

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 September & October 2018

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Scheduled Meetings

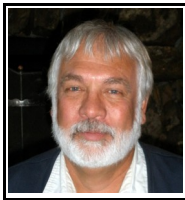
Monthly meetings are scheduled for the **3rd Thursday** of each month at:

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





Marlin E. Helms, Jr.
**BASE COMMANDER/
 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 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



STOREKEEPER
Jim Burkholder


Qualified EM2(SS)
USS CARP (SS-338)



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

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER - 2018

Scheduled Meetings

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the
 3rd Thursday of each month at:
Golden Corral
 6612 Clinton Hwy.



Meetings and Happenings



New Members:
 Jeremy Long MM3(SS), Qualified: USS Connecticut - 2010

- October 6 - SMB Fall Picnic - Melton Hill Dam (1200 Hrs)
- October 7 - Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)
- October 8 - Columbus Day
- October 13 - US Navy Established - 1775
- October 18 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)
- October 24 - United Nations Day
- October 31 - Halloween



Published by: Smoky Mountain Submarine Base, a
 Subsidiary of USSVI, a non-profit - 501(C)(19) Corporation.
 Editor: Bruce Eltzroth ET1 (SU)
 Published 6 times annually at the Base's website:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Smoky-Mountain-Submarine-Veterans/273222054302>

- November 10 - US Marine Corps Established - 1947
- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 13 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day
- November 15 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)
- November 22 - Thanksgiving
- December 1 - Next Newsletter Deadline

October 2018

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			

November 2018

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	1



LOCAL HAPPENINGS



SMB Library Books, DVD's and Magazines Ed Sandifer –HT1(SS) Base Librarian

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



VETERANS
INFORMATION FOR
SMOKY MOUNTAIN
BASE MEMBERS



In Service to America

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 1800.

TN Veterans Employment Benefits

Employment Programs: The following employment benefits are available in Tennessee:

- Veterans preference in State employment
- Credit for military service in State employment
- Reemployment rights of public employees

Veterans looking for high-quality jobs have several options in the State of Tennessee. To get started, visit the nearest Tennessee Department of Labor Career Center to find out more about translating military experience into civilian resume language. Military experience can be extremely marketable, but civilian employers need your best effort to help translate military service into civilian workforce skills. Representatives at the nearest Tennessee Department of Labor American Job Centers can guide Veterans through the process to make resume's stand-out. You can view the full list of Job Centers at <http://tn.gov/workforce/topic/find-local-help>.

Navy Terminology Update 01

► 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 terminology will be added from time to time.

Eight Bells:

Aboard Navy ships, bells are struck to designate the hours of being on "watch". Each watch is four hours in length. One bell is struck after the first half-hour has passed, two bells after one hour has passed, three bells after an hour and a half, four bells after two hours, and so forth up to eight bells are struck at the completion of the four hours. Completing a watch with no incidents to report was announced as: "Eight bells and all is well."

The practice of using bells stems from the days of the sailing ships. Sailors couldn't afford to have their own time pieces and relied on the ship's bells to tell time. The ship's boy kept time by using a half-hour glass. Each time the sand ran out, he would turn the glass over and ring the appropriate number of bells.



Tennessee Submarine Veterans License Plate

Have a copy of your DD-214 when you go to get yours.

The Ad below is for the "Vest Lady"

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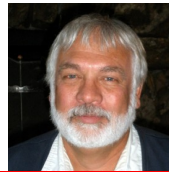
www.SUBVEST.com

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





**BASE COMMANDERS REPORT
MARLIN E. HELMS, JR.**



Shipmates we have a number of events coming up. Our fall picnic will be held Saturday October 6th at TVA's Melton Hill Lake and Campground. Andy Armbrust is the picnic coordinator and has been and will be putting out notices (See Program Chairman's Report Below). Navy League of Knoxville is presenting the Knoxville Navy Ball of 2018 on Saturday, October 13 at the Hotel Knoxville (aka Marriott). Ed Sandifer has been coordinating for Smoky Mountain base participation in the ball and has a table of ten reserved for us (there are still seats available). The 55th annual USSVI national convention will be a Caribbean cruise (OCT 21 thru 28), four of our members and their spouses are attending. Our Newsletter editor is going on the cruise so he will be able to do a "Boondoggle" article himself in the next newsletter. The Army/Navy game will be Saturday December 8th at the Just1More Bar and Grill.

I expect the Golden Corral to be repaired in time for our next meeting on the 18th of October. Don't forget to order your USSVI Submarine calendars, contact Jim Burkholder or myself.

Marlin Helms
Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base Commander



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

For the past two months the SMB has conducted their monthly meetings at the Mandarin House Buffet in Knoxville due to a fire at the Golden Corral. Most participants agreed that it was a very good buffet. I personally liked the Hot/Sour soup, but there were not enough CHOCOLATE desserts (especially DARK Chocolate) for my liking.

Once again, the SMB participated in the Haddo Base picnic and was victorious at the Horseshoe Tournament. I was honored to participate in the horseshoe tournament, even though Marlin Helms and John Augustine did most of the scoring! (See page 13 for the rest of the story).

We lost John McCain last month, and putting politics aside, he was an example of courage, determination and doing the right things that will be missed by all of us! FAIR WINDS AND CALM SEAS, JOHN. (Obit. on page 14.)

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT—ANDY ARMBRUST

Our fall picnic will be held Saturday October 6th at the TVA's Melton Hill Lake and Campground. We have reserved picnic pavilion 3 which is close to restrooms, the swimming beach, and the parking area. The picnic will begin at noon and we will plan to eat at 1:00 PM. I will prepare smoked pulled pork and will provide buns, BBQ sauce, plates, utensils, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee. Each family attending should bring a side dish or a dessert to share. **The cost is \$15.00 per couple or \$7.50/single. TVA facilities are alcohol free.**

For those who have not been to Melton Hill Lake, it is located right off I-40 at the first exit west of the I-40/I-75 split. Turn toward Oak Ridge go approximately one mile and turn right at the TVA sign. Follow the access road and take the fork to the left. Picnic area 3 is immediately behind the park office on the left.

