



“To Honor Those Who Serve, Past, Present & Future”

November 2012

Volume 13, Issue 11

**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 1200, third Saturday of each month at the Knollwood Sportsman’s Club. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:
 - a. NOVEMBER 17
 - b. DECEMBER 15
 - c. JANUARY 19, 2013
2. **Duty Cook Roster:**
 - a. November – Frank Walter walleye fish fry
 - b. December – Greg Miller and Luke Maxa
 - c. January – Chris Gaines Third Annual Chili Dump
3. **November Birthdays:** John Moody 3rd; Gary Walters 7th; Len Wass 10th; William Stannard 15th; Pete Almeroth 18th; Thomas Steinman 21st; David Fitzgerald 23rd.
4. **At each meeting,** we collect dental supplies and toiletries for the USO, used eye glasses for the Lions Club, and serviceable goods for Navy Relief Shop.
5. Greater Chicago Chapter WWII Christmas Party set for December 15. See details on page 9.
6. Have you ever **setup a Website** for work group, club, or religious institution? If so, we need your skills. Contact Clay Hill

Crash Dive Meeting Minutes October 20, 2012

- 1) Attendees
 - a) Clay Hill
 - b) Frank Voznak, Jr.
 - c) Terry Elmeier
 - d) Rich Behnke
 - e) Martin Salvador
 - f) Greg Miller
 - g) Kep Preble
 - h) Frank Walter
 - i) Larry Warnke
 - j) Glenn Barts, Sr.
 - k) Chris Gaines
 - l) Gus Yakes
 - m) Allen Tuider
 - n) Lucas (Luke) Maxa
 - o) Tom Polzin
- 2) The meeting was called to order at 1210 by Clayton Hill followed by the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and a round of introductions.
- 3) Secretary's Report given by Chris Gaines. Kep Preble moved to accept; Frank Walter seconded; unanimous
- 4) Treasurer's Report was given by Glenn Barts, Sr. September statements: Savings \$1173.69; Checking \$3668.52.– Terry Elmeier moved to accept; Frank Walter seconded; unanimous.
- 5) Committee Reports
 - a) Newsletter – Responded to an inquiry regarding how we write our newsletter from a base that may want to start writing one.
 - b) Charitable Service – Greg Miller accepts donations of Thrift Store items at each meeting. Need general kitchen stuff; bed linens in good condition; and winter coats. USO needs toiletries – we will collect at November meeting.
 - c) Hospitality – building fund raffle drawing Oct. 27; see Larry for tickets.
 - d) Webmaster – position is vacant
 - e) Storekeeper – No report due to Herman's absence
 - f) Bylaws – no report
 - g) Memorial –
 - i) architects have met with City;
 - ii) the design is approaching being finalized.
 - iii) Almost ready to undertake fundraising.
 - iv) Luke suggests that we ask NAVSEA if there are any WTDs from the 637 or older, perhaps in a boneyard.
- 6) Old Business
 - a) Sub Ball
 - i) Extend invitation to 721 Club
 - ii) Extend invitation to memorial contractors
 - iii) Regarding a second speaker, may ask Muller and Muller to make a presentation regarding our memorial.

- iv) Glenn Barts suggests dedicating 50-50 proceeds to the Ball. Larry Warnke moved; Frank Walter seconded; unanimous.
- v) Need someone to run Registration.
- vi) Need someone to run Publicity
- vii) Frank Walter moved to offer Norma an honorarium of \$250; donate to WMM if she declines. Kep Preble seconded; unanimous.
- viii) Glenn Barts moved to approve signing contracts for hotel and band for the Ball; Frank Walter seconded; unanimous.
- b) Projector – any contact with Great Lakes Base?
 - i) Clay has contacted Scott; awaiting reply.
- 7) New Business
 - a) 50-50 won by Martin Salvador
 - b) HC – probably make presentations next month.
 - c) Rasher is dormant but may fit into future sub trail plans.
 - d) Election 2012
 - i) Secretary and VCDR.
 - ii) Solicited nominations from the floor; none was forthcoming.
 - e) Christmas Party – bring Toys for Tots to regular December meeting and

