



Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



Published monthly by the USS Razorback
Base of the United States Submarine Veterans,
Inc.

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Upcoming Events:

2nd Sat. of each month is a boat work day – May 14th

April 2011

Commander's Corner

Not much to report for the month of March, turnout for the workday on the USS Razorback was a bit low with just three participants, so we concentrated on cleaning the control room. Due to the Submarine Birthday Party in Harrison falling on the same weekend, the April workday has been canceled. The next workday will be on Saturday May 14th.

The March base meeting was held on March 26th on the AIMM barges with a barbeque dinner and potluck after the meeting. Chef Gates cooked burgers and dogs on the grill and there were plenty of side dishes and desserts to go around. Our next base meeting will be at the May campout at Dardanelle State Park on the weekend of May 20 and 21.

The April event is the 2nd annual Submarine Service Birthday Dinner at the Hotel Seville in Harrison on April 9th. I hope to have plenty of

pictures to post on the web page and for next month's paper.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the picnic and campout next month.

Greg Schwerman
Base Commander

Holland Club



Find the surface nuke in this picture.



Submarines Lost/Damaged During the Month of April

USS S 49 (SS 160) **20 April 1926**. Four men lost.

USS Pickerel (SS-177) **3 April 1943**. All hands lost (74).

USS Gudgeon (SS-211) **18 April 1944**. All hands lost (80).

USS Grenadier (SS-210) **22 April 1943**. 61 were taken prisoner, 57 survived the war.

USS Snook (SS-279) **8 April 1945**. All hands lost (84).

USS THRESHER (SSN 593) **10 Apr 1963**. All hands lost (129) including 22 shipyard workers.

USS BONEFISH (SS 582) **24 Apr 1988**. Three personnel lost.

USS S-49 (SS-160) April 20, 1926 – 4 Men Lost



S-48 Class Submarine: Laid down, 22 October 1920, at Lake Torpedo Boat Co., Bridgeport, CT.; Launched, 23 April 1921; Commissioned, USS S-49 (SS-160), 5 June 1922, at Bridgeport, CT.; Decommissioned, 2 August 1927, at Philadelphia Navy Yard, Philadelphia, PA.; Laid up in the Atlantic Reserve Fleet, League Island, PA; Struck from the Naval Register, 31 March 1931; Final Disposition, sold for scrapping, 25 May 1931, to Boston Iron and Metal Co., Baltimore, MD.

Following repairs, S-49 (SS-160) resumed operations off the New England coast; and, during January of 1927, moved south with S-50 (SS-161), for exercises and tests off Key West, the Dry Tortugas, and in Tampa Bay, Florida. On 12 March, S-49 returned to the United States Naval Submarine Base at New London/Groton, Connecticut...whence she completed a run to the Portsmouth Navy Yard at Kittery, Maine; and back to New London/Groton then transited to the Philadelphia Navy Yard at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with S-50, for inactivation. Arriving on 31 March, S-49 was decommissioned on 2 August 1927 and berthed with other reserve ships in the Back Channel of the Philadelphia Navy Yard until struck from the Navy List on 21 March 1931 in accordance with the London Treaty. S-49 was sold to the Boston Iron and Metal Company at Baltimore, Maryland, on 25 May 1931. Reduced to a hulk (read "demilitarized") by that company in 1936, but not scrapped, the S-boat was sold to an organization that operated the submarine as an "attraction." The submarine visited many ports in the United States and was "inspected" by interested people who toured through that submersible when she was open to visitors.

During the Second World War, the former S-49 was reacquired by the United States Navy "as equipment" for use in experimental work at the United States Naval Mine Warfare Test Station at Solomons, Maryland...now known as the United States Naval Air Station, Patuxent River Solomons Facility. Shortly after being towed to Solomons from Baltimore (where the Navy had reacquired the submarine), the former S-49 foundered off Point Patience in the Patuxent River on 16 December 1942 and sank in 102 feet of water at: Position: Latitude 38 Degrees 19' 53.2" North Longitude 76 Degrees 29' 17.2" West or, on a bearing of 318.5 Degrees True, distant 525 yards, from the southern tip of Point Patience. The S-boat has remained on the bottom at that position to the present day...and is visited, on occasion, by Navy and recreational divers.