Please let me know if you plan to attend so I can be sure to have enough food and supplies. Feel free to call or e-mail if you have any questions. Andy Armbrust, Picnic Committee Chairman (865) 300-3934



SMB TREASURER / STOREKEEPER REPORTS



Treasurers Report: Jim Rock

As of July 19th, we had a balance of \$1647.31.
As of **Sept. 26th** our bank balance was \$1600.75.
(Jim also Predicted Rain on this date)
Jim Rock - Treasurer



Storekeepers Report - Jim Burkholder

We currently have the following items on hand for sale:
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**. SMB Clocks - **\$15.00**.

Jim Burkholder - Storekeeper



**Secretary's Report/Meeting Minutes
Martin Wesley**



Smoky Mountain Base of USSVI, Inc. Meeting Agenda

Date: September 20, 2018 **Time/Location:** 1900 hrs, **Mandarin House Buffet, 314 Merchant Drive. 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".

USS S-5 (SS-110), September 1,2,3, 1920 - No Loss of Life
USS S-51 (SS-162), September 25, 1925 - 32 Men Lost
USS Cisco (SS-290), September 28, 1943 - 76 Men Lost
USS Grayling (SS-209), September 30, 1943 - 76 Men Lost
USS O-5 (SS-66), - October 29, 1923 - 3 Men Lost

USS Seawolf (SS-197) – 3 October 1944 - 102 Men Lost
USS Dorado (SS-248) – 12 October 1943 - 78 Men Lost
USS Escolar (SS-294) – 17 October 1944 - 82 Men Lost
USS Shark (SS-314) - 24 October 1944 - 90 Men Lost
USS Darter (SS-227) – 24 October 1944 - No Men Lost
USS Tang (SS-306) – 25 October 1944 - 80 Men Lost

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

Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes – Presented by "Wes" Wesley.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Rock (See Page 5)

Correspondence – None Reported

Committee Reports:

- Newsletter / Library - Bruce Eltzroth (See Page 5) / Ed Sandifer (See Page 4)
- Storekeeper – Jim Burkholder (See Page 5)
- Membership – Marlin Helms
- Social Committees – Andy Armbrust (See Page 5)
- Web Site –Marlin Helms / Stuart McGlasson

Old Business – Other – Haddo Base picnic was held in August (See Page 13)

New Business/Good of the Order – Holland Club Inductions were made in August (See Page 12)

Next Meeting: - 1900 hrs, Thursday, October 18, 2018 at **Golden Corral, 6612 Clinton Hwy. Knoxville, TN**

Motion to adjourn - Approved



Pre WW-II Lost Boats

Pre WW-II Photos and write-ups courtesy of Wikipedia.

USS S-5 (SS-110)

September 1, 2, and 3, 1920

No loss of life



Left Photo: USS S-5 at home port. Right Photo: SS Alanthus standing by the partially sunken USS S-5 in early September 1920.
S-5 foundered and started to sink on September 1, 1920. She was partially refloated on September 2 (see right photo), and the entire crew was rescued on this date.
S-5 came to her final resting place on September 3, 1920.
S-5 was only the second submarine lost in U.S. Navy history.

USS S-51 (SS162)

September 25, 1925

33 Men Lost



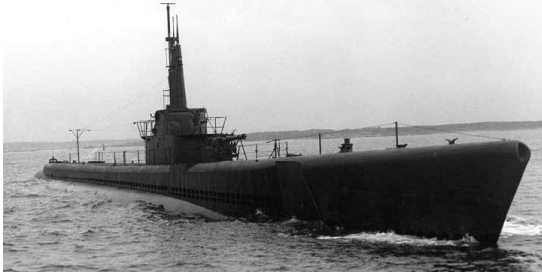
On the night of 25 September 1925, S-51 was operating on the surface near Block Island, with her running lights on. Merchant steamer *City of Rome* spotted the submarine's red sidelight and realized that they were on collision courses. She turned and backed her engines, but it was too late. Twenty-two minutes after first spotting the submarine's masthead light, the steamer rammed her. Only three of the 36 men in the submarine were able to abandon ship before she sank.



Lost Boats of September



LOSS OF USS CISCO (SS-290) - SEPTEMBER 28, 1943 - 76 Men Lost

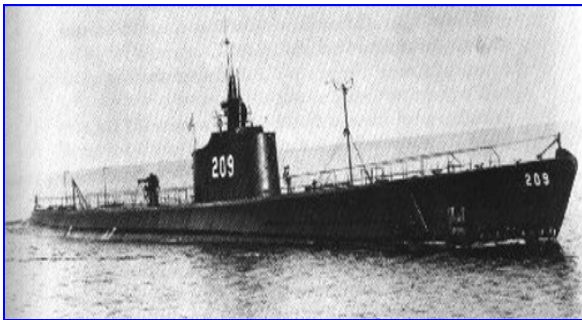


On September 18, 1943, the *Cisco*, captained by Commander James W. Coe, departed Port Darwin for her first and final war patrol. After a return to that base the same day for repairs to her hydraulic system, she got underway again on September 20, 1943, and headed for her assigned patrol area in the South China Sea between Luzon Island and the coast of French Indochina. She was never heard from again.

Japanese records reviewed after the war documented an antisubmarine attack made on **September 28, 1943**, at coordinates 9°- 47' N, 121°- 44' E, slightly north and east of *Cisco's* expected position on that date. The report of the attack stated; "Found a sub tailing oil, commenced bombing...the oil continued to gush out even on tenth of October." The *Cisco* was the only U. S. submarine operating in the area at that time. The *Capelin* (SS-289) and the *Cisco* (SS-290) were consecutive products of the Portsmouth Navy Yard. The *Capelin* had sailed from Darwin on November 17, 1943, and disappeared sometime after December 2, 1943. The next ship off the same production line was the **USS Crevalle (SS-291)**. Significant construction problems that could have been fatal were found by one of her officers before she was launched. The problems related to weaknesses in two vent pipes that could have caused the *Crevalle* to sink if she was depth-charged. The crews of other boats from this same shipyard production series began to wonder if construction flaws had played a role in the losses of both the *USS Capelin* and the *USS Cisco*.



