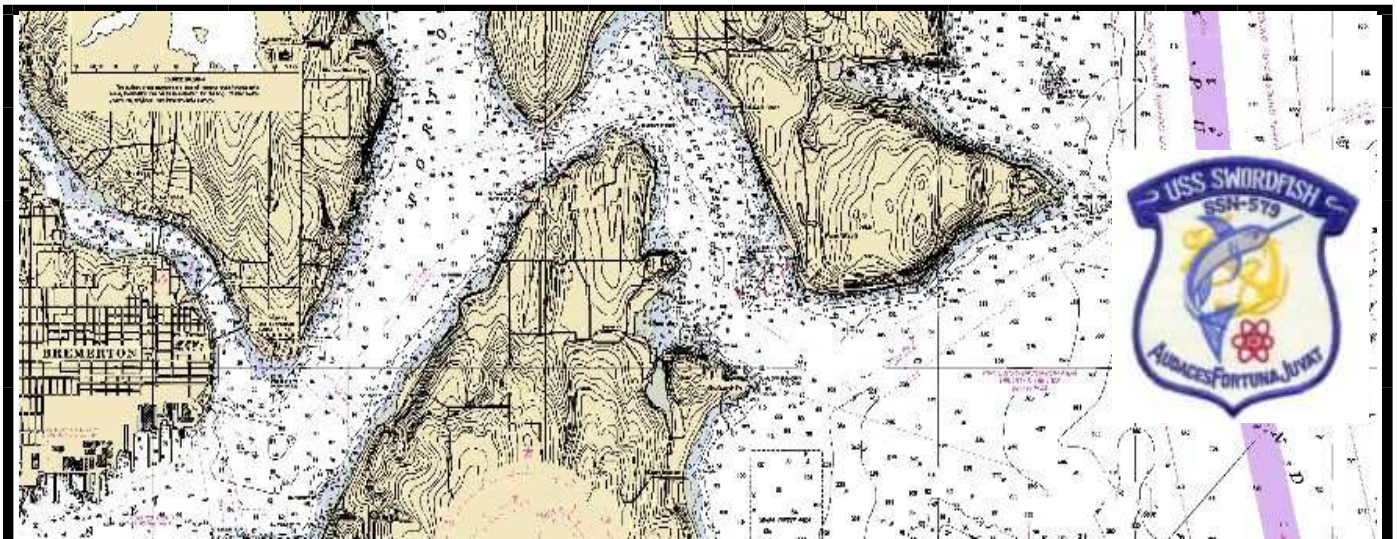




Puget Soundings

The Bremerton Subvets Bi-monthly Newsletter

2006 Newsletter of the year—First Runner-up!



Vol. IX Issue 6 USSVI-Bremerton Base, P. O. Box 465, Silverdale, WA 98383-0465 Nov/Dec '06

Hang on to your cup of coffee for this ride:

Why we have emergency drills!

Article contributed by,
Bremerton Base Life Member and Holland
Club Chairman, "Dirty" Dave Davenport

In late November 1985, *USS Swordfish* (SSN-579) was delayed in departing Pearl Harbor due to the failure of the drain pump. A replacement was obtained from *USS Skate* (SSN-578), in the shipyard for decommissioning, but *Swordfish* put to sea before the pump was fully connected and tested, and the crew could not get the pump to operate. Since the engine room bilges could not be pumped, by the evening of 24 November the water in the engine room lower level bilge was over the deck plates (more than four feet). The crew tried to use a portable submersible pump, but were not successful.



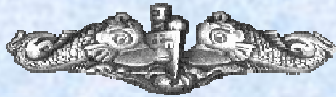
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USSVI Creed

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



Bremerton Base was well represented at the annual national convention in Little Rock in September. *Puget Sounding's* editor Tommy Robinson is to be congratulated for winning first runner up in the large base category. The awards chairman made a comment that winner in that category had published the issue that won in color on photo quality paper. I believe that put them on top.

Don "Mac" Smith can take credit for the base website taking the second runner up in the large base category.

I thought the convention was excellent and well run. I was impressed with Little Rock's small town atmosphere and the welcome we received.

Our appreciation goes to Bobby Baker for sharing the humorous side of his experiences as the White House communicator in the late 70's and early 80's for 3 presidents at the October 17th meeting. It was very entertaining.

Looking into the next 2 months....Sat, Nov 11th, we have two events we will participate in. First the annual Veterans Day ceremony at the Kitsap Fairgrounds Pavilion. Doors open at 0930, ceremony starts at 1030 AM.

We shall also participate and Life Associate Member Sam Swenson will pull the float in the largest Veterans Day parade in the nation that day, the Auburn parade. If you would like to go to this, contact me (479-1642) and we will arrange car-pooling. Right now we have 3 or 4 members going. Please wear your colors at both events.

Also in November we have Lane and Patty Judson, parents of Crystal Brame (slain wife of Tacoma Police Chief David Brame), for a presentation on domestic violence at a Saturday Brunch (Nov 18th) social meeting with guests invited. Brunch starts at 10 00 at \$10/head. The presentation starts about 1100.

COB, Hank Hollis has arranged the annual Christmas Dinner at the Elks Club on Saturday, December 16th. No host bar starts at 1200, dinner about 1300. Cost is \$33/couple, \$16.50/person payable in advance. Send check made out to USSVI Bremerton Base (noting in memo line what it is for) to Hank Hollis, 3021 Marine Dr, Bremerton, WA 98312-2037

There will be no business meetings in November or December.

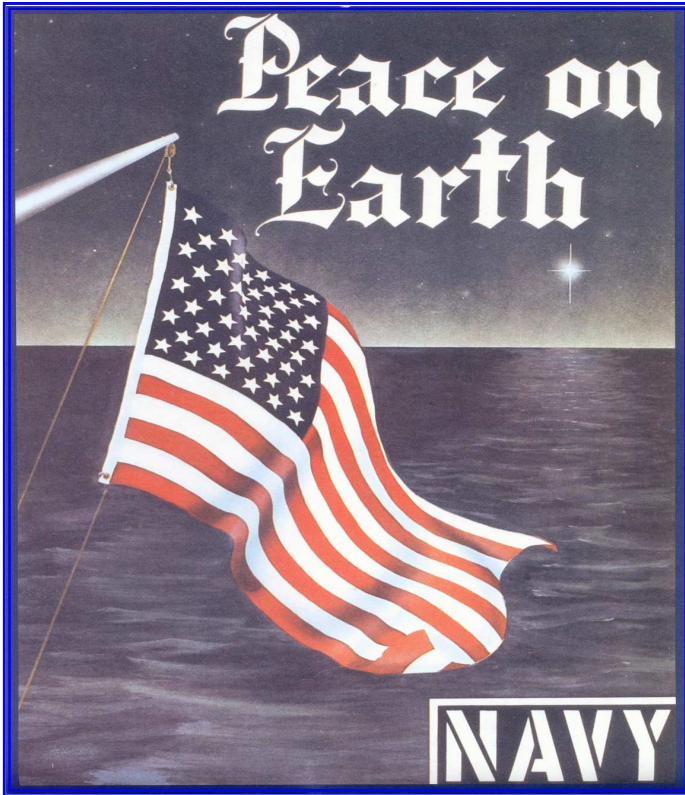
The 2007 scholarship raffle sales will begin after the first of the year.

