

# Arizona Sub Vets Perch Base

## Midwatch

March 2000  
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### Arizona Sub Vets, Perch Base Officers

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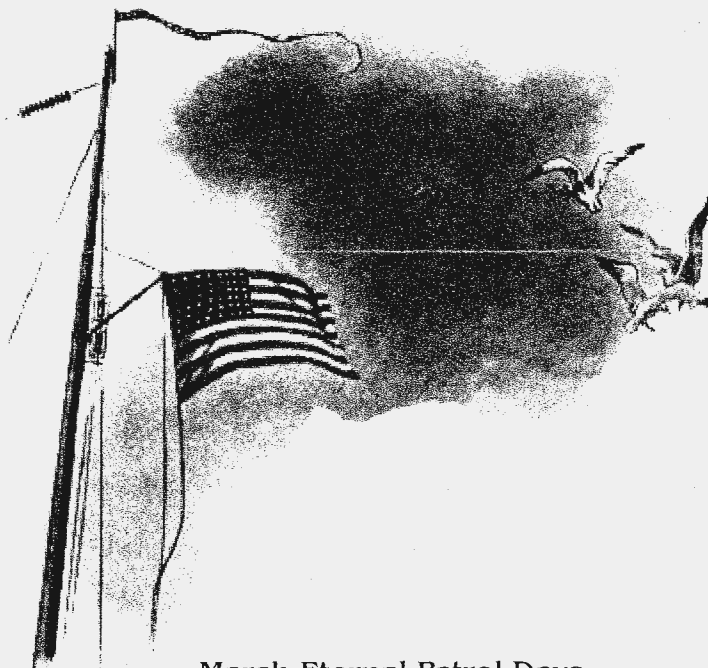
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### March Eternal Patrol Days:

USS PERCH (SS176)	Mar 3, 1942	11 men lost (6 as POW's)
USS GRAMPUS (SS207)	Mar 5, 1943	(all) 71 men lost
H1 SEAWOLF (SS28)	Mar 12, 1920	4 men lost
USS TRITON (SS201)	Mar 15, 1943	(all) 74 men lost
USS KETE (SS369)	Mar 20, 1945	(all) 87 men lost
F4 (SS23)	Mar 25, 1915	(all) 21 men lost
USS TULLIBEE (SS284)	Mar 26, 1944	(all) 79 men lost
USS TRIGGER (SS237)	Mar 26, 1945	(all) 80 men lost

*Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol*

## From The Wardroom



Recently, I had the pleasure of reading one of the best editorials that I have ever read regarding the United States, and this from a foreigner. I only wish the whole world would read it. America is always looked at as the "bad guy" and is continually blamed for every other country's woes, regardless of what we do to help. We get little or no respect from foreign countries or their citizens, and certainly no "thank you's" and it really ticks me off.

The remarkable editorial is entitled: "Tribute to the United States". It was printed in the Congressional Record, and was broadcast from Toronto by Gordon Sinclair, a well-known and respected television commentator, and was then carried in Canadian newspapers.

"This Canadian thinks it is time to speak up for the Americans as the most generous and possibly the least appreciated people on Earth. Germany, Japan, and to a lesser extent, Britain and Italy were lifted out of the debris of war by the Americans who poured in billions of dollars and forgave other billions in debts. Not once, but twice. None of those countries are today paying even the interest on its remaining debts to the United States.

When the franc was in danger of collapsing in 1956, it was the Americans who propped it up, and their reward was to be insulted and swindled on the streets of Paris. I was there. I saw it. When earthquakes hit distant foreign cities, it is the United States that hurries to help. This spring, 59 American communities were flattened by tornadoes. Nobody helped.

The Marshall Plan and the Truman Policy pumped billions of dollars into discouraged countries. Now newspapers in those countries are writing about the decadent, warmongering Americans. I'd like to see just one of those countries that is gloating over the erosion of the United States dollar build its own airplane. Does any other country in the world have a plane equal to the Boeing Jumbo Jet, the Lockheed Tri-Star of the Douglas DC10? If so, why don't they fly them? Why do all the international lines except Russia fly American Planes? Why does no other land on earth even consider putting a man or woman on the moon? You talk about Japanese technology, and you get radios. You talk about German technology, and you get automobiles. You talk about American technology and you find men on the moon - not once, but several times - and safely home again.

