



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS



"To Honor Those Who Serve, Past, Present & Future"

February 2010

Volume 11, Issue 2

**Lest We Forget —  
"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. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.**

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**News Brief**

1. **Next Meeting:** At 1300, third Saturday of each month at the Knollwood Sportsman's Club, Rondout, IL (near Lake Bluff). Includes lunch. Guests always welcome!
  - a. FEBRUARY 20
  - b. MARCH 20
  - c. APRIL 17
2. **Duty Cook Roster:**
  - a. February – Chris Gaines
  - b. March – Clay Hill
3. Mark your calendar for our Submarine Birthday Ball on **Saturday, April 10, 2010**. See the attached flyer for details and registration information.
4. **Dolphin Scholarship Foundation** application deadline is March 15; see article on page 4.
5. The Cincinnati Base will host the **2010 USSVI and WWII Submarine Veterans National Convention** at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, KY. The Convention will be August 30 through September 6.

## Crash Dive Meeting Minutes January 16, 2010

### Attendees:

Clay Hill  
Chris Gaines  
Glenn Barts, Sr.  
Herman Mueller  
Pete Almeroth  
Larry Warnke  
Dave Cribbins  
Martin Salvador  
Frank Walter  
Larry Heckelsmiller  
Frank Voznak, Jr.  
Greg Miller  
John Moody  
Bob Fleck  
Kep Preble  
Thomas Tovo

1. The meeting was called to order at 1305 by Clay Hill followed by the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and a round of introductions.
2. The Secretary's Report was given by Chris Gaines. Frank Walter moved to accept; Herman Mueller seconded; vote was unanimous.
3. Treasurer's report given by Clay Hill; checking account \$4289; report of checking balance of about \$5220 erroneously included the savings account balance; shares account balance \$1173.69. Glenn Barts moved to accept; Herman Mueller seconded, vote was unanimous.
4. Old Business

- a. Clay Hill reported that Holland Club materials were mailed to Walter Murray; others pending
- b. USO donation from the Christmas dinner 50-50 will be presented to the O'Hare USO on Tuesday, January 19 by Glenn Barts, Frank Voznak, and Chris Gaines.
5. New Business
  - a. 50-50 was won by Frank Voznak; \$40
  - b. Chris Gaines met with Ed Feury of Escolar Base and provided turnover of district convention materials.
  - c. Frank Voznak asks members to review the qual boat poster display and report errors or omissions to him.
  - d. Ball Planning
    - i. Dave Cribbins moves to accept Holiday Inn; Frank Voznak seconds. Vote unanimous.
    - ii. Guest speaker lives near Wausau and can travel to Manitowoc but not Lake Lawn.
    - iii. Master of Ceremonies – Bob Fleck volunteers,
    - iv. Color Guard – Clay Hill, Martin Salvador, Frank Walter, Dave Cribbins;
    - v. Dave Cribbins volunteers for hospitality room.
    - vi. Larry Warnke volunteers to take flowers plus flowers for remembrance table.
    - vii. Frank Walter and Chris Gaines volunteer for registration.
    - viii. Hotel liaison is Clay.
    - ix. Frank Voznak and Chris Gaines will design the name badges.
    - x. Dave Cribbins and Glenn Barts volunteer for hospitality supplies.

- xi. Frank Voznak will take care of signage.
- xii. Cake – Frank Voznak has a design. Dave Cribbins said the Commissary can produce a full-size image on a sheet cake. Larry Warnke can take it to Manitowoc. Frank Walter can assist in getting Larry Warnke to the Commissary.
- xiii. Remembrance Table – Glenn Barts will provide all three hats; Martin Salvador will provide a chief's hat;
- xiv. Herman Mueller volunteers to provide the saber.
- xv. Martin Salvador will manage the head table. He will meet our guest speaker at the door and usher to the head table. He will assign others to the head table.
- xvi. Door Prizes – Glenn Barts and Dave Cribbins will merge with running Hospitality Room. Larry Heckelsmiller volunteers to assist with door prizes at the hotel. Chris Gaines will double-print nametags for the various prize drawings.
- xvii. Larry Heckelsmiller will extend our invitation to Great Lakes Base to provide the USS Wisconsin float.
- xviii. Music will be Talisman, same as last year, and Bob Fleck will make the arrangements.
- xix. Printing and Postage is Chris Gaines
  - e. New Member Contest – Bob Fleck suggests a contest between now and December 1 to receive a gift from the base.
  - f. Base Charity idea – USO ongoing support such as Disaster Relief Fund for families in need. Maybe

