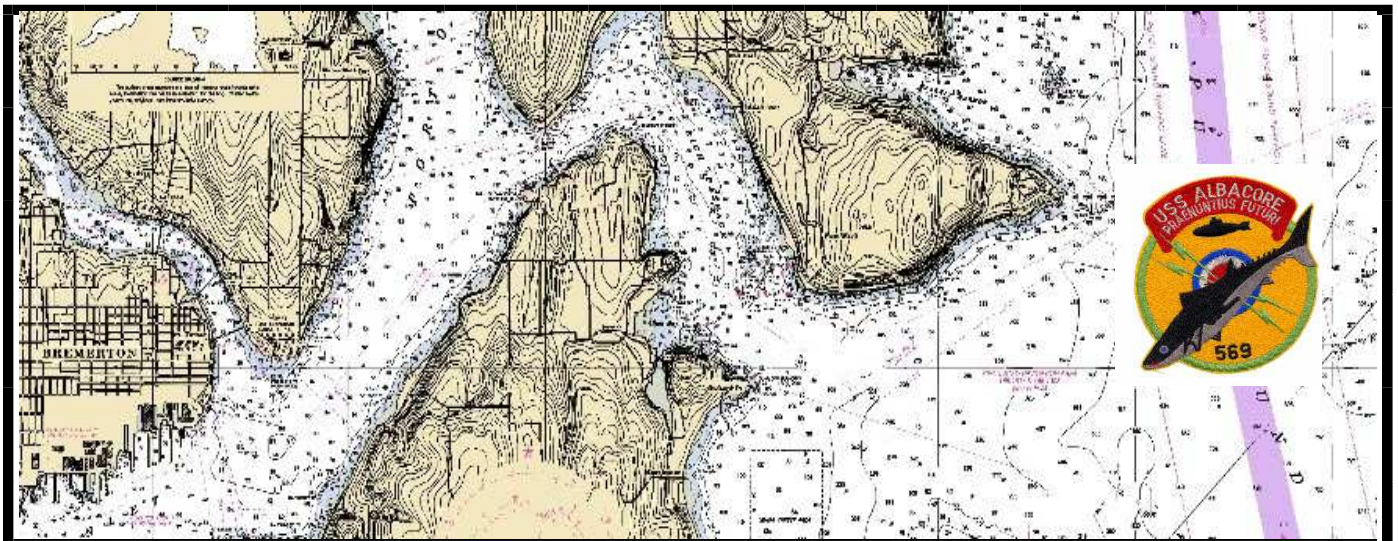




# Puget Soundings

The Bremerton Subvets Bi-monthly Newsletter

By Submariners, For Submariners, and Friends



Vol. IX Issue 2 USSVI-Bremerton Base, P. O. Box 465, Silverdale, WA 98383-0465 Mar/Apr '06

## Albacore Tails

*Editor's note: This article, written by CS2(SS) Steve Hogan, recently appeared in Jack's "Bits & Pieces" and is reprinted with his approval. Some of you may remember USS Albacore AGSS-569, the "Forerunner of the Future," and either toured or rode her out of Portsmouth, N.H. as I did in the early 1960s. The seatbelts; the "silver" battery; the water breaks—it was all heady and fascinating stuff especially for a young submarine sailor.*



Hello Fellow Submariners:

If you don't mind I will tell you a sea-story about the *Albacore* and her magnificent crew.

We were an experimental boat, in fact we were the first "round" or bullet-shaped boat that was designed strictly for high speed operations. We did not have twin screws like other boats; we had a driveshaft within a larger driveshaft. These two shafts counter-rotated their own set of screws, which meant we were unable to go forward on one screw and back on the other—to "twist" the boat into a tight turn or use them for mooring. We did not have the standard stern planes and rudder which were commonly known as being in a crucifix or cross (+) configuration. Our stern planes were in an X shape and they were huge to give them more surface area or "bite"

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Please Pass This Issue to Another Subvet

## USSVI 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.  
Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government.



That's our CREED above, but it's not who we are.  
We are United States Submarine Sailors!  
We were, and are, members of the elite fighting force of the United States Navy.  
We are all QUALIFIED IN SUBMARINES.  
Included are submariners from the very early boats: S, R or earlier; WWII boats; post-war GUPPY boats and FBM and Fast Attack submariners.  
All Qualified in Submarines—from E2 to 4 Stars.  
Retired, short timer, or active duty - it makes no difference.  
If you are Qualified in Submarines we want you in United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

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## Vice Commander/Scholarship Chairman Comments



The 2006 annual Lt. William "Willie" Spoon Memorial Scholarship Raffle donations have slowed down and have grossed over \$4300 to date with about half the raffle tickets still to be returned. If you have not returned your stub's with donations, please consider doing so. If you are unable to get donations please return the tickets and we will try to sell them at our annual sale at the Bangor commissary in April.

Raffle prize donations have picked up with **Dene Rogers** leading in obtaining some. We can still use more donations. We are about \$500 behind last years prizes in total value. Your help is solicited.

I have scholarship applications and instructions available and they are available at the local high schools. (479-1642...down-scope@comcast.net)

The February Brunch Social meeting was a success from a standpoint of drawing members that don't normally attend evening meetings. However, some that normally attend meetings didn't show. About 40 to 50 members & guests were present with the FRA 29 Fleet Home Port Café crew doing a great job.

The brunch was followed with an excellent Alaska Cruise presentation led by our AAA agent and associate member **Kim Boekoogen**.

