



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

January 2016

Volume 17, Issue 1

**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. JANUARY 16, 2016
 - b. FEBRUARY 20
 - c. MARCH 19
2. **Duty Cook Roster:**
 - a. JANUARY – SIXTH ANNUAL CHILI DUMP BY LARRY WARNKE AND FRANK WALTER
 - b. FEBRUARY – SEE YOUR NAME HERE!
 - c. APRIL -- SEE YOUR NAME HERE!
3. **January Birthdays:** Bob Zorn 5th; Glenn Barts 20th; and Terry Elmeier 24th. Happy Birthday Shipmates!
4. **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.
5. Be sure to Like our Chicago Submarine Memorial **Facebook** page.
6. **Save the Date:** April 30; Candlelight Bowl memorial fundraiser, at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont, IL. Details to follow.
7. **USSVI National convention** information: <http://www.ussviconvention.org/2016/>
8. **National dues increased** to \$25 for one year, \$70 for three, and \$115 for five.

Crash Dive Meeting Minutes December 19, 2015

1. Attendees:
 - a. Clay Hill
 - b. Jan Hill
 - c. Frank Voznak
 - d. Ed Dowling
 - e. Greg Miller
 - f. Maurice Young
 - g. Ray Ratliff
 - h. Bret Zacher
 - i. Dick Anderson
 - j. Frank Walter
 - k. Larry Warnke
 - l. Jan VanHorn
 - m. Vic VanHorn
 - n. Ron Spooner
 - o. Tom Polzin
 - p. Herman Mueller
 - q. Glenn Barts, Sr.
 - r. Chris Gaines
 - s. Gus Yakes
2. Meeting was called to order by Clay Hill at 1102 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and a round of introductions.
3. Secretary's Report was given by Chris Gaines. Larry Warnke moved to accept; Tom Polzin seconded; vote was unanimous.
4. Treasurer's Report given by Clay Hill. Savings \$1,173.69; Checking \$1,793.24; Memorial Checking \$37,632.40; Memorial Savings \$5.00; Held by National \$5,240.00. Frank Walter moved to accept; Larry Warnke seconded; vote was unanimous.
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Newsletter – no news.
 - b. Membership – Dues collection is in process; hoping to get all annual members renewed at the lower 2015 rate of \$20. All shipmates are encouraged to recruit fellow bubbleheads.
 - c. Charitable Service – Requests a \$500 budget for 2015. Participated in funeral for Shipmate Charlie Wedel including a donation in accordance with the family's wishes.
 - d. Community Outreach – Schedule Cobia working party probably in February; all hands invited. Visited Peoria Base and were received warmly. Their meeting was more social and less formal.
 - e. Hospitality – Looking forward to Wild Game Feed on January 30th. Tickets available \$15 apiece.
 - f. Webmaster – Always good to check for updates. It serves as another communication channel similar to Facebook.
 - g. Storekeeper – Selling gift baskets as noted in the newsletter.
 - h. Procedures – No news.
 - i. Eagle Scout – No news.
 - j. Memorial –
 - i. Candlelight Bowl in April in Downers Grove.

- ii. Recent interest in selling pavers; researching costs and feasibility. A 10-inch by 10-inch paver will sell for \$500 and a 5-inch by 10-inch for \$250. Frank is circulating solicitation letters and is open for business. Contact him if interested in buying a paver.
 - iii. We have two scale models of the memorial (see pictures on Website) that are available for use at fundraising events.
 - iv. Bret Zacher donated \$5,000 in memory of his time aboard USS Sam Rayburn 635. His wife, Amy Zacher's company will match for a total of \$10,000. In 2016 the Zacher's are committed to donate an additional \$5,000 with matching for \$10,000. Bret will work with their son Chase to donate \$5,000 with his employer Exelon matching with \$5,000 after January 1.
 - v. Bret suggested setting standards for engraving the pavers now. Frank will do so.
 - vi. Bret also suggested that the City of Chicago may want to review and approve the engraving standards.
6. Old Business

