

The Snorkel Exhaust

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, TN USSVI

"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.

**SNORKEL EXHAUST INDEX
 May & June 2020**

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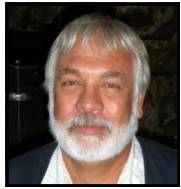


Scheduled Meetings
 Monthly meetings are scheduled for the **3rd Thursday** of each month at:
 GOLDEN CORRAL
 6612 CLINTON HIGHWAY,
 KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
 Dinner & Social Hour @ 1800
 Meeting @ 1900



Follow us on Facebook at:
Smoky-Mountain-Submarine-Veterans-273222054302

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)



WEBSITE MASTER
Stuart McGlassen



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



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



Qualified EM3(SS)
USS WOODROW WILSON (SSBN-624)
 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



SMB STOREKEEPER
Dick Mitchell



Qualified ET1(SS)
USS Conger (SS/AGSS-477)



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

MAY & JUNE - 2020

Scheduled Meetings

Future monthly meetings are scheduled to be held by computer "ZOOM Conferencing" for the time being or until the Corona Virus has been contained.

Zoom Meetings start @ 1830
(On every third Thursday of the Month)



SMB Meetings and Happenings



New Members:
(None This Issue)

- May 1 - Newsletter Deadline
- May 8 - VE Day (1945) (Victory in Europe)
- May 10 - Mothers Day
- May 16 - Armed Forces Day
- May 21 - SMB Meeting (1830 Hrs) (Zoom)
- May 22 - USSVI Chartered (1964)
- May 25 - Memorial Day



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- June 6 - D-Day
- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 18 - SMB Meeting (1830 Hrs - Zoom)
- June 20 - Summer Solstice
- June 21 - Fathers Day

May 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					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	29	30
31						

June 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	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	29	30				



LOCAL HAPPENINGS

2020 - SMB Election of Officers:

Nominations of our SMB Officers were tabulated at our board meeting on May 15, 2020 - results are as follows:
Base Commander: [Marlin Helms](#)
Base Vice Commander: [Bob Childs](#)
Secretary: [Martin Wesley](#)
Treasurer: [Jim Rock](#)

Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic, Voting will be done by e-mail from Marlin soon.

SMB Library Books and Magazines



**SMB Library Books,
 DVD's and Magazines**
Ed Sandifer –ENS(SS)
 Base Librarian

Ed has several books and other items available for viewing. There are over 100 books and videos in our library - check some out!



Corona Virus Thoughts

To those who are complaining about the quarantine period and curfews, just remember that your grandparents were called to war; you are being called to sit on the couch and watch Netflix. You can do this.

WHILE EVERYTHING IS GETTING SHUT DOWN... MAYBE THEY SHOULD PAVE THE ROADS.

FIRST TIME IN HISTORY WE CAN SAVE THE HUMAN RACE BY LAYING IN FRONT OF THE T.V. AND DOING NOTHING LETS NOT SCREW THIS UP

GAS IS FINALLY AFFORDABLE AND WE CAN'T GO ANYWHERE!



**VETERANS
 INFORMATION FOR
 SMOKY MOUNTAIN
 BASE MEMBERS**



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

What should veterans do if they think they have COVID-19?

Before visiting local VA medical facilities, community providers, urgent care centers, or emergency departments in their communities, veterans experiencing COVID-19 symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath are encouraged to call their local VA medical facility or call MyVA311 (844-698-2311, press #3 to be connected). Veterans can also send secure messages to their health care providers via MyhealthVet at <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home> - VA's online patient portal. VA clinicians will evaluate veterans' symptoms and direct them to the most appropriate providers for further evaluation and treatment. This may include referral to state or local health departments for COVID-19 testing.

What about routine appointments and previously scheduled procedures?

VA is encouraging all veterans to call their VA facility before seeking any care even previously scheduled medical visits, mental health appointments, or surgical procedures. Veterans can also send secure messages to their health care providers via MyhealthVet and find out whether they should still come in for their scheduled appointments. VA providers may arrange to convert appointments to **Video Visits**, where possible and veterans should feel free to request telehealth appointments from their VA providers.

COVID-19 Symptoms

One of the first symptoms of COVID-19 is a runny nose. As the body responds to the virus, an individual will then develop a fever. COVID-19 then typically progresses to coughs, inflammation, constant pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, bluish lips or face, muscle aches, low energy, trouble moving and shortness of breath. "Those are symptoms that are much more likely to be COVID-19," he said. However, that doesn't mean that it actually is COVID-19, he added. "There are hundreds of viruses that can produce those very same symptoms, but in this day and age, we are very concerned about COVID-19." Also, this is the time of year when allergies are high. Allergies typically result in a runny nose, sneezing and itchy eyes, but they don't generate fevers and some of the other symptoms.

