



The Snorkel Exhaust

USSVI - SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, TN

"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

July & August 2022

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Scheduled Meetings

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

MIMI'S CAFE
10945 Parkside Drive,
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
 Dinner & Social Hour @ 1800
 Meeting @ 1900



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

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE OFFICERS



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



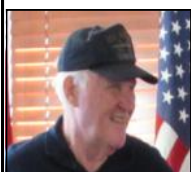
Qualified MM1(SS)
USS SPADEFISH (SSN-668)
Qualified MM1(SS)
USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663)



BASE VICE-COMMANDER
Thomas Peschke MMCM (SS)



Qualified MM2 (SS)
USS M. G. VALLEJO (SSBN-658)



Robert (Bob) Childs
BASE SECRETARY



Qualified MMC (SS)
USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571)
November 1967
USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT
(SSBN 600 - Blue Crew) July 1970



BASE TREASURER
JIM ROCK



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



Smoky Mountain Base Committees



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



Qualified EM3(SS)
USS WOODROW WILSON (SSBN-624)
Qualified EM1(SS)



PROGRAM CHAIRMAN
Andy Armbrust



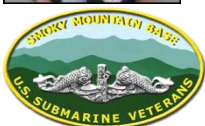
Qualified MM1(SS)
USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663)
in 1975



SMB STOREKEEPER
Dick Mitchell



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



WEBSITE MASTER
Stuart McGlassen



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



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



**NEWSLETTER EDITOR &
BASE PHOTOGRAPHER**
Bruce Eltzroth ET1(SU)
Staff Instructor - S1W, IDAHO
USS SCULPIN (SSN-590)

Bruce is an Associate
Member of Smoky Mountain
Submarine Base





SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, USSVI Meetings, Greetings, Gatherings & Other Stuff

July & August - 2022

SMB Meetings and Happenings

Scheduled Meetings:

Smoky Mountain Base meets at Mimi's Cafe
in the Turkey Creek shopping area.

10945 Parkside Drive, Knoxville, TN 37934

Dinner @ 1800, Meeting @ 1900



Smoky Mountain Submarine Base monthly
meetings are currently being held at:

Mimi's Cafe

10945 Parkside Drive, Knoxville, TN

New Members are Welcome!

Current New Members:

Steve Kasy, (HM-2-SS) USS Francis Scott Key, SSBN 657.

July 31 - Was the Newsletter Deadline for this Issue

August 14 - VJ-Day (1945)

August 18 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)

The Snorkel Exhaust

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Smoky-Mountain-Submarine-Veterans/273222054302>

September 6 - Labor Day

September 11 - Patriot's Day

September 15 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)

September 17 - Constitution Day

September 22 - Autumnal Equinox

September 25 - Rosh Hashanah

September 30 - Newsletter Deadline for the next issue

August 2022

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			

September 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

SMB Library Books and Magazines



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

Our library has several items to read available. There are over 100 books in our library - check some out!
(See Marlin for selections)

FUN STUFF

"Do not interfere with the affairs of Dragons, for you are crunchy and good with Ketchup!"

USSVI Convention in Buffalo NY



The deadline to register for the 2022 National USSVI Convention in Buffalo NY is fast approaching. Registrations for the convention WILL CLOSE AT 1600 AUGUST 5, 2022. You will not be able to register for the convention or activities after that date.

If you are planning on attending, you must register as soon as possible.

Hope to see you in the Buff. Fred "Fritz"

Marazita Buffalo Base -

Home of the 2022 USSVI National Convention
Buffalo Base/EN5 District Commander



(SS) CHALLENGE COINS LLC
www.SSChallengeCoins.com

31889 Marshall Rd
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65260-2011
816.261.7784



Shelly Saxton
CEO/Owner
SubmarineCoins@gmail.com



**VETERANS
INFORMATION FOR
SMOKY MOUNTAIN
BASE MEMBERS**



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

THE VETERAN'S CREED

- 1 — I am an American Veteran
- 2 — I proudly served my country
- 3 — I live the values I learned in the military
- 4 — I continue to serve my community, my country and my fellow veterans
- 5 — I maintain my physical and mental discipline
- 6 — I continue to lead and improve
- 7 — I make a difference
- 8 — I honor and remember my fallen comrades

The Veterans Creed is supported by:

AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, HillVets, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Reserve Officers Association, Veterans of America, Team Rubicon Global,

Submarine related Definitions:

CBDR - Constant Bearing, Decreasing Range. When comparing another object's (ship, aircraft, missile, etc.) movement relative to your own, if there is no BEARING DRIFT and distance is decreasing, it's an indication that collision is about to occur.

CBR - Chemical, Biological, and Radiological nuclear warfare.

CERA - (RCN, pronounced 'sarah' or 'Chief ERA') Chief Engine Room Artificer.

Cha - (RN) Tea. Also spelled 'char'.

Channel Fever - Anxious to get home, or reach port.

Charlie Oscar - Commanding Officer.