Sam Swenson, thank you for relieving Tommy as PS editor.

Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!



Red



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 either by telephone or email. Applications and membership information is also available at www.ussvi.org.

Treasurer & Membership Report

As of October 18, 2006

Checking	83.07
Savings	1109.31
CD's	47818.24
Total	49010.62
Members	249



Dutch

As of October 1, 2006 we unlocked all address's, telephone numbers and email address's in the National Database for all Bremerton Base members. Each member can re-lock this information if they so desire by going to the National Database, logging on and following the directions. If you have problems or do not have access to the internet and desire to lock this information contact the Treasurer/Membership Chairman. (Contact information is on page 2.)

Always Remember

Let it never be said, that we don't remember.
What submariners have done, since that day in December.
The sun shown bright, on that Pearl Harbor morning.
When the enemy attacked, with little or no warning.

The *Tautog* was there, with no time to think.
And splashed one Japanese plane, right down in the drink.
She sent twenty-six ships, to the depths of the sea.
And came to be known, as the "Terrible T."

The *Sealion* at Cavite, was the first to be caught.
She was moored to a pier, but bravely she fought.
Two bombs exploded, through the hull they did rip.
And many brave submariners, died in their ship.

There were many proud boats, like the *Perch* and *Finback*.
The *Kraken*, the *Haddock*, the *Scamp* and the *Skipjack*.
We remember the *Halibut*, *Blenny* and *Darter*.
And never forget, Sam Dealey in *Harder*.

Cutter and *Seahorse's*, torpedoes ran true.
She targeted the enemy, and sank many Marus.
And although the enemy, was quite filled with hate.
"Red" Ramage and *Parche*, showed many their fate.

"Mush" Morton and *Wahoo*, never backed down from a fight.
Fluckey and *Barb*, entered Namkwan Harbor one night.
Many airman were saved, by O'Kane and the *Tang*.
Some owe their lives, to *Seafox*, *Tigrone* and *Trepang*.

We remember the honorable, boat called *Barbel*.
Before she was lost, she gave the enemy hell.
The *Sturgeon*, the *Trigger*, the *Pollack* had heart.
The *Torsk*, made the last two frigates depart.

Nowadays the cold war, seems to be a big factor.
And submarines are powered, by nuclear reactors.
The proud names are still there, the *Tautog* did shine.
But her hull number by then, was Six Thirty Nine.

Many boats gave their all, with heroic name-sakes.
Like *Thresher*, *Scorpion*, *Nautilus*, and *Skate*.
The *Seadragon*, *Swordfish*, *Richard B. Russell* and *Dace*.
Have all out to sea, and heard the enemies trace.

We remember "Forty-one for Freedom," whose patrols couldn't fail.
The *George Washington*, *Andrew Jackson* and *Nathan Hale*
Now the *Alaska* and *Nebraska*, and other Tridents are here.
They patrol the deep oceans, so aggressive nations have fear.

There are new boats on the line, called *Cheyenne* and *Wyoming*.
They will all do us proud, like the old *Gudgeon* and *Grayling*.
So take time each day, and think of the past.
Then toast the new *Seawolf*, for she's quiet and fast.

Let it never be said, that we don't remember.
What submariners have done, since that day in December.
The sun still shines bright, every Pearl Harbor morning.
But never forget, the enemy attacks without warning.

Author © by **John Chaffey**, Powell, WY - SSN639, SSN687, SSBN619

Emergency Drills < page 1

The weight of water in the engine room bilges required large angles on the stern planes to maintain a "zero bubble" (keep the pitch of the submarine level). While attempting to trim the boat, the Diving Officer ordered "zero your planes." The Planesman complied, the stern dropped, and the boat's up-angle increased rapidly as the water in the bilges sloshed aft. When the water in the rear of the engine room rose over the main lube-oil pumps, the operating pump shorted out and caught fire.

When "fire in main lube oil" was announced, three men in the stern torpedo room, aft of the engine room, took fire extinguishers and begin climbing forward, against the steep up-angle, to fight the casualty. When they opened the hatch into the engine room, which swung into the torpedo room, the bilge water began pouring in.

As the first man through the hatch was struggling against both the up-angle and the rush of water, he dropped his fire extinguisher, which fell the length of the torpedo room. When it hit, its valve and nozzle broke off, and the extinguisher began rocketing around through the chaos of water and debris. The first man was pulled into the engine room by another crewman, while the other two men began trying to shut the watertight door. They struggled with that hatch for the remainder of the casualty.

The crew throughout the submarine continued to take the immediate actions they were trained to automatically perform during a casualty. Appropriately for a fire in main lube oil, the Officer of the Deck ordered "All Stop," and the Throttleman shut the throttles for the main engines. Without propulsion, the extreme up-angle caused the ship to quickly stop and begin moving backwards, sinking stern first.

When the fire was announced, the Engineer had lain to Maneuvering (the control center of the engine room). He saw the depth gage indicating a rapid increase in depth, ordered "Ahead Flank" on his own initiative, and opened the forward throttle himself in an effort to drive the ship to the surface. In Control, the Officer of the Deck saw similar indications, and ordered "Emergency Blow." The Chief of the Watch, following procedures, started the blow

on the forward group of ballast tanks first. Before he could initiate the blow on the aft group the up-angle became so steep that he was unable to maintain footing and slid to the rear of Control. He quickly climbed back up to the manual air manifold, where, hanging from one hand, he opened a valve with his other hand that was very difficult to turn under normal conditions with two hands. (Emergency blow on Skate-class boats was performed by opening valves with standard hand-wheels; later classes were equipped with lever-actuated hydraulic mechanisms.)

