

# The MidWatch



## THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PERCH BASE, USSVI PHOENIX, ARIZONA

December 2010  
Volume 16 - Issue 12



What's "Below Decks" in the  
MidWatch

**THE USSVI CREED GUIDES OUR EFFORTS AS PERCH BASE.  
SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE FULL TEXT OF OUR CREED.**

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### LEST WE FORGET THOSE STILL ON PATROL DECEMBER ETERNAL PATROLS

<b>USS Sealion (SS-195)</b>	<b>Dec. 10, 1941</b>	<b>5 men</b>
Japanese Air Attack, Cavite Navy Yard, P.I.		
<b>USS F-1 (SS-20)</b>	<b>Dec. 17, 1917</b>	<b>19 men</b>
Rammed off Honolulu		
<b>USS S-4 (SS-109)</b>	<b>Dec. 17, 1927</b>	<b>34 men</b>
Rammed off Provincetown, Massachusetts, Boat salvaged		

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**  
12 noon, Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010  
American Legion Post #105  
3534 W. Calavar Rd., Phoenix, AZ

# USSVI CREED

**Our organization's purpose is . . .**

“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.

In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, we shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for the mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U.S. Submarine Force.

The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.”



## **BASE OFFICERS**

### **COMMANDER:**

Jim Denzien  
2027 South 85th Ln.  
Tolleson, AZ 85353-8752  
(623) 547-7945

[jdenzien@cox.net](mailto:jdenzien@cox.net)

### **VICE COMMANDER:**

Warner H. Doyle  
13600 W. Roanoke Ave.  
Goodyear, AZ 85395  
(623) 935-3830

[d-hdoyle@msn.com](mailto:d-hdoyle@msn.com)

### **SECRETARY:**

Tim Moore  
5751 W. Bloomfield Rd.  
Glendale, AZ 85304-1832  
(602) 574-3286

[seawolfssn@g.com](mailto:seawolfssn@g.com)

### **TREASURER:**

Bob Warner  
6757 W. Paso Trail  
Peoria, AZ 85383-7151  
(623) 825-7042

[rwarnr1@yahoo.com](mailto:rwarnr1@yahoo.com)

### **CHAPLAIN:**

Walt Blomgren  
5120 W. Gelding Dr.  
Glendale, AZ 85306  
(602) 309-4407

[wbwaltb@g.com](mailto:wbwaltb@g.com)

### **NEWSLETTER & WEBPAGE EDITOR:**

Chuck Emmett  
7011 West Risner Rd.  
Glendale, AZ 85308-8072  
(623) 466-9569

[chuckster41@cox.net](mailto:chuckster41@cox.net)

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Rick Simmons  
10868 W. Crosby Dr.  
Sun City, AZ 85351-4026  
(623) 583-4235

[ricksims@cox.net](mailto:ricksims@cox.net)

### **COB:**

Jack E. Moore  
10960 N. 67th Ave., 77  
Glendale, AZ 85304-3668  
(623) 487-4031

[ncjm1@earthlink.net](mailto:ncjm1@earthlink.net)

### **STOREKEEPER:**

DeWayne Lober  
8509 N. 16th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85021-5424  
(602) 944-4200

[dnlober@hotmail.com](mailto:dnlober@hotmail.com)

### **EVENTS COORDINATOR:**

Joe "Wanderer" Varese  
11702 W. Main St.  
Peoria, AZ 85335-2314  
(623) 388-6749

[vnv13@hotmail.com](mailto:vnv13@hotmail.com)

### **HISTORIAN:**

James W. Newman  
3422 North 51st Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85018-6120  
(602) 840-7788

[jimnewmanss483@g.com](mailto:jimnewmanss483@g.com)

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# Sailing Orders

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**DECEMBER 11**

**REGULAR BASE MEETING**

**1200 TO 1400 HOURS**

**American Legion Post #105**

**3534 W. Calavar Rd.,**

**Phoenix, AZ 85053**

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**JANUARY 15**

**ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**

**MARK YOU CALENDARS FOR THIS  
ANNUAL BANQUET. FULL DETAILS  
ARE NOT SET YET, BUT WHEN THEY  
ARE, I'LL SEND OUT A "FLASH  
TRAFFIC" MESSAGE TO ALL HANDS.**

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## 2010 Perch Base Foundation Supporters

The list below contains the names of those Perch Base members who contribute monies to the Perch Base Foundation. The use of these monies for Base operation allows us to keep our dues low and helps us avoid raising money through member labor as most other organizations do.

**Remember, if you contribute by check, it must be made out to the "Perch Base Foundation."**

## These are the 2010 Foundation Supporters



ALLSTON, JERRY N.  
ASBELL, F. J. "TED" (IN MEMORY OF)  
BARTLETT, GARY  
BERNIER, RICHARD  
BEYER, RONALD B.  
BRAASTAD, WAYNE A.  
BROOKS, EDGAR T.  
BUTLER, BRADLEY L.  
CARPENTER, DAVID  
COOPER, JAMES J.  
COUSIN, ROGER J.  
DENZIEN, JAMES R.  
DESHONG, BILLY.  
DOYLE JR., WARNER H.  
ELLIS, HARRY  
ERRANTE, JOE  
EVANS, JAMES  
FOOSHEE, THOMAS E.  
GRAVES, JOHN A.  
GRIEVES, BILLY  
HELLER, HARRY  
HEROLD, GLENN A.  
HILLMAN, LESTER R  
HOUGH, STEVE.  
HUNT, THEODORE  
JONES, DAVEY  
KEATING, L. A. (MIKE)  
KIMBALL, JACK S.  
LA ROCK, DOUGLAS M.  
LAMBERT, DARRELL  
LANCENDORFER, ROBERT A

