



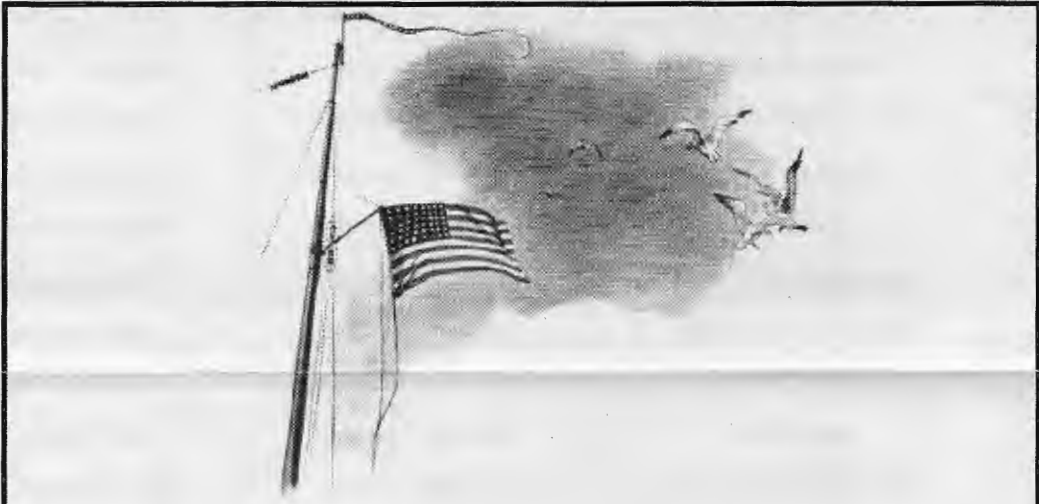
October 2006
Volume 12 - Issue 10



<http://perch-base.org>

**What's "Below Decks"
in the Midwatch**

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Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

OCTOBER ETERNAL PATROLS

USS Seawolf	SS197	Oct. 3, 1944	79 men
USS S-44	SS155	Oct. 7, 1943	55 men
USS O-5	SS66	Oct. 11, 1923	2 men
USS Wahoo	SS238	Oct. 11, 1943	80 men
USS Dorado	SS248	Oct. 12, 1943	76 men
USS Escola	SS294	Oct. 17, 1944	80 men
USS Darter	SS227	Oct. 24, 1944	none
USS Shark	SS314	Oct. 24, 1944	87 men
USS Tang	SS306	Oct. 24, 1944	78 men

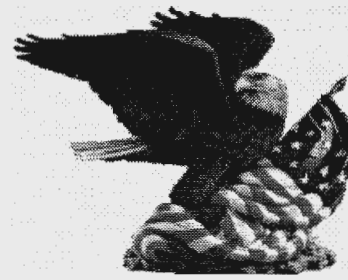
Don't miss
Thunderbird
Balloon Classic
see page 3

NO OCTOBER MEETING - SEE SAILING ORDERS

The Perch Base USSVI is not able to totally support itself financially on the dues collected from its members. There has, to date, been no successful and ongoing plan since the base was formed to produce any other steady and effective source of income. Therefore, the Base has relied on additional donations from members -- usually given at membership renewal -- for its survival. Listed below are those charitable givers, known as the Booster Club.



2006 Booster Club



A. H. "Bob" Nance	Adrian Stuke	Alan Miller	Billy Grieves
Bradley L. Butler	Bruce "Robie" Robinson	Butch DeShong	Charles Greene
Dave Harnish	David Carpenter	Doug LaRock	Edgar Brooks
Chuck Emmett	Joseph Hawkins	Edward J. Hawkins	Emil Schoonejans
F.J. "Ted" Asbell	Frank Rumbaugh	Gary Bartlett	George L. Crider
George Long	George Petrovitz	Glenn Herold	Harold C. Lister
Harry Heller	Jack R. McCarthy	James Denzien	James L. Wall
James W. Newman	Jerry N. Allston	Jim Nelson	John Cash
John Messersmith	John T. Hellem	John Zaichkin	Joseph Bernard
Kenneth Becker	Kenneth R. Anderson	L. A. "Mike" Keating	Lester Hillman
Mel Rycus	Paul V. Miller	Ray Samson	Raymond Marshall
Raymond Schaeffer	Reynaldo Atos	Richard Bernier	Richard Simmons
Robert A. Lancendorfer	Joe Oretaba	Robert Lents	Robert May
Roger Cousin	Roger M. Miller	Roger R. Miller	Ron Kloch
Ronald Beyer	Royce Pettitt	Stanley Rud	George Debo
Stephen Hough	Terry Martin	W. Scott Prothero	William L. McNay
Wayne K. Smith	Wayne Braastad	Walter Blomgren	Tim Moore
Thomas Moore	Stan Reinhold	Ronald Zomok	Robert Hanson
Ray Lee Graybeal	Milton Magart	Mike Simpson	Larry M. Rankin
Kenny Wayne	Ken Schonauer	Joseph R. Mullins	Jim Thomson
Jerry Yowell	James Edwards	Jack S. Kimball	Harry Ellis
Edward Wolf	Davy Jones	Darrell Lambert	Clair E. Prokupek
Buck Crouch	Joe Errante	Bob Gilmore	George Marions
Burtis Loftin	Layne Rumbaugh	Denny Kerton	Scott Fraser
Gerald Holloway	Nick Pappas	Wayne Pettes	John M. Welsh
Al Landeck			