Courtesy of R. S. Rayfield, Jr. Major, USMC (Ret): Specifications: Displacement, Surfaced: 903 t., Submerged: 1,230 t.; Length 240'; Beam 21' 10"; Draft 13' 6"; Depth Limit 200"; Speed, surfaced 14.5 kts, submerged 11 kts; Complement 4 Officers 34 Enlisted; Armament, five 21" torpedo tubes, 16 torpedoes, one 4"/50 deck gun; Propulsion, diesel electric engines, Busch Sulzer Brothers Diesel Engine Co., diesel engines, HP 1800; Fuel Capacity 44,350 gal.; Ridgeway Dynamo & Electric Co., electric motors, HP 1500, Battery cells 120, twin propellers.

"We shall never forget that it was our submarines that held the lines against the enemy while our fleets replaced losses and repaired wounds," Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, USN.

Razorback Base News

Submarine Veterans

Schedule of Events

April 8, 9, 10, 2011 @ Harrison, AR

FYI - Anyone planning to attend the dinner this Saturday, here is the plan of the day for the events set up for us by member Frank Hampson. Frank has worked hard to arrange breakfast Saturday and Sunday, and bowling and dinner on Friday and the symposium sounds like allot of fun. Please let me know if you would like to attend any of these.

Thanks
Greg

Friday 8th

Bowling - Arrive before 6:15 PM I plan on reserving 5 lanes as we did last year. We must start at 6:30 PM as he will not hold any lanes after 7PM. Friday night is a big night in his alley.

8:30 PM- Rendezvous at the saloon or go get some Chinese Buffet for supper. (Dixie Cafe, Diamond Head Chinese, Lenardo's Pizza)

Saturday 9th

7:30 AM- Breakfast at Town House Cafe on the square and next door to the Lyric Theater for those appearing on stage at the symposium. They need to be in the theater for rehearsal at 8:30AM

8:00 AM- All other SVs breakfast at the Town House.

9:00 AM - 9:20AM- I would like to have someone talk to the attendees about the different types of Submarines starting with the Holland, the S boats then the next types etc. all the way up to the different types of nuclear boats. Most of the audience will have very little knowledge of how many there were and are and the amount of technical changes over the 100 years other than the Hollywood visions!

9:30 AM- I will start introducing each of the 10 speakers and each will come up on stage and stand at

the podium and tell their name, where from, when they served and on which boats and what duty they had. Then each will go take a seat in one of the chairs on stage. Each intro will take about 1.5 - 2 minutes.

When all have been intro'ed, I will go down on the main floor at the foot of the stage and get the audience to start asking questions to any or a particular SV. Some of you will have to help me make a list of questions that I can ask if the audience is slow to start.

We need to be out of the theater by 12:30.

12:30 PM- Lunch at the Town House Cafe or one of the downtown sandwich shops.

1:30 to 1:45 PM - Two options:

- A. Take a guided, walking tour of the historic downtown Harrison City (map and brochure included). Maybe tip the guide.
- B. Those wanting to go visit the site of a real live French castle being built up scenic highway seven near Lead Hill, AR. All workers at the site are employed and are using "ONLY MIDEAVAL TOOLS AND CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES. THER IS A LIMESTONE QUARRY NEAR BY AND ALL STONES ARE CUT BY STONE MASONS". It is a live museum.

Normal price is \$12/adult but we are working on a senior/group rate. I have not seen it yet but everybody that has been up there (23 miles north) has stated it is well worth the trip.

5:00 PM 'ish - Return to the hotel for a beer, nuts, and hospitality.

Dinner and Banquet at the hotel

Sunday 10th

Submariner's Breakfast (bacon, biscuits, flapjacks and S.O.S.)
Sorry no powdered milk or eggs

After breakfast open for suggestions

Razorback Base

Meeting Minutes Mar. 26th 2011

The Razorback Base meeting was call to order by base commander Greg Schwerman at 1800 hours at the Arkansas Inland Martine Museum in North Little Rock, AR. There were 24 members present, and 2 visitors. The Creed was read by Greg Schwerman. The Tolling of the Bell for Lost Boats for Feb., March, and April was presented by Joe Mathis and Paul Honeck. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Greg Schwerman. Invocation was given by Carl Schmidt.

