

COLUMBUS BASE SUBMARINE VETERANS

Volume 2, Issue 8

September 2006



THE GREEN BOARD



ALL SEAS ARE NAVIGABLE

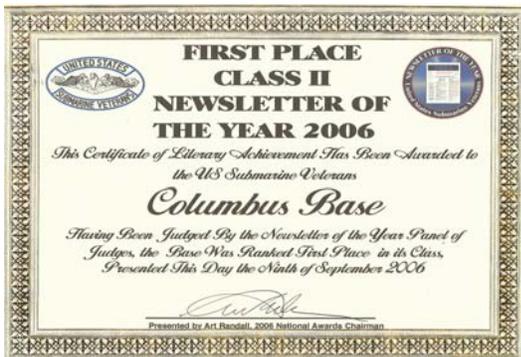
Columbus Base Newsletter

USSVI National Convention 2006

Little Rock Arkansas

The Columbus Base USSVI wins the Newsletter of the Year 2006!

What an awesome achievement in only our second year of publication. We are very proud to have won the award, but we could not have accomplished it without all of your support and participation. You have helped make this the award winner that it is.



"We have a GREEN BOARD"



USS Razorback docked in the Arkansas River
At North Little Rock

Commander's Corner

By Jim "Clutch" Koogler



What happened to summer? It seems like our tolling ceremony and Memorial Day parade were just last week! Tempus fugit!!

This past month has been another busy time for Columbus Base. For those not aware, the parade sub participated in 3 Bratwurst Festival parades in Bucyrus. Along with the sub, we had several base members marching including (and I hope I don't forget anyone): Ron Rossington (and his grand-daughter), Denver Smith, Gene Lee (with wife, daughter, and grand-son), Bernie Kenyon, Galin Brady, Bill Anderson, Joe Testa, Dave Creekmore, John Leers, Marv Pastor, new base member and WWII submarine veteran "CO" Smith, my wife Bonnie, and me. We even won 2nd place in the "Specialty Division" (1st place was Zach the pony, pulling a cart... can you believe it!!) and received \$50.00. It was a fun time for all. Thanks to all who helped support our Bucyrus brothers.

I just returned from the USSVI National convention in Little Rock. There were several other base members attending and representing Columbus Base... including: Ken Sewell, Galin Brady, Dave Creekmore, Marv Pastor (also there for the Razorback reunion), Bill Anderson, Sam and Dorothy Templeton (also there for the Trutta reunion), Phil and Opal Philipps, Dave and JoAnne O'Carroll, and Bob Frier. In addition, the base commanders (and Columbus Base dual members) from every Ohio base were there: Dick Young and wife Debbie from Cincinnati Base, Angelo Naso and wife Cathy from Cod Base, and Bob "Army" Armstrong from Toledo Base. Outstanding representation from the state of Ohio!

Razorback Base did a great job of planning, coordinating, and executing a very nice convention. And it was a great opportunity to talk to other bases, make some new acquaintances, renew some old ones, and see what's going on with the other 134 USSVI bases. Oh... and try some new restaurants and watering holes, too. I'm not going to try to detail everything that went on there, but I do have a few things I think are worth mentioning.

First, my congratulations to our newsletter editor Jan Creekmore (and to co-editor Dave... even though he says Jan kicked him off the staff). The Green Board was selected as the USSVI Group II Base Newsletter of the Year. First Place (take that, Zach)!!! Jan (and Dave) work very hard to publish a quality newsletter. We all know what a great newsletter it is... and now all of USSVI knows it too. Congratulations Jan (and Dave). The recognition is well deserved.

Columbus Base did not receive any other national awards this year.

Dave Creekmore and Marv Pastor drove to the convention so they could take the Lost Boats Board made by Rick Larson. The board was set up in the vendor area where the base was selling Red Star Rogue. Word spread, and many attendees stopped at our table to see the board... and buy a few books. The board was so popular that we received a tentative invitation to bring it to Arlington National Cemetery next May for the annual memorial service conducted by the Capitol Base.

I didn't take advantage of any of the many tours Razorback Base had arranged. But I did tour the USS Razorback and the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum (AIMM) with "Army" Armstrong. Razorback appears to be in pretty good condition... considering she's more than 60 years old. But there's a lot of work to be done. AIMM has done a marvelous job chronicling the history of Razorback... from World War II, through the Cold War, her history with the Turkish Navy, to the present.