- a. Herman continues to work linking to the memorial Facebook page.
7. New Business
- a. Vic van Horn inducted Frank Voznak and Clayton Hill into the Holland Club Class of 2015.
 - b. Nominating Committee report by Larry Warnke.
 - i. VCDR – Nominees are Dick Anderson, Ron Spooner, Ray Ratliff, and Ted Rotzoll. All nominees declined. Larry solicited nominations from the floor. Tom Polzin nominated Greg Miller, Larry Warnke seconded. Greg Miller agrees to serve and is elected by acclamation.
 - ii. Secretary – Chris Gaines agrees to serve one more term, if elected. There were no nominations from the floor. Chris Gaines is elected by acclamation.
 - c. No interest in holding a Ball in 2016.
8. Good of the Order item:
- a. Thanks to Glenn Barts and Ed Dowling for a tasty lasagna lunch.
 - b. Thanks to all shipmates who generously helped fill two large boxes for Toys for Tots.
 - c. Duty Cook
 - i. January – Sixth annual Chili Dump. Larry

Warnke and Frank Walter are hosting. Volunteer chili donors include Glenn Barts, Clay Hill, Ted Rotzoll, Chris Gaines, and Frank Walter.

- ii. February – See your name here.
- d. Frank Walter will serve his fish fry at the KSC's Wild Game Feed.
- e. RSVP meeting attendance plans to the duty cook.
- a. Next Meeting is January 16, 2016 at KSC.
- 9. Adjourn – Ed Dowling moved to adjourn; Dick Anderson seconded; Adjourned at 12:32.

Lost Boats

USS Scorpion (SS-278)	1/5/44
USS Argonaut (SS-166)	1/10/43
USS Swordfish (SS-193)	1/12/45
USS S-36 (SS-141)	1/20/42
USS S-26 (SS-131)	1/24/42

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.

Submarines: On women and China

Jeanette Steele, San Diego Union & Tribune, Nov 18

It's an interesting time to be in the submarine business.

China's expansion of its submarine fleet poses a credible threat to U.S. warships if tensions over Taiwan or the South China Sea turn hot.

That's according to a RAND Corp report this year that estimates China's modern submarine force stands at 41 vessels, up from two in the mid 1990s.

Meanwhile, roughly 60 percent of the United States' 72 submarines — or about 43 — operate in the Pacific. However, the American Navy is also on a building spree. Sixteen new Virginia-class fast-attack submarines are in the works.

Also, the U.S. submarine force has slowly integrated women since 2010, when the Navy announced it

would begin opening the formerly all-male bastion.

The transition has not been perfectly smooth.

Enlisted sailors on the Georgia-based submarine Wyoming secretly recorded shower-room videos of female submarine officers. Ten sailors were punished for involvement earlier this year.

These are some of the issues facing Rear Adm. Fritz Roegge, named commander of the Navy's Pacific submarine fleet in September.

Roegge visited San Diego's Submarine Squadron 11 this month and spoke to The San Diego Union-Tribune.

In part because of China's rise, he said, "I think our Navy looks to the submarine force — being able to stay hidden underwater, taking advantage of our stealth. Our Navy expects our submarine force to lead the way."

Q: A Navy submarine test fired a Trident II D5 missile on Nov. 7 off the Southern California coast. The unannounced evening test was highly visible and spurred widespread public speculation about meteor showers and UFOs. Can you give the larger context of what that was about?

A: It wasn't unusual. We shoot ballistic missiles for a number of reasons. Sometimes it's testing of improvements to missile systems, or it's to validate the effectiveness of missiles we have in inventory.

Q: Why was it so visible, and was the Navy surprised by the public reaction?

A: With a nighttime shot, that fiery plume from the booster is highly

visible. We had great atmospheric conditions as well that allowed it to be seen for a long way. If it had been cloudy, you might have seen it for five seconds.

I would expect there to be some attention. We don't publicize in advance what we intend to do operationally. We'll notify mariners of areas to stay out of. But beyond that, we're not looking to inform our competitors of what we're doing ahead of time.

Q: What does the growth of China's submarine force mean for American subs in the Pacific?

A: It means there's a lot of very interesting activity going on out there. Part of what combatant commanders might task us to do is to go and understand what's going on in the undersea environment.

The better prepared we are to fight and win, the less likely we will ever have to. That goes back to the importance of testing, like with the missile launch. We are satisfying ourselves that our systems work, but we are also clearly signaling our capabilities to those who might otherwise want to try to challenge us.

Q: Was the Trident test a show of force?