Charlie Sierra - Phonetic abbreviation for 'chicken shit.' The unnecessarily thorough enforcement of an insignificant or unimportant regulation.

Charlie Noble - The galley smokestack. The most popular version of the term's origin is that Charlie Noble was an Admiral who insisted that the (brass or copper) galley smokestack be polished or inspections.

Check Valve - Used to describe a person, it refers to one who does for himself, but not others. (None of the goodies get past him.) AKA: "One Way"

(Definitions courtesy of RAO Bulletin July 15, 2022) (Veteran News)



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



Everything is in transition right now with our new meeting location and national web site. I cannot access the Tools Page where I can update member status, but I expect it back in August and will work on it then. A larger venue will allow us more flexibility in our meetings. I am still working on our annual Tolling of the Boats which is complicated by a resurgence of COVID which will complicate conducting the ceremony at Ben Atchley. Jim Rock hinted at a possible leaf-change cruise on his houseboat this fall.

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



BASE VICE-COMMANDERS REPORT – THOMAS PESCHKE MMCM (SS)



Benevolence... a nice word. It should be more than just a word to us, it should be an action. I would like to know if any of our brothers or sisters or their families are in distress. Are they ill? In the hospital? Had a bad fall and needed assistance? We should do more than just to be here to remember what our brothers did in the past and truly deserve to be honored for. We should be here for them NOW if they need assistance. Please let me know if that is the case. If you need assistance, I will see what we can do to help. I think help is the way we can honor you today when you need it. What else are "brothers of the phin" for? This only works if we all can work together. PLEASE send your information (birthday dates, anniversary dates, as requested) to Marlin. I know that you have pride in your service or you wouldn't be a member, now reflect that pride and give us the information we need to be successful.

Thanks, Your friendly neighborhood Vice Commander.



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



This issue of the Snorkel contains photos and information from SMB's participation in the 2022, 4th of July parade in Lenoir City, TN on page 12. It also includes the interment of 4 homeless veterans at East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery by military honor guard and also members of Smoky Mountain Submarine Base Veterans. On page 13, this issue includes a story and artist's sketches from the history of the first submersibles of the United States and a first input from **Shirley Corders** who is our new "SUNSHINE LADY". Details of the July SMB meeting and our new meeting location (Mimi's) are discussed on page 14. Page 15 includes a piece about delays at Ingalls and Electric Boat work and a proposed advertisement for local newspapers.



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



The SMB annual picnic will be held sometime this fall along with Holland Club Inductions. (The location has not yet been determined.)

The picnic normally begins at 1200 and we plan to eat at 1300.

"I will prepare smoked pulled pork and provide buns, BBQ sauce, coffee, iced tea, lemonade, plates, napkins, plastic utensils, and cups."

You should also bring a covered dish to share.



STOREKEEPERS REPORT - DICK MITCHELL - ET1(SS)



We currently have the following items on hand for sale:

2022 USSVI Calendars are still available, you can pick them up at the next meeting. The cost is \$8.00 at the meeting, but if mailed \$9.00 to cover postage. We also have Baseball caps w/SMB patch (White or Blue) - \$14.00. Straw Hat w/SMB patch - \$12.00. SMB Iron on Patches - \$7.00. SMB Logo Magnetic Car Plates - \$12.00. SMB Window Stickers - \$3.00. Smoky Mountain Base battery quartz wall Clocks - \$15.00. Smoky Mountain Base Clock \$18.00.

Remember all purchases help to support YOUR Smoky Mountain Base.



SMB TREASURERS REPORT - JIM ROCK MM1(SS)



On **June 16th**, we had a balance of **\$2,277.49**.
As of **August 1st**, we have a balance of **\$2,332.49**.



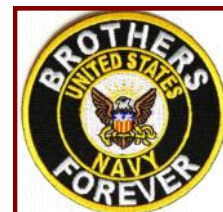


Secretary's Report - Robert D. Childs



Presiding: **Marin Helms, Base Commander**

Date: July 21, 2022



Meeting called to Order at 1908 hours.

David Pope presented the Invocation.

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

C.O.B. Terry McBride and Bob Childs led the tolling of the bell for lost boats.

Members and guests were asked to sign in and introduce themselves.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the June 16, 2022 were presented by the Base Secretary. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. **Minutes approved.**

Treasurer's Report – Jim Rock reported a balance of \$2,252.49 in the base account..

Correspondence/Discussion – None

Committees –

- **Newsletter**- Bruce Eltzroth currently working on the next issue of the newsletter. Inputs are needed.
- **Library** – Ed Standiffer - no report.
- **Storekeeper** – Dick Mitchell - not present.
- **Membership** – Marlin Helms reported there are fifty members on the list (No Change). We will trim the numbers to reflect the actual membership (Ongoing).
- **Scouting** - Marlin Helms (temporarily) - no report.
- **Webmaster** – Stuart McGlasson - no report.
- **Social Committee** - Andy Armbrust indicated that there will be a fall picnic. Date to be determined. Looking to hold the picnic at the Concord Yacht Club.
- **Sunshine Ladies Program** - Shirley Corders passed around a sign up sheet for birthdays.
- **Old business** – Base Commander checking with Ben Atchley to see if the Veterans Day ceremony will be held inside or out.