LENTS, ROBERT W.  
LOBER, DeWAYNE  
LOFTIN, BURTIS W.  
MARIONS, GEORGE  
MARSHALL, RAY  
MARTIN, TERRY  
MAY, ROBERT E  
McCOMB, DENNIS  
MILLER, ALLEN H.  
MILLER, ROGER M.  
MOORE, TIM  
NELSON, JIM A  
NEWMAN, JAMES F  
PETTIT, ROYCE E  
REEL, DANIEL J  
REINHOLD, STANLEY N.  
ROBINSON, BRUCE "ROBIE"  
RYCUS, MEL  
SATTIG, PETE  
SCHOONEJANS, EMIL  
SHUMANN, GARRY L.  
SIMMONS, RICK  
SMITH, WAYNE KIRK  
STUKE, ADRIAN M  
WALL, JAMES L  
WARNER, ROBERT  
WATSON, FORREST J.  
WHITEHEAD, DONALD J  
WOLF, EDWARD J.  
ZAICHKIN, JOHN G.  
ZOMOK, RONALD J.

# PERCH BASE HOLLAND CLUB MEMBERS

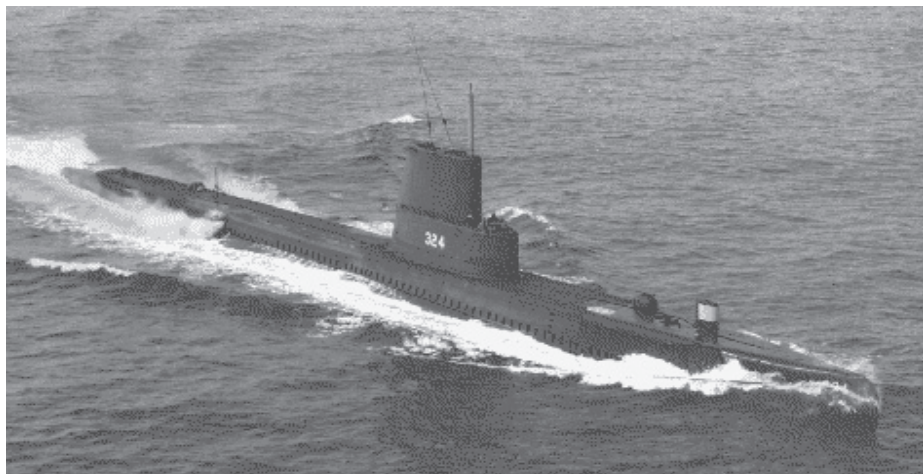


Holland Club members are USSVI members who qualified in submarines at least 50 years ago. They are the men who have set the example for young submariners to follow.

<i>Year Qualified</i>	<i>Shipmate</i>	<i>Qual. Boat</i>
1939	Billy Arthur Grieves	USS R-10 (SS-87)
1945	Harold J. Bidigare	USS Medregal (SS-480)
1940	Robert Wayne Lents	USS Sea Wolf (SS-197)
1945	Robert Richard Caraker	USS Runner (SS-476)
1940	Marion M. Turner	USS Perch (SS-176)
1945	Stanley I. Rud	USS Caiman (SS-323)
1941	Robert Norman Hanson	USS Sea Wolf (SS-197)
1947	Kenneth E. Becker	USS EX-U-2513 (U-2513)
1941	Raymond Marshall	USS Porpoise (SS-172)
1948	Jerome Frederick Becker	USS Dogfish (SS-350)
1941	Ernest V Plantz	USS Perch (SS-176)
1950	Kenneth R. Anderson	USS Greenfish (SS-351)
1943	Wayne A. Braastad	USS O-8 (SS-69)
1950	Robert E May	USS Clamagore (SS-343)
1943	Richard P. Weber	USS Ray (SS-271)
1950	James W. Newman	USS Sea Leopard (SS-483)
1944	Jack Richardson	USS Tilefish (SS-307)
1951	Edward Joseph Hawkins	USS Carbonero (SS-337)
1944	Emil J. Schoonejans	USS Burrfish (SS-312)
1952	George Debo	USS Tilefish (SS-307)
1952	Lester R Hillman	USS Blackfin (SS-322)
1955	Edward J Wolf	USS Ray (SS-271)
1952	Mel Rycus	USS Sirago (SS-485)
1956	Eugene V. Crabb	USS Catfish (SS-339)
1953	Roger J. Cousin	USS Angler (SS-240)
1956	Ray Lee Graybeal	USS Pickerel (SS-524)
1953	Harry Ellis	USS Sea Devil (SS-400)
1956	Jack R. McCarthy	USS Cusk (SS-348)
1953	Raymond C. McKinzie	USS Runner (SS-476)
1956	Ramon Samson	USS Charr (SS-328)
1953	Royce E Pettit, Jr.	USS Barracuda (was K-1 and the SSK-1)
1957	Walter Blomgren	USS Argonaut (SS-475)
1954	Dennis Kerton	USS Bugara (SS-331)
1957	James J Cooper	USS Atule (SS-403)
1954	Alexander Martin	USS Sea Cat (SS-399)
1957	James R Foote	USS Bashaw (SS-241)
1955	Joseph J. Hawkins	USS Becuna (SS-319)