(SS) CHALLENGE COINS LLC
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BASE COMMANDERS REPORT MARLIN E. HELMS, JR. - MM1 (SS)



We seem to be on a path to relaxing some of the restrictions imposed by Tennessee's Governor Lee. I do not have a crystal ball to predict what will happen but cannot let the base go without some direction. It looks like the Golden Corral may not reopen and I have revised the statement on our Facebook Page and web site to reflect that meetings will be by video conference for the time being. Parades scheduled for the near future have all been cancelled as has the Secret City Festival. In the absence of the Secret City Festival this year I have submitted an event request to hold our annual Tolling of the Boats at Bissell park at the Peace Bell on the 1st of August at 10:00. This will be the 14th year we have done the tolling ceremony at Bissell park (if approved). Jim Rock our Treasurer grumbled about the \$25 application fee but then a bitching sailor is a happy sailor, or at least that is what I have been told.

The raffle for the two mahogany dolphins I hope will be enough to cover the repairs to the float trailer and failing that, enough that we can comfortably cover the balance from the treasury. The next use for the float will be for our tolling ceremony as a backdrop. The drawing will have to be done in time to order the metal and do the work. Not sure what that will be, but it will be in the notification to open the raffle. So far, only \$300.00 has been collected, but more is needed. At the board meeting we also discussed potential new meeting locations. I will be calling some of them this week. We should be looking for a room large enough to accommodate a full meeting, have reasonably priced food, have no charge for use of the room, and quiet enough to conduct a meeting. Using a facility that has no food has been suggested bringing our own but many of the wives do not want to do this. Our meetings are dinner out and socializing for many of our spouses and it is in the bases interest to keep them in attendance. Bases I have visited whose wives are in regular attendance are healthier bases.

Fraternally, Marlin Helms - Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base Commander.



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



Due to the Corona Virus (Covid-19) event of 2020, this edition of the Snorkle is somewhat truncated. Subsequently, SMB confirmed the nominations of Base Officers at our May 21st online "Zoom" meeting and the results are listed on page 4 of this issue. John Augustine & I visited the Haddo Base monthly meeting on March 14th, 2020 which was held in Cleveland, Tennessee - details on page 12. Don't miss the story of the first submerged circumnavigation of the globe by USS Triton (SSRN-586) on page 13, and Commissioning of the USS Vermont (SSN-792) on page 14.



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



The Subvet spring picnic will be delayed until further notice due to the Corona Virus.
Andy is checking with Dick Love, who will contact the Concord Yacht Club to see if, and when it can be held.

Andy Armbrust, Social Committee Chairman (865) 300-3934 (Cell)

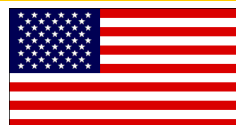


STOREKEEPERS REPORT - DICK MITCHELL ET1(SS)



We currently have the following items on hand for sale:

The 2020 USSVI Calendars are now available, you can pick them up at the next meeting. Cost \$8.00 at the meeting, but if mailed \$9.00 to cover postage. They could make 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.



SMB TREASURERS REPORT - JIM ROCK MM1(SS)



Treasurers Report: Jim Rock

On March 31st, we had a balance of **\$1,447.71.**

As of May 31st, we have a balance of **\$1,798.49.**





SMB Meeting Minutes



Presiding: Marlin Helms, Base Commander

Date: May 21, 2020

Meeting called to Order at 1903 hours

Marlin Helms presented the Invocation

The Base Commander led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance the reading of The USSVI Creed.

Marlin led the tolling of the bell for lost boats.

Meeting Minutes – Not presented

Treasurer's Report – \$1798.49

Correspondence/Discussion – None

Committees –

- **Newsletter**- Bruce Eltzroth currently working on the next issue
- **Library** –no report
- **Storekeeper** – no report
- **Membership** – Marlin Helms 62 members
- **Scouting** - Thom Peschke no ceremonies currently request members notify him if they are aware of any coming up
- **Webmaster** – Marlin Helms modified web page to reflect not currently meeting at Golden Corral

Social Committees- Andy Armbrust maybe a picnic later in the year depending on pandemic status

Old business –

- Nominating committee states no addition nominations
- Called for any new nominations none received, voting will be done by e-mail
- Float trailer repairs to be financed in part by raffle of two mahogany dolphins

Tolling of the Boats will be at the Peace Bell in Bissell Park August first at 10:00. Event request submitted and accepted by Oak ridge Parks and Recreation department

New Business/Good of the Order –

Next Meeting; 1900 hrs, Thur. June 18, 2020 by video conference unless Golden Corral opens under conditions that would allow a meeting.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. Accepted unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 1950 hours.