New Business/Good of the Order -

- **Membership** discussed moving the meeting to a new location. Three locations were recommended by membership: Mimi's at Turkey Creek was selected by majority vote.
- **Phone Tree** - Base Commander asked for input on phone tree. More discussion at next Board Meeting.
- **Jim Rock** reported that the float is ready for presentation.
- **Vice Commander Thom Peschke** reported that burial of four (4) homeless vets was attended by he and Stephanie also by Jim Rock and Shirley Corders. See page 12 for story and Photos.
- **Base Commander** presented Charlie Odem's vest in a shadow box. He also complimented Dick Mitchell for making a new stand for the bell, the Eternal Patrol board and the shadow box for Charlie's vest. Base Commander Marlin Helms gave kudos to all members who volunteer and thanked them for their efforts.
- **Next Meeting**; 1900 hrs, Thursday, August 18, 2022 at Mimi's, 10945 Parkside Drive, in Knoxville, TN.
- **Motion to adjourn made and seconded.** Accepted unanimously.
- **Meeting Adjourned at 2030 hours.**



USS G-2 (SS-27) (TUNA) - 30 July 1919
 USS S-28 (SS-133) - 4 July 1944
 USS ROBALO (SS-273) - 26 July 1944
 USS GRUNION (SS-216) - 30 July 1942
 USS FLIER (SS-250) - 13 August 1944
 USS S-39 (SS-144) - 14 August 1942



**Tolling Of
The Bells**



For July and August

USS HARDER (SS-257) - 24 August 1944
 USS BULLHEAD (SS-332) - 6 August 1945
 USS POMPANO (SS-181) - 28 August 1943
 USS COCHINO (SS-345) - 26 August 1949
 USS TUSK (SS-436) - 26 August 1949
 USS BASS (SF-5) (SS-164) - 17 August 1942



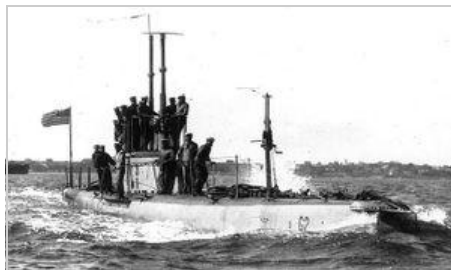


Lost Boats of July



Pre WW-II Lost Boats

G-2 (SS-27) (TUNA) - 30 July 1919



3 MEN LOST

G-2 was named **Tuna** when her keel was laid down on 20 October, 1909 by the Lake Torpedo Boat Company in Bridgeport, Connecticut, making her the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the tuna. During inspection by a six-man maintenance crew on 30 July, 1919, the boat suddenly flooded and sank at her moorings in Two Tree Channel near Niantic Bay. She went down in 81 feet of water, drowning three of the inspection crew. Too deep and too old to salvage, the submarine was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 11 September 1919.

(Info & photo from Wikipedia)

WW-II Lost Boats

USS S-28 (SS-133) - 4 July 1944



50 MEN LOST

On August 13, 1943, the **S-28** ended her sixth patrol at the submarine base at Massacre Bay on Attu Island. On September 8, 1943, she sailed from there for her seventh and last war patrol. On October 18, 1943, the **S-28** ended her last war patrol at Dutch Harbor before arriving at Pearl Harbor on November 16, 1943, for overhaul and use as a training vessel. On July 3, 1944, the **S-28**, captained by reservist Lieutenant Commander Jack G. Campbell, left the submarine base at Pearl Harbor to conduct training exercises with the Coast Guard cutter Reliance. On July 3 and 4, she acted as a target for Reliance's crew to help train them in American antisubmarine warfare techniques. During the late afternoon of **July 4, 1944**, all contact with the S-28 was suddenly lost. The **S-28** was awarded **one battle star** for her service in World War II.

USS ROBALO (SS-273) - 26 July 1944



84 MEN LOST

On June 22, 1944, the **Robalo**, captained by Lieutenant Commander Manning M. Kimmel, departed Fremantle to conduct her third and final war patrol. She had been ordered to patrol in the South China Sea in the vicinity of the Natuna Islands. The Operation Order for the **Robalo's** final patrol directed her to top off her fuel at Operation Potshot in Exmouth Gulf, and then proceed via Lombok Strait, Makassar Strait, Sibutu Passage, Balabac Strait, and south of Dangerous Ground to her assigned patrol station in the South China Sea. On **July 2, 1944**, Kimmel made a contact report stating **Robalo** had sighted a Fuso-class battleship with air cover and two destroyer escorts, just east of Borneo at 3°-29' N, 119°-26' E. However, he did not state whether or not he had attacked it. The contact report on **July 2, 1944**, was the last message ever received from the **USS Robalo** and when she did not return from patrol, she was reported as presumed lost. The **Robalo** earned **two battle stars** for her World War II service.

