

Snorkel Exhaust



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

"The USSVI Submariner's Creed"

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

United States of America and its Constitution.







OUR ORGANIZATION

OUR FOUNDERS

OUR BROTHERHOOD

Our Mission

The organization will engage in various projects that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyles we enjoy today.

Scheduled Meetings

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

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

SNORKEL EXHAUST INDEX September & October 2022

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SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE OFFICERS



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



Qualified MM1(SS)

USS SPADEFISH (SSN-668)

Qualified MM1(SS)

USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663)



BASE VICE-COMMANDER **Thomas Peschke** (MMCM (SS))



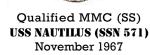
Qualified MM2 (SS)

USS M. G. VALLEJO (SSBN-658)



BASE SECRETARY Robert (Bob) Childs





USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (SSBN 600 - Blue Crew) July 1970



BASE TREASURER JIM ROCK





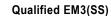
Qualified MM1(SS) **USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN 619)**





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





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**





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



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**



Member of Smoky Mountain



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

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER - 2022

Meetings and Happenings

Scheduled Meetings:

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

Mimi's Café in the Turkey Creek shopping area. 10945 Parkside Drive, **Knoxville, TN 37934**

> Dinner @ 1800. **Meeting** @ 1900

New and/or prospective Members and their families are welcome to join us!

New Members:

Robert J. Noble (EMC) - USS Alexandria (SSN-757)







October 4 - Yom Kippur October 10 - Columbus Day

October 12 - USS HOLLAND (SS-1) Commissioned - 1900 October 13 - US Navy Established - 1775

October 20 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)

October 24 - United Nations Day October 27 - Navy Day

October 31 - Halloween

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MOKY MOUNTAIN

November 1 - Election Day

November 6 - Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 11 - Veterans Day

November 13 - Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day

November 17 - SMB Meeting (1800 Hrs)

November 24 - Thanksgiving

December 1 - Next Newsletter Deadline

October 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2022

S	M	T	w	T	F	S
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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, DVD's and Magazines Ed Sandifer -ENS(SS)

Base Librarian

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





If you haven't already gotten your "SUBMARINE VETERANS" license plate, they are available at your local County Clerks office. Be sure to take a copy of your DD-214 when you apply.

Also they cost a few bucks extra.



SUBVEST

Serving those
Who Already Have.

The only place to get CUSTOM SEWN

Submarine Vests, Hats, Jackets, Shirts & MORE!

A Base Storekeepers Dream...

Discounts & No Stock to order

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www.SUBVEST.com

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



VETERANS I NFORMATION FOR SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE MEMBERS





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

Definitions:

<u>Tomachicken</u> – Tomahawk cruise missile.

<u>Top Gun</u> – Navy Fighter Weapons School, the Navy's postgraduate fighter tactics course. Originally based at Miramar NAS in California, now located at Fallon NAS in Nevada.

Tot - (RN) - A half-gill measure of Pussers Rum (approximately two fluid ounces). It used to be daily issue, served neat to Chiefs and Petty Officers; mixed with two parts water for other rates.

Touch and Go – While the term today refers to practice aircraft landings, the origin may have been when a ship touched ground (ran aground) briefly, then came clear by its inertia. In aviation, it is sometimes called a "Crash and Dash."

Transient - (ASW) A sudden sound emitted from a sonar contact. It May be anything from a dropped wrench to the sound of torpedo or missile tube outer doors opening. Tends to generate high PUCKER FACTOR in other subs or surface ships

Trap - (1) Arrested landing aboard a carrier. "Night traps" are night landings. "Field traps" (arrested landings on a shore base) are an entirely different kettle of fish, being nowhere near as abrupt or unforgiving. (2) (RN) Toilet cubicle. (3) Trim - (1) The static (i.e. at-rest) tendency of a ship to lie with her decks not in a horizontal position, fore to aft. A ship that lies with her bow too low is said to "trim by the bow." (2) A mechanism or system of an aircraft or ship (especially submarines) which compensates for imbalances fore and aft or port and starboard, so as to maintain level attitude. Can be a noun (for the system or static tendency) or a verb, to use the system to change longitudinal (fore and aft) or lateral (side to side) balance. In aircraft, trim is usually accomplished by the adjustment of small surfaces ('tabs') on the flight control surfaces, although an entire control surface is moved on some types. In submarines, trim is usually accomplished by pumping fluids (water, usually) from one tank to another, or by moving weights such as stores from one compartment to an-