1957	Danny Ray Moss	USS Tunny (SS-282)
1955	Robert A Lancendorfer	USS Redfin (SS-272)
1957	Robert A Sungy	USS Bluegill (SS-242)
1958	Ronald B. Beyer	USS Skate (SSN-578)
1960	Glenn Herold	USS Sea Leopard (SS-483)
1958	Harold Heller	USS Charr (SS-328)
1960	Davy L. Jones	USS Amberjack (SS-522)
1958	George Long	USS Sea Fox (SS-402)
1960	George Marions	USS Salmon (SSR-573)
1958	Roger R. Miller	USS Nautilus (SSN-571)
1960	Fred D. Saunders	USS Sablefish (SS-303)
1958	Daniel J Reel	USS Tirante (SS-420)
1960	Adrian M Stuke	USS Requin (SS-481)
1959	Edgar T. Brooks	USS Sea Leopard (SS-483)
1960	Eugene B. Veek	USS Tang (SS-563)
1959	Ronald A. Dutcher	USS Caiman (SS-323)
1960	John G. Zaichkin	USS Trigger (SS-564)
1959	Carl Scott	USS Caiman (SS-323)
1960	Ronald J. Zomok	USS Tang (SS-563)
1960	Richard A. Bernier	USS Irex (SS-482)
1960	George L Crider	USS Sea Devil (SS-400)

**YOU, OUR SENIOR SUBMARINERS, LEAD US ON TO FULFILL OUR MISSION TO THE YOUNGER PEROPLE OF AMERICA TO NEVER FORGET, THOSE WHO WENT DOWN TO THE SEA IN BOATS AND NEVER RETURNED.**



## November 2010 Perch Base Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at the American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1210 hours, 13 November 2010. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

The "Call to Order" was led in a prayer of invocation by Walt Blomgren followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard ceremonial opening. The tolling ceremony was conducted for all boats lost in the month of November and a moment of silence was observed for our shipmates on eternal patrol.

According to the Sailing List there were 25 members and guests present. Jim Denzien introduced a guest; shipmate John Bosanek who is a member at large and is attending his first USSVI base meeting. Members and guests in attendance at this meeting included:

Jim Denzien	Mary Denzien	Tim Moore	Richard Kunze
Rick Simmons	Jack Moore	John Bosanek	Davy Jones
Bill Grieves	Bob Warner	Stan Reinhold	Chuck Emmett
Howard Doyle	Sandy Martin	Ron Beyer	Jack Kimball
Mike Keating	Herb Herman	Emil Schoonejans	Walt Blomgren
Dan Moss	Steven Balthazor	George Crider	John Schlag

Richard Bernier

As the first item of business, a motion was made and seconded that the minutes from the October 2010 regular meeting be approved as published in the MidWatch monthly newsletter. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jim Denzien, acting as Interim Treasurer, reported on the base's financial status as of 31 October 2010. Jim announced that he is still in the process of turning the Treasurer responsibilities over Bob Warner. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

### **Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report**

Jim reported on the November events which included the Veteran's History Project in Tempe, a static display at Palm Valley Elementary and several Veterans' Day events during the week of Veteran's Day. These included static displays at Higley High School and in Gilbert as well as parades in Anthem and Phoenix. We also participated in a Medal of Honor Exhibition at Sanderson Ford in Glendale which was sponsored by the Return with Honor organization. We had the float there for a static display during the period of 11/2 through 11/9 which included presentations to some 200 kids from Palo Verde Middle School.

### **Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen**

**Vice-Commander** – Howard Doyle had nothing to report.

**Secretary** – Tim Moore had nothing to report.

**Treasurer** – Bob Warner had nothing to report.

**Chaplain** – Walt Blomgren went over the binnacle list consisting of several shipmates including Ted Hunt who had a stent put in and is recovering, DeWayne Lober who fractured his foot in a car accident, Stan Reinhold who is recovering from a prostate cancer procedure, and Davy Jones who is being treated for a number of medical issues.

**Chief of the Boat** – Jack Moore had nothing to report.

**MidWatch Editor/Webmaster** – Chuck Emmett reported that he has re-designed the temporary tattoo that we hand out to kids at events and is placing an order to replenish our inventory. He also reported that he needs additional stories for the *This Ain't No Sh\*t* section of the newsletter. He went on to mention that we are implementing new communication procedures to facilitate updating the calendar and advising the membership of upcoming events.

**Base Storekeeper** – DeWayne Lober was not present

**Membership Chairman** – Rick Simmons reported on the re-enlistment effort. He reported that 61% have re-upped for the USSVI and 65% for the base. Fifty-Eight people have donated to the Perch Base Foundation and we have recently signed two new members. Rick also mentioned that the membership needs to keep the USSVI National data base updated with current contact information. Anyone needing assistance with updating the National data base should contact Rick.

**Historian** – Jim Newman had nothing to report.

**Events Coordinator** – Joe Varese was not present.

**Past Commander** – Stan Reinhold had nothing to report.

### **Old Business**

The float storage issue remains a major concern. As a temporary solution it was decided that we would acquire a covered storage space at the current Goodyear storage area we are currently utilizing. If any of the members have any ideas or can offer any other float storage solutions, please let one of the board members know.