No new members, but Mitch Barnum was recognized for having not been to a meeting in a while. The reading of the minute by Jane Farmer. Motion was made and seconded to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was read by Bob Bowlin. The balance of checking account as of Feb. 2011 was \$8843.25. Motion was made and second to accept treasurer's report as read. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

1. Chaplain/Binnacle List-Carl Schmidt reported he had 2 bibles on hand. He knew of no new people that were ill.
2. Membership-John Barr reported 2 new members. He had sent out year pins, and Life Membership certificates to those people who had earned them. New Sea Daddy list will be out soon.
3. Memorials-Paul Honeck announced that the base had been asked to participate on Memorial Day with the Fleet Reserve at the AR. State Cemetery. There was some discussion about whether we wanted to or not since it is for veterans. A motion was made and seconded to participate in the Memorial Day ceremony with the Fleet Reserve this year. After they read their names, we would read the

names of our people who have gone on Eternal Patrol for that year. Then we would throw a wreath off the bridge, and then come to the Snook Memorial for our own ceremony. Motion passed. It was mentioned that March 30, 2011 is welcome home for Vietnam veterans.

4. Activities

a. Greg Schwerman announced there would be 38 people coming for the Submarine Anniversary in Harrison. A program honoring the eight Submarine Navy Medal of Honor winners and the Holland Club inductees will be presented at the dinner.

b. Ray Wewers talk about the camp-out in May. We will have a new cook. A motion was made and seconded to have pulled pork sandwiches on Friday night, and brisket and ribs Sat. for lunch. Motion passed. The Schwerman's will cook breakfast on Sunday.

5. Holland Club-The dinner of the Holland Club members, who are attending the event in Harrison will be paid by the base. This was approved by the executive board.

6. Communications

a. Thank you note from Jimmy Hix's wife for her bible.

b. Thank you letter from Masonic Home Educational Foundation, Inc for the donation in memory of Jimmy Hix.

c. Razorback Base agreed to match a fund of \$400 with the Razorback Association for the new \$1600 compressor.

d. Captain Talbert and family will be here tonight to eat dinner with base.

Old Business

1. Razorback Association will be here April 11, 2011 to work on the boat. They will help connect the compressor.
2. A program to honor Eagle Boy Scouts in our area, this has been talked about in the

past, was brought up by Carl Schmidt. He was asking to find out for more details, and bring a proposal to start a program at the next meeting.

New Business

1. Carl Schmidt suggested starting a Booster Club to raise money for the base. The fee would be \$25 and your name put in the newsletter. This money would be used as the base decides. Greg Schwerman asked Carl and Ray Wewers to work on a proposal to start a Booster Club and present it to the base at the next meeting.
2. Names are needed from the base for two National Awards for convention.

50/50 Drawing was won by Joe Mathis. Benediction by Carl Schmidt. Meeting adjourned at 1605 hours.

Recording Secretary
Jane Farmer ***

Razorback Base
Membership Trivia
207 members in Razorback Base

Primary Base / Dual Base

*164 Primary Base members in Razorback Base
-20 Associates
-15 more Associates LIFE members

*36 LIFE members
-28 are Razorback Primary Base
-8 are Dual Base members

*34 other bases represented by our 43 Dual Base members

Qual Boats

*129 Primary Base members qualified on 88 different boats
-53 diesel / 19 SSBN / 16 SSN
*43 Dual Base members qualified on 18 different boats
-10 of them qualified on Razorback
-16 diesel / 1 SSBN / 1 SSN

Submarines Served On

*Primary Base members served on a total of 356 submarines
-188 different submarines

-106 diesel / 37 SSBN / 45 SSN
-34 served on the Razorback
*Dual Base members served on a total of 140 submarines
-84 different submarines
-53 diesel / 15 SSBN / 16 SSN
-37 served on the Razorback

Place of Residence

*Primary Base members reside in 21 different states
-1 APO / 2 Turkey / 1 New Zealand / 115 Arkansas
*Dual Base members also reside in 21 different states
-11 California / 3 Arkansas

Age Distribution

*Primary Base
-25% less than 60 / 31.9% 60 to less than 70 / 31.9% 70 to less than 80 / 11.2% 80 or older
*Dual Base
-25.6% less than 60 / 55.8% 60 to less than 70 / 18.6% 70 to less than 80

