

# COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 2006



## THE GREEN BOARD



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

### Columbus Base Newsletter

## WWII Soldier Inspires Ohio Submarine Veterans

In August of 2005, USSVI Central District Director, Art Randall asked our Columbus Sub Vets shipmate, Jim "Clutch" Koogler to write a few words regarding the formulation of a project that Art had learned about while attending our August Awards Banquet.



Much to our surprise when we arrived in Kansas City for the National USSVI Convention in early September we found that Art had Clutch's dissertation included in the Convention Bulletin under the title, *From Little Acorns, Huge Oaks Grow!* Art Randall, who appears on the left side of this photo with Jim Koogler, explained that it was a "sharing of ideas story" that he hoped would inspire all of his Central Region Bases.

Part of what Clutch wrote was, "Pens for Patients" is not an original Columbus Base idea, but is certainly a project that we have heartily embraced. Our involvement stems from a conversation which Bernie Kenyon had with a gentleman, whom he perceived to be a military veteran, who entered the store where Bernie works. Bernie inquired as to the gentleman's background on the chance that he might be a submarine veteran... and if so, as Bernie puts it "my USSVI welcome aboard flag would be hoisted".

The gentleman responded that he was not a submarine veteran, and proudly proceeded to tell Bernie that he was a "Medal of Honor" winner. He had spent the last few years stopping by doctor's offices to pick up imprinted ball point pens which he then delivered to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Chillicothe, Ohio. He explained to Bernie how receptive such a small donation was to the veterans who wished to correspond with whomever while they were confined at the hospital.

Bernie then told the gentleman about the Columbus Base charitable project of coffee donations to the Chalmers P. Wylie Veterans Outpatient Clinic in Columbus. The gentleman then responded that he was getting too old and ill to continue collecting the pens and delivering them to the VA hospital... and suggested that perhaps the Columbus Base might be interested in continuing his project and might find it a most satisfying venture for us to adopt. Bernie agreed, and brought the proposal before the Columbus Base officers at our regularly scheduled monthly officers' meeting and with all base officers in agreement, the catchy title "Pens for Patients" was conceived

At our next business meeting, the Columbus Base membership overwhelmingly voted to support the project, and the responsibility became part of our being, Clutch concluded!

Unexpected opportunities arose to aid the project as we went along. One in particular was our chance to obtain more than just the one canvas tote bag that was a complimentary gift given to each attendee as we arrived at the convention hotel. As the National Convention ended we learned that the Convention Committee had a few tote bags left and when we explained that we could use some of them for the delivery of our "Pens for Patients" collection to the VA hospital, we were given three cases containing more than 250 in all which shipmate Galin Brady volunteered to transport back to Ohio.



The tote bags were imprinted with a Logo especially designed for the convention and we felt that would add some element of recognition to our organization and its existence.

Little did we know that canvassing doctor's offices for ball point pens was about to take on a slightly different aspect once our Base Treasurer, Eric Dreiseidel, reported that he had contacted the Chillicothe Facility and was informed that the approximately 300 residents could use the following items that DO NOT CONTAIN ALCOHOL: stamps, wallets, light jackets, shampoo, radio headsets, winter gloves, games, playing cards, magazines (no Playboy types), crew socks or footies, non skid slippers and house shoes.



Our Base Chaplain, David Johnson, accepted the appointment of Chairperson to lead the project and the Columbus Base under his direction ended up collecting, in addition to over 1500 ball point pens, like you see in the photo on the left, socks, calendars, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, mouth rinse, bath soap, facial tissue, playing cards, postage stamps, notepads and 50 pairs of sweat pants for the hospital's clothes closet.

At our monthly meeting in February, Galin Brady was one of the Columbus Base Members that inserted the collected items into the 300 "totes". Then, Galin volunteered his vehicle and his residence to store the collection until a time of delivery could be coordinated with the hospital.



The "Pens for Patients" drive was successfully culminated on February 13, 2006 when Galin Brady and V-Cmdr Dave Creekmore transported the donated items to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Chillicothe, Ohio where they were met by Chaplain Johnson and his wife Tracey. Together, they assisted Gayle Irvin-Clary (pictured here shaking hands with Dave Creekmore while greeting Galin) and members of her VA Activities Staff with the transfer of the collection to their facility.

In a message I received from Gayle Irvin-Clary the next day she states, "It was our pleasure to welcome the Columbus Sub Vets to our facility & hope to see your group again soon. We're sorry to have missed you - maybe next time!"

Thanks, again, for thinking of our veterans. We appreciate your generosity & hope to hear from your group soon. Have a great day!"

The story was finished, so I thought, except I discovered that it hadn't quite been concluded until Monday, February 27th, when a man I had not seen for almost a year entered the store where I work. I recognized him immediately as the man who had given us the idea of "Pens for Patients".