<u>Trim Party</u> – A prank often perpetrated on a newly-qualified Dive Officer or Chief of the Watch, where men and other weights are shifted fore and aft to affect the trim of the boat. <u>Tunnel (The)</u> - Room either above or next to the reactor compartment (depending on the class of sub) that allows fore/aft travel past that space.

<u>Turd Herders</u> – Personnel assigned to the ship's sewage handling plant.







BASE COMMANDER'S REPORT MARLIN E. HELMS, JR. MM1-(SS)





Mimi's has proven to be a good choice, it has lots of room, a good wait staff, and pleasant surroundings. I am going to investigate a projector for my laptop for Zoom meetings and other presentations to use the screen in the room. I intend it for my personal use as well so no cost to the base. I attended my first training session for the new Tools page where I can update the database for our members. The new Tools page should be available the first of November. The end of October will be a busy time for the base. Our monthly meeting will be the 20th, our Tolling of the Boats will be 2:00 on the 21st, and our picnic will be on the 22nd. May be a bit much for some but I am hoping for good turnouts. I told the Ben Atchley activity director we would have 10 to 20 attending and about 10 members of the Marine Corp League for the color guard and rifle squad. He was a bit concerned about too many for their cafeteria where they would perform the ceremony. The director told me there are four submariners there, if they want, we should get them involved in reading the rolls. This ceremony unlike others will focus on the residents as well as commemorate our shipmates on Eternal Patrol. I submitted our application for the Veterans Day parade November 11th. We may participate in another which one is still not determined. **Fraternally, Marlin Helms - Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base Commander**



BASE VICE-COMMANDER'S REPORT THOM PESCHKE (MMCM) - (SS)





Greetings from the Vice! I attended the Convention in Buffalo and had a great time with many old friends. The big takeaway for me was the issue of membership. The average age of a USSVI member is in the 70's. We had 3 WWII members attend. Why do I mention that? The 2012 Convention was the last time that the "diggers" (WWII shipmates whose nickname came from the time they spent in Australia) had their own convention alongside the USSVI convention. There were a LOT of attendees. 10 years later there are only 3 still coming. We will be in the same boat if we don't do something. Here is my challenge to our members. Think of ways we can reach out to younger submariners and get them to join in. This is their organization as well, even if they don't yet believe it. I have heard it said that the younger guys think that the USSVI is nothing more than a Good Old Boys club for the Goat locker. I can't believe that they think that or where they got that idea. The important thing to us isn't the rank you held; it is the more important (SS) AFTER your rank. The other thing I have heard is, "I didn't even know you existed"! They didn't know we existed? Wow, do we have to take out headline banners in all the major newspapers? So, brothers, please put on your thinking caps and see if you can think of a way to let people know we are here and want members. I am looking forward to discussing this at the next meeting. By the way, I might try to call you. My number is (301) 712-5059. (301) is a Maryland area code, so rather than not picking up, I would rather have you blow me off because you know it's me ha, ha, ha, so please put me in your phone. Chances are, pretty good I will be calling you, especially if you miss meetings. I will call to find out if you are OK and if here is anything we can do for you.

Your brother of the Phin, Thom.



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



This issue of the SMB Newsletter contains an article about the Guided missile submarine USS *Michigan* (SSBN 727) celebrating 40 years of service on page 12. It also has info from the August and September SMB meetings at Mimi's Café on page 13 (along with the Sunshine Lady's sign up sheet). Page 14 covers the Quilt Presentation at the Haddo Bas picnic in Charleston, TN. Page 15 provides coverage of the eternal patrol ceremony for Jeff Oleson at Marlin & Lorie's home in Oliver Springs, TN.