- a car wash at the club, maybe our portion of 50-50 at the Ball. Give some thought to possible charities that benefit our shipmates. Dave Cribbins notes we can claim supporting KSC in our annual end-of-year report.
- g. Frank Voznak notes possible memorial with USS Chicago Base in Chicago for all sub vets. Ken Tupman is amenable to a joint project. An idea is at the Viet Nam Memorial to post a plaque of some sort such as talking about the Manitowoc boats journey to the Mississippi. Herman Mueller commented about a marker at Navy Pier that was rented by the Navy during both World Wars. Frank volunteers to work with Tupman to approach the City of Chicago.
- h. Chris Gaines reviewed dues program with four national remaining outstanding and about 12 base dues.
- 6. Good of the Order
  - a. Bob mentioned Marine Corps League appreciation plaque for our donation to Toys for Tots. Dave Cribbins will investigate hanging the plaque.
  - b. Pete says Chgo Blackhawks and USO had him participate in a December 22 National Anthem event.
  - c. Duty Cook for February is Chris Gaines, Clay is March; need volunteer for April.
- 7. Joe Chevere moved to adjourn, Bob Fleck seconded; vote was unanimous Adjourned at 1502.

## Lost Boats

USS Barbel (SS-316)	2/4/45
USS Shark I (SS-174)	2/11/42
USS Amberjack (SS-219)	2/16/43
USS Grayback (SS-208)	2/27/44
USS Trout (SS-202)	2/29/44

## Groton Subvets Anniversary Celebration

Submitted by John Carcioppolo, Base CDR

The plans for this year's **SUBVETS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** in Groton CT are under way. In addition to our traditional Anniversary Celebration events this year's Celebration is being combined with the **USSV WWII Northeast Regional Convention** which is very exciting to me.

**The dates are 29 Apr - 01 May.** For those of you not familiar with the Anniversary Celebration it is a fun filled weekend that Submariners and their wives come to from around the country. It involves several events: Golf Tournament, Return To Submarine School (SUBSCHOOL Graduation and Tours), Submarine Tours, Memorial Service/Tolling of the Boats, and Grand Banquet.

Attached are the two reservation forms. One is the primary registration form, and the other is the Golf Registration form. Please include this in your emails, newsletters, etc. etc to your membership. These registration forms are posted on the Groton Base Web page ([www.subvetsgroton.org](http://www.subvetsgroton.org)) for quick access at the following links [Anniversary Registration Form](#) and [Golf Registration Form](#)

We have accommodations set up at several hotels.

Additional detailed information can be found at [this Announcement](#) and at [this web page](#).

## DOLPHIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Submitted by Chris Gaines

*(Note that I worked with RADM Mike Klein's cousin whose wife is the Executive Director of the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation. Ed.)*

Chris,

My husband Mike Klein passed on your contact information to me, and I have added you to our mailing list.

We appreciate your offer to put news and information about Dolphin Scholarships in your newsletter. I know that US SUBVETS INC has a strong scholarship program as well, but in today's economy, parents and students need all the help they can get for college!

I have attached some information which you may find useful, and are welcome to use in your newsletter. You are also welcome to copy information from our website, [www.dolphinscholarship.org](http://www.dolphinscholarship.org).

We are currently in our 2010 application cycle; the deadline for all applications and supporting documents is March 15, 2010. Students may begin the process online at [www.dolphinscholarship.org](http://www.dolphinscholarship.org).