When I told him what a great job that my Columbus Sub Vets shipmates and associates had done with his concept it bought tears to his eyes.

After spending a few more minutes conversing with him and hearing more of his history it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the Metal of Honor Winner who inspired all of us at the Columbus Base of USSVI to do what we did. He is:

Auburn L. "Red" Salyer  
 Past Cmdr. VFW Post  
 Johnstown, Ohio

Respectfully submitted by, Bernie Kenyon

## Lost Boats

### March

USS F-4 (SS-23)	3-25-1915
USS H-1 (SS-28)	3-12-1920
USS Perch (SS176)	3-03-1942
USS Grampus (SS 207)	3-05-1943
USS Triton (SS 201)	3-15-1943
USS Tullibee (SS 284)	3-26-1944
USS Kete (SS 369)	3-20-1945
USS Trigger (SS 237)	3-26-1945



### OUR CREED

“ To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments.  
 Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States Government”

## Commander's Corner

By Jim "Clutch" Koogler



As I start this month's column, I'm sitting in a hotel room in Bremerton, Washington. Yes... I said Bremerton. I'm nearing the end of a three-day "once in a lifetime opportunity" (for me, anyway) to come to this Washington community on the shores of Puget Sound and visit with the crew of USS *Columbus*. How incredibly fortunate, and honored, I am to be here. I mean... how many USSVI base commanders or USSVI base members get the opportunity to actually visit with the crew of their base's namesake boat? I know it sounds cliché, but I pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming.

Planning for this trip started with an opportunity to attend a conference in Seattle. Anyone who knows me well knows how much I hate traveling to the West Coast... the time change, the long (and I do mean LONG) flight, the body adjustments. Yes, I know many of you do this for a living... but not me. I absolutely hate it. And other than traveling to Hawaii for vacation 2 years ago, I've successfully resisted all attempts to send me out here for... nearly 30 years! But how could I possibly turn down a conference in Seattle... and the opportunity to visit the *Columbus*? Needless to say, I couldn't. There's absolutely no other way (at least none that I can think of right now) that I would have ever come here on my own. But I'm so glad that I came. Yes, the time change is difficult. And yes, the flight was long. And yes, the body adjustments are killers (with the 3 hour time difference, I want to fall asleep at 1900 only to wake at 0100... and 0200... and 0300). But all of these "inconveniences" have been worth it. It's been a fantastic 3 days!!

My visit to *Columbus* and with her crew was only for 2 days. It started on Thursday... when USS *Columbus* COB CMDCM(SS) Glenn Jenne picked me up at the hotel and took me to the base. Getting on base is no easy feat. Security is extremely tight. In fact, the badge I had been issued required that I be escorted everywhere I went... including the head. As we drove to the crew's barge, we passed *Parche*... in the process of being "recycled". There's not much of her left now. Most of the hull is gone... so much so that I could see maneuvering and the conn. And there was a shield around her reactor compartment, in preparation for removing the core. It's a sad end to a brave and mysterious lady. I was also able to see USS *Henry M. Jackson* (SSBN-730), USS *Michigan* (SSBN-727), and USS *Alabama* (SSBN-731)... each in various stages of re-fit.

After arriving at the barge, Chief Jenne handed me a hard hat and took me to see *Columbus*. She's still in dry-dock, which made it possible for me to see things that would have otherwise been impossible had she been in the water: stern planes, rudder, etc. Something that I didn't realize she had was "dihedrals", which were added to all 688-Improved class boats when they were built. For those who don't know (like I didn't)... dihedrals are wing-like "fins" on each side of the lower stern that provide greater stability during high-speed turns, reducing or eliminating the snap-roll issues experienced by the earlier 688-class boats. From an aesthetic viewpoint, I think dihedrals give *Columbus* a really cool and racy look. I was not able to actually go aboard her... maybe security reasons, maybe safety reasons. Didn't matter though... it was still a marvelous opportunity to see her as she was. Besides, I didn't come here for the boat... I came for the crew. The COB had notified (or maybe "warned" is a better word?) the officers and crew that I would be on board. So, as I sat in the COB's office drinking coffee (some things haven't changed), members of the crew stopped in... to talk about *Columbus* (the boat, the city, and the base), to express their gratitude for what *Columbus* Base does for them, to ask about "the old days", to talk about the "new Navy". But when you're in the yards, you still have jobs to do... so the talks were all too brief.

On Friday, Master Chief Jenne again picked me up and drove me to the barge. My purpose on this day was to address the crew at quarters, and to present *Columbus* Base Certificates of Recognition to the USS *Columbus* Sailor and Senior Sailor of the Quarter for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2005, and Sailor and Senior Sailor of the Year for 2005. My address was brief... which I'm sure surprises you. But, as I remember, the last thing a sailor wants to do on Friday is to listen to someone... anyone... yammer on and on. It's Friday... the weekend is coming up... it's almost time to "hit the beach". As I presented the Senior Sailor of the Quarter certificate to CS1(SS) Tim Roberts, I couldn't help but feel badly for him. He was suffering from a bout with the flu and was only there because I was.

