

COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

Volume 2, Issue 4

May 2006



THE GREEN BOARD



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

Columbus Base Newsletter

On Saturday May 6, 2006, Captain Tom Lennon addressed our meeting giving us an explanation of the NJROTC program at Franklin Heights High School. On Wednesday May 10, 2006 we saw first hand the numerous achievements of the cadets in the NJROTC program.

This is the second year for the Columbus Base USSVI to recognize a senior cadet and present them with a certificate and a savings bond.



Cadet Krystynak receiving the Columbus Base award from Base Commander Koogler.

This years recipient is Cadet Commanding Officer, Patrick Krystynak. Cadet Krystynak has already enlisted in the Navy and leaves for boot camp this summer. His plans for the future are to be a lawyer, so he hopes to become a Legalman while on active duty since this can help in his ultimate goal.

The Columbus Base congratulates Cadet Krystynak on his achievements and wishes him well in his plans for the future.



L to R: Dave Creekmore, Cadet Krystynak, Jim Koogler, Bernie Kenyon, John Leers and Russ Ferguson

Commander's Corner

By Jim "Clutch" Koogler



This past weekend, my wife and I attended the 1st Central District 2 Convention and Submarine Birthday Dinner and Ball, held in Lebanon, Indiana. I had originally intended to give you a detailed overview of the weekend... but, being "reminded" how verbose I can be, I've chosen instead to give you a more general overview. I'll reserve most of the details for some other time... perhaps after I receive the minutes from the "all hands" meeting.

Let me start by saying that Bill Anderson (the OTHER Bill Anderson), Hoosier Base Commander Dan Barker, the Hoosier Base members, and CD2 Commander Tom Barnes, did a first rate job of planning, coordinating, and hosting the event. The hospitality room, the tolling ceremony, the all-hands meeting, the dinner, the dance... all went off like clockwork thanks to the attention to detail. And all went out of their way to ensure that all attendees were welcome and had everything they needed.

Bonnie and I arrived late Friday afternoon, and were promptly greeted by CD2 commander Tom Barnes. After checking in, we were invited to the hospitality area where the Hoosier Base had gone above and beyond to ensure that all attendees had their fill from a seemingly endless array of hot and cold snacks and beverages of choice. The hospitality area was set up by the indoor pool so there was plenty of room... and plenty of tables to sit and eat, get acquainted, tell sea stories, compare base activities, play cards, etc. I had the opportunity to meet many of our district shipmates whom I knew only by email... and also the opportunity to renew old acquaintances.

There was nothing formal planned for Saturday morning. There was a chocolate "factory" (Donaldson's, as I recall) across the street from the hotel, so many of the ladies (and no doubt some of the men) were off for a tour. The formal activities started Saturday afternoon.

At 1300, we all gathered for the Tolling of the Boats ceremony. Master of Ceremonies Barry Whetstone instructed "diving officer" Dan Barker to sound the dive alarm. Following 2 blasts from the klaxon, the lights were dimmed. Barry then read the preamble, followed by the "tribute to our missing shipmates". He then began to read the list of lost boats. As each boat name was called, the bell was tolled and a candle extinguished. After Barry read a number of names, he passed it on to another submarine veteran... then another... then another. In all, 5 or 6 veterans read names, including our Central Region Director Art Randall. Following the last name, a benediction was given. The diving officer was then instructed to surface the boat. Following 3 blasts from the klaxon, the lights were brought back up and the service was ended. It was a touching ceremony... as all tolling ceremonies are.

From 1400 to 1530 there was a district meeting for all hands. I won't go into any great detail because much of the proceedings will be provided in the minutes... to be published within the next few weeks. However, one item I will mention was the decision to hold a CD2 convention every 2 years... with the option to have it more frequently (in an off-year) if there was sufficient business to warrant doing so. It was also decided that the location would be rotated among the CD2 bases, and those bases having submarines would have preference for the first few years.

