



CRASH DIVE BASE Lake Bluff, IL



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

December 2015 Volume 16, Issue 12

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 1100, third Saturday of each month at the Knollwood Sportsman's Club. Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates:
 - a. DECEMBER 19
 - b. January 16, 2016
 - c. February 20
- 2. Duty Cook Roster:
 - a. December Glenn Barts and Ed Dowling
 - b. January Sixth annual Chili Dump
 - c. February SEE YOUR NAME HERE!
- 3. **December Birthdays:** Jim Anderson 1st; Greg Miller 10th; Charlie Kruger 15th; Ron Spooner 19th; Ed Dowling 19th; Bob Koonce 20th; Pete Tzomes 30th; and John Stines 30th. Happy Birthday Shipmates!
- 4. **Dues season** soon is upon us. Contact Tom Polzin; contact info on Page 9.
- 5. Collecting **Toys for Tots** at our November and December meetings. Gifts should be new, unwrapped, and valued at greater than \$10.
- 6. **Bubblehead Bookshelf** will be a new monthly feature. When shipmates read a book that they want to share with others, send a brief description, not a full book report, to Chris Gaines to have your item added to the Bookshelf.
- 7. Be sure to Like our Chicago Submarine Memorial **Facebook** page.
- 8. **Save the Date**: April 30; Candlelight Bowl memorial fundraiser, at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont, IL. Details to follow.

Crash Dive Meeting Minutes November 21, 2015

- 1. Attendees:
 - a. Glenn C. Barts, Sr.
 - b. Frank Voznak
 - c. Clayton Hill
 - d. Herman Mueller
 - e. Larry Warnke
 - f. Gus Yakes
 - a. Ted Rotzoll
 - h. Scott Jaklin
 - i. Frank Walter
 - j. Maurice Young
- 2. These ten stalwart shipmates braved a nasty snow storm to attend our meeting. While a quorum was established, attendees decided to cancel the meeting, enjoy Frank Walter's Famous Fish Fry, and return home.

Lost Boats

USS Capelin (SS-289) 12/2/43 USS Sea Lion (SS-195) 12/10/41 USS F-1/Carp (SS-20) 12/17/17 USS S-4 (SS-109) 12/17/27

SK Gift Baskets

Submitted by: Herman Mueller

We are introducing 4 gift baskets that are now available for sale at \$20 each. Each basket features an assortment of jewelry and a small box of chocolates. Whether it is a birthday, anniversary, or just saying "I love you!" our Gift Baskets are

ready to give, for your shopping convenience.



Order yours by contacting Crash Dive Storekeeper Herman Mueller; his contact information appears on Page 9.

Toys for Tots



Bring your donations to the Nov & Dec regular Crash Dive base meeting at the

Knollwood Sportsmans Club, Lake Bluff IL. third Saturday/every month @ 1100 hrs.

Gifts need to be new & unwrapped

WE WILL GET THEM TO THE MARINE CORP RESERVES

Russia's Plan For Navy Is Imperiled

Carol J. Williams, LOS ANGELES TIMES, Nov 16

Falling gas prices and Western sanctions could derail Kremlin efforts to modernize the ramshackle fleet

It's been 15 years since a torpedo exploded aboard the Kursk, sinking the Russian submarine, killing all 118 sailors aboard and wounding the navy's reputation and the nation's pride.

A tragic metaphor for government neglect of once-powerful armed forces, the disaster spurred ambitious plans for military expansion and modernization in the air and on the ground and high seas, which came to fruition a decade later when high oil and gas prices filled Moscow 's coffers.

But the Russian navy's generous share of Project 2020 military modernization funds -- \$156 billion for the shipbuilding and base-construction plans were designated in 2010 -- is imperiled by a financial crisis brought on by Western sanctions and lower petroleum prices.

Although President Vladimir Putin has said that Russia remains on course to restore the reach and firepower of the fleet launched by Peter the Great in 1696, veteran military analysts and Kremlin insiders point out that the recession has cut the ruble's buying power in half and the protracted decline in petroleum prices makes it unlikely that Russia can afford the 50-plus warships that were intended for commissioning this decade.