SMB Members on Eternal Patrol



Member	Base	Member From	Ships
1/24/2020 Edit Anderson, Bobby 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-299, SS-522, SSN-607, SSN-612
1/30/2019 Edit Weller, Charles Alfred 船	Smoky Mountain	2009	SS-236, SS-408
1/24/2019 Edit Smith, William L. 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-425, SSBN-630, SSK-1
1/20/2018 Edit Tidd, James F. 船	Smoky Mountain	2016	SS-522, SS-564, SS-408
1/15/2018 Edit Threath, Monty Ray 船	Smoky Mountain	2004	SS-415, SS-398, SS-484
1/24/2017 Edit McCartee, James Michael 船	Smoky Mountain	2006	SS-343
1/23/2016 Edit Franks, James Paul 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-422, SSN-585, SSN-588, SSBN-619, AS-12
1/20/2016 Edit Bell, Herbert L. 船	Smoky Mountain	2004	SSBN-610, SSN-585, SSBN-624
4/5/2015 Edit Collins, Jr. Edward Albert 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-313, SS-249, SS-422
1/25/2014 Edit Kolb, Robert Forrest 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-95, SS-407, SS-409, SS-401, SS-563, SS-302
1/23/2013 Edit Odom, Charley Tom 船	Smoky Mountain	1998	SS-105, SS-185, SS-138, SS-286, SS-302, SS-385, ASR-7, YO-49
8/3/2013 Edit Thornton, Anthony (n) 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-0, SS-419
7/1/2012 Edit Springer, Stephen J. 船	Smoky Mountain	2004	SS-479, SSBN-632, SSBN-645, SSBN-630
1/31/2011 Edit Hayes, Richard T. 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-365, SSN-596
1/31/2010 Edit Baldwin, Arnold Raymond 船	Nebraska	2004	SS-422, SS-87, SS-79, AM-28, SS-295
1/18/2010 Edit Hughes, Richard Keith 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-563, SS-426, SS-241, SS-341
2/9/2009 Edit Redick, Charles E. 船	Smoky Mountain		SS-490

"Tolling of the Bell for May and June":

USS BARBEL (SS-580) - 1 May 1989 - 2 Men Lost;
USS LAGARTO (SS-371) - 3 May 1945 - 88 Men Lost;
USS SQUALUS (SS-192) - 23 May 1939 - 26 Men Lost;
USS SCORPION (SSN-589) - 27 May 1968 - 99 Men Lost;
USS RUNNER (SS-275) - 28 May 1943 - 78 Men Lost;

USS HERRING (SS-233) - 1 June 1944 - 84 Men Lost;
USS GOLET (SS-361) - June 14, 1944 - 82 Men Lost;
USS R-12 (SS-89) - 18 June 1943 - 42 Men Lost;
USS BONEFISH (SS-223) - 18 June 1945 - 85 Men Lost;
USS S-27 (SS-132) - 19 June 1942 - No Men Lost
USS O-9 (SS-70) - 20 June 1941 - 34 Men Lost.

The significance of our ceremony of "Tolling of the Bell for the Boats"

We honor our fallen brother submariners who lost their lives in war and peacetime. It is fundamental to our creed as members of the **U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc.**, which is: *"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in pursuit of their duties while serving their country."* (See the following pages for details about the above lost boats)





Lost Boats of May



Pre WW-II Lost Boats

USS SQUALUS (SS-192) - 23 May 1939



26 MEN LOST

The USS SQUALUS sank during a test dive off Portsmouth New Hampshire on 23 May 1939. 26 men drowned, 33 were rescued using a McCann rescue chamber. Squalus was raised on 13 September 1939, and recommissioned as the SAILFISH. It was subsequently sold for scrap in June of 1948.

(Also see Pg. 12 for additional salvage operation information.)

USS O-9 (SS-70) - 20 June 1941



34 MEN LOST

USS O-9 was Lost on 20 June 1941 when it floundered and sank during deep submergence testing off the Isle of Shoals, 15 miles from Portsmouth New Hampshire. It was later located by side scan sonar in September, 1997.

WW-II Lost Boats

USS LAGARTO (SS-371) - 4 May 1945



88 MEN LOST

On April 12, 1945, with Commander Frank D. Latta on the bridge, Lagarto departed the submarine base at Subic Bay for her second and final war patrol. She had been ordered to patrol in the South China Sea. In late April she was directed to move to the outer part of the Gulf of Siam, where she would team up with USS Baya (SS-318) to conduct a coordinated patrol. On May 2, 1945, once on station in their new area, Baya sent Lagarto a contact report on a convoy consisting of one tanker, one auxiliary, and two destroyers. Lagarto later reported being in contact with the convoy, and began positioning for an attack with Baya. Later that night Baya reported she had attempted an attack on the convoy, but was driven off by gunfire from the enemy escorts. Early on the morning of May 3, 1945, Lagarto and Baya met to discuss attack plans. A strategy was agreed upon, and the submarines continued the convoy chase. The two submarines exchanged contact reports during the day. Baya attempted a midnight attack, but was again driven off by the alert IJN escorts. On May 4, 1945, Baya tried to contact Lagarto, but received no reply. Lagarto was never heard from again. The Lagarto received one battle star for her World War II service.