1700 brought the beginning of the pre-dinner cocktail reception. The pretty much says it all. At 1740 or so, we were “piped” into the dining room, to the tune of “Anchor’s Aweigh”, by bagpiper Fred “Doc” Gardner from Escobar Base. Dinner was served at 1800. Not much more to be said about that either. After dinner, at around 1900, there were a few ceremonies and presentations. National Holland Commander Bill Britt inducted a number of our fellow submarine veterans into the Holland Club, followed by the distribution of Senior Submariner certificates to those in attendance who qualified December 1946 and before. Then came keynote speaker VADM Albert “Big Al” Konetzni. I wish I could remember every word of his speech, or even the “3 points” he made... but sadly, I can’t. But I can tell you that he was enthusiastic, and “happy as hell to be with submariners”. If you ever have the opportunity to hear him speak, TAKE IT! Following the Admiral’s speech, and the bestowing of some gifts and certificates, dinner was ended. At 2000, the dancing started... to the music of the “Rush County Big Band”. As the name indicates, they play primarily “big band” music from the ‘40s and ‘50s with some from later eras. We listened and danced until about 1030, then called it an evening... since they couldn’t play any tango music!

Sunday morning 0800 was the Base Commander Breakfast with CD2 commander Tom Barnes. This was a chance to discuss district issues, to share information, to ask questions. I thought it was really worthwhile and hope I have a similar opportunity in the future.

All in all, it was a great weekend. There were attendees from every one of the 12 CD2 bases, and 10 of the 12 CD2 base commanders... including all 4 Ohio Base commanders. Besides me, Phil and Opal Philipps and Bill Anderson also represented Columbus Base. I’m already looking forward to the next CD2 convention.

Lost Boats

May

USS Lagarto (SS371)	05-03-1945
USS Scorpion (SSN589)	05-22-1968
USS Squalus (SS192)	05-23-1939
USS Runner (SS275)	05-28-1943
USS Stickleback (SS415)	05-28-1958



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”

Vice Commander's Corner

By Dave Creekmore



There is something about being part of this group that makes us proud of what we did in our past years and also brings back some memories from those years. I have to say, to take it one step farther you need to, if it's available, attend a reunion from your ship.

I recently attended my second, this one was at the site of our sail planes at Cape Canaveral and the Cocoa Beach area. The attendance doubled from our first. Although there seems to be a shortfall or gap in the 1971-1974 years shipmates. And then you have the "you must have been one of the Gold Crew" or "Blue" if you were on the Gold. Even though there were over 200 in attendance we all bonded, shared tales, looked at pictures and tried to remember names together.

I have not yet attended any of our National Conventions, but I would think there was another step in the fellowship bonding going on at these events also.

Check out the web to see if your ship or ships are trying to get together and make it a point to be there. I encourage you all to make it a priority.

See you at Battelle Darby Metro Park May 20th.

Boatswain's Pipe

No self-respecting boatswain's mate would dare admit he couldn't blow his pipe in a manner above reproach. This pipe, which is the emblem of the boatswain and his mates, has an ancient and interesting history.

On the ancient row-galleys, the boatswain used his pipe to "call the stroke." Later because its shrill tune could be heard above most of the activity on board, it was used to signal various happenings such as knock-off and the boarding of officials. So essential was this signaling device to the well-being of the ship, that it became a badge of office and honor in the British and American Navy of the sailing ships.

Mark your calendar!!!
Tolling of the Bells
Cedar Ridge Lodge
Battelle Darby Metro Park
Saturday, May 20th

Editor's Note

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

Jan Creekmore at e-mail
 creek636@earthlink.net

Minutes of the Columbus Base of USSVI
May 6, 2006
American Legion, Don Gentile Post 532

A regular meeting of the Columbus Base of USSVI was held May 6, 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 1315. Twenty four (24), members and guests were present. Sharon Lloyd led the invocation. Dave Creekmore read the lost boats. A moment of silence was observed for lost shipmates. Vice Commander Dave Creekmore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Commander Creekmore introduced speaker Capt. Tom Lennon, Franklin Heights NJROTC. Capt. Lennon showed a videotape regarding the NJROTC program. After the video there was a question and answer period. Capt. Lennon then asked the audience questions regarding the video and those answering correctly were given Navy Pencils.