- donations for USO; too late to plan a party.
- f) Membership – leave as-is – no pro-rating; no formal sop required or changes to current practice.
- 8) Good of the Order
 - a) Duty Cook
 - i) November – Frank Walter fish fry.
 - ii) December – Greg Miller and Luke Maxa
 - iii) January – Chris Gaines Chili Dump – need volunteers. Hill, Barts, Frank Walter, Kep.
 - iv) February –
 - v) March – Fleck Family Brisket Dinner
- 9) Adjourn 1441.

Lost Boats

USS CORVINA	(SS 226)16 NOV 43
USS SCULPIN	(SS 191)19 NOV 43
USS ALBACORE	(SS 218) 7 NOV 44
USS GROWLER	(SS 215) 8 NOV 44
USS SCAMP	(SS277) 16 NOV 44

Chaplain's Corner

It's November and the start of the Holiday Season. As always I will keep this short.

So far I have not heard of anyone being sick this month, and thank the Lord no departures from this earth.

Remember if you or a loved one has become ill have someone let a member of the Board know about it.

I want to wish all of our members a " Great Veterans Day "
Next I want to wish everyone a " Happy Thanksgiving ".

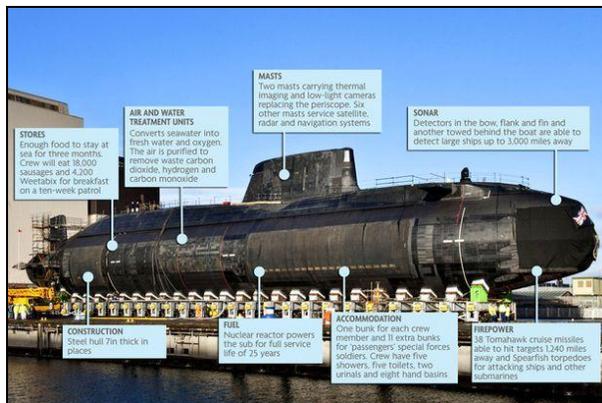
Last I want everyone to remember to keep all of our troops and veterans in your prayers.

With that I will sign off.

Glenn C. Barts, Sr.
Chaplain

Supersub: Nuclear giant submarine launches which can sit in the Channel and hear a ship in New York

mirror.co.uk, Sept. 13



But before the Ambush slips into the Irish Sea on her maiden voyage today, the Daily Mirror was given a look at the Royal Navy's latest weapon

After 20 million man-hours and a cost of £1billion, this is Britain's newest nuclear attack submarine.

The Ambush is the most sophisticated and deadly sub ever built and has sonar technology so sensitive it can sit beneath the English Channel and hear a ship leaving port in New York.

But before the Hunter Killer craft slips into the Irish Sea on her maiden voyage today,

the Daily Mirror was given a look at the Royal Navy's latest weapon.

Moored at Devonshire Dock, in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, Ambush is twice as big and has twice the fire-power of our current nuclear sub HMS Trafalgar, which blasted Gaddafi forces in Libya.

Ambush, made by BAE Systems, already has enough nuclear fuel to sail for a quarter of a century non-stop and could circle the world without surfacing.

She's also one of the quietest sea-going vessels built, capable of sneaking along an enemy coastline to drop off special forces or tracking a boat for weeks. Foreign forces will find it almost impossible to sneak up undetected by her incredibly powerful sonar equipment that can hear halfway around the world.

Commander Peter Green was appointed commanding officer of Ambush in 2009 while it was being built.

The 47-year-old Royal Navy stalwart from Lancaster, said: "The level of capability we see with Ambush is unparalleled. This sub is a huge step forward in underwater operations. And her listening ability is quite awesome. She has a sonar system with the processing power of 2,000 laptop computers.

"It is possible this class of submarine is the most advanced in the world. And it is a huge privilege to be in command of her and her crew."