LOSS OF USS GRAYLING (SS-209) - Between Aug. 27 and Sept,30, 1943 - 76 Men Lost



On July 30, 1943, the *USS Grayling*, captained by Lieutenant Commander Brinker, departed Fremantle for her eighth and final war patrol. On August 19, 1943, Brinker reported damaging a 6,000-ton freighter near Balikpapan. The next day he reported sinking a small tanker of the *Taki Maru* type in the Sibutu Passage with the *Grayling's* deck gun and taking one prisoner. This was the last report received directly from the *Grayling*. The circumstances of the *Grayling's* loss remain a mystery. All that can be said with certitude is that the *Grayling* disappeared sometime after she sank the *Meizan Maru*, on August 27, 1943. On September 30, 1943, the *Grayling* was listed as lost in action with all 76 officers and men. *Grayling* was awarded six battle stars for her service during World War II.



An Interesting Side Note:

Following the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, **Admiral Chester Nimitz**, was selected as the new Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet. He made the submarine base at Pearl Harbor his temporary headquarters and was sworn in as CINCPAC on the deck of the **USS Grayling**, which he chose as his flagship. The first and only time that a submarine was the "flagship" of the entire Pacific Fleet.





Lost Boats of October



Pre WW-II Lost Boats



USS O-5 (SS-66) - 3 Men Lost

Lost October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when accidentally rammed and sunk by SS Ababgarez off the Panama Canal.



WW-II Lost Boats

USS SEAWOLF (SS-197) – 3 OCTOBER 1944 - 102 MEN LOST



Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 102 officers and men when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Richard M. Rowell DE-403, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, the commanding officer of the Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk. On June 1944 she departed Pearl Harbor on an intelligence gathering mission to the Palau Islands, which would be invaded by U.S. forces a few months later. She then went on to Fremantle, from which she made a trip to Tawitawi to recover an agent. Seawolf left Brisbane on her fifteenth

patrol in September, assigned to take U.S. Army agents and supplies to Samar, in the Philippines. While en route, breakdowns in communications caused U.S. anti-submarine forces to mistake her for Japanese. On 3 October 1944, after being forced to dive by an air attack by a US warplane, Seawolf was depth charged and sunk by the Richard M. Rowell (DE-403). All her crew and passengers, 102 men, were lost with her. This grand old lady was at Cavite Submarine Base P.I. when war broke out on Dec 7th (Dec 8th across the international date line). She and her sisters were on the front line from day one of the Pacific war and she did not deserve the tragic fate that fell upon her. "Friendly Fire?" "Friends Don't Shoot At Friends!"

Two of the 52 United States Submarines lost in World War II were believed to have been sunk by what is euphemistically called "Friendly Fire". Ironically both losses came during the month of October. The USS DORADO SS-248 was lost with all hands on October 12, 1943, in the Caribbean and the USS SEAWOLF SS-197 was lost on October 3, 1944 western Pacific. Both appear to have been the victims of over zealous military personnel who were either ignorant of the precautions put in place to protect United States submarines transiting "friendly waters" or they chose to ignore those precautions. Either way, a boat was lost and submariners died at the hands of their fellow Americans. The circumstances of the loss of the USS SEAWOLF are particular in several ways that you might find enlightening. Here's the description of her sinking from the website; http://www.subsowespac.org/world_war_ii_submarines/uss_seawolf_ss_197.shtml.

On September 21, 1944, captained by Lieutenant Commander Albert M. Bontier, the Seawolf left Brisbane on her fifteenth and final war patrol. She arrived at the Manus Island submarine base on September 29, 1944, where she embarked a seventeen-man army reconnaissance party and ten tons of supplies. After topping off her fuel, she sailed the same day to land them on Samar Island in the Philippines, north of General Douglas MacArthur's planned invasion site on Leyte Island.

On October 3, 1944, at 0756 hours, the Seawolf exchanged recognition signals by radar with the USS Narwhal (SS-167). Both boats were in a safety lane in which American surface forces were prohibited from attacking any submarine unless it was positively identified as an enemy. At 0807 hours, 35 miles east of Morotai Island, the commanding officer of the Japanese submarine RO-41 fired his last four torpedoes at two American escort carriers, the USS St. Lo (CVE-63) and the USS Fanshaw Bay (CVE-70). The torpedoes missed both escort carriers. However, the destroyer escort USS Shelton (DE-407), while turning to evade one of the oncoming torpedoes, was hit on the starboard screw by a second torpedo, which caused severe damage and flooding. The destroyer escort USS Rowell (DE-403) came alongside and removed the crew, after counterattacking the RO-41 unsuccessfully with depth charges. The Shelton was taken under tow, but eventually capsized and sank. Three hours later, one of the St. Lo's aircraft sighted a submarine in the safety lane and dropped two bombs and dye marked its position as the boat submerged. The destroyer escort USS Rowell (DE-403) got to the scene and detected the submarine on sonar. The sonar operator reported his equipment was receiving signals consisting of long dots and dashes from the submarine. The Rowell's commander dismissed these as an attempt to jam his sonar and pressed on with firing Mark 10 "hedgehog" projector mortars. Captain of the USS ROWELL thought that the sub was "trying to jam his sonar" and pressed the attack! Following a second barrage of twenty-four projectiles, the Rowell reported, "Three explosions heard. Two large boils [bubbles] observed off port beam. Debris observed in the boils." Four submarines were in the safety lane at the time of these events. Urgent calls from the surface forces to the submarines to report their positions brought responses from three of them, but there was only silence from the Seawolf.