Longevity with USSVI

*Primary Base members have been members of USSVI for an average of 7.09 years
*Dual Base members have been members of USSVI for an average of 11.35 years

Razorback Association in Town
Shipmates,

Members of the Razorback Association will be in town all next week (April 11th week) to work on the boat. Hopefully they will get number 4 engine running. Will need to get the air compressor (heavy) up on deck first, and hooked up. I am looking forward to a charged air bank that will also let us use the boat's whistle. Think that could be a nice counter measure to the Arkansas Queen's calliope 😊

Come visit if you can during the week. Can also use the extra help, along with a wider variety of sea stories. Should be room to sleep over also if you want.

John C. Barr
Membership Chair
jbarr346@att.net

Update on HPAC

Correction to article in last month's Hawgfish Scuttlebutt.

"Razorback crew member **Rick Pressley** drove from his home in **South Carolina** to the factory, where the 600-pound compressor was loaded into the back of his truck. He drove up to North Little Rock. We offloaded the compressor, and he was nice enough to help us get the compressor down the gangway before he headed home."

Sub Shrub



One of the original members of the USS Razorback Base **AJ HIX** who recently went on Eternal Patrol has this submarine hedge shape at his home. Linda Hix wanted to show this photo with us. AJ was a proud submariner and a good friend.

Carl Schmidt

----- Pride Runs Deep -----

Navy News

Bad Sub Metal Supplier Sentenced to Jail

The Day, New London, Conn, March 05, 2011

The president of a Pennsylvania metal parts broker who supplied improperly treated metal for construction of submarines was sentenced Friday to more than three years in prison. He and his company were ordered to pay \$1.35 million in restitution.

James Bullick, head of Bristol Alloys Inc., admitted in court to supplying a Navy subcontractor with metal that had not been heat-treated to meet contractual

requirements and was then used in Virginia-class submarines. He was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

It could eventually cost the government more than \$30 million to find and replace the metal parts used in the construction of submarines and surface ships over the next five or more years, the Navy's program executive officer for submarines testified at the hearing, according to Assistant U.S. Attorney John J. Pease.

The Navy confirmed Friday that none of the submarine parts at the heart of the criminal fraud case have failed or malfunctioned, and that none of these parts, should they fail, would individually result in a major casualty.

So far, about 10 percent of the inspected parts have been found to be of the wrong material or treatment, and 35 parts have been replaced, or soon will be, on four Virginia-class submarines, according to the Navy. Eight Virginia-class submarines have been inspected.

All other affected submarines and an aircraft carrier have been "cleared," the Navy said. The Navy's investigation also focused on Los Angeles-, Seawolf- and Ohio-class submarines and the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78).

Metal from Bristol Alloys was installed in hatches, steering gear, hydraulics, snorkel masts, internal countermeasure launchers and torpedo shipping and handling equipment.

Heat treatment alters the properties of a metal or alloy to make it better suited for a specific application. Bristol Alloys admitted to providing counterfeit certifications that the metal had been treated.

"The government will pursue all available recourses to recoup costs associated with the inspections and rework," the Navy statement said.

The restitution figure was based on the Navy's numbers from last year, when it had spent more than \$1.3 million inspecting ships for the Bristol Alloys metal. Pease said Friday he did not have

enough details about the new cost estimates to include them as part of the restitution.

U.S. District Court Judge Mitchell S. Goldberg ordered Bullick to make a monthly payment toward the restitution during his supervised release, an amount initially set at \$200, Pease said.

"Neither one of the defendants has any assets of any significance," he said. "Unfortunately, this is what happens when many fraud cases are concluded."

US Senator Pryor Introduces Bill to Help Soldiers and Veterans

Reported by: KARK 4 News

Thursday, March 10 2011

U.S. Senator Mark Pryor today announced a package of legislation to support members of the military and their communities. These initiatives would provide financial assistance to servicemen and women to rebuild or start up a business, support police or fire departments who must hire a temporary replacement when a member of their department deploys, and provide "veteran" status to certain members of the Guard and Reserves.

First, Pryor introduced the Patriot Express Authorization Act to expedite and prioritize small business loans to members of the military seeking to start, resume or expand a business. It turns a successful Small Business Administration pilot program into a permanent program that provides high-guarantee, express loans to active and non-active military members, veterans, spouses, children and widows or widowers. Members of the military community can use these loans to cover start-up or expansion costs, equipment, working capital, inventory or real-estate.