And sadly, the Sailor of the Quarter, MM2(SS) Charles Isham, and the Sailor of the Year, MM2(SS) Ryan Ezell, were both working swing shift so were not in attendance. And the Senior Sailor of the Year, MM1(SS) Matthew Portmann transferred from *Columbus* last week. So, needless to say, it was a very short presentation. But for me, just being there... just having the *opportunity*... was all worth it. Following quarters, I was again able to talk with members of the crew. Then, at around noon, it was all over... except for great memories that I'll carry for the rest of my life.

Some personal observations... if you'll indulge me. Being in the yards and on the barge dredged up a lot of old memories... since I spent time on a barge in the yards at EB when I reported aboard the 617. And I was happy to find that submarine sailors haven't really changed all that much. They work hard, and they play hard... and they care. But the Navy *has* changed. Perhaps some would say for the better, but I don't totally agree. For one thing, the "Smoke Nazis" have infiltrated the ranks. No longer are you permitted to smoke at your watch station... or, in this case, even on the barge. Instead, you must leave the barge and walk to an outside "smoking area". And when onboard the boats, you have to go to the "designated smoking area", which I'm told is somewhere in the engine room or machinery room. Yes, I understand most of you don't smoke (and that's probably a good thing) so you'll think this is a positive step. Well, to each his own. Another change... the military now has weight limits... and "body fat" measurements. I can tell you that I served with several chiefs that would have never been chiefs if these rules had been in effect in the '60s. And, unless you're high enough in rank or rate, you can no longer put in 30 years or more before you retire. I guess all of this, and more, is what you get with an all volunteer military.

Many of the crew seem to be genuinely interested in Columbus... the city and the base. Some expressed a desire to have "Columbus stuff" to help "home up" the boat... things like street signs (I started thinking about how cool it would be if they had a Broad Street sign and a High Street sign to place at the exact center of the boat... or a "City Hall" sign for the wardroom), pictures, posters. So if any of you know anyone in city government or in positions of power, get 'em on the horn and see what they can do for the crew. And think about items the Columbus Base could send them too.

Before I end this column, I must express my gratitude to those who made my visit possible.

First to USS *Columbus* Commanding Officer Commander Charles Marquez, for approving my visit to *Columbus* and giving me the opportunity to meet the crew. Unfortunately (for me), Commander Marquez was not in Bremerton while I was here... he was in Hawaii to ride USS *Tucson* (hey... it's tough duty, but someone's got to do it). I'm sorry I missed the opportunity to meet him again.

To Executive Officer Lieutenant Commander Shawn Nisbett, who made sure that I had and did everything I wanted (obviously within the limits of security). If it's his desire to do so, I think he'll be a great CO someday.

To the officers and crew of USS *Columbus*... for allowing an aging Cold War submariner to be a part of their lives for a couple of days. They welcomed me, answered my questions, provided insight to the lives of today's submariner, and politely tolerated my presentation "speech". I'm extremely proud to be a part of the organization that supports these young men.

I must express my most sincere gratitude to USS *Columbus* COB CMDCM(SS) Glenn Jenne. The man is incredible! He orchestrated my visit with the precision of a Tomahawk strike (yes, another cliché). He made sure that all of the necessary paperwork was completed, that all of the necessary approvals, clearances, and passes were obtained, that I had every opportunity I wanted to meet with the crew. I know it took weeks for all of this to fall into place, and I truly appreciate all he did. And let me state publicly (if I haven't already done so) that Master Chief Glenn Jenne is a man whom I would proudly call "shipmate"... and I do!

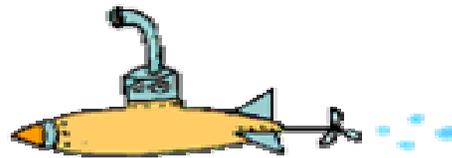
I must also thank his wife Darcy; an absolutely wonderful woman... who invited me into their home, fed me, and made me feel like one of the family.

And to Master Chief Jenne's young son Colin, who granted me the privilege of being the first non-family member to see his new bedroom furniture... and his collection of video games. He even hugged me before he went to bed!!! Believe me... nothing could have made me feel more welcome.

In the last line of my column in last month's newsletter, I asked the question "Can it get any better?" Shipmates, I'm here to tell you... yes, it can... and it was!

## Vice Commander's Corner

By Dave Creekmore



I'd like to give a special thanks to Rick Larson for his presentation at our meeting this month. Also a thank you to George Snyder and his display of the R/C models. I overheard conversation on hooking up the parade sub with a few batteries and some R/C servos. I'd better put a chain and lock on it. I can picture Phil Philipps sneaking it over to Buckeye Lake. Last but not least thanks to all who attended. Let's do it again for the Birthday Dinner. Grab your first mate and come enjoy some dinner and another bit of Navy submarine history, you may or may not have knowledge about.