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



Andy Armbrust reported that we will have a fall social at the Concord Yacht Club on October 22, 2022, at 11:00 AM. We will eat at 12:00 PM. Alcohol is allowed at the club (BYOB). Andy is providing the pulled pork, lemonade and tea. Everyone should bring a dish to share. Cost is \$5.00 per person. The pass code for the gate will be included in his email.



STOREKEEPER'S REPORT - DICK MITCHELL, ET1(SS)



We currently have the following items on hand for sale:

Dick Mitchell reported that he had purchased various items for sale and ordered the 2023 calendars which are on the way. He also encouraged the crew members to purchase items. Dick will bring several items to each monthly meeting for purchase.

Remember all purchases support YOUR Smoky Mountain Base.



SMB TREASURER'S REPORT-JIM ROCK, MM1 (SS)





As of September 1st, we had a balance of \$1,449.39.

As of September 15th, our bank balance was: \$2352.49.





Secretary's Report/Meeting Agenda Thom Peschke - MMCM (SS)









Smoky Mountain Base of USSVI, Inc. Meeting Agenda

Date: September 19, 2022 Time/Location: 1900 hrs, at Mimi's Café, Knoxville TN

Call to Order: Meeting called to order @ 1905 hrs

Invocation: David Pope, Base Chaplain, presented the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Marlin Helms, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the USSVI Creed.

USSVI Creed: "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States 0f America and its constitution." In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine force. The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy. Secretary Bob Childs led Tolling of the Bell for lost boats 0f September with the COB - Terry McBride.

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

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

Member Introductions: Terry McBride (COB) hosted member introductions.

Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes - Bob Childs read the August minutes - Motion to approve accepted. Treasurer's Report – Jim Rock (See Page 5)

Correspondence - None Reported

Committee Reports:

- Newsletter Bruce Eltzroth (See Page 5).
- Library Marlin Helms reported that we are looking for a new librarian to replace Ed Standiffer.
- Storekeeper Dick Mitchell (See Page 5).
- Membership Thom Peschke passed out the sign in sheet and reported that he attended the National Convention. It was excellent and asked membership to try and attend, as feasible. Average age of the U.S. submarine veterans' membership is 70 years. We have 26 paid members to date in the Smoky Mountain Base.
- Social Committees Andy Armbrust (See Page 5)
- Web Master Marlin Helms / Stuart McGlasson No changes.
- Old Business N/A, New Business N/A, Scouting N/A.
- New Business, Good of the Order Base Commander Marlin Helms discussed the need to amend the bylaws, and for the base to have an Operations Manual. This will be discussed at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

Next Meeting: - 1900 hrs, Thursday, October 20, 2022 at Mimi's Café, 0945 Parkside Dr., Knoxville, TN - 37934. Motion to adjourn: - Approved. The boat was "surfaced" by Chief of the Boat, Terry McBride.



Pre WW-II Lost Boats

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

USS S-5 (SS-110)

September 1, 2, and 3, 1920

No loss of life



S-5 (SS-110) was a "Government-type" S Class Submarine of the United States Navy. Her keel was laid down on 4 December 1917 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard – Kittery Maine. She was launched on 10 November 1919, sponsored by Mrs. Glenn S. Burrell, and was commissioned on 6 March 1920 by Lieutenant Commander Charles M. Cooke, Jr. She accidentally foundered and started to sink during full-power trials (10 months after launch) on 1 September 1920, but due to actions by her crew and the crews of other ships, the entire crew was rescued and no lives were lost. She was partially refloated on September 2, and then was lost when she sank again while under tow on 3 September 1920.