*Red*

Nine (9) **\$1,000** Scholarships

2006 Lt William "Willie" Spoon Memorial Scholarship Applications Available  
Call or e-mail Don  
479-1642 - down-scope@comcast.net

Do you ever wonder why a slight tax increase costs you two hundred dollars and a substantial tax cut saves you thirty cents?

**USSV-WWII & USSVI 35TH ANNUAL  
NORTHWEST REGIONAL CONVENTION**  
Western Region Districts 3 & 4  
(ID, MT, WY, AK, WA & OR)

May 10-13, 2006

Double Tree Hotel / Spokane City Center  
322 N. Spokane Falls Court / Spokane, WA 99201  
1-800-222-TREE / www.doubletree.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Wife/Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter/State \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

Emerg Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Number Total

Registration Fee (Non-refundable)  
\$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Wed—10May** 1100  
Registration and Hospitality Room Open

**Thu—11May** 0900-1330  
Historic Spokane "Age of Elegance" Tour  
Lunch at the Steam Plant & Grill  
\$35 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Fri—12May** 0930-1230  
Tour of Acoustic Research Testing Station  
At Farragut Navy Boot Camp, ID.  
Transportation to be arranged.  
\$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Fun night with meal.  
\$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Sat—13May**  
NW Reg Meeting (Elect of Director) 0930  
WR-District 3 & 4 and Chapter Meeting 1100  
Memorial Service 1400  
Banquet-No Host social hour 1800  
Dinner 1900  
\$30 each \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Choice: Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **U.S. SUB VETS WWII**  
and mail to:

Dorothy Holman  
24306 106th Place W.  
Edmonds, WA 98020-5730



**Treasurer &  
Membership Report**

Net Worth as of 2/8/2006



**ASSETS**

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking, Classic Assn.	288.73
Savings	12,367.45
CD75 5 year bump that matures 10/01/08	9,568.28
CD77 3 year bump that matures 12/29/06	16,005.82
CD78 18 Month that matures 02/22/06	11,858.57
CD79 5 year bump that matures 12/19/09	6,251.14

TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts 56,339.99

TOTAL ASSETS 56,339.99

LIABILITIES 0.00

OVERALL TOTAL 56,339.99

**Bremerton Base has 279 Members.**  
**38 Have not yet paid 2006 Dues.**

**Get a Membership Application**

To receive a membership application or answers to questions you may have regarding USSVI-Bremerton Base please contact any member listed on page 2 by either telephone or email. Applications and membership information is also available at [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org).

**Welcome Aboard  
USSVI-Bremerton Base**

**Walter Prothero, JR**  
(USS Sam Houston SSBN609(B),  
USS Bremerton SSN698)



*Albacore Tails < page 1*

when turning. Of course with only half of them being submerged on the surface and without twin screws we were not very maneuverable on the surface, therefore we were usually escorted by a sea-going tug when transiting on the surface for long distances in tight quarters, such as through the Cape Cod canal, etc.

The aft half of our sail was another rudder. We had a huge piano hinge that connected the rudder to the sail. We also had "water brakes" which were huge portions of the superstructure just aft of the sail that were extended by hydraulic rams to slow the *Albacore* when we were submerged after making a high speed run. We did not have any bow planes.

Now here's something you won't believe: our helm and stern planes watches were stood by officers and not by enlisted men!! The control stations consisted of only one station because of the stern configurations and the officer had a steering wheel just like on an airplane. We did not have any torpedo tubes and our "armament" was 45 caliber pistols, a few rifles, and some hand grenades. In the event of a war, we would have been beached and all the crew transferred to Man-of-War ships.

Our batteries were not lead/acid as all other boats were, including Nukes. Our batteries were silver/zinc with a base solution instead of acid. They were designed for extremely fast charging and fast discharging. When we submerged for a high speed run our batteries would be totally expended in a maximum of 45 minutes. We would then surface and steam back into port on our "pancake" diesels, which were terrible at best. I think we were the last boat to have those types of engines, and rightfully so, they were always breaking down or requiring extensive maintenance. Even when they were working well, they could not charge the batteries fast enough and we would come in and hook up to shore power. I do not ever remember being in port when we did not have huge, black wires running down through our forward hatch for shore power.

Another great feature of the "Core" was the fact that our freezer/chill box could only handle about 10 days of stores. This meant no long times at sea!!! We usually performed daily ops out of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire which was our home port or out of Key West or Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Not bad duty!!! To make matters even better, we would have so many engineers and scientists aboard when we were operating that we normally left about 1/3 of the crew ashore because there was not enough room for everyone. The *Albacore* was only about 210 feet long and had a full crew of about 70 officers and enlisted. When operating in Ft Lauderdale we had to buy our stores from the grocery stores because there was not an official Navy base at Port Everglades. Needless to say, we really ate well.

A couple of more tid-bits and I will hang it up. When the *Albacore* would submerge for a high speed run, we had a command come over the 1-MC like no other sub ever had. We were told to, "*Rig the Ship for Hydro-batics.*" This meant we were to immediately get into our bunks or be seated and put on seat belts to help prevent us from falling down or getting hurt if we did a sharp maneuver. We were never officially told how fast we were going at a flank bell, but believe me, we were hauling a \_\_! And when we were submerged the huge X rudder coupled with the sail rudder, we could do some real G-force turns and maneuvers.