### *Fathom*

*Fathom was originally a land measuring term derived from the Anglo Saxon word "faetm" meaning literally the embracing arms or to embrace. In those days, most measurements were based on average sizes of parts of the body such as the hand or foot, or were derived from average lengths between two points on the body. A fathom is the average distance from fingertip to fingertip of the outstretched arms of a man, about six feet.*

*Even today in our nuclear Navy, sailors can be seen "guesstimating" the length of line by using the Anglo Saxon fingertip method; crude but still reliable. And every housewife measuring cloth knows that from the tip of her nose to the tips of her fingers of one outstretched arm equals one yard.*

**New Members**

Robert J. "Bob" Holt  
Virginia Beach, VA  
Princess Anne County  
Wife: Debbie

Ronald I. "Ron" Rossington  
Bucyrus, OH  
Crawford County

Denver D. Smith, WWII Vet  
Bucyrus, OH  
Crawford County  
Wife: Maxine

**March Birthdays**

Bill Meyer	03/02
William Holly	03/05
Brian Pierson	03/06
Ben Grimes	03/16
Paul Darland	03/22

**Spouses**

Jennifer Singer

**Happy Birthday to All!****Tolling of the Bells 2006**

The annual ceremony to honor our lost submarines and sailors is scheduled for Saturday, May 20th. The ceremony will be held again at Battelle Darby Metro Park with one significant difference, we will have an indoor shelter, the Cedar Ridge Lodge which contains a complete kitchen, fire place, heat and/or air conditioning. Outside is a wrap around deck, grills, seating and a view of the Big Darby Creek.

We will begin mustering at 1100 and the ceremony will start at 1200. There will be a Color Guard from Franklin Heights, NJROTC, a speaker, picnic lunch and good friends to exchange stories. As before please bring a dish to pass and/or dessert and non alcoholic drinks. Coffee, bottled iced spring water and other necessities will be furnished.

Rick Larson, an avid submarine enthusiast has discussed having a display of articles, memorabilia and artifacts which he has collected. Anyone with items of interest is welcome to bring them to share with the Base members. Special tables will be set up for this purpose.

Another addition is our featured Raffle. Frank and Sharon Lloyd have donated a king size crocheted mauve, blue and white afghan which Sharon made. Tickets have been made and were distributed to the members present at the March 4 meeting. The balance of the membership have/or will receive them by mail. Each member received 6 tickets. They sell for \$2.00 each or 3/5.00. The 75% of the proceeds will go into the Benevolence Fund and 25% is allocated to the Columbus Base Scholarship Fund. This will be our first big fund raiser and will build two very important charitable funds of the Base. There is no obligation to purchase or sell the tickets. If and when you do sell any, please return the money and/or check, made payable to the Columbus Base USSVI, and ticket stubs to Elizabeth Kenyon, 1835 Brimfield Road, Columbus, OH 43229

Since the drawing will be May 20, I would appreciate the stubs and money before May 15. You do not need to be present to win. If you should need additional tickets please call (614)395-4591 or email me at [ekenyon@insight.rr.com](mailto:ekenyon@insight.rr.com).

We will also have the 50/50 and other donated raffle prizes.

More information will be in your mail and/or email boxes in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Kenyon

Chairman, Tolling of the Bells

**Upcoming events**

April 1, 2006	1700	Submarine Birthday Dinner Don Gentile American Legion Hall
May 20, 2006	1100	Battelle Darby Metro Park Cedar Ridge Lodge



- The Conn**
- Base commander**  
Jim Koogler
- Vice Commander**  
Dave Creekmore
- Treasurer**  
John Leers
- Secretary**  
Elizabeth Kenyon
- Chaplain**  
David Johnson
- COB**  
James Williams
- Membership Chairman**  
Bernie Kenyon
- Storekeeper**  
Phil Philipps
- Editor**  
Jan Creekmore

**Yeoman's Corner**

I am not a writer or storyteller like my husband Bernie, but every now and then I try. This is one of those times.

Being secretary of the Base has certainly increased my knowledge of submarines and sailors. What a delightful group of people you are. I enjoy attending the meetings, talking with everyone and really getting to know the membership on a one to one basis. Today, when distributing raffle tickets, I was surprised that I knew almost everyone's name. For me that really is an accomplishment.

The officers are fun to work with and at our Officer's Meeting and Executive Meetings we have very good discussions. Each officer has an opinion and by the end of the meeting we have a consensus of where we are and will lead the Base for 2006/2007. Come to an officer's meeting and share your ideas with us. Good food and lively conversations are available at the host house.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Base Secretary and may we have a very successful two years.