USS S-51 (SS-162) **September 25, 1925** 33 Men Lost



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

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Lost Boats of September



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









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

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

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



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



An Interesting Side Note:

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





Lost Boats of October





Pre WW-II Lost Boats

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

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



WW-II Lost Boats

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





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

patrol in September, assigned to take U.S. Army agents and supplies to Samar, in the Philippines. While en route, breakdowns in communications caused U.S. anti-submarine forces to mistake her for Japanese. On 3 October 1944, after being forced to dive by an air attack by a US warplane, **Seawolf** was depth charged and sunk by the **Richard M. Rowell (DE-403)**. **All her crew and passengers, 102 men, were lost with her.** This grand old lady was at Cavite Submarine Base P.I. when war broke out on Dec7th (Dec 8th across the international date line). She and her sisters were on the front line from day one of the Pacific war and she did not deserve the tragic fate that fell upon her. "Friendly Fire?" "Friends Don't Shoot At Friends!"

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

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

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



Lost Boats of October



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

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



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

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



Lost on **Oct. 11, 1943** with the loss of **79 men** near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, **LCDR "Mush" Morton**, **Wahoo** was on her 7th war patrol. **WAHOO** had won a *Presidential Unit Citation* and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. On 9 September, *Wahoo* again departed Pearl. She topped off with fuel at Midway and left there on 13 September heading for the dangerous but important Japan Sea. Shortly afterwards, **USS SAWFISH** (**SS-276**) left Midway and also headed for this area. **WAHOO** was to pass through Etorofu Strait, in the Kurile Islands, and La Perouse Strait, between Hokkaido and Karafuto, and enter the Japan Sea about 20 September. She was to head south and remain below 43 degrees north after 23 September, and below 40 degrees north after 26 September. **SAWFISH** was to follow **WAHOO**, entering the Sea of Japan about 23 September and patrolling the area north of **WAHOO**. **WAHOO** was reported missing and presumed lost on 9 November 1943. **Dudley "Mush" Morton** (1907-1943), was commander of **USS WAHOO SS-238** during its third through seventh patrols. Morton and **Wahoo** disappeared in 1943 during a patrol near La Perouse Strait. A native of Owensboro, Kentucky, **Morton** graduated from the Naval Academy in 1930. There he received the nickname "Mushmouth". after a

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

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

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

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





Lost Boats of October



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





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

It was standard practice in *WWII* of imposing bombing restrictions within a "box" measuring *fifteen miles on each side of, fifty miles aboad and one hyndrod miles actors of the unaccorted submarine's course while it was transiting through friendly wastern*

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

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



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

Since Japanese records consulted after the war show no antisubmarine action at that time in the area where **ESCOLAR** is

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

believed to have been, it is assumed that she struck a mine and sank with all hands.







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

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



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

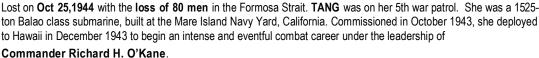


Lost Boats of Octob



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





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

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

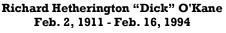
TANG was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations for her exploits, which officially recognized sinking's of 24 Japanese ships, totaling nearly 94,000 tons. Among U.S. Pacific War submarines, she thus had the second highest score in terms of numbers and the fourth largest based on tonnage calculations. Commander Richard (Dick) O'Kane and TANG are forever linked in the annals of the Silent Service. His skill and daring made him and TANG the highest scoring United States submarine in World War II.

(See the latest story of the USS Tang on page 12.)















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

The striking and distinctive battle flag

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

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







40 years of service in U.S. Submarine History, USS Michigan (SSBN-727)





(Story and photo courtesy of the Undersea Museum)



Guided missile submarine USS Michigan (SSBN 727) celebrates 40 years of service this month! Michigan was commissioned on September 11, 1982, as the second of 18 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs). Michigan made strategic deterrent patrols as an SSBN for 21 years, until Navy requirements and nuclear treaty terms reduced the need for 18 Ohio-class submarines. Michigan was one of four SSBNs - along with USS Ohio, USS Florida, and USS Georgia - chosen for conversion to a guided missile submarine (SSGN). The SSGN conversions extended the life spans of the four submarines and gave them new purpose as strike platforms and support for special operations forces.