Jim announced that Perch Base elections will be coming up again in March. There are only two elected positions and they are Base Commander for which Jim will run and Base Vice-Commander for which Howard Doyle will seek re-election. Nominations are open if anyone is interested in running for either of these elected positions. All other positions are appointed positions. Jim also announced that Tim Moore will be stepping down as Secretary and the base will be looking for someone to volunteer and step up to the plate and fill the Secretary position.

### **New Business**

Our Awards Dinner which will be held on 15 January 2011 at the American Legion Post #105. The menu and final details for this event will be announced when final plans are complete. Chuck will do the program again this year which will include the base awards, longevity awards and Holland Club inductees. Jack Moore will attempt to contact RADM Barry Bruner, COMSUBGRU 10 in Kings Bay, GA and invite him as a guest speaker.

A future event that we might want to consider is the East Valley Swap Meet coming up in January. They are anticipating that about 1000 veteran bikers will be attending which would be an excellent opportunity for finding potential new members for Perch Base and the USSVI.

### **Good of the Order**

Chuck commented that during the Palm Valley Elementary event, he had lost one of the gold buttons off his vest. These buttons have a great deal of sentimental value to Chuck in that they were acquired from the uniform of a Navy Rear Admiral who served in WWII. Chuck notified Howard who in turn notified the Principal of the school about the lost button. Over a several day period the Principal made announcements about the lost button and a little girl turned it in. As it turned out, the little girl's 4 year old brother had picked it up off the ground and had given it to her. When she heard the announcement at school, she turned in the button.

### **50/50 Drawing**

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Davy Jones who won \$41.00 of the \$82.00 contributed to the drawing.

### **Adjournment**

All outstanding business having been concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1305 hours.

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

Tim Moore, Secretary, Perch Base USSVI



## From the Wardroom Base Commander's Message

Shipmates:

All events in November went very well and we are taking a well-needed rest. A heartfelt thanks to all my shipmates who participated in these events. It couldn't have been done without you.

We have confirmed a date for our annual Awards Dinner. Details will be announced but the date is January 15, 2011. In addition to the other festivities, we will be inducting 2011 Holland Club members. Put the date on your calendar and reserve your seat!

I am very pleased to announce that my grandson has passed his Board of Review and will become an Eagle Scout. Bravo Zulu, DJ!! I AM a proud grandpa!!

Hope to see you all at the next meeting on December 11.

Fraternally,

Jim Denzien, Base Commander



The graphic features a portrait of a man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a blue shirt. To the right of the portrait, the text "A Message from the Membership Chairman" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Further to the right, there is a small image of a membership application form titled "APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP".

We are two thirds of the way through our 2011 membership renewal drive and about 62% of you have stepped up and paid your dues. Unfortunately, the responses have slowed to a trickle. We need you to pay your dues now, right now while you are thinking about it. Remember, there is no grace period anymore. The deadline is 12/31/10 and if you miss that you are no longer a member.

Yes, you can always get re-instated but if too much time elapses, you end up with broken service (membership). That affects the longevity awards we hand out at the Awards Banquet and can also effect your induction into the Holland Club.

To be re-instated you will not only have to pay the back dues but also a \$5.00 late fee.

Speaking of Holland Club membership. A change to the USSVI Constitution (Article VII) was passed at this year's National Convention that states;

"Holland Club members are subject to National and Base dues to the same extent as other Regular Members of the organization. Holland Club members inducted prior to the effective date of this change are 'grandfathered' and will continue to be designated as National Life Members, but they may be required to pay Base dues as per Base Bylaws".

The effective date of the change is August, 2010.

Your Perch Base Board of Director decided change the Base Bylaws to not require these 'Grandfathered' members pay Base dues.

One final note, USSVI is trying to make sure that its membership records are a permanent record of our service in submarines so that even when we pass onto our eternal patrol, our individual service will not be forgotten. The only way to make sure they have the most up-to-date and correct information is for each of us to make sure what they have is correct and complete. Check your information on the USSVI web site, [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org), or give me a call and I'll let you know what they have and work with you to get it corrected if necessary.



## A Submariner's Prayer

"Eternal Father, strong to save  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep.  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

Bless those who serve beneath the deep.  
Through lonely hour their vigil keep.  
May peace their mission ever be,  
Protect each one we ask of Thee.  
Bless those at home who wait and pray,  
For their return by night or day."



Perch Base, and the Sub Vets of WWII, had a member depart on Eternal Patrol this month. Richard "Dick" Peter Weber departed on Nov. 13, 2010. He was living at:

17300 N 88th Ave # 10  
Peoria, IL 85351-3074

Dick qualified on the USS Ray (SS-271) in 1943, served on the SS-88, SS-271 and was a MOMMC(SS) when he left the Navy. He joined USSVI in 2000.



## ETERNAL PATROL PREPARATIONS

Shipmates, while we hope your day and those of your shipmates is far off in the future, we must nevertheless prepare. Please copy this notice (in the box immediately below) and place it with your will or important papers.

### IMPORTANT

In the case of my death, please immediately notify the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., (USSVI) at 877-542-3483 or 360-337-2978 and give the person on duty the information regarding my death, funeral, and burial arrangements, plus who they can contact for follow-up and support.

Please ask them to contact my local chapter's Base Commander with this information as well (they can look it up in their membership records).

This information can alternatively be E-Mailed to the National Office at "[office@ussvi.org](mailto:office@ussvi.org)".