To keep the "liquid" in the battery cells, we had bladders like a football in each cell. When the ship got to a specified roll angle, these bladders would automatically inflate and prevent the liquid from being spilled. The batteries were the poor electrician's nemesis. They required a great deal of "care and feeding" and in today's jargon, they would be known as high maintenance. By the way, we were never told how fast we actually went when submerged, but we were all given Speed Merchant awards and told that the actual speed was highly classified. We were credited as being the fastest ship in the world. All I know is, that we were really, really making some "brown-bagger turns" and flying through the water. I say flying because of the controls all being similar to an airplane's and the speed was in excess of 30 knots.

I don't know how true this is, but we were told that all of those old silver dollars that were taken out of circulation were used by the battery manufacturer to build our 520 cells that each were over 6 feet tall and weighed approximately 1,000 pounds each.

We hit bottom once after coming out of PNSY and miscalculating the trim. Some poor officer caught hell over that but it was just a glancing blow and did not do any structural damage except to all our skivvies.

*Steve Hogan CS2 (SS)*

*USS Seawolf SS(N) 575* (sister-ship of the *Nautilus*) and *USS Albacore (AG)SS 569* (the Love Boat)



As a footnote, Jack writes—This is part of a letter I received recently from shipmate Joe Garrett. Some of you may remember that *HH [Hardhead]* was only 1 (one) E award from having the gold E. Apparently this sheds a little light on what happened to her E that year.

“A man who used to work for me was the CO of *Albacore* when she bounced off the bottom. It was a

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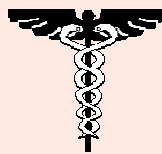
case of the shipyard miscalculating the ballast. Also, a point of interest, *HH* lost the gold E to *Albacore* when all the *Ablie* had for weapons was the .45 cal pistols. The commodore said he could not give us (*HH*) the gold E when he had so many nukes in the squadron, and we had done such a good job, so he gave it to *Ablie* even though that year her hull had only gotten wet from rain (that was the year they cut the stern off and made it an X shape). She never got her hull wet and she got the battle E.”

## USS Albacore Today



*USS Albacore* holds a place in history as the first Navy-designed vessel with a true submarine hull form, in which surface characteristics were subordinated to underwater performance. She possessed no weapon systems; her sole function was to conduct experiments. During her early trials, she set a new underwater speed record with improved control. From 1955 to 1971, *Albacore* served in five distinct phases of experimentation, carrying out tests of speed, depth changes and underwater maneuvering. Through a series of configurations, she provided the model for all future U.S. Navy and many foreign submarines that followed.

U.S. Navy scientists used *Albacore* as a floating laboratory to test sonar devices, hydrophones, diving brakes and emergency escape systems. She also served as a high-speed, almost noiseless target for anti-submarine warfare. In 1966, she again set a new submerged speed record, earning a reputation as the world's fastest submarine. *Albacore* was retired from service in 1972, and transferred to the Portsmouth Submarine Memorial Association in 1984. She was placed in a permanent dry berth and opened to the public in October 1985. *USS Albacore* is a National Historic Landmark and a Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark.



## Binnacle List

Bremerton Base and Life Member **Ernie Taggart** is going through some tough times with left over cancer cells after having his bladder removed in Dec. He started chemotherapy in mid-Feb in his continuing fight against cancer.

Bremerton Base Past Cdr **Elliott Abram** and his wife, **Charlotte**, both have been through some serious medical problems recently and HC and Life Member **Jerry Drumm's** wife, **Eileen**, has been hospitalized with hearing related problems twice. Also, understand that USSVI NSVP and Bremerton base Life Member **Jim Foote** has had problems.

Please consider a call to these folks and keep them in your prayers. That is what we are about. We all need to review our own life styles to ensure we live our lives to the fullest. You have labored for it, but it is up to you make it the best it can be. /ed

## USS OHIO (SSGN 726)



01/29/06 - The *USS Ohio (SSGN 726)* stops for a personnel boat transfer off the coast of Puget Sound, Wash., Jan. 29, 2006. Media were transported to the *Ohio* to see the new capabilities that this submarine now brings to the Joint Warfighter. *Ohio* is the first SSGN converted from an SSBN and will provide transformational capabilities to joint war fighters. *Ohio* and the other three SSGNs still undergoing conversion will be able to launch up to 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles, conduct sustained Special Forces operations, support up to 102 Special Operations Forces (SOF) personnel for short durations or 66 SOF personnel for sustained operations, and provide 67% operational availability forward deployed in support of combatant commanders' mission requirements. The other three submarines: *USS Florida (SSGN 728)*, *USS Michigan (SSGN 727)*, and *USS Georgia (SSGN 729)* will be converted to SSGN through 2007.

(U.S. Navy photo by Chief Journalist (SW/AW) Dave Fliesen) (Released)

Source: *Undersea Enterprise News Daily*

# On Eternal Patrol

## March

### WWII Lost Boats 1941—1945

*USS Perch*  
(SS-176)

*USS Triton*  
(SS-201)

*USS Kete*  
(SS-369)



*USS Grampus*  
(SS-207)

*USS Tullibee*  
(SS-284)

*USS Trigger*  
(SS-237)

## April

*USS Pickeral*  
(SS-177)

*USS Grenadier*  
(SS-210)

*USS Snook*  
(SS-279)

### USS PERCH (SS 176)

March 3, 1942

Six Men Died as Japanese POW's



The following account of what happened to *PERCH* is taken from a statement made by her surviving CO, LCDR D.A. Hurt, who was repatriated at the end of hostilities, having been held by the enemy. The last station assignment was given *PERCH* on Feb 28, 1942, in the Java Sea. A large enemy convoy had been cruising about for several days, awaiting to land on Java; now the objective had been discovered and submarines were to disregard their areas and attack at the landing point.

