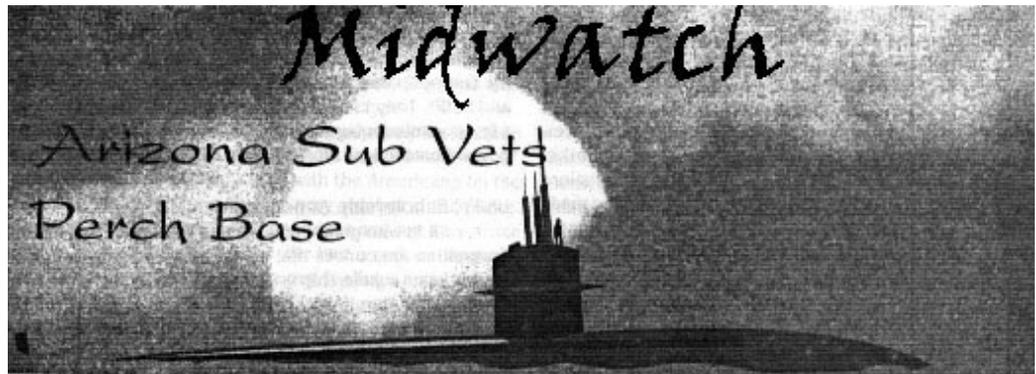




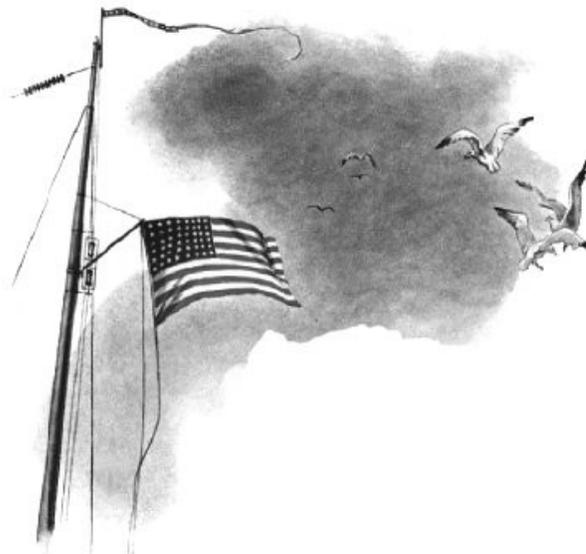
June, 2003
Volume 9 Issue 6



<http://perch-base.org>

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Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

JUNE ETERNAL PATROLS

USS Herring	SS233	June 1, 1944	84 men
USS Gudgeon	SS211	June 7, 1944	78 men
USS R-12	SS89	June 12, 1943	42 men
USS Golet	SS361	June 14, 1944	82 men
USS Bonefish	SS223	June 18, 1945	85 lost
USS O-9	SS70	June 19, 1941	34 lost

DON'T FORGET!

Next meeting is June 14 at the American Legion Post #62
1101 N. 99th Ave. at 1200 hours
Lunch available at \$3 a head



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.
Groton Base Commander - John Carcioppolo
40 School Street Groton, CT 06340-3940

April 19, 2003

Dear Arizona Sub Vets Perch Base Members,

In February of this year we received the tragic news that one of our Active Duty Shipmates Chief Daniel Fredrickson and his wife Terry perished in the terrible fire at "The Station" a bar in RI. Between the two of them they left 6 children.

SUBVETS Groton Base with the help of the U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (USSVICF) immediately established a special fund to raise money for the Fredrickson Children.

Without even knowing the Fredrickson's you heard of this tragedy, and assisted us in our fund raising, supporting us with a donation.

Your generosity and donation in support of this worthwhile cause has helped us to raise almost \$20,000.00 for the Fredrickson Fund. You have shown the true spirit of how U.S. Submariners, Sailors in the U.S. NAVY, Veterans and members of the U.S. Armed Forces, Organizations in the Community, and citizens of the United States take care of one of their own when tragedy strikes.

We cannot bring back Daniel or Terry Fredrickson for their children. But we have certainly made a positive impact and a difference for their children. We have shown them that as **SHIPMATES** and **CITIZENS** we care.

United States Submarine Veterans Groton Base would like to thank you for your donation. Your generous gift, has helped to make the Fredrickson Fund Raiser a success.

Sincerely,

John J. Carcioppolo
U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc. Groton Base **First and Finest**
Base Commander

SUBMARINE VETERANS REMEMBER SHIPMATES THAT GAVE EVERYTHING

Sailing Orders



**Next regular meeting is June 14, 2003
American Legion Post #62
11001 N. 99th Ave. at 1200 hours
Lunch provided at \$3 a head**

**Latest information re Joint National Convention
Reno, NV September 2-5, 2003**

Host base (USSVI): CORVINA Base, Reno - Don Brown, Co-chairman
Host chapter (USSVWWII): Las Vegas Chapter - Paul Dornberg, Co-chairman
Host hotel: Reno Hilton (1300 rooms blocked off), over two-thirds have been booked, reserve now!
Approximately 45 boat reunions are planned!
All of the convention functions (with the exception of the golf outing) will be held at the host hotel.
“See You In September”

**District election balloting for Commander
closes on June 30. See page 14 for instruc-
tions and use page 15 as your ballot**

From the Wardroom

Shipmates,

Time is moving fast, it will not be to long before we will be making plans for our annual meeting in Prescott.