BASE OFFICERS

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Tim Moore

5751 W. Bloomfield Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85304-1832
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Sailing Orders



**NO OCTOBER MEETING
(See Below)**

**Next Regular Meeting
Nov. 18, 2006**

**American Legion Post #105
3534 W Calavar Rd.
Phoenix, AZ**

**There will be no regular October
meeting**

**There will be a get together October
20-22 at Goodyear Airport.**

**We will be manning an information
booth, sponsored by Perch Base mem-
bers and the SubVettes.**

**WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!
ANYONE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER
THEIR TIME CONTACT:**

Stan Reinhold or Tim Moore

Gates open at:

Friday 2:00PM –9:00PM;

Saturday 6:00AM –9:00PM;

Sunday 6:00AM –4:00PM

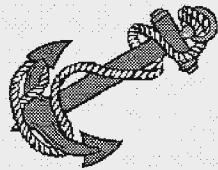
**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS
EVENT**

CLICK THE LINK BELOW

<http://www.thunderbirdballoonandairclassic.com/>



Sailing Orders



(Continued)

PERCH BASE ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

DECEMBER 9, 2006, 1730 HOURS TO 2200 HOURS

LUKE AFB DESERT STAR ENLISTED CLUB

DRESS CODE CASUAL

COST PER PERSON \$20.00

(Note: this covers meal and door prices cost)

MENU

**Tossed Greens, Tomatoes and Cucumbers with Ranch Dressing
Sliced London broil Au Jus with Roasted New Potatoes and Chef's Vegetables**

OR

**Roasted Stuffed Chicken Breast with Mushroom Gravy, Rice Pilaf and
Chef's Vegetables**

**Sensational Sweets Peanut Butter Pie, Freshly Baked Rolls with Butter
Coffee, Tea or Water**

No Host Bar 1730 to 2200 with dinner served at 1900. There will be a Cheese and Cracker plate available during the cocktail hour 1730 to 1900.

ALL RESERVATIONS NAMES, ADDRESSES AS THEY APPEAR ON YOUR PHOTO ID, MUST BE INTO DAVE HARNISH NLT DECEMBER 1, 2006 WITH PAYMENT IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOU AND GUEST NAMES AND ADDRESSES ARE ON THE ENTERANCE LIST THAT HAS TO BE SUPPLIED TO THE BASE SECURITY.

Please make checks payable to PERCH BASE and send to Dave Harnish with your menu selection at:

**Dave Harnish
6509 West Devonshire Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85033-3350
623-846-0367**

Email reservations will be acceptable to daveharnish@cox.net. Payment must be made prior to December 2, 2006. Payments and reservations can be made by mail to the above address. Reservations are limited so please make your reservations early. There will be dancing following the dinner and awards ceremony.

Robert Link Award

**Robert Link was the first National Commander of
United States Submarine Veterans**

This 2006 Robert Link Award is presented his name to the

PERCH BASE

*for community service, maintenance of WWII
Submarine Memorials and support of the
USSVI Scholarship Fund*

as well as other activities on behalf of the USSVI.

*Your Base's significant voluntary work on
memorial development and community recognition
has made a major impact on the success of our organization.*



**Perch Base Commander Tim Moore
accepts the award, on behalf of the
entire Base, from USSVI Western
Regional Director Dave Harnish .**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Changes of Address

If you have had an address change, please make sure the information gets updated on the USSVI data base. If you do not have updated mailing information you will not receive future issues of the **American Submariner** and are at risk of not receiving other important USSVI and local base mailings. Currently it is costing the magazine over \$3000.00 a year for returned mail because members have not been submitting **Changes of Address** or making the magazine aware of **Snowbird Status**. Addresses from all returned mail will be removed from the mailing list. You can update your information through the USSVI website or ask for assistance from your base membership chair. Don't get dropped from the *American Submariner* mailing list... keep your personal mailing information up to date so you can keep current on all future mailings.

Perch Base Inducts New Holland Club Member



Don't miss the November Base meeting (Nov. 18) for a Holland Club induction ceremony

"The requirement's for membership in the Holland Club is determined by Section 5 of the USSVI Constitution. Basically a member must be qualified 50 or more years, and is either, a life member and a member in good standing for one year, or an annual member in good standing for 5 consecutive years."



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!

(continued)

*** MIDWATCH NEWSLETTER ***

Article Submission Deadlines

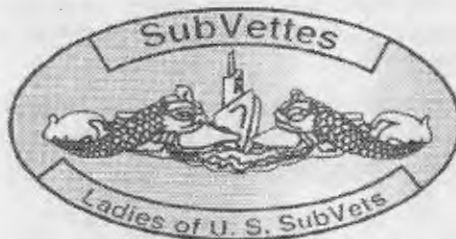
The deadlines for the next three Midwatch newsletters are as follows:

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
November 2006	Friday, Nov. 3rd
December 2006	Friday, Dec. 1st
January 2007	Friday, Jan. 5th

Please submit your articles by the deadlines indicated to make sure your articles are included and to assure the timely publication and distribution of the Midwatch. Thank you.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore, Commander, Perch Base USSVI



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, may I have your attention please.....