Swordfish surfaced successfully. However, the reactor had scammed and the diesel was inoperable due to the depth of the water in engine room lower level, leaving the battery as the only source of power.

During the up-angle the air injectors for the steam plant were submerged and sucked contaminated water into the feed system. The crew succeeded in blowing down the steam generators before the very rapid corrosion caused by chlorides in the high temperature water penetrated the tubes of the steam generators and caused leaks of reactor coolant into the steam system, but the effort consumed all fresh water available in the boat.

Since the only source of power was the battery, the boat's air conditioning plant was down (on reduced power). The temperature in the ship exceeded 100° F (38C) with near 100% humidity for the several hours required for a tug to be dispatched from Pearl Harbor, rig for tow, and tow *Swordfish* home.

The actions of the Chief of the Watch and the Engineer saved *Swordfish* and her crew. The boat spent many months in port making repairs but was decommissioned without ever putting to sea again.

Author Unknown

ARMY/NAVY GAME

December 2, 1006

U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman carried the Secretary Trophy to Annapolis after defeating the Army Black Knights 42-23 in the 106th Army vs. Navy Football game last year. With the win, the midshipmen lead the series 50-49-7.

Go Navy, Beat Army!

Editor's note—Shipmates,

As you may know, I have advertised for a relief as editor of *Puget Soundings* for almost a year. Recently I have taken on duties with the Nautilus Alumni Association, Inc., that will demand much of my time. I am eager to take on this new challenge and therefore I will be stepping down as editor of *Puget Soundings* effective November 1, 2006.



I knew nothing about editing a newsletter when I volunteered three years ago for the task—a standard Navy tour of duty. Since then, I have learned much with help from VCDR Don Bassler, Shane Foraker, and other shipmates. Bremerton Base has 249 members. I'm confident there is a submariner, associate member, or spouse, out there somewhere, who will step up and continue editing our newsletter.

It's been a great three years. I thank each and every member who has contributed to *Puget Soundings* either by providing articles or constructive criticism. Your combined efforts earned a Newsletter of the Year Award in 2004 and a First Runner Up Award this year. You can be proud, as I am.

Meanwhile, I stand ready to assist/train the next volunteer editor of your newsletter, *Puget Soundings*.

Tommy L. Robinson
 Editor, *Puget Soundings*

Ed's other note: Just moments before reading this note at our October meeting, Bremerton Base Associate and Life Member Sam Swenson stepped up to the plate and volunteered to take over as editor of Puget Soundings. Please welcome Sam, my longtime friend and shipmate. Give him the same great support that I've enjoyed and he will keep Puget Soundings in your mail boxes. Sam's phone number is 360 698-2112 and his email is sswenson@tscnet.com. He will start the new year off by putting out the January/February 2007 issue. Thanks Samuel!

Carp Tails — Another Story of Interest

I want to share this true story about the sagas of the single first class sailors on *Carp* in the mid fifties. I have experienced in credible events and would like to share this one with all sailors that were not fortunate enough to have sailed with this crew..

It was Sunday morning and we were in upkeep at Sub-Base Pearl. I had the 0800-1200 below decks watch and my dear friend and shipmate Perry "Baby Duck" Bromley dropped down the after battery hatch and said, "Dirty Dave get a standby and we will run aground at the Dolphin and hoist a few." I said I would try to get Julian Eves to standby for me as he had just come down to the boat from the barracks for breakfast. He said, "NO! I just want to spend a quiet day aboard."

Perry said he would take care of it for me. In about fifteen minutes Tommy Callahan the Duty Chief came into the control room and announced that we had to clean up the boat real quick because the Subbase PIO called and said that Jane Russell, who was in Honolulu filming "Mamie Stover," wanted to tour a submarine. The *Carp* was in up keep and was selected for the tour. He also stated that only the duty sections would be on board in order to lessen the publicity.

Low and behold Julian came to me and said he would take my duty for me. I responded that I didn't have any money left and he whipped out twenty dollars and said now you have some.

Baby Duck and I went ashore and were laughing our selves silly and getting into our cups. Well, of course, Jane Russell never showed up and Perry and I were accused of creating this hoax! I would never admit it until now... Sorry Chief Callahan and thanks Julian.

We had one hell of a day on the beach and Benny Nary at the Dolphin Club made a few extra bucks.

Thanks, Dirty Dave Davenport



**Welcome Aboard
 USSVI-Bremerton Base**

Tom Langley qualified on **USS Pomodon** in 1950. He served in six other boats.

Lynn Davis qualified on the **USS Segundo** in 1959.

Al Elger qualified on **USS Francis Scott Key** in 1972. Al's other boats are **Sabalo, Tench, Simon Bolivar** and **Grouper**.



We need a volunteer to run the fireworks stand next year!

Fifty-one years ago, Herman James, a North Carolina mountain man, joined the Navy. On his first day in boot camp, the Navy issued him a comb and that afternoon the Navy barber sheared off all his hair. On his second day, the Navy issued Herman a toothbrush and that afternoon the dentist yanked seven of his teeth. On the third day, the Navy issued him a jock strap and the Navy has been looking for Herman for 51 years

On Eternal Patrol

November

USS Corvina
(SS-226)

USS Scamp
(SS-277)

USS Growler
(SS-215)

USS Albacore
(SS-218)

USS Sculpin
(SS-191)

December

USS S-4
(SS-109)

USS Capelin
(SS-289)

USS F-1 (ex Carp)
(SS-20)

USS Sealion
(SS-195)



USS GROWLER (SS-215) 86 MEN LOST



Early in Nov. 1944, *GROWLER*, *HAKE* and *HARDHEAD* were operating together west of the Philippines group as a coordinated search and attack group under command of Cmdr. T.B. Oakley Jr., CO, *GROWLER*. The Patrol was *GROWLER*'s eleventh. On Nov. 7th, *GROWLER* reported having made temporary repairs to her SJ radar which made it usable, but that she urgently needed spare parts for it. A future rendezvous was arranged with *BREAM* for the purposed of delivering the parts.

In the early morning hours of Nov. 8th, *GROWLER*, made radar contact on an enemy target group, and reported it to *HARDHEAD*. Cmdr. Oakley directed *HARDHEAD* to track and attack from the convoy's port bow. Shortly thereafter, *HARDHEAD* made contact with both the target group and *GROWLER*. After about an hour had passed *HAKE* heard two distant explosions of undetermined character, and *HARDHEAD* heard an explosion which sounded like a torpedo. At the same time, the targets zigged away from *GROWLER*. Shortly after, *HARDHEAD* heard three distant depth charges explode.