At approximately 1400 Capt. Lennon concluded his presentation and the business meeting continued.

Secretary Kenyon noted that the March and April meetings' minutes were previously published in "The Green Board". Hearing no request for a reading, a motion by Frank Lloyd to accept the minutes as published was seconded by Bruce Reinhart. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried. Correspondence from the Chalmers P. Wylie Clinic, Columbus, Ohio; Veterans Hospital, Chillicothe, Ohio; and Franklin Heights High School, NJROTC, Columbus, Ohio was read.

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

Bernie Kenyon, Membership Chairman, reported he had an application for membership but had not received the applicant's check to go with it.

Unfinished Business:

A motion was requested to disband the Audit Committee. John Leers made the motion, Gene Horton seconded. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried. Vice Commander then thanked the committee, Joe Testa, Bernie Kenyon and David Creekmore and also Eric Dreisedel and John Leers for their assistance.

Committee Reports

Sailor of the Year. Galin Brady was present but is no longer serving on the committee. David Johnson, the other member, was not in attendance so no report was available. Bernie Kenyon said he would be sending out an email stating the last day to vote for sailor of the year.

Tolling of the Bells. Liz Kenyon gave a report that all is going as planned and gave the date, time, location regarding the event. There will be a notice in "The Green Board" and emails will be sent to the membership and prospects.

Book and Audio Sales Dave Creekmore reported that 24 books and 4 audio sets have been sold this year.

The notes from the officers' meeting were read by Dave Creekmore. .

Joe Testa, new Activities Chairman, needs a volunteer(s) for the Christmas Dinner December 2, 2006 at Post #532.

New Business

There was no new business.

For the Good of the Order

The following announcements were made.

Worthington Day Parade will be May 28. Eric Dreiseidel is in charge.

Flags for the cemetery. More information will be available at a later date.

Tolling of the Bells: May 27 COD Base, May 28 Cincinnati Base, Toledo Base date unknown.

The date, time and location of the May 20, Tolling of the Bells and June 3 meetings was announced.

50/50 Raffle

Bill Meyer's winning portion of the 50/50 raffle was \$56.50, which he donated back to the base.

Galin and Page donated a bottle of maple syrup, which was won by Joe Murphy.

Ron Rossington donated a jar of Crawford County Honey that Bill McCorkle won.

Three bags of cookies donated by Marv and Joan Pastor were won by Bruce Reinhart, Capt. Tom Lennon and Bill Meyer.

Pies donated by Sharon Lloyd, 1 Cherry, 1 Apple, 1 Cherry & Apple, were won by Capt. Tom Lennon, Bernie Kenyon and Gary Dinnell

A package of pastries donated by Joe and Mamie Murphy was won by Joe Testa.

Sharon Lloyd gave the closing prayer.

Vice Commander Creekmore officially adjourned the meeting at 1445.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Kenyon

Secretary

May Birthdays

Jim Morton	05-03
Jan Creekmore	05-05
Rick Percy	05-08
Sam Templeton	05-12
Jim "Clutch" Koogler	05-20
Barbara McCorkle	05-23
Bruce Rinehart	05-28



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

Spouses

Cathleen Naso	05-20
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Our Holland Club profile this month is Joe Murphy. 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.



Joe enlisted in the Navy on January 30th, 1946 in Manhattan, New York.

Joe's sub training was a little different though, he didn't go through sub school, he learned through OJT, on the job training. All of Joe's training took place on the USS Bugara SS 331. He served two years aboard the Bugara and qualified in August 1947. The Bugara was the first and only boat Joe served on. He reached the rate of EM 3/C also while serving on the SS 331.