Along with several others, I attended the Base Commanders' Group breakfast, the annual business meeting, and the dinner and awards presentations. By now, you all know the results of the national elections so I won't detail that here. I will share the minutes of these events when they are available.

Next year's convention is the Alaska cruise aboard Holland America's MS Oosterdam (sailing from Seattle) hosted by Bremerton Base. I believe the cruise ship is about 70-75% sold. Bonnie and I are going... as are Tim Barker and Rick and Angela Percy... plus many of our Cincinnati, Cod, and Toledo shipmates and guests. I hope more of you will sign up to go. It promises to be a great time. Check out the USSVI website link for details

And don't forget the 2008 convention in Dallas/Fort Worth, 2009 in San Diego, and 2010 in Cincinnati. All have wonderful activities planned... and they've all promised cheap beer and "bottomless" coffee urns.



Seated from the left:
Galin Brady, JoAnne O'Carroll
Dave O'Carroll, Marv Pastor, Dave Creekmore, Jim Koogler, Bill Anderson, and with his back to the camera is Bob Armstrong from Toledo Base



Bill and Jim taking a "coffee" break

Upcoming events

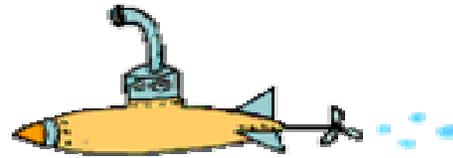
Oct. 7, 2006	12:00	American Legion Don Gentile Post
Nov. 4, 2006	12:00	American Legion Don Gentile Post
Nov. 9, 2006	10:00	Columbus Veterans Day Parade
Dec. 2, 2006	?????	Holiday Dinner and Toy Collection

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



So, How many sailors does it take to sell a book?

I'm still not sure of the answer to this, but I can tell you that almost everyone of our members that I saw at the convention had some part in helping our cause to sell the paperback copies of **Red Star Rogue**. Ken and Galin manned the vendors table for the two days before our arrival with the "Lost boats" board and nearly sold half of the total books sold. Ken stayed around for another day plus and signed copies and talked to all that we could direct to him. Bob Frier was present and assisted in the transporting and setting up of the "Lost Boats" board. I'm sure he was a coach or boss in his youthful days. Marv and Dave O'Carroll worked very hard with the crowd that the table had at times. Bill Anderson covered the table while Marv attended his own ships reunion and I attended the Commanders breakfast. Clutch and Sam Templeton were overheard talking up the book and brought prospective sales to us at our table. Overall I was more impressed with the efforts of our members than the convention itself. A special thanks to all for your help. And a special thanks to Bill Anderson for paying the vendor table fee for our base and also to Marv for the two, twelve and half hour drive partnerships to get the "Lost Boats" board there and back.

But the highlight of the convention came when the Columbus Base won "Newsletter of the Year" first place.

Way to go Jan! Now I can't even suggest any changes without hearing "Hey, I'm the award winning editor". Bug off!

Dave

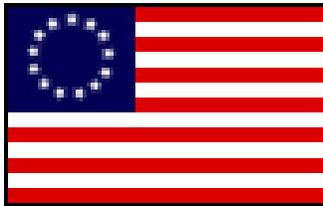
Lost Boats

September

USS S-5 (SS110)	09-01-1920
USS Grayling (SS209)	09-09-1943
USS S-31 (SS162)	09-25-1925
USS Cisco (SS290)	09-28-1943



Remember to bring your coffee, tea or hot chocolate donations for the VA Hospital to the monthly meetings! They do appreciate our members donations for the veterans.



Quilt Raffle

To be held at the December Christmas Dinner
Proceeds to benefit the Base general fund and the Sailor of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year from the
USS Columbus SSN 762



Tickets are \$2.00 each.

Contact Jan Creekmore for information
creek636@earthlink.net

Sea Chanties



Sea chanties were songs sung in the days of sail by crews as they worked at heaving the lines or turning the capstan.. The songs' rhythms caused everyone to push or pull simultaneously, hence causing a concerted effort and better results.

Some believe the term is a derivation of the French word "chanter" which means "to sing." Others maintain the spelling should be "shanties," claiming the name refers to the shanties along the Mobile, Ala. Waterfront where many of the tunes were learned by sailors.