I just got back from having a great time with Ed Brooks and a number of other shipmates at the Sirago and Sea Leopard, joint reunion. My first, and hopefully not my last reunion.

We made a presentation to Dex Armstrong, of the "America Bluejacket" A carving by Ed Brooks on behave of Perch Base for Dex's outstanding salesmanship of our own Perch Base cook books. It brought tears to his eyes, and a smile to our hearts to see how moved he was by the presentation.

It was an honor to have two new inductees receiving their Holland Club awards, Charles A. Chapman and George "Pete" Petrovitz. Bravo Zulu shipmates.

Our Saturday work party came off smoothly. Thanks to Roger Cousins, Sandy Martin, Ramon Samson, and tugboat Tilley.

The Float is bolted back solid to the trailer, The diving klaxon and speakers are set up and painted. Boat is painted from bow to stern. The cover is back on, and the Float is ready to go for the Veterans Day parade.

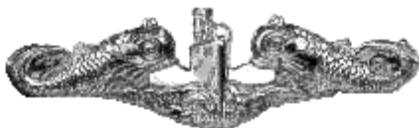
Fraternally yours,

Glenn Herold
Base Commander

WWII -Boats

Short Facts

U.S. torpedoes contained only 20% of the explosive power of Japanese ones. Japanese "fish" were built with warships as the primary target in mind, where as our torpedoes were built for use against merchant ships.



May Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a Meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base

The regular monthly meeting of the members of the Arizona Submarine Veterans B Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #62; Peoria, AZ at 1255 hours, 10 May 2003. The meeting was called to order by the Base Commander – Glenn Herold.

The members were led in the pledge of allegiance, followed by the dedication, moment of silence for our departed shipmates, a tolling of the boats and the invocation by Base Chaplain, Howard Doyle.

There were 27 members and 3 guests attending the meeting according to the sailing list.

The members welcomed new member – Ed Brzezinski who was attending his first meeting with a round of applause.

The members also welcomed the wives and guests.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the March meeting be approved as published in the base newsletter, The MidWatch. The motion carried by voice vote of the members present.

Treasurer (Robert May) reported the base financial status as of the first day of May, 2003.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Vice Commander – Adrian Stuke had nothing to report.

Chief of the Boat – Doug LaRock had nothing to report.

Chaplain – Warner Doyle reported that Shipmate Joe Bernard had undergone surgery and was recuperating.

Newsletter Editor – Chuck Emmett apologized for the newsletter being mailed late and vowed to avoid it in the future.

Storekeeper – Jim Nelson encouraged everyone to buy the specialty items offered by the Ship's Store. New items will be procured as the inventory is depleted.

OLD BUSINESS

Glenn Herold asked the members to recognize and congratulate Doug LaRock for having organized and carried off a wonderful annual Base Picnic. The members showed their appreciation with a resounding round of applause.

Glenn also announced the recent appointment of Jim Nelson as Base Storekeeper. The members applauded Jim and his appointment.

Glenn announced the time and place for a working party to do current repairs and maintenance on the Base parade float. Those wishing to participate were asked to gather at Glenn's house located at 839 North Rogers, Mesa at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, May 17.

It was also announced that Perch Base would again participate in the Memorial Day Services at the National Cemetery. Joe Bernard will, as in past years, officiate at the submarine memorial part of the ceremony. A working party was called to prepare the submarine memorial (plaque and torpedo) and get everything in top shape before Memorial Day. Volunteers were asked to sign up with Glenn Herold.

It was announced that the Yarnell Spring Festival parade would not be held this year, since that community decided to forgo the affair for 2003.

A status report was given on the success of the Internet Auction to benefit the USS Razorback memorial. The Razorback is on its way to the Port of Little Rock, Arkansas and will become an active submarine memorial at that location.

Dave Harnish briefed the members on the SS Lane Victory cruise scheduled for September 13th, following the national convention. This is the only still functioning WWII Victory Ship. She will depart San Pedro, California on that date. Tickets for the cruise are \$100 for adults and \$75 for children. Interested parties should contact Dave Harnish prior to July 31.

A discussion of the efforts by the Idaho Hawkbill Base to form a memorial was initiated. The ensuing discussion confirmed what the Board of Directors had concluded in their meeting. The status of the memorial is unknown, its location is in question and there are more questions than answers. No action is prescribed until further investigation is conducted.

NEW BUSINESS

Glenn Herold informed the members that the Board of Directors had voted to buy a brick commemorating the USS Perch SS-176 at the Avery Point Lighthouse Walk of

WWII - Boats

Short Facts

Submarines Cero, Shad and Grayback formed the first wolf-pack employed in the Pacific. She carried Capt. Momsen as pack commander.

Honor. The brick will cost the Base treasury \$50 and the funds will go to create the brick walkway and help restore the lighthouse.