Bolstering naval forces is a crucial part of the Kremlin's "basic goal of strengthening the country's positions

among the world's leading sea powers," Mikhail Popov, deputy chief of the Russian Security Council, said in August, after Putin signed a new Maritime Doctrine that assumes a reinvigorated Russian fleet.

Revisions to the 2010 defense mission statement were few when the security chiefs rewrote it last year to incorporate the Kremlin's muscular assertions of power in a claimed "sphere of influence" in former Soviet territories. The new doctrine identifies NATO as the main threat to Russian security and claims the right to use nuclear weapons to defend against any aggression seen as imperiling an independent Russia.

Expanding the size and sophistication of the nation's ramshackle naval fleet is essential to Moscow's strategic priorities: Russia's move in late September to join the international air campaign against Islamic State militants in Syria highlighted its need for seabased platforms from which to launch airstrikes and surveillance. An unspecified number of large, ballistic missile-armed amphibious assault ships and a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier capable of carrying a dozen aircraft and 450 marines are envisioned in the modernization plan, navy commander Adm. Viktor Chirkov told reporters at a St. Petersburg naval show in July.

Nine new or revitalized Soviet-era nuclear submarines are included in the modernization timetable. Three are intended to enhance patrolling of disputed island and natural resource claims in the Pacific. The other six are destined for the Northern Fleet, where Russia seeks to control a new shipping passage opening north of its landmass as Arctic ice melts.

Two new icebreakers to assist with navigation through the Arctic have also been authorized, and the production plans for frigates, destroyers

and other surface warfare ships were expected to expand the fleet by 50 vessels by decade's end. That would exceed the number of Russian naval vessels built and launched in the entire 24 years since the Soviet Union collapsed.

"It is a reflection of Russia's need to be seen as a great power," said Alexei Arbatov, a strategic analyst at the Carnegie Moscow Center. But he noted that the ambitious construction plans have been complicated by the deepening economic crisis.

In punishment for Russia's seizure of Ukraine's Crimea region in March 2014 and its not-so-secret support of pro-Russia separatists in the neighboring country's eastern regions, the United States and the European Union imposed sanctions. Arms and military-industrial trade have been banned, senior officials and businessmen have been blacklisted and Russian access to international lending institutions has been terminated. France, where defense contractors had just completed the first of two Mistral warships on contract with the Kremlin last year, canceled delivery and refunded Moscow's \$2.35-billion purchase price and related investments.

Those constraints on Moscow's ability to marshal foreign financing and components have compounded the blows dealt the Russian economy by oil prices that have fallen by half in the last 18 months. Russia depends on oil and natural gas sales for at least 50% of its annual budget, and the slumping commodities revenue has imposed social services cuts and fanned inflation.

Russia's fleet comprises about 270 vessels, but many are Soviet-era and have been ill-maintained, Arbatov said. Only about 45% are combat-ready, he said, underscoring the cost of decades of underinvestment in the navy

and the living conditions of its personnel.

He described the Kursk disaster as an enduring "scar on the morale of the navy; not because of a deficiency in the submarine but because of the failure of the Russian command to rescue its sailors. Most people think that the crew could have been rescued but for prestige reasons [the naval command] wouldn't ask for Western assistance."

In spite of the official Kremlin posture that the projected 2020 fleet strength is on track, "shipbuilding will be seriously curtailed," Arbatov predicted.

Igor Korotchenko, National Defense magazine analyst and a former officer of the General Staff -- Russia's rough equivalent of the Joint Chiefs -- acknowledges that the delivery of new ships is likely to be delayed unless the economy makes an unexpectedly speedy recovery.

"Constructing fleet is timeconsuming and very expensive," he said, pointing to vessels that can involve technology and components from as many as 650 enterprises.

Some veteran defense analysts argue that the modernization project was going to bankrupt Moscow even without the oil price plunge and sanctions.

Russia's military brass and intelligence chiefs have convinced Putin that major spending on defense upgrades is necessary for security and to protect strategic interests, said Pavel Felgenhauer, defense analyst for the independent Novaya Gazeta newspaper.

"Anyone who tries to oppose them fails," he said of the few in Putin's inner circle who have criticized the General Staff's demands for more hardware. Most notable among the purged critics was former Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin, sacked in

September 2011 after he warned that even a flourishing Russia couldn't afford Project 2020's cost, then the equivalent of \$600 billion.