Ambush is the second of Britain's Astute class submarines – the first of which is still undergoing sea trials – and could be in operation in the next 12 months.

She is so high-tech that her makers have done away with the traditional periscope, replacing it with a camera system called Optronics which operates both night and day using infra-red technology.

Commander Green added: "Her Optronics system gives us much greater clarity than a periscope."

Most of the weapons and defence systems aboard Ambush are top-secret and details cannot be revealed.

Commander Green added: "Very few people get to see inside one of these submarines.

"She is so sophisticated that her limitations are based on the humans on board – we can go to sea for 90 days approximately. She'd keep going but we need to stop off and get food."

Ambush is capable of firing a Tomahawk missile into an enemy compound from 1,200 miles away.

Her 103-strong crew live in cramped conditions, many of them slotted into bunk-bed systems like CDs in a music rack. Each of their bunks is two metres long by one metre wide, and just 18 inches high. If you jolt your head upwards by a few inches you headbutt the man above you or the ceiling and there are up to 18 sailors in one room.

Commander Green said: "It can be tough at times being a submariner but you wouldn't last long in a crew if you couldn't hack it.

"You have to have the ability to get on with others and be part of a team or it won't work."

Ahead of today's launch he added: "We are grateful to all the people who have worked hard to construct this vessel. The crew cannot wait to start sea trials and take this magnificent vessel a step closer to beginning operations."

Going, Going, Damn Near Gone

by Bob 'Dex' Armstrong

If you rode smokeboats, go pour yourself a stiff one... This one will make you bleed in your sea boots.

Gentlemen, the places we knew and were a part of us, are slowly being removed. One by one, to be replaced by stuff with no history, no memories and no tradition... Just new stuff.

They did away with the escape tower at the Sub Base at New London. Funny thing though, it is still part of the base insignia. Kids today must look at their insignia and wonder why the damn thing has a grain silo on it. The damn place isn't even called 'New London' anymore... It's 'Groton'... Same place, same location. But like everything else in the boatservice, the idiot bastards changed it for some dumb reason known only to God and Rickover, the flag rank ferret.

Seven Brothers, once the official watering hole of the Atlantic Submarine Force... Gone.

The Basic Enlisted Submarine School, whose alumni turned the floor of the Pacific into a naval junkyard and the bluejackets of Hirohito's once powerful navy, into fast food for crabs. If any structure anywhere ever cried out for historic preservation, it was that building. It reeked of noble purpose... Now it's gone.

The Submarine Base at New London was once a beautiful place in a magnificent setting on par with an Ivy League campus or a mini-Naval Academy. It was a very impressive location, the center of the submarine universe.

Now the place looks like an industrial park full of look-alike sterile modern structures. Once again, a deprecating trade-off where small-bore leadership has traded the time-tested and meaningful for the fast pop expedient of accommodating immediate and often temporary need. The immediate need justifies the obliteration of the structures of historical value to those trying to reconnect with their time and place in the expanding timeline that is and always will be the United States Submarine Service... The Force.

Norfolk was my home port. During my tour C.E. (Convoy Escort) Piers became DES SUB (Destroyer and Submarine) Piers.

In 1960, the city fathers closed and destroyed the infamous East Main Street. We missed Sodom and Gomorrah and damn near missed East Main. Most of the vice and inappropriate conduct in the Western Hemisphere was invented on East Main. When East Main was in full swing, all the breweries on the east coast worked three shifts... It raised the standard for hell holes. If a bluejacket couldn't find it on East Main, it had to involve gay penguins or nympho sea turtles. We must have been having too much fun, so they shut it down and leveled it.

What was left of the movable feast, hauled out to Hampton Boulevard.

Just outside the main N.O.B. Gate, there were two blocks that provided John Q. Bluejacket most of his transient pleasures... Wine, women and Slim Jims, Beer Nuts and hard-boiled eggs... Indigestion and athletes' foot of the esophagus. The place was so bad even the Shore Patrol thought nothing about taking a leak in the alley.