Glenn also read a letter of appreciation from John Carcioppolo, Groton Base Commander, to Perch Base recognizing the Base's contribution to the Fredrickson Family Fund. The family fund, initiated by Groton Base raised \$20,000 and establishes a trust for the Fredrickson children who recently lost both parents in a Rhode Island nightclub fire.

Roger Cousin was given the floor to brief the members on the latest status of the USS Phoenix memorial project. Roger showed the members an artists rendering of a memorial utilizing the USS Phoenix sail and a concrete bow section as if the ship was in the process of surfacing.

Phoenix Steele Park and the VA Hospital are being considered as potential sites for the memorial. Roger also provided membership applications for joining the Phoenix Society (a 501 (c) (3) charitable association).

Dave Harnish, as District 8 Commander, handed out 2003 ballots for election of a new District 8 Commander. The ballots must be returned to Dave no later than June 30, in order to be counted in the election.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

All the Perch Base Holland Club members were called front and center for an initiation ceremony. Eight Holland Club members mustered as Dave Harnish called Charles A. Chapman and George (Pete) Petrovitz to face the group. Charles and George became the newest members of the Perch Base Holland Club and received a letter from National Holland Club Commander Bill Britt, a Holland Club certificate, membership card, Holland Club and Perch Base patches, a lapel pin and a coffee mug.

After the induction ceremony, Charles and George were welcomed by the existing Holland Club members and congratulated by the Perch Base members.

(Continued on "MINUTES," page 6)

(continued from "MINUTES," page 5)

50/50 DRAWING

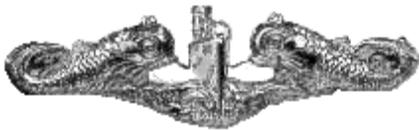
The 50/50 raffle was conducted and Bob May was the winner. The winner's share of the drawing was \$47.

ADJOURNMENT

All the outstanding business being concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans - Perch Base be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1342 hours.

Edgar T. Brooks - Base Secretary



Eternal Patrol June 7, 1944

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

U.S.S. Gudgeon (SS-211) 78 men lost



Armed with the pride bone of her successes on eleven previous war patrols, GUDGEON, under Lt. Cmdr. R.A. Bonin, sailed from Pearl Harbor on April 4, 1944 to conduct her twelfth patrol in an open area in the northern Marianas. She left Johnston Island on April 7, 1944, after having topped off with fuel, and was never heard from again.

Originally scheduled to leave her area on 16 May, she was ordered on May 11th to depart her area in time to take

station for a special assignment. An acknowledgment for this message was required and when none was received, it was asked for again on May 12th. On May 14th, her special assignment was give to another submarine, and GUDGEON was told to return to Midway. She should have arrived at Midway about May 23rd, but failed to do so and on June 7th she was reported as presumed lost.

GUDGEON was assigned to patrol a specific area, but if she arrived earlier than April 22, 1944, she was to patrol an area to the northeast. Using normal cruising speed, she would have arrived in the are assigned about April 16th. Assuming that nothing irregular happened en route, she might be expected to have been in the northern area from April 16-22. On April 18th, enemy planes claimed that they dropped bombs on a submarine. "The first bomb hit a bow, the second bomb direct on bridge. The center of the submarine burst open and oil pillars rose." The position given for this attack is 166 miles from "Yuoh" Island. No island approaching the spelling or sound of this word can be found in the Pacific, and it is assumed that a mistake has been made either by the Japanese or in translation of the position. If the island referred to could be Maug, the position given would be in the middle of the area in which GUDGEON should have been at the time specified. The attack described cannot be correlated with any known attack on an U.S. submarine near this time, but it is felt that the possible errors in assuming that this attack sank GUDGEON are too great to list as anything but a possibility.

On May 12, 1944, a number of submarines patrolling the Marianas reported that the enemy engaged in intensive antisubmarine tactics. Early that afternoon, SAND LANCE states, "while patrolling off Saipan looking for convoy, we heard about forty depth charges eight to ten miles away." Later SAND LANCE met three bombs and twenty-one depth charges herself. SILVERSIDES heard both the first attack and the one made on SAND LANCE. TUNNY heard depth charging during the afternoon. No submarine returning from the area reported having been attacked on May 12th but SAND LANCE. Japanese date for the attack give little information save that it was made by planes in cooperation with ships. With so many submarines in the vicinity, and the enemy conscious of their presence, as they undoubtedly were, the attack which was not on SAND LANCE might easily have been on a false contact.

The probability as to the cause for GUDGEON's loss is that she was depth-charged, bombed, or both. The attack on May 12 occurred slightly south of GUDGEON's area, but it was not unusual for submarines to leave their areas temporarily for tactical reason. Since the antisubmarine measures in the Marianas were so intense, it is not

(See "GUDGEON," on Page 8)

This Old Boat . . .

Only one shipmate, "Lance" Robert A. Lancendorfer had the correct answer to the past month's "This Old Boat." The correct answer was the USS Sea Lion (SS/SSP/ASSP/APSS/LPSS-315.)

SEA LION was the second vessel to be named for a large eared seal, that is a native of the Pacific Ocean. The first SEA LION (SS195) was built by the Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut where the keel was laid on 20 June 1938. She was in overhaul at the Navy Yard, Cavite, Philippine Islands when WWII began.