Your SubVettes organization is establishing a Kay E. Harnish Memorial Scholarship fund, to perpetuate her wonderful life and legacy to our local and national membership.

At this point we cannot offer a tax deduction, but hopefully we can at a later date.

Any donations will go toward any young ladies, deemed worthy of this award, so please be generous. Make any checks to the "SubVettes of Perch Base" and in the memo area, note that the funds are for Kay's Scholarship fund.

Please mail your heart-felt donations to:

Hiromi Povio, Treasurer
P.O. Box 815
Peoria, AZ 85380-0815

From the Wardroom

Congratulations!

Dear Shipmates,

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I, again this year, have the honor of sending out a congratulatory message to some of our shipmates. We were recognized for our efforts again at the USSVI National Convention. As is the case every year, there was a great deal of competition for awards that were distributed and Perch Base received the following:

Newsletter of the Year – 1st Place in our class.

Website of the Year – 2nd Place in our class.

Our Newsletter Editor Chuck Emmett and Webmaster Ray Samson again deserve a big time Bravo Zulu for the contributions to our organization and the USSVI. The fruits of their labor have been recognized at the national level and deservedly so. Way to go guys! We are lucky to have you on board.

Perch Base was also the recipient of another award. We can all be very proud that we received a Robert Link Award for bases this year. The Robert Link Award is the National Commander's Award and is second in significance to the Joe Negri Award. This was awarded to us for our work in maintaining our local WWII Submarine Memorial, our contribution to the scholarship fund and our involvement in other community activities. There are a number of you who continually avail yourselves in supporting these activities and this award is for you and you should be very proud. I know I am proud to have you as friends and shipmates, thank you for your faithful support. The Robert Link Award inscription is posted on the next page in this newsletter.

While I know that you have received e-mail announcements and will probably receive more as well as seeing the information in our newsletter, I also want to remind you that we will be participating in the Thunderbird Balloon & Air Classic in lieu of an October meeting. This event is Friday, October 20th through Sunday October 22nd and our Blue Angels are a featured attraction. We will have an information booth and our goal is to spread the word about our organization to the community and solicit new members for Perch Base, our SubVettes organization and the USSVI. There could be 60,000+ people attending this three day event and it is a wonderful opportunity for us to gain community recognition. Your base needs your support in assisting us in the booth. You can contact Stan Reinhold or me and we will plug you into the schedule. Please lend your support to this effort.

Lastly, I want to encourage you to join us at this year's Veteran's Day Parade to be held on, Saturday, 11 November 2006. It's a weekend so we should have a good turnout. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements about our schedule of activities for this event. Plan on being there... you'll be glad you did.

Fraternally,

Tim Moore, Commander, Perch Base USSVI

From Behind the Wardroom - SubVettes

Last month was very emotional and heart wrenching for all of us. Our good wishes go out to the Harnish family. We are also sending prayers to the Rumbaugh's and the Bernards.

Back to the business at hand, we will NOT have a September meeting, due to the function at Goodyear Airport. If any ladies want to participate you are welcome to help in the booth, I expect to be there on Saturday.

Hope you are able to attend our November meeting on the 18th at the Chowder House Restaurant at 12:30 p.m.

All my best to you and yours.

Nancy Nelson, President, SubVettes of Perch Base

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

September 2006 E-Board Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the E-Board of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1131 hours, 16 September 2006. Tim Moore, Base Commander, called the meeting to order. Minutes from the last meeting were not available.

Reports and Discussion:

Treasurer Jim Denzien reported the base's financial status as of 1 September 2006. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Nancy Nelson had nothing to report re: Subvettes.

Howard Doyle reported on the status of the Veteran's Day parade. This year's theme is: America's Veterans: Heroes through the Decades. Arrangements are being made to have the fire truck again and work is being done on the design for the shirts from APS.

Tim Moore went through the items that would be discussed at the general meeting of the members. See regular meeting minutes for details.

Tim Moore indicated that he and Jim Denzien still had work to do on developing a survey that would be presented to the general membership requesting input on meeting improvements, personal strengths, etc. that could be utilized by the base in the future. The survey will be published in the MidWatch when completed.

Base policies and procedures were brought up and it was determined that a formalized set of documents was necessary. The following members will be working on them: Dave Harnish, Tim Moore, Howard Doyle and Jim Denzien.

A list of items that Gladys Lister had for sale (jewelry, etc. from her late husband Harold) was presented. The items are submarine related. Tim Moore will contact Jack Messersmith of Gudgeon Base for his assistance in determining whether we want to pursue the purchase.

A proposal was made to move the deadline for MidWatch submissions up one week to three Fridays before the general meeting. This would allow Chuck more time to finish it and Ray a little more time to distribute it. The goal is to have the entire membership able to read the MidWatch before the meeting. The proposal will be put into effect.

The business of the E-Board having been completed, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Base Commander Tim Moore adjourned the meeting at 1205.



Naval Humor or, Littoral Laughter

Admiral Rickover's Retirement

At one point in time during his career, Admiral Hyman Rickover, the father of the Nuclear Navy, was commander of a carrier task force, and had his flag on the carrier.

For exercise, Adm. Rickover walked a lap around the flight deck every day. It became custom for the sailors to approach the Admiral during his walks, and gripe, complain, etc., and the Admiral would take care of the problems brought forth by the crew. It was a great morale booster.