USS GRUNION (SS-216) - 30 July 1942



70 MEN LOST

On June 30, 1942, the **Grunion**, captained by Lieutenant Commander Mannert L. Abele, left Pearl Harbor for her first and final war patrol. The **Grunion** reached Midway Island and then headed for the Aleutian Islands. On July 15, 1942, she reported she had been attacked by a Japanese destroyer and had fired three torpedoes at it, which all missed. She later reported that she had sunk three destroyer-type vessels. Japanese reports examined after the war indicated she sank two patrol craft and damaged a third. On July 19, 1942, the **Grunion**, the **USS S-32 (SS-137)**, the **USS Triton (SS-201)**, and the **USS Tuna (SS-203)** were ordered to take positions in the approaches to Kiska harbor. The **Grunion's** last transmission was received **July 30, 1942** reporting heavy anti-submarine activity at the entrance to Kiska harbor, and that she had ten torpedoes remaining. On the same day, the **Grunion** was directed to return to Dutch Harbor. She was never heard from again. Air searches off Kiska were fruitless. On October 5, 1942, it was announced that she was assumed lost with all hands. The **Grunion** received **one battle star** for her World War II service.



Lost Boats of August



USS FLIER (SS-250) - 13 August 1944



80 MEN LOST

USS FLIER (SS-250) Sailed 2 August 1944, on her second war patrol, bound for the coast of Indochina via the Lombok Strait, Macassar Strait and Balabac Strait. At about 2200 on 12 August, while transiting Balabac Strait on the surface, she struck a naval mine. She sank in about a minute, but 13 officers and men were able to clamber out. Eight of them reached the beach of Mantangula Island after 15 hours in the water. Friendly natives guided them to a coast-watcher, who arranged for them to be picked up by submarine, and on the night of 30-31 August, they were taken on board by *Redfin*.

USS S-39 (SS-144) - 14 August 1942



NO MEN LOST

USS S-39 (SS-144) was lost on 14 August 1942 when it was destroyed after grounding on a reef south of Rossel Island Louisiande Archipelago. All of the crew were rescued.

USS HARDER (SS-257) - 24 August 1944



84 MEN LOST

On August 5, 1944, **USS HARDER**, captained by Commander Samuel D. Dealey, left Fremantle for her sixth and final war patrol. Commander Dealey had been chosen to lead a wolf pack made up of **HARDER**, **USS HAKE** (SS-256), and **USS HADDO** (SS-255). **HARDER** and **HAKE** left together. Lieutenant Commander Chester Nimitz's **HADDO** would leave three days later. The three boats would rendezvous off Subic Bay and hunt for enemy shipping south of Luzon Strait.

On the morning of 24 August 1944, two ships emerged from Dasol Bay - a mine-sweeper and the old Thai destroyer *Phra Ruang*. **HAKE** maneuvered to attack the destroyer, but broke off when it turned back into the bay. Meanwhile, the Japanese minesweeper continued out, pinging continually, and **HAKE** moved off to evade, as her Commanding Officer Frank Haylor, caught a last glimpse of **HARDER'S** periscope at 0647. At 0728, Haylor heard a string of 15 depth charge explosions in the distance; then nothing. **USS Harder** (SS-257) - Sank in Philippine Waters, 24 August 1944 after being depth charged by IJN Escort CD-22.

In the final analysis, Sam Dealey and **HARDER** had sunk 16 enemy ships, with total tonnage in excess of 55,000 - enough to put him among the top five US submarine skippers.





Lost Boats of August



USS BULLHEAD (SS-332) – 6 August 1945



84 MEN LOST

USS Bullhead (SS-332) On July 31, 1945, the *Bullhead*, captained by Lieutenant Commander Edward R. Holt, Jr., left Fremantle on her third and final war patrol. She had received orders to transit the Lombok Strait and patrol in the Java Sea with several other American and British submarines. On August 2, 1945, she kept a rendezvous with the Dutch submarine *Q 21* about 350 miles south of Lombok Strait and transferred mail to her. On August 6, 1945, the *Bullhead* reported that she had transited the Lombok Strait safely was on station in the Java Sea. She was never heard from again and was presumed lost with all hands.

Postwar analysis of enemy records indicated that the *Bullhead* was ambushed by a Japanese Army plane off Bali on August 6, 1945, at 0835 hours. The pilot of a Mitsubishi Ki-51 "Sonia" dropped two sixty-kilogram bombs on the submarine. The pilot claimed two direct hits and said he saw oil and bubbles coming from the area where the submarine had submerged. The *Bullhead* was the last U. S. submarine lost during World War II. The attack happened at coordinates 8° 20' S, 115° 42' E, which is very close to the Bali coast. The *Bullhead* received two battle stars for her World War II service.