Shortly after surfacing on the night of Mar 1, *PERCH* sighted two destroyers, and dove. After the destroyers had passed well clear, they came back, one near *PERCH*. Hurt prepared to attack with torpedoes, but at 800 to 1,000 yards the destroyer turned straight toward him. The CO ordered 180 feet. At 90 to 100 feet, the destroyer passed over and dropped a string of depth charges; shortly thereafter *PERCH* hit bottom at 147 feet.

During the depth charge attacks which followed, the ship lost power on her port screw, but she managed to pull clear of the bottom and surface when depth charging had ceased. Shortly before dawn two Japanese destroyers again were sighted, and once more *PERCH* went to the bottom, this time at 200 feet.

Efforts to move from the bottom were unsuccessful, and the attackers continued depth charging until after daylight.

At dusk on Mar 2, *PERCH* again surfaced after an hour of effort. There was no enemy in sight. Reduction gears were in bad shape, there were serious electrical grounds and broken battery jars, and the engine room hatch leaked badly, so arrangements were made to scuttle if necessary.

On trying to dive before sunrise on Mar 3, 1942, it was found that due to the severe depth charge attacks she had been through, water poured in from conning tower and engine room hatches, the three-inch circulating water line and leaks in the hull. Nothing the crew did seemed to help the leakage and while further attempts were being made to repair the ship, three enemy destroyers came in sight and opened fire. The submarine's gun was inoperative and torpedoes could not be fired. Enemy depth charges had caused three of *PERCH*'s torpedoes to run in their tubes, and the heat, exhaust gases and mounting nervous tension aggravated already extremely difficult conditions. The decision was made to abandon and scuttle her. The entire crew got into the water safely, and all were picked up by Japanese ships. The significant statement of Japanese antisubmarine capabilities is made by LT K. G. Schact, a *PERCH* survivor, that "loss of air and oil during attacks caused both previous enemy groups to believe their target had been destroyed."

Personnel of *PERCH* were held for a few days on a Dutch Hospital Ship and transferred on Mar 10 1942 to a prison camp at Makkasser Clebes, Dutch West Indies until found by Brigadier General Barnes on Sep 13, 1945. Fifty-three of their crewmembers were handed over to the United States at the end of the war. *PERCH* was credited with sinking a 5,000-ton enemy freighter on her first patrol, conducted west of the Philippines.

Source: COMSUBPAC

## IN MEMORIAM

*TMC(SS) Robert W. Greenawalt,*  
*USN, Ret. (The Snake)*



"Snake," a Holland Club and Bremerton Base member, went on eternal patrol January 29, 2006 at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C. He was 81 years old. "Snake" qualified on *Aspro SS-309* and served in *Bumper SS-333, Segundo SS398, Menhaden SS-377, Medregal SS-480, Sablo SS-302, Tunny SS-282, Pickeral SS-524, Blackfin SS-322* and *Blueback SS-581.*

*Sailor, Rest Your Oars!*

Regretfully reported by John Ewert (Alias) Homeless...

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.



### 2007 CONVENTION CRUISE NEWS

Bremerton Base and AAA Washington have teamed up to make the 2007 Convention Cruise a week to remember. **You do not have to be a USSVI member to participate—family and friends are invited.** A \$350

per person deposit will secure your cabin and is refundable until Sept 2006 then insurance is available. All cruise info is at [www.aaawa.com/submarine/index.htm](http://www.aaawa.com/submarine/index.htm). Take a look, then call our AAA Rep Kim Boekenoogen, toll free at 1-877-802-6894 or email her at [kimboekenoogen@aaawin.com](mailto:kimboekenoogen@aaawin.com) and book your cabin.

**See Bud Berg for a Cruise Raffle Ticket. A \$5 bill may win you a Veranda Cabin Suite.**

Kim reports their ad in the most recent *American Submariner* is producing results—**529 (of 900 cabins) have deposits. The ship is over half reserved.**

### Don't wait—Book your cabin, NOW!

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sept 15	Seattle	Embark	5 pm
Sept 16	At Sea		
Sept 17	*Juneau, AK	11 am	8 pm
Sept 18	Cruise Hubbard Glacier & Yakutat Bay	Noon	5 pm
Sept 19	*Sitka, AK	7 am	6 pm
Sept 20	*Ketchikan, AK	7 am	1 pm
Sept 21	*Victoria, BC	8 pm	Midnight
Sept 22	Seattle	7 am	Debarck

\* Liberty Call

## Massing Of The Colors

### Massing of the Colors

Commemorates the service of our nation's foremost patriot

**President George Washington** on his two-hundred and seventy-fourth birthday and to remember patriots who have served, those patriots now serving and to recognize tomorrow's patriots.

**Ceremony to be held at Soldiers' Field House, Fort Lewis  
March 5, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.**

Shipmates,

Over the last couple years Submarine Veterans from **South Sound Base** have participated in this great event. In fact, we have been the only major Naval group represented!

I extend my invitation to the **Bremerton** and **Seattle Bases** to participate in this event. Two members from each base will march in the Massing of the Colors.

Let's give a good showing to all those Army and Marines!