(Continued next page)



Lost Boats of October



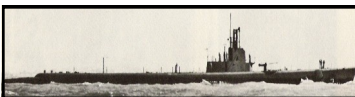
(SEAWOLF—continued) At that point it became obvious that the submarine the *Rowell* had sunk was the *Seawolf* and not the RO-41. Note that the **USS Rowell's** sonar operator reported that the submarine that they were attacking was using its sonar to send a Morse Code recognition signal. On **October 5, 1944**, an inquiry into the incident was held at Manus Island. It was found that the *Rowell* had sunk the *Seawolf*. The *Rowell's* captain, **Lieutenant Commander Harry A. Barnard, Jr.**, (USNA Class of 1936), was **censured** for making insufficient efforts to identify his target, for dismissing the sound signals, and for attacking the *Seawolf*. Here's what Captain Edward L. (Ned) Beach, (of Run Silent, Run Deep fame), had to say about the sinking of **SEAWOLF**; Captain Beach wrote that the *Seawolf* tragedy was due to **"...a lack of the rudiments of common sense."** He also penned the following poignant visualization of the *Seawolf's* final moments: "And so, alone and friendless, unable to defend herself, frantically striving to make her identity known to her attacker, the old **Wolf** came to the end of the trail. Who can know what terror her crew must have tasted, when it became plain to them that the American destroyer escort above them, specially built and trained to sink German submarines, was determined to sink them also? Who can appreciate their desperation when they realized that the genius of their own countrymen had, by a monstrous miscast of the dice, been pitted against them? And who can visualize the hopeless, futile, unutterable bitterness of the final disaster, when, combined with the shock of the frame-smashing depth charges, came the rapier-like punch of the hedgehogs, piercing *Seawolf's* stout old hull, starting the hydrant flow of black sea water, and ending forever all hopes of seeing sunlight again." To add insult to injury, the Navy awarded the *Rowell's* skipper with the **Legion of Merit** for his actions but changed the date from Oct. 3rd to Oct. 24th, (ironically the same date that **DARTER, SHARK** and **TANG** were lost).

USS S-44 (SS-155) - 7 OCTOBER 1943 - 56 MEN LOST



On September 26, 1943, the **S-44**, captained by Lieutenant Commander Frank E. Brown, departed Attu Island to begin her fifth and final war patrol in the Kurile Islands area. She was not heard from again. The precise details of how she was sunk became known after two of her crew members were repatriated by the Allies at the end of the war from a Japanese prisoner of war camp. On the night of October 7, 1943, the **S-44** mistakenly identified a radar contact as a Japanese merchant ship. It was actually the 860-ton **IGN Shimushu-class** escort ship *Ishigaki*, armed with three .45-caliber guns and four 25mm anti-aircraft guns. The **S-44** approached the vessel on the surface, firing at it with her deck gun. *Ishigaki* commenced firing at **S-44** with its guns. **S-44** was critically damaged and began sinking. The order was given to abandon ship. Only two crew members were picked up by *Ishigaki* even though many others were in the forty-degree water struggling to survive. The two crew men picked up by *Ishigaki* were taken to the Japanese naval base at Paramushiro Island. Later they were transferred to the Naval Interrogation Camp at Ofuna. The two submariners spent the last year of World War II working in the Ashio copper mines.

USS WAHOO (SS-238) - 11 OCTOBER 1943 - 79 MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct. 11, 1943** with the loss of **79 men** near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, **LCDR "Mush" Morton**, *Wahoo* was on her 7th war patrol. **WAHOO** had won a *Presidential Unit Citation* and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. On 9 September, *Wahoo* again departed Pearl. She topped off with fuel at Midway and left there on 13 September heading for the dangerous but important Japan Sea. Shortly afterwards, **USS SAWFISH (SS-276)** left Midway and also headed for this area. **WAHOO** was to pass through Etorofu Strait, in the Kurile Islands, and La Perouse Strait, between Hokkaido and Karafuto, and enter the Japan Sea about 20 September. She was to head south and remain below 43 degrees north after 23 September, and below 40 degrees north after 26 September. **SAWFISH** was to follow **WAHOO**, entering the Sea of Japan about 23 September and patrolling the area north of **WAHOO**. **WAHOO** was reported missing and presumed lost on 9 November 1943.

Dudley "Mush" Morton (1907-1943), was commander of **USS WAHOO SS-238** during its third through seventh patrols. Morton and *Wahoo* disappeared in 1943 during a patrol near La Perouse Strait. A native of Owensboro, Kentucky, **Morton** graduated from the Naval Academy in 1930. There he received the nickname "Mushmouth", after a character in the cartoon strip "Moon Mullins" whose large square jaw and prominent mouth resembled Morton's. The nickname was shortened to **"Mush"**, by which he was known for much of his life. Promoted to Commander October 15, 1942, Morton took command of *Wahoo* on December 31, 1942, in Brisbane, Australia. Between January 26, 1943 and October 11, he carried out four offensive patrols, during which *Wahoo* was responsible for sinking 19 cargo and transport ships for a combined total of 55,000 tons.

Morton was given the highly dangerous assignment of penetrating the Sea of Japan. Commander Morton and *Wahoo* were reported missing in action in December, when his submarine was presumed lost.

After the war, it was determined from Japanese records that, on October 11, in the time frame in which the *Wahoo* was expected to exit through La Perouse Strait an antisubmarine aircraft found a surfaced submarine and attacked, dropping three depth charges.

Declared deceased on January 7, 1946, Morton had been awarded the **Navy Cross**, three gold stars in lieu of a second, third, and fourth Navy Cross, and the **Army Distinguished Service Cross**.





Lost Boats of October



USS DORADO (SS-248) - 12 OCTOBER 1943 - 78 MEN LOST



Lost on **October 12, 1943** with the **loss of 78 men** when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She did not arrive at Panama nor was she heard from at any time after sailing. She may have been sunk by a **U.S. patrol plane** that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or she may have been attacked by a German U-boat that was known to be in the area.

It was standard practice *in WWII* of imposing bombing restrictions within a "box" measuring *fifteen miles on each side of, fifty miles ahead and one hundred miles astern of the unescorted submarine's course while it was transiting through friendly waters.* A convoy was so routed as to pass through the bombing and attack restriction area surrounding **DORADO** on the evening of October 12, 1943. Commandant, NOB, Guantanamo assigned a patrol plane to furnish air coverage for the convoy on the evening of October 12th. It is possible the air crew received *faulty instructions* as to the location of the bombing and attack restriction area surrounding **DURADO** since at 8:49 PM, local time, the plane delivered a surprise attack of three depth charges on an *unidentified* submarine within **DURADO's** safety zone. About two hours later, the plane sighted another submarine with which it attempted to exchange recognition signals without success. This submarine fired upon the plane. A German submarine was known to be operating near the scene of these two contacts.