On the afternoon of December 10, she was bombed and heavily damaged. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, all radio and sound gear was removed, and depth charges were rigged in her compartments. On Christmas Day, 1941 the charges were exploded and down went the SEA LION; the first U. S. Submarine lost in World War 11.

The keel of the second SEA LION (and the one pictured) was laid on 25 February 1943 at the Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut. Launched on 31 October of the same year, the submarine was sponsored by Mrs. Emory S. LAND, wife of Rear Admiral LAND. She was first commissioned on 8 March 1944; and hurried through her shakedown cruise and headed for the Pacific.

For her heroism during her six war patrols, the USS SEA LION was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

On 10 November 1945, preservation of machinery and equipment was started at the San Francisco Naval Shipyard, incident to her being inactivated. On 16 February 1946, the SEA LION was decommissioned after a short but successful career.

After being in the graveyard for over two years, her conversion to a Submarine Troop Transport was begun on 31 March 1948. She was recommissioned on 2 November 1948.

EDITOR: Great input from shipmates on "This Old Boat . . ." This is what we need. Keep it up, shipmates.

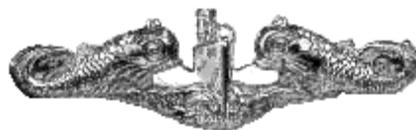


This one is easy, too. Note that this boat has an upper rudder.



Do you recognize this old boat? Send your answer to the editor

chuckster41@earthlink.net



**Need a book about submarines?
Have you checked out our base library?
It's easy. Find the book online at:
[http://perch-base.org/
perch_base_library.html](http://perch-base.org/perch_base_library.html)**

WWII -Boats

Short Facts

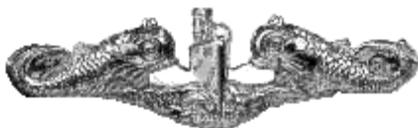
The longest successful torpedo run was made by USS Guitarro (SS-363) at a range of 8,640 yards. The second longest was by the USS Darter (SS-227) at 6,500 yards. Guitarro's target was at anchor, while Darter's was underway.

(continued from "GUDGEON," page 6)

unlikely that GUDGEON would be unable to transmit a receipt for the message of May 10th for several days. All of these conclusions are presumptive, and there is a great likelihood that GUDGEON was lost during an unrecorded enemy attack.

During her first eleven patrols, GUDGEON was a most active submarine. She sank 25 ships, for 166,400 tons, and damaged 8 more, for 41,900 tons. She started for the Empire but four days after the attack at Pearl Harbor, and there sank a freighter and a submarine. By sinking the Japanese submarine I-73 on January 27, 1942, GUDGEON became the first United States submarine in history to sink an enemy combatant's ship. She patrolled the South China Sea in her second war run and sank a large freighter-transport and a medium freighter. Her third patrol was as a member of the forces fighting the Battle of Midway. She inflicted no damage in the battle. Passing from Pearl Harbor to Fremantle, Western Australia, for her fourth patrol, GUDGEON patrolled the Truk area en route. Here she sank three freighters and a freighter-transport, all of fairly large size. Her fifth patrol was in the Bismarck Archipelago, and resulted in the sinking of three freighters and damage to another.

GUDGEON patrolled Davao Gulf, Ambon Island and Timor Island on her sixth patrol. She made no attacks on this patrol, but did reconnoiter the latter two islands. In the Java Sea and Strait of Makassar on her seventh patrol, GUDGEON sank two tankers and two freighters and damaged a third freighter. Her eighth patrol covered a passage from Fremantle to Pearl Harbor with principal patrol in the Philippine areas. She sank the largest (17,500-ton) transport ship the Japanese had, a small freighter-transport, a trawler, and damaged a freighter. GUDGEON patrolled Saipan and Rota on her ninth run, and sank a freighter and damaged another freighter and patrol craft. The East China Sea north of Formosa was GUDGEON's area during her tenth war patrol. She sank a large transport, a small freighter, and the coastal defense vessel WAKAMIYA on November 23, 1943. She also damaged a large tanker. In the same area for her eleventh patrol, this vessel sank a large transport and a sampan, and damaged a second sampan. GUDGEON was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for the period covering her first eight patrols.



The Future of the "Silent Service" — a DOD Perspective

UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTELLIGENCE OUTLINES
TRANSFORMATION OF ANOTHER "SILENT SERVICE"

The remarks below are the text of a speech Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence Dr. Stephen Cambone delivered to the nation's submarine community on the 103rd anniversary of the submarine service's founding.

TRANSFORMATION OF THE SUBMARINE COMMUNITY
— SUBMARINE BALL

April 26, 2003

Stephen A. Cambone

I don't know who said this, but it's a good rule to live by: that the finer the meal, the shorter the speech ought to be, which means I'll be speaking for a very brief time.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this remarkable group, one that includes so many of America's best, on the 103rd birthday of the United States Navy's submarine service. My thanks go to Rear Admiral and Mrs. Sullivan, and Vice Admiral Mrs. Szemborski, for inviting me and making me feel so welcome here this evening, and to Mrs. MacNeil of the Navy League for the outstanding support of her organization.

