



Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



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Base of the United States Submarine Veterans,
Inc.

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Upcoming Events:

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

August 2010

Commander's Corner

One of the things I have come to realize (yes I know that it's not really a revelation) is that this organization is made up of not just a bunch of members, but members with personalities. We each one of us belong to USSVI and Razorback Base for our own reasons, whatever they may be. But it's the personalities and characters of those who attend the monthly events and meetings that make us a successful organization. The interaction and friendships that are shared at the meetings or events are what make up the character, and form the personality of Razorback Base USSVI. I always wonder before each meeting or event, who will show up for the meetings or dinners, and I look forward each month to catching up with old friends, and making or meeting new friends. If you have never attended a base meeting or haven't been around for a while, please make an effort to

attend one of the scheduled base meetings or social events and add your character to the personality of Razorback Base.

That being said, I would like to point out that nothing gets done without one or more of our "characters" or members making the effort required to plan organize and manage each monthly event or meeting. Last month on Thursday July 8th member John Barr organized and co-hosted with AIMM, veterans from the St. Francis House, for supper and tours onboard the USS Razorback. John was assisted by Jim Gates, Joe Mathis, Joe Manning, Carl Schmidt, Jessie Taylor, Ray Wewers, Billy and Sheri Hollaway, Jim and Colette MacDonald, Barbara Jarvis, Wesley Dodson, Ann and Tom Salisbury, Gene Prohl and Suzann Barr. Well done and thank you to AIMM, the lady's from St. Francis House and everyone who volunteered

their time to make this event happen.

Our next planned base event will be a workday on the Razorback scheduled for Saturday August 14th at 0900; also Saturday August 28th we will have a potluck dinner onboard the AIMM barges organized by Bob Bowlin and Greg Zonner.

At the July base meeting, it was decided to postpone nominations for this year's base election, until the October meeting due to the low attendance for the July meeting. It was also decided that the October meeting will be conducted onboard the AIMM barges and that after the meeting, we will celebrate the Navy Birthday with a Birthday Cake and cash bar.

Greg Schwerman
Base Commander

[Submarines Lost/Damaged During the Month of August](#)

[USS Grunion \(SS-216\) 1-Aug-1942](#). 70 men lost.

[USS S-39 \(SS-144\) 14-Aug-1942](#). No loss of crew.

[USS Harder \(SS-257\) 24-Aug-1944](#). All hands lost (80). Commander Samuel Dealey, USN was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for Harder's fifth patrol.

[USS Flier \(SS-250\) 13-Aug-1944](#). 80 Men lost - 8 men survived.

[USS Bullhead \(SS-332\) 6-Aug-1945](#). All hands lost (84).

After WWII

[USS COCHINO \(SS 345\) 26-Aug-1949](#). One man lost. An additional six men from TUSK (SS 426) were lost in rescue attempt.

USS GRUNION (SS-216) August 1, 1942 – 70 Men Lost



First Patrol

Departing on June 30, after ten days of intensive training, Grunion reached Midway; then to the Aleutians for her first war patrol. Her first report, made as she patrolled north of Kiska. Attacked by a Japanese destroyer and returned fire with inconclusive results. She operated off Kiska throughout July and sank two enemy patrol boats and damaged a third while in search for enemy shipping. On July 30, the submarine reported intensive antisubmarine activity, and was ordered back to Dutch Harbor. She still had 10 of her 24 torpedoes; it is unclear if Grunion received the order to return to base.

Sinking History

Reportedly, the Grunion attacked the Kano Maru on July 31, 1942, about 10 miles northeast of Kiska. The sub fired six or seven torpedoes. All but one bounced off the ship without exploding, or missed, the officer wrote, although the hit knocked out his engines and communications. The Kano Maru returned fire with an 8cm deck gun, and believed it sank the sub.

Grunion was never heard from nor seen again. Air searches off Kiska found nothing. On 5 October Grunion was reported overdue from patrol and assumed lost with all hands. Grunion received one battle star for World War II service.

Shipwreck

A search in August 2006., the Aquila carefully towed a sonar cable from east to west and back again inside a 240-square-mile grid that the survey team had plotted using information from naval archives and the Kano Maru officer's account. The crew worked in shifts to keep the search going 24 hours a day. In mid-August, the sonar picked up a 290' object with the sharp angles and jutting shadows of something man-made wedged into a terrace on the steep underwater slope of the volcano.