Elizabeth (Liz) Kenyon  
Secretary

Our Holland Club profile this month is Robert “Gus” Hoehl. He was inducted into the Holland Club in August 2005. He shared some of his experiences and thoughts with Marv Pastor, our Holland Club reporter.



Bob enlisted in the Navy on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1942 at Columbus, Ohio. He enlisted just two days prior to being drafted. He went through boot camp at Great Lakes in Illinois as seaman apprentice.

In January of 1943 Bob went to the University of Kansas to attend machinist school and his rate changed from seaman to fireman 3<sup>rd</sup> class. Upon completion of school in May of 1943 Bob was promoted to MM/2 and he volunteered for sub duty.

In June 1943 he reported to New London, Ct. to attend Spritz Navy Submarine school for six weeks. Bob also attended a 10 week Diesel school. Again his rate changed, this time to MOMM/2.

After talking to Bob for awhile he informed me that he went by the name of Gus. I asked him how he came about that name and he told me when you have too many Bob's in one crew, I think he said four or five, some changes need be made that's how Robert became Gus. That's how he will be referred to in the rest of the profile.

Gus was assigned to the USS Flounder SS 251 in Oct. 1943. Flounder was still under construction at the time. While waiting completion Gus was in Key West, Fla. for 4 weeks training on the R-13. According to him that was nice duty. Finally on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, the SS 251 was commissioned. Other than training on R-13 Flounder was the only boat Gus served on. He made six patrols. Gus qualified in 1944 exact date unknown.

There were a few dates that has made an impact on Gus.

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944 on Flounders 2<sup>nd</sup> war patrol it sunk a transport in Davao Gulf off the Philippines, also a German U boat, U 537 in the Java Sea in Nov of that same year. On Feb. 23, 1945, while running submerged in the South China Sea Flounder collided with the USS Hoe SS 258. Damage was to the superstructure not the pressure hull but was sufficient enough to put an end to her 5<sup>th</sup> patrol and send her to Subic Bay for repairs. Sixth patrol was life guard duty March to April 1945 and then to Mare Island for a three month over haul.

Flounder was in Guam by way of Pearl Harbor when the war ended in August of 1945. Gus left the Flounder in Feb. 1946. In 1947 she was decommissioned and sold for scrap in 1963.

In 1948 Gus was married, he and his wife had two daughters Diane and Nancy both of which attended his induction into the Holland Club.

Gus volunteered for sub duty because he knew they wouldn't accept him. Evidently he was mistaken.

His favorite port was Fremantle, Australia, their R&R was an old sea side resort hotel overlooking the Indian Ocean. Other R&R locations was at Coolangatta, Queensland and Tweeds Head, New South Wales. The worst R&R was in Subic Bay, they slept on the boat. They were ferried back and fourth to the beach by LCT along with their ball bats, food and beer. Buckeye Beer, no less, brewed in Toledo, Ohio. Breakfast and dinner was also served on the boat.

Thanks Gus for your time and service

Minutes of the Columbus Base of USSVI  
March 4, 2006  
American Legion, Don Gentile Post 532

A regular meeting of the Columbus Base of USSVI was held March 4, 2006 at the American Legion, Don Gentile Post 532. Elected officers present; Vice Commander Dave Creekmore, Treasurer, John Leers, and Secretary, Elizabeth Kenyon. Vice Commander Dave Creekmore called the meeting to order at 1300. Thirty-seven, (37), members and guests were present. Sharon Lloyd led the invocation. COB James Williams read the lost boats. A moment of silence was observed for lost shipmates. Vice Commander Dave Creekmore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Kenyon noted that the February meeting's minutes were previously published in "The Green Board". Hearing no request for a reading, a motion by David O'Carroll to accept the minutes as published was seconded by Galin Brady. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried. No correspondence was received for the month of February.

John Leers gave the treasurer's report. There being no questions or discussion, Frank Lloyd made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Sam Templeton seconded. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried.

Vice Commander Dave Creekmore read a letter from Eric Dreiseidel stating the 2005 Year End Financial Report had been sent to the National Treasurer of USSVI.

Bernie Kenyon, Membership Chairman, introduced new Associate Member George Snyder. Upon Bernie's request, Chuck Carter introduced his guests Dave and Myrna Minor. He also stated there are three additional new members, Bob Holt of Virginia Beach, VA., Ron Rossington and Denver Smith of Bucyrus, OH.

#### **Committee Reports**

Galin Brady gave a short report on the "Pens for Patients" trip to the Chillicothe Veterans Hospital. The hospital staff was most appreciative of our donations and the hospital will see that all veterans receive the gift bag. Any extras were left with the hospital for new patients.

Joe Testa, Chairman of the Audit Committee, summarized his report. A copy is included in "The Green Board". A motion to accept the audit report was made by John Leers and seconded by Woody Cook. The motion was carried by voice vote of the members present.

