

Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



Razorback Base
United States Submarine Veterans



February 2013

Joseph Truitt Talbert, Jr.



Captain Joseph Truitt Talbert, Jr. embarked on eternal patrol from his home in Coronado, CA on 30 November 2012 as a result of complications from Parkinson's disease. He was proud of his Navy heritage. His father and uncle were Class of 1920, and a brother-in-law, a fellow submariner, was Class of 1949. His life as a Navy Junior took him to Washington DC, Panama, and France. Coronado High School prepared him for entrance to USNA, where he graduated with the Class of 1956, Second Company.

Joe served on *USS Floyd B. Parks* before beginning his service in submarines.

He served aboard the *Redfish*, *Salmon*, *Theodore Roosevelt*, *Ulysses S. Grant*, *Carbonaro*, and *Sterlet* as Executive Officer. He was the last Commanding Officer of the *USS Razorback* in San Diego, at the conclusion of his tour was directed to decommission and turn her over to the Turkish Navy. Other Navy assignments included Air Force Command and Staff College, National War College, COM7THFLT staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, OPNAV, and as a Political-Military Strategic Planner in the office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Defense Superior Service Medal.

Joe retired from the Navy in 1979, returned to Coronado, and began a 25 year second career with several companies supporting the Navy. He was the Technical Advisor on the book, *The Encyclopedia of American Submarines*. He participated in events surrounding the return of his former command, *USS Razorback*, to the United States where it is the centerpiece of the *Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum*. Joe served as President of the Pacific Southwest Chapter of the Submarine League.

He served on Coronado's Citizen's Advisory Panel and Planning Commission, chairman for the annual show of motorcars in Coronado, and Chairman of the Coronado Centennial Celebration Committee, 1986.

His hobby of building ship models began early, and flourished in retirement. One could usually find Joe in his garage, a.k.a. the Shipyard, building Navy ship models for family and friends.

Joe is survived by his wife of 50 years, Emily, their three sons, Jay, Stephen (Jennifer), Peter, and five grandchildren.

Internment, was held at Fort Rosecrans Military Cemetery, and ashes will be scattered, with full military honors, from the deck of the *USS Razorback*, North Little Rock, AR on Saturday, April 6th. Memorial donations may be made to *Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum*.

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





Greetings Fellow Bubbleheads



I have now had my first chance at running a base meeting as the Commander. I must say that it was a good meeting and we got a lot accomplished. We have most of the turnovers complete and we have the new officers serving in their new positions (see bottom of page 8). I would personally like to thank everyone who has agreed to step up and serve as a base officer. Without them, I couldn't get anything done at all.

We have new cards and brochures out and I'd like to encourage all members to spread the word about our base so we can both grow membership and increase the knowledge that we exist. Our mission is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates and the more people we let know about us, the better we can do this. I would also like to encourage members to try to make it to meetings. We have a large number of members who rarely make meetings or events and you don't know what you are missing. We are truly all submariners.....we all are.....and we all will always be. The good and the bad of being a submariner, only we know.....(ok, our wives know too).....we love and we hate.....yet we all know there is no better group of people you want on your side when the chips are down. We have great times at the meetings and the social events. Come and see what camaraderie and fun you have been missing. (See Activities in the box below.)

Our next event is a come as you are type event. Several of us are going to the races in Hot Springs on Feb 23. We are all going on our own but can sit together and enjoy losing our money together. If you intend to come to this event, you can call me and I will let you know where we are sitting and donating our money. Doors open at 11am and races start at 1pm. After that semi-base event, we are meeting again in March on the 23rd. This is the kind of meeting you don't want to miss because we are doing this one as a potluck. Please bring something good to eat and/or drink for this meeting. Everyone knows Bubbleheads are smart, and we proved that by marrying women who can cook. I do blame them for my increasing girth however.

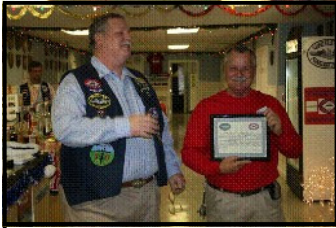
More things are planned for the year including an Anniversary dinner in Heber Springs, the annual campout, a baseball game, Navy Anniversary Dinner, Veterans Day Events, and a Christmas Party. Additionally, we will have more information on work days on the Razorback and Veteran assists with sleepovers. Please visit our website often and see what all is going on. If you have information that isn't correct on the website or are missing information, please send that information directly to Greg Zonner and he will update. He won't add automatically, due to confidentiality and all that stuff. Additionally, we will be holding a dual meeting with the Snook Base in June. Of course, we will eat again at this one!