Smooth sailing to all,

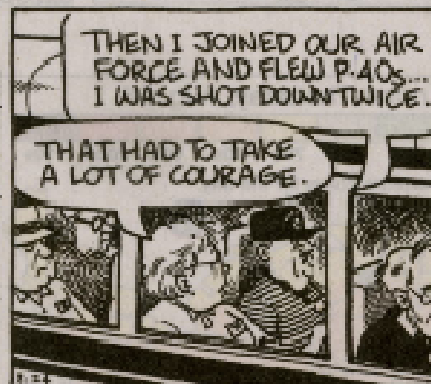
*Gregory Lee, CDR, South Sound Base (253 983 7987)*

## A Synergy of Science & Cinema Volcanoes of the Deep Sea

The Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport will be featuring **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. This cinema feature delivers a new vision of the great abyss. Captured using the deep-sea submersible **Alvin**, the film takes viewers to remote regions to see fascinating creatures and landscapes of the deep sea.

The event is **free** and will run Saturdays at 1:30 p.m., March 4 & 18, April 1 & 22 and May 13 & 27. For more information call (360) 396-5547.

### CRANKSHAFT By Chuck Ayers and Tom Batiuk





# National news



## Send Those Membership Renewals in NOW!

This is a friendly reminder to get those USSVI membership renewals sent in. As of Jan 1, 2006, any member who has not yet renewed is a "Member NOT in good standing" until they renew or April 1st rolls around, at which time (if still non renewed) they will be dropped from the member rolls.

### National Membership Dues

5 Year: \$ 90.00

3 Year: \$ 55.00

1 Year: \$ 20.00

All those members who renewed their base and national membership by 12/31/05 AND for whom the National Office was notified, will participate in a second drawing for a National Life Membership. The 'early birds' already had a drawing and a member of Hampton Roads base is now a Life member because of it.

Fraternally: **Patrick Householder**, NJVC

## 5th Submarine Online Auction

This is a reminder about the 5th Submarine On-Line Auction. This online auction will benefit OUR USSVI Charitable Foundation.

WE NEED STUFF to auction off and 100% of proceeds go to the USSVI Charitable Foundation. The Auction site is [www.rontini.com/auction.htm](http://www.rontini.com/auction.htm) Pictures for each item are at: [www.rontini.com/a001.jpg](http://www.rontini.com/a001.jpg) for item number one through [www.rontini.com/a099.jpg](http://www.rontini.com/a099.jpg) for item #99, etc. The Date of this auction will be announced when 225+ donated items have been received.

All donated items are being handled by **Ed Brooks** who is head of the USSVI Charitable Foundation. We need "Stuff" sent in right away, so if you have items you wish to donate, sub related or not, please send them to: **Ed Brooks**, 1517 Eagle Crest Drv, Prescott, AZ 86301-5424

Fraternally: **Ron Martini**  
Lockwood Internet Base Commander

PS: The last online auction raised \$7000+ for the return of the Razorback.

**[www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org)**

## St. Petersburg (Russia) Submariners Club Has New Website

Dear Friends, we of the Saint-Petersburg Submariners Club are glad to present to you our new web-site [www.submarinersclub.narod.ru](http://www.submarinersclub.narod.ru). There you can find information regarding the 43rd International Submariners Convention which will be held in Moscow from May 22 till May 25, 2006 and it's unofficial continuation in Saint Petersburg from May 26 till May 29, 2006.

We're also looking forward to getting more acquainted with you and hope for further friendship.

Submitted by **Igor Kurdin**  
Council Chair, St. Petersburg Submariners Club

## Election Year

As you all know by now, 2006 is an election year for USSVI. This year we are considering the publication of the ballot in the *American Submariner* third issue, which will hit the street around the first of August. The ballot will include the National Officers, Regional Directors and Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.

Any member in good standing can nominate any other member in good standing for any elected National Office, so long as the Nominee meets the requirement of office and prepares a letter of acceptance to accompany his nomination indicating acceptance of the nomination and willingness to serve and the nomination is received by the Nominating committee Chair on or before April 30. (Refer to Bylaws-Article VII for complete details; see Constitution Article XI for National Officer requirements for office). The Nominations Committee Chair is: **Steve Russo**, [Subvetsteve@juno.com](mailto:Subvetsteve@juno.com), 132 Woburn St., Medford, MA 02155-3421, Phone: 1-781-395-2227.

All Proposed Amendments must be received by the Constitution & By-Laws Chair by the 1st of April. (Refer to Bylaws-Article VIII Section 1: Amendments). The C&B Chair is: **Ed Brooks**, [etbrooks62@aol.com](mailto:etbrooks62@aol.com), 1517 Eagle Crest Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301-5424, Phone: 1-928-778-4069.

The nomination and election of Regional Directors comes under the supervision of the National Senior Vice Commander and will be included on the National Ballot. The nominations for Regional Director will also be sent to the National Nominating Committee Chair, **Steve Russo**, at the address indicated above.

**John E. Markiewicz**, USSVI National Secretary

### New Boat Sponsorship Chairman

Shipmates,

It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of **Bill Lee** of Lockwood Internet Base as the new Boat Sponsorship Chairman.

Over the last year the Boat Sponsorship Programs has languished. I believe that Bill, working with *American Submariner* editor **Mike Burcumshaw** will revitalize the program and that our shipmates out in the submarine fleet will be able to keep up with USSVI events and activities.

Sent to the Sailors in the fleet, the *American Submariner* is a great recruiting tool. We let the sailors know what is going on within USSVI and many of them remember us fondly. We may not recruit all the sailors right now, but we'll get them eventually.