Galin Brady reported for the Shipmate of the Year committee. He urged that the nominations be sent to him and Dave Johnson as soon as possible.

Joe Testa, Chairman of the April Birthday Dinner, gave his report. The dinner will be held at American Legion, Don Gentile Post 532, April 1, 2006. Social Hour will be from 1700 to 1800. Dinner will be served at 1800. It will be a buffet and the cost will be \$20.00 per person. Joe will send more information to the members.

Bill Anderson's report on 2006 Red Star Rogue book sales included 12 books and 4 audio sets sold.

#### **Unfinished Business**

The secretary read the Minutes from the February 21, 2006 Executive Board Meeting. A copy is attached as Addendum "A". Jan Creekmore made a motion to accept the decisions as stated in the minutes and John Alexander seconded. Members' present voice voted to accept the decisions and Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting.

Galin Brady and Paige Ogle have accepted to be Chairperson for the Awards Dinner in August.

#### **New Business**

Dave Creekmore asked if there were any members present who would be willing to assist as a Web Master or knew someone who would be interested. Cliff Dodson and Woody Cook will look into getting information and report at the next scheduled meeting. Jan Creekmore and Cliff Dodson will look over the instructions that Jake Clark has forwarded to Jan.

Liz Kenyon gave the Raffle report. Members present received 6 raffle tickets each and those not present will receive theirs by mail. See more information in the article "The Tolling of the Bells 2006". The Lloyds received a round of applause for all they have done and do for the base.

### **For the good of the Order**

Rick Larson presented a slide show of 45 minutes on the time frame between fleet boats and nuclear, Regulus boats. Rick's knowledge of the Silent Service is awesome and the presentation was enjoyed by all.

After the presentation the meeting continued.

Sharon Lloyd's winning portion of the 50/50 raffle was \$77.50.

Galín and Page donated a bottle of maple syrup, which was won by Rick Larson .

Galín, Brady, Sam Templeton and Elaine Williams won a container of sugar free chocolate covered cherries, donated by the Lloyds.

A refrigerator note pad was donated by Barbara McCorkle and won by Cliff Dotson.

John Alexander won a \$20.00 winning lottery ticket.

Food will be available from the Legion at regular meetings. Today's opening was a success and they would like to continue.

There being no further business a motion was made by Woody Cook and seconded by Joe Testa to adjourn the meeting.

Sharon Lloyd gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was officially adjourned by Vice Commander Creekmore at 1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Kenyon

Secretary

### ***Ditty Bags***

*Ditty bag (or box) was originally called "ditto bag" because it contained at least two of everything: two needles, two spools of thread, two buttons etc. With the passing of years, the 'ditto' was dropped in favor of "ditty" and remains so today.*

*Before World War I, the Navy issued ditty boxes made of wood and styled after foot lockers. These carried the personal gear and some clothes of the sailor.*

*Today the ditty bag is still issued to recruits and contains a sewing kit, toiletry articles and personal items such as writing paper and pens.*

**Don't forget to bring your donations of coffee, tea or hot cocoa for the Veterans Clinic, to the meeting on Saturday.**

#### **Editor's Note**

If you have comments or articles, please contact the base newsletter editor.

Jan Creekmore at e-mail  
creek636@earthlink.net

Columbus Base Officers  
United States Submarine Veterans Inc.  
February 19, 2006

Attn: Jim Koogler – Base Commander

Jim,

Please accept the following report from the audit committee, performed on February 19, 2006. The committee consisted of members Bernie Kenyon and Dave Creekmore, who volunteered to help perform the audit. I asked John Leers to help with the audit, and as the period of the audit was prior to his taking the position as Treasurer, he graciously offered his services and use of his home.

Materials were gathered from the outgoing Treasurer, Eric Dreiseidel, on February 18, 2006. We met as committee at 1500 on February 19, 2006 at the home of John Leers. Our purpose was to review the financial records from the base inception in November, 2003 until December 31, 2005. We also looked at the documentation that accompanied each expenditure. The audit was completed at approximately 1800 hours.

The following findings are a result of the audit:

- After reviewing over two years of deposits and withdrawals, it is in our opinion that Eric Dreiseidel should be commended on his excellent performance.
  - There were very few errors in transaction entry or mathematics, and all were properly corrected in the course of the monthly reconciliation.
  - All the materials were extremely well organized.
  - All supporting documentation was organized and listed the withdrawal it was associated with.
  - The check register was balanced to the penny, with all outstanding checks listed.
- The committee had a hard time reviewing the deposits, as many were the result of a combination of several sources of monies.
  - We recognize that the actual breakout of the funds is found in other documents/sources relating to membership dues payments, so we focused on confirming deposits match those listed in the register.
  - Since the base currently operates out of one main account, separation of deposits based on source is not critical. We recommend that future deposits be either broken down according to their source, which will help the base better analyze revenue streams. It is our belief that this will enable the base to better plan and budget monies on an annual basis.
- The committee was impressed that with the large number of expenses that were reimbursed, only a few made out to individuals had no documentation. This is another area we wish to commend Mr. Dreiseidel on.
- There were several times during the reviewed period when the base had a large balance in the checking account. It is recommended that a way of earning interest be explored, whether it is an interest bearing checking or savings account. Base dues tend to be collected over a short period of time, and could produce a benefit earning interest prior to their use.