A little over an hour after these explosions, *HARDHEAD* attacked the target from the port bow, obtained three or four hits, and *HAKE* saw a tanker sink. *HARDHEAD* was subjected to a severe counterattack from which it emerged undamaged, while *HAKE* was worked over thoroughly later in the morning. All attempts to contact *GROWLER* after this attack were unsuccessful, and she has never been seen or heard from since. The rendezvous with *BREAM* for the delivery of SJ spare parts was not accomplished. Since *GROWLER* had tracked targets by radar for at least an hour, it appears that her temporary SJ repairs must have been satisfactory.

Although Japanese records mention no antisubmarine attacks at this time and place, it is evident that depth charges were dropped in the vicinity of *GROWLER*, but in the absence of

more conclusive evidence that cause of her loss must be described as unknown. The Japanese admit that a tanker was sunk that night which checks with *HARDHEAD*'s sinking. *HARDHEAD* was heavily depth charged following her own attack and later that morning *HAKE* was expertly worked over presumably by the same escorts. This leads to the belief that if *GROWLER* was sunk by depth charging it was at the hands of a skillful antisubmarine group.

The explosion described by *HARDHEAD* as "possibly a torpedo" may have been a depth charge or a torpedo explosion. It is unlikely that a torpedo hit was made on the convoy at this time because if the tanker had been hit she probably would either have burst into flame, as she subsequently did when hit by *HARDHEAD*, or slowed down if hit in the engine room. She did neither, nor was there any evidence that any of the three escorts were hit. However, since only three subsequent explosions were heard by *HAKE*, and a number of depth charges generally are dropped in an accurate or persistent antisubmarine attack, a number of possibilities exist as to *GROWLER*'s end.

She could have been sunk as a result of a premature or circular run of her own torpedo, and the three depth charges heard by *HAKE* may have been only a token attack by the escort. Although there was a quarter moon, the night was somewhat misty, and she might have made the approach at radar depth. If so, she could have been rammed, thus making it unnecessary for the escort to drop many depth charges. She could have been caught at either radar or periscope depth and the antisubmarine group, evidently a good one, might have verified the results of their attack immediately. An escort could have hit her with a torpedo and only dropped a few charges to insure a kill. In any event, sinking by her own torpedoes is only a slight possibility. It is doubtful weather a report by the escorts of this convoy would help to decide this question. In the cases of *TULIBGEE* and *TANG*, where survivor's statements leaves little doubt that destruction was by their own torpedoes, the Japanese ships which picked up survivors claimed to have sunk the submarines themselves.

GROWLER was the ship commanded by Cmdr. Howard W. Gilmore on her fourth patrol when, mortally wounded by machine gun fire after *GROWLER* had rammed a patrol vessel, he ordered the ship submerged while he lay on the bridge. The Commanding Officer, the assistant officer of the deck and a lookout were lost and Cmdr. Gilmore was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

During her first ten patrols, *GROWLER* sunk 17 ships for a total tonnage of 74,900 and damaged 7 ships, for 34,100 tons.

Source: CSP

Two old retired submariners are quietly sitting in a boat fishing and sucking down beer when suddenly Mel says, "I think I'm going to divorce my wife---she hasn't spoken to me in over 2 months!" Earl sips his beer and says, "You better think it over ---women like that are hard to find!"

CRUISE ALASKA IN 2007 AT 2004 PRICES!!! CALL KIM AT 475-3061

With less than a year to go to the 2007 National convention on the luxurious cruise ship *ms Oosterdam*, 2007 prices are being published and they are significantly lower than the 2004 prices you and your friends can get by signing on to cruise with 1350 folks already signed on.

Diving a Virginia Class

With the bridge empty, sailors soon ready the boat to do what it was meant to do—Dive! Dive!

The check to make sure all hatches are secured tightly. Sailors work to make fresh air in one of the boat's machinery rooms. An officer tells the Commanding Officer of this intentions to dive.

“Very well,” the CO replies.

Sirens blare through the boat.

Aaarrruuuggaaahhh! Aaarrruuuggaaahhh!

The Pilot gets on the loud speaker.

“Prepare to dive. Dive! Dive!”

Air in the ballast tanks is released. Water pours into the tanks, making the boat sink. Other than no more rocking and a little pressure, there's no different feeling once a sub submerges.

The Pilot — who sits in a large cushy chair operating a joy stick that looks much like a fighter jet's controls — sends the boat down at a steep, 30-degree angle.

Don't need a Chief of the Watch on the hydraulic manifold or a Forward Aux on the air and trim and drain manifolds or a Helmsman or a Planesman — an no one orders “Blow Negative to the Mark!”

Source: Excerpt, Cape Canaveral Media Embark by Neal Stevens

USS Wahoo (SS-238) — Correction

Editors Note: Incorrect information was printed regarding USS Wahoo in the Oct/Nov issue of PS. The article was intended to be a simple notification to members of the apparent discovery of Wahoo, however, it contained incorrect information and should have been better researched. As editor of PS, I do not intend to print mis-information and I thank Mr. Charles R. Hinman for pointing out the errors. He wrote:

In regards to the article, "USS Wahoo believed Found," in your Sep/Oct '06 issue of *Puget Soundings*, first, I would like to point out that the photo that is captioned, "This photo appears to be that legendary boat," is actually a previously published photo of a sunken u-boat, and was used on the cover of Spencer Dunmore's book "Lost Submarines."

Second, the number of men who were lost when *Wahoo* failed to return from her seventh patrol is 80. One commonly cited source for the "79" figure is the *Wahoo* page of the COMSUBPAC website (<http://www.csp.navy.mil/ww2boats/wahoo.htm>). I have spoken to COMSUBPAC Public Affairs, and they have agreed to change the figure, and include the inadvertently omitted Thomas, W(illiam), S1, on the page. Among other sources, Thomas (Service No. 634 49 75, of Lexington, Kentucky) is listed in the National Archives' [State Summary of War Casualties from World War II for Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Personnel](#), the [National World War II Memorial](#) website, and on Jim Christley's [Lost Boats and Crews](#), as well as my own [On Eternal Patrol](#).

Third, the discovery of the vessel that we believe to be *Wahoo* was not accidental. Using coordinates supplied to the Russian dive team by The Wahoo Project, the divers were specifically looking for *Wahoo*, and indeed, found the wreck at the suggested location.

