



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

November 2013

Volume 14, 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 16
 - b. DECEMBER 21
 - c. JANUARY 18, 2013
2. **Duty Cook Roster:**
 - a. November –Dick Anderson
 - b. December – SEE YOUR NAME HERE!
3. **November Birthdays:** Gary Walters 7th; Len Wass 10th; Bill Stannard 15th; Pete Almeroth 18th; Thomas Steinman 21st; David Fitzgerald 23rd.
4. **Crash Dive Submarine Birthday Ball** April 5, 2014, Kenosha, WI
5. **Enlisted women to join silent service in 2016:** The silent service aims to begin a final phase of its historic integration effort in 2016, when enlisted women could begin serving aboard submarines. The sub force's top officer announced that goal Wednesday to continue the steady integration of women across the Navy, a top priority of Navy Secretary Ray Mabus. Go to the link for the rest of the story
www.navytimes.com/article/20131023/NEWS/310230026/Three-star-Enlisted-women-join-silent-service-2016

Crash Dive Meeting Minutes October 19, 2013

- 1) Attendees
 - a) Clay Hill
 - b) Frank Voznak, Jr.
 - c) Terry Elmeier
 - d) Steve Benicke
 - e) Barnacle Bill Hoffman
 - f) Tom Polzin
 - g) Martin Salvador
 - h) Dick Anderson
 - i) Cris Pascual
 - j) Frank A. Walter
 - k) Larry Warnke
 - l) Scott Jaklin
 - m) Charlie Kruger
 - n) Chris Gaines
 - o) Herman Mueller
 - p) Greg Miller
 - q) Ray Ratliff
 - r) Gus Yakes
- 2) The meeting was called to order at 1208 by Clay Hill, followed by the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and a round of introductions.
- 3) Secretary's Report given by Chris Gaines. Frank Walter moved to accept; Herman Mueller seconded; vote was unanimous.
- 4) Treasurer's Report given by Chris Gaines. September statements: Savings \$1173.69; Checking \$4362.91; Memorial checking \$1412.00; Memorial Savings \$5. Greg Miller moved to accept; Herman Mueller seconded; vote was unanimous.
- 5) Committee Reports
 - a) Newsletter – Each shipmate is welcome to submit articles of general interest from other sources.
 - b) Membership – Dues letters to be coming out.
 - c) Charitable Service – nothing to report.
 - d) Hospitality – Building fund drawing Oct. 26.
 - e) Webmaster – Frank Voznak assumed the chair.
 - f) Storekeeper – nothing to report.
 - g) Bylaws – postal mailing to all members is pending.
 - h) Memorial Committee – report below Community Outreach – nothing to report
- 6) Old Business
 - a) Christmas Party interest -- Total of four replies from Christmas party survey favoring mid-winter get-together.
- 7) New Business
 - a) Holland Club Presentations by Clay Hill to Charlie Kruger, Larry Warnke, and Cris Pascual.
 - b) Memorial Presentation by Brian Hatlen outlining coordination among trades experienced in exhibit fabrication. Tall ships moor alongside. Bids will specify union labor for best interest of the project. Troop will bill sub-contractor invoices at

- cost. Construction duration is about three or four weeks. Billing will be limited to first and final invoices.
- c) Bill Hoffman presented a fundraising idea that includes hand-carved dolphins that measure about 8"x24".
- d) Nomination
- i) Vice CDR – Tom Polzin nominated Frank Voznak, Larry seconded; candidate is willing to serve.
 - ii) Secretary – Tom Polzin nominated Chris Gaines; Larry Warnke seconded; candidate is willing to serve.
 - iii) Frank Walter moved to close nominations.
- e) USO does not need books; Navy Relief might.
- 8) Good of the Order
- a) Duty Cook
 - i) November – Dick Anderson
 - ii) December – Clay if no other offers.
 - iii) January – Chris Gaines will host the Fourth Annual Chili Dump
 - b) The Moving Vietnam Wall will be on display November 8-11; Healing Field of 2,013 American flags through November 13; both at West Aurora High School; see <http://vietnammovingwallaurora.org/>.