USS ESCOLAR (SS-294) - 17 OCTOBER 1944 - 82 MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct 17, 1944** with the **loss of 82 men.** **ESCOLAR** had her final training for combat at Pearl Harbor, from which she put out for her first war patrol September 18, 1944. After topping off fuel at Midway, she joined **CROAKER** (SS-246) and **PERCH** (SS-313) for a coordinated war patrol in the Yellow Sea which she directed. On 30 September, she engaged a small craft in a surface gun action, and reported to her sisters that she was undamaged, without mentioning what her gunfire had done to the enemy ship. Her last communication was with **PERCH** on October 17th; she was never heard from again.

Since Japanese records consulted after the war show no antisubmarine action at that time in the area where **ESCOLAR** is believed to have been, it is assumed that she struck a mine and sank with all hands.

USS SHARK (SS-314) - 24 OCTOBER 1944 - 90 MEN LOST



*In Memory of the
USS SHARK II (SS-314)
departed 24 October 1944
with Commander Blakely and
eighty-six crewmen
on Eternal Patrol*

Lost on **Oct 24, 1944** with the loss of **90 men** when she was sunk near Hainan. On September 23, 1944, the **Shark**, captained by Commander Edward N. Blakely, left Pearl Harbor and proceeded to the submarine base at Saipan to rendezvous with the **USS Seadragon (SS-194)** and the **USS Blackfish (SS-221)**. On October 3, 1944, the three boats left Saipan to form a coordinated attack group under Blakely's command in the Luzon Strait. Their assigned area of operations was along the 20th parallel, covering an area about midway between Hainan Island and the western end of Bashi Channel. This departure marked the beginning of the **Shark's** third and final war patrol. On October 24, 1944, the **Shark** informed the **Seadragon** by radio that she was preparing to attack an old freighter. It was the last word ever received from Blakely. All further attempts to contact the **Shark** by radio failed. On November 27, 1944, she was reported as presumed lost. Japanese records reviewed after the war revealed that the **Shark** was probably lost on **October 24, 1944**, as a result of depth-charge attacks conducted by the IJN destroyers **Take** and **Harukaze** in Shark's vicinity. The attack occurred after Blakely had torpedoed and sunk the 6,886-ton enemy freighter **Arisan Maru**, in the same area. Blakely did not know the freighter was transporting 1,782 American prisoners of war from Manila to Japan. Only nine of the American prisoners survived the sinking. **October 24, 1944** would prove to be a black-letter day for the submarine force; in addition to the **Shark**, the **USS Tang (SS-306)** and the **USS Darter (SS-227)** were also lost on that day.

USS DARTER (SS-227) - 24 OCTOBER 1944 - NO MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct. 24, 1944**, without the loss of a single crewman. In the early morning of October 23, 1944, both **DARTER** and **DACE** contacted and tracked a large enemy force heading north through Palawan Passage en route to engage our forces in the battles for Leyte Gulf. They attacked while the enemy were unable to alter course appreciably and in brilliant pre-dawn submerged attacks, sank the heavy cruisers **ATAGO** and **MAYA**, and so severely damaged the heavy cruiser **TAKAO**, that she was useless for the rest of the war. During daylight, **DARTER** tried a submerged attack on **TAKAO**, which had been stopped, but was driven off by screening destroyers. Thus a night coordinated attack plan was drawn up by the two boats. Since she could not surface to take sights, **DARTER** was forced to navigate on a 24-hour-old dead reckoning plot. At 2200 **TAKAO** got underway, and **DARTER** began a surface attack. Detecting two radars sweeping, she decided to do an end around, and then make an attack at radar depth. At 0005 on October 24, 1944, **DARTER** grounded on Bombay Shoal, and making 17 knots at the time, rode up to a draft of nine feet forward. Efforts to get off the reef were unsuccessful, and a message was sent to **DACE** requesting assistance. **DACE** closed **DARTER** and, after confidential gear had been smashed and classified matter burned, the men of **DARTER** were transferred to **DACE**. This was all done before dawn, and there were no losses of **DARTER** personnel. **DARTER** was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for her final patrol.



Lost Boats of October



USS TANG (SS-306) - 25 OCTOBER 1944 - 80 MEN LOST



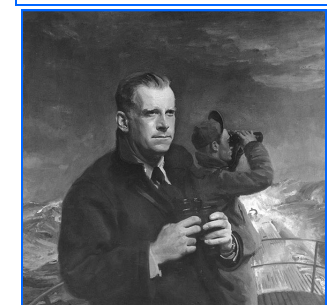
Lost on **Oct 25, 1944** with the **loss of 80 men** in the Formosa Strait. **TANG** was on her 5th war patrol. She was a 1525-ton Balao class submarine, built at the Mare Island Navy Yard, California. Commissioned in October 1943, she deployed to Hawaii in December 1943 to begin an intense and eventful combat career under the leadership of **Commander Richard H. O'Kane**.

TANG'S first war patrol, conducted in the central Pacific during January and February 1944, removed five ships from Japan's logistics system. A second patrol, into the Palaus, resulted in no direct losses to the enemy, but was very important in another way. In three days of lifeguard duty during U.S. aircraft carrier raids on the Japanese base at Truk, **TANG** rescued 22 downed Navy aviators, a "score" of a positive sort that was unsurpassed until very late in the Pacific War.