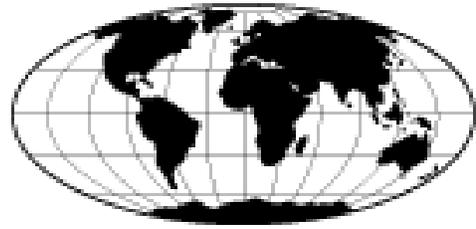
I would also like to recognize Admiral and Mrs. Bowman, Vice Admiral and Mrs. Nathman, Admiral and Mrs. Chiles, Admiral and Mrs. Mies, Vice Admiral and Mrs. Reynolds, and Vice Admiral Bacon.

I'd like to recognize Captain and Mrs. Rush — Charlie Rush, of course, holds a singular spot in history for his actions on USS BILLFISH in 1943. And, of course, a special debt of thanks goes from all of us to Mrs. Eleanor Rickover, whose husband, the father of the nuclear Navy, contributed so much not only to the submarine service and the Navy but to the defense of our country. You should know, Mrs. Rickover, that there are a lot of submariners in this room who take special pride in being able to say that they are one of Rickover's boys.

I would like to recognize as well the officers and crews of the submarines deployed tonight around the world in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and other contingencies.

(See "THE FUTURE," on Page 12)

Around the World

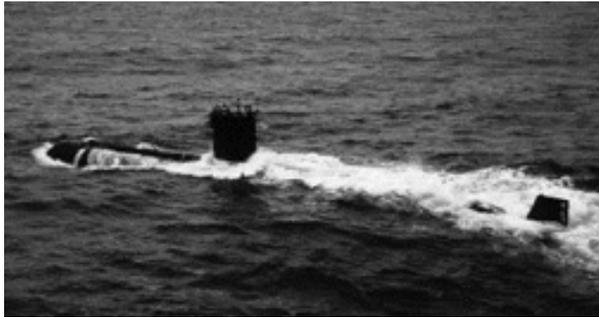


San Diego Union-Tribune
May 21, 2003

Crew Refused Surrender to Sea ***Submarine was stricken a year ago***

By James W. Crawley, Staff Writer

Once, twice, John Wise held his breath and plunged into the cold, brackish water filling the pump room of the submarine Dolphin. Each time, navigating by touch, Wise



opened valves so emergency pumps could suck out tons of water flooding the sub. For 90 minutes, the Navy petty officer was submerged in neck-high water, keeping the pumps working.

Tim Johnston was asleep when water began cascading through the submarine's outer hatch. Wearing only boxer shorts and a T-shirt, Johnston and another sailor battled crashing waves to pull shut a steel door and the hatch that had allowed the sea to swamp the sub.

Wise, Johnston and other sailors fought rising water, electrical short-circuits and heavy seas to save the Dolphin, the Navy's only remaining diesel-powered submarine, from sinking a year ago about 100 miles southwest of San Diego.

Forty-one sailors and two civilians abandoned ship without injury and were rescued by an accompanying civilian ship, a Navy frigate and a Coast Guard helicopter.

The 35-year-old Dolphin, which holds the world submarine diving record of more than 3,000 feet and is used mainly for research and weapons testing, was towed back to San

Diego.

That night was marked by heroism, teamwork and luck, crew members recently recounted publicly for the first time since the ordeal. "We're always at battle with the sea," Wise said. "(This time) we beat her."

A Navy investigation blamed an improperly designed and installed door gasket that failed in the rough seas and allowed water to rush in through the submarine's only outer hatch. It was open so the ship could draw in air for the diesel generator used to recharge the giant battery that powers the sub's electric motor while underwater.



A year later, the Dolphin rests in a Navy dry dock, waiting for extensive repairs and modifications to be completed. Much of the vessel's electrical system is being replaced, along with the battery.

The faulty door is being redesigned. Officials hope the sub will be back in the water by late August and

operating by the year's end, said Cmdr. Ed Hasell, the commanding officer. Navy officers predict the repair bill will top \$9 million, probably millions more, as additional work is done.

While many, including skipper Cmdr. Stephen Kelety, have transferred, some crewmen remain with the sub and vividly recall how they kept it from sinking. Wise, who was promoted to chief petty officer after the incident, remembers the screeching horn of the collision alarm and the

(See "DOLPHIN," on Page 10)

SHIPMATES COLUMN

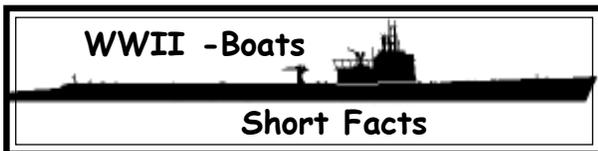
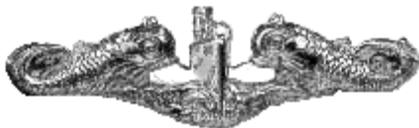
Now is the time to nominate a fellow Base shipmate to be the "Sailor of the Year." Got a member in mind? Send the name to any Base ex-Commander. Those are Jim Newman, Frank Rumbaugh, Roger Cousin, Dave Harnish or Don Wannamaker.