- c) Frank Walter has about 20 American Submariner magazines available. Suggest leaving at various businesses such as medical offices, barber shops, etc.
- 9) Benediction
- 10) Next meeting November 16 at KSC.
- 11) Larry Warnke moved to adjourn; Frank Voznak seconded; unanimous. Adjourned at 1409.

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

ALWAYS GIVE THANKS

By Cris S.L. Pascual, Base Chaplain

There are two important holidays observed in the month of November: Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving Day.

Veterans' Day is a day set aside as a holiday to honor and thank all Americans who served in the U.S. Military Services. I salute in respect and give thanks with all sincerity all the veterans of the Crash Dive Base. Thank you for your service and in keeping our freedom that we all cherish.

In 1926, the US Congress officially recognized the end of WWI and declared that the anniversary of the armistice should be commemorated with prayer and thanksgiving. And that leads

us to our second holiday: Thanksgiving Day.

Traditionally, it is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November since 1863.

With America torn apart by the bloody Civil War, President Lincoln called the nation and proclaimed a day of prayer, fasting and "Thanksgiving Day" to the good Father who dwells in the Heavens.

Giving thanks has been one of the many "*good things*" the Bible teaches us to do. In the first letter of Apostle Paul to the church of Thessalonica, the Bible tells us to be thankful always and in all circumstances. It means we should be thankful to our God, not just once a year but in all situations, good or bad times. In light of this, it brings to mind the truth of 1 Thess.5:18 which states, ¹⁸"...give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (NIV).

I agree that perhaps, this is one of the many Christian principles quite hard to understand, even to some believers. In this passage, giving thanks to God is expected to be the native emotion of all Christians. No matter what the circumstances may be, it is our responsibility to acknowledge God by praising Him and giving Him thanks.

A verse from the Book of Romans will give you a clear understanding to praise the Lord at all times, in all circumstances, and for everything, just as long as in doing so, you don't excuse sin.

In Romans 8:28, the Bible tells us, "*In all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*"

It may not always seem so! Sometimes when we are suffering heartbreaks, tragedy, disappointment, frustration, and bereavement, we wonder what good can come out of it.

Romans 8:28 gives us the answer: whatever God permits to come into our lives, it is designed to transform us to the image of His Son. When we see this, it takes the question mark out of our prayers.

Our lives are not controlled by impersonal forces such as chance, luck, or fate, but by our wonderful personal Lord, who is "too loving to be unkind and too wise to err."

Let's make it a habit to give thanks to God in all circumstances and not just for one day in a year. Let's make everyday a Thanksgiving Day.

I wish all active members of our military, all members of the USSVI, and all members of the Crash Dive Base, have a "*Happy Thanksgiving Day.*" Enjoy and may God bless you and God bless the United States of America.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!"

Our Continuing Support

Submitted by: Greg Miller and Glenn Barts
Hello Fellow Submariners,

Well, it is that time of the year again, Holiday Season!

As you know we are involved with two organizations, the USO, O'Hare and the Navy-Marine Corp Relief Resale Shop at Great Lakes. Both are in need of supplies.

I will make this short and to the point. The USO will have a lot of Military going through O'Hare for the holidays and needs the following:

1. Toiletries
2. Bottled Water
3. Candy
4. Energy Drinks (Red Bull, Monster)
5. Fruit
6. Ground Coffee
7. Monetary Donations

The Navy-Marine Relief Shop Great Lakes needs the following:

1. Winter Coats
2. Men's Clothing
3. Women's Clothing
4. Children's Clothing
5. Household Goods/Toys/Linens
6. Monetary Donations

(Please Note that they will not take any large furniture, appliances, televisions, damaged goods.)