We officially begin our second virtual submarine race, "**Race Around the World**" in a few weeks. I have

attached a brochure in case you are interested in entering the USS VON STEUBEN (SSBN 632) (BLUE). We are trying to publicize this to as many submariners and former submariners as we can, so thank you for helping us "pass the word." We already have several subs which are "underway ahead of PIM". (Although the race has not yet "officially" begun, we are accepting donations now.)

Thanks again for your support! If I can provide any other info, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Randi

Mrs. Randi Klein  
Executive Director  
Dolphin Scholarship Foundation  
4966 Euclid Road, Suite 109  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
(757) 671-3200 ext. 114  
[rklein@dolphinscholarship.org](mailto:rklein@dolphinscholarship.org)  
[www.dolphinscholarship.org](http://www.dolphinscholarship.org)

*(Additional information is available from the Foundation's Website and from materials provided to Crash Dive by the Foundation. Ed.)*

## **Despite Weld Problems, Navy Official Is 'Confident' In Northrop Grumman**

*By Peter Frost, Daily Press, January 28, 2010*  
The Navy's top acquisition official said this week he is confident in Northrop Grumman Corp.'s ability to deliver quality ships to the Navy despite widespread problems reported last week on surface ships built at Northrop's Gulf Coast shipyards.

Sean Stackley, the Navy's assistant secretary for research, development and acquisition, called the issues "rare" and

said Northrop and the Navy are reviewing waterfront processes and procedures to ensure similar problems don't arise in the future.

His comments came a week after the Navy confirmed that all vessels built at Northrop's shipyards in Avondale, La., and Pascagoula, Miss., over the last several years are under investigation for a host of problems, including improper welds and defective engines and lube-oil systems.

The sweeping weld investigation was triggered last summer, after Navy engineers found that more than 15 percent of welds on a handful of ships didn't meet Navy specifications, raising questions about how long those welds would hold.

In response, inspectors are re-examining every critical pipe weld aboard every Gulf Coast ship built during the last several years, including at least eight San Antonio-class amphibious ships, several Arleigh Burke-class destroyers and the amphibious assault ship Makin Island.

Stackley, who rarely issues press statements, said senior leadership at Northrop and the Navy are engaged in "this critically important area and are working with appropriate urgency and focus."

Still he sought to downplay the severity of the problem, at least as it relates to current operations: "At no time did the weaknesses that were discovered endanger the safety of the crews, and the Navy has determined that existing welds are satisfactory for current ship operation.

"We have worked hard to ensure all ships meet or exceed fleet standards, and are reliable and combat-ready assets," he said.

Weld inspections on the ships continue, and an associated investigation into what went wrong is ongoing.

In a statement, the Navy blamed the problems on a high turnover rate of Northrop's Gulf Coast workers after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Veteran workers were replaced with less experienced production and inspection workers, who required more oversight than the Navy's on-site inspectors could supply, the Navy said.

Over the last four years, the Navy hired more than 230 new employees to oversee shipbuilding operations in Gulf Coast yards and assigned a Navy captain as a deputy supervisor of operations.

As a result of increased oversight and scrutiny on pipe welds, the weld defect rate has dropped to less than 2 percent, down from more than 15 percent, the Navy said.

The Navy and Northrop also have reduced the number of pipe-joint designs used in production and changed construction processes to allow for workers to complete pipe welding in craft shops as opposed to in tight spaces inside ships.

Neither the sea service nor the company has said how many ships are under investigation, how much the probe will cost or who will pay for repairs.

## **Problems Continue For Collins Class Submarines**

Design flaws cripple \$6b sub fleet  
*ABC News, January 28, 2010*

Defence Minister John Faulkner has admitted major problems with Australia's \$6 billion fleet of Collins Class

submarines have left only two of the six vessels currently operational.

In a frank speech delivered to an international navy conference in Sydney, Senator Faulkner said there were serious problems with the submarines arising from the design and manufacturing process.

The latest crippling manufacturing problem came on Monday when the generator on the HMAS Farncomb failed, and Senator Faulkner says a number of faults are so serious the fleet faces restrictions.

"The availability of the Collins Class submarines has been less than optimal," he said.