Words of Wisdom! Mario de Andrade (Brazilian poet, novelist, musicologist, art historian, critic, and photographer)

I counted my years and found that I have less time to live from here on than I have lived up to now. I feel like that child who won a packet of sweets: he ate the first with pleasure, but when he realized that there were few left, he began to enjoy them intensely. I no longer have time for endless meetings where statutes, rules, procedures and internal regulations are discussed, knowing that nothing will be achieved. I no longer have time to support the absurd people who, despite their chronological age, haven't grown up. My time is too short: I want the essence; my soul is in a hurry. I don't have many sweets in the package anymore. I want to live next to human people, very human, who know how to laugh at their mistakes and who are not inflated by their triumphs and who take on their responsibilities. Thus human dignity is defended and we move towards truth and honesty. It is the essential that makes life worth living. Yes, I'm in a hurry, I'm in a hurry to live with the intensity that only maturity can give. My goal is to reach the end satisfied and at peace with my loved ones and my conscience.







SMB's First Monthly Meeting at Mimi's Café

SUBMARINE VETERS

(Photos and story by Bruce Eltzroth)

















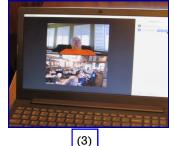
The Inaugural monthly meeting at Mimi's Restaurant in Knoxville, Tn occurred on August 18, 2022 at 1800 hours. There were about 15 members, and several spouses in attendance. Much of the discussion centered around the new meting location and future activities that the base will participate in. Marlin indicated that he would bring his computer to facilitate a zoom meeting for next month (see the September meeting discussion below for further information).

SMB's September Meeting at Mimi's Café

(Photos & story by Bruce Eltzroth)









A Zoom meeting took place this month as part of the September SMB monthly gathering at Mimi's. Attending by Zoom were John Kisvardi and Jim Burkholder. Photos 1 and 2 show the turnout of members and guests at this meeting. Photo 3 shows the zoom display of the meeting and photo 4 shows the flags at the head table. See page 6 for discussions of several topics that were addressed at this meeting. It was a well attended meeting and turnout was better than the first meeting that we had at Mimi's. The next SMB meeting will be held at Mimi's Café at Turkey Creek in Knoxville, TN on October 20th 2022 at 1800 hours.



THE SUNSHINE LADY FORM



The following information is needed so we may celebrate the special days in your lives such as <u>birthdays</u>, <u>anniversaries</u>, <u>and your qualification date</u>. 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.

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

Name:			DOB: (Month Only)	
Spouse/Significant Other:			DOB: (Month Only)	
Qualification Date:		Anniversary Date:		
-	(Month/Year)	•	(Month Only)	
Mailing Address:				





Haddo Base Ouilts of Valor Ceremony and Picnic - 2022 Photos (1 - 4 & 6) by Pat Eltzroth and Story by Bruce Eltzroth (SMB Newsletter editor)



A Haddo Base Submarine Veterans "Quilts of Valor Ceremony" was held at the Charleston, TN Picnic area on August 13, 2022. Attendance was good with a total of about 24 members and their "significant others" present. Four members of the Haddo Base were presented with quilts for their military service. (In Photos 1 and 7 - left to right) are Pete Haskins -MM2(SS), Deni Albrecht - MMC(SS), The quilt presenter, John Augustine - MM2(SS), and Tom Harriman - MM1(SS). All had been long time members of the base and were present with family members for the ceremony. Two SMB base members -Marlin Helms (Photo 2, lower left) and Bruce Eltzroth and their spouses were also in attendance. (Photo 3) also shows Marlin Helms, on the right tolling the bell for the boats, & (Photo 4) shows John on the left with Bruce Eltzroth on the right).















Photo 5 shows the quilt presenter giving John Augustine a hug!

Photo 6 shows Ann Augustine giving John a hard time about the hug! (Photos 5 & 7) are by Marlin Helms.