If anyone would and could donate to one or both of these organizations, please bring those donations to the November or December Meetings. We will deliver them as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support and have a Very Happy Holiday Season!

Ohio Replacement Submarine Starts Early Construction

Submitted by: Office

The U.S. Navy is in the early phases of prototyping, building specs, and doing design work on its next generation nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarine—the Ohio Replacement Program, service leaders said at the 2013 Naval Submarine League, Falls Church, Va.

The new ship, slated for construction by 2021, will replace the existing fleet of Ohio Class submarines, a class of ballistic missile submarines.

Follow the link for the story...

<http://defensetech.org/2013/10/24/ohio-replacement-submarine-starts-early-construction/>

CENTRAL REGION DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER'S CORNER November 2013

Submitted by: Vic Van Horn



It has way to long now since my last correspondence, and much has taken place. The National Convention in Rochester, MN was a really good one, that included, of the Mayo Clinic, Amish farms, the SPAM museum, and boat reunion dinners. You missed a great convention if you did not attend.

I have made trips to most of the bases in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan. Presented certificates and booklets I make to the Holland Club inductees. This gives the families a chance to see where "Gramps" has been and some history of the boats he was on. Seems to be a big hit, so I will continue to do so.

Upcoming events are Nationally: Veterans Day parade in NEW YORK CITY, it's the largest veterans day parade in the world. Also next Memorial Day, the USSVI and its members have a chance to march in the Washington D.C. Memorial Day parade. This is a special day, as it commemorates our 50th year as an organization. Look in the American Submariner for detail and who

to contact if you are interested in marching in it.

There is also going to be a tree and plaque dedication at Arlington National Cemetery in remembrance of all Navy Submariners who gave their lives in the line of duty.

You can now purchase a 50th anniversary patch and coin from National Store keeper as a keepsake.

Please pass on to our members, that I wish them a terrific, but safe Veteran's holiday and keep the WWII guys in your prayers. They are dwindling fast and we owe them so much.

And lastly, I want you to know that it is a joy and an honor to work along side you all and I hope your 2014 is one to remember. Thank you for all you do for USSVI.

HIGH REGARDS:
VIC VANHORN D2/CDR

The Minutes of the Rochester MN 2013 National Convention

Submitted by: Tom Conlon

The minutes of the Natl Officer board meetings and of the Annual Business Meeting in Rochester MN are now available for your review online at our national website under the DOCUMENTS button, then click MINUTES.

www.ussvi.org

Dues

Please submit your dues upon receipt of your letter from Tom Polzin. We want 100% renewal. We are counting on you.

Navy Virginia Payload Module Design Concept to replace Ohio Class SSGNs

Submitted by: Office

Late last month NAVSEA and the Navy settled on a design concept for the Virginia Payload Module, a \$743 million design change in the Virginia-class nuclear attack submarines (SSN-774) that will eventually replace the current Ohio-class SSGNs as part of the Block V iteration of the attack boat.

Read the story at the link
news.usni.org/2013/11/04/navyvirginia-payload-module-design-concept

Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan

Submitted by: Frank Voznak

The VA Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan (IRRRL) lowers your interest rate by refinancing your existing VA home loan. By obtaining a lower interest rate, your monthly mortgage payment should decrease. You can also refinance an adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) into a fixed rate mortgage.

IRRRL Facts

- No appraisal or credit underwriting package is required when applying for an IRRRL.
- An IRRRL may be done with "no money out of pocket" by including all costs in the new loan or by making the new loan at an interest rate high enough to enable the lender to pay the costs.
- When refinancing from an existing VA ARM loan to a fixed

rate loan, the interest rate may increase.

- No lender is required to give you an IRRRL, however, any VA lender of your choosing may process your application for an IRRRL.
- Veterans are strongly urged to contact several lenders because terms may vary.
- You may NOT receive any cash from the loan proceeds.