USS Pompano (SS-181) – 28 August 1943



74 MEN LOST

On August 20, 1943, the *USS Pompano*, captained by Lieutenant Commander Willis M. Thomas, left Midway Island on her seventh and last war patrol. Thomas was ordered to patrol the north-east coast of Honshu from August 29 until sunset on September 27, 1944.

The last report from the *Pompano* was on September 9, 1944, when she reported that she had attacked and damaged the *Nanking Maru*.

One possibility is that she fell victim to a newly laid mine field. Another possibility is that Japanese records obtained after the war indicate that Japanese air and naval units attacked a submarine on September 17, 1943, in the Tsugaru Strait, at bearing 320 from and only two miles off Cape Shiriyazaki. Japanese ASW forces made three attacks with depth charges. Following the last one the target stopped and the oil slick was seen to be spreading. After each attack the oil slick grew larger. It was concluded that an enemy submarine was probably resting on the seabed in an area at bearing 318 from and about three miles off the Shiriyazaki Lighthouse. The attackers believed the submarine had lost motive power. Attempts to locate the target using the fathometer and sonar were unsuccessful. More depth charges were dropped and more gushing oil was seen. Oil kept gushing out from that location during the entire day.

The *Pompano* did not return to Midway Island on the scheduled date, nor did she respond to numerous radio transmissions. *Pompano* was awarded seven battle stars for her service in World War II.

POST WW-II Lost Boats

USS COCHINO (SS-345) and USS TUSK (SS-436) – 26 August 1949



1 MAN LOST from Cochino and 6 MEN LOST from Tusk

USS Cochino (SS-345) was lost on 26-Aug-1949 when it sank in the Norwegian Sea after a fire, one crewman from Cochino and 6 crewmen of the **USS TUSK (SS-426)** were lost overboard due to the heavy seas while rescuing the **USS COCHINO's** crew.

(Left photo is Cochino, Right is Tusk)



Lost Boats of August



USS Bass (SF-5) (SS-164) - 17 August 1942

26 MEN LOST

USS Bass (SF-5/SS-164), a *Barracuda*-class submarine and one of the "V-boats", was the first ship of the United States Navy to be named for the bass. Her keel was laid at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. She was launched as **V-2 (SF-5)** on 27 December, 1924. *Bass* was designed to meet the fleet submarine requirement of 21 knots (39 km/h) surface speed for operating with contemporary battleships.

Inter-War Period

V-2 was assigned to Submarine Division 20 (SubDiv 20) and cruised along the Atlantic coast and in the Caribbean Sea until November 1927, when the Division sailed for San Diego, California, arriving on 3 December 1927. *V-2* operated with the fleet on the West Coast, in the Hawaiian Islands, and in the Caribbean Sea until December 1932. During this period her 5 inch (127 mm)/51 caliber deck gun was replaced by a 3 inch (76 mm)/50 caliber weapon.

Renamed *Bass* on 9 March 1931, she was assigned to SubDiv 12 in April. On 1 July, her hull classification symbol was changed from **SF-5** to **SS-164**. On 2 January 1933, she was assigned to Rotating Reserve SubDiv 15, San Diego. *Bass* rejoined the fleet again in July and cruised along the West Coast, in the Canal Zone, and in the Hawaiian Islands until January 1937. She then departed the West Coast and arrived at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on 18 February, 1937, where she went out of commission in reserve on 9 June.

World War II

Bass was recommissioned at Portsmouth, New Hampshire on 5 September, 1940, and assigned to SubDiv 9, Atlantic Fleet. From February–November 1941, she operated along the New England coast and made two trips to St. George, Bermuda. She arrived at Coco Solo, Canal Zone on 24 November and was on duty there when the Japanese launched their attack on Pearl Harbor.

In 1942, *Bass* was attached to Submarine Squadron 3 (SubRon 3), SubDiv 31, Atlantic Fleet. From March–August. While based at Coco Solo, she made four war patrols in the Pacific, off Balboa, Panama. While at sea on 17 August, 1942, a fire broke out in the after battery room and quickly spread to the aft torpedo room and starboard main electric motor, resulting in the death of 26 enlisted men by asphyxiation. The following day, USS *ANTAEUS* (AS-21) arrived to assist the submarine and escorted her into the Gulf of Dulce, Costa Rica. Both then proceeded to Balboa.

Bass remained in the Canal Zone until **October 1942**, when she departed for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, arriving on 19 October. *Bass* was then overhauled at Philadelphia Navy Yard. At this time she was converted to a *cargo submarine* with the removal of her main engines, severely restricting her speed on the remaining auxiliary engines. *Bass* proceeded to New London, Connecticut where she conducted secret experiments off Block Island in December 1943. She was again in Philadelphia for repairs from January–March 1944. During the remainder of the year, she was attached to SubRon 1, Atlantic Fleet, and operated out of New London in the area between Long Island and Block Island. *Bass* was decommissioned at the Naval Submarine Base New London on 3 March, 1945 and expended as a target for the Mark 24 Fido "mine" (actually an acoustic homing torpedo) on 18 March, 1945.