The U.S. Navy, citing lack of resources, is not involved in the search and the Abeles prefer to keep the cost to themselves. The team contacted Robert Ballard, who declined to participate in a search, but briefed the Abeles on the complications of searching for deep-sea wrecks. Geological formations sometimes conceal a vessel; it could be perched precariously on an undersea cliff; the water pressure and landing impact could have broken the Grunion into small pieces, making it harder to find.

They also hired a marine survey firm, Williamson and Associates, for an expedition in August to Kiska. Williamson at first told the Abeles that surveying the tip of the Aleutian archipelago would be too expensive, but after six months of negotiating, the firm agreed to send sonar technicians and equipment for the search.

More information on the USS GRUNION below...

"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

USSVI Razorback Base Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2010

The Razorback Base meeting was called to order by base commander Greg Schwerman at 1610 hours at the American Legion Post in Little Rock, AR. There were 12 members present. The Creed was read by Greg Schwerman.

☛ The Tolling of the Bell for Lost Boats for June and July was presented by Billy Hollaway and Joe Mathis.

☛ Invocation was given by Jim Barnes. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jim Barnes.

☛ The reading of the past meeting was read by Jane Farmer. The minutes were approved as read.

☛ Treasurer's report was given by Bob Bowlin. The balance in the checking account as of June 2010 was \$7817.21. The motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report as read. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

1. Chaplain-Greg Schwerman report that Gene Prohl was doing well and Billy was going to check on Jim Ball, and thank you letters were read from Mary Lemons and Bill Haupt on the receipt of their bibles for their spouses.
2. Membership-John Barr reported 210 members, and read the profile on 2 new members John Webber, and Michael Chesser.
3. Storekeeper-Billy Hollaway has 2010 calendars for \$8- 2 for \$15. If you need anything, let him know.
4. Memorial and Ceremonies
A. Billy Hollaway has been asked to have a burial at sea from the Razorback for Joe DeBarrie. This would be on Sept. 8, 2010 after the noon hour. Billy will try to get the Color Guard from Parkview High School, and ask for volunteers for side boys.
b. Annual activities for Veterans Day were discussed, and will talk more about this later.

- a. To have a sunset ceremony on the boat, or at Snook Memorial.

b. To have a dinner for the men from the St. Francis House.

5. Activities-A pot luck supper planned for Sat. August 28, 2010, on the barge. Bob Bowlin and Greg Zonner will plan it. The Razorback Association will be here in Sept., and Jim Gates and Greg Zonner will plan a pancake breakfast during that week.

Old Business

1. Donation of \$1000.00 to the Razorback Association for new 3000PSI air compressor was tabled till our next meeting.

New Business

1. Base election -A motion was made and seconded to table this to the next meeting.
2. A proposed memorial from the base at the State Veterans Cemetery was discussed by Billy Hollaway. A beautification program is in the planning phase, and Billy will keep us informed with the progress.

Good of the Order

1. USSVI Scholarships were awarded this year to sons of David Grove and Jim Gage.
2. Oct. meeting will coincide with Navy's birthday. It was discussed to have a birthday party on the barge at 1700, birthday cake and cash bar.
3. Work day Aug 7, 2010 to work on periscope.

Benediction by Jim Barnes, Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Jane farmer
Recording Secretary

USSVI Belongs to the Membership



Dear District, there are over 2700 potential voters in the Central Region with only 553 votes cast. District 2 has 1200 base members eligible to vote and only 175 voters have voted in

District two. I have been told I will need 1000 to 1200 votes to be elected the next National Commander of USSVI; this is an important election for the Central Region. You will be electing the National Officers and Central Region Director who will be the voting members on the National E-board for the next two years.

Voting is the way to have your voice heard in the USSVI election. It only takes a few minutes to vote online. Go to www.ussvi.org and click the election button, and follow the instructions and you can vote online. The American Submariner magazine which you will receive shortly will contain a mail in ballot. The mail in ballot must be received by the Election Master John Peters by midnight August 24th. Your vote is important.

Please vote for the candidate of your choice.

Carl Schmidt ETC (SS) ret. who has been the Central Region Director for the past (4) years is asking is asking for your vote for National Commander. I have been a USSVI E-board voting member for the past (4) years. The National Board experience has given me the knowledge and experience to be the next USSVI National Commander. With your vote you can help elect me to be the first National Commander elected from the Central Region

Thanks for voting,

Carl Schmidt
Central Region Director
USS Razorback Chaplain



Razorback Storekeeper News

The 2011 USSVI calendars have arrived. They are priced at \$ 8.00/each or two (2) for \$ 15.00 plus mailing or shipping. You can call me to order, (501) 758-3266 or e-mail. Thanks.