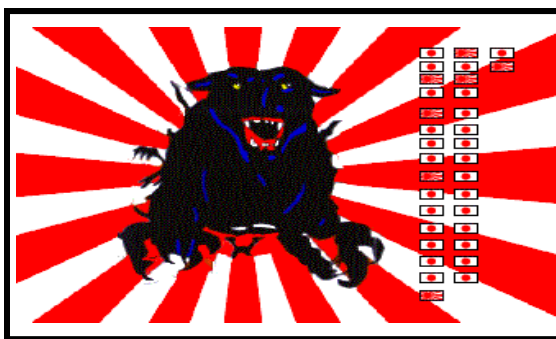
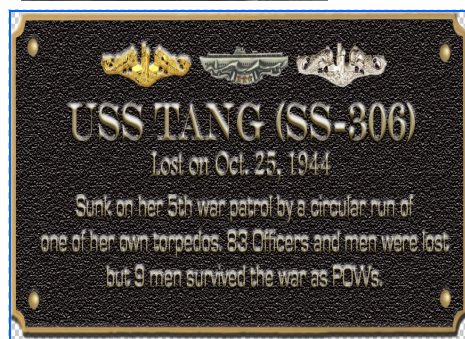
In June and July 1944, **TANG** made a very productive patrol into the East China Sea area, sinking ten ships in a series of daring attacks. The next war patrol, her fourth, was in Japanese home waters, where her torpedoes sank at least two more enemy ships during August. Late in September, **TANG** departed Pearl Harbor to begin her fifth patrol. Operating in the vicinity of the Formosa Strait, she struck a convoy on 10-11 October, sinking two ships. Other convoys were the targets of night surface attacks on the 23rd and 24th, producing five more sinking's. However, **TANG'S** last torpedo made a circular run that the submarine could not evade. She was hit aft and quickly sank in relatively shallow water off the China coast. Nine of her crew, including **Commander O'Kane**, survived the accident and were taken prisoner.

TANG was awarded two *Presidential Unit Citations* for her exploits, which officially recognized sinking's of 24 Japanese ships, totaling nearly 94,000 tons. Among U.S. Pacific War submarines, she thus had the **second highest score** in terms of numbers and the **fourth largest** based on tonnage calculations.

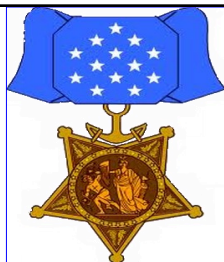
Commander Richard (Dick) O'Kane and **TANG** are forever linked in the annals of the Silent Service. His skill and daring made him and **TANG** the highest scoring United States submarine in World War II.



The striking and distinctive battle flag of the **USS Tang** shows a black panther ripping through the center of the Japanese rising sun naval ensign. **Tang** was among the most successful of World War II submarines, destroying 24 Japanese ships displacing a total of 93,824 tons in a career of less than two years. Her third war patrol, in the summer of 1944, was one of the most devastating of the war, for which her commanding officer, Commander Richard O'Kane, won the **Medal of Honor**. **Tang** was sunk on **October 24, 1944**, when one of her own torpedoes malfunctioned and circled back on her. In the course of only four war patrols, **Tang** won two of the highly coveted Presidential Unit Citations.



Richard Hetherington "Dick" O'Kane
Feb. 2, 1911 - Feb. 16, 1994



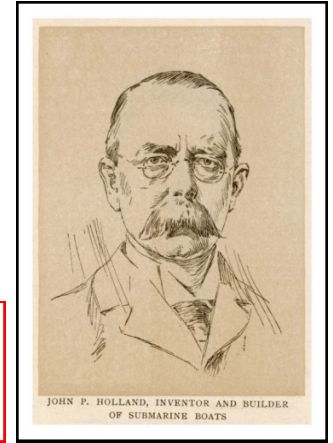
Rear Admiral **Richard Hetherington "Dick" O'Kane** was a United States Navy submarine commander in World War II, who received the Medal of Honor for his service on the **Tang**. He also served on the **Wahoo**, as executive officer and approach officer. He participated in more successful attacks on Japanese shipping than any other submarine officer during the war.

Richard (Dick) O'Kane and **TANG** live in legend in the annals of the **Silent Service**. His skill and daring made him and **TANG** the highest scoring United States submarine in World War II.





SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE 2018 HOLLAND CLUB INDUCTIONS



On August 16, 2018, Smoky Mountain Base held their annual Holland Club inductions. This year there were two SMB members that received this honor. Mike Wagoner and Martin (Wes) Wesley both had met all of the requirements to become members of the Holland Club. The induction ceremony was held during the SMB monthly meeting at the Mandarin House in Knoxville, TN.

Bio of Michael (Mike) Wagoner - MMC (SS)

Mike entered the Navy in January of 1965 and reported to the USS Skipjack (SSN-585) in December of 1966, making numerous Northern runs. He then reported to the pre-commissioning unit and launching of the USS Los Angeles (SSN-688) in 1972. He was subsequently transferred after being selected as Machinists Mate Chief Petty Officer. He reported to the USS Bluefish (SSN-675) in 1974, making a trip to the North Pole. He was then transferred to recruiting duty in Columbia Missouri from 1976 to 1979. Mike then returned to the Bluefish from 1979 to 1984, and participated in an around the world cruise, making Senior Chief, and while on board was selected for Master Chief. In 1984 Michael was assigned to the Commander Submarine Squadron 6 staff, the first nuclear trained person to do so. Michael retired as MMC (SS) in 1987 after 22 years of active service.

Bio of Martin (Wes) Wesley - QM2 (SS)

Wes enlisted in the Navy in 1966, first serving on the USS Grampus (SS-523). In 1967, Wes was assigned to the USS Cubera (SS-347) where he qualified in submarines in 1968. Wes served on the USS Sea Devil (SSN-664) from 1968 to 1970 where he separated from the Navy as a QM2 (SS). Wes joined the USSVI and the Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans in 2008 and is currently serving as the Smoky Mountain Base Secretary.

The **HOLLAND CLUB** is named after John P. Holland, designer of the first US Navy submarine. It is an exclusive group within the US Submarine Veterans organization, where the core requirement for eligibility is the designation "qualified in submarines" for a minimum of fifty years. These men represent the living historical memory of our rich submarine heritage. We would not be where we are today in submarines without them. They are the pioneers who led the way and set the standards for excellence for the Sailors in our submarine fleet today. When these men qualified, diesel powered submarines were state of the art. Some earned their dolphins prior to and others during, World War II, and still others during the Cold War period immediately following. Many, and in some cases most, of those they served with have departed on their final and eternal patrol. They saw the war winning diesel submarines go through radical conversions into many specialized and exotic designs. They witnessed and in many cases participated in the development and testing of the highly successful GUPPY snorkel conversions. Some went on to serve later in attack and ballistic missile nuclear submarines. When we meet a Holland Club member, we are in the presence of the institutional memory of the U.S. Submarine Force. They, along with all their 'brothers of the dolphin', are the historical connection and inspiration for the Submariner of the future. There are no ex-submariners. Submarine qualification passes a man into a mystic brotherhood of undersea warriors, and it marks him forever as one of a special breed. Although they no longer sail beneath the seas, they still wear their 'dolphins' with honor and pride. These Shipmates and those who have gone before served our Nation extremely well. They have justly earned the honor and respect we show them today.

