



# Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



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

Greg Schwerman

Base Commander,

501-804-0386, [gshwerman@suddenlink.net](mailto:gshwerman@suddenlink.net)

Editor, David Grove

501-951-1314; [dgrove2000@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgrove2000@sbcglobal.net)



October 2012

## Commander's Corner

### Veterans Day

is fast approaching 11 November 2012. This year the base will be celebrating the Holliday with the patients of the Fort Roots Veterans Center by serving cake and coffee to the patient's and staff. Sunday 11 November from 1300 to 1600 in room 1G101 commonly called the Razorback Room. Enter at the North entrance of the hospital and go to the 2nd hallway to the right, turn right to get to the room. Plenty of parking is available in the front of the hospital. As always bring your USSVI vest if you have one. Thanks to Paul Honeck for making the arrangements for this event.

Hopefully everyone received the information from Ray about Navy and base birthday celebration At Mikes Place in Conway on in Conway on Front Street, Saturday, October 27, 2012 at 6:00 PM. For more information or to RSVP contact Ray Wewers.

Also by now you should have received a message from John Barr with directions for placing your vote for Base Commander and Vice Commander. At the September base meeting Allan Malone accepted his nomination for BC and Billy Holladay and Tom Salisbury also accepted their nominations for VC. Please take a moment to vote for the candidate of your choice and return to John Barr for counting.

Greg Schwerman  
Base Commander

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## 2013 Dues

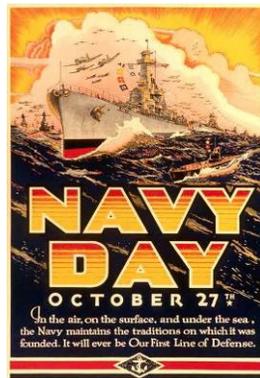
**IF** you owe dues for 2013, you **WILL** get a letter from me toward the end of September.

- \*-55 members owe dues for both USSVI & the Base
- \*-15 that are USSVI LIFE members, but still owe dues for the Base
- \*-7 members that belong to Holland Club, but are not LIFE members, and thus owe USSVI dues, and
- \*-6 Dual Base members that owe Base dues (and need to pay USSVI dues through their primary base).

And if all that is confusing, remember you **WILL** get a letter from me explaining what you owe. Please help by paying your dues in a timely manner.

### John C. Barr

9 Broadview Dr.  
Little Rock, AR 72207-5113  
501-663-6622 (h) 501-993-3953 (c)  
[jcbarr346@att.net](mailto:jcbarr346@att.net)



In the United States, the Navy League of the United States organized the first Navy Day in 1922, holding it on October 27 because it

was the birthday of the navy-obsessed President Theodore Roosevelt. Although meeting with mixed reviews the first year, in 1923 over 50 major cities participated, and the United States Navy sent a number of its ships to various port cities for the occasion. The 1945 Navy Day was an especially large celebration, with President Harry S. Truman reviewing the fleet in New York Harbor.

In 1949, Louis A. Johnson, secretary of the newly created Department of Defense, directed that the U.S. Navy's participation occur on Armed Forces Day in May, although as a civilian organization the Navy League was not affected by this directive, and continued to organize Navy Day celebrations as before. In the 1970s, the "birthday" of the Continental Navy was found to be October 13, 1775, and so CNO Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt worked with the Navy League to define October 13 as the new date of Navy Day. However, Navy Day in the United States is still largely recognized as October 27<sup>th</sup>.