Foreigners talk about American scandals, yet the Americans put there's right in the store window for everyone to look at. Even their draft-dodgers are not pursued and hounded. They are here on our streets and most of them, unless they are breaking Canadian laws, are getting American dollars from Mom and Dad in America to spend here. When the railways of France, Germany and India were breaking down through age, it was the Americans who rebuilt them.

When the Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central went broke, nobody even loaned them an old caboose. Both are still broke.

I can name you 5000 times when the Americans raced to help other people in trouble. Can you name

me even one time when someone else raced to the Americans in trouble? I don't think there was outside help even during the San Francisco earthquake. Our neighbors have faced it alone, and I'm one Canadian who is damned tired of hearing them get kicked around. They will come out of this Clinton/Lewinsky thing with their flag high. And when they do, they are entitled to thumb their nose at the lands that are gloating over their present troubles. I hope Canada is not one of those.

Stay proud Americans, at least ONE foreigner likes us.

## Submarine Centennial - Year Long Celebration Begins

The Secretary of the Navy has designated the year 2000 as a Centennial Celebration to commemorate the collective history and heritage of the U.S. Submarine Force. The Centennial will serve to recognize the great personal sacrifices and heroic acts of the Submarine Force throughout the past century, thereby acknowledging the many important innovative technology advances made by American industry, that have enabled the successful development of the most potent, multi-mission, stealth strike submarine in the world today. To help our shipmates celebrate this proud heritage, a new web site dedicated exclusively to Submarine Centennial merchandise, has been set up. You can visit it at: [www.submarinecentennial.com](http://www.submarinecentennial.com)

## Boat Reunions

A hurry up call: The "B Girls" . . . **BARBEL (SS580)**, **BLUEBACK (SS581)**, and the **BONEFISH (SS582)** are holding their Reunion and Submarine Centennial Celebration over the National Submarine "Birthday", April 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, in Portland, Oregon. The host hotel is the Double Tree Jantzen Beach, 909 No. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, Oregon (800) 222-TREE. Make reservations direct NOW. Rates \$89 1-4 people. Upgrades available . . . request smoke/no smoke.

Contact Shipmate **Larry Krieger** in Prescott (520) 778-0069 for particulars. A slew of boats are holding reunions this year. It would be impossible for me to list all. However, I recommend you check out your copies of American Submariner. The WWII's *Polaris*, or go to the following web sites:

1. Reunions that are not in conjunction with USSVI Convention:

[ussvi.org/reunion.htm](http://ussvi.org/reunion.htm)

2. Reunions that are happening at the Convention:

[ussvi.org](http://ussvi.org) and scroll down to Convention or select from Index.

3. A total military reunion site is at:

[thewall-usa.com/reunion/index.html](http://thewall-usa.com/reunion/index.html)

Navy Ceremony Recognizes Sacrifice of Submariners  
*From the "Virginia Pilot", January 25, 2000.*

NORFOLK - The two women reached for each other, as they've done so many times before, when the hymn gently unfolded. "Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm does bind the restless wave . . ." Theresa Bishop and Joan Cowan fastened arms around each other's waists and remembered the day in 1968 when

they found out they were submariner's widows. Their husbands were among the 99 crew members who lost their lives aboard the **SCORPION (SSN589)**, the last submarine lost in the Navy's silent service.

At a ceremony Monday to open the Centennial Celebration of the submarine community, the women's presence was testimony to the fact that the sub force does things differently. That they honor ALL.

Later this year, there will be time for the flourish and proclamations of the kind regularly practiced by their brethren in the surface and air Navy / The tight-knit men of the sub force will set aside their normally low-key demeanors and boast of their world-changing accomplishments. But on a drizzly afternoon at a small chapel on the Atlantic Fleet compound, the submariners knelt before the altar of history to pay tribute to their shipmates who have died in the silent service.

For the submariners and the loved ones of those who died, the words of the Navy Hymn touch especially deep because loss is so much a part of their history. During World War II, nearly one in four submariners - 3,500 all told - perished. Few, if any, segments of the military suffered a greater rate of loss. But the submarine casualties were overshadowed by their successes. With just 2 percent of U.S. military personnel, the subs sank more than half the Japanese shipping destroyed during the war. The Cold War had its own share of perils and accomplishments. There was the loss of the Scorpion and, five years earlier, the Thresher, in which 129 died. And U.S. subs, by constantly outmaneuvering the Soviet Union's boats, were key to undermining that nation's costly efforts for a leg up in the nuclear arms race. For that, they won wide credit for speeding along the Soviet breakup.