Lost Boats of June



USS HERRING (SS-233) - 1 June 1944



84 MEN LOST

The *Herring's* career is unique because she served in two theaters during World War II. Her first four war patrols were in the Atlantic. On July 26, 1943, the *Herring* arrived at New London from the United Kingdom, pursuant to her transfer from ComSubLant to ComSubPac. She left New London for the Panama Canal on August 9, 1943, arriving at Hunter's Point naval dry-docks for an overhaul on September 1, 1943. She departed San Francisco on October 29, 1943, and arrived at Pearl Harbor on November 2, 1943. The *Herring* completed her sixth and seventh war patrols out of Pearl Harbor between November 1943 and May 1944. On May 16, 1944, the *Herring*, captained by Lieutenant Commander David Zabriskie, Jr., departed Pearl Harbor on her eighth and final war patrol. On May 21, 1944, she topped off her fuel at Midway Island, and then headed for her assigned patrol area in the Kurile Islands. On May 31, 1944, she kept a rendezvous with the USS *Barb* (SS-220) to coordinate patrol strategy. This would prove to be the last contact anyone would have with the *Herring*. A few hours after parting ways, the *Barb* detected and began approaching an enemy convoy. Then she heard a distant depth-charge barrage and assumed the *Herring* had attacked the same convoy and was being counterattacked. Later, the *Barb* fished an enemy sailor out of the water who said the *Herring* had sunk an escort vessel (the frigate *Ishigaki*) from the convoy the *Barb* was tracking. The *Barb* eventually tracked, torpedoed, and sank two of the fleeing vessels - the *Koto Maru*, a small freighter, and the *Madras Maru*, a passenger-cargo man. The *Herring* had destroyed the third merchant, the freighter *Hokuyo Maru*.

The *Herring* failed to acknowledge receipt of orders dispatched to the *Barb* and her by ComSubPac on June 4, 1944, directing them to stay clear of a restricted area during the Marianas Campaign. The details of her loss did not become known until after Japan's surrender. Japanese reports obtained after the war revealed that the *Herring* was sunk on June 1, 1944, two kilometers south of Point Tagan on Matsuwa To Island in the Kuriles, after sinking two merchant ships at anchor close to shore at Matsuwa To with torpedoes at 0742 hours. The report stated the surfaced submarine appeared to have been damaged from running aground off Cape Tagan. In a counterattack made at 0756 hours, shore batteries scored two direct hits on the *Herring's* conning tower, and the gallant submarine went down with all hands. The Japanese report stated the sinking brought bubbles and foam to the surface; later a fifteen-mile long heavy oil slick covered the surface. The *Herring* was the only U.S. submarine to be sunk by a shore battery during the war.

The *Herring* received five battle stars for her service in World War II.





Lost Boats of June



USS GOLET (SS-361) - June 14, 1944

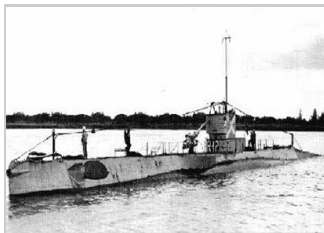


82 MEN LOST

The Manitowoc-built *Goleet*, captained by Lieutenant Commander James S. Clark, left Midway Island on May 28, 1944, on her second and final war patrol.

The *Goleet* was probably depth charged and sunk on June 14, 1944, off the northeastern coast of Honshu, at the geographic position 41° 4' 0.000" N, 141° 30' 0.000" E, by Japanese naval aircraft, a patrol boat, and an auxiliary submarine chaser. The *Goleet* had unsuccessfully attacked a cargo vessel on that date. The enemy air and surface units then pursued the *Goleet* to an area northeast of Hakuoto Lighthouse. In late 1942 the Japanese armed merchant cruiser *Bangkok Maru* had laid a field of 200 Type 93 mines in that area. On June 18, 1944, the patrol boat discovered an oil slick two kilometers long and 100 meters wide there. For the next nine hours the surface vessels and the aircraft dropped depth charges on that spot. More oil continued to rise to the surface. The enemy concluded they had attacked and sunk a submarine previously damaged by a mine.

USS R-12 (SS-89) - 18 June 1943



42 MEN LOST

Only two United States submarines were lost in the Atlantic during World War II, both in 1943: *R-12* and *USS Dorado* (SS-248).