Well, the day came when Admiral Rickover was reassigned to Washington, and a helicopter carried him off. The crew was so despondent at his departure that the helmsman wasn't paying attention to his job, and the carrier hit a sandbar.

Yes, they grounded the warship he walked on.

September Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans, Perch Base was convened at American Legion Post #105, Phoenix, AZ at 1300 hours, Sept. 16, 2006. Tim Moore, Base Commander, called the meeting to order.

The membership was led in a prayer of invocation by Howard Doyle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and standard ceremonial opening.

A moment of silence was observed for Kay Harnish, the wife of Shipmate Dave Hamish.

According to the sailing list, there were twenty-three members present.

Minutes from the August 2006 regular meeting were not available.

A potential new member Ben Ickert, was introduced and he provided background information on himself.

Treasurer Jim Denzien reported the Base's financial status as of the first day of June, 2006. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen

Base Vice Commander – Stan Reinhold had no report

Base Chief of the Boat – Bob Gilmore had no report.

Base Chaplain – Howard Doyle indicated a memorial for Kay Harnish would be conducted on Saturday, September 23rd, at 1000. Notice has been posted in the MidWatch.

Membership Chairman – Ramon Samson had no report.

Newsletter Editor – Chuck Emmett had no report.

Ship's Storekeeper – Jim Nelson had no report.

Old Business

Tim Moore stated that the Holland Club induction would be conducted at the regular November meeting. We have four members being inducted.

Howard Doyle reported that we have been "verbally" signed up for the Veteran's Day in November. The theme is: America's Veterans: Heroes through the Decades. The formal sign-up will be later. The VA is still soliciting parade entrants. We will be again getting the use of a flatbed truck from Sanderson Ford for this year's parade. Ben Acosta is following up with Sanderson Ford and will let us know. We have received an offer from Shipmate Steve Hough for the use of his generator for the float for the parade. Shipmate Chuck Emmett also has a generator we can use.

There will be no December meeting due to the Annual Holiday Awards Banquet. The banquet will be conducted on Dec. 9 at Luke AFB Enlisted Men's Club from 1730 to 2200. Casual dress and \$20 per person.

District 1 Commander Glenn Herold will be relocating to Kentucky in the near future.

We have been looking for a relief for Ed Brooks as the Base Secretary. Frank Rumbaugh was thanked for volunteering to do this on a temporary basis. Jim Denzien volunteered to take on this position in addition to being the Base Treasurer and was approved by acclamation.

Tim Moore will be establishing a base phone tree to facilitate alerting members when important events arise.

The possibility of conducting a Base meeting in the East Valley has been discussed. We will be looking at the possibility of doing this in the near future.

Dave Harnish reported on the information that has been gathered in conjunction with holding a Western Regional Conference next spring and combining it with the WWII Submarine Vets Caucus and a Submarine Birthday Ball with Perch Base as the sponsor. There is a lot of work to be done, but we are going to do this.

New Business

Base elections are coming up in 6 months. All hands need to think about the future direction of the base and who you would like to lead the base. A base officer progression was presented as one way to look at the issue.

The deadline for MidWatch submissions has been moved to the third Friday before the meeting. The goal is to allow everyone the opportunity to have the entire membership read it before the meeting.

Good of the Order

A letter was read from Pat Householder, National Junior Vice-Commander, on the donation made by Perch Base to the Scholarship Fund. A letter on the update of the national database was also received. All hands are encouraged to check out the new USSVI web site.

All hands are encouraged to have spouses/significant others participate in our meetings and to get involved with the SubVettes.

Tim Moore has arranged for guest speakers for upcoming meetings but the guest speaker dates must change to accommodate our meeting schedule changes for our October meeting change of venue and the fact that we will not be having a December meeting. All schedule changes will be announced in the MidWatch and sent out via e-mail to all hands.

Glenn Herold will be leaving his position as District I Commander due to a move to Kentucky in the near future. Glenn also reported on the activities at the just completed National Convention.

A photograph of the float being utilized by Tucson Base was shown around. Members were asked to consider what it looked like when we consider upgrading ours.

The October Meeting was cancelled due to pending participation in the Thunderbird Balloon & Air Classic to be held at Goodyear Airport on Oct 20-22.

It was announced that the SubVettes would be establishing a memorial scholarship in memory of Kay Harnish.

50/50 Drawing

The 50/50 drawing was held and the winner was Tim Moore. He donated the winnings to the newly announced Kay Harnish memorial scholarship fund.

Adjournment

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

The closing prayer was offered by Howard Doyle and the meeting was adjourned.

Jim Denzien, Secretary/Treasurer, Perch Base

SUBVETTES MEETING MINUTES *September*

The twenty-seventh monthly meeting of the SUBVETTS OF PERCH BASE was held on Sept. 16 at Taylor's Chowder House. This is located on the N.W. corner of 35th Ave. and Thunderbird, next door to the American Legion Post 105. The meeting was called to order at 1235 hours.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted by our President, Nancy Nelson and the Opening Prayer was led by our chaplain Sandy Bernard. The logbook was signed by everyone, and our Raffle Prize was put out for all to see. It was a beautiful DOLPHIN plate with stand. The Tickets were sold out.