Felgenhauer pointed out that the new warships will require deep investment in shipyards, home ports and support stations, not all of which are included in the modernization budget. He estimated that at least 40 new bases would be needed in the Arctic, where the shipping passage and newly accessible seabed oil and gas fields will generate more maritime traffic, searchand-rescue operations and icebreaking.

Analyst: Doomsday Nuclear Torpedo Leak Gives Insight to Russian Strategic Mindset, Ballistic Missile Defense Anxiety Sam LaGrone, USNI, Nov 12

A proposed Russian submarine launched doomsday weapon — the existence of which was almost certainly leaked by the Kremlin — gives clues to the Russian mindset for the development of new strategic weapons in the face of the West's increasing ballistic missile defense capability and Russia's shrinking national assets, a naval analyst told USNI News on Thursday.

The Status-6 weapon was revealed on Wednesday during a Russian broadcast of a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and military leaders in Sochi and a screengrab of the weapon was widely circulated following the broadcast.

The weapon is allegedly a "robotic mini-submarine" capable of speeds 100 knots with a range of 6,200 miles, according to state controlled press and designed to "destroy important economic installations of the enemy in coastal areas and cause guaranteed devastating damage to the

country's territory by creating wide areas of radioactive contamination, rendering them unusable for military, economic or other activity for a long time," according to a translation of the document by the BBC.

Immediately before the reveal of the weapon Putin was discussing how the emerging U.S. ballistic missile defense (BMD) network in Europe was "an attempt to undermine the existing parity in strategic nuclear weapons and essentially to upset the whole system of global and regional stability," according to the BBC.

Russia has been highly critical of the creation of two Aegis Ashore installations — one in Romania and one in Poland — that are land-based versions of the BMD capability found on some U.S. Arleigh Burke guided missile destroyers (DDG-51). In addition to Aegis Ashore, the U.S. has recently completed the basing of a quartet of BMD capable Burkes in Rota, Spain that are part of the Obama administrations European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA) to BMD.

Eric Wertheim — naval analyst and author of U.S. Naval Institute's Combat Fleets of the World — told USNI News on Thursday the reveal of Status-6 was telling as to the current Russian arms development mindset.

"It shows that they're thinking about non-conventional weapons in line with Cold War era thinking," he said.

"The West is developing weapons — like the Small Diameter Bomb — that create a smaller more targeted effect. This type of weapon is exactly the opposite."

The differences in the strengths and weaknesses of the Russian defense industrial base are much more extreme than the West's.

For example, the Russian's are second only to the U.S. in the

development of nuclear submarines and their latest attack submarine design has earned praise from U.S. Navy officials.

However, the Russians lag behind the West in the manufacture of maritime gas turbines and Russian Navy's surface ship construction is suffering as a result.

A weapon like Status-6 would play into Russia's current military strengths and provide the Kremlin with a strategic deterrent that would bypass the growing American acumen at BMD, he said.

The weapon also comes with the benefit of being relatively inexpensive. While Putin has pledged to boost military spending, the last year has seen a massive drop in the value of Russian currency and decline in revenues from oil.

"They want to develop weapons that are cheap but also effective," Wertheim said.

The reveal of the weapon also allows the Russians to display a degree of self confidence and capability as Russia begins to rebuild its high-end military capability after decades of neglect.

"They need a saber to rattle," Wertheim said.

"Whether or not this turns out to be real or a figment of their imagination remains to be seen but it shows where they're going with their weapons development and that they're thinking outside the box."

Burial At Sea information

Submitted by: Alfred H Singleman Jr

Shipmates,

Thanks to IPNC Michael Bircumshaw we now have Burial At Sea information up on the USSVI website. The information is under Documents/Application or use the link below:

https://www.ussvi.org/Documents/Forms Application Burial At Sea Forms.pdf

Pride Runs Deep, Al Singleman, Jr. NC

The Night Before Christmas "Submarine Style"

T'was the night before Christmas, and what no one could see, The men who wore Dolphins were under the sea. Most of the crewmen were flat on their backs, Snoring and dreaming all snug in their racks.