Whatever the origin, chanties were divided into three distinct classes. Short-drag chanties, used when a few strong pulls were needed; long-drag chanties, longer songs to speed the work of long-haul jobs; and heaving chanties, used for jobs requiring continuous action such as turning the capstan.

One man, the chanty-man, stood high above the working crew and sang the main lines while the rest of the crew added their voices strongly on the second line. On the last word, a combined pull made the ropes "come home."

A good chanty-man was highly prized by officers and crew alike. Although he had no official title or rate, he was usually relieved of all duties to compose new verses for sea chanties.



September Birthdays

Stuart Wharton	09-04
Tom Tobin	09-05
Bill McCorkle	09-09
Ken Strahm	09-09
Dick Martin	09-10
Mike Ryan	09-10
JoAnne O'Carroll	09-12
Ron Rossington	09-16
Paul Campbell	09-25
Liz Kenyon	09-26
Bob McDaniel	09-27

Spouses

Tracey Johnson	09-10
Pat Martin	09-10
Dorothy Templeton	09-17
Corinne Konecny	09-18
Linda Dinnell	09-25
Bethany Loney	09-28

New Members

Timothy L. "Tim" Barker
 Lewis Center, OH
 Delaware County

Clarence O. "CO" Smith
 Bucyrus, OH
 Crawford County
 Wife: Doris

James M. "Jim" Tolson
 Hilliard, OH
 Franklin County
 Wife: Karla

The Conn

Base commander

Jim Koogler

Vice Commander

Dave Creekmore

Treasurer

John Leers

Secretary

Elizabeth Kenyon

Chaplain

David Johnson/ Sharon
 Lloyd

COB

James Williams

Membership Chairman

Bernie Kenyon

Storekeeper

Phil Philipps

Editor

Jan Creekmore

Editor's Note

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

Jan Creekmore at e-mail
 creek636@earthlink.net

Our Holland Club profile this month is Ron Waldren. 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.



Ron enlisted in the US Navy in 1952 in New York. He said his Dad was waiting for him to come home but he was on his way to Great Lakes.

Ron spent the early months of his Navy life on the surface, I believe he said on a converted Mine Sweeper and probably couldn't have stayed that long in the Navy if it hadn't been for submarines.

He attended sub school in 1954 in New London.

After sub school he was assigned the USS Char SS 328, he was an EN/3 aboard Char.

Besides the Char, Ron served aboard the USS Sarda SS 488, USS Becuna SS 319, USS Nautilus SSN 571, USS Seadragon SSN 584 and the USS Hardhead SS 365.

Ron qualified and earned his dolphins in 1954 aboard the Sarda, now as an EN/3 SS.

Ron was married in 1956 while serving on the Becuna SS 319. He and his wife had two children, a boy and a girl, Richard and Lynne. Neither served in the military.

Evidently Ron was tired of wearing white hats and decided to switch to khaki. In 1962 while he was at the nuclear training school in Idaho he received his commission to Ensign. In 1972 aboard the Hardhead Ron was promoted to LCDR.

In 1970 or 71 Ron was awarded his gold dolphins. Silver and Gold is a good combination.

Ron was one of three to be awarded both silver and gold dolphins, the other two John Pendleton and Phil Philipps. All three were part of Seadragon and are members of Columbus Base.

If he needed any motivation for submarines it came while he was on liberty in Charleston and Norfolk. A few diesel boat sailors convinced him he was wasting his time on the surface. No more need be said.

As far as his favorite port and duty station, Honolulu, Hi. In his opinion was the most beautiful and peaceful place on earth. Best duty station was without a doubt Seadragon. As far as Ron was concerned Seadragon had the best wardroom and crew. They worked and played harder than any crew he was part of. The OCC list was always taken care of before any liberty was taken.

They never missed a commitment while Ron was on board. The engineering spaces were always in a state of readiness.

In the summer of 1957 Ron was serving on board Nautilus when she had to abort an attempt to reach the North Pole because of gyro problems. In 1960 while serving onboard Seadragon she successfully transited the Northwest Passage on their way to the North Pole. On this passage Ron was an EN/1, they developed a hydraulic leak above the maneuvering room area, upon investigation they discovered a high pressure "T" fitting was cracked. Ron manufactured a new fitting on the boat's lathe since no such fitting was carried in spare parts.