Hiromi gave us our Treasurers Report, which in spite of the low attendance was pretty good.

Sandy was asked if she had anything to report. Other than her husband, and that Joe Bernard and Frank Rumbaugh were ill, there was nothing else at this time. We were so very glad that Debbie, Heather and Lori could be with us today, we hope you will come back more often.

OLD BUSINESS

We didn't have a meeting last month so there were no minutes to address. Instead we had a great visit at the meeting in Prescott Valley. For those of you who were there it was said that you had a wonderful time. For those who couldn't make it we hope they will do it again soon. We were able to visit with Kathryn Otreba, MaryGrace Veek, Sandy Herrington, Sandy Messersmith, Linda Wall and Bobbi Landeck (I hope I didn't forget anyone, and forgive me if I did.) They fed us really well.

The Pancake breakfast also went well. We raised \$300 for the American Legion. We voted Layne Rumbaugh "MOST OUTSTANDING WAITRESS".

NEW BUSINESS

Instead of working on how we will divide the treasury up this month we decided to put it off for a month or so. Dave Harnish has suggested that this year he would like us to establish a scholarship fund in Kay's Name. This was discussed and unanimously decided to establish the KAY E HARNISH MEMORALSCHOLARSHIP FUND. Isn't that a wonderful way to remember such a lovely person?

We also decided since we had such a short time until the new elections we would not fill Kay's position until that time.

Our other new business is the annual Holiday Awards Banquet. It will be held a Luke AF Base on Dec 9, starting at 5:30 p.m. and lasting to 11 p.m. The menu is the same as last year — London Broil or Stuffed Chicken Breasts. The cost this year is \$20 per person.

Now that the business part of the meeting was over we come to the real meaning of our the meeting. OUR TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OUR FOUNDING VICE-PRESIDENT, Kay Harnish. Without whom this chapter wouldn't exist. I COULD TRY TO PUT DOWN EVERYTHING EVERYONE HAD TO SAY, but it would be impossible. Everyone agreed that she was a wonderful, loving and remarkable person. She was . . . she was kind, positive, happy and helpful and we miss her now and will for a very long time.

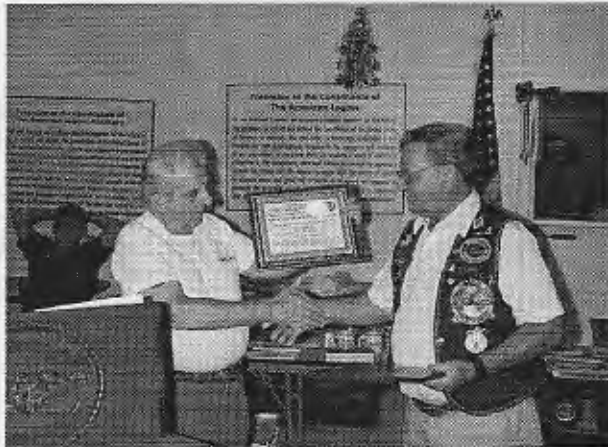
GOOD OF THE ORDER

Happy Birthday wishes go out to our September and October babies!!!!

Edna Lidman	Sept. 4
Sue Caraker	Sept. 8
Sue Shumann	Sept. 20
Lee Cousin	Sept. 29
MaryGrace Veek	Oct. 9
Helen Haskel	Oct. 29
Nancy Nelson	Oct. 31

The Dolphin Plate was won by Mary Denison. CONGRATULATIONS. The Meeting was attended by 13 Members and it was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

WE DID IT !!



Chuck Emmett gets the award for the Mid-Watch, best newsletter in our large-base class. And that's tough competition.

Ramon Samson accepts the award for 2nd place web site in our Base's class for the year. But we knew it was good!





Eternal Patrol Oct. 3, 1944

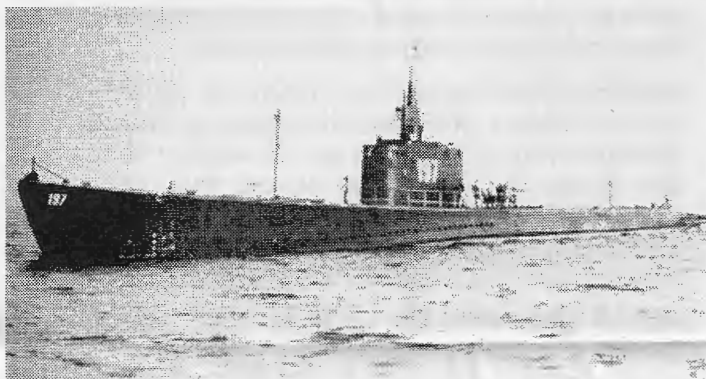
Editors Note: *Less we forget, each month, one boat on eternal patrol will be highlighted in this newsletter. Sailors, rest your oars.*


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.



U.S.S. Seawolf (SS-197) 76 men lost



<p>Laid down: 9/27/38, Launched: 8/15/39, Comm: 12/1/39 Fate: lost, probably to friendly fire; Stricken: 20 Jan. 1945;</p> <p>General Characteristics</p> <p>Displ.: 1,450 tons surf, 2,317 tons sub.; Length: 310' 6"; Beam: 26' 11"; Draft: 13' 8" Speed: 20 knots (surf), 8.75 knots (sub); Depth: 250' Complement: 64 officers and men Armament: 1x3" gun, 8x21" tubes, 4 forward and 4 aft</p> 
--

U.S.S. Seawolf (SS-197), a Sargo-class submarine, was the second submarine of the United States Navy named for the seawolf, a solitary fish with strong, prominent teeth and projecting tusks that give it a savage look.