- Our final recommendation is that the Columbus Base creates a base budget. We have attached a breakdown of expenses to help demonstrate where the annual expenditures are used. We all feel that the base has grown to a size where a budget is needed to provide guidance to committee and event organizers, as well as helping the officers in plotting the future course of the base.

In conclusion, as Chairman of the Treasurer's Audit Committee, I would like to thank the Executive Committee for the confidence they have shown in asking me to serve. The efforts of the Mr. Kenyon and Mr. Creekmore were invaluable, and I could not have asked for better support. And finally, Mr. Leers' hospitality and insight were greatly appreciated. I am glad to report that the base is in good financial health, and has a sound and through documentation trail. All materials collected in this audit will be turned over to the current Treasurer at the February 21, 2006 Officer's Meeting, along with this report.

Respectfully,  
Joseph M. Testa

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting  
February 21, 2006  
Home of Opal and Phil Philipps

An executive board meeting was called to order by Commander Jim Koogler at the above address at 1930. Present Commander Koogler, Vice Commander Dave Creekmore, Treasurer John Leers and Secretary Elizabeth Kenyon to form a quorum. Also present were Joe Testa, Bernie Kenyon, Opal Philipps and Phil Philipps.

#### **SPEAKERS**

Guidelines for speakers at our events was discussed. It was voted and accepted by all elected officers that the coordinator/chairman will select the speaker and subject. There will be no fee paid to speakers, however, their dinner will be included with the invitation.

#### **BENEVOLENCE**

An email from David Johnson was read. After discussion regarding flowers, memorials, wishes of family etc. the following motion was made by Dave Creekmore. On the death of a Member or Associate Member a donation of \$50.00 be given in memory of the deceased to the Scholarship Fund of National USSVI. The motion was seconded by Liz Kenyon, voted on and accepted by all the elected officers. The Secretary of the Base will be responsible for seeing that a letter is sent to the family and National along with the check. David Johnson will be consulted regarding other parts of his email by the elected officers.

#### **PAPERLESS CHECKING**

The Treasurer, John Leers, would rather continue writing checks instead of electronic transfer. All officers agreed with his decision.

#### **WEBSITE AND WEBMASTER**

A short discussion but needs to go to membership as no one attending this meeting has that kind of knowledge or experience.

#### **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

Honorary Membership Cards will be issued to honorary members.

Other matters on the Agenda were tabled until the 2006 Budget is in place.

The Executive Board Meeting was adjourned at 2036.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth A. Kenyon  
Secretary

## *USS Columbus (SSN-762)*

### *Call to Quarters*



### Sailor of the Quarter and Senior Sailor of the Quarter Fourth Quarter 2005

Presentation of the “Columbus Base Certificate of Recognition” to the USS Columbus (SSN-762) Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ) and Senior Sailor of the Quarter (SSOQ), for the 4th quarter 2005, was made on Friday, March 3, 2006. In ceremonies held during quarters, Columbus Base Commander Jim “Clutch” Koogler presented the Senior Sailor of the Quarter certificate to CS1(SS) Timothy R. Roberts and the Sailor of the Quarter certificate for MM2(SS) Charles D. Isham. Due to work responsibilities, MM2(SS) Isham was unable to attend the ceremonies.

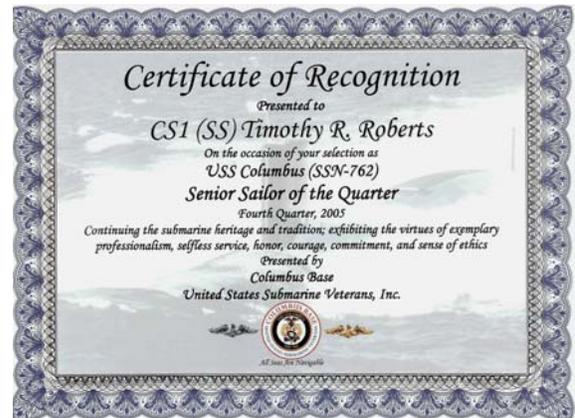
**MM2(SS) Charles D. Isham** was born in Calhoun, Georgia in March 1979. He joined the Navy in October 2000, later entering the Nuclear Power Program. He reported aboard USS Columbus in August 2002. MM2(SS) Isham’s hobbies include golf, softball, snowboarding, and traveling. He was a key member of the USS Columbus’s softball and golf teams, winning several personal awards for both sports. He is currently working towards becoming a Navy Recruiter. Future plans are to complete studies for his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management. MM2(SS) Isham is married to Mary Lane Isham, of Atlanta, Georgia.