Military Terminology And SMB NEWSLETTER INPUTS



COMPARATIVE MILITARY TERMS

NAVY / MARINES	ARMY	AIR FORCE
Head	Latrine	Powder Room
Mess Deck / Chow Hall	Mess Hall / Mess Tent	Dining Facility / Cafe
Rack	Bunk	Single Bed with Ruffle & Duvet
"Cookie"	Mess Cook	Contract Chef
Coffee / Mud	Cup of Joe	Vanilla Latte
Bug Juice	Kool Aid	Shirley Temple
Utilities	BDU's	Casual Wear
Seaman / Private	Private	Bobby or Jimmy
Chief / Gunny	Sergeant	Bob or Jim
Captain / Skipper	Colonel	Robert or James
Captain's Mast	Article 15	Time Out
Berthing / Barracks	Barracks	Apartment
Skivvies / U-Tray	Underwear	T-Shirt & Panties
Thrown in the Brig	Put in Confinement	Grounded
Zoom Bag	Flight Suit	Business Casual
Cover	Beret	Optional
Ship's Store / PX	PX	The Mall
TAD	TDY	PCS with Family
Cruise / Afloat	Deploy	Huh?
Ground Grabbers	Athletic Shoes	Flip-Flops
Boondockers	Jump Boots	Birkenstocks
Low Quarters	Low Quarters	Patent Leather Pumps
SEAL / Force Recon	Special Forces	Librarian
OOO-RAH!	HOOO-AAH!	Uh-Oh!
MRE	MRE	#3 with a Coke
Grinder	Drill Field	What?
Ge-Dunk	Snack Bar	Chucky Cheese
Midshipman	Cadet	Debutant
Hardcore	Strike	Way Too Serious



Staff Inputs to SMB Newsletters

(by: Bruce A. Eltzroth SMB Newsletter Editor)



Please provide inputs to the SMB newsletter to include pertinent information for our membership about your specific staff position to include discussion of – Who, When, Where, Why & What has transpired since your last input to the newsletter. This input can include photos if desired. Please note that **this information is required for the four (4) elected staff members.** This information is needed **prior to the first day of all even months** of the year (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, & Dec) so that the newsletter can be provided in a timely manner to the entire membership on those dates. This information can be provided to me via e-mail at beracin3@msn.com with the heading:

"SMB Newsletter Input for (the months in question)". (I need this heading because I don't have current updates of all of your e-mail addresses and I will always trash anything that I receive if I don't know who it is from.)

This submittal can be in either: Word, Excel, Adobe Acrobat or your e-mail format as desired.

Also note the blurry photo of the total turnout from the last SMB staff meeting (2), on the right.

Better participation in the future is encouraged.

Respectfully, Bruce Eltzroth, SMB Newsletter Editor





Lenoir City, TN - 4th of July Parade

(Story by Bruce Eltzroth & Photos by Bruce Eltzroth or Marlin Helms)



The Smoky Mountain Submarine Base Veterans participated in this years 4th of July Parade in Lenoir City as opposed to the Gatlinburg Midnight Parade. This was done due to the difficulty of travelling to & from Spring City TN, with the float and back in the wee hours of the morning. The other option was to find a room in Gatlinburg, but all hotels were full by the time the parade was officially announced. The Lenoir City Parade was held in the sweltering heat of East Tennessee, but the local turnout was very good. The first three photos below show the preparation of the float prior to leaving the staging area. The forth photo is of a dump truck patriotically decorated with the second amendment words of its statement inscribed on it with an American Eagle. The fifth, and sixth photos are the float as it progresses through the parade route. The seventh photo was taken by Marlin Helms. The last photo is the SMB banner being carried by Andy Armbrust on the right and Terry McBride on the left with David Pope following them.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)

Honoring 4 homeless veterans at East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery by members of Smoky Mountain Submarine Base Veterans.



Left: SMB members Thomas Peschke and Jim Rock at East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery.

Right: Flowers and Flag Arrangements for the four veterans.

Below Right: Funeral Ceremony



This event was held at East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery, 2200 E Governor John Sevier Hwy, Knoxville, TN 37920 on July 14, 2022 at 12 noon Eastern Standard Time. Chaplain Pat Polis & Vietnam Veterans of America officiating. Military Honors by US Navy, US Army, Volunteer State Honor Guard, East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard and Pigeon Forge Honor Guard. A motorcycle escort by the Knox County Sheriff's Department and numerous East Tennessee Bike Chapters. Those service members interred were: SR Steven Dale West (1952-2021), US Navy; USS Halsey CG 23, from 1975-1978 • ABE2 Thomas Patrick Bush (1952-2021), US Navy; USS Coral Sea CV-43 from 1971-1975 • Private William Frederick Purdy (1956-2020), US Army from 1974-1975 and • PV2 Kenneth Henry Mercier, Jr. (1958-2021), US Army from 1976-1979. Smoky Mountain Submarine Base members attending were: Thomas Peschke & his wife Stephany and Jim Rock, and Jim's girl friend Shirley, who provided flowers for all 4 veterans.

