



# Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



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

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## Upcoming Events:

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

*October 2010*

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### Commander's Corner

Sitting here at my desk, three days late for turning this in to David for the news letter, and I can't think of anything profound or even mildly amusing to say, so I guess I will have to just get to the events of the past month.

Wednesday morning 9 September the Base along with AIMM hosted the members of the USS Razorback Association to a pancake breakfast. Billy and Sherry Hollaway, John Barr, Greg Zonner, Greg Stitz, Jim Barns, Joe Mathis, Jim MacDonald, Jim Gates and I cooked pancakes eggs and sausage for the group. Well done and thank you to everyone who helped. Later in the afternoon a Burial at Sea ceremony was conducted for Former USS Razorback shipmate Joe DiBari. Thanks to Billy Hollaway and Joe Manning for planning and conducting the ceremony, Joe's family was very appreciative of your efforts to make this happen.

On 8 and 9 September the guys from the USS Razorback Association held their annual work days on the Razorback. Gene Prohl conducted school of the boat, on how to use the tube tester to test all the old tubes for

Radio, Sonar and the MC system, and on Thursday Mark Taylor brought down his portable hydraulic power supply, and we tried to raise number 2 scope, but we were still unable to make it move. Current theory is that the hull packing is sticking and will need to be replaced. Thanks again to the guys from the association AIMM and all base members who worked so hard on this project.

Saturday 25 September we honored member Jim Lemons with a Burial at Sea ceremony conducted onboard the USS Razorback. The ceremony was planned by Billy Hollaway and conducted by Base Chaplain Carl Schmidt and Joe Manning with many base members serving as Side-Boys and Honor Guards. After the ceremony I was able to speak with Joe's wife Mary, and she expressed to me how pleased she was with the ceremony. Thanks again to everyone who assisted and attended.

The next planned Base event is scheduled for Saturday 23 October at 1630 in Heber Springs at the Heber Lanes. Cost for the evening is \$5.00 and includes bowling and pizza; we will also

celebrate the Navy Birthday with cake and ice cream. Barbara and I have reserved a room at the Abbe House B&B <http://www.abbehouse.com/index.htm> for Friday and Saturday. Rooms are \$85.00 and \$95.00 a night and include a full country breakfast each morning.

In November for Veterans Day November 11th a memorial activity will be conducted at AIMM starting at 5:00 PM. And in December the annual Christmas Party will be held at AIMM on December 18th. The next regular base meeting will be on January 22nd.

Lastly welcome aboard to new base members Walter Stevens and Clifford Lyle and welcome back to returning member David Dinwiddie.

**Greg Schwerman**  
**Base Commander**

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

## Submarines Lost/Damaged During the Month of October

[USS O-5 \(SS-66\)](#) **11-Oct-1923**. Two men lost.

[USS S-44 \(SS-155\)](#) **7-Oct-1943**. 56 men lost and two taken as POW. Both survived the war.

[USS Wahoo \(SS-238\)](#) **11-Oct-1943**. All hands lost (79).

[USS Dorado \(SS-248\)](#) **12-Oct-1943**. All hands lost (78).

[USS Escolar \(SS-294\)](#) **17-Oct-1944**. All hands lost (82).

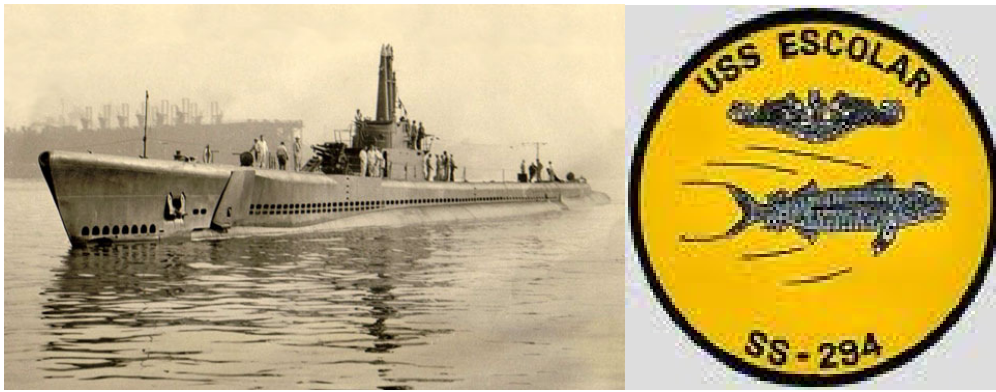
[USS Shark II \(SS-314\)](#) **24-Oct-1944**. All hands lost (90).