## SHIPMATES RUNNING ON LESS THAN A FULL BATTERY CHARGE

The Chaplain is happy to report that, other than normal wear and tear on old shipmates, no one has been reported in full drydock, which means they're up and running and answering all bells.

Do you know a shipmate who is on the lee side of a fair wind? Someone who could use the help of a shipmate? Remember, we are the "**Brotherhood** of the Phin."

Contact our Base Chaplain if you know of any way we can help:

Walt Blomgren  
5120 W. Gelding Dr.  
Glendale, AZ 85306  
(602) 309-4407  
[chaplain@perch-base.org](mailto:chaplain@perch-base.org)



# Perch Base December Birthdays



<b>Paul V. Miller</b>	<b>4-Dec</b>
<b>A.H. "Bob" Nance</b>	<b>7-Dec</b>
<b>Walter Blomgren</b>	<b>12-Dec</b>
<b>James J. Cooper</b>	<b>12-Dec</b>
<b>Ronald J. Zomok</b>	<b>12-Dec</b>
<b>Edward J. Hawkins</b>	<b>15-Dec</b>
<b>Jeff Nelson</b>	<b>17-Dec</b>
<b>Charles Emmett</b>	<b>20-Dec</b>
<b>Thomas E. Fooshee</b>	<b>22-Dec</b>
<b>James. Dunn</b>	<b>23-Dec</b>
<b>DeWayne Lober</b>	<b>28-Dec</b>
<b>Ben Acosta</b>	<b>30-Dec</b>

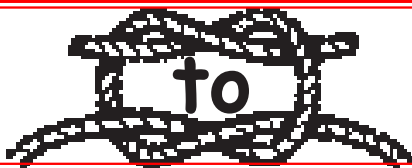
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## *WHAT'S NEW ONLINE*

The Base had a very busy month. Unfortunately, not every event was captured in photos. But we did get quite a few shots of the Anthem celebration and Phoenix's Veterans Day Parade. Both of these are posted on our Base web page ( [www.perch-base.org](http://www.perch-base.org) ) as well as the Base's Facebook page. We will be using Facebook more and more in keeping with National USSVI's directions.

To access our Facebook page, open your own page and search for "Perch Base." Don't have a Facebook page? Follow the instruction at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) to set up your own account.

# Shipmate



# Shipmate

## Now, THIS AIN'T NO SH\*T . . .

We're still looking for stories! All of us have heard the one about the difference between a fairy tale and a sea story. The fairy tale starts, "Once upon a time," and a sea story starts, "Now this ain't no sh\*t!" Well, that's what we are looking for; sea stories. And they only need

to be as true as a sea story ALWAYS is!

So send something in. Here are the rules (or not, whatever):

1. We can use your name or not: your choice just let me know.
2. Grammar and spelling DO NOT COUNT. I will edit and change just enough to make it somewhat readable!
3. Remember, this is from "boat" sailors to "boat" sailors. BUT, since this publication may fall into skimmer hands (or worse, decent civilians!) I may have to substitute punctuation marks in place of letters in certain words, as in the title.
4. There is absolutely no limit on how many you can send in. I will publish AT LEAST one each month as we get them.

So send them to:

Chuck Emmett  
[communications@perch-base.org](mailto:communications@perch-base.org)  
 or  
 7011 West Risner Road  
 Glendale, AZ 85308.



**SHIPMATE TO SHIPMATE  
 STORIES THAT ARE  
 "ABSOLUTLY, POSITIVELY, THE TRUTH!"**

Now this ain't sh\*t but: There we were Up North. We had been there six weeks. You know Up North... Look if I have to tell you ... I'd have to kill you. Anyway being a Diesel boat we had to come up or at least get our Snorkel up to charge our batteries and grab some air. At the same time we would send up the antenna to have a look around. Sure enough there they would be randomly flying around looking for us. You could hear them searching:

Normal sweep . . . . . Beep . . . . . Beep . . . . . Beep --- possible contact, narrow sweep . . . . Beep . . . . Beep . . . . Beep . . . . Beep . . . . Beep -- Contact! Beep . Beep . Beep . Beep . Buzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz

Locked on and closing fast and down we'd go and so the game continued night after night. Tired, dirty, smelly and out of breathable air we finally turned for Home

Hence my story. It was about 0200 hours and we were just off the coast of Florida heading home (Key West). Most of the crew was asleep lulled there by the steady hum of the engines full on three. Occasionally over the 27MC system you would hear the quartermaster sending up to the bridge a small course correction. This interaction went on for awhile when all of a sudden the Lieutenant JG on the bridge called out in a loud Panic voice:

"Quartermaster – Bridge. What are these Lights off our starboard bow?"

With a calm voice came the reply, "That's US1, DON'T GET ON IT."

You see our quartermaster knew the Golf Stream's eddy currents had been inching us closer and closer to shore all night long thus taking advantage of the 6 knot push south. All this so we could arrive in Key West as early as possible in the morning.

We had come so close that the Lieutenant JG with his naked eye could clearly see the car lights driving up and down US1 the Keys' highway.