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

**USS O-5 (SS-66) 28-Oct-1923.** Three 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).

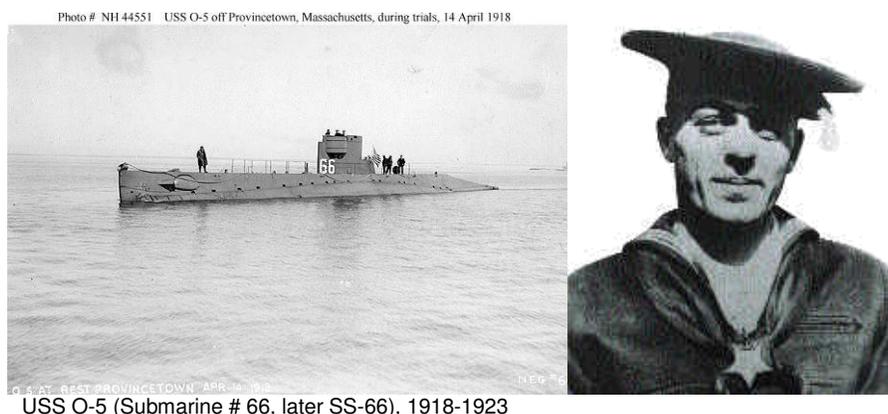
**USS Seawolf (SS-197) 3-Oct-1944.** All hands lost (102).

**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 O-5 (SS-66) October 28, 1923 – Three Men**

One of the U.S. Navy's earliest submarines, USS O-5 (SS-66) sank on October 28rd, 1923, less than a minute after being involved in a collision with the steamship SS Abangarez.



USS O-5, a 521-ton O-1 class submarine, was built at Quincy, Massachusetts. Commissioned in June 1918, she operated along the Atlantic coast for the next four months, and was en route to European waters when the First World War ended in November 1918. Thereafter, O-5 was assigned to the New London Submarine Base, Connecticut. She was classified as SS-66 in 1920, and her base was changed to Coco Solo, Panama Canal Zone, in 1923. On 28 October of that year, while in Limon Bay, Panama, the submarine collided with the steamship Abangarez and quickly sank.

Most of the crew was able to escape the sinking submarine; however, three of her crew were lost in this tragic accident. One man, TM2 Henry Breault, reached the deck and realized the submarine was doomed. He also knew that a friend was still trapped in the torpedo room below. Instead of saving his own life, TM2 Breault returned below and secured the torpedo room hatches. Both men remained trapped aboard the submarine for 31 hours, until nearby cranes could be used to lift the stricken submarine enough for the men to be rescued.

TM2 Breault was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions, the first Submariner to receive this award. He is also the only enlisted submariner to receive the Medal of Honor.

O-5 was salvaged shortly after her loss, but the damage was too severe for her to be economically repaired, and she was sold for scrapping in December 1924.

Following a lengthy court case, the fault was placed on the submarine, not the merchant ship for the collision.

For more information about the loss of USS O-5, please visit ["Submarine Hero: TM2 Henry Breault"](#)

**"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

#### Navy Day Dinner Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

We have a room reserved at Mike's Place in Conway, AR for an 1800 Navy Anniversary dinner. You can go to [mikesplaceconway.com](http://mikesplaceconway.com) and see the menu.

We have the room that will accommodate up to 36 of us but we need a minimum of 20 to hold the reservation. So please respond if you will attend no later than October 5, 2012

Barbara Wewers  
479-967-5541  
[barbarawewers@suddenlink.net](mailto:barbarawewers@suddenlink.net)

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#### USSVI Members

My name is Bill (Butterbean) Dixon TM2SS. I have the opportunity and pleasure to serve on the membership committee for ISA-USA group. ISA-USA has the same challenge as does USSVI, in that, Submarine Veterans simply do not realize that we exist.

Please have any USSVI member interested contact me at [goldbow@att.net](mailto:goldbow@att.net). In the email address above, in the subject line, use ISA-USA INFO. Thank you so very much for your consideration.