I look forward to seeing you again soon at one of our many events or meetings.

Alan Malone
Base Commander

RAZORBACK BASE ACTIVITIES - 2013 **(Base meetings every other month.)**

- ⇒ February - Day at the Races, Oaklawn Racetrack, Hot Springs. (This is on an individual basis. If you want to go, you will get your own tickets and meet with the group that wants to go.)
- ⇒ March - Base Meeting, March 23 (Potluck after meeting).
- ⇒ April - Submarine Anniversary Dinner, Red Apple Inn, Heber Springs, April 13.
- ⇒ May - Annual campout, Lake Dardanelle State Park, Russellville. May 17-19.
- ⇒ June - Base meeting, June 22 (Potluck after meeting).
- ⇒ July - Travelers Baseball game (TBD).
- ⇒ August - Base Meeting (TBD). (Potluck after meeting).
- ⇒ August 25-September 2, National Convention, Rochester, MN.
- ⇒ September- Base Meeting, September 22.
- ⇒ October- Navy Anniversary Dinner; 10/26 (TBD).
- ⇒ November - Veterans Activities (TBD).
- ⇒ December - Christmas Party, AIMM Barge, December 14.



**2012
SAILOR OF THE
YEAR**

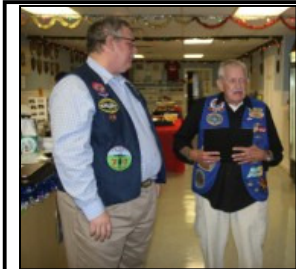
**USS RAZORBACK
BASE SAILOR OF**

THE YEAR FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2012 is presented to **JAMES H GATES** for continued dedication, perseverance and unfailing willingness to assist your fellow base members through your personal actions at the annual NLR Christmas Parades, Veterans and Memorial Day ceremonies, as a Side Boy for Burial at Sea ceremonies, and as cook for the various Base meetings and dinners. You have contributed greatly to the continued success of Razorback Base, and truly exemplify the spirit of a shipmate.

Base Commander 15 December 2012

New Members
Michael Drew (spouse, Carol)
Qualified in 1975
USS Guitarro, SSN 665, MM1(SS)
St. Joe, AR.
WELCOME ABOARD MIKEY!

February Birthdays
Paul Honeck 4
Michael A. Meriweather 5
John E. Archer 6
Colin L. Stockdale Jr. 12
Gilbert F. Houston 13
M. Richard Winchell 22
Frank W. Hampson 24
Robert Gilbert Walls 26
Bruce W. Dart 28
Torrey Wesley Dodson Jr. 28