Eligibility

An IRRRL can only be made to refinance a property on which you have already used your VA loan eligibility. It must be a VA to VA refinance, and it will reuse the entitlement you originally used.

For more information and details, see <http://benefits.va.gov/homeloans/irrrl.asp>

Technological Marvel

[The Day, Nov 5](#)

The age-old tradition of a ship christening provides the opportunity to take pause and consider the expert craftsmanship, engineering prowess and technological skill that are necessary to build submarines in the 21st century.

Around these parts, perhaps it is too easy to take these undersea warships for granted because they have so long been part of the southeastern Connecticut community. Many of our neighbors build these ships and serve on or have served on them. They are a common sight quietly navigating in the Thames River, to and from the Naval Shipyard in Groton.

The submarine christenings, however, provide the chance for a different perspective, with visitors

admiring something the locals have grown used to seeing. Such was the case again this past Saturday when 4,200 people gathered at the graving dock at Electric Boat in Groton to celebrate the constructing of the North Dakota (SSN 784).

Built by EB in conjunction with Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia, the North Dakota is a Virginia-class, attack submarine powered by a nuclear reactor. These submarines are capable of both deep-ocean submarine warfare and stealth missions in relatively shallow water.

Sailors use a joystick to control the steering and diving of these 377-foot submarines. High-resolution cameras, infrared sensors and laser rangefinders provide a precise visual display and accompanying data that replace and revolutionize the traditional periscope.

Vertical missile launch tubes can unleash 16 Tomahawk cruise missiles in a single, devastating salvo. Alternatively, a Virginia-class submarine can dispatch a mini-submarine to deliver Navy SEALs or Marine special-services units for covert operations.

The construction cost is staggering at \$2.6 billion each, but EB and Newport have been delivering these submarines on time and within budget. Design and construction innovations are lowering per-ship costs.

Difficult to locate or track, these submarines act as a deterrent to anyone who would consider challenging U.S. naval superiority.

They are a marvel, a great feat for those who design, engineer and build them. An achievement the region and nation should never take for granted.

Dues

Remember:

- Our goal is 100% renewal.
- We are counting on you to do your part.

The Day A German Submarine Was Sighted In The Bahamas

Eric Wiberg, *Tribune242.com*, Nov 5

THE morning of Saturday, August 7, 1943, began clear and calm, with good visibility from the bluff on which the town of Clarence Town, Long Island, Bahamas is perched. During the summer, when school was not in session, young Ancil Rudolph Pratt was able to take his father's horses out to pasture in the morning. He and his friends - Wellington Smith, Kipling Simms, Jeffrey Strachan and Isaac Taylor - liked to take the horses to the coast southeast of Clarence Town and enjoy playing on the seashore while the horses ate fresh grass.

Pratt remembers that it was a clear sunny day and the boys had made it to the bluffs around midday when they all saw something so unusual that they remembered it to their dying days, and confirmed it by looking at photos later. They were several miles southeast of town on the bluffs. A boat of some sort emerged from the water about two miles out to sea. They could clearly see the "sail" or conning tower, but not any people on deck or on board. The craft was moving slowly and leaving a wake behind it. The boys could clearly see machinery on deck.

Judging from the comparative distance between telephone poles strung along the coast, which are spaced roughly 200 feet apart, the judged the length of the vessel to be about 200 feet. After ten to fifteen minutes the submarine submerged, though a kind of radio mast was still visible. The sun was over their heads at midday, the submarine headed from left to right away from land, towards the southeast. The boys' backs were to the high bushes and trees. They watched the mast cutting through the water and heading away.

Asked whether he had witnessed a submarine in Bahamian waters during World War Two, Mr Pratt, a former insurance salesman in Nassau for 25 years who runs a shop in Clarence Town and is a well-respected member of the community, he replied "it couldn't be nothing

else". It also could not have been any other day – Sunday the boys would have been in Church and in weekdays engaged in either school or church. "This is not no story," he says, "I'm telling you I saw it with my own eyes."

