



# Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



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

Base Commander,

Editor, David Grove

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## Upcoming Events:

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of each month is a boat work day.

Base Christmas dinner at the USS Razorback will be on Saturday, December 12th.

*November 2009*

## Commander's Corner Nomination

### Requested Base Commander and Vice Commander

Due to personal reasons, Paul Honeck has stepped down as Base Commander. This is a call for volunteers to step up to be nominated for the position of Base Commander. Please let John Barr know if you are interested, or if you have someone else in mind who would be a good candidate (Make sure that person is willing to serve).

Also, we will need to fill the position of Vice Commander, so send in your nominations for this position too.

Deadline for sending in nominations for these positions is **November 14, 2009**. After that date we will have an election form for you to complete. If only one person is nominated for a position, the Executive Committee will

make the decision to install the nominees as Base Commander and Vice Commander, as appropriate.

Submitted by  
Ray Wewers - District  
Commander

To date there are two nominations-  
Greg Schwerman for Base  
Commander and Joe Mathis  
for Vice Commander



## Diamond Chapter to Razorback Base

Thank You All so much for helping with our Chapter closing we were very impressed. Thank You from all the Diamond Chapter

Members that could not be there.

J.T. "Joe" Blanchett

Crabby Road



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

[USS Corvina \(SS-226\)](#) **16-Nov-1943**. All hands lost (82)

[USS Sculpin \(SS-191\)](#) **19-Nov-1943**. 40 men lost. 42 taken as POW, only 21 survived the war. Captain John P. Cromwell, USN, Commander of a Submarine Task Group (Wolfpack) went down with the ship to ensure his knowledge of impending operations was not compromised. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

[USS Growler \(SS-215\)](#) **8-Nov-1944**. All hands lost (85)

[USS Albacore \(SS-218\)](#) **7-Nov-1944**. All hands lost (86)

[USS Scamp \(SS-277\)](#) **16-Nov-1944**. All hands lost (83)

### **USS SCAMP (SS-277) November 16, 1944 – All Hands Lost (83)**



USS Scamp, a 1525-ton Gato class submarine built at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Kittery, Maine, was commissioned in mid-September 1942. Early the next year she went to the Pacific to join the war against Japan, beginning her first war patrol in March 1943. Suffering from the then all too common torpedo problems, she sank no ships on this cruise, though two were damaged. A second patrol, through the Central Pacific in April-June, cost the enemy the seaplane tender Kamikawa Maru and ended at Brisbane, Australia, which would be Scamp's base for the rest of 1943. During that time she finished three more war patrols and began another, all into the Bismarck Sea area, sinking a Japanese submarine in July, a cargo ship in September and another in November. She also badly damaged the light cruiser Agano.

In January 1944, during her sixth war patrol, Scamp torpedoed and sank a large tanker. Following a quick refit at Milne Bay, New Guinea, she went to the area between New Guinea and the southern Philippines for another combat cruise. This one nearly ended her career, as on 7 April she was near-missed by a bomb that caused serious shock damage, started fires and temporarily caused loss of power and depth control. After a very tense time for her crew, Scamp was able to leave the area and proceed to an advanced base for emergency repairs. The submarine then went back to the U.S. for a major overhaul. She was ordered to the waters east of Japan for her eighth patrol, leaving Pearl Harbor in mid-October 1944, and was last heard from on 9 November. Postwar Japanese records indicate that Scamp may have been sunk by air and escort ship attacks on 11 November, but it is also possible that she hit a mine. More than eighty officers and men were lost with her.

**"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**

**Join the Fun Base Activities**

**Base Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 12th, 4 p.m.

Please join us Saturday evening, December 12th at 4 p.m. at AIMM for our annual Christmas party. As before, you will need to bring a dish to round out the turkey and ham to be provided by the Base. Or, if you have a "specialty" you would like to bring, let us know. We will assign a category of food for you to bring about a week before the party. It is always a festive time, so please join us.

Contact John Barr at 501-663-6622 or [jcbarr@aristotle.net](mailto:jcbarr@aristotle.net) to let him know how many will be coming in your party. If there is enough interest, we can also have the Razorback available for those of you that may want to stay over that evening.

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**Join the Rush - Pay Your Dues**

We have 40 members that have not paid their dues totaling \$1,120. 26 owe \$35 for USSVI and Base dues, and 14 owe \$15 for Base dues only. Remember, if you do not pay by December 31st, your membership will be dropped. Honestly, I really do not like bugging you about this, but it is my responsibility as Membership Chair. Thank you for your consideration, and your support of Razorback Base and the USSVI.