**2012
PERSONAL ACHIEVE-
MENT AWARD**

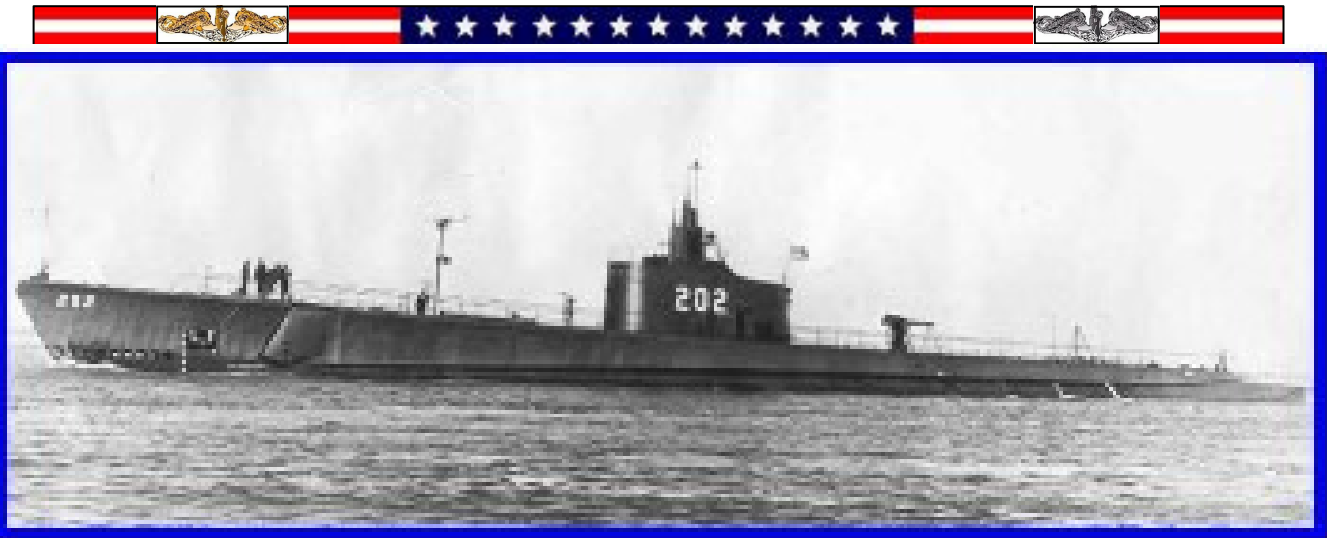
**USS RAZORBACK
BASE PERSONAL
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2012 is presented to **FREDERICK N. WEILMINSTER** for continued dedication, perseverance and unfailing willingness to assist his fellow Base members. Fred has dedicated countless hours of his time and experience as a WW-II Interior Communications Electrician to test, repair and maintain the Battle Lanterns aboard USS Razorback SS 394 in proper working order. As a member of the Base Memorials Detail he has demonstrated his personal dedication to the Base members and family members by volunteering as a Side Boy for several Burial at Sea ceremonies.

Fred's willingness to donate his time and efforts has contributed greatly to the success of Razorback Base and exemplifies the true spirit of what being a shipmate is all about. Your efforts are very much appreciated.



Mayor Patrick Hayes of North Little Rock was presented a plaque at the December Christmas party thanking him for his long-term support of AIMM and the Razorback Base. After 24 years of service, the Mayor did not run for reelection. The support from "Admiral Hayes" was sincerely appreciated.



USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. She carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942.

On 8 February 1944, the submarine began her 11th and final war patrol. Trout topped off with fuel at Midway Island and, on 16 February, headed via a great circle route toward the East China Sea.

Japanese records examined after the war indicate that one of their convoys, Matsu No. 1, was attacked by a submarine on 29 February 1944 in the patrol area assigned to Trout. Carrying the 29th Infantry Division of the Kwantung Army from Manchuria to Guam, Matsu No. 1 consisted of four large transports escorted by three Yugumo-class destroyers of Destroyer Division 31: Asashimo, Kishinami, and Okinami. The submarine badly damaged one large passenger-cargo ship and sank the 7,126-ton transport Sakito Maru, which was carrying the Japanese 18th Infantry Regiment. Asashimo detected the submarine and dropped 19 depth charges. Oil and debris came to the surface and the destroyer dropped a final depth charge on that spot, at the position 22°40'N 131°45'E / 22.667°N 131.75°E / 22.667; 131.75 Coordinates: 22°40'N 131°45'E / 22.667°N 131.75°E / 22.667; 131.75. The submarine was using Mk. XVIII electric torpedoes, and it was also possible that one of those had made a circular run and sunk the boat, as happened with Tang.

On 17 April 1944, Trout was declared presumed lost with all 81 hands, including Commander Clark and his executive officer, Lt. Harry Eades Woodworth, both of whom had made all 11 war patrols.

USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 4th war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived 3 depth charge attacks.

USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.

USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser.

USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 27, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.



Naval Submarine School Dedicates State of the Art Submarine Navigation Trainer



GROTON, CT – Naval Submarine School cut the ribbon on its newest trainer, the Submarine Bridge Trainer (SBT), in dedication ceremonies at Nimitz Hall on Submarine Base Friday, 30 November.

The Submarine Bridge Trainer (SBT) replicates a full-scale real-time bridge of a 688I or a Virginia-class submarine inside of a sphere. Projectors offer realistic scenes of what a bridge team atop a submarine's sail would see in simulated situations of surface navigation. The SBT can connect to other high fidelity trainers so navigation and fire control teams, or one or the other, can work through scenarios with the bridge team. Captain David Roberts, Commanding Officer, Naval Submarine School offered a "Thank you for your support and funding from the citizens of Connecticut that has transformed Nimitz Hall into the new center of submarine navigational training for our Undersea Warriors.