Vice Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani, commander of the Atlantic Fleet's sub force, embraced both eras in his remarks. "Young submariners in our audience today," he implored, "never forget the heritage you came from . . . bonded together by conflict and adversity and victory." The message was gratefully received by a few dozen old men squeezed into two pews of the chapel. They were dressed in blue vests and yellow shirts, the "uniform" of their group, the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. Bill Wolfe was on the sub **SARGO** in the Pacific when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. "We fired 13 fish on our first patrol and didn't hit a thing." But in the months to come, the **SARGO** learned to hunt. Wolfe made nine patrols in the sub. Asked which times were most frightening, he replied, "All of them."

Every time the sub's diving alarm sounded and explosions went off overhead he said, "I'd lose my appetite and couldn't eat for three days." After being submerged for weeks at a time, "you couldn't keep a cigarette lit or light one - not enough oxygen. "It wasn't any fun, but we laugh about it now. But I doubt seriously if we'd go through it again knowing what we know now." He paused and thought it over again. "I probably would", he said. "We all probably would."

Theresa Bishop's husband, Walter, the **SCORPION'S COB** felt the same devotion. Knowing that has helped tide the Norfolk woman through the painful memories

"What could have been, what was." When their oldest son decided to become a submariner, she didn't

argue. Now he is at the same point of his career, just under 20 years, as his father was when he died. After Monday's ceremony, standing beside Cowan, of Virginia Beach, Theresa Bishop smiled and said she understood why.

### Shipmates

This month, in keeping with the sentiment of the above moments, we have TWO columns entitled "Shipmate" that I felt obliged to pass on. The first was written by ex-Navy Seal, Jim Lampman, and submitted by Shipmate **Frank Rumbaugh**:

When I think of a shipmate, I think of that Sailor who works side by side with me every day. It's that Sailor who shares the rough times, as well as the good times. It's that same Sailor who goes to general quarters and battle stations with you when tragedy strikes; and that same sailor that you will entrust with your life. Shipmates are those sailors with whom you make lifetime friendships that cannot be compared to anything. There is no other job comparable to the U.S. Sailor. We have put our lives in harm's way for what we believe in. We have sacrificed time away from our families and loved ones when the rest of the world is working 9 to 5 and going home to their loved ones. That individual word "shipmate", means so much to me. So next time you hear a Sailor call someone "shipmate" know it is the highest compliment. He is saying "we are friends". I take the word "shipmate" very seriously. I take it with pride and honor along with all Sailors before us who served our country with honor, courage and commitment. We have passed on this tradition with meaning and sacrifice. Always be proud of who and what you are. Never dishonor yourself or your SHIPMATES!

The second "Shipmates" was received via e-mail from both Groton and Cyberspace USSVI Bases and has an interesting premise. It reads:

Just to keep you informed on a project that both Cyberspace and Groton Base are presently involved in. Both Base Commanders, John Carcioppolo and Dan Hamison have sent letters to COMSUBLANT and COMSUBPAC requesting that all submariners who were on lost boats, that never had to opportunity to finish qualifications, be designated as qualified in Submarines. Obviously, they can't be given dolphins but their designation can certainly be changed to SS. We feel that they rightly deserve that recognition. We are asking for this to coincide with the Submarine Force Centennial 11 April. Since COMSUBLANT and COMSUBPAC are controlling authorities for awarding of Dolphins, they would be the ones to take the appropriate action or pull the right strings to make it happen. Some members have said that they don't think this is a good idea. Others have rallied behind us and think it's the right thing to do.

Below are the letters that both Base Commanders have sent. Base Commanders, if you and your bases are behind this, you are more than welcome to show your support by doing the same and either using our letter, or doing up your own letter. It's up to you. No one is forcing you to do this. We are just sharing information of what we are doing." A very touching letter then follows about their supreme sacrifice.

### Commander's Comments:

It's interesting, here we have two different "shipmate" letters with very similar profiles. Both obviously hold "shipmates" in highest esteem. Yet Perch Base seems to be at odds on the second. Some of us feel we should honor those Submariners who lost their lives before having the opportunity to "qualify" with the honorary title of "SS" . . . others are vehemently opposed to it. Because of these differences of views, Perch Base must remain neutral. But what makes a shipmate. . . a shipmate? How much more can a submariner give . . . "qualified" or "not yet qualified" . . . than his life? I'm interested in your individual thoughts. Let me know how you feel on this subject.