[USS Seawolf \(SS-197\)](#) **3-Oct-1944**. All hands lost (102).

[USS Tang \(SS 306\)](#) **24-Oct-1944**. 78 men lost. 9 taken POW and survived the war. CDR Richard O'Kane was awarded the Medal of Honor for his leadership and heroism as CO.

[USS Darter \(SS-227\)](#) **24-Oct-1944**. All the crew was rescued by USS Dace.

### **USS Escolar (SS-294) October 17, 1944 – All Hands Lost (82)**



Escolar: A predatory fish of the open ocean related to the mackerels and funnies.

(SS-294: dp. 1,526; l. 311'8"; b. 27'3"; dr. 15'3"; s. 20 k.; cpl. 66; a. 1 5", 10 21" tt.; cl. Gato)

Escolar (SS-294) was launched 18 April 1943 by Cramp Shipbuilding Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; sponsored by Mrs. J. Bilisoly Hudgins; and commissioned 2 June 1944, Commander W. J. Millican in command.

Escolar had her final training for combat at Pearl Harbor, from which she put out for her first war patrol 18 September 1944. After topping off fuel at Midway, she joined Croaker (SS-246) and Perch (SS-313) for a coordinated war patrol in the Yellow Sea which she directed.

On 30 September, she engaged a small craft in a surface gun action, and reported to her sisters that she was undamaged, without mentioning what her gunfire had done to the enemy ship. Her last communication was with Perth on 17 October- she was never heard from again.

Since Japanese records consulted after the war show no antisubmarine action at that time in the area where Escolar is believed to have been, it is assumed that she struck a mine and sank with all hands.

**"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**

### **Veteran's Day Ceremony**

A Veteran's Day planning committee appointed by Base Commander Greg Schwerman met on Saturday, October 2, 2010 at AIMM for the purpose of planning a base memorial ceremony to commemorate Veteran's Day, November 11, 2010.

Those present were Carl Schmidt, Jim MacDonald, Paul Honeck and Billy Hollaway. Members absent were John Barr and Mark Taylor.

It was agreed upon by the Committee that a memorial activity would be conducted at AIMM on November 11, 2010 starting at 5:00 PM. USS RAZORBACK Base will provide a cookout for St. Francis House Homeless Veterans, and include burgers, hot dogs, beans, chips, drinks and dessert.

Volunteers are requested to cook, serve (as required), give tours if requested and provide any other support deemed necessary. We request that base members provide chips, pickles, paper plates, plastic cutlery and side dishes of baked beans. We expect to have 50 homeless veterans in attendance. A similar event was held in the spring and was well received by all including the volunteers who supported it.

Following dinner, a POW/MIA ceremony is planned to be followed by dessert.

A final planning meeting is planned for 10:00 AM, November 6, 2010 at AIMM. Interested parties are invited to attend.

Call Greg Schwerman or Billy Hollaway to volunteer your time and culinary talent for this worthy event.

For the EC, request funds to provide hamburger patties, hot dogs, sodas, buns and a sheet cake for dessert.

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**USSVI 2010 Calendars** will be available soon contact Bill Hollaway for pricing and delivery. Bill Hollaway

[retldousn@earthlink.net](mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net)

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### **Base Activity in Oct.**

Our next planned base event is Bowling Night at Heber Lanes on Saturday October 23rd \$5.00 per person which includes pizza and bowling. Barbara and I will be staying Friday and Saturday nights at the Abbe House B&B <http://www.abbehouse.com/index.h> Bowling starts at 1630 on Saturday.