A: It was a test. But if there are other messages that people want to (see,) I understand they will draw their own conclusions.

Q: Female officers started serving on submarines in late 2011, but the Navy only this summer named the first enlisted women who will train for submarine work. What's taken this long?

A: I don't think it's because of an obstacle or any particular challenge. It's because we in the submarine force, we are all engineers and nukes (nuclear technicians) at heart. We are very methodical in how we do things. This was a phased approach.

In many cases, it requires modifications to the ships in order to ensure basic privacy. On the officer side, it required no modifications. But on the enlisted side, it required modification to the hull.

On an Ohio-class submarine, the crew is berthed in nine-person bunk rooms. They took a bunk room adjacent to a (bathroom), and they provided direct access.

Q: What about on the majority of U.S. submarines, which are the smaller, fast-attack variety? The Navy has announced enlisted women won't serve on the older Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarines, which are the backbone of the current fleet. (Five Los Angeles-class submarines are assigned to San Diego.)

A: What we determined we could execute quickly but cost effectively is, beginning with the next Virginia-class submarines to be built, to build them from the ground up with male and female spaces.

Q: The Navy won't retrofit the 12 existing Virginia-class fast-attack submarines?

A: We might. But currently the plan is to try to get this right from the ground up.

Q: Was it a cost-savings decision to not retrofit?

A: Not necessarily. We already have more than enough work to do when we get submarines into (shipyards).

Q: What's your assessment of how integration of women is going?

A: We are now at the point where the first female officers have completed their initial tours at sea and rotated to shore duties. Now they are approaching decisions on what to do with their remaining naval service. Ultimately, the best metric of our mutual success is to what extent those women decide they want to continue to serve as submariners.

Q: Regarding the videotaping of women in showers, what's your comment? Is there something about the isolated nature of the submarine service at play here?

A: It was simply sailors who did not understand what it means to treat a fellow shipmate with dignity and respect. The submarine force has tried to communicate very clearly our expectations of professional conduct. It's not professional conduct of men to women. It's conduct of shipmates to shipmates.

Ever A Submariner

I liked popping the hatch at the top of the sail (submarine's bridge) at sunrise and being the first to savor the scent of fresh air for the first time in 8 weeks... watching dolphins race in the bow wave on the way back home to Pearl... the tear-drop hull of the boat beneath me silently slicing through the sea.

I liked the sounds of the submarine service (sounds that we alone could hear, as we were the Silent Service where others were concerned) – the ascending whine of the dive alarm sounding, and the haunting echo's of "Cayooogah, cayooogah... Dive! Dive!" from the boats of yesteryear, the gruff voice of a Chief headed aft... "Down ladder; Make a Hole!", the indescribable creaking sound of hull-steel compressing at depths that remain classified to this day.

I was impressed with Navy vessels – bracketed in the aperture of Periscope #2, the crosshairs gently rising and falling across their silhouette on the horizon, while obtaining range, bearing and angle off the bow.

I liked the names of proud boats of every class, from the "pig boats" of WWI to the sea creatures of WWII, like Barbel, Dorado, Shark and Seawolf, and the Cold War boats that bore with honor the names of these and 48 others that are "Still on Patrol." Boats honoring national heroes, statesmen and presidents: Washington, Madison, Franklin and more. Whole classes of boats honoring cities and states: Los Angeles, Ohio and Virginia.

I liked the tempo of opposed piston diesels and the "pop" in your ears when equalizing to atmospheric when the head valve first opens to ventilate and snorkel. I miss the "thrill" of riding an emergency blow from test depth to the top at a nice steep bubble.

I enjoyed seeing places I'd only dreamed of, and some of which I'd heard from my grandfather who had seen them under very different circumstances and conditions...

places like Pearl Harbor, Guam, Truk Island and Subic and Tokyo Bays.

I admired the teamwork of loading ships stores, the "brow-brigade" from pier to boat, and lowering them vertically through a 24" hatch to the galley below. I relished the competition of seeing who could correctly guess how many days underway before the fresh eggs and milk ran out and powder prevailed upon us henceforth.

I loved my "brothers," each and every one, whether their dolphins were gold or silver and regardless of rate or rank. We shared experiences that bonded us evermore, and knew each other's joys, pains, strengths and weaknesses. We listened to and looked out for each other. We shared precious little space in which to live and move and work, and we breathed, quite literally, the same recycled air.