<http://www.isausa.org/>  
TM2SS

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#### Razorbacks Base Activities 2012

**Oct.** – Navy Birthday (Dinner or Party)

**Nov.** – Base meeting 11/17/2012 or Veterans Week Activity

**Dec.** – Christmas Party 1700 at Razorback 12/15/2011

John C. Barr-Membership Chair

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#### Booster Club

##### Razorback Base - USSVI

**Bob Christians** - Hot Springs Vil., AR  
**Jane Farmer** - North Little Rock, AR  
**Cecil Goins** - Granbury, TX  
**Ronald Hines** - Oxnard, CA  
**Terence Murphy** - Gaithersburg, MD  
**George Wrightam** - Heber Springs, AR  
**Carl Schmidt** - Cabot, AR

Funds from the *Booster Club* will be used for restoration of the USS *Razorback* and other special projects appropriate to the mission of USSVI.

Send donations to Razorback Base – USSVI, 9 Broadview Dr., Little Rock, AR 72207-5113 (Memo – **Booster Club**).

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#### ORDER YOUR 2013 USSVI CALENDAR NOW

The 2013 USSVI Calendars are in production and will be available for delivery starting in August.

The theme of this year's calendar is "The Victors", a tribute to the fighting submariners of WWII.

I am taking orders for calendars as of August 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012. The order will be placed to the USSVI National Storekeeper on October 1, 2012. Members' cost per calendar will be **\$9.00**/each not to include shipping or postage. If you want or think you may want a calendar or calendars, please notify me before the October 1 date. I cannot guarantee orders placed after that date. You may place orders with the Base Storekeeper by e-mailing [retldousn@earthlink.net](mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net); calling 501 758 3266; or via postal correspondence to Billy Hollaway, 3220 N Cypress St., N Little Rock, AR 72116. I will be available at the base meeting and Arkansas Travelers baseball game on 18 August 2012 also. Your cooperation in this effort is deeply appreciated.

Billy Hollaway, Storekeeper  
[retldousn@earthlink.net](mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net)



**Oct 13<sup>th</sup>** – Bob Reed Radio Show  
**Oct 27<sup>th</sup>** – Navy Day  
**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>** - Halloween  
**Nov 6<sup>th</sup>** – Election Day - **VOTE!**  
**Nov 11<sup>th</sup>** – Veteran's Day  
**Dec 15<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Party

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#### Navy News

##### Bobby Reed's Navy Birthday Radio Program

On 13 October the U.S. Navy will celebrate its 237th birthday. As part of the celebration Sailor, Submariner, Songwriter and Singer Bobby Reed will be hosting an all-day (24 hour) radio show similar to what he did for the 4th of July to help celebrate the birthday of the world's finest Navy. It will be done on a streaming live radio show on The Daddy O Radio Web Page located at <http://www.daddyoradio.us/default.html>

Bobby is preparing for the show now and would love to hear from some of Sailors and Navy Spouses from all parts of the Navy to do some live radio spots to include on his show. It might be some live interviews, or just you giving your thoughts about the Navy, and its birthday or just you wishing Shipmates everywhere a Happy Birthday.

In addition to the interviews and radio spots the show will be a mix of all the Navy and submarine music that he and Tommy Cox recorded over the last couple decades plus a few surprises. Interspersed he'll have friends deliver a personal greeting that will pay tribute to Navy Day. He'll also have a chat window in operation so you can reconnect with many of your old buds in real time. He'll also meet the Spirit of the USS Constitution, review her history and hopefully learn some interesting facts about her service to this great country.

The show will start at midnight on Oct 13th and repeat every six hours. This is going to be a fun day and a great interactive celebration of OUR NAVYs Birthday. The

more participation we have from Active Duty Sailors in all branches of the Navy, the more fun we will have.

If you would be interested in providing input to the Navy Birthday Radio Show please contact Bobby at

[BobReed 656@msn.com](mailto:BobReed656@msn.com)

Help spread the word.

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## WWII Sub Vets disband National Chapter

*Virginian Pilot, Sept. 24*

**NEW LONDON, Conn.**-The submarine veterans of World War II have seen this coming for a long time.

At their national convention in Norfolk this month, 62 veterans attended where thousands used to go.