John C. Barr  
Membership Chair

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

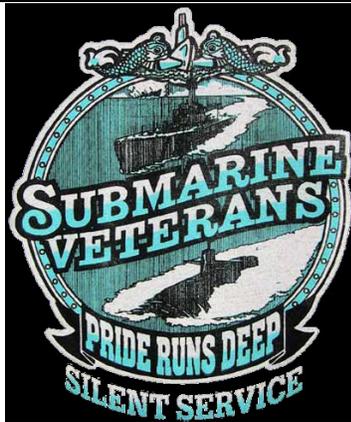
**FROM THE STOREKEEPER**

**Do You Know Where This Is Located?**



Guess correctly and you will receive a SubVet T-shirt or "The War Fighters" 2010 calendar.

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\*\*NOTE: The shirts are \$ 16.00 each and have to limit only one per customer due to a limited supply. We can order more, so feel free to let the Storekeeper know of your needs.



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2010 USSVI Calendars have arrived. The theme of these calendars is "The War Fighters" and feature some great photographs of our submariners during World War II. Because calendar sales have fluctuated so much over the past three years, I ordered only thirty (30). For that reason, two (2) calendars per customer on initial orders until November 15, 2009. If necessary, hopefully we can place a second order if sales are strong. Calendars are priced at \$ 12.00 each or two (2) for \$ 22.00 including mailing to U.S. locations. Contact Billy Hollaway at [retldoun@earthlink.net](mailto:retldoun@earthlink.net) or (501) 519-4848 to place your order.

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**Base Motorcycle Riders**

The riders are planning what appears to be a fun but fitting Veteran's Day ride. They plan to assemble at the Medal of Honor Memorial in front of the State Capitol at 1000 on Wednesday, November 11. They will travel to Lonoke Co's courthouse in Lonoke, the White Co. courthouse in Searcy, Veteran's

Memorial in Beebe, Veteran's Memorial in Jacksonville, Arkansas State Veteran's Cemetery in Sherwood and conclude at USS SNOOK Memorial in North Little Rock. A schedule of five and a half (5 1/2) hours is planned for the 117+ mile trip including a 15-minute honors ceremony and yet to be determined lunch stop. They are planning a Tolling of the Boats at USS SNOOK.

The planned route is from the capitol south on MLK Blvd./ I-630 East/I-30 West/I-440 East/U. S. 70 East to Lonoke. The courthouse is located on AR 31 North from U S 70; AR Highway 31 North from Lonoke to Beebe, AR 367 North/Business 67 North/W. Race Ave. to the courthouse in Searcy; reverse the previous route to the memorial in Beebe located on AR 367 and across from the ASU campus; AR 367 South, 1st Ave. South, Main St. west to the memorial in Jacksonville; Main St. west, Jacksonville CutOff Rd. west, AR 107 South, Maryland Ave. west to the cemetery; Maryland Ave. west, Remount Rd. south, Camp Robinson Rd., Donovan Briley Parkway, Military Rd. south, MacArthur Blvd, Pike Ave. and Riverfront Drive to USS RAZORBACK. All are welcome to join in at any or all locations and take part in the ceremony. Hopefully, we can arrange for local newspapers or radio/TV station coverage and supporters along the way. Questions may be referred to Billy Hollaway by e-mail or telephone, (501) 519-4848.

Bill Hollaway  
[retldoun@earthlink.net](mailto:retldoun@earthlink.net)  
--Wear your Dolphins - you earned them!--

**From the Chaplain**



Chaplain Carl Schmidt presents a Bible to Betty Sue Barnes at the funeral of her Mother, Allie Dortch, on October 6, 2009. David you can write the information you think is needed, this is one of the Bibles furnished by USS Razorback Base.

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

**AIMMS NEWS**



### **Out With the Old, In With the New (Sort of)**

With the approach of Winter, exhibits at AIMM are changing with the seasons. The very popular Civil War exhibit on the ironclad CSS Arkansas ended its successful run on November 3rd and has been replaced with the museum's recurring Pearl Harbor exhibit.

Although much of the exhibit will be familiar to you, there are many new features, including new photographs, scale models of the aircraft that participated in the attack and a replica panel from a Japanese "Zero".

The exhibit on USS Harder (SS-257) and her famous Captain, CDR Sam Dealey will also be ending soon and will be replaced by an exhibit on the two "Moored Training Ships" that are such an important, yet mostly unknown, part of your Navy's nuclear power training program.

### **Winter / Holiday Hours**

With the return to Standard Time, AIMM is returning to its Winter Schedule. Since the time change brings an early sunset (5:15 in early November and as early as 5:00 p.m. in mid-December), for safety reasons, the museum will start closing at dusk instead of staying open until 6:00 p.m.