Again, join me in welcoming Bill as our new Boat Sponsorship Chairman.

Tom, NC

### Excerpt from Article: Women on Subs...

by Mark D. Faram, *Navy Times*, 13 Feb 06

**Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry Scott** said, "I am not opposed to women serving on submarines. I think it could work." **Scott** said he believes Navy culture — not a lack of funding or logistical constraints — is the only fundamental hurdle to the idea.

A career submariner, **Scott** rose from the ranks as a missile technician onboard a ballistic missile submarine to become the chief of the boat on an attack submarine. He has experienced life onboard submarines firsthand and says there's a place for women there, too. His contention comes not just from a sailor's perspective. It's driven, in part, by being the father of two very capable daughters.

That's just one of the factors that shaped his current view on a long-sensitive subject in the silent service.

**Scott** said the biggest obstacle to getting women into subs isn't the age-old, and understandable, difficulties in modifying heads and berthing areas. Instead, supporters of the idea must overcome cultural fears and concerns.

"I think it could work," he said. "I think leadership can solve many of what are considered some of our most difficult problems." **Scott** said he knows of no formal plans or policies to change the current exclusions, but his position on the matter was clear: "I would support a change," he said.

# Sound Bytes

From Around the Fleet

### Excerpt from Interview:

### Admiral Michael Mullen

### US Chief Of Naval Operations

By Andrew Koch, *Jane's Defence Weekly*, January 11, 2006

The navy has been struggling with the costs of keeping its submarine force structure and needs to start building two boats per year or see that number drop. However, **Admiral Mullen** said, "If we do not get them down to USD 2 billion per submarine, it is not affordable." Still, he rejects the notion that the navy move away from a pure nuclear-powered submarine fleet. "It is my view that there is not much of a place for diesel submarines in our navy... The tyranny of distance and sustainability is something that nuclear power has solved for us in a very positive way."

### Northrop Grumman Newport News

In 2006 the shipyard will deliver its first nuclear-powered submarine in 10 years. The delivery on the *Texas* submarine, the second of the new Virginia-class of submersibles and the first of the group to get final assembly in Newport News, is now scheduled for May. Among other scheduled work this year, the shipyard will press ahead on assembling another Virginia-class sub, the *North Carolina*.

Source: *Undersea Enterprise News Daily*

### Excerpt from Article

### Full Steam Ahead

By Andrew Scutro, *Times staff writer*, February 22, 2006

**When ask---Is it time to drop the ban on women serving on submarines?**

**Admiral Mullen**, CNO, replied, "The leadership in the submarine community is looking at that. If we were to change that, it would be well done if led by the submarine leadership. And they are reviewing that."

"Battery acid is kinda tangy and it takes the skin off your lips"

*ETSN(SU) Shoe after his first trip into the battery well.*

**As income tax time approaches, did you ever notice: When you put the two words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "THEIRS"?**

**Minutes of the Meeting  
Conducted 01/17/06.**



CDR, **John Gardner**, called the meeting to order at 1900.

- Opening observances were conducted.
- There were no guests or first-timers among the 28 members present.
- The minutes of the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved as read.
- **VCDR Don Bassler**, presented a program on the 50 years of the Strategic Systems Programs organization. The borrowed DVD followed the development of the Polaris program from 1955 through the Trident program to 2005.
- The meeting resumed at 1925.
- Communications included a thank you from the Naval Hospital Bremerton nurse stationed in Kuwait. She stated that the 22 phone cards sent by Bremerton Base and the Fleet Reserve were greatly appreciated. We also received a thank you note for our contribution to the Caring Clowns International.
- **Treasurer & Membership Chairman Dutch Kaiser** reported that we have over \$56,000 in assets and a paid-up membership of 280 members. He has access to the base membership database and will conduct searches for anyone interested in such items as submarines served on, life members, Holland Club members, or whatever. His e-mail address is gekaiser@comcast.net.
- **Scholarship Chairman Don Bassler**, reports that approximately 50% of the membership has responded to the letters he sent with raffle tickets. He estimates that he is on track with his program of applications to the schools and the raffle program.
- **Shipmate Bassler** then reported for the National Office crew. He stated that the office is tracking 11,684 members. There are now 127 bases in the USSVI organization.
- **2007 National Convention Cruise Chairman Bud Berg** reports that 486 staterooms have been reserved. There may be a chance for RV'ers to use some parking area at the Kitsap Square Dance Association property in Gorst. This is still in the planning stages.
- **Dave Davenport** will be relieving **Ed Foskett** as the Holland Club coordinator.
- **VCDR Don Bassler** announced that the regular February meeting will be replaced by a social meeting on Saturday, February 11. The meeting will begin at 1000 hours with a movie followed by an Alaska Cruise presentation. The brunch will cost \$8.00.
- **CDR John Gardner** is looking for logo ideas for the Bremerton Base sponsored Submarine Birthday Run at Bangor on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Base Storekeeper Dene Rogers** has patches and desk flag sets for sale.
- The meeting raffle winners:  
  - Bruce Loughridge** won the 50/50 (\$35.50)
  - Bud Berg** won the hat (\$20).

The meeting was adjourned at 2015.

*Dick Litcher*

**Social Brunch  
Conducted 02/11/06**

The Saturday social, held from 1000-1400, appeared to be a resounding success. The social replaced our regular February business meeting. A special thanks to VCDR Red Bassler who suggested and followed through with the arrangements.