The U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II disbanded at the end of its convention Sept. 7. Local chapters now must decide whether to continue operating under another name or to dissolve.

This month in Groton, J. "Deen" Brown announced to his fellow WWII submarine veterans that the Thames River Chapter has a new name.

"Eastern USA Chapter U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII," he told members before their monthly luncheon at the U.S. Submarine Veterans clubhouse.

"We simply have to face the fact that we're all getting older and, as we do so, eventually we simply cannot remain a viable national organization," said Brown, 90, of Oakdale.

Walter "Gus" Kraus, the last national president, said the veterans who wanted to keep the national group going "until the last man is gone" prevailed in a vote three years ago. Two years ago, the vote was split.

By this year's convention, some of the stalwarts had died, or their friends had. Of the 1,100 members, the youngest is 86. The oldest is 102.

It was difficult for the national organization to find members able to serve as officers and to complete all of the administrative tasks. In their last roster, published 10 years ago, the pages listing the

deceased members outnumbered those listing active members.

"The guys said, 'I was all for staying. My shipmate came to the convention with me. He's gone now, and I don't feel like coming,'" said Kraus, 91, of Crescent Springs, Ky.

Only one veteran remains active with the Tidewater Chapter of U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, said Richard Helm, a Vietnam-era submariner who serves as the group's treasurer. It's been hard watching attendance fall steadily the past few years as members died or moved into assisted-living facilities, Helm said.

The Norfolk-based chapter will gather in November and decide whether to continue meeting on its own. Several wives of World War II veterans remain active with the group, Helm said.

The national organization was established in 1955 to honor the veterans.

Submarines were just 2 percent of the Navy's fleet then, but subs sank more than 30 percent of the Japanese navy and nearly 5 million tons of shipping.

About 16,000 men served on submarine war patrols. During the war, the submarine force lost 52 boats and more than 3,500 men.

After the sixth annual reunion of the national submarine veterans group, the membership grew rapidly. Memorials were erected.

"There are memorials all over this country they've created," said retired Vice Adm. Al Konetzni, who has long been close with the World War II veterans even though he is not of that era. "These guys started in 1955 doing this for their buddies, so they would not be forgotten."

Kraus said the sub veterans considered themselves a unique group, and that forged a strong bond. The end of the organization, he said, also represents the "end of an era where we were able to get together and blow our own horn, remembering the circumstances under which we fought."

Konetzni, who gave the keynote speech at the closing ceremony, said in an interview that the World War II veterans "lived

the horror" and "lived the glory," but they do not need the administrative burdens of a federally chartered organization to preserve their memories.

"They will never be forgotten, ever, ever, ever," said Konetzni, a former deputy commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "They gave us our traditions and our spirit. They were our leaders."

Many of the World War II submariners are also members of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., which is open to all U.S. Navy submariners.

The younger ones in that group began maintaining the memorials and conducting ceremonies when the World War II veterans could no longer do it.

Groton-area World War II veterans turned over the upkeep of the U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII National Submarine Memorial East to the Subvets Groton base and the city of Groton in 2005, said John Carcioppolo, base commander.

Subvets willingly took on the responsibility.

George Jones, 92, a World War II submariner who attended the Groton group's monthly luncheon, said it's important to him that the memorial is well taken care of because his friends' names are on its Wall of Honor.

"I lost a lot of friends during the war, and I came close myself," Jones, of Waterford, said. "I hope we will continue to be remembered for many, many years to come."

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## Next Generation Ohio-Class

*Navy Live Blog, Sept. 25, By Rear Adm. Barry Bruner*

This week's Joint Undersea Warfare Technology conference will be a great opportunity to study and discuss the submarine force's capabilities as an effective nuclear deterrent, namely with the Ohio Replacement class submarine.