Construction and first deployment

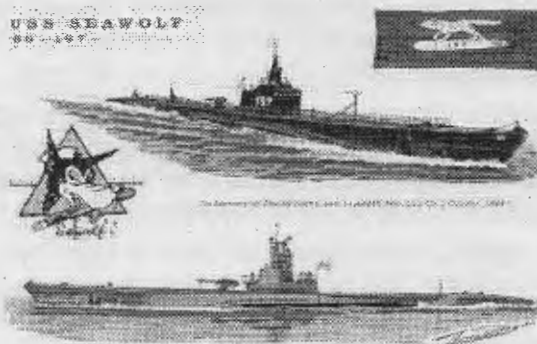
Her keel was laid down on 27 September 1938 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard in Kittery, Maine. She was launched on 15 August 1939 sponsored by Mrs. Edward C. Kalbfus and commissioned on 1 December 1939 with Lieutenant Frederick B. Warder in command.

After fitting out, Seawolf departed Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on 12 April 1940 for her shakedown cruise which lasted until 21 June and took her as far south as the Panama Canal Zone. Seawolf was next assigned to the Pacific Fleet with her home port, San Diego, California. In the autumn of 1940, she proceeded to Manila Bay and operated from the Cavite Navy Yard. When war with Japan began, the submarine readied for sea and was on her first war patrol from 8 December to 26 December 1941.

Seawolf hunted Japanese shipping off San Bernardino Strait. On 14 December, she fired a spread of torpedoes at a tender or supply ship in Port San Vicente with unknown results. She promptly underwent her first depth charge attack but suffered no damage.

Early war patrols

Seawolf departed Manila on 31 December 1941 for Australia and arrived at Darwin on 9 January 1942. She loaded between 30 and 40 tons of .50-caliber antiaircraft ammunition for use by American forces on Corregidor and sailed for Manila Bay on 16 January. The submarine sighted seven Japanese freighters accompanied by four destroyers and a cruiser on 21 January, but had no opportunity to fire any of

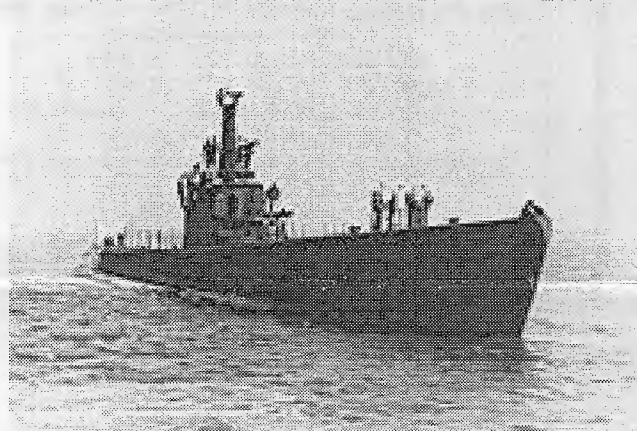


the eight torpedoes that she had onboard. The ammunition was unloaded on 28 January and 29 January at Corregidor. Seawolf then loaded torpedoes and passengers, and headed for Surabaya, Java.

Seawolf sailed out of Surabaya on 15 February and began patrolling in the Java Sea-Lombok Strait area. On 19 February, she fired four torpedoes at two Japanese freighter-transports in the Badung Strait. Damage to one was not ascertained, but the other was reported last seen down by the stern and listing to starboard. (However, Sagami Maru had been damaged by USAAF air attack, not by Seawolf's torpedo.)

A week later, she fired her stern tubes at a freighter and watched one hit forward of the bridge before going deep to evade depth charges from an escorting destroyer at which she had also fired. In March, Seawolf was hunting between Java and Christmas Island. On April 1, she stealthily approached the anchorage at Christmas Island where the Japanese invasion force lay at anchor. Seawolf fired a spread at the Japanese light cruiser Naka. One torpedo hit, causing significant damage to the ship, although not harming any of the crew. The Naka was forced to return to Japan for repairs (Hara, 1961) and was out of the war for almost a year. Unaware that they had hit their target, Seawolf then underwent seven and one-half hours of depth charge attacks. On 1 April, she attacked two cruisers. A violent explosion was heard, but no flames were seen. Seawolf ended her patrol on 7 April at Fremantle and received the Navy Unit Commendation.

From 12 May to 2 July, Seawolf patrolled the Philippine Islands area. She attacked freighters on 20 May and 23 May, and on 12 June, 13 June, 15 June, and 28 June. On 13 June, she fired at two ships and her crew heard four explosions. The submarine was credited with sinking converted gunboat Nampo Maru on 15 June. Seawolf returned to Fremantle for three weeks before beginning her sixth war patrol.



Seawolf prowled the Sulu Sea and Celebes Sea from 25 July to 15 September. She attacked a tanker on 3 August, sank Hachigen Maru on 14 August and Showa Maru 11 days later. She returned to Fremantle to refit and then hunted in the Davao Gulf area from 7 October to 1 December. Seawolf sank Gifu Maru on 2 November, Sagami Maru (7189 tons) the next day, and Keiko Maru on 8 November. She ended her patrol at Pearl Harbor en route to the West Coast.