**It was great to see so many sweet hearts and first mates turn out.**



Pay close attention guys—we may ask questions after the training film is over.



Red showed the submarine documentary "*Down Periscope*" at 1000. It was well critiqued.

**Submarine Service—is not a job or Profession, but fate and religion...**

*Motto of The Saint-Petersburg [Russia] Submariner' Club*



Dutch couldn't understand why anyone would want SOS when FOT was on the menu.

The price was right! Eight bucks bought all the food you could eat. **BZ to The Fleet Home Port Café** and their attentive crew. They laid on a variety of food stuffs and kept the coffee hot.




The COB thought *Down Periscope* was a lot like his old 'Gold' crew.

Greg commented that the Radioman in the movie needed a little more OJT on continuity and conductivity.



Immediately following the movie, Kim and her NW AAA team gave a nice 2007 Alaska Cruise presentation and answered many questions. They are dedicated to making this a cruise we will remember. Can you imagine a cruise ship full of bubbleheads?? If you haven't signed up yet...call Kim at (877) 802-6894 or (360) 475-3061 and book your cabin, NOW!



It's going to be a great seven day cruise!

USSVI 2007 NATIONAL CONVENTION  
**ALASKA'S INSIDE PASSAGE**  
 SEPT. 15 - 22, 2007



## Navy Log Offered Free to Sea Service Members, Veterans

Now through the end of July 2006, all members and veterans of the Sea Services, active duty and reservists, are able to enroll in the U.S. Navy Memorial's Navy Log without charge and without any obligation.

The U.S. Navy Memorial, located on Pennsylvania Avenue, in Washington, D.C., is a national memorial that honors those who served, and are serving, in America's Sea Services, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, but the heart of the U.S. Navy Memorial is the Navy Log.

The Navy Log is the permanent public registry where Sea Service members and veterans can record their service information, name, duty stations, awards, photos and memories. Family members and friends can record service information for veterans who are deceased or those who are unable to record their own information.

The Navy Log may be viewed at the U.S. Navy Memorial, or via the Internet at [www.lonesailor.org](http://www.lonesailor.org). The goal of the Memorial is to record the service history of all eligible uniformed individuals and veterans.

To enroll your information or to enroll family members simply enter the appropriate information at [www.lonesailor.org](http://www.lonesailor.org). If you have any questions, please contact the Navy Log Department of the U.S. Navy Memorial, at 1-800-628-9564.

## SUB TO SUB

**T**HIS LAST SUMMER, *USS Cod* and the Netherlands American Society of Ohio commemorated the 60th anniversary of the rescue of the crew of the Dutch submarine *O-19*. On July 8, 1945, the Dutch submarine ran aground on Ladd Reef in the South China Sea. Unable to free itself, *O-19* was at the mercy of any Japanese war ships and planes in the area. U.S. Navy submarine *USS Cod*, responding to a coded message, arrived at the scene that day but was unable to pull the *O-19* from the reef. After removing the 56 Dutch sailors to safety, *Cod* destroyed the *O-19* to keep any of its equipment from falling into Japanese hands. The rescue was the only international submarine-to-submarine rescue in history.

*USS Cod*, now a national historic landmark permanently berthed in Cleveland, made seven war patrols and is considered a member of the Dutch submarine fleet by the Royal Netherlands Navy.

Source: *MO* Oct 2005

## Battle "E" Awards

The winners of the 2005 Battle "E" Awards for Pacific Fleet Submarines were announced Jan 1st.

### Pearl Harbor

Subron 1 — *USS La Jolla (SSN 701)*

Subron 3 — *USS Columbia (SSN 771)*

Subron 7 — *USS Cheyenne (SSN 773)*

### Guam

Subron 15 — *USS Corpus Christi (SSN 705)*

### Bangor

Subgron 9

Subron 17 — *USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735)*

Subron 19 — *USS Nevada (SSBN 733)*

### San Diego

Subron 11 — *USS Topeka (SSN 754)*

**The Battle "E" award recognizes sustained superior performance in all areas of combat readiness.**

Source: *Undersea Enterprise News Daily*

## Liquor and Longevity

The horse and mule live 30 years  
and nothing know of wine and beers.

The goat and sheep at 20 die  
and never taste of Scotch or Rye.  
The cow drinks water by the ton  
and at 18 is mostly done.

The dog at 15 cashes in  
without the aid of rum or gin.  
The cat in milk and water soaks  
and then in 12 short years it croaks.

The modest, sober, bone dry hen  
lays eggs for nogs, then dies at 10.

All animals are strictly dry,  
they sinless live and swiftly die.  
But sinful, ginful, rum-soaked men,  
survive for threescore years and ten.

And some of us, the mighty few,  
keep drinkin' 'till we're 92.

# NAVY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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Federal law generally prohibits credit unions from serving non-members. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration. 2005 Navy Federal Credit Union (4-05)

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- Reunion and Advertising Specialty items

Expires 04/30/06

More Info About USSVI can be Viewed at <http://bremertonbase.donmac.org>

**THANKS JOE!**



Expires 4/30/06

Photo by 'Red' Bassler

Reid Realtor **Joe Krotzer** donated his moving van to help our cause. This crew of grandfathers picked up, hauled, and set up the fireworks stand at the Oyster Bay Shopping Center on Kitsap Way for our annual fireworks sale. The proceeds from sales go directly to our Lt "Willie" Spoon scholarship program which awarded eight \$1000 local scholarships. Joe goes the 'extra mile.'