So, the museums hours will be:

Friday - 10:00 a.m. to Dusk

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to Dusk

Sunday - 1:00 p.m. to Dusk

The museum will return to Spring Hours in March, when Daylight Savings Time returns.

The museum will be open for a regular schedule on Thanksgiving Weekend (Friday / Saturday /

Sunday). That weekend has been one of the museum's best weekends.

AIMM will be closed on Christmas Day, Friday the 25th and on New Year's Day, Friday, January 1st, but will be open regular hours on Saturday and Sunday both weekends.

Remember that, especially this time of year, the weather can interfere with tours, so the museum may be closed some days, or even some weekends when rain or freezing precipitation hits.

### **Birthday Parties and Overnight Stays Becoming Popular**

November is going to be a record-setting month for the museum in at least two areas – Birthday Parties and Overnight Stays. In the space of the three weekends in November before Thanksgiving, there are five Birthday Parties and one Overnight Stay already booked, a 100% booking rate!

The museum is already about 50% booked for December and January as well, including one weekend in January with TWO Boy Scout troops coming, one on Friday night and one on Saturday night.

Thanks go out to everyone who has "spread the word" about us, and if you have a free Friday or Saturday evening, consider spending it with some folks who are really interested in experiencing life on a submarine (at least for a night).

Greg Stitz - Curator  
Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum  
www.aimm.museum  
Home of USS Razorback (SS-394)  
501-371-8320

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

### **Comments on - Subs with Female Sailors**

One More Reason for a Male-Only Silent Service

As the Navy brass prepares for a "co-ed" submarine force, they might consider the impact of human biology on other elements of the service.

Navy Times reports that some shore commands in Norfolk, Virginia are heavily staffed by pregnant sailors, and some commanders are complaining about the lack of proper manning to carry out their missions.

The problem--and leadership complaints--resulted in an

investigation by the Navy IG. According to the IG report, some of shore-based organizations in the Norfolk area have pregnant sailors in up to 34% of their billets. And due to restrictions associated with their medical condition, the sailors (in many cases) cannot perform all of their assigned duties, placing an added strain on shore commands.

The IG has asked Navy personnel officials to review the new rules for Navy mothers-to-be and consider the work conducted by each rating and how pregnancy affects a sailor's ability to do that work.

The spike in pregnant sailors assigned to some units comes after the Navy changed its rules for handling mothers-to-be. And its compounded by a baby boomlet in the Navy community.

When sailors on sea duty become pregnant, they are transferred to shore-based commands that fit certain criteria, such as being close to a Navy medical center. The length of that assignment changed in June 2007, when the Navy extended the postpartum tour from four months after a Child's birth to 12 months. Combined with a nine-month pregnancy, that puts expectant mothers on limited duty for up to 21 months.

Now, shore industrial and aviation commands say they are receiving more pregnant sailors "from 15 percent to 34 percent of authorized billets, in some cases" who are unable to fulfill essential duties because of their pregnancy, according to the IG.

If pregnancy trends remain constant, the new pregnancy distribution policy could have over 2,500 sailors counting against shore duty commands in ratings where they are not able to conduct mission-essential work within industrial or hazardous material-type conditions, the IG report, based on a site visit to Hampton Roads, Va., in March and April, concludes.

But the impact is felt far beyond shore installations. As the Times article indicates, many sailors move to shore duty after becoming pregnant. That means that male sailors (or non-pregnant females) wind up filling the ship billets vacated by the mother-to-be. Unfortunately, the

article doesn't indicate how many of the females in Norfolk-area shore commanders were transferred from sea duty after discovering they were pregnant.

Talk to Navy officers and senior NCOs and you'll get a real earful on the effects of this problem. While acknowledging that many female sailors are simply trying to balance a naval career against their desire to start a family, others are gaming the system, they say. In some cases, they say female sailors become pregnant to avoid a projected deployment, or get out of an assignment they don't like.

Years ago, sailors who became pregnant while on active duty were immediately dismissed from the service. By comparison, today's family-friendly Navy goes to great lengths to accommodate pregnant sailors, and there's not much a Captain or Master Chief can do except grit their teeth and suck it up.

You'd think the IG report would offer a cautionary tale for the submarine force and its plan for mixed-gender crews. Running an attack boat or a boomer takes an exceptionally well-trained, cohesive team of officers and enlisted members. Simply stated, the silent service can't afford the kind of turnover caused by pregnancies in other Navy organizations.

But such concerns are being ignored in the rush to break down one last bastion of male service. Sub skippers and Chiefs of the Boat know what's on the way, but speaking out would be a career killer. If the IG's findings are any indication, we'll soon be reading about training, turnover and reliability problems in the sub fleet, thanks to female crew members who decided to get pregnant.