It was a mess, but it belonged to us... *The Big'O', Loveys Crazy Kat... The Victory... and Bells Bar and Naval tailors...* The recreation room of Subron Six... Home of Thelma, the queen of draft beer and unladylike conduct...

"I'll have the left nut of the sonuvabitch that tosses a quarter in that damn thing and plays *La Bamba*, *The Lonely Bull* or that gahdam, *Don't Take Your Guns To Town*."

Well, you can still pee in the street because that's all that's left. The rest is gone... Gone to Honky Tonk Heaven.

They set fire to the Ocean View Amusement Park and flattened that... They demolished Camp Allen, the big brig... I don't think that'll upset a lot of folks.

The Hampton Roads Tunnel is free now... They either paid the damn thing off, or got sick and tired of sailors tossing peacoat buttons in the coin hoppers

I visited the place recently. The place is crawling with sandbagged machine

gun emplacements and jarheads in camouflage uniforms, crouched down behind belted M-60 machine guns. It would not be smart to wrap a rag around your head and run down Hampton Boulevard yelling "Allah be praised!", unless you wanted to test your Blue Cross policy to see how good the bullet removal part holds up.

The Metric-Built Blonde and I dropped in to the Visitors' Center. You won't believe this, but honest-to-God, in a glass case on display they have a set of thirteen-button blues... The uniform we loved... The trou has the buttoned flap and the gussets in the back. I guess they have it there as a reminder of the good ol' days before they had to say, "Let the adventure begin." Back then, no Madison Avenue pencil neck had to tell us the adventure was beginning... A foot in your ass at Great Lakes served as the starting pistol.

Damn, it was weird to see that old set of blues behind glass... Poor lads of today, will never know the feeling of pride those wonderful outfits gave a true seagoing sonuvabitch.

But the saddest part was yet to come... Let me take you back to the previous day.

Before the Metric-Built Blonde and I left home, we received an e-mail from 'JDAWG' (John Cadell RMI(SS) Ret.). He gave us his phone number in Virginia Beach. When we arrived at the Oceanside Holiday Inn, John met us at the door. My dear wife is in awe of the generosity and hospitality

she has had shown to her by submarine sailors she is meeting for the first time. John offered us the hospitality that has always been the hallmark of true submariners.

John returned and took us on a tour of the base. It looked a little different, but I could still find places I remembered. They renumbered the piers... That must be important, but for the life of me I can't figure out why.

So, we drove down to where Pier 22 was supposed to be. Since they changed all the pier numbers and bought up the old Fertilizer Piers, the whole base is contiguous... Meaning a drunk boat sailor can walk from where he's tied up, all the way down to Pier One, yell "AIRLANT SUCKS!!!", be chased home by some 5,000 aviation rates, and never leave the gate. In our day, we would had to have gotten into dress canvas or taken up a collection to send a telegram to AIRLANT's quarterdeck and signed it 'Chief Master-at-Arms, USS Orion (AS-18)'

We found the old Des Sub Piers entrance drive. In the late '50s, every totally inebriated submariner in Six, knew that no matter how loaded you were, if you crawled down the Des Sub Piers entrance Road, Pier 22 was at the end of it. If you were on your hands and knees and you failed to recognize that you had passed the dumpsters, the Orion's lower brow and our ASR the Kittiwake, you fell off into the Elisabeth River and recognized immediately that you had reached the end of Pier 22.

22 was not like the other piers. They appeared to be well regulated, neat and folks seemed to have established priorities and appeared to know what they were doing. 22 wasn't like that... The damn thing looked like Dodge City on Saturday night. Folks getting up posses to chase down fuel hose thieves... Master at Arms trying to convince those who weren't listening that ballcaps with seagull feathers stuck in the vent holes were not officially approved naval headgear... This was subsequently followed by an impromptu speech on how the term "get fucked, you idiot" and "get your ass outta the way" were not officially approved naval forms of addressing a Chief something-or-another's mate.