On June 12, 1943, *R-12*, captained by Lieutenant Commander Edward E. Shelby, got underway from Key West, Florida to conduct a torpedo practice approach. As she completed preparations to dive, her forward battery compartment began to flood. The sea began rushing in and *R-12* sank within fifteen seconds in 600 feet of water. Two officers and three enlisted men, who were on the bridge, were the only survivors. The men lost included four U. S. Navy officers, thirty-six U. S. Navy enlisted men, and two Brazilian observers. It was the opinion of a Court of Inquiry that the exact cause for the loss of *R-12* was unknown, but was probably due to rapid flooding of the forward part of the ship through a torpedo tube.

USS BONEFISH (SS-223) - 18 June 1945



85 MEN LOST

Japanese records reviewed after the war revealed that the 5,488-ton cargo ship *Konzan Maru* was torpedoed and sunk in Toyama Wan on June 19, 1945, and that an ensuing severe counterattack by Japanese escorts brought debris and a major oil slick to the water's surface. The *BONEFISH* was sunk in this action. She went down fighting with all hands.

At 0615, *BONEFISH* torpedoes KONZAN MARU at 37-13N, 137-18E. The Japanese 31st Escort Division is alerted immediately and CD-63, OKINAWA (F) and CD-207 arrive at the scene of sinking. OKINAWA makes sonar contact with a submerged submarine and drops a series of depth charges set to a depth of 295 to 390 feet. Next, CD-63 and CD-207 attack. CD-158 is also dispatched to the same location. After another attack, the sonar contact is lost. Pieces of cork and oil are sighted at 37-18N, 137-55E. *USS BONEFISH* is lost with all 85 hands. The *BONEFISH* earned Navy Unit Commendations for her first, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth war patrols, and seven battle stars for her World War II service.



Lost Boats of June



USS 2-27 (SS-132) - 19 June 1942



NO MEN LOST

On June 12, 1942, the **S-27** departed Dutch Harbor for her first and final war patrol with Lieutenant Herbert L. Jukes in command. She had been ordered to reconnoiter Constantine Harbor at Amchitka Island and to patrol the Kuluk Bay area at Adak Island. On June 16, 1942, she was told to deploy to Kiska Island. On June 18, 1942, she reconnoitered Constantine Harbor finding no signs of enemy activity. She then headed for Kiska Island as ordered. When **S-27** surfaced that night to re-charge her batteries, heavy fog caused her to drift five miles from her estimated position. On June 19, 1942, she grounded on rocks off St. Makarius Point on Amchitka Island. All attempts to right the boat were unsuccessful. The entire crew was safely transferred to Constantine Harbor on the 20th, and a camp was established using the buildings and heating equipment that had survived a Japanese bombing. The entire crew was eventually rescued by PBY aircraft. All equipment, classified material, and guns aboard **S-27** were destroyed. Only the submarine's flooded hull remained.

POST WW-II Lost Boats

USS SCORPION (SSN-589) - 22 May 1968

99 MEN LOST



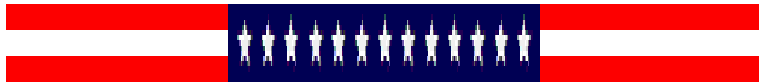
The USS *SCORPION* (SSN-589) sank May 22, 1968 in more than 10,000 feet of water about 400 miles southwest of the Azores. Its loss was not ascertainable; the most probable cause was inadvertent activation of torpedo battery resulting in a possible "hot run" of a torpedo and detonation off the Azores.

USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was returning to Norfolk, VA. from a Mediterranean deployment. Shortly after midnight of 22 May 1968, she indicated her position to be about 50 miles south of the Azores. Her last transmission ended at 0302 on that date. Later information has determined the time of the hull Collapse as: 1842 UDT on 22 May, 1968 at a depth of 1525 fathoms.



At right – USS Scorpion information presented at the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, Washington.
(Photo by Bruce Eltzroth)





POST WW-II Lost Boats (cont.)

USS BARBEL (SS-580) - 1 May 1989



2 MEN LOST



On 1 May 1989, while operating off Kyūshū, Japan, three submariners were washed overboard by heavy waves. One sailor was rescued; the two others drowned. Due to extensive damage to the boat from flooding during the incident, the decision was made to decommission the *Barbel*.