The Wahoo Project does intend to dive on the site, but only after all proper diplomatic procedures have been followed. During that dive, we will abide entirely by the regulations as stipulated by the U. S. Naval Historical Center.

For further information, please feel free to contact me at education@bowfin.org, or phone (808) 423-1341.

Sincerely,
Charles R. Hinman
Point of Contact, The Wahoo Project
Director of Education & Outreach
USS Bowfin Submarine Museum & Park
www.OnEternalPatrol.com

I did contact Mr. Hinman, via email, and invited him to write a future article for PS outlining The Wahoo Project, detailing their current activities.

To see photos of the vessel believed to be USS Wahoo (SS-238), please visit www.OnEternalPatrol.com.

USSVI National News

Customized Membership Cards Available

This program was previously limited to Life members but now ALL Members can order a Customized Membership Card featuring a photo of the submarine of your choice (usually your qual boat) for a minimum donation of \$50 to the USSVI Charitable Foundation. Your check (made to USSVCF) can be sent to: USSVI, PO Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98383-3870.

Include with the check, the Sub you desire, and whether you prefer a photo or a watercolor painting (if available) by USSVI Sub Vet and Artist Tom Denton.

Fred Borgmann, USSVI Office Manager

USSVI Member Contact Information

When the USSVI secure member database was put online, ever member's contact information (Address, Phone Number, Email) was automatically locked from viewing until and unless the member either (1) changed his privacy status in the database (how to do that below) or (2) asked his base membership chairman to do that for him.

When member 'unlocks' his information, it is only accessible to other registered USSVI members and is NOT accessible to the general public. The database uses a secure password/login method to prevent unauthorized access to membership information, in much the same way as does the NSL, USNA and many other organizations with a online membership directory system.

One of the primary reasons we all joined USSVI is to seek out and maintain contact with our submariner shipmates, and keeping your information locked prevents that from happening. Please visit <http://ussvi.org> and go to the upper left corner to click on [MEMBER LOGIN]. If you are a current member and don't already know your password, click on the line that says "If you don't know or remember your password? (click here)" You'll be asked a few questions to confirm your identify and your access information will be immediately presented to you on screen. By clicking on the [MY PROFILE] button, you can then review and update your own member profile. The privacy options are under the PASSWORD tab. You can change your password and logon information, designate if you wish to vote online in future elections, and determine if you wish to block or unblock your Address, Phone Number or Email.

You can look up other members by clicking on the [USSVI MEMBERS] button. Warning: if a member has opted to not have their information displayed, you will not see it. In this case, do not contact us asking for it. If it is locked, we will not release a member's information, no matter what the reason. It is particularly important that the Base Officers and POCs all unblock their information as they are the conduit through which potential new members can contact the base. As this notice is written, there are a large number of this group of officers who still have their information blocked. Questions? Call 425 392-0440 or email me householder@comcast.net.

Pat Householder, NJVC

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Puget Soundings—November/December 2006 Issue

Around the World & Under the Seas

'K19' saved from scrapyard

Taipei Times, 19 Aug 06

A Soviet submarine involved in a notorious accident which threatened to trigger nuclear war has been saved by its former cook, just weeks before it was due to be scrapped. Vladimir Romanov, now a multimillionaire businessman, wants to turn the *K19* into a museum. Romanov, who owns Edinburgh's Hearts football club, snapped up the nuclear craft -- made famous in the film *K19: The Widowmaker* starring Harrison Ford -- from a wrecking yard in northern Russia. He plans to get it moved to a berth in Moscow. Inside the sub will be exhibits on its history and a club for submariners.

Source: Undersea Enterprise News Daily

Israel Expands Submarine Fleet

By Ryan R. Jones, All Headline News, 23 Aug 06

Jerusalem, Israel (AHN) - Israel last month inked a deal with Germany for the purchase of two additional Dolphin-class nuclear-capable submarines, The Jerusalem Post reported Wednesday.

Israel already possesses three Dolphin submarines, two of which were donated to the Jewish state by Germany following the first Gulf War. The new acquisition will significantly increase Israel's second-strike nuclear capabilities, according to foreign analysts.

The new vessels, which Israel purchased at the discount rate of \$1.27 billion, will also employ new German technology enabling them to remain submerged far longer than the submarines currently in Israel's fleet.

With a range of 2,800 miles and the ability, according to Jane's Defense Weekly, to unleash a barrage of nuclear-tipped cruise missiles, Israel's new Dolphins will provide a serious deterrent to a nuclear Iran.

Source: Undersea Enterprise New Daily

Ultramodern Diesel Submarine To Be Tested In Russia

From Russia-ic.com, 21 Sep 06

Tests of the unique advanced submarine "*Saint Petersburg*" soon start in the Baltic sea. The ultramodern diesel submarine was designed for Russian Navy and doesn't have any analogues. The submarine is notable for its high combat capacities, fair speed and cruising range. "*Saint Petersburg*" is able to stay underwater without refueling for 45 days.

Moreover, the submarine has low noise level and is equipped with unique systems of environmental security. All mentioned systems would be tested in a naval cruise.

Source: Undersea Enterprise New Daily

The first Japanese casualty to American arms during WW-II was an aircraft shot down on Dec. 7th, 1941 by the *Tautog*.

*LITTLE KNOWN SUB FACTS
by Bill Wolfe, Editor of Polaris*

USSVI Bremerton Subvets Bi-monthly Newsletter

Local Puget Sound Bytes



Bremerton Base was awarded Class III (large base) **Newsletter—First Runner-up** and **Website — Second Runner-up** for 2006 at the National Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas.



Red Sez ...

1. **2007 annual dues** will be due on the first of the year. I have sent out 63 letters to regular members and National Life members without Base Life membership asking you to renew your association at the national and base levels.
2. Bremerton Base will participate in the **biggest Veterans Day Parade in the country** in Auburn on Saturday, November 11th. Associate Life Member **Sam Swenson** has volunteered to tow the float. To date, Tommy Robinson and I will also go. We invite any others to do so. (Call me if you want to co-ordinate our transportation (479-1642)). South Sound, Seattle and Bremerton Bases join together in this parade each year with our WWII Subvet brothers.
3. There will be **no business meetings** in November or December. Next scheduled business meeting is January 16, 2007.

BOB HOPE --- ON SAILORS "They spend the first six days of each week sowing their wild oats, then they go to church on Sunday and pray for crop failure."