### Lost Boats and Crews in March

Because this is the US Navy Submarine Centennial, I feel it appropriate that we not only mention those boats and crews on Eternal Patrol, but also give a short bio of each. It may make some of us realize just what our Tradition is all about.

**USS PERCH (SS176)** (Launched 9 May 1936) Lost 3 March 1942. 0 men lost, 6 (possibly 9) died as POW's.

**PERCH**, of course, is our base's namesake. On December 29, 1941, only 22 days after Pearl Harbor, **PERCH** received her first possible kill - a cargo vessel.

Enemy escorts began depth charging and prevented **PERCH** from observing the kill. Having repaired her damage in Darwin, **PERCH** headed south. In a night air attack, **PERCH** was hit forward of the Conning Tower which blew away the Bridge. Repairs at night were jury-rigged by the crew and the boat headed for the Java Sea in search of targets. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, **PERCH** surfaced off Java and began an attack on an enemy convoy. Two enemy destroyers attacked and drove her down with a string of deadly depth charges which forced her to bottom at 135 feet, causing extensive damage. With her starboard engines out of commission and the ship flooding, **PERCH** surfaced at 0200 only to be again driven down by enemy destroyers. The loss of oil and air from damaged ballast tanks, convinced the Japs that **PERCH** was sunk. Surfacing with her decks awash and only one engine operating, the boat limped along in open sea toward Surabaya. During the early morning of March 3, a test dive was made with almost fatal results. Expert handling and good luck enabled her to surface from that dive, only to be attacked by three Jap destroyers. When the enemy shells commenced, the commanding officer ordered all hands on deck, and with all possible hull openings open, Perch made her last dive. The entire crew was captured by one of the Japanese destroyers, transferred to landside Jap forces, the men were ruthlessly grilled, tortured, starved, then taken to the Ashio mines for hard labor until the end of the war. There, although figures differ, 6 or 9 men perished while 53 miraculously survived.

**GRAMPUS (SS207)** (Launched December 23, 1940) Lost March 5, 1943. 71 men lost.

In company with the **GRAYBACK**, **GRAMPUS** departed Brisbane on February 11, 1943 for her sixth

war patrol from which she failed to return. Jap seaplanes reported sinking a submarine on February 18 in **GRAMPUS** patrol area, but **GRAYBACK** reported seeing **GRAMPUS** in that area on March 4<sup>th</sup>. On March 5, two Jap destroyers, themselves sunk two days later, conducted an attack where a heavy oil slick was sighted the following day, indicting **GRAMPUS** may have been involved in a night attack or gun battle with the destroyers. The manner of her disappearance remains a mystery. **GRAMPUS** received three battle stars for her World War II services.

**H1 (SS28) (ex-SEAWOLF)** (Launched May 6, 1913) Lost March 20, 1920, 4 men lost.

While on salvage operations in rough seas, the H-1 grounded in Magdalena Bay, Mexico. For twelve hours the boat clung to the reef while hurricane-like swells battered her. Foundering helplessly, she took on water and four men drowned.

**TRITON (SS201)** (Launched March 25, 1940, Lost March 15, 1943, 74 men lost

On February 16, **TRITON** began her 6<sup>th</sup> war patrol off Rebaul. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, the submarine attacked a convoy and sank one cargo ship and damaged another. One of her torpedoes made a circular run, and **TRITON** crash-dived to evade it. She encountered another convoy on the night of March 8 and scored five hits.

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, **TRITON** was warned that there were enemy destroyers in her area looking for American Submarines. On March 15<sup>th</sup> **TRIGGER** reported that she had attacked a convoy and had been depth charged. Even though attacks ceased, she could still hear distant depth charging going off for about an hour. No further messages from **TRITON** were ever received. Postwar examination of Japanese records revealed that on March 15, 1943, three Japanese destroyers attacked a submarine a little northwest of **TRITON'S** assigned area and subsequently observed an oil debris and items with American markings. **TRITON** received five battle stars for her World War service.