Photo By USN photo. - <http://www.navsourc.org/archives/08/08580b.htm>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=587220>



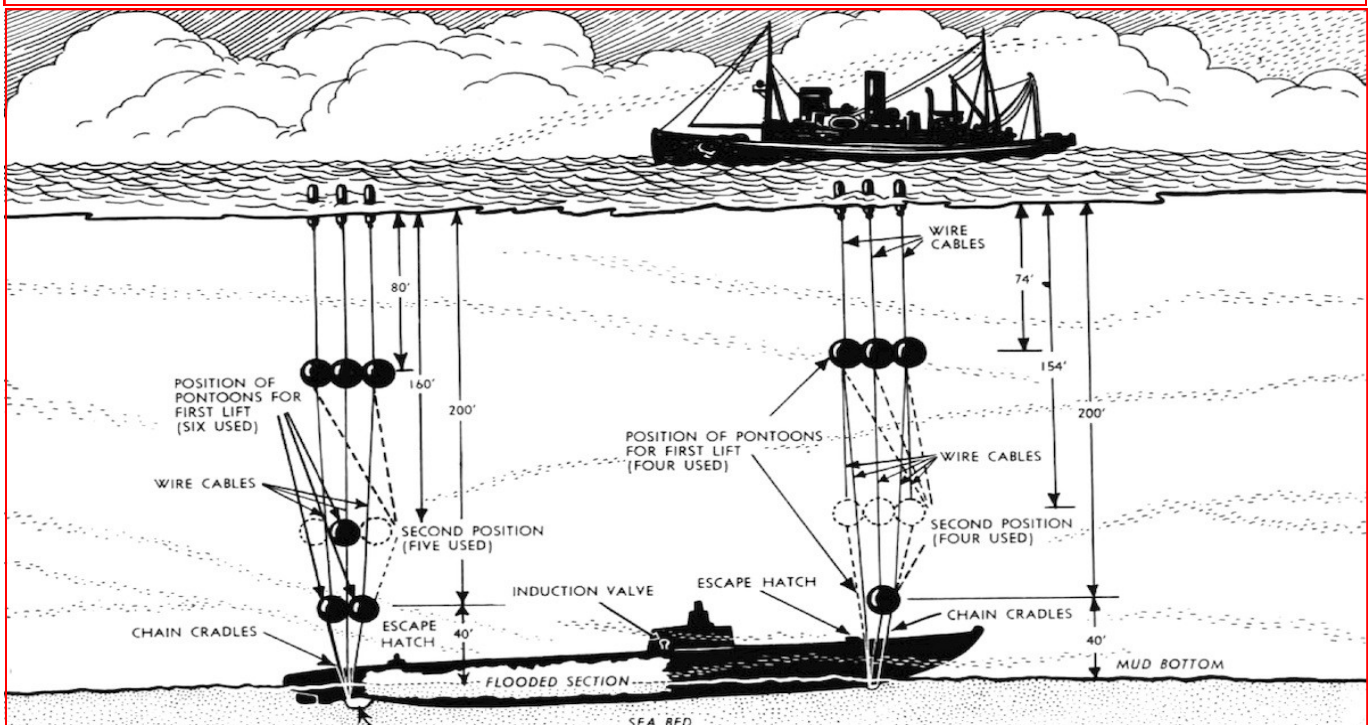
Salvaging of the Squalus

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)



Below is an artist's rendition of the salvaging of the Squalus in 1939.

On May 23, 1939 USS Squalus suffered a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. Partially flooded, the submarine sank to the bottom and came to rest keel down in 240 feet of water. Commander Charles Momsen and Navy divers on the USS Falcon (ASR-2) rescued 33 survivors using a McCann rescue chamber. 26 men in the after compartments drowned. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish. In an ironic turn of fate, Sailfish subsequently sank the Japanese aircraft carrier carrying surviving crew members from Sculpin, which had located Squalus in 1939. Only one of the Sculpin crew survived after they had spent the rest of the war as slave laborers in Japan.





A Visit to the Haddo Base Monthly Meeting

March 14, 2020

Photos & Story by Bruce Eltzroth with input from Marlin Helms



John Augustine and I visited the Haddo Base monthly meeting on March 14, 2020 which was held in Cleveland Tennessee at the local Golden Corral restaurant. This meeting was held just prior to the nationwide lockdown due to the Corona virus. Following the pledge of allegiance and the “Tolling of the Boats” (Photo 3 below) the meeting revolved around the activities of the base (Photos 1 and 2). Some of those activities included discussion of insurance for their float, including members of the public and base members riding on or walking alongside of it. Other discussions centered around Covid-19 and when & where future Haddo Base meetings would be held.