Around the Fleet

Nuclear sub bound for Guam

By Steve Lintiaco, *Pacific Daily News*, 24 Sep 06

The *USS Buffalo*, which will replace the damaged *USS San Francisco* as the third submarine homeported on Guam, is scheduled to arrive next spring.

The *Buffalo*, which has been homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, since 1984, has a crew of 143, and will join the *USS City of Corpus Christi* and the *USS Houston* here.

The House Armed Services Committee earlier this year received a report prepared by the Congressional Research Service, which states that homeporting eight submarines on Guam, in addition to the submarines already here, could reduce the need for submarines because Guam is a more efficient location.

According to the report, the Navy determined that a single submarine based on Guam is worth about 2.3 submarines based in Hawaii or San Diego, in terms of the amount of time it would be able to operate.

And Guam-based submarines could operate even longer, the report states, if submarines were manned in shifts, with three crews for every two submarines.

According to *Pacific Daily News* files, the Navy intends to shift 60 percent of its submarine fleet to the Pacific Ocean by 2010.

Source: Excerpt from *Undersea Enterprise News Daily*

Sub North Carolina's pressure hull finished

Daily Press, 1 Sep 06

The Virginia-class submarine *North Carolina* (SSN-777) has reached a milestone with the completion of its pressure hull at Northrop Grumman Newport News.

The final welds joined sections of the cigar-shaped hull into a single unit, protecting the crew and equipment from extreme sea pressure.

General Dynamic's Electric Boat and Northrop Grumman Newport News jointly build Virginia-class subs. Each constructs sections of the boats. Final assembly, outfitting, test and delivery are alternated between them.

Source: *Undersea Enterprise New Daily*

Ship Decommissioning Schedule Adjusted

The Navy has adjusted its ship decommissioning schedule, shedding some ships sooner than originally planned. Submarines affected are:

USS H.G. Rickover will be deactivated March 1, 2007 instead of Sept. 30, 2007. *USS Minneapolis-St. Paul's* deactivation has changed from Sept. 30, 2007 to Sept. 27, 2007. *USS Honolulu's* deactivation was moved up a year from Sept. 30, 2007, to Nov. 1 of this year. Her bow will be used to replace the bow of *San Francisco*. *USS Dolphin*, the Navy's last diesel-powered sub, will remain on the ledgers until Dec. 8, 2006, rather than Oct. 1, 2006. It will be sunk in a fleet training exercise. *USS Salt Lake City* deactivates Nov. 3 on schedule.

Source: Excerpt from (*NAVY TIMES 11 SEP 06*)...Andrew Scutro

Minutes of the meeting conducted 09/19/06.

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

- Opening observances were conducted.
- New member, **David Ainge**, introduced himself and **Lynette George** was introduced as an attending guest. There were 19 members in attendance.
- Minutes of the Aug 15th meeting were read and approved.
- A thank you note from **Jana Mathews** was read.
- Guest speaker, **Lynette George**, is starting a countywide Blue Star of Kitsap organization. She got the idea while living in California. The town they were living in had blue star and gold star banners streaming from the downtown lamp posts signifying local military members on active duty or recently deceased. The main thought is to raise such banners in the Kitsap communities where the military member is from and have appropriate ceremony with local leaders attending. It is the same idea as Blue Star and Gold Star Mothers who have the banners in the windows of their homes. Lynette estimates a startup cost of \$750. A motion was made and passed unanimously that Bremerton Base donate \$300 to the organization.
- Treasurer **Dutch Kaiser** reports over \$57,000 in assets. He revised the profit from the scholarship raffle to \$6,193.
- Membership Chairman **Dutch Kaiser** also reports that Bremerton Base is now at 247 members.
- It was reported that the Navy Federal Credit Union is conducting a fund drive for our scholarship fund. They are selling candy bars to their members during the month of October. Proceeds are currently scheduled to be forwarded to the Lt "Willie" Spoon Scholarship fund.
- National Office Manager **Fred Borgmann** reports that there are 11,704 members in the database. He reminds the membership that they can access their own database information and update it as necessary. Shipmate Borgmann also reports that former Bremerton Base member **Bob Williams** recently passed away. He was listed as a Member-at-Large.
- The 2007 National Convention Cruise coordinator **Bud Berg** reports 1344 people are signed up and 7600 raffle tickets were sold and approximately \$4679 in expenses has been obligated. A committee meeting is scheduled for October 11.
- CDR **John Gardner** reports a scheduling conflict for Veterans Day this year. Kitsap County has their program scheduled at the fairgrounds Nov 11th the same day that Auburn has scheduled their parade. USSV-WWII has ask that anyone able to tow the Bonefish float to Auburn to contact them.
- COB **Hank Hollis** reports the Holiday Party will be at the Bremerton Elks Lodge, Pine Rd, East Bremerton. There is one Holland Club inductee. Cocktails will be at noon, Sat, Dec 16th. Cost will be \$33 per couple payable when you make your reservation.
- 2006 National Convention attendees report that Bremerton Base took 1st runner-up honors for newsletter and 2nd runner-up for the website competitions. **Tom Conlon** retained his position as NC, the only contested position.
- The 2007 calendars are for sale and there are several DVDs titled "A Century of Silent Service" also for sale. See **Dutch Kaiser** for info.
- WR-D4 CDR **Bob Webster** is looking for ideas for a new patch. Please contact him with your thoughts.
- Membership was reminded that the *USS Nautilus* reunion will be in town Sep 28th through Oct 1st.
- The raffle winners are: **Joe Gavasso** won the 50/50 (\$18.50) and donated the prize to the scholarship fund and **Bob Webster** won the hat (\$12).

The meeting was adjourned at 1950 hours.

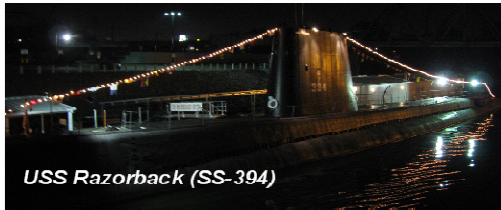
Minutes of the meeting conducted 10/17/06.