**USS KETE (SS369)** (Launched April 9, 1944), Lost March 20, 1945, 87 men lost.

**KETE** left Guam March 1<sup>st</sup> 1945 for her second war patrol. Assigned to waters around the Nansei Shoto, Japan, she resumed lifeguard duty and gathered weather for the forthcoming invasion of Okinawa. On the night of March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, she surprised an enemy convoy and torpedoed three marks totaling 6,881 tons. During the night of March 14<sup>th</sup>, she attacked and sunk a cable-laying ship. With only three torpedoes remaining, she was ordered to Midway, and proceed to Pearl Harbor for refit. Kete acknowledged these orders on March 19<sup>th</sup>, while streaming eastward the following day, she sent in a weather report from a position south of Colnett Strait. She was never heard from again. The cause could have been an operational malfunction, a mine explosion or enemy action.

**F4 (SS23) (ex-SKATE)** (Launched January 6, 1912) Lost

March 25, 1915, 21 men lost.

Operating in the Pacific prior to America's entry into WWI, F-4 ran into rough weather off Honolulu and started to take in sea water. An hour later she foundered, going down with all hands. She was raised five months later. No further data available.

**TULLIBEE (SS284)** (Launched November 11, 1942), Lost March 26, 1944, 79 men lost, 1 rescued.

On March 5<sup>th</sup> **TULLIBEE** left Pearl to begin her fourth war patrol. Nine days later, she topped off her fuel at Midway and then proceeded to her patrol area. On station on March 26, she made contact with a Jap convoy consisting of a large cargo ship, two medium sized freighters, a destroyer, and two escorts. In close, **TULLIBEE** fired two torpedoes at her target. About two minutes later, the submarine was rocked by a violent explosion. Gunners Mate C. W. Kukyendall was thrown into the water. When he, the sole survivor, regained consciousness, his submarine was gone. Apparently, one of her own torpedoes ran a circular course and sank her own boat. **TULLIBEE** received three battle stars for her World War II service.

**TRIGGER (SS237)**, Launched October 22, 1941), Lost March 26, 1945. 80 men lost

**TRIGGER** left Guam on March 11, 1945 to begin her 12<sup>th</sup> war patrol and headed for the Nansei Shoto area. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, she attacked a convoy, sinking a cargo ship and severely damaging another. The attack was reported on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and the submarine was subsequently ordered to radio as many movements of the convoy as possible to help find a safe passage for submarines though a known mine area of the East China Sea. A weather report was received from **TRIGGER** on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup>. The report was **TRIGGER's** last. Post war records indicate that she torpedoed and sank repair ship Odate on March 27<sup>th</sup>. The next day, Japanese planes and ships joined in a two-hour attack on a submarine in that location.

Dues....Dues....Dues

IN ORDER TO STAY IN GOOD STANDING, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> IS THE DEADLINE TO PAY BOTH YOUR NATIONAL AND PERCH BASE DUES OF \$20 FOR 2000. FOUR MEN HAVE STILL NOT PAID AND ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. REINSTATEMENT MEANS ANOTHER APPLICATION AND A \$30 DUES FEE.

Perch Base Booster Club For 2000

I wish to thank the following members for their above and beyond financial assistance to our Base:

**Jerry Alliston, Ken Anderson, Joe Bernard, Wayne Braastad, Mike Brietner, Tom Burke, Jim Clewett, Roger Cousin, Earl Crowley, Steve Day, Jeff Duncan, Doug Eddy, Tom Fooshee, Lee Graybeal, Billy Grieves, Dave Harnish, Warren Grossetta, Glen Herold, Steve Hough, Jim Johns, John "Gully King" Lang, Hubie Maxey, Bob May, Jim Michaud, Roger Miller, Bob Mitchell, Bob Moore, Joe Mullins, Jim Nelson, Jim Newman, Joe Otreba, Tom Patterson, Royce Pettit, Scott Protero, Ray**

**Samson, Frank Rumbaugh, Joe Schwartz (Deceased), Tyler Smith, Adrian Stuke, Lou Tejera, Don Whitehead, Bob Wonsely, and Jerry Yowell.**

Should you care to make a contribution to this worthy cause, and in ANY amount, make your checks payable to "USSVI Perch Base", indicate "for Booster" (for recognition) and send to **Bob May**, Treasurer (see front cover). As usual, if I missed anyone, I'll catch you next month.