Base Storekeeper
Bill Hollaway retldoun@earthlink.net

Central Region End of Year Report

It's been a great 4 years as Central Region Director. Bonny and I want to thank all the bases in the Central Region for the hospitality and

friendship we enjoyed during base visits and District meeting. This has been another successful year in retention and recruiting new base members. We had the lowest number of annual members dropped in 2010. This was accomplished by the District Commanders, Vice District Commanders, Base Commander, and membership chairman's hard work. We again had a large numbers of bases having 100% annual retention of annual base members.

I am excited to see to see the increase in the community and Tolling of the Boats ceremony with the public invited. Parade and other community activities are good for the base as this gives positive PR in the local communities for the submarine veterans. Newest base formed was the USS Marlin base in district three.

The USS Snook base just placed a lovely submarine memorial on the grounds of the VA Veterans hospital in Fayetteville, Arkansas. I am aware of other memorial projects in the planning stages. I want to personally thank all the bases that have launched new Memorials the past four years. District 1 and District 3 held district meeting in 2010. The District Commanders David Farran and Ray Wewers did an excellent job conducting the District Meeting. I want to thank all the Base Commanders and base members that attended the District meeting. Ideas were shared and the discussion brought out ideas to make the district better for the membership.

A special thank you to all the ladies that have made special center pieces for banquets, decorated tables and head tables at special activities and most of all, Thanks for supporting your submariner husbands. Ladies you are a special elite group of USSVI.

You will be electing a new Central Region Director in the USSVI elections in 2010. There are two well qualified candidates running for this position. The elected candidate will have the honor of representing a

Region that is recognized by its accomplishments as a Region that is working to make USSVI a stronger organization.

District Commanders and Vice District Commanders I want to thank you for your support and many hours you have devoted to making the

Central Region strong. Base Commanders and base members, thanks for your support over the years.

Shipmates in closing, I encourage the members to be active in their bases and step up to become a base officer. There is nothing more rewarding than being an active member supporting your base and USSVI.
Fraternally,

Carl Schmidt
Central Region Director

Work Day on the Razorback

This month's workday on the Razorback will be on Saturday August 14th not this Saturday August 7th. The plan is to work on raising #2 scope with the portable hydraulic supply. Jim has also assured me that he will have plenty of other projects for us to accomplish below decks out of the heat.

Hope to see you next Saturday at 0900

Greg Schweman

--Wear your Dolphins - you earned them!--

AIMMS NEWS



This photograph was spotted by a Arkansas civilian employee with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers while he was on a business trip to the Seattle, Washington area.

It is at a visitor's center for the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Seattle, a complex of locks on the eastern side of Puget Sound that connect the fresh waters of Lake Washington with the salt waters of the Sound.

AIMM would like to thank Aaron McGee of the USACE, Russellville office for bringing this picture to our attention. We are working with the folks up in Seattle to acquire a high-quality copy of the image, as well as to find out anything we can about when the image was taken and the circumstances, and we will post more as we learn it.



Some new photographs have been added to the AIMM website. These photographs were taken by former crewmember Bobby Brittain, who served as a sonarman aboard Razorback from 1961 to 1963.

These pictures show many of Razorback's unique features, including several that were removed.

AIMM would like to thank Bobby and the many other former Razorback sailors who have shared these priceless images with us, so that we can share them with you.

These photographs can be seen [here](#).

Other photographs can be seen on our [general photograph page](#).



Occasionally, we are asked the question, "How much did it cost to build submarines back in World War II?"

The answer - \$4,674,000 (in 1940 dollars), or about \$674 MILLION in today's dollar (as a relative share of GDP).

As a comparison, the Virginia class submarines being built today cost approximately \$2 Billion each, but are nuclear powered, and have MANY times the combat power that Razorback had.

Source - Forged in War - The Naval-Industrial Complex and American Submarine Construction, 1940-1961 by Dr. Gary E. Weir, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, DC, page 23

Official U.S. Navy photographs from the AIMM Archives.