Overhaul and redeployment

Seawolf arrived at Mare Island on 10 December 1942 and underwent an overhaul that lasted until 24 February 1943. She returned to Pearl Harbor on 13 March and, on 3 April, stood out for another patrol. She ended this patrol early, on 3 May, because she had expended all torpedoes on enemy

shipping near the Bonin Islands. On 15 April, she torpedoed Kaihei Maru, sank an old destroyer now known as Patrol Boat Number 39 on 23 April; and sank two 75-ton sampans with her three-inch (76 mm) gun.

Seawolf returned to Midway Island for refitting and departed that island on 17 May and headed for the East China Sea. She ran into several large convoys as she prowled from Formosa to Nagasaki. The submarine tracked a convoy of 11 ships and fired a spread of torpedoes at a large freighter on 6 June. One torpedo hit the target but proved to be a dud, and another passed under the freighter and hit an escort. Two weeks later, she fired a spread at four ships. One was hit in the stern and sank in approximately nine minutes. This was Shojin Maru loaded with troops. Seawolf returned to Midway Island on 8 July and, four days later, steamed into Pearl Harbor.

Her next patrol was from 14 August to 15 September. This patrol, in the East China Sea, was also ended prematurely due to firing all torpedoes. She sank 12,996 tons of enemy shipping, excluding two 75-ton sampans sunk by shellfire. Seawolf made contact with a six-ship convoy on her third day in the patrol area. She attacked day and night for three days before finally surfacing to sink Fusei Maru with her deck gun.

On Seawolf's 11th patrol, in the South China Sea from 5 October to 27 November, she sank Wuhu Maru, Kaifuku Maru, and damaged a 10,000-ton cargo ship. The submarine refitted at Pearl Harbor and, on 22 December 1943, headed for the East China Sea on what was to be her most lucrative patrol. She attacked a seven-ship convoy on the night of 10 January and 11 January 1944 and sank three ships totaling 19,710 tons.

On 14 January, Seawolf fired her last four torpedoes at two merchant ships in a convoy, damaging one and sinking Yamatsuru Maru. She continued tracking the convoy while radioing its position to submarine Whale (SS-239). Whale arrived on 16 January and promptly attacked, damaging one ship and sinking Denmark Maru. The next morning, Whale damaged another before action was broken off.

Second overhaul and disappearance

Seawolf returned to Pearl Harbor on 27 January and sailed for San Francisco, California, two days later. After undergoing a major overhaul at Hunters Point, the submarine headed west on 16 May. When she reached Pearl Harbor, she was assigned the task of photographing Peleliu Island in the Palau Islands, in preparation for the forthcoming attack on that stronghold. She carried out this mission despite constant enemy air patrols from 4 June to 7 July.

The submarine headed to Majuro for voyage repairs and was rerouted to Darwin. There, she received orders sending her on a special mission to Tawitawi, in the Sulu Archipelago. The submarine approached to within 700 yards (640 m) of the beach, picked up a Captain Young and took him to Brisbane.

Seawolf stood out of Brisbane on 21 September to begin her 15th war patrol under the command of Lieutenant Commander A.M. Bontier. She reached Manus on 29 September, refueled, and sailed the same day carrying stores and Army personnel to the east coast of Samar.

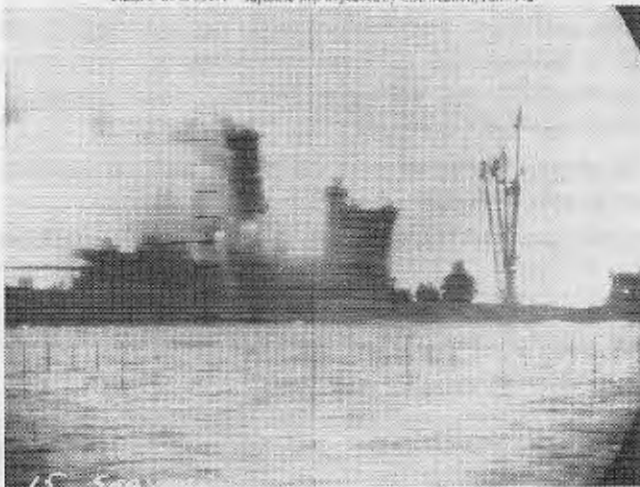
Seawolf and submarine Narwhal (SS-167) exchanged radar recognition signals at 0756 on 3 October in the Morotai area. Shortly thereafter, a Seventh Fleet task group was attacked by the Japanese submarine Ro-41. Destroyer escort Shelton (DE-407) was torpedoed and sank, and her sister ship Richard M. Rowell (DE-403) began to search for the enemy.

Since there were four friendly submarines in the vicinity of this attack, they were directed to give their positions and the other three did, but Seawolf was not heard from. On 4 October, Seawolf again was directed to report her position, and again she failed to do so. One of two planes from the escort carrier Midway (CVE-63) sighted a submarine submerging and dropped two bombs on it even though it was in a safety zone for American submarines. The site was marked by dye and Rowell steamed to the area and established sound contact on the submarine, which then sent a series of dashes and dots which Rowell stated bore no resemblance to the existing recognition signals. Rowell attacked with hedgehogs. The second attack was followed by underwater explosions, and debris rose to the surface.