When I asked him why submarines, Joe said the opportunity for quick advancement was his motivation.

Joe was discharged in December, 1947 in San Francisco.

Joe Murphy and Mamie were married on September 13th, 1953 in Brooklyn, New York they had eight children, three girls and two boys. Two of them served in the military, both in the U.S. Army. Dennis served 18 years and attained the rank of Captain in the Green Beret. Their daughter Sheila served 2 ½ years and was in the Military Police. Currently they are both members of the Gahanna Police Dept. Dennis is Chief of Police.

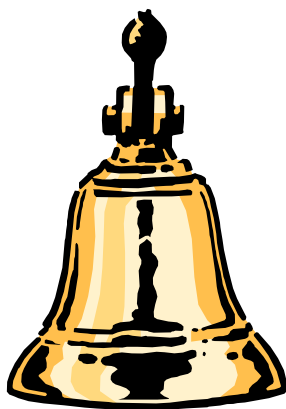
One of Joe's story lines takes him from Pearl Harbor to Kodiak, Alaska where the Bugara became involved in the rescue of a large barge in severe weather.

They traversed the Aleutian Islands through the Bering Sea, Seattle, Washington, Astoria and Portland in Oregon and finally into San Francisco.

Another one of Joe's favorites takes us to fleet maneuvers while operating out of San Diego. The Bugara was making an approach on an Air Craft Carrier at the same time a DD was running cover for a CV. Joe was in the control room when the words "high speed screws approaching" were relayed to the captain, evidently too late. What came next was all the noise and the SS 331 was shipping water. The Bugara went from periscope depth to one hundred feet. A dye marker was sent up and maneuvers ceased. Joe said the shears were so distorted they looked like a wine bottle opener. A good size chunk of the screws from the DD were found on the cigarette deck. Crew members from the Bugara took a train ride from San Diego to Los Angeles to meet the crew from the DD.

I guess all's well that ends well and this ended well when crew members were able to take in a football game between the L A Rams and Chicago Bears. He never said who won.

Joe, thanks for all your time and service.



Columbus Base USSVI
Tolling of the Bells
May 20, 2006
Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park
Cedar Ridge Lodge

You, your family and friends are invited to attend the Tolling of the Bells.

Time: 1100 - Muster
 1200 - Tolling of the Bells
 1:30 - 4:00 - Picnic, raffles and fun for all

The Columbus Base will furnish all tableware, hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, buns, coffee and water.

Bring a dish to pass and/or dessert plus your beverages.