Starting in 2027, the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines will begin to retire at a rate of one hull per year as they reach the end of their 42-year operational lifetimes. To meet the national requirements for nuclear deterrence and promote global

stability, the Navy is developing an Ohio Replacement class, designed to remain in service into the 2080s. This new class of submarine will become operational just in time to continue meeting national strategic requirements in 2031. As we continue to refine its design and technology to best meet future war fighting requirements, I'd like to take this opportunity to discuss some of the questions I am asked the most on our upcoming class of submarine.

Wouldn't it be cheaper to build fewer ships with more missile tubes?

As we have moved through the designing phase, we conducted a detailed analysis of many force structure options. A force of 12 Ohio Replacement nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines (SSBN) with 16 missile tubes satisfies national strategic deterrent requirements at the most affordable cost. Twelve Ohio Replacement SSBNs meet at-sea strategic patrol requirements and sustains this requirement while some of the SSBNs are unavailable due to planned maintenance.

Reduced-force options we considered failed to meet the current at-sea and nuclear employment requirements, increased risk for force survivability, and limited the flexibility in response to an uncertain strategic future. A 12-ship, 16-missile tube SSBN force has sufficient, not excessive, flexibility and capacity.

If we need to build 12 submarines, why is it acceptable for the number to drop to 10 for so many years?

Because ship construction of the Ohio Replacement shifted from the year 2019 to 2021, there will be fewer than 12 SSBNs from 2029 to 2042 as the Ohio-class retires and Ohio replacement ships join the fleet. During this time frame no major SSBN overhauls are planned, and a force of 10 SSBNs will support current at-sea presence requirements. However, this provides a low margin to compensate for unforeseen issues that may result in reduced SSBN

availability. The reduced SSBN availability during this timeframe reinforces the importance of remaining on schedule with the Ohio Replacement program to meet future strategic commitments. As the Ohio Replacement ships begin their mid-life overhauls in 2049, 12 SSBNs will be required to offset ships conducting planned maintenance.

How are you managing the shipbuilding costs?

Cost control is paramount throughout the Ohio Replacement program, from early design work and critical research and development through construction and follow-on operating costs. The Department of Defense set an aggressive cost goal of \$4.9 billion per hull (calendar year 2010) as an average cost for hulls 2-12. To date, the Navy has reduced costs by reducing specifications to the minimum necessary to meet national strategic deterrent requirements, implementing modular construction design, re-using the Trident II D5 Strategic Weapons System, and re-using Virginia- and Ohio-class components where feasible. The Virginia class construction program, through aggressive management and collaboration between government and industry, has developed into a model ship building program, continually coming in under budget and ahead of schedule. Ohio Replacement design and construction will build on this success.

What is the impact on other shipbuilding requirements?

The Navy recognizes that replacing the Ohio-class submarine will have a large impact on the Department of the Navy shipbuilding budget, as SSBN procurement is a significant investment made once every ~40 years. However, the Navy is actively working to reduce costs and has already reduced approximately \$1.1 billion in construction per ship and ~\$3 billion in design from its fiscal year 2011 plan (calendar year 2010). The design incorporates a nuclear reactor that will not require

refueling, enabling the planned force of 12 Ohio-replacement SSBNs to provide the same at-sea presence as the current force of 14 SSBNs, and saving taxpayers \$20 billion (calendar year 2010) over the life of the class.

Since the Virginia-class nuclear-powered fast attack submarine (SSN) construction has been so successful, why not build an SSBN with a Virginia-class hull and a missile compartment insert? Or, why not build new Ohio-class SSBNs since they were such an effective platform?

From 2008 to 2009, a team of Navy and civilian researchers conducted an in-depth, detailed analysis of alternatives to study the various options for the future SSBN. A Virginia-class submarine with an added ballistic missile compartment and Ohio-class production restart were two of the alternatives considered. Although some savings would be realized due to lower design costs, an SSBN class based on a Virginia hull would require additional platforms, additional nuclear refueling, increased personnel costs, and its acoustic signature would be vulnerable to projected threats. Ultimately, the Navy would receive an SSBN class that is more expensive and less capable. Similarly, rebuilding Ohio-class SSBNs would save on design costs. However, the Ohio-class does not have sufficient stealth to stay viable out to the 2080s, and construction of more Ohio-class ships would not be able to take advantage of efficiencies of modern construction techniques.