The addition that we cut the ribbon on today houses state of the art tools and technologies to better allow us to continue our history of training excellence. The SBT immerses students in a simulated environment as viewed from the top of a submarine's bridge. This training, in preparation for any mission, anywhere, at any time, makes it possible for our submariners to successfully support a myriad of global operations." "With a heightened degree of fidelity, realism and situational awareness, the SBT will provide new opportunities to optimize individual and team proficiencies, conduct pre-deployment training, and assess operational performance. The capacity and capabilities to deliver world-class training to submarine Sailors have been immeasurably enhanced with the completion of this new facility."

Captain Marc Denno, Commanding Officer, Submarine Base, shared with the audience "(i)n a Deed of Gift to the Navy in 1868, the state conveyed the initial land along the eastern terrace of Connecticut's Thames River for the establishment of a Navy yard. That yard became a coaling station and that coaling station became this nation's FIRST, and I'm not bashful to say, FINEST, Submarine base.

"Since 2007, the State has maintained an Office of Military Affairs. The OMA's focus has not only been SUB-ASE and Connecticut's military facilities and defense & homeland security industries, but also Connecticut's military families, and enhancing their quality of life.

"Connecticut's commitment to the Office of Military Affairs is the embodiment of the one thing that has remained constant since the people of the state first gifted the initial land for this installation so many years ago: the support our Navy has received from our friends and neighbors in the community.

As Commanding Officer of SUBASE, I see it every day. And, I can tell you as a Naval officer who has been stationed around the globe, that generous support is something that I do not take for granted."

Pilots use highly realistic flight simulators with interactive visual displays for training on many standard and emergency procedures-with the SBT, that level of control and realism is now available to train the USN's submarine crews.

The SBT delivers a wrap-around training environment to include high resolution projection on a semi-spherical dome with a degree of realism not seen before in military training technology. Source imagery to include visuals of other vessels, is available through existing Navy harbor, piloting and navigational databases.

The instructional staff can create training scenarios of nearly unlimited scale and scope. SBT realism is further enhanced by a trainer capability to simulate electronic binoculars, periscopes and the submarine's roll and pitch-which, in turn, provides trainees with a true sense of the submarine's rotational motion.



View from inside the trainer.



AIMM Staff Trapped
AIMM Officials Embark USS Harry S. Truman
By Michael Hopper

AIMM Director Greg Zonner and Curator Michael Hopper recently returned from a 24 hour embarkation aboard **USS Harry S. Truman** (CVN-75). They were invited to participate in the Navy's "Leaders to Sea" program, after a visit to AIMM by RADM Kenneth Floyd last year. The program places key leaders from all sectors of society - corporate, civic, government, education, non-profit and service - aboard a deployed carrier. While aboard, visitors meet the talented young men and women who bring these ships to life, and they experience first-hand how the Navy is contributing to the security of the United States, and to the stability of the global community.



The trip began January 23, 2013 at NS Mayport Florida. Zonner and Hopper, along with ten other participants, were flown aboard a Navy C-2 Greyhound, operated by VRC-40 "Rawhides," to meet **Truman** while underway in the Atlantic. The **Truman** battle group is currently conducting composite training unit exercise (COMPTUEX) in preparation for its upcoming deployment. As such, the embarkation provided participants an excellent opportunity to experience life aboard a deployed carrier, operating under wartime conditions.



Highlights of the trip included an up-close and personal view of day and night flight deck operations, tours of the hanger deck, fantail, fo'c'sle, and many other areas of the ship. Participants were invited to dinner with the Heads of Department (HOD's) in the main Wardroom, breakfast with the enlisted sailors, and lunch with the CMC and CPO's in the CPO Mess. Prior to departure via catapult, participants were presented with mementos from their visit by the XO and CMC.

5th Annual Operation Shorty Ride
Benefitting the Patients of the Ft. Roots VA Hospital
Friday, 15 February 2013, 1200, North Little Rock AR

As part of the VA **National Salute to Veterans Week**, Patriot Guard Riders and ALL interested organizations, including **Razorback Base**, are once again invited to participate in a very rewarding and worthy cause, as we remember our beloved member and WWII veteran Herman "Shorty" Hagerman.

This year the requested items to bring are much the same as in the past - toiletries, cash for PX coupons and Bingo prizes, G/PG movie DVD's, caps, socks, underwear, stationary, cards, board games, non-violent video/Wii games (new/used), popcorn/bags, sugar/sugar free treats, etc.