(submitted by Shipmate Daniel Reel)



## Eternal Patrol December 17, 1927

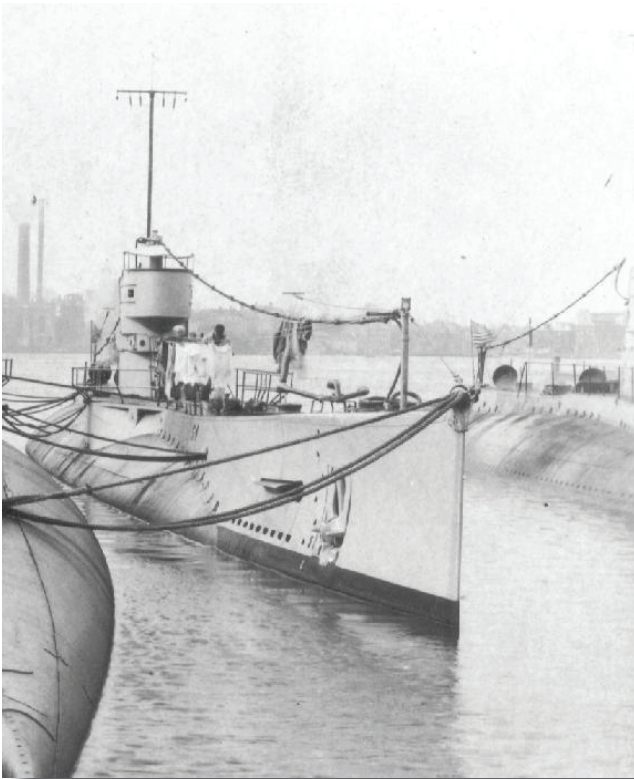
Editors Note: Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.

### The Final Patrol

Lord, this departed shipmate with dolphins on his chest  
Is part of an outfit known as the best.  
Make him welcome and take him by the hand.  
You'll find without a doubt he was the best in all the land.  
So, heavenly Father add his name to the roll  
Of our departed shipmates still on patrol  
Let them know that we who survive  
Will always keep their memories alive.



### USS S-4 (SS-109) December 17, 1927 34 men lost



Class and type: S-class submarine, Type II  
Displacement: 876 tons (surf.), 1,092 tons (sub)  
Length: 231'; Beam: 21'10", Draft: 13'4"  
Speed: 15 kn (surf.), 11 kn (sub.), Test depth: 200 ft  
Range: 5,000 naut. miles at 10 knots surfaced  
Propulsion: 2 × M.A.N diesels, 1,000 hp each;  
2 × Westinghouse electric motors, 600 hp (447 kW) each;  
120-cell Exide battery; two shafts  
Bunkerage: 148 tons oil fuel  
Complement: 42 officers and men  
Armament: 1 × 4 in (100 mm) deck gun  
4 × 21 in (530 mm) torpedo tubes

USS S-4 (SS-109) was an S-class submarine of the United States Navy. In 1927, she was sunk by being accidentally rammed by a Coast Guard destroyer with the loss of all hands but was raised and restored to service until stricken in 1936.

Her keel was laid down on 4 December 1917 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard in Kittery, Maine. She was launched on 27 August 1919 sponsored by Mrs. Herbert S. Howard, and commissioned on 19 November 1919 with Lieutenant Commander Percy K. Robottom in command.

Following acceptance trials, a visit to Havana, Cuba from 14-19 January 1920, and subsequent operations along the

Gulf of Mexico and New England coasts, S-4 departed New London, Connecticut on 18 November to rendezvous off New Hampshire with her assigned unit — Submarine Divisions 12 (SubDiv 12) — and SubDiv 18. The two divisions were about to embark on a historic voyage which, at that time, was to be the longest cruise undertaken by American submarines. Assigned to Submarine Flotilla 3 of the Asiatic Fleet at Cavite in the Philippine Islands, they sailed via the Panama Canal and Pearl Harbor and arrived at Cavite on 1 December 1921.

S-4 operated out of the Cavite Naval Station, with occasional visits to Chinese ports, until late 1924, when the two divisions were reassigned to the West Coast. Departing Cavite on 29 October, they arrived at Mare Island, California on 30 December.

Remaining at Mare Island in 1925, she operated along the West Coast through 1926, mainly at San Francisco, San Pedro, and San Diego. She departed Mare Island on 10 February 1927 and sailed to the Panama Canal Zone, where she operated through March-April, then proceeded to New London, Connecticut, arriving on 3 May. For the remainder of the year, she operated off the New England.

On 17 December, while surfacing from a submerged run over the measured-mile off Cape Cod near Provincetown,

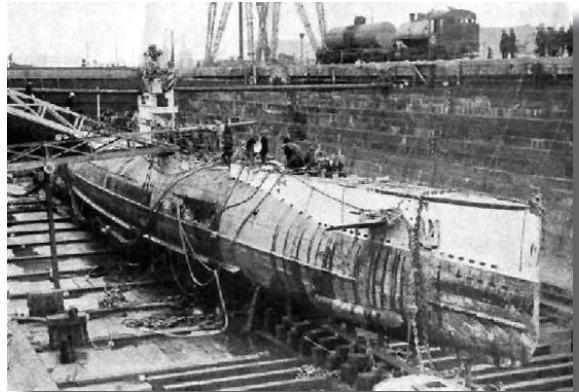
Massachusetts, she was accidentally rammed and sunk by the Coast Guard destroyer Paulding.

Paulding stopped and lowered life boats, but found only a small amount of oil and air bubbles. Rescue and salvage operations were commenced, only to be thwarted by severe weather. Heroic efforts were made to rescue six known survivors trapped in the forward torpedo room, who had exchanged a series of signals with divers, by tapping on the hull. As the trapped men used the last of available oxygen in the sub, a diver placed his helmeted ear to the side of the vessel and received this morse-coded message, "Is ... there ... any ... hope?" Sadly, there was no reason for hope and all six men perished.