The crewmen on watch were making their rounds, Some manning the planes, others listening for sounds. Back in Maneuvering or down in the Room, They all hoped the oncoming watch would come soon.

I'd finished some PMs whose time was now due and hoped for some sleep just an hour or two. Against better judgment I took a short stroll and found myself wandering into Control.

The NAV had the Conn, the COW was in place, The COB had the Dive and a scowl on his face. The helm and the planes were relaxed but aware, The FT and ET were plotting a dare.

To comply with the orders the NAV told the Dive to bring the boat up with minimum rise. The orders were given and soon we were there, at periscope depth with a scope in the air. The QM confirmed our position with care. The broadcast was copied, we brought in some air. The NAV on the periscope let out a cry... He shook his head twice and he rubbed at his eye.

He looked once again to find what it was he'd seen through the scope that had caused him to pause. But nothing revealed itself sweep after sweep, so down went the scope and we took the boat deep.

I asked what it was that caused his dismay, He sheepishly said, "I'm embarrassed to say." "It might just have been Northern Lights or a cloud." "Or a meteorite," he wondered aloud.

"But to tell you the truth I guess I must say, Whatever it was, it sure looked like a sleigh. And though it passed quickly and never was clear, I almost believe it was pulled by reindeer."

We laughed and we teased and I got up to go, When the moment was broken by "Conn, Radio." They told us a message was just coming in. We looked at the depth gauge and started to grin.

"Radio, Conn, I'm rather afraid, Your attempt at a joke has been too long delayed. If it had been sooner it might have been neat, But I doubt we're receiving at four-hundred feet."

"Conn, Radio, feel free to come down and see, We're not playing tricks here to any degree." I headed back aft then with nothing to do, Surprised the transmission was still coming through.

The message was sent to Control to be read, The NAV read it slowly and scratched at his head. Then again he began, but this time aloud, to those who'd now gathered, a curious crowd.

"To you Denizens of the Deep and men of the sea, who risk your lives daily so others live free, I rarely have seen you on this, my big night, for often - nay, always - you're hidden from sight."

"But purely by luck I could see you tonight, as your scope coaxed the plankton to glow in the night. And lucky for me I have finally won the chance to say thank you for all you have done."

"I know that you all miss your families at home, and sometimes you feel as though you're all alone. But trust when I say I will do what is right: I'll take something special to your loved ones tonight."

"Along with the gifts I will give to your kin I'll visit their dreams and I'll leave word within. They'll hear of your love, and how much you miss them, I'll tell them that soon you'll return home to kiss them."

It might not be much, I know that is true, to simply say thank you for all that you do. Your service to God and our country shine bright, So, Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night."

~ Author Unknown

USS Colorado Submarine Crew Honored

Blair Shiff, 9 News, Dec 14

Crewmembers from the USS Colorado returned to Denver to participate in various presentations and speaking events.

They received some on-field recognition during the Sunday Denver Broncos game against the Oakland Raiders. Sadly, the Broncos lost that matchup.

A local Colorado crewman is the focus of many of the Colorado events. Sonar Technician Seaman Brayden Kane, a May 2014 graduate of Horizon High School in Thornton, was honored in the 10 a.m. ceremony conducted in the rotunda of the State Capitol. He received his submarine "Dolphins" breast insignia.

"I love Colorado, which is why I volunteered to be on the USS Colorado, so this means the world to me," Seaman Kane said.

Conducting the ceremony was WWII Veteran submariner, and Aurora citizen, Ret. Lt. Col. Andy Palenchar. Of note is that Palenchar is credited with pulling former U.S. president George H.W. Bush from the water onto the submarine Finback SS-230 when the former Navy pilot's plane was shot down by ground fire while attacking the Japanese held island of Chichi Jima.

"It brought back a lot of memories, way back in 1943, when I was also pinned on with my dolphin," he said of Monday's pinning ceremony at the Capitol. "That was a proud moment."

The crew members also plan to visit various schools in the area to focus on the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) principles essential to safe submarine operations.

The will visit the University of Colorado-Boulder Veteran's Memorial Center to view artifacts from previous ships named USS Colorado. The last ship to bear the name USS Colorado was a highly decorated WWII Battleship BB-45, commissioned in 1923, over 90 years ago.