Looking forward to the 23rd

Greg

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### **USSVI Razorback Base Meeting Minutes**

**September 25, 2010**

The Razorback Base meeting was called to order by base commander Greg Schwerman at 1200 hours at Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum in No. Little Rock, AR. There were 26 members, and 3 visitors. The Creed was read by Greg Schwerman.

The Tolling of the Bell for Lost Boats was presented by Billy Hollaway and Greg Zonner. Invocation was given by Carl Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Joe Mathis.

The reading of the minutes of the past meeting was read by Jane Farmer. Motion was made and seconded to accept minutes as read. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report was given by Bob Bowlin. The balance in the checking account as of August 2010 was \$7759.44. Motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

#### Committee Reports

1. Chaplain-Carl Schmidt reported sending a bible to the widow of Forrest Ramer. Please let Carl know if anyone is sick or died.
2. Membership-John Barr reported 212 members and 3 new members. He had sent out 86 newsletters.
3. Storekeeper-Billy Hollaway told us that sales had been slow. He does have 2010 calendars and the tee-shirts with collars for sale. He will

order some more dolphins for the ladies.

4. Memorial and Ceremonies-Billy Hollaway thank everyone for helping with the memorial service for Horald Lemons.
5. Activities-Bowling in Heber Spring Oct 23, 2010. There will be a service on Veteran's Day Nov 11. The Christmas party will be Dec. 18, 2010.
6. Communications-Jim MacDonald presented Mary Lemon with a plaque from New Zealand. A \$100 donation was give by Mary Lemons for beautification of the Snook Memorial.

#### Old Business

1. Donation for new compressor was table until the next meeting.

#### New Business

1. Base elections. A motion was made and seconded for Greg Schwerman-base commander-, Joe Mathis as vice- commander to continue in office for the next two years. Motion passed.
2. Veterans Day-A committee headed by Billy Hollaway was form to determine activities for Veteran's Day. This committee will meet at 10a.m., Oct. 2, 2010
3. Carl Schmidt asked the base to look at two proposals from the FRA.
  - a. Adding of people who have gone on Eternal Petrol, from our base that year, after the FRA reads their list at the Memorial Day Ceremony on the Broadway Bridge.
  - b. FRA asked us to help with the Tolling of the Bell at the State Capital. These two proposals will be looked at by the Veteran's Day Committee.
4. The base has been approach to take over the job of National Storekeeper by Wayne Standerfer. Only one person might be interested.
5. Motion was made and seconded to defer our Nov. meeting, and use Veteran's Day as our meeting for Nov. Motion



passed. Our next meeting will be Jan.22, 2011 at AIMM. at 1500 hours.  
Benediction by Carl Schmidt.  
Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

**Recording Secretary**  
**Jane Farmer**

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**Thank You!**  
Bill and Greg,

I know each of you played a leadership role in putting together Joe's ceremony at the Boat. I also know you had help from many others. No way do I know/remember all of them but that fact doesn't diminish my thanks and appreciation to them as well as each of you. Please accept and pass on my sincere and heartfelt thanks. Joe couldn't have gotten a more fitting, honorable and sincere farewell than that provided.

**Sincerely,**  
**Bob Di Bari**

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**Razorback Base & National Dues**

Shipmates,  
Being an old retired person, one of my highlights of the day is going to the box to get the mail. Monday wasn't all that exciting since it was a holiday with no mail delivery. So, was really looking forward to today in hopes of getting several letters with dues in them.

Oh the disappointment - no dues.

This is your first gentle reminder. I miss my mail and your dues. Hope all is well with you and your family.