Whatever we can come up with is always appreciated. Last year we had two truckloads of items! Let's see if we can beat that!

The **Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum (AIMM)** has again offered to serve as a collection point. Items may be dropped off during their normal hours 1000-1630 Friday through Saturday and 1300-1630 Sundays



Okay, you have a new *Hawfish Scuttlebutt* editor. Hope you like this first attempt. But—if you don't—please let me know. All ideas, comments and criticisms are welcome. Send me any ideas or information that we might like to see in the newsletter.

Any “sea stories” you would like to tell? (I reserve the right to edit for public consumption.) Any news of note about your family we would like to know? I want to personalize the newsletter some.

Also, I must acknowledge the great work David Grove did over the past years with the *Hawfish Scuttlebutt*. It is a large task to put one of these out every month. **THANKS!**

<p>Published monthly by the <i>USS Razorback Base, United States Submarine Veterans.</i></p> <p>Editor, John C. Barr 501-663-6622 jcbarr346@att.net</p>	Annual Financial Report	
	BASE FUNDS AS OF JANUARY 1,2012	\$14,148.16
<p>Funds from the <i>Booster Club</i> will be used for restoration of the <i>USS Razorback</i> and other special projects appropriate to the mission of <i>USSVI</i>. Send donations to Razorback Base – <i>USSVI</i>, 9 Broadview Dr., Little Rock, AR 72207-5113 (Memo – <i>Booster Club</i>).</p>	RECEIPTS	
	REVENUE-BASE DUES	\$1,465.00
<p>Booster Club</p> <p>Carl Schmidt Robert Christians Cecil H. Goins Ronald W. Hines Emma J. Farmer Terence M. Murphy George Wrightam</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$380</p>	REVENUE-NATIONAL DUES	\$1,552.00
	REVENUE-DONATIONS TO BASE	\$532.00
	DONATIONS TO USSVCF	\$60.00
	INTEREST AND DIVIDEND INCOME	\$11.08
	FUNDS FROM NATIONAL OR OTHER BASES	\$0.00
	REVENUE-EVENTS	\$0.00
	REVENUE-FUND RAISING	\$193.00
	REVENUE-OTHER	\$0.20
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$3,813.28
	EXPENDITURES	
	DUES PAID TO NATIONAL	\$1,542.00
	OTHER PAYMENTS TO NATIONAL	\$0.00
	PAYMENTS TO USSVCF	\$160.00
	PAYMENTS TO BOAT SPONSORSHIPS	\$0.00
	PAYMENTS TO OTHER BASES	\$0.00
	OTHER DONATIONS	\$0.00
	BASE MEMORIAL EXPENSE	\$844.34
	BASE OPERATING EXPENSE	\$946.70
	BASE MEETING EXPENSE	\$0.00
	BASE SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS	\$0.00
	EXPENSES-EVENTS	\$0.00
	EXPENSES-FUND RAISING	\$28.62
	EXPENSES-OTHER	\$50.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,571.66
	NET CHANGE	\$241.62
	BASE FUNDS AS OF DECEMBER 31,2012	\$14,389.78



From the Base Chaplain

I want to express my thanks to you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as Base Chaplain. I pray that I might fill this position as well as Carl has during the past few years.

In case you haven't had the opportunity to read my bio on the Base Website, let me provide you with a little bit of my background. I am currently serving as senior pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Jacksonville. I have been in this position for a little over three years. Prior to this, I served in pastorates in Hawaii, Georgia, and Texas.

I enlisted in the Navy in 1971 and served as an electronics technician on the U.S.S. John Marshall, SSBN-611. I left the Navy in August of 1980 to attend seminary. I did however remain in the Naval Reserve and retired in 1994.

I have been married for 38 years and my wife's name is Gloria. We have two daughters: Lisa (33), serving as a Lt. Cmdr. in the Navy, and Tami (27) married and living in Virginia Beach. We have two grandsons: Brady (5) and Leim (3 mos.)

If you ever need to get in contact with me, my phone number is 501-366-0331. You can also contact me via e-mail, joe.manning@att.net. I am also on Facebook.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve you as Base Chaplain.

Joe Manning

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Yeoman	Barbara Schwerman	501-804-0687	baschwer@suddenlink.net
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