1



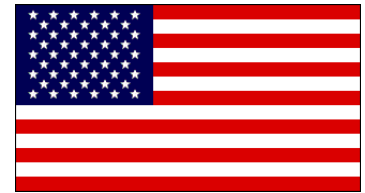
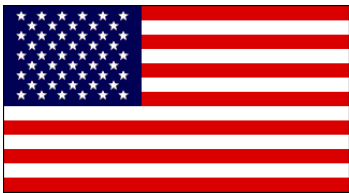
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3



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN ON MEMORIAL DAY



★ ★ ★
**Tolling Of
The Bells** ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★
**Tolling Of
The Bells** ★ ★ ★

(Due to COVID-19,) Memorial Day will look a little different this year, but one thing hasn't changed — this important observance continues to be a day to honor and remember all military service members who died serving our country. Memorial Day began more than 150 years ago, when a group of Union veterans created "Declaration Day" as a day to place flowers on the graves of Civil War soldiers. The holiday became known as Memorial Day after World War II and has been held on the last Monday in May since 1971. This May 25, we invite you take a moment and remember the 1.2 million people who died in service to the United States.
(Story & Photo courtesy of the Undersea Museum)



**LOOKING BACK...60 years ago this month,
USS Triton Circumnavigates the Globe**

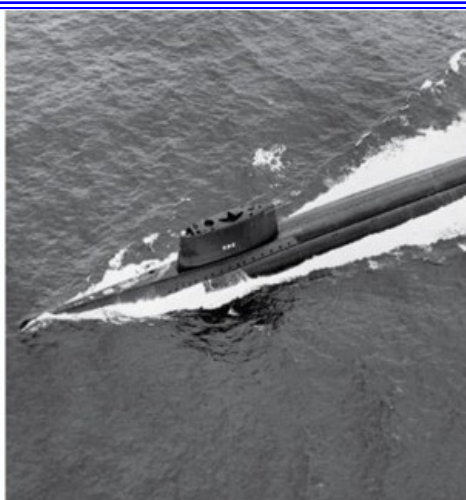
(Story & Photos courtesy of the Undersea Museum)



On May 10, 1960, the radar picket submarine **USS Triton (SSRN 586)** surfaced after completing the first submerged voyage around the world. The sub traveled underwater for more than 36,000 nautical miles during the journey! *Triton* was a unique ship: at the time, she was the largest submarine ever built, the only ship in her class, and the only American submarine to ever have **two** nuclear reactors. Her submerged trip around the Earth demonstrated the endurance and speed capabilities of nuclear submarines less than six years after the introduction of nuclear propulsion. The impressive feat earned *Triton* a Presidential Unit Citation (below LEFT) and her commanding officer, Captain Edward "Ned" Beach, a Legion of Merit award (below RIGHT).

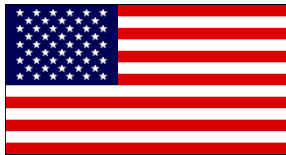


Below: Left: Commemorative circumnavigation booklet, *Center:* USS Triton at sea, *Below :Right:* Captain Ned Beach at Triton's periscope.



TRITON put to sea on her shakedown cruise on 15 February 1960, bound for the South Atlantic. She arrived in the middle Atlantic off St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks on 24 February to commence a history-making voyage. Having remained submerged since her departure from the east coast, **TRITON** continued on south towards Cape Horn, rounded the tip of South America and headed west across the Pacific. After transiting the Philippine and Indonesian archipelagoes and crossing the Indian Ocean, she rounded the Cape of Good Hope and arrived off the St. Peter and Paul Rocks on 10 April - 60 days and 21 hours after departing the mid-ocean landmark. Only once did her sail break the surface of the sea, when she transferred a sick sailor to heavy cruiser - **MACON (CA 132)** off Montevideo, Uruguay, on 5 March. *Triton* arrived back at Groton on the 10th of May 1960, having completed the very first submerged circumnavigation of the earth.

(This story & above Ribbons courtesy of Wikipedia)



USS Vermont (SSN-792) Virginia-Class Fast-Attack Submarine Recently Put In Service

(Story Courtesy of RAO Bulletin, Update 01 May, 2020)
(Photos Courtesy of Wikipedia)