John  
Membership Chair  
Razorback Base – USSVI  
501-663-6622(H) 501-993-3953(C)  
jcbarr@aristotle.net

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**Snook Base Christmas Party**

The following is an invitation from the Snook Base to join them at their Base Christmas Party on Dec 11th. Please let me know if you would like to attend and I will forward the numbers to Pete.  
Thanks - Greg Schwerman

The USS Snook Base is planning a base Christmas party on Saturday, December 11, someplace in northwest Arkansas [hotels still being looked at.] We would like to extend an invitation to your base to join us at this event. We are still working on the planning but tentatively it looks like we will have a buffet dinner in the hospitality room. Rooms at the hotel will be available for those wanting to spend the night. Please canvass you membership and let me know if there is an interest in joining us for this party. The more the merrier. We will be planning fun type gift exchanges and raffles. Please call or email me if you have questions. More info to follow.

Pete Rathmell  
USS Snook Base Commander  
[cprskr@gmail.com](mailto:cprskr@gmail.com)

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**235TH Marine Corps Birthday Celebration**

FYI - We have also been invited by the Ozark Runner Base to join them in representing USSVI in the Marine Corps Birthday on November 6th. The following is the information from the Marine Corps League. Reservation information is included if you wish to attend.  
Thanks  
Greg Schwerman

235th Marine Corps Birthday  
Saturday 6 NOVEMBER 2010  
Embassy Suites John Q.  
Hammons Convention Center  
Rogers, Arkansas

The Northwest Arkansas Marine Corps League Detachment # 854 will host the United States Marine Corps 235th Birthday Celebration and cordially invites all members of the Military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Seabees, National Guard and Reserve) past and present and their family, friends and the public to attend.



**235th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration**

Date: Saturday, 6 November 2010  
Time: 1800 (6:00 P.M.) Cocktail Hour 1900 (7:00 P.M.) Ceremony  
Location: Embassy Suites - John Q. Hammons Convention Center  
Ambassador Ballroom  
3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway  
Rogers, AR. 72758

**Embassy Suites Hotel**  
Phone: 479-254-8400

The Embassy Suites has reserved a block of rooms at a discounted rate for all who want to spend the night. When calling for reservations, let them know you are with the "Marine Corps Birthday" group.

Tickets: \$30.00 admission per person - sold in advance or at the door  
Contact Lewis Kaslow 479-254-0005 or Tom Morrow 479-254-1055 to purchase tickets  
*The Detachment will pick up the ticket cost of all World War II Marines & Corpsmen.*  
Dress is formal attire or business casual

**Featured Guest Speakers:**  
**Congressman John Boozman**  
**City of Rogers Mayor Steve Womack**

Make checks payable to:  
NW Arkansas MCL Detachment  
#854 Marine Corps League  
All ticket orders will be held at the door  
--Wear your Dolphins - you earned them!--

**Navy News**

**Sub Studies: 24-Hour Setup Shows Promise**  
**8-Hour Shifts Could Improve Sleep Patterns**

Sam Fellman, Navy Times, Oct 2010 Submariners on patrol live in an artificial environment. They generate their own oxygen, bask in fluorescent light and even have their own, unique daily cycle: the 18-hour day. Typically, it's six on, six at work, and six off.

Now, submarine medical officials are studying whether a 24-hour day, which includes an eight-hour rest, would improve crew performance. A recent six-week trial aboard the ballistic-submarine

Rhode Island suggests that the additional rest is excellent, but eight-hour watches present new issues.

"We're re-evaluating how we sleep and whether six hours is as optimal as doing eight hours," Cmdr. Robert Clark, Rhode Island's skipper, told Navy Times during an underway visit in August. "If you can get eight hours of sleep down, you go through more of the [rapid eye movement] cycle. Theoretically, people should be more alert and aware."

Recent studies have suggested that the body functions on a 24-hour physiological clock and that disruptions to this circadian rhythm, as it is known, will hinder reaction time and focus and increase stress.

Two short-term studies last year aboard the ballistic sub Maryland and the attack sub Pittsburgh also saw performance gains from a 24-hour cycle, the lead researcher for the study told Navy Times in 2009.

Citing the ongoing nature of the studies, a submarine force spokesman declined to discuss its findings or expected completion date, but said there are no plans to expand the studies to other subs.