One thing sticks in Ron's memory; he received the Navy Achievement Medal from the Secretary of The Navy. The citation reads: For professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as Senior Ship superintendent for the overhaul and refueling of the USS Tullibee SSN 597 and manufacturing superintendent, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, NH from August 1972 through June 1975. During his tenure, LCDR Waldron performed his demanding tasks in an exemplary manner. He skillfully directed and coordinated the complex overhaul and refueling of Tullibee, resulting in a completed overhaul months earlier than anticipated. As Manufacturing Superintendent, his superb managerial skill and meticulous attention to details resulted in the timely completion complex components which were needed to support Polaris, Poseidon and attack submarines around the world. Lieutenant Commander Waldron's professional competence, inspiring leadership, and selfless devotion to duty reflected credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Ron retired in 1975 at Portsmouth, NH with 23 years service.

Thank you Ron for all 23 years, we appreciate them.



Marv "back home" topside on the
USS Razorback



OUR 2006 COLUMBUS BSOY

We are pleased to introduce you to Dave Creekmore our 2006 Columbus Base Shipmate of the Year. In the picture at the right, Frances Strickland, the wife of our Ohio Democratic candidate for governor, presents Dave his BSOY Award Plaque.

Be it known that within a short period of time after becoming a member of USSVI and its Columbus Base, Dave and his wife, Jan, volunteered to create, develop and produce the Columbus Base Newsletter, now nationally known as "The **GREEN BOARD**" when it was honored as a 5th runner-up entry in the 2005 USSVI National competition. See front page of this issue for the 2006 newsletter award won at this year's convention.



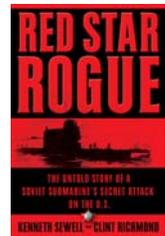
Frances Strickland & Dave Creekmore
Base Shipmate of the Year Award

In the Spring of 2005 Dave had an opportunity to obtain a storage tank



that he saw sitting in a countryside field and over a period of a few months he fabricated it into a 1/16th size replica of the USS COLUMBUS SSN-762, the Columbus Base sponsor. He stores and maintains the mini-sub, in addition to hauling it to, and towing it in the ceremonial events that our Base participates in. One of the displays is featured in the photo on the left which was taken at the Franklin Heights High School's NJROTC awards night. That's Dave on the left with Shipmate Russ Ferguson to his right.

Prior to the 2005 National Convention, Dave volunteered for the Chairperson position of the Columbus Base RED STAR ROGUE Book Sales Committee which has successfully produced a few hundred dollars of revenue for the Base. Additionally, it was his proposal that 10% of the net proceeds from the book sales are donated to the USSVI National Charities Fund and a matching amount be contributed to the Columbus Base Benevolence Fund, a recommendation that was approved and adopted by our membership.



In the Fall of 2005 Dave ran unexecutive Officer position and Commander in January, 2006 he the Columbus Base "Pens for clusion. He was involved in the items and accompanied another



opposed for a Columbus Base Exshortly after being installed as Vicebecame a major factor in bringing Patients" Project to a successful packing of the 2500 plus donated of our shipmates' in the

transportation and delivery to Chillicothe, Ohio; where they assisted the VA Hospital's Activities Director, Gayle Irvin-Clary and her Staff in the unloading and transfer of the collection to their facility.



Up until our Base Awards Dinner in August of 2006 the only recognition bestowed upon Dave's hard work and generosity happened when shipmate Frank Lloyd came across a Hull Technician's Plaque which Frank thought was most appropriate to recognize Dave's skill in transforming a scrap iron tank into a finished parade model submarine comparable to the best in existence.

The engraved brass plate that was personalized and added to the plaque before it was presented to Dave was but a mere token of the appreciation that the Columbus Base actually holds for this most dedicated submarine veteran.



The aforementioned eliminates all debate that David "Dave" Creekmore deserved to be our Columbus Base Shipmate of the Year!



We would be remiss if we didn't mention that Dave learned about USSVI in August 2004 when he went to Little Rock for the return of the USS RAZORBACK SS-394 from Turkey. He was one of the submarine veterans' aboard the boat when they towed her down from the rock quarry near Little Rock to the city pier for the homecoming at that time. When Dave returned to his home in Central Ohio he contacted the Columbus Base for information regarding how to join our ranks and that is how our BASE SHIPMATE of the YEAR for 2006 was born!