The U.S. Navy commissioned USS Vermont (SSN-792), the 19th Virginia-class attack submarine on April 18, 2020. Although the traditional public commissioning ceremony was cancelled due to public health safety and restrictions of large public gatherings, the Navy commissioned USS Vermont administratively and transitioned the ship to normal operations. Meanwhile, the Navy is looking at a future opportunity to commemorate the special event with the ship's sponsor, crew and commissioning committee. "This Virginia-class fast-attack submarine will continue the proud naval legacy of the state of Vermont and of the state of Vermont and the ships that have borne her name," said Acting Secretary of the Navy James E. McPherson. "I am confident the crew of this cutting edge platform will carry on this tradition and confront the challenges of today's complex world with the professionalism and dedication our nation depends on from warriors of the silent service." Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle, commander, Submarine Forces, said Vermont's entry to service marks a new phase of American undersea warfare dominance for a global Submarine Force that is ready to deter, defend and defeat threats to our nation, allies, and rules-based international order. "This warship carries on a proud Vermont legacy in naval warfare and unyielding determination stretching back to the birth of our nation," Caudle said. "To her crew, congratulations on completing the arduous readiness training to enter sea trials and prepare this ship for battle. I am proud to serve with each of you! Stand ready to defend our nation wherever we are threatened – honoring your motto – FREEDOM AND UNITY. May God bless our Submarine Force, the people of Vermont, and our families! From the depths, we strike!" The ship's sponsor, Ms. Gloria Valdez, former deputy assistant secretary of the Navy (Ships), offered her gratitude to everyone who played a role in delivering USS Vermont to service. She said she is proud to represent the crew and the first Block IV Virginia-class submarine to enter service. "I am very proud of the sailors and families of USS Vermont who worked so hard to bring her to life, and also feel extremely grateful to everyone who played a role preparing her to defend our nation for generations to come," Valdez said. "I look forward to commemorating this special occasion together with the crew in the future." Vermont's commanding officer, Cmdr. Charles W. Phillips III, highlighted Vermont's accomplishments over the past several weeks getting through initial sea trials. The hard work and dedication of the entire team during the past few years was evident in the successful execution of at-sea testing. He said he is especially thankful to the crew and their families, ship sponsor Ms. Valdez, and the USS Vermont Commissioning Committee, led by Ms. Debra Martin, for all their hard work and support of the crew.

"USS Vermont is the third U.S. Navy ship to bear the name of the "Green Mountain State." The first Vermont was one of nine 74-gun warships authorized by Congress in 1816. The second Vermont, Battleship No. 20, was commissioned in 1907 and first deployed in December of that same year as part of the "Great White Fleet." She was decommissioned June 30, 1920.

USS Vermont (SSN-792) is a flexible, multi-mission platform designed to carry out the seven core competencies of the submarine force: anti-submarine warfare; anti-surface warfare; delivery of special operations forces; strike warfare; irregular warfare; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and mine warfare. The submarine is 377 feet long, has a 34-foot beam, and will be able to dive to depths greater than 800 feet and operate at speeds in excess of 25 knots submerged. The ship's construction began in May 2014, and it will provide the Navy with the capabilities required to maintain the nation's undersea superiority well into the 21st century. It is the first of 10 Virginia-class Block IV submarines. Block IV submarines incorporate design changes focused on reduced total ownership cost. By making smaller-scale design changes, the Navy will increase the length of time between maintenance stops and increase the number of deployments.

(Thank you Thom Peschke)



USSVI APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Regular Life Associate

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

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.

I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard _____ in _____ (Yr)
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)

I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service) in _____ (Yr)

Name: (Print /Type) _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ - _____ Tel: (_____) _____ - _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Your E-Mail Address _____ Base/Chapter Desired: _____

The Member Dues year runs from Jan 1st thru Dec 31st. Please indicate your term preference: _____

Nat'l Dues: 5 Yr term: \$115.00; 3 Yr term: \$70.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) \$25.00; (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): \$30.00;
Nat'l Life: 76+ yrs = \$100.00; 66 thru 75 yrs = \$200; 56 thru 65 yrs = \$300.00; 46 thru 55 = \$400.00; Thru 45 yrs = \$ 500.00;

Local Base/chapter dues are separate and additional. Consult the local base for those figures.

How did you find USSVI? Friend, Boat Assn, Local Event/News, Internet, Other (_____)

Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member? (Mandatory for Associate Members) _____

Associate Applicant is: Veteran, Spouse of Veteran, Other (specify) _____

YOUR U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Date Of Birth (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ If other military service, What Branch? _____

Highest Rate & Rank Attained: _____ Mil Retired (Y/N): _____ On Active Duty? (Y/N): _____

YR entered Mil Service: _____ YR left Mil Service _____ (Active/Inactive reserve time also counts.)

Check here if your Military Service falls within these time periods: Dec 7, 1941, thru Dec 31, 1946, June 27, 1950, thru Jan 31, 1955; Aug 5, 1964, thru May 7, 1975; and from Aug 2, 1990 to date.

Check here if you have been awarded an Expeditionary Medal.

Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (Use back if you need more space.)

1. _____ Hull# _____ Rank/Rate _____ From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____

2. _____ Hull# _____ Rank/Rate _____ From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____

3. _____ Hull# _____ Rank/Rate _____ From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____

4. _____ Hull# _____ Rank/Rate _____ From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____

5. _____ Hull# _____ Rank/Rate _____ From Yr. _____ to Yr. _____

Next of Kin: Name: _____ Relationship: _____ (Spouse, Partner, Son, Daughter, Parent, Other)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Tel: _____

(Leave this address line blank if it is the same as your home address)

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership DUES to the appropriate base officer, or if you do not know of a base near you, mail to: USSVI National Office, P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98383-3870. Questions: Call 1-877-542-DIVE or email office@ussvi.org.