**See Joe Krotzer for your real estate needs!**

**Charles & Diana Linne** Expires 4/30/06

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[www.razorbackbase.com/Convention.html](http://www.razorbackbase.com/Convention.html)  
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**Monday, Sept. 4, 2006—Sunday, Sept. 10, 2006**

**GUY AMES STITT** Expires 4/30/06  
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Expires 4/30/06

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The Armed Forces License Plate will cost \$40 the first year, plus any applicable licensing fees.

Annual renewal will cost \$30, plus any applicable licensing fees. \$28 is tax deductible each year.

\$28 from each sale/renewal will be used for:

- ◆ Programs and services for homeless veterans;
- ◆ Memorials honoring veterans; and/or
- ◆ Maintenance of a future state veteran's cemetery

Additional Information at [www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov) or 1-800-562-0132

More on Armed Forces License Plates



Hello Subvet Shipmates,

I received an e-mail from a **South Sound Base** subvet that he purchased his Navy plate and received number

NA00153. So it looks like about 40 USN plates were purchased on Wednesday (Jan 4th) I would appreciate you sending me your plate number, if and when you order/purchase your special military license plate.

I am trying to get a feel of how many plates are being purchased. There is some friendly competition between a few of us VLC members in seeing how many plates per service branch are being sold. It may be interesting how the numbers compare.

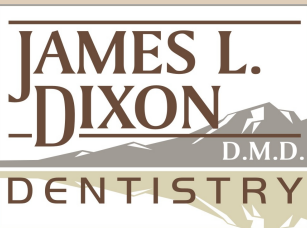
**"Go Navy, Beat Army"**

Navy VLC members out numbered by Army about 25 to 2.

Thanks for your help, pax,

**Don "donmac" Smith**

Subvets representative to VLC



Expires 12/31/05

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Expires 04/30/06

**Submarine Cuisine**

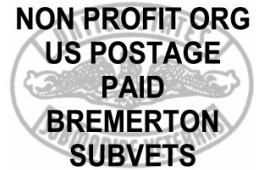
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UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS  
BREMERTON BASE  
PO BOX 465  
SILVERDALE WA 98383-0465  
Issue Date, March 1, 2006

We Meet Monthly at 1900 at FRA#29,  
521 National Ave., Bremerton, WA:  
—Tue, Mar 21st, Guest Speaker—TBD  
—Tue, Apr 18th, Guest Speaker—Dave R. Pittman/Schools

### Lt William "Willie" Spoon Official Friday Lunch Schedule



Friday 1145

- Mar 03 Mitzels, 76 NE Liberty Rd., off SR 305, Poulsbo
- Mar 10 Silver City Brewery, 2799 NW Myhre Rd, Silverdale
- Mar 17 Tony Roma's, 3276 NW Plaza Rd, Silverdale
- Mar 24 Yacht Club Broiler, 9226 Bayshore Drive, Old Silverdale
- Mar 31 Mandarin, 2928 NW Bucklin Hill Rd, Silverdale (next to Azteca)
- Apr 07 Tony's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria, 4908 Kitsap Way, Bremerton
- Apr 14 Cloverleaf Pizza, 1240 Hollis St., East Bremerton (Off Wheaton Way, by K-mart)
- Apr 21 Bayview Stree Grill & Bar, 1605 Bay St., Port Orchard
- Apr 28 Azteca, 19045 SR 305, Poulsbo

### Take a break—come to lunch!

These establishments support the  
Lt. William "Willie" Spoon  
Memorial Scholarship  
<http://gertrude-check.up-scope.org>

### Plan of the Day

### BREMERTON BASE MEMBERS IMPORTANT DATES—MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 05 Mar—Massing of the Colors, Fort Lewis, WA
- 6-8 Mar—USSVI-Western Region Conference, Reno, NV
- 15 Mar—1200 E-Board, FRA#29, Bremerton
- 21 Mar—1900 Subvets Meeting, FRA#29, Bremerton
- 07 Apr—Enlisted Submarine Ball, Bangor Plaza, NBK
- 08 Apr—Officer Submarine Ball, Red Lion Inn, Seattle
- 12 Apr—1200 E-Board, FRA#29, Bremerton
- 18 Apr—1900 Subvets Meeting, FRA#29, Bremerton

### Immediate Opening Be Your Own Boss-Work Your Own Hours

USSVI-Bremerton Base is seeking a self motivated, reliable volunteer to edit *Puget Soundings*, our bi-monthly newsletter. (Most any of you qualified submariners, and a few others, fit that description)

Duties include: Formatting the newsletter, sending finished product to the printer and webmaster, picking up and mailing printed copies.

Qualified candidates will be "retired" and have a PC with a Publishing program. Being able to cross T's and dot I's is a plus.

If you are between the ages of 18 and 90+ looking for something constructive to do then apply in person at our business meeting or email the current editor at [ss\\_ssn\\_ssb@wavecable.com](mailto:ss_ssn_ssb@wavecable.com).

Free training and on call assistance is guaranteed. A sense of humor is helpful.

*Puget Soundings is an Equal Opportunity employer with no paychecks or benefits (other than self-satisfaction)!*

The 2006 William "Willie" Spoon Memorial Scholarship applications are available at the local high school counseling offices, or you may e-mail me with your request and I can e-mail you the form, etc.

Don [down-scope@comcast.net](mailto:down-scope@comcast.net)

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