The channel off Long Island was used by eight German and Italian submarines in World War Two: the Italian submarine Finzi and the German U-boats U-84, U-108, U-129, U-185, U-508, U-732, and U-751. U-84 had transited the Crooked Island Channel east of Long Island on 10th July 1942, and the British Admiralty reported a submarine spotted on the 22nd of July, which might also have been U-129 under Hans-Ludwig Witt, however the sub was described heading southeast (same direction as U-84) and Witt was heading back to Europe.

Neither can be verified with certainty, though possibly the sighting of U-84 was made on an earlier date by fisherman and reported on the 22nd when they returned. The source of the sighting was "Hardbargain South Side Long Island course South East." Hard Bargain was a largely abandoned salt harvesting community, also just south of Clarence Town Long Island.

Given the certainty of it being a Saturday in early August 1943, it was much easier to verify the sighting by young Pratt and his friends.

On Saturday, August 7, 1943, Oberleutnant zur See Claus-Peter Carlsen, aged 23, was conning his submarine, U-732 back to Brest, France. He was on the 58th day of an 83-day patrol during which he attacked Allied ships three times and was counter-attacked more often, first by two US Kingfisher reconnaissance airplanes, and another time driven away from a convoy by two American destroyers. On the afternoon of Friday, July 6, U-732 put the north coast of Cuba astern and passed west of Great Inagua in the southern Bahamas. At 10pm local time on the 6th, Carlsen noted his intention in the sub's log book, or KTB, that he intended to take a winding course through Crooked Island Passage as part of his return voyage.

By 2am on Saturday, U-732 was able to take a visual bearing on Castle Island Light at the southern tip of Acklins Island. He noted that the light was "shining peacefully and is very good for

position-fixing". At 5:30am, the submarine submerged, having ventilated and charged its batteries on the surface. By submerging, it made itself less vulnerable to detection and attack by enemy aircraft and ships, however their transit of the winding passage was only about halfway completed. They would need to verify their position before they were through. At 10am, they were southeast of the coast of Long Island, and by early afternoon were only seven or eight miles from land. If the submarine was on the surface it would have been visible from an elevation ashore with 12-mile visibility on a clear day.

During the hours between 2pm (it might have been noon depending on the time difference between Germany and the Bahamas), and 4pm, when the sub was next reported east of Clarence Town, Carlsen did not record anything, whether he surfaced or not was not noted. Certainly if it was surfaced the sub could achieve four times its submerged speed of about three knots, allowing it to cover substantially more ground. It is also possible that before crossing the wide Atlantic Carlsen wanted to visually verify his position, particularly to line up a safe passage between Samana Cay to the south and Rum Cay

and San Salvador to the north. In particular there are two large, Spanish-colonial-style churches on the bluffs east of Clarence Town which would have served as reliable beacons enabling a captain to confirm his exact position.

Whether Carlsen took the calculated risk of surfacing southeast of and out of sight of Clarence Town proper will not be known with certitude. He demonstrated in writing a propensity to approach landmarks and verify his position as recently as passing Castle Island Light some 12 hours before.

The evidence suggests that five pairs of eyes witnessed the submarine indeed surfacing for a short time before heading east to break free of the shallow Bahamas and head back for Europe, where U-732 arrived on the last day of the same month. If so it would be the only verifiable incidence of a living witness having seen a German submarine patrolling in the region – one Saturday morning out of some 1,500 other patrol days where the enemy prowled the watery region around the islands over the course of more than two and a half years.

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 – Cris Pascual; crispases@aol.com; 285 Southridge, Gurnee, IL 60031; 847-855-0772

Membership – Tom Polzin, 12463 Foxtail Lane, Huntley, IL 60142; (v) 847-867-8668; (f) 847-669-2444; tapolzin@aol.com

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