EDITOR: I'm continuing to run small facts, or "factoids," on submarines in World War II throughout the newsletter as "WWII Boats - Short Facts." Look for the small box with the fleet boat silhouette. Shipmate Jim Newman was kind enough to send them and I'll run the until they're gone.

Ramon Samson was also kind enough to provide the story on the U.S.S Dolphin that's in this issue. All hands' contributions are welcomed. I won't promise I'll run them, but all will be strongly considered, and in most cases, published. Any information on members' activities or of their wife's are especially needed.

Do you have any information to share with shipmates? Contact the Midwatch Editor, Chuck Emmett at:

*(602) 843-9042
chuckster41@earthlink.net*



During WWII, 380 U.S. airmen were rescued by 86 different submarines. The most famous pilot rescued was LTjg George W. Bush when he was picked up by U.S.S. Finback. At the time, he was the youngest carrier pilot in the U.S. Navy.

DOLPHIN, (continued from page 9)

announcement that the ship was flooding.

He went to the control room and looked through a floor hatch and was startled to see water rising to within 10 inches of pump room's ceiling. "I'd never seen that much water in a space," he said. "This was bad."

Like all submariners, the Dolphin crew feared two emergencies more than all others: fire and flooding. "There's no place to go," Wise said. Plus, the submarine's hatch design makes an underwater rescue impossible.



Flooding was slowed by the pumps and the sub's prospects were improving until the vessel's main electrical system shorted out. With one escape hatch, Keley ordered "abandon ship."

"We gave it a hell of a fight for two hours," said Master Chief Petty Officer Charles Grandin, the senior enlisted man aboard.

For the second time that night, the Dolphin's crew was in peril. The Pacific was in a cruel mood. Waves climbed 10 to 12 feet high. The Dolphin's 165-foot long cylindrical hull rolled heavily, pitching sailors who lost their grip on the single safety line into the water.

It was a moonless night, and the sky and water were pitch black. The 55-degree water quickly chilled the sailors. Winds and waves forced most sailors to swim to a waiting boat from the nearby Thach. Others swam several hundred feet to the research vessel William McGaw. Two were picked up by a Coast Guard helicopter.

(See "DOLPHIN," next page)

FIRSTMATES COLUMN

Perch Base Wives

For the ladies of Perch Base:

(Nothing to report this month. If a member has any information on wives' activities, please contact the Midwatch editor.)

DOLPHIN (continued from page 10)

While assisting sailors overboard, Johnston saw two sailors, their positions marked by glowing chemical lights, drifting away from rescuers. "I thought I would never see them again," he said. "My initial response was 'That's terrible. Who's next (down the ladder)?'"

With dozens of sailors remaining on board, Johnston didn't have time to worry. Only when he got aboard the McGaw did he find out the men had been rescued. It would be months before Johnston could think about his emotions and actions that night. "I think I've worked it out," Johnston said. "I think everyone on board that night has made peace with themselves."

In December, a dozen Dolphin sailors were honored with medals for their actions that night. Wise received one of the military's highest non-combat awards, the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. Johnston, a petty officer 3rd class, received a Navy Commendation Medal. Wise said the medal was a surprise and that the effort to save the submarine required everyone's efforts. "Without the training and trust of the whole crew, the outcome might have been different," he said.



U.S.S. DOLPHIN GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Primary Function: Deep submergence research and development submarine

Hull Number: AGSS-555

Class: No class; this is a one-of-a-kind ship

Builder: Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Power Plant: Diesel/Electric; Two GM 12-cylinder, 425 HP engines

Length: 165 feet (50.3 meters)

Displacement: 950 tons (965.25 metric tons) full load

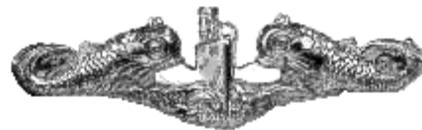
Diameter: 18 feet (5.5 meters)

Operating Depth: 3,000 feet (915 meters)

Crew: 5 officer, 46 enlisted, and up to 5 scientists

Armament: None

Date Deployed: 17 August 1968



WWII -Boats

Short Facts

U.S.S. Seawolf (SS-197) was sunk in error by the U.S.S. Ronell on October 3, 1944.

U.S.S. Tautog scored the highest number of confirmed sinkings in WW II for a U.S. submarine (26.)

U.S.S. Thresher made the trip to Japan in 1942 to play weather forecaster for the Doolittle Raid.

THE FUTURE (continued from page 8)

I've observed something interesting about our country's military forces over the years — an apparently mundane point, but actually quite telling.

Our nation's military forces are loud.

From the Army's "Screaming Eagles," to the barking Devil Dogs of the Marine Corps, to the fighters and bombers that the Air Force celebrates in its hymn as having "one hell of a roar" — when America's Armed Forces show up, everybody in the neighborhood knows about it.

Not so in the case of the United States Navy's submarine community, the nation's "silent service." Teddy Roosevelt would have loved you guys. No service walks more softly or carries a bigger stick. And, as the face of warfare changes in this new millennium, your prowess and adaptability remain as critical as ever to our nation's military successes.