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

- Opening observances were conducted.
- **Jerry Parker** was introduced as a guest. He is a plank owner of USSVI Farragut Base. There were 25 members in attendance.
- Minutes of the Sep 19th meeting were read and approved.
- Shipmate **Bobby Baker** was introduced as the guest speaker. He was assigned to the White House staff during the time that Ford, Carter, and Reagan were Presidents. He told quite a few stories of his days when he was running the communications and electronics shop and the work involved for the various presidential trips and guests.
- The meeting resumed at 1955 hours.
- A thank you note from **Lynette George** of the Blue Star Banner Program of Kitsap County was read.
- Treasurer **Dutch Kaiser** informed the membership that we had over forty-nine thousand dollars in assets.
- Membership Chairman **Dutch Kaiser** notified us that Bremerton Base had 249 paid up members.
- *Puget Soundings* Editor **Tommy Robinson** announced that he would finally be able to retire. **Sam Swenson** has agreed to be the new Editor-in-Chief and will put out the Jan/Feb newsletter. Items for the next PS should be in by Oct 25th.
- National Convention Cruise Coordinator **Bud Berg** announced that approximately 1555 people have signed up. He states that a \$2,000 profit was realized from the raffle sales.
- VCDR **Don Bassler** said there will be a special Nov brunch. **Lane Judson**, the guest speaker, is the father of **Crystal Brame** who was shot to death by her husband, the Tacoma Chief of Police. The brunch will be Saturday, November 18, at 1000 hours. Cost will be \$10 per person. There will be no Nov business meeting.
- The executive board will meet Wed, Dec 6th, at 1200.
- Veterans Day celebrations are scheduled in Auburn and at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. We need help to get the float to the Auburn Parade on the 11th. The doors open at 0930 at the fairgrounds on Saturday, November 11th.
- COB **Hank Hollis** is taking reservations for the Holiday Party. The cost is \$33 per couple. The party begins at 1200 hours on Sat, Dec 16th, followed by the induction of **Joel Waller** into the Holland Club. Lunch follows the ceremonies.
- 2007 National Convention Cruise polo shirts will be on sale soon. Standby for info from **Bud Berg**.
- The Corvina Base in Reno, NV, has a Mk 14 torpedo on display but it has no propellers. Anyone with spares or information about spares should contact them.
- It was reported that the *USS Nautilus* Reunion had about 170 members attending. They bought many USSVI calendars and bought several staterooms for the 2007 cruise.
- The meeting raffle winners are: **Lloyd Willette** won the 50/50 (\$32). **Shane Foraker** won the hat and returned \$21 to the treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 2020 hours.

2006 Subvets Convention - Little Rock



USS Razorback (SS-394)



Photos by VCDR Don Bassler. Don said Razorback Back Base put on a first class convention and a lot of detailed planning and coordination went into the effort.

It was a pleasurable week!



USSVI 2007 OFFICERS
PNC John Peters — Officiating

L-R NT John Jaques, NS Al Singleman, ERD John Carcioppolo, NJVC Pat Householder, NSVC Jim Foote, and NC Tom Conlon.



USSVI National News <page 8

USSVI National Scholarship Applications

The USSVI National Scholarship Committee is calling for high school seniors and college students to apply for the USSVI Scholarship Program. There will be a minimum of 18 scholarships--two will be worth \$1500 each, in memory of Past National Commanders John Fredericks and Steve Russo; six \$1250 and eleven \$950 scholarships will be divided between the two groups. Additional scholarships will depend on donations we receive through the next year.

Scholarship recipients are selected on Financial Need, Academic and Extra-curricular achievement, Recommendations and their expression in a 400-word essay. All areas are scored by each of the USSVI Scholarship Board members. In case of ties financial needs will be the tiebreaker.

Eligibility: The student's sponsor "Must be a member in Good Standing" at a base or a member-at-large (MAL). The sponsor must be "qualified in submarines" or been a "relief Crew member" in USSV WWII group. The student may be the son or daughter, stepchild, grandchild, or a court appointed guardian of the sponsor.

Parents of the student applicant will supply a signed copy of their 2006 1040 Tax form. Only the Scholarship Chairman is will see the tax form. The tax forms will be returned upon request otherwise they will be destroyed upon announcing the 2007 scholarship winners.

Applications will be taken until March 15, 2007 and must be sent to the Scholarship Chairman, postmarked by April 15, 2007. Scholarship applications can be requested in two ways:

1. You can send me your address by email at hogan343@aol.com or by snail mail. Tell me if you are a high school senior or a college student. This is important as I send you a hint sheet which outlines what we are looking for and helps in completing a correct application. My address is: Paul Orstad, 30 Surrey Lane, Norwich, CT 06360-6541.

2. Down load from the www.ussvi.org, webpage. You will need Adobe acrobat to download. Instructions are:

- a. On web site first page on left column select "Charitable Fund" and click once.
- b. On second page upper left corner select "Scholarships" and click once.
- c. On third page upper left corner select "Application" and click.
- d. Now select all four pdf pages (cover, Hints, page 1 & 2.) and print them, should be a total of five pages.
- e. Be sure to select and read "Notes and tips."

If you can not down load the pdf files or have questions please email or call 860 889-4750 or 860 334-6457 and your application will be mailed.

Paul Orstad, USSVI NSC, Hogan343@aol.com

Note: Individuals, bases or other organizations can make donations (or sponsor fundraisers) to the scholarship fund in the memory of departed shipmates or family members or in honor of a shipmate or family member. If an employer has a matching funds program like (Pfizer does) matching funds are welcome. Anyone making a donation of 25\$ or more is given a tax deduction statement and we also include a Patch and letter of appreciation.

Puget Soundings—November/December 2006 Issue

BREMERTON BASE MEMBERS IMPORTANT DATES—MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov 07, — Election Day —**VOTE!! VOTE!! VOTE!!**
- Nov 11, — 0930, Veterans Day Program—Kitsap
- Nov 11, — 1000, Veterans Day Parade—Auburn
- Nov 18, — 1000, Brunch FRA#29, **Guest Speaker is Lane & Patty Judson — Subject is Domestic Violence**
- Nov 23, — Thanksgiving Day—Celebrate with family

- *Dec 06, 1200 — E-Board Meeting, FRA#29
- Dec 07, — ????, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day—Keyport Undersea Museum
- Dec 16, — 1200 Base Christmas Dinner/Holland Club Induction—Bremerton Elks Club
- Dec 25, — **Merry Christmas! Ho, Ho, Ho!!**
- Dec 31, — New Year's Eve—Be Safe-Happy New Year!
- *Subject to change*

Lt. "Willie" Spoon's Friday Soup Down Schedule is on page 16.