Newsletter of the year Judging Criteria





SUBJECTIVE JUDGING CRITERIA

Many attempts have been made to make subjective judging fair by establishing objective criteria. Most were inappropriate as it still allowed subjective judgment. The following list is a collection of items that previous judges have considered to be appropriate factors when evaluating a Newsletter. It includes items that are suitable for measurement consideration. The list is presented for your evaluation and use in defining and developing your Newsletter entry. It is not expected that the winning Base Newsletter will meet all the elements listed below. It is felt that as many attributes as are possible, and appropriate, should be provided to permit some level of comparison to the other entries. Use the following list as a guideline for your entry. There is no weight associated with any of the items, but the more items included and evaluated allows for a more definitive selection. · Overall Impression -Layout such as masthead, Table of Contents, graphics use, fonts used, and white space. Appearance of USSVI Creed. · Publisher's Box with the Editor's Name and Contact Info, Frequency of Publication, Address for Article Submission. Officer's Names and Contact Information, Base Web site. Officer reports. Committee reports. · Columns - Holland Club News - New Members - Constitution & Bylaws Tutoring. - Wives (Written by Members' Wives) - Member Personal Data (Birthdays, Anniversaries, births etc.). · Information as to Next Meeting (Time, City, Meeting Site, Map, Food, Entertainment, Agenda, Calendar of Events, Base Activities, (outings, programs etc.). · Member Recognition, Member of the Month, Quarter, Year and New Member profiles. Eternal Patrol/Tolling of the Boats. USSVI National, District and Regional News and Events · Current Fleet News (Active Namesake Boat News) or Other Submarine Related News · US Sub Vets WWII News. Veterans' Information (Legislation, Veterans' Administration, etc.). Submarine Historical Information. Status of Base Projects. Articles supporting USSVI programs/Memorials/Ceremonies/ Charitable Foundation, Constitution/Bylaws articles, etc. · Humor (Military Jokes, Cartoons, Member Personal Sea Stories). · Advertisers Listing and Base Supporter Recognition Newsletter of the Year Award selection is made by the Newsletter of the Year Award Committee under the leadership of the appointed Chair.



Passing of Jeff Oleson at Marlin & Lorie Helm's Home, in Oliver Springs, TN

(Story and both Photos courtesy of Marlin Helms)





With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Jeffery Allen Oleson who resided in Oliver Springs, Tennessee. He passed away peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at the age of 60 years old. Jeff will be terribly missed by his loved ones, that included his family, work family, veterans and friends.



Jeff started his life with his parents in Minnesota where he grew up with his siblings. He traveled next to Oregon and Washington State where he had four children he loved very much. He spent many years traveling to other states prior to settling in Oliver Springs, TN. Jeff had many interests and passions in his life. He was enthusiastic about photography and thunderstorms. He was an associate member and photographer in the Smoky Mountain Submarine Veterans Base for many years building special friendships. He loved movies and TV shows mostly involving Science Fiction and Comics. He was a goofball who loved his family and bonfire nights. Jeff loved finding excuses to set off fireworks at many events. He was the life of the party. Jeff has been a longtime associate member of Smoky Mountain base. He has not been at a meeting for a couple of years due to work conflicts and health issues but kept up his membership. He was made an honorary submariner by Stan Mize. Jeff took this to heart putting submarine and base stickers on his truck. The Marine Corp recruiting office was close to his store and he would routinely greet them with "the best Marine is a submarine" which they just smiled at, Jeff was difficult to dislike. He passed away from a heart attack in his sleep. Jeff when he was able to attend meetings and parades, he was our base photographer. Jeff was my brother-in-law, so this is close to home for Lorie and me. The photo attached (upper left above) is from the 2016 Dolly Parton Homecoming parade.



2016 Picnic - Jeff at Melton Hill Dam - far right.



2017 Veterans Day Parade, Knoxville (Jeff seated)



2019 Music in the Mountains Parade. Pigeon Forge, TN





Photos at left are of: those present at the interment, & below a sigh-up board, and friends and family attending the interment of Jeff Oleson at Marlin & Lories home in Oliver Springs, TN. Included in the ceremony was an impressive fireworks display after the final individual remembrances by many of those present.









STATES STATES

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.

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