In a speech to The Citadel in September 1999, then-candidate George W. Bush said, "The best way to keep the peace is to redefine war on our own terms." In a sentence, the president defined the purpose and objective of the department's effort to transform itself.

As a way of underscoring his determination to bring about that transformation, the president reminded his Citadel audience of an earlier time when a free people — the British during the 1930's — confronted what he called "rapid change and momentous choices."

It was a time when Nazi Germany was seeking to redefine war and Britain was reluctant to rearm and remodel its armed forces. It was then that Winston Churchill sounded this clarion call, repeated by the president as an expression of his own concern: "The era of procrastination, of half-measures, of soothing and baffling expedience, of delays, is coming to a close. In its place, we are entering a period of consequences."

Unhappily that period of consequences arrived for us on September 11, 2001.

Each of the services has turned to in the effort to transform the defense establishment. Together they have shifted nearly \$80 billion over the current fiscal year defense plan to transform the force. As a result, the department has programmed or planned for the initial deployment of missile defense; the launch of a space-based radar system; deployment of laser-based satellite communications systems; procurement of high-speed vessels, UCAVs, and the Army's Future Combat System;

and the Navy's next generation aircraft carrier, the CVN-21.

And your own community, as well, continues to transform itself. After all, submarine warfare has been about transformation for over 100 years — its birth was difficult as it struggled against the naval establishment's view of warfare, and it wrestled with the constraints of physics and the limits of technology. Submarines were originally assigned as mere scouts to the main battle fleet. When that fleet was disabled at Pearl Harbor, the submarine force went forward — alone and unafraid — to operate with audacity, courage and malfunctioning torpedoes. The submarine assault on the Imperial Japanese Navy and the blockade of Japan, came at the cost of 52 submarines and more than 3,500 valiant men. But it dealt a crippling blow to Imperial ambition. You led the way to victory in the Pacific.

Following the war, you followed the spectacular with what many thought to be the impossible. You led the world in a radical leap into the nuclear age. When USS Nautilus shifted colors the morning of January 17, 1955 and got "underway, on nuclear power," you did something no one else had ever done.

Your community continued to transform rapidly during the 1950s and 1960s, becoming a key to victory in the Cold War. You led the way in nuclear deterrence, taking ballistic missiles to sea. You led the way on cruise missiles. Stealth operations became your stock in trade. And you invented modern anti-submarine warfare. The nearly 4,000 strategic deterrent patrols to date, coupled with strike and fast-attack war-fighting savoir faire, enabled our nation to defend itself and its friends while thwarting Soviet ambition in a succession of quiet duels under the oceans. Many of you know the details of those duels. For the rest of us, we will wait for those stories to be told. When they are told, the people of this nation will marvel at your deeds and give full expression to the gratitude it owes to its silent warriors.

Today, the threat emanating from the deep ocean has been much diminished. But it has not vanished. For that reason, you continue your patrols, SSBNs and SSNs alike, in defense of the nation.

The reduced blue-water threat has not left the submarine community without a mission. Those who wish us ill know they cannot discount the capability of the silent service to reach out and ring their bell.

As an example, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, you demonstrated your skills with the usual aplomb, firing from 12 American fast-attack boats a significant fraction of the

Tomahawk cruise missiles that helped bring down Saddam's regime.

There is a *modus operandi* associated with the submarine service. Even as you operate at a very high tempo, you continue to develop new technologies, new ways of doing business, and then use them with tremendous skill. That is very much the spirit of transformation.

As a result of the president's direction to transform the United States military, our military has a new defense strategy and, as part of that new strategy, is developing a new strategic triad, as laid out in the latest Nuclear Posture Review. The submarine force is a key component of the new triad's offensive and defensive capabilities.

As we transform intelligence, submarine warfare is on the cutting edge. We are looking to create intelligence capabilities that emphasize persistence and greater resistance to denial and deception. These have been the hallmarks of submarine operations and involvement in intelligence for 50 years.

Submarine operations also will play a role in homeland defense, tracking, intercepting, and, if ordered to do so by the commander in chief, interdicting vessels that transport or employ weapons of mass destruction.

You have already begun to transform the service. The conversion of four SSBNs to SSGNs, your development of a new special-purpose SSN, your development of new SEAL delivery systems, and your development of the Virginia-class SSN, slated for delivery in summer of next year — ahead of schedule — are all part of the changes you are making.

You have taken on new missions including increased and, in ways, more difficult intelligence missions and expanded your support to special operations forces, as the recent experiments with the USS Florida demonstrated. You are developing unmanned undersea and airborne vehicles to extend your reach and influence against a wide array of targets at sea and ashore. You continue to develop capabilities for collaborative, joint and coalition operations, in shallow water and littoral regions, and against asymmetric threats.

Today, submarines are fully connected and integrated assets in joint operations. We need continued advances in systems and tactics to give our submarine force new capabilities to reach further under ever more difficult conditions and with even greater security.