This blog was written by Rear Adm. Barry Bruner, Director, Undersea Warfare, in advance of this week's Joint Undersea Warfare Technology Fall Conference at Naval Submarine Base New London.

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### **LYONS: Russia's Shot Across the Bow - Sneaky submarine bad sign for U.S. readiness**

*By Adm. James A. Lyons, Tuesday, August 28, 2012*

A Russian Akula-class cruise-missile attack submarine recently transited the North Atlantic and operated undetected in the Gulf of

Mexico for an undeclared period of time. The United States did not find out until after it left. This should not have come as a surprise.

The naval resources we once had that implemented the Navy's Maritime Strategy, a major factor in winning the Cold War, have been decimated. President Reagan's 600-ship Navy has been allowed to atrophy to about 285 ships. To put that number in perspective, that is approximately the number of ships I had under my command of the Pacific Fleet. With the current anemic shipbuilding plan forced on the Navy by the Obama administration's drastic budget cuts, we are headed for the smallest Navy since World War I.

The argument that our ships are so much more capable today that we don't need as many is pure nonsense. The world hasn't shrunk. If an objective look is taken at the realigned geographic boundaries assigned our combat commanders (COCOMs) as a result of Sept. 11, 2001, it should become clear how a Russian Akula submarine can transit the North Atlantic and operate in the Gulf of Mexico undetected.

The Atlantic Ocean is divided up into four sectors, with responsibility shared by four COCOMs -- U.S. European Command, U.S. Northern Command, U.S. Southern Command, and U.S. African Command. Previously, the Atlantic was under a single U.S. Atlantic Command, with the commander of the U.S. 2nd Fleet as both the operational commander and the NATO Striking Fleet commander. That command has been disbanded. Today, the U.S. Northern Command, with headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo., carries that responsibility with U.S. Fleet Forces Command as its naval component commander based in Norfolk, Va.

While it is quite possible that two-thirds of the Akula's transit took place in the European Command's area of supervision, which should give no comfort because that command lacks the naval resources to carry out its

responsibility. In a recent conversation with me, a former commander of the Northern Command expressed the same sentiments. He never had the naval resources to carry out his duties.

The undetected Akula cruise-missile submarine deployment is compounded by the fact that Iran already has established missile bases in Venezuela that can reach a number of American cities. In his best appeasement rhetoric, President Obama has stated that he does not think "what Hugo Chavez has done in the last several years has had a serious national security impact on us." I doubt the American cities that are within range of those Iranian missiles would share that view, particularly if they understood the seriousness of our vulnerability.

What Iran is doing in Venezuela today is what the Soviet Union tried to do in Cuba in 1962. The principles of the Monroe Doctrine prevailed then under the leadership of President Kennedy, backed up by a massive deployment of naval ships to impose a quarantine around Cuba. Our national security was preserved by having the Soviets withdraw their missiles from Cuba. Nothing less is acceptable today. When the 4th Fleet, the naval component for the U.S. Southern Command, states that its most pressing security issue is crime, we have a problem. If there is no implementation of the Monroe Doctrine to force the removal of the Iranian missiles from Venezuela, rest assured that longer-range Iranian missiles will find their way there, putting more American cities at risk.

With the current impasse over the Iranian nuclear weapons program, a U.S. or Israeli military strike becomes a real possibility to eliminate Iran's nuclear infrastructure. In such a scenario, Iranian missiles remaining in Venezuela clearly are unacceptable. If the Monroe Doctrine is not invoked to remove them, they must be destroyed. Furthermore, we must expedite plans to provide defensive

coverage of our exposed southern flank on an expedited basis with an Aegis anti-ballistic-missile system, which can be a combination of land- and sea-based systems.