Also, Tuesday night, a reception will be held by the USS Colorado Commissioning Committee at Balistreri Vineyards.

Navy Seeks Injunction To Prevent Document Release

Ed Friedrich, Kitsap Sun, Dec 17

The Navy has sued Kitsap County to try to prevent it from releasing Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor emergency plans.

In January, Glen Milner asked Kitsap County Emergency Management for records regarding potential consequences of a radiological accident at the submarine base and planned responses to it. The Kitsap Sun, researching a project about a major earthquake, piggybacked on the request in October.

In denying the request, the Navy has said it will inform residents how to respond if a catastrophic incident unfolds.

The emergency response plan was created and is held by the county but contains information the Navy says has national security implications. The Navy and county, guided by different public disclosure laws, disagree on what information can be shared. County attorneys believe they're legally obligated to provide documents that the Navy says can't be released. The clash got to a point in June when the U.S. attorney's office in Seattle, representing the Navy, threatened deputy prosecuting attorneys Alex Foster and Shelley Kneip with criminal and civil prosecution.

The county informed the Navy that it would release the records if the Navy didn't get a court order by Wednesday.

The Navy filed the complaint Monday in U.S. District Court in Tacoma. The court Tuesday issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting the county from releasing the records and scheduled a preliminary injunction hearing Dec. 24.

Foster said the county is determining its next move.

"We're still in the process of reviewing and considering what our options are and what we will do next," she said.

The 18-page complaint lays out the Navy's arguments why the state's mandatory disclosure provisions don't apply to the documents in dispute. The Navy claims the information — which Kitsap Emergency Management obtained participating in exercises at Bangor — was only to be used for the exercises and couldn't be disclosed without the Navy's consent. The information is covered by federal laws prohibiting disclosure of unclassified nuclear information and critical infrastructure security information. And the state's public records act exempts security information from mandatory public disclosure, the Navy savs.

Information the Navy seeks to protect regards plans for responding to nuclear weapons accidents and incidents, the names of federal employees with special knowledge and expertise, convoy routes for nuclear-capable missiles and warheads, and incident response force information, according to the lawsuit. Bangor is home to eight Ohio-class

submarines that are capable of launching Trident ballistic missiles.

None of that information would need to be included in a radiological accident plan that instructs the public where to listen for information, how and when to shelter in place, and how, when and where to evacuate.

"It is clear that the Navy intends to have complete control of information," said Milner, a Seattle peace activist associated with Poulsbo's Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action. "The Navy wishes to determine what the public should know."

The county contends that releasing only information approved by the Navy would be considered an incomplete document under state law and expose it to penalties.

"I am hoping that the Navy and the county will share their emergency response plans with the public," Milner said.
"Obviously, the Navy does not want this to happen."

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; crispasses@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	П	lif⊳⊓	Associate	П

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.

		ard 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 st thru Dec 31 st . Please indicate your term preference:							
How did you find USSVI? \Box Friend, \Box	Boat Assn, □ Local Event/	News, □ Internet, □ Other (_)				
YOUR U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA							
Date Of Birth (MM/DD/YY)	If other military	service, What Branch?					
Highest Rate & Rank Attained:	Mil Retired (Y/N)): On Active Duty? (Y/N):					
YR entered Mil Service: YR left Mil Service (Active/Inactive reserve time also counts.)							
□ Check here if your Military Service falls within these time periods: Dec 7, 1941, thru Dec 31, 1946; June 27, 1950, thru Jan 31, 1955; Aug 5, 1964, thru May 7,1975; and Aug 2, 1990 to date.							
□ Check here if you have been awarded an Expeditionary Medal							
Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (Use back if you need more space.)							
1	Hull#	From Yr to Yr					
2.	Hull#	From Yr to Yr					
3.	Hull#	From Yr to Yr					
4	Hull#	From Yr to Yr					
Next of Kin: Name:	Relationship:	(Spouse, Partner, Son, Dau, Parent, Other)					
Addr: City: (Leave thi	State: Z	•					

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership dues to the appropriate base officer, or mail to: Crash Dive Membership Chairman Tom Polzin, 12463 Foxtail Ln, Huntley, IL 60142; Cell 847/867-8668 Fax 847/669-2444