You spent most of your time stepping over loose crap all over the pier. Most of it not worth stealing... Some of it orphaned by boats that had shoved off two days ago. Stuff stolen from other piers that wouldn't fit into the boat full of thieves who made off with it. Supplies... Abandoned hawser... Big chunks of metal crap only God and the Orion machine shop knew what it was.

You could find sailors in paint splattered dungarees stretched out on top of a pile of supplies with a white hat over his face, dead to the world.

"Hey kid..."

"Stop kicking me, you gahdam idiot."

"WHAZATT?!?"

"Sorry, didn't see you Chief."

"What in the Hell's up with you? Somebody tell you to knock off for siesta?"

"No Chief... I have a narcolepsy authorization chit."

"A WHAT?"

"A narcolepsy chit, Chief."

"Is that some kind of secret submarine shit?"

"How would I know Chief, it's your damn Navy... You tell me, I'm a dumbass E-3."

"Well sailor, you do whatever the fellow who gave you that 'Whatever-in-the-hell it is' chit told you to do, when he handed the damn thing to you."

Yes sir, Pier 22 was the main street down the middle of diesel boat town. It had been washed by the tears of many departures. It had seen the last remains of boatsailors who died aboard ship or had been lost at sea and recovered, taken off boats in honor. It had felt the excitement of little feet racing to the arms of a returning dad... It had sensed the removal of panties and heard the snap of a pocket book clasp as they found a new home for the duration of a personally delivered 0200 *'Welcome back Jack'* to some poor bastard in the duty section.

Pier 22... By the time you read this, it too will be gone. Another victim of the wrecking ball that leads the march of progress.

"Robin, go tell the Merry Men some simple-minded idiot just burned down Sherwood Forest."

USS Thresher Anniversary

Submitted by: Bret Zacher

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the USS Thresher tragedy, the assistance of your fellow Sam Rayburn Association Submarine Veterans, American Legion and VFW members, is requested in support of gaining approval to place a commemorative memorial in Arlington National Cemetery to the men lost aboard USS Thresher.

Simply download the pre-written template letter from the webpage <http://threshermemorial.org/template-letters.html> , sign it and mail to:

Katherine Condon
Executive Director
Army National Military Cemeteries
Arlington, VA 22211-503
Thank you,

Kevin Galeaz
Project Director
USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery
Memorial Project
<http://ThresherMemorial.org>
ThresherMemorial@gmail.com
603.232.6201

GREATER CHICAGO CHAPTER CHRISTMAS

Submitted by: Bob Krautstrunk

- Saturday - Dec. 15th. - 12:00 Noon
- Silver Stallion Restaurant
- Lee & Algonquin - Des Plaines, Il.
- Cash Bar - 1200 - 1300
- 1300 - Family Style - Chicken and Roast Beef. All the trimmings plus dessert and beverage.
- \$10.00 per person. Bring the family!
- Christmas Music. Raffle Prizes. DVD of Closing ceremony at Norfolk.
- Reservations and money to Gene Weisbecker. Reservations by Dec. 8th. \$20/person at the door. No exceptions. We need the count.

Bob K.

Please use your call list. Don't forget to bring a gift for Manteno. We had 47 last year! Let's shoot for 50 plus this year.

Crash Dive Base Contact Information

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

Vice-Commander – Frank Voznak, Jr. 9 South 255 Madison, Burr Ridge, IL. 60527
630 986-0175 franklin2@comcast.net

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

Treasurer – Glenn C. Barts, Sr., 2000 Jamestown Drive, Palatine, IL 60074; 847-934-7418;
gcbarts@msn.com

COB – Larry Warnke, l_warnke@msn.com

Chaplain – Glenn Barts, Sr.

Storekeeper – Herman Mueller, 503 Lynn Terrace, Waukegan, IL 60085; 847-445-5034;
hermanandlorimueller@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor – Chris Gaines

Base Historian – Frank Voznak, Jr.



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: \$ 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