This has always been a problem in the Navy. You can't put a halfway decent looking female out on a ship without expecting her to get "screwed" - as a minimum. Since all sex is "unauthorized" - there are very few precautions taken to avoid pregnancy. Remember - both sexes are in their prime years - and the hormones just don't cooperate with policy.

We were always concerned that the number of "shore billets" were unfairly portioned to females - and

now with the policy changes expanding that distribution problem, many who have earned a shore duty rotation will not get it. This in turn makes the wives of those that have been on ship duty for an extended time - unhappy with their husband not being able to have some family time with them. Not any winners with current policy - and extending it to submarines is not the answer!!!!

#### Comments from Bob Sykes

Here is my major concern about putting women on subs.

I believe that women could do just as good of a job as men on subs, but they had better be able to do it in every compartment without every any hesitation what so ever or they're out. Those advocating women on subs seems to miss the most important point and that is the preverbal love triangle. When you have men and women together you get that love triangle. In that triangle one of the men will be disappointed, jilted or scorned. His actions are what I'm very concerned about. On a surface ship his retaliatory actions will hurt those involved and may hurt others including damaging the ship. In the latter case on a sub, that could mean the loss of a sub, all over some lost love and revenge. That human nature trait is what scares the hell out of me about women on subs. It's real and there is nothing that can be done to foresee it, prevent it or correct it. It's just human nature at it's worst.

boB

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

#### WWII Submarine Veterans Recognition

Please go to [www.boozman.house.gov](http://www.boozman.house.gov) and click on Honoring Submarine Veterans and watch the You Tube speech that Congressman Boozman made on HR 773. It passed the House and will become part of the Congressional Record. Kudos to the USS Snook Base.

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



#### November Birthdays

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> - Enrile Trinidad  
 Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> - Don David  
 Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - Frenchie Delozier

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - Kenneth Chambers  
 Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - Herb Murphy  
 Nov 7<sup>th</sup> - Earle Aucoin  
 Nov 8<sup>th</sup> - Emma Farmer  
 Nov 13<sup>th</sup> - Jerry O'Neal  
 Nov 16<sup>th</sup> - Charles McMinn  
 Nov 17<sup>th</sup> - Barney Carroll  
 Nov 17<sup>th</sup> - Greg Nelson  
 Nov 18<sup>th</sup> - Robert Cagle  
 Nov 19<sup>th</sup> - Bill Woods  
 Nov 24<sup>th</sup> - Gene Prohl  
 Nov 26<sup>th</sup> - Herschel Holtman  
 Nov 30<sup>th</sup> - Roger Lyle

**Happy Birthday!**

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

#### Treasures Report: Oct 2009

<b>BEGINNING BAL.:</b>	<b>\$ 4923.96</b>
<b>DEPOSITS:</b>	
Dues Collected	1020.00
Overpayment by Alvarado	60.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS:</b>	<b>\$ 1080.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Dues Paid to National	735.00
Exp. Storekeeper	340.00
Exp. Stamps	62.57
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 1137.57</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$ 4866.39</b>
<b>CHARITYS</b>	
<b>Boat Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1366.03</b>
<b>Base Charity Fund</b>	<b>\$ 650.00</b>
<b>USS Snook Memorial</b>	<b>\$ 1255.86</b>
<b>Regions Bank CD</b>	<b>\$ 5049.33</b>
Interest Earned	25.26
Balance	5074.59
<b>TOTAL IN BASE FUNDS =</b>	<b>\$13212.87</b>

**Greg Schwerman**  
**Base Treasurer**

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

#### Submarine Museum Trivia

Last Month: Northern-most museum submarine?

A: USS BLUEBACK

#### Q: Museum submarine in

**Hackensack, NJ?** (answer will be posted in next issue)



**HAWGFISH SCUTTLEBUTT  
IN GOD WE TRUST**

David Grove  
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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**

<b><u>Base Commander</u></b>			
<b><u>Vice Commander</u></b>			
<b><u>COB</u></b>	Joe Mathis	<a href="mailto:usnjrm@yahoo.com">usnjrm@yahoo.com</a>	(501) 565-6021
<b><u>Chaplain</u></b>	Carl Schmidt	<a href="mailto:bonnynclyde@classicnet.net">bonnynclyde@classicnet.net</a>	(501) 843-7855
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	Greg Schwerman	<a href="mailto:gschwerman@suddenlink.net">gschwerman@suddenlink.net</a>	(501) 804-0386
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<b><u>Holland Club</u></b>	Lee Huss	<a href="mailto:lee393sub@sbcglobal.net">lee393sub@sbcglobal.net</a>	(501) 922-1216
<b><u>Memorials/Ceremonies</u></b>	Billy Hollaway	<a href="mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net">retldousn@earthlink.net</a>	(501) 758-3266