Twenty-five months later, Dave was back in Little Rock to attend our USSVI National Convention and to help launch the sales of Columbus Base Shipmate, Ken Sewell's book RED STAR ROGUE, paperback edition.

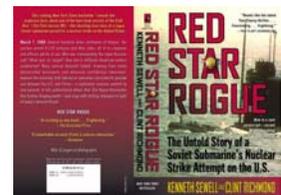


Photo of the RAZORBACK, above left, was taken by Shipmate Phil Philipps from an upper floor room in the Peabody Hotel during last week's Convention.

Respectfully submitted by,
Bernie Kenyon

Minutes of the Columbus Base of USSVI

August 26, 2006

VFW Buckeye Lake

A regular meeting of the Columbus Base of USSVI was held August 26, 2006 at VFW Buckeye Lake. Elected officers present; Commander, James Koogler, Vice Commander, Dave Creekmore, Treasurer, John Leers, and Secretary, Elizabeth Kenyon. Commander James Koogler called the meeting to order at 1305. Twenty-four (24) members and guests were present. Jim Koogler gave the opening invocation. Dave Creekmore led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Koogler read the lost boats and tolled the bell.

Secretary Kenyon noted that the July's meeting minutes were published in "The Green Board". Hearing no request for a reading, a motion by Cliff Dodson to accept the minutes as published was seconded by Bill Anderson. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried. There was no correspondence received. Thank you letters were sent to Keller Farm Greenhouses and Wal-Mart for their donations to the Award Dinner.

John Leers gave the treasurer's report. There were questions, which John Leers answered to the members' satisfaction. John also read a detailed list of income and expense accounts. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by David O'Carroll and Cliff Dodson seconded. The members' present voice voted and the motion was carried.

Committee Reports

Membership - Bernie introduced new member Tim Barker

Chaplin's report - Liz reported that Frank Lloyd was doing better. Bernie reported that Bill McCorkle is in rehab. Marv Pastor reported that Joan is feeling better.

Awards Dinner - Galin Brady reported the cost of the food, decorations etc. for the Awards Dinner. Jim Koogler gave the costs for the plaques, certificates etc. A copy is on file with the Secretary. Galin and Jim were congratulated for their efforts in making the Awards Dinner a success.

Red Star Rogue – Bill Anderson gave a report that the hardback is still selling and will have paperbacks available for sale at the convention.

Unfinished Business

Denver Smith, who was unable to attend the Awards Dinner, was presented his WW II plaque, Holland Club plaque, and picture.

Ron Rossington, who was unable to attend the Awards Dinner, was presented his Holland Club plaque and picture.

New Business

Jim Koogler stated he would be sending out a questionnaire regarding continuing our relationship with American Legion Post 532 and publishing a Base Directory.

For the Good of the Order

Jim reminded regular members that midnight, August 27, 2006, ended the voting for National Officers

There will be 10 members attending the National Convention in Little Rock.

Rossington/Testa and Kenyon reported the Bratwurst Festival parade was a success and we had a good turnout of members and family marching. The Base won second place for the three days. First place was a pony.

Bernie took lots of pictures.

WWII Veteran's interviews - Liz requested to leave the committee due to time restraints. Her request was granted. She gave a report, which is on record with the Secretary.

Website – Cliff Dodson stated that the new website should be ready to go in a few weeks.

Activities – Joe Testa is looking for volunteers for the various Base activities that need chairpersons.

Storekeeper Phil Philipps - Gave a report regarding the new shirts he is taking orders for. If you would like one please contact Phil.

Officers' meeting – September 19, 2006 at John Leers' house.

50/50 Drawing

Jim Koogler's ticket was drawn and his portion of the 50/50 raffle was \$52.50

Dole Fresh Fruit was donated by Galin Brady and won by Bill Anderson.

Galin Brady, Ron Rossington, Sam Templeton and Gus Hoehl each won one of four packages of homemade granola donated by Marv Pastor.

Cliff Dodson won the chocolate cake donated by Galin Brady.

John Leers won a Flashlight Tool Kit that Ron Rossington donated.

Don Crinkey won Submarines from Holland to Virginia donated by Cliff Dodson.

The next regular meeting will be held at the American Legion Post 532 on October 7, 2006.

Jim Koogler gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned by motion at 1430.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth A. Kenyon
Secretary