**CONGRATULATIONS GENTLEMEN
ON A LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT !**



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(Photo 1 above) shows Terry McBride (SMB COB) reading the Holland Club Award proclamation to Mike Wagoner (L) and Martin (Wes) Wesley (R). (Photo 2 above) shows Wes (L) and Mike (R) and their significant others, with their awards and other memorabilia. (Photo 3 above) shows new and current Holland Club members (from left to right standing), Gary Davis, Jim Irving, Wally Cox, Bob Childs and Dick Mitchell. (Seated from left to right), are Mike Wagoner, Jim Burkholder, Charlie Weller, and Martin Wesley (Charlie Weller's Chauffer) .
(Photos by Bruce Eltzroth)



(Photo left) - David Pope receiving a flag on behalf of the Chiefs Mess of Chattanooga that was once flown over the USS Arizona and also over Kaneohe Bay Hawaii from Todd "TJ" Johnson, ATC(AW/NAC), Retired. Dave also received certificates from Terry McBride and "TJ" for Dave's recent retirement from the navy, that certified the locations where that flag was flown.



**USS HADDO SUBMARINE BASE SUMMER PICNIC
AND HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT
At City Park, Charleston, Tennessee (8/11/18)**



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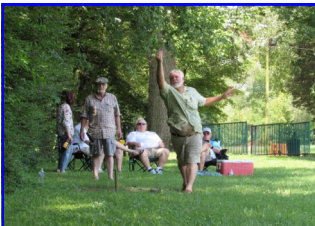
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The **USS HADDO BASE**, summer picnic was held again this year at the Charleston City Park in Charleston, TN. This is **HADDO BASE's Old Fashion Base Picnic** and once again members of the **SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE** were invited to attend the festivities. The best part of the invitation was the great food and camaraderie between the **HADDO BASE** and **SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE** attendees. **HADDO BASE** had almost 30 participants, while **SMB** only had about 10. Besides the great grilling of the hamburgers and hot dogs, (see photos 1 & 2) the ladies of **HADDO BASE** also provided several salads, side dishes and desserts (see photos 3 & 4). **SMB** members brought several side dishes, desserts and other accompaniments to go along with the great grilling. The Horse Shoe Tournament was the highlight of the picnic again! The tournament started out with Marlin Helms and John Augustine pitching for **SMB** (see photos 5 & 6). **HADDO BASE** won that round by a score of (21 to 17). Since that round took so long it was mutually agreed that the subsequent rounds would only be played to 11 points. The second round pitted Marlin Helms and Bruce Eltzroth of **SMB** (see photos 5 & 7) against **HADDO BASE**. **SMB** won that round by a score of (11 to 9). Now with the number of round wins tied, and time running short, the last round would be between Marlin Helms and John Augustine pitching for **SMB** and **HADDO BASE** again. This round was narrowly won by **SMB** after making up an 8 point deficit to win the final match by a score of 11 to 10. The **SMOKEY MOUNTAIN BASE** team won last time, and lead the overall competition by 3 wins to 1, This year once again **SMOKEY MOUNTAIN BASE WON** and is currently the "Hat Champion" maintaining the "**TENNESSEE WHITE HAT**" (along with the *Tournament Plaque*) for another year (see photos 8 & 9). And once again **SMB** has earned "East Tennessee Horseshoe Bragging Rights!"

(Photos by Bruce Eltzroth)



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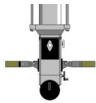
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Part of the picnic also included a "**TOLLING OF THE BOATS CEREMONY**" for those boats lost during the month of August (photos 10 & 11). Presiding were (from left to right in photo 11) - Robert J. Malone MM1-(SS) (Haddo Base), John Augustine MM2-(SS) (Smoky Mountain Base), and Lee Rogers ETMC-(SS) (Haddo Base).

We wholeheartedly thank our brother submariners for their great camaraderie and hospitality!

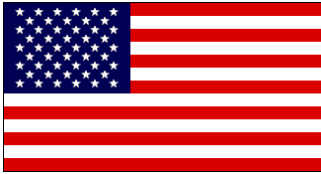


John & Ann's European Adventure



The two photos, left and right, were taken by John Augustine. John and his wife Ann recently took a riverboat cruise through Western Europe and John, being the great submarine sailor that he is, knew that we would be interested in this mini-sub. He also said that this is a secret new "state of the art" miniature submarine, but he didn't how it is operated, or even whose it was! Great work John?





Arizona Sen. John McCain, a former prisoner of war in Vietnam who became one of the nation's most prominent defense policy voices, passed away Saturday, August 25, 2018 at the age of 81. The onetime Navy pilot and longtime lawmaker was among the best known veterans in America, and has arguably been the most influential and consistent military advocate for the Republican Party over the last three decades. His death not only leaves open a Republican seat in an already contentious Senate but also leaves an enormous hole in American political debate over the roles, responsibilities and challenges of the armed forces.

McCain was diagnosed with brain cancer in summer 2017 but continued his work in the Senate through chemotherapy. The illness was the latest in a long line of health challenges for the senior Arizona senator, dating back to his imprisonment in Vietnam's infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison. That occurred in 1967, when then Lt. Cmdr. McCain's Skyhawk aircraft was shot down during a bombing mission over Hanoi. He fractured both arms and a leg while ejecting from the plane, and he was refused proper medical treatment by North Vietnamese troops after his capture. In 1968, after his father was named commander of U.S. Pacific forces, the North Vietnamese offered to release his son as part of a propaganda campaign. The younger McCain refused, saying he would only leave if his fellow POWs were also freed. As a result, McCain spent five and a half years in captivity, facing frequent beatings and torture for his refusals to cooperate with his captors. The assaults left him unable to fully lift his arms for the rest of his life.