**CS1(SS) Timothy R. Roberts** was born in Pocatello, Idaho, the youngest of four children. His father retired from the US Navy in 1974, his mother is a Registered Nurse. He joined the Navy following graduation from Wooster High School in Reno, Nevada. CS1(SS) Roberts has been in the Navy for 17 ½ years and has served aboard USS Darter (SS-576), USS Puffer (SSN-652), USS Aspro (SSN-648), USS Batfish (SSN-681), USS Alabama (SSBN-731), and USS Columbus (SSN-762). Shore duty stations include Fallon, Nevada and Kings Bay, Georgia. His service awards include the Navy Commendation Medal, four (4) Navy Achievement Medals, Navy Unit Commendation, two (2) Meritorious Unit Commendations, four (4) Good Conduct Medals, Global War on Terrorism award, two (2) Navy Expeditionary Medals, five (5) Sea Service awards, Arctic Ribbon, Battle “E”, two (2) National Defense awards, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary award. His career goal is to become a Chief Petty Officer. His hobbies include running, boxing, woodworking, cooking, and fishing. CS1(SS) Roberts is a single father of a 4-year-old son.

The Columbus Base, USSVI congratulates CS1(SS) Roberts and MM2(SS) Isham on their selections as Senior Sailor of the Quarter and Sailor of the Quarter respectively. Consistent with our sponsorship of the USS Columbus SOQ/SSOQ awards, each received Certificates of Recognition and \$25.00 from the Columbus Base.



Above: CS1(SS) Timothy R. Roberts (left) receives the Columbus Base SSOQ Certificate of Recognition from Columbus Base Commander Jim "Clutch" Koogler.



Right: Columbus Base SOQ Certificate of Recognition for MM2(SS) Charles D. Isham.

MM2(SS) Isham was unable to attend the presentation ceremony.



## *USS Columbus (SSN-762)*

### *Call to Quarters*



### Sailor of the Year and Senior Sailor of the Year 2005

Presentation of the “Columbus Base Certificate of Recognition” to the USS Columbus (SSN-762) Sailor of the Year (SOY) and Senior Sailor of the Year (SSOY), for 2005, was made on Friday, March 3, 2006. In ceremonies held during quarters, Columbus Base Commander Jim “Clutch” Koogler presented the Sailor of the Year (SOY) certificate for MM2(SS) Ryan B. Ezell and the Senior Sailor of the Year (SSOY) certificate for MM1(SS) Matthew L. Portmann. Due to work responsibilities, MM2(SS) Ezell was unable to attend the ceremonies. MM1(SS) Portmann has transferred from USS Columbus and was, therefore, also not in attendance.

**MM2(SS) Ryan B. Ezell** was the recipient of the Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ) award for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005. He was born 8 December 1979 in San Diego, California. At the age of 8, he moved to Frazier Park CA (in the mountains north of LA). Growing up in the mountains he took an active interest in camping, fishing and hiking. He joined the United States Navy in November 2001 and completed basic training in Great Lakes, Illinois. After completing Naval Nuclear Training in Charleston, South Carolina, he reported aboard USS Columbus in July of 2003. He completed a western Pacific deployment in January 2004. He is currently serving as a senior nuclear mechanic in Machinery Division. MM2 Ezell is single.

**MM1(SS) Matthew L. Portmann** was the recipient of the Senior Sailor of the Quarter (SSOQ) award for the 2nd quarter 2005. He hails from Green, Ohio, which is just south of Akron, about 130 miles from Columbus. He joined the Navy in August 1998, after completing high school and some college, to get some real world experience, support his country, and do something he had never done before. He made 4 deployments on USS Greenville (SSN-772), his first sea-going command. He has been attached to USS Columbus since July 2003, also making the most recent deployment prior to the boat entering the yards at PSNS. He is currently the Leading Petty Officer of the Machinery Division and coordinates the enlisted watch-bill for the nuclear trained sailors. MM1(SS) Portmann and his wife Lauren have a 2-year-old son, Connor.

The Columbus Base, USSVI congratulates MM1(SS) Portmann and MM2(SS) Ezell on their selections as Senior Sailor of the Year and Sailor of the Year respectively. Consistent with our sponsorship of the USS Columbus SOY/SSOY awards, both received Certificates of Recognition and \$50.00 from the Columbus Base.



Above: MM2(SS) Ryan Ezell, recipient of the Columbus Base SOY Certificate of Recognition.



Above: MM1(SS) Matthew Portmann, recipient of the Columbus Base SSOY Certificate of Recognition.