Post-war examination of Japanese records shows no attack listed that could account for the loss of Seawolf. While it is possible that Seawolf was lost to an operational casualty or as a result of an unrecorded enemy attack, it is more likely that she was sunk by friendly fire. 62 officers and men as well as 17 Army passengers were lost.

On 28 December 1944, Seawolf was announced overdue from patrol and presumed lost. She was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on 20 January 1945.

Photo #: 86-G-53191 Japanese ship torpedoed by USS Seawolf, Fall 1942



Periscope photograph of one of *Seawolf's* victims, torpedoed in the Philippines-East Indies area in the fall of 1942.

This ship carries at least one landing craft forward, has a searchlight atop her pilothouse and a gun mounted at the aft end of the midships superstructure. A lifeboat is hanging from one davit, alongside the smokestack. Her general configuration resembles the S.S. *Gifu Maru*, sunk on 2 November 1942, but she could also be the converted gunboat *Keiko Maru*, sunk on 8 November.

Official U.S. Navy Photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives.



Submarines . . . of Today

Tests completed in July and August:

LOCKHEED MARTIN TOUTS RECENT TESTS OF ASW WEAPONS CONCEPT

By Chris Johnson, Inside the Navy, 2 Oct 06

Lockheed Martin conducted two successful tests of new antisubmarine warfare technology this summer, according to a company statement.

The Sept. 26 statement says Lockheed performed wind tunnel and wing separation tests for the High Altitude Anti-Submarine Warfare Weapons Concept (HAAWC) system. The company completed the wind tunnel test July 25 and the wing separation test Aug. 22, said Lockheed spokeswoman Andrea Wiley.

The HAAWC system is intended for use on the P-3C aircraft to launch Mark 54 torpedoes at enemy submarines from outside the range of enemy air defenses, according to Lockheed. Using the HAAWC system, a P-3C aircraft could fire at an enemy submarine from an altitude of 20,000 feet, according to the statement. Lockheed asserts the system "improves the delivery accuracy and shortens the engagement time" of the Mark 54 torpedo. Additionally, Lockheed maintains that the technology should reduce airframe stress on the P-3C.

Lockheed is working under a 12-month, \$3 million contract for the Navy to demonstrate the HAAWC technology, the statement says.

The Navy awarded Lockheed the HAAWC system contract in June, said Navy spokesman Lt. Trey Brown.

During the wind tunnel tests, which occurred at the San Diego Air and Space Technology Center, the technology "demonstrated expected performance that would enable the torpedo to be launched at the maximum desired range from the target," according to Lockheed's statement. During the wing separation test, the LongShot wing kit component of the technology "demonstrated separation at cruising speeds," the company announced.

In the prepared statement, Alan Jackson, Lockheed's HAAWC program director, called the tests "the first step to demonstrating this system's capability" to the Navy.

Wiley said "everything went as planned" and cited no issues or problems during the tests.

She said Lockheed is seeking the opportunity to conduct a formal flight certification development program with the Navy following the conclusion of the contract, but no time line has been set.

Lockheed maintains that successes with the HAAWC system in anti-submarine warfare could open up the possibility of employing the system against surface targets.

Following the summer tests, Lockheed is working on analyses and tests to confirm the HAAWC system design, including structural tests and aircraft integration activities, Wiley said. The structural tests determine whether HAAWC systems can handle the "worst case conditions in all flight environments," she noted. Wiley said for aircraft integration, "we already tested the mechanical interfaces and we are going to examine the wireless integration and do communication checks," which she said will enable flight tests in the future.

Lockheed plans live drops from a P-3 in February, said Wiley.



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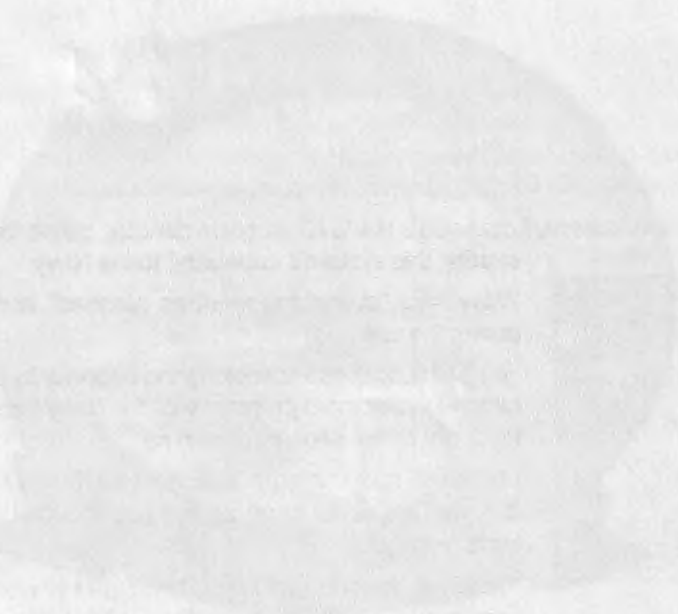
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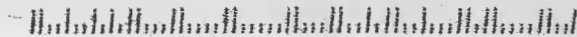
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American Legion Post #105
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