Upon his return — and after years of physical therapy — McCain served as the Navy's liaison to the U.S. Senate, a position that led to his own political career. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1982 and to the Senate in 1986, the first of six terms in the chamber. He ran two unsuccessful campaigns for the presidency, first losing in the Republican primaries to then-Texas Gov. George W. Bush in 2000 and later losing in the general election to then-Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL) in 2008. But the national exposure significantly raised McCain's profile and helped establish him as a party leader on defense issues. He frequently sparred with Obama over the president's foreign policy strategies, particularly in regard to combat drawdown's in Iraq and Afghanistan. But he also was a vocal critic of Bush during his presidency on the issue of torture in regard to U.S.-captured enemies .

However, his relationship with U.S. President Donald Trump proved the most contentious. Trump repeatedly mocked McCain during the 2016 election campaign, at one point making fun of his capture in Vietnam. McCain in turn repeatedly dismissed Trump as an unstable, unserious statesman, and implied Trump dodged military service during the Vietnam War because of fake injuries. That frosty relationship came despite both men's stated desires to build up military readiness and funding. McCain had long been an advocate for bigger defense budgets and streamlined Pentagon operations, and he emphasized those priorities in both his committee legislation and public hearings in recent years. Given his military background — along with his 23-year career, both his father and grandfather were four-star admirals — McCain was also heavily involved in veterans policy and reforming the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Arizona was the center of the 2014 VA wait-time scandal that forced the resignation of then-VA Secretary Eric Shinseki, and McCain played the role of negotiator between Republican and Democratic lawmakers on the legislative response. Because of his illness, McCain has not traveled from Arizona to Capitol Hill since late 2017. But Senate Armed Services Committee staff has insisted that the chairman has maintained his leadership role on the panel, directing key policy decisions in the fiscal 2019 defense authorization bill signed into law earlier this month (and named in part for McCain).

Before his absence from Washington, D.C., McCain had focused many of his public remarks on the dangers of partisanship in the face of challenges facing the nation. In the Naval Academy speech, he also railed against "parties that preach resentful nationalism rather than enlightened self-interest" and pressed for more compromise and compassion in governing. "We have to fight against propaganda and crackpot conspiracy theories," he said. "We have to fight isolationism, protectionism and nativism. We have to defeat those who would worsen our divisions. We have to remind our sons and daughters that we became the most powerful nation on Earth by tearing down walls, not building them."

McCain's death also removes one of the few remaining Vietnam-era veterans from national elected office, a fact that the senator lamented in a CNN interview in spring 2017. He said he hoped the next generation of service members from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars could help rekindle civil debate on Capitol Hill, balancing passionate views with mutual respect. "I see talent coming up," he said. "I have great faith in our system of government over time."

[Source: Military Times | Leo Shane III | August 25, 2018 ++]





David Pope's Retirement Ceremony

June 30, 2018



David Pope, a member of the Smoky Mountain Submarine Base, recently retired as an E-6 (Seaman First Class) from the U.S. Navy after 22 years of active service (All 4 photos). His last assignment location was the Navy Operations Support Center - Chattanooga, Tennessee, which is where the retirement ceremony was held. Other attendees from the Smoky Mountain Base were: Marlin Helms (Photo1 - left); Terry McBride (Photos 1, 2 and 4 - Khaki Uniform); Julia Pope (Photos 1 and 4); Bob Childs (Photo 4 - right Khaki Uniform), and Greg McKinney, (Photo 4 - right front). Also present (but not shown) were Lorie Helms and Bob Child's wife Linda. Congratulations Dave for a career of dedicated service!



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Political Commentary - FROM A SALTY SAILOR'S MOTHER!!!

THE SALTY SAILOR and the FIREMAN"

The views that this mother has about Donald Trump are much like those that many other people have. Her characterization of Trump as the "Salty Sailor" or as "The Fireman" paints an excellent picture!! She has written many great books about her son and family. This is a Comment from KAREN VAUGHN, Mother of Aaron Vaughn, Navy Seal.

"Sometimes God uses the no-nonsense, salty sailor to get the job done. Appreciating what the man is doing doesn't mean we worship the salty sailor or even desire to be like the salty sailor. It doesn't even mean God admires the salty sailor. Maybe He just knows he's necessary for such a time as this.

I believe with all my heart that God placed that salty sailor in the White House to give this nation one more chance in November 2016. Donald Trump is what he is – and he is still the man he was before the election – and without guilt. I very much admire what that salty sailor is accomplishing.

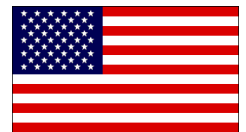
He's not like me. That's okay with me. I don't want to be like him. I will never behave like him. I know we've NEVER had a man like him lead our nation before. It's crazy and a little mind blowing at times. But I can't help admire the stamina and ability he has – acting with his heart rather than a calculated, PC, think tank-screened, carefully edited script. I still believe that is WHY he became our President and WHY he's been able to handle a landslide of adversity and STILL pass unprecedented amounts of good legislation for our country AND do great works for MANY other nations, including Israel.

I'm THRILLED with what he's doing for my nation, for the cause of Christ (whether intentional or unintentional, doesn't matter to me), and for the concept of rebuilding America and putting her FIRST. I will not be ashamed of my position because others don't see him through the same lens.

Should it matter to me if a fireman drops an f-bomb while he's pulling me from a burning building? Would I really care about what came out of his mouth in those moments? Heck no! I'd CARE about what he was DOING. He wasn't sent there to save my soul and I'm not looking to him for spiritual guidance. All I'm thinking in those moments is, "Thank you, GOD, for sending the fireman." AND DONALD TRUMP IS OUR FIREMAN.

I'll soon post this article again for those who still might not understand me. This man is crass. Okay. He's not careful with what he says. Okay. You feel offended that he's not a typical statesman. Okay. But he is DOING THE JOB of rebuilding the nation my son died for... the nation I feared was on a fast track to becoming a hopeless cause."

(PS, I am not offended that he is not a typical "statesman" actually, I applaud him for it)



Forgive me if I'm smiling." Written by: KAREN VAUGHN



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.