Please RSVP by May 17

RSVP: bkenyon@insight.rr.com

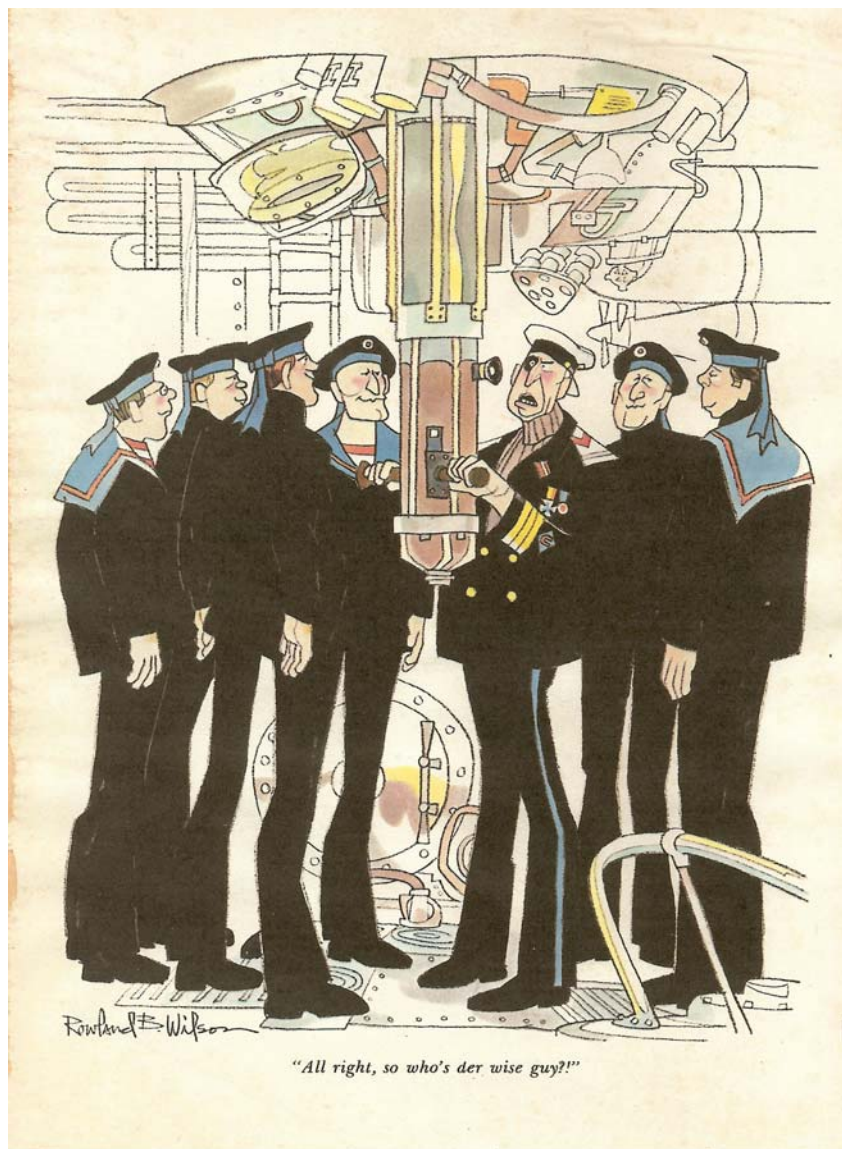
Or

Elizabeth Kenyon
1835 Brimfield Road
Columbus, OH 43229
614/395-4591

Cedar Creek Lodge has a complete kitchen, heat, air conditioning, outdoor deck with seating, and parking.

Upcoming events

May 20,2006	1100	Battelle Darby Metro Park Cedar Ridge Lodge
May 29,2006	0930	Worthington, OH Memorial Day parade
June 3, 2006	Noon	Don Gentile American Legion Hall



- 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

In the Spirit by Chaplain David Johnson**A TAPPING ON THE HULL**

As the day turns to night
And the ocean rolls gently
Sailors heed the call to flight
To sail beneath the sea.

They drilled a thousand times
About things that could go awry
Danger in back of their minds
Making mothers cry.

And it happens in the blink of an eye
A sound crashing through your skull
Half the crew instantly dies
Half left tapping on the hull.

All they know is how to fight
From the floor beneath the waves
Another day into another night
To avoid a watery grave.

And because of foolish pride
That sends the leaders into a lull
Courageous men left trapped inside
Just tapping on the hull.

Is it day or is it night?
Beneath the sea you cannot tell
Batteries fail on emergency light
Your own private brand of Hell.

And as the icy waters flow
Through the rip on the starboard side
The cold and wet take its toll
A few more sailors die.

And another dog-and-pony came and went
Did they really try rescue at all?
And as apathy makes the world silent
So goes the tapping on the hull.

And in my mind, the drills I rehearse
My prayer, my tribute....all so small
To the Thresher, the Scorpion, and even the Kursk
Some of us will always hear the tapping on the hull.

This poem was written by David after the sinking of the Kursk.

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which Taps were played; this brings out a new meaning of it.

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, "Taps". It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps"...used at military funerals was born.