Russia's assertive Akula deployment follows a June exercise of its strategic bombers and support aircraft in the Arctic, simulating strikes against Alaska. Then in July, a Russian Bear H strategic bomber most likely simulated strikes against California from the Gulf of Alaska. It was intercepted before, hopefully, it was able reach its simulated missile-launch position. The questionable new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia requires 14-day advance notification when such bomber exercises are conducted. No notification was given. This requirement creates a false sense of security because it certainly could be used for deceptive purposes. As a commander, you always want to retain the initiative and thereby keep your potential enemies off balance. You want to remain unpredictable. In that way, you raise the level of deterrence.

So much for the Obama administration's "reset" with Russia. That nation clearly has been given new marching orders by its recently inaugurated President Vladimir Putin at a time when our national leadership is perceived to be weak. Social engineering imposed on our military by the administration has not enhanced our military capabilities. Our military has been involved in two wars over the past decade and has been run hard and put away wet.

These factors, when combined with looming, draconian budget cuts, will weaken our military capabilities and our ability to deter aggression. Our potential enemies see these growing weaknesses as opportunities to be exploited. There is no question that we are being challenged.

Retired Adm. James A. Lyons was commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and senior U.S. military representative to the United Nations.

Read more: [LYONS: Russia's shot across the bow - Washington Times](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2012/aug/28/russias-shot-across-the-bow/print/#ixzz26BgQldxw)  
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2012/aug/28/russias-shot-across-the-bow/print/#ixzz26BgQldxw>  
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**Navy Admiral Calls For More Sailors And Longer Tours**

*Scripps Howard News Service, Sept. 12*

BANGOR, Wash. — The Navy shrank from 390,000 sailors to 320,000 during the past decade while demand for its ships and submarines ballooned. More sailors are needed at sea, requiring a rebalancing, the Navy's chief of personnel said during an all-hands call at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor before about 500 sailors.

"Adjusting gaps at sea is my primary focus," Vice Adm. Scott Van Buskirk said Monday. The USS John C. Stennis is a good -- but exaggerated -- example. The aircraft carrier returned from a seven-month deployment to the Middle East on March 2 and wasn't scheduled for another until January.

But with tensions remaining high in that region, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta ordered the ship back out to sea for eight more months. The directive came July 16; the Stennis departed Aug. 27; there was little time to round out a crew.

Sea duty incentive programs already in place helped, but the turnaround was too quick. The Navy changed its policy July 12 to enable it to send sailors with critical skills to sea before their shore duty was completed. They'd receive a lump sum based on the number of months of shore duty lost. Sailors on land the longest would go first, beginning at two years. Two hundred seventy-one sailors took this route to the Stennis.

The policy is meant to be temporary, but that depends on world situations.

"We use a variety of long-term and voluntary initiatives to support our seagoing force," Van Buskirk said. "Now, while these actions begin to take traction, we've determined that we need to take additional measures to reduce these gaps at sea."

Long-term measures include Sea Duty Incentive Pay and the Voluntary Sea Duty Program. The first offers sailors in pay grades E-5 through E-9 in jobs undermanned at sea to get a monetary incentive for extending their sea assignment or curtailing shore duty to return to sea duty. It began in 2007 and is adjusted often to meet Navy needs. Sailors get a lump-sum payment based on the length of the sea-duty extension or shore-duty curtailment, ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 per month.

The Voluntary Sea Duty Program, which was announced in January, allows sailors and their families to stay in their same duty location or move to a duty station of their choice if they extend at sea or return to sea duty early. They can take advantage of both programs at the same time.

The Navy is working on balancing manpower among jobs, or rates. Sailors in overmanned rates might not advance unless they convert to a different rate. The Navy has never had a higher-quality workforce, said Van Buskirk.