Photo left above & below courtesy of East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery





Early History of U.S. Submersibles

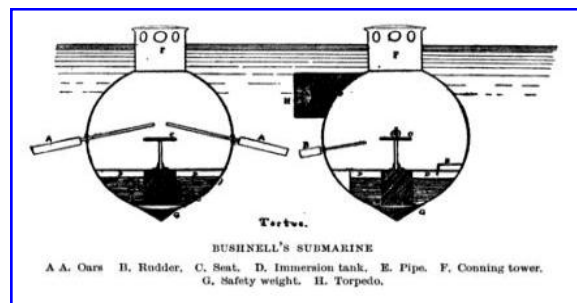
(Story Submitted By Thomas Peschke)
(Sketches below courtesy of Wikipedia)



Let's look back at history of continental US submarines. Bushnell had devised Turtle as a means of breaking the British blockade of Boston harbor, but because of problems with the vessel, detailed in the letters of Dr. Benjamin Gale to Silas Deane, 7 December 1775 and 1 February 1776, the British fleet had departed from that harbor before Turtle was operational. The first attack on an enemy vessel by Turtle took place in New York harbor in September 1776. Turtle functioned as anticipated, but the attack, for reasons detailed in the account taken from the report of David Bushnell of October 1787 and from the journal of James Thatcher, October 1776, did not succeed. Two subsequent attempts to attack British warships were thwarted by navigational issues and tides. Before Turtle could be re-deployed, it was sunk along with the sloop transporting it by enemy fire on 9 October 1776. Although recovered, Turtle saw no further service. Its eventual fate remains a mystery.

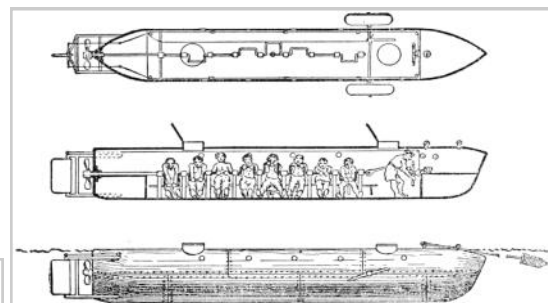
The next use of a submarine came in the form of the Hunley. Hunley, nearly 40 feet (12 m) long, was built at Mobile, Alabama, and launched in July 1863. She was then shipped by rail on August 12, 1863 to Charleston, South Carolina. Hunley (then called Fish Boat) sank on August 29, 1863, during a training exercise, killing five members of her crew. She sank again on October 15, 1863, killing all eight of her second crew, including Horace Hunley himself, who was aboard at the time, even though he was not enlisted in the Confederate armed forces. Both times Hunley was raised and returned to service. On February 17, 1864, Hunley attacked and sank the 1240-short ton (1124 metric ton screw sloop USS Housatonic that was on Union blockade duty in Charleston's outer harbor. Soon after, Hunley sank again, killing all eight of her third crew. This time, the innovative ship was lost. The Hunley was not a commissioned vessel, but she was the first successful use of a submarine to sink a warship.

As part of our heritage, we remember the boats lost and the crew members (our brothers of the pin'), who willingly traded their lives for our freedom. From Mush Morton to the Seaman Recruit, all wearers of the dolphins helped to build a strong and proud heritage. Let us reflect on them and their spirits. So, that all being said, we ALL have a ton of pride in our membership in the "brother (and now sisters) of the pin'. Keep your eyes open at stores, in parking lots and even just walking down the street for any indication of another boat sailor and invite them to join in our merry band! See you all at the next meeting.



Both Sketches
courtesy of
Wikipedia

Turtle



Hunley



THE SUNSHINE LADY FORM (Shirley Corders)



The following information is needed so we may celebrate the special days in your lives such as birthdays, anniversaries, and your qualification date. It would also be appreciated if you would let us know about health or major events in your life so we may offer support and encouragement in those times as well. Thank you to all who have already given their information, and we hope everyone else will send it as soon as possible to:

marlinhelms@gmail.com. Thank you so very much!

Please provide the following information so we may celebrate YOU & YOURS

(Please Print)

Name: _____ DOB: _____
(Month/Day)

Spouse/Significant Other: _____ DOB: _____
(Month/Day)

Qualification Date: _____ Anniversary Date: _____
(Month/Year) (Month/Day)

Mailing Address: _____



THANK YOU!