Posted By AIMM Team to Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum at North Little Rock

Navy News

Nautilus Travels Under North Pole
History.com, Aug 3, 2010

On August 3, 1958, the U.S. nuclear submarine Nautilus accomplishes the first undersea voyage to the geographic North Pole. The world's first nuclear submarine, the Nautilus dived at Point Barrow, Alaska, and traveled nearly 1,000 miles under the Arctic ice cap to reach the top of the world. It then steamed on to Iceland, pioneering a new and shorter route from the Pacific to the Atlantic and Europe.

The USS Nautilus was constructed under the direction of U.S. Navy Captain Hyman G. Rickover, a brilliant Russian-born engineer who joined the U.S. atomic program in 1946. In 1947, he was put in charge of the navy's nuclear-propulsion program and began work on an atomic submarine. Regarded as a fanatic by his detractors, Rickover succeeded in developing and delivering the world's first nuclear submarine years ahead of schedule. In 1952, the Nautilus' keel was laid by President Harry S. Truman, and on January 21, 1954, first lady Mamie Eisenhower broke a bottle of champagne across its bow as it was launched into the Thames River at Groton, Connecticut. Commissioned on September 30, 1954, it first ran under nuclear power on the morning of January 17, 1955.

Much larger than the diesel-electric submarines that preceded it, the Nautilus stretched 319 feet and displaced 3,180 tons. It could remain submerged for almost unlimited periods because its atomic engine needed no air and only a very small quantity of nuclear fuel. The uranium-powered nuclear reactor produced steam that drove propulsion turbines, allowing the Nautilus to travel underwater at speeds in excess of 20 knots.

In its early years of service, the USS Nautilus broke numerous submarine travel records and on July 23, 1958, departed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on "Operation Northwest Passage"--the first crossing of the North Pole by submarine. There were

116 men aboard for this historic voyage, including Commander William R. Anderson, 111 officers and crew, and four civilian scientists. The Nautilus steamed north through the Bering Strait and did not surface until it reached Point Barrow, Alaska, in the Beaufort Sea, though it did send its periscope up once off the Diomedes Islands, between Alaska and Siberia, to check for radar bearings. On August 1, the submarine left the north coast of Alaska and dove under the Arctic ice cap.

The submarine traveled at a depth of about 500 feet, and the ice cap above varied in thickness from 10 to 50 feet, with the midnight sun of the Arctic shining in varying degrees through the blue ice. At 11:15 p.m. EDT on August 3, 1958, Commander Anderson announced to his crew: "For the world, our country, and the Navy--the North Pole." The Nautilus passed under the geographic North Pole without pausing. The submarine next surfaced in the Greenland Sea between Spitzbergen and Greenland on August 5. Two days later, it ended its historic journey at Iceland. For the command during the historic journey, President Dwight D. Eisenhower decorated Anderson with the Legion of Merit.

After a career spanning 25 years and almost 500,000 miles steamed, the Nautilus was decommissioned on March 3, 1980. Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1982, the world's first nuclear submarine went on exhibit in 1986 as the Historic Ship Nautilus at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, Connecticut.



August Birthdays

- Aug 3rd – Bob Medearis
- Aug 3th – Bonnie Zonner
- Aug 4th – Harold Pelton
- Aug 7th – John Albers
- Aug 7th – Bill Dempsey
- Aug 9th – Stan Walker
- Aug 11th – Ray Wewers
- Aug 12th – William Nichols
- Aug 12th – Larry Hobby
- Aug 18th – John Przybys
- Aug 19th – Dennis Foster
- Aug 22nd – Joe Blanchett
- Aug 22nd – Shane Foraker
- Aug 23rd – Billy Hollaway
- Aug 23rd – James Barnum

- Aug 25th – Riversaleh Saleh
- Aug 25th – Nick Proctor
- Aug 25th – Stew Burner Stephens
- Aug 25th – Sandy Stephens
- Aug 27th – Juanez Stiltz

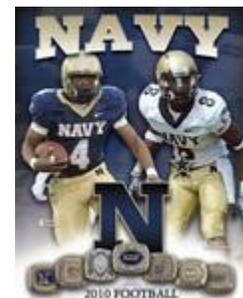
Happy Birthday!