The six men who were trapped were:

- Lieutenant Graham N. Fitch
- Torpedoman's Mate Russell A. Crabb
- Seaman Joseph L. Stevens
- Seaman George Pelham
- Torpedoman's Mate Roger L. Short
- Torpedoman's Mate Frank Snizek

Despite best efforts all were lost. One diver, Frank W. Crilley, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his work in rescuing another diver who became fouled in wreckage during the rescue efforts. S-4 was finally raised on 17 March 1928, by a salvage effort commanded by Captain Ernest J. King. Several of the salvage divers, including Eadie and Frank W. Crilley, were awarded the Navy Cross for their actions during the operation. The submarine was towed to the Boston Navy Yard for dry-docking and was decommissioned on 19 March.



S-4 was recommissioned on 16 October, after repairs and conversion to a test vessel for submarine rescue experimentation. She served at Key West, Florida early in 1929-1930, and in the northeast during the remainder of those years. In 1931, she operated again at New London until departing there on 3 January 1932 for Pearl Harbor. Sailing via the Panama Canal, she arrived at Pearl Harbor on 29 August. On 7 April 1933, S-4 was decommissioned and laid up. She was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 15 January 1936 and destroyed on 15 May by sinking.

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**That's Odd . . .**

**Fact #1: Let's be Fair (again)**

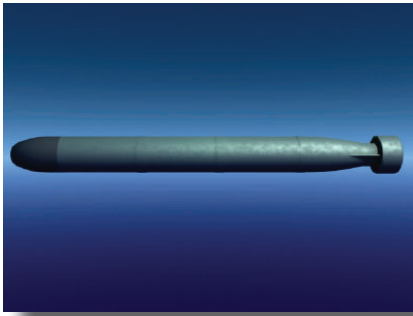
Although he was considered for service in World War II, John Wayne did not serve, causing some to call him a coward who used his celebrity influence to avoid service. In truth, he had a perforated eardrum and four children, so he was ineligible in any case.

**Fact #2: I'll Fly Away**

The French purchased aircraft from the Wright Brothers for scouting before the United States did.

**Fact #3: The One, the Proud**

During the 1900 Boxer Rebellion, a US Marine Private named Daniel Daly volunteered to crawl along a wall for 100 yards to snipe at any Chinese who attempted to exploit a vulnerable flank while a barricade was erected. During the night, as Chinese tried to infiltrate the shaky perimeter, Daly cut them down one at a time with expert rifle fire. When they almost overran his position, in which he was the only man defending, he fought with his bayonet and rifle butt against great odds. Not a single Chinese got past him. The next morning, his comrades found him, alone and unhurt, surrounded by the bodies of dozens of Chinese he killed himself. He got the Medal of Honor for this feat. He got a second for his actions in Haiti in 1915. He was later nominated for a third.



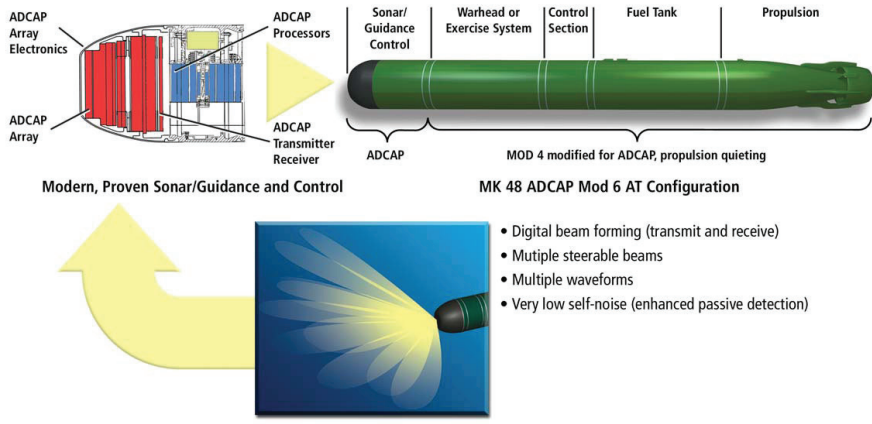
# MARK 48 ADCAP TORPEDO

THE HEAVYWEIGH THAT WORKS IN SEVERAL NAVYS

The Mark 48 and its improved ADCAP (Advanced Capability) variant are heavyweight submarine-launched torpedoes. They were designed to sink fast, deep-diving nuclear-powered submarines and high-performance surface ships.

The Mk-48 torpedo was designed in the end of the 1960s to keep up with the advances in Soviet submarine technology. Operational since 1972, it replaced the Mk-37 and Mk-14 torpedoes as the principal weapon of U.S. Navy submarines. With the entry into service of the new Soviet Alfa class submarine in 1979, the decision was made to accelerate the ADCAP program, which would bring significant modifications to the torpedo.