The words are:

Day is done Gone the sun From the lakes
From the hills From the sky All is well
Safely rest God is nigh

Fading light Dims the sight And a star
Gems the sky Gleaming bright From afar
Drawing nigh Falls the night

Thanks and praise For our days Neath the sun
Neath the stars Neath the sky As we go
This we know God is nigh

Submitted by Galin Brady

Our TOLLING of the BELLS HISTORY

The Tolling of the Bells Ceremony is the backbone of our USSVI existence. Its purpose stems from the first two sentences of 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".



The gathering itself is to remember the past and to celebrate the presence. Sure the bell tolling portion of the event offers the degree of solemnity intended, but afterwards we continue forth doing the other things that our non-profitable charitable organization was incorporated to do.

In **2004**, our Columbus Sub Vets Base, having been in existence less than 6 months held its first ceremony at the Battelle Darby Creek, a Franklin County Metro Park Facility.

Despite the cool damp weather we had an excellent turnout. The four officers who launched our Base are to be commended for giving birth to the start of what has rapidly become an outstanding event. They were, in the picture on the left: Treasurer Eric Dreiseidel, Commander William V. "Bill" Anderson, Secretary Russell H. "Russ" Moody and Vice Commander James H. "Jim" Morton.

Their judgment in selecting Associate Liz Kenyon to Chair the event was one of their best decisions as Liz arranged for the location, the food, the patriotic decorations, plus raffle prizes.

Associate Cheryl Morton volunteered to assist Liz and one of her most insightful contributions was the development of an agenda for the attending children. Because of the rain, Cheryl's format kept the kid's so well occupied playing various games we hardly knew they were there.



One of the most hilarious parts of the day was when the people gathered around the grill to await the cooking of their hamburgers and hot dogs. The sea stories and joking was un-ending.

The warmth of the fire in the grill was also an attraction, but overall it was, "this ain't no sh--" that kept the group entertained.



Unique raffle prizes, like the 5 gallon bucket of Golf balls won by Jake Clark and the 20# Propane tank won by Cheryl Morton added to the celebratory portion of the day!



Our 2005 event brought us a similar day weather-wise except it was a little bit warmer than the year before. During the previous 12 months our membership had grown and that help produce a larger attendance.

The Tolling Ceremony itself was handled by Vice-Commander Jim "Clutch Koogler" and Columbus Base Chaplain, David Johnson. Both did an outstanding job. James Williams, Chief of the Base, assisted the Chaplain by tolling the ship's bell as the names of the lost boats were read. In the picture to the right is Dave Johnson reciting the departed ship's names.



Following the tolling, Franklin County Commissioner, Paula Brooks addressed the assemblage and her remarks were most appropriate for the occasion. To the left we see Clutch Koogler presenting Paula with a "Certificate of Appreciation".

Also, featured is our base Parade Banner which was conceived and obtained on behalf of the Base by Eric Dreiseidel!



Liz Kenyon chaired the event again and did another outstanding job. Jayne Anderson who assisted in the Galley the year before, assumed similar duties and was capably assisted by her husband, Bill and young Brandon Dreiseidel. The pot-luck dishes brought in both years were outstanding. In the photo on the left is the Creekmore family, Jan and Dave with their daughter. To the right are Joe and Mamie Murphy digging in with the rest of the crowd



In this picture we see Galin Brady pushing Liz Kenyon into accepting the Chairperson's position to guide the 2006 event.

Liz has actively been formulating which will include another great and the display of the Columbus

The mini submarine was built prior to last November's Veterans

One other notable difference from ceremony will be held inside the telle Darby Creek Park. Anyone interested in submarines, or Submarine Veterans is invited.



her agenda for this year's program, bunch of raffle prizes, a guest speaker Sub Vets Parade Submarine.

Dave Creekmore and commissioned Day Parade in downtown Columbus.

the previous years is that this year's Cedar Ridge Lodge at the same Bat-