After weeks in cramped quarters, my heart leapt at the command, "Close All Main Vents; Commence Low Pressure Blow; Prepare to Surface; Set the Maneuvering Watch." When safely secured along the pier, the scent of my sweetheart's hair evaporated the staleness emanating from my dungarees.

Exhausting though it was, I even liked the adrenaline rush of endless drills, and the comfort in the knowledge that any dolphin-wearing brother had cross-trained just like I had... not only on basic damage control, but to the point of having a basic working knowledge of every system on the boat, such that when real emergencies inevitably arose, the response was so automatic and efficient they were almost anti-climactic.

I liked the eerie sounds of “biologics” through the sonar headphones, the strange songs of the sea in the eternal night below the surface of the deep blue seas.

I liked the darkness – control room rigged for red or black, the only illumination that of the back-lights compass and gauges of the helm and myriad of buttons and indicator lights across the BCP. I liked the gentle green glow of the station screens in the Sonar Shack and Fire Control. I grew to like coffee, the only way to stay awake in the numbing darkness of the Control Room with the constant rocking of the boat during countless hours at periscope depth.

I liked “sliders” and “lumpia” and pizza at “Mid-rats” at the relieving of the watch. I liked the secure and cozy feeling of my rack, my humble little “den,” even when it was still warm from the body-heat of the guy who just relieved me of the watch.

I liked the controlled chaos of the Control Room, with the Officer of the Deck, Diving Officer and Chief of the Watch receiving and repeating orders; the sound of Sonar reporting: “Con-Sonar: New Contact, submerged, designated: Sierra 1, bearing: 0-1-0, range: 1-0-0-0 yards, heading 3-5-0, speed: 1-5 knots, depth: 4-0-0’.”

I liked the rush of “Man Battlestations; Rig for Quiet” announced over the 1MC, and the “outside of my rate” role I played as CEP plotter during war games, and later... SpecOps – the window to another world that I was allowed to peer through... the tactics, stealth and tenacity of our Captain making prompt and purposeful decisions to see us

safely and successfully through the mission.

I appreciated the fact that I was a 19 year old kid, entrusted with operating some of the most sophisticated equipment in the entire world, and the challenge of doing those tasks in a 33’ x 360’ steel tube, several hundred feet below the surface, in potentially hostile waters.

I admired the traditions of the Silent Service, of Men of Iron in Boats of Steel, where you were just a NUB until you were “Qualified” and had EARNED the respect of the Officers and crew. I revered past heroes like inventor John Philip Holland and innovator Hyman G. Rickover. Such men and those that followed, both Officer and Enlisted, set precedents to follow, standards to uphold, and examples of bravery and self-sacrifice like the world has seldom seen. We were taught to honor these traditions. Somewhere far below the ocean’s surface, I became a man... and not just any man. I became... a Submariner.

Decades now have come and gone since last I went to sea. The years have a way of dimming things, like looking at the past through a smoky mirror. I went, as many others, my separate way... raised a family, and moved on... but a part of me, my Sailor’s Soul, will always be underway... somewhere... in the darkness, in the deep, making turns for twenty knots and pushing a hole through the water.

Written By:

Jody Wayne Durham, MM2/SS
USS Los Angeles (SSN-688), '85-88

The Submariner

Once upon a time, a Submariner asked a beautiful princess: "Will you marry me?"

The princess said, "No!!!"

And the Submariner lived happily ever after and visited exotic ports all over the world and drove hot cars and chased skinny long-legged big-breasted "ladies" and hunted and fished and went to topless bars and dated women half his age and drank

Weihenstephaner German beer and Captain Morgan Rum and never heard bitching and never paid child support or alimony and kept his house and guns and ate cold leftover meals, potato chips and beans and blew enormous farts and never got cheated on while he was at sea and all his friends and family thought he was cool as hell and he had tons of money in the bank and left the toilet seat up.

- The End

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 – Greg Miller, 964 Fischer Drive, Addison, IL; (630)543-7855 or fourkats4me@yahoo.com

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, lwarnke@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. 9 South 255 Madison, Burr Ridge, IL. 60527; 630 986-0175 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 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 (_____)

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:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Tel:** _____

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

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