"To remain competitive, you have to be assignable, distributable and deployable," Van Buskirk told the sailors.



**October Birthdays**

- Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Jim Barnes
- Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> – Scott Pursley
- Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Greg "Gunner" Stitz
- Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – Jessie Taylor
- Oct 12<sup>th</sup> – Bob Howard
- Oct 12<sup>th</sup> – OG Allison
- Oct 13<sup>th</sup> – Dexter Bates
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Jim Mason
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Don Booker
- Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Kenneth Brenton
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – Mark Taylor
- Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – John Cameron
- 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 28<sup>th</sup> – Mike Wingeier
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – Forest Harrell

**Happy Birthday!**

**Treasurer's Report: Sept 2012**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	
<b>BEGINNING BAL.:</b>	<b>\$ 5995.52</b>
<b>DEPOSITS:</b>	
Membership Dues	
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS:</b>	
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
USSVI Dues	20.00
Plaque Fund Contribution	100.00
Newsletter Supplies	174.05
Holland Club Cups	38.31
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 332.36</b>
Booster Club Donations for June/July Allocated to Maint Fund	325.00
<b>GEN FUND BAL.:</b>	<b>\$ 5338.16</b>
<b>MAINT. FUND BEG. BAL</b>	<b>1066.03</b>
Booster Club June/July	325.00
Billy Holloway	38.31
<b>MAINT. FUND BAL</b>	<b>\$ 1429.34</b>
<b>BASE CHARITY FUND</b>	<b>567.00</b>
USS Snook Memorial	1405.86
<b>ACCOUNT END BAL</b>	<b>\$ 8740.36</b>
Regions Bank CD	\$ 5206.36
Interest	0
CD Ending Balance	\$ 5206.36
Cash on hand	50.00
<b>TOTAL IN BASE FUNDS =</b>	<b>\$13,996.72</b>

Respectfully submitted  
**Mark Taylor**  
 Base Treasurer



**HAWGFISH SCUTTLEBUTT  
IN GOD WE TRUST**

David Grove  
144 White Oak Ln.  
Little Rock, AR 72227  
[dgrove2000@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgrove2000@sbcglobal.net)



**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>Base Commander</b>	Greg Schwerman	<a href="mailto:gschwerman@suddenlink.net">gschwerman@suddenlink.net</a>	(501) 804-0386
<b>Vice Commander</b>	Alan Malone	<a href="mailto:o5retired@yahoo.com">o5retired@yahoo.com</a>	(501) 206-7248
<b>COB</b>	Billy Hollaway	<a href="mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net">retldousn@earthlink.net</a>	(501) 758-3266
<b>Chaplain</b>	Carl Schmidt	<a href="mailto:bonnynclyde@classicnet.net">bonnynclyde@classicnet.net</a>	(501) 843-7855
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Taylor	<a href="mailto:Empty704@aol.com">Empty704@aol.com</a>	(501) 416-2488
<b>Yeoman</b>	Jane Farmer	<a href="mailto:dcfarmert2@sbcglobal.net">dcfarmert2@sbcglobal.net</a>	(501) 753-8824
<b>Webmaster</b>	Greg Zonner	<a href="mailto:zonner632@horizonbroadband.net">zonner632@horizonbroadband.net</a>	(501) 316-6641
<b>Membership</b>	John Barr	<a href="mailto:jcbarr346@att.net">jcbarr346@att.net</a>	(501) 663-6622
<b>Storekeeper</b>	Billy Hollaway	<a href="mailto:retldousn@earthlink.net">retldousn@earthlink.net</a>	(501) 758-3266
<b>Holland Club</b>	Tom Salisbury	<a href="mailto:tomann@ipa.net">tomann@ipa.net</a>	(501) 337-0788
<b>Memorials/Ceremonies</b>	Paul Honeck	<a href="mailto:plheh38@hughes.net">plheh38@hughes.net</a>	(501) 758-3266