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

Treasures Report: July 2010

BEGINNING BAL.:	\$ 7817.31
DEPOSITS:	
Dues Collected	35.00
Ships Store	169.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS:	\$ 204.00
EXPENSES:	
Dues Paid to National	40.00
Newsletter-Stamps	44.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 84.00
ENDING BALANCE:	\$ 7937.31
CHARITYS	
Base Charity Fund	\$ 350.00
USS Snook Memorial	\$ 1303.86
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1441.03
Ending Balance	\$ 3096.89
Regions Bank CD	\$ 5120.02
Interest Earned	20.33
Balance	\$ 5140.35
Cash on Hand	50.00
TOTAL BASE FUNDS	\$13127.66

Bob Bowlin
Base Treasurer

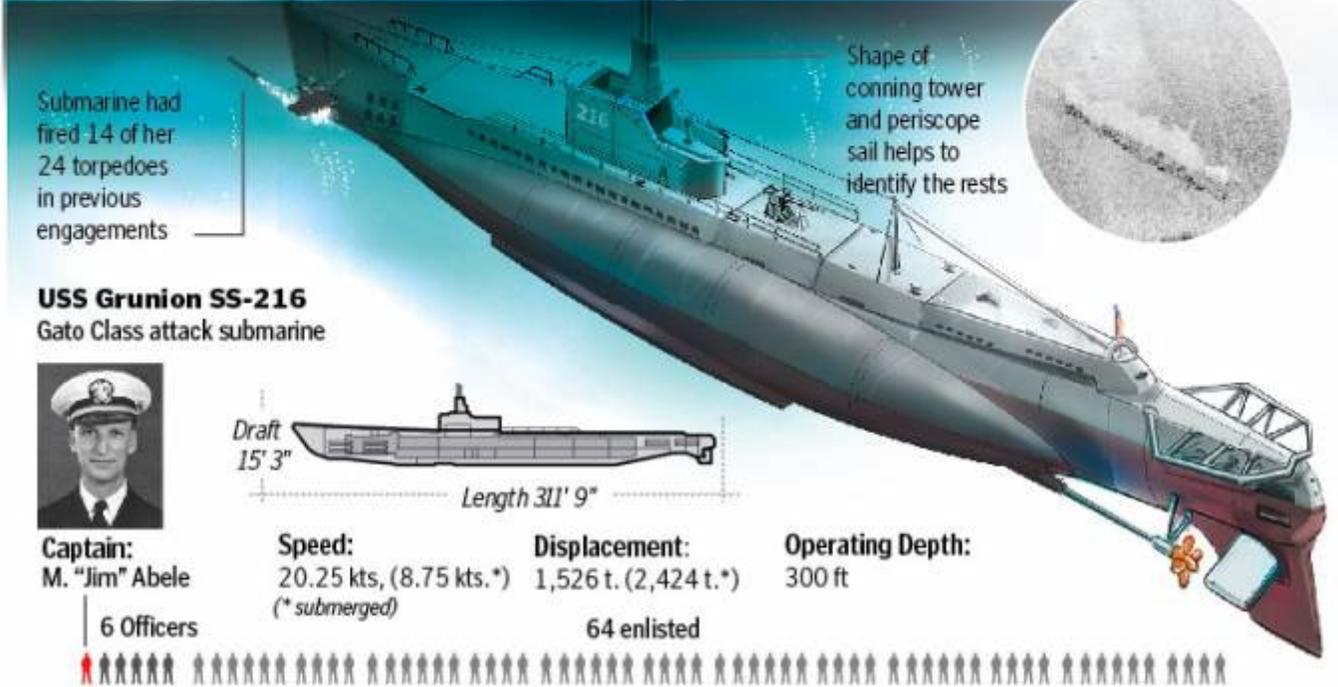


- 09/06/10 vs. Maryland
- 09/11/10 vs. Georgia Southern
- 09/18/10 at Louisiana Tech
- 10/02/10 at Air Force
- 10/09/10 at Wake Forest
- 10/16/10 vs. SMU
- 10/23/10 vs. Notre Dame
- 10/30/10 vs. Duke
- 11/06/10 at East Carolina
- 11/13/10 vs. Central Michigan
- 11/20/10 vs. Arkansas State
- 12/11/10 vs. Army

USS Grunion last voyage

An expedition organized by descendants of the crew could have found the wreckage of the sunken submarine, north of the Kiska Island in Alaska.

Descendants believe that Grunion sunk in action attacking the Japanese transport Kano Maru. The site or the wreckage would be consistent with this hypothesis.



SOURCE: USS Grunion.com, Navsource.org, ESRI Teleatlas

AARON ATENCIO, JAVIER ZARRACINA/GLOBE STAFF

**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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