"We've faced a number of unanticipated problems arising from issues with the design and manufacturing process.

"It's true to say that the complex and sophisticated nature of modern submarines adds to the challenge of design and manufacture."

Senator Faulkner says he is still waiting for advice on whether the electrical fault on HMAS Farncomb will be a problem across the whole fleet.

"At this stage I don't know the answer to that question. Obviously it's a question ... that I've asked," he said.

"What I have said, and let me repeat it to you, the generator failure in HMAS Farncomb is a result of a manufacturing fault. As a result of that it is a matter of genuine concern in relation to our submarine fleet.

"It's a serious issue. I don't underplay it. The challenge is to fix it and get on with it and ensure that our submarine fleet is able to operate at an appropriate level."

Overseas help

Senator Faulkner would not comment on the efficiency of ASC, the

Adelaide-based government-owned builder and maintainer of the submarines.

But he did say the Government would consult an overseas-based company to look at the problems.

"One of the steps we are taking as we consider the requirements of Australia's future submarine capability, and how best to deliver that capability, is the contracting of the US-based Rand Corporation to examine the nature of the required design capability," he said.

"We'll be receiving their analysis and findings shortly."

It has been reported that just one sub is currently operational, but Senator Faulkner is more optimistic.

"In South Australia there are three submarines - Rankin, Sheehan and Dechaineux. In Western Australia there are the other three submarines in the

fleet - Collins, Farncomb and Waller," he said.

"I'm being advised by Chief of Navy that Collins and Waller are available for sea."

## Find software alternatives

If you are dissatisfied with *Microsoft Word* or don't want to buy *Adobe Photoshop*, check out <http://AlternativeTo.net>. At the site, you may find free or less expensive alternative to these and other programs. Alternatives are listed by popularity and with a link to the download site.

From Bottom Line/Personal October 15, 2009

## Crash Dive Base Contact Information

**Commander** – Clayton Hill, 195 Clover Lane, Cedarburg, WI 53012; 262-377-5332 (work number) or [bisi@ameritech.net](mailto:bisi@ameritech.net)

**Vice-Commander** – Bob Fleck, [bobfleck@ameritech.net](mailto:bobfleck@ameritech.net)

**Secretary (POC)** – Chris Gaines, 513 West Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60506; 630-892-5718 or [ccgaines@mindspring.com](mailto:ccgaines@mindspring.com)

**Treasurer** – Glenn C. Barts, Sr., 2000 Jamestown Drive, Palatine, IL 60074; 847-934-7418; [gcbarts@msn.com](mailto:gcbarts@msn.com)

**COB** – Larry Warnke, [l\\_warnke@msn.com](mailto:l_warnke@msn.com)

**Chaplain** – Glenn Barts, Sr.

**Storekeeper** – Herman Mueller, 503 Lynn Terrace, Waukegan, IL 60085; 847-445-5034; [Herman.mueller@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:Herman.mueller@rosalindfranklin.edu)

**Newsletter Editor** – Chris Gaines, 513 West Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60506; 630-892-5718 or [ccgaines@mindspring.com](mailto:ccgaines@mindspring.com)

**Base Historian** – Frank Voznak, [franklin2@comcast.net](mailto:franklin2@comcast.net)



# 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 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. Please indicate your term preference: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nat'l Dues: 5 Yr term: \$ 90.00; 3 Yr term: \$ 55.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) \$ 20.00; (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): \$ 25.00  
 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. Crash Dive Base dues are \$15 annually.

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

Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member?: (Mandatory for Assoc Mbrs) \_\_\_\_\_

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.)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hull#** \_\_\_\_\_ **From Yr.** \_\_\_\_ **to Yr.** \_\_\_\_

**Next of Kin: Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Spouse, Partner, Son, Dau, Parent, Other)

**Addr:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Applicants on active duty are requested to provide a permanent home address.**

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership dues to the appropriate base officer. or mail to: Crash Dive Secretary. Chris Gaines. 513 W. Downer Place. Aurora. IL 60506: 630-892-5718