung at the normal locations for the SMB and Navy banners. Photo #3 depicts the parade along Oak Ridge Highway with a big wave from Gary Davis. Photo #4 appears to catch Marlin Helms stealing candy from a little girl while her mother defends her. However it was later brought to our attention that he was actually putting candy in her bag (a likely story). The parade lasted about 1 and 1/2 hours and several of the attendees decided to participate in lunch at the Carolina Ale House in Knoxville. Those in Photo #5 are from left to right - Jim Rock, Bruce Eltzroth, Lorie Helms, Marlin Helms, Jim Burkholder, and Mike Oleson (Lorie's Brother). Not present in the photo was Gary Davis (who left early) and Jeff Oleson (one of Lorie's other brothers, who took the photo).



Photos (except #5) and story by Bruce Eltzroth





(3)





The "Ale House" lunch was followed by a trip to "Just 1 More" tavern in Knoxville to watch the Army/Navy football game in which Navy participated, but didn't win. Starting at photo #6, with the float at "Just1More", Photo #7 shows Jim Burkholder adjusting Jim Rocks Navy-jersey flap, Photo #8 has (from left to right) Andy Armbrust, John Augustine, Jim Burkholder and Marlin Helms. Photo #9 features Terry McBride helping Yvette show off her Wonder Woman costume. And Photo #10 catches "Gunner" Greg McKinney giving a "thumbs up".













SUBMARINE MUSEUMS & FUTURE BOONDOGGLES OF THE MONTH



There are currently 24 Submarine Museums located in the United States. Two of the submarines are Russian, one is German and the rest are U.S. If you haven't seen any (or all) of them, now would be a good time to visit one (or more). Below (and on page 15) is a list of those that are open for visitation, except for the USS Ling (SS-297), that was maliciously sunk by vandals several months ago, pier side in Hackensack, New Jersey. It is closed indefinitely. The objective here is, for anyone who is willing to visit some of these museums, to take photos of these submarines and/or any other notable details and themselves. Then to write (or provide information from the museum) to us for the purpose of writing future "Boondoggles of the Month" for the newsletter. Those who provide any input will be given recognition for their work and a special reward (TBD) for their input.

(Museum List provided by John Augustine)

-			-	· · · · · · =			
USS Drum (SS-228)	Gato	May 12, 1941	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.ussalabama.com/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Mobile, AL
<i>U-505</i> (German)	IX-C	May 24, 1941	Deutsche Werft AG	http://www.msichicago.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Chicago, IL
USS Bowfin (SS-287)	Balao	Dec. 7, 1942	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.bowfin.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Honolulu, HI
USS Croaker (SS-246)	Gato	Dec. 19, 1942	Electric Boat company	http://www.buffalonavalpark.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Buffalo, NY
USS <i>Cod</i> (SS-224)	Gato	March 21, 1943	Electric Boat Company	http://www.usscod.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Cleveland, OH
USS <i>Batfish</i> (SS-310)	Balao	May 6, 1943	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.warmemorialpark.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Muskogee, OK
USS Pam- panito (SS-383)	Balao	July 12, 1943	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.maritime.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	San Fran- cisco, CA
USS <i>Ling</i> (SS-297)	Balao	August 15, 1943	Cramp Ship- building Com- pany	http://www.njnm.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Hackensack, NJ
USS Lion- fish (SS-298)	Balao	Nov. 7, 1943	Cramp Ship- building Com- pany	http://www.battleshipcove.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Fall River, MA
USS <i>Cavalla</i> (SS-244)	Gato	Nov. 14, 1943	Electric Boat Company	http://www.americanunderseawarfa recenter.com/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Galveston, TX
USS Cobia (SS-245)	Gato	Nov. 28, 1943	Electric Boat Company	http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Manitowoc, WI
USS Razor- back (SS-394)	Balao	January 27, 1944	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.aimmuseum.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	North Little Rock, AR

(Continued next page)



SUBMARINE MUSEUMS & FUTURE BOONDOGGLES OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)



USS Becuna (SS-319)	Balao	January 30, 1944	Electric Boat Company	http://www.phillyseaport.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Philadelphia, PA
USS Torsk (SS-423)	Tench	Sept. 6, 1944	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.historicships.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Baltimore, MD
USS Requin (SS-481)	Tench	January 1, 1945	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.carnegiesciencecenter. org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Pittsburgh, PA
USS <i>Clama-gore</i> (SS-343)	Balao	February 25, 1945	Electric Boat Company	http://www.patriotspoint.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Mount Pleas- ant, SC
USS <i>Albacore</i> (AGSS-569)	Albacore	August 1, 1953	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.ussalbacore.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Portsmouth, NH
USS <i>Marlin</i> (SST-2)	T-1	October 14, 1953	Electric Boat Company	http://parks.cityofomaha.org//28 1-freedom-park	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Omaha, NE
USS <i>Growler</i> (SSG-577)	Gray- back	April 5, 1958	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.intrepidmuseum.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	New York, NY
USS <i>Nautilus</i> (SSN-571)	Nautilus	January 21, 1954	Electric Boat Company	http://www.ussnautilus.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Groton, CT
USS Blue- back (SS-581)	Barbel	May 16, 1959	Ingalls Ship- building Corpo- ration	http://www.omsi.edu/submarine	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	Portland, OR
<i>B-39</i> (Russian)	Foxtrot	April 15, 1967	Admiralty Ship- yard	http://www.sdmaritime.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	San Diego, CA
USS <i>Dolphin</i> (AGSS-555)	Dolphin	June 8, 1968	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	http://www.sdmaritime.org/	HNSA webpage	Wikipedia webpage	San Diego, CA
<i>B-427</i> (Russian)	Foxtrot	June 22, 1971	Sudomekh Shipyard	http://www.queenmary.com// scorpion-submarine/	Associate Member	Wikipedia webpage	Long Beach, CA











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With my signature below I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish proof of my eligibility for Regular membership, including my discharge under honorable conditions, and proof of my U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by the Base or the national Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. N. submarine qualified. I am applying as an Associate and my sponsor is indicated below.

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