Perch Base Calendar Of Events for 2000 (Mark Your Calendars):

- 11 March Meeting @ AMERICAN LEGION, GLENDALE (NEW LOCATION FOR THIS MEETING) 1300 hours.
- 09 April Submarine Centennial Day Picnic Encanto Park, in Phoenix
- 13 May Meeting @ DAV, Glendale 1300 hours.
- 29 May Memorial Day Services @ Veterans Cemetery. Phoenix Time (TBD)
- 10 Jun Meeting @ DAV, Glendale, 1300 hours.
- 08 Jul Meeting @ Prescott, American Legion (TBD)
- 12 Aug Meeting @ DAV, Glendale, 1300 hours.
- 09 Sep Base Picnic & Meeting @ Prescott (TBD)
- 14 Oct Meeting @ DAV, Glendale, 1300 hours.
- 11 Nov Meeting @ DAV, Glendale, 1300 hours. (Veteran's Day)
- ?? Dec Base Christmas/Hanukkah Party, Date TBD.

Another Sub WEBSITE

This one submitted by shipmate **Jerry Allston**:  
[www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/ships/submarines/sub100.htm](http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/ships/submarines/sub100.htm) (Are you kidding, Jerry?)

February Meeting Minutes (Will Be Sent Later)

Reminder Next Meeting -- NEW LOCATION

As an experiment of sorts, MARCH'S MEETING LOCATION will be relocated FROM the DAV TO the American Legion Post 29, at 6822 No. 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale, one block south of Glendale Avenue. Take I-17 to Glendale Avenue . . . head west to 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue then south 2 blocks. The Legion is on the left and parking is in a lot directly behind the post. For West Valley, just get to Glendale Avenue via Grand and follow the rest of the directions. A sign should lead you to the right meeting room. Please try to make this meeting, it's important for us to make a determination as to which location you prefer the DAV or the AL for future base meetings.

Meeting Attendance

In the past issues of Midwatch, I asked the membership to try to make as many meetings as possible this year as it marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force. February's meeting was a very well attended meeting with 25 members attending **Robie Robinson** (formerly Montana Base), **Les Hillman** (formerly Bremerton Base) and **Warner H. Doyle**. Welcome Aboard Guys

Membership

In the last two months, we have signed up 5 new members which included two transfers from other bases. Incredible as it sounds, **Chuck Alaniva** moved to Minnesota.

New members are:

**Hellem, John T., ETC(SS)**, USN (Ret).

Qualified on **BLENNY (SS324)** in 1958.

John also served on **NAUTILUS (SSN571)**,

**TRITON (SSN586)**, **SCULPIN (SSN590)**,

**SEGUNDO (SS398)** and served nine years

assigned to the DSRV's. He is sponsored by **Jim**

**Clewett** and he and his wife, Joan, make their home in Gold Canyon, AZ.

**McComb, Dennis, Captain**, USN/USNR, (Ret).

Qualified on **ODAX (SS484)** in 1967. He

also served on the **COBBLER (SS344)**. Dennis is also the past Council Chairman of the USS Phoenix SSN702 Commission for the City of Phoenix, He and his wife, Karen, reside in Phoenix. Dennis is sponsored by **Roger Cousin** and he and his wife, Karen, live in Phoenix.

**Doyle, Warner H., MMI(SS)**.

Qualified on the **M. G. VALLEJO**

**(SSBN658)** in 1973. He has also served on USS NEREUS (AS-17) and as an instructor at the Nuclear Power Training Unit in Idaho for the S1W and AIW prototypes. Warner is currently working at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and is sponsored by **Don Wannamaker**. He and his wife, Dalene, make their home in Goodyear.

**Robinson Bruce D., MMCM(SS)**, USN (Ret).

Transferred from the Montana Base. He

qualified on the **PATRICK HENRY (SSBN599)** IN

1961 and has also served on **HALIBUT**

**(SSN587)**, **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (SSBN640)**,

COMSUBRONs 14 and 16 and at the S5G

prototype in Idaho. Bruce is a Life Member and is sponsored by **Gary Patterson**. He and his wife, Marge, live in El Mirage.