July 2022 Monthly Meeting at Famous Dave's BBQ in Knoxville, TN

(Story & photos by Bruce Eltzroth)



The July meeting was chaired by Marlin Helms and included one new member: Steve Kasy, (HM-2-SS). Whose Qual. Boat was the USS Francis Scott Key, SSBN 657. One of the discussions at this meeting concerned finding a new place to hold our monthly meetings. A vote was taken to determine the next location for our future meetings. The trial location will be Mimi's Restaurant in Turkey Creek, Knoxville for the next 3 meetings. If that doesn't work out, another location will be selected. Photos 1 through 4 below show Marlin conducting the meeting and those members present. Photo 5 is Charlie Weller's Holland Club Vest and Photo 6 is the SMB Eternal Patrol Plaque.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



New Location for our SMB monthly meetings - Mimi's

(Discussion and photos by Marlin Helms)



I just received notice that our new meeting location has been updated on the list of ETMAC [Veterans Group Members](#) and on the ETMAC [Calendar](#). Our boosted Facebook post is now 939 people reached, 113 likes, two shares, and two potential new members so far. Three more days on the boost so hopefully we will get a couple of more new members. I will try to get to Mimi's this weekend to scope out how to lay out our meeting. If possible I think the back side would be best for meeting material and presentation. Families have traditionally sat in the back but when they needed to walk a child out they had to walk through the meeting. With the front of the meeting on the far side of the room the back is at the access, much better for parents. Also better for those with hearing aids that amplify high frequency noise, they can sit on the far side of the room. (The first picture below shows the back side of the room, the last shows the front side where you can see the opening to the bar and the server's station to the right.)





CNO Blasts Electric Boat and Ingalls over delays in Submarine Maintenance.



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday had blunt words on 12 MAY for two powerhouse companies that build submarines for the Navy: We need your shipyards, but not the problems that come with them. “We know that we don’t have the capacity in our public shipyards to handle all of that [submarine] maintenance. We need Electric Boat and we need Huntington Ingalls (HII) to be able to do that work,” said Gilday. “They are under performing. They are over cost and way over schedule.” Gilday was testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee about the Navy’s fiscal 2023 budget request alongside Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro and Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger. His comments were in response to a question from Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD) who sought the admiral’s opinions on how the Navy weighs the choice of scrapping a submarine against bringing it into maintenance on a much delayed schedule. Todd Corillo, a Newport News Shipbuilding spokesman, in a statement to Breaking Defense, acknowledged the shipbuilder has “experienced challenges” since reconstituting its submarine repair business “following a 10 year hiatus. “In this time, we have built a proficient workforce, matured the supply chain, developed process improvements and made smart investments in required facilities,” he said. “Although we experienced challenges with our transition back into this complex business, we are now keeping pace with current submarine repair needs and also forecasting future workflow to drive predictable capacity and performance.”

Rounds, who has pressed Navy brass on submarine maintenance frequently in previous hearings, brought up the USS Boise (SSN-764), a Los Angeles-class attack submarine that was scheduled for a maintenance overhaul in 2015 or 2016. The boats at “in port” for several years waiting for space to become available at a public shipyard before the Navy finally reached a deal with HII to do the work. Gilday told Rounds that the capabilities submarines bring are so critical to deterring and fighting a future conflict that scrapping one should only be a last resort. In the case of the Los Angeles fleet, Gilday noted, the service is planning engineering overhauls for seven boats that could result in them seeing four or five additional deployments before decommissioning. Following those comments, Gilday laid into the shipbuilding giants. “The challenge with Boise really rests inside the private shipyard that is doing that work. We have two private yards that do that work and we need their capacity,” Gilday said. “Because we need them, we need to hold their feet to the fire to those contracts. They need to pay penalties when they don’t meet their requirements.”

Publicly, the relationships between top Pentagon brass, such as Gilday, and the country’s biggest defense firms like Huntington Ingalls Industries or GDEB (General Dynamics Electric Boat) is relatively cordial. But, Gilday has previously shown he’s willing to put industry on the spot, as he did last year at a major Navy trade show, admonishing lobbyists who urge Congress to buy planes that “we [Navy] don’t need.” Coincidentally, in the same breath, he told that audience to spend more time worrying about completing Navy ship maintenance work on time. Former Navy Secretary Richard Spencer publicly blasted HII in 2019 at a time when Capitol Hill was becoming increasingly irritated with the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford’s (CVN-78) delays and the Navy’s seemingly incessant stream of bad news about the ship’s status.

[Source: Breaking Defense | Justin Katz | May 12, 2022 ++]



Ad to be placed in local newspapers for new membership in the Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Chapter of the USSVI.



US SUBMARINE VETERANS WANTED

The Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base (SMB) Chapter of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. (USSVI) is looking for new members to be part of a growing service organization that holds various local events designed to enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow submariners and their families. We meet on the third Thursday of every month in the Knoxville area at 1800 hours for “social hour” and 1900 hours for our monthly meetings.

We also participate in related memorials and holidays with our 1/10 scale Submarine float.

For further information, please contact Marlin Helms (Base Commander) at (865) 387-5625, or scan the **attached QR code** (above right) with your smart phone.





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 Marlin Helms, 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.