Specifically, the legislation increases the maximum loan amount from \$500,000 to \$1 million; provides military members' loans preferential status over other Express loans; reduces fees imposed by the Small Business Administration and processes loans through "express lenders" to reduce wait time to an average of 36 hours.

WWI German U-boat found sunk off Netherlands

CNN March 16th, 2011



A German U-boat of the same era as this one, photographed in 1916, has been found off the coast of the Netherlands.

Dutch researchers found the wreck of a World War I German submarine in 2009 but kept the discovery secret until this week, Radio Netherlands Worldwide reported.

The crew of the research ship HNLMS Snellius hoped they'd found a Dutch submarine that disappeared in 1940, but the vessel turned out to be much older. A brass plate indicated the sub was the German U-106, which sank during World War I, the radio report said.

The announcement of the discovery was delayed while German officials confirmed the sub's identity and sought out relatives of crew members, according to the radio report.

A Dutch navy spokesman told Radio Netherlands the U-boat would not be raised but would be designated a war memorial.



April Birthdays

- April 2nd – James Bjorklund
- April 2nd – Adrian Wills
- April 4th – Richard McCarstle
- April 9th – Bobby Barge
- April 11th – Tom Desaulniers
- April 12th – Carl Eubanks
- April 13th – Kevin Bascle
- April 14th – Robert McBride
- April 15th – Harold Haislip, III
- April 16th – Jesse Ayers, Jr.
- April 18th – James Morehouse
- April 22nd – Hershel Kelly
- April 23rd – Paul Harless
- April 28th – Serkan Celik

Happy Birthday!

Treasures Report: Feb 2011

BEGINNING BAL.:	\$ 8843.25
DEPOSITS:	
Base Event & Hats	343.00
Dues	35.00
Sub Birthday Party	160.00
Base fund 50/50	40.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS:	\$ 578.00
EXPENSES:	
Chaplin Refund	40.00
Masonic Child donation	50.00
National Dues	40.00
Fairbanks Morse A/C	400.
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 530.00
ENDING BALANCE:	\$ 8891.25
CHARITYS	
Boat Maint Fund	\$ 1441.03
Base Charity Fund	\$ 424.00
USS Snook Memorial	\$ 1405.86
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 3270.89
Regions Bank CD	\$ 5181.72
Interest	
Ending Balance	\$ 5181.72
Cash on hand	50.00
TOTAL IN BASE FUNDS =	\$14,122.97

Base Treasurer

Bob Bowlin



“Servicemen and women often put their personal lives and careers on hold to serve our country,” Pryor said. “We can’t ever repay them for their service, but we can provide financial tools so they can jumpstart or expand a business. This is a win-win for our military members and economy.”

Second, Pryor introduced the Strengthening Community Safety Act to reimburse police and fire departments as well as ambulance services for extraordinary costs that are incurred when one of their Guard or Reserve members is deployed overseas. The grant program, under the Department of Homeland Security, would reimburse first responder agencies for the salary and equipment of an individual hired to replace an employee or overtime expenses for an employee performing tasks performed by the deployed employee.

“Many communities in Arkansas and across the nation have seen a number of their policemen, firemen, and EMT personnel sent overseas. The additional expense to hire, train and equip a temporary employee poses an economic hardship on these communities,” Pryor said. “My legislation provides some assistance and ensures these departments remain well-prepared to respond to emergencies.”

Finally, Pryor introduced the Honor America’s Guard-Reserve Retirees Act to give Guard and Reserve retirees with 20 years of service the honor of being called a veteran. The current definition of veteran applies only to servicemen and women who served on active duty. While the change in definition does not provide additional financial benefits to a member, the honor enables the qualifying individuals to salute when the Star Spangled Banner is played, march in veterans’ parades and be recognized as a veteran by other veterans.

“The sacrifice and service of our Reserve and Guard members should never go unnoticed. This bill is a small step that makes a big difference to all those who served,” Pryor said.

**HAWGFISH SCUTTLEBUTT
IN GOD WE TRUST**

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OUR CREED:

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their Country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. A pledge of loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government its Constitution."



Razorback Base Executive Committee

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