Type:	Heavyweight torpedo
Service history:	
In service:	1972–present (original), 1988–present (ADCAP) 2008-present Mod 7 (Common Broadband Advanced Sonar System [CBASS])
Production history:	
Manufacturer:	Gould/Honeywell (original), Hughes Aircraft (ADCAP)
Unit cost:	\$894,000 (US\$ 1978) \$3,500,000 (ADCAP) (US\$ 1988)
Specifications:	
Weight:	3,434 lb (original), 3,695 lb (ADCAP)
Length:	19 ft
Diameter:	21 in
Effective range:	23 miles at 55 kt, officially "greater than 5 miles"
Warhead:	650 lbs. high explosive plus unused fuel, proximity fuze
Engine:	swash-plate piston engine; pump jet
Propellant:	Otto fuel II
Maximum depth:	500 fathoms, officially "greater than 1200 ft"
Speed:	55 kt (estimated), officially "greater than 28 kt"
Guidance system:	Common Broadband Advanced Sonar System

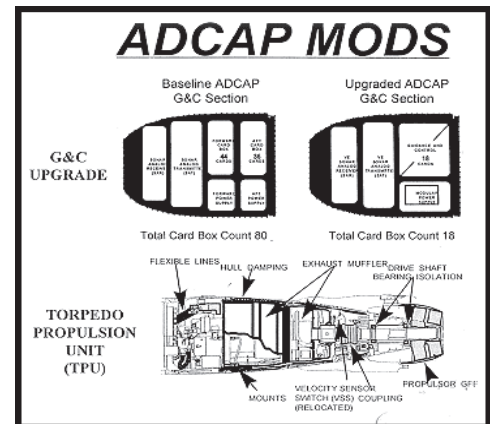


Tests were run to ensure that the weapon could keep on with the developments and the weapon was modified with improved acoustics and electronics. The new version of the weapon, also known as Mk-48 Mod 4, was extensively tested and production started in 1985, with entry into service in 1988. From then on, various upgrades have been added to the torpedo, of which the current version is the Mk-48 Mod 6, a mod 7 version was test fired in 2008 in the Rim of Pacific Naval exercises. The inventory of the U.S. Navy is 1,046 Mk-48 torpedoes.

The Mk-48 torpedo is designed to be launched from submarine torpedo tubes. The weapon is carried by all U.S. Navy submarines, including Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines, Seawolf, Los Angeles and Virginia class attack submarines. It is also used on Canadian, Australian and Dutch submarines. The Royal Navy elected not to buy the Mark 48, preferring to use the Spearfish instead.

Mk-48 and Mk-48 ADCAP torpedoes can be guided from a submarine by wires attached to the torpedo. They can also use their own active or passive sensors to execute programmed target searches, acquisition and attack procedures. The torpedoes are designed to detonate under the keel of a surface ship, breaking the ship's back and destroying its structural integrity. In the event of a miss, it can circle back for another attempt.

The swash plate piston engine is fueled by Otto fuel II, a monopropellant







On Monday, June 14, 1999, the Australian Collins class submarine HMAS Farncomb fired a Mark-48 war-shot torpedo at the 28-year-old former Destroyer Escort Torrens. The firing was part of the Collins class trials requirements and was designed to validate the submarine's combat system. The submerged Farncomb fired the Mark-48 torpedo at the stationary hulk of the 2700-ton Destroyer Escort from over the horizon. The plume of water and fragments shot some 150 meters skyward as the blast of the torpedo cut the ship in two. The stern section sank rapidly after the torpedo hit; the bow section remained afloat, but sank sometime later.

The torpedo warhead contains explosive power equivalent to approximately 1200 pounds of TNT. This explosive power is maximized when the warhead detonates below the keel of the target ship, as opposed to striking it directly. When the detonation occurs below the keel, the resulting pressure wave of the explosion "lifts" the ship and can break its keel in the process. As the ship "settles" it is then seemingly hit by a second detonation as the explosion itself rips through the area of the blast. This combined effect often breaks smaller targets in half and can severely disable larger vessels.

The Mark-48 torpedo used in this test is a variation of the MK-48 ADCAP (Advanced Capability) torpedo developed for the United States Navy.

that decomposes into hot gas when ignited, which drives the engine. The thrust is generated by a propulsor assembly.

The torpedo's seeker has an active electronically-steered "pinger" that helps avoid having to maneuver as it closes with the target. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the torpedo's sensors can monitor surrounding electrical and magnetic fields. This may refer to the electromagnetic coils on the warhead (at least from 1977 to 1981), used to sense the metallic mass of the ship's hull and detonate at the proper stand-off distance.

The torpedo has been the subject of continued improvement over its service lifetime. In the 1990s, a Mod 6 variant of the ADCAP provided much improved noise isolation from the engine, which makes this torpedo more difficult to detect by a potential target.

The Mk48 Mod 7 Common Broadband Advanced Sonar System (CBASS) torpedo is optimized for both the deep and littoral waters and has advanced counter-countermeasure capabilities. The MK48 ADCAP Mod 7 (CBASS) torpedo is the result of a Joint Development Program with the Royal Australian Navy and reached Initial Operational Capability in 2006.

On July 25, 2008 a MK 48 Mod 7 CBASS torpedo fired by an Australian Collins-class submarine successfully sank a test target during the Rim of the Pacific 2008 (RIMPAC) exercises.



**Return To:**

U. S. Submarine Veterans, Perch Base  
7011 West Risner Road  
Glendale, AZ 85308  
E-Mail: [communications@perch-base.org](mailto:communications@perch-base.org)

<http://www.perch-base.org>



**NEXT MEETING**

12 noon, Saturday, December 11, 2010  
American Legion Post #105  
3534 W. Calavar Rd., Phoenix, 85053  
(1/2 block northwest, 35th Ave. & Thunderbird)