**Hillman, Lester R., ETC(SS)** to **LT**, USN (Ret).

Transferred from the Bremerton Base. He

qualified on **BLACKFIN (SS322)** in 1952 and also

served on board **POMODON (SS486)**, **BREAM**

**(SS243)**, **ALEXANDER HAMILTON (SSBN617)**

and the **THOMAS EDISON (SSBN610)**. Les is a

Life Member and is sponsored by **Gary**

**Patterson**. He and his wife, Mildred, make their home in El Mirage next door to Bruce and Marge Robinson.

### Monthly Target Shooters

For all those interested in "plinking" at targets, whether it be pistol or rifle, we are planning a monthly "day at the range". The place will be Ben Avery Range on Carefree Highway just west of I-17. The time will be right after our Saturday monthly meetings, or about 3:30 P.M.. All those wishing to "torpedo" a few targets are invited. Ear protection is supplied. Bring weapons and rounds. We hope this becomes a monthly activity. All are welcome. Range fee is \$4.00. Supply your own rounds.

### Attention all Military Retirees:

You may wish to join the "Military Retiree Health

Care Equity Campaign" taking place at this time in hopes of improving health care for military retirees and their dependents. Don't hesitate . . . learn how you can help. If you have access to e-mail, contact [rhurley@subbasekb.navy.mil](mailto:rhurley@subbasekb.navy.mil) (Bob Hurley) or [GUMBA700@aol.com](mailto:GUMBA700@aol.com), or me, Roger Cousin - address on front cover.

### Convention 2000: The Whole Scoop

This year, thousands of veterans of our Navy's elite submarine service will be celebrating the 100-year anniversary of our U.S. Naval Submarine Force. The celebration will be held at the WWII National Convention in Phoenix, August 30 - September 2, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (contact Jack Richardson 623-546-9009 for particulars). And the USSVI celebration will take place at their convention in Atlantic City, October 16 - 20. The location of the USSVI Convention will be the Boardwalk Holiday Inn (headquarters). The Boardwalk Howard Johnson, International Howard Johnson Hotel, and the Tropicana Hotel and Casino all in Atlantic City are within short walking distance of each other. We are getting the same special pricing from the three hotels and the down payment requirements are much more reasonable with this new Casino. See enclosed Registration Form.

Boardwalk Howard Johnson \$91.60/night  
single or double (tax incl.)(Chelsea Ave. off Boardwalk)  
1-800-548-3030

International Howard Johnson \$80.40/night  
single or double (tax incl.) Chelsea Ave & Pacific Ave)  
(1 blk from Boardwalk HJ) 1-800-695-4685.

Tropicana Casino & Resort \$112.80/night single  
or double (tax incl.) (on the Boardwalk and Brighton  
Ave) (1 block from host hotel) 1-800-345-8767.

You must make your own Hotel Reservations and provide your own transportation. Rooms are allocated under United States Submarine Veterans Convention (or Reunion). (Cancellations will be accepted up to 48 hours in advance.)

You may fly into either Philadelphia International or Atlantic City International (ACI) airports depending on your carrier. At the Philly Airport you can take a train directly to Atlantic City (about a one hour ride). You can also arrange transportation at the "Ground Transportation Desk". RECOMMENDATION: Do it through your travel agent when you book your airline. BRING YOUR WIVES TO THIS ONE, GUYS . . . THEY'LL LOVE IT.

### Jim Newman's "Do You Know"

1). What United States submarine, while on patrol during World War II off the home islands of Japan got so close to land that the captain and crew were actually able to watch a horse race through the scope and photograph it?

2). During WWII what contributions to Japanese and antisubmarine warfare did U.S. Congressman Andrew Jackson make at a 1943 press conference in the U.S.?

3). How many emergency appendectomies were performed by Submarine Pharmacist Mates while at sea during World War II?

4). How many U.S. Submarines did the Japanese military claim to have sunk during WWII?

### Insights

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you . . . or if you prefer . . . .

The things that come to those who wait are what's left behind by Those Who Got There First.

### The Chaplains's Corner

Shipmate **Jim Strassels** (who is a CPA) is being considered for the job of National Treasurer. When it comes time to vote, think **Jim Strassels**. But on a more serious note, Jim recently underwent his fourth angiogram and angioplasty in his leg due to a breakdown of his arteries. Jim assures me all is now fine and we'll see him at this month's meeting. Shipmate **Tom Foosee** is still recovering from injuries incurred in an automobile accident in mid-December. His healing is slow, but steady, and he, too, is looking forward to making meetings soon.