Norm Crawford Our Man on ebay

Norm sells ships plaques on ebay and donates the proceedings to Subvets Bremerton Base and the Fleet Reserve Association #29. He recently sold 29 items and donated \$383.48 to Subvets and \$174.69 to the FRA#29 from his sales.

Thanks to those who have already donated plaques. If any members have ships plaques, either not wanted or just gathering dust, please consider giving them to Norm for further sale on ebay. He can be contacted at 360-479-2793. Norm will turn those unwanted items into cash for our organizations.

Norm is a shipmate working for shipmates. BZ!

Ed's note: Norm enjoys a good meal occasionally. He also has a killer recipe for a BBQ meat rub. I know — because I used it this past summer.

VOTE on NOVEMBER 7th

People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote -- a very different thing.

-- Walter H. Judd

USSVI Bremerton Subvets Bi-monthly Newsletter

Saturday Social Brunch

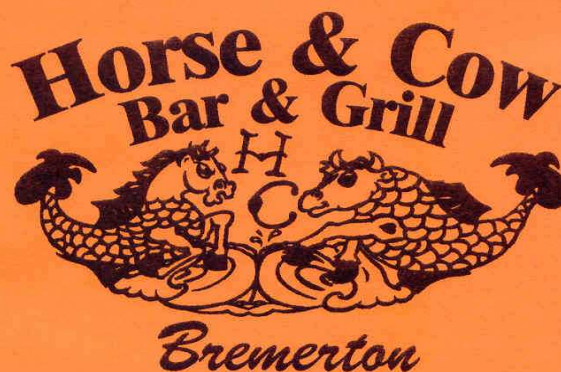
November 18th at FRA#29

Subvets, families, and friends are welcome. This late fall event is scheduled to get some of our seniors out during daylight hours to socialize with their shipmates and friends.

Brunch social starts at 10 AM followed by a presentation about 11 AM on domestic violence by Lane and Patty Judson, parents of Crystal Brame. Crystal, age 35, was shot in her car by her husband David Brame, Tacoma Chief of Police on April 26, 2003 in front of their children. David then turned the gun on himself and committed suicide. Crystal later died from her wounds in Harborview Medical Center, leaving their two young children orphans. Out of that tragedy, Crystal's parents are speaking out against domestic violence.

Lane Judson is a submarine veteran. He served from 1952-1957 and did a stint with a Reserve Submarine Group until 1960.

The cost of the brunch is \$10 paid at the door. Guests are encouraged to attend.



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LAST WATCH BEFORE CHRISTMAS

READ TO THE CADENCE OF Clement Moor's classic poem, "The Night Before Christmas"

'Twas the last watch before Christmas
and all through the boat,
not a sailor was stirring,
the tired OD wrote.

Torpedomen slept by their
fishes so dear, and mess cooks had
visions of pizza and beer.

Electricians were bunked down snug-
ger than weasels; Enginemen snored
just as loud as their diesels.

Its dreamt of circuits and gauges;
Everyone else looked forward to
wages.

The old sub rocked gently beside the
dark quay,
and no one off watch would
awake until day.

Without noise or commotion or
distracting clatter,
a jolly rotund guy
slid down the steel ladder.

He silently shifted forward to aft,
dropping a trail of gifts in his path.

There was something for everyone;
good stuff not junk.

He even left booze on one lucky guy's bunk.

When his good deeds were finished
he climbed back on deck.

Soon I heard a loud "bang!" that I thought
was a wreck.

But the purr of strong engines
Filled the night air,

And the guy yelled out sharply
these odd words I'll share:

"Remember Snook, Tang, Squalus and
Gudgeon! Thresher, Cochino, Sculpin and
Grunion!"



As that Skipper weighed anchor I last
heard him say:

"Merry Christmas to all! ...and for lost
shipmates pray."

By Charles R. Ryan,
USSVI (Associate), Seattle Base



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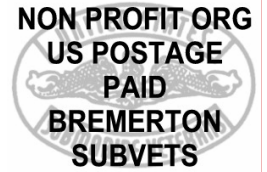
Expires 04/30/07

PUGET SOUNDINGS, A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, IX#6, November/December 2006



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS
BREMERTON BASE
PO BOX 465
SILVERDALE, WA 98383-0465

Return Service Requested



Issue Date, November 1, 2006

- There will be NO Nov/Dec business meeting
- Sat, Nov 18th, Brunch, Guest Speakers, Lane & Patty Judson
- Sat, Dec 16th, Xmas Dinner/Holland Club at Elks Lodge

Past and Future Happenings

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

Friday **Soup Down** 1145



- Nov 03 **Whiskey Creek**
1918 Washington Street, Keyport
- Nov 10 **Mandarin**
2928 NW Bucklin Hill Road, Silverdale
- Nov 17 **Pat's Cookie Jar Restaurant and Bakery**
3561 Wheaton Way, Bremerton
- Nov 24 **Boat Shed**
Under Manette Bridge, Bremerton
- Dec 01 **Tony's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria**
4908 Kitsap Way, Bremerton
- Dec 08 **Sizzler**
3558 Wheaton Way, Bremerton
- Dec 15 **Silver City Brewery**
2799, NW Myhre Road, Silverdale
- Dec 22 **Cloverleaf Sports Bar and Grill**
1240 Hollis Street, Bremerton
- Dec 29 **Red Robin**
10455 Silverdale Way, Silverdale

Take a break—come to lunch!

These establishments support the
Lt. William "Willie" Spoon
Memorial Scholarship

<http://gertrude-check.up-scope.org>



If you didn't attend the October meeting you missed a good one! Guest Speaker, USSVI Life Member, and one of the first LDOs selected to Captain, Bobby Baker held the audience captive as he spoke. He said he wouldn't tell sea stories to a bunch of submarine sailors because that was akin to telling his old grandma how to make cup cakes. He did, however, reminisce and entertain us with his adventures and/or misadventures as a submariner in the White House under three president's; Ford, Carter, and Reagan, each unique in his own way.

Don't miss out!

Christmas dinner and Holland Club ceremony.

Bremerton Elks Lodge, Saturday, December 16th.
1200 Cocktails.

1300 **Joe Waller's** induction into the **Holland Club**.
Early dinner follows Joe's induction.

Send \$33.00 per couple or \$16.50 per single to COB
Hank Hollis, 3021 Marine Dr., Bremerton, WA 98312.
Phone Hank at 377-1370 if you have questions.

JOIN UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS
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Please Pass This Issue On To Another Subvet