Much, then, is expected of you in the coming years. When we recall the words of candidate Bush on the aim of transformation — of conducting warfare on our terms and maximizing our advantages — undersea warfare

should be brought to everyone's mind. Here is an endeavor where our preeminence is historic, enduring and unquestioned. I can think of no operational, technical or financial challenge, including missile defense that is more daunting, difficult and costly than preserving our freedom of action beneath the ocean's waves. Two world wars and a 40-year Cold War are proof. But the character of the threat is changing. Therefore, so too must our undersea warfare capabilities. We are looking to you, in the finest tradition of the service, to bring forward the technology, doctrine, and tactics to assure that we do not cede this preeminence, so dearly bought by your predecessors.

To that end, the Department of Defense committed last year to undertake a study on the future of undersea warfare. Its premise is that the United States must maintain its undersea preeminence. It seeks to provide help in answering the question, 'what investments to make to ensure that preeminence?' The study is to examine undersea forward presence, the use of special forces, and ways by which to conduct information operations, and nationally tasked missions, all with the goal of learning how to best defeat anti-access threats, prosecute adversaries' undersea forces, and provide in the future the war-fighting capabilities currently fulfilled by the undersea warfare forces.

This study, and other investment decisions made by the Department of Defense, will provide this splendid community with the kind of opportunity it thrives on.

Capable, confident, audacious, and creative, you have the opportunity to chart the next leg of the course for the submarine service. You have proven before that you can loose yourselves from past dogma to embrace the promise of the future.

The nation needs such an effort from you again. It needs to have you succeed in transforming from a Cold War fleet to a 21st-century fighting force, able to provide a stealthy presence and defeat any enemy on or under the sea, even as you strike precisely and with devastating effect to the full depth of an adversary's territory.

The nation needs this effort from you because we are a nation at war; we do not know how long it will last, but it is unlikely to be short.

We cannot know where all of its battles will be fought. There are multiple fronts in this war, and there is no single theater of operations.

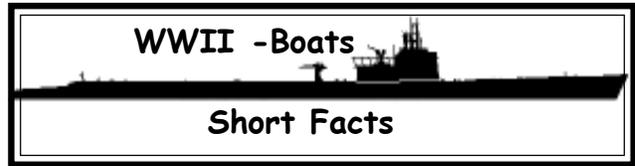
We do know that we are all at risk, at home and abroad, civilians and military alike.

We do know that battles and campaigns will be both conventional and unconventional in their conduct.

Some of those battles and campaigns will be fought in the open. Others will be fought in secret, where our victories will be known to only a few.

For the submarine service, it means that we are planning and fighting today's battles even as we prepare for that longer campaign. It is up to us to build on your storied legacy, build on its unequalled success and encourage the coming generation to reach for greatness by upholding the finest traditions of the "silent service."

Thank you.



The U.S.S. Trout carried anti-aircraft ammo to Corregidor and on the return trip, hauled two tons of gold bars and 18 tons of silver coins to safety. Cmdr. L.P. Ramage was in command.

**U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.
WESTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Jim Foote

**4046 A Dyes Inlet RD NW
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(360) 373 3135
C (360) 981 8190**

RULES FOR DISTRICT COMMANDER ELECTIONS 2003

Each base in the Western Region has the names of the candidates nominated for USSVI District Commanders, if not contact USSVI Western Regional Director.

1. Ballots for Districts 8, 9, & 10 are included with this communication.
2. Election results must be received by Western Regional Director (Jim Foote) prior to 30 June 2003. Late reports will not be honored. Reports may be via e-mail, USPS Mail or telephone.
3. Base Commander may conduct District Commander elections at his discretion; that includes e-mail, USPS mail, in person, by phone. **EVERY PRIMARY BASE MEMBER MUST HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE.**
4. Every primary base member must be informed how the base is conducting this election.
5. Election results will be announced 12 July 2003.
6. Term of office will begin at the conclusion of the USSVI Annual Business Meeting.

**U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC.
WESTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**Jim Foote
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Bremerton WA 98312-1445
(360) 373 3135
C (360) 981 8190
foote@ix.netcom.com**

BALLOT FOR DISTRICT 8 COMMANDER

SELECT ONE

Ed Brooks (Perch Base)

Leif Larsen (Corvina Base)

Write in _____

Return ballot to your Base Commander.

Base Commander send tally to WRD.

Perch Base Inducts New Holland Club Member



“The requirement’s for membership in the Holland Club is determined by Section 5 of the USSVI Constitution. Basically a member must be qualified 50 or more years, and is either, a life member and a member in good standing for one year, or an annual member in good standing for 5 consecutive years.”



Two more sub vets joined the elite ranks of the Perch Base Holland Club at the May meeting. Outgoing Commander Dave Harnish called Charles A. Chapman and George (Pete) Petrovitz to face the group. Charles and George became the newest members and received a letter from National Holland Club Commander Bill Britt, a Holland Club certificate, membership card, Holland Club and Perch Base patches, a lapel pin and a coffee mug. After the induction ceremony, Charles and George were welcomed by the existing Holland Club members the base at large.



Memorial Day 2003

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act, P.L. 90 - 363, in 1971 to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

Perch Base joined with the Pigboaters in honoring our war dead at the Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery again this year. In addition to honoring the fallen in their own private way, the tolling of the bell was conducted for lost submarines' crew.



(2002 photograph)

Float Field Day - May 17, 2003



Return To:

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

<http://perch-base.org>



Next regular meeting June 14, 2003