### On The Lighter Side

Two Yeomen are in a hospital, lying on stretchers next to each other, outside the operating room. The first Yeoman leans over and asks, "What are you in here for?". The second Yeoman says, "I'm in here to get my tonsils out and at my age, I'm a little nervous." The first Yeoman says, "You've got nothing to worry about. I had that done when I was four. They put you to sleep and when you wake up, they give you lots of Jell-O and ice cream. It's a breeze!" The second Yeoman then asks, "What are you here for?" The first Yeoman says, "A circumcision." And the second Yeoman says, "Whoa! I had that done when I was born and I couldn't walk for a year.

### Some People are like Potatoes

Those who are content to watch while others think and work are called "Spec-Tators" Those who never help, but are gifted at finding fault and telling others how to do things are called . . "Comment-Tators". Those who cause problems by asking other to agree with them are called . . Agi-Tators

We don't have any potato heads among us, do we? NAAH! And speaking of potatoes, read this one from the Kangaroo Express:

### USS DARTER and DACE Memorial

Shipmate **Dave Carpenter** has been very active in publicizing this memorial and writes:

**DARTER/DACE** Memorial at the Marquette Maritime Museum in Marquette, Michigan, the hometown of Captain David H. McClintock, was held this past year. The Memorial commemorates both boats plus the achievements of Captains of D.H. McClintock and B.D. "Clagg" Claggett and the officers and crews of the **DARTER** and **DACE** and all WWII submariners. The memorial overlooks Lake Superior and Marquette's Harbor. The site can be viewed at:

[www.infomagic.com/~grog/Marquette.htm](http://www.infomagic.com/~grog/Marquette.htm)

Tax deductible donations for the Memorial can be mailed to: Marquette Maritime Museum, McClintock Exhibit, P.O. Box 1096, Marquette, MI 49855.

### Small Stores

Our Storekeeper, **Dave Harnish**, works very hard at making ship stores available to our membership. He has subvet hats, T-Shirts, golf shirts, belt buckles and a slew of other merchandise. Give him a call (phone number on front cover) or better yet, come to a meeting and see everything first hand.

### Answers to "Do You Know

- 1). The sub was the **USS GUARDFISH** under the command of CDR Klakring. When the pictures were made public, Klakring was mad. An honorary member of the New York State Racing Commission and Pimlico held a CDR Klakring Day. But, for the war effort on this patrol, between August 24 and September 4, 1942, Guardfish sank 5 enemy ships (16,709 tons) and severely damaged 4 others. **GUARDFISH** won the first Presidential Unit Citation.
- 2). Jackson, bragging to the press not to worry about American Submarines, as "the dumb Japanese didn't set their depth charges deep enough to reach our boats". This statement is thought to be responsible for the loss of TEN submarines and 800 men. After this, very little information concerning our submarine activities was ever released to the press . . hence, the term "Silent Service" was coined.
- 3). ELEVEN . . no word if the patients lived or died.
- 4). This one will floor you. 486 boats!, we lost 52.

### Perch Base Submarine Centennial Picnic

April marks the 100th birthday of the U.S. Submarine Navy and what better way for former submariners to celebrate this event than with a Perch Base picnic in beautiful Encanto Park in Phoenix. Encanto is the Central Park of Arizona which has boating, playgrounds, and an amusement park with rides for the kids, and tree lined walks along river banks for the oldies. I have reserved a romantic island sanctuary just for us...with grills and tables and restrooms very close by. Parking too is just across the bridge...about 150 yards away but, we must get there by 10 A.M. in order to get choice parking spots....Encanto fills up fast on weekends. The park is located on 15th Ave., between Thomas and McDowell and you enter the parking area by way of Encanto Blvd. . A map is being prepared and will either go out in a separate mailing, or in April's newsletter ( I hope ). Please let me know if you're coming, and with how many guests. Guests will be charged \$6.00 each...members wife and children FREE but will be asked to furnish a side dish or buns, ice, etc. Those wishing to attend must contact **Roger Cousin** (front cover) by April 1st so that you can be told what to bring without the rest of the group duplicating your effort or falling short. DON'T WAIT til April 1st to reply... call NOW! P.S. BAKED BEANS and mayo made POTATO SALAD is already taken.

**U.S. Submarine Veterans  
Perch Base  
13754 W. Via Montoya  
Sun City West, AZ 85375**



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