Aboard Rhode Island, preliminary results of the study suggest "that the guys were more focused," said Master Chief Fire Control Technician (SS) Jeffrey Bottoms, who serves as chief of the boat. "There was a 70-30 split of 'like' to 'not like'" for the new hours, he said.

The new cycle was broken into three eight-hour watches: midnight to 8 a.m., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and 4 p.m. to midnight.

It allowed sailors to sleep every day at the same time, but the change came with its own problems, Bottoms said.

One of the thorniest issues was keeping watchstanders sharp for entire shifts, Bottoms said. "The sonar techs had a tough time staying awake when looking at a green screen for eight hours."

Rhode Island planned its drills on patrol from 8 a.m. to noon, a period when all hands were expected to be awake. However,

that meant "the midwatch guys never got drills," Bottoms said. "It took longer to get the crew to where they should be."

Others didn't see much difference in the training. "Once they got a schedule figured out, it was easier to get drills and training in," said Chief Electronics Technician (SS/PJ) Steven Gilday. "It seemed to work fairly well."

From long watches to chow reliefs, many acknowledged that there are plenty of kinks left to iron out, but the 24-hour cycle has a lot of potential.

"Initially, there was a lot of dislike," Clark said. "By the end, I would venture to say a majority of personnel liked the eight-hour rotation. Now we're gathering from people what they really want and we'll try it again next patrol."

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### Submarine Laser Project Awarded To QinetiQ

*AZO Optics, October 2010*

QinetiQ has received a \$31.8 million contract to develop and construct a blue laser system for secret communications between an aircraft and a submarine.

Under the Tactical Relay Information Network (TRITON) program, the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has awarded the contract. The DARPA will conduct a live assessment of the laser system for a naval exercise in the middle of 2012.

QinetiQ is currently working on the Submarine-Enabling Airborne Data Exchange and Enhancement Program (SEADEEP), a blue-laser communication system. This laser system can be transported using an unmanned aerial vehicle for supporting submarines.

DARPA has developed new cesium atomic line filters (ALFs) and blue solid-state lasers to generate emission at 459 and 455 nm wavelength. DARPA feels that the major component technologies are suitable enough for the use in an operational defense system. The first phase of the TRITON program includes development of cesium ALFs and multiple blue laser transmitter modules. Meanwhile, the development of

downlink laser systems, laser uplink, and receivers will also be done simultaneously.



### October Birthdays

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Jim Barnes  
 Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> – Scott Pursley  
 Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Doug Nunnery  
 Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Gunner Stitz  
 Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – Jessie Taylor  
 Oct 12<sup>th</sup> – Bob Howard  
 Oct 13<sup>th</sup> – Dexter Bates  
 Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Don Booker  
 Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Jim Mason  
 Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Kenneth Brenton  
 Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – Mark Taylor  
 Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – John Cameron  
 Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – David Sullivan  
 Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Nathan Hall  
 Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Miles Williams  
 Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – David Dinwiddie  
 Oct 27<sup>th</sup> – Navy Day  
 Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – Forest Harrell

**Happy Birthday!**

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

### Treasures Report: Sep 2010

<b>BEGINNING BAL.:</b>	<b>\$ 7759.44</b>
<b>DEPOSITS:</b>	
Raffle-base meeting	74.00
Mathews-Calendar	40.00
Lemons/Snook Memorial	100.00
Barr-Dues Base \$ Natl.	120.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS:</b>	<b>\$ 334.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Dues Paid to National	75.00
Newsletter-paper	23.99
Razorback-breakfast	94.81
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 193.80</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$ 7899.64</b>
<b>CHARITYS</b>	
<b>Boat Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1441.03</b>
<b>Base Charity Fund</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
<b>USS Snook Memorial</b>	<b>\$ 1305.86</b>
<b>Regions Bank CD</b>	<b>\$ 5140.35</b>
Cash on hand	50.00
<b>TOTAL IN BASE FUNDS =</b>	<b>\$13089.99</b>

*Base Treasurer  
 Bob Bowlin*

**HAWGFISH SCUTTLEBUTT  
IN GOD WE TRUST